



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

A **FREE!** publication of all things Fairhaven



The little paper
with a big voice!

Volume 15, Issue 39 • October 8, 2020

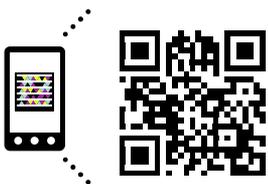
Teeming with information you need.
(And some you don't need, but will be glad you have anyway.)

Taking advantage of a warm October afternoon



The sun sets as a kiteboarder lifts up from the water while taking advantage of a warm day in October on Saturday, 10/3/20, at West Island Town Beach in Fairhaven. See page 12 for more photos

Photo by Margie Green Joseph.



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First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Judge Murray Gurfein, Pentagon Papers case, June 17, 1971:

"The security of the Nation is not at the ramparts alone. Security also lies in the value of our free institutions. A cantankerous press, an obstinate press, a ubiquitous press must be suffered by those in authority in order to preserve the even greater values of freedom of expression and the right of the people to know."

From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

Honestly, I feel like just repeating the word “shitshow” over and over and over again all over this page. Dan Freitas’s sensibilities are so hurt by it (see page 4).

So, because his sensitive skin is hurt, Mr. Freitas wants to move the legal notices which are paid ads, from the *Neighb News* to the other weekly, which has almost no circulation. They didn’t vote on it because Mr. Espindola made a logical case and Mr. Silvia said he wanted more information.

Mr. Freitas said while they are at it find out if the other paper, the conglomerate across the river, ever used the word “shitshow.” My friend (just for giggles) did a search. Guess what? It came up 382 times. Go figure.

The ruse was that people are not seeing the legal ads in my paper because no one reads it anymore because I’m mean to people in my editorial and this is just a gossip sheet. NOT!

The straw that supposedly broke the camel’s back was the story about the wedding at Mr. DeTerra’s house (10/1/20 page 6). Mr. Freitas said (see page 4) that I went after someone’s child and that crossed a line. Well, last time I looked, children do not get married in America, only adults do. And for the record, I never named her and I did not use any of the pictures I had. This is not about her, it is about the sitting Board of Health chair person holding a large gathering at his home in the middle of a pandemic. He should have to answer to the public for that. Maybe the public does not care. That is not for me to say. What IS my responsibility is to tell people what we know, what we can confirm, and what we are trying to confirm. Mr. DeTerra, unfortunately, has stopped taking my calls.

Mr. Freitas has been trying to put me out of business for at least two years. This is nothing new. It’s just sad that a sitting Selectboard member can’t see past his own petty little gripes to do what is right for the town.

We still have a much larger readership than the other weekly, and the daily is too expensive to use. Although...who knows. It’s not money out of their pocket, right?

If you want to see the meeting, it’s available online. Get your popcorn popped, and jump to the end until you see my cheery face.

And, thank you, thank you, thank you to the people who donated to the paper after the meeting. That kind of support is exactly what we need to be able to continue to hold our public officials accountable.

And be sure to support our advertisers and let them know you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*.

Until next week then...see ya (from a distance)



Beth David, Publisher

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Support local journalism

No one does local like a local newspaper. And it does not get more local than the *Neighb News*. Any small amount will help. Just clip the coupon and send check or money order to *Fairhaven Neighborhood News*, 166 Dogwood St., Fairhaven, MA 02719. Ask for a bumper sticker that says “I Support the *Neighb News*.” And thank you for reading *the little paper with a big voice*.

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COVID-19 update: Halloween is okay; FHS has three cases

By Beth David
Editor

The Fairhaven High School “community” had three reported cases of COVID-19, according to emails sent to parents this week. The emails did not specify if the cases were among students or staff.

In a letter to parents on 9/29, Principal Andrew Kulak said that two positive cases had been reported.

He said the initial step was to determine if the people had attended school during the infectious period, defined as two days prior to becoming symptomatic or, if asymptomatic, two days prior to testing. In each case, the individual did not attend school, he said.

Mr. Kulak also stated that out of an “abundance of caution,” the school felt it was necessary to determine who was in close contact with the positive cases. He said they determined that there were “no primary student contacts that needed to be notified.”

He said they did notify students who were in the pod with the confirmed case, but only to notify

them that there was a case in their pod.

“We have been working with staff and families on a case-by-case basis to create the safest environment for our learning community and will continue to communicate with our school community on a regular basis,” reads the letter.

On 10/2, Mr. Kulak sent another email informing parents that another case had been identified.

He said all three cases are not believed to be connected.

“At this point, if you have not been contacted....you are not considered to be a close contact and do not require testing and/or quaranting,” he wrote.

“While we expect to see positive cases as we continue to move through the school year, we want to emphasize the importance of trying to stay within safety guidelines in and out of school,” reads the 10/2 letter. “Most importantly, if you have ANY symptoms, stay home and all the school to inform.”

In other COVID news, Mass. Governor Charliel Baker said he

would leave it up to individual communities to allow trick-or-treating this Halloween.

He said the problem with banning the practice is that people will hold large indoor parties, which is worse for the spread of the virus, and a “very bad idea.”

He said the state will be issuing tips and advice about Halloween, but he will not issue mandates or rules.

As of Tuesday, 10/6/20, the state had 133,359 confirmed cases; 9323 deaths, with eight being reported on 10/6; 454 new cases reported on 10/6; and 2,330,656 people tested.

On 10/6, Fairhaven was still in the yellow zone, which is not the lowest zone, but is considered moderate risk; Acushnet was also yellow, a change from last week when it was gray; Rochester was also yellow, which is a change from its gray designation last week. Mattapoisett and Marion are still gray.

For the latest updates in Massachusetts, visit <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-updates-and-information>

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Selectboard discusses moving legal ads from *Neighb News*

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

The chairperson of the Fairhaven Selectboard was hoping for immediate support of his motion to stop publishing the town's legal ads in the *Fairhaven Neighborhood News* on 10/5, but Selectboard members refrained from seconding Daniel Freitas' motion without first gathering more information to determine the consequences of such an action.

Beth David, *Neighb News* publisher and editor, presented some background on the town's use of her free weekly newspaper to post its legal advertisements and offered some information on pricing among the community's three printed publications. According to Ms. David, the conversation about whether to continue to publish legal ads in the *Neighb News* came up a few years ago. The Selectboard reviewed the three options, the pricing, and the circulation, and determined that each committee and board could decide for itself where to publish its legal ads, given that the *Neighb News* offered the lowest price and had a higher readership than the paid weekly newspaper.

Ms. David referred to a survey released by the Fairhaven Town Government Study Committee in 2014 showing that nearly twice the number of responders used the *Neighb News* as its primary source for news than the other weekly, and almost as many as those that read the region's local daily newspaper. And although the other weekly paper's rates are similar to the *Neighb News*, legal ads placed in the local daily paper would cost "three to four times the cost" of her paper, said Ms. David.

Most boards use the *Neighb News* not only because of price, but also because of readership, she told the board. She prints 3,200 copies while the other weekly has a documented circulation of 235. Furthermore for the last couple of years, the other weekly paper does not appear to have any editor or staff contributing to its content.

"Any way you look at it ... we've got at least 1,000 people who read us religiously every single week," Ms. David said, adding that state law governs how municipalities must publish legal ads and that the *Neighb News* complies with those laws.

"I believe that the reason this has come up is because some people have been questioning the efficacy of using the *Neighb News*," she said referring to Mr.

Freitas's concern that some residents have expressed that they were not informed about upcoming public hearings, although no specific examples were presented.

Ms. David pointed out that abutters are informed directly by the town via certified mail, but hearings are advertised in the newspaper to notify all residents of the town.

"Because everybody in the community has a stake in these things, not only abutters," said Ms. David. She offered to assist however she could, whether by increasing legal ad size, format, social media outreach, or by running the ads for longer time periods.

She admitted that if the town moves its legal ads, it will be a financial hit for the paper.

"It won't kill us, but it'll hurt. It'll hurt," she said.

What was once a "nice magazine to read," said Mr. Freitas, has turned into "something more of a gossip column" where "words get twisted to seem like it's something else."

She urged the board to speak with the chairpersons of the various boards to understand why they use the *Neighb News*.

Mr. Freitas acknowledged that he put the item on the agenda for discussion. He claimed that lately he has received calls about the "attitude" of the *Neighb News*.

"It's gotten to be a little bit more gossipy," said Mr. Freitas.

He noted that one of Ms. David's recent editorials referred to a board meeting as a "shitshow" and he expressed concern about the first impressions of visitors to Fairhaven reading such things.

He also criticized the 10/1 issue of the *Neighb News* because of coverage of Fairhaven Board of Health Chairperson Peter DeTerra having hosted his daughter's wedding on his property that may have violated the state's COVID-19 restrictions governing private gatherings during the pandemic.

"I don't like it when you attack the officials, but I really don't like it when you're attacking the officials' children. I think that's going a little bit low," he said.

What was once a "nice magazine to read," said Mr. Freitas, has turned into "something more of a gossip column"

where "words get twisted to seem like it's something else."

He claimed that people no longer read the *Neighb News* because its content has become "slanted" and has turned "pretty ugly."

He claimed the paper was not getting the same number of people reading it and it was time for a change: "I know there's going to be a cost for us, but I don't think we should be ... getting into the gossip business."

Selectboard member Bob Espindola said he would prefer to hear specific examples of people not being informed of a public hearing, and also the cost difference.

Mr. Freitas asked Ms. David if in a recent editorial she referred to a board meeting as a "shitshow," and she admitted that she likely did. He then asked whether she printed an article about Mr. DeTerra's alleged wedding party on his property, to which she replied, "I most certainly did, and there's ... going to be another one in this week."

Mr. Freitas tried to establish that the police, upon arrival at Mr. DeTerra's property, "found nothing," but Ms. David countered that the police saw "30 to 40 cars" on the property, indicating that there were likely more than 50 people in attendance, beyond the state's restrictions on that date.

"You realize he's the Board of Health chair, right?" said Ms. David. "So that's why this is relevant. It's not like I just went and picked on some guy who had a wedding in his back yard. He's the Board of Health chair who just fired somebody because of chickens in her yard, so I just felt it was necessary."

"Like I said, your page has turned more into more of a gossip column," said Mr. Freitas.

"No it hasn't," said Ms. David. "We do more meeting coverage than anybody.... It is not a gossip sheet. There's my little editorial on one single page where I get to have a little fun and, Mr. Freitas, you constantly tell everyone that you have a thick skin; I believe that you're confusing a thick skin with a thin skin."

Mr. Freitas then announced that the board was moving forward with a motion, but was interrupted by Mr. Espindola calling Mr. Freitas out for using the same language (shitshow) during a government meeting that he criticized Ms. David for using in her paper.

"Are you kidding me?" said Mr. Freitas.

SELECT: cont'd on page 19

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

Fairhaven Farmers Market

At the Bright Yellow Farm Stand, 151 Alden Road, Fairhaven (next to National Bleach). Sundays through 10/25, 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Featuring beef, chicken, produce farms, honey, eggs, herbs, jams, organic soaps and bath salts. Accepts senior and WIC Farmers Market Coupons, SNAP.

Please practice social distancing and wear a mask.

Contact: 508-496-9209; allnaturalbeef@comcast.net

Marsh Isl. Cleanup

Sun., 10/11, 7:45–9:45 a.m. Meet at Riverside Cemetery. Join the Fairhaven Acushnet Land Preservation Trust and organizer Russ Wotton for a cleanup of Marsh Island in Fairhaven. Meet at Riverside Cemetery, far right hand side, along the wall between 7:30 and 7:45 a.m. Russ will lead the group onto Marsh Island for the cleanup.

Volunteers should bring gloves and wear boots, dress for the weather, and bring water if they think they will need it. Face masks are required while within six feet of others. Bags, pails and pickers provided. Contact is via Facebook.

Fishing Derby

The 2020 Massachusetts Saltwater Fishing Derby runs through 11/30. Entries must be caught on rod and reel, meet minimum qualifying weights and lengths, and be caught in state waters and/or first landed in a Massachusetts port.

For entry forms and additional information about the Derby visit https://www.mass.gov/saltwater-fishing-derby?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Fish submitted for the weigh-in portion of the derby must be measured and weighed at a *Marine Fisheries certified weigh station*. Anglers participating in the catch and release portion of the derby are required to submit a picture of their fish on a measuring device. Entries may be mailed to our New Bedford office or emailed to john.boardman@mass.gov.

Awards will be given to those anglers catching the heaviest (Weigh-In) or longest (Catch & Release) of

each species for each of the three divisions: Men's, Women's, and Junior's (boys and girls aged 15 and younger).

For entry forms and additional information about the Derby visit https://www.mass.gov/saltwater-fishing-derby?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

False election claims

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) are issuing this announcement to raise awareness of the potential threat posed by attempts to spread disinformation regarding cyberattacks on U.S. voter registration databases or voting systems.

During the 2020 election season, foreign actors and cyber criminals are spreading false and inconsistent information through various online platforms in an attempt to manipulate public opinion, discredit the electoral process, and undermine confidence in U.S. democratic institutions. These malicious actors could use these forums to also spread disinformation suggesting successful cyber operations have compromised election infrastructure and facilitated the “hacking” and “leaking” of U.S. voter registration data.

In reality, much U.S. voter information can be purchased or acquired through publicly available sources. While cyber actors have in recent years obtained voter registration information, the acquisition of this data did not impact the voting process or the integrity of election results. In addition, the FBI and CISA have no information suggesting any cyberattack on U.S. election infrastructure has prevented an election from occurring, compromised the accuracy of voter registration information, prevented a registered voter from casting a ballot, or compromised the integrity of any ballots cast.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Seek out information from trustworthy sources, verify who produced the content, and consider their intent.
- Rely on state and local election officials for information about voter registration databases and voting systems.

- View early, unverified claims with a healthy dose of skepticism.
- Verify through multiple reliable sources any reports about compromises of voter information or voting systems, and consider searching for other reliable sources before sharing such information via social media or other avenues.
- Report potential election crimes—such as disinformation about the manner, time, or place of voting—to the FBI.
- If appropriate, make use of in-platform tools offered by social media companies for reporting suspicious posts that appear to be spreading false or inconsistent information about voter information or voting systems.

The FBI and CISA coordinate closely with federal, state, and local election partners and provide services and information to safeguard U.S. voting processes and maintain the integrity of U.S. elections. Both organizations urge the American public to critically evaluate the sources of the information they consume and to seek out reliable and verified information.

The FBI is responsible for investigating malign foreign influence operations and malicious cyber activity targeting election infrastructure and other U.S. democratic institutions. CISA is responsible for protecting the nation's critical infrastructure from physical and cyber threats and has provided voluntary guidance, training, exercises, and other resources to help state and local election officials secure their voter registration systems and data.

The FBI encourages the public to report information concerning suspicious or criminal activity to their local field office (www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices) or to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (www.ic3.gov). For additional assistance, best practices, and common terms, please visit the following websites:

- Protected Voices: www.fbi.gov/investigate/counterintelligence/foreign-influence/protected-voices
- Election Crimes and Security: www.fbi.gov/scams-and-safety/common-scams-and-crimes/election-crimes-and-security
- #Protect2020: www.cisa.gov/protect2020

DeTerra “COVID wedding” had 16 tables

By Beth David
Editor

Fairhaven Board of Health Chairperson Peter DeTerra insisted last week that the wedding he hosted at his farm for his daughter on 8/29/20 only had 50 guests. But the florist for the event posted photos on social media sites, noting in several posts: “Covid wedding!! Big one! 16 tables, arbor, entry sign in window, wedding party and dog collar!!”

Photos on Facebook and Instagram from the florist, “Sweet Pea Designs and Red Velvet Florist,” were easily matched and compared to Mr. DeTerra’s daughter’s pages.

Photos show rows of chairs not spaced apart during the ceremony, and other tables spaced a few feet apart in the reception area.

The florist also posted a seating board, with 16 tables and names that clearly show nine or 10 names to a table.

The *Neighb News* was unable to reach Mr. DeTerra by phone, several phone calls over multiple days were not answered or returned. There was no option to leave a message.

In a phone interview, Board of Health member Geoffrey Haworth said he was not at the wedding and he had no way of knowing if the tables were filled or had empty seats.

He said he had not seen any pictures proving that there were more than 50 people at the event.

The maximum allowed on 8/29 was 50 people due to COVID-19 restrictions. The Board of Health is one of the enforcement authorities for COVID related infractions. It is a civil infraction, which could result in a \$500 fine. Police were called and noted that they saw 30-40 cars, but they did not enter the premises. (See *Neighb News* 10/1/20, page 6.)

Mr. Haworth did say that he knew the “state” had already sent a letter, and he was expecting that letter to arrive at the BOH office.

The *Neighb News* was not able to get a copy of the letter or any documentation from the Department of Public Health, but they did confirm that they have no links between any current cases and the wedding.

Mr. Haworth also took issue with last week’s article mentioning his

congratulations post on Facebook. He said it was unfair to single him out and that he was only sending his congratulations as many other people did, who were not mentioned in the article.

“I have no comment,” said Board of Health member Michael Ristuccia. “I do not know if your facts are accurate or not.”

He added that he did not know the facts and knew nothing about a letter from DPH.

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Fairhaven Rotary donates pens for voting day



The Fairhaven Rotary donated 1,000 pens to the Fairhaven Town Clerk for use on voting day. Due to COVID-19, polling places will include a number of protocols to keep everything sanitized and to minimize people touching the same untreated surfaces. This includes pens and pencils. Voters are encouraged to use their own pens. If they forget one, then one will be provided and voters are encouraged to take it with them. LEFT: Fairhaven Rotary president (LEFT) Pattie Pacella, rotary member Melissa Kucharski, and Fairhaven Planning and Economic Development Director Paul Foley (RIGHT) pose with Fairhaven Town Clerk Carolyn Hurley, who is holding pens donated by the Rotary for use on election day, when voters will be encouraged to take their pens with them due to COVID-19.

Submitted photo.

In Loving Memory



Gus Medeiros

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HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

At the Drive-In

Drive-Ins are back, at the Seastreak Ferry Whale's Tooth parking lot, 532 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford. Visit <https://zeiterion.org/drivein/> for details and to buy tickets.

ADAM EZRA GROUP, Thursday, October 15, 7PM, \$50/vehicle

Talk to any Adam Ezra Group fan around the country and they'll tell you that each of their performances is a one-of-a-kind, community-driven experience, propelled by the spirit of the people in front of the stage. For both fans and band members alike, an AEG concert is a rally to live life with intensity and soak in the moments we share with one another. Adam Ezra Group is Adam on guitar and vocals, Corinna Smith on fiddle, accordion, and vocals, Alex Martin on drums, percussion, vocals, and Poche Ponce on bass, and vocals.

LIVINGSTON TAYLOR, Friday, October 16, 7PM, \$50/vehicle

Livingston Taylor's 50-year musical legacy has been described as "equal parts Mark Twain, college professor, and musical icon." A natural performer, his Taylor-esque sound and a unique mix of music, anecdotes and ineffable warmth have fans exclaiming, "His storytelling made me anticipate every word. Taylor connects with his audience like nobody else." A prolific songwriter with 22 albums, Livingston hasn't stopped performing since his early coffeehouse days and has shared the stage with major artists such as Joni Mitchell, Linda Ronstadt, Fleetwood Mac, Jimmy Buffett, and Jethro Tull. Come hear this airplane-flying, motorcycle-riding, singing storyteller at this unique waterfront stage.

Business Webinars

Fast Track Tuesday - Scaling Your Sales Efforts, Tues., 10/13, 11 a.m. Register today: <http://bit.ly/ScalingYourSalesEfforts>

Fast Track Thursday - Virtual Networking Idea Share, Thurs., 10/15, 11 a.m. Register today so that you can participate in this exciting new platform: <http://bit.ly/VirtualNetworkingIdeaShare>

Virtual Events - The Massachusetts Small Business Development Center (MSBDC) would like to invite all small business owners in Massachusetts to join them in this FREE webinar series.

The Fast Track series is a weekly combination of a Tuesday webinar, on practical and tactical business topics, combined with a Thursday virtual networking meeting, using Blitzr, a brand new platform designed to create high-energy collaboration and idea sharing.

The MA Small Business Development Center Network (www.msbdcenter.org/semass) provides free and confidential business advice to existing or prospective small business people. We also offer training seminars on a variety of topics.

Looking Back, Moving Forward

This October, we celebrate the history of the LGBTQ+ community and recognize the struggles - and the triumphs - our community has experienced over the past several decades. As we head into the end of the year, people are getting ready to head to the polls for one of the most consequential presidential elections in history for marginalized individuals in the South Coast and everywhere. We encourage everyone to help ensure a bright future for the LGBTQ+ community by supporting candidates and policies that provide equal rights for us all.

October is LGBT Hist. Month

Learning from our past helps us build a bright future. LGBT History Month was founded in 1994 after Rodney Wilson, a gay Missouri high school teacher, proposed that a month should be set aside to educate people on the civil rights journey of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people, as well as their contributions to history. Early supporters of the idea included former Massachusetts Governor William Weld and the former Mayor of Boston, the late Thomas Menino. The Human Rights Campaign provides a thoughtful overview of LGBT History Month, as does GLAAD.

Out of the Shadows

Celebrating National Coming Out Day, October 11 In honor of LGBT History Month, The South Coast LGBTQ+ Network has created a new series called "Out of the Shadows," featuring profiles of local LGBTQ+ individuals whose stories we hope

will inspire others to be who they are, freely and unapologetically. The campaign will launch on National Coming Out Day, October 11. Look for it on our Facebook page.

Trans and Nonbinary Support Group

Providing a safe, open, and non-judgmental space. A trans and nonbinary support group is now getting together, with social distancing protocols strictly observed, every other Wednesday in Westport, Mass. This is a place where individuals (ages 12+) can share their experiences, hopes, and dreams. The group is moderated by a clinical psychologist. Food is provided at no charge, and transportation support may be available.

Contact Eileen Dugas at eileen@sclgbtqnetwork.org for more information.

For more info, visit <https://www.sclgbtqnetwork.org>

Mini Bazaar/ Lebanese Food

Our Lady of Purgatory Maronite Catholic Church is happy to announce that we will be sponsoring a **Mini Christmas Bazaar/Take Out Food Fest on Sun., 10/25, from 12 Noon to 5 p.m.** This special fundraiser is taking the place of the Summer Festival and Christmas Bazaar due to Covid-19. In light of the pandemic, this event will be **pre-paid & carry-out only.**

The full menu of food and pastries will be available on our website at www.ourladyofpurgatory.org. There will also be a link that you can use to place your order online. Then all you need to do is drive up on the 25th and pick up your delicious food.

In addition to the Take Out Food Fest, we'll still be holding our the Annual Theme Baskets & Cash Raffle. These drawings will be held on Sunday, 11/22, immediately following the Divine Liturgy. The theme baskets will be shown via Zoom and will also be available for viewing on our website.

More details will be available next week. Contact the Rectory at (508) 996-8934 or ourladyofpurgatory@verizon.net

Hoarding Workshop

In collaboration with the Acushnet Senior Center and the Acushnet Fire Department, the New Bedford Fresh Start Program is sponsoring a hoarding remediation support group known as Buried in Treasures.

This support group is designed for individuals who struggle with hoarding disorder and/or individuals who are interested in learning how to support someone they know who struggles with hoarding disorder, such as spouses, children, family members, care givers, etc. Please keep in mind that those who join must commit to the entire length of the support group (roughly twenty weeks). While we understand the duration of the support group sounds like a long time, the program does fly by and members of the group form a bond in which helps to support each other during the process.

Acushnet Senior Center, 59 ½ South Main Street, Acushnet, MA 02743. Facilitator: Amanda Blais (amandablais@comcast.net). Saturdays beginning October 10, 2020 from 10am to Noon

To join, please e-mail the group facilitator listed above or simply visit the location on the meeting date. The support group is **FREE and we welcome all of Greater New Bedford!**

Halloween Show

Hammond Castle Museum Offers "Horror of Abbadia Mare" a hand-crafted adaptation of **Five H.P. Lovecraft stories, Oct. 9; 16; 23; 30**

Program This Halloween season Hammond Castle Museum will offer a room to room-to-room theater performance of *The Horror of Abbadia Mare*, an adaptation of five H.P. Lovecraft stories set within the Castle and adapted around one of America's most prolific inventors of his time, John Hays Hammond Jr. The five adaptations include Lovecraft's *Dunwich Horror*, *Dreams in the Witch House*, *The Hound*, *the Color Out of Space*, and *From Beyond*. Set in the fall of 1929, Hammond falls prey to his genealogy which was cursed nearly four centuries ago. As guests move through the inner rooms of the Castle they come upon various members of the Hammond household and are

drawn into a story of frantic and tragic happenings within the Castle's walls.

Performances begin at 6 pm and run every 15 minutes through 9 pm on Friday, October 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th. **Tickets are \$25 each. Advance ticket purchase is required, at: [hammondcastle.org/TheHorror](https://www.hammondcastle.org/TheHorror). Hammond Castle Museum, 80 Hesperus Avenue, Gloucester,**

Free Douglass Talk

Visit <https://www.stagesoffreedom.org/frederick-douglass> **Fri. 10/9 at 6PM Register now.**

Join us for a free virtual talk with Pulitzer Prize winner Dr. David Blight, whose book, *Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom*, is being made into a major motion picture, as he explores Douglass' long & little-known relationship with Rhode Island. The event concludes with a spiritual sung by the Schiller Chorus.

Virtual Shakespeare

Hub Theatre Company of Boston returns to the (virtual) stage this fall with William Shakespeare's timeless comedy *Much Ado About Nothing*, directed and adapted by Bryn Boice. The show will be performed live online at 7:30pm on Saturday, Nov. 14, Friday, Nov. 20 and Saturday, Nov. 21 and also at 4:00pm on Sunday, Nov. 15. All performances are Pay-What-You-Can For tickets and information please visit our webpage at www.hubtheatreboston.org

Beatrice and Benedick hate each other so much... it must be love! Classical Shakespeare and modern technology collide in Hub Theatre's take on Shakespeare's comedically combative courtship. With witty wordplay, memorable misadventures and modern miscommunications, this timeless romantic comedy explores the many masks we wear (both literally and figuratively) when it comes to finding love.

Hub Theater Company of Boston, Inc., founded in 2012, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit professional non-Equity theatre company committed to entertaining, captivating, socially aware and emotionally engaging theatre in intimate settings. In the interest of cultivating a diverse

audience and breaking down barriers between audience and art, all tickets to all performances are Pay-What-You-Can. For tickets and information please visit our webpage at www.hubtheatreboston.org

Life Saving Station Open House

The historic Horseneck Point Life-Saving Station (LSS) will be open to the public on **Columbus Day Weekend (Oct. 10-12)** for visitors to delve into the area's maritime past, learn about the plants and animals that call Buzzards Bay their home and discover the scenic beauty of the coast.

The Life-Saving station, which is now located near the causeway to Gooseberry Island, will be **open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday through Monday** for adults and families interested in learning about the Bay's treacherous entrance, and the history of oil spills and accidents that have driven recent successes in environmental protection.

On Monday, Oct. 12, the center will host a special program, a **Photographic Scavenger Hunt**, that takes a playful approach to learning about and practicing the art of nature photography. This activity, which will be led by photographer Greg Stone, is free. However, space is limited and **registration is required.**

Built in 1888 to protect sailors along this dangerous stretch of Buzzards Bay's coastline, the Horseneck Point Life-Saving Station was restored and reopened as a visitor center in 2009 by the Westport Fishermen's Association. Today, the Lifesaving Station is managed by the Buzzards Bay Coalition, following the Coalition's merger with the WFA. **Admission is free.** In keeping with current public health regulations, however, all visitors will be asked to wear a mask while inside the station. In addition, visitors may be asked to wait outside if the building is at capacity.

The Horseneck Point Life-Saving Station is typically open to the public seasonally from June through September, and hosts select programs throughout the fall and winter For more information visit savebuzzardsbay.org/events.

Recipe of the Week Rhubarb Raspberry Crunch

1 cup white sugar
1 tablespoon instant tapioca
1 tablespoon cornstarch
1/8 teaspoon salt
4 c rhubarb, cut into 1/2" pieces
1 cup raspberries
1/2 cup brown sugar
1/2 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 cup quick cooking oats
1/2 cup butter, chilled

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease a 9x13 inch baking pan.

In a large bowl, combine sugar, tapioca, cornstarch and salt. Place rhubarb and raspberries into bowl making sure to completely coat them with dry ingredients. Pour into baking pan.

In a medium bowl, mix together brown sugar, flour and oats. Cut in butter until mixture resembles pea-sized crumbs. Spread on top of fruit mixture.

Bake in preheated oven for 45 minutes, or until rhubarb is tender. *From allrecipes.com*

From our readers

Are residents satisfied with mediocrity?

Is this town really so willing to be satisfied with the mediocrity of its board members?

It seems that the conduct displayed toward Mary Kellogg bordered on an Inquisition. A real

chop job and completely warrantless. I'd like to know how many of the three gentlemen on the Board of Health might enjoy the same interrogation techniques which they employed.

Maybe it is time to put them in the hot seat...

Susan Spooner, Fairhaven

Deer hunting season with archery opens

It's that time of year, when people want to get outside and hike in the woods among the colorful leaves. But it's also that time of year when archery hunters are out trying to nab some venison.

So if you're heading into the woods, wear orange or red, or any bright color that will alert hunters that you are NOT a deer. If you have a dog, make sure you have a orange vest on him/her.

Archery opened on 10/5 for zones 10-14. Fairhaven and Acushnet are in Zone 11. Zones 1-9 open on 10/19. Archery season ends on 11/28.

Shotgun season is open from 11/30 to 12/12. Primitive firearms season is

open from 12/14 to 12/31.

October is also the month that various game birds, such as wild turkey, quail, ruffed grouse, and pheasant are open.

Rabbits and squirrels can be taken started 10/17 in zone 11.

Coyotes can be taken starting 10/17 and hunting season goes to 3/8/21. Foxes may be hunted beginning on 11/2 through 2/7/21.

Opossum and raccoons are already in season to January 30, 2021.

For more information, visit the Mass Wildlife website at <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/division-of-fisheries-and-wildlife>, email Mass.Wildlife@mass.gov or call 508-389-6300.

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Board of Health dispatches 18 open meeting law complaints

By Beth David
Editor

At its meeting on 10/5/20, the Fairhaven Board of Health addressed 18 Open Meeting Law complaints, all submitted by Amy Singelais.

Town Counsel Thomas Crotty told the board he had put together responses to four categories of the complaints. For 12 of them, he said the complaints did not arrive within the 30-day time limit so “no response is necessary,” he said.

Two others were not dated and signed, so the Attorney General’s office said the board does not have to address them. Two of the complaints referred to minutes that were not approved in a timely manner.

Mr. Crotty said that Ms. Singelais sent the requests to the wrong place, resulting in the delay. However, the end result was that the requests did not reach the BOH office in time, so the board did not have to respond to those specific requests.

Ms. Singelais tried to speak via Zoom, but was not allowed to, quickly getting muted by the IT person at the direction of BOH member Michael Ristuccia.

Eventually, Ms. Singelais was allowed to speak. She said she did send the requests to the town clerk and the BOH. She said she mailed them at the same time so she did not understand how they arrived at the clerk’s office, but not the BOH office.

Two complaints were for discussing something that was not on the agenda, in regards to a letter Mr. Ristuccia read and some comments on Facebook.

Mr. Crotty said the response should be that the matter was not anticipated when the agenda was created.

“In any event, there was no

deliberation on that,” said Mr. Crotty, it was simply read into the record, so there was no violation.

Two complaints charged that former Health Agent Mary Freire-Kellogg, who was fired by the board, was not given enough notice by the board for a meeting.

Mr. Crotty also cleared up a misunderstanding that board members had about executive session minutes. He said they were required to approve the minutes, but that does not mean they have to release them to the public. He said if the board decides to table minutes or not approve them, they should state the reason for the record.

The board tabled the minutes from 7/9/20, 7/28/20, 7/30/20, because they were remotely accessed and Mr. Haworth said, “they were written in a way that they don’t seem accurate to the tapes.”

He said the tapes are being “reviewed” with the minutes.

The board voted to approve the letters that Mr. Crotty wrote for each of the items.

Board members also noted that all the complaints came from the same person who is Ms. Freire-Kellogg’s sister and is not a Fairhaven resident.

Mr. Haworth said the complaints were just “complaints in general” and not actual violations of the Open Meeting Law.

“It’s coming from a Marion resident who is the sister of the former health agent,” said Mr. Haworth. “I just want the public to know what’s really going on here.”

He added that it costs the town money to have town counsel involved for something that does not add up to a real complaint, and said it was “annoying” to get 18 complaints.

Ms. Singelais jumped in and said it was “annoying” that they have not accepted meeting minutes since May 28th.

Once again, said Mr. Haworth, the meeting was being interrupted by “childish shenanigans.”

Mr. Ristuccia said it took time away from “public health matters” that the board should be dealing with.

The board also took some time to say that the department was in a shambles three months ago, but all was running smoothly now.

“What you see in the Neighbor [sic] News and on Facebook is not what’s happening,” said Mr. DeTerra. “This Board of Health is running smooth.”

Mr. Ristuccia said when he got there three months ago phone calls were not being answered, no one was in the office, and permits were not being issued.

“It’s night and day,” he said, then sang the praises of Mr. Haworth, the newest member. “To think this department is not running well is an inaccurate statement....It’s just cruising. I’m excited about it.”

In other business, Interim Health Agent Sarah Dupont told the board that as of 9/30/20, Fairhaven had 11 active cases of COVID-19, bringing the total to 274. She said the town was still yellow on the state map, which was not much of a change from last week, but did show a general rise from the previous week.

She said it was important for people to stay “vigilant,” and continue to wash hands, avoid touching their faces, practice social distancing and wear masks.

Ms. Dupont also noted that the state is now in step two of phase three of reopening the states businesses. Indoor and outdoor performance venues are now allowed to be open at 50% capacity, up to 250 people maximum, and most recreational businesses can also open, but with restrictions.

Mr. Haworth noted that he has noticed people are becoming lax about wearing masks. He said the office has received some complaints. He urged people to continue social distancing and to wear masks.

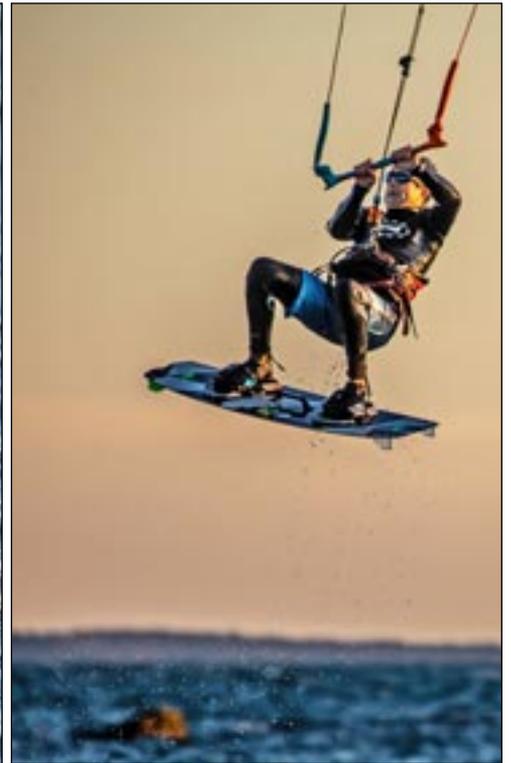


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Kiteboarders make good use of some October sun



Kiteboarders (aka kitesurfers), including, Matthew Abenaki (ABOVE LEFT and BELOW LEFT) and a few others, enjoy a warm October afternoon at West Island Town Beach on Saturday, 10/3/20. The antics of the group, flying up into the air, and cruising along the water, gave photographer Margie Green Joseph some great material. ABOVE LEFT: Kiteboarder Matthew Abenaki is all smiles as he takes advantage of a warm day in October on Saturday, 10/3/20, at West Island Town Beach in Fairhaven. ABOVE RIGHT: The sun begins to set behind a kiteboarder as he gains some serious altitude. BELOW LEFT & RIGHT: Kiteboarders takes advantage of the warm weather. *Photos by Margie Green Joseph.*



Cleary's Pub liquor license sold at auction

By Beth David
Editor

It's one of those things that's good and not-so-good at the same time. The liquor license that formerly belonged to Cleary's Pub, owned by Andrew "Drew" Tillett, was reacquired by Cathy and Ken Melanson, who owned the license when it was at EJ's pub, the same building that Cleary's was in. The Melansons still own the building, and are planning to rent it out to Minh Tieu, who will open Travelers Alehouse at the location.

Ms. Melanson said she was "happy to get it back," meaning the liquor license; but not so happy that she had to pay for her own license, to the tune of \$27,000.

The auction was held last Tuesday, 9/29, at the location on Huttleston Avenue in Fairhaven. Ms. Melanson said that Mr. Tillett left behind a slew of unpaid bills and taxes that tied up the liquor license and almost led to her losing it.

Approximately 12 people showed up to the auction. The opening bid was \$25,000, and Dennis Arsenault

upped the ante by bidding \$26,000. In the end, Ms. Melanson was able to buy back her license for \$27,000.

She said she will "pledge" the license to Mr. Tieu, but this time with many safeguards in place, so there will not be a repeat of the last time.

Cleary's closed suddenly the first week in November of last year, and the site has been empty since then.

Ms. Melanson said the next steps include registering the change with the town and the state. She hopes the new business will be up and running sometime in November.

"The place looks phenomenal," said Ms. Melanson.

She said Mr. Tieu has taken advantage of the time he had by working at the site. He worked at Cleary's Pub in a variety of capacities, including manager and head chef.



Dennis Arsenault makes a bid on the liquor license at the former location of Cleary's Pub in Fairhaven, which sold for \$27,000 to building owners Cathy and Ken Melanson. Photo by Glenn C. Silva.

Friends of Bike Path announced challenge grant

Press Release

The Friends of the Mattapoisett Bike Path (the "Friends") announced that they have received a commitment from a local donor to match dollar for dollar every donation (up to \$25,000) made to the Friends for the completion of the Marion Connector.

"This generous matching commitment brings us much closer to our goal of fully funding this segment of the bike path so that it can be put out to bid in December," said Bonne DeSousa, president of the Friends. "If we can raise the funds to fully utilize this match, we will have what we need. There has been a good deal of interest from prospective donors, and with the help of this matching grant, I am very hopeful that we will have good news to report well before December."

The "Marion Connector" is a half mile bike and pedestrian path between the eastern end of Industrial Park Drive and the Marion Town line, where it will connect with a similar shared use path to be constructed in the future by the Town of Marion.

It provides a trailhead with handi-

capped accessible parking and access to the woodland trails of Tinkham Forest and the Aucoot Woods area. When Marion's Pathway project (which is funded and currently in permit review) is complete, walking, running and cycling on a paved shared use path will be available between Point Road in Marion, Route 105 in Marion and Industrial Drive in Mattapoisett.

The Friends is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization, so contributions to the Friends for the construction of the Marion Connector are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. The Friends will apply 100% of contributions toward the construction of the M a r i o n C o n n e c t o r.

P l e d g e s payable during

2020 or 2021 will count toward meeting the required funding.

Contact Friends of the Mattapoisett Bike Path, PO Box 1336, Mattapoisett, MA 02739; Liz DiCarlo, 508-942-9343, lizdicarlo@comcast.net; Bill Coquillette, 216-789-2303 william.coquillette@gmail.com.

For more information on the bike path, visit mattapoisettrailtrail.org.



The inset shows a portion of the Mattapoisett Rail Trail that will be paved and transformed into the graphic on the right. Submitted graphic.

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[https://www.fairhaven-
ma.gov/recreation-department](https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/recreation-department)**

The Gym is Open!

We have socially distanced!

All cardio equipment has been moved to the gymnasium. No appointment is required. We are open regular hours. At this time no other activities will be allowed in the gymnasium also no rentals

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- Members must sanitize equipment after use
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Fairhaven Council on Aging

The Fairhaven Council on Aging Senior Center remains closed to the public until further notice. The staff is available to take phone calls and to assist you in any way possible.

Flu Shots

Walgreens will be Administering Flu Shots for Fairhaven Seniors 60 years old and older at the Fairhaven Recreation Center on: **October 13th at 2:30 -3:30 p.m. and November 10th at 2:30-3:30 p.m.** Please call Fairhaven Council on Aging for appointment 508-979-4029. Social Distancing will be maintained and masks must be worn. Please bring your health insurance cards with you.

Medicare Open Enrollment

SHINE appointments for MEDICARE open enrollment will be available from October 15th to December 7th SHINE APPOINTMENTS ARRANGED BY THE FAIRHAVEN COUNCIL ON AGING ARE FOR FAIRHAVEN SENIORS ONLY. Seniors from surrounding communities can call the Council on Aging in their Town for SHINE information.

If you have a Medicare Prescription Plan or a Medicare Advantage Plan (HMO or PPO), you should receive a notice from your plan by the end of September. This notice outlines changes to be made to your plan for 2021. During this open enrollment

period, you will be able to make changes to this plan.

Due to social distancing guidelines set by the state, no appointments for SHINE will be held at the Fairhaven COA, however, SHINE counselors will be working from home in an effort to meet your Medicare informational needs.

All correspondence between the seniors and the SHINE counselor will be done over the phone and email, if possible. Exchange of paperwork can be done through the senior center by calling the senior center from the parking lot. Someone will come out to get, or give, you your paperwork, SHINE feels confident that they will continue to be able to provide their outstanding service to those seeking assistance during this crazy and unprecedented time.

Please call the Fairhaven Council on Aging at 508-979-4029, for an appointment to speak with a SHINE counselor.

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Acushnet News

COVID Testing Available for Acushnet Residents

The Acushnet Selectboard authorized the Fire & EMS Department to hold a community-wide Covid testing event. Firefighters and EMTs will be at the parking lot between the Elementary and Middle Schools this Saturday, October 10th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm.

The type of test provided will be the definitive nasal swab test (PCR). Results can be expected anywhere from 24 to 36 hours after the samples are received at the lab. Testing is free of charge and is for Acushnet residents.

No reservations are required, no insurance cards, nothing but your nostril and some patience. We expect many will take advantage of this opportunity and ask you to bear with us as we tweak the process on the fly.

We ask that you wear a mask and maintain at least six feet of social distancing.

"The number of positive cases in Acushnet is rising, as they are across the region," said Fire Chief Kevin Gallagher in a statement. "Earlier this

summer we began beating the drum for testing in our community by the state. We were ignored. Thanks to town government we can offer this service and work toward containing the spread. We continue to test interested teachers and staff at the schools on a weekly basis."

Early Voting Transportation

Early voting will soon begin for the Presidential/State Election. For those seniors needing a ride to the Parting Ways Building to vote, transportation will be available on Thursday, October 22nd starting at 8:30 a.m.

Only two riders, plus driver, will be allowed on the van at any one time. Residents will have to call the COA in advance for a reservation, wear masks the entire duration of the trip and have a temperature screening before boarding the van.

Please call the Acushnet COA, 508-998-0280, for more information.

Free Senior IDs by Appointment

Thursday, October 15th from 11:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. under the outdoor

pavilion at the Acushnet Senior Community Center.

The Bristol County Sheriff's Office has launched a free public safety program for seniors. In just a few minutes, they can create a Senior ID card that has your name, photo and emergency contact.

It's great as a second form of identification, and everyone is offered lanyards so seniors can wear it around their necks. This free program is offered in partnership with COAs and TRIAD groups across the Bristol County area.

You must have an appointment, walk-ins cannot be accommodated, 508-998-0280.

People often say that motivation doesn't last. Well, neither does bathing — that's why we recommend it daily.

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*APR = Annual Percentage Rate.
**For qualified borrowers only. Rates subject to change.
Some restrictions may apply.



Group works to create charter commission in Fairhaven

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

It has been six years since an appointed town government study committee recommended that the Town of Fairhaven adopt a town charter, a task which those committee members determined was beyond the scope of its job, which was to gauge public opinion on the effectiveness of Fairhaven's government and potential changes to its structure.

According to the TGSC's 2014 report, 33% (489) of survey respondents approve of a town charter for Fairhaven while only 9% (128) disapprove; however, the 58% majority (861) answered that they have "no opinion" of developing a town charter, leaving comments such as "Thought we had one", "What is it?", "Unfamiliar with the concept", "Would listen to a discussion on this", and "Not sure."

We are now in the final quarter of 2020, one of the weirdest years of our collective experience when many of us found ourselves, at least for a few weeks, with some significant blocks of free time for binging on TV, decluttering and organizing the home, or quietly ruminating on thoughts of doom and indulging in existential angst.

For Kyle Bueno, a Masters Degree in Public Administration student whose undergraduate degree majored in economics and minored in political science, he saw the pandemic, juxtaposed against the current political system both on the macro and microcosmic level, as an opportunity for citizen engagement and education.

"With COVID-19, it brings about a lot of opportunities to look at current things that are going on in," said Mr. Bueno in a recent interview.

Because of the comments he had been hearing around town from other residents, he said he figured he would read up on the current processes that exist for citizens to initiate legislative change and find empowerment in participating in local government; however, what he found did not sound very empowering to him.

"What I started looking into was what is the process whenever we as a town are looking to make changes or amendments to our current bylaws and, as of right now, we have to

always have a set number of signatures of voters in town and then we have to bring it to the state legislature for approval," said Mr. Bueno. "When I heard that, I was like—we're our own community. Why do we always have to have a certain amount of signatures on a petition ... to then bring that to the legislature? To me that just doesn't make sense. We're Fairhaven, but we have to have [the state legislature's] blessing if we want to make changes?"

Mr. Bueno is a homegrown Fairhavenite. He went to Rogers School, Hastings Middle School, graduated from Fairhaven High, and currently serves as a member of the Fairhaven School Committee. He undertook his independent review of the current status of Fairhaven government simply from his perspective as a citizen, he said, and from that perspective Mr. Bueno believes that what Fairhaven needs is a town charter. And he has initiated that conversation with the introduction of a town charter commission petition to bring the issue to the election ballot.

What is a town charter?

To summarize, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts adopted the Home Rule Amendment to the State Constitution in 1967 accompanied by the state statute known as the Home Rule Procedures Act establishing uniform procedures for municipalities to establish the framework for their government in the form of a home rule charter, which defines the town's organization, its powers, the responsibilities of its officials, and its relationship to its constituents.

No state legislative stamp of approval is required for a home rule charter to become law, and a charter is based on how its voting citizens choose to consolidate and clarify its structure of government. The process can be used to change elected positions to appointed ones, consolidate and professionalize departments, create term limits of elected officials, establish recall provisions to check elected and appointed officials, or create other municipal initiatives like, for example, placing a limit on where sex offenders may reside relative to areas where children and the public congregate. In a nutshell, the town, not the state, with the

The graphic is titled "FAIRHAVEN CHARTER COMMISSION" and features a blue header with the text "LET'S MAKE OUR GOVERNMENT STRONGER TOGETHER THROUGH A...". It is divided into several sections: "WHAT IS A CHARTER?" with a list of points and a book icon; "WHY NOW?" with a lightbulb icon; "THE PROCESS - PETITION" with a checklist icon; "THE PROCESS - ELECTION" with a ballot box icon; "THE PROCESS - REPORT" with a document icon; and "WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? SIGN OUR PETITION TODAY!" with a portrait of a man. At the bottom, it says "ANY QUESTIONS OR WANT TO GET INVOLVED? EMAIL US BELOW AND WE WILL BE HAPPY TO SEND YOU A PETITION!" and provides the email "fairhavencharter@gmail.com".

This info graphic shows the process for creating a Charter Commission in Fairhaven, which could ultimately result in big changes in the way town government is organized. Photo from Kyle Bueno's Facebook page.

exception of certain overarching state laws, determines its course.

"Reading about the best changes we can make in our community, I said, you know what? We should have a charter," said Mr. Bueno. "The people can have more control in their government and can have more of a say in the changes that they want to make."

And what he wants to see happen in the process is apolitical, transparent community engagement where more than ever people feel empowered to participate in making the case for its own town charter — a local constitution, an "owner's manual"

CHARTER: cont'd next page

Charter Commission from previous

of sorts that Mr. Bueno says would reduce inefficiencies in government, clarify reporting structures, establish accountability, and allow local changes without requiring a legislative petition every single time.

A charter, said Mr. Bueno, “signifies the soul of our community as an independent entity controlling our own destiny aside from the legislature.”

Fairhaven has grown, but the government structure has not grown with it, Mr. Bueno believes.

“We can learn from the successes of other communities and we can make government stronger, more accountable.”

For example, he says, a charter could potentially change the representation of seats on the Selectboard and adopt ways to enhance accountability of board and committee members.

Some town charters impose ethics compliance requirements for elected officials and candidates and require campaign finance disclosures. Others have created a citizen participation enforcement position to advance communication and outreach between residents and town officials, and some established new local government financial reporting.

In its 2014 report, the Town Government Study Committee found that “[The] benefits of developing and adopting a Charter are substantial. Its primary value is that it would provide a single, organized, comprehensive document articulating key aspects of the governance of the Town of Fairhaven. It would provide specific operational guidelines for town officials, boards, and employees. The creation of a Commission charged with developing a Charter would constitute the initial step in making local government more transparent, efficient, responsive, and accountable.”

Mr. Bueno referred to the TGSC’s recommendations from 2014, several of which were subsequently rejected by Town Meeting such as abolishing the Board of Public Works and changing the town clerk position from elected to appointed; however, some of those recommendations did come to fruition, such as the town administrator position, to name just one.

He said that was a start, but there is still more work to do to help evolve the town into a well-functioning and accessible government that works for all residents.

The process begins with the petition. Mr. Bueno needs the signatures of 15% of registered voters from the last election, which equals 1,725.

“When you consider a typical local election might only pull in 10% of voters in a slow year, this is a considerable effort,” said Mr. Bueno. “Throw in COVID-19, and it’s even more difficult because we cannot



Kyle Bueno holds up a signature sheet for the Charter Commission petition he is working on in Fairhaven. Photo from Kyle Bueno’s Facebook page.

have public events to gather many signatures. That’s why we need all of you.”

Once the signatures are gathered, the town clerk has 10 days to certify the signatures before the petition is forwarded to the Selectboard, which has 30 more days to call for a ballot question at the next election.

Voters would be asked to vote to determine whether Fairhaven should adopt a town charter commission, a nine-member elected body that will be tasked with drafting the new charter. If they answer ‘yes,’ they continue on to the second part of the ballot question and select who should be on the commission. Citizens that want to be on the charter commission would have to fill out nomination papers within the legal timeframe ahead of the election in order for their names to appear on the ballot. If the question to adopt a

charter commission fails, it dies; the candidate results are moot. If it passes, however, those elected to serve on the charter commission have 18 months to hold meetings, consult with the public, and draft a charter for voters to either accept or reject in a final referendum vote.

“The purpose of the charter commission is to really review what we have and recommend any potential changes for the voters to either approve or reject,” said Mr. Bueno. “The goal is to really make this as transparent, apolitical, and educational as possible. It’s an opportunity for the citizens to learn about how government works and what our current system is. I feel like a lot of residents in town, including I, want to learn more about what our structure is, and this is the most democratic and transparent way to get a charter for Fairhaven.”

Mr. Bueno acknowledged that it would likely be a challenge.

“But the beauty of this process is: no harm, no foul,” he said.

But with a charter, he added, “We can have more control over our government. We can allow more public participation into making thoughtful and deliberate conversations about where we currently are and where we can be.”

And if voters don’t want it, he said, “Then the voters don’t want it and that’s totally fine.”

“Bringing as many people into the conversation as we can is my goal, and I want this to be a united front with people,” he continued, emphasizing the many potential opportunities for public participation throughout the entire process of forming a charter. “I do feel a lot of people in our town love Fairhaven, and I do too. I really do.”

There is much to love about Fairhaven with its scenic coastline, history, extraordinary buildings, and vast outdoor recreational activities, enough for over 16,000 people to make the town their home; a population that is theoretically enough to make Fairhaven a city. According to the Massachusetts Municipal Association, most home rule charters are adopted by towns with a population of 10,000-20,000.

To learn more about Mr. Bueno’s efforts, contact him at kylebueno15@gmail.com.

SELECT: cont'd from page 4

"You're gonna say that because I brought up the word that she used in her thing ... really? I should be censured for this? Wow. The 's-show,' is that we should say?"

"In our government meetings, to be honest with you, I would prefer that," said Mr. Espindola. "My opinion is there's something else going on here and it's not about the people who are saying that they're not getting the message because that's what this was supposed to be about...."

Mr. Freitas interrupted him, saying, "And that's what I said, I did say that. I said that from the beginning. People aren't reading it because it's become more of a gossip column, that's exactly what I said and you can try to twist my words...but that's exactly what I said. You want to make it something else, Bob, and that's not what it is."

"So far I have not heard anybody yet call me or send me an email about this subject saying that they want us to make a change," said Mr. Espindola. "I have heard from other people saying that they would not like us to make a change."

Selectboard member Keith Silvia pointed out that he had used the *Neighb News* for advertising during his campaign earlier this year, "And everything was good, but since then I'm getting some more people saying ... that it's going one-sided ... with issues inside the town hall."

Mr. Silvia then defended Mr. DeTerra, saying that the family is "very, very religious" and that the wedding was "mostly all relatives."

He said he saw the setup inside the wedding venue and the tables were far apart and "families stayed at their tables," although he did not specify how he knew that information.

"The wedding in question was from a town official who has enforcement authority over COVID-related matters," replied Ms. David. "He's the chairperson of that board. For me not to write about that wedding would be an absolute abdication of my responsibilities as a journalist. For me to ignore that and make believe I didn't know about that...."

"What you're doing is you're pulling the legal ads because you don't like the content of my news articles and you don't like the content of my editorials, which are two separate things, and I guess that's your right," Ms. David continued. "The question is, do you want to simply adhere to the letter of the law by running the legal notices in any newspaper, or do you want the most people around to see it? ...

Because my paper's the one they're going to see them in and I assure you that if you pull the legal notices, my readership is not going to change."

"I don't want people who come from out of town to have to read some of the things that are in there," said Mr. Freitas.

"Well, you can't stop me from publishing," said Ms. David. "I know you'd love to, but you can't. People can come from out of town and they're going to read it ... whether the legal notices are in there or not, Mr. Freitas."

Fairhaven resident and former chairperson of the Conservation Commission Andrew Jones said what he saw was the appearance of "retribution" against the paper.

"Nobody has proven any economic or readership number issue to prove that town legal notices should be removed from the [*Neighb News*]," said Mr. Jones, calling it "unarguably our community's paper."

"Freedom of the Press is the number one — it's the First Amendment of the

What you're doing is you're pulling the legal ads because you don't like the content of my news articles and you don't like the content of my editorials, which are two separate things
[Beth David]

United States Constitution. We don't have to agree with her."

Mr. Jones said he was likely the unfortunate topic of a couple articles while chair of the ConCom, "But the *Neighb News* is our newspaper and I don't think that you as a board have proven beyond any type of doubt that... we should be scolding the paper and removing ad revenue and... our ads...."

He also noted that the state and federal government both publish ads in the *Neighb News*, "So if it's good enough for them, it should be good enough for this town. So I stand with the *Neighb News* and I think we should retain having advertisement in that paper, as it is our community newspaper."

Resident Diane Hahn to Mr. Freitas's "ongoing animosity" toward the *Neighb News*.

"And I would like to know your really true reasons for pulling the notices of your meetings because, so far, you haven't proven it to me," said Ms. Hahn. "Her hundreds of readers have seen this

animosity that you have...and apparently you have a very thin skin, which means to me you shouldn't be on this board and I will do everything I can to make that happen."

Mr. Freitas thanked Ms. Hahn and welcomed her to run against him in 2021. He is, however, not up for reelection until 2022.

Mr. Espindola requested that the board postpone a vote until the next meeting.

"How can we make a motion to make a change when we don't even know what it's going to cost?" Mr. Espindola asked.

Mr. Freitas made his motion and waited for it to be seconded

Mr. Silvia asked, "Does anybody know what the prices are or anything like that?"

Mr. Freitas referred to Ms. David's information and said he could go by what she told them, to which Mr. Espindola said would prefer not to.

"If all we care about is the price and we don't care about circulation..." said Mr. Espindola.

Interrupting Mr. Espindola, Mr. Freitas said, "I care about principle. It's the principle of the matter. We shouldn't have to read that."

"We should have all the information before we make a rash decision," said Mr. Espindola.

"I think we need to get what the circulation is," said Mr. Silvia, "and the cost.... We need to see where we are."

"I've got a motion out there," said Mr. Freitas. "If no one seconds it, then I'm fine with it."

"I'm not going to second it," said Mr. Espindola.

"I'd like to add to it that we have to see what ... circulation is, you know?" said Mr. Silvia.

"Okay," said Mr. Freitas.

Mr. Silvia asked Mr. Rees to gather further information for the board to review. Mr. Freitas interrupted to ask him to also try to find articles from the other two newspapers that used the 's-show' word or if any of the other papers featured articles "going after anyone's family."

Mr. Espindola asked Mr. Rees to also speak with the chairs of other boards for their feedback, including added Mr. Freitas, the Board of Public Works.

"You can't control the BPW," said Ms. David.

"Bring your popcorn," said Mr. Freitas, which is a frequent reference from Ms. David's editorials.

"I'm sure they'll be ready for that," he said and chuckled.

Public Hearings/Legal Notices

NOTE: All legal notices are available on the Neighb News website, www.NeighbNews.com, under the "Legal Notices" tab on the top of the main page. Legal ads are also available at <http://masspublicnotices.org>, search under "Fairhaven Neighborhood News"



FHA Board Vacancy

The Town of Fairhaven is seeking one Fairhaven Resident to serve on the Fairhaven Housing Authority. This elected position will be on the ballot in 2022, but in the interim the Housing Authority and the Board of Selectmen must appoint someone to fill the vacancy until the term expires.

Letters of interest may be mailed to the Selectmen's Office, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719 by October 16, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. or emailed to Selectmen@Fairhaven-ma.gov

FNN: 10/8/20



Board Vacancies

The Town of Fairhaven is seeking Fairhaven Residents to serve on various committees. Please consider volunteering to serve on a Board or Committee, by participating on a town Committee/Commission/Board you will have a voice in your local government.

A complete list and description of Committee responsibilities can be found at <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/boards>

Letters of interest may be mailed to the Selectmen's Office, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719 by October 16, 2020 or emailed to Selectmen@Fairhaven-ma.gov

COMMITTEE	# OF VACANCIES	TERM
Conservation Com	3 Full Members	3 years
Conservation Com	3 non-voting consultants	1 year
Community Preserv.	1 Full Member	3 years
Historical Comm.	1 Full Member	3 years
Sustainability Com.	2 Alternate Members	1 year

FNN: 10/8/20

Fairhaven Planning Board Vacancy

The Fairhaven Planning Board has a vacancy following the recent resignation of one of the eight members. The Planning Board and Select Board will hold a joint Hearing on October 19, 2020 at 7:00 pm to choose one Fairhaven resident to serve on the Planning Board until the 2021 Town Election. Letters of interest may be mailed or dropped off at Town Clerk's office in Town Hall with attention to the Planning Office, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719 by October 9, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. or emailed to pfoley@fairhaven-ma.gov

The Planning Board is responsible for the review of development applications for subdivisions and special permits, as well as long-range planning for the Town including Zoning Bylaw amendments, plans such as the

Master Plan and recommendations on housing. The Board also sends representatives to other town committees, such as the Community Preservation Committee and the Economic Development Committee. Anyone interested in serving on the Planning Board should submit a letter of interest to the Town Clerk by October 9, 2020.

Fairhaven Planning Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 6:30 pm
Banquet Room, Town Hall, 40 Center Street
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Notice is hereby given that the Fairhaven Planning Board will conduct a Public Hearing at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday October 13, 2020, in the Town Hall, 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA on RZ 2020-02: **G. Bourne Knowles rezone to Business.** The proposal is to rezone the G. Bourne Knowles property located at 267-270 Huttleston Avenue from a Multifamily/ Apartment zoned district (RC) to Business (B). The Planning Board Meeting will be conducted remotely for the public. To join the Meeting from home, Log on to:

<https://zoom.us/j/96461234265?pwd=endTRjdvQjJsamI3OHNF0G0yZVF0Zz09>
or call 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 964 6123 4265 – Password: 441218. The meeting will also be televised live on Fairhaven TV channel 18 and streamed live on Fairhaventv.com.

The purpose of the hearing will be to receive information and public comment on the following Rezone application: **RZ 2020-02 – G. Bourne Knowles RC to B.** The applicant, G. Bourne Knowles Co., Inc. and Leslie P. Knowles, is requesting a recommendation from the Planning Board to Town Meeting through the Rezoning public hearing review process to rezone their property, from a Multifamily/Apartment zoned district (RC) to Business (B). The location is 267-270 Huttleston Avenue, Map 31B Lots 302, 302A and 302C (22.12 acres).

A copy of the application is on file at the Department of Planning and Economic Development, Town Hall. The Department is currently by Appointment Only. To make an appointment call the Planning Department at (508) 979-4082, Ext. 122 or email pfoley@fairhaven-ma.gov.

For information on the project go to: <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/planning-board/pages/current-permits-being-reviewed-special-permits-definitive-subdivisions>

John Farrell Jr., Chairman of the Planning Board
FNN: 9/24/20, 10/1/20

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Fairhaven Conservation Commission

Monday, October 19, 2020 at 6:30pm
Town Hall, 40 Center Street
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

To Access Meeting Remotely:
<https://zoom.us/j/97665878833?pwd=Y1g5MitNMDM4RlRiNTJ1UGR0QUFGZz09>
or CALL 1-929-205-6099
Meeting ID: 976 6587 8833
Passcode: 082470

The Fairhaven Conservation Commission will hold the following **Public Hearings** pursuant to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. c. 131, s. 40) and the Code of the Town of Fairhaven Chapter 192, Wetlands:

1. SE 023-1333, CON 023-181: **18 Point Street** Notice of Intent filed by Antonio and Doreen Albuquerque to raze the existing house and construct a new flood

zone-compliant single family home with associated utilities and site work at the property located at 18 Point Street, Assessors Map 28B, Lots 207 & 220. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage and the 100-foot buffer zones to Coastal Beach and Coastal Dune.

- CON 023-182: **32 Alder Street** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Alan Vaynerchuck for the removal of existing shed and a portion of the deck area and the construction of a new shed on sonotubes and portion of the deck area at the property located at 32 Alder Street, Assessors Map 43A, Lot 14. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage and the 100-foot buffer zone to Coastal Beach.
- CON 023-183: **6 Causeway Road** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by David Hickox for the removal of an existing gravel driveway and its replacement with concrete at the property located at 6 Causeway Road, Assessors Map 43B, Lot 4. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage and the 100-foot buffer zone to Salt Marsh.
- CON 023-184: **15 James Street** Notice of Intent filed by Kyle Costa to raze the existing house and construct a flood zone-compliant single-family dwelling with associated utilities and site work at the property located at 15 James Street, Assessors Map 2, Lots 146 & 147. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage.
- CON 023-185: **82 Cottonwood Street** Notice of Intent filed by Todd and Juliana Hassett for the construction of a 24-foot by 24-foot garage and paved driveway at the property located at 82 Cottonwood Street, Assessors Map 43C, Lots 82 & 84. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage and the 100-foot buffer zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetland.
- CON 023-186: **172 Bridge Street** Notice of Intent filed by Robert Contreras, New Phoenix Renovations LLC, for the maintenance of existing drainage ditches and removal of invasive species at the property located at 172 Bridge Street, Assessors Map 26, Lot 1. Work to take place in the Bordering Vegetated Wetland and its 100-foot buffer zone.
- CON 023-187: **73 Balsam Street** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Steven Stanhope for the construction of a 10-foot by 12-foot shed on sonotubes at the property located at 73 Balsam Street, Assessors Map 43C, Lots 67 & 69. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage.

8 CON 023-188: **52 Manhattan Avenue** Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Eric and Suzanne Britto for the relocation of an existing paved driveway at the property located at 73 Balsam Street, Assessors Map 28A, Lot 434. Work to take place in Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage.

Public participation will be via virtual means only: Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Fairhaven Conservation Commission will be conducted via remote participation. The public may participate in this meeting via remote participation. Information regarding remote meeting access, listed above, will also be provided on the Conservation Agenda posted on the Town's website at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Copies of the applications listed in this hearing notice may be viewed electronically at: <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/conservation-commission/pages/current-filings>

Geoff Haworth, Chair, Fairhaven Conservation Commission
FNN: 10/8/20

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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Email: NeighbNews@comcast.net

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Generator hook-ups. Eric, 774-849-0425.

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Busy auto repair shop/dealership looking for someone to do clerical/minor bookkeeping, 15-20 hours/week. Typing skill is a must. Call Custom Auto Sales & Service, 508-984-5667.

MAINTENANCE MECHANIC The Fairhaven Housing Authority is seeking a qualified/experienced candidate to fill a 40 hour per week, TEMPORARY position. The Authority is responsible for 284 units of housing. Preference for someone experienced in building maintenance or related field, possess a high school diploma and be able to do routine and diversified work involving repairs to, and maintenance of buildings, building systems, apartments and grounds. Emergency/On call rotation coverage MAY be required. Must possess a valid MA driver's license and be insurable. Successful candidate will be required to pass a physical exam and drug screening, and pass a background check (including criminal history check). The position is expected to last six (6) months but could be longer or shorter, depending upon the Authority's needs. Salary set by the Comm. of MA Dept. of Labor Standards, currently in the range of \$23.62- \$29.01 per hour. Limited benefits available due to temporary position. Send resume to Fairhaven Housing Authority, 275 Main Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719 by October 8, 2020. **NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.** The Fairhaven Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

YARD/GARAGE SALES

YARD SALE Sat., 10/3, 11-4; Sun. 10/4, 10-3. 11 Beachwood St., Fhvn. Household items, furniture, women's clothing, much more.

GARAGE SALE 23 Ash St., Fairhaven, **BEHIND HOUSE** Sat. & Sun., Oct. 3 & 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Tools, snow blower, large oak hutch, household items.

YARD SALE Sat, 10/10, 9-2, 28 Church St., Fairhaven. Quality items, furniture, household, two air conditioners, tools.

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Upcoming Meetings

In-person attendance is restricted during the COVID-19 crisis. The information on how to join remotely is listed on the agendas. Most meetings also run live on the government access channels, and Fairhaven meetings are livestreamed at FairhavenTV.com

Fairhaven

Board of Appeals

Tues., 10/6, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Board of Public Works

Mon., 10/19, Arsene St., 6:30 p.m.

Community Preserv. Comm

Thurs., 10/1, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 10/19, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Espindola Office Hour

Tues., 10/6, Virtual, 6:30 p.m.

See page 5 for details

Finance Committee

Thurs., 10/1, Zoom/Call In, 7 p.m.

Thurs., 10/8, Zoom/Call In, 7 p.m.

Marine Resources Comm.

Thurs., 9/24, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Planning Board

Tues., 10/13, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 10/14, FHS Library, 6:30 p.m.

Selectboard

Mon., 10/19, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Sustainability Committee

Tues., 10/27, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Town Meeting

Tues., 10/20, Zoom/Virtual, 7 p.m.

Acushnet

Board of Appeals

Tues., 10/20, Zoom/Call-in, 6:30 p.m.

Planning Board

Thurs., 10/22, Zoom/Call, 6:30 p.m.

Selectboard

Thurs., 10/20, Zoom/Call-In, 7 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

US Army Corps of Engineers, Cape Cod Canal/Wing's Neck

	Oct 2020	HIGH a.m.	p.m.	LOW a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	8	0047	1312	0533	1815
Friday	9	0144	1409	0625	1921
Saturday	10	0239	1504	0736	2032
Sunday	11	0336	1603	0848	2134
Monday	12	0439	1707	0954	2236
Tuesday	13	0539	1804	1103	2335
Wednesday	14	0629	1852	----	1205*

*= Predicted minus tides from -0.1 ft. to -1.0 ft
**Predicted minus tides from -1.1 ft to -2.0 ft or more

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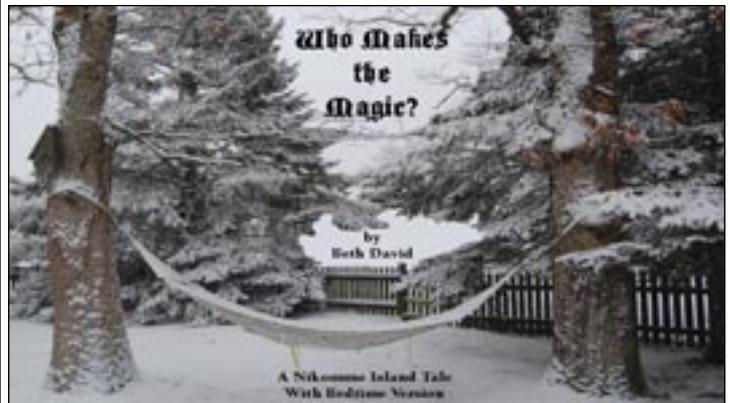
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