



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



The little paper
with a big voice!

Volume 15, Issue 45 • November 19, 2020

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

Manny Sylvia remembered, flag retired



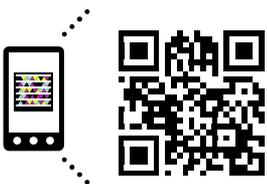
Mike Manley reads from Manny Sylvia's military service documents while a small group listens at a ceremony on 11/11/20 to remember Mr. Sylvia and burn his casket flag and service documents at the Charles F. Albaugh Memorial Flagpole at the Main Street/195 overpass in Fairhaven. Photo by Beth David

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."



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From The Editor

WEST ISLAND —
A day late and many dollars short.

Ah...Fairhaven Board of Health, you are the gift that just keeps on giving. There is not enough popcorn in the world for this one. Protesters outside town hall (see page 7) and a video for it, too; the incomparable Diane Hahn went into the room, and was blocked by the door.

Of course, for that part of the video you'll have to go to our website, or Facebook. The town blocked it on their website. Apparently, the camera operator was told BEFORE meeting that if anyone came into the room, the board would go into recess immediately and the video feed was to be cut. Imagine that, if a resident/voter/constituent has the audacity to go into the room, we now stop the meeting and block out the video so other residents cannot see what happened.

What the ????? Really? There was no reason to block her, no reason to go into recess, no reason to mute. It was simply a tactic to stop her from being heard.

Good luck with that, boys.

The group has started the recall process for three Fairhaven politicians. At this point, they haven't submitted it to the Town Clerk yet. When they do, they will need 2,302 signatures. We'll let you know how to sign when the time comes.

And, the Selectboard has chosen six of the seven members of the Town Administrator Screening Committee (see page 11). The only reason they didn't choose the seventh is because Dan Freitas wasn't at the meeting and they wanted him to be there. Hey...guess how many woman are on the committee so far...guess...c'mon...you KNOW the answer: SIX of the seven are men. Yup. Not a woman in sight.

This town needs some shaking up, in a big way.

Did they even notice? I know the recommendations came in from different places, but...did anyone at least look at the names and think, gee, maybe one of those committees could pick someone else?

Nah...dream on, woman, dream on.

Okay, next week is Thanksgiving and our annual shopping issue. Last chance to get your ad in.

It also signals the end of the year coming up. We won't publish the two weeks of the year, so keep that in mind.

There's a bunch of good stuff in here, not least of which is our cover story about WWII vet Manny Sylvia (see page 12).

As you look, please notice who our advertisers are and let them know you saw their ads in the *Neighb News*.

Until next week then...see ya,



Beth David, Publisher

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

COVID-19 update: Fairhaven, Acushnet in the yellow

By Beth David
Editor

Fairhaven and Acushnet are designated yellow, instead of red, on the state's list of municipalities. It's not that the numbers changed much in either town, but the state changed its metrics a bit.

An outbreak of COVID-19 cases at Alden Court in October, reportedly contributed to Fairhaven's numbers being higher in early November. But that spike does not seem to be a trend according to data on the state's website.

On the November 16 report, all three Fairhaven facilities, Alden Court, Our Lady's Haven, and The Royal, reported no new cases. The Royal reported six resident cases on 11/14.

As of November 12, the state's weekly report (updated on Thursdays), showed Acushnet in the yellow, with a lower number of cases and a lower positive case rate of 4.04%. Acushnet had a total of 234 cases with 39 in the previous 14 days, and three positive tests.

Fairhaven is also yellow, although its case count shows the trend as higher, and a positive test rate of

4.40%. Fairhaven has had a total of 436 cases, with 81 in the previous 14 days, 97 positive tests in the same time period.

Marion has moved into the red. The town has a total of 78 cases, with 43 in the previous 14 days, and 50 testing positive, and a positive test rate of 2.94%, with the trend higher.

Mattapoisett is yellow with 86 total cases, 25 in the previous 14 days, 27 positive tests in the last 14 days, and a positive test rate of 5.5%, which trending higher.

Last week Mass. Governor Charlie Baker announced the establishment of a field hospital in Worcester in anticipation of increased hospitalizations due to COVID. Hospitalizations have increased since Labor Day and officials fear with the cold weather, people being inside and in close quarters, that the spread of COVID-19 will increase.

State officials have imposed more restrictions, such as wearing a mask even outside and limiting gatherings to 10 indoors and 25 outdoors for private gatherings.

Officials have been warning about the holidays, and have urged people

not to have big holiday get-togethers or to travel for Thanksgiving.

If in the presence of those you do not live with officials urged residents to wear a mask when not eating or drinking; not to share food; wash hands often with soap and water; stay six feet apart from others; and improve ventilation indoors by opening windows and doors. Officials also ask residents to consider that those around you may be at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19.

As of November 17, Massachusetts had 186,774 confirmed cases of COVID-19; 32,309 active cases; 835 COVID patients in the hospital, with 159 in ICU; 2,263 new cases were reported on 11/17. The state's seven-day average positivity rate was 3.25%

Get Tested

Fairhaven will hold a test clinic on Saturday, 11/21, from 9 a.m. to noon, at the Recreation Center, 227 Huttleston Ave. (near Stop & Shop). For Fairhaven residents only. Acushnet holds testing events every week for Acushnet residents. Call the Fire Department, 508-998-0250, to find out when the next one is.

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Freitas appoints himself to TA screening committee

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

Fairhaven's next town administrator will be found with the help of a professional hiring consultant and a search committee tasked with narrowing the field of candidates down to a few finalists. With so many stakeholders affected by the outcome of naming a new top dog at Town Hall, Community Paradigm Associates, LLC Founder/Director Bernie Lynch recommended a search committee comprised of a diverse group of individuals.

Back on 10/18, Mr. Lynch gave three tried and true screening committee options for the Selectboard to choose from. The option they chose was for one member from the Finance Committee, School Committee, and Planning Board, and each Selectboard member will be able to appoint one member of the community. The seventh member appointed would be a town employee. However, during the 11/10 meeting, Selectboard Chairperson Daniel Freitas said he preferred to appoint himself to the committee instead of a member of the public, which was seconded by Selectboard member Keith Silvia and passed 2-1. Selectboard member Bob Espindola objected.

Mr. Freitas's 11/10 self-appointment came one week after the regularly scheduled meeting when he up and left the meeting before the TA search discussion was through (see *Neighb News* 11/5/20 issue). This delayed the TA hiring process by another week because, despite Mr. Espindola's reading aloud of the TA position recruitment statement slated for posting, Mr. Freitas refused to approve the final draft that was handed to him that night. He stuck to his principle that he would not take action on material that is handed to him during the meeting. When Mr. Espindola pressed him to review it, Mr. Freitas left the meeting abruptly.

The board approved the final TA position statement on 11/10, and then got to business on the search committee.

During the 11/10 meeting, Mr. Espindola said the town had used the same committee composition years ago when the town hired its first TA, Mark Rees. According to Mr. Espindola, that process was fair and equitable. He said that allowing the

committee to screen the candidates and bring forth three finalists for the Selectboard to interview "worked well."

He said on 10/18, "It's an unfair advantage to have one [Selectboard member] have two bites at the apple. This town administrator position [does not] just serve us; they're serving the entire community..." But during that meeting, Mr. Freitas expressed his desire to see one Selectboard member sit on the search committee.

On 11/10, Mr. Silvia supported Mr. Freitas's idea, saying, "I feel as though I'd like to have someone ... on the committee from the board."

He said he did not agree with Mr. Espindola that doing so would mean one Selectboard member would be getting "two bites at the pie" — or whatever the metaphor that Mr. Espindola used.

"I kind of disagree with that because when it comes back in front of all three of us there's still two people who — that didn't have anything to do with that committee to

Mr. Freitas then motioned to appoint himself to the committee, which Mr. Silvia promptly seconded.

make the decision and go against whoever," said Mr. Silvia. "I just think that where we work with them so much, I think a person from the board would be good to be on."

Reiterating what he said a few weeks ago, Mr. Espindola replied: "I do not believe that a selectman should sit on the search committee," and he listed his reasons. "It does not place all three selectmen on a level playing field in what is the most important decision we will make as a board this year."

If a Selectboard member is on the committee, Mr. Espindola continued, "As the consultant we hired explained, that selectman would have two bites at the apple. The other two would not." Furthermore, he said, it also takes away from someone in the community to provide their input.

"And I believe that input from a diverse group of people from the community is a very healthy part of

the process," said Mr. Espindola. "The last time we did this, we went through this process and everything went really well."

There was no Selectboard member on the committee, he continued, "And all three selectmen had an equal opportunity to choose the final candidate."

The process was the fairest and best way for the community, he said. Still, if his fellow Selectboard members were adamant in their position, Mr. Espindola said, "I'd like to ask that the selectman who makes a motion include an explanation for why you feel the person you are nominating is the best suited of the selectmen to serve in that capacity."

"I've said it before," said Mr. Freitas. "I think that one of the selectmen should sit in on this part of the committee. I think that it's a good idea to have this and go through as many steps as possible."

In his opinion, he said, there may be candidates with questions along the way that a regular citizen or search committee appointee from the other elected committees and boards might not be able to provide, which a Selectboard member could.

"So, I am for that, and that's where I sit on this right now," said Mr. Freitas. "I will state that I do have an interest in this. So, I don't know if anybody else has an interest in doing it, but I have an interest in it."

Mr. Espindola then quickly made a motion to create a search committee sans Selectboard member, which was not seconded. Mr. Freitas then motioned to appoint himself to the committee, which Mr. Silvia promptly seconded.

"I wouldn't mind it if it were myself, so I'd appoint myself," said Mr. Freitas.

"I think it's a good idea to have one on there and I also think that it's good to have the [chairperson] because he's going to work closely with [the new TA] setting agendas and everything. I think it's good to get to really see how the person is that you work with," said Mr. Silvia.

"I have no problem with it. I have no interest in it, so," he added, punctuating it with a laugh.

The board voted 2-1 to appoint Mr. Freitas to the Town Administrator screening committee, with Mr. Espindola voting "no."

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

COVID Testing

The Fairhaven Fire/EMS department, in cooperation with the Fairhaven Board of Health, will be offering FREE COVID 19 tests in the following weeks to Fairhaven residents. The test samples will be collected by firefighter/paramedics. The results will be available to the citizens online within 24 to 48 hours following the test.

A clinic will be held this Saturday, 11/21/20, at the Fairhaven Rec Center located at 227 Huttleston Ave., from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Veterans Day Video

The town of Fairhaven created a video in lieu of a parade for Veterans Day. Visit <https://youtu.be/FQwm9sofP8A>

Turkey Trot

Greetings, Trotters!

This year, The Fairhaven Turkey Trot is going virtual. We hope you can help keep this holiday tradition alive by going virtual with us!

Spread the word to your family,

friends and neighbors that this virtual event will help raise money for The Shepherd's Pantry located in Acushnet.

Run or walk anytime between November 14th and November 28th to complete your Virtual Turkey Trot!

Register today! The first 300 registrants will receive a special edition 2020 Virtual Fairhaven Turkey Trot running buff.

Visit <https://www.fairhaventurkeytrot.com/> Registration is \$15

At the Millicent

At the Millicent Library, 45 Center St., Fairhaven, is closed to the public, but is open for business, with curbside pickup and a book drop.

Book Bundles The library is now offering book bundles for children and adults. Miss browsing the shelves? Want to try out some new authors, but unsure of which books to get? Fill out a quick form and the librarians will be happy to find some books for you based on your favorite genres or authors. We are also happy to grab books based on your children's interests and reading levels. When you pick up your book bundles browse the titles we selected and read something new!

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Pick-up is outside the Walnut Street entrance near the book drop. Please respect Social Distancing and wear a face mask when picking up books since there might be someone else near the cart.

To order online, visit <http://www.millicentlibrary.org;> or call 508-992-5342

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

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Westport Art Group visits Fairhaven



Members of the Westport Art Group meet every Thursday at different locations. On November 5, they worked outside the Millicent Library in Fairhaven. Pre-COVID, the group could get as large as 20 artists. Their first virtual art show, "WAG off the Walls," will begin on November 18 and can be viewed at westportartgroup.com. ABOVE LEFT: Members of the Westport Art Group preview each other's work outside the Millicent Library in Fairhaven on 11/5/20. ABOVE RIGHT, L-R: Members of the Westport art Group, Robin Nunes, Hilary Burling, Barbara Healy, Janet Dubuc, Akita Marks, and Bob Daylor pose with their work on 11/5/20 at the Millicent Library in Fairhaven. *Photo by Glenn C. Silva.*

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Residents protest Board of Health meeting, police respond

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

A group of citizens converged at the steps of Fairhaven Town Hall Wednesday afternoon, 11/16, with the intent to make their presence known. "Hey, hey! Ho, ho!" they shouted. "This Board of Health has got to go!"

What do they want? "A recall!" And when do they want it? "Now!"

Fairhaven resident Diane Hahn organized the demonstration that drew more than a dozen participants, including three former Health Department employees who were either fired by the BOH or received a financial settlement upon their resignation. There she launched a campaign to gather signatures to recall Board of Health members Peter DeTerra and Michael Ristuccia, and Selectboard Chairperson Daniel Freitas.

Fairhaven resident Martha Berg thanked Ms. Hahn for giving her, her husband Gunnar, and the other residents a voice that afternoon. Ms. Berg said she had wanted to vent her frustration over what she has been reading in the local media about the BOH's behavior, including Mr. DeTerra's violation of Governor Charlie Baker's pandemic restrictions on 8/29 when he hosted a wedding at his property with more than 150 guests.

"I do feel that the leadership in the Board of Health violated the state mandate on public gatherings, and he's expected to lead us seniors into safety," Ms. Berg told the *Neighb News*. "I consider that to be a disappointing example."

What began as a small group of

four soon grew to seven, nine, and then a dozen. Each held a sign calling out "corruption" and "bullying" or for a recall of Mr. DeTerra, Mr. Ristuccia, and Mr. Freitas. One poster featured a photo of The Three Stooges with "Fairhaven deserves better" above it.

Resident Beth Luey donned a brown monastic robe and held a sign she made calling for the three town officials to "repent" and "resign." She later added "recall" to it to complete the alliteration.

"I'm frustrated that we have no Health Department in the middle of a pandemic," Ms. Luey said.

The group remained socially distanced and masked as they chanted and called for "public servants, not self-servants."

Meanwhile, employees inside Town Hall peeked through the windows to see what all the commotion was. At one point, Ms. Hahn opened the front door to Town Hall to allow the voices of the people outside to echo throughout the building just as a 4:00 Board of Health meeting was about to start.

Ms. Hahn entered the Town Hall intending to deliver a typed letter to the Board of Health, requesting she be added to a future agenda meeting. She was met at the entrance of the meeting room by BOH member Geoff Haworth who used his body to physically block Ms. Hahn from entering the public meeting, but to no avail. She merely pivoted and spun around him, and delivered that letter to each BOH member before she exited the room, met at the door by two Fairhaven police officers who escorted her back outside.

The street outside Town Hall was suddenly besieged by five police cruisers and an unmarked police car arriving in response to a call that came from a Town Hall employee. Ms. Hahn was questioned while fellow protestors observed. After an officer eventually told Ms. Hahn that she was free to continue her demonstration, two protestors shared that they felt intimidated by the continuing presence of at least four police officers who remained



nearby talking and watching from the sidewalk.

Still, the chants continued, and the group solicited the signatures of some passersby for their recall petitions. One woman walking her dog approached and asked what the petition would accomplish.

"To recall the Board of Health!" Ms. Hahn called out.

"Heh, what Board of Health?" the woman replied sarcastically.

"Exactly!" the protestors shouted back.

Dartmouth resident Susan Griffin quietly stood holding a sign she picked up when she arrived. Ms. Griffin explained that she was the health inspector from 2004-2014 when she left her position after alleging in late 2013 that she had been the victim of Mr. DeTerra's repeated and ongoing harassment. Her allegations were similar if not identical to some of the complaints Health Agent Mary Freire-Kellogg made public before she was fired from her position on 9/28/20.

"So, here I am today," Ms. Griffin told the *Neighb News*, in support of Ms. Freire-Kellogg and also the citizens of the town. "The people of Fairhaven deserve better."

Visit https://youtu.be/D_hybPThw28 for video of the protest

See page 19 for coverage of the Board of Health meeting.



TOP: A protester holds up a sign likening the three Fairhaven town officials, Selectboard chairperson Daniel Freitas, Board of Health Chairperson Peter DeTerra, and BOH member Michael Ristuccia, to the Three Stooges at a protest outside of Fairhaven Town Hall on 11/16/20 before the BOH meeting. ABOVE: Diane Hahn is escorted out of town hall by two police officers. RIGHT: One more thing! Beth Luey updates her sign to include "recall" to her alliteration. Photos by Jean Perry.



HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

Mural Unveiling RESCHEDULED

Island Park Mural Celebration

Join WHALE and the Cape Verdean Association in New Bedford for our **Island Park Mural Celebration Instagram Live Event THIS Friday, November 20 at 9:00 AM! Event was postponed due to rain** We will be interviewing the amazingly talented Eden Soares to hear about his process in creating the masterpiece. To tune in, please make sure to follow us on Instagram: Waterfronteaguenb (<https://www.instagram.com/waterfronteaguenb/>).

Many, many thanks to the Community Foundation of Southeastern MA for funding the creation of the Island Park Mural and to the Community Preservation Committee for all of their support and CPA funding to help us successfully repoint the South facing wall on the Strand Theater. This historic restoration work allowed WHALE and the Cape Verdean Association to hang the mural and continue creating this greenspace. We can't wait to share more updates with everyone as the project progresses!

Visit <https://www.waterfrontleague.org> or call 508-997-1776

Candlelight Vigil Virtual

This Friday, November 20, is Transgender Day of Awareness, a global event whose goal is to raise visibility for transgender people and address issues the community faces.

The South Coast LGBTQ+ Network is hosting a special event to honor the lives of 34 transgender individuals murdered in the United States in 2020, the most recorded in a single year so far, according to the Human Rights Campaign, as well as the memory of Jennifer Laude, a Filipina trans woman killed by New Bedford native and U.S. Marine Scott Pemberton in 2014.

The candlelight vigil, which will take place **on the steps of the New Bedford Public Library, will begin on Friday night at 7 pm on Fri., 11/20.** It will feature prominent speakers from the South Coast in the areas of transgender healthcare and legal rights. **Although the vigil is not**

open to the public due to COVID-19 restrictions, The South Coast LGBTQ+ Network invites everyone to join a livestream of the event on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/746986885891644>

In addition, The Network has partnered with PJ Raval (he), the internationally acclaimed director/producer of CALL HER GANDA, an award-winning documentary about the murder of Jennifer Laude, to offer three days of free access to his movie this coming Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Visit facebook.com/sc-lgbtqnetwork to stay up to date on this week's Transgender Day of Remembrance activities.

Dock-U-Mentary

Performance by Aleksander Hauge, Nov. 20, 7-8:30 p.m. via Zoom. FREE. Tune in on ZOOM for a screening of a musical presentation about Norwegian immigration and cultural heritage by Aleksander Hauge. Visit <https://fishingheritagecenter.org> for link to join; Fishing Heritage Center, 38 Bethel St., New Bedford, 508-993-8894. This program will feature a performance by Aleksander Hauge which was recorded recently in Karmøy, Norway. The performance features footage of Karmøy and the Fishermen's Memorial as well as 13 songs, some of which are in Norwegian and others in English.

This concert is a part of our series of programs related to our latest exhibit, *We Came to Fish, We Came to Work: Stories of Immigration*. This exhibit explores stories of immigration and cultural heritage on New Bedford's working waterfront.

Teen Artists

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN! Spend 2021 working with a Professional Artist. New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks! is pleased to launch our 17th year of the Teen Artist Internship Program. TAIP's goal is to inspire and educate high school juniors and seniors interested in pursuing a career in the visual arts.

Apply by December 11 at https://newbedfordart.org/taip/taip-student-application-2020_2021/

Virtual Concert

Virtual concert, Sat., 11/21, 7:30

p.m. Dmitri Shostakovich: Concerto for Piano, Trumpet, and String Orchestra. Antonín Dvořák: Serenade for Strings

Join us on November 21 as we safely place 23 musicians (strings and trumpet) plus Yaniv and Alexander on stage at The Z for a fantastic virtual performance of Shostakovich and Dvořák! Details.

Tickets are \$10. Visit <https://zeiterion.org/shostakovich-dvorak/>

SAVE THE DATE!

Polish Food Sale

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, on No. Front St., New Bedford, will be having a frozen food sale on Sat. Dec. 12, from 10-1 in the Church basement. Masks required.

Featuring Pierogi, Golombka (stuffed cabbage), cabbage soup, kielbasa.

Grant Applications

The SouthCoast Community Foundation is now accepting applications for its Stabilization Grants. Awards ranging from \$2,500 - \$25,000 will be given away from the SouthCoast Emergency Response Fund as part of the Foundation's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Applications can be submitted via the website grant portal.

In the spirit of National Community Foundation Week (November 12th - 18th) and Philanthropy Day (11/15) to provide up to six months of unrestricted general operating support to nonprofit organizations that are recovering from the COVID-19 health crisis and its economic impact.

The fund is now open, and applications will be accepted until November 30th at 5:00 PM.

Grants will be awarded to a select group of 501(c)3 organizations that can clearly demonstrate financial need due to COVID-19 and who align with the Foundation's strategic focus areas of Arts/Culture, Education, and Economic Opportunity; that actively serve vulnerable populations; are committed to a re-envisioned organization demonstrating commitment to adaptability and innovation; and have racially diverse leadership, board members and executive staff.

For more information, contact Holly Weeden, hweeden@southcoastcf.org

HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

SAVE THE DATE!

Holiday Greens Sale

The Mattapoisett Woman's Club presents "A Holiday Greens Sale" Pop-Up Event on Sat., 12/5, from 10 AM - 2 PM at the Bowl Mar Parking Lot, 22 County Road, Route 6, Mattapoisett. The Pop - Up Sale features a variety of decorated fresh wreaths, swags, and holiday centerpieces as well as bunches of holly and evergreens created by Club Members. Limited edition notecards will also be available for purchase. Cash, checks and credit cards will be accepted.

Bundle up, put on your mask and come join us outside for this special Holiday event. Proceeds will support the Mattapoisett Woman's Club Scholarship Fund and other community projects. Rain Date is Sunday December 6th, 10-2.

Acushnet COA

The Acushnet Senior Community Center office will be closed until Monday, November 30th. Staff will be available on a very limited basis by phone and email. Please be patient and know we will return your call as soon as possible but there will be a delay.

All outdoor programming will take place as scheduled with the exception of the Grab and Go Lunch program on Thursdays. Patrons registered for this program will be contacted shortly with information about an alternate pick up location.

For Meals on Wheels inquiries please call 508-999-6400

Pace Fuel Assistance: 508-525-4271

If you suspect elder abuse: 508-675-2101

Thank you for your understanding and accept our apologies for any inconvenience.

Virtual Art Show

Westport Art Group presents 2020 Members' Show: "WAG OFF THE WALLS." A virtual exhibit on WAG's website Nov. 18 - Dec. 31

We miss you and we miss seeing our talented members' latest work. That is about to change, with the first virtual show for members — and just in time for the holiday season. Enjoy beautiful artwork in an array of styles, and pick up the perfect gift! Visit <https://www.westportartgroup.com>

Light Display

Gillette Stadium will host Magic of Lights daily from now through Jan. 2, 2021. The Magic of Lights drive-through experience features dazzling themed light displays using the latest LED technology and digital animations.

Tickets for the Magic of Lights drive-through experience, hosted at Gillette Stadium from Nov. 13, 2020 through Jan. 2, 2021, are on sale now at <https://MagicOfLights.com/Events/Foxborough/>.

Due to the popular demand, some new updates to keep the experience magical for all:

Tickets must be purchased in advance, online only. Tickets must be purchased for a specific date, you do not need to select a time.

Limited tickets are available each day, while supplies last.

Tickets are \$35 for standard vehicle.

The Magic of Lights drive-through experience features dazzling themed light displays using the latest LED technology and digital animations. The home of the six-time Super Bowl Champion New England Patriots and New England Revolution will shine bright all holiday season, as guests experience the thrill of the spectacular mile-long holiday lights display with various holiday light features. Guests will enjoy the brand new drive-through Blizzard Tunnel and Magic of Lights favorites including the 12 Days of Christmas, Winter Wonderland and the Night Before Christmas, all from the safety of their own vehicle.

Magic of Lights and Gillette Stadium staff will be on-hand to ensure all proper social distancing guidelines are being followed.

For more information, please visit: <https://MagicOfLights.com/Events/Foxborough/>.

Bay Adventures

There is still plenty to do and enjoy outdoors, and the Buzzards Bay Coalition is here to help you with a few ideas for fall fun.

All Bay Adventures are free, but registration is required as space is limited. To register and for more info: <http://savebuzzardsbay.org/events>.

• **Horsin' Around East Over Farm Sat., 11/21 at 2 p.m.** Discover the

history of East Over Farm in Rochester, the farm and the reservation; and learn about equestrian care and general farm maintenance.

- **Holiday Photography Sun., 11/22, Nov. 22 at 12 noon** Join us for a nature walk along part of the Acushnet River Reserve and a family portrait session at a scenic site. The one-mile walk will start from Hamlin Crossing and head to White's Factory.
- **Itty Bitty Bay Explorers: Story Time, LaPalme Farm, Acushnet. Mo., 11/23 at 10 a.m.** Join us for a guided story walk (*Where the Wild Things Are*) that will include exploration of the forest and riverside, as well as a craft.
- **Family Stargazing Tues., 11/24 at 6 p.m. Gather on East Beach in New Bedford** for a night exploring space through an 8-inch telescope equipped with a camera and computer monitor to facilitate group viewing without sharing equipment.

Given current health concerns, the Coalition's outdoor programs are restricted to small groups. Guests should bring and be prepared to wear masks. When equipment and supplies are required, there will be no sharing among participants. Additional safeguards may be put in place as appropriate.

Soul Food Tgiving

This year why not serve your family traditional soul food thanksgiving recipes? Now, more than ever, is a time to savor the memories that food can evoke. Visit <https://www.soulfoodandsoutherncooking.com/soul-food-thanksgiving-recipes.html>

Trail Race

Despite restrictions on gatherings and events, DNRT has been able to launch their 6th Annual Trail Race! Choose from three pre-determined race courses anytime during November. Unlike trail races in years past, registrants will run the race on their own time, rather than in one large group. Registration is open all month. Sign up today! Learn more and sign up at dnrt.org/trailrace. **Registration is \$25 to \$50 depending on which option you choose.**

Recipe of the Week

Easy Crab Cakes

- 1 (8 oz.) can lump crab meat
- 1/2 cup flour
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup Panko breadcrumbs
- 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese
- Olive oil

In a small bowl, gently fold together potatoes and crab. Make 6 croquette disks, shaping them firmly.

Make a breading station by placing flour on a plate, beaten eggs into a bowl, and then mix Panko and Parmesan on another plate.

Carefully dredge each croquette disk in flour, then eggs, then coat well with Panko-Parmesan mixture.

Heat a skillet to medium-high and add olive oil. Gently add 3 of the croquettes, cooking them until lightly browned on each side. Remove and place croquettes on a paper towel. Drizzle a little more olive oil into pan and add the final 3 croquettes, browning on each side. Remove and let croquettes slightly cool, then serve!

From SeafoodNutrition.org

Acushnet tree falls on two people

Press Release

On Sunday evening, November 15, 2020, the region experienced a significant rain and wind storm. At approximately 8 p.m., members of the Acushnet Police and Acushnet Fire/Rescue Departments were called to a home on Fairway Drive. A caller reported a large tree limb had fallen and struck at least one person.

On arrival, first responders found that a male and female, both 27 years old, were unloading items from a truck in their back yard when an approximately 6-8-inch-side and 10-foot-long tree limb fell from a height of about 40 feet and struck them.

The male tried to push the female

out of the way and was struck in the head by the limb. He suffered a severe laceration to his head but did not lose consciousness. Despite the male's efforts, the female was still struck by the limb. It appeared she sustained a lesser injury than the male but was complaining of pain in her head and neck area.

Both were transported by ambulance to area hospitals for further evaluation and treatment.

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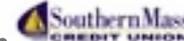
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Seven member screening committee includes six men

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

Fairhaven Selectboard Chairperson Daniel Freitas's absence from the board's 11/16 meeting led to the tabling of a slew of discussion and action items and Vice-Chairperson Bob Espindola struggling to find productive ways to pass the time in between scheduled public hearings.

Mr. Espindola and Selectboard member Keith Silvia both appointed their chosen members of the public to the seven-member town administrator search committee: former Selectboard member Brian Bowcock for Mr. Silvia, and Northeast Maritime Institute President Eric Dawicki for Mr. Espindola. However, they held off on appointing a town employee to complete the committee until Mr. Freitas could participate.

The board held a special meeting last Tuesday, 11/10 after Mr. Freitas abruptly walked out of the 11/2 meeting during a discussion involving the town administrator hiring process. On 11/10, Mr. Freitas motioned to appoint himself to the search committee instead of a citizen at-large, which Mr. Silvia seconded and Mr. Espindola opposed.

The other three members appointed to the search committee are Finance Committee member Bernard "Bernie" Roderick, School

Committee member Colin Veitch, and Planning Board Chairperson John Farrell.

That means at least six men will sit on the seven-member committee.

An executive session is already scheduled for Thursday, 11/19 at 4:30 p.m. to discuss two litigation cases. The agenda will be revised to include an open session to make the final search committee appointment and take up the list of other items that were tabled that night in Mr. Freitas's absence. Those items include setting schedules for 2021 Selectboard meetings; discussing the fiscal year 2022 budget/town meeting calendar; considering changes to the Wellness Committee mission, structure, and membership; adopting a policy on whether to make Selectboard meeting agenda packets available to the public; and reviewing proposed updates to policies and procedures in the Personnel Bylaw.

Town Administrator Mark Rees said that a public hearing for proposed changes to the Personnel Bylaw would be on 11/30. The Selectboard will vote to approve those changes during its regularly scheduled meeting on 12/7.

In other matters, Mr. Rees announced the receipt of \$406,000 through The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

during the program's round two of COVID-19 reimbursement. Mr. Rees also pointed out how he and others present at the meeting are now wearing face masks in light of the recent surge in confirmed COVID-19 cases in Fairhaven and much of the country.

The board accepted John Farrell's resignation from the Housing Authority and approved the carryover of unspent Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the Hedge Street Phase 1 project to Phase 2.

The public hearing for a farmer's series pourer license was continued without a set date "until such time that the necessary information is provided" by the applicant, Fairhaven Meadows, LLC, doing business as Nasketucket Bay Vineyards.

The board approved the transfer and pledge of a restaurant/all alcohol license from Cathy and Ken Melanson to JEJM Corp, doing business as Traveler's Ale House. The establishment at 111 Huttleston Avenue reacquired the liquor license when the Melansons purchased it after the Department of Revenue took possession of it from the owner of the defunct Cleary's Pub, Drew Tillet, in lieu of unpaid taxes. The Melansons will maintain ownership of the liquor license but have pledged it to Ming Heui.

BOH: cont'd from page 19

of 10 Charity Stevens Lane about complaints that she has added more animals to her farm than her permit allows. Neighbors have also complained about noise, especially of the donkey, a new addition.

Mr. DeTerra said she should be working with her neighbors.

She assured the board that she had adequate housing for all her animals and the Animal Control Officer had inspected the premises. She said she would talk to her neighbors and meet with the board again.

The board also discussed the two open positions in the department, noting that the administrative assistant position has been filled.

The board still needs to hire an inspector and a health agent, but Mr. Haworth said they already had four candidates for inspector. He and Ms. Dupont will interview them on Friday

and choose finalists.

For the health agent job, Mr. Haworth said he wanted to search "far and wide" for the best candidate, and wanted it to be a "very public process."

Ms. Dupont was appointed as interim agent and will have to apply for the job, said Mr. Haworth. He said she would not automatically be appointed to the position permanently.

Selectboard member Bob Espindola, who said he was speaking as a resident and not for his board, said he sent a letter to the BOH about the process for choosing a new agent. He said he was concerned after their 11/6 meeting. He said he wanted to make sure it would be an open process.

He also said there should be a "sense of urgency" due to the pandemic.

The board voted, at the suggestion of Mr. DeTerra, to ask Barbara Acksen, a former BOH member to be on the screening committee. The board appointed Mr. Ristuccia to be on the committee.

And Mr. Haworth suggested a person who does not live in Fairhaven to be on the committee. He said he wanted to ask Acushnet Health Agent Joseph Correia. The board voted to approve the request.

In other business the board:

- Issued a septic installer permit to Antone Medeiros, Mr. DeTerra abstained;
- Approved a Title V inspection for 6 Windward Way;
- Discussed the software contract with Relevant Software and agreed to hold off January with the agreement of the company.

Manny Sylvia remembered

By Beth David
Editor

In a last and final tribute to WWII veteran Manny Sylvia, a group of veterans and friends gathered together on 11/11/20 to read from his service record and burn his casket flag and service records at the Charles F. Albaugh Memorial Flagpole at the Main Street/195 overpass in Fairhaven.

Mr. Sylvia served in WWII and received the Bronze Star for his service as a Utilities Sergeant on the infamous beach of Normandy in France on June 6, 1944.

His job was to make sure “food and water were brought up from the beach for the personnel who could not leave to care for themselves,” reads the citation.

He improvised for many items that were lost during the landing, which enabled staff sections to operate in a “much more efficient manner than otherwise would have been possible,” reads the citation.

“By his constant untiring devotion to duty without regard for his personal comfort, Sergeant Sylvia made a marked contribution to the efficient operation of the Corps Headquarter in all operations on the continent. His service is most commendable,” reads the citation.

Mr. Sylvia, from New Bedford, enlisted in the army on November 16, 1936, and reenlisted on September 20, 1939. He was honorably discharged on June 20, 1945.

According to his separation record, he served in battle in Normandy, Northern France, and Rhineland. He received the European African Middle Eastern Theater Campaign Ribbon with Bronze Service

Arrowhead;
American Theater
Campaign
Ribbon; Bronze
Star Medal;
America Defense
Service Medal
(with clasp);
Good Conduct
Medal; Lapel
Button WWI
Victory Medal
and American
Defense Service
Medal.

Mr. Sylvia was issued a proclamation by the Fairhaven Selectboard on January 14, 2001, on his 90th birthday. He was also issued a Certificate of Appreciation from the Fairhaven Lions Club on March 3, 2001.

Mr. Sylvia lived in Fairhaven for many years and served on a variety of committees and boards, including the Finance Committee. He was also a member of civic organizations, including the Fairhaven Improvement Association and the Lions Club.

Mr. Sylvia was born on January 14, 1911 and died on December 7, 2008 at the age of 97. He was predeceased by his wife Marie by several years.

They had no children, and in his final years he had no known living relatives, but he had many close friends who took good care of him in his later years.

Mr. Sylvia, who listed his occupation as “chauffeur” on his enlistment papers, drove bus for Medeiros Bus Company for decades. Owners Sally and John Medeiros, and their daughter Pamela Corcoran all have fond memories of the long time employee.

“He was a good friend,” said Mr. Medeiros at the ceremony, but clearly became too emotional to elaborate.

“He was a very nice man, a very nice man,” said Ms. Corcoran, 59, who remembered him from when she was a teenager.

Jack Daly, a Navy veteran, also attended the event, he said, to “express my respect” for Mr. Sylvia.



L-R: Sally and John Medeiros share a moment as they watch the casket flag and mementos of their good friend Manny Sylvia burn after a ceremony of final tribute to the WWII veteran on 11/11/20 at the Charles F. Albaugh Memorial Flagpole at the Main Street/195 overpass in Fairhaven. BELOW LEFT Friends and supporters of Manny Sylvia take down his casket flag, which flew for the last time on 11/11/20. BELOW RIGHT: L-R: John Medeiros and Bill Moniz carefully and solemnly place Manny Sylvia's casket flag into the fire after the ceremony. Photos by Beth David.

Claudette Costa said she went to honor Mr. Sylvia who was a good friend and a member of the Lions Club.

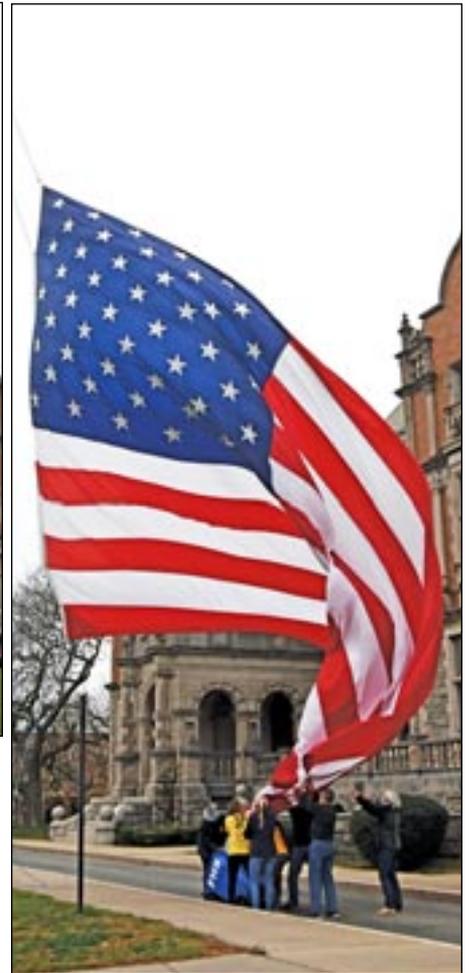
Mike Manley, who read from Mr. Sylvia's service record and other documents, said he did not know Mr. Sylvia, but wanted to contribute. He said those closest to Mr. Sylvia were probably too emotional to do it.

“It's such a nice thing to do, especially on Veterans Day,” said Mr. Manley.

“My dad was a World War II veteran,” said Ed Dennehey, a Coast Guard veteran. He said he attended to pay his respects and make sure the Coast Guard was represented.



Taking down the big flag



Fairhaven alumni and Fairhaven Lions Club members routinely fly the “big flag” at Fairhaven High School on most holidays, and this Veterans Day was no exception. The flagpole at the high school is the only one high enough to accommodate the 50x30-foot flag. They usually raise the flag at about 8 a.m. and take it down at 4 or 5 in the afternoon, depending on when sunset is. Last Wednesday, the Neighb News caught the action as volunteers took down the big flag, which is quite the operation to make sure it does not touch the ground, and requires quite a few people to it right. LEFT: The Big Flag flies at the high school on 11/11/20. RIGHT: Volunteers take down the big flag, being sure not to let it hit the ground as it billows in the wind. *Photos by Beth David.*

Lions say “Thank You” to veterans



FROM TOP L-R:
Lions Bill Moniz, Diane Brodeur, Rebecca Harrison, Jack Daly, Bob Kenworthy, Bob Costa, Claudette Costa, Sandi Watkins, Lisa Forcier and Leo the Lion say “Thank You” to our Veterans for Veterans Day 2020... pandemic style. *Photo montage submitted.*

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http://fairhavenma.virtualtownhall.net/Pages/FairhavenMA_COA/index

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.

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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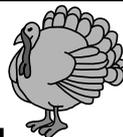
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Acushnet TM approves school roof; rejects DPW loader

By Beth David
Editor

Acushnet passed a proposal to borrow more than \$2 million for the roof of the elementary school building, which was largely the reason the town held a Special Town Meeting on Saturday, 11/14/20. The meeting was held in the gym of the Ford Middle School, with chairs spread apart to adhere to COVID-19 social distancing guidelines. Everyone wore masks, and everyone's temperature was taken by an automated gadget at the entrance.

Former Selectboard member Roger Cabral ran his first meeting as Town Moderator, and moved things along, but also let everyone speak.

The school roof was article 1, getting right to the heart of the matter.

School Business Manager Kristin Flynn told town meeting that 67,000 square feet of roof needs to be replaced on the elementary school. She said the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) called it one of the "must needs" projects.

The partial replacement will cost \$2,570,659, with MSBA reimbursing the town \$1,334,232.

Selectboard chairperson Kevin Gaspar told town meeting that the borrowing means there is no debt exclusion, meaning no added taxes. He said he felt the town will have sufficient funds to pay back the loan at about \$85,000 per year.

The article passed unanimously.

Town Meeting did not, however pass Article 2, which would have added \$15,750 to the salary of Town Planner Henry Young for the purpose of updating the town's Master Plan.

The controversial proposal was opposed by Mr. Gaspar who said that Mr. Young already receives \$11,000 for "special projects."

"If this isn't a special project, I don't know what is," said Mr. Gaspar.

He also said Mr. Young should look for grants to cover the cost. Mr. Gaspar also noted that the \$15,750 was for half of this year, so TM could expect another request for \$30,000 next year.

Mr. Gaspar also said that the town needed to be more specific about what it wants in and from a master plan. Also, because of COVID-19 restrictions, it is not practical to start a master plan process, which involves meeting with lots of people,

and includes a lot of "community involvement."

"Why don't we sit down like big boys and girls," said Mr. Gaspar, and lay out what they want exactly in a master plan. "All I ask is for everybody to take a step backwards."

Resident David Davignon pointed out a number of discrepancies and contradictions in the town's bylaws. He said the town planner should be working on fixing those problems. Mr. Davignon said he was on the Master Plan committee 25 years ago and many of the things including in the MP are still relevant, and have come to pass, such as the new library and public safety facility. He said the MP



Acushnet School Department Business Manager Kristin Flynn addresses town meeting on 11/14/20, when the town approved \$2,570,759 in borrowing for a roof for the elementary school. Photo by Beth David.

is not out of date, and the town does not need to spend \$30 to update it.

Planning Board Chairperson Marc Cenerizio sang the praises of Mr. Young, saying he successfully led the projects that were outlined in the MP, including the new police station, town hall renovation, library renovation, rezoning projects, waste management plan and creation of the Acushnet River Historic district.

He said the MP has been widely implemented and has a "real impact on Acushnet."

He said it was time to write the next master plan and that the town was lucky to have Mr. Young on staff to help them plan for the next 10 years.

Selectboard member David Wojnar said that the town should not stop because of COVID. He said experience shows they should "capture the opportunity." In 2021, he said, the federal Government will be looking for "shovel ready projects" to fund.

Resident Bob Meunier said that the town planner was already getting

paid and that other people in town would love get a 33% raise. He also asked how it would affect the town in the future because it might boost Mr. Young's pension plan.

John Howcroft urged passage of the article, saying that good planning protects the values of the town. He compared it to paying for maintenance of a house, instead of waiting for problems to arise. It is a small amount of money, and they should spend a little to protect the future of Acushnet.

Mr. Davignon noted that he could not find the master plan on the website, asking if it is so important, why is it not on the website for everyone to see.

For that, he got a round of applause from the floor.

Mr. Wojnar noted that Acushnet does not have a full time planner. He said the \$11,000 for special projects was included simply to give the Selectboard some control over the position, which reports to the Planning Commission.

"It's just semantics," he said.

Mr. Gaspar disagreed saying that the town planner is on the books as full time.

Selectboard member David Desroches said looking at the salary was "very narrow minded."

"This is about the future of Acushnet," he said, not how much money someone makes. "This motion is about the future of Acushnet and where we want it to go."

The measure failed by a wide margin, with only a handful of voters supporting it.

That was only article two, but Mr. Cabral did a mea culpa after realizing he did not introduce the people on the stage and in front of the room until that point.

"I reserve the right to make additional mistakes here today," said Mr. Cabral.

The other vote that got a "no" failed by a very close 20-24, and required a count. Article 6 asked for \$275,000 from free cash for a loader for the Department of Public Works.

Several people spoke against the expenditure saying that the loader the DPW had was not old and that loaders can be rebuilt.

DPW Director Dan Menard said there was a difference between a

ACUSH: cont'd on page 22

Board of Health meeting disrupted by protester

By Beth David
Editor

A group of about a dozen protested outside of Town Hall before the Fairhaven Board of Health meeting on Monday, 11/16/20, and one made it into the building. Diane Hahn organized the protest calling for a recall of BOH chairperson Peter DeTerra board member Michael Ristuccia. The group is also asking for a recall of Selectboard chairperson Daniel Freitas, and had petitions for all three members at the protest.

Interim Health Agent Sarah Dupont was in the middle of her COVID-19 update when Ms. Hahn entered the room. BOH member Geoffrey Haworth immediately got out of his chair and met her at the door to block her entrance. Ms. Hahn, however, simply pivoted and spun around and walked to the table where the other two members were sitting. She dropped some printed materials in front of each of them and headed out the door.

The microphones were turned off, so it is impossible to hear what Ms. Hahn and Mr. Haworth are saying, although they are clearly having a robust exchange.

After only a few seconds of the two speaking to each other in the doorway, a police officer arrives and escorts Ms. Hahn out.

After Mr. Haworth sat, the board resumed the meeting without mentioning the disruption.

The online version of the meeting shows a the Fairhaven TV logo superimposed on the image, obstructing the view. However, the Facebook Live version was not obstructed and was online long enough for many people to see. After the *Neighb News* sent a complaint by email, Cable TV director Derek Frates sent an unobstructed clip of the segment to the *Neighb News* and we were able to grab some screen shots of the action.

Mr. Frates said the board was in recess, that he had been instructed before the meeting that if anyone entered the room, they would go into recess. Sound is muted and the FHTV logo displayed whenever a meeting is in recess. He said BOH chairperson Peter DeTerra did hit his gavel to signify the board was in recess.

During the business portion of the meeting, Ms. Dupont told the board

that the town had 81 cases of COVID-19 currently, 436 cases for the year.

She said the town is now yellow on the state's list, instead of red. The state has reconfigured the way they designate municipalities, which is the reason for the change. Fairhaven has been yellow for two weeks.

Ms. Dupont reminded the board and the public that the state's new mandates include wearing a mask in all public spaces, a stay-at-home



Diane Hahn (RIGHT) pivots away from Fairhaven Board of Health member Geoffrey Haworth as he tries to block her from entering the room during the 11/16/20 meeting, when Ms. Hahn managed to deliver printed materials to board members as part of a protest she organized outside of town hall just before that meeting. Screen shot from the Fairhaven TV government access by Beth David.

advisory from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m., and no sit-down or bar service after 9:30 p.m. Take-out is still allowed.

The cap for gatherings is now 10 indoors and 25 outdoors, even for private gatherings.

Mr. Haworth noted that the board members and Ms. Dupont were all wearing masks.

Deputy Fire Chief Todd Correia appeared remotely to tell the board and the public that the department conducted limited testing for town employees and walk-ins that morning. The department, in conjunction with the health department will hold a public testing clinic on Saturday, 11/21, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Recreation Center. The testing is free and open to all Fairhaven residents. The results will be available online

within 48 hours.

Mr. Correia said the timing will enable people to get tested before their holiday gatherings and get the results back in time.

Mr. DeTerra said he got tested that morning and saw the whole procedure.

"It will help a lot of people," said Mr. DeTerra.

In another matter, Town Administrator Mark Rees joined the meeting for a discussion about permit renewals.

Mr. Haworth said he wanted the BOH to waive permit fees for all restaurants, catering, and frozen dessert businesses, but he wanted to check with Mr. Rees because the fees to into the general fund.

The fees, which are issued by the BOH, are \$150 for restaurants, \$300 for catering, and \$200 for frozen dessert businesses, with a total of about \$12,900.

Mr. Haworth said they were looking for ways to help out businesses that are struggling due to the pandemic.

"I think it's a great idea," said Mr. Rees, adding that he wanted to check with town counsel to make sure they followed proper procedure.

The board voted to waive the fees subject to verification by town counsel.

Mr. Haworth acknowledged that it was not a "big amount," but it shows the town is trying to help small businesses.

Small businesses are "really hurting," said Mr. DeTerra. "This is the heart and soul of Fairhaven."

The board also acknowledged two open meeting law complaints from Amy Singleais regarding the Septemer 28, 2020 meeting. The board voted to send the letter written by town counsel dismissing te complaints.

Mr. Ristuccia noted that Ms. Singleais is the sister of the former health agent, Mary Freire-Kellogg, whom the board fired on September 28. He said she has filed numerous complaints and none have been deemed "viable" by town counsel. He also noted that she is not a Fairhaven resident.

"I would be incensed if my tax dollars were being used for this nonsense," said Mr. Ristuccia.

The board also met with the owner

BOH: cont'd on page 11



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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

Visit <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov> for remote access information

Fairhaven

Board of Appeals

Tues., 12/1, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Board of Assessors

Thurs., 11/19, Town Hall, 4 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Mon., 11/23, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Economic Develop. Comm.

Thurs., 11/19, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

School Committee

Wed., 12/9, FHS Library, 6:30 p.m.

Selectboard

Mon., 11/19, Town Hall, 4:30 p.m.

Mon., 12/7, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Acushnet

Bristo County Advisory

Thurs., 11/19, Bristol Ag HS, 6 p.m.

Golf Committee

Thurs., 11/19, Century House, 4:30 p.
Closed to Public, no Zoom Info

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TIDE TABLE

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	Nov 2020	HIGH a.m.	LOW p.m.		
Thursday	19	1053	2327	0351	1636
Friday	20	1151	----	0437	1732
Saturday	21	0027	1250	0538	2010
Sunday	22	0124	1344	0841	2115
Monday	23	0218	1439	0954	2214
Tuesday	24	0315	1538	1052	2301
Wednesday	25	0413	1636	1139	2337
Thursday	26	0503	1723	----	1219
		----	----	----	2344
Friday	27	0543	1802	----	1256
		----	----	----	2328
Saturday	28	0619	1839	----	1304
		----	----	----	2350
Sunday	29	0655	1916	----	1241
Monday	30	0732	1956	0021	1310

*= 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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Town of Fairhaven Public Hearing Proposed Personnel Policy and Procedures

Pursuant to Chapter 61, Section 5 A of the Town's Bylaws, The Town Administrator will conduct a Public Hearing on November 30, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. for the purpose of receiving comments on a proposed Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual prior to a final recommended Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual being presented to the Board of Selectmen for adoption. The proposed Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual document can be found at <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/town-administrator/pages/proposed-personnel-policy-and-procedures-public-hearing>. The public hearing will be conducted remotely consistent with the Governor's emergency orders. The meeting can be accessed by Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/95927303213?pwd=UTNIY2dGYkFRVitRd2VhRWVlQnk3dz09>
Meeting ID: 959 2730 3213
Passcode: 358155
One tap mobile:
1 929 205 6099
Mark Rees, Town Administrator
FNN, 11/19/20

Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearings

Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
Town Hall Banquet Room, 40 Center Street
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/99017618730?pwd=T1U4TTZwckpVblJHU1orNGJGanFnQT09>
or call 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 990 1761 8730
Passcode: 462438

1. **Administrative Appeal by Fairhaven Shipyard – re: 7 Union Street.** Seeking reversal of zoning determination by the Town of Fairhaven Building Commissioner dated February 20, 2020. (Application attached) – **Continued** from April 7, 2020, May 5,

2020, June 2, 2020, and July 7, 2020, and August 11, 2020, and September 2, 2020.) **Asking for a continuance to December 1, 2020 per applicant's request.**

2. **Administrative Appeal by A1 Crane – re: 86-88 Middle Street.** Administrative Appeal from a letter dated April 7, 2020 from the Building Commissioner stating that the operation on the site is in violation of the Mixed Use zoning regulations. (see attached-Exhibit 3) (continued per applicant's request to September 2, 2020 Meeting, see attached.) **Previously approved to Continue to November 3, 2020. Continue to March 2021, at applicant's request. (Motion to approve request until March 2, 2021).**

3. **61 Church St. Owner: Patricia Shurtleff.** 198-16: Variance request for 1.3' side setback for a proposed 24'x21.6' addition. (continued from November 4, 2020)

4. **87 Shaw Road. Owner: Joao M Martins & Iola Martins.** 198-22: Variance request for 260' square feet over the 700' sq feet for an accessory building (40x24 garage). (Continued from November 4, 2020)
Peter DeTerra, Chairman
FNN: 11/19/20, 11/26/20

Acushnet Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals is hereby giving notice that a meeting will be held by the Board on Tuesday, November 24th, 2020 at 6:30 P.M. via Zoom Meetings:

Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83741751686?pwd=dM1mSC9hcTl1SIB5Sjh4S1FpbFFXUT09>
Meeting ID: 837 4175 1686
Passcode: 989469

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US (New York)
PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. **Case #2020.07.28A** A continuation of the case of New England Retail Development, LLC c/o Tom Pratt, who is petitioning the Board for a Special Permit to be able to open and operate a gas station and convenience store with drive-thru, within the

Village Business District. The proposed location is 158, 166 Main Street, and 17 Wing Road (Assessor's Map 13, Lots 36, 38, and 38A), which are currently owned by Delta Realty, LLC (c/o Mickey Higgins) and Tony's Service Center (c/o Tony Faria). This request is being made under the provisions of Section 3.3.2 (B) and 3.4 (A).

2. **Case#2020.10.20A** A continuation of the case of New England Retail Development, LLC c/o Tom Pratt, who is petitioning the Board for a Variance to be able to allow wall signs in excess of 50 square feet and pole sign in excess of 15 feet tall. The proposed location is 158, 166 Main Street, and 17 Wing Road (Assessor's Map 13, Lots 36, 38, and 38A), owned by Delta Realty, LLC (c/o Mickey Higgins). This request is being made under the provisions of Section 3.6 (E).

3. **Case #2020.11.24A** A case of Mike McLuskey, of 120 Mendall Road Acushnet, who is petitioning for a Special Permit to be able to park more than one commercial vehicle at his property. This request is being made under the provisions of Section 3.3.1 "B" (8).

Plans are available for Public view in the Town Clerk's office during their normal business hours.
FNN, 11/12/20, 11/19/20



FHA Board Vacancy

The Town of Fairhaven is seeking one Fairhaven Resident to serve on the Fairhaven Housing Authority to fill a vacant seat. This elected position will be appointed jointly by the Housing Authority and the Board of Selectmen 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 December 03, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. or emailed to Selectmen@Fairhaven-ma.gov

FNN: 11/19/20

ACUSH: cont'd from page 18

construction company's needs and a town's needs. If a company's loader breaks down, it is no big deal. But if a town's equipment breaks down, the road will not be cleared of snow or other debris.

After more discussion and a questioning of the logic, Mr. Menard took to the microphone again.

"I did not say it was not capable of doing its job," said Mr. Menard, just that as the machine got older, they were "taking a chance of it breaking down."

He said the old one will be used at the recycle center.

After the close vote, Mr. Menard and several others briskly left the meeting.

TM also approved \$110,000 from free cash for the school sewer pump, after some discussion. The pump has already been replaced. The town used sewer funds for the project in anticipation of being able to have residents hook up to the system. However, the pipe "runs uphill," said

Mr. Gaspar, making it impossible to let Peckham Road residents tie in.

Town Meeting also approved three spending articles from Community Preservation Act Funds, including: \$10,000 for repairs to equipment at

I reserve the right to
make additional mistakes
here today [Acushnet
Town Moderator
Roger Cabral]

Pope Park Playground; \$75,000 for improvements and cleaning to the Lake Street recreational area; and \$5,000 for improvements and cleaning at Riverview Park.

In other business town meeting:

- Approved \$15,000 from the Capital Expenditure Fund to refurbish

Fire/EMS vehicles;

- Approved \$71,500 from the water surplus fund for a Risk and Resilience Assessment and an Emergency Response Plan required by the Environmental Protection Agency;
- Approved \$150,000 from the water fund to replace the water pipeline on Nye Avenue, which is 125 years old;
- Approved \$60,000 from free cash for a four-wheel-drive pickup truck with commercial utility cap for the Animal Control Officer, whose van often gets stuck in mud and snow;
- Approved transfer of \$80,000 from Golf fund for various repairs and equipment replacement at the golf course;
- Approved \$77,249 from free cash for science (\$11,499), reading (\$50,000) and AES curricula for the school department;
- Voted not to approve any transfer of funds to the OPEB Fund.

The meeting is available on the town's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=70nntaYwrQ>



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