



Fairhaven

Neighborhood News

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



The little paper with a big voice!

Volume 15, Issue 46 • November 26, 2020

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

Shopping with the Neighb News



Shopping with the Neighb News! See page 12 Cover graphic by Beth David



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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.

Well, Black Friday will be different this year. Pandemic fatigue is setting in, but...really, let's keep trying okay?

Shopping with the *Neighb News* family of advertisers will keep it local and keep it small. No waiting in big lines with tons of other people at the crack of dawn waiting for a big store to open, right? See page 12 for some ideas on how to support our advertisers while getting your shopping done.

Thanksgiving and the rest of the holiday season will also look different this year. My cousins usually all get together (well, not all, but lots of 'em) and do a "cousin bar crawl" on the night before Thanksgiving. This year, we'll be using Zoom for that. One of my cousins set it up so that there are different rooms. So, just like in a house when you'd be roaming around talking to different groups of people, you can Zoom around. Pretty cool, huh? Who knew? I thought Zoom was only for garbling the audio in meetings and blocking out Jay Simmons from voting and making a bunch of people turn on mute when they want to talk and turn it off when the dog is barking. But I digress.

In one room we'll be doing shots, in the other room we'll be watching a movie, in the other room we'll be yapping while some of us are cooking.

All while in the comfort of our own homes.

Anyway, we'll be keeping it small this year, no big bashes. But we will see each other when we can, and we will chat and Zoom and stay in touch.

Let's try to be thankful for what we do have, what we can do, and keep that hand sanitizer close by.

We have meeting coverage in here, a couple of stories about vandalism: one that got repaired, one that needs to get some little monsters out there with a sand blaster and a sponge! And maybe some soap in the mouth, too.

Until next week then...see ya (from a distance). And Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours.



Beth David, Publisher

Fairhaven Neighborhood News

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CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

COVID-19 update: Stay home for Thanksgiving

By Beth David
Editor

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker is urging people to stay home for Thanksgiving and avoid the usual day-long feasts with extended family that are a hallmark of the holiday. Data show that the recent surge in COVID-19 cases is being driven by small gatherings. The cooler weather is keeping people indoors, which is a higher risk for transmission of the disease. For guidelines on Thanksgiving, visit <https://www.mass.gov/news/thanksgiving-during-covid-19>

Fairhaven & Acushnet

The Fairhaven Health Department updates its web page (<https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/board-health>) on the town's website every Friday after receiving the numbers from the state. As of 11/18, Fairhaven had 493 total cases, with 101 active cases being

followed by the Public Health Nurse. The town has 13,987 tests recorded with the state, with 125 positive tests in the last 14 days; and a positivity rate of 5.69%.

As of 11/18, Acushnet had 256 total cases, with 14 reported in the last 14 days, and a positivity rate of 5.09%. The town has a total of 6786 tests recorded with the state, with 50 positive tests in the last 14 days.

Visit <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-updates-and-information> and scroll down to "community-level data" for information on individual communities.

Employee Positive Case

On Wednesday, 11/18, the Town of Fairhaven was notified that an employee of the Recreation Center tested positive for COVID-19.

The case appears to be isolated, however, the building was closed for

the day to be cleaned and disinfected.

Please continue to practice social distancing, mask wearing and hand-washing/sanitization to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Contact the Health Department at boh@fairhaven-ma.gov or 508-979-4023 ext. 125 with questions.

Testing Available

Acushnet, Fairhaven, and New Bedford all hold regular testing clinics for residents. See page 5 for Fairhaven. Contact the fire department for Acushnet, (508)-998-0250. Free daily testing for all Mass. residents is available at the Whale's Tooth Parking Lot, 532 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford, every day (no appointment necessary), 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; call 401-654-4679 with questions; for other sites in NB, visit <https://www.newbedford-ma.gov/health-department/covid-19-resources-2/>

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Selectboard finalizes TA screening Comm; disbands wellness

By Jean Perry

Neighb News Correspondent

After realizing that not one woman had been appointed to the town administrator search screening committee, the Fairhaven Selectboard on 11/19 appointed a female Town Hall employee as the seventh and final member.

Selectboard member Bob Espindola said he had received feedback earlier in the day that the committee had turned into an all-male assembly and acknowledged that neither he nor Selectboard member Keith Silvia had chosen a woman to help find Fairhaven's next town administrator.

"Where none have been chosen, I do think it is important that we do choose a woman for this to have some diversity on the board," Mr. Espindola said, and then motioned to appoint Town Accountant Anne Carreiro. "I feel like she would be an excellent choice."

Mr. Silvia quickly seconded the motion, saying that Ms. Carreiro was the woman he was going to suggest.

"I have zero problems (with the motion)," said Selectboard Chairperson Daniel Freitas.

The consultant's recommendation was for each Selectboard member to choose one member from the public at large, and for certain committees to have a representative. Mr. Freitas chose himself as his representative on the committee back on 11/10, which Mr. Silvia supported, and Mr. Espindola opposed.

On 11/16, Mr. Silvia appointed Dr. Brian Bowcock, a former Selectboard member, and Mr. Espindola appointed Northeast Maritime Institute President Eric Dawicki.

Mr. Espindola defended his chosen male appointee, saying, "In my consideration for ... Mr. Dawicki, I did take into account his own [board of directors at the institute] and the diversity they have on their board."

According to Mr. Espindola, four out of 12 members of that board of directors are women, and two people of color sit on the board.

"He will represent that aspect of it on the [screening] committee as well," said Mr. Espindola.

The only issue with Ms. Carreiro's appointment was that Mr. Espindola had not yet spoken with her about it.

The motion he made was to appoint her subject to her willingness to serve. Mr. Espindola said he would reach out to Ms. Carreiro the following morning.

In other business, the town employee Wellness Committee was disbanded in a 2-1 vote, with Mr. Espindola opposing.

The topic of making changes to the Wellness Committee mission, structure, and membership had appeared on the meeting agenda a couple of times over the past few months. However, no action had been taken up until now because Mr. Silvia and Mr. Freitas wanted Mr. Espindola to produce documentation of the tangible benefits of keeping the committee active.

According to Mr. Espindola, the town's health insurance provider,

Mr. Espindola tried to convince Mr. Silvia that the interest [in the Wellness Committee] is there and so are the incentives

Blue Cross Blue Shield, recommends a wellness committee to enhance employee health by promoting physical and mental health and providing resources for healthy lifestyle choices.

Mr. Espindola advocated for the Wellness Committee's formation years ago until its inception and continued to advocate for its perpetuation.

"I certainly believe in it," he said. "But, honestly, [other] workplaces invest far more than we do.... It has to be supported from the top down in order to be effective.

"I believe in it. The question is: Do you both believe in it?" asked Mr. Espindola.

If so, he said, it would require some funding and a diverse composition of the Wellness Committee representing town departments across the board. When the Wellness Committee last met months ago, there was no representation of volunteers from the

Department of Public Works or either of the public safety departments. The committee was, though, well representative of the Town Hall departments and School department, said Mr. Espindola.

There are some vacancies on the committee after various employees either left their positions or resigned due to demanding schedules, but without a vote of confidence from the Selectboard, there would be no point in moving forward.

"Yeah, I read through this," said Mr. Silvia. "But it doesn't seem like we have a following ... [and] interest has dropped. I can't say that I would be pushing for it because I think that if a person wants to get, help they have to do it on their own."

Mr. Espindola tried to convince Mr. Silvia that the interest is there and so are the incentives, saying, "If you show support, you show that you believe in it, and you provide the incentives. It does work."

He mentioned grant opportunities from the state and BCBS, as well as participation in the Employee Assistance Program — a mental health counseling service offered to employees.

"Mr. Freitas, your brother is one of the people that advocated for that to come back on board ... and the Wellness Committee pushed for that," said Mr. Espindola, but it was to no avail.

For Mr. Freitas, he rejected the idea that committee members are volunteers because they receive compensation time for attending meetings. Furthermore, he said, "I haven't seen anybody charging at us.... I haven't heard from anybody.

"I never saw any kind of savings from this. Year after year, we came in here and we still had to talk about how we could try to keep the insurance (costs) low," Mr. Freitas continued.

Perhaps the committee could start again in the future, he said, "But right now I'm not seeing any interest from any of the employees.... This has to be employee-driven, not selectmen-driven. I have enough to do without having to throw myself at someone else.... My vote right now would be to let it go."

"I think like I voiced earlier in the

SELECT: cont'd on page 21

AROUND TOWN HAPPENINGS

COVID Testing

The Fairhaven Fire/EMS department, in cooperation with the Fairhaven Board of Health, will be offering a FREE Covid Test Clinic EVERY SATURDAY for Fairhaven residents and town employees until further notice. Next Date: **Sat., 11/28, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Fairhaven Recreation Center, 227 Huttleston Ave. WALK-IN ONLY, NO appointments.**

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

Toastmasters Virtual Open House

Curious about public speaking? Four local Toastmasters clubs will host the Area 61 Virtual Open House on Thurs., 12/3 from 7-8:15 p.m. Learn all about Toastmasters and "The Power of Public Speaking" in a fun, friendly environment. The event is free, but pre-register is required at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/area-61-virtual-open-house-tickets-128445282297>. Zoom link will be sent via email 24 hours prior to the event!

Toastmasters clubs from Fairhaven

and the local area are joining together to present a fun, free, virtual educational event. This open house will introduce the Toastmasters program of learning effective communication and leadership skills in a supportive club setting.

Visitors will get a glimpse of what a typical club gathering is like, including hearing a speech on "The Power of Public Speaking" by Distinguished Toastmaster Maryann Murphy, witnessing a live speech evaluation, and getting the chance to practice their own extemporaneous speaking skills during a fun "Table Topics" activity.

Snow Park Ban

No vehicles shall be permitted to remain on the hydrant side of all streets in Fairhaven from December 1st to March 31st from midnight to 8:00 a.m. and also at the time of any snowfall or snow removal operations. On streets with no hydrants, NO vehicles shall be permitted to remain either on the west side of streets running north and south or on the north side of streets running east and west. Violators will be towed and/or ticketed.

Shop Small Saturday

This Saturday is Shop Small Saturday. Please try to shop at local businesses (see page 12). During this pandemic it is even more important to support local businesses, so when this is all over, our communities will still keep their local character.

And remember you can support a variety of businesses by buying gift

cards/certificates.

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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Obscene graffiti defiles baseball concession stand on Shaw Rd

By Beth David
Editor

A vandal, or vandals have defiled the walls of the concession stand at the baseball fields on Shaw Road in Fairhaven. They also entered the building and sprayed fire suppressant.

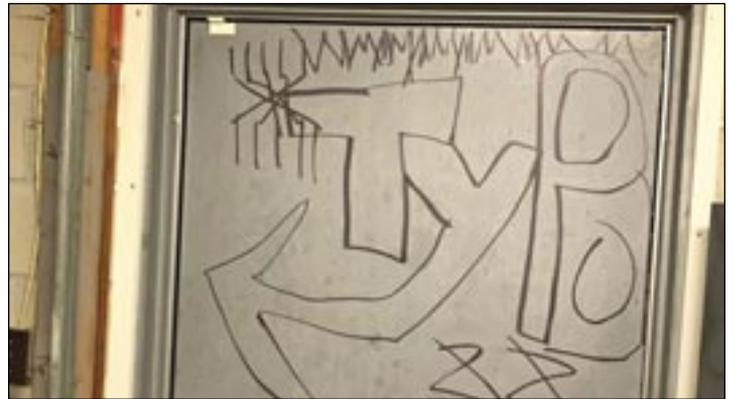
The vandal(s) sprayed graffiti,

including some obscene images, sketches of various images, and the word "Typo" that seems to be the signature, or "tag" of the person creating the graffiti.

"Please help us identify the criminals who decided it was ok to vandalize the FAYB concession stand," wrote

the Fairhaven Acushnet Youth Baseball league on its Facebook page. "Please keep your ears open and if you find the fire extinguisher that was sprayed please notify the FPD."

If anyone has any information, please call the Fairhaven Police Department at 508-997-7421.



ABOVE: Fire suppressant is thick on the counter and other surfaces inside the concession stand at the baseball fields on Shaw Road in Fairhaven after vandals defiled the building inside and out on Friday, 11/20/20. RIGHT: Graffiti on the door and wall of the concession stand at the baseball fields on Shaw Road in Fairhaven show a variety of scribbles including "Typo" which seems to be a signature, or "tag" of the culprit who defiled the building on Friday, 11/20/20. Photo courtesy of Brian Wotton.



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Elect KEVIN GALLAGHER, Fairhaven Board of Health - Spring 2021

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Kevin Gallagher: 16 Manuel St., Fairhaven, MA 02719

Fairhaven offers free COVID testing to residents

By Beth David
Editor

The Fairhaven Fire Department and the Fairhaven Health Department offered free COVID19 testing to residents, just in time for Thanksgiving. The town held several testing clinics this week. On Monday, 11/16, town employees were offered testing at the Fairhaven Recreation Center, and walk-ins were also taken.

Deputy Fire Chief Todd Correia said that first one was not publicized and was mostly for employees so the department could get the kinks out of the operation.

On Saturday, 11/21, they held another clinic that was publicized. They administered 271 tests in three hours. They had 12 positives for a positivity rate of 4.42%, which is consistent with the state average.

Wait time was about 20 minutes in the early hours, but it was a mild day. "All in all, it was a succesful clinic,"

said Mr. Correia in an email.

They held another one on Monday, 11/23, and administered 211 tests. Results were not available by press time.

The town will hold another clinic on Saturday, 11/28, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Fairhaven Recreation Center, 227 Huttleston Avenue. The testing is free, and is for Fairhaven residents only. No appointment is required. (See listing on page 5.)

Mr. Correia said the town will hold clinics every Saturday at the Rec Center until the funding, which comes from FEMA and the CARES Act, is expended.

People of all ages showed up on Saturday, 11/21. Those who spoke to the *Neighb News* said they did not have any symptoms, but because it was free, they decided to take advantage of the opportunity. A lot of people said they were worried about infecting their family members over

the Thanksgiving weekend so they decided to get tested first.

"We are in that age bracket now and it's better to be safe then sorry," said Connie Whelan about her and her husband, who were both tested earlier this year.

Results were available participants online within 48 hours.



TOP: Connie Whelan answers some questions while Firefighter/Paramedic Sean Harrington prepares to administer a COVID-19 test at the Fairhaven Recreation Center on Saturday, 11/21/20, during the first COVID-19 testing clinic open to the public ABOVE LEFT: Wendy Morris gets tested as her son Colin looks. ABOVE RIGHT: An exit lane (foreground) and a lane to line up to enter are set up outside the Fairhaven Recreation Center. Photos by Glenn C. Silva.



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MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Wishing everyone a joyous holiday!
May 2021 bring you good health and happiness.
See you in the Spring!





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HAPPENINGS OVERTOWN

NB COVID testing

Free daily testing for all Mass. residents is available at the Whale's Tooth Parking Lot, 532 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford, every day (no appointment necessary), 10 a.m.–4 p.m.; call 401-654-4679 with questions; for other sites in NB, visit <https://www.newbedford-ma.gov/health-department/covid-19-resources-2/>

Photo Contest

The Buzzards Bay Coalition is celebrating the 2020 holiday season with an online contest to highlight the beauty and abundance of our region's lands, waters and wildlife.

Through the "Grateful, Thankful, and Glad Photo Contest," residents are encouraged to share up to three photographs of a favorite place on Buzzards Bay or within its watershed area, which encompasses 18 communities — from Little Compton, RI to Woods Hole on the coast, as far north as Freetown and as far east as parts of Carver and Plymouth.

Six winners will be selected at random for a gift of Buzzards Bay Coalition swag. Winners choose from cold weather beanies, baseball caps with a favorite Bay location stitched on the back, long-sleeve t-shirts and water bottles, as well as one of our famous "Save the Bay" bumper stickers.

There is no cost to participate. To enter, individuals should "follow" the Coalition (@savebuzzardsbay) on Instagram, Facebook, or Twitter, and share a photo of a favorite place in the Buzzards Bay region via social media **by midnight on Sat., 12/12**. The photo can be a landscape or waterscape, a closeup of some wonder or image of people at play on the Bay or in the watershed lands surrounding it. The entry should include where the photo was taken and why it's a favorite place.

Photos should be submitted either as a public post that includes a tag of the Coalition or as a social media story that is then sent as a screenshot via social media messaging to the Coalition. Participants are limited to three entries.

Artist Reception

New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks! is proud to announce the

opening of a solo exhibition by New Bedford artist Pat Coomey Thornton titled *Immersion & Interaction: Witnessing the Everyday*. This modest retrospective features a selection of paintings, drawings, and sculptures culled from over thirty-years of Coomey Thornton's prolific career. Her ability to translate her everyday experiences as an artist, a daughter, and a mother onto an abstract picture plane is matched only by the intensity she brings to each artwork. This exhibition is a celebration of her works and a testament to the talent that continues to come out of the SouthCoast.

Just as her exhibition, *Small Abstractions*, was set to open in City Hall this past March, COVID-19 shut the city and country down. We are thrilled to be able to share her works with you now and to celebrate this amazing local artist. NBAM invites the public to join the artist at an **Opening Reception Sat. 12/5 from 12 - 2 PM**. Timed-tickets for admission and masks are required. Some of Coomey Thornton's works on paper can still be viewed in City Hall's Ashley Room through the end of the year (Room 120, 133 William Street, New Bedford). Visit: newbedfordart.org

Walk of Stars

Community Nurse Home Care is proud to announce that Mutual of America Financial Group has committed to sponsoring the "Walk of Stars – Honoring and Remembering the Stars in our community" with a platinum level sponsorship of \$5000.

Community Nurse Home Care, Inc. is a non-profit agency that has provided home care and hospice care to the 21 cities and towns of the Southcoast for more than 100 years. They repeatedly sit at the top of the CMS Star Ratings of Home Care Agencies. After the struggles of 2020, they wanted to celebrate this honor, as they typically do, with a luncheon honoring several members of the community. With Covid19 interrupting this plan, they decided it was better to find a way to recognize ALL the stars in the community and give them the opportunity to shine brightly in a safe, public way, as an outdoor display.

The display will be located at Wings Court in downtown New

Bedford (honor and memorial) and Community Nurse's Fairhaven Office Garden (memorials only) from December 7, 2020 – January 4, 2021. The display's opening is timed to coincide with AHA! New Bedford's December "Starry Night" event.

Throughout the holidays, you can stroll at your leisure through the Walk of Stars and enjoy the stars — on the paths, in the trees and in the sky. Information about the honorees and remembrances will be available on the website from now until the display is complete. Visitors are welcome to leave thoughts of gratitude and remembrance on the website to share. Please visit www.communitynurse.com/stars for more information or contact Stasia Powers Director of Community Engagement and Development at spowers@communitynurse.com.

Celtic Sojourn

Brian O'Donovan brings you A Virtual Christmas Celtic Sojourn to enjoy with loved ones in the safety of your own home. He and the artists will perform virtually, singing familiar songs; dazzling as always, with musical creativity, and visiting musicians around the world in their homes while sharing their holiday traditions.

Brian will be your host, introducing the artists, chatting with them about their lives, reading favorite poetry, and bringing a special story of remembrance and musings from his own West Cork Christmas.

Join us in celebrating the Celtic, Pagan, and Christian traditions of the season with this magnificent performance!

Thurs., 12/17, 7:30 p.m. Viewable through January 2. Proceeds from the performance benefit the performers and The Zeiterion. For tickets, \$52.50 per household, visit <https://zeiterion.org/christmascelticsojourn2020/>

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.

HAPPENINGS/OTHER LATITUDES

FAYB Tree Sale

Fairhaven Acushnet Youth Baseball Christmas Tree Fund-raiser, Pope Park Champions Field, Acushnet. Mon.-Fri., 5-9 p.m.; Sat. & Sun., Noon-9 p.m., **beginning Sat., 11/28** (check FAYB Facebook page for changes in schedule). Featuring trees, wreaths, hot cocoa, cookies, and more. Pictures with Santa at home plate on Saturday and Sunday (only).

Accepting cash or check only. Masks required. Practice social distancing.

Macy's goes virtual

The famed Macy's Parade is going virtual this year. No marching down the streets of New York City, but the parade will still offer performances, gigantic balloons, and fabulous floats that you can see from the comfort of your own home. Watch on **Thurs., 11/26, 9 a.m.-noon, on ABC stations.**

For more information, including float and performer lineup, visit <https://www.macys.com/social/parade/>

Story Walk

Thanksgiving StoryWalk®, Open dawn to dusk, 7 days a week through Dec 7. FREE!

Take a walk, read a book, have an adventure! Handy House Heritage Trail Enter at Handy House parking lot off 202 Hix Bridge Road, Westport.

Nickommoh! A Thanksgiving Celebration by Jackie French Koller

"Now frost lies thick on the fields at dawn, and the winged ones pass overhead in great numbers, calling out their good-byes. It is time, now. Time for the People to come together, together to give thanks. Nickommoh!"

Nickommoh is a Native American word meaning celebrational gathering. The traditional Native American harvest Nickommoh was held outdoors, lasting several days and included gaming, feasting, and contests of skill.

StoryWalk® is an innovative and delightful way for children — and adults! — to enjoy reading and the outdoors at the same time. Laminated pages from a children's book are attached to signs, which are installed along an outdoor path. As you stroll down the trail, you're directed to the next page in the story.

The Handy House Heritage Trail provides a safe outdoor space with

plenty of room for social distancing.

The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.

By Westport Historical Society, 508 636 6011, westporthistory@westporthistory.net. Visit www.wpthistory.org

Holiday Lights

First Annual Winter Lights Display Celebration throughout Cape Ann! Nov. 27, 2020 - Jan. 1, 2021, 4pm-10pm Daily. Pack up the car and head to Cape Ann for the First Annual 2020 Winter Lights Display! This scenic Cape Ann community drive celebration showcases over 150 places lit up to help us all celebrate the joys of the season. A custom-designed Google Drive Map will be produced and available at DiscoverGloucester.com - highlighting Rockport, Gloucester, Essex and Manchester's participating locations. We invite family, friends, locals and visitors alike to join us for a month-long promotion of enchanting exploration and glimmering light displays. It's designed for your SAFETY in MIND! Visit: <https://www.discovergloucester.com/winter-lights-cape-ann/>

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>

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 6 th, 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.

Light Display

The Magic of Lights drive-through experience features dazzling themed light displays using the latest LED technology and digital animations in a mile-long display. 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/>.

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.**

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/>.

Recipe of the Week

Sweet Potato Souffle

Souffle:

- 1/2 cup butter (1 stick), at room temp, plus more to grease pan
- 5 medium sweet potatoes
- 2 large eggs
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup milk
- Pinch of salt

Topping:

- 1 cup finely chopped pecans
- 1 cup brown sugar, packed
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup butter (1/2 stick), softened

For the souffle: Preheat the oven to 350°. Grease a 2 1/2-quart baking dish with butter.

Poke sweet potatoes with a fork and bake on a foil-covered baking sheet until they are soft, 1 hour. When cool enough to handle, peel potatoes, place the flesh in a large mixing bowl and mash until very smooth. Add the eggs, sugar, butter, vanilla, milk and salt. Combine well with an electric mixer or hand mixer. Turn mixture into the baking dish.

For the topping: In a medium bowl, stir together the pecans, brown sugar, flour and butter until thoroughly combined. Spoon the mixture over the sweet potatoes, making an even layer. Bake the casserole until slightly browned, 40 minutes. Let the casserole sit for 5 minutes before serving.

From our readers: Food Drive is On

Support Annual Food Drive

It's that time of year when the Shepherds Pantry's annual Holiday Fundraiser is again in full swing. For the past 18 years, volunteers at the Shepherd's Pantry, located at the Long Plain United Methodist Church at 1215 Main Street in Acushnet, are asking the generous public for their continued financial support in keeping the pantry in business so we can continue in helping out the less fortunate in the area. The volunteers' main objective is to never turn away needy individuals who come looking for help each Saturday between the hours of 9 to 11 a.m. And thanks to the kindness of the Long Plain United Methodist Church, we have a place that individuals can come and receive this help.

As you know, hunger is a daily struggle for some families. Even though some of these families may have two wage earners, it is sometimes not enough for them to be self-sufficient in feeding themselves or their loved ones. This is where the Shepherd's Pantry and its many dedicated volunteers and donors make a difference for families like these who are struggling to make ends meet. This hand-out is a safety net that these families have come to rely on, appreciate and be thankful for.

This year, because of the Coronavirus, proved to be a very stressful time for everyone,

especially for volunteers at pantries that continue to work as safely as possible by distributing much needed food for people coming to get help.

We, at the Shepherd's Pantry have kept our doors open throughout this pandemic. We will continue to hand out food but we need your help to do so. This year we didn't have food drives as we had in the past. Largely because it was not safe to do so. So your donation for us to purchase food is all the more important to keep our shelves filled for the less fortunate. The Greater New Bedford Track Club has graciously agreed to continue the Turkey Trot, virtually. All proceeds will benefit our pantry and we can't thank them enough for their hard work.

So you see folks, the pantry's very existence and success depends largely on all who can contribute any amount of monetary donations and/or volunteerism to help the pantry run smoothly. For those who would like to donate non-perishable food items year round, the kind folks from the Stop & Shop supermarket, located in Fairhaven, are nice enough to have a donation bin for your convenience.

You can send your tax-deductible contribution to the Shepherd's Pantry at P.O. Box 760, Fairhaven, MA 02719. And as always, together, we can make a difference for the less fortunate. God bless.

*Gerry Payette, Director,
Shepherd's Pantry*



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Fairhaven

BPW discusses water meter tampering

By Mary Macedo

Neighb News Correspondent

The Fairhaven Board of Public Works on 11/16 hired a new Heavy Motor Equipment Operator for the Highway Department, discussed winter recycling center hours, new asphalt at Livesey Skate Park, and enacting new fines for water meter tampering.

With the new mask mandate in place all people in attendance to the meeting had to wear a mask. Board members Marcus Ferro and Cameron Durant attended via Zoom.

The board first interviewed Robert Carreiro for HMEO. BPW Superintendent Vinnie Furtado said that there is a vacant spot in the Highway Department and Highway Superintendent John Charbonneau highly recommended Mr. Carreiro for the truck driver position.

Mr. Carreiro told the board that he has many years of experience with all types of equipment and mechanics. He said he has driven trucks for 13 years and that he also has experience in construction, tools and welding.

BPW Vice-Chairperson Robert "Hoppy" Hobson said he loves that Mr. Carreiro is a Fairhaven resident who wants to work in Fairhaven. Mr. Hobson said that Mr. Carreiro has a lot of qualifications and could help out in the garage which is a bonus.

BPW board member Frank Coelho agreed that Mr. Carreiro's resume is very impressive and that Mr. Carreiro's mechanic experience will be helpful, and he would be a great addition to the department.

BPW Chairperson Brian Wotton said he agreed and said he always likes to take Mr. Charbonneau's and Mr. Furtado's recommendations.

The board voted unanimously to hire Mr. Carreiro.

In another matter the board met with Ann Richard via zoom about the asphalt at Livesey Skate Park. She told the board that in 2014 the town got funds from the Community Preservation Committee for \$60,000 to renovate the skate park that was built in the 1990s. That money only covered renovating new structures, and it did not help the asphalt area between structures. Ms. Richard said that nothing has been done to the skate park since 2015, and it is used by kids, teens, and adults a lot.

The asphalt between the struc-

tures is cracking and needs to be resurfaced. The group is looking to get another CPC grant to cover the costs, estimated to be around \$150,000.

Mr. Wotton suggested looking into other contractors who take asphalt out and re-granulate it to be reused. He said that might lower the cost. Mr. Furtado said he would look into it.

Mr. Hobson said he was on board as long as the grant covered the cost.

Mr. Durant agreed and said maybe the Highway Department could help lend a hand with the project.

Mr. Wotton said he was all for it and wants to see kids get outside and play.

The board voted unanimously to recommend the project for CPC funds.

In another matter, the board discussed an issue from the previous meeting, when the board held an executive session to discuss a

Mr. Durant said that if a person touches the meter, opens it, turns it around or the seal is cut that is tampering.

resident who had tampered with a water meter. During the meeting there was disagreement on the fine that should be given to someone who tampers with a water meter.

The board decided to discuss it in open session.

Mr. Coelho said that at the last meeting they charged the person a \$500 fine for tampering with the water meter because the person tampered with it to check if there was a leak. Mr. Coelho said that he feels like now they have to charge the same for everyone or it is not fair.

Mr. Furtado said he changed the language in the policy to say the fine can be up \$1000. He suggested they add a minimum such as the fine will be between \$500 and \$1000.

Mr. Coelho said he thought the fine should be the same for everyone, not dependent on the person. If someone is having a problem they should call the town to have their meter checked.

He said no one should be tampering with their meter.

Mr. Ferro said the board should have the discretion to set the fine within the parameters Mr. Furtado stated.

Mr. Hobson left the last meeting early and was not there for the executive session. He said that the fine is \$1000 and the person turned their meter around and got caught and his grass was green all summer.

He said the person should have been charged \$1000. He said if it was his friend or family member he would charge them the full amount.

"Why did you guys do that," Mr. Hobson said. "Was he a friend of someone's?"

Mr. Wotton told Mr. Hobson they cannot discuss it.

Mr. Hobson said the fine should be \$1000 no matter what.

Mr. Durant said that if a person touches the meter, opens it, turns it around or the seal is cut that is tampering.

Mr. Wotton suggested that Mr. Furtado expand on the wording and make it more detailed and define what tampering is. He suggested they table the issue and revisit it when Mr. Furtado has a more detailed version. Mr. Wotton suggested that they mail that version to every resident with their water bill, that way everyone knows what tampering means.

The motion passed with Mr. Hobson against it.

The board also discussed winter hours for the recycling center. Mr. Furtado suggested they go back to their normal winter hours which would be Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to noon and the second and fourth Saturday of every month from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. starting on January 1st.

Mr. Hobson suggested that the recycling center continue to stay open until 3 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Mr. Furtado said he did not think the recycling center will be used as much in the winter months.

Mr. Wotton agreed and said it would be a waste of the employee's time.

Mr. Hobson said if the virus is still going on people will come to the recycling center because they will be cleaning.

Mr. Wotton said that the virus is not going anywhere.

BPW: cont'd on page 22

Shopping with the *Neighb News*

A decidedly biased piece by
Beth David
Editor

It's time for one of our favorite annual stories: Shopping with the *Neighb News*! Here, you will learn how you can find gifts for everyone on your list, a few things for yourself, and spend some fun time exploring all that *Neighb News* advertisers have to offer.

After the Thanksgiving Day feast is over (that you spent with only your household members or other close relatives, right?) and you're looking for a way to work off some of it, it's time to buy gifts for your precious loved ones, whether you want to or not!

No need to get all stressed out, the *Neighb News* is here to take some of the anxiety out of your Christmas and holiday shopping journey. You need only to look within these pages to find all you need for even the hardest-to-buy-for relative.

First, you'll want to call **Cyclone Cleaning** to get the house spruced up. Sure, you won't be having any parties for a few more weeks because of the scourge that shall not be named here, BUT you want to be ready for when the cloud lifts, right? And, you're going to have a special time with your household loved ones, and you all deserve a nice clean space for it. The drop-off center is open, so you can swing by with your area carpets. While you're there, grab a gift certificate for your parents' place.

After that, you'll want to decorate with some wreaths and baskets and all manner of decorations using natural greens, and Christmas trees, too. You'll find all that and a friendly (masked) face at **Roxann's Gardening Center**.

And part of decorating outside should also include flags and banners with all kinds of fun stuff on them. Take a peek at the selection of old favorites and original designs from **Brewer Banner Designs**. It's the simplest way to dress up the outside to match the inside, and show your holiday spirit to the world.

This Friday is the big shopping day, of course. So, you'll want to start as early as possible. At just about the crack of dawn, you'll want to start with a hearty breakfast and we've got a great spot for you. The **Bayside**

Lounge serves a great breakfast and lunch, and has lots of other great items on their menu. And they have gift certificates, too. So don't just feed yourself, check someone off your list.

Right about the time you're done with breakfast, the banks will be opening. We've got just the spots for you to choose from

Visit **St. Anthony of New Bedford Credit Union**, which is offering holiday loans to help you get through the spending. It's a nice small place, very cozy, where everyone knows your name. If you're more inclined to stay on this side of the river, visit **Southern Mass Credit Union**. It's another cozy, hometown place. Both offer car loans and CDs. Now *that's* a

You need only
to look within
these pages to
find all you need
for even the
hardest-to-buy-for
relative.

great gift!

Speaking of cars....

A&A Auto has a great selection of used cars to fit any budget. I'll bet Alex will even put one of those big red bows on it, too, if you ask. And they do repairs, too, if you're not quite ready to buy.

Hmm...maybe you want to sell that old car you only drive in summer, huh? Then check out **Custom Auto**, they'll give you cash for that old gas guzzler. They do repairs, too.

Both of these reputable car places will give you gift certificates. An oil change or A/C recharge is a great gift for the person who has everything.

Looking for that home-town New-Englandy village experience? Well, Fairhaven's got it all here, as New England as it gets in the center of town. Park the car and walk around.

Nothing says Christmas better than a stroll among quaint shops for

village-style shopping. Your best bet is **Euro Phoenix** where you'll find gifts for every pocketbook, from dollar doodads to imported Norwegian sweaters. Take the kids with you. Their allowances will go far at this Fairhaven gem.

While you're still in the vicinity, take a stroll by our magnificent town hall, Millicent Library, and Unitarian Church. These spectacular buildings were gifts from town benefactor Henry Huttleston Rogers. You might not be able to stroll around inside, depending on the COVID restrictions of the day, but if you've got your camera with you, you'll be able to get some great shots of our architectural wonders.

Now you've worked up an appetite with all that walking and oohing and aahing over our town center, so scoot over to **Wah May's Restaurant**. Have some tea to warm you up, and grab a couple of gift certificates to hand out on the big day.

Got a sweet tooth? Have some people impossible to buy for? Well, no one can resist the home made sweets at **Dorothy Cox's Chocolate and Ice Cream**. Ice cream all year long. So, yup, it's the ultimate comfort food stop. And they have gift certificates! I mean, who doesn't just LOVE a dozen yummy truffles, or a box of mixed chocolates that you get to choose yourself? (Did I mention the fudge?) Oh, and grab a bottle of wine, too, for later on.

Now it's time to take care of that young couple who just bought their first house — a real fixer-upper, and they need all the help they can get.

Maybe the old place just needs some TLC? Well, check out our **classifieds**. They are loaded with people who can help out with those little jobs, and cool stuff for sale — cheap. And that includes the **Mattapoisett Craft Show**, but that's for tomorrow. They're only open for a couple more Saturdays, so don't forget to mark your calendar.

It's quite possible that the old place is perfect for a really sarcastic card that says "360 payments and it's ours!" But it could be that it's just that unkempt yard making it look a lot worse than it is. We have a couple of possibilities to help them out. Call **Ron's Lawns** or **Carlos Landscaping** to get that yard in shape. You'll be

SHOP: cont'd next page

SHOP: cont'd from previous page

amazed at how a professionally cleaned up, raked up, mowed down yard can change the feel of a place. They each have their own specialties, so give 'em a call to see which one best suits your needs.

For electrical work, you'll want Eric from **Eric Sylvia**. He can do it all, big or small.

And now that they've got all upgraded electrical, they can plug in all their gadgets. New house, new electric, they definitely need new gadgets too, or at least an upgrade. But it's such a hassle to update and reconnect and make sure the security software is up to date and all the other stuff that makes you just want to scream. Call Glenn at **Fairhaven Computer Repair**. He can fix what you've got, or fix you up with advice on what to buy, and set it all up for you, too.

Maybe the old place should have an alarm, huh? Yeah, I thought so, now that you've got all those new, shiny gadgets. Call **Wayne Electric**. They do alarms, and that's a cool gift!

You'll want **Robert Furtado** to do all the other projects, from cabinet making to the new bathroom.

Do the kids have their hearts set on a new kitchen? No one does kitchens like **Fairhaven Lumber**. They have cabinets, flooring and other products and services, like windows, to keep that big old wooden wonder cozy and warm.

You have other choices for the exterior work and for that combo interior/exterior work that the old house is bound to need.

Check out **Marc Gadbois**, whether it's time to replace the siding, windows, roofing, or fix what's there. He does everything, no matter how big the job seems to be.

Just be sure to check out **Shawn Fitzgerald**, too. He can get that roof on in a jiffy.

I'm willing to bet that big old monster has a big old monster of a heating system, too. If so, they'll be using up a little more fuel than they like for a year or two until they can replace that antique. Send **Luzo Fuel** over to fill up the oil tank. Now *that's* a gift!

Now that all the repairing and fixing up and patching and replacing are done, you'll want to make sure that space does just what you want it to do. You'll need **Chaisson Interior**

Design to make sure that place is decorated just the way they want so it's all comfy and cozy, or classy and glamorous...whatever suits their fancy. After all, with this pandemic, we're all spending lots more time at home, so it needs to be what you need it to be.

While we're talking about outside work, I'm thinking some of that stuff might require some heavy equipment. Or, maybe the kids got a good deal because the old septic system needs an upgrade, or the driveway looks like a bomb hit it? Well, if that's the case, they need **Arne Excavating**.

Of course, an old house like that probably has a fireplace or a wood stove, too, and that can take some pressure off that old boiler. Call

What's Christmas
without a heartwarming
and fun tale? Snuggle up
with a good story about
Christmas magic on a
small island.

Fitzgerald Tree Service. He's got seasoned wood to make Christmas morning nice and toasty. And he can take down that tree that looks ready to topple onto the chimney, too.

Speaking of chimneys. Call **Lenny Fleurent & Sons** if that baby needs repairing. Better yet, send Lenny to the basement to waterproof it. He can even fix up that old stone wall.

That should do it for stuff. What about protecting it all now? Call **Vieira Insurance Agency** for that. They specialize in insuring houses in seashore towns. Does it get any better than that?

Still don't have something for the person who has everything?

Maybe you're looking for an experience. Look no farther than the **Fairhaven Office of Tourism**. You'll get info on all kinds of stuff, although much of it might be virtual this year.

Speaking of virtual, the **MO LIFE Gala** is coming up. That would be a fun thing for the whole family, even

far flung family members, and no masks required, because it's online.

Now, I know that no one wants to think of the bad stuff during the holidays, but then you watch some sappy old Christmas movie with the obligatory hospital scene. And then you realize no one has updated the will in forever. Time to call one of our great law firms, including **Surprenant & Beneski**, which specializes in elder law; or maybe **Woodacre Law** or **Whitney and Pacheco**. They all can handle the full range of legal beagle stuff. It'll be a load off your mind and you'll be happy you did it.

While we're on the subject, you know you're thinking of all those who have gone before us, and the last time you visited, you noticed the gravestones getting pretty yucky looking. Give John at **J&L Cemetery Plot Maintenance** a call. He'll clean up the stone and plant something really nice for the holidays there, too.

Still have a few people on the list? Perhaps a boater? Maybe you're thinking of Uncle Johnny and that old boat of his and how he always has such a devil of a time getting it running in the spring. Call **Moby Dick Marina** and give Uncle Johnny indoor winter storage, or a spot on the dock. You know he'll love that!

Now it's party time. First, you'll need a body tune-up at the chiropractor to get straightened out. Call **Pine Grove Chiropractic** to get your back and neck and everything in shape for the next part of the program.

Did I mention it's party time?

Of course, parties look a little different this year. You'll be cooking for just you and yours, and not a whole group. So...ah forget it? NAH! Instead of just eating a bologna and cheese sandwich, call **Mac's Soda Bar**. They have a catering and take-out menu to fit every budget. You can even get great holiday meals, so you have the special dinner without all the hassle.

And they have gift certificates, too. So, while you're planning your own (little) party, check a couple of people off your list.

Let's see, boats, electronic gadgets, food, what did we forget? Oh, right, houses and apartments. You know what happens: People come "home" for the holidays and

SHOP: cont'd on page 18

Fairhaven Recreation Center

Open Mon-Thurs, 6 a.m.-8 p.m.; Fri., 6 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.-2 p.m.; Closed Sunday • 227 Huttleston Ave, 508-993-9269 <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

- Locker rooms will not be open
- Members must bring in their own water bottles or purchase from machine.
- Members must wear masks upon entering and exiting building
- Members must sanitize equipment after use
- Members must adhere to social distancing guidelines
- All members must stop to wash hands or receive sanitizer upon entering the building

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Fairhaven Senior Center

**508-979-4029 • 229 Huttleston Ave
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Respite Care: one day, half-a-day. Regular rates apply.**

Visit our website at:
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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Acushnet News

Snowstorm Parking Ban

By vote of Town Meeting, parking is restricted as follows: in water district, parking allowed opposite side of hydrants, out of water district, parking allowed north side of street running east and west; and, parking allowed on west side of streets running north and south.

Violators subject to being towed away at owner's expense. (Authority, Article 17, March 11, 1970 Annual Town Meeting, which adopted Chapter 40, Section 22D of the General Laws.) Parking restriction is from November 25, 2020 to April 15, 2021. *Acushnet Selectboard: Kevin Gaspar, Sr., David Desroches, David E. Wojnar*

Acushnet PD: Please Donate to Charities, not PD

Each year during the Holiday Season, the Acushnet Police Department receives generous donations of food and goodies from our amazing citizens.

Unfortunately this year, due to the uptick in COVID-19 cases, The APD will not be able to accept these kind gestures.

As always, we appreciate your

support, but ask that in lieu of food donations to our family, please make a donation to a local family in need and/or a local charity. We thank you for your continued support!

(See page 10 for information on donating to the local food pantry.)

Takeouts Available at Acushnet Public Library

Requesting items is easy! You may place a hold through your online account or let us know what you are looking for by phone: 508-998-0270 or email: acuholds@sailsinc.org. You can also fill out an online form. If you aren't sure what you want, no problem. We are here to help! Visit <http://www.acupl.org/>

Make sure to visit our website and view our Digital Displays for recommendations on books/movies/ \more from the staff. We have displays for Kids, Teens, and Adults. There's also a Miscellaneous page. Let us know if there are any themes you'd be interested in.

STEP 1: Place your holds through the SAILS Mobile App or your online account, or call us at 508-998-0270, or email us at acuholds@sailsinc.org.

You can also fill out a Library Takeout form which is available on the website.

STEP 2: Takeout hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 11-7; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-7; Fridays 1-5; and Saturdays 10-2. We will call you to schedule a pickup day. Please do not come to the library until you hear from us and we confirm a pickup day.

STEP 3: Make sure to have your library card with you and follow the posted signs when you arrive. Staff will be in the Community Room, waiting to help you through our Library Takeout window. Please wear a mask and practice proper social distancing.

STEP 4: Enjoy your items! A receipt with the return due date will be included with your items.

HAVE ITEMS TO RETURN?

Our exterior book drop is now open! You can return items there anytime or during takeout at window #1. Please note: Items will be quarantined and will remain on your account for up to 7 days. There will be no fines except on overdue items. *No donations accepted at this time.*



Sherry Lopes



Melissa Arruda



Claudio Pereira

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Friday, Dec. 25, 2020

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SHOP: cont'd from page 13

they think, shoot...why did I ever leave? Call **Howe Allen Real Estate** and they'll find the perfect house or apartment for your prodigal relatives.

Maybe you've decided to buy that house next to the kids? (My Big Fat Greek Wedding anyone?) Well Howe can help you with that, too. And so can the teams from **South Coast Elite Real Estate**. They all have inventory and are ready to find what you're looking for. Choose the one that's the best fit for you. Just be sure you tell them that you found out about them from the *Neighb News*.

Maybe your wayward relatives want to move back but are getting up there in age and don't want the hassle of home ownership. Take 'em on over to **Fairhaven Village**. It's right on the bus route to shop or head out of town.

Speaking of the *Neighb News*, don't forget that we sell pictures of events we've covered, to decorate those new walls.

Okay, now you're done. Time to sit with a drink and some friendly faces. Well, of course, the bar scene is out this year, but you can always grab

that bottle of wine and some munchies and head back to the kids' house. You know someone who plays the guitar, or the mandolin, or some other cool strings instrument, right? If not, I'll bet someone wants to learn. Well, there's no better place to go than **Fairhaven Frets**, for a brand new

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to all
a good
holiday season!

stringed instrument for the expert, or a used starter set of strings for the beginner.

And, no, we didn't forget about one of our favorite Yuletide traditions. What's Christmas without a heart-warming and fun tale? Snuggle up

with a good story about Christmas magic on a small island. If you have a Nook or Kindle, you can get my short story, *Who Makes the Magic?* with a shorter, bedtime version for younger children.

Just visit www.zorena.com for info on all my fiction and travel pieces.

There's my fantasy novel, *Zorena and the Medallion of Corandu*, (no, I haven't finished the sequel yet...I'm working on it!).

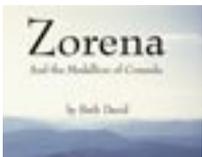
And then there's the one on my trip to Lebanon available for Kindles and Nooks. If you don't want to read my ramblings about my summer vacation, there are about 200 photos that make it worth the \$2.99.

Be sure to keep an eye on my Amazon author page because I've been working on some other stories that I hope will be ready soon.

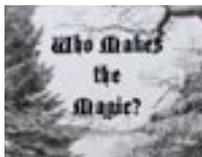
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Merry shopping to all and to all a good holiday season! ●●●

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NMLS # 422864

Vandalized Lovegrove bench replaced

By Beth David
Editor

The Matthew Lovegrove memorial bench that was heartlessly vandalized has been replaced. The bench offers a tranquil seat at the fishing pier in Little Bay off the bike path extension. It looks out to Little Bay at a spot that is great for teaching kids to fish.

The bench was destroyed by vandals in July (see *Neighb News* 8/6/20 issue). Matthew's mother Darlene said at the time that the bench was used for firewood.

Matthew was only 21 when he was killed in a car crash in 2004. The public works department installed the bench not long after. The driver of the other car paid for it.

Ms. Lovegrove said in July that she would replace the bench, and received enough donations to cover the cost completely. The new bench is made of metal and includes the memorial information cut into the steel on the backrest of the bench. It reads "Matthew Lovegrove 3/18/1983-11/20/2004" and a microphone to show Matthew's love for music.

There were also a number of

painted rocks that had messages on them, such as "Yeah, yeah. Matt is a star!"

"Our family would like to thank everyone who donated and made this bench possible," wrote Ms. Lovegrove in an email. "We have felt so much love and the fact that everyone still r e m e m b e r s Matthew is amazing. A special thank you to the Fairhaven Rotary Club and Brian Costa and team for building this beautiful bench. Please go down there and enjoy the beauty and peace."



ABOVE: The new Matthew Lovegrove memorial bench at the fish pier off the bike path in Fairhaven is made of steel, replacing the wooden one that was vandalized in July. BELOW: The marsh and water of Little Bay are reflected in the bench that shows Matthew's memorial information and a microphone to show his love of music cut out of the steel. Photos by Glenn C. Silva.



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SELECT: cont'd from page 4
beginning, I just think the interest in it is dead right now," said Mr. Silvia.

He mentioned that during his campaign for Selectboard he voiced his opposition to offering comp time to employees that serve on the Wellness Committee

"I just can't see going any further." Mr. Silvia motioned to disband the committee, seconded by Mr. Freitas. After his "nay," Mr. Espindola stated: "I'm definitely opposed to eliminating the Wellness Committee."

Also during the meeting, the board voted to make the Selectboard's meeting agenda packet available to the public at least 24 hours ahead of every scheduled meeting beginning with its next meeting on December 7.

Mr. Rees recommended posting the meeting packets to the town website to better educate the public and further transparency. Other municipalities have already adopted the practice, Mr. Rees said, either by

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posting the packet electronically or having printed copies available during in-person meetings.

The information included in the packets is public information, except for materials related to executive session, which will be excluded when posted for public viewing.

The board also set its meeting schedule for the first half of 2021, and approved a budget/town meeting schedule for fiscal year 2022.

The board also voted to authorize the chairperson to sign the revised electricity supply agreement for the Community Electricity Aggregation Program.

Following the meeting, the board remained for an executive session to discuss litigation related to New England Preservation development, LLC, regarding the town's voiding of the Roger's School property; and West Island Reality for a petition for certificate of title regarding "Ristuccia tax taking."

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 Health

Wed., 12/2, Town Hall, 4:30 p.m.

Board of Public Works

Mon., 11/30, Arsene St., 6:15 p.m.

Commissioner of Trusts

Tues., 12/1, Town Hall, 10 a.m.

Community Preservation

Wed., 12/16, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Thurs., 12/17, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission

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

School Committee

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

Selectboard

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

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

Acushnet

Board of Assessors

Wed., 12/2, Remote, 6:30 p.m.

Library Trustees

Tues., 12/1, Library, Noon

School Committee/Policy Subcommittee

Tues., 12/1, Zoom/remote, 3 p.m.

TIDE TABLE

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

	Nov. 2020	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
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

	Dec. 2020	HIGH		LOW	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Tuesday	1	0812	2038	0058	1348
Wednesday	2	0854	2121	0140	1429
Thursday	3	0937	2206	0226	1509*

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

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"

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.

Please note this is a new updated link.

The meeting can be accessed by Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://zoom.us/j/95653501903?pwd=YTVZSnQ2TjK3RkQ2TS82cUFDWklyUT09>
Webinar ID: 956 5350 1903
Passcode: 844891
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Mark Rees, Town Administrator
FNN, 11/26/20

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

- 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.**
- 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).
- 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)
- 87 Shaw Road. Owner: Joao M Martins & Iola**

BPW: cont'd from page 11

Mr. Furtado said they could keep the recycling center open longer on Wednesdays, but if the weather is bad like snow etc. then they will not open.

Mr. Hobson agreed that if there is snow on the ground there is no need to open.

The board voted unanimously to make the winter hours for the recycling center Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to noon and the second and fourth Saturday of every month from

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=m1mSC9hcTl1SIB5Sjh4S1FpbFFXUT09>
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Passcode: 989469

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US (New York)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 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).
- 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).
- 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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday, December 16, 2020 and Thursday,
December 17, 2020 at 6:30 pm
Banquet Room, Town Hall, 40 Center Street
Fairhaven, Massachusetts

To access remotely Log onto:

<https://zoom.us/j/91598776623?pwd=c2FvU1NFVEZxK2pUSlFhc0o0Y3lYz09>

or call 1-929-205-6099 - Meeting ID: 915 9877 662 -
Passcode: 252095

Live on Fairhaven TV Channel 18 and
fairhaventv.com

REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS FOR CPA FUNDING

8 a.m. to 2 p.m. starting on January 1st and weather permitting.

Mr. Hobson said that the recycling center is a disaster and they really need a new one soon.

In another matter Mr. Furtado showed the board the signs that the West Island Improvement Association created for the "island speed" signs that they want to add to West Island. The signs had very detailed pictures on them.

Mr. Wotton expressed his concern for the price of the sign given the very

The Fairhaven Community Preservation Committee will conduct two nights of Public Hearings to review eleven (11) applications for CPA funds that the CPC is considering for recommendations to the Annual Town Meeting in 2021. Please check the CPC website or with the Planning and Economic Development Department if the night for review has been changed.

The following applications will be reviewed on Wednesday, December 16, 2020:

- Green Meadows Roof (Fairhaven Housing Authority).** Proposal to replace the 1996 roofs on the eight (8) separate buildings. **Request Amount: \$65,000.**
- Academy Building Front Door Access (Fairhaven Historical Commission).** Proposal to build new front landing and steps with railing, brick walkway and new lighting. **Request Amount: \$195,000.**
- Old Stone Schoolhouse Restoration (Fairhaven Historical Commission).** Restoration of the schoolhouse building including gutters, fascia, soffits and fence. **Request Amount: \$15,000.**
- Town Hall Street Lamps (Fairhaven Historical Commission).** Proposal to build four (4) decorative street lamps on the sidewalk around Town Hall. **Request Amount: \$22,000.**
- Fairhaven High School Windows Restoration Phase 4 (Fairhaven Public School District).** Phase four of window restoration work at High School focusing on restoration of the existing wood window sashes and windowsills. **Request Amount: \$70,313.**
- Historic Structures Survey Update (Planning & Economic Development Department).** Proposal to hire a consultant to update approximately 125 of the 293 Historic Structure Surveys done in the late 1970's and early 1980's that are listed on the Massachusetts Cultural Resources Inventory and Survey (MACRIS) site. **Request Amount: \$30,000** as local match for an MHC grant.

The following applications will be reviewed on Thursday, December 17, 2020:

- Millicent Library Chimney Restoration Project (The Millicent Library).** Restoration of the chimney at the library on the National Register of Historic Places. **Request Amount: \$136,360.**
- Library Sidewalks Phase 2 (Department of Public Works).** Second phase of funding for restoration of brick sidewalks on William and Walnut Streets. **Request Amount: \$92,000.**
- Livesey Skateboard Park Resurfacing (Ann Richard).** Proposal to resurface the flat surfaces at the Skateboard Park with concrete. **Request Amount: \$200,000.**
- Unitarian Church Stabilization & Restoration - Phase 1 of 4 (Unitarian Memorial Church).** Phase 1 of 4 to include repointing of masonry, installation of electric cathode system, replacement of copper roofing and downspouts, flashing below coping stones, and new welded seam membrane roof for cloister. **Request Amount: \$193,439.**
- Whitfield-Manjira Carriage House Restoration (Whitfield-Manjira Friendship Society).** Proposal to renovate and stabilize the carriage house. **Request Amount: \$150,000.**

Copies of the Applications and Plans may be viewed at the Office of Planning & Economic Development in Town Hall, located at 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA, and on the Town's CPC website: <https://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/community-preservation-committee/pages/2021-cpc-applications-received>

Paul H. Foley, Director, Department of Planning & Economic Development

detailed photograph on them.

Mr. Furtado said a sign like that would probably cost between \$600-\$700 and they would not have enough money in their sign account for that.

Mr. Wotton and Mr. Durant suggested using the West Island Improvement Association's logo on the sign instead of the photograph.

Mr. Furtado said that using the logo would definitely be cheaper probably around \$150 instead. Mr. Furtado said he would talk to the WIIA about the signs.



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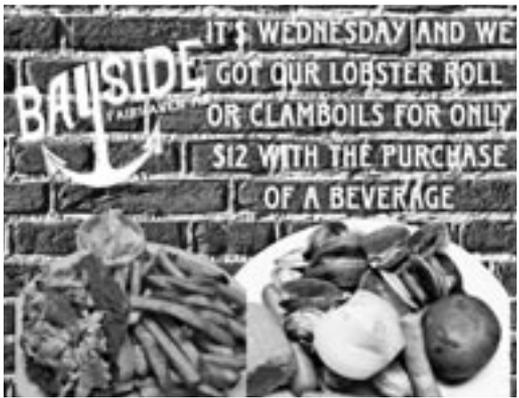
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