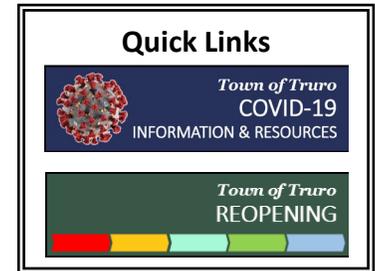


# Town of Truro Town Manager's Weekly Report

October 2, 2020

## Announcements:

- Masks are required in public areas where social distancing is not possible (per Governor Baker's Order) and in public areas of Town at all times (per Truro Board of Health). Exceptions include children under the age of 2 and those unable to wear a mask or face covering due to a medical condition. View the Truro Board of Health Regulation [here](#). View the Governor's Order [here](#).
- Citizens can view virtual meetings on Channel 18 in Truro and on the web on the "Truro TV Channel 18" button under "Helpful Links" on the homepage of the Town of Truro website. Click on the green "Watch" button in the upper right of the page. Please note that the meetings are held remotely. For more information on remote meetings, please [click here](#).
- Truro now has zero active COVID cases and 16 resolved cases. Please remain vigilant. Wear a mask, wash your hands and practice social distancing.
- It's not too late to respond to the US Census. To respond online: [click here](#) or to respond by phone, call 844-330-2020. If you did not receive a 12-digit Census ID in the mail or at your door, you can click on the link at the bottom that says, "If you do not have a Census ID, click here."



## This week's activities of note from the Town Manager's Office

- Thank you to everyone that came to Truro's Annual Town Meeting last Saturday. We had 243 voters in attendance (roughly a 12% turnout). We appreciate the patience demonstrated by the attendees and their willingness to adhere to safety protocols. A special thank you to the Moderator, the Board, and the staff for their efforts in planning and executing this new Town Meeting format.
- Truro's Fiscal Year 2021 tax rate was successfully certified by the Department of Revenue thanks to Principal Assessor Nahas and Town Accountant Brazil. The Residential rate is \$7.38 and the Commercial/Industrial and Personal Property rate is \$7.12. Tax bills will be mailed in the coming weeks.
- This week, we said goodbye to Rae Ann Palmer, who served six (6) years as the Town Manager for Truro. She will be missed by the Truro community and we wish her all the best in her retirement. During her tenure, Rae Ann remained deeply devoted to the citizens and visitors of the town, as well as to staff, board and committee members, and state and local leaders. Most recently, as a testament to her dedication to public service, Rae Ann delayed her planned retirement to meet the ongoing public challenges faced by our community due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Her sense of duty, when coupled with her resourcefulness and willingness to work collaboratively, resulted in Rae Ann's many local accomplishments and positive impacts. She assembled and strengthened a great team, and championed administrative efficiency, technological advances, and environmental improvements, to name just a few of them. Please join us in congratulating Rae Ann on a great career and wishing her well in her next chapter. ([See photo](#))

## Upcoming Meetings:

- Monday, October 5, 2020-Conservation Commission Remote Meeting @ 5:30pm.
- Tuesday, October 6, 2020-Truro School Committee Remote Meeting @ 9:00am.
- Tuesday, October 6, 2020-Board of Health Remote Meeting @ 4:30pm.
- Wednesday, October 7, 2020-Planning Board Remote Meeting @ 6:00pm.
- Thursday, October 8, 2020-Zoning Board of Appeals Cloverleaf 40B Hearing Remote Meeting @ 5:30pm.

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## Department News:

### DPW

- The opening of the Swap Shop will be evaluated at COVID – 19 Reopening Phase 4.
- This week the DPW began bringing in the bike racks from the beaches. The Department will continue removing trash and recyclable containers through mid-October.
- As the fall approaches, the DPW will begin to inventory and service all snow removal assets and review Department call-in procedures.
- DPW Director Cabral and Health Agent Beebe continue working with the School to assist with school reopening.
- The DPW has established a School-related building maintenance work order system. The Department will also develop a building maintenance database for the School. This will enable staff to track regular and reoccurring maintenance tasks.
- The Town Hall bell tower was tested again this week and has maintained regulatory compliance. Next week the bells will be tested without the louvers on. DPW Director Cabral and Health Agent Beebe will continue developing and reviewing the Town Hall bell testing and maintenance protocol. This will be monitored and tracked in the building maintenance software.

### Harbor Master/Shellfish Constable

- Shellfish Constable Jackett started deploying remote set oysters in shellfish areas needing replenishment.
- There was a big turnout of tuna boats over the weekend with the parking lot at full capacity and several trailers parking over at Corn Hill.
- Harbor Master Jackett is starting to see more boats hauling out for the season, with many from Provincetown.
- Harbor Master Jackett checked the mooring field the dinghies tied to the dock before and after the recent high winds.

### Health and Conservation

- **Truro Flu Shot Drive-Thru Clinic.** 10/29/20. 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Truro Community Center (7 Standish Way, North Truro). Pre-registration required. Click [HERE](#) to register. For more information call (508)413-9507.

### Recreation and Beach

- We would like to remind the public to continue to practice social distancing while visiting parks, trails, and beaches and wear a face covering when in public. For more information concerning COVID-19 click [HERE](#)
- We regret to inform the community that Erica Nunes, Assistant Director, will be leaving the department. We wish her the very best in her future endeavors. She will be missed.
- We are currently researching a youth soccer instructional program for October. Visit our website for more information: [www.truro-ma.gov/recreation-beach-department](http://www.truro-ma.gov/recreation-beach-department)
- **The Truro Community Center** is closed, but staff are still in the office. Staff can still be reached by phone (508)487-1632, email [dclements@truro-ma.gov](mailto:dclements@truro-ma.gov), or via Facebook, and Twitter.
- **The Truro Beach Office** (36 Shore Rd) is closed and beaches are no longer protected by lifeguards. Currently beach stickers are not required to visit Town of Truro beaches or park in Town of Truro beach parking lots. ORV stickers are still required to access the bayside, off-road corridor. To order online click [HERE](#). For inquiries about the beaches, please call (508)487-6983. Truro beach fire permits are currently suspended.

### **COVID – 19 Beach Safety Rules:**

- Stay home if you feel sick.

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- Practice social distancing. Maintain at least 6 feet of distance between you and others.
- Practice beach distancing. Maintain at least 12 feet of distance from your nearest neighbor in any direction.
- Masks are required when 6 feet of distance cannot be maintained for ages 2 and up. Masks are not required to be worn while swimming or sunbathing.
- **Puma Park Playground** is open. We remind the public to practice social distancing and wear a face mask in public. The playground is cleaned weekly and hand sanitizing stations are present. Portable restrooms are no longer available.
- **Shark Warning** – Practice shark safety.
  - Don't swim where seals are present.
  - Don't swim too far from shore.
  - Swim in groups.
  - Avoid wearing shiny jewelry or other accessories (which look like fish scales to a shark).
  - Avoid surfing alone.
  - Avoid areas with signs of baitfish or fish feeding activity – watch for diving seabirds.
  - Be aware that sharks may be present between sandbars or near steep drop offs.
- All programming/activities are suspended to stop the spread of the Coronavirus.

## Council on Aging

- COA staff continue to work from the office and remotely. Someone is always available M-F; 8-4 by phone and/or email.
- COA staff are calling all elders of concern, center participants, all older adults in the community for check-in and responding to all requests for help/information/referral.
- COA Outreach Coordinator providing all SHINE, Fuel assistance appointment via telephone.
- COA Outreach Coordinator providing mobile outreach outdoor home visits. Anyone wanting a visit should call to schedule.
- COA Transportation available for essential medical rides with new transportation and safety protocols in place.
- COA offering virtual programming through Zoom, thumbnails for COA website, Facebook page, as well as Channel 18.
- Director Briscoe continuing Live Facebook Dialogue with the Director M, W, F @ 10:00am.
- Director Briscoe facilitating online Psychoeducational Support Group via Zoom.
- COA continues participating in Lower Cape Outreach Council Food Pantry distribution on October 2, October 16, November 6. Drive up from 11-12:30pm for food bag distribution. November 20<sup>th</sup> is the annual turkey distribution day from 10-noon.
- COA staff responding to emergency food needs throughout the week.
- COA Director conferencing with COAST (Councils on Aging Serving Together), Barnstable County Human Services, Elder Services, EOEA to coordinate efforts to meet the needs of Cape Cod's older adult population through virtual programming and to develop reopening plans with respective towns.

## Assessing

- **Fiscal Year 2021** began on July 1, 2020. The Assessor's office is now accepting applications for the FY21 Residential and Statutory Exemptions.
- FY2021 tax bills will be mailed in the next week or so. Please be on the lookout for the Tax bill in the mail that is due 30 days from the bill date.
- The Select Board voted to continue the Residential Exemption at the Classification Hearing held September 22, 2020. As a reminder the Residential Exemptions DOES NOT have to be renewed annually. We review information and will contact you if clarification is necessary. New Residential Exemption applications will continue to be accepted until April 1, 2020 however the applicants must exhibit having been domiciled in Truro prior to Jan 1, 2020.

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- For Statutory Exemptions (Seniors meeting strict Income and Asset guidelines, Disabled Veterans, and the Blind), we must receive an application annually and supporting documentation must be presented with the application.
- The Deadline for FY21 is April 1, 2021 for exemptions, however we advise you return ALL applications early. While the deadline has passed for changes to the October tax bill, applications submitted immediately may be considered for approval prior to the October tax bill due date.
- Please feel free to contact the Assessor's Office with any questions at 508.349-7004 x 116 and we will be happy to assist.

## Library

- COMCAT, our inter-library loan system has resumed.
- Anyone hiking around the Small Swamp Trail at Pilgrim Heights will be able to peruse a book as they take the trail. Laminated book pages from *Hiking Day* by Anne Rockwell, illustrated by Lizzie Rockwell, have been placed along the trail for easy reading. Thanks to Maggie Hanelt and Ranger Laura for the idea and the execution.

## Attachments

