

# Fairhaven Cable Access Television 2023 Annual Report



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You Tube: [@Fairhaven\\_TV](https://www.youtube.com/@Fairhaven_TV)

## **Staff:**

Derek T. Frates, Director of Cable  
Erick Sa, Production Coordinator  
Alyssa Botelho, Videographer / Social Media  
Nicholas Doyle, Videographer / Editor  
Todd Migliacci, Videographer / Set Design

## **Cable Advisory Committee:**

Barbara Acksen, Chairperson  
Maria Carvalho  
Ronnie Medina  
John Methia  
Thomas McAfee

## **Select Board Representatives:**

Leon E. Correy III

In 2023 Fairhaven Cable Access Television continued to stay true to our mission: Providing informational, educational and community-based content on our two access channels.

Three locations are now available for meeting participants to interact through a hybrid system of in person and virtual attendance. Dating back to the pandemic of 2020, multiple technologies were used to make this happen. Livestream, Castus Stream, and Zoom were simultaneously used along with an intricate audio & video set-up to accomplish this. The department continues to receive great feedback from other departments, boards and committees who credit Fairhaven TV as being an essential piece of keeping town government issues on the forefront for the viewing public through multiple outlets.

The all-inclusive website FairhavenTV.com continues to be an essential asset for the residents of Fairhaven to view government meetings, community events, and virtual events around town, as well as receive emergency and timely updates and resources available from town departments.

Fairhaven TV's social media platforms continue to be an important tool to accomplish the mission of keeping residents informed. Facebook followers grew to over 2100 (an increase of 200) and Instagram followers total over 600. Our YouTube page is also the place to find all of the latest events filmed for Fairhaven Community Media.

Since August of 2022, Alyssa Botelho has taken over the role of Social Media coordinator for the town as well. Her tireless efforts in reconfiguring and reorganizing all of the town's Facebook and Instagram pages has been truly beneficial in keeping the community abreast of many happenings in town.

The 10-year (2018-2028) cable television renewal license between Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC and Town of Fairhaven, Massachusetts is available to view on the Town of Fairhaven website on the Cable Advisory Committee page. ([www.fairhaven-ma.gov/cable-advisory-committee](http://www.fairhaven-ma.gov/cable-advisory-committee))

### **Government Access – Channel 18:**

The following government meetings are filmed regularly, broadcast live when possible, replayed on channel 18, and are available to view on demand at [www.fairhaventv.com/governmentmeetingvideos](http://www.fairhaventv.com/governmentmeetingvideos) and at [www.livestream.com/fairhavenlive](http://www.livestream.com/fairhavenlive): Select Board, Board of Appeals, Board of Assessors, Board of Health, Board of Public Works, Belonging Committee, Broadband Study Committee, Cable Advisory Committee, Capital Planning Committee, Charter Committee, Conservation Commission, Contributory Retirement Board, Community Preservation Committee, Commission on Disability, Council on Aging Board, Cultural Council, Economic Development Committee, Finance Committee, Historical Commission, Lagoa Friendship Pact Committee, Livable Streets Committee, Marine Resource Committee, Planning Board, Rogers Re-Use Committee, School Committee, Sustainability Committee, Town Meeting Review Committee, Town Meeting, and various Public Hearings.

Local election coverage and the annual Meet the Candidates night has become a staple of the government access calendar, as well.

FTV arguably covers and broadcasts more meetings than any other access station in the commonwealth. **307** government meetings and **25** related shows and Public Service Announcements were produced and aired in 2022. There were actually more meetings filmed by Fairhaven Government Access in 2023 than in 2022 (302), 2021(301), 2020 (260) and 2019 (234).

Public meetings, forums, press conferences and ribbon cuttings are also filmed upon request. In addition, Fairhaven TV works with other departments to create public service announcements and informational videos to keep residents informed. These are posted to [www.youtube.com/@Fairhaven\\_tv](http://www.youtube.com/@Fairhaven_tv) and [www.facebook.com/fairhaventv](http://www.facebook.com/fairhaventv) as well as replayed on channel 18. Examples include Health Dept. guidelines and updates, Fairhaven Fire and Police Dept. PSA's, Town Clerk Election Info, Adopt-A-Pet series; monthly segments with the Fairhaven Animal Shelter and Animal Control Officer, Marine Resource Dept Permitting Procedures, Fairhaven Tree Warden updates and Arbor day festivities, Boater safety videos, Lagoa Friendship Pact committee events, Recreation Center updates, Fairhaven's Intergenerational field day, the COA's speaker series, and the Historical Commission's Beacons of Light unveiling of new town hall streetlights.

FTV also filmed the Belonging Committee's Black History celebration, April food drive, and the town's first ever Disability Pride event.

A new series was launched: Economic Development Committee New Business Spotlight, which features a variety of small business openings in town.

One production that impacted the community greatly was a PSA on Fairhaven's Police Departments' Blue Envelope Program. This program is designed to alert officers and first responders that a vehicle occupant that they're interacting with is on the autism spectrum.

FTV worked with the Veterans Services Dept. and past and present agents Brad Fish and Mike Jenney to produce coverage of annual events that previously had to be closed to public from attending. These included Memorial Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day parades and exercises and related activities.

FTV continued our collaboration with the Fairhaven Opioid Task Force by filming International Opioid Awareness day events in neighboring Dartmouth, MA and a recovery day celebration here in Fairhaven. The 'Opioid Crisis' 3-part video series continues to be shared bringing community awareness of the ongoing Opioid Crisis and offer support and contact information for those that need help for themselves, friends or family members. FTV also hosted a fentanyl awareness night in town hall to combat this ever-growing issue in the community.

#### **Community/Public Access – Channel 95:**

Fairhaven Community Media- Channel 95 is used for public access programming. **42** original productions including community events, and member productions were broadcast and are available on demand at [www.fairhaventv.com/communityvideos](http://www.fairhaventv.com/communityvideos) and on the Fairhaven Community Media YouTube page. In addition, dozens of regional access shows were imported and broadcast on Channel 95. Throughout the country, **137** affiliated access stations downloaded our content to broadcast in their communities.

FTV is proud to announce **The Magazine** brought home a national award at the Alliance for Community Media's Hometown Media Awards in the category of **Best Independent Producer** for their Year in review episode. The team was able to travel to the awards ceremony in Brooklyn, NY to receive the award! Producer Dave Fauteux and host Charlie Murphy have produced 52 episodes of The Magazine in just 4 years! All can be viewed on our YouTube Channel.

The annual Haunted Halloween Party has become a highly anticipated event in the community. The 6<sup>th</sup> annual event was hosted live in Town Hall. Attendance was around 700 once again. Features included Master of Ceremonies Todd "Magic" Migliacci performing magic and trivia, spooky stories, games and activities, trick-or-treat tables from community organizations and townsfolk, and the segments from the originally produced Hometown Haunts. Fairhaven Police and the Millicent Library partnered this year to make the event even bigger and better! Thanks to all our volunteers who participated.

Popular public access member TV Series' continuing to air on Channel 95 are The Family Table, Get Personal with Pattie, and others.

Other highlights include Kids Fest hosted by the Office of Tourism, coverage of the Manjiro Festival and annual Cherry Blossom Festival at the Whitfield-Manjiro house, Father's Day Road Race highlights, the Bike Bus program, FIA's Concerts Under the Stars summer concert series, Northeast Maritime Institute's Graduation exercises, coverage of the Benoit Square Tree lighting, and Old Time Holiday in December.

All of this material can be viewed on FairhavenTV.com, The Fairhaven TV YouTube page and in between programming on our channels.

Workshops and trainings are available to any Fairhaven resident looking to create their own show. Please follow us on Facebook and at [www.fairhaventv.com](http://www.fairhaventv.com) , [www.facebook.com/fairhaventv](https://www.facebook.com/fairhaventv), Instagram at [fairhaven\\_tv](https://www.instagram.com/fairhaven_tv), and subscribe to our YouTube channel.