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The Standard-Times

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‘I’m already sold out before I leave the house’



Tracy Violet waits for her order at the Dough & Basil mobile pizza at Fort Phoenix in Fairhaven. PETER PEREIRA/THE STANDARD-TIMES

Dough & Basil becomes a SouthCoast sensation

Seth Chitwood
The Standard-Times | USA TODAY NETWORK

FAIRHAVEN – Since launching 18 months ago, on some weeks, Dough & Basil sells around 300 pizzas across just three days. Last week, at Buzzards Bay Brewery the truck sold 140 pizzas in two hours. Now it’s become the need-to-try pizza of the summer.

“I’m not looking for recognition or applause. It’s just about Dough & Basil,” said Andrew Salpietro, owner of the SouthCoast pizza truck.

He said it was never meant to be about attention. In fact, it has built the business almost completely faceless, keeping the focus on the pizza, the process and the family traditions behind it.

“The big thing is learning dough management like humidity, heat, when to roll it, when to put it in proofing boxes,” he said.

After months of studying, practicing and learning by trial and error, Salpietro launched Dough & Basil on his late great-grandfather’s birthday. He said the timing was intentional as pizza, food and hospitality have deep roots in his family, beginning with relatives who came from Sicily and carried those traditions forward through generations.

Today, Dough & Basil operates through pop-ups two to three times a week, often selling out before the trailer even opens. Salpietro posts menus on Instagram, usually on Sundays at 5 p.m., and customers send in preorders almost immediately. It is common for 75 to 90 pizzas to sell out in less than an hour, sometimes in about 30 to 45 minutes, according to Salpietro, days before pickup.

And he does it almost entirely by himself.

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Owner Andrew Salpietro holds up a slice of pizza inside his food truck, Dough & Basil in Fairhaven, which has gone viral for its food. PROVIDED BY DOUGH & BASIL.



177 E Grove St. in Middleboro, seen here on July 6, is the site of a proposed surf park. EMMA RINDLISBACHER/TAUNTON DAILY GAZETTE

New England’s first resort surf park could open in Middleboro

Emma Rindlisbacher
The Taunton Daily Gazette | USA TODAY NETWORK

A surf park with a wave machine could be coming to Grove Street in Middleboro — but not if some Middleboro residents get their way.

“I just don’t think it’s something that’s good for the town of Middleboro,” resident Gerard Boissonneault said at a Monday, June 29, Select Board meeting discussing the project. “And I don’t think I’m the only one who feels that way.”

If built, the project at 117 E Grove St. would feature a wave pool, as well as a restaurant, a wellness center and cottages for overnight stays, according to a presentation from developers at the June 29 meeting.

Here’s what we know about the proposed project, which developers said would be the first surf park in New England if built.

Surf park would be located on historic Middleboro farm

The proposed surf park would be built on a portion of the site of the historic Schobel farm located at 177 E Grove St. And finding that location was no easy feat.

Jay Pateakos, Taunton’s Office of Economic and Community Development executive director, said that the developers of the surf park had initially considered land in Taunton but rejected Taunton because the water table of the potential sites was not suitable.

“The City loved the idea of it as it would be a destination for people who would likely have never been to the area before,” Pateakos said. “We showed the developers land adjacent to the Target, as well as the former Galleria Mall location as well, but neither location worked out due to water table issues and the location of a number of wetlands.”

Clay Rockefeller, a developer of the proposed surf park, said at the select board meeting that “it took us approximately two years to find a site that would work” and that ultimately the Schobel farm land “has a very deep water table” which enables the surf park to avoid a host of engineering challenges.

Water and traffic concerns

A number of concerns were raised at the June 29

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