



## PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Charlestown, Rhode Island - April 30, 2020: The Charlestown Seafood Festival "The Original Seafood Festival" cancels for 2020 amidst COVID-19 pandemic after Governor of Rhode Island's April 29, 2020 decree. This will be the first time in 35 years that the Charlestown Seafood Festival has not taken place.

The Charlestown Seafood Festival, named a "Top 100 Event in North America", and listed as one of 10 Best Summer Seafood Festivals in the Northeast, regrets to announce that the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Charlestown Seafood Festival at Charlestown's Ninigret Park in Rhode Island, scheduled for August 7, 8 & 9, 2020, has been canceled. The announcement today is due to the Governor of Rhode Island's decree that all large events planned for this summer can not take place due to restrictions placed on crowd sizes due to the COVID-19 pandemic and a true desire from the Charlestown Chamber of Commerce to put our community and their well being first at all times.

The Charlestown Seafood Festival will return in 2021 and is scheduled for August 6, 7 & 8, 2021. Plans are already underway to bring a bigger and better festival to Charlestown, Rhode Island in 2021.

The Charlestown Chamber of Commerce would like to thank all of our patrons, members, volunteers, vendors, sponsors, partners and the Town of Charlestown for their continued support always and especially during these trying times.

We ask that everyone support our members businesses at this time. As the economy slowly re-opens and restrictions on travel and tourism are lifted, the Charlestown Chamber of Commerce and Tourist Information Center intends to open for business this season.

In the absence of our biggest fundraiser, we humbly ask you to please continue to support our valuable organization by making a donation. It has been, and continues to be through the generosity and support of our businesses and community, that keeps the Charlestown Chamber of Commerce and Tourist Information Center viable.

The Charlestown Seafood Festival is organized and sponsored by the Charlestown Chamber of Commerce. This great family and community oriented, "seafood extravaganza" is well renowned as the area's one and only, "original seafood festival".

Please log on to <u>www.charlestownrichamber.com/seafoodfestival.html</u> or contact Executive Director Heather Paliotta at (401) 364-4031 for any further details.

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