

# NSTAR scam hits Fairhaven and surrounding area

According to the Fairhaven Police Department, some businesses in Fairhaven and surrounding area have received a phone call from a male party stating their electricity will be shut off within an hour due to money owed to NSTAR Electric. The caller has instructed business owners to contact him at a telephone number he provides them to make arrangements for payment.

Anyone receiving a call similar in nature is advised not to call him or provide any information to him. If you receive a phone call like this you are advised to contact their utility company directly to inquire about their account status.

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## Spraying for Mosquitoes Scheduled in New Bedford Early Thursday Morning

The New Bedford Board of Health announced today that the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project will conduct targeted ground spraying early on the morning of Thursday, July 17, 2014 in the area of Union Street and Purchase Streets as well as City Pier 3. The spraying will take place between 2:00 am and sunrise on Thursday morning. Residents in the vicinity of the targeted areas may wish to close their windows on Wednesday night prior to the spraying. The proactive spraying is scheduled in advance of a number of outdoor events that will take place in the downtown and on the waterfront in the next several days.

The Bristol County Mosquito Control Project has begun their surveillance efforts this season to track the potential for EEE and WNV carrying mosquitoes. Mosquito traps are in place to collect additional pools of mosquitoes and monitoring of mosquito populations will be on-going to assess the effectiveness of the spraying effort.

**Residents may request a ground spray by calling the Bristol County Mosquito Control project at (508) 823-5253, between 8:00am – 2:00pm (June – September), or contacting them by E-mail at [RequestBristolMCP@comcast.net](mailto:RequestBristolMCP@comcast.net).**

**The following precautions are advised:**

### **Avoid Mosquito Bites**

**Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours** – While mosquitoes are out at all hours of the day, their peak biting times are from dusk to dawn. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities that occur during evening or early morning. Otherwise, take extra care to use repellent and protective clothing, especially if you work or spend a lot of time outdoors.

**Clothing Can Help Reduce Mosquito Bites.** Although it may be difficult to do when it's hot, wearing long-sleeves, long pants and socks when outdoors will help keep mosquitoes away from your skin.

**Apply Insect Repellent when you go outdoors.** Use a repellent with **DEET** (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide), **permethrin**, **picaridin** (KBR 3023), **IR3535** or **oil of lemon eucalyptus** [p-methane 3, 8-diol (PMD)] according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30% or less on older children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under three years of age. Permethrin products are intended for use on items such as clothing, shoes, bed nets and camping gear and should not be applied to skin.

## Mosquito-Proof Your Home

**Drain Standing Water** – Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Limit the number of places around your home for mosquitoes to breed by either draining or getting rid of items that hold water. Check rain gutters and drains. Empty any unused flowerpots and wading pools, and change water in birdbaths frequently.

**Install or Repair Screens** – Some mosquitoes like to come indoors. Keep them outside by having tightly-fitting screens on all of your windows and doors.

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# HELP WANTED: Nights Domestic Violence Advocate

POSITION: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATE-NIGHTS (Part-time)

LEVEL: \$10.00hr

DEPARTMENT: POLICE

FUNCTION: Provides assistance to Police personnel and victims of domestic violence.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Advocates will be supervised by the New Bedford Police Domestic Violence Resource Coordinator.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: None.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Assists police with data collection/direct services and support for victims of domestic violence. Follow-up duties include: restraining orders, medical attention, shelters, referrals as needed. Works with other agencies and community groups involved with domestic violence. Assists victims of domestic violence in the emergency 209-A

restraining order process and contacts the Emergency Judicial Response System.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Must have High School Diploma or GED equivalent; experience working with victims of domestic violence; excellent interpersonal skills; ability to work with victims and families of domestic abuse; ability to work in a team setting with the Police and Resource Coordinator. Must be computer literate.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:** Possession of a valid Massachusetts driver's license and motor vehicle. Mandatory CORI background check and subject to pre-employment testing. Must satisfactorily complete thirty-six hours of Domestic Violence Training. Bilingual preferred.

**PHYSICAL DEMANDS:** The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently required to talk or hear; sit; use hands to finger, handle, feel or operate objects, tools or controls; reach with hands and arms. The employee is occasionally required to stand or walk.

The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to ten pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, peripheral vision, depth perception and the ability to adjust focus.

**WORK ENVIRONMENT:** The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

SELECTION GUIDELINES: Formal application; rating of education and experience; oral interview and reference check; job-related tests may be required. The duties listed above are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.

The job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.

NEW BEDFORD HAS A RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT

Apply here:  
<http://www.newbedford-ma.gov/personnel/employment/employment-opportunities/>

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## **Jim McGrath to present free concert, Thursday, July 17**



*Songs of the Sea  
at National Park*

## *Summer Concert Series*

The 2014 Thursdays in the Park Concert Series continues its weekly summer concert series with a performance of sea songs and chanteys by Jim McGrath on Thursday evening, 6:30-7:30 PM. The free concert takes place in New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park's garden, 33 William Street, downtown New Bedford. In the event of inclement weather the performance will be moved indoors to the National Park theater.

Jim McGrath has been performing original songs as well as sea chanteys, Irish and British Isles ballads, and American traditional and contemporary songs for more than 30 years. Based in Newport, Rhode Island, Jim has performed on ships and in concert halls and saloons in Ireland, Germany and across the Eastern Seaboard.

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## **First community survey draws extensive input on New Bedford Public Schools**

New Bedford Public Schools officials today presented the results of the first community engagement survey about the city schools. The survey generated widespread participation among parents, educators, employers, students, and other members of the community.

Dr. Pia Durkin, Superintendent, said that the survey, which will be conducted annually, measures community satisfaction

with the efforts to improve schools across New Bedford. Survey topics related to overall quality of the school district, satisfaction with central offices, communication with district and school leaders, strategies aimed at improving the district, and parent/guardian engagement. Nearly 900 individuals completed the survey, administered online in multiple languages, during the months of May and June.

“The School Committee and I are delighted that so many people took the time to provide their perspectives on our public education system,” said Dr. Durkin. “The survey serves as a valuable tool to help us hear from the community about our progress toward providing a first-rate education to every child in the city.”

Dr. Durkin noted that the survey results underscore the community’s expectation for dramatic, urgent improvement. On the school system overall, 41% of respondents rated the New Bedford Public Schools “good” or “excellent,” while 57% rated the district “fair” or “poor.” However, 71% of respondents also “support” or “strongly support” the district’s plans for improvement.

“These results affirm what we hear anecdotally every day about unevenness in school performance,” said Dr. Durkin. “We cannot settle for a system in which some students achieve success while many others do not. The survey highlights widespread community support for the steps we are taking to ensure excellence across the board.”

Other findings from the survey include:

- 84% of parents reported feeling welcome in their child’s school.
- 66% disagreed that the district shares relevant facts before decisions are made.
- 52% are dissatisfied with central offices.

The survey results will inform ongoing implementation of the

District Accelerated Improvement Plan and guide other planning work moving forward.

Dr. Durkin noted that the annual survey is one of several steps the district is taking to improve community engagement at all levels, including a new Teacher Advisory Group, a redesigned district website to be launched this summer, a series of public meetings hosted in partnership with community and faith groups for input on the improvement plan, and regular reports on the district's progress. The district also will continue to showcase "points of pride" throughout the year, building on the designation of June as "Celebrating Success Month." Superintendent Durkin added that the survey results will be shared with central office staff and school leaders during professional development sessions this summer and fall to ensure continuous improvement toward overall district goals.

The survey was designed collaboratively by New Bedford Public Schools, K12 *Insight* and the District Management Council, and administered and analyzed by K12 *Insight*.

Complete survey results are posted on the district website, [www.newbedfordschools.org](http://www.newbedfordschools.org).

**New Bedford Public Schools** serves approximately 12,600 students in pre-kindergarten through high school in 26 schools.

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## 450 New Bedford teachers to



# participate in English Language Learners program

As many as 450 New Bedford Public Schools teachers will participate in on-line training classes in the coming school year to improve instruction of English Language Learners (ELL).

Because of high demand among local educators during a registration day last month, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has added 14 Sheltered English Immersion classes (SEI) for New Bedford teachers. The sessions are designed to help teachers become proficient in strategies for teaching students whose first language is not English. All Massachusetts public school teachers are now required to complete the training by July 1, 2016.

Dr. Pia Durkin, Superintendent, and Sonia Walmsley, ELL Implementation Manager, with school principals, had strongly encouraged all staff to participate in the on-line registration opportunity on June 23. They learned on that day that all slots were filled by 12 noon. As a result, DESE officials created 150 additional slots, increasing New Bedford's allocation to 450.

"We are thrilled and proud that New Bedford's teachers are taking so seriously the work of increasing their skills and expertise for our ELL students," said Dr. Durkin. "This demonstrates the urgency that our teachers hold to serve a previously under-identified population and to do so with new tools and ideas they are eager to learn about."

Dr. Durkin expressed thanks to DESE for supporting the district with these additional resources.

Ms. Walmsley added, "We are fortunate to have excellent

instructors who will be leading the courses and are eager to share their skills with their colleagues.”

Ms. Walmsley noted that several New Bedford teachers have applied to teach the courses as well.

Approximately 1,029 students in the New Bedford Public Schools, or about 8% of the total enrolled, are identified as English Language Learners.

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## **New Bedford man sentenced for manslaughter for friend's heroin overdose death**

District Attorney Sam Sutter today announced that 51-year-old Christopher Anderson was sentenced to serve up to six years in state prison after pleading guilty to a number of charges related to the February 2011 heroin overdose death of his former girlfriend, Venus Chumack.

On Friday, Mr. Anderson of 80 Foxborough St., New Bedford, pleaded guilty to indictments charging him with manslaughter, reckless endangerment of a child, larceny from a building and distribution of class A and B drugs. Superior Court judge Rene Dupuis today sentenced Mr. Anderson to serve four-and-a-half to six years in state prison.

On the evening of February 12, 2011, Ms. Chumack, 46, was caring for her 2-year-old granddaughter in her apartment at 927 Pine St., Fall River. At some point during the evening, while the child was asleep in bed, Mr. Anderson visited the apartment after being invited over by Ms. Chumack.

When the defendant arrived at the Victim's house, he brought crack cocaine and heroin with him. The defendant and the victim shared the crack cocaine. The defendant then provided the victim with a bag of heroin which she injected. A short time later, the defendant gave the victim another bag of heroin which she also injected. Shortly after injecting the second bag of heroin, the victim began to experience a drug overdose. She became unconscious and had trouble breathing. The Defendant dragged the victim into the bathroom and splashed water on her face in an attempt to wake her. After spending some amount of time with the victim in the bathroom, the victim's medical condition began to worsen. The defendant left the victim on the floor of her bathroom gasping for breath and making a gurgling sound.

Before leaving the apartment, the defendant stole several items from the victim's apartment including a lap top computer, an engagement ring, some cash, and other personal effects. The defendant put all of the drug paraphernalia in a box and hid the box under a living room chair. While all of this was going on, the young girl was sleeping in the victim's bedroom. The defendant was aware the girl was present in the apartment as further investigation revealed Anderson and Chumack exchanged text messages prior to the defendant's arrival in which both he and the victim discussed the child being in the apartment. Further, the room where the Defendant stole an engagement ring was the same room in which the child was sleeping. After collecting all of the items that he intended to steal, the defendant left the victim's apartment and did not lock any of the doors. In doing so, he left the child alone in the apartment with the Victim dead in the bathroom.

On the morning of February 13, 2011, the victim's sister who also lived in the apartment building came to the victim's apartment to see if she wanted coffee. When the sister arrived at the victim's apartment, the sister noticed the door was

unlocked and entered the apartment. Upon entering the apartment, the sister found the young girl sitting on the couch asking for milk. When asked "where is grandma?" the child replied, "bathroom." There, the victim's sister located the victim, who had been deceased for a number of hours. The sister immediately called 911 and an investigation into the death ensued.

The investigation was conducted by Fall River Police Det. Kelly Furtado and Massachusetts State Police Trooper Chris Dumont, who is assigned to the Bristol County District Attorney's office. During the course of the probe, they discovered the victim's cellphone and read the text messages between the victim and the defendant. Investigators also located a homemade ring underneath the victim's body in the bathroom. The ring was identified as belonging to the defendant. The police also learned that possessions of the victim were missing. With this information, the police began to focus on the Defendant as a person of interest.

On February 14, 2011, investigators located the defendant at this mother's house. There, the police spoke with the defendant who admitted being with the victim on the night of her death, and confirmed a number of details about the case investigators had already determined to be facts.

The police subsequently executed search warrants and recovered the victim's stolen property from the defendant's apartment.

The Manslaughter charge in this case was prosecuted under two theories – 1) That providing heroin to a person is inherently dangerous and reckless and that the victim's overdose and death was a foreseeable consequence of the reckless behavior of distributing heroin, and 2) that the defendant, after giving the victim heroin and after being aware of her overdose as a result of her consumption of the heroin provided by the defendant, formed a duty for the defendant to care for the victim and that his failure to seek medical attention for the

victim was a reckless act that caused the victim's death.

The case was set for trial on Monday, July 14. On Friday afternoon, the defendant decided to plead guilty to all charges.

During this morning's sentencing hearing, Assistant District Attorneys Jennifer St. Laurent Sowa and Garrett Fregault argued for a five to seven year state prison sentence, while the defense recommended a three to five year prison sentence.

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## **Police searching for Assonet bank robbery suspect**



On July 10, 2014, a bank was robbed in Assonet by an individual who passed a note. Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Michael S. McLane is asked to contact Det.

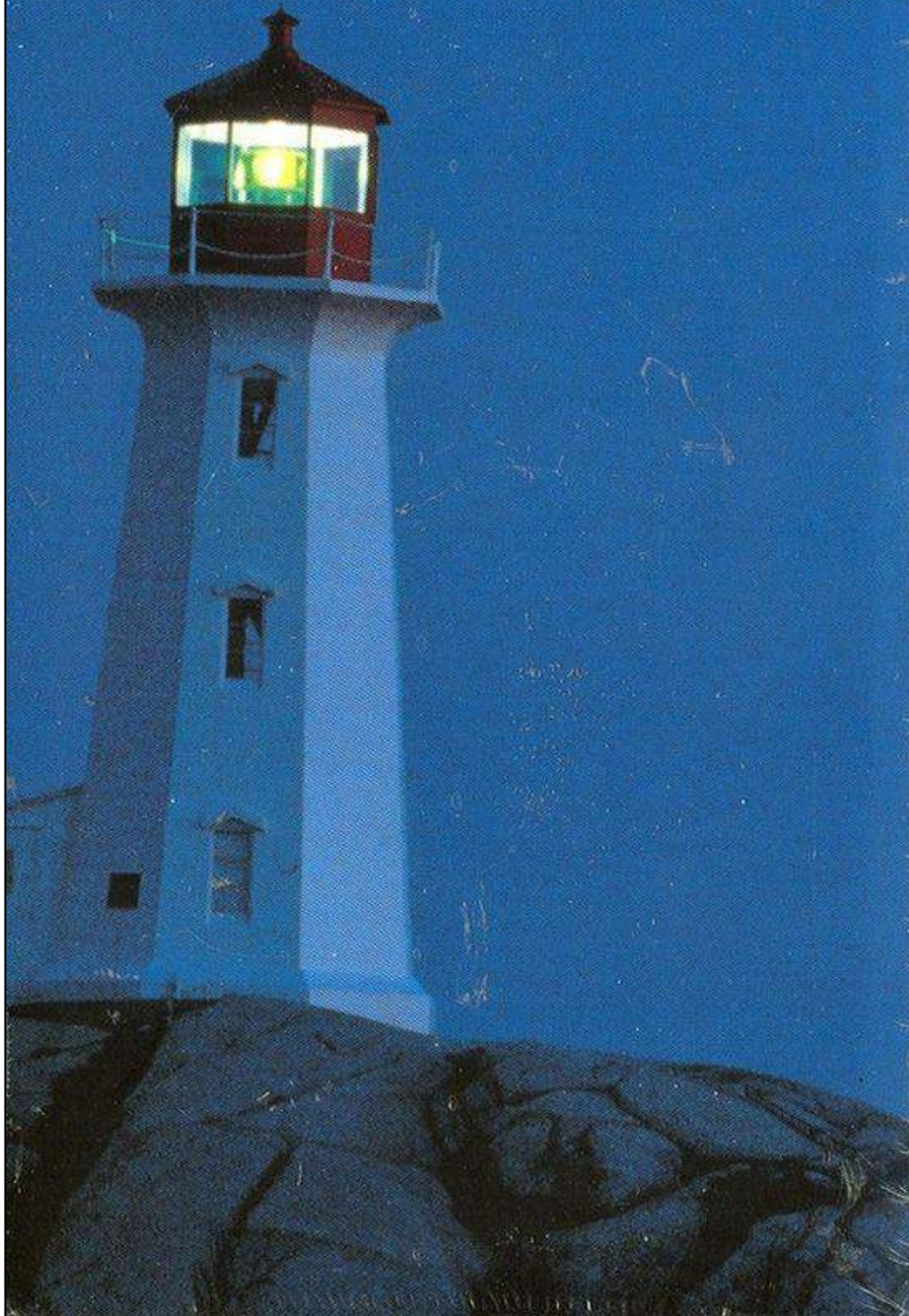
Shane Kelley at 508-763-4018 or call 911 if he is seen.

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**Dock-U-Mentaries July Film  
celebrates the golden age of  
lighthouses**



# GUARDIANS OF THE NIGHT



*The Dock-U-Mentaries Film Series continues on Friday, July 18th at 7:00 PM with Guardians of the Night.*

Dock-U-Mentaries is a co-production of New Bedford Whaling

National Historical Park and the Working Waterfront Festival. Films about the working waterfront are screened on the third Friday of each month beginning at 7:00 PM in the theater of the Corson Maritime Learning Center, located at 33 William Street in downtown New Bedford. All programs are open to the public and presented free of charge.

Filmed on location in France, Great Britain, Canada and the United States, this visually spectacular documentary presents the history of lighthouses and their keepers using historic prints and magic lantern slides as well as clips from Charlie Chaplin's film, *The Immigrant*. This 1988 documentary features the lighthouses of Ar-Men, Cordouan, Kereon, and Le Creac'h in France; Bonavista, Cape Race, Sable Island, and Pointe Amour in Canada; Bell Rock and Longstone in Great Britain; and, in the United States, Boston, Portland, Maine, and the Statue of Liberty, in New York City.

The Working Waterfront Festival is a project of the Community Economic Development Center of Southeastern MA, a non-profit organization. The free festival, a family friendly, educational celebration of New England's commercial fishing industry, features live maritime and ethnic music, fishermen's contests, fresh seafood, vessel tours, author readings, cooking demonstrations, kids' activities and more. It all takes place on working piers and waterfront parks in New Bedford, MA, America's #1 fishing port, on the last full weekend in September, this year on September 27 and 28. [www.workingwaterfrontfestival.org](http://www.workingwaterfrontfestival.org).

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# New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park announces Thursday Night Concerts in the Park Series



*FREE evening concerts!!!*

Free evening concerts in a garden setting might sound like just a pleasant idea. At New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, they are a weekly occurrence. New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park has announced its 2014 Thursdays in the Park Concert Series. The free concerts takes place Thursday evenings each week during the summer from July 17-August 28 from 6:30-7:30 in New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park's garden, 33 William Street, downtown New Bedford. In the event of inclement weather, the performance will be moved indoors.

The schedule for the concerts is as follows:

- July 17: Jim McGrath (sea music)
- July 24: Crabgrass (maritime music)
- July 31: Afrika Rainbow (Cape Verdean reggae)
- August 7: Marieke Slovin (Maritime stories and songs)
- August 14: Debra Cowan (maritime ballads)

- August 21: Nettukkusqk Singers (Native American song)
  - August 28: Sharks Come Cruisin' (Sea Chantey Punk)
-