

# Four charged with trafficking fentanyl from 40 Roosevelt Street apartment

On January 15, New Bedford police officers seized approximately 101 grams of fentanyl, 25 bullets, and \$1,524 at 40 Roosevelt St. #2.

One juvenile along with 56-year old Janet Landrau of 40 Roosevelt St. #2, 24-year old Tanya Landrau of 40 Roosevelt St. #2, and 18-year old Vivian Almeyda of 75 Valentine St., were all charged with trafficking of fentanyl in excess of 100g. Detective Timothy Soares investigated the case.

If you have any information on criminal activity in your neighborhood, the New Bedford Police Dept. wants to hear from you. You can leave an anonymous tip on our voicemail at (508) 991-6300 Ext. 1.

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## Massachusetts Health Connector extends open enrollment until March 23

Colin A. Young  
State House News Service

Residents who need to buy health insurance will now have until March 23 to get coverage through the Massachusetts Health Connector's open enrollment period, the Connector announced Friday. Open enrollment was originally scheduled to end

Saturday and the Connector said the two-month extension will give people, particularly those harmed economically by the COVID-19 pandemic, extra time to make sure they are covered.

“Having health insurance means having the peace of mind that if sick or injured, access to health care and services is readily available,” Louis Gutierrez, executive director of the Health Connector, said. “Hopefully those who don’t have coverage can take advantage of this opportunity to enroll and enjoy that peace of mind that comes with being insured.”

In late December, Connector staff told the board of directors that they had seen a 6 percent decrease in enrollees compared to the same time in 2019. In the presentation, the Connector said the lower membership number “is primarily the result of decreased new enrollments rather than termination of existing members, likely due to Medicaid protections associated with the federal public health emergency.”

Overall retention mirrored 2019 levels at 94 percent through Dec. 22, the Connector said, but 2021 enrollments among people who were not enrolled in a plan for 2020 when open enrollment began were down about 40 percent. When open enrollment began in November, the Connector said about 56,000 people in Massachusetts had lost commercial health insurance coverage since April.

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## **Wareham Fire Department announces the line of duty**

# death of retired Wareham Firefighter David Wahlstrom

"The Wareham Fire Department regrets to announce the line of duty death of retired Wareham Firefighter David Wahlstrom.

David battled courageously against occupational cancer over the last few years. Please keep David, his family, and our department in your prayers ♥️." – Wareham Fire Department.



*Wareham Fire Department photo.*



*Wareham Fire Department photo.*

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# **New Bedford Police receive dozens of “Tommy Moose” stuffies to share with children in crisis**

“Members of the New Bedford Loyal Order of Moose stopped by to deliver dozens of Tommy Moose stuffies for Officers to share with children in crisis.

The stuffies are given to children facing stressful or traumatic situations – giving them a soothing object to refocus their attention while emergency aid takes place. Chief Joseph Cordeiro and LEAD Co-ordinator Natashia Patricio (far left) welcomed Jose Jorge, Sylvester Santos Sr., Nellie Raposa, David Jorge, and Sheri Garrison and thanked them for their generous donation.

Stay tuned for an upcoming video of the swearing-in and deployment of moose!

#communitypolicing #newbedfordma #newbedford #nbpd #mooselodge #tommymoose.”-New Bedford Police Department.



*New Bedford Police Department photo.*

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## **Massachusetts State Troopers arrest wanted man and woman trafficking cocaine after pursuit**

At approximately 7 p.m. yesterday Trooper Anthony Lavigne, assigned to State Police Shelburne Falls, was patrolling Route 91 in Greenfield. At that time he observed a gray Kia sedan make numerous marked lanes violations while traveling above the posted speed limit.

He activated his emergency lights and siren signaling the Kia to pull over, however, the vehicle accelerated and failed to stop for Trooper Lavigne. Shortly after the pursuit began Trooper Lavigne terminated. State Police dispatchers advised local police departments in the area of the situation and provided a description of the vehicle in the event they located it.

A short time after the pursuit was terminated members of the Bernardston Police Department contacted State Police dispatchers and advised they located the Kia, unoccupied, crashed into several trees. Multiple cruisers responded to the scene, in addition to K-9 assistance in order to locate the occupants. Approximately one hour later a male, identified as RAPHAEL CRUZ-CRESPO, 25, of New Britain, Conn., and female, IZABELLA MARTIN, 25, of New Britain, Conn., were located barefoot and were confirmed to have been the operator and passenger, respectively, of the Kia. It was discovered on scene that CRUZ-CRESPO had warrants for his arrest in Connecticut.

As the two occupants were located Troopers at the scene of the crash searched the vehicle and located a large bag containing approximately 33 grams of a substance suspected to be powder cocaine and another large bag containing approximately 47 grams of a substance suspected to be crack cocaine. CRUZ-CRESPO and MARTIN were both placed under arrest. They were transported to an area hospital for treatment to their injuries sustained in the crash, where they were also booked. A bail commissioner was contacted who ordered CRUZ-CRESPO to be held without bail and set bail at \$3,500 for MARTIN. They were scheduled for arraignment at Greenfield District Court on the following offenses.

**CRUZ-CRESPO:**

01. Fugitive from Justice;
02. Trafficking in Cocaine, two counts;

- 03. Conspiracy to Violate Drug Law;
- 04. Fail to Stop for Police;
- 05. Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle;
- 06. Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle;
- 07. Leaving the Scene of Property Damage Crash;
- 08. Marked Lanes Violation; and
- 09. Speeding.

**MARTIN:**

- 01. Trafficking in Cocaine, two counts; and
  - 02. Conspiracy to Violate Drug Law.
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## **New Bedford police arrest two for fentanyl trafficking after two raids on Thursday**

On January 21, New Bedford police officers seized 115 grams of fentanyl and over \$2,000 during two separate raids.

Manuel Lema, 54, 10 Salisbury St #3S, was arrested and charged with trafficking in fentanyl after Detectives discovered 75 grams of fentanyl and \$1,814 at his residence. Detective Matthew Sylvia led this investigation.

Detectives also seized 40 grams of fentanyl and \$245 at 42 Capitol St #3. Quintin Costa, 24, 42 Capitol St. #3 was arrested and charged with trafficking in fentanyl. Detective Stephen Gwozdz investigated this case.

If you have any information on criminal activity in your neighborhood, the New Bedford Police Dept. wants to hear from you. You can leave an anonymous tip on our voicemail at (508)



# **Wareham Police charge five for allegedly stealing work trailer with construction items on it**

On Thursday, January 21, at about 6:00 a.m. an individual contacted the Wareham Police to report a construction trailer he owned was located by the Middleboro Police Department, in the middle of the road on Beach Street in Middleboro. The trailer had been stolen earlier from a job site on Charlotte Furnace Road in West Wareham. The individual reported that numerous construction items, valued at about \$17,000 had been stolen from the trailer.

An investigation was initiated by members of the Wareham Police Detective Division. At about 1:00 p.m. a detective went to an address in West Wareham after developing information as to where the stolen property might be located. After observing some of the stolen items on the property, the detective obtained a search warrant from the Wareham District Court.

At about 3:30 p.m. detectives, assisted by members of the patrol division executed the search warrant at 2296 Cranberry Highway. During the search, multiple stolen items were located including ladders, power tools, hand tools, staging equipment, and a compressor. Most of the items stolen from the trailer were recovered during the search.

Thus far, five individuals are facing charges; however, they

will not be identified, as the case remains open and active with more criminal complaints possibly being brought forward.

In an unrelated case, on January 6, Middleboro and Wareham Police detectives recovered two Jet-Skis and a trailer that had been stolen in Middleboro, at the same location.

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# **Governor Baker lifting curfew, stay-at-home advisory on Monday**

By Colin A. Young  
State House News Service

Citing improvements to COVID-19 metrics since the start of the year, Gov. Charlie Baker announced Thursday that he will lift the 9:30 p.m. curfew that he imposed in November on restaurants and other businesses, effective Monday.

The post-December holiday season spike in COVID-19 activity was not as severe as the surge that followed Thanksgiving, the governor said, and the 30 percent drop in the positivity rate, 30 percent drop in new cases and 10 percent drop in hospitalizations that have materialized since Jan. 1 suggest it is time to begin easing up on some restrictions.

"These have been long and hard days for everybody, but our hospital system was able to continue to provide medical care for residents. And today, three weeks into 2021, our public health data is trending in a better direction for some categories like hospitalizations and the percent of positive COVID cases for the first time in a long time," Baker said. He

added, "Vaccines are reaching residents, positive case rates and hospitalizations have stabilized; those trends are moving in the right direction. As a result, we believe it's OK and it's time to start a gradual easing of some of the restrictions we put in place in the fall."

Though cases, hospitalizations and the positivity rate have all improved since the start of the new year, each category is still significantly worse off than when Baker first imposed the 9:30 p.m. curfew and other restrictions effective Nov. 6.

The seven-day average number of new cases was 1,709 as of Nov. 6, it was 3,017.3 as of Tuesday, according to the Department of Public Health. The seven-day average number of hospitalized COVID-19 patients was 491.1 as of Nov. 6 and was 2,202.8 as of Tuesday. The seven-day average positive test rate was 2.6 percent on Nov. 6 and was 5.86 percent as of Tuesday. Baker did not mention deaths, but the seven-day average number of COVID-19 deaths has climbed from 19.7 on Nov. 6 to 59 as of Monday, DPH said.

The governor will also lift the state's stay-at-home advisory effective Monday at 5 a.m., he said.

"While today's announcement reflects another step toward normalcy, we still have a lot of work ahead of us to suppress the pandemic once and for all and to fully reopen our economy," Baker said.

While restaurants, health clubs, casinos, movie theaters, and other businesses will be able to stay open later than 9:30 p.m. next week, they will still not be allowed to fill their places of business to greater than 25 percent capacity. Baker announced that restriction, which initially took effect Dec. 26, will remain in place for at least another two weeks, until Feb. 8.

"As hospitals continue to stabilize after the holidays and the average positive case rate declines, we hope to see those

trends continue moving forward,” Baker said. “And if they do, we’ll be back to talk about lifting some of the restrictions that are currently in place as soon as it makes sense to do so, so that people can get back to work and back to normal over the coming months.”

Baker said he understands the negative business impacts many of his COVID-19 mitigation measures have had on businesses in Massachusetts and on Thursday announced the latest round of funding through the grant program being administered by the Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation.

“As our vaccine program continues to ramp up, we know that many businesses will have a tough couple of months in front of them. And this program is meant to help them bridge the gap and put them in a position to stay open until we get back to something like normal,” Baker said.

The governor announced that 638 more grants were being awarded to businesses Thursday, totaling about \$37.5 million. So far, the grant program has awarded \$232 million to 4,757 businesses across Massachusetts with more to come in the next few weeks, Baker said.

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## **Marion Police Department Chief Richard Nighelli announces three promotions**

Chief Richard Nighelli is pleased to announce the promotions of three members of the department.

Sgt. Jeffrey Habicht was promoted to the rank of lieutenant

and Officers Larry C. Savery and Sean Day were each promoted to the rank of sergeant. All three were appointed to their new ranks during the virtual Marion Board of Selectmen meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 19.

"I'd like to congratulate Lt. Habicht, Sgt. Savery and Sgt. Day on their promotions," Chief Nighelli said. "Each brings several years of experience and valuable skills to their new positions and I am confident that they will continue to serve the Marion community well."

### **Lt. Jeffrey Habicht**

Lt. Habicht was hired as a full-time police officer with the Marion Police Department in 2011. He was promoted to the rank of sergeant in 2018.

He is the department's computer network and software systems administrator, website and social media administrator, medical officer and infection control officer. He is currently a Massachusetts Police Training Council instructor for First Responder and CPR and is certified by the American Heart Association. He is trained in Active Threat Integrated Response, 911 telecommunications and emergency medical dispatch. He has also completed the required training to become a Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission (MPAC) State Assessor.

In November 2016 he received national recognition as a Stop Stick "Hit of the Month" recipient for a wrong-way driver on Route 195.

Lt. Habicht is a former Massachusetts EMT-B and previously served as the director of Marion EMS. Prior to his full-time career with the Marion Police Department he served part-time as a special police officer for eight years and worked as the head athletic trainer at Tabor Academy in Marion for nearly 17 years.

He holds a bachelor's degree in education from the State

University of New York at Cortland in Cortland, New York and a master's degree from Canisius College in Buffalo, New York where he served as a graduate assistant in athletic training.

### **Sgt. Larry C. Savery**

Sgt. Savery began his career as a full-time officer with the Marion Police Department in 2001.

He is a senior field training officer, senior firearms range instructor and the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Representative. He is a founding member of the Marion Police Honor Guard and is trained in emergency medical dispatch.

Sgt. Savery previously served as a deputy sheriff with the Bristol County Sheriff's Office from 1998-2001, a police officer at St. Anne's Hospital in Fall River from 1997-2001 and a reserve officer with the Marion Police Department from 1998-2001.

He holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Western New England University.

Sgt. Savery's grandfather, Donald Savery, served as the Marion Chief of Police in the late-1950s. His father, Larry D. Savery, also retired from the department as a sergeant in 2007.

### **Sgt. Sean Day**

Sgt. Day joined the Marion Police Department in 2016.

Sgt. Day is a field training officer and evidence room officer. He has completed basic mountain bike patrol training through the Massachusetts Municipal Police Training Committee's Cops on Bicycles with Education for Bicyclists (C.O.B.W.E.B.) program. He is trained in 911 telecommunications and emergency medical dispatch and is a member of the International Association of Financial Crime Investigators.

Sgt. Day previously served as a special police officer with the Cohasset Police Department and a deputy sheriff with the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department. He also served as an auxiliary police officer with the Rockland Police Department from 2013-2015. He has an extensive career in financial services working for Brown Brothers Harriman, a financial services firm in Boston from 2004-2015.

Sgt. Day holds a bachelor's degree in corporate finance and accounting from Bentley University and a Master of Business Administration from Curry College. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in law enforcement intelligence and analysis from Michigan State University.

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## **Middleborough Police Department Lt. "Baz" Bazarewsky retires after 31 years of service to community**

"After a 31 year career in law enforcement, we say goodbye and good luck to Lieutenant Todd "Baz" Bazarewsky.

Lt. Baz will be retiring and we would like to thank him for his service and dedication to the people of Middleboro (and Wareham in his earlier years). Good luck Baz!"