Joint police raid nets large amount of crack cocaine, fentanyl from Wareham home

After a joint investigation between Wareham and Fairhaven Police detectives, as well the US Drug Enforcement Administration, an East Wareham address was raided on Friday morning at about 9:00 a.m. based on a search warrant obtained by the Fairhaven police. Several detectives assisted by members of the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department K-9 unit forced entry into the home located at 6 Bartlett Lane.

As a result of the raid, detectives confiscated over 530 grams of suspected cocaine and crack cocaine, over 19 grams of fentanyl, Suboxone, as well bags and scales in the home.

Robert Ward, 58, was arrested and charged with, trafficking in more than 200 grams of cocaine, trafficking in fentanyl and illegal possession of a class "B" drug subsequent offense.

Acting Chief John Walcek said, "As a result of an intensive

investigation and cooperation among both local police departments and the DEA, a large amount of illegal drugs were seized." He added, "The detectives involved in the case did an outstanding job and I am very proud of them."

Massachusetts State Police K9 "Neko" tracks suspect who fired gun into neighborhood

At approximately 2:25 a.m. State Police patrols and an MSP K9 team responded to the area of Samoset Road in Woburn to assist local police in searching for a man who fired a gun in a residential area and fled on foot.

State Police K9 Section Trooper Dan Purtell deployed his partner Neko at the place the suspect was last scene. Neko acquired the suspect's scent and tracked from that yard across the street into a backyard on Anna Road. Neko then returned to the original back yard he was in behind the house where the incident occurred, pulled behind a shed, and then continued down to a stream.

Neko tracked along the stream, then went up an embankment and jumped a chainlink fence into another yard. There, he tried to pull through a broken wooden fence. Trooper Purtell opened a gate and Neko pulled back across Anna Road again into another backyard, where he jumped another fence and became frantic and started to whine. He pulled past a shed in that backyard, did a big circle in the yard, and came back to the shed. Neko began to whine, jumped on top of a trash barrel and attempted to jump on top of the shed. Trooper Purtell restrained Neko from jumping on the shed; Neko then alerted to the shed and

began barking.

Three officers established tactical positions along with Trooper Purtell and Neko outside the shed.
Trooper Purtell issued commands ordering anyone in the shed to surrender, and quickly heard a voice from inside yell, “OK, I don’t have a gun!” Trooper Purtell ordered the suspect to slowly walk out the door with his hands on his head, which he did.

The suspect was placed in custody without incident; police searched the shed and did not locate the firearm.

Trooper Purtell and Neko then began a search for the gun, back tracking along their initial route to the shed. When the got to the first backyard on Anna Road that Neko had entered near the start of the search, Neko began circling and zig-zagging across yard before crouching down and staring at Trooper Purtell.

Trooper Purtell looked down and saw a black semi-automatic pistol under Neko’s paws.

Woburn Police detectives photographed the pistol and secured it, and later located two shell casings in the house where the incident began.

The suspect tracked by Trooper Purtell and Neko was charged wth unlawful possession of a firearm and unlawful discharge of a firearm within 500 feet of a dwelling; he was also the subject of an outstanding warrant. Because the initial incident is believed to be domestic in nature, his name is not being released at this time.

Faces Of New Bedford #205: Matthew “That Salt” Gwozdz

Meet Matthew “That Salt” Gwozdz, a security officer at Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech and owner of That Salt. As a child and teenager, Matt had always been involved in sports and felt as though he was never the best at any one of them, but always had a way to build camaraderie amongst his team. He would always bring a positive attitude and encourage his teammates, making him interested in getting into coaching and training.

After high school, he took some time off from school to really figure this out for himself. He spent his time training professional fighters and those who just wanted to get in shape. While also running his own candle business, he pursued and received his Bachelors in Science, with a focus in Physical Education.

With the impending market crash, he knew he had to get out of his candle business while he still could and therefore he joined the security team at GNBVT. He enjoys his position at the school, as it allows him to work with students who need direction and a positive influence, helping them realize their full potential. Still driven by an entrepreneurial heart, he continued to find ways to create new businesses once the market started to correct itself.

Having eaten clean for many years, Matt began getting sick of bland chicken and steak and found a gift from his brother and sister-in-law one-night cooking. This container of homemade Brazilian seasoning salt sparked the idea of That Salt into

life. After working with his family to perfect the recipe they launched, That Salt, with a social media campaign focused on encouragement and providing one positive tip to their community each day.

_____

Faces of New Bedford is a project by Colton Simmons. If you are interested in booking a shoot or getting prints from the series email all inquiries to colton@coltonsimmons.com. Follow Colton on Instagram: https://instagram.com/simmonscolton

Read more of the Faces of New Bedford series **here**.

14-year old killed in fatal dog mauling in Dighton

Police are actively investigating an apparent fatal dog mauling, which occurred this evening in Dighton.

At 7:59 p.m. this evening, Dighton Police received a 911 call regarding the discovery of a deceased male on the property of 2577 Maple Swamp Road. The 911 call was placed by a neighbor, who found the deceased.

The deceased is a 14-year-old from Rehoboth. Foul play is not suspected at this time. The dogs are being taken into the custody of animal control in the area.

As the investigation into the incident has just begun, no further information can be released at this time.

Massachusetts Department of Public Health brings “Positive Tracks” program to New Bedford youth

Positive Tracks is excited to partner with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health’s Bureau of Community Health and Prevention to host a Positive Tracks launch at the Invest-In-Kids Saturday Academy.

Positive Tracks, a New Hampshire- and Massachusetts-based nonprofit whose mission is to help young people create social change by leveraging the power of sports and physical activity, will guide youth through an afternoon of games and facilitated conversation designed to center youth experiences and support their desire to create change within their own communities.

“We’re eager to meet the young people of New Bedford and help them understand what it means to Sweat for Good,” said Nakia Navarro, Director of Community Organizing at Positive Tracks. “This is an incredible opportunity to stand alongside youth as they use sport to dig into what they’re passionate about and, ultimately, choose action. Most importantly, we want them to understand that they have a voice and that their voice matters.”

Kids participating in the Positive Tracks launch will be guided through a series of fun, inclusive games, aimed to facilitate conversation around issues identified by the youth themselves. Each activity is designed to offer young people a pathway to sharing their ideas and understanding the power

they have to make a difference in their own back yards. Through physical activity, youth will learn the basic concepts of community organizing for social change and how Positive Tracks can support them in that process.

“We’re grateful to the Department of Public Health and Positive Tracks for the opportunity to bring this great program to the students participating in the City’s Invest-in-Kids Saturday Academy,” said Damon Chaplin, Director of Public Health for the City of New Bedford.

The Positive Tracks launch at the Invest-In-Kids Saturday Academy will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Dennison Memorial Community Center, 755 South First Street. Anyone with questions may contact Damon Chaplin at 508-991-6199.

Massachusetts State Police add two to list of “Most Wanted” fugitives; Suspects wanted in separate shootings

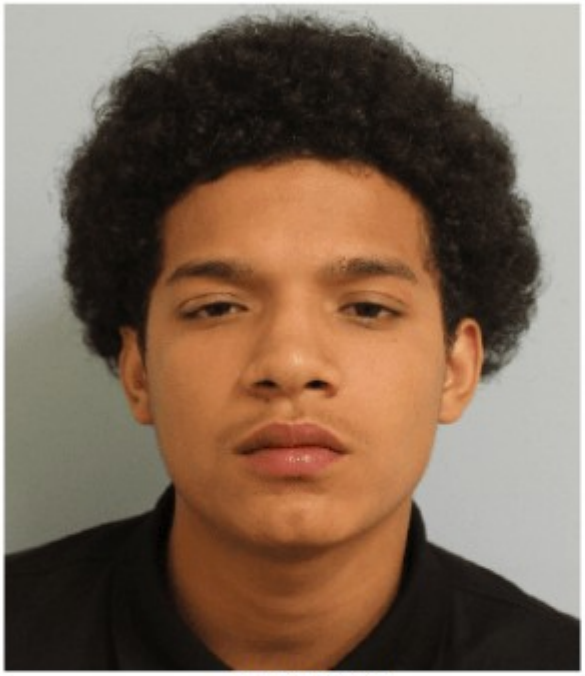
The Massachusetts State Police today added two new suspects to our Most Wanted Fugitives list, each involved in separate shootings in Springfield. Both men are actively being sought by the State Police Violent Fugitive Apprehension Section and Springfield Police.

DANIEL L. RODRIGUEZ, 18 (turns 19 on May 12), is wanted on charges of armed assault with intent to murder, aggravated assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, intimidation of a

witness, and unlawful carrying of a loaded firearm, all in connection with a shooting that occurred on Dwight Street, Springfield, on the night of July 28, 2018. Responding Springfield officers located a male victim with a gunshot wound to his neck; the man survived but was paralyzed from his chest down. After an extensive investigation, Springfield Police identified RODRIGUEZ as the suspected shooter and obtained a warrant for his arrest in January 2019.

Intelligence indicates RODRIGUEZ is a member of the Worthy Boys Posse street gang. He is believed to be actively trying to evade law enforcement and should be considered armed and dangerous. He is Hispanic, with light skin, about 5’ 11” tall and 150 lbs., with brown hair and brown eyes. He is also known by aliases “Bebo,” “X,” and “Dex,” and has a tattoo of the word “Kailiane” on his left forearm.

DANIEL L. RODRIGUEZ



2017 PHOTO

WANTED FOR:

Armed Assault to Murder
Carry Loaded Firearm
Aggravated A&B W/ Dangerous Weapon

DOB:.....05/12/2000
Height:.....5'-11"
Weight:.....150 lbs.
Hair:.....Brown
Eyes:.....Brown
Race/Born:.....White
Ethnicity:.....Hispanic
AKA's:.....Bebo, X, Dex
FBI #:.....581654FH8
Tattoos:.....Left Forearm – "Kailianie"

On Saturday, July 28, 2018, the Springfield Police Department responded to a shooting on Dwight Street shortly before 11:00PM. Upon arrival, a seriously injured male was discovered with a gunshot wound to the neck. The male survived but was paralyzed from the chest down. After an extensive investigation, Springfield PD Detectives identified Daniel L. RODRIGUEZ as the alleged shooter and were granted an arrest warrant in January of 2019 for charges to include Armed Assault to Murder, Carry Loaded Firearm Without a License, Aggravated Assault & Battery With a Dangerous Weapon, Intimidation of a Witness and related. RODRIGUEZ is a validated member of the Worthy Boys Posse street gang in Springfield, is actively avoiding law enforcement and should be considered Armed and Dangerous. He has two small scars next to his left eye and a tattoo on his left forearm of "Kailianie." Massachusetts warrant #1979CR00123, warrant #1923CR000175 and warrant #17YO0008SP have been issued for the arrest of RODRIGUEZ with Nationwide Extradition authorized.

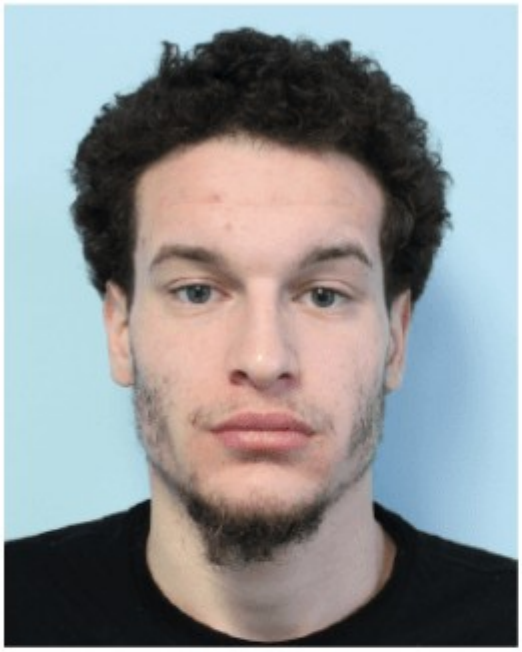
Massachusetts State Police: Violent Fugitive Apprehension Section
1-800-KAPTURE (1-800-527-8873)
"HE ESCAPES WHO IS NOT PURSUED" - SOPHOCLES

ALECZANDER LIRIANO, 21, is wanted on charges of assault and battery with a firearm, armed robbery, and discharging a firearm within 500 feet of a building following the shooting of a female victim on the morning of March 5, 2019 at the intersection of Dickinson Street and Lansing Place in Springfield. The woman, who was shot in the torso, suffered serious injuries but survived. An investigation by Springfield Police determined that LIRIANO allegedly shot the woman during a street robbery, and detectives obtained an arrest warrant. LIRIANO is also wanted on a separate warrant for breaking and entering.

LIRIANO is aware he is being sought by law enforcement and

should be considered armed and dangerous; he has ties throughout western Massachusetts. LIRIANO is Hispanic, with light skin, about 6’2” tall and 180 lbs., with dark brown hair and brown/hazel eyes. He is also known by the aliases “Alec,” “Krazy,” and “Crazy,” and has two tattoos of note: The word “Amparo” on his left forearm and the word “Moe” on his left wrist, and has a small scar on one of his hands.

ALECZANDER LIRIANO



2019 PHOTO

WANTED FOR:

Armed Robbery-Firearm
Discharge Firearm Within 500 Ft of Building
A&B with Firearm

DOB:	09/15/97
Height:	6’- 02”
Weight:	180 lbs.
Hair:	Dark Brown
Eyes:	Brown/Hazel
Race/Born:	White
Ethnicity:	Hispanic
AKA’s:	Alec, Krazy, Crazy
FBI #:	796478MD5
Tattoos:	Left Forearm – “Amparo” Left Wrist “Moe”

Shortly after 11:00 AM on March 5, 2019, the Springfield Police Department responded to a shooting at the intersection of Dickinson Street and Lansing Place. A female was discovered lying in the street suffering from a gunshot wound to the torso. She was transported to a local hospital with serious injuries but survived. An investigation by Springfield PD revealed that Aleczander LIRIANO allegedly shot the female during a street robbery and a warrant issued out of Springfield District Court for Armed Robbery-Firearm, Discharge Firearm Within 500’ of Building and A&B With Firearm. LIRIANO has a second warrant for Breaking & Entering as well as previous convictions in Massachusetts for Armed Robbery, Larceny From a Person and multiple counts of Assault & Battery. LIRIANO has visible tattoos on his arms, a small scar on his hand and should be considered Armed and Dangerous. He is aware he is being sought by law enforcement and has ties throughout Western Massachusetts. Warrant #1923CR001424 and warrant #1723CR006416 have been issued for the arrest of LIRIANO with Nationwide Extradition authorized.

Massachusetts State Police: Violent Fugitive Apprehension Section
1-800-KAPTURE (1-800-527-8873)
“HE ESCAPES WHO IS NOT PURSUED” - SOPHOCLES

Anyone who sees either DANIEL RODRIGUEZ or ALECZANDER LIRIANO should not approach them, but should call 911 immediately. Anyone with information about their whereabouts should call 911 or State Police Violent Fugitive Apprehension Section at 1-800-KAPTURE (1-800-527-8873). Wanted posters for both

fugitives are included with this release.

Westport Police seek public assistance in near fatal hit and run

Police are actively seeking the public's assistance in locating witnesses to a hit and run which occurred Tuesday evening on Old Bedford Road in Westport and left a 30-year-old Fall River woman in critical condition.

Westport Police received a 911 call around 8:15 pm Tuesday evening to report a crash and a severely injured woman in the area of 288 Old Bedford Road. When first responders arrived, they located the victim, Stephanie Tripp, face down in the breakdown lane suffering from serious injuries. The victim was rushed to Rhode Island Hospital, where she remains in critical condition.

A preliminary investigation has revealed the victim was walking along the side of the roadway when she was struck by a sedan-style vehicle. The male operator of the vehicle exited the car and apparently told a witness he was sorry and didn't mean to hit the victim. A witness told the driver to stay on the scene, but as the witness was providing aid to the victim, the driver sped off in an easterly direction on Old Bedford Road. Another witness attempted to follow the suspect's vehicle, which, according to the witness, was traveling at high rates of speed and passing vehicles by swerving into the opposite travel lane. The witness lost the suspect's vehicle in the area of Faunce Corner Road in Dartmouth.

The vehicle’s last known location was at the corner of Old Fall River Road and Faunce Corner Road in Dartmouth at around 8:30 pm. The vehicle may have sustained minor front end damage.

Although officers spoke with several witnesses who remained on scene, there is reason to believe that other witnesses may have seen the crash, the vehicle that struck the victim or may have information about the driver.

If anyone was in the area and saw anything, or have information about this case, they are urged to contact Massachusetts State Police Trooper Phil Giardino at 508-993-1928 or Westport Police at 508-636-1122. Residents can also submit a tip about this case anonymously by utilizing our anonymous text a tip program. To anonymously text a tip to us, text the word “Bristol” to the phone number CRIMES (274637). Then just text us your tip. You can also submit a web-based anonymous tip by going to https://new.tipsubmit.com/en/create-report/anonymous/da.bristol.ma.us.

OPINION: Brooklawn Park visitors litter and park in resident parking spots

“Are there any other residents living in the Brooklawn Park area that are getting a little irritated with a not being to park in front of their own homes with the baseball game going on?

I could understand if there were no parking spots available

but as a resident that has to park at the park – in front of my house – I often can’t because non-residents are in my spot.

I would like to know why North end residents do not have the same courtesy as the South and beach residents, they have signs clearly posted that the parking is for **residents only**. Why are we not given that same courtesy?

Also, there are a lot of residents in this area that agree we don’t need to pick up park trash all over our lawns on a daily basis!!

Sorry about the venting! I do think it’s a great program for the children I just the wish the parents/visitors would be more respectful of the residents.” – Cathy Poirier-Henriques

---

OPINION: Brooklawn Park visitors litter and park in resident parking spots

“Are there any other residents living in the Brooklawn Park area that are getting a little irritated with a not being to park in front of their own homes with the baseball game going on?

I could understand if there were no parking spots available but as a resident that has to park at the park – in front of my house – I often can’t because non-residents are in my spot.

I would like to know why North end residents do not have the same courtesy as the South and beach residents, they have signs clearly posted that the parking is for **residents only**. Why are we not given that same courtesy?

Also, there are a lot of residents in this area that agree we don’t need to pick up park trash all over our lawns on a daily basis!!

Sorry about the venting! I do think it’s a great program for the children I just the wish the parents/visitors would be more respectful of the residents.” – Cathy Poirier-Henriques

---

Narcotics investigation leads to multi-town high-speed chase

“On Wednesday, May 8 at approximately 1:45PM, our department was notified of a high-speed pursuit entering our town from Rochester. The pursuit began in the city of New Bedford as a result of a narcotics investigation.

Once in town, the suspect attempted to evade capture by parking in the St. Francis Xavier Elementary School parking lot.

A member of the APD was able to locate the suspect and with the assistance of the City of New Bedford Police Department (Official), Fairhaven Police Department, Mattapoisett Police Department, Bristol County Sheriff’s Office and the Massachusetts State Police they were able to quickly and safely place the suspect in custody without endangering the safety of children and staff of the St. Francis Xavier Elementary School.

We would also like to send a huge thank you to the Administration and staff at the St Francis Xavier Elementary

School. Also and even more impressive was the great listening skills of the students!

The suspect will be facing a slew of charges in various jurisdictions throughout the South Coast.

Again, a big thank you and GREAT JOB to all the agencies involved!!!!!” -Acushnet Police Department