

Councilors call out Mayor Mitchell for “dangerous and malicious spiked cobblestones”

New Bedford City Councilors Hugh Dunn, Ian Abreu, and Maria Giesta have sent a strongly worded letter to Mayor Jon Mitchell regarding the “dangerous and malicious placement of spiked cobblestones median at the entry of our City is wrong.”

Here is the full letter:

Letter to the Mayor

In response, the mayor’s office put out the following statement:

A new cobblestone median strip was recently installed at the busy intersection that leads to the New Bedford-Fairhaven Bridge on Route 6, which replaces bushes that have been trampled by foot traffic. The median strip separates one side of the five-lane, state highway intersection and provides a safety buffer for vehicles using the east and west lanes. Foot traffic along the lanes of this highway intersection, which has a history of vehicle accidents, has become a public safety hazard. The improved median strip is intended to address an increasingly dangerous situation where people walking along the median have put both themselves and motorists at risk.

The Federal Highway Administration published this on the safety benefits of raised medians – you can see some examples in St. Petersburg and elsewhere and how they reduce crashes (as you can see some include raised grass beds support by walls, fences, etc.)

https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/tools_solve/medians_trifo

ld/.

It is a very dangerous intersection that has had dozens of crashes, including a fatality several years back; here are a few recent articles pedestrian accidents:

When redesign began, the newspaper noted, “from 2009-11, there were 32 crashes in the intersection, resulting in one fatality and nine injuries,” see this article:
<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/article/20120202/NEWS/202020337>

<http://wbsm.com/homeless-new-bedford-woman-hit-by-car-at-octopus-intersection/>

<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/article/20150501/news/150509934>

Improvements to the intersection over the last couple years started here –

<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/article/20140911/news/409110403>

<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/article/20141219/NEWS/141219426>

Two Taunton men arrested with 104 grams of suspected crack and \$5,414

Massachusetts State Police executed a search warrant at a Taunton home that resulted in arrests of two suspected drug dealers and the seizure of assorted narcotics including suspected cocaine and US currency.

As a result of an investigation, the State Police Gang Unit obtained a search warrant for a Taunton home. The State Police Gang Unit, Bristol County State Police Detective Unit and the Troop D Community Action Team made entry into the residence

Friday, April 27th.

Seized pursuant to the search warrant were 104 grams of a substance believed to be crack and powder cocaine; 1 oz. of marijuana; and \$5,414 in US currency.

Troopers arrested a 39-year-old male, and a 37-year-old male, both of Taunton.

They are charged with; trafficking in cocaine; possession with intent to distribute of Class B cocaine; unlawful possession with intent to distribute of Class D marijuana.

Both were held without bail and transported to Ash Street Jail pending court.

New Bedford Guide podcasts downloaded over 89,000 times in first month

In our first month of publishing podcasts (April, 2018), New Bedford Guide was extremely successful, receiving 89,540 total downloads. Our most popular podcast was Jen Blum's domestic abuse survivor impact statement & update with over 10,000 downloads:

An archive of New Bedford Guide Podcasts can be found on our **Libsyn page** and you can subscribe to future podcasts on **iTunes** and other places you listen to podcasts.

Want to sponsor a future podcast? Email Leo@newbedfordguide.com.

New Bedford to add four new police officers on Wednesday

Four New Bedford police officers will be sworn into duty on Wednesday, May 2.

“We are proud to present the newest members of the NBPd family. Our new officers graduated from the MBTA Police Academy Friday and will be sworn in Wednesday, May 2. From left are: Lt. Evan Bielski, new graduates Kayla Sylvia, Terrel Parent, Robert Perry III and Matthew Desrosiers and Deputy Chief Paul Oliveira outside Roxbury Community College, site of the graduation ceremony.” New Bedford Police Department

64 year old man suffers serious injury cutting down tree in Marion

On April 30, at approximately 11:54 a.m., the Marion Police Department received a 911 call from a party on North Drive in Marion. The caller reported a 64-year-old male was on the ground unconscious and breathing. Marion Police, Fire and EMS were dispatched to the scene.

Upon arrival, police, fire and EMS units discovered the male had been cutting down a large pine tree prior to being found on the ground. The male, whose identity is not being released

at this time, was determined to be suffering from traumatic injuries.

Med Flight was requested. The Med Flight landed on the Little Marion Golf Course and the male was flown to Rhode Island Hospital.

The accident is being investigated by the Marion Police Department, Massachusetts State Police Detective Division and the Office of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

SouthCoast Corsairs FIRST Robotics Competition Team excel at World Championships

Last week, UMass Dartmouth's SouthCoast Corsairs headed to the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics World Championships to represent the nation and region. Here the team shares their experience and results.

At the end of qualifications, we finished in 16th place out of 67 teams! Compared to last year, where we were 60th out of 65 teams, this was excellent. Unfortunately, we did not get picked for the playoffs, but we did extremely well considering we were not expecting to even make it to World's.

Other than that, we had a great time, met teams from France, Spain, Canada, the Netherlands, and several other nations. We also met a whole bunch of teams from across the United States as well. In previous years we have met with teams from other

countries, but because of the size of the FIRST programs, they've split up the World Championship between Houston and Detroit based on teams geographic location.

We have two off-season events, one at WPI on May 19-20, and another in Revere in October.

From now until next October, we will be working on recruiting new members from across the SouthCoast (as 12 of our 16 members are currently Juniors), raising funds for the next season, planning outreach events, and working on imagery for next year's space-themed games (as put by several members of our team: SPAAAAAAACCCCCCEEEEEEEEEEE!!!!). This is actually the first year in which all 4 FIRST programs have the same theme.

Additionally, if you know of anyone who would be interested in mentoring, sponsoring, or being a part of a FIRST Robotics team, feel free to direct them to southcoastcorsairs@gmail.com or @frc5846 on social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Snapchat)

Thank you all for your support, guidance, and cheers this season- we couldn't have made it this far without you!

-Andrew S. & the entirety of the 5846 family



Acushnet Creamery coming to Pier 3 in New Bedford soon

Local favorite Acushnet Creamery announced on their Facebook page that they will be serving ice cream on Pier 3 in New Bedford soon.

State Tourism Office

Announces Massachusetts Whale Trail

The Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism (MOTT) is announcing the first-of-its-kind Massachusetts Whale Trail, a major collaboration among Bay State tourism destinations for the promotion of assets stretching from Provincetown to Pittsfield. Telling the story of the Commonwealth through its connection to whales, the Massachusetts Whale Trail features nearly 40 stops along the coast as well as a literary tangent connecting sites in Western Massachusetts.

Whale Trail partners include museums, attractions, historic sites, educational centers, and tours. “We’re thrilled to announce the new Massachusetts Whale Trail,” says Francois-Laurent Nivaud, Executive Director of Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism. “The Whale Trail captures the maritime spirit of Massachusetts and offers a new way for visitors to engage with our long and storied connection to whales.”



MUSEUMS
AND ATTRACTIONS
WHALE WATCHING
HISTORIC SITES
AND TOURS

Ready to embark on a whale of a good time? Discover the Massachusetts Whale Trail, a one-of-a-kind collection of sites, stories, and adventures. Dive in at whaletrailma.com
Follow, tag, and share #whaletrailMA



The Massachusetts Whale Trail links nearly 40 regions, sites, and experiences associated with the marine mammal, of which there are currently 11 breeds off the Commonwealth's coast and account for over 800,000 visitors annually. Sites include historic landmarks such as the Seaman's Bethel and Mariners' Home in New Bedford, whale watching tours from Provincetown to Newburyport, museums like the Nantucket Historical Association Whaling Museum, and educational activities such as the SEA SPACE

Marine Discovery Center in Provincetown. Beyond the coast, sites along the Melville Trail in Western Massachusetts are featured for their connection to the famous author Herman

Melville's renowned novel, Moby-Dick. Regional partners include the Massachusetts Regional Tourism Councils, as well as local tourism offices for towns from New Bedford to Salem.

In addition to traditional attractions, visitors are encouraged to embrace the broader cultural influence of whales. MOTT's promotions feature galleries with whale art, such as Focus Gallery in Chatham, and whale-inspired IPAs with Moby Dick Brewing Company in New Bedford.

"This Massachusetts Whale Trail is a fun and engaging way to tell the story of our relationship with these magnificent giants of the ocean" said Tina Malott, Director of Marketing and Public Relations, New Bedford Whaling Museum "Our region's past, present, and future is intimately connected to the sea, and to whales in particular. The New Bedford Whaling Museum is dedicated to teaching about humankind's interaction with whales throughout history, as well as teaching about the world of whales today.

To promote the Massachusetts Whale Trail, MOTT has launched www.whaletrailma.com, and developed itineraries highlighting interactive experiences for visitors by theme. Early itineraries include a literary enthusiasts track, exploring a route dedicated to Herman Melville's life and inspiration in Massachusetts, and another for family-friendly adventurers, with whale watching tours and sites to experience marine life first hand. Sites along the trail will also be launching special promotions and packages in support of the trail, using the hashtag #whaletrailMA.

For more details about the Massachusetts Whale Trail, visit www.whaletrailma.com ###

Massachusetts Whale Trail FAQs

The Massachusetts Whale Trail tells the story of the Commonwealth's connection to whales. This first-of-its-kind

collaboration among Bay State tourism destinations features sites across Massachusetts, from the tip of Cape Cod to the westernmost corners of the Berkshires. Massachusetts Whale Trail partners include museums, attractions, historic sites, educational centers, and tours.

For Visitors:

Where can I find more information about the Massachusetts Whale Trail?

Details about what to experience on the Massachusetts Whale Trail can be found at whaletrailma.com. Points of interest appear in easy-to-navigate map and list formats. Use the feature box at the top of the page to discover itineraries, promotions, blogs, an illustrated map, and more, to inspire your whale of an adventure in Massachusetts.

How long does it take to do the Massachusetts Whale Trail?

There are so many ways to experience the Massachusetts Whale Trail! Find points of interest on whaletrailma.com and plan the journey that makes sense for your vacation. Each point of interest has a description about the site or experience, including contact details and a map with precise location information. It takes approximately three and a half hours to drive between Gloucester and Provincetown and an estimated three hours to drive from New Bedford to Pittsfield. Many sites are within a few

minutes of one another. Boston Harbor Cruises offer several ferries to North of Boston, Southeastern Massachusetts, and Cape Cod. Both Steamship Authority and Hy-Line Cruises provide fast island service. Additional ferry services can be accessed at massvacation.com/navigate/transportation/ferry-services/.

What time of year is best to experience the Massachusetts Whale Trail?

The Massachusetts Whale Trail is a year-round visitor experience. Many of the museums and historic sites included in the trail are open all four seasons. Whale watching season

generally runs between April and October. Check the individual site listings on whaletrailma.com for openings and hours.

How can I share my Massachusetts Whale Trail experience?

Use the hashtag #whaletrailMA on all major social media channels.

Industry Information:

What can I do to promote my organization on the Massachusetts Whale Trail?

Sites along the Massachusetts Whale Trail are encouraged to use assets including the #whaletrailMA, the Massachusetts Whale Trail logo, and the website whaletrailma.com in promotions to increase awareness of your organization.

How can I connect with other Massachusetts Whale Trail sites?

Visit whaletrailma.com to familiarize yourself with other Massachusetts Whale Trail sites and organizations. Work together to create packages for travelers to encourage more than one stop along the trail. Reach out to your local, regional, and statewide tourism organization for ideas on partnerships.

How can I become part of the Massachusetts Whale Trail?

Join the fun! If your tourism business has a connection to these special sea creatures or if you'd like additional information, contact Shannon Healey at shannon.healey@mass.gov. For media inquiries, contact Abigail Phillips at abigail.phillips@mass.gov.

The Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism is the state agency dedicated to promoting tourism in the Commonwealth. MOTT's mission is to promote Massachusetts as both a leisure and business travel destination for domestic and international markets and to contribute to the growth of the Commonwealth's economy. MOTT works closely with 16 regional tourism councils

across the state, and with larger tourism alliances such as Discover New England and BrandUSA.

The South Coast's Most Popular Yoga & Summer Bootcamp Classes Return to Cushman Park ~ FREE

Rain or Shine! Three Days!

Seven years and counting! Outdoor fitness is thriving at Cushman Park, Fairhaven, Massachusetts this summer! The South Coast community can keep fit and stay healthy with free exercise classes taught by three of the top fitness instructors in the area.

This summer, classes will be held RAIN OR SHINE! Charlene Conway, owner of Carousel Family Fun Center has generously offered Carousel Fun Center, 4 David Drown Boulevard, Fairhaven as an indoor venue for classes in the case of inclement weather.

Also – Fitness in Cushman Park will be offering thirty free classes in all –Well + Fit fitness class with Certified Fitness Trainer, Sarah Bates; Yoga in the Park with Kripalu Certified Yoga Instructor, Jeff Costa and Summer Bootcamp with Certified Functional Trainer, Wayne Goulart are held through the summer in Cushman Park on Green Street.



NEW on MONDAYS! Well + Fit fitness class will take place starting June 18, 2018 and continues for 10 weeks through August 20 every Monday from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Well & Fit classes offer strength & conditioning exercises to provide a true total body workout. Yoga in the Park will take place starting June 19, 2018 and continues for 10 weeks through August 21 every Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. This is a gentle yoga series for all levels, designed to introduce newcomers to the basics of stretching and mindfulness and challenge yoga enthusiasts with a focus on compassion for the body. Summer Bootcamp, begins June 21 and continues each Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. through August 23. The Bootcamp class consists of various exercises that build functional strength and core stability with circuits utilizing light dumbbells and body weight exercises.

Well + Fit's instructor, Sarah Bates is a certified personal trainer and the owner of Well & Fit Personal Training & Cycling studio located in Mattapoisett MA. Well & Fit offers small group & private training, cycling classes, and nutrition coaching. A lifelong fitness enthusiast, Sarah says, " Opening my own studio has allowed me to bring all of the most interesting aspects of training into my own gym and offer variety and challenge to people who feel the same about fitness and wellness as I do."

Yoga in Cushman Park's instructor, Jeff Costa, E-RYT 200 is a Yoga Alliance Nationally Certified Instructor and a graduate of the Kripalu School of Yoga and Health. Jeff has over 30 years experience in the fitness industry and a BA in Liberal Arts from Boston University. The strength of Jeff's teaching lies in his attention to detail and his compassionate approach to students' needs. Jeff's authentic voice and classical approach to alignment create a class environment that promotes happiness, personal power, and peace of mind.

Summer Bootcamp instructor Wayne Goulart's career in health and wellness began as a hobby when he started lifting weights with his brother in the basement of his family home. That hobby grew into a lifestyle and eventually a passion. Wayne is a certified personal trainer (A.F.P.A.) and has been working for ten years as lead trainer at the New Bedford YMCA. A certified group exercise instructor, Wayne's specialty is functional training and his clients are from all walks of life, ages and fitness levels.

Attendees to the classes should bring a mat for Yoga and a mat plus set of weights for Well + Fit and for Bootcamp. Classes take place RAIN OR SHINE – weather determination is posted on the Fitness in Cushman Park Facebook page: www.facebook.com/fitnessincushmanpark .

Fitness in Cushman Park is once again presented free to the public, for the 7th year in a row, because of generous support

from community contributions. Last summer's classes were another resounding success with over one hundred fifty fitness enthusiasts attending sessions.

For more information about the fitness program or to sponsor Fitness in Cushman Park call 508-287-2482.

New Bedford man with 40 arraignments arrested on drug charges 3 days after posting \$350 bail

Three days after being released on a low bail for assault with a dangerous weapon despite a lengthy criminal history, Khaylon Cruz, 23, of New Bedford, was arrested yet again, this time on Thursday, April 26 for dealing Fentanyl.

Cruz was arraigned Monday, April 20 on a charge of assault with a dangerous weapon. Judge James McGovern released Cruz on \$350 bail, despite the district attorney's office request that his bail be set at \$5,000.

Cruz posted bail and was let out into the streets, despite his long criminal record, including convictions for possession of a firearm and dealing cocaine.

Cruz was subsequently re-arrested Thursday, April 26 after being the subject of an investigation by the New Bedford Police Department narcotics unit into a Fentanyl distribution service out of his home at 164 Richmond St. Apt. 1 and his vehicle.

"I continue to be very proud of the work that the men and women of the New Bedford Police Department do on a daily basis, and appreciate their continuous effort to keep our community safe. Considering the recent events in Yarmouth and Maine, I am extremely disappointed with the judicial discretion exercised in this instance," said Chief Joseph Cordeiro.

After a search warrant was executed, detectives located Fentanyl, a digital scale, packaging materials and cash.

He was arrested on charges of possession of Fentanyl with intent to distribute and possession of Fentanyl with intent to distribute, subsequent offense.

On Friday, April 27, Judge McGovern held Cruz on the new charges on \$50,000 bail, even higher than the \$25,000 requested by the district attorney's office. The judge also revoked bail on the previous charges.

Cruz has 40 adult arraignments.

Cruz was found guilty of illegal firearm possession and was sentenced on Dec. 11, 2017 to 30 days in the house of correction with the balance of the sentence suspended until June 2019.

He was also found guilty on Dec. 11, 2017 for possession of crack cocaine with intent to distribute. He was placed on probation until June 2019.

His criminal history includes being sentenced to 59 days in prison in 2014 for breaking and entering and being placed on supervised probation for a year in 2014 for assault and battery on a police officer.

Another individual with a lengthy criminal history was arrested alongside Cruz Thursday, April 26 on a warrant. Derell Turner, 25, of 85 Contoocook Falls Rd. Apt. 7,

Hillsborough, N.H., was charged on a warrant charge.

Turner is also no stranger to the court system. He has 24 adult arraignments and was sentenced to serve three years and a day in prison in 2011 for armed robbery.