

# **New Bedford Guide to host Ward 3 candidate forum on Thursday**

New Bedford Guide, in partnership with the New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce, will host a forum for Ward 3 City Council candidates on Thursday, March 23 at New Bedford High School's Little Theatre. Candidates Guy Larock, Bethany Fauteux, Kathy Dehner, Hugh Dunn, Mark Zajac and Jill Marie Ussach are all expected to attend. The forum will be from 6:00pm – 7:30pm.

The forum will be moderated by New Bedford Guide's Michael Silvia. Questions will be prep-planned, come from our Facebook audience and from spectators on hand. Expect the debate to last around 90 minutes and can be watched live on New Bedford Guide's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/NewBedfordGuide/>).

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# **Gov. Baker orders flags to half staff on Wednesday for fallen Firefighter Joseph Toscano**

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker has ordered that the United States flag and the Commonwealth flag be lowered to half-staff at all state buildings from sunrise to sunset on Wednesday, March 22, 2017 in honor of Firefighter Joseph Toscano of the Watertown Fire Department who died in the line

of duty on Friday, March 17, 2017.

This gubernatorial order applies to:

1. The main or administration building of each public institution of the Commonwealth, e.g. town and city halls
  2. Other state-owned or state-controlled buildings
  3. All state military installations
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## **Hands Across the River Coalition, Inc. March Meeting**

Local environmental advocacy group Hands Across the River Coalition, Inc. meets monthly with the next meeting taking place Wednesday, March 29, 2017 from 6:00-7:45 p.m. at the Millicent Library, Fairhaven, MA. Open to the public. Attendees are advised to use the Walnut Street entrance on lower level.

Hands Across the River Coalition, Inc. advocates for the safe cleanup of New Bedford Harbor and other contaminated sites in the Greater New Bedford area. The group provides information about the detrimental health effects caused to our community from toxic chemicals such as PCBs, DIOXIN, mercury, lead and others. HARC was formed in anticipation of the cleanup of contamination in the Acushnet River that needed to be done in order to protect human health.

HARC's primary goal is to ensure the health-conscious clean up of the Acushnet River which runs through New Bedford Harbor into Buzzards Bay, to monitor and advocate for the total preservation of said body of water and shoreline, educate the

community about the health effects of toxic chemicals in our environment, to obtain environmental justice for generations now and in the future and to ensure a quality environment, forever, through its efforts.

The Acushnet River was known to be the #1 most PCB contaminated river in the world. Concerns about fish consumption with PCB contaminated fish prompted the EPA to designate this site as the "New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site". It is the largest Superfund site in all of New England. Through years of hard work from HARC's 600 members, other community groups, and strong Congressional support against the EPA's plans to incinerate the PCBs in New Bedford, the EPA decided to withdraw its plans. Later, they developed a much safer plan, when the EPA began full scale, hydraulic dredging of PCBs in the Upper Harbor in September of 2004. PCB sediments were then sent to an off-site TSCA, (Toxic Substances Control Act), approved landfill in Michigan.

Today, Upper Harbor sediments are still being sent offsite due to the much higher concentrations of PCBs in that area dumped by the responsible party, Aerovox, now AVX who is owned by Kyocera in Japan. Currently, after a \$366,250,000.00 plus interest settlement, the EPA is in the process of mechanically dredging and burying 300,000 cubic yards of PCB sediments in the Lower Harbor riverbed near a residential area and high school in Fairhaven, MA. You would think, after such a huge settlement, that the EPA would remove all the PCBs from the river offsite but instead, is burying a large amount in the riverbed. This is the first time in the entire country that the EPA is burying deadly, cancer causing PCB sediments in the riverbed dangerously close to residents. This is our fight today and HARC questions how the EPA is spending the money from the settlement with plans to leave 50 PPM (parts per million) of PCBs behind after their dredging is completed. This amount left will continue to contaminate the fish and in turn affect public health.

Hands Across the River Coalition, Inc. appeals to everyone to join them in working to protect our air, soil and water, and especially public health, by removing all PCBs safely to an offsite TSCA,, approved landfill. For more information, contact Karen Vilandry, HARC president (508) 951-1184 [harcgnb@gmail.com](mailto:harcgnb@gmail.com)

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## **Mattapoissett man arrested for stealing 90-year-old woman's purse**

An investigation by New Bedford Police detectives has led to the arrest of a 34-year-old Mattapoissett man for stealing the purse of a 90-year-old woman Friday at Market Basket, 122 Sawyer St.

Andrew Denham, 34, of Mattapoissett, was charged with larceny from a person.

He is charged with grabbing the woman's purse at about 3:20 p.m. Friday as she was placing groceries into her vehicle at Market Basket, 122 Sawyer St.

Her purse was found in front of a home a few blocks away from Market Basket. The suspect was identified by surveillance video.

Police remind the public to keep a close watch on their belongings at supermarkets and other public places.

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## **32-year-old New Bedford man stabbed near Monte Park**

A 32-year-old New Bedford man was treated and released at St. Luke's Hospital Tuesday after reporting being stabbed in the area of Acushnet Avenue and Cannon Street near Monte Park.

The victim was brought into the hospital by a companion who said she saw him surrounded by six men as she drove in the area to pick him up. The victim reported being stabbed in the back and was taken by the companion to St. Luke's Hospital at about 2 a.m.

New Bedford police are investigating. Anyone with information is asked to call the police department at 508-991-6350 or the anonymous tip line at 508-992-7463 or e-mail [tip@newbedfordpd.com](mailto:tip@newbedfordpd.com).

Video by Carlos Pimentel Felix.

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## **Man reports being stabbed on Beetle Street**

A 27-year-old man is in stable condition at Rhode Island Hospital Tuesday after reporting being stabbed on Beetle Street Monday night.

The victim received three stab wounds in the back. He apparently knew the suspect.

A witness told police that two men ran toward the victim and fought with him outside a doorway on Beetle Street. He described one of the men as heavyset, wearing a backpack and blue sweatshirt. The second male was described only as smaller than the first.

He said they ran east to Belleville Avenue, then ran north.

The incident was reported at 8:53 p.m.

New Bedford police are investigating. Anyone with information is asked to call the police department at 508-991-6350 or the anonymous tip line at 508-992-7463 or e-mail [tip@newbedfordpd.com](mailto:tip@newbedfordpd.com).

Video by Carlos Pimentel Felix.

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## **Absentee Voting Available for New Bedford's Ward 3 Special Election**

Special Ward 3 Preliminary Election will be held on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 to fill the vacant Ward Three City Council position. There are six candidates on the ballot in the Preliminary Election and voters must vote for one candidate. The top two vote getters will advance to the final ballot for the Special Municipal Election scheduled for Tuesday, April 25 2017.

Any Ward 3 voter who will be unable to make it to the polls for any reason on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 may cast an absentee ballot at City Hall on Saturday, morning Saturday, March 25, 2017 from 8:00 A.M. until 12 Noon or on Monday, March 27, 2017

from 8:00 A.M. until 12 Noon. The New Bedford Election Office is located in New Bedford City Hall at 133 William Street, Room 114.

Voters whose status has been inactivated because they did not respond to the City's Street List Census or because they have not voted in an election the past 2 to 4 years, are reminded that they will be asked to show identification at the polls on election day and will be required to complete and sign an affirmation of continuous residence before they will be permitted to vote.

If you have any questions on absentee ballots, voting status, or voting precinct, please call the Elections Office at (508) 979-1420 or (508) 979-1421.

\*\*\* WARD 3 POLLING PLACES \*\*\*

3A Hayden-McFadden Elementary School County St. (Entrance Door K)

3B Hillside Court 525 Coggeshall St.

3C \* Taber Mill Community Center (2A) 217 Deane St. (Entrance Coffin Ave.)

3D \* Holy Name of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Mt Vernon St.

3E \* Holy Name of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Mt. Vernon St.

3F First Church of the Nazarene 764 Hathaway Road

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## **25-year-old Acushnet woman dies from overdose at Costas**

# Mini-Mart

The medical examiner is investigating the apparent overdose death of a 25-year-old Acushnet woman Monday at 2:48 p.m. at Costas Mini-Mart, 138 Belleville Road.

Police were called to the store for a report of an unresponsive female in the bathroom. Medics pronounced her dead at the scene. Evidence of drug use was found at the scene.

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## **Prestigious APEX Business of the Year Award Luncheon To Award Three Local Organizations For Impact To Local Economy**

On April 13th 2017, three local organizations that have impacted our local economy and contributed to the betterment of the community will be honored at the prestigious APEX Business of the Year Award Luncheon. Each year, the Chamber and a committee of selected representatives from partnering companies collect nominees from business owners, employees and area residents who highlight a local business for demonstrating creativity and imagination in the development of their company while exhibiting growth and contributing to society in a positive, proactive manner.

The Chamber's APEX Award is growing into one of the most

esteemed honors to receive in the SouthCoast region. Out of dozens of nominations, the selection committee will have the daunting task of narrowing down the impressive list to a single large business, small business and a non-profit/educational institution. Last year, the recipients of the APEX Business of the Year Award were Horatio's, The Pasta House, and The YMCA of New Bedford. Over two hundred guests attended to help honor all the nominations, finalist and award recipients for their accomplishments and contributions to the community.

Join us at this year's APEX Awards where we will formally recognize all 2017's nominees, at a luncheon and award ceremony located at the Century House in Acushnet from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

## **2017 APEX Award Nominees**

### *Large Business*

- AFC
- Brahmin Leather Works
- Fernandes Masonry
- LifeStream Inc
- Summit Retail Solutions
- Tegra Medical

### *Small Business*

- Acorn Inc.
- All Friends Smokehouse
- Century House
- Darn It! Inc
- Days Health and Sports
- Dorothy Cox's Chocolate
- H. Loeb Corporation
- Hampton Inn of Fairhaven/New Bedford
- Jim's organic Coffee
- Poyant Signs

- SERVPRO
- SEASTREAK

*Non-Profit Organization/Educational Institution*

- Alma del Mar Charter School
- Bristol Community College
- Burgo Basketball Association Inc
- Interise
- Mercy Meals and More
- Our Sisters' School
- Veteran's Transition House
- Zeiterion Theatre Inc

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## **Rebranding the Greater New Bedford Home Show; Vendors Now Being Accepted**

The Greater New Bedford Home Show has evolved into one of the SouthCoast's largest and most popular trade shows. This special event has allowed businesses to interact with thousands of local residents for nearly three decades. Each year, the Chamber staff works together to find innovative ways to keep the Home Show relevant and exciting for both exhibitors and attendees. After conducting research and receiving feedback from chamber members, past exhibitors and attendees, we are implementing changes, adding exciting new components and rebranding the Greater New Bedford Home Show.

The 1st Annual Greater New Bedford Home, Health and Wellness Show will combine home improvement with health and wellness, offering local residents answers to all their household and

lifestyle needs at one event, under one roof, on one day. This unique event will be held in late Spring, on May 20th 2017 at the Greater New Bedford Voc Tech High School and will feature a diverse ensemble of business, and organizations promoting both home improvements and healthy living.

Attention all business owners: if you work in home improvement, health and wellness, or any home and lifestyle industry, then exhibiting at the Greater New Bedford Home, Health, & Wellness Show is a must for you! Interact with over 2,000 area residents at one of the region's largest Home, Health and Wellness Shows. Booth prices and sponsorships are available to fit any company's budget.

The New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce, Couto Construction, WBSM, Fun107, and New Bedford Guide present the much anticipated Greater New Bedford Home, Health, and Wellness Show on Saturday May 20th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech. Do not miss out on this exclusive opportunity to show case your products and services to thousands of consumers at this unique one-day event!

For more information, contact Deven at the New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce, 508-999-5231, ext. 26, or visit [www.newbedfordchamber.com](http://www.newbedfordchamber.com).

Don't miss the opportunity to place your products and services in front of thousands of potential customers at the 1st Annual Greater New Bedford Home, Health and Wellness Show. Companies specializing in or involved with household improvements, as well as businesses within the health & wellness industry are highly encouraged to exhibit at the newly revamped event. Space will also be available for local restaurants and caterers to sell and showcase their signature recipes. The Greater New Bedford Home, Health and Wellness Show will also provide homeowners, residents, and families an exclusive chance to interact with companies face to face, and discover solutions to all their household needs while learning more

about healthy lifestyles options.

Several Sponsorships opportunities are available and are an excellent way to maximize your companies' exposure through the promotion of this highly marketed event! For more information regarding the new and improved Greater New Bedford Home, Health and Wellness Show contact Deven Tillman at (508) 999-5231 ext 26 or visit our website at [newbedfordchamber.com](http://newbedfordchamber.com). Be sure to check regularly for updates!