

City to Celebrate Completion of the Ashley Park Splash Pad Project



Tomorrow, Wednesday, August 14, 2013 at 11:30 a.m., Mayor Jon Mitchell will join with staff from the Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD), Parks, Recreation & Beaches, and the Department of Public Infrastructure (DPI) to celebrate the completion of a new interactive water play feature at Ashley Park in the South End of New Bedford.

OHCD awarded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to the Department of Public Infrastructure to make improvements to Ashley Park. DPI created and installed a fun, interactive splash pad water play feature at the park. The 26-foot diameter splash pad features a surface fountain displaying ten dancing water jets designed for children to enjoy. The project was completed in July and is enjoyed by residents, children and visitors who are seeking a fun way to escape from the heat during the summer months.

Mosquito Spraying Scheduled in New Bedford Early Friday Morning



The New Bedford Board of Health announced today that the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project will conduct targeted ground spraying in the very early morning of Friday, August 9, 2013 in areas of New Bedford.

This round of spraying will target the areas of Fort Taber, Brooklawn Park, Buttonwood Park, Hazelwood Park, Riverside Park, Poor Farm Area, Walsh Field, Ashley Park, Clasky Park, Ben Rose Field, and the Industrial Area and take place between 2:00 am and sunrise on Friday morning.

Residents in the vicinity of the targeted areas may wish to close their windows on Thursday night prior to the spraying.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has been testing mosquito pools collected in Bristol County for the presence of EEE and WNV carrying mosquitoes. They have notified several

communities in Bristol County, including New Bedford earlier today, of the recent finding of WNV carrying mosquitoes. The New Bedford location which tested positive for the presence of WNV was located in the Industrial Park area in the City's North End. Mosquito traps are in place to collect pools of mosquitoes and monitor mosquito populations as an on-going effort to assess the effectiveness of local spraying.

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.

Safety Tips for Women



There have been a rash of sexual assaults and purse snatching in New Bedford this summer. The following safety tips were provided by Downtown Community Police Officer Gary Sarmento.

- **BE ON THE ALERT.** Be aware of your surroundings.
- **LOOK CONFIDENT.** Walk with confidence and with your head up.
- **LISTEN TO YOUR GUT.** If something doesn't look or feel right, change your behavior. Go back and ask someone to walk with you. Cross the street. It's OK to be paranoid when it keeps you safe.
- **BE WARY OF STRANGERS** just like when you were a child. Some of the most notorious serial killers and rapists were intelligent, articulate, well-dressed males who would engage women in conversation to gain their confidence.
- **DON'T WALK & TALK ON A CELLPHONE.** When you talk on the phone, you are not focused on your surroundings. Although the conversation may make you feel safer, the person on the phone cannot help you if you are suddenly in danger. Avoid distractions. **PRETEND** to talk on the phone if you believe it

will be a deterrent.

- **HAVE YOUR KEYS IN HAND.** Retrieve your keys and have them in your hand BEFORE you begin walking to your car. Don't wait until you are at your car door to begin digging through your purse. You are putting yourself in a vulnerable position.
 - **USE YOUR PANIC ALARM.** Most newer vehicles have alarms, but have you ever tested that little RED PANIC BUTTON on your remote? Carry your keys and be aware of the panic button if you find yourself in danger. It will draw attention and often scare the attacker away.
 - **LOCK YOUR CAR DOORS.** We all lock our car doors to protect the valuables we leave inside, but you should also lock them when YOU are inside. If you're going to sit in your vehicle to talk on the phone, apply make-up, or balance your checkbook, LOCK THE DOORS so you don't get any unwanted visitors.
 - **DO NOT ACCOMPANY AN ATTACKER ANYWHERE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.** Scream. Fight. Knee. Scratch. Gouge. RUN!! Do whatever it takes, but do not allow yourself to be taken away from the scene. Once an attacker gets you alone and isolated, there may be no way to escape and it could mean your life.
 - **HAVE A PLAN.** Go over the "what if's" in your mind and prepare yourself mentally and physically for an attack/assault. Don't ever assume it won't happen to you. Your attacker has a plan. He is counting on the fact that you don't and that you will react a certain way. Have a plan and your response and defense will become second nature.
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2013 Massachusetts Tax Free Weekend



2013 Massachusetts Tax Free Weekend



by
Michael
Silvia

Each year, during one weekend in August, Massachusetts hosts a tax free weekend to help boost retail sales in our state. This allows shoppers to save 6.25% on most purchases. Last year the tax free weekend was between 13-14 August. The 2013 Massachusetts tax free weekend will take place from August 10-11, 2013 and is estimated to save shoppers over \$20 million. What does a tax free weekend mean for you? Here are some guidelines to follow:

- Shoppers do not pay the 6.25% Massachusetts sales tax on individual, tangible items totaling \$2,500. If you buy 10 qualifying items that are less than \$2,500 each, all of them are tax free. It doesn't matter what your total purchase is, just that each item is less than \$2,500. This includes internet items.
- You are allowed to use coupons to bring each item to less than \$2,500.

- The items must be for personal use. Businesses do NOT get to take advantage the tax free weekend.
- If an item is one penny over \$2,500, the entire amount is taxed. For example, if you purchase an item for \$2,600 you are taxed the entire amount NOT the \$100 difference.
- Items that are NOT tax exempt include motor vehicles, motorboats, meals, telecommunications services, gas, steam, electricity, tobacco products and of any single item whose price is in excess of \$2,500.
- If you spend more than \$2,500 on clothing you are allowed to take the standard \$175 clothing deduction/exemption. For example, a customer buys a wedding dress on the sales tax holiday for \$2,550. Tax is due on \$2,375 (\$2,550 – \$175).
- Layaway sales do not qualify for the sales tax holiday.

Mass.gov has not posted the 2013 rules on their website yet, but the 2012 rules are posted and should be used as a reference until the 2013 Massachusetts Sales Tax Holiday Weekend guidelines are posted.

Targeted Ground Spraying for Mosquitoes Scheduled in New Bedford



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 Monday, July 22, 2013 in areas of New Bedford. This round of spraying will target the areas of Fort Taber, Brooklawn Park, Buttonwood Park, Hazelwood Park, Riverside Park, and the Poor Farm Area, and will take place between 2:00 am and sunrise on Monday morning. Residents in the vicinity of the targeted areas may wish to close their windows on Sunday night prior to the spraying.

The Bristol County Mosquito Control Project has been conducting surveillance in our area 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.

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.

City Libraries, Senior Centers Offer Relief from the Heat



The local forecast for the New Bedford area over the next several days calls for daytime temperatures above 90 degrees. Although Southern Bristol County was not included in today's National Weather Service Heat Advisory, daytime temperatures are expected to remain in the 90s today through Friday.

The following is a list of City facilities accessible during their normal hours of operation for relief from the heat over the course of this week:

All Senior Centers are open 9:00am–3:00pm, Monday through Friday. (Brooklawn Park, Buttonwood Park, Downtown Ashley Park, Hazelwood Park))

Library Hours:

Monday:

Main Library 9:00am–9:00pm

All Branches 10:00am–6:00pm

Tuesday:

Main Library 9:00am–9:00pm

All Branches 12 Noon–8:00pm

Wednesday:

Main Library 9:00am–9:00pm

Casa Branch 10:00am–6:00pm

Wilks Branch 10:00am–6:00pm

(Lawler and Howland-Green Closed)

Thursday:

Main Library 9:00am–9:00pm

All Branches 12 Noon–8:00pm

Friday:

Main Library 9:00am–5:00pm

Lawler Branch 10:00am–6:00pm

Howland-Green 10:00am–6:00pm

(Casa and Wilks Closed)

Saturday

Main and All Branches 9 AM – 5 PM

Main Library – 613 Pleasant Street

Casa Da Saudade – 58 Crapo Street

Wilks Branch – 1911 Acushnet Avenue

Lawler Branch – 745 Rockdale Avenue

Howland-Green Branch – 3 Rodney French Blvd

With the hot weather forecast for the Commonwealth, the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) is advising people to be cautious during this period

of high heat, and is offering some tips to help keep cool and safe.

Here are some tips to follow during hot, humid weather:

- Slow down, avoid strenuous activity. Do not try to do too much on a hot day.
- Wear lightweight, loose-fitting, light-colored clothing. Light colors will reflect heat and sunlight and help maintain normal body temperature. Protect your face with a wide-brimmed hat.
- Drink plenty of water regularly and often, even if you do not feel thirsty. Attempt to stay hydrated.
- Limit intake of alcoholic beverages. They can actually dehydrate your body.
- Eat well-balanced, light, regular meals. Avoid high protein foods that increase metabolic heat.
- Stay indoors as much as possible.
- If you do not have air conditioning, stay on your lowest floor, out of the sun. Electric fans do not cool the air, but they do help evaporate perspiration, which cools your body.
- Go to a place where you can get relief from the heat, such as air conditioned schools, libraries, theaters and other community facilities that may offer refuge during the warmest times of the day.
- Cover windows that receive morning or afternoon sun with drapes, shades, awnings or louvers. Outdoor awnings or louvers can reduce the heat that enters a home by up to 80%.
- Avoid too much sunshine. Sunburn slows the skin's ability to cool itself. If you are outside, use sunscreen lotion with a high SPF (Sun Protection Factor) rating.
- Never leave children or pets alone in a closed vehicle.
- Do not leave pets outside for extended periods. Make sure that pets have plenty of drinking water.

- Check on family, friends and neighbors.

In normal weather, the body's internal thermostat produces perspiration that evaporates and cools the body. However, in extreme heat and high humidity, evaporation is slowed and the body must work extra hard to maintain normal temperature, which may lead to heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke. If you believe you, or anyone you are with, is experiencing a heat-related medical emergency, promptly call 911, and if possible, move to a cooler place.

North End Neighborhood Workshop on Future of Brownfield Sites



What to do with vacant brownfields sites in the North End is the focus of a neighborhood workshop on Thursday, July 18th. The workshop is part of the City's Environmental Stewardship

Department's effort to determine the best future use of various brownfields in New Bedford. The neighborhood workshop will be at St. Anthony of Padua Church starting at 5:30 pm.

The City, with assistance from US EPA and the state's Brownfields Support Team initiative is looking to redevelop several vacant properties in the Bullard Street area neighborhood in a way that best matches the needs of the community. These properties include the Dawson Brewery site at 29 Brook Street, the western portion of the Elco Dress site at the corner of Church and Collette and the 3.2 acre Payne Cutlery site at 295 Phillips Avenue, which comprises most of the block bounded by Church, Coffin Avenue and Oneko Lane. In addition, the workshop will explore future uses of the Phillips Avenue School at the corner of Ashley Boulevard and Phillips Avenue.

Mayor Jon Mitchell said, "I feel strongly that any proposed reuse should take account of the needs and interests of the surrounding neighborhood. So, I encourage residents to use this opportunity to express their preferences and make sure their voice is heard."

The July 18th workshop is part of the City's initiative with EPA to develop a Brownfields Area Wide Plan for the portion of the North End bounded by Sawyer, Ashley Boulevard, Collette and the railroad. US EPA has been piloting the development of area wide plans to stimulate the re-use of brownfields where multiple brownfield sites are in close proximity, connected by infrastructure, and where redevelopment may enhance the economic, environmental and social prosperity of the surrounding neighborhood.

The Future of the Neighborhood Workshop will be translated for persons who wish to participate in Portuguese and Spanish. Participating partner organizations include the City of New Bedford, US EPA, MassDEP (Department of Environmental Protection), and MassDevelopment. The City has retained multi-

disciplinary planning and development team headed McCabe Enterprises, planners and economic development specialists, in conjunction with Pare Corporation, engineers and scientists; Carol R Johnson Associates, landscape architects, and Paul Lukez Architecture, urban design and visualization.

Whaling Museum Announces \$1.8 Million Jacobs Gift



An unprecedented multi-year gift of \$1.8 million will be recommended from the Jacobs Family Donor Advised Fund of the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts (CFSEMA) to the New Bedford Whaling Museum (NBWM) in support of a new Educational Center and Research Library, quadrupling classroom space, the NBWM Trustees report. Joan and Irwin Jacobs are long-time strategic partners in philanthropy in New Bedford.

Irwin is a New Bedford native and the founding chairman and CEO emeritus of Qualcomm. They reside in La Jolla, California and return to New Bedford annually to award scholarships to New Bedford college-bound students.

"We believe the Museum's Educational Center and Research Library is a very worthy cause. Our intention is to help the Museum bring this project to fruition as soon as possible," said Dr. and Mrs. Jacobs in an e-mail to the Co-Chairs of the capital campaign, George B. Mock III, President of Nye Lubricants and Donald S. Rice. Mock is 1st Vice Chairman and Rice is Assistant Treasurer of the NBWM.

"Trustees are euphoric because of the magnitude, generosity and timeliness of this gift," said Hon. Armand Fernandes, Jr. Chairman of the Board of Trustees. "It is the largest single gift in the history of the organization. Because of their extraordinary support, we have reached 80% of the construction goal, enabling a "green light" for construction and ground breaking in 2014." Fernandes continues, "Our debt of gratitude to the Jacobs' is matched only in scale by our sense of responsibility to the community."

Edward G. Siegal, Board Chair of the CFSEMA states, "We are grateful for Joan and Irwin Jacobs' continued generosity to the New Bedford community, where Dr. Jacobs was born and raised. Their philanthropy, which ranges from generous college scholarships for New Bedford high school students to investments in the Whaling Museum and local educational institutions, has had a lasting impact on our city."

The Museum Trustees voted to embark upon a \$10 million capital campaign in 2011. A five million dollar goal was set to build endowment and strengthen long-term financial capacity and a \$5 million cost was projected to both construct a new Educational Center and Research Library and upgrade existing infrastructure on the Johnny Cake Hill campus. To date donors have contributed 80% (\$8.26 million) of the funds needed to

meet this \$10 million goal.

An early \$1 million anonymous gift targeted to the endowment seeded the campaign. "Trustee Gurdon Wattles sparked the building phase by recommending an extraordinary pump-priming \$1.15 million gift from the New York Community Trust," states Rice. This signaling gift spurred other fabulous leadership support from Trustees and close supporters. Importantly 100% of Trustees support museum advancement efforts. The Manton Foundation bolstered fundraising efforts with a \$500,000 award earlier this spring. "Now, George and I are profoundly grateful to Irwin and Joan for this catalytic gift which will allow construction to get underway in 2014," said Rice.

Museum Trustees have long recognized the need for consolidating operations by constructing an educational wing on its Johnny Cake Hill campus. Programs have grown beyond available space and there is an urgent need for dedicated and distance-learning classrooms. The new wing will quadruple classroom space. The Trustees recently adopted a new strategic plan calling for an increased investment in K-12 through post-graduate educational programs. The building will allow for implementation of this plan resulting in a dramatic increase in both the quantity and quality of services offered to the community (currently the Museum estimates it provides upwards of \$250,000 in free or discounted programs and services to the community annually).

The building will also house the Museum archives and collections amounting to 750,000 objects and items. It will create 4 new galleries and an extended observation deck overlooking New Bedford harbor. Consolidating campuses will unite research functions, staff and volunteers, now divided by a Research Library located 4 blocks away on Purchase Street. Bolstering the case for construction is an 8% increase in general attendance in 2012 over 2011, plus strong confidence in the business plan. Three years ago Trustees forged ahead despite the recession and renovated the 1916 Bourne Building

at a cost of \$3.5 million and brought on-line the new Wattles Family Gallery and Captain Paul Cuffe Park, all without incurring debt. Trustee Ed Howland is chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee responsible for overseeing construction. This new building will enhance the attractiveness of the historic district by building on a vacant lot, bring construction jobs into the downtown, create long-term professional museum positions and be another reason for visiting New Bedford for tourists and scholars alike.

Mercy Meals and More Fund Needs YOU!



by
Michael
Silvia

"Thanks to you, my grand children will eat today."

These words have had a mixed impact on my thoughts and soul since attempting to distribute bread to a food pantry that did NOT open due to the lack of volunteers. How can you not be affected when a 70-year old grandmother in the south end of New Bedford echoes these words as she desperately takes all the bread she can carry? How can you just go about your typical day, when also seeing a father, mother and their three children react the same way a few moments later? A dozen people were turned away from the pantry that morning, but were nourished that day thanks to **Mercy Meals and More**, a program

that will go away without immediate financial support.

In my view, a city's people are measured by how they act during crisis and how they treat their fellow citizens. Individuals are remembered by what they do for others NOT what they do for themselves. YOU and I have an opportunity save an organization that truly makes a difference in the New Bedford community. If you do not act now, where will that 70-year old lady go? Where will New Bedford's most needy go when the warmth of summer is replaced by the chill of winter?

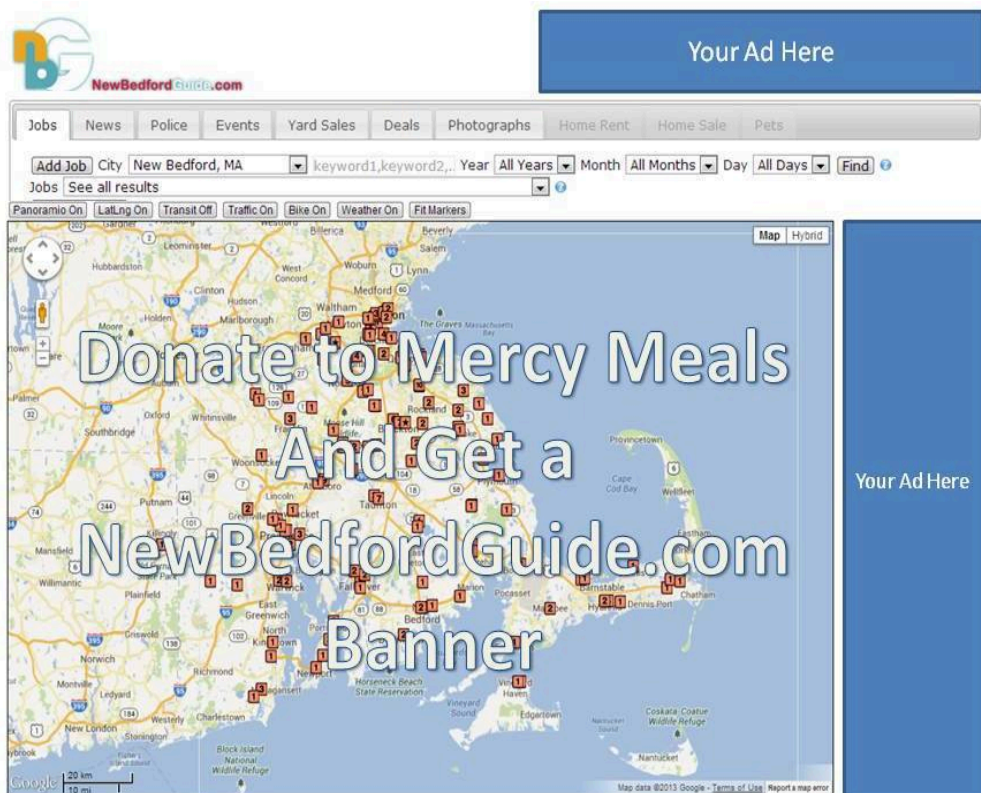


Rev. Russ picking up donated bread from Stop & Shop in Fairhaven.

Mercy Meals and More needs YOUR help. They provide breakfast six days a week to ANYONE that wants a hot meal in the morning. They collect and distribute bread to a half dozen pantries throughout the city of New Bedford. Their location becomes the ONLY emergency cold weather shelter in New Bedford and likely saved lives during the blizzard this year. They are desperately low on funds and will lay off their most active leader Rev. Russ Chamberlain and close their doors if funds are not raised soon. \$10,000 would go a long way in ensuring their doors remain open for the rest of 2013.

I ask that every citizen donate. No amount is too small. I ask that every business donate at least \$100. For every hundred dollars a business donates, they will get a banner on the New Bedford Guide map portal where THOUSANDS of people visit daily to search for jobs, yard sales and other local information. A portion of your donation is tax deductible, you will be promoting your business and more importantly you will be saving an organization that makes our city a better place to live. Turn your head away and ignore this or procrastinate and New Bedford will suffer.

To donate, send the fund directly to Mercy Meals and More. You can mail a check or donate by using PayPal here: <http://mercymealsandmore.com/give/>. If you are a business, send me an e-mail and we will work on getting your banner into our ad rotation.



What the State's FY 2014 Budget Means for New Bedford

This came directly from the office of Senator Mark Montigny ...

Senator Mark Montigny is pleased to announce that after hard fought negotiations in the Budget Conference Committees, he has secured funding for several worthwhile South Coast projects and institutions in the final versions of the State's FY 2014 Budget and this fiscal year's Supplemental Budget. During this year's budget process, as he has in the past, Senator Montigny used his seniority and experience to secure funding for some crucial local programs. "Many of my funding earmarks continue our efforts to further promote local economic development by investing in the creative economy and our cultural and tourism assets. Other earmarks provide funds for much needed research on fishing stocks to better counter the excessive federal regulations that are crippling our fleet and worthwhile veteran programs. The state monies attained will greatly benefit many in our area", said Senator Montigny.

Local Arts and Cultural Economy Strengthened

"The development of New Bedford's arts and cultural economy in order to spur overall regional economic development has been a priority during my tenure in the Senate. In the past, I have secured millions of dollars in state funds for projects like the Star Store Building's transformation into UMass Dartmouth's art school, the Zeiterion Theatre and other arts and cultural programs. The funding secured in this year's state budgets keep this momentum moving forward," said Senator Montigny.

The new funding attained by Senator Montigny includes:

- \$200,000 for the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center. "This money will permit the Zeiterion to meet its obligations and continue to be an anchor in New Bedford's growing arts and cultural district. When the Zeiterion experienced financial difficulties late last year, I initiated talks between the Zeiterion, City and our local legislative delegation. I was told that if I was able to get \$60,000, the Zeiterion could keep its doors open," said Senator Montigny As he has done many times before when the Zeiterion needed funding in order to survive or upgrade the quality of its offerings, Montigny promised to get the needed funds. "The \$200,000 will ensure that the Z stays open and continues to offer the world class performances it was in real danger of losing without the extra state funding," commented Senator Montigny.

- \$100,000 to the New Bedford Ocean Explorium. "This institution is one of our tourism treasures and provides phenomenal educational services to local students. The Ocean Explorium took a big hit this year when UMass Dartmouth unexpectedly cut its funding of the Explorium and was in real financial danger. The money provided will allow the Explorium to bridge its budgetary gap and continue to provide the quality educational experiences we have come to expect and enjoy", stated Senator Montigny.

- \$150,000 to the New Bedford Historical Society to further grow its efforts to tell and promote the story of Frederick Douglas in New Bedford. "This grant will further promote our creative economy by allowing the New Bedford Historical Society to expand it work in telling the story of Frederick Douglas in our City. Douglas was one of the most important figures in both our national and local histories. His story, and that of New Bedford's role in the Underground Railroad, are ones that need to be told loudly and must become a cornerstone of our tourism economy," said Senator Montigny.

- \$50,000 to the New Bedford Whaling Museum, in conjunction with the City of New Bedford, for expenses related to next year's homecoming of the Charles W. Morgan to New Bedford. The Senator noted "next year's visit of the Morgan will be a national, if not international, tourist event that is sure to bring many new visitors to our City. The funding will assist in ensuring that the ship's visit to New Bedford is not only memorable but a boost to our local tourism economy."
- \$67,000 to the Buttonwood Park Zoo. Due to the Senator's work, the Buttonwood Park Zoo will share in a \$200,000 pool of money to be split equally by all zoos that received state funding last year.



Major Research Funds on Fisheries

In addition to aiding the South Coast's creative economy, Senator Montigny also focused state dollars on the area's fishing industry by earmarking \$425,000 for sonar and fisheries research designed to assess the biomass of ground fish including yellowtail and cod in the area managed by the New England Fisheries Council. The research will be conducted by UMass Dartmouth's School of Marine Science and Technology and the State Division of Marine Fisheries. "In the wake of

devastating federal regulatory controls, further objective research is needed to fully understand the nature of our fishing stocks and to combat the often faulty science used by federal regulators. The money attained today will help us continue that fight," stated Senator Montigny.

Montigny also noted "it is unfortunate that we have to spend monies to fight the outrageous actions of federal regulators who seek to destroy the livelihood of our fisherman."

Increase In Veteran's Benefits Also Attained.

Lastly, the state budget also includes Senator Montigny's amendment to increase funding for the New Bedford Veterans' Transition House. Under the budget language of the Senator, the Veterans' Transition House will see an across the board 5% increase in its funding over last year. "This additional money will go a long way to funding the services provided to local vets who have experienced difficulties in their lives. Providing for our veterans is a sacred obligation of our government and this funding is a start in meeting that obligation," said Senator Montigny.