

# **New Bedford's Sea Lab Summer Session 52 returns – in two parts**

Part 1 will operate remotely this summer; Part 2 will continue on-site at Sea Lab next summer.

Due to the health and safety challenges presented by COVID19, Sea Lab, New Bedford Public Schools' nationally recognized summer marine science program will operate in two parts: Part 1 will include remote sessions on-line and fee-free this summer, and resume Part 2 with traditional sessions next summer, it was announced yesterday.

Superintendent Thomas Anderson stated, "Sea Lab is an outstanding program that has offered high quality learning experiences for our students for decades. This summer, like all our summer programs, it will be done remotely for 6-weeks. There were several discussions with multiple stakeholders. I wish to sincerely thank the Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC), which has graciously agreed to fund the program at NO cost to our parents or New Bedford Public Schools. Staff will conduct weekly virtual lessons including activities, experiments, and projects."

Simone Bourgeois, Sea Lab Facilitator, noted "our 2020 Sea Lab session, which is #52, will be unique and challenging, but we will be focusing on the safety and curiosity of our Sea Lab students who are 'the best of the best.'"

This summer, Sea Lab will consist of six remote lessons, one lesson per week for six weeks, given by Sea Lab instructors to registered Sea Lab Students. Sea Lab teachers will call their students to set up days and times for the 6 remote lessons.

Parents do not pay tuition for this educational opportunity.

"I wish to express my sincere appreciation to Candida Desjardins, NUWC Educational Director, for her assistance in making this a reality this summer," Ms. Bourgeois added.

For more information, contact: Simone Bourgeois, Sea Lab Facilitator, at 508-991-4362, email: sbourgeois@newbedfordschools.org. Webpage: sealab.newbedfordschools.org.

### **About Sea Lab**

*Sea Lab is a marine science studies program funded through the New Bedford Public Schools for the perpetuation of real science activities. The success of the summer program precipitated the development of an academic year program to expose all grade five students to the realm of marine and aquatic sciences.*

Sea Lab is a marine and aquatic educational facility servicing New Bedford Public School students interested in studying principles of oceanography, limnology, meteorology, physics, chemistry, geology, and biology as related to the marine and aquatic environments.

The summer curriculum is designed to be progressive and cumulative from the fourth grade to the ninth grade.

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# **SRTA driver fired after "real life target practice" comment with photo of protesters**

# surfaces

A Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA) bus driver was fired after reportedly making the statement “real life target practice” while sharing a photo of protestors blocking the New Bedford-Fairhaven bridge on June 1.



Outraged, dozens of people alerted STRA, who responded that the incident was under investigation.



After a short investigation, SRTA reported that they fired the

employee:

“Our operator, South Coast Transit Management, has informed us that their Fall River Bus Operator who engaged in the insensitive and reprehensible conduct has separated from service effective immediately. SRTA, South Coast Transit Management and ATU Locals 174 & 1037, maintain a “Zero Tolerance” policy when anyone associated with the Authority in any capacity seeks to demean or dehumanize another human being.”

Photos from June 1 New Bedford-Fairhaven bridge protest:

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## New Bedford officials report three more COVID-19 related deaths since Tuesday

New Bedford health officials reported three additional COVID-19 related deaths since Tuesday bringing the total to 75.

Mayor Jon Mitchell’s office reported 40 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases in New Bedford on Wednesday, **bringing the total positive cases in the city to 1,923, up from 1,883 on Tuesday.**

25 additional cases of COVID-19 have been identified in Fall River, according to the Mayor’s Office. This brings the total in Fall River to 1,363. Full details **here.**

Gov. Charlie Baker brushed off the idea of imposing a statewide curfew on Monday after violence followed protests against police brutality a day earlier, and criticized

President Donald Trump's leadership as "nowhere to be found" amid a time of massive social upheaval. Full details [here](#).

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# Online petition asks for on-duty New Bedford police officers to wear body-worn cameras

An anonymous person has started an online petition that asks the New Bedford Police Department to "require on-duty police officers to use body-worn cameras in New Bedford." At the time of this writing, it has received 3,618 of the 5,000 signature goal.

To the New Bedford Police Department,

We demand change.

The people of New Bedford are devastated by and terrified of the ongoing examples of police-inflicted violence across the country. We ask the city of New Bedford to take an active role in creating a transparent justice system to protect our community. On-duty police officers should be required to use body-worn cameras at all times. We are asking you to publicize your stance on body-worn cameras and disclose if/how you plan to implement them.

According to the National Institute of Justice, the use of body-worn cameras is shown to:

1. Drastically decrease police-brutality.
2. Promote transparency and accountability in the police

department.

3. Assess accuracy of the nature of events articulated by officers and community members.

4. Improve community relationships with law enforcement.

We are asking you to uphold the standard of service that is advertised on the New Bedford Police Department website. Your mission statement reads that New Bedford police officers are “Highly trained and dedicated professionals, serving our community with respect and empathy.” The empathy and respect we NEED is the acknowledgment that systematic racism is an urgent issue in law enforcement. We are asking you to do your part by holding New Bedford police officers accountable for enforcing the law with nothing but righteous intentions.

The petition can be read and signed [here](#).

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## **Dartmouth's favorite cafe Mirasol's, welcomes back staff after positive COVID-19 test**

Mirasol's Cafe has long been one of the most popular destinations in the area with hundreds of people flocking to the eatery daily for its Latin themed menu, “sexy” sandwiches, freshly-baked muffins and cookies, and of course, the famous “super-charged, super sexy CHiPPi.”

If you are like me, you can't imagine a week going by without a visit to the cafe, some banter with the baristas, and some socializing. With the arrival of the worldwide pandemic, life,

as we know it, has changed and that meant less of those things.

This struck close to home on May 11 when Owner Rich Romero publicly announced that a staff member had underlying symptoms of the virus. The employee was sent home and the cafe closed its doors the following two days while the entire staff was tested and utilized an independent company to disinfect and sanitize the entire facility. This, in spite of the fact that the Dartmouth BoH and Massachusetts Department of Public Health had already cleared the cafe and given the go-ahead to open.

That particular employee has since recovered and fulfilled the conditions needed to return to work, which were two negative tests in a row and a doctor's approval.

The cafe has altered the way business is done and how customers are interacted with. All employees' temperatures are checked not only at the beginning of their shift, but randomly throughout that shift, and then at the end of it.

The current hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 8:00am-3:00pm for walk-up to-go orders, "call ahead and pay ahead" with curbside pickup or delivery through third-party delivery such as GrubHub.

The menu is a limited one for now and consists of half-gallons and full gallons of CHiPPi only, iced vanilla Chai by the half-gallon, select breakfast and bagel sandwiches as well as Quesadillas, dark roast, light roast, and decaff coffee by the half-gallon, muffins and cookies by the half dozen, coffee beans by the pound, and take home flavors and espresso.

Other precautions include requiring customers to wear a mask, utilizing plexiglass at the register which was moved closer to the door as well as 6' apart floor markings for the queue inside. Once an order is placed, your order is brought to your car. As anyone who is a regular of the cafe knows, finding



parking in the spot is like striking gold, so to lessen the time customers are spending occupying a parking space it is suggested that people call-ahead.

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## **A third Starbucks coming soon to Dartmouth**

In February we announced that Shrewsbury commercial real estate developer Donat Aubuchon had purchased Dartmouth's "Big Value Outlet Plaza" from Dartmouth Select Board member David Tatelbaum for \$7.5 million and that he proposed erecting of a free-standing retail building in the parking lot.

Now that plan is coming to fruition in the form of a Starbucks in an underused part of the plaza's parking adjacent to the BayCoast Bank. No changes will be made to the status of the current businesses in the plaza.

A map of the proposed site was presented to the Planning Board on Monday, June 1 and it included a drive-thru. The site appeared to be a mirror image of the Starbucks on Rte. 6 in Dartmouth in terms of size and layout. Vice-chair Kevin Melo suggested the addition of sidewalk seating.



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# Massachusetts Guardsman on inactive status amid probe into “inflammatory” Post

Colin A. Young  
State House News Service

The Massachusetts National Guard said Tuesday that it has placed a soldier on inactive status and is investigating claims that he posted to social media that he “can’t wait to shoot” rioters.



Spence  
10m ago



Fuck your riots. Bullshit ass motherfuckin shit

You're all stupid and I can't wait to shoot you  
tomorrow night



Send a chat

On social media early Tuesday, an image began circulating that purported to be a screenshot of a Snapchat message posted by a member of Mass. National Guard in which the soldier allegedly wrote, "F-k your riots" followed by a series of expletives and then, "You're all stupid and I can't wait to shoot you tomorrow night."

*Meet Spencer. A national guard member who will be deployed in Boston tonight. Watch out for Spencer. Spencer is from Saugus, MA and committed a crime by posting that Snapchat. [pic.twitter.com/sIry9dVBAW](https://pic.twitter.com/sIry9dVBAW)*

– Becca ???? (@becFernand3z) June 2, 2020

The Guard was busy Tuesday afternoon responding to other social media posts calling out the soldier. "The Massachusetts National Guard has taken immediate action to address a Soldier's inflammatory and divisive comments, and he has been placed on inactive status and will not serve in any capacity while this matter is under investigation," the Guard tweeted.

*The Massachusetts National Guard has taken immediate action to address a Soldier's inflammatory and divisive comments, and he has been placed on inactive status and will not serve in any capacity while this matter is under investigation.*

– Mass. National Guard (@TheNationsFirst) June 2, 2020

"The Massachusetts National Guard has a proven track record of fair and equitable service and takes pride in our diversity and inclusionary practices to support our residents in every community, and has no tolerance for this insensitive behavior." The National Guard, which has been activated for weeks to assist with COVID-19 response, was also deployed Sunday night to help quell unrest in downtown Boston and remains on hand if needed.

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# **New Bedford Symphony Orchestra presents “Music, Presence and Us,” FREE live- stream**

Tune in Friday, June 5th at 7:00pm on the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra website or on Facebook for a LIVE STREAM of “Music, Presence and Us” with NBSO musicians Dana Ianculovici (violin) and Kevin Crudder (cello).

Building upon their April program “A Journey of Hope,” Clearvision (New Bedford Symphony members Dana Ianculovici and Kevin Crudder) returns to share their understanding of what Presence is and how music can support us in deepening our experience of it. The program will include works of Bach, Beethoven, Bartok, and Schulhoff, as well as a few ‘Pop’ offerings.

You have two options to view this live stream. The live videos will not appear until very close to 7pm, and it is possible that the performance may start a bit late.

Option 1: If you have a Facebook account, go to the NBSO Facebook Live Videos page where you will see current and past live videos. Click on “Music, Presence and Us” to open the post so that you can comment and see others’ comments.

Option 2: Go to our website and look for the Events tab, then Upcoming Events, and click on “Music, Presence and Us.” Simply scroll down to find the video.

All of our live stream performances can be viewed afterward in



either place.



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# Massachusetts politicians push back on Trump's military threat

Matt Murphy and Chris Lisinski  
State House News Service

President Donald Trump on Monday said he wouldn't hesitate to deploy the military into American cities to forcefully quell violence, looting and vandalism if governors can't control the protests against police brutality occurring around the country. But the threat was met with resistance in Massachusetts, where the state's top law enforcement official described it as illegal and a "stupid thing to do."

Attorney General Maura Healey on Tuesday said that Trump “doesn’t have the authority to say what he’s going to do.” And based on conversations with Massachusetts police, she’s also worried that greater militarization will lead to more tension.

“We need to push for deescalation and a calming and restore a semblance of order,” Healey said in a virtual appearance before the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce. “We don’t need soldiers in our streets.”

Healey’s comments came the morning after U.S. Sen. Edward Markey described Trump’s Rose Garden remarks as “un-American,” and U.S. Rep. Joseph Kennedy said a military response to the anger being displayed on the streets would not work.

Trump on Monday evening addressed the escalation of protests around the country in the wake of the alleged murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis. Floyd died while in police custody with a police officer’s knee on his neck.

“He will not have died in vain. But we cannot allow the righteous cries and peaceful protesters to be drowned out by an angry mob,” Trump said. “The biggest victims of the rioting are peace-loving citizens in our poorest communities, and as their President, I will fight to keep them safe. I will fight to protect you. I am your President of law and order, and an ally of all peaceful protesters.”

The president called for “healing, not hatred” and “justice, not chaos,” but his promise to “end it now” with military force, if necessary, seemed to have the opposite effect of uniting the country.

Presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden gave a speech in Philadelphia Tuesday morning pushing back on Trump’s message, and Democrats in Massachusetts condemned his remarks.

Trump said he had urged governors to establish an “overwhelming law enforcement presence” to end the violence,

and instituted a 7 p.m. curfew in Washington, D.C., where he also said he was “dispatching thousands and thousands of heavily armed soldiers, military personnel, and law enforcement officers.”

“If a city or a state refuses to take the actions that are necessary to defend the life and property of their residents, then I will deploy the United States military and quickly solve the problem for them,” Trump said.

The president made his comments from the Rose Garden at the White House just before Markey and Kennedy began a televised debate in Springfield in their Democratic primary race for Senate.

Markey said after the debate the president was “throwing fuel on an already raging fire.”

“It would be the act of a dictator. It would be un-American. It would be an attempt by the president to further foment dissension in our country rather than bringing people together,” Markey said.

U.S. Rep. Ayanna Pressley described Trump’s intention to deploy the military to U.S. cities as “callous” and “disconnected.” The Massachusetts Democrat said the president could have opened a dialogue with protestors to find out their needs.

“But instead, he perpetuated the violence,” she said Tuesday at an event in front of the State House. “How do you have people in the streets peacefully protesting and demonstrating against excessive force and the militarization of our police force, and then you want to bring in tanks. It’s nothing short of fascism.”

Also after the debate on a Zoom call with reporters, Kennedy was asked whether Gov. Charlie Baker was right to call in the National Guard on Sunday night to help Boston police control



the protests that had started peacefully, but had spiraled into violence and vandalism.

"The governor has to make sure that people are going to be protected here," Kennedy said. "What we also have to recognize is what is taking place in cities around the country, including in Boston, is a scream of anguish and desire for recognition."

"Drafting a military response to crush that anguish is not going to be successful," Kennedy finished.

Gov. Baker has not made a public appearance since Trump's Rose Garden remarks, but offered up harsh criticism of the president earlier in the day Monday after Trump told governors on a conference call that many of them were "weak" and needed to "dominate" the protesters.

Baker did not join that call.

"I know I should be surprised when I hear incendiary words like this from him, but I'm not," Baker said. "Like so many times during these past several weeks when the country needed compassion and leadership the most, it was simply nowhere to be found. Instead, we got bitterness, combativeness and self-interest."

Baker said he called in the National Guard to help get control of the protesting only in cooperation with city officials.

Healey condemned the alleged murder of Floyd, and said Americans must acknowledge "400 years of racism and oppression" that Black and brown people have faced. She said the heightened awareness created by widespread demonstrations should be used as an opportunity to build a new system "in ways that rid us of the institutionalized racism that's led to America burning today."

"Yes, America is burning, but that's how forests grow," Healey

said.

MassGOP Chairman Jim Lyons, who has condemned both the protesters and what he has called the murder of Floyd, accused Healey of cheering on “rioters” and having “total disregard” for victims of the violent demonstrations.

“Massachusetts, this is your Democratic Party,” Lyons Tweeted.

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## **New Bedford sees lowest COVID-19 daily count since early in pandemic**

New Bedford health officials reported one additional COVID-19 related deaths since Monday bringing the total to 72.

Mayor Jon Mitchell’s office reported 9 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases in New Bedford on Tuesday, **bringing the total positive cases in the city to 1,883, up from 1,874 on Monday.**

Mayor Jon Mitchell announced that the City of New Bedford will establish a restaurant reopening advisory group, co-chaired by City Planner Tabitha Harkin and local businessman and restaurateur Stephen Silverstein, owner of The Black Whale and founder of Not Your Average Joe’s. Full details **here.**

3 additional cases of COVID-19 have been identified in Fall River, according to the Mayor’s Office. This brings the total in Fall River to 1,338. Full details **here.**