

New Bedford miracle girl Kayleigh seeks a miracle of her own from the New Bedford community on her 9th birthday, May 11th

Want to make a young girl's day with just a few moments of your time? Want to leave her with memories that will last a lifetime?

"Hi, I hope all is well during these troubling times. I'm reaching out to you about my daughter Kayleigh Ann who turns 9 on May 11th. She made invitations for all her friends before the pandemic happened but now can't have a birthday party because of social distancing.



My question is how can I make it happen? Maybe a car parade to drive by and beep, maybe throw a balloon, yell 'Happy Birthday!,' anything? I want her to be happy on her special day. The birthday party will be at 4:30pm.

My daughter is a miracle: she weighed 2lbs 12 oz at birth and I was told at 20 weeks I was wasting my time going into labor since she probably wouldn't survive. Now she's going to have her 9th! She's a really good, good girl, and she is very sad about her birthday. She has been seeing a therapist for the past 2 years for bad anxiety and being stuck in the house does not help."-Julie Carlson.



"Hello – we will be hosting Kayleigh's car parade there will be a surprise character for her. We were wondering if you could put that we will be meeting at 160 W Rodney French Blvd U, New Bedford, MA 02744 starting at 4 and then leave at 4:30 to go to her house."-facebook.com/alejandra.rs.5076

If you want to make Kayleigh's special day happen, please drive by 482 Maxfield Street in the Westlawn Development, New Bedford next to the Walsh Athletic Field/NBHS at 4:30pm on May 11th!

New Bedford man charged with breaking into three cars in Dartmouth

On Monday, May 4, 2020, Dartmouth Police responded to St. John Street, after receiving a call from a local resident stating that he had just observed a male break into his vehicles.

Upon arrival in the area, Office Manuel Demelo located a male matching the description of the suspect.

While questioning the male, it was learned that another vehicle in the area had also been broken into.

As a result of the investigation which followed, Officer Demelo arrested Michael Carreiro, 38, of South Sixth Street, New Bedford.

Carreiro was subsequently charged with three counts of B&E into a motor vehicle, three counts of larceny under \$250, and one count of receiving stolen property under \$1,200.

According to Chief Brian P. Levesque, "Car breaks have been a continuous and ongoing problem for us, and this arrest is the perfect example as to why we are repetitively encouraging citizens to immediately call us when they see someone suspicious in the area."

In association with their "If you like it, lock it" campaign, Dartmouth Police recently released a video featuring tips on how to avoid being a victim of a car break.

Governor Baker seeing “Right Kinds of Trends” with COVID-19 in Massachusetts

By Chris Lisinski
State House News Service

Key indicators about the COVID-19 outbreak in Massachusetts have for the first time moved in an encouraging direction for several days straight, Gov. Charlie Baker said Tuesday, but as other states are opening up economic activity, officials here still want to see at least two weeks of steady progress.

Ten percent of the new tests reported Monday came back positive, the lowest daily rate since late March when Massachusetts had roughly half the testing capacity. The number of patients actively hospitalized because of the highly infectious virus has also moved on a downward slope in recent days.

While Baker said the state has now seen “for the first time, a few days in a row, the right kinds of trends,” he hinted that a phased reopening of closed businesses cannot safely take place unless the patterns continue.

“We’re still very much in the fight against the virus, but it’s encouraging, I think, for everybody to see progress, given how much hard work and how much sacrifice has been invested in this,” Baker told reporters after he toured a manufacturing facility in Fall River. “As we come to the other side of this and start to determine next steps for going forward, we need to see these numbers continue to fall.”

The newest data released Tuesday afternoon – after Baker’s press availability – held close to the trends Baker cited. Patients hospitalized for COVID-19 increased by three, from

3,539 to 3,542, while the most recent rate of new tests that came back positive slightly increased to 13 percent.

Total confirmed COVID-19 cases in Massachusetts since the outbreak began surpassed 70,000 on Tuesday, reaching 70,271, while 122 additional fatalities brought the death toll to 4,212.



Asked later in his press conference if he wanted to see two weeks' worth of downward movement in the most informative COVID-19 figures, Baker replied, "No one thinks you need less than 14 days, let's put it that way."

Poll results released Tuesday indicate that Massachusetts residents by a wide margin support the shutdown decisions Baker's administration has made. Eighty-five percent of respondents said they approve of his handling of the crisis, and the same number backed his decision to extend orders closing non-essential businesses and banning large gatherings until at least May 18.

The poll of 500 residents, conducted by Suffolk University, WGBH and the Boston Globe between April 29 and May 2, found that 56 percent of respondents are concerned about their financial situations or employment.

Baker voiced gratitude Tuesday for the millions of residents across the state who have adjusted to a new reality and endured economic hardship to help limit the spread of the virus.

"From my point of view, the most amazing part of all this is people understand and have communicated that they get the trade-offs," Baker said. "They understand that slowing the spread, doing the distancing, sheltering in place, whatever you want to call it, losing an opportunity to work for some period of time, is something that has to be part of the answer

to how we actually get back to work in a safe and effective way.”

Drawing from his experience touring Merrow Manufacturing on Tuesday, Baker said a key lesson of the COVID-19 pandemic is the value of domestic supply chains and manufacturing key products within Massachusetts whenever possible.

Acquiring gear such as personal protective equipment has been one of the largest challenges of the public health emergency. Governors, including Baker, on multiple occasions voiced frustrations about being outbid for gear by the federal government or described difficulty trying to secure orders from overseas.

“It’s not just that the supply chains seize up when you end up in a situation like this,” Baker said. “The price you pay for whatever you get out of that supply chain is extraordinarily high, and it’s extraordinarily high because of the scarcity associated with being able to access the product, but it’s also high because the cost of getting it from wherever it is to here is enormous.”

By comparison, Baker said, moving products from Fall River to elsewhere in Massachusetts is “profoundly cheap.”

Merrow Manufacturing has been working with the administration – one of several companies involved in a coronavirus-response partnership – to adapt its textile operations to produce personal protective equipment for health care workers on the front lines of the pandemic, particularly isolation gowns.

The administration has an order with Merrow for 2.5 million gowns. By the end of the summer, the Fall River plant will be able to produce 700,000 gowns per week, Baker said.

Charlie Merrow, the company’s CEO, said he hoped to provide somewhere between 4 million and 5 million pieces of fabric

gear to Massachusetts, Rhode Island and potentially other states by the end of the year.

Morrow said the crisis could spark a revival in American manufacturing as a costlier, but more immediately available, option to meet local needs.

“We are a reliable and durable supply chain that will be here regardless of what happens outside of the borders,” he said. “There is no question that our product is much more expensive to build than a product that’s built in China. What it is is available right now to hospitals, and I think that when we revisit and we look at the policies that need to be discussed and implemented after COVID, part of it is going to contemplate how health care systems and how states can have a reliable source of essential medical products when there’s a disruption in imports.”

Massachusetts COVID-19 cases top 70,000 while daily counts trend lower

Massachusetts Coronavirus Update



On May 5, the Massachusetts Public Health Department reported that the state added 1,184 more positive cases of COVID-19 bringing to total to 70,271. This is an increase from Monday’s 1,000 reported cases.

122 new COVID-19 related deaths were reported on Tuesday

bringing the total deaths in Massachusetts to 4,212. As of 4 pm today, 333,349 people in Massachusetts have been tested for COVID-19 – 9,081 new tests since yesterday.



As of April 28, 27,939 individuals in Massachusetts were subject to quarantine with 17,659 no longer in quarantine. 10,280 individuals are undergoing monitoring/under quarantine.

An inmate and a corrections officer at the Bristol County Sheriff's Office recently tested positive for COVID-19. Full details [here](#).

New Bedford Coronavirus Update

Mayor Jon Mitchell's office reported 39 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases in New Bedford on Tuesday, bringing the total positive cases in the city to 818, **up from 779 on Monday**. One additional COVID-19 related death was also reported bringing the total to 22 in the city.

The Buzzards Bay Coalition has announced that the 2020 Buzzards BaySwim will be canceled due to the unprecedented and still-evolving conditions presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Full details [here](#).

Fall River Coronavirus Update

28 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 629. Full details [here](#).

Inmate at Bristol County House of Correction tests positive for COVID-19

An inmate and a corrections officer at the Bristol County Sheriff's Office recently tested positive for COVID-19.

The county inmate, who is housed in the Bristol County House of Correction on Faunce Corner Road in Dartmouth, was sent to St. Luke's Hospital for a preexisting medical condition on April 29. He was given a COVID-19 test on April 30. He received notice of a positive test on Friday, May 1 and returned to the jail in Dartmouth, where he was and currently remains housed in a single cell in the medical unit. He is being closely monitored by health care professionals.

The medical team has been continuously assessing the housing unit he was in before being transported to St. Luke's. No inmates in that unit have reported symptoms linked to COVID-19.

The corrections officer was last at work on Wednesday, April 29, and Thursday, April 30, on the hospital detail with the inmate at St. Luke's. He didn't feel well on April 30, left early and got tested, and was notified about the positive result on Sunday, May 2.

"There are almost 70,000 COVID cases in Mass., including more than 4,000 in Bristol County," Sheriff Thomas M. Hodgson said Tuesday afternoon. "We feel very fortunate that none of the cases among our staff or the incarcerated population is life-threatening."

Currently, seven Bristol County Sheriff's Office staff members are away from the facility recovering from COVID-19. Four others have fully recovered and returned to duty.

The inmate is the first county prisoner in a Bristol County Sheriff's Office correctional facility to test positive for COVID-19.

Over the past few months, the Bristol County Sheriff's Office has instituted many protocols to protect inmates, detainees and staff from the Coronavirus outbreak. Some of those measures include:

- All employees were given masks that must be worn inside the secure perimeter of our facilities. All inmates and detainees have also been given masks to wear for protection.
- All areas of the facility are being cleaned\disinfected every day on every shift.
- All staff members are being screened before entering the buildings; new arriving inmates are being screened before being accepted into custody.
- In-person visitation has been suspended to limit the number of people coming in and out.

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Bishop Stang High School announces nominations call for the Class of 2020 "Hall of Honors"

This October, at White's of Westport, Bishop Stang High School will induct its next class into the Hall of Honors, and seeks nominations through June 15, 2020. The Hall of Honors recognizes and honors those alumni, faculty, staff, and friends who have left an enduring legacy for Bishop Stang High

School and/or excelled in their careers and personal lives.

Please take the time to nominate those you believe are worthy of this honor. Only nominated candidates will be considered by the selection committee. Visit bishopstang.org/Honors where you can link to the online nomination form, download and print a form to mail to the school, and see the names and bios of past honorees. All nominations are due to the selection committee by June 15, 2020. Questions can be emailed to alumni@bishopstang.org.

One more COVID-19 related death reported in New Bedford on Tuesday

Mayor Jon Mitchell's office reported 39 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases in New Bedford on Tuesday, bringing the total positive cases in the city to 818, **up from 779 on Monday**. One additional COVID-19 related death was also reported bringing the total to 22 in the city.

On May 4, the Massachusetts Public Health Department reported that the state added 1,000 more positive cases of COVID-19 bringing to total to 69,087. This is a decrease from Sunday's 1,824 reported cases. 1,000 cases is the lowest single-day count since April 5 when 765 cases were reported. Full details [here](#).

Electronic monitoring, bail review decisions and a decline in new arrests are among the reasons behind a nearly 25 percent reduction in the jail population in Middlesex County, Sheriff Peter Koutoujian announced Monday. Full details [here](#).

15 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 601. Full details [here](#).

New Bedford man arrested for fentanyl trafficking after police raid Rivet Street apartment

On May 1, as a result of an ongoing investigation, New Bedford Police Narcotics Detectives seized almost 50 grams of fentanyl and more than \$300 during a search of 232 Rivet St. #3.

35-year old Marcel Depina of the same address is charged with trafficking in fentanyl. Detective Kevin Barbosa led the investigation.



If you have any information on criminal activity in your community, the New Bedford Police Dept. wants to hear from you. You can leave an anonymous tip on our voicemail at (508) 991-6300 Ext. 1.

Middlesex County Sheriff reduces jail population by 25% amid coronavirus crisis

Michael P. Norton
State House News Service

Electronic monitoring, bail review decisions and a decline in

new arrests are among the reasons behind a nearly 25 percent reduction in the jail population in Middlesex County, Sheriff Peter Koutoujian announced Monday.

“On March 12, we had 787 people either sentenced or awaiting trial,” the sheriff said in a statement. “Today, we have 594.”

A recent high court ruling allowed certain individuals to revisit their bail conditions if they are being held on a pre-trial detention basis, and the jail population has also declined due to scheduled releases of sentenced individuals. The smaller population of incarcerated individuals has enabled the temporary closure of a fourth dorm-style housing unit and Koutoujian’s office says that move, combined with the lower jail population, has “allowed for an enhancement of social distancing practices” in the Middlesex Jail & House of Correction.

“The decisions we are making and the steps we are taking are focused on ensuring the safety of those in our custody, our staff and the communities we serve,” said Koutoujian. “We will not waiver from our commitment to meeting those objectives.”