

Death Investigation Underway at Scene of House Fire in New Bedford



House fire on 55 Rounds Street in New Bedford.
Photo by Jeff Costa.

New Bedford Police and Fire officials, State Police detectives assigned to this office, and prosecutors are currently investigating a fire-related death which occurred this morning in The City of New Bedford.

New Bedford Police received a 911 call this morning around 8:30 to report a fire at a home at 55 Rounds Street. Police, fire and rescue personnel rushed to the scene of the blaze. Fire officials were able to contain the fire to the second floor of the home. After extinguishing the fire, officials discovered a deceased male victim inside a second floor bedroom of the home.

The State Medical Examiner's Office is currently en route to

the scene to take custody of the deceased in order to confirm the victim's identity and perform an autopsy to determine the official cause and manner of death.

As the investigation is in its early stages, no further information can be disseminated at this time. Once we have a confirmed identity of the victim and next of kin notifications are made, our office will send out a follow up release with this information.

If anyone has any information about the fire or saw anything in the area of the fire this morning, they are urged to contact New Bedford Police at 508-991-6300 or by leaving an anonymous tip by calling 508-961-4584 or by utilizing the district attorney's anonymous text-a-tip software by logging on to tipssubmit.com.

Flags Lowered to Half-staff For Boston Marathon Bombing Victims

Governor Deval L. Patrick has ordered that the United States flag and the Commonwealth flag be lowered to half-staff at all state buildings from sunrise until sunset on Tuesday, April 15, 2014, in honor of the individuals who lost their lives and were injured during the Boston Marathon Bombings of April 15, 2013.



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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New Bedford Guide's 10 Positive Stories of the Week – 2nd Edition



For some reasons humans love negative stories and the media gives them what they want. At NewBedfordGuide.com we make every effort to promote the best parts of the Greater New Bedford area and make New Bedford a better place to live. Each Sunday, I'm going to find 10 positive stories of the week and share them. If you have a positive story to share e-mail us at info@newbedfordguide.com.

Here are the positive stories this week.

1. [**New Bedford Guide's Facebook Page Hit 30,000 fans**](#)
New Bedford Guide went from 20,000 fans to 30,000 fans in about 4 months. The growth has been amazing and I want to thank all the readers!
2. [**New Bedford-Fairhaven Bridge Opens After Being Closes for Two Weeks**](#)
After two weeks of commuting pain, residents rejoiced to hear that the bridge re-opened on Saturday.
3. [**New Bedford Awarded \\$1.8 Million Federal Grant to Combat Homelessness**](#)
New Bedford received \$1,824,990 in homeless assistance funding as part of a competitive grant competition. The money will be distributed to eight different local organizations.
4. [**Of Roots and Reconciliation in the Whaling City**](#)
Joanne Mendes comes back to New Bedford after 30 years and tells her amazing story of discovering her roots in the Whaling City.
5. [**Portraits Of Boston Marathon Survivors See Runners Returning To The Finish Line To Look Back**](#)
Boston Marathon survivors returned to the finish line with uplifting messages painted on their skin.
6. [**Taylor Elementary School Pet Care Drive**](#)
New Bedford has some AMAZING kids. Fourth grade students Mia and Nevea, and Mrs. Nault, are making difference with other students and folks in New Bedford. They ran a Pet Care Drive this week at Taylor Elementary School and collected a lot of items! Pictures [here](#).
7. [**AHA's Sustainable Southcoast Earth Eve Parade**](#)
Locals came together and marched in AHA's "Earth Eve" parade. Photos [here](#) and [here](#).
8. [**Easter Egg Hunt at Custom House Square**](#) – Kids from around the area ran around Custom House Square grabbing hidden eggs during the The Parks Recreation & Beaches Spring Easter Egg Hunt. Photos [here](#).
9. [**Bishop Stang to Hosted a Charity Book Fair**](#)
On Saturday, Bishop Stang High School hosted a charity

book fair to benefit the American Heart Association.

10. Dylan Carreiro Shows of Some Amazing Dance Moves in New Bedford – It's great when local talent send us videos. New Bedford Got Talent!

Update Regarding Infant Death in New Bedford

The investigation into the discovery of a deceased newborn baby in The City of New Bedford remains active and ongoing.

The infant has been identified as a Caucasian female, weighing approximately six pounds.

New Bedford Police, Massachusetts State Police Detectives assigned to this office and prosecutors are continuing to canvas the area around where the infant was found on County Street. Investigators are also renewing their call for the public's assistance in locating the mother of the infant, who could possibly be in need of medical attention. If anyone has any information regarding the infant's identity, the mother's identity or her whereabouts, they are urged to contact New Bedford Police at 508-991-6300 or leave an anonymous tip at 508-961-4584.

New Bedford Police received a 911 call around 6:30 p.m. on Friday from a resident who discovered the remains of the deceased infant outside of a three-story home at 1065 County Street. Police and rescue personnel rushed to the scene, and upon discovery of the deceased infant, contacted this office and state police detectives assigned to this office.

New Bedford Guide's Top 10 Stories of the Week – 3rd Edition



Photo by Stephanie Lamas

Here are New Bedford Guide's top stories this week from our website or [Facebook page](#). Click on the bold title to read the original story.

1. [**Deceased Newborn Baby Found in New Bedford**](#) – Around 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 11th, 2014, a deceased baby was found near 1065 County Street. Police are investigating the situation and are looking for the mother. [Baby Safe Haven information](#) was published that should be spread around the internet to help prevent future tragedies like this.
2. [NBHS teacher Joanne Maura Notified that She Was Under](#)

Investigation – In a move that had most people scratching their head, New Bedford High School leadership sent Joanne Maura, the teacher that had a chair thrown at her, a letter informing her that show could be terminated for not fully reporting the incident or in a timely manner. Letter can be read [here](#). Last week **the student that threw the chair was expelled**. Video can be seen [here](#).

3. **New Bedford City Councilor Brian Gomes Supports NBHS Teacher Joanne Maura** – New Bedford City Councilor Brian Gomes has placed a motion on tonight’s City Council, “Requesting that the City Council go on record in opposition to any type of disciplinary action taken against New Bedford High School teacher Ms. Joanne Maura.” He also requested Mayor Mitchell intervene and halt any disciplinary actions.
4. **12-year-old Normandin Student Choked and Jaw Broken in School** – A 12-year old was choked out and fell to the floor resulting in a broken jaw and other injuries. It appears to be a possible case of bullying.
5. **New Bedford City Council Votes To Support NBHS Teacher Joanne Maura** – 10 of the 11 City Councilors co-sponsored the motion to go on record in opposition to any type of disciplinary action taken against New Bedford High School teacher Ms. Joanne Maura. Councilor Dana Rebeiro was the only councilor to not co-sponsor the motion, but she did vote yes on the motion. Councilor Rebeiro explained her position on our Facebook, “I support our teachers and the kid was expelled. You can not expel him from our streets. The real work is changing that kid before he becomes an adult that continues to make wrong decisions. I have volunteered with at risk youth and will continue to do so.” Full Facebook discussion [here](#).
6. **New Bedford Fires** – There were several fires in New Bedford. There was a major **north end building fire** and a **vehicle fire cause on between Holly and Tallman Street**.
7. **Two Arrested in New Bedford on Firearm Charges** – Two

people were arrested on gun charges in New Bedford. One male was arrested and charged with being a “career criminal” and his third gun charge.

8. [School Bus Drivers to Carry Students to and From Bus](#) – New Bedford bus drivers almost formed a million man march when they found out the superintendent of schools required them to carry students to and from their house. Then the smell of [Rotten Scallops](#) began to overwhelm their senses and they called it off.
9. [New Bedford-Fairhaven Bridge Opens After Being Closes for Two Weeks](#) – After two weeks of commuting pain residents rejoiced to hear that the bridge would re-open on schedule on Saturday at 6 p.m.
10. [DNRT makes changes to accommodate visitors to popular Daffodil Field](#) – Due to a major increase in visitors and some inconsiderate visitors, DNRT made some changes to their popular daffodil field. There will now be a fee, a wider walking area and some new rules to follow.

Bishop Stang Junior Wins Oratory Contest

Bishop Stang High School, a diocesan, co-educational, college preparatory school located on the Southcoast, announced MacKenzie Long won the Dr. Mildred F. Jefferson Youth Oratory Contest which is sponsored by the Massachusetts Citizens for Life. MacKenzie will now go on to the National contest in Louisville, KY at the National Right to Life Convention on June 26-28 and compete in the Jane Thompson Oratory Contest.



“MacKenzie displayed his impressive leadership, confidence and persuasive speaking skills with eloquence,” said Amanda Tarantelli, Campus Ministry Leader and Theology Teacher at Bishop Stang High School. “We are excited for him to go on to the next level and have a chance to compete against so many accomplished high school students.”

The competition is held every two years to give committed pro-life young people a chance to speak their minds and hone their skills in the rhetorical defense of the unborn, elderly, infirm and vulnerable.

“I am honored to have the opportunity to speak persuasively in a competitive environment about a topic of which I am passionate,” said Bishop Stang Junior and Westport native MacKenzie Long. “I’m proud to represent my school at a national level and excited for the experience to come.”

Baby Safe Haven New England to respond to deadly newborn abandonment in New Bedford

News of the [deadly newborn abandonment in New Bedford](#) has greatly saddened the members of Baby Safe Haven New England. Minutes after the story broke plans were put into motion so that a full response to the tragedy would come from our organization.

On Saturday one of our youth spokespersons will be responding at Baby Safe Haven location for a statement of how this tragedy in New Bedford could have been averted through utilization of the Massachusetts Baby Safe Haven law. At this time it is very important that the message about Baby Safe Haven law information, the hotline (866 814-SAFE) and the Mass Baby Safe Haven law web site (babysafehaven.com) be included in every news story.



The location is tentatively in Newton, at the Police Headquarters or the Newton Corner Fire Station, which both have Baby Safe Haven signs. The timeframe to look for this press availability will be between 3 and 4 PM. We will contact all media with the exact time and location around noon on Saturday.

Following this press conference Baby Safe Haven New England will renew the radio tour of Renee Marcou, our Baby Safe Haven spokesperson, that has helped us achieve a seven year and

three month record of no deadly newborn abandonments. Plans will be made for the tour next week, and the appearances will begin on or around April 22.

Baby Safe Haven New England has also been vocal about the lack of youth involvement in messaging safe haven information across the country. Plans are now to accelerate the addition of many more youth spokesperson/communicators across the country.

January 6, 2014, marked exactly seven years since the last deadly newborn abandonment anywhere in New England. The last deadly abandonment in MA was in Milford on Jan. 6, 2007. This record of newborn safety is an almost exact opposite of the time period when most New England states were passing their Baby Safe Haven laws. In MA alone between May 1, 2000 and October 28, 2004 – while the bill was in the MA Legislature – there were 13 newborn abandonments, 6 were deadly, 4 babies were near death when found, and 3 were surrendered in ways similar to safe haven laws.

Baby Safe Haven New England promotes information to help women in a time of crisis through peer built trust, other states promote their authorities and their emphasis on saving babies. The Baby Safe Haven New England strategy works according to all statistics say Jean and Michael Morrisey.

Deceased Newborn Baby Found in New Bedford

New Bedford Police, Massachusetts State Police Detectives assigned to this office and prosecutors are currently investigating the discovery of a deceased newborn baby in The

City of New Bedford.

New Bedford Police received a 911 call around 6:30 p.m. this evening from a resident who discovered the remains of the deceased infant outside of a three-story home at 1065 County Street. Police and rescue personnel rushed to the scene, and upon discovery of the deceased infant, contacted this office and state police detectives assigned to this office.

The investigation into this unattended death remains in its early stages at this juncture in time. A representative from the State Medical Examiner's Office is currently en route to New Bedford to take custody of the baby and will perform an autopsy this weekend.

Investigators are seeking the public's assistance in locating the mother of the infant, who could possibly be in need of medical attention. If anyone has any information regarding the infant's identity, the mother's identity or her whereabouts, they are urged to contact New Bedford Police at 508-991-6300 or leave an anonymous tip at 508-961-4584.

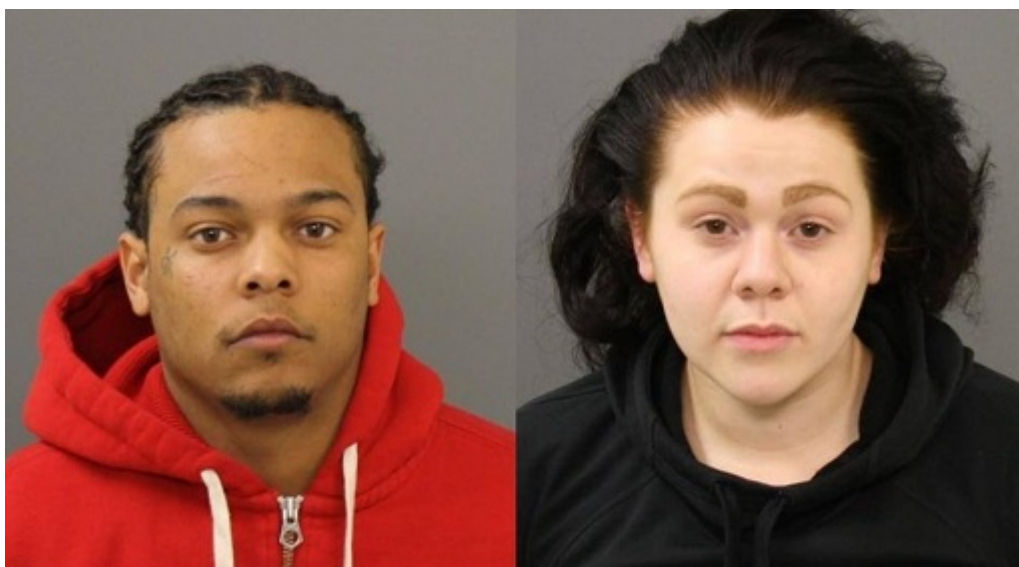
Grand Jury Indicts Carlos Ortiz and Ernest Wallace on Charges of Murder

Late this afternoon, a Bristol County Grand Jury returned separate indictments charging both Carlos Ortiz and Ernest Wallace, both of Bristol, Conn., with murder connected to the June, 2013 homicide of Odin Lloyd in North Attleboro. Aaron Hernandez remains in jail without bail and is charged with murdering Lloyd.

Both men will be arraigned on the murder charge in the Fall River Justice Center on a date yet to be scheduled by the court. Once an arraignment date is scheduled, this office will send out a follow up media advisory.

The district attorney's office will have no comment on the indictments prior to the defendants' arraignments in open court.

Two Arrested in New Bedford on Firearm Charges



On Thursday evening (4/10/14) at approximately 6pm members of the Organized Crime Intelligence Bureau executed a search warrant at a Nye Street apartment.

The targets of the investigation were taken into custody outside of the home without incident. Once a search commenced, detectives found a loaded .380 caliber handgun inside of a sweatshirt in the bedroom of the occupants. The firearm was loaded with 5 rounds of ammunition. Neither person has a

license to carry firearms.

Scheduled to be arraigned this morning in New Bedford district court:

Nathaniel DePina age 24 of New Bedford.

- Unlawful possession of a firearm
- Unlawful possession of a firearm (third offense)
- Unlawful possession of ammunition
- Career Criminal

Maegan Ann Brume age 21 of New Bedford.

- Unlawful possession of a firearm
- Unlawful possession of ammunition