

New Bedford family seeks the public's help in finding missing 14-year old

"Please be on the lookout for my nephew Freddie. He is 14 yrs old, 5'10" 155lb has brown hair, hazel eyes and a thin muscular build. He has been missing from New Bedford since 2/4/2020.

Please share and have others share he needs to be found. Freddie, if you see this so many are worried about you. Call someone, anyone, or come see auntie. We want to know you are safe. I know it's tough right now but nothing is forever. This too shall pass buddy. It's never too late to right a wrong, or fix things."

If you see Freddie or have information about his whereabouts, please contact the New Bedford Police or Christy Brasill at 774-526-7887.

U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development awards \$1.6 million in homelessness assistance funding to support New Bedford programs

The group tasked with combatting homelessness in the area has

been awarded a grant from the federal Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) under its Continuum of Care program.

The Homeless Service Providers Network (HSPN), led by the City's Office of Housing & Community Development, has been awarded \$1,673,610 in homeless assistance funding. The grant awards announced at the end of January are renewal funding for previously funded local program; HUD also anticipates announcing new project awards and additional renewal awards at a later date.

The grant funding will help to support eight local programs totaling more than \$1.6 million, to be distributed to the following programs and agencies addressing homelessness:

- Homeless Management Information System: \$74,524
- The Call (Catholic Social Services): \$50,000
- Family Preservation Program (SEMCOA): \$280,879
- Step Up (PAACA): \$290,187
- Welcome Home (Steppingstone): \$186,423
- Transition to Stability (Catholic Social Services): \$161,593
- Prism (Catholic Social Services): \$116,619
- Portico (Catholic Social Services): \$513,385

Patrick Sullivan, Director of the Office of Housing & Community Development, said, "This grant funding is essential for people experiencing homelessness. The very competitive Continuum of Care application requires a high degree of collaboration and coordination with our homeless service providers and partners. Our office works with the HSPN so that the City submits a competitive application to ensure that New Bedford's most vulnerable populations receive the highest level of services possible, along with access to safe permanent housing."

For more information, please visit the HSPN website at www.nbhspn.com or contact the Office of Housing & Community Development at 508-979-1500.

OPINION: “Black Lives Matter is just another continuation of the Civil Rights Movement in another form”

“Racial Politics is nothing new in American history. It is not some magical concept only born from the Reagan era through today. It’s always been part and parcel tied to American history.

Our very laws and history showcase this very historical fact. One cannot separate American racism from its laws and policies, which tie directly back to American history.

Black Lives Matter or BLM is just another continuation of the Civil Rights Movement in another form. The battle for civil rights and social justice didn’t stop with the assassination of Dr. King. Racism and Prejudice simply didn’t go away, and this has been true going back to the time of Jefferson and after the Civil War.

All the events leading to the Civil War directly tie in race and economics. This, in turn, influenced policy, which in turn led to court decisions, which in turn led to war. And these events over the long arc of time have had an impact on race relations that still affect us to this day, and it still has yet to be resolved.

The following is a brief rundown of how race directly impacted American politics and policy decisions:

The Three-Fifths Compromise 1787-during the 1787 US

Constitutional Convention, literally asking how to count slaves as to inflate the numbers for the US House of Representatives. The Convention had unanimously accepted the principle that representation in the House of Representatives would be in proportion to the relative state populations. However, since slaves could not vote, leaders in slave states would thus have the benefit of increased representation in the House and the Electoral College. Delegates opposed to slavery proposed that only free inhabitants of each state be counted for apportionment purposes, while delegates supportive of slavery, on the other hand, opposed the proposal, wanting slaves to count in their actual numbers.

The Three-Fifths Compromise is found in Article 1, Section 2, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution, which reads:

“Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other Persons”

The Three-Fifths Compromise gave a disproportionate representation of slave states in the House of Representatives relative to the voters in free states until the American Civil War. In 1793, for example, Southern slave states had 47 of the 105 members but would have had 33, had seats been assigned based on free populations. In 1812, slave states had 76 out of 143 instead of the 59 they would have had; in 1833, 98 out of 240 instead of 73.

As a result, Southern states had a disproportionate influence on the presidency, the speakership of the House, and the Supreme Court in the period prior to the Civil War. Along with this must be considered the number of slave and free states, which remained mostly equal until 1850, safeguarding the

Southern bloc in the Senate as well as Electoral College votes.

And as we know the Presidency itself does in part determine the policy agenda for the US, especially in terms of what piece of legislation passes through Congress that gets signed by the President and what is vetoed.

The Northwest Ordinance of 1787– Article 6 specifically held that slavery was prohibited in the territory but also allowed room for a fugitive slave law. Meaning, escaping to this new territory as a slave meant if captured you would be returned back into slavery.

Missouri Compromise of 1820–was literally about balancing the number of free states and slave states.

From 1836-1844 there was a gag rule in the US House of Representatives forbidding the talk, the very conversation of discussing slavery. Pickney Resolutions 1836, Patton 1837, Atherton 1838, The Twenty-First Rule 1840. All passed to limit discussion of the topic itself in one way or another.

But we can also count the Burning of Pennsylvania Hall, Prigg V Pennsylvania, Annexation of Texas, Mexican American War, Wilmot Proviso, Manifest Destiny, Underground Railroad, Compromise of 1850, Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, Uncle Tom's Cabin, Ostend Manifesto, the recapture and case of Anthony Burns, the caning of Charles Sumner, Scot v Sanford, Plessy v Ferguson, the Crittenden Compromise, the Corwin Amendment, the Civil War...

I could keep adding various court cases, amendments, and the like but the overall point is the issue of race, skin color... in particular the issue with Black skin color in American history has led to all the above. The impact race and skin color have had on our laws, wars, policies, even our own Constitution cannot be overstated. It looms greatly. So to pretend and long for some idealistic magical separation of

race from our politics is impossible, historically inaccurate, and disingenuous. Economically this nation was built on slavery, our laws and policies grew from it, and our cultural attitudes about race still suckling at the tit of racism.

It is no secret racial profiling happens. It's not always law enforcement, but it is there. Last time I checked cops are not born from some perfect ether of not being subject to bias or upbringing and aren't impacted by our history. They too are very much a product of our society.

Yes, Black Lives Matter is not a perfect social movement, and yet humans too aren't perfect. The motto of the very nation itself is to ascribe to be a "more perfect Union" and yet we expect and demand perfection from a social movement while the nation itself hasn't met this standard in over 200 years?

But the idea there should not be discussion of this in schools is abhorrent. School is there to educate, and give information, and yes sometimes within information is opinion. Even when a court decision comes down, we are given opinions. It doesn't mean we shall all agree either, it just means you heard and listened to a perspective not your own. Children are not robots designed for you to program, they are learning computers always needing input and taking in information. And yes, one day, they may evolve well past the instructions you gave them as your parents did with you. A child thinks for themselves, one day they shall have too because one day they become adults. Even we sometimes as adults must admit sometimes our thinking is outdated and outmoded, and gasp we could be wrong.

Thank you,

Andre Smith."

Man who used woman on first date as bank robbery getaway driver sentenced to three years

A 33-year-old Chepachet, RI man who robbed a North Attleboro bank while on a first date with a woman he had just met, was sentenced last week to spend three years in state prison followed by another two years in the Bristol County House of Corrections, Bristol County District Attorney Thomas M. Quinn III announced.

Christopher Castillo pleaded guilty in Fall River Superior Court to indictments charging him with armed robbery and three counts of assault and battery on a police officer.

On December 5, 2016, the defendant entered the Bristol County Savings Bank in North Attleboro. The defendant showed the bank teller a gun that was in his jacket and demanded \$1,000 while stating that he is really hurting and needs the money. After being given the \$1,000, the defendant ran out of the bank and entered into a Nissan Maxima. When police arrived in the area, they observed the Nissan Maxima exiting Mason Field and pulling into a Dunkin Donuts parking lot. When police entered the parking lot, they observed the female driver of the Maxima walking away from the car. The defendant, however, was ducking down in the car. Police pulled Castillo out of the car, at which point he began to violently struggle with the officers. During the struggle, the defendant spit on the police, continued to struggle with them and said, "The gun isn't even loaded." After eventually subduing and handcuffing the

defendant, police located a .44 caliber gun in the car, along with sunglasses and a hat that matched the items the robber was wearing. Also found in the defendant's wallet was the \$1,000 in cash.

The female driver of the Maxima gave a statement to police that she had met the defendant through an online dating app and had just met him in person for the first time that day. She picked him up at his parent's house in Rhode Island and they drove to North Attleboro while he was drinking wine in the passenger seat. Once near the bank, he asked her to stop the car. He then exited the car, left for a few minutes and then came running back, sweating and carrying the hat, sunglasses, a gun, and cash. The defendant told her to "F*cking go." She panicked and drove off, but when she saw the blue lights of the police cruisers, she immediately pulled into the parking lot and got away from the car. She was not charged in relation to this incident.

The gun turned out to be an antique owned by the defendant's step-father. An indictment initially charging the defendant with carrying an illegal firearm was dropped as a result.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Daniel Walsh. Judge Raffi Yessayan sentenced the defendant to serve three years in state prison for the armed robbery, to be followed by two years in the house of corrections for the three assault and battery on a police officer indictments.

"I am pleased the defendant was held accountable for this violent robbery and for spitting at the police officers. This type of lawless behavior is simply not acceptable," District Attorney Quinn said.

Massachusetts State Police K9 Orry proudly models his newly donated protective vest

“Massachusetts State Police K9 Orry proudly models his new protective vest, donated by Mass. Vest-a-Dog. Orry and his partner, Trooper Ken Hanchett, are very grateful for the new LOF Defence Systems streetfighter vest.

From the Massachusetts State Police to Mass Vest-a-Dog, thank you very much for helping keep our canine family members safe. Visit their Facebook Massachusetts Vest-A-Dog.

19-year old Brockton man killed in rollover crash ins Wareham Monday night

Last night just after 10 p.m., Troopers assigned to State Police-Bourne responded to reports of a single-vehicle crash on Route 495 Northbound at mile marker .2 in Wareham.

Upon their arrival, troopers discovered a 2020 Nissan Rouge had rolled over with the operator, identified as Ajani Mitchell, 19, of Brockton, trapped inside. Preliminary investigation shows the vehicle was traveling on Route 495 Northbound when, for reasons still under investigation, it left the roadway to the left side and rolled over into the woods. Mitchell was transported to Tobey Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. No other vehicles were involved in

the crash and Mitchell was the sole occupant of the Nissan.

The crash remains under investigation by Troop D of the Massachusetts State Police along with the Collision Analysis Reconstruction Section and Crime Scene Services Section. Wareham Fire, Police and EMS and Mass DOT assisted at the scene.

UMass Dartmouth announces \$4.57M grant from the U.S. Navy for marine technology research

The largest grant in university history will fund innovative projects between university faculty and regional partners

On Monday, February 10, 2020, UMass Dartmouth announced a \$4,576,764 million grant from the United States Navy to fund research projects with the Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC) and institutions of higher education. This funding represents the largest research award in UMass Dartmouth history.

The grant funding will be administered by the recently established Marine and UnderSea Technology research program (MUST) at UMass Dartmouth, which was formed to address needs of the United States Navy – new sources of cutting-edge research and the development of a highly trained workforce.

MUST has identified areas of focus where the expertise of faculty can have the greatest impact, including research and

training in the general areas of undersea technologies addressing acoustics, signal processing, sensing, communications, and autonomous underwater vehicles. With these areas in mind, MUST has developed research projects that leverage faculty strengths to respond to critical needs of the Navy.

“This award highlights the research, talent, and expertise of the exceptional people at UMass Dartmouth. This funding will strengthen our relationship with the Navy and bolster workforce development in the marine science and technology industries that are the backbone of the Blue Economy in southern New England,” said UMass Dartmouth Chancellor Robert E. Johnson. “This would not have happened without Congressman Bill Keating, a leader in Washington D.C. that understands how this research university can support the Navy’s undersea technology needs and support a region’s economic revitalization. Thank you to Congressman Keating and to the entire Massachusetts Congressional Delegation for their critical support.”

“Southeastern New England is the hub of the Blue Economy and UMass Dartmouth is unquestionably a preeminent leader in this field,” said Congressman William R. Keating. “With the funding, UMass Dartmouth will not only be providing critical naval research but also creating the highly skilled workforce needed as we move this project – and those like it – forward. This award is a perfect example of how federal grants are supposed to work. I congratulate Chancellor Johnson and the entire UMass Dartmouth community on this deserved recognition and I look forward to our continuing partnership to secure even more grants that further the Blue Economy and our region.”

“I want to congratulate Chancellor Johnson and the faculty of UMass Dartmouth for securing this major investment in ocean technology research that will enhance national defense, create jobs, and strengthen the region as a hub of marine

innovation,” University of Massachusetts President Martin T. Meehan said. “This award, made possible through the leadership of Congressman Keating and his colleagues, is a strong declaration of confidence in the quality of UMass Dartmouth research and teaching, and a prime example of the economic impact that UMass has on every region of the Commonwealth.”

This investment highlights UMass Dartmouth’s leadership in undersea technology research and training. Since 2015, UMass Dartmouth has secured 19 awards from the Navy, with a cumulative investment of nearly \$5 million prior to the 2020 funding.

“UMass Dartmouth is a vital force anchoring Massachusetts’ sea blue economy. Innovation is at the heart of the collaborative partnerships between scientific leaders, like those at NUWC, to create opportunities where both the government and academia excel at solving problems. I’m proud we were able to secure this vital federal funding. I’m going to keep fighting for opportunities that grow our innovation economy and to ensure that we build upon this partnership for years to come,” said Senator Edward Markey.

“The Navy’s investment in its partnership with the Marine and UnderSea Technology research program is a testament to the Commonwealth’s ongoing leadership in research and technology,” said Senator Elizabeth Warren. “This new funding will allow UMass Dartmouth students and faculty to expand on their integral role in undersea research.”

“Students and researchers at UMass Dartmouth are not only building a Blue Economy for the South Coast and our Commonwealth but using their knowledge and expertise to strengthen our national security. With this well-earned grant, the MUST program will bring new opportunities for our next generation workforce,” said Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy III.

“The Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division Newport has a long

term collaborative relationship with UMass Dartmouth. ONR's MUST research funding promotes the development of the southeastern New England undersea technology community and will provide additional opportunities for teamwork in the future," said Ronald Vien, Technical Director at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center.

UMass Dartmouth is the second leading supplier of workforce talent to NUWC and offers the necessary program synergies to accelerate the growth of a highly-skilled science and engineering workforce in southern New England.

"This unique opportunity leverages UMass Dartmouth's long-standing strengths in marine technologies within three colleges to expand cutting-edge research and developing highly-skilled scientists and engineers in areas of critical needs for the Navy. UMass Dartmouth and the Navy has long enjoyed a great synergistic partnership. I look forward to taking it to the next level," said Associate Provost and Professor of Computer Science Ramprasad Balasubramanian, who leads the Marine and UnderSea Technology (MUST) research program.

New Bedford Youth Ballet to perform an adaptation of Rudyard Kipling's "The Jungle Book"

The New Bedford Youth Ballet will perform an adaptation of Rudyard Kipling's The Jungle Book on Sunday, March 8 at the NBB Community Theater, 2343 Purchase Street in New Bedford.

The first performance is scheduled for 1 p.m. with a second to follow at 2 p.m. All proceeds benefit the New Bedford Youth Ballet.

Published in 1894, *The Jungle Book* is a collection of stories written by English Nobel Laureate Rudyard Kipling. Kipling spent his early childhood and some of his adulthood in India, and the fables he created in this literary classic utilize animals of the Indian jungle to teach moral lessons. The best known of the stories involves the adventures of Mowgli, a child who was raised by wolves. Rebecca Waskiel-Marchesseault, artistic director of New Bedford Ballet, brings the adventures of Mowgli to life in her original rendition of this educational classic.

In keeping with its mission of community outreach, the NBB Youth Ballet will also be performing *The Jungle Book* for over 3,000 South Coast area elementary school children during March. This initiative will continue NBB's tradition of merging academics with the performing arts as well as introducing young learners to the artistry of ballet. Students will have the opportunity to join members of the NBB Youth Ballet on a journey through the Indian jungle and meet Mowgli, Bagheera, and Baloo as they discover that true friendship transcends all natural boundaries.

A special additional presentation of *The Jungle Book* will be performed for PACE Head Start children and their families. This magical evening will include an after-performance meet and greet and photo op with all the *Jungle Book* characters.

The New Bedford Youth Ballet is a company of the New Bedford Ballet Foundation, Inc. Founded in 1987, the Foundation is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote and present classical ballets, grant scholarships, and educate the community in the beauty of this performing art. Aided by the financial support of the Foundation, thousands of area school children and senior citizens have had the opportunity to

participate in the performing arts.

Tickets: Adults \$12; Seniors, Students, Children (2 to 12) \$7

For more information, call the New Bedford Ballet at 508-993-1387 or visit our website www.newbedfordballet.org.



Ava Kocera-Kasem (New Bedford), Camila Paraskeva (Marion), Olivia Quintin (Fairhaven), Elizabeth Santos (New Bedford), Natalie Mitchell (New Bedford), Clara Bonney (Marion), Eva Politano (New Bedford), Front: Abbey Grundy (New Bedford), Sofia Montez (Dartmouth), John-nae Sylvia (New Bedford), Madeleine Hunt (Mattapoisett)

See more photos:
<https://www.newbedfordballet.org/press-releases>

Massachusetts State Police brighten Gabby's day as she fights courageous battle against Neuroblastoma

"Massachusetts State Police Trooper Pat McNamara, paid a birthday visit to Gabby. Gabby has been fighting a courageous battle against Neuroblastoma. Gabby's dad, Mike, is a trainee at the State Police Academy's 85th Recruit Training Troop and has his hands full with the live in academy in New Braintree.

In hopes of lightening Gabby's spirits, show support for a potential new member, VP McNamara decided to bring some gifts, courtesy of State Police Association of Massachusetts. Gabby's infectious smile tells us all we need to know; she's a fighter and a strong and loving child. We at SPAM wish Gabby, her family, and the trainee, Mike, the best of luck in the coming weeks and years.

While not officially part of the MSP or SPAM yet, we are here to support the Atton family as they battle this terrible disease. We are all behind you Gabby, stay strong, and we are glad Trooper McNamara stopped by to hopefully brighten your day.

There is an active GoFundMe campaign to assist the Atton family offset the costs associated with battling this terrible disease. If you can, please help them and ease the burden.
<https://www.gofundme.com/f/gabbys-fight-to-beat-cancer>

You can find more information on Gabby's battle on her Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/GabbyAttonStrong/>

#GabbyStrong"





**Auburn Police and
Massachusetts State Police**

support the Special Olympics at regional qualifier

"Special Olympics is the world's largest sports organization for children and adults with intellectual disabilities and physical disabilities, providing year-round training and activities to 5 million participants and Unified Sports partners in 172 countries. Special Olympics competitions are held every day, all around the world." -Wikipedia.

"On Sunday members of the Massachusetts State Police Troop C Community Action Team (Troopers Moran, Hall, and Bertozzi) joined Auburn Police at the Special Olympics Regional Qualifier at Auburn Bowling. Thank you for having us!"

Massachusetts State Police photos.

