

Day of Portugal in New Bedford kicks off on June 14

This year we will celebrate the 21st year of the Day of Portugal, Camões and the Portuguese Communities on June 14, 15, 16 and 17.

Thursday, June 14 will be the raising of the flag in front of City Hall at 6:30 P.M. The program includes students from the Discovery Language Academy and the Children's Folkloric group who will perform in front of City Hall and the Whaling Museum.

The Whaling Museum will have an exhibit for the Day of Portugal Month on the life of Aristides de Sousa Mendes, a Portuguese diplomat stationed in Bordeaux in the late 1930s who issued tens of thousands of visas to Jewish families, in direct violation of anti-Jewish laws. A reception will follow with traditional Portuguese "Comes e Bebes" and entertainment.

Friday, June 15, opening ceremonies on Acushnet Ave. starting with a blessing from the Pastor Father Octavio Cortez of Saint Anthony's Church at 6:30 PM. St Anthony of Padua Feast is being celebrated simultaneously with the Day of Portugal festivities.

Feast closes at 12:00 AM on Friday. Local and Azorean artisans will be present with their works.

Saturday, June 16 starting at 9:00 A.M. there will be a Youth 10 Soccer Tournament, at Riverside Park. Feast opens at 1:00 PM with a variety of entertainment including folkloric groups, Eratoxica, Capitalistas, Ilhas de Bruma and much more. Feast closes at 12:00 AM

Sunday, June 17, the feast continues with entertainment, multiple folkloric groups. Feast closes at 10:00 PM

June 17 is Father's Day so treat DAD to a feast and entertainment.