

Boston Police arrest one for failure to adhere to Social Distancing Protocols; additional gun charges

“At about 12:48pm, on Tuesday, May 5, 2020, officers from District C-11 (Dorchester) responded to a call for a fight involving a person in possession of a firearm in the area of 569 Washington Street (Citizens Bank).

On arrival, officers spoke with the victims who stated that they were in line outside the bank when a verbal altercation bubbled up between another customer in line who refused to adhere to the recommended social distancing protocols. When asked to move away, the male suspect refusing to practice social distancing and adhere to the line restrictions, brandished a firearm and pointed it in the direction of the victims. Before police arrived, the male suspect and a female accomplice jumped into a motor vehicle and fled the scene.

After a description of the motor vehicle was broadcast over the police radio, officers were able to observe and stop the suspect’s car in the area of 94 Whitfield Street. Given the presence of a firearm, both suspects were ordered to exit the vehicle. After the occupants were removed from the car, a search of the vehicle enabled officers to see and seize a loaded Bersa .380 semi-automatic firearm (see photo).

Officers arrested Ricardio Pantojas, 40, of Boston and charged him with the Unlawful Possession of a Firearm, Unlawful Possession of Ammunition, Carrying a Loaded Firearm on a Public Way and Assault and Battery by Means of a Dangerous Weapon (Gun).”-Boston Police Department.

Massachusetts State Police response to trespassers report leads to gun and narcotics charges

Just before 1 a.m. Sunday, Trooper Brian Donaghey, assigned to the State Police-Boston Barracks, was conducting a security check of critical infrastructure at a Massachusetts Water Resources Authority facility on Memorial Drive in Cambridge when he encountered two trespassers in a motor vehicle in the parking lot.

Trooper Donaghey determined that the operator of the gray 2004 Toyota Camry was unlicensed, and had him exit the vehicle. When he did so, he observed a prescription bottle on the floor of the car; the bottle's sticker had been ripped off.

The Trooper subsequently determined that the bottle contained a large number of Percocet pills, for which the man did not have a prescription. After a further search of the vehicle Trooper Donaghey recovered a loaded, unlicensed Ruger Prescott LC9 9 millimeter handgun.

The operator, CARLOS GARCIA-PAREJO, 22, of Cambridge, was arrested for possession of an unlicensed handgun and possession of a Class B substance.

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!

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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.

Massachusetts State Police Trooper delivers his own baby boy while on-duty

“On Friday, April 17 just after 9 p.m., Trooper George D’Amelio, assigned to State Police-Brookfield, received a call while he was on duty that his wife believed she was going into labor with their unborn child.

He immediately left and returned home to find his wife was in active labor then quickly loaded into their personal vehicle to head to a hospital in New Hampshire. While en route the unthinkable happened! Trooper D'Amelio had to pull his car over on a major highway in Bedford, N.H. and deliver his own baby boy.

We want to thank Troopers Mark Dore and Brad Pierson of the New Hampshire State Police, along with members of the Bedford, N.H. Fire Department, who assisted Trooper D'Amelio in the delivering of his child.

Congratulations Christine and George! Baby Jackson "Jack" D'Amelio is doing great. What a little Trooper!"-Massachusetts State Police.

UMass Dartmouth professor featured in National Science Foundation virtual showcase

UMass Dartmouth Associate Professor Shakhnoza Kayumova, who teaches in the STEM Education & Teacher Development department, will be featured in the 2020 STEM for All Video Showcase funded by the National Science Foundation. The event will be held online on May 5-12 and can be found on the STEM for All website.

The presentation, entitled "STEAM Your Way 2 College", looks at the partnership between the New Bedford and Fall River Public School Districts and the design of a longitudinal, robust science program that explicitly positions emergent bilingual/multilingual students (whose home and community

language is other than English) as cognitively advantaged in science learning. The study looked at how this contributed to the students' positive science and language identity development. This is the first year Kayumova has participated in this event and her presentation can be found here. The project was funded by the National Science Foundation.

"This study shows the importance of an anti-deficit approach towards teaching and learning science and how cultural and linguistic diversity of students' identity backgrounds serve as strengths in their science engagement," says Associate Professor Shakhnoza Kayumova, STEM Education & Teacher Development department at UMass Dartmouth.

Now in its sixth year, the annual showcase will feature over 170 innovative projects aimed at improving STEM learning and teaching, which have been funded by the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies. During the week-long event, researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and members of the public are invited to view the short videos, discuss them with the presenters online, and vote for their favorites.

The theme for this year's event is "Learning from Research and Practice." Video presentations address improving K-12 STEM classrooms, informal environments, undergraduate and graduate education, teacher professional development, and community engagement. Collectively the presentations cover a broad range of topics including science, mathematics, computer science, engineering, cyberlearning, citizen science, maker spaces, broadening participation, research experiences, mentoring, professional development, NGSS, and the Common Core.

Last year's STEM for All Video Showcase is still being accessed, and to date has had over 76,000 unique visitors from 181 countries. The STEM for All Video Showcase is hosted by TERC, in partnership with: STEMTLnet, CADRE, CAISE, CIRCL, STELAR, CS for All Teachers, NARST, NCTM, NSTA, NSF INCLUDES, and QEM. The Showcase is funded by a grant from the National

New Bedford Census Help Centers accessible by phone

While there have been many changes during the COVID-19 state of emergency, the importance of filling out the 2020 Census remains a top priority to ensure New Bedford is counted in the federal census.

The New Bedford Census Help Centers have gone virtual, and will now be accessible by phone, so that city residents can still receive support and assistance if they need help filling out their census forms.

By filling out the census and including everyone in their household, residents ensure their city receives the money and resources the city deserves for the health care system, schools, public safety, roads and bridges and so many other elements that make New Bedford strong.

With in-person Census Help Centers closed for the time being, help is still available by phone. Anyone who needs help with or has questions about their census forms may call the following centers at the times listed:

- CEDC – 508-979-4684 : Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Council on Aging – 508-961-3100: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Immigrants' Assistance Center – 508-996-8113: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- New Bedford Public Schools – 508-997-4511 ext. 14601: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- New Bedford Public Library – 508-991-6275: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- YWCA – 508-525-6517: Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The New Bedford Census 2020 Complete Count Committee is also making direct outreach phone calls to city residents to remind them of the importance of the census. These calls are made only to encourage you to fill out the census. Residents will NOT be asked to provide any personal details, including Social Security numbers or financial information such as credit card numbers. Residents should NEVER provide this information to anyone on the phone.

More information about the 2020 Census and New Bedford Counts, the City's 2020 Census effort, is available at www.newbedford-ma.gov/census.

Massachusetts State Troopers respond to Rt. 93 Boston accident; deploy defibrillator

According to MSP, Massachusetts State Troopers Joe Cordes, Miguel McGovern, and Joe Page, all from the Ted Williams Tunnel Barracks, responded to a crash on Route 93 southbound in Boston last night. They found the operator unresponsive behind the wheel and had to break the window and remove him from the vehicle,

Finding no pulse and suspecting that the man was suffering from a medical condition that led to the crash, the Troopers

began CPR and deployed their issued Automatic External Defibrillator.

As the Troopers awaited the arrival of emergency medical personnel, they were joined by the hero of the Day, Alexa Sequira, an emergency room nurse at Winchester Hospital. Sequira was heading home after her own long day at work when she came upon the scene and stopped to assist the Troopers. Their combined efforts were successful, as they were able to revive the man and assist in his transport to Boston Medical Center.

The man was awake and alert at the hospital and is expected to make a full recovery.

New Bedford Creative awards 3rd EyE Unlimited first-ever “Art is Everywhere” grant

New Bedford Creative has awarded 3rd EyE Unlimited and partners the first-ever Art is Everywhere grant program as part of a pilot to accelerate arts-based economic development in New Bedford. The award includes \$50,000 to create and implement “Your New Bedford,” a project that deepens connections between neighborhoods and downtown, builds partnerships between cultural organizations and community groups, and strengthens the creative economy and arts ecosystem. The grant program is made possible with funding from MassDevelopment and the Barr Foundation.

3rd EyE Unlimited’s project for the Art is Everywhere Grant, “Your New Bedford,” intends to demonstrate that the New

Bedford arts scene is more than its rich whaling and abolitionist histories – it is also a hothouse for inclusive and cutting-edge youth-oriented culture. Each “Your New Bedford” event will be designed in collaboration with community partners who are attuned to the needs and resources of local residents, and will feature music, dance and movement, visual arts and education, and a “community corner” – a time for dialogue about local needs and challenges.

Responding directly to COVID-19 impacts on the arts and the New Bedford community more broadly, 3rd EyE Unlimited has retooled and reimagined the original “Your New Bedford” six-part monthly program series in several ways. The group is shifting from neighborhood-based pop-up events in community settings to an interactive virtual format, providing paying work for local artists whose incomes have been directly affected by the pandemic, diversifying artist revenue generation strategies, and addressing the social isolation felt by many residents at this time.

“3rd EyE Unlimited is honored and humbled to be the recipient of this first Art is Everywhere grant,” said Keri Cox, President of 3rd EyE Unlimited. “During the 20-plus years of 3rd EyE’s existence, we have witnessed and lived through many changes in our city and the diverse communities that comprise it. Our mission since our founding has been to shed light on the vibrant cultural expressions that often go unrecognized, and particularly those of young people who will play a key role in reshaping and reimagining the New Bedford of the future, which is especially relevant now during and after the pandemic.”

“A thriving community is more than just what’s seen on the surface, it’s also what is not immediately visible,” said Your New Bedford’s Project Director Peter Lonelle Walker. “The New Bedford that visitors see, particularly in our revitalized historic downtown, is fueled by the influence, expression and culture of the communities and neighborhoods that lie outside

the tourist map. It's harder to connect right now, and our goal is to create a platform that empowers and showcases our communities and neighborhoods, celebrating the contributions we and our neighbors have made and will continue to make."

3rd EyE Unlimited and Community Partners Build Bridges

3rd EyE Unlimited is known for their signature annual creative arts festival in downtown New Bedford, the 3rd EyE Open, an effort to build bridges between the neighborhoods and downtown, and between young people and the business sectors. Their project "Your New Bedford" includes a core team of artists who will collaborate with a dedicated roster of community partners. This team includes dancers Terrence Bboy Swift-T Mills, Amanda Eyssallenne, and Tatiana "Tati" Morales, arts educator Samia Walker, artist Mandy Fraser, photographer and performer Darnel Staley, writer and public speaker Tyson Moultrie, and music producer Peter Lonelle Walker.

Barr Foundation and MassDevelopment Collaborate in Gateway Cities

In late 2019, the Barr Foundation awarded a \$500,000 grant to MassDevelopment to create new arts-based programming for Gateway Cities through its Transformative Development Initiative.

MassDevelopment is using a portion of those funds to support a yearlong planning phase in New Bedford with key community partners to create a strategy for enhancing the local arts and culture infrastructure as a mechanism for supporting economic growth. The Art is Everywhere grant program is one component of this multitiered planning phase.

The local team working in partnership with MassDevelopment and the Barr Foundation includes the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts, the Co-Creative Center, New Bedford Creative, and New Bedford Economic Development Council. As a program for Gateway Cities, the Transformative

Development Initiative has been working to respond to the economic impacts of COVID-19 in these communities, especially with respect to vulnerable businesses, including artists, that are losing income during this challenging time.

In January 2020, the Art is Everywhere grant opportunity was announced, with applications due February 21. Once the pandemic arrived, the review committee decided to move forward with the call for proposals providing the winning entrant could demonstrate how its project would help support artists and the arts community during this difficult stage.

In addition to the cash award made possible by MassDevelopment and the Barr Foundation, 3rd Eye Unlimited will receive a one-year membership to the Co-Creative Center, the opportunity to participate in professional development training organized by the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts's Creative Commonwealth Initiative, New Bedford Creative, and New Bedford Economic Development Council, and limited technical assistance from MassDevelopment as needed to help with project implementation.