New Bedford police announce parking ban for Portuguese Feast parade route on Aug. 4

The Traffic Division of the New Bedford Police Department announced that the annual Feast of the Blessed Sacrament parade will be held on Sunday, August 4, 2019.

The parade will form at Brooklawn Park and will step off sharply at 2:00 pm from Brooklawn Street and Acushnet Avenue. The following is the route:

- South on Acushnet Avenue to Earle Street
- East on Earle Street to Madeira Avenue
- North on Madeira Avenue into the feast grounds

A PARKING BAN will be in effect along the entire route, including Tinkham Street between Madeira Avenue and Hope Street, and Hope Street between Tinkham Street and Nash Road. This PARKING BAN will be strictly enforced, including the towing of vehicles if necessary.

The public is once again asked for their cooperation in order to ensure another safe and successful parade.

New Bedford Southcoast Open Air Market combines farm-

fresh local produce and meats, handmade goods, handcrafted foods, and live music, July 20

The Southcoast Open Air Market's goal is to provide a gathering point for our town and surrounding communities, centered around everything fresh, local, and handmade. We feature a rotating selection of handmade goods, handcrafted foods, fresh produce and meats, and live and local music. Come check us out on July 20th at the Custom House Square from 10:00am-3:00pm!

See a photo gallery that shows the amazing variety of produce, artisans, and more.

Custom House Square

21 Barkers Lane, New Bedford, Massachusetts

Website: southcoastopenairmarket.com/

Facebook: facebook.com/SouthcoastOpenAirMarket/

Facebook Event Page: facebook.com/events/641939862996065/



Shakespeare's Romantic Comedy, "Much Ado About Nothing," Set to Tour South Coast

How much Shakespeare is too much Shakespeare? Is there such a thing? In the opinion of Midsummer Shakespeare and The Glass Horse Project's Shakespeare in NB, the answer is a resounding no! Which is why both companies have come together to join forces and co-produce a regional tour of Shakespeare's beloved romantic comedy, Much Ado About Nothing.

Much Ado tells the story of Beatrice and Benedick,

contemporaries evenly matched in a war of wits, who are tricked into admitting their love for each other by well-meaning friends. However, the two are put to the test when Beatrice's cousin Hero becomes the pawn in a revenge scheme by the jealous Don John. In true Shakespearean fashion, hijinks ensue as the characters work to come to a resolution that is both heartfelt and hilarious.

Such schemes and antics may sound dated, but this production of Much Ado is set in 2019 and takes place on a yacht club overlooking the water, a locale that may be both familiar to the audience and fresh to Shakespeare's text (which remains largely intact with only minor changes to clarify the language for modern audiences). "In modern day society, we can so often overlook Shakespeare as uninteresting or unfamiliar due to its age. By revamping this production with elements from our own time period, we are invigorating his work in a way that attracts new audiences," adds production director Maura Van Voris.

Inhabiting the country club set Much Ado is Jess Wilson as Beatrice, Nate Punches as Benedick, Kate Martin as Leonata, Sue Salvesen as Antonia, Allison Dukes as Donna Petra, Bill Levasseur as Don John, Michael Cabral as Claudio, Riley Fortin as Hero, Leeandra Booth as Margaret, Palmer Biddle as Borachio, Jordan Smith as Conrade/Messenger, Kerri Lamothe as Mother Frances/Sexton, Taylor K. Corbett as Dogberry, Korey J. Pimental as Verges, Cody Salvesen as First Watch/Ensemble and Juliana Bianchi as Second Watch/Ensemble

The cast of sixteen work together to create the fictional yacht club on stage that marks another instance of "audience-friendly Shakespeare" for the Southcoast, a common core that both Midsummer Shakespeare and Shakespeare in NB hold dear. The production will run approximately 90 minutes and all performances are free to attend. Donations will be gratefully accepted at all shows.

In past years, Midsummer Shakespeare has run for a full month in Onset, sponsored in part by the Onset Bay Association, and has also toured their productions to Mashpee. The company's core mission has been producing high-quality productions that make both Shakespeare and theatrical performances accessible to the community, including a partnership with WCTV in Wareham that allows their productions to be livestreamed and replayed on local cable. Helmed currently by executive producers Bobby Genereau, Melissa Masi Genereau, and Jess Wilson, Midsummer Shakespeare is excited to be celebrating their seventh season by partnering with Shakespeare in NB.

Shakespeare in NB began in summer 2017 with a dystopian, matriarchal Romeo & Juliet and in 2018 produced a femalecentered Macbeth. Both organizations seek to break the barriers with Shakespeare and show his works' continued relevance in theatre, literature, and day-to-day life. Says Korey Pimental, of Shakespeare in NB: "I'm so excited to be co-producing this show with Midsummer Shakespeare because I've never seen a production of Shakespeare so rooted in the region that the audience will recognize it right away. It feels special!" Midsummer Shakespeare's Jess Wilson agrees, adding "Shakespeare's works have endured through the centuries because his stories and characters are timeless. They continue to be relevant today, and it's our hope that by setting this production in modern times while leaving the original language, audiences will both enjoy the story and realize that Shakespeare can be timely and fun."

Much Ado About Nothing will tour the Southcoast region for three weekends this summer! The tour kicks off at the Lillian Gregerman Bandshell in Onset July 26-28 at 6:30pm each night. The following weekend, the production will perform on August 3rd on the steps of Fairhaven Town Hall for two shows (1 and 5pm) and on August 4th, the production moves to Shipyard Park in Mattapoisett (at the gazebo) for a 1pm matinee performance. On August 9 and 10, the production travels to Wings Court in

New Bedford for 2 shows on Saturday (1pm and 5pm) and a Sunday matinee at 1pm. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets, and refreshments to productions. New dates are still being announced, and all shows are weather permitting (some dates do have rain locations); please see their Facebook pages for the latest information and full details of all performances. As always, all shows are free and open to all; donations will be gratefully accepted after all performances.

Much Ado About Nothing was in part funded by grants from the New Bedford, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, and Mattapoisett Cultural Councils, local agencies supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Concert on New Bedford Pier scheduled for this evening canceled

The Summer Sound Series concert scheduled tonight, Friday, July 12, on Pier 3, has been canceled due to a forecast of inclement weather.

The Summer Sound Series will continue with its next free concert on Friday, July 19, on Pier 3.

Summer Sound Series consists of seven waterfront concerts, weather permitting. The first concert of the series was Friday, July 5. Remaining concert dates, also Fridays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., are: July 12, July 19, July 26, August 2 and August 9.

"Our summer concerts have become more and more popular since

we launched them in 2013, attracting hundreds of area residents to the waterfront on Friday evenings," said Mayor Jon Mitchell. "The concerts are a great way to spend time with family and friends in downtown New Bedford, enjoy the dining and culture of our city and enjoy great music for free. We invite everyone to the New Bedford waterfront for this year's concert series."

Parking is available at Elm Street Garage within walking distance of City Pier 3.

Supporting Sponsors include Freitas Package Store, Miller Lite, Colonial Wholesale Beverage, Cape Air, Canned Heat Craft Beer Co., Manny and Diane Pina and Empire Ford of New Bedford.

The public is invited to bring chairs and enjoy front row seating to performances by the following bands:

July 19: Harmony (Cape Verdean/Creole and American music)

July 26: Perfect Example (Old-school soul and R&B)

August 2: Home Brewed (Classic, new country, Americana, rock & roll, oldies)

August 9: Hipshot (Dance music, then and now)

The city will also host an end-of-summer movie night of "see-worthy' family fun Friday, Aug. 23 at Custom House Square in downtown New Bedford.

Bring your own chair or blanket. Snacks will be available for purchase.

From Stage to Screen: Taylor

Schilling, Star of the Hit Show Orange is the New Black, to be Honored by New Bedford Festival Theatre

New Bedford Festival Theatre is proud to host acclaimed actress Taylor Schilling as its Guest of Honor this July, for a special visit to the City of New Bedford.

In addition to recognizing Ms. Schilling for her outstanding success in the arts, her presence also adds to the excitement and celebration of the company's 30th anniversary year. Best known for her leading role as Piper Chapman in the hit TV show Orange is the New Black, Ms. Schilling has received both a nomination for the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series as well as two Golden Globe Award nominations for Best Actress in a Television Series Musical or Comedy and Best

Actress in a Television Series Drama. Film credits include: "The Lucky One," "The Overnight," "The Public," "Take Me" and "FAMILY."

On the evening of July 20, Ms. Schilling will attend the company's summer production of Mamma Mia, followed by a special ticketed reception where the community can meet the actress in person. This event will take place Saturday, July 20th, from 9:30 PM to 10:30 PM at the Penler Space which adjoins the Zeiterion Theatre located at 684 Purchase Street, New Bedford. Attendees will have a chance to meet Ms. Schilling, plus enjoy a cash bar and light hors d'oeuvres.

Tickets may be purchased for \$40. Attendance is limited and tickets are anticipated to sell out quickly. To purchase tickets, visit taylorschilling.eventbrite.com.



New Bedford blood drive set for July 27

A blood drive will be held on Saturday, July 27th from 10 am - 3pm at Empire Ford of New Bedford at 395 Mt. Pleasant Street.

Help Empire Ford of New Bedford meet the needs of the seriously ill and injured. Every day in the U.S. roughly 41,000 blood donations are needed. Every donation will help save 3 lives! Blood products are essential for the treatment of accident victims, surgical and sickle cell disease patients, those receiving cancer treatments, premature babies and others. Every day in the US roughly 41,000 donations are needed. That means nearly every two seconds someone needs blood.

Please PRE-REGISTER Today:

- 1. Call Empire Ford at 508-996-5611, ext. 6118
- 2. Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
- 3. Go to redcrossblood.org
- 4. Download the Blood Donor app

The event will be held at Empire Ford of New Bedford, located at 395 Mt. Pleasant St., New Bedford. For more information, visit our website: https://www.empirefordofnewbedford.com/blood-drive.htm or visit our Facebook Event at: https://www.facebook.com/events/2236051289840870/

VIDEO: New Bedford's Cape Verdean parade highlights

Highlights from the 2019 New Bedford Cape Verdean Recognition parade held on Saturday, July 6, 2019.

VIDEO: Fife and Drum Corp at New Bedford's Cape Verdean parade

Here's a look at the revolutionary eve Fife and Drum Corp at Saturday's Cape Verdean Recognition parade in downtown New Bedford.

47th Annual Cape Verdean Recognition Parade set for July 6

The 47th Annual Cape Verdean Recognition Parade will be held on Saturday, July 6, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. The parade starting point will be Rockdale Avenue and Union Street at Buttonwood Park.

Please note the parade route as it has changed from last year's route.

The parade route is as follows:

East on Union Street, then south on Acushnet Avenue, turning west on Grinnell Street, then turning north on Purchase Street.

The parade will end at the reviewing stand located at the Cape Verdean-American Veterans' Memorial Hall, 561 Purchase Street.

Free summer concerts, movie nights coming to New Bedford in July, August

Mayor Jon Mitchell announced that the City will host the annual series of summer concerts on the New Bedford waterfront

during July and August of this year. The Summer Sound Series will feature live musical entertainment on Pier 3 in Downtown New Bedford's Seaport Cultural District. Residents and visitors will dance to live music, enjoy beverages available for purchase and relax along New Bedford's beautiful working waterfront.

The City will also sponsor a free summer movie night at Custom House Square.

Summer Sound Series will consist of seven waterfront concerts, weather permitting. The first concert of the series will be Friday, July 5 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Remaining concert dates, also Fridays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., are: July 12, July 19, July 26, August 2 and August 9.

"Our summer concerts have become more and more popular since we launched them in 2013, attracting hundreds of area residents to the waterfront on Friday evenings,'' said Mayor Jon Mitchell. "The concerts are a great way to spend time with family and friends in downtown New Bedford, enjoy the dining and culture of our city and enjoy great music for free. We invite everyone to the New Bedford waterfront for this year's concert series.''

Parking is available at Elm Street Garage within walking distance of City Pier 3.

Supporting Sponsors include Freitas Package Store, Miller Lite, Colonial Wholesale Beverage, Cape Air, Canned Heat Craft Beer Co., Manny and Diane Pina and Empire Ford of New Bedford.

The public is invited to bring chairs and enjoy front row seating to performances by the following bands:

July 5: Word Premier Band (90s and today's funk, dance, originals, R&B)

July 12: Beat Salad (Funk, blues, soul and rock)

July 19: Harmony (Cape Verdean/Creole and American music)

July 26: Perfect Example (Old-school soul and R&B)

August 2: Home Brewed (Classic, new country, Americana, rock & roll, oldies)

August 9: Hipshot (Dance music, then and now)

The city will also host an end-of-summer movie night of "see-worthy' family fun Friday, Aug. 23 at Custom House Square in downtown New Bedford.

Bring your own chair or blanket. Snacks will be available for purchase.

Two films will be shown:

At 7:30 p.m., "Hotel Transylvania 3- Family Vacation'' At 9:30 p.m., "Instant Family''

This is just a small sampling of fun events scheduled this summer. Destination New Bedford has compiled a new 2019 summer events digital guide with a comprehensive look at summer happenings. For more information, visit www.destinationnewbedford.org.