

“A Call to Arms” The Life of a Civil War Soldier on Saturday, August 8



A Call to Arms!

Join Ruth and Abby, the national park's 1850s ladies and Civil War reenactor Mark Mello, for a day of insight into the life of a Civil War soldier on Saturday, August 8, from 11:00 AM-3:00 PM. View artifacts, uniforms and weaponry, as well as a diorama of the battle of the Gettysburg. This free event will take place in the park garden. In case of inclement weather it will be moved indoors.

AG Healey, Mayor Mitchell

tour renovated abandoned house and visit upgraded Harrington Park



Strategic Investments Improve Quality of Life in New Bedford Neighborhood.

Highlighting work recently completed by the City of New Bedford as part of its ongoing effort to stabilize neighborhoods in the wake of the national foreclosure crisis, today Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey and New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell toured a previously abandoned—now newly renovated—house. The single-family home at 36 Liberty Street is located directly across the street from Harrington Park, which has similarly undergone significant renovation work this year.

“These projects are clear examples of our commitment to making strategic investments in New Bedford’s neighborhoods to preserve and improve the quality of life available to our residents. Everyone wins when a neighborhood becomes a more

inviting place to live and raise a family,” said Mayor Jon Mitchell. “I want to thank all of the partners who worked on these projects to make them successful, particularly Attorney General Maura Healy and her staff as well as the City of New Bedford Office of Housing and Community Development under the leadership of Patrick Sullivan,” the Mayor continued.

“Abandoned properties are public safety hazards, affect local property values and can hinder future residential and economic development,” said Attorney General Maura Healey. “Through this partnership between the City of New Bedford and our Abandoned Housing Initiative, this previously blighted property has been rehabilitated and can soon become a home. We thank Mayor Mitchell, the receiver, and our other partners for their efforts to revitalize this neighborhood. We will continue to work with communities across the state to address the detrimental effects of the foreclosure crisis by stabilizing neighborhoods through this initiative.”

The City received \$200,000 in grant funds through the “Our Common Backyards Program” from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs and invested \$100,000 in Community Development Block (CDBG) funds to make substantial upgrades to Harrington Park. The park is located in New Bedford’s west end behind Hathaway School and is bordered by Court, Liberty, Tremont and Morgan Streets. Upgrades include the installation of two new basketball courts, a water play area featuring a new splash pad, as well as many site amenities, such as new walkways, benches, fencing, trees, security cameras and lighting.



“Abandoned properties are public safety hazards, affect local property values and can hinder future residential and economic development,” said Attorney General Maura Healey.

The park design was created through several community meetings at Hathaway School this past fall coordinated by the Department of Planning, Housing and Community Development and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Beaches. Residents provided important input for the park project including for the water play design and features. PA Landers completed the construction required at the park. The City Department of Public Infrastructure worked on infrastructure improvements to the water and drainage systems.

The single-family home at 36 Liberty Street, just across the street from Harrington Park, had been abandoned for several years when it was identified through the Receivership Program. The Receivership Program is a collaborative effort through which the City of New Bedford and the Attorney General’s Office target vacant and abandoned properties and promote their restoration and return to productive reuse. Through the efforts of the Attorney General’s Office, non-profit community

development corporation, The Resource, for Community and Economic Development, Inc. (TRI) was named the "Receiver" of the property. The receivership process enabled TRI to rehabilitate the property utilizing funding from the Attorney General's Abandoned Housing Initiative Program, federal HOME funds from the City of New Bedford and a loan from Massachusetts Housing Investment Corporation (MHIC).

As a result of these efforts, the Liberty Street house is now a home ownership opportunity for a first-time homebuyer, one of several that has been initiated by the City. The house contains approximately 1,300 square feet of living space with three (3) bedrooms and one and a half ($1\frac{1}{2}$) baths. Renovations include new roofing and siding, insulation, energy efficient windows, new kitchen and bathrooms with energy efficient appliances, fixtures, and a new energy efficient heating system. The property is being offered to income eligible first time homebuyers through a lottery at a purchase price of \$166,900.

Local lenders through the Fall River/ New Bedford Housing Partnership will pre-approve potential buyers during a 30-day lottery period beginning in August, through the MassHousing "Buy New Bedford" Program. All pre-approved applicants will be entered into a lottery drawing to be eligible to purchase the home. The buyers will be required to complete a homebuyer counseling class, a requirement of the City's First Time Home Buyers Program and MassHousing.

The City of New Bedford's Department of Planning, Housing & Community Development will contribute 5% of the purchase price to assist the buyers with a down payment and closing costs and will provide gap financing assistance through the "Neighborhoods First" Homebuyer Program.

For more information about these projects or available First Time Home Buyer programs, contact the City of New Bedford Department of Planning, Housing and Community Development at

(508) 979-1500 or visit the City's website
www.newbedford-ma.gov.

Homicide Investigation Underway in New Bedford

New Bedford Police, State Police Detectives assigned to this office and Homicide Unit Prosecutors are actively investigating a homicide, which occurred early this morning in The City of New Bedford.

The city's Shot Spotter gun shot detection system notified police of shots fired near the intersection of Acushnet Avenue and Blackmer Street around 1:37 a.m. Sunday. When first responders arrived in the area minutes later, they found the victim lying deceased in the street at the intersection.

The victim, a 24-year-old New Bedford man, was declared deceased at the scene. The state Medical Examiner's Office has taken custody of the victim and will conduct an autopsy.

Police and Prosecutors immediately began conducting an active homicide investigation.

As of this moment, one individual has been arrested in connection with this ongoing investigation. Michael Sousa, 22, of 49 Acushnet Avenue, was charged shortly after 7 a.m. today with the obstruction of justice portion of the witness intimidation statute after allegedly misleading and obstructing investigators when he was questioned this morning at the New Bedford Police Station.

As the investigation remains extremely active and ongoing, no further information can be released at this time. Once this office confirms the victim's next of kin have been notified of his death, we will send out a follow up advisory identifying him.

If anyone has any information regarding this case, they are urged to contact New Bedford Police at 508-961-6300 or to utilize the department's anonymous tip line by calling 508-961-4584.

State Police sobriety checkpoint scheduled for Suffolk County



Thanks to a grant provided by the Highway Safety Division of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety & Security.

Colonel Richard D. McKeon, Superintendent of the Massachusetts

State Police, announced that a “Sobriety Checkpoint” will be implemented by the Massachusetts State Police on a Public Way in the Suffolk County. The purpose is to further educate the motoring public and strengthen the public’s awareness to the need of detecting and removing those motorists who operate under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs from our roadways. It will be operated during varied hours, the selection of vehicles will not be arbitrary, safety will be assured, and any inconveniences to motorists will be minimized with advance notice to reduce fear and anxiety.

State Police Arrest Three in Westminster for Heroin Trafficking



Last night at about 11:20 p.m., following a motor vehicle stop on Route 2 West in Westminster, State Police arrested three men for trafficking in heroin.

Trooper Christopher Call observed the operator of a 2006 Chevrolet Malibu, which was traveling westbound, commit motor vehicle violations. Trooper Call stopped the vehicle and determined that the operator, EDWARD LOWER, 54, of Swanzey, New Hampshire had an outstanding arrest warrant out of Wrentham, Massachusetts District Court. Upon further investigation with assistance from Trooper Matthew Cesvette, more than two pounds of a substance believed to be heroin and approximately 16 grams of a substance believed to be cocaine was located in the vehicle.

LOWER and his two passengers, CHRISTOPHER FOSTER, 27, of Walpole, New Hampshire and JOSEPH MACHOWSKI, 27, of Brattleboro, Vermont were all placed under arrest on the following charges:

Trafficking in Heroin

Possession of a Class A Substance with Intent to Distribute

Possession of a Class A Substance with Intent to Distribute

LOWER was additionally charged with Speeding and Failing to Change Lanes for an Emergency Vehicle.

The three were booked at the State Police Barracks in Athol where they were held on \$20,000.00 bail pending their arraignment in Gardner District Court.

State Police Investigate Toll Collector Struck and Killed



A 2010 Toyota Tacoma, driven by a 31-year-old Charlton man had struck a toll collector.

Early this morning at approximately 12:04 a.m., troopers from the State Police Charlton Barracks responded to reports of a toll collector struck at interchange 10 of the Massachusetts Turnpike in Auburn. The toll collector, BILL PAPPAS, 61, from Holden, was reported to have serious injuries.

Upon arrival, troopers discovered that a 2010 Toyota Tacoma, driven by a 31-year-old Charlton man had struck a toll collector while exiting a EZ-Pass lane, as the toll collector was walking across the EZ-Pass lane. The driver of the Tacoma was not injured. The toll collector was transported to UMass Medical Center in Worcester by Auburn Fire/EMS Department, where he died a short time later, as a result of injuries sustained from the incident.

Three lanes were closed at the tolls during the incident. Due to the time of the incident, there was not a traffic backup.

The remaining facts and circumstances of the crash are currently under investigation by troopers from the State Police Charlton Barracks. State Police Crime Scene Services Section (CSSS), State Police Collision Analysis Reconstruction Section (CARS), State Police Troop E Headquarters, State Police Troop C Headquarters, Auburn Fire/EMS Department, and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation assisted at the

scene.

No further information is currently available. Please do not call the barracks directly.

Police seek help in identifying shoplifting suspect



Recognize this person? Call the Fairhaven

Police Department anonymously at 508-997-7421.

A male party shoplifted 6 boxes of Rogaine worth over \$300.00 from the Fairhaven CVS store just after 3:30 Monday afternoon. The suspect appears to be in his late twenties to early thirties with brown hair and a chinstrap brown beard. A picture from the store's video surveillance system is attached to this press release. If anyone can identify the suspect, or has information about this case, please notify Officer Andrew Quintin at the Fairhaven Police Department at 508-997-7421. Callers can remain anonymous.

Faces Of New Bedford – #09: Gildas Roberts

Meet Gildas Robert, a young creative from New Bedford.



Growing up in the city he has always been inspired by the remnants of the architecture from New Bedford past. He enjoys to be by the ocean and loves the sailing and fishing culture.

After a small stay at UMass Dartmouth studying English, he took a hiatus to truly find out what he desires to do the most. Feeling inclined to his passion for all things art, he is planning on entering into the CVPA program this upcoming fall.

"This city is so fascinating and I can't just stay at home, so I am always on the go. Once you find the things you love never let it go, stay positive, and don't ever give up."

Faces of New Bedford is a project by Colton Simmons. If you are interested in booking a shoot or getting prints from the series email all inquiries to colton@coltonsimmons.com

Follow Colton on Instagram:
<https://instagram.com/simmonscolton>

1850s ladies Host Fiber Day event on Saturday, August 1st



Ruth and Abby, the national park's 1850s ladies, invite you to come and "spin" a tale with them on Saturday, August 1, from 1:00-4:00 PM. Watch demonstrations of carding and spinning. Try your hand at these old time crafts. Free event. This free event, held in cooperation with the Rhode Island Spinners Guild, will take place in the park garden. In the event of inclement weather it will be moved indoors.

MA State Police Seeking Help in Solving Mansfield Shooting Incident

On July 23, 2015 at about 2:00 a.m., a marked state police cruiser was on patrol in the vicinity of Forbes Blvd and Route 140 in the town of Mansfield. The trooper heard a loud noise that came from behind his cruiser as he was approaching a traffic signal. He additionally saw a large amount of white smoke in the area of where he heard this noise, just several feet from his cruiser.

The trooper reversed direction and observed a white male wearing light colored clothing in the wood line. The man ran into the woods, heading in the direction of the Super Stop and Shop.

A search of the area where this man was positioned resulted in the discovery of a Thompson Triumph .50 caliber muzzleloader with a 28" Weather Shield coated barrel, a Redhead brand backpack and hunting cap. These items are believed to have been left by the man who fled into the woods.



An extensive search of the immediate area for the suspect was conducted by the State Police, Mansfield Police and Foxboro Police with negative results.

We are continuing to pursue investigative leads in this case. If anyone has any information related to this incident, please contact the State Police at 508-961-1928.



