

# **Massachusetts State Police Troopers, K-9, visit Catholic School in celebration of Black History Month**

“It was our distinct pleasure yesterday to join students, faculty, and staff from Saint John Paul II Catholic Academy’s Lower Mills Campus in Dorchester for a celebration of Black History Month.

Thirteen MSP Troopers – and Margaux, one of our community service dogs – visited the school for its Black Excellence and Leadership event. As these scenes show, the Troopers (and Margaux) were thrilled to make a lot of new friends!

Special thanks to Trooper Melinda Brown for organizing MSP’s participation in the event, and to the school for sharing these photos. The Massachusetts State Police are proud of the community partnerships, like this one with Saint John Paul II, that we work to nurture every day.”-Massachusetts State Police.

**All photos by the Massachusetts State Police:**























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# **New Bedford Police Department to host 2024 Civil Service**

# Prep Course

“Last week the NBPD participated in Massachusetts Maritime Academy’s career fair where we met some awesome students who had an interest in law enforcement!

We want to remind everyone that this Saturday, 2/24, the NBPD will be hosting a 2024 Civil Service Prep Course for the upcoming Exam in March. For more info or to sign up, email [trainingdivision@newbedfordpd.com](mailto:trainingdivision@newbedfordpd.com).”-City of New Bedford Police Department.

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## Day shelter for migrants and homeless families opens in Chelsea

By Alison Kuznitz  
State House News Service

A day shelter for migrants and homeless families is slated to open Tuesday at La Colaborativa, a Latina-led organization in Chelsea, to help accommodate people who are staying at the state’s overnight overflow shelter in Cambridge.

The new walk-in shelter, which will offer case management and wraparound services to up to 200 individuals daily, is funded through a \$5 million grant program launched by the Healey administration and the United Way of Massachusetts Bay. The shelter will operate five days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., United Way said as it announced its latest grant recipient late Friday.

“As we’re facing an unprecedented state of emergency, it’s critical that all residents have access to safe, dignified shelter, especially over the frigid winter months,” Gladys Vega, CEO of La Colaborativa, said in a statement. “Recognizing the countless lives at risk, we’re grateful to collaborate with the United Way and Healey-Driscoll Administration to deploy our unique, trauma-informed model of providing a culturally familiar, welcoming day center with comprehensive housing, economic, and wraparound services, which are vital to the wellbeing of homeless families.”

La Colaborativa will coordinate transportation to its new headquarters – 318 Broadway – for families being accommodated at the Cambridge overflow shelter, United Way said. The shelter will also support Chelsea community members.

The Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Building in east Cambridge, which the Healey administration opened in December amid a crush of new arrivals coming to Massachusetts, hosts families from 6 p.m. to 7 a.m., state officials previously said.

In Chelsea, case managers will support families in accessing economic, immigration and housing services, such as helping them obtain their work authorization permits and find employment opportunities. Case managers will also help connect people to public benefits, mental health services and other health care.

“A longstanding lifeline for immigrant populations and residents of Chelsea, these funds will expand and enhance the capacity of La Colaborativa to provide critical day services for families, expediting exits of families from shelter systems and helping to enable them to stabilize and contribute to our economy and communities as quickly as possible,” Bob Giannino, CEO of United Way of Massachusetts Bay, said.

United Way last week said it’s distributed \$3 million in



grants so far to support eight safety-net shelters that serve about 100 families per night. They're located in Greater Boston, as well as Worcester and Hampden counties.

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## **Massachusetts High School girls basketball team forfeits after biological male injures 3 players**

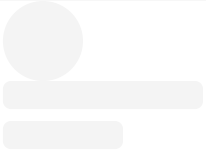
Social media is buzzing with controversy after a biological male playing on a girls basketball team in Massachusetts injured multiple girls on the opposing team. The Collegiate Charter School of Lowell girls basketball team quit after 16 minutes of play with KIPP Academy leading 31-14 at half time.

Once this story received national attention, the Collegiate Charter School of Lowell released a statement on the situation. In the press release they noted that they "support this decision and reiterates its values of both inclusivity and safety for all students."

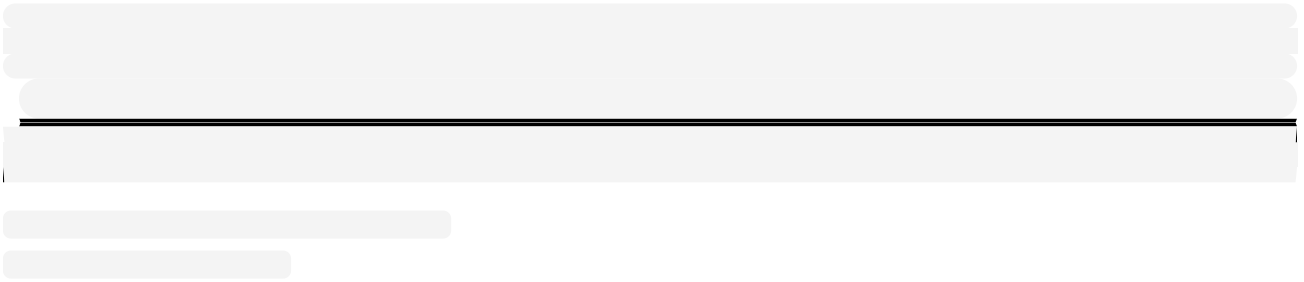
They also stated, "We take the standards set by the MIAA and our Board of Trustees seriously and strive to uphold them on and off the court. We also follow the guidance from the MIAA and state laws regarding equity and access for all student-athletes."

A video went viral showing one of the injuries involving the biological male during the game.





[View this post on Instagram](#)



A post shared by New Bedford Guide (@newbedfordguide)

# **“Women on the Water” at Massachusetts Maritime Acad. to feature tour of New Bedford Harbor, offshore wind**

“BUZZARDS BAY, MA, ISSUED FEBRUARY 20, 2024... As host in partnership with U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration (MARAD) of this year’s Women on the Water (WOW) Conference, Massachusetts Maritime Academy (MMA; [www.maritime.edu](http://www.maritime.edu)), a top-ranked public university with undergraduate degree programs focusing on science, engineering, technology, math, and business that blend academics and experiential learning, has planned a tour of the New Bedford Harbor for those registered to attend the February 29-March 2 event.

The off-site tour, scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 2, will transport participants from the Academy to the Cuttyhunk Ferry for a guided tour of the New Bedford Harbor, focusing on offshore wind, during which representatives from Clean Energy Center (CEC), the New Bedford Ocean Cluster (NBOC), and the New Bedford Port Authority will provide information about offshore wind and address the collaboration between private sector, public sector, and academic partners to establish New Bedford as the leading ocean economy on the East Coast.





*Massachusetts Maritime Academy photo.*

The tour is scheduled for the final day of the Women on the Water Conference, a summit that showcases the remarkable achievements of women in the maritime industry and highlights their essential contributions to the nation's maritime workforce. The conference features panel discussions, keynote speeches, mock interviews and networking events designed to prepare female cadets and maritime students for the ever-evolving maritime industry.

Women on the Water offers cadets an invaluable opportunity to learn from seasoned mariners, industry leaders and experts in maritime professional development. The conference's primary goal is to foster camaraderie and facilitate networking among peers.

Registration remains open for those wishing to attend the conference. To register, please visit <https://www.maritime.edu/wow>.

"The New Bedford Harbor tour will be the perfect culmination of the inspiring WOW Conference," said Rear Admiral Francis X. McDonald, USMS, president of the Massachusetts Maritime

Academy.”

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## **Thieves in one Massachusetts town break into more than 20 cars in one morning**

“Good morning, Sudbury Police fielded 20+ reports of car break-ins yesterday which appeared to have occurred in the early morning hours of February 18th, possibly late on February 17th in the Pine Lakes neighborhood off of Hudson Road.

Circumstances remain under investigation but anyone who may have camera footage during the hours of darkness depicting anything suspicious or may have seen something/someone out of the ordinary please contact the Sudbury Police Department at (978) 443-1042.

Sudbury is great community which often lulls residents into a false sense of security hence some do not feel the need to lock their vehicles and sometimes their houses. We implore all residents to ALWAYS secure your vehicles as well as your house! Although perpetrators are typically looking for unlocked vehicles, if high value items are left in plain sight this may entice one to forcibly gain entry.

Please do not leave valuables in your vehicles, particularly in plain sight! Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.”- Sudbury, MA Police Department.

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# **Groundbreaking moment for New Bedford's arts community: grant awards totaling \$509,200**

"NEW BEDFORD, MA – In a groundbreaking moment for the City's arts community, New Bedford Creative this week is announcing the release of 82 grant awards, totaling an unprecedented \$509,200.

This monumental grant allocation, the highest ever awarded to a broad cross-section of individual artists, purveyors of special events, and cultural non-profit organizations in New Bedford, marks a significant milestone in the recovery from the challenges posed by the pandemic. It also puts an exclamation point on the City's decades-long journey towards defining itself as a regional destination for arts and culture.

"New Bedford's arts and culture scene is thriving," Mayor Jon Mitchell said. "This significant investment in the arts is a testament to the artists' creativity and talent, as well as to the City's place as the center of a region rich in arts and culture offerings."

This substantial investment supports a diverse range of initiatives as proposed by a broad range of individual residents and arts and culture partners in New Bedford. Projects receiving funding in 2024 include 14 innovative Art is Everywhere! projects, 18 transformative Wicked Cool Places projects, and the empowering inclusion of 50 ARTnet artists. The breadth and depth of these grants reflect a commitment to



enriching the cultural fabric of New Bedford, making the arts more accessible and impactful than ever before.

“This grant program is not just a financial boost; it’s an investment in the vibrant arts community that defines New Bedford,” said Tony Sapienza, President of the New Bedford Economic Development Council (NBEDC). “These grants recognize the essential role of the arts in our recovery and reflect the dynamism culture brings to our local economy. We are witnessing a transformative moment that will resonate for years to come.”

You can see a full list of grant awards and summaries of individual projects [here](#). An independent Review Committee, representing a broad cross-section of community interests, scored grants for Wicked Cool Places and Art is Everywhere! ARTnet artists were selected based on eligibility.

Funding for this ambitious initiative is provided by the City of New Bedford, through American Rescue Plan awards, and its Arts, Culture and Tourism Fund. Additional support comes from the Barr Foundation, Bristol County Savings Bank, and Mass Cultural Council, reflecting a collaborative effort to fortify the cultural landscape of the city.

The grant recipients span a wide array of artistic disciplines and will contribute to making arts and culture in New Bedford richer, deeper, and more meaningful than ever before. These initiatives promise to engage diverse audiences, foster community connections, and stimulate economic growth, positioning New Bedford as a beacon for artistic innovation in Massachusetts for years to come.

ARTnet is an artist recovery and training network to help artists recover from the economic impacts of the pandemic by providing financial support, business planning support, training workshops, and access to a network of creative-entrepreneur peers.

Art is Everywhere! is a grant program that prioritizes creative solutions to expedite the recovery of the COVID-19 pandemic in New Bedford's neighborhoods. This grant was originally created in 2020 with funding by MassDevelopment's Transformative Development Initiative (TDI) and the Barr Foundation as one component of a broader "TDI Creative Cities" initiative to boost arts-based economic development.

Wicked Cool Places, a grant program for making or keeping a place where things are happening and people want to be, are for projects that involve and impact residents, visitors and/or businesses in New Bedford's neighborhoods. This grant was originally created in 2019 with funding by the City of New Bedford's Arts, Culture and Tourism Fund, with additional support by Bristol County Savings Bank.

New Bedford residents and visitors will begin to feel the effects of these grant awards immediately and throughout 2024.

Remarks NBEDC's Margo Saulnier, Director of Creative Strategies: "From individuals to the staff and directors of non-profit organizations, the persons who practice arts and culture in the city constitute a professional class without peer. They're eager and ready to go – and these awards will enable them to get busy with the business of creating an abundance of unique experiences which will uplift and enrich the entire city."

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**New Bedford High School  
athletes not allowed to raise**

# **funding to compete on the National Stage in New York**

“My name is Taylor Jasinski and I am one of the assistant track coaches at New Bedford High School. We have 7 athletes who have earned a spot to compete on the National stage.

We are hoping to take 3 of them to the Nike Indoor Nationals in New York City and all 7 to the Adidas Indoor National in Virginia Beach. Unfortunately, due to MIAA rules, the school is not allowed to fund either trip.

We as a coaching staff, led by head coach Paul Jasinski, do not want to pass up these once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for our athletes due to funding. We are looking for help with the costs of our trip from any avenue of donations we can think of.

These athletes have put in the work and deserve this chance to compete! Please consider helping them represent New Bedford!! Want to help them shine? Here’s how.”

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## **OPINION: “Could this be the beginning of the end for Trump?”**

*The following is an opinion sent to New Bedford Guide. It does not reflect the opinion of New Bedford Guide, nor is it an OP-ED. In fairness and objectivity, we share opinions from our readers whether we agree or disagree with their opinion.*



Do you have a counter opinion to this opinion? Have an opinion about something else? Email us at [info@newbedfordguide.com](mailto:info@newbedfordguide.com).

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“The last several weeks have been very negative for Donald Trump.

Two civil lawsuits have been adjudicated and Trump assessed hundreds of millions of dollars. Despite accusations of conflict of interest against Fulton County Georgia Attorney General Fani Willis she redeemed herself by testifying and calling attention to the interference of election case which will probably move forward.

Trump’s adored dictator Putin has again been accused of murdering an opponent. The major witness against Hunter and Joe Biden has been indicted for lying to investigators. Nikki Haley hasn’t ended her campaign and is ramping up her criticism of Trump. Ukraine and Zelensky haven’t been defeated but remain a constant reminder of Trump’s efforts to bolster Putin’s territorial aspirations. Melania continues to be conspicuously absent from Trump’s campaign and court trials.

And in no small measure Netanyahu’s aggressiveness was encouraged by Trump’s unmitigated support during his presidency and undoubtedly cancelling this as a braggable issue for his campaign.

These accumulating woes for Trump may still inspire donations and sympathy from his MAGA millions and syncophantic legislators but certainly is turning off increasing numbers of voters who want to see an end to this destructive period in the United States.”-Betty Ussach, Dartmouth.

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# **New Bedford Police Department respond to overnight shooting**

At approximately 11:40pm on Friday night, the New Bedford Police Department received multiple 911 calls for shots being fired on Merrimac Street.

Upon arrival, police discovered the street littered with multiple shell casings and a vehicle that sustained damage from the gunfire. A perimeter was immediately established and units began to canvas the surrounding area for suspects.

This is a developing story we will update as we get more details.