



Meet the unsung heroes on SouthCoast hoops teams

SPORTS, 1B



NEW ENGLAND NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR  NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

The Standard-Times

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WALKING IN A FOG



A woman makes her way across the top of the hurricane barrier on a foggy morning in New Bedford.

PETER PEREIRA/THE STANDARD-TIMES

YWCA buys County Street house

Seeks to expand residential program

Kathryn Gallerani

The Standard-Times
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW ENGLAND

NEW BEDFORD – The women who will be able to call the YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts’ new property in New Bedford their home will receive the assistance they need to attain self-sufficiency in a supportive environment.

Executive Director Gail Fortes said the Residential Services program provides not only a place to live but also provides supportive services and case management services for the women. A residential services coordinator and an assistant work one-on-one with each of the women who each have individual service plans.

“We’re helping them accept resources whether it’s employment, job training, work readiness programs,” Fortes said. “We teach financial literacy, digital literacy, racial justice and make any referrals for them if they need other services we don’t provide so we really try to support them as much as possible so they can be successful and self-sufficient.”

Affordable housing in New Bedford for women

With two residential permanent housing programs in New Bedford

See YWCA, Page 3A



YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts has purchased its third house at 549 County St., as part of its Residential Services program. PROVIDED BY YWCA SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

ORR School Committee OKs controversial library books



Old Rochester Regional School District officials have voted to approve 10 school library books that have been a source of lingering controversy and contentious public discourse in the district since the fall. STANDARD-TIMES FILE

Matthew Ferreira

The Standard-Times
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW ENGLAND

MATTAPOISETT – The question of whether 10 books available at Old Rochester Regional School District school libraries should be there or not has been put to rest for three years, at least officially speaking, according to district-adopted policy, via ORR’s book review and appeals processes. But the complaint filed in December came from a source some may consider unlikely, being someone who does “not agree that these books are obscene or problematic.”

At last week’s ORR School Committee meeting, committee member Matthew Monteiro was revealed to be the one who filed the most recent complaint which, as he shared in a prepared statement, was something he did to bring review of the books into an official process after they’d been a topic of — in at least one instance, turbulent — public discourse since October when an initial complaint on the

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