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Letter: Everyone welcome to Middle Passage marker discussion

Posted Thursday, May 26, 2022 1:04 pm

To the editor:

The Bristol Committee for the Middle Passage Port Markers Project invites all residents and interested parties to an open public meeting scheduled for Sunday, June 12, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Bristol Statehouse on High Street. We are actively seeking public opinion in our ongoing effort to secure a site marking Bristol's role in the Middle Passage slave trade, and to commemorate the existence of our African American community and its contributions to Bristol.

Every interested party will be welcomed to engage in a dialogue of thought and action to place a marker memorial as part of the Unesco Slave Trade Route and join with the Middle Passage Port Marker's national effort. We have looked at several potential public sites and will present the locations, inviting the Bristol community's response and input.

A general consensus will help us determine the best possible site to present to our Town Council at later date.

The committee will present some information and background stories of African-American social and economic contributions to Bristol. We welcome our community to freely comment in an open discussion.

We look forward to following up with the Town Council upon accumulating public input and data at a future date.

Stephan Brigidi
Highland Road

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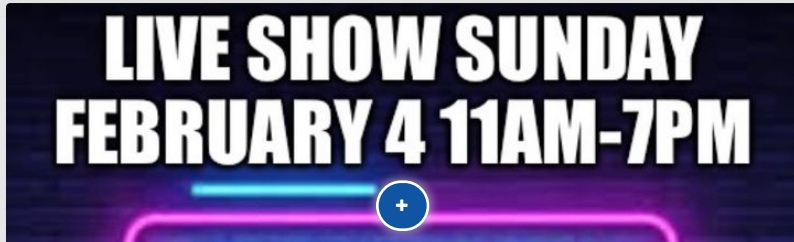


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MEET OUR STAFF

Jim McGaw

A lifelong Portsmouth resident, Jim graduated from Portsmouth High School in 1982 and earned a journalism degree from the University of Rhode Island in 1986. He's worked two different stints at East Bay Newspapers, for a total of 18 years with the company so far. When not running all over town bringing you the news from Portsmouth, Jim listens to lots and lots and lots of music, watches obscure silent films from the '20s and usually has three books going at once. He also loves to cook crazy New Orleans dishes for his wife of 25 years, Michelle, and their two sons, Jake and Max.

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