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## Puzzles documentary available for free viewing after Orlando shooting



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The Puzzles documentary is available for free viewing this month. COURTESY PHOTO

By **Auditi Guha** [Follow](#)

Posted Jun. 28, 2016 at 11:22 AM  
Updated Jun 28, 2016 at 11:25 AM

NEW BEDFORD — The makers of a documentary about the bloody 2006 gun-and-hatchet [attack at a city gay bar](#) have made the film available for free viewing all month, following the Orlando shooting.

"When I learned of the unimaginable hate crime attack at the LGBTQ night club PULSE in Orlando, it was a heart-wrenching reminder of the escalating levels of violence gay, lesbian, queer and transgender people face throughout the United States," filmmaker Tami Gold said in an email. "Naturally, I was reminded of the violent hate crime that happened in the LGBTQ bar Puzzles in New Bedford,"

Gold and David Pavlosky, of New York, produced "PUZZLES: When Hate Came to Town." Following the horrific June 12 Orlando shooting they said they felt it was critical to make the film available for free streaming throughout the country. The link is <https://vimeo.com/140067751>.

The Puzzles tragedy started when 18-year-old high school dropout and County Street resident

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Jacob D. Robida walked into the North End neighborhood bar around 11:30 p.m. on Feb. 1, 2006. He showed a fake ID and soon went on a rampage, attacking three patrons with a hatchet and shooting two of them. All were badly injured but survived. Robida then went on the lam, shooting and killing a police officer in Arkansas. He was shot by police and died a day later in Missouri.

Gold and Pavlosky's documentary about the hate crime sent shock waves through the LGBT community in New Bedford and beyond. In October 2013, they screened it for the first time in this region. [Shown on a TV screen at UMass Dartmouth](#), "Puzzles" explored the aftermath of the assault and sparked a discussion about fear, hate, violence, disconnected youth, the importance of empathy, and perceptions of difference in American culture.

"We need to get all of us talking seriously about the motives of attackers, the interplay of extremist ideology and homophobia," Gold said in an email. "Regardless of what many pundits say, there is a connections between homophobia, intolerance, alienation and access to guns, and if there was ever a time to tackle this crisis, it is now, and we want to be part of this discussion."

The filmmakers encourage New Bedford residents to watch the film with family and friends, and send comments to [tamigold@mindspring.com](mailto:tamigold@mindspring.com).

## TOP HOMES

- New Bedford, MA – – NB: Share home. Nice yard, sunroom, pool, all utilities, internet, cable, & linens. \$650/mo. 508-984-1926.

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[Aug. 25, 2016](#)

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[Aug. 24, 2016](#)

15-year-old's death 'just doesn't make sense'  
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Dartmouth man, 21, sentenced to prison in fatal drunk-driving crash  
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EVENTS CALENDAR

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Saturday, August 27, 2016



**Hollihock Writers Conference** *All Day*

Star Store Campus



**Couples Canvas Paint Night (Not only for couples)** *5:30 pm*

Dream Land Walk-ins, Party & Event Center

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TV GUIDE



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