



Candlelight Vigil for Haiti



MLK Program at KMS



MLK Day, Gifts to Give

# Neighborhood & Community News

## Welcome to the Neighborhood!

The holidays have come and gone and tree lightings were held in every part of the city. This year the West End Neighborhood group held its first tree lighting. The city's MLK program was hosted for the first time at Keith Middle School with the intent of encouraging more youth involvement.

Now that the holidays are behind us it is time to support a community wide effort towards making sure every resident is counted on the 2010 Census questionnaire. The message needs to get out that our city does not receive funds that our community desperately needs due to the numbers that are reported on the Census. Many neighborhood groups and organizations will join together forming the complete count committee. They will be out in full force within our neighborhoods making sure that everyone is counted.

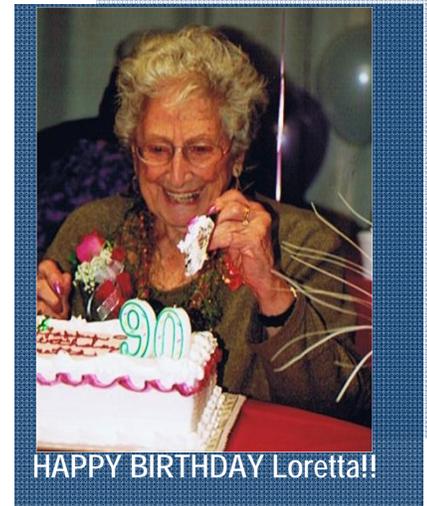
Our city has also joined in with many concerned citizens around the world in support of the devastating conditions in Haiti. There are many projects and events going on within the city and we will include them in this news letter. Lastly, the spotlight will shine on Loretta Bourque whose light is still shining ever so brightly at 90. She is still actively involved in neighborhood leadership, helping to make our city great one neighborhood at a time.

Marci Pina-Christian  
Department of Community Services  
Human Services Coordinator  
(Neighborhood Outreach & Human Relations)

133 William Street  
New Bedford, Ma 02740  
Phone (508) 979-1464  
Email [marcelina.pina-christian@newbedford-ma.gov](mailto:marcelina.pina-christian@newbedford-ma.gov)



MLK Day, Gifts to Give



## Neighborhood Spotlight

Mrs. Loretta Bourque has lived in the same neighborhood for a lifetime. It's no wonder that she has the passion, fire and drive that she brings to every neighborhood meeting. She loves her home and lifetime of memories that she finds there. Loretta Bourque just celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and for her retirement is not an option. In 2003 she was the Standard Times woman of the year and with no signs of slowing down that title may be changed to Woman of the century. It's no surprise that Cove St. Neighborhood Association which she chairs is the oldest and first neighborhood association. As Loretta reflects on life in New Bedford as a young child she was always volunteering in her community, organizing, planning events and it's made her the person she is today. Loretta stated, "I get things done because of my persistence, not that I want to make myself known. I get frustrated with other people who sit back and complain. I tell them go to the top, to the person who can get things done." When asked what keeps her going at 90 she comments, "It's being involved, meeting challenges." When not at a community meeting Loretta in her spare time likes to read novels or she finds mental stimulation in doing jigsaw puzzles. Loretta finds the greatest reward for her work in accomplishments, working towards something and seeing the fruits of her labor. We join the many in wishing Loretta many more healthy, happy and productive years doing what she loves to do.

# See What's Going On in Your Neighborhood...

There is representation at neighborhood meetings from City Hall, the Police Department, the District Attorney's Community Service Liaison, city councilors and other concerned citizens. Attend a meeting, be heard, find solutions, and make a difference in your neighborhood.

Brook lawn Neighborhood Association
Meets the 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at the Brooklawn Senior Center at 6:30 PM. The chair of this group is Scott Lemieux.
Hope VI Safety Watch
Meets the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6:30 at the Caroline Community Center. The chair of this group is Ron Gonsalves. This month's meeting is canceled.
Acushnet Commons
Meets the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at the Wamsutta Apts. office at 6:30 PM. This group includes the Wamsutta apts and the surrounding area.
Mt Pleasant Neighborhood Association
Meets the last Wednesday of the month at the Sacred Heart Church Community Center at 6:30PM. The chair of this group is Henry Bousquet.
Clarks Point Neighborhood Association
Meets the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM at Fort Taber Community Ctr. The chair of this group is Celeine Sarava.
Far North End Neighborhood Association
Meets the second Tuesday of each month at the Pulaski School at 6:30 PM. The co chairs of this group are Bob and Peggy Souza. Guest, Mr. Peter Barney, City of New Bedford Assessor's Office.
Goulart Square Improvement Association
Meets the last Tuesday of each month at Ashley Park Community Center at 6:30 PM. The chair of this group is Steve Pontes.
Bullard Street Neighborhood Association
This group meets at St. Anthony's Church on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM. The chair of this group is Ken Resendes.
Rockdale Avenue Neighborhood Association
Meets quarterly, at the Buttonwood Warming Center and the chair is Gerry Pinto.
Acushnet Heights Neighborhood Association
Meets the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month. Currently, it is redeveloping. Meeting dates and times will be reported as they become available.

**CENSUS 2010**  
 Feb-Mar 2010-Census  
 Questionnaires are mailed to  
 households.  
**BE COUNTED!!**

Neighborhood United
Meets the 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month in the Ashley Room at City Hall. Neighborhood United is a group of neighborhood chairs who meet once a week and support the work of each other. The chair of Neighborhood United is Susan Braga.
South Central South First
Meets the last Monday of the month at the Gomes School at 6:30 PM. The co-chairs of the group are Suzanne Braga and Latisha Silva. For more information contact Suzanne bee @aol.com or silva.l@comcast.net. All are welcome.
Cove St. Neighborhood Association
Meets on the first Monday of each month at New England Demolition & Salvage, 73 Cove Street, New Bedford, MA. The chair of this group is Ms. Loretta Bourque.
West End Neighborhood Association
Meets the third Monday of the month at Carney Academy at 6:30 PM. This is a newly formed neighborhood association. It's first tree lighting ceremony was held on Dec. 14 <sup>th</sup> at the park on Hillman & Cedar St.

## Neighborhood Activities

**Haiti Relief Fund**, Donations can be made at the New Bedford Credit Union or any Webster Bank branch, South Coast Federal Credit Union (St Luke's Hospital) checks payable to: Haiti Relief Fund.

**Greater New Bedford Career Center-New Directions** is announcing that applications for summer jobs programs will be made available on Monday, 2:30-4:00PM at the Youth Annex on Dover St. **Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Take This Child to Heart**, Annual fundraiser to benefit Community Connections. Music by Jackie Santos & friends, 8PM - 2:00AM, Century House, **Feb, 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Frederick Douglas 192<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Celebration** Join the NB Whaling National Park for a day of special programs, movie showings, children's activities and more, Sunday Noon-4:30PM, **Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>**.

**Our Sister's School-** Is looking for volunteers in many areas. Please contact Hillary Parker at (508)994-1255 for more info.

**Red Dress Fashion Show and Silent Auction**, A YWCA fundraising event, cocktails @5:00 PM & dinner to follow @ 6:00 PM, **Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>**

February Vacation Classes are listed at [www.artworksforyou.org](http://www.artworksforyou.org) Register online or call 508-984-1588

**Roots Down Under-**Feb/March gardening workshops. Email Derek @ [derekchristianson@gmail.com](mailto:derekchristianson@gmail.com) for more information.

**Ben Rose recreation & Education Center, "Jazz Fundraiser"**, Hawthorne country club, 970 Tucker Road, Dartmouth, MA. For more info call (508)789-7377.