



MLK Day of Service



MLK Day at Grace Church



Neighborhood & Community News

Welcome to the Neighborhood!

Winter is somewhat of a quiet time in the neighborhoods. The city was aglow with the many tree lightings throughout the city and Christmas concerts added to the holiday flavor. Residents attended in great numbers many of the tree lightings in their neighborhoods. In January, the city commemorated the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King through a traditional program at Grace Episcopal Church and on the holiday citizens volunteered their services in many projects throughout the city.

Congratulations to students from Roosevelt and Keith Middle schools who were winners in the MLK Essay Contest. First place was awarded to Hana Haskell, a 6th grader at Keith Middle School. Second place winner was Tiana Young, an 8th grader at Roosevelt Middle School and third place winner was Emilly Rivera Melendez an 8th grader at Roosevelt Middle School. We hope that the one day of service will become a regular activity within our communities. Many non-profit agencies are in need of help from volunteers. In this newsletter we will include a list of agencies in need of volunteers. If you find something that interest you call the contact number on the list and get involved. Also new to this newsletter will be the **Consumer Tip Corner** where readers will receive useful consumer information and **Did You Know** Corner where readers will discover information on great accomplishments from a diverse group of New Bedford citizens Our community has much to be proud of. During the winter months the snowy weather poses challenges for our elderly and disabled citizens. Remember to be a good neighbor and shovel the pathways of those in your neighborhood who might be shut-ins or unable to shovel their own walkways.

Marci

Marcelina Pina-Christian
Department of Community Services
Human Relations)
133 William Street



Snow, snow & more snow



Courtney Kurzwell

Neighborhood Spotlight

Volunteering has many benefits and for this U- Mass Dartmouth Senior it has been a rewarding experience. Courtney came to city hall as a recipient of the Michael S. Dukakis Public Service Internship Award. Additionally, she is an AmeriCorps student leader. As such, she receives a reduction in her tuition fees in exchange for the service given to her community. It's a great incentive that more students should take advantage of with the high cost of tuition fees. For Courtney, it has given her greater focus on her future career goals. She is currently applying to UMass School of Law. She hopes to enroll in the fall upon graduating in May 2011. Courtney, through her volunteer endeavors, discovered that she has a passion for public service. Some of the projects she has coordinated include The City of New Bedford Volunteer Reception in which all individuals who volunteered for the city of New Bedford were recognized. She is also working on a Cities of Service long term plan for volunteerism. She is serving as the volunteer coordinator for Home Aid, a program that matches snow shoveling volunteers with elderly and disabled citizens, within their neighborhoods, in need of snow removal. She has been quite busy this snowy winter. She is currently working with members of South Coast Serves in organizing The Annual Legislative Breakfast. In servicing the community Courtney receives a reduction in her tuition fees. Considering the high cost of tuition fees, this is not a bad deal. Courtney has divided her time between the Mayor's Office and The Department of Community Service. Both departments have received the benefit of her services in exchange for 300 hours of community service which Courtney has to provide. She has been able to do all of this while managing a busy schedule at the college. According to Courtney, she especially appreciates the network that she has built while volunteering at City Hall. She has attended various press releases, meetings and has become more knowledgeable on public policy issues. She has encouraged more college students to take advantage of these opportunities. We wish Courtney well with all of her future projects. We have benefitted from her commitment, skills, and innovative ideas.

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 st Tuesday of the month at the Brooklawn Senior Center at 6:30 PM. The chair of this group is Scott Lemieux. For more info call (508)985-0995.
Hope VI Safety Watch
Meets the 2 nd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 at the Caroline Community Center. The chair of this group is Ron Gonsalves. For more info call (508)993-5337.
Acushnet Commons
Meets the 2 nd Tuesday of the month at the Wamsutta Apts. office at 6:30 PM. This group includes the Wamsutta apts and the surrounding area. For more info call (508)991-5239.
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. For more info call (508)989-7487
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. For more information contact celeine@verizon.net.
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. For more info call (508)998-8830
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. For more info call (508) 996-1594.
Bullard Street Neighborhood Association
This group meets at St. Anthony's Church on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM. the next meeting will be August 19th The chair of this group is Ken Resendes, you can contact him at 774-201-9357.
Rockdale Avenue Neighborhood Association
Meets quarterly, at the Buttonwood Warming Center and the chair is Gerry Pinto. For more info email Gerry@safezones.org
Neighborhood United
Meets the 1 st 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. For more info call (508)858-9881.
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 beeb@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. For more info, lorettasmil@earthlink.net .
West End Neighborhood Association
No meetings at this time. Interested in leading a neighborhood group? Contact Sue @ suzannebee@aol.com or call Dept of Community Services at 508-979-1464.

Super Bowl Fundraiser, 646 Purchase St. Soups donated by local restaurants and individuals to benefit the Mercy meals and More Breakfast Program. Golden Ladle award for the best soup in New Bedford, Sunday noon to 3 PM, 2/6/11

UMass Dartmouth Celebrates Black History Month. Visit www.umassd.edu or call Donna Moore @508-999-9222 for public events.

YWCA 8th Annual Red Dress Fashion Show and Silent Auction. Wednesday, 6:00 PM, Feb. 16, 2011

AHA Carnevale, mid winter festivals from around the world, downtown New Bedford, 5-9PM, Feb. 10, 2011.

Foster Parent Training, Free training to offer information on how to become a foster parent to children in state custody. Pre-registration is required, 6-9PM, every Thursday.

Mid Winter's Night Dream, An exhibition of the work of Gallery X members

Grandparents Raising Grandparents, Meets monthly the third Wednesday of the month at the Downtown Public Library @ 6:00 PM.

Free flu Vaccine, The Greater New Bedford Community Health Center will provide free flu vaccine daily to walk ins. The vaccine provides protection against seasonal flu.

The City of New Bedford in collaboration with the YWCA Southeastern Mass. is offering a Flu Vaccine Clinic. Open to all residents @ YW kids, 89 Merrimac St.

The New Bedford Local Consumer Program, Operates out of the City's Department of Community Services. Working in cooperation with the Attorney General's Office the LCP provides free information and mediation if a consumer is having problems with a business The local consumer program provides information on auto repair suggestions, lemon laws, used car warranty laws, scams, identity theft, privacy rights, credit, debt collection, consumer rights, landlord tenant rights, and home improvements. For more information call 508-961-3020 or 508-979-1464.

Discretionary Grant for small emergencies, must be 65 years of age or older, single, divorced, or widowed. A brief application is required to determine qualification. Call 508-991-6257 to apply.

Council On Aging, Outreach Services which includes medical benefits, housing, food stamps, crisis intervention, advocacy and more. Call 508-991-6257 for an appointment. Transportation (Personal & Medical). Medical transportation provided to all major hospitals in the Boston area. To schedule an appointment call (508)991-6253.

Watch Neighborhood Update on Cable Access for information on new programs and activities within the community. Channel 18, Tuesdays Thursdays & Saturdays, 11:00AM & 8:00 PM If you would like to be on the show call 508-979-1464 for more info.

Nutrition Series, Cooking for One. Will discuss shopping and cooking for one including special recipes Samples offered based on availability. Register by Tuesday, Feb 22, at the Downtown Senior Center at (508)991-6255.

Baby Boomers are going BUNCO. A social dice game, Tuesdays @ 10:00 AM, Hazelwood Center. For info call (508)991-6208.

BULLETIN BOARD

City of New Bedford Tackles Gun Crime with Deployment Of ShotSpotter Gunshot Location System. Information On shot spotter can be found at www.shotspotter.com

Mayor Lang, & CEDC Encourage Qualifying New Bedford Residents to File for Special Tax Credit.

Additional Activities

The Elaine Howard Mother and Child Center at Centre Trinity has been in Operation since May of 2010. It is a valuable resource for the city's most needy families. The center currently supports over 400 families and 800 children.

You can help by donating diapers for infants in the drop off bin at City Hall, WBSM, or Centre Trinity during the months of February & March.

Cape Verdean Gallery Committee issues a call to the community for historical items.

The New Bedford Whaling Museum is in the process of establishing a permanent exhibit that will tell the story of Cape Verdean Whaling and culture of the Cape Verdean American experience. The exhibit will open in July 2011. The museum is seeking artifacts, photographs &

documents. If you have such items contact Michael Dyer at 508-997-0046 or email mdyer@whalingmuseum.org

New Bedford's First Hispanic Concert @ New Bedford High Auditorium, The performers include Tony Love, Dany Leen, Baby Rank, Alex Biscochito, Giro, Lomejor de 80 & Eucisto Lafama. For more info call (508)-689-8131. 7:00 PM, admission required, **2/19/11**.

Sister to Sister Summit 2011, A forum for 100 girls ages 10-14 to learn about and discuss issues that are important to them such as bullying, teen pregnancy, body image, discrimination and more. Registration is required. For more information call (508)999-3255 or email gfortes@ywcasema.org. **3/19/11**

Greater New Bedford Community Health Foundation presents Jackie Santos & Friends Benefiting The Greater New Bedford Community Health Foundation Helping To Make Health Care Available To All. Hawthorne Country Club, N. Dartmouth, Ma., Sunday, 11:00-2PM, **3/27/11**

If you know of a historical figure from any ethnic background that you want others to know about. Call 508-979-1464 or email me at marcelina.pina-christian@newbedford-ma.gov and we will include the information in this newsletter. Hopefully, it will enlighten and educate our readers with the pride that we should all have in our city and its people.

Did You Know?

Mary Hudson Onley, 1889-1980. She was born in New Bedford and the first African American to graduate from Bridgewater State College. She became an elementary school teacher in New Bedford. She was also the founder of the Martha Briggs Literary Club. Bridgewater State College gives an annual achievement award to outstanding citizens of Massachusetts in her honor.

Consumer Tip Corner

Guard your personal information. If someone solicits you, ask for a name, organization, phone number and address. Validate the information through an outside source like the New Bedford Local Consumer Program at 508-961-3020 or 508-979-1464 or The Office of the Attorney General.

Make A Difference In Your Community

.....Volunteer

Below is a list of organizations currently in need of volunteers. The contact information is provided.

Claremont Management Corp.LLC	(508) 997-6585
United Way of Greater New Bedford	(508) 994-9625 x15
New Bedford Whaling Museum	(508) 997-0046
Dennison Memorial Community Center	(508) 996-2691
Immigrants' Assistance Center, Inc.	(508) 996-8113
West End Day Nursery	(508) 993-6419
New Directions Southcoast Inc.	(508) 979-1616 x148
Harbour House	(508) 992-6287
The Salvation Army	(508) 997-6561
Veteran's Transition House	(508) 992-5313 x11
New Bedford Public Library	(508) 991-6218
New Bedford Adult Education	(508) 997-4511 x2419
YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts	(508) 999-3255
Kennedy-Donovan Center, Inc.	(508) 543-2542
Community Economic Development Center	(508) 979-4684
St. Anthony Of Padua Food Pantry	(508) 994-9907
Working Waterfront Festival	(508) 993-8894
Citizen Schools	(617) 695-2300 x309
Bayberry At New Bedford	(508) 993-1965
American Red Cross Of MA Bay - South Coast Area	(508) 996-8286
Downtown New Bedford, Inc.	(508) 990-2777
Encore Performing Arts, Incorporated	(774) 644-9100
Your Theatre, Inc.	(508) 993-0772
The Center For Animal Rescue And Education	(508) 994-0220
Pilgrim UCC	(508) 993-3716
Better Community Living, Inc.	(508) 999-4300 x11
New Bedford Preservation Society	(508) 997-6425
Boys and Girls Club of Greater New Bedford	(508) 992-8011
New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park	(508) 996-4095
Peace Works!	(508) 996-6704
Community Breakfast And Meal Program	(508) 728-1489
The Coalition for Buzzards Bay	(508) 999-6363 x200
ArtWorks!, Partners For The Arts and Community	(508) 984-1588
SMILES (SouthCoast Mentoring Initiative For Learning, Education And Service)	(508) 999-9300
City of New Bedford Office of Human Services	(508) 961-3020
Greater New Bedford Earth Day Committee	(508) 999-7561
Horizons for Homeless Children - Southeast Region	(508) 999-9454
Child & Family Services, Inc.	(508) 990-0894
SMILES Mentoring	(508) 999-9300
New Bedford Community Rowing	(508) 717-4013
Mercy Meals And More	(508) 728-1489
Positive Action Against Chemical Addiction, Inc	(508) 979-1580
Whaling City Rowing	(508) 517-1251
Community Building Mini-Grants Program	(508) 994-9625 x13
Coastline Elderly Services, Inc.	(508) 999-6400
AHA! New Bedford	

To browse over 100 local volunteer opportunities online,
visit United Way of Greater New Bedford's Volunteer Solutions website at:

www.unitedwayofgnb.org
then click "Volunteer"