



VOLUME 14

WINTER 2012

Welcome to the Neighborhood!

SPECIAL
POINTS OF IN-
TEREST:

VARIETY OF
PROGRAMMING
FOR BLACK HIS-
TORY MONTH,
SEE ACTIVITIES

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This has probably been one, if not the mildest winter in New Bedford ever. As usual, winter got off with a bang with many festive activities throughout the city. The month of December was filled with tree lightings that were well attended by residents of the city. Temple Landing sponsored its first tree lighting with Mr. and Mrs. Claus and the smooth sounds of R&B vocalist, Chops Turner. There were many food drives and toy drives to help the growing number of needy citizens among us. It is always encouraging to see the degree of caring and giving that goes on within this city.

The city welcomed in our new mayor, the Honorable Jon Mitchell and the momentum that was established is still building. We wait with great anticipation for the unveiling of more city projects near completion.

The annual Dr. Martin Luther King Remembrance Celebration was hosted by Tifereth Israel Congregation before a full house. Attendees showed their respect and admiration with a program interrupted with frequent applause for the keynote speaker, Congressman Barney Frank, who will not seek re-election.

As we look to the month of February which is Black History Month there will be film screenings and discussions and a host of other activities throughout the city. Some are included in the activities section of this newsletter. Enjoy the calmness of this winter season.

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Neighborhood Spotlight

Henry Bousquet is not a stranger to the neighborhood spotlight and he remains a good example of the potential for developing strong leadership within our neighborhoods. Henry Bousquet is an educator, chef, Mt Pleasant Neighborhood Association leader, and recently elected Councilor of Ward 3. He is not the first neighborhood leader that has advanced to higher levels of public service. Deborah Coelho and Linda Morad were also neighborhood leaders.

I sat down with Henry recently to speak with him on his dual responsibilities. According to Henry he has been able to manage all of his responsibilities and there have not been any conflicts of interest. Henry ran for office unsuccessfully in 2007. He decided to run again after residents from his neighborhood encouraged him to run. He does not consider himself a career politician and does not aspire to be one. He sees himself as someone who believes he can make a difference within the community, that coupled with the support of many citizens within his ward, was the impetus that caused him to go after it. As a city councilor, Henry serves on nearly all of the sub-committees, but is chair of the environmental sub-committee. Henry explained it's an important committee to be on because there are environmental issues within his ward and it affords him the unique opportunity to educate himself while he is educating others. Henry is seeking an alternate or vice-chair for the neighborhood group to help with his responsibilities. The Mt Pleasant Neighborhood Association meets monthly and provides the opportunity for residents to speak with the Office of the Mayor, Chief of Police, the DA's office and City Hall on issues of concern to the neighborhoods. Aside from neighborhood clean-ups, debates, and occasionally the hosting of a breakfast fundraiser, the Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood Association has given out two scholarships totaling \$1000.00 to deserving residents of the neighborhood looking to further their education. The Mt Pleasant Neighborhood Association is presently the only neighborhood group offering an educational scholarship.

According to Henry the best part of being a city councilor is everything, although he is quick to mention that it is still very new to him. He enjoys the debate, problem solving and the opportunity to work together for a common cause. He is happy to be a part of the review committee for the City of New Bedford's charter. There has not been any changes to the charter in the past 50 years and he is happy to be apart of the change.

Henry Bousquet



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

Brooklawn Neighborhood Association

Meets the 1st 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 2nd 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 2nd 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 Saraiva. For more information contact celeine@comcast.net. Email Celeine if you want to be informed on future guest presenters at the monthly meetings.

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. The special guest at the next meeting will be Representative Paul Schmidt. 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 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 1st 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 contact Suzbee@aol.com or (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 Suzannebee@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 The special guest at this month's meeting will be Scott Durkee, Director of Energy.. For more info, lorettas@mail@earthlink.net

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 you neighborhood.

Neighborhood Activities...

Mayor's Youth Council– Is an advisory group on city government to the mayor and city council. They provide the youth voice on issues important to young people in New Bedford. They attend city council meetings and school committee meetings regularly. There are openings for new members. If interested contact Pam Pollock St. 508-965-6927, or email Pam at pampol@aol.com.

School On Wheels at Harbour House Family Shelter. Volunteers Needed for Children Impacted By Homelessness. If you are interested in receiving training to be a volunteer within this program call 508-587-9091.

Saturday Academy– The City of New Bedford's Department of Community Services offers a weekly no-fee Saturday Academy Program for 4th and 5th grade boys from Parker,, Lincoln, Swift,, Ashley and Taylor schools. It is a 32 week program for 75 4th and 5th graders. The program is held at Dennison Memorial Community Center from 9AM-2:30. Free transportation services are provided. The program is designed reduce the impact of negative risk behaviors by building and strengthening the positive. It strives to improve academic performance, socialization, skills and self esteem. For more info contact Monica Castro at 508-997-4889.

Free Tax preparation. The CEDC partners with the IRS volunteers in a tax assistance program. For an appointment call 508-979-4684.

Firefighter Examination Cities and Towns, Written Examination Saturday, April 28, 2012, Application Deadline March 19th 2012. for applications call: 617-878-9895. Outside the Boston area call: 1800-392-6178

Having Trouble With Your Mortgage? Neighborhood Housing Services of South Shore (NHSS) has trained counselors who will assist you in the process of loan mitigation at no charge to you. NHSS knows how frustrating the process can be and are there to assist you or anyone else struggling with foreclosure. Visit their website at www.neighborhoodhousing.org.

The 12th Annual Frederick Douglass Read-a-Thon at the Friends Meeting House, 2-6PM. Sponsored by The New Bedford Historical Society, **Feb. 5th**

African American Female Trailblazers. UMass Dartmouth Faculty panel discussion. Black female historical figures, **Feb.7th**

A film by Louis Gates Jr. Black in Latin America: The Case of the Dominican Republic & Haiti. UMass Dartmouth, main campus. Faculty dining room, 6-9 PM, **Feb 8th.**

Hands Across the River Coalition-Open Meeting on Wednesday 2012 6-8 PM. Agenda includes election of new officers and project update. New members are welcome to join, **Feb. 8th**

National African American Read– In, Friday 11:00 12:15, **BCC New Bedford Campus, Feb. 8th**

Continuing Realities of Race in America Today with Derrick Jackson, columnist, Boston Globe,9:30-10:45 7 11:00-12:15,**BCC Fall River Campus, Feb. 16th**

Hip Hop Extravaganza, 1:00-3:00PM, BCC Fall River Campus. Performances by rappers, singers, models and dancers in honor of Black History Month, Wednesday, **Feb. 22**

BULLETIN BOARD

If you are a non-profit organization or an individual doing positive activities within the community and want to come on **Neighborhood Update Cable Show** to promote your program or organization call The Department of Community Services at 508-979-1464. Neighborhood Update airs Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 11:00 AM and 8:00 PM.

Quote of the Day..."If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, You are a leader."

John Quincy Adams.



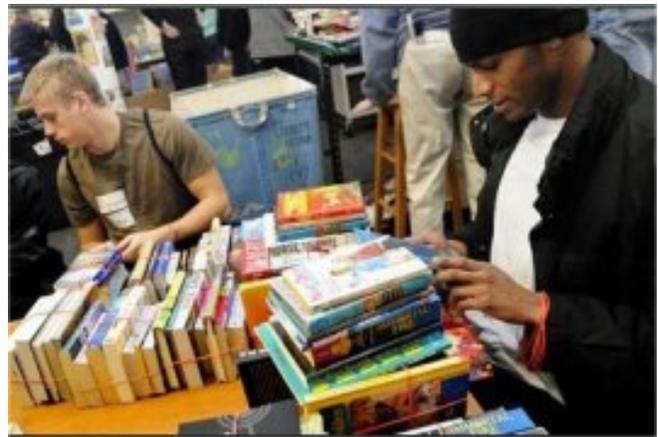
Community Voices of Hope at MLK Program



Carney and Winslow school chorus



A picture perfect winter day in New Bedford



Volunteers at Gift to Give Day of Remembrance

Did You Know?

Elizabeth Carter Brooks, (1867-1951), the first African-American woman hired as a public school teacher in New Bedford, Massachusetts. Elizabeth Carter Brooks was committed to equality. The child of a former slave, she studied diligently at New Bedford High School. She helped form and served as President of the Northeastern Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, one of the oldest active clubs for women of color today, headquarters in Washington D.C. In 1897 she opened the New Bedford Home for the Aged. In 1939 she loaned The Martha Briggs Club the funds needed to purchase the home of Sgt. William H. Carney, which remains the club's headquarters today. Following her death in 1951 she was honored by New Bedford with the dedication of the Elizabeth Carter Brooks school in her name.

Consumer Tip Corner

To register for the Massachusetts Do Not Call list call 1-866-231-2255. or go directly to the Do Not Call Registry website. The Registry is updated quarterly so it may take up to 90 days after you register for calls to stop. Calls are not to be made during the hours of 8 PM and 8AM. You should know that non-profit agencies and non-commercial polls and surveys are allowed. If calls still persist call the Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulations at 1-617-727-8400.

Contact the New Bedford Consumer Program at 508-979-1464 or 508-961-3020 for your consumer needs and inquiries.

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.

More Activities

Upcoming Events...

Take This Child to Heart Fundraiser, Mardi Gras to benefit the Foster Children and Teen Enrichment Fund, Saturday, Feb 4th. Heavy Hors D'oeuvres and entertainment by Valerie Stephens and Friends, DJ Lady K. For more info contact Darlene Spencer at 508-994-9625 ext. 21. **Feb. 4th**

2nd Annual Souper Bowl Fund Raiser for Mercy Meals and More, Sunday, 634 Purchase Street, Live entertainment by Jazz 2 12-3PM. **Feb. 5th**

A new exhibit of maritime art titled "Seven Continents, Seven Seas." will open on AHA night, February 9th at 7:00 PM in the Wattles Family Gallery, New Bedford Whaling Museum, **Feb. 9th**

The YWCA (the Annual Red Dress Fashion Show and Silent Auction. Cocktail hour starts at 5:30 PM, dinner at 6:30 PM. **February 16th**

Winter Jam-6th Annual 3RD eye Open Winter Jam, Open Mic Contest, Break Dancing Competitions and Arts & Culture. Saturday **Feb. 18th**

Freedom Riders, A film viewing and discussion sponsored by The New Bedford Human Relations Commission, 6-8PM, New Bedford Whaling Museum, for more information call the HRC at 508-979-1464. **Feb. 23rd**

Elaine Lima is Retiring and the community is invited to attend. Call 508-990-2777 or email dnb@downtownnb.org for tickets, Thursday, **March 1,**