



Neighborhood & Community
Outreach Unit



Buttonwood Park Playground



PeaceWorks! Community Gardens



Neighborhood & Community News

Welcome to the Neighborhood!

Welcome to the first edition of the monthly Neighborhood and Community Outreach Newsletter. This newsletter is being brought to you by the Neighborhood and Community Outreach Unit within the Department of Community Services. We work together as a team attending neighborhood meetings throughout the city providing outreach and support to the many neighborhood groups. The NCOU team is lead by Marci Pina-Christian and includes John Lobo, Neighborhood Liaison, Pauline Macedo, Ombudsperson, Nora Andino, Constituent Services Liaison & Robert McPherson, Weed & Seed Coordinator.

This newsletter provides an opportunity to promote the positive and exciting programs and activities that occur in neighborhoods throughout the city. It is the community's newsletter and we want to hear from you.

Each neighborhood group will have it's own section where it will inform you of meeting dates and all the latest happenings. Each month we will spotlight a neighborhood organizer. I hope you find this newsletter informative and useful. If you would like to submit information or photos for the newsletter please contact me.

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Neighborhood Spotlight

This month's spotlight is on Lynn Coish, Chairperson of Operation Clean Sweep. Operation Clean Sweep came about from a proposal that Lynn submitted to Mayor Lang. Lynn participated in the Great Ideas Forum. Operation Clean Sweep began in 2006. Operation Clean Sweep has picked up 10 tons of trash this year and over 37 tons since it's beginning. Each month the OCS committee and a host of volunteers clean up in one of the city's six wards. According to Lynn it's become a family affair. Everyone knows each other and there is a feeling of pride that we all are helping to make the streets of New Bedford cleaner. I am a life long resident of New Bedford and I am very passionate about this program. I especially enjoy the educational component, going into the schools and talking to the kids about what litter is and does to our environment, and teaching them about recycling. We have done clean-up projects with the various schools. Normandin Middle School assisted with a clean up at Brooklawn Park. NBHS helped us to clean up East Beach. Our cleaning season is from April -September. We recently had our last clean-up in Ward 5, and concluded with a Thank You celebration, with over 80 volunteers. Lynn has been married to Jan Coish for 7 years and is the mother of Tom Dan, and Alyssa. She is the proud grandmother of two grandsons. The Coish's enjoy camping when they are able to find the time. Thank you Lynn and the many volunteers who help to keep our city streets clean.

You can visit Operation Clean Sweeps website at www.operationcleansweep.net.



People working to make New Bedford a great place to live work and raise families, one neighborhood at a time.



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.
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.
Acushnet Commons
Meets the 2 nd Tuesday of the month at the North Star Learning Ctr at 6:30 PM. This group includes the Warmsutta 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
The traditional tree lighting ceremony will be on Dec. 7, 6:30 PM at Fire Station # 5. Caroling will be led by a local Girl scout Troop. Free admission
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.
The traditional tree lighting ceremony will be Sunday, Dec. 14th at 6:30 PM, Ashley Park Community Center. Special guests include Mayor Lang and Mr. & Mrs. Claus. Come warm up with a cup of hot chocolate and more.
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. The Bullard St group r held it's annual Family Fun Day at Riverside Park in August. All had a great time.
The traditional tree lighting ceremony will be on Dec. 13 th at 6:00 PM at Riverside Park. Hot chocolate will be served and other goodies, Children will receive a goodie bag and a special appearance by Mr. & Mrs. Claus. Free admission
Rockdale Avenue Neighborhood Association
Meets the first Monday of the month at 6:30, and the chair is Gerry Pinto. This group hosted its Family Fun Day on Saturday September 13, from 11-3PM at the Betsey Winslow Elementary School. Hot dogs and hamburgers were served and those who attended had a great time.
The traditional tree lighting ceremony will be on Dec. 1, at 6:00PM. It will be held this year in the park across from Hathaway School on Court and Liberty Street. There will be caroling, hot chocolate and goodies. Free admission
Acushnet Heights Neighborhood Association
Meets the 3 rd Monday of the month. Currently, it is redeveloping. Meeting dates and times will be reported as they become available.

Neighborhood United
Neighborhood United is a group of neighborhood chairs who meet once a week and support the work of each other. There is strength in numbers; so together they are a unified force working for greater improvement and greater outreach within our community. The chair of Neighborhood United is Susan Braga. Each year Neighborhood United Plans a National Night Out. This year it was August 4th. It's a party for the community with police, city officials, and citizens in a fun filled day. According to chair Sue Braga the event continues to grow each year.
South Central South First
Meets the last Monday of the month at the Gomes School at 6:30 PM. The chair of the group is Suzanne Braga.
For more information contact Suzanne bee @aol.com. All are welcome.
Traditional tree lighting ceremony will be on Dec. 12, 6:00 PM, at Monte Park. There will be Christmas caroling, hot chocolate, and refreshments along with a visit from Mr. & Mrs. Claus. Admission is free. For more information, nbcrimewatch@aol.com
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 traditional tree lighting ceremony was held on Dec. 6 th on McGurk and Cove St. Close to 300 attended the event and everyone seemed to have a great time.

Neighborhood Activities

Invest In Kids, the umbrella for out of school time activities offered through the city's office of human services, for grades 4-6. For more information on program activities and sites call the Department of Community Services at 508-997-4889.

Free Dental Care, Sept 2008-May 2009 Tues & Thurs. 8am, 10am, or 1:30 PM @ Bristol Community College.

MLK Planning Committee Meetings on ,Wednesdays, at Grace Episcopal Church at 4:30 PM For information call (508)979-1464.

2008 Costs for kids(& grownups, too) Community Coat Drive Help someone keep warm this winter, Drop off gently used coats at the YWCA thru Dec 12th. Coats will be given away on Dec. 13th between 11AM and 3PM at the First Unitarian Church, 71 Eighth St. New Bedford, MA

Christmas Concert, Sun Dec. 14, 2008, 3PM, St. Anthony of Padua Church, 1359 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford, MA, Spirit of St Anthony Choir and other local performers.

Downtown Holiday Stroll and Shops, Sat. Dec.6th. The annual tree lighting ceremony will be at 4 :00 PM in front of the Downtown New Bedford Public Library. Come join in on the holiday festivities.

Picture with Santa at City Hall- Mayor Scott Lang invites the children of New Bedford to the Ashley Room at City Hall from 11:00-1:00 PM on Sat. Dec. 13th to have their picture taken with Santa Claus