



VOLUME 15

WINTER 2012

## Welcome to the Neighborhood!

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF INTEREST:**

**VARIETY OF  
PROGRAMMING  
FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH,  
SEE ACTIVITIES**

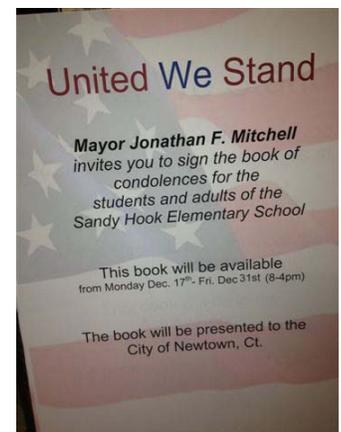
### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

Welcome to the Neighborhood	1
Neighborhood Spotlight	2
Neighborhood Activities	3
See What's Going On in Your Neighborhood	4
Did You Know Consumer Tip	5
More Activities	6

Winter is here but did not bring the traditional white Christmas that some may have wished for.. However, New Bedford neighborhoods were not lacking in holiday spirit. There were many food drives and toy drives. Residents of New Bedford showed their generosity by helping others in need, which is what the holiday season should be about. The tree lightings were well attended this year in all parts of the city. You will find photos of tree lightings in this newsletter. Residents received toys, hats and gloves, books, entertainment, hot chocolate and cookies. . If you have not attended a tree- lighting it is something that you should do. It is a wonderful way to meet and greet people in your neighborhood and celebrate in a way that neighbors use to do. Additionally it 's a way to add to childhood memories. Of holiday traditions. There is something magical in the way the children light up when Mr. and Mrs. Claus arrive on the scene.

Amidst the holiday joy, our hearts were broken at the senseless loss of lives at the Sandy Hook Elementary School. Mayor Jon Mitchell placed a book of condolences in the City Hall lobby for our community to sign. It was a small gesture to let others know that they are in our thoughts and prayers. The book of condolences will be in the city hall lobby until January 1st.

With the colder temperatures coming reduction in heating bills is something many residents would like to have. Be aware of individuals canvassing the neighborhoods with energy saving options. The city of New Bedford has one program that works in partnership with NSTAR called New Bedford Energy Now. Do not sign with any company until you have done your research. You can call the New Bedford Local Consumer Program at 508-979-1464 if you have any issues or concerns.



This year will mark the 50 year anniversary of the famous I have A Dream speech and there will be various activities throughout the area some are listed in this newsletter.

*Marci*

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# Neighborhood Spotlight

The neighborhoods were all aglow with bright lights,, and ho jubilee.. The tree lighting ceremonies were kicked off with Cove St Neighborhood Association under the leadership of Loretta Bourque. Close to 300 children attended this event. On a cold frigid day the children received had knitted gloves and hats to keep them warm, along with plenty of hot chocolate. The Roosevelt school chorus and led the large audience with Christmas Carols. Thanks to the generosity of Principal Darcy Fernandes and her staff 240 gifts were given to the children that attended/. Other festivities included the Official City of New Bedford Tree lighting and the Festival of Lights at Clasky Common Park. Most provided the same activities with an appearance From Mr. and Mrs. Claus.

In the South End , the South End Business Association sponsored a tree lighting ceremony at the Howland Green Library in memory of the deceased city councilor Leo Pimental. Their tree lighting began wht a reading of the Grinch that stole Christmas. The leader of the Rockdale Ave Association who holds its annual tree lighting ceremony at Harrington Park has dedicated its ceremony to children 18 and younger whose lives were taken through illness or accidently , beginning with Baby Owen. The names of each of the children were read. Monty Park also got into the action with its annual holiday tree lighting.

In the West End Temple Landing held its first Holiday Gala. Residents of Temple Landing received a catered meal. Gifts, a live band, pictures with Santa and more. Below are some of the hoiday pictures from around town. Tis the Season...

## Christmas Tree Lightings



# See What's Going On 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. For more info call (508)985-0995.. No meeting in Dec. or Jan.

## 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. For more info call (508)993-5337.. No meeting in Dec. Or Jan.

## 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. 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. Special guest at the next meeting is Jill Maclean of the planning dept.

## 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. Special guest at the next meeting is Jill Maclean of the planning dept.

## 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 Jill Maclean of the planning dept. 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. Annual tree lighting Dec. 12th at 6:00pm

## 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. Annual tree lighting ceremony, Dec. 15th at Riverside Park.

## Rockdale Avenue Neighborhood Association

Meets quarterly, at the Buttonwood Warming Center and the chair is Gerry Pinto. For more info email [Gerry@safezones.org](mailto:Gerry@safezones.org). Annual tree lighting Dec. 13th at Harrington Park at 6:00pm

## 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. For more info contact Suzbee@aol.com or (508)858-9881. NU will not be meeting until after January.

## 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. Annual tree lighting Dec. 11th, 5:00 pm at Monte Park.

## 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](mailto:lorettasmil@earthlink.net). Annual treelighting Nov.30th.

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.

**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.

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

## BULLETIN BOARD

Follow the City of New Bedford on Facebook, You Tube and Twitter for the latest and most current information. Visit the City's home page for more information at [www.newbedford-ma.gov](http://www.newbedford-ma.gov)

**Quote of the Day...**"Hatred paralyzes life love releases it. Hatred confuses life love harmonizes it. Hatred darkens life: love illuminates it."



**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?

## Consumer Tip Corner

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](mailto: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

