



Neighborhood & Community News

VOLUME 17

SPRING 2014

Welcome to the Neighborhood!

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Living History Award to Jibreel Khazan

Anonymous gift of MLK Commemorative Doll and exhibit displayed at Downtown Public Library

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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

Spring is here! It doesn't feel like Spring yet but we know it is but a short while before a burst of yellow daffodils will be blooming everywhere, the first sign of spring. Last year at this time I had a picture of Custom House Square which was just being re-developed. Now it is a central gathering spot for lunch or just to enjoy a nice day for visitors and residents.

In the picture to the right is a view of Custom House Square, adorned with colorful yarn for AHA Night festivities. The commemorative MLK doll (page 2), given to the downtown library, was a gift to Mayor Mitchell by an anonymous donor and displayed from February through March 13th, in the Downtown Public Library, also a part of AHA night exhibits in March. The doll was displayed in a glass cabinet surrounded by many of the essays submitted by New Bedford Public School Students.

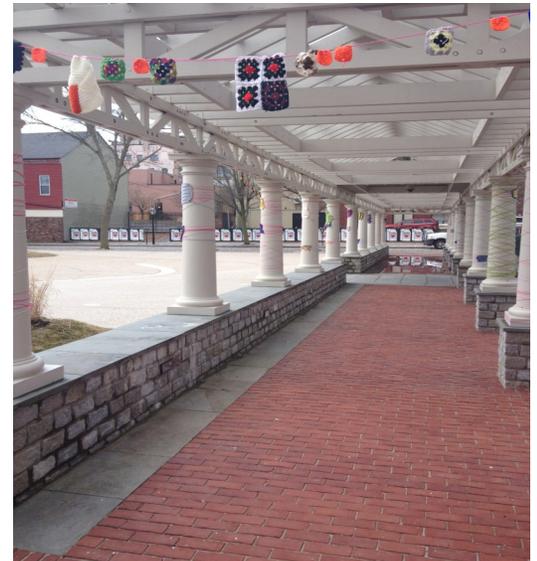
On the neighborhood scene, Neighborhood United is under new leadership and developing greater outreach and activities to help in making the quality of life in neighborhoods more inviting and safer. Plans are underway for National Night Out 2014.

It is United Way mini grant time, and many non-profits and volunteer groups will develop creative projects that will enhance existing activities.

Spring and summer are two of the most enjoyable seasons within the City of New Bedford. Get out and see the old becoming new. Enjoy Spring.

Marci

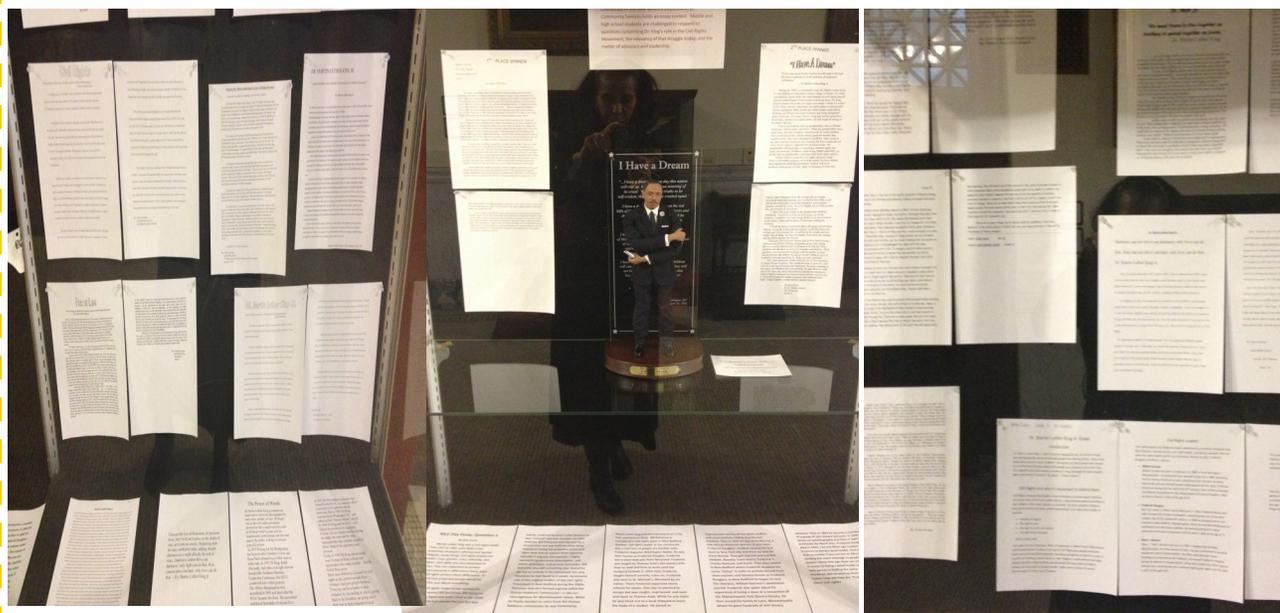
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133 William Street
New Bedford, Ma 02740



Photos of Custom House Square

Neighborhood Spotlight

Neighborhood United is re-organized and has a new webpage and Facebook page. You can visit them at neighborhoods-united.info. You will find information on all of the neighborhood groups, meeting times and special guests. There is also a page on the city councilors and the various sub-committees they serve on and their contact information. According to the President of Neighborhood United, the webpage is still under development and will be very user friendly. It will enable community groups to send information to neighborhood united and the webpage will provide links to a variety of resources. Plans are currently underway for National Night Out, August 5th, this year's site has not yet been announced. National Night Out is a family friendly event sponsored by Neighborhood United along with the NBPD and Nbfd. If you are a community organization and want to do outreach for your program consider having a resource table at National Night Out. Annually 35-40 organizations will set up resource tables at the event with a variety of information on their programs. The attendance at NNO is generally 700 or more and is the biggest event that the group does cooperatively. They are developing a page on the website for National Night Out which will provide up to date information on the event. If you are interested in being a part of the committee, contact Jerry Pinto at



MLK Essay Display at Downtown Public Library

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

Brook lawn 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 4:00 PM at the Caroline Community Center. The chair of this group is Henry Bousquet. For more info call (508)989-7487.

Arnold St Neighborhood Group

Meets at the Unitarian church at 6:30PM . The leader of this group is Erin Burke. You can contact her at 508-542-5905 or at arnold-streetnb@gmail.com

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 Waste Water Treatment Ctr. The chair of this group is Celeine Saraiva. For more information contact saraivaceleine1@comcast.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

Will not be meeting until further notice.

Bullard Street Neighborhood Association

This group meets at St. Anthony's Church on the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM. The chair of this group is Ken Resendes, you can contact him at 774-201-9357. Family Fun day will be coming in August

Rockdale Avenue Neighborhood Association

Meetings TBD.

Neighborhood United

Meets the 1st Thursday of the month at PACCA. 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 Jerry Pinto For more info call Jerry at (508)889-1752

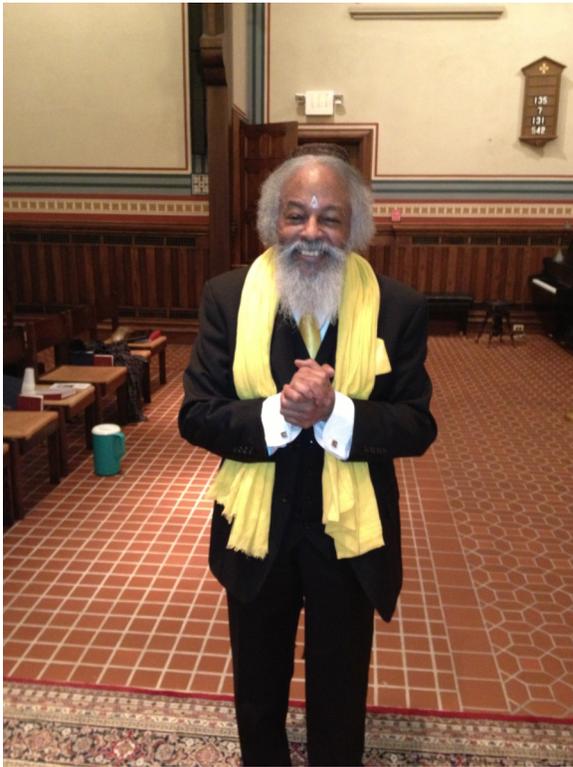
AJ Gomes Neighborhood Association

Meets the last Tuesday of the month at the Gomes School at 6:30 PM. The chair of this group is Buddy Andrade For more information contact Buddy at 508-993-8500 or email him at obvdc@yahoo.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. For more info, lorettasmil@earthlink.net

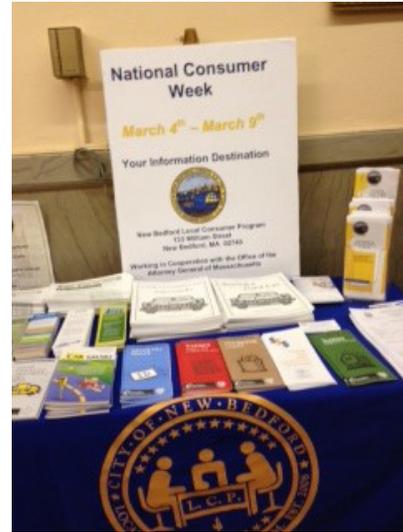
There is representation at neighborhood meetings from City Hall, the Police Department, the District Attorney's Community Service Liaison, city councilors and other concerned citizens. Attend a meeting, be heard, find solutions, and make a difference in you neighborhood.



Jibreel Khazan , Recipient of civil rights award .

Did You Know?

Did you know that Jibreel Khazan pictured above is one of the two remaining survivors of the Greensboro Four. He was one of four college students who sat down at a segregated lunch counter in Greensboro , North Carolina Woolworth store challenging the store's policy on segregation. This event was a major milestone in the Civil Rights Movement. Jibreel did not know that his act of bravery would one day earn him a place in the pages of civil rights history. On Jibreel's Living History Award presented to him at this year's Annual MLK Celebration is a quotation by him that states ." I did it for God and my country I did it for those not yet born." Jibreel's portrait is in the downtown public library.



National Consumer Week at City Hall

Consumer Tip Corner

There is a new program offered from the Department of Community Services , [The New Bedford Face to Face Mediation Program](#) for dispute resolution services. Face to Face Mediation brings parties to a dispute together supported by a neutral third party (the mediator) in identifying the disputed issues, developing options, and seeking their own fair settlement. The program mediates small claims court cases and community, including neighbor conflict, elder, & landlord/tenant. Our trained mediators will make presentations to your organizations. Our services are free. Call 508-979-1464.

Councilor Lopes at Frederick Douglass Read -A -Thon



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.

Neighborhood Activities...

Operation Clean Sweep- Save the Dates, 2014 schedule...

Ward 2- April 19th Ward 5- May 17th-Ward 6- June 21, Ward 3, August 16th-Ward 4- Pre-register before the clean up, Call 508—979-1493 or visit the website at www.operationcleansweep.net

Spring Cleaning

National Drug Take Back Dartmouth residents only. drugs and sharps needles, container prior to the day of **1103 Shawmut Ave., New Bedford, MA.**



Day and Sharp's Drop-Off Day— for New Bedford or (ID required). Safely dispose of wanted prescription syringes, and lancets. Sharps must be in a biohazard drop off. Drop off at the Shawmut Ave, Transfer Station,

Shred Day— Save the Date. Start collecting items for the next Shred Date May 3, 2014 You can also dispose of computer disks along with your paper items.

New Collection Program for Trash & Recyclables— Beginning June 23, 2014. For more info call 508-961-3008. Remember do not use before June 23rd because your trash will not be picked up. Old trash containers can be used for leaves.

Community Meetings & Program Activities

Drug Free NB Conference: Real Solutions for Our Community. The purpose is to have a community conversation to address the dilemma of prescription drugs in the community and provide information on advances in therapy for those who suffer from dependence and to provide support to their loved ones. You can follow Drug Free NB on twitter @drugfreenb or like them on Facebook. Coming in April, a media campaign. The theme is Stop addiction by prescription.

Neighborhood Working Group— Meets monthly at the Ingraham School. This all volunteer neighborhood group under the direction of Jackie Pina meets monthly and its mission is to develop projects to beautify and improve the quality of life within South End neighborhoods. All are invited to join or present to this group. For more information contact Jackie at 774-328-9925 ext.37.

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,

BULLETIN BOARD

Got a Beautiful Garden? Neighborhood Update cable show wants to find and recognize three of the most beautiful home gardens in the City of New Bedford. To enter the contest send photos of your garden to Best Gardens, C/O Dept. of Community Services, 133 William Street, New Bedford, MA.

Summer Jobs 2014 Applications are Available. Deadline is May 16, 2014 at 4PM, Applications are available in the Personnel Dept at City Hall, (Room 212), or at 181 Hillman St.

More Activities..

For Seniors:

Join the new Wellness Support Group at the Buttonwood Senior Center, 9:00 AM, May 14th, Hazelwood Senior Center, 553 Brock Avenue, 11:00 AM, May 14th, Brooklawn Senior Center, 9:00 AM, May 21st. Stuck in a rut?. Discuss the mind/body connection and its direct impact on your overall health. Call The New Bedford Council on Aging at 508-991-6250 if interested.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Inc., Providing support to grandparents raising grandchildren with monthly support groups, information, special programs and referral services. This group meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month 6:00PM-8:00 PM in the Ashley Room at City Hall. For more info call Brenda at 508-996-0168.

Sock Drive—Grandparents Raising Grandchildren is sponsoring a sock drive to collect new socks for children in NBPS where the greatest need is. You can donate socks at City Hall in the blue bin in front of the elevator.

Spring 2014 Fort Taber Dance Series— Back by popular demand. April 13th-Meadow Larks Combo, April 27th-TBD May 4th-Mike Moran Combo

For Children and Young Adults:

New Bedford Parks Recreation & Beaches Spring 2014 Programs— A variety of activities and classes for both children and adults. Most programs start the week of March 31st & are 10 weeks long. Classes fill quickly, something for everyone. For more info visit the Andrea McCoy Recreation Center at 181 Hillman St. Bldg. #3 or pick up a brochure in the City Hall lobby or visit the webpage at www.newbedford-ma.gov

Mr. & Miss Latina/Latino Queen/King Pageant, New Bedford 2014 sponsored by The Puerto Rican and Latin American Arts and Culture Committee. . Casting Auditions and applications will take place on April 2, and 4th at Hayden McFadden School, 361 Cedar Grove St., New Bedford, MA.

Seeking Justice For The Crimes Of The Past In Guatemala, A Talk by Makrina Gudiel. She has been active in the fight for human rights for over 30 years. She will talk about the cases of her father and brother, and the importance of international solidarity Guatemalan human rights activist. Wednesday, CCT Center, 1532 Acushnet Ave., **6PM, April 2nd,**

Martha Briggs Educational Club Lenten Tea. Sunday, 3-5PM, First Unitarian Church. Theme: Empowerment through Education, keynote speaker-Honorable Judge Bettina Borders. **April 13th**

New Bedford High School 2014 Spring College Fair. All area students and parents are encouraged to attend. This is an excellent opportunity for students and families to meet with admission reps from a wide range of colleges to discuss admissions and financial aid requirements. Over 100 college and university representatives, as well as representatives from career and technical institutions, and the armed services will be in attendance.

In addition local college students will be on hand to ask questions and talk to students about beginning the process, 5:30-7:30PM, **April 16 th.**



Local School Children exiting City Hall after a visit with the Mayor.