



NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY NEWS

NCOU Spring Edition Vol. 21

Welcome To The Neighborhood

We can now look forward to Spring after a relatively short but record snowfall breaking winter in South Coast MA. We survived it thanks to the many residents that did their best to adhere to city ordinances and the request of being a good neighbor and helping each other out. Special thanks to Pilgrim United Church for providing shelter from the elements for 22 days! Many were served through their doors. In this newsletter, we say thanks to the many volunteers who donated time in the shelters, serving or preparing food, playing games or watching movies with the attendees. You can access SPRING activities and more at www.newbedford-ma.gov/calendar. You can also add your events to the calendar.

Operation Clean Sweep kicks off its calendar beginning with a celebration of earth day on April 18th. Visit their website for scheduled clean-ups or volunteer opportunities.

Enjoy Spring!

Community Spotlight

The Department of Community Services also provides short-term storage space in between the move and re-settlement. The storage space is referred to as **Nana's Attic**. You have the opportunity to donate gently used belongings to local organizations & with arranging, sorting those in need. To learn or organizing belong- more call Kathy or Shelley @ 508-991-6250.

Consumer Tip

The first week in March is always National consumer week a perfect time to educate consumers of their rights and resources. For all your consumer needs and questions regarding consumer protection call the New Bedford Local Consumer Program at 508-979-1693.

Did You Know

New Bedford has a few nicknames and among them is Secret City. There has always been a wealth of talented people that come from this city, and not as well known as they should be. Did you know that Pete Souza born in New Bedford and a graduate of Dartmouth High is the official White House photographer for President Barrack Obama and President Reagan? He is referred to as the most powerful unknown person in Washington.



Pilgrim Shelter Volunteers



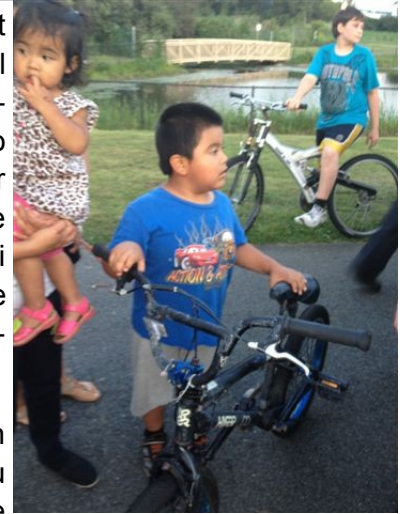
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What's New in the Neighborhoods

The CitiWorks Mini Grant Program is available for neighborhood improvement and offers up to \$2000.00 to neighborhood groups, non-profits, and other local organizations for community projects such as tree plantings, community gardens, public spaces and other beautification projects. What would you like to see in your neighborhood? Contact the office of Community Development or visit their webpage, (page 4) to learn more about this opportunity. Many of the types of projects listed above, around the city, have been funded through mini grants. Also, it is not too early to think about the United- Way Mini Grant. The grants have funded a variety of local community projects. Grants must be submitted to the mayor's office prior to or on May 8, 2015 by 4:00PM.

You can report crime, garbage violations, graffiti, & run down properties within your neighborhoods by calling the neighborhood improvement task force or you can visit their webpage found on page 4. You can use the report violations page to submit photographs of violations. Help to be a part of the solution in your community.



Children received free bikes at last year's National Night Out.

Neighborhood Watch

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is What are you doing for others?"

MLK

There are some changes to the existing neighborhood schedule. For current meeting information you can check the community services calendar of events on its webpage. The neighborhood united meeting schedule is also included in this newsletter. The Bullard St Neighborhood Group is now meeting on the first Monday of the month. Other changes include Brooklawn Neighborhood Group which will not meet in April and will resume meetings at the Brooklawn Community Center. The Parker St Neighborhood Association is still developing and holding meetings on the first Thursday of each month at the Parker St. School at 6:30 PM. The school also has a very active Family Resource Center. The Arnold Street Neighborhood Group is no longer active.

Neighborhood Clean-up

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day-Saturday, May 2, 2015-9am to noon, Crapo Hill Landfill, 300 Samuel Barnett Blvd, (includes oil based paints, paint thinner & waste fuels).

Paper Shredding Day, Saturday, May 9, 2015-9am to noon, at the parking lot across from City Hall, corner of William & North 6th Streets, \$5 per box (standard paper box size). Paper clips and staples do not need to be removed. Remove binders and folders.

Tire & Car Battery Recycling Day, Saturday, May 16, 2015-9am-noon. Cash or check only. \$1 each for car tires, \$5 each for light duty truck tires, \$15 each for heavy duty truck tires.

Drop-Off Day for Needles, Syringes & Lancets, Saturday, May 16, 2015-9am to noon, Shawmut Ave. Transfer Station, 1103 Shawmut Ave.



Neighborhood Activities



Buddy Andrade receives Community Service award from the NAACP

Acushnet Common/Wamsutta Apts— Meets as needed at the Wamsutta Apts. For more info call Tova Rea at 508-991-5329.

Taber Mills Resident Council Meets the second Tuesday of each month at 4PM, in the Taber Mills community room. Upcoming meetings are **Apr. 14, & May 12.**

Neighborhood Working Group— Lead by Jackie

Pina this group meets at the former Ingraham School. Call Jackie for information at 774-328-9925 ext 37.

Save the Date for the Annual National Night Out, Tuesday August 4 2015. The first meeting will be June 15 at 6:30 at Police headquarters.

CCT— Centro Comunitario de Trabajadores. This group advocating for better conditions for Central American Work-

ers, meets on Wednesdays at 6PM at their center on 1532 Acushnet Ave.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren—Meetings are held on the 3rd Tues of each month, downstairs in the Andrea McCoy Recreation Center. 181 Hillman St. Bldg. #8 6-8PM. Call Brenda, 508-996-0168 for more info.

Face to Face Mediation (Dispute Resolution)—Call 508-979-1464 for more info.

Million March Against Child Abuse, -Educate-Protect-Prevent, Apr. 11th, 9-12 pm, Court St. & Rockdale Ave.

What's Going On

Community Conversations hosted by Superintendent of NBPS, Pia Durkin— **Tuesday Apr. 7,** 6pm, Keith Middle School cafeteria, 225 Hathaway Blvd. -**Tuesday April 14-** 6pm, Roosevelt Middle School Community Room, 119 Frederick Street. Translation available at all three events.

Annual Palmers Island Lighthouse Clean-UP, Saturday **April 4,** 2015, meet at the Gifford St. Boat ramp parking lot, 11:30 am-2:30pm.

Fort Taber Dance Series sponsored by the City of New Bedford & Mayor Jon Mitchell, on selective Sunday afternoons, 1-4pm. Snack bar with refresh-

ments available: **Apr 12-** Pat Cordeiro Combo, **Apr. 19-** NuSounds, **May 3,** Mike Moran Combo.

Be Active & Eat Healthy Fitness Day, 9:30 am-3pm Andrea McCoy Recreation Center, 181 Hillman St., **Apr. 22.** (School Vacation Week) RSVP AT 508-889-1752 if you or your group is attending.

"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples"

Mother Teresa

What's New In Community Services

The Department of Community Services has been a partner with the office of waste and recycling in coordinating the annual Paper Shredding Day event which will be on **May 9th** from 9-12pm. This offering has been provided since 2009. Each year 3 tons of paper are shredded. Residents have the opportunity to

destroy documents in a safe and secure way. Now is the perfect time to start gathering your documents. This event is provided in the Spring and the fall.

The City of New Bedford's Shining Lights ESOL Program is sponsoring a Multi cultural Family Night Fundraiser, Thursday,

April 30, 2015 at Senhor Da Pedra, 81 Tinkham St. New Bedford, MA. Proceeds will support the ESOL program. The Shining Lights Program provides English classes at four sites; Alma del mar, Grace Church, Presidential Heights and Bay Village. For more info call 508-997-4889.



The New Bedford Face to Face Mediation Program is a free conflict dispute resolution program.



Department of Community Services

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[www.newbedford-ma.gov/
community-services](http://www.newbedford-ma.gov/community-services)

There is representation at neighborhood meetings from City Hall, the Police Dept, the District Attorney's Office, Community Services, City Councillors, and others.

The Department of Community Services advocates for and offers programs to New Bedford residents with an emphasis on culturally diverse, disabled senior and youth populations. Projects include adult literacy, out of school activities, consumer mediations, elder services and the American with Disabilities' Act compliance, The Commission for Citizens with Disabilities, Council on Aging Board, & Human Relations Commissions are within this department. The department works with neighborhood and community/ faith - based groups. Our staff is Spanish and Portuguese Speaking.

Additional Community Links You Should Know:

www.neighborhood-united.info

www.newbedford-ma.gov/taskforce

www.newbedford-ma.gov/parks-recreational-beaches

<http://www.newbedford-ma.gov/facilities-fleet-management/solid-waste-recycling/>

www.neighborhood-ma.gov/community-development

www.newbedford-ma.gov/community-services/

Neighborhood United Meeting Schedules

Brooklawn Neighborhood Association-

Meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM at the Brooklawn Community Center. Contact: Jerry Pinto-Gerry@safezones.org or www.neighborhoodsinfo.org. Upcoming meetings are **Apr 7, May 5, & Jun 2.**

Cove St Neighborhood Association-

Meets the first Monday of each month at 6:00 PM at the New England demolition and salvage. Contact: Loretta Bourque. Upcoming meetings are **Apr.6, May 4, & Jun. 1. Annual fun day June 20,1-3PM (16th year)**

Mt Pleasant Neighborhood Association-

Meets the last Wednesday of each month at Sacred Heart church community room. Contact: Henry Bousquet- hoek7@aol.com. Upcom-

ing meetings are **Apr. 29, May 27, & Jun. 24.**

Clarks Point Neighborhood Association-

Meets the third Wednesday of each month at the Waste Water Treatment Center. Contact: Celeine Saraiva- Celeine1@comcast.net. Upcoming meetings are **Apr. 15, May 20, & Jun. 17.**

Far North End Neighborhood Association-

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Pulaski School. Contact: Bob and Peggy Souza at 508-888-888. Upcoming meetings are **Apr. 14, May 12, & Jun. 9.**

Bullard St Neighborhood Meeting-

Meets the first Monday of the month at 6:30PM at St Anthony's Church. Contact: Ken Resendes and Joy Tru-

deau. Upcoming meetings are **Apr. 6 -(Special guest, Mayor Mitchell) May 4, & Jun. 1.**

Neighborhood United-

Meets the 1st Thursday of each month at 6:30 at PACCA, 360 Coggeshall St. Contact: Jerry Pinto. Upcoming meetings are **May 7, & Jun. 4.**

AJ Gomes Neighborhood Association-

Meets the last Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Gomes School. Contact: Buddy Andrade at 508-993-8500. Upcoming meetings are **Apr. 28, May 26, & Jun.30.**

Hope VI/Caroline Apts.

Meets the Second Tuesday of each month at the Caroline St Apts. Contact; Henry Bousquet-hoek7@aol.com. Upcoming meetings are **Apr.14,May12,&Jun.9.**