



Picture with Santa



School Kids visiting Mayor Lang



Anne Louro

Neighborhood & Community News

Welcome to the Neighborhood!

Welcome to the winter edition of the 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.

On January 18th the Annual Martin Luther King Celebration was held for the first time at the Thirteenth Israel Congregation. City residents who braved the snowy weather had a special treat in hearing from our city's first lady, Gig Lang who delivered a short speech in the absence of Mayor Lang who was in Washington. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Portia Bonner, Superintendent of New Bedford Public Schools.

The festivities of the New Year continued as many within the community shared in the inaugural parties celebrating the election of the 44th President Barack Obama. You will find photos of these events and others in this edition.

On the neighborhood scene we welcomed a new West End Neighborhood Association. Check the meeting dates and attend a meeting in your neighborhood



NBHS Jazz Choir



Inaugural Day

Marci

Marci Pina-Christian
Department of Community Services
Human Services Coordinator
(Neighborhood Outreach & Human Relations)
133 William Street

Neighborhood Spotlight

This month's spotlight is on Ken Rezendes and Joy Trudeau. Kenny and Joy are a dynamic duo in neighborhood leadership. They are both active chairs of the Bullard Street Neighborhood Association and members of Neighborhood United. Kenny has been the chair since 2005. He is a lifelong resident of the Bullard Street community. He joined the neighborhood group as a result of being unhappy with the way the neighborhood was changing and believing that he could make a difference. As Kenny states "It is one thing to complain and another not to do anything". Some of the neighborhood events that Bullard St. has hosted are Family Fun Day which is always well attended and the traditional Christmas tree lighting ceremonies. One of the accomplishments that he is most proud of is the redevelopment of Riverside Park which the Bullard St group had been advocating for over the years. The Bullard Street group meets on the third Thursday of the month and anyone is welcome to attend the meeting.

According to Kenny, he hopes for a community the way it was back in the days when you would see people come together, when you knew your neighbor, and you could take walks throughout the neighborhood and feel comfortable.

Kenny's hobbies include auto racing, and he has made a few trips to Daytona for the NasCar races.



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 Wamsutta Apts Office at 6:30 PM. This group includes the Wamsutta 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
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.
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 guests for this month include representatives from the EPA.
Rockdale Avenue Neighborhood Association
Meets the first Monday of the month at 6:30, at the Buttonwood Warming Center and the chair is Gerry Pinto.
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.

1st Annual New Bedford Idol

A 6-week competition to find the most talented singer in New Bedford. You must be a student in New Bedford, 14-18. Applications available at all schools, libraries, city hall, and Fun 107 in Fairhaven. For more information call 508-9791692

Neighborhood United
Meets the 1 st 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. 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.
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.
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 guests at this month's meeting include representatives from the Community Development Office.
West End Neighborhood Association
Meets the third Monday of the month at Carney Academy at 6:30 PM. This is a newly formed neighborhood association and is being chaired by Sue Braga until a new leader is appointed. We encourage residents within the Central West End area to come out and get involved. Special Guest, Brandey Denini-Melanson, U.S. Asst Attorney will give a presentation on the Weed & Seed program.

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.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, The 3rd Tuesday of the Month, 6:30-7:30PM, 105 William St., 3rd Floor, New Bedford, MA

Roots Down New Bedford. Free monthly sustainable gardening workshop series begins. To help new and experienced gardeners gain a deeper understanding of methods used in healthy food production

South Coast Community Gardens Coalition Meeting, 4:00 PM at the Coachman meeting room, behind the Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum

Whaling City Festival Presents their 2nd annual Fundraiser to benefit the Whaling City Scholarship Fund. Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, Ballet, Lyrical, and more., March 15,, 2:00PM at Keith Middle School. Ticket Information call (508)996-1900

Midday Music At Grace, Lenten Series in conjunction with Massachusetts Cultural Council, Fridays From 12:15-12:45 March 6, 13th, 20th, 27th, & April 3rd