

2012 New Bedford Santa 5k Fun Run



By Shonna
McGrail R
yan

Use the discount code “NBG” and get \$5 off this race: <http://www.thesightings.com/register/>

What traditions do your friends and family uphold during the holiday season? Perhaps you go to an annual tree lighting, spend time shopping together, or get into season by trimming the tree whilst listening to your favorite carols. How about dressing up in Santa suits and going for a friendly 5K run together?

This may sound like an unlikely way to celebrate the holidays, but if you witnessed the 1,600 jolly St. Nicks running through New Bedford streets last winter, you know that it is no joke. This year, the Santa Run will happen again on Saturday, December 8th and they are expecting an even greater numbers of participants in what is described as a “fun run” that invites runners of all ages and abilities to join.



Race director Geoff Smith is a two time Olympic competitor and two-time Boston marathon champion, but he does not expect everyone in the Santa Run to be a serious runner. In fact, he encourages everyone to join, whether they prefer to run, jog, walk or even push a stroller. I sat down with Geoff and Director of Marketing, Matthew Neumann the other day to learn more

about the 5K. Geoff explained that the purpose of the Santa Run is to “get everybody off the couch” and “bring people together for the holiday.”

Getting into the spirit of the season by running in a Santa costume is quite unique to most parts of the county, but New Bedford is not the only city that hosts this event. Geoff told me that in the past seven years these Santa races have become increasingly common in the UK and Europe. The largest number of recorded Santas was in Derry City in Northern Ireland where there were 12,965 participants.

There are only a few cities in the United States that currently host the Santa Race, and Baton Rouge, Louisiana is the newest to join as a “sister race” to the city of New Bedford. Geoff and Matt mentioned that in the spirit of friendly competition, it will be interesting to see which city registers more runners.

To register for the run or to read more about it, go to thesightings.com. Use the discount code “NBG” and get \$5 off! The cost of registration includes the full Santa costume; hat, beard, belt, jacket and trousers. The New Bedford Santa Run is also a fundraiser that benefits the South Coast Hospitals cardiac program. It is recommended that you register as early as possible since there may be more registered runners this

year than costumes available. Additionally, there is a discounted registration fee being offered up until October 31st.

The Santa Run starts at 11 AM at New Bedford City Hall and it ends at City Hall as well. This year's course was slightly modified due to the construction, and the new route will no longer include the treacherous Johnny Cake Hill, making it a bit easier. Furthermore, the cobblestone streets are limited and sidewalks can be used for strollers. Overall, Geoff and Matt assured me that the run is quite easy and that a 5K (or 3.1 miles) is quite manageable by most everyone. Geoff noted that, "it is more about the experience than it is about the run".

The Santa Run is a jolly, one-of-a-kind way to walk/jog/run your way into the holiday season while also sharing in the spirit of giving to a great cause. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, email info@thesightings.com to find out more about sponsorship packages. Find them on Facebook at facebook.com/santasightings.

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New Bedford, a Magnet for Sex Offenders?

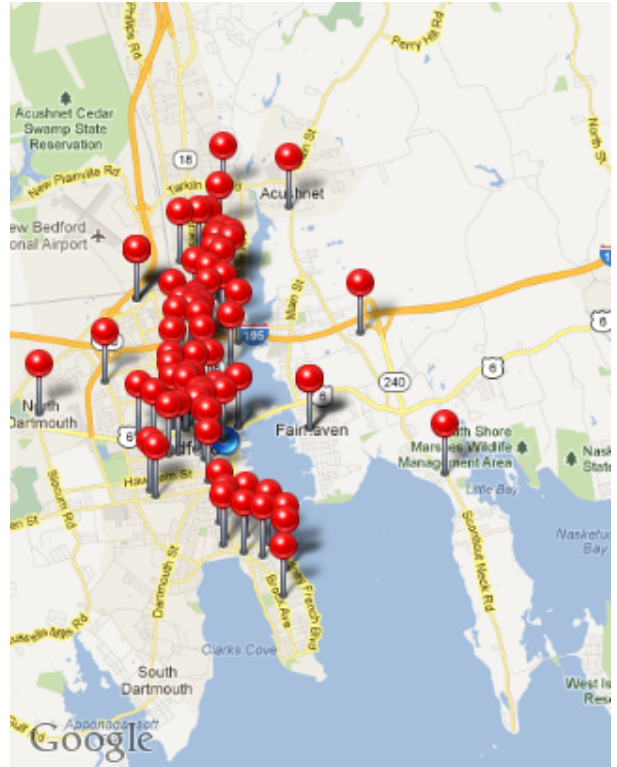


by
Michael
Silvia

Would you invite a convicted sex offender that you've never met to your house for dinner with your wife and kids? No? How about inviting them to become your neighbor? Or a resident of your city? You may not be inviting sex offenders to your neighborhood, but as a city, New Bedford is doing just that that through handouts and a passive court system.

According to the **National Alert Registry**, there are over 374,000 convicted sex offenders in the United States. The problem with this number is only **1/2 of those sexually assaulted report their crime** and that number is likely conservative. Taking that into account, there are likely 500,000 to a million sex offenders in America today. **Other organization report as many as 637,000**, so these numbers are likely much higher!

According to the Massachusetts' Public Safety website, there are 95 sex offenders in New Bedford (as of 10 Sep, 2012), but only 3 in Fairhaven. That's more than a 31 to 1 ratio of sex offenders that reside in New Bedford compared to Fairhaven, even though New Bedford only has 6 times the population (95,000 compared to 15,000). Compared to Dartmouth's 5 sex offenders, New Bedford had 19 times the offenders with less than three times the population (95,000 to 34,000). Comparably, with 88,857 residents, Fall River has roughly the same size population as New Bedford , but has 110 sex offenders in their city. Taking these stats into account, there must be a reason why so many sex offenders reside in cities like New Bedford and Fall River, but avoid towns like Dartmouth and Fairhaven.



New Bedford has 95 registered sex offenders compared to just 3 in Fairhaven and 5 in Dartmouth.

If we take into account that 1/2 of sexually assaulted victims don't report the crime, this would mean there are likely about 200 sex offenders residing in New Bedford today. That doesn't include the unregistered sex offenders. **According to a 2003 report by the Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics**, 5.3% of sex offenders were rearrested for another sex crime within 3 years of being released. This means that of the likely 200 sex offenders in New Bedford, 10 will likely commit a sexual assault again within 3 years of being released. The number gets much higher once you account for crimes after three years and **there are studies that report long-term recidivism rates at 43% to 88%**.

The obvious question that comes to mind is, why do sex offenders live in or migrate to cities like New Bedford and Fall River, but not towns like Fairhaven and Dartmouth? It's not easy to distinguish between sex offenders that grew up in

New Bedford or those that moved to New Bedford after being released from prison. Here are the reasons I feel New Bedford attracts so many sex offenders.

1. Low Rent – According the City government, 22,770 residents New Bedford were defined as “low-income” with 5,164 living in affordable housing units provided by the government. Section 8 vouchers and state MRVP vouchers provided rental assistance for another 1,739. What’s my point? When a sex offender comes out of prison, he (or is rare cases she) likely doesn’t have a lot of money and needs to live where the rent is cheap, or where the government can provide him housing. High rent prices and the lack of government assistance in towns like Marion, Fairhaven, Dartmouth simply place housing out of reach to most people leaving prison.

State and federal government housing programs do help New Bedford residents in critical need of affordable housing, but the programs also attract the neediest from other towns and cities. In the migration of perfectly fine, less fortunate citizens are criminals that simply can’t afford to live anywhere else. Besides attracting the wrong kind of citizens, this migration puts a strain on scarce resources. “State and federal housing policies and other government subsidies are effectively encouraging a dependent population to migrate here from elsewhere. Their decision to locate here rather than elsewhere places a tremendous demand on a variety of city services including our schools and public safety agencies,” said New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell.

2. Free Food – New Bedford also has tons of government services, food/homeless shelters and other organizations that provide meals daily. You do NOT have to be homeless to use these services. For example, Our Lady’s Chapel in Downtown New Bedford provides several meals a day to anyone that shows up to their door at scheduled times. Several organizations provide a free meals for anyone that shows up to their

kitchen. These are all great organizations that provide caring services, but they also ensure people with limited income move to New Bedford instead of an area without government housing/assistance and services. I'm not saying that all homeless or impoverished people are sex offenders, but almost all sex offenders that come out of prison have few means to take care of themselves, and they won't go hungry in New Bedford. While with good intention, the government and other organizations set up to help the poor and homeless, in fact attract many sex offenders to New Bedford.



RAINN reporting and prosecution matrix. Sources: 1) Justice Department 2) FBI 3) National Center for Policy Analysis 4) Department of Justice

3. Catch and Release – Our court system doesn't take unregistered sex offenders seriously. By law convicted sex offenders must register their address with local law enforcement. Just a few weeks ago the New Bedford police arrested someone for having an open alcoholic beverage in public. The man turned out to be an unregistered sex offender. The New Bedford Police Department processed the man, but the court released the man onto our streets the very next day. I talked to the leadership at our downtown New Bedford Police

Department and they stated that this catch and release policy is common practice. Our courts should be here to protect us and take sex offender registry laws seriously, but for whatever reason they fall short. Overall, our court system fails women that are sexually assaulted. The Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, (RAINN) reports that only 3 of 100 rapist ever spend a single day in prison (see graphic).

4. Weak Sexual Assault Outreach Programs – This is a national problem that is not exclusive to New Bedford. If 50% of sexual assaults go unreported, then there is obviously a barrier for victims to report the crime against them. Common sense tells you that if sex offenders are allowed to get away with their crime, they will likely become repeat offenders. Fear and the lack of information will cause a victim to keep their crime silent. New Bedford does have great organizations like The Women's Center, but as a city we can do more. Sexual assault victims must feel that they can be removed from their hostile environment after reporting their crime and that the courts will punish the offenders. Victims must be provided with the information needed to report the crime and be armed with the local resources available to them.

Final Thoughts

The vast majority of people living in low income conditions are not sex offenders, but statistics show that most sex offenders are attracted to places of low rent or government provided housing. How do we ensure New Bedford is not a magnet to sex offenders? First, we need to stop providing resources that welcome them to our city. It's great that local organizations provide a hot meal and bed to those in need, or our government takes care of our poorest with housing and services, but we need to do it in a way that doesn't invite sex offenders to come live in our city. Second, we need a court system that punishes sex offenders that do not register their address. It's the law and we have a right to know if a sex offender is living next door to us. Finally, we need to

arm EVERYONE with the knowledge of how to report a crime and where to find resources. We should strive to be a city that doesn't attract sex offenders, works to make sure no crime goes unreported and prosecute the offenders to the fullest extent possible.

References

- Massachusetts Public Safety
- US Department of Justice National Sex Offender Public Website
- Family Watch Dog
- Sex Offenders Nationwide Safety Network
- Offendex Sex Crime Database
- CNN Article on Recidivism Rates
- The Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, (RAINN)

How to Absolutely, Positively ALWAYS Have a Good Time on AHA! Night



By Stephan
Rose

“What!?” you are thinking. “How could you POSSIBLY make a promise to me like that, Stephan Rose??? I believe what Mark Twain said ‘The only two certainties in life are death and taxes’!”

Well, although Mr. Twain said many wise things in his time, *stop being such a Negative Nancy*. I CAN virtually guarantee

you will have a great time at ANY AHA! Night, with a little planning, forethought and my general good advice. Let's dive in, shall we?

Let's start from the beginning: *You can't enjoy AHA! Night, if you miss it.* I, myself, didn't begin to attend AHA for years, simply because I forgot WHEN it occurred. It's a good idea to circle the date on your calendar, program a reminder in your phone, etc. so you can be notified when the **second Thursday of the month** rolls around. Ahanewbedford.org has a mailing list that gives you plenty of notice before the night arrives; as well as informing you of the specific events that will take place! You can also find AHA Night on Facebook, Twitter and Flickr.



Figure out exactly what you like being part of. What do you enjoy doing? Live music? Viewing art? Learning history? AHA stands for "art, history and architecture", so that will be a part of every night. By knowing what your interests (or the interests of the group you are with) are, you can make informed choices ahead of time and see things you know you will enjoy.

AHA goes from 5 to 9, be early. That may not always be possible, but it is better to be there when things start, grab a schedule (available at the downtown library, and most AHA participating locations), and decide what your group would like to see and when it is.

Eat before or after. Good news! Downtown has quite a variety of good restaurants. BUT! Waiting for your food to arrive and

then eating it can be quite time-consuming, especially if the restaurant is packed with other AHA-goers. If you eat DURING AHA, you'll probably miss something enjoyable. My advice would be to eat before AHA, whether at home or downtown (please make it downtown..NB needs your money!). Quite a few establishments close before AHA ends, so before is better. If you see the schedule and nothing appeals to you at say, 7p.m., that would be the time to eat up and chow down.

Your enjoyment level is directly proportional to WHO you are with! Okay, it's sad I have to say this but, if you haven't learned during childhood this lesson, I'll teach it to you NOW: if you are hanging out with killjoys, don't expect AHA! Night to MAGICALLY make your night fun. Think of who you spend most of your free time with: what words would you use to describe them? Carefree? In love with life? Childlike in wonder? A joy to be around? Miserable? Chronic complainers? NEVER satisfied? Always expecting things to go wrong?

Personally, I have a better time alone at AHA than with...well, whiny little bitches (Can I say that here? Is this guide family-friendly? Whoops.) Of course, the BEST time is had when you are with people up for adventure, new experiences, and are fun to be with. Discuss with your friends what activities you will all like, and go forth and enjoy, my son.

I hope this has been very informative for you (as if it could be anything BUT that.) See you downtown next 2nd Thursday of the month for a night to remember. September's AHA! is this Thursday, September 13th, 2012. Full list of events here: <http://www.ahanewbedford.org/calendar.html>

Special thanks to Josh Souza for use of his cover photo!

King Richard's Faire 2012 Season

King Richard's Faire, New England's largest and longest-running Renaissance Festival, opens its 2012 season on September 1 and runs through October 21, 2012 on weekends and Monday holidays (Labor Day, Columbus Day). Tucked away on 80 acres of beautiful, enchanted forest off Rt. 58, King Richard's Faire is a full day of live, interactive entertainment for all ages, including exotic tigers and a rare liger, daring knights jousting on horseback, and eight stages filled with song and dance.



Guests can mingle with royal subjects and performers, and tantalize their taste buds with the Faire's delicious spit-roasted turkey legs, buttery ears of corn, boules filled with chowder and stew, ringlets of fries, champagne, wine and brew. Shoppers can stroll through the 16th century village filled with the wares of more than 100 unique and talented artisans. At every turn, guests will encounter minstrels, musicians, acrobats, stilt walkers, giant life-size puppets, mud beggars and more special surprises.

Each Saturday, the Faire hosts themed contests at 4 p.m., including a Cleavage Contest (9/8), Vow Renewal Ceremony (9/15); Biker's Weekend – Royal Ink & Steeds Contest (9/22); Prince & Princess Costume Contest (9/29); Carvershire's Got Talent Contest (10/6); Beard & Moustache Contest (10/13); Adult Halloween Costume Contest (10/20). See website under "Entertainment" and then "Themed Events" for rules and details. www.kingrichardsfaire.net.

Tickets are \$27 for adults (12+) and \$15 for children ages 4-11. Children under 4 are free, and parking is free. Discounts given to groups of 25 adults or more and private parties can be accommodated -reservations for all groups are required by emailing info@kingrichardsfaire.net.

The Faire address is 235 Main Street (Rt. 58) in Carver, Mass. 02330; phone number is 508-866-5391. Visit King Richard on Facebook (www.facebook.com/TheKingRichardsFaire), on Twitter @KRFaire, and on Pinterest.

10 Things to Know About Fort Taber

One of New Bedford's historical treasures and largest parks is Fort Taber-Fort Rodman on Clark's Point. It's an amazing location and that shapes the tip of the south end of New Bedford. To me, it's important and fun to learn about your local history. Do you know why the fort has two names; Fort Taber and Fort Rodman? Most of the historical information used in this article was taken from the official Fort Taber- Fort Rodman Historical Association's website and the City of New Bedford's Fort Taber Park page.

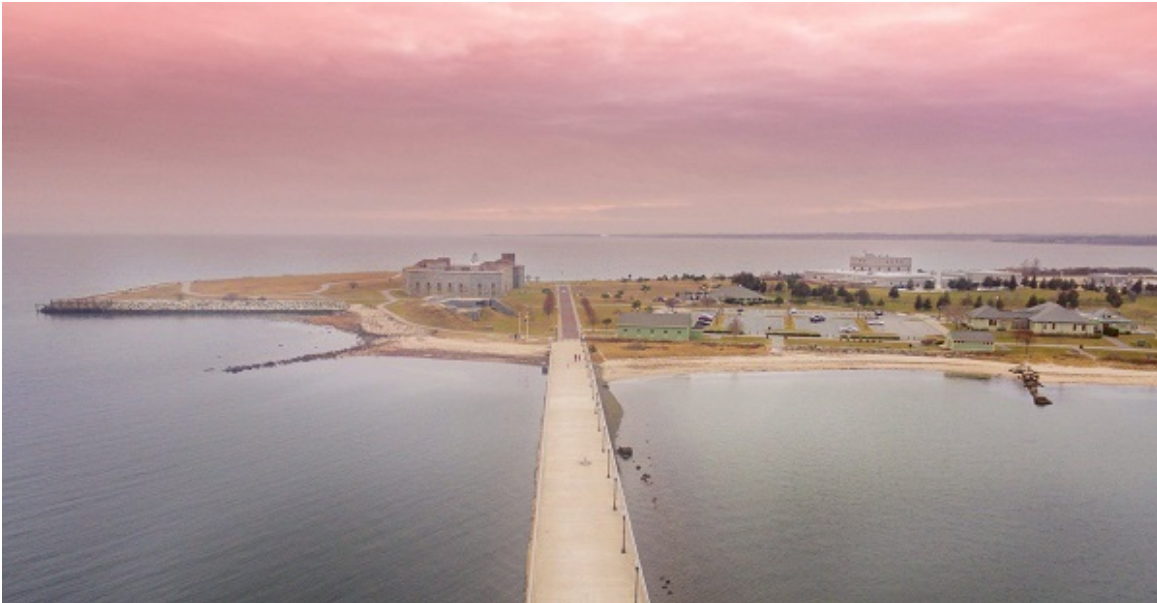


Photo by Felix Vieira.

1. There was never a military battle at Fort Taber-Fort Rodman, but the fort deterred enemy navies from attacking our shipping and city during the civil war, World War I and World War II.

2. The United States first saw Clark's Point as a strategic location during the American Revolution. A British raid in 1778 destroyed seventy vessels and twenty-six storehouses.

3. The first government structure built on Clark's Point was a 42-foot stone tower lighthouse erected in 1804 to help guide whalers and other vessels entering the harbor.



Fort Taber in 1871.

4. On September 24, 1857, the federal government purchased the Edward Wing Howland farm on Clark's Point for \$7,000 to establish a defensive military fort. The initial funding was \$50,000 for a 70 gun defensive fort.

5. On May 11, 1861, a temporary defensive position was completed and unofficially named Fort Taber after current New Bedford Mayor Issac C. Taber (1860-1862). It was built to help

defend the area during the Confederate navy during the Civil War. The federal government called it "the fort at Clark's Point."



6. In 1898, the entire military property was officially named Fort Rodman in honor of Lt. Col. William Logan Rodman of New Bedford, killed in the Civil War battle at Port Hudson, Louisiana.

7. After World War II, Fort Rodman was declared surplus and in the 1970s part of the facility was sold to the City of New Bedford.



8. There is a military museum on the fort for visitors enjoy. It is open daily from 1-4 p.m. Call 508-994-3938 for more details.

9. There is an interactive timeline detailing the evolution of Fort Rodman-Fort Taber and an interactive map to learn specifics on each building.

10. Sometimes in the summer, the fine folks at the Military Museum will open the doors and give visitors a look inside. Here's a rare look inside Fort Taber: <https://www.newbedfordguide.com/video-a-look-inside-fort-taber-in-new-bedford/2016/05/07>

Know of an unique fact about Fort Taber-Fort Rodman? Post a comment!



New Bedford Remembers 9/11



Mayor Jon Mitchell announced today that the City of New Bedford will commemorate the 11th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks with a ceremony at City Hall. At 3:30 pm on Tuesday, September 11, 2012, the Mayor, elected officials, members of New Bedford's public safety departments, and community members will gather on the steps of City Hall to remember the lives lost and affected by the 9/11 attacks. The New Bedford High School Marching Band is scheduled to perform during the ceremony.

Historic Park Free Weekend Walking Tours



Tour stop in front of the Seamen's Bethel.

New Bedford has a long and fascinating history, filled with stories of whalers going to sea for years at a time, wives left to run businesses, escaped slaves seeking freedom, and a connection to the sea that spans centuries. The public is invited to explore this history through free guided tours, offered weekends (Saturday and Sunday) at 10:30 AM and 2:30 PM. Tours leave from New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park's visitor center, at 33 William Street in downtown New Bedford.

Tours will include Risks and Rewards of Whaling, Unknown Heroes and Their Secrets: New Bedford's Underground Railroad, In Ishmael's Footsteps, New Bedford's Working Waterfront: Then and Now, and Sharing The Same Seas: The Uneasy Relationship between Humans and Whales.

Jen Nersesian, superintendent of New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, said, "Our national park is proud to offer these tours to our public. The stories of whaling are connected to so many people around the world—they are everyone's stories. Our walking tours are just one way we connect visitors to this amazing history. We especially look

forward to seeing folks from New Bedford and surrounding towns drop by.”

Butch McCarthy Solo Album Release

After such a long musical career, it's kind of hard to believe that Butch McCarthy has never recorded a solo album- but it's true. Until now.



He has been part of several recording projects in recent years, but always as a member of a band (McCarthy/Richards Band & The Butch McCarthy Band) or a duo (McCarthy/Legge with Dori Legge) but over the years he piled up a fair number of songs that he wrote on his own and the time had come to hit the studio solo.

So on Saturday, Sept 8 there will be a CD Release at Rose Alley Ale House starting at 3PM to celebrate the release of Butch's first Solo album: Prevail.

The term "Solo album" may be a stretch because every recording projects requires a lot of people and a lot of time. Prevail was recorded at Seasound Studios in Plymouth, MA and produced by Mark Bryant for Plimro Records. The musicians include local

favorites Chris Richards, JB Borges, Steve Mazza and Bob McCarthy (Butch's brother). Plymouth area musicians Kit Carlyle and James Calandrella added tracks as well. Local photographer, Chris Haskell, is responsible for the photos and album design.

The album was funded solely by fan contributions- Butch's fans pre-purchased the CD a month or so in advance and contributed so much that the goal amount was surpassed in a week's time. All funds received over the goal amount were contributed to the Jimmy Fund at Dana-Farber Institute.

There are 11 songs on Prevail which are an eclectic mix of Americana, Folk and Rock. Songs include 'No Man's Land', 'Tend To Me' and the title track 'Prevail'.

There is no admission fee Saturday and CDs are \$15/each.

More info at www.butchmccarthy.com.

Whaling Museum to Host New Bedford Glass Symposium

Mt. Washington and Pairpoint glass experts, collectors and fans will gather for the New Bedford Glass Symposium at the Whaling Museum, September 13-15. The event features three days of activities, including the opening of a new permanent glass gallery.



The symposium kicks off on Thursday, September 13 at 6:30 p.m. with a lecture titled "New Bedford Glass in Corning" presented by Jane Shadel Spillman. A reception and book signing in the Jacobs Family Gallery at 6:00 p.m. precedes the lecture. Full schedule [here](#).

Jane Shadel Spillman is Curator of American glass at The Corning Museum of Glass. The author of numerous articles and books, Ms. Spillman recently curated the 2011 Mt. Washington and Pairpoint exhibition at Corning. She is secretary of the International Association for the History of Glass and editor of The Glass Club Bulletin for the National American Glass Club.

Friday events include a tour to the New Bedford Museum of Glass with NBMOG president Kirk Nelson, the annual meeting of the Mt. Washington & Pairpoint Glass Society, and a lecture at 3:15 p.m. by Jill Thomas-Clark, titled "Crown Pairpoint: The French Connection" in the Cook Memorial Theater. Ms. Thomas-Clark is Rights and Reproductions Manager at the Rakow Research Library, Corning Museum of Glass. The day concludes with the opening at 5:30 p.m. of a new permanent glass gallery, "Glass from the City of Light," guest-curated by Kirk Nelson, and sponsored by the Leonard S. and Hilda Kaplan Charitable Foundation.

Saturday events include an 8:30 a.m. field trip to the 25th Annual Antique & Collectible Glass Show & Sale sponsored by the Sandwich Glass Museum.

At 3:00 p.m. Laura Coffin will present an illustrated lecture titled "Mt. Washington's Lava ("Sicilian") Glass." Laura A. Coffin is assistant director, New Bedford Museum of Glass. She has published several articles on glass topics and serves as Co-Seminar Liaison for the National American Glass Club.

At 4:00 p.m. Marion & Sandra Frost will present "Pairpoint Research Goes Digital." Marion and Sandra Frost are authors of

“The Comprehensive Guide to Pairpoint Glass: Shapes and Patterns” and “The Essence of Pairpoint.”

A cocktail reception at 6:00 p.m. in the Jacobs Family Gallery will be followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. and a public auction of period glass at 8:00 p.m.

Registration: \$225.00 for members of NBWM, NBMOG and MWPGS / \$250.00 for nonmembers (Includes all events and fees) or \$25 per lecture. \$75.00 for Saturday Dinner and Auction only. To register: www.whalingmuseum.org or call (508) 997-0046, ext. 100.

The New Bedford Glass Symposium is sponsored by the New Bedford Whaling Museum, New Bedford Museum of Glass, and Mt. Washington & Pairpoint Glass Society

The New Bedford Whaling Museum is the world's most comprehensive museum devoted to the global story of whales, whaling and the cultural history of the region. The cornerstone of New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, the Museum is located at 18 Johnny Cake Hill in the heart of the city's historic downtown. For events: www.whalingmuseum.org.

National Historical Park's 15th Anniversary Celebration



New Bedford Visitors Center
(33 William Street).

The Whaling History Alliance, the official fundraising organization for New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, will host an afternoon of family-friendly activities in celebration of the 15th Anniversary of New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park on Saturday, September 8.

The event will feature a 2 p.m. award presentation, honoring Congressman Barney Frank and the late Senator Edward M. "Ted" Kennedy for their commitment and leadership which led to the successful adoption of New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park in 1997. Special guest, Victoria Reggie Kennedy, will be in attendance to accept Senator Kennedy's award on his behalf.

"In addition to celebrating the 15th Anniversary of New Bedford's National Park, this very special event will honor and thank two of the key individuals who played a vital role in the adoption of the legislation for the Park," said Joseph P. Lopes, New Bedford City Councilor and President of the Whaling History Alliance. "We invite the community to join the festivities and gather together as we present Congressman Barney Frank and the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy with a commemorative gift as a symbol of our appreciation for their commitment and dedication to this notable cause."

The public is invited to attend the 15th Anniversary celebration. The event will kick-off at **1:30 p.m.** on Saturday,

September 8, with a performance by the National Park's **Youth Ambassador Program** in the garden outside of the National Park Visitor Center, 33 William Street in New Bedford. The **award presentation** will follow in the Park garden at **2 p.m.** As part of the Park's birthday celebration, guests are invited to enjoy complementary cupcakes provided by Emma Jean's Cupcake and Ice Cream Shoppe.

At the close of the award presentation, the following activities, tours and exhibits will take place throughout the National Park:

National Park Visitor Center

The National Park Visitor Center will host free children's activities organized by the National Park Volunteers' Education Committee and a free origami whale making activity provided by ArtWorks! These activities will be available from the close of the awards ceremony (approximately 2:30 p.m.), until 5 p.m.

At 3 p.m., join the Grupo Folclorico Madeirense for a special performance in the Park garden. The Grupo Folclorico Madeirense is an all volunteer organization performing dances of Madeira Island to spread knowledge about Madeiran folklore, Portuguese heritage, the Clube Madeirense S.S. Sacramento, and the Feast of the Blessed Sacrament.

Corson Building

The following National Park partner organizations will host various types of exhibits at the Corson Building, 33 William Street, from the close of the awards ceremony (approximately 2:30 p.m.), until 5 p.m.

- National Park Service: Teacher Ranger Teacher Program
- Whaling History Alliance
- Schooner Ernestina Commission /Schooner Ernestina-Morrissey Association, Inc.

- New Bedford Historical Society
- Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum
- Ocean Explorium “Touch Tank”
- Buzzards Bay Coalition

Join the National Park Stewards’ at **4 p.m.** in the Park theater for the **Red Carpet Premiere** of the Park Stewards’ documentary. The documentary is a compilation of the 2012 Park Stewards’ six week program on the various forms of art, visiting artists in residence programs at National Parks in New England, and their own art creations.

Tours

The following tours are free of charge and will run from the close of the awards ceremony (approximately 2:30 p.m.), concluding at 5 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

- Tours of the National Park Visitor Center and Corson Building conducted by Park Rangers and Park Volunteers. The Visitor Center and the Corson Building are located at 33 William Street.
- National Park Service Scavenger Hunt throughout the Park’s historic area conducted by Park Rangers and Park Volunteers. Scavenger hunts will leave from the National Park Visitor Center, 33 William Street.
- Shuttle tours highlighting New Bedford’s authentic working waterfront, the downtown’s premier historical and cultural institutions, and the cobblestone streets filled with burgeoning businesses, vibrant art galleries and diverse dining establishments conducted by Anne Louro, City of New Bedford Historic Preservation Planner. Shuttle tours will leave from the National Park Visitor Center, 33 William Street, at 3 p.m., 3:20 p.m. and 3:40 p.m.
- Walking tours of Front Street and the Route 18 re-design construction project. Today the project is on budget and ahead of schedule with an expected completion of Spring

2013. The tours will be conducted by Derek Santos, Director of Business Development at the New Bedford Economic Development Council, and will leave from the National Park Visitor Center, 33 William Street.

- Free tours of the Ocean Explorium with pass provided at National Park Visitor Center. The Ocean Explorium is located at 174 Union Street.

New Bedford Whaling Museum



New Bedford Whaling Museum.

In honor of the National Park's 15th Anniversary celebration, the New Bedford Whaling Museum will host an afternoon of free activities between the hours of 2:30 and 5 p.m. The following activities will take place on the Museum plaza.

- Harpoon challenge. Practice to become a harpooner. Guests are invited to try their hand at throwing a kid-safe harpoon through a target.
- Scrimshaw. It may not be legal to carve on sperm whale teeth in 2012, but you can use soap, shoe polish and a carving stick to create your own masterpiece to take home.
- *Pequod*. Make a floating model of the famous whale ship from '*Moby-Dick*'.

Voyage Around the World. Join Museum docents in the Jacobs

Family Gallery for experiential activities to highlight the common thread of history that connects New Bedford with Alaska and Hawai'i.

Enjoy a staged reading of '*Moby-Dick*' with the Boston Experimental Theatre Company in the Cook Memorial Theater. Join the imaginary voyage aboard the *Pequod* with Captain Ahab, Ishmael, Queequeg and the rest of the crew as they pursue an infamous white whale across the treacherous waters of the globe. Meet the characters, share their perils and immerse yourself in the beauty and harshness of Melville's finely drawn portrait of a doomed whaling expedition.

The New Bedford Whaling Museum will host this staged reading of a script adapted from Herman Melville's classic novel *Moby Dick*. After the reading, there will be a talk back session with BETC. (This staged reading precedes a full production to be performed in Boston in January by the members of BETC.)

In addition to the free activities listed above, the Whaling Museum will offer buy one, get one free admissions for the day.