

# 21st Annual Spring Social (11 April)

Downtown New Bedford, Inc. will be holding its 21st Annual Spring Social at the New Bedford Art Museum at 608 Pleasant Street from 5-7 pm on Wednesday,



April 11, 2012. Executive Director Diane Arsenault says that "we are very fortunate to have this wonderful setting to host our annual event." The New Bedford Art Museum has just undergone an extensive renovation and is re-opening with an exciting new exhibit that will be part of the great atmosphere at the Spring Social. The Exhibit is titled: Great Expectations: NBAM 2.0 The Next Generation of Art in New Bedford.

Board Chairman Kevin T. Pelland stated, "this Social is a popular annual event that is always well attended and offers arts, food and beverage, music, and the opportunity to extend our thanks to our award recipients for all they do for our community". In addition to mixing, mingling and art, Downtown New Bedford, Inc. will be recognizing Chas. S. Ashley & Sons with the Business of the Year Award, Peter DeWalt, President of Reynolds DeWalt with the Community Investment Award and this year's Cultural Arts Recognition Award, will be presented to Superintendent Jennifer Nersesian for the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park.

Spring Social tickets are \$50 each, \$35 of which is tax deductible. Downtown New Bedford, Inc. is a non-profit (501)(C)3 community organization. Tickets may be purchased from the DNB office at 105 William Street, 2nd Floor, on-line through our web-site [www.downtownnb.org](http://www.downtownnb.org) and from Board

Members. For tickets or information call 508-990-2777 Email: [dnb@downtownnb.org](mailto:dnb@downtownnb.org) .

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# Exploring The New Bedford Whaling Museum

Have you ever wondered how whaling came to be a vital worldwide business? And why did New Bedford become the richest and busiest port for whaling? Find out on Saturday, April 7, when New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park offers



the next session in its free Exploration Series. This Saturday, April 7, Mike Dyer, Maritime Curator of New Bedford Whaling Museum will offer a special guided tour of this world-renowned museum. The tour will start at New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park's visitor center at 33 William Street, one block from the museum, at 9:45 am.

The Exploration Series is an opportunity for the public to delve into New Bedford's fascinating history and its people. The sessions take place on select Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30 PM and on select Saturday mornings from 10:00-11:30 AM, with most sessions taking place adjacent to the national park visitor center, 33 William Street, New Bedford. All sessions are free of charge, and the public is welcome to attend one, some, or all of the events.

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# Night of Hope To Benefit American Cancer Society Relay For Life

The committee of the American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Greater New Bedford will hold a fundraiser on Friday, May 4th from 6 pm to midnight at United Fisherman's Club in New Bedford. The cost of admission is \$30 for adults and \$15 for children under the age of 12. For more information on the fundraiser, please call Linda at (508)863-2814.



Proceeds will benefit in the American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Greater New Bedford on June 22nd at the Paul Walsh Field at New Bedford High School. Funds raised through Relay For Life support the American Cancer Society's mission to create a world with less cancer and more birthdays by helping people stay well and get well, by finding cures, and by fighting back against cancer. More than 90 Relay For Life events are planned in Massachusetts this year. For more information, or to find a Relay location near you, call your American Cancer Society at 1-800-227-2345 or visit [relayforlife.org](http://relayforlife.org).

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# 1850s ladies “Go Fish”

Join Ruth and Abby, the 1850s ladies, as they create traditional crocheted fish using modern day recycled materials. Look for them in the New Bedford Whaling National Park visitor center at 33 William Street, downtown New Bedford, on AHA! night, Thursday, April 12, from 6:30-8:30 PM. As always, admission is free.



New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park was established by Congress in 1996 to help preserve and interpret America's nineteenth century whaling industry. The park, which encompasses a 13-block National Historic Landmark District, is the only National Park Service area addressing the history of the whaling industry and its influence on the economic, social, and environmental history of the United States. The National Park visitor center is located at 33 William Street in downtown New Bedford. It is open seven days a week, from 9 AM-5 PM, and offers information, exhibits, and a free orientation movie every hour on the hour from 10 AM-3 PM. The visitor center is wheelchair-accessible, and is free of charge. For more information, call the visitor center at 508-996-4095, go to [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov), or visit the park's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/NBWNHP>.

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# Easter Weekend Events

Easter weekend is a great time to get the kids out of the house for an Easter Egg Hunt! This year there are several cities hosting Easter Egg Hunts and other events to include New Bedford, Fairhaven, Wareham and Mattapoisett. Know of an Easter weekend event that we missed? Post a comment or e-mail us at [info@newbedfordguide.com](mailto:info@newbedfordguide.com) and we will add it.



## Easter Events on Saturday, April 7th, 2012

### **8 – 11 am – The Mattapoisett Friends of the Elderly Annual Easter Pie Sale**

**Where:** Former Seaport and Ice Cream & Coffee Shop (Mattapoisett)

**Details:** The Mattapoisett Friends of the Elderly are holding their Annual Easter Pie Sale. All sale goods are homemade (and yummy). An Easter Basket Drawing – a beautiful basket filled with seasonal goodies and cheer – has been added this year. It is on display at the Mattapoisett Council on Aging. The drawing will be held at the end of the pie sale at 11:00 am. You need not be present to win.

### **9 – 11:30 am – Pancakes & Photos with the Easter Bunny**

**Where:** YMCA- Gleason Family (Wareham) – 33 Charge Pond RD, Wareham MA, 02571 – 508-993-3361

**Details:** Come and enjoy a hearty pancake breakfast and have your photo taken with the Easter Bunny. There will also be an Egg hunt and crafts. Children \$8 includes photo, adults \$8.

### **9 am – NFIA Easter Egg Hunt**

**Where:** Livesey Park, Glenhaven Avenue, Fairhaven MA, 02719

**Details:** Children search for candy eggs and specially numbered wooden eggs that are redeemed for prizes. There will also be prize drawings and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Sponsored by the North Fairhaven Improvement Association. Event is free.

### **9 am – Doughnuts with the Easter Bunny at the Zoo**

**Where:** Buttonwood Park Zoo, 425 Hawthorn St., New Bedford, MA 02740

**Details:** \$8/person; Non-Members: \$11/person; Children under 1 are free. Enjoy a delicious doughnut and visit with the Easter Bunny. Zoo admission, one ride ticket, and a small gift for each child are included in program price.

### **10 am – Plumb Mall Easter Egg Hunt and Celebration**

**Where:** Plumb Corner Mall

**Details:** The Plumb Corner Mall will be celebrating their annual Easter egg hunt. This year they will be offering an Easter egg hunt, crafts, face painting, pictures with the Easter bunny, cookie decorating and much more!

### **12:30 pm – YMCA New Bedford Easter Egg Hunt**

**Where:** YMCA New Bedford, 25 South Water St., New Bedford MA, 02739 – 508-997-0734

**Details:** Hundreds of Eggs... great Prizes! \$5 per child.

### **1 pm – Milk and Cookies with the Easter Bunny at the Zoo**

**Where:** Buttonwood Park Zoo, 425 Hawthorn St., New Bedford, MA 02740

**Details:** Zoo members: \$8/person; Non-Members: \$11/person; Children under 1 are free. Snack on milk and cookies as you visit with the Easter Bunny. Zoo admission, one ride ticket, and a small gift for each child are included in program price. Participants must pre-register and pay in advance by calling (508) 991-4556 x 14.

### **1 pm – Mattapoisett Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt**

**Where:** At Veteran's Park at the Lighthouse, Veteran's Park, Mattapoisett MA, 02739

**Details:** At Veteran's Park at the Lighthouse. Meet the Easter Bunny! The hunt will be done in sections for different ages groups. This is a FREE Community Event! Please bring your used eyeglasses for donation to the "Lions Eye Research Project."

**1 pm – BBA Easter egg hunt and more**

**Where:** Burgo Basketball Association, 101 Slocum Road, Dartmouth MA 02747

**Details:** Bounce house, face painting, games, snacks, prizes, DJ Suarez, hundreds of eggs and of course feel free to take a picture with the Easter Bunny!

These events and hundreds of other events are available on our events calendar.

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## New Bedford Summer Jobs Youth Program

On Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at the Andrea McCoy Recreation Center, the City of New Bedford will hold a kickoff and information session for Mayor Mitchell's Summer Jobs Initiative. The event will give New Bedford youth and their parents the opportunity learn about the array of job and enrichment opportunities available for city youth.



This is the first year that the three major publically and privately funded summer youth employment programs will be

coordinated as a single initiative sponsored by the Mayor's Office.

The Mayor's Summer Jobs Initiative consists of three programs:

- The City of New Bedford Seasonal Training and Employment Program (STEP) at the Office of Parks, Recreation, and Beaches
- The New Directions' Summer Jobs Program
- The Summer Youth Enrichment Program (formerly the Stipend Program) organized by the Greater New Bedford Workforce Investment Board.

These programs are funded through a variety of sources including the City of New Bedford, federal Community Development Block Grant, Workforce Investment Act funding, the Commonwealth's YouthWorks program, and private and corporate donations.

Each component program of the Mayor's Summer Jobs Initiative has distinct eligibility criteria, hiring and placement procedures, and programmatic foci, but all share the goal of providing New Bedford youth with a constructive outlet for their time and energy, real work experience, and a deeper understanding of what it takes to be a successful working person. The minimum age is 14 for some programs and 16 for others.

Mayor Mitchell hopes to engage as many New Bedford youth as possible with meaningful employment and enrichment opportunities.

"Teen unemployment is at an all-time high in New Bedford," said Mayor Mitchell. "Fully 70 percent of the city's teens were unemployed last summer. Teens with time on their hands in the heat of the summer isn't good for them or for the community. Not being able to find a job hinders their ability to contribute to the local economy, and constrains their future employment prospects. No one wins."



The Mayor's Summer Jobs Initiative will employ a multi-faceted approach to maximize opportunities for youth summer employment. The Initiative includes a robust employer engagement effort in partnership with the Workforce Investment Board, New Directions and The New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce; job readiness training; a mix of traditional employment, educational enrichment activities, and community service; and a thoughtful and deliberate approach to matching youth to the program slot or private or public job that best suits their skills and interests.

The April 4th kickoff event will lay out the details of the Initiative and describe the various eligibility and application requirements, program elements, and expectations.

"We know it can be confusing for teens and their parents to navigate these various programs," said Mayor Mitchell. "We hope that by coordinating these efforts from the beginning and offering a single event and point of contact for information about the Mayor's Summer Jobs Initiative, we can eliminate some of the confusion."

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## **Ocean Explorium Fundraiser at Texas Roadhouse**

The Ocean Explorium will be the beneficiary of Fundraising Night at Texas Roadhouse on Tuesday, April 3, from 4 until 10 pm. Ten percent of participating food purchases, including take-out, will be



donated to the Ocean Explorium.

Participating diners must present a special invitation flyer, which can be downloaded from the Ocean Explorium website ([www.oceanexplorium.org](http://www.oceanexplorium.org)) and displayed on a cell phone or other device. This flyer is also available at the Ocean Explorium Gift Shop.

Ocean Explorium staff and volunteers will be on hand, greeting diners and offering a variety of fun raffles. Among items to be raffled are a family membership to the Ocean Explorium, dinner for two at Texas Roadhouse, hand-made afghan, hand-crafted jewelry, gift baskets, and more. Raffle tickets cost \$1 each or \$5 for six.

Marlena Martins, Marketing Manager of the Texas Roadhouse in North Dartmouth, enjoys working with non-profit groups to boost their visibility and fundraising efforts. "Texas Roadhouse participated in the Ocean Explorium's annual Fish Bowl bowling tournament, and we are happy to welcome them here for Fundraising Night. Texas Roadhouse appeals to a broad range of the public, and we love to promote local organizations. The Ocean Explorium is a fantastic resource for families in the area and we look forward to introducing our patrons to them."

Abbey Spargo, education programs coordinator for the Ocean Explorium, considers the Fundraising Night at Texas Roadhouse a win-win. "This is a great opportunity to go out into the public and to introduce ourselves in a fun, family-friendly atmosphere. We hope to see lots of friends and family on Tuesday night, and to meet lots of new folks who will become friends of the Ocean Explorium."

The Ocean Explorium is located at 174 Union Street in downtown New Bedford and is handicap accessible via the rear entrance. Call 508.994.5400 for after-hours access.

For further information, contact Abbey Spargo

at [aspargo@oceanexplorium.org](mailto:aspargo@oceanexplorium.org) or 508.994.5400, or visit the Ocean Explorium website at [www.oceanexplorium.org](http://www.oceanexplorium.org).

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# 6th Annual General Aviation Fun Day



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The 6th Annual General Aviation Fun Day at the New Bedford Regional Airport is scheduled for May 19th, 2012 from 10 am to 4 pm.

There will be performances by local dance studios, karate demonstrations, Mad Science of Southeastern Mass, formation flying, aircraft displays, skydivers, airplane rides, Buttonwood Park Zoo's Zoo Choo, and so much more!

## **Confirmed Participants for this year's event include:**

- New Bedford Police Department K9 & Dive Team
- New Bedford Fire Department & Crash Truck
- Sherrif's Department Mobile Command Center

- Gonsalves Tae Kwon Do
- Dan D'Onfro World Class Kempo
- Buttonwood Park Zoo Choo Rides
- US Coast Guard Reserve and Coastie
- Antique Fire Truck Rides
- Community Nurse
- Chiropractic USA
- Away Cafe
- Ben & Jerry's
- Center Stage Dance Studio

**Confirmed aircraft on display:**

- Avenger
- Waco UPF 7
- T-6
- Stearman
- Citabria Explorer
- Russian Sukhoi
- RV-8
- SN-J
- Phenom Jet

For more information and up-to-date details check out the Fun Day website.

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## **Whaling City Clippers, First Team Meeting for 2012 Season**

The Whaling City Clippers today announced that the team will be holding its first team meeting of the 2012 season. Any and all current or prospective players are invited to attend. This will be the first meeting to prepare



for the 2012 Whaling City Clippers as they enter their second-consecutive year in the highly-competitive New England Football League's AAA Conference.

"We finished the 2011 season with our first playoff win in AAA and have added to a strong core of returning players who have dedicated themselves to improving upon last year's performance," said Mike Arguin, General Manager. "Interest in the team has never been higher. Last year we had nearly 100 players express an interest in playing for us and we expect to surpass that number this year. Only 50-60 players will have what it takes to make the final cut," continued Arguin. A number of players have already signed up through the team's website.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 5th at 7:30PM in the auditorium at Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School, 1121 Ashley Boulevard in New Bedford, MA.

The goals of this first team meeting will be to begin the sign-up process and to communicate the goals of the team both on and off the field. Topics will include an introduction to the 2012 coaching staff, the outlook for the NEFL's AAA Conference, the team's player requirements and expectations, conditioning camp and practice schedule for 2012.

There is a non-refundable \$25 sign-up fee for players interested in signing-up with the team. Players may pre-

register on the team website at:  
<http://whalingcityclippers.com/contact-us/player-inquiry/>.

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## **New Bedford's Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Brooklawn Park**

The City of New Bedford has announced that the Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held at Brooklawn Park at 2 pm, on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. The event is open to children ages 1-12 years and will include a variety of eggs filled with goodies for all participants.



The day will be comprised of an egg hunt, plenty of games including an egg toss, egg rolling competition, an egg relay, and more. Children are invited to take a picture with the Easter Bunny as well. The Annual Easter Egg Hunt is sponsored by the City of New Bedford Mayor's Office, Parks, Recreation & Beaches, Community Development Block Grant Program, Child Development and Education Inc., and St. Joseph's Early Childhood Academy Inc.

For more information and to register your child as a participant please call the Administrative Offices of Parks, Recreation and Beaches prior to the event at (508) 961-3015.