

# Free hands-on astronomy family event to be held at Fort Taber on Feb. 28

The New Bedford Department of Parks, Recreation and Beaches and New Bedford Science Cafe will offer an evening of stargazing – a free, hands-on astronomy event to be hosted at the Low Tide Yacht Club at Fort Taber Park.

The event will be held Friday, February 28 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Low Tide Yacht Club, 1000 South Rodney French Boulevard. The event is free and no pre-registration is required. (Rain date is Saturday, February 29 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.)

The program is a New Bedford Science Cafe Kids event, and will explore the far reaches of the solar system and beyond, with NASA Solar System Ambassador Joe Cote and young scientists from the NASA Solar System Explorers at Ford Middle School in Acushnet.

The event will feature indoor learning stations on planets outside our solar system, moon phases and craters, telescopes, and constellations. Then take a short walk over to our astronomy observing area where the Astronomical Society of Southern New England (ASSNE) will have telescopes set up to view the Moon, the Orion Nebula, star clusters, and other astronomical objects. Ask questions and try hands-on activities. Learn from fellow students, local amateur astronomers, and from a NASA Ambassador who has visited nearly every NASA facility in the U.S. Free cookies and hot chocolate will also be provided by New Bedford Parks, Recreation & Beaches.

New Bedford Science Cafe Kids is a youth-focused offshoot of New Bedford Science Cafe (NBSC) and a partnership formed

between NBSC and New Bedford Parks, Recreation and Beaches. They coordinate the New Bedford Science Cafe Kids events with various organizations which are hosted at sites throughout New Bedford.

The goal of this program is to connect students in New Bedford to scientists and their research. Events feature scientists, researchers, and local students sharing their research and provide time for hands-on activities and Q&A with the presenters.

For more information and updates on rain date rescheduling, follow New Bedford Science Cafe and New Bedford Parks, Recreation and Beaches on Facebook or call the office at 508-961-3015.