‘COULD HAVE BEEN ME’

Obama gets personal as he urges nation to soul search on Trayvon Martin case, A9

S-T Editor Bob Unger reflects on racism, asks how far have we really come? A8

PIECE BY PIECE

Volunteers are stepping up to build a high-end playground — featuring swings, monkey bars and “obstacle course” — for students at Alma del Mar. The effort continues at 7 a.m. today in New Bedford.

FAIRHAVEN

Talk turns to heat’s effects during solar tour

Heat wave actually makes the panels less efficient because it causes them to get too hot.

NEW BEDFORD

‘Very, very weird’ vote at council

Selectmen reject Housing Authority nominee because the board doesn’t need ‘another white male.’

BUSINESS

OCEAN EXPLORIUM HIRES FUNDRAISER

Anonymous gift allows for the full-time employment with benefits. The job will focus on grants as well as traditional fundraising efforts.

HOUSE & HOME

LOOKING FOR THE WOW FACTOR?

This four-bedroom Colonial on New Bedford’s west side features a classic foyer with fireplace, incredible built-ins in the living room, remodeled kitchen with farmer’s sink, and spacious attic with finished room.

ONLINE

THINGS TO DO

Plan your week with SouthCoast’s most complete calendar listings, located at our website.

WHO’S GOT THE BEST BURGERS?

Leave comments on our Facebook page, and we’ll add them to The List!
Mayor fuming after council vote

By MATT CAMARA

Second-term New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell fumed on Friday as the New Bedford City Council rejected his votes to fire a pair of pro-development editorial board members, including former Standard-Times Nicaragua-famine editor Jack Spillane, 508-979-4472, jspillane@s-t.com

SOUTHCOAST Today SATURDAY, JULY 20, 2013

Even solar panels can't stand the heat

By ARIEL WITTENBERG

FAIRHAVEN — A solar panel on the roof of the Fairhaven Fire Station went offline during a heat wave. The dark blue panels, once used to cool the town hall, were being used to cool the town’s fire station on Aug. 8.

Fairhaven Fire Chief Charlie Murphy, chairman of the Board of Selectmen, said the town’s solar farm atop landfills in New Bedford is not producing any power.

Fairhaven — A solar panel on the roof of the Fairhaven Fire Station went offline during a heat wave. The dark blue panels, once used to cool the town hall, were being used to cool the town’s fire station on Aug. 8.

Murphy said the town’s solar farm atop landfills in New Bedford is not producing any power.

The temperature of the roof reached 112 degrees Fahrenheit, Murphy said, sending the panel into heat mode. He said if the panel stayed in heat mode for too long, it could shut down.

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