



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” (Margaret Mead) .....or at least make a difference for someone.

And that is the case for Craig, a 26 year old man supported by The Nemasket Group. For years, Craig has taken some amazing photographs; mostly as a hobby and occasionally for sale. He even studied black and white photography at Bristol Community College for several years where he received an award for his work. Anyone who sees his photos knows that Craig has a “great eye.” His ability, like any good photographer, to take what most of us see as ordinary and turn it into a fabulous composition of light, angle and direction is remarkable. Craig, however, is at a point in his life, probably similar to most 26 year olds, where a more purposeful sense of direction is needed. In March, a large group of people (family, friends, paid supporters) came together and helped Craig articulate the vision he wanted for his future. It is what we call “person centered planning.” This talk then turned into dreams and ideas and action and assignments. Much of the discussion focused on how to help Craig develop his gift of photography. What do photographers do? Where is their work needed? Displayed? What does Craig need to be in the valued social role of photographer? With a lot of great ideas from our brainstorming session it was the action, however, of two of Craig’s supporters, Tanya and Dawn, that really made things happen for him. And by happen, we mean getting his photograph on the front page of the New Bedford Standard Times! Craig spent the day with the newspaper’s photographer, Peter Pereira, who saw something special in Craig’s work. The email that Peter wrote really sums up the power of relationships, common interests, the strength of community, and the connection of human beings.

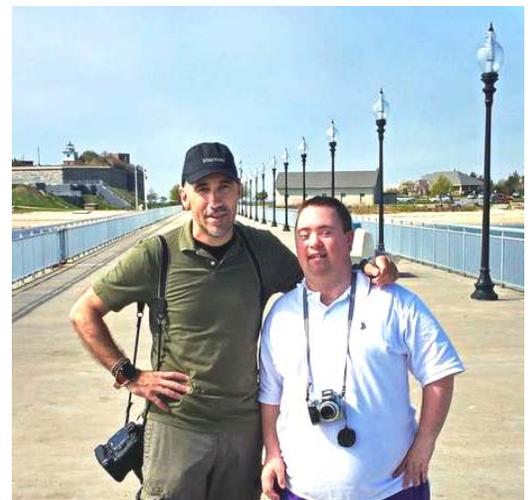
*“I can tell you that I have been fortunate to take many students with me on assignment, I have spoken at universities about the job I love, but I have never looked so forward to taking someone with me on assignment as much as I am in taking Craig. I feel something within Craig that is so hard to explain. His photos are a unique vision that only he has, and I feel that his photography is a way for him to communicate more eloquently than he ever could with speech. Thank you so much for introducing me to Craig. The work you guys do is incredible, and I think of this opportunity as a small way for me to contribute to the amazing work you do every day. Thank you again, Peter Pereira”*

Article by Karin Bonesteel and Ross Hooley



Above is a picture of the result of one of Craig’s Person Centered Planning sessions.

Below is a picture of Craig and Standard Times photographer, Peter Pereira at Fort Taber.



Our “VISION for the future” .....

**The Nemasket Group** envisions individuals leading successful lives that are rich with meaningful roles

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*People who fill roles that are valued by others (example: photographer, employee, co-worker, voter, musician, college student) will be granted the good things of life.*



We had a great day at The Nemasket Group's 2015 5K Run/Walk! See you next year!

If you are interested in ways you can give to The Nemasket Group including an **on-line donation**, check out our website [www.nemasketgroup.org](http://www.nemasketgroup.org)



# Summer Sizzler

**Date:** August 20, 2015 (rain or shine)

**Time:** 4:00—7:00 p.m.

**Location:** The Nemasket Group  
56 Bridge Street, Fairhaven MA

