



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Barnstable Makes Top 1,000 List of Greatest Places in Massachusetts

State Representative Demetrius J. Atsalis, Barnstable 2nd District, congratulates constituents of Barnstable and the 2nd District for making the list of Massachusetts 1,000 Greatest Places. **Representative Atsalis** announced today that the following places in his district are on the list of 1,000 Great Places in Massachusetts. Being name to the list are the Cahoon Museum of American Art, Hyannis Harbor, the JFK Museum, Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary, The Cape Cod Melody Tent, Sandy Neck Beach and The Hyannis National Guard Armory. A complete list is available on MOTT site: <http://www.massvacation.com>].

The official list of 1,000 Great Places was announced on July 12 at the Massachusetts State House. The list was compiled by the 1,000 Great Places Commission which was created by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Deval Patrick in 2009. Its mission is to identify and recognize the 1,000 most truly special places in the Commonwealth, in order to celebrate pride in our history and culture, increase knowledge of our natural surroundings, and encourage regional and international. The Great Places initiative celebrates what is unique about the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, its communities, and its people. It aims to boost visitation to Massachusetts as well as give local residents the opportunity to visit known and unknown historic sites, cultural venues, and natural landscape.

Atsalis said, "I'm proud to have these local treasures named to this wonderful list, they enrich our lives and contribute to the vitality of our communities". The idea and timing of this list is a win-win for all our communities, our region and the State.

The 1,000 Great Places program is administered through a partnership of the Joint Committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development; the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism and its regional tourism councils; and the Massachusetts Cultural. Its members are listed below, along with their affiliation:

•The Joint Committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development:

Eric Turkington, Falmouth, former House Chair

•Massachusetts Senate:

Senator Sonia Chang-Díaz, Boston

Senator Benjamin Downing, Pittsfield

Senator Robert Hedlund, Weymouth

•Massachusetts House of Representatives:

Rep. Susan Gifford, Wareham

Rep. Smitty Pignatelli, Pittsfield

Rep. Rosemary Sandlin, Agawam

•Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism/Regional Tourism Councils:

Larry Meehan, Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau Arthur Motta,

Southeastern Mass. Convention & Visitors Bureau Peter Tomyl, Mohawk Trail

•Massachusetts Cultural Council:

Sheila Balboni, Lawrence

Ricardo Barreto, Boston

The Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism (MOTT) is the state agency dedicated to promoting Massachusetts as a leisure-travel destination in order to stimulate the Massachusetts economy by generating state and local tax revenues, creating jobs, and supporting the growth of travel-related businesses. MOTT serves as a leader in the tourism industry, bringing together the public and private sectors to promote Massachusetts as a leisure travel destination. Tourism is an integral part of the state's economy, generating more than \$887.2 million in state and local taxes and \$14.2 billion in travel related expenditures.

About the Massachusetts Cultural Council:

The Massachusetts Cultural Council is a state agency that promotes excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences, in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and contribute to the economic vitality of our