

**FREE WORKSHOP**  
**How to Help the Older**  
**Struggling Reader**  
 2/11/2009, from 7:00-9:00

The research on how children learn to read and what works for those who struggle is abundant. However, the research on interventions for adolescents is not as clear. Find out what we know about interventions targeted for specific reading difficulties. The presenter will be DR. MARGIE GILLIS, Senior Scientist at Haskins Lab, the New Haven research institute that specializes in language and literacy. The forum will take place at Norwalk City Hall, 125 East Ave., 3rd floor Common Council Chambers and is co-sponsored by NorwalkSEEKS and Smart-Kids with Learning Disabilities. It is *free* and open to the public. Questions or RSVP at [info@norwalkseeks.org](mailto:info@norwalkseeks.org) or (203)846-2501. Please contact Dawn Drew at 515-3233 if you need a ride.

# NHA News

Volume 3, Issue 2,  
 February 2009

## Autism Resources

The South Norwalk Branch Library's Stew Leonard III Children's Library is proud to present Autism Resources: The Library as a Piece of the Puzzle, a program for parents with autistic children on Tuesday Feb. 3, 2009 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. At 6:00 p.m. a film about *Today's Man*, the story of Nicky Gottlieb, a former child genius who, at age 21, is diagnosed with a form of autism. *Today's Man* follows Nicky over the course of six years as he struggles to leave the safety of his family's home and find his own place in the world.

Guest speaker Barbara Klipper is the mother of two sons, who have Autism Spectrum Disorders. Barbara is a Youth Services Librarian at Ferguson Library in Stamford, where she purchases materials for the library's Special Needs Center, a collection of resources for parents whose children have disabilities. Staff will introduce and demonstrate the South Norwalk Branch Library's autism, dyslexia and dyscalculia software bundles that will be available for public use in the library on 9 laptop computers.

The program will be held in the Friends of the Norwalk Public Library Community Room. Registration is necessary. Please call 899-2790 x3 to register. Please do not register via voicemail.

## Literacy & Education

Many studies show that parental involvement in a child's education is one of the MOST IMPORTANT factors in raising a student's academic achievement AND self-esteem!!! Reading and talking with your child regularly is a great way to get involved and make a difference!



## Exciting Workshops

NHA is offering these exciting workshops to any and all residents who would like to attend. Please RSVP with Emily Hartwell at 838-8471 ext. 180 or Guillermo Bendana at 838-8471 ext. 135.

- Money Matters, Feb 19, 2009 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at Leroy Downs Apartment Complex
- Career Coach Bus Search for jobs and type your resume, Feb. 20, 2009 10:00 am to 3:00pm, at Washington Village, (Day St. side)
- Food stamp workshop March 3, 2009 at 5:00pm to 7:00pm, at Leroy Downs Apartment Complex

Please contact Dawn Drew at 515-3233 if you need a ride to these events.



## Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) Award

Carla Conway, NHA Family Outreach Coordinator, has been named by Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) as the Volunteer Ambassador for the State of Connecticut. She will work voluntarily on RIF's statewide efforts to bring books to children. Ms. Conway received a \$500 Award which will be used for the NHA Literacy Program.

## Quality Housing at an Affordable Price

Tell Your Family & Friends to call 838-8471 ext. 121

### Free Programs for all Family Members

- After School Learning Centers
- Free Summer Program (9AM TO 4PM)
- College Scholarships
- Credit Counseling & Job Referrals
- Adult Education & Computer Training

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### Excellent Living Advantages

- Convenient Locations
- Great Neighborhoods
- Family & Senior Communities
- Professionally Maintained Properties
- 24 Hour Emergency Service Hot Line
- Housing for persons with disabilities
- Max. Income \$53K for 3 Person Family



### Resident Meetings

NHA will be conducting resident meetings at various sites to discuss any and all concerns you may have. Dr. John Hinson, Director of Housing Operations along with a Maintenance staff member will be conducting these meetings. These meetings will begin promptly. They are as follows:

**February 4:** Leroy Downs Apts. @ Leroy Downs@ 11:00AM

**February 11:** Senior Court, Irving Freese & John Shostak Apts. @ Senior Court – 11:00AM

**February 24:** King-Kennedy, Seaview Apts. & Fairfield Ave. @ Central office, 6:00PM

**March 4:** Elmwood Apts. and Chapel St. @ Central Office –6:00PM

**March 10:** Roodner Court,@ Suggs Peterson Room, 6:00PM

**March 11:** 20 West Ave. @ 20 West Ave. 6:00PM

**March 18:** Washington Village and Meadow Gardens @ Washington Village, 6:00PM

### Norwalk Reads! City-Wide Free Book Distribution is Saturday, February 7

On Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, between 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Norwalk Reads! will give away free children's books at its **Norwalk Reads! City-Wide Winter Children's Books Distribution**. There will be great prizes and books.

The February book distributions will take place at five sites across Norwalk and will offer thousands of books for children from baby's who need their first books to high school seniors.

The five sites are: East Norwalk Library (51 Van Zant Street), NHA Colonial Village Learning Center (Scribner Avenue); NHA Meadow Gardens Learning Center (49 Meadow Street), Norwalk Public Library (1 Belden Avenue) and South Norwalk Public Library (10 Washington Street). Contact Carla Conway, 838-8471 for more information.



### COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP NEWS



NHA Literacy Center offers help with College Scholarship Essays. Contact Danielle Triuni, Literacy Center Coordinator at: 899-1739.

Free SAT Prep Classes are offered at NHA's 20 West Avenue Learning Centers. Call Richard Nemchek between 9:00 AM & 2:00 PM at 203-322-8407 to register.

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**Norwalk Community College** has scholarships for second-year NCC students who have over a 2.7 for their Freshman fall semester. Students must apply in January. Speak to an NCC guidance counselor to apply.

NCC has a LEAP Scholarship to continue at 4-year colleges for students graduating with high grades (3.0 and over) from NCC. Contact NCC guidance counselors.

**High School Seniors:** PHADA Scholarships Available for \$7,000 and \$5,000. Contact Carla Conway at NHA: 838-8471, ext. 176.

2009 Norwalk Housing Foundation College Scholarship Applications Now Available Contact Carla Conway at NHA: 838-8471, ext. 176.

Free tuition at the following colleges, if accepted: Fairfield University, Sacred Heart University, Yale, Harvard, Princeton University. If your household income is under \$50,000 per year. Contact Carla Conway for more details.

**Attention Parents 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Students.** Would you like your child to get a private school scholarship? If your child is in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and doing very well at school, contact Carla Conway about the REACH Program, 838-8471, ext. 176.

### Attention College Bound Residents!



For the latest in scholarship information, please forward Carla Conway, Family Outreach Coordinator your current e-mail address. Carla can be reached at [cconway@norwalkha.org](mailto:cconway@norwalkha.org) or by calling 838-8471 ext. 176.

### Free SAT Prep Classes

Free SAT Prep Classes are offered at NHA's 20 West Avenue Learning Centers. Call Richard Nemchek between 9:00 AM & 2:00 PM at 203-322-8407 to register.

### HANDICAPPED & SENIOR RESIDENTS HAVE SPECIAL PHONE IN VISITORS SHEET FOR NON-PROFESSIONAL HELPERS



Many handicapped and senior citizen residents have family and friends who volunteer to help them who are not professional health care aides. These residents may call the NHA front desk, 838-8471 and report in the make, model, color and license plate of the helper's car. This information put on a daily "Do Not Tow" sheet to avoid daily towing.

### Space Heaters

Residents that utilize wall space heaters or other heating device should remember to pull all furniture and other combustible items at least three feet away from any heating devices Space heaters are temporary heating devices and should only be used for a limited time each day and should never be connected to an outlet with an extension cord. When not in use, be sure to unplug the unit and let it cool down if you will be storing the unit. Keep a window ajar or the door open in a room where an un-vented heater is in use. Never use heaters to dry clothing or other combustibles. Electric heaters with frayed or damaged cords should never be used. Young children should be kept away from any appliance that has hot surfaces that can cause burns.

