



NHA Changes Banks!

Beginning July 2, 2012 Norwalk Housing Authority will be changing banks from Fairfield County Bank to **WEBSTER BANK**, located at 402 Connecticut Avenue, Norwalk CT. Hours of operation are as follows:



Lobby & Drive-Up Hours:

Monday: 9:00 - 5:00

Tuesday: 9:00 - 5:00

Wednesday: 9:00 - 5:00

Thursday: 9:00 - 6:00

Friday: 9:00 - 6:00

Saturday: 9:00 - 2:00

Make all payments at Webster Bank beginning July 2, 2012. Reminder: You can also mail in your payments with the prepaid envelope provided with your rent statement.

36 Scholarship Recipients Will Receive \$126,000 in Awards

Norwalk Housing Foundation & Norwalk Housing Authority cordially invite you to attend the 14th Annual College Scholarship Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, July 10, 2012 at 6:00PM at Stepping Stones Museum for Children, Mathews Park at 303 West Ave., Norwalk, CT. RSVP at 203-838-8471 ext. 141. Museum tours will be available. There will be a powerful photography and other art media exhibit by children attending the Norwalk Housing Authority Washington Village Learning Center. The exhibit is entitled *PHOTO VOICES – A Washington Village Story*.

Port Jefferson Senior Summer Trip!

Enjoy a leisurely boat ride (approximately 1.5 hours each way) across Long Island Sound on the Port Jefferson Ferry from Bridgeport. Relax, enjoy the weather and find a nice place to eat on Thursday, July 5, 2012 (rain cancels). The cost is \$18 for round trip ferry ticket and lunch is not provided. Pre-registration is required, space is limited. Please sign up with Emily Hartwell 203-838 -8471 ext. 187 by 4:00pm, July 3.

Free Monthly Farmers' Market Nutrition Program Vouchers!

Norwalk Housing Authority is pleased to offer **FREE** monthly vouchers at area farmers' markets to Connecticut State Public Housing residents of Norwalk (**Colonial Village and School Street only**) with children between the ages of 5 and 18. With these vouchers, you will be able to provide your family with fresh, nutritious, locally grown fruits and vegetables from farmers' markets. Eligible families will be entitled to receive one \$30 check booklet per month, for three months with ten (10) \$3.00 checks. These checks can only be redeemed at authorized Farmers' Markets throughout Connecticut that accept checks. For further information, contact Lisa Roger, 203-838-8471 X188.



NEED A JOB? NEED NEW SKILLS?

Norwalk Housing Authority has **FREE** Training Programs for FEDERAL HOUSING residents.

- Certified Nurse's Aide
- Phlebotomy Technician Specialist
- Medical Billing
- Veterinary Assistant
- Patient Care Technician
- Homemaker Companion
- EKG
- Dental Assistant
- EMT
- Pharmacy Technician
- Physical Therapy Aide
- Security Officer Certification
- Real Estate Sales Person
- Green and Energy Programs Certification



First come, first serve. Call Today!! If you don't see what you are interested in tell us and we will help you find the right program. Anyone 18 or over listed on your lease is eligible for participation. Please contact Kras Carlucci for further information at (203) 838-8471 ext. 125. **This program is for FEDERAL HOUSING RESIDENTS ONLY!**



Earn Up to \$51,000 Per Year in Energy Efficient Construction!

Environmental Field Green Jobs in building efficiency and sustainable technology are in high demand! Starting July 9th through August 14th, Norwalk Community College will offer a **FREE** 5-week training program for workers and students who want to succeed in the expanding field of energy efficient construction. This basic training is the stepping stone to perform multiple jobs in weatherization, home performance and sustainable building. Registration is **REQUIRED**. Please call 203-838-8471 X188 (Lisa) or X181 (Sandra-Ann) no later than July 2nd. This program is available for ALL NHA residents!

Breast Health Awareness Workshop

Learn about the factors that may affect your risk of breast cancer. Find out what you can do to help detect breast cancer early, when it is most likely to be easily treated. Learn tips for a better mammogram and different types of breast exams from a representative of CancerCare. CancerCare is a national nonprofit organization that provides free preventative educational programs, financial assistance, professional counseling and practical help to people with cancer and their loved ones. Workshop will be held at Leroy Downs, 26 Monroe Street; Tuesday, July 17th, 2012, from 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM. For additional information or to register, please call 203-838-8471 X187 (Emily) or X188 (Lisa).

Summer BBQ's For Seniors!!!!

(And Free Rides)



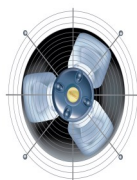
NHA and Catholic Charities will be hosting monthly Summer BBQ's for Seniors at Irving Freese, 57 Ward St. Come on July 9, 2012

at 4:00pm. Call (203) 324-6175, 24 hours in advance to reserve your seat! Sign up sheet also at Irving Freese Community Center. Arrange free transportation by calling 203-852-1144 ext. 102.

RENTERS' REBATE

Older adults (65 and over) and legally disabled persons, who rent, with incomes below \$32,300 if single or \$39,500 if married are eligible to apply for a state program called Renter's Tax Relief (rebate.) For information and appointments, Norwalk renters can call the Senior Umbrella at 846-6992 or 847-2830 between the hours of 9:00am and 3:00pm. The filing period for this program is through September 15, 2012. Due to the closure of the Norwalk Social Security office anyone who was 65 or older last year will need a form 1099 or anyone under 65 as of last year and receiving disability and/or SSI will need the form TPQY for the benefit year 2011. Please call 1-866-770-1881 to have the forms mailed to you BEFORE you make an appointment as they will be needed to start your application.

Attention Seniors



When the temperature is racing **HOT** and you need to **COOL** down; the community room/centers are **OPEN** and **COOL**. So sit and rest yourself from the heat and enjoy the atmosphere.



FREE Independence Day Celebration!

On Wednesday, July 4, 2012 from 12:00pm-3:00pm at Mill Historic Park, 2 East Wall St., Norwalk. Come hear stories at the grave sites of some of the area's most interesting men and women whose lives were touched by the Revolutionary War. This year's tour will feature remarkable Revolutionary War-era personalities, including Mercy Gregory, Ann Burnet, the wife of Rev. Matthias Burnet, Dr. Thaddeus Betts, and Dr. Uriah Rogers, among others. Historian Madeleine Eckert will lead the tour.

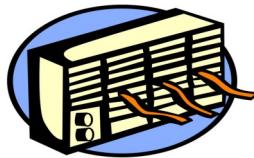
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- 12:00pm-1:30pm Discover Mill Hill Historic Park!
- 1:30pm "Let Freedom Ring!" National Bell Ringing Ceremony
- 2:15pm Celebration Continues in the Town House Refreshments immediately following.

All Income Reporting Required

Please note that ALL income has to be reported, whether it is Child Support, Social Security, Wages from a job, Unemployment and/or AFDC/TANF/SAGA from the Dept. of Social Services within 15 days. This includes income from all heads of household and adult (18 and over), household members. Please understand that HUD has a system, called EIV [Enterprise Income Verification System] that can pull all income sources. It is important to us that you understand these policies. If you have any questions, call Aurora Holley at 203-838-8471 ext. 123 or Lillian Ortiz at ext. 122.

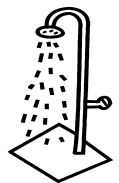
Air Conditioning Units & Blocked Egress



If there is a room in your unit with ONLY one window and an air conditioning unit is in that window this creates a Blocked Egress. This information is per both Fire Code and HUD regulations. When this situation is detected it is considered a lease violation and subject to tenant charges and possible eviction proceedings. Only place an AC in a room with more than one window and place fans strategically throughout the unit to cool down all areas.

Showers

After taking a shower, please check outside the tub for water. It's the usual cause of water damage. Please make your family more aware of it, pull the curtain tight and wipe up any water immediately. Please report anything that needs to be repaired in your apartment. Waiting can make the repair more costly, because of additional damage from not having the original problem taken care of.



Washing Machine Hoses



If you own your own washing machine, you should replace your hoses every five years. They get soft and will break or crack. Murphy's Law is that they will break when you are not at home and will cause a lot of damage that you will be responsible for.

Working on Cars

Only properly registered vehicles are permitted in NHA parking areas. Vehicle repairs such as oil changes, motor overhauls, and body work are not allowed in the complexes. Your car will be towed!





Get Ready, Get Set, Vote!

As Americans, no right is more precious than the right to vote to select our leaders. Yet 30% of eligible individuals in Connecticut aren't even registered! This summer brings the Presidential race, a hotly contested U.S. Senate race, and some challenging local races. Excitement will be high. Common Cause in Connecticut plans to capitalize on this excitement. Whether it is economic meltdown, lack of accountability in government, education, or health care, everyone has an opinion about what needs to be changed in our state and country. People need to vote to have their voice heard and for change to take place. Please contact the registrar of voters' office at (203) 854-7996 for registration details.

Washington Village Plans Progress

"Thank You" to Washington Village residents for their involvement in the Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant process. Mr. Raymond Dunlap has been actively involved in the Master Developer selection process. His participation has included review of the proposals submitted by development firms, interviews of development firms, ranking of proposals and visits to the various sites to see some of their construction designs. Ms. April Horelick has become involved in the People's Task Force, education sub committee. NHA seeks more resident participation in the CNI planning grant on the Housing, Education and Neighborhood Committees. Please contact Patricia Marsden-Kish to find out more at 203-838-8471 ext. 184.

NHA Welcomes New Assistant Director of Learning Centers!



Wendy Gerbier serves as Assistant Director of Learning Centers and prior to coming to NHA, Wendy served as Certified Parent Coordinator at Naramake Elementary School. Wendy is the creator/founder of Wendy Gerbier's Sounds of Music and the program provides an environment to foster musical development in children. In addition, she is a mezzo-soprano who serves as the National Anthem Ambassador for the United States. Ms. Gerbier earned a Bachelor of Arts in Speech Pathology/Audiology/Special Education from Iona College.

Commercial Driver's License Training in Just 2 Weeks!

If you have a valid driver's license and are an NHA Federal Public Housing resident, you may qualify for FREE truck driver training in just two weeks with New England Tractor Trailer Training School in Bridgeport! This program is valued at \$2500 and can lead to earnings of \$47,000! Please call 203-838-8471 X188 (Lisa) or X137 (Guillermo).



NHA Summer Camp 2012!

We had a great kick-off for NHA's summer camp registration week! All five learning center sites were visited by parents registering their children for this year's summer camp. We plan on having a fun-filled summer which will include activities such as tennis, reading, swimming, math, zumba, science, art and much, much more! Please contact your learning center to receive a registration packet if you would like your child(ren) to join us this summer. We will have 9 full weeks of camp fun! Our summer program starts Monday, June 25th to Friday, August 24th; and is Monday through Friday, 9am-2:30pm.



Washington Village students created cards to celebrate the men in their lives through the Father's Day Initiative!

College Corner

NCC Information:

NCC has help for incoming Freshmen who just graduated high school. This includes everything from registration assistance to financial aid. Contact either Gail Howard (203-857-7281) or Denise Rawles-Smith (203-857-7361) on all aspects of entering NCC and to set up appointments with Laura Blackwell on Financial Aid.

Watch for photos from Norwalk High School Junior, Zeke Romero, a Meadow Garden's resident who received a scholarship to London through the British Studies Summer Program to study history and literature.

All NHA resident high school juniors and seniors, now is the time to contact Carla Conway about colleges. Start planning your college future now so you can get into the right school and receive strong scholarship support.



Bullying Program

Thank you to all parents and students who attended NHA's two Bullying Programs in April and May! The events were a big success. Everyone had fun learning about a difficult topic. The programs were facilitated by professional actors from HAI, a non-profit organization that does workshops on topics that teens are concerned about in their lives. NHA would like to continue the program in the future. If you are interested please contact Mark Covello, Parent/School coordinator for NHA, at 203-838-8471 ext. 186.



Bike Program

Summertime means spending time out on a bicycle enjoying the warm weather. Well NHA remembers those days too, and is starting a summer bike program for middle and high school students. We have 8 donated bicycles, and with the help of Raymond Dunlap from Washington Village, we are getting them road ready! The program will run on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Safety is a priority, so all riders will be required to wear the provided helmets. Every student should bring a back pack to carry food and water. Arrangements will be made if you do not have a back pack so you can still ride. Please contact your Learning Center staff at once if you are interested. Since safety is a priority we will not ride in the rain.

CT Food Bank "More Milk" Campaign



It's summer. That means kids are hungry. You can make a difference without spending a penny!

For every four eCards you send to family and friends that helps spread the word about summer hunger, The Farmer's Cow will donate a half gallon of milk to Connecticut Food Bank - up to 5,000 half gallons during July and August!

- About 400,000 Connecticut residents struggle with hunger
- Nearly 1 in 5 children don't always know where their next meal is coming from.
- Families must come up with 200 extra meals in the summer when children don't have access to free or reduced price school meals

To get involved or learn more, please visit http://ctfb.convio.net/site/Ecard?ecard_id=1041.

Encouraging Kids to Keep Learning All Summer Long

With summer here, many children will be sleeping late and playing outside. As parents, it is your job to ensure that the summer does not allow the learning process to stop. The Norwalk Public Library offers programs for children to continue learning throughout the summer. The importance of summer learning and reading is something that all parents should focus on in summer. So, why all of the focus on the importance of summer learning? The facts are pretty straight forward; studies that compared reading comprehension and vocabulary test scores showed an increase in both sets of scores in students who participated in summer reading programs and decreased in those who did not. There is also research that shows that:

- The number of books read during the summer is also consistently related to academic gains.
- Children, regardless of their family income level, who read six or more books over the summer showed an increase in reading achievement compared to children who did not participate in summer reading camps.
- Children who continue to read during the summer vacation perform better in the fall when school resumes.

All parents and children are encouraged to go to the library and check out books. Reading is the key! We want all children to graduate from high school and continue their education by graduating from college. If you have any questions or concerns about your child/children's summer reading activities, please feel free to call Norwalk Reads at 203-899-1739.

Find Childcare & Summer Camps

Check out this great resource from United Way 2-1-1 to help you search for affordable childcare providers in your area. For more information, visit <http://search.211childcare.org/> or call 211.



July 2012 NHA Early Childhood Program

Coordinator: Autier Allen-Craft

Mondays

Art/Playgroup at South Norwalk Library from 10:30am-11:30am, 10 Washington St., Norwalk, CT

Tuesdays

Swimming Classes at YMCA from 10:00am-11:00am, 370 West Ave., Norwalk, CT

Wednesdays

Weekly Trips TBA such as The Dinosaur Place, Bearsley Zoo and Calf Pasture Beach

Thursdays

Movers & Shakers at Stepping Stones Museum from 11:00am-12:30pm, 303 West Ave., Norwalk, CT



Any Norwalk Housing Authority resident or Section 8 recipient with children 0-3 years old is encouraged to attend. Children must be accompanied by a parent or care provider during all activities. Transportation is available upon request. Contact Ms. Autier at acraft@norwalkha.org or (203) 644-4720 for registration information. No activities on July 4th.