

Community Service Event!

NHA would like to give a special "Shout Out" to all of the kids and staff that attend the Roodner Court Learning Center! "Thank you for your awesome Community Service Project, raking and bagging leaves at the Roodner Court Housing Complex! A job well done! We truly appreciate you all!"



NEED EXTRA SPENDING MONEY?

BECOME A RESIDENT CLEANER AND RECEIVE **\$100.00 RENT CREDIT**. ATTENTION NORWALK HOUSING RESIDENTS OF: ROODNER COURT (BLD: 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 20 and 21) BECOME A RESIDENT CLEANER TODAY AND HAVE EXTRA SPENDING MONEY. CALL 203-838-8471 X135 TO SET UP AN APPOINTMENT.



A Holiday Breakfast Just For Seniors!

You are cordially invited to attend a Holiday Breakfast! This **FREE** event will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2010 from 9:30am-11:30am. Breakfast will include:

Breakfast Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Fruit Salad, Muffins/Danish, Coffee, Tea, and Orange Juice

You **MUST RSVP** with Nicole Ruffin at 838-8471 ext. 140 for this event by Friday, Dec. 10, 2010. Breakfast will be served at the following sites:

- 20 West Avenue
- Leroy Downs
- Senior Court
- Ludlow Village
- Irving Freese

We hope to see you there!



Coming in January!

A series of weekly **violence prevention** educational workshops is being scheduled for January 2011. Prizes of **computers** will be raffled off only to parent-child pairs with 100% attendance! Theatrical scenarios recreating real-life situations will provide an interactive forum to explore issues and possible solutions. Refreshments will be provided. Look for more information in the next newsletter, or contact Sandra-Ann Nolfo at 203-838-8471 X181 or snolfo@norwalkha.org.



Family Strengthening Award

Family & Children's Agency recognized the work of Curtis O. Law, Executive Director, and the Norwalk Housing Authority (NHA) with the 2010 Family Strengthening Award at the Agency's annual meeting in October. The award celebrates members of the community whose outstanding contributions have dramatically impacted the Agency's ability to strengthen and stabilize families and offer them help in all phases of life.

NHA Reading Program Wins National Excellence Award

Norwalk Housing Authority has won a national award honoring superior assisted housing and community development programs. The NHA won in the Program Innovation: Resident and Client Services category for the Public Housing Youth Literacy Program. The 2010 Award of Excellence comes from the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO), and was presented on Nov. 2 at NAHRO's National Conference and Exhibition in Reno, Nev. NHA is one of 23 programs nationwide to receive the 2010 award! The program started with 128 students, and grew to more than 226, 73 percent of whom showed increases in their reading scores following the third round of assessments. Call Danielle Truini at 203-899-1739 for enrollment information.

United Way Child Development Infoline

Do you have questions or concerns about your child's health, development or behavior? If so, the Child Development Infoline (CDI) is here to help. They are available by phone to help with questions or concerns about:

- General child development
- Challenging behaviors
- Disability and health related issues

CDI is a specialized unit of United Way of CT. Care Coordinators are available by phone Monday through Friday from 8am-6pm. Messages can be left 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and are returned promptly. This service is free and confidential, with multi-lingual and TTY capacity. Dial 1-800-505-7000 for more information.



Kids Mental Health Website!

KidsMentalHealthInfo.com has been designed as a resource for parents and caregivers to help them better understand their children's mental health and be better informed consumers of mental health services and supports. Parents of children with mental health concerns as well as providers and experts in the field have helped create this rich resource for parents and caregivers. Here you'll find:

- Frequently asked questions
- Links to vital local and national resources
- Insights to navigating the mental health care system
- A searchable resource library

Please visit www.KidsMentalHealthInfo.com soon!

Monster Contest Winner!



Richard Celestin, from the Meadow Gardens Learning Center won a \$25.00 gift card to GameStop for the October "Make your Own Monster" Contest!

Holiday Decorating Contest!

Building team captains are needed for the first annual Roodner Court Holiday Decorating Contest. Prizes will be awarded! For more information or to become a building team captain, please contact Deidra Davis at 203-919-3100, or email Lisa Roger, NHA Family Self-Sufficiency Manager, at lroger@norwalkha.org, by Monday November 29.

Avoid the PAYDAY LENDING Trap

The holidays are swiftly approaching and payday loans may seem like an easy solution to a temporary cash shortage, but for many people, payday loans are the beginning of a vicious and very expensive cycle that they find difficult if not impossible to get out of. Typically, you request a payday loan for a short period of time. However, the annual interest rate on that loan is 360 percent that means if you get a \$100 loan, it costs you \$460 for the loan if it took 12 months to repay. Your children need you to be financially responsible. It may seem worth it if you're in a bind, but people often extend the loan month after month and end up paying grossly inflated annual interest rates and end up in worse shape than when they borrowed the money in the first place. For more details on avoiding Payday loans, go to www.about.com.

Opportunity Knocks for Students Ages 17-21!

The WorkPlace of Southwestern Connecticut in partnership with Norwalk Community College is offering classes in Business, Computer Technology and Healthcare! For further information, income guidelines and eligibility contact Emily at 203-838-8471 ext. 187 or Guillermo at ext. 135.

Holiday Reminder

At this very special time of year the Norwalk Housing Authority family pauses to reflect on how we have served you during the past year, and what we can do to make things better for you the resident. As you know our relationship with you, our service to you and your satisfaction with your apartment is very important to us. In our effort to help you avoid an unpleasant situation, please accept this gentle reminder that your rent payment is due as usual by the 10th of the month.



As always, the staff of Norwalk Housing Authority wishes you and your entire family a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Scholarships Available!

- Stephen J. Bollinger Memorial Scholarship (One scholarship available: \$7,000.00)
- Freedom & Civil Rights Scholarship (One scholarship available: \$5000.00)
- HD Supply Scholarships (One scholarship available: \$5000.00)



These scholarships are for graduating high school seniors with a B average or above. Call Carla Conway for details and applications at 203-838-8471 ext. 176.

Seniors: Help Is A Phone Call Away!

Tania Parent and Soraya Principe are Senior Service Coordinators who work for NHA to assist you! Tania and Soraya can help you with all kinds of stuff and have a wealth of knowledge that can assist you with whatever you need. Tania Parent works with seniors from Irving Freese, John Shostak and 20 West Ave. and Soraya Principe works with seniors from Senior Court, Leroy Downs and Ludlow Village. Call them at 203-847-2830 for assistance.

