



### Learning Center Staff Spotlight!

Michael Crafter has been working with the Washington Village Learning Center since 2008 as the Lead Coordinator. Michael graduated from Norwalk Community College in 2004 with an Associate's Degree in General Studies and from Fairfield University with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology in 2007. Michael has been working with kids

of all ages for the past fifteen years from the Grassroots Tennis Program to the YMCA Youth Program. He considers it a privilege and honor to work with kids and to serve his community.

### Opportunity Is Knocking!

The ABC Program (A Better Chance) is now available for academically talented and motivated students in grades 5-10 for the 2012-13 school year. ABC places students in top level prep schools (boarding or high end public schools with food, housing, etc. provided for the student) across the country. If you know a family that is supportive and involved with their son's or daughter's education and would like to pursue this possibility, please share this wonderful opportunity. Details and application can be found on the website at [www.abetterchance.org/apply](http://www.abetterchance.org/apply). For assistance, call Carla Conway at 203-838-8471 ext. 176.

### Family Day/Back to School Events!

Washington Village Family Day will be held on **Friday Aug. 26, 2011** from 3:00pm-7:00pm. Rain date: Saturday Aug. 27<sup>th</sup> 2011 from 3:00pm-7:00pm. For more information call Ella Dunlap: President (203)434-4867.

Meadow Gardens Family Day will be held on **Saturday, Sept. 3rd 2011** from 2:00pm-6:00pm. For further details call Yolanda Dancy, President 203-822-3129.

### Stepping Stones Hosts Free Back to School Night!

It's the beginning of the new school year, an exciting and important time to prepare for your child's success. Join Norwalk ACTS in a salute to students of all ages, parents and educators at this one-of-a-kind back to school celebration.

Stepping Stones Museum for Children  
Thursday, September 1, 2011  
5:00 — 8:00 pm  
FREE Admission

Meet Norwalk ACTS members and learn about the outstanding community resources available for you and your child.



### NEW 20 WEST AVE LEARNING CENTER PROGRAM KICK-OFF

NHA Learning Centers are excited to announce a parents' night to introduce the new 20 West Program for students grades 6-12. There will be an OPEN HOUSE @ 20 WEST on 8/31 from 5:30pm-7:00pm. Come and meet the 20 West Staff and learn more about the students program that will include homework help, reading and math help, PLUS art, jewelry making, drama, music, science, robotics, NASA astronomical robot control via computer, Teen Iron Chef, basketball, bicycling, plus many other activities for students to choose from. 20 WEST STAFF WILL BE AT THE OPEN HOUSE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS. REGISTRATION PACKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE. First day of fall session is Thursday, Sept. 1, 2011, from 2:00-7:00 pm. Come visit and see the great space and meet the staff. **REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.**



### Laborer Position Available

Responsibilities include performing a variety of unskilled and semi-skilled manual tasks in the upkeep of properties and grounds including refuse removal, sweeping parking areas, and conducts visual inspections of hallways. The position calls for the performance of general custodial duties, superficial repairs, and general landscaping functions. Submit completed applications to: Norwalk Housing Authority, Att: Personnel Analyst by September 15, 2011.

### School Physical Exams

Norwalk Health Department located at 137 East Avenue, Norwalk, CT is offering School Physical Exams for children grades K through 12. Call NOW for an appointment/information at (203)-854-7776.

### NHA Resident Excels at Private School

NHA has many children who are excelling in school and after school in NHA Learning Center activities. One of these children, Karl Gregory, is entering fifth grade at Pear Tree Point School in Darien where he is on full scholarship. Karl is an "A" student, interested in many subjects including math, sciences, computers, chess and drama. "I like to learn," says Karl. "I like doing science experiments at school and finding out things I didn't know". Karl also participates at NHA's Meadow Gardens Learning Center. He is one of several NHA students attending private school. He, like the other NHA children attending private schools, is transported daily by NHA vans to the schools in NHA's support of this effort made by both the students and their families. In September, private schools will begin to interview students for the fall of 2012. If your child likes to be challenged academically, has good grades and you are interested in applying to private schools, please get a list of schools from the NHA main office front desk and contact Carla Conway at 203-838-8471 ext. 176.



Washington Village's Learning Center Outdoor Festival held on August 17, 2011. Shown here at the Face Painting Station are, from left to right: Janai Dickson, Kaleese, Elizabeth Diaz, and Tanicha Dupervil.

### Roodner Court Learning Center Rated "Superlative"

Over the summer months, NHA Learning Centers participated in the Federal Summer Food Service Program in conjunction with NEON. Learning Center students received a free breakfast and lunch each day of the summer program. The Roodner Court Learning Center was singled out by state inspectors as providing a "Superlative" level of service in feeding, handling, and storing the meals. Our thanks go out to Laura Turner and the staff of RCLC for their excellent work.

### Christian Community Action

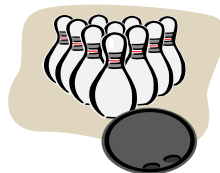
CCA Food Pantry moved to Open Door Shelter, 4 Merritt St., Norwalk, CT. Call 203-899-2485 for further information.

### Freese Dinner Café Adds Bingo on Saturdays at Noon!

Seniors come have dinner at the Irving Freese Dinner Café on 57 Ward Street, Norwalk, CT. Reservations are required at least 24 hours in advance; call 203-241-2422. \$2.00 donation suggested, but not required. Monthly menu is posted on [www.norwalkha.org](http://www.norwalkha.org) under senior services. Bingo will begin on September 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm and prizes will be awarded.

### Wii Bowling Starts September 10th at Leroy Downs

Come play Wii Bowling with Nicole Ruffin on Saturday mornings at 10:00am in the Leroy Downs Community Room, 26 Monroe St. Light refreshments will be served.



### Meals On Wheels

Meals on Wheels is a non-profit home delivered meal program for Norwalk residents who cannot prepare their own meals. Meals on Wheels offer from 1 – 7 meals per week, delivered 5 mornings a week. The program provides balanced, nutritious meals at a low cost. The cost is based on monthly income applied on a sliding scale. Meals include a sandwich lunch, with fruit and drink and dinner includes a protein, vegetable and starch, (precooked, to be heated) with fruit, drink, and dessert. Special diets are available. For details contact Meals on Wheels at 203-847-3115 X108.

### Write Away For Better Grades!

Students who write about their pretest jitters may calm their nerves and improve their marks. In a University of Chicago study, ninth graders who jotted down their feelings about a test scored nearly a full grade point higher than those who didn't. Researchers believe that expressing concerns on paper helps free the brain to concentrate on the task at hand. Have your child try it the morning before an exam.

### Family Child Care Toolkit Licensing Project!

Do you love children? Have you always wanted to run your own business? Beginning this fall, residents of the NHA may be able to participate in a program that helps people set up licensed family child care businesses in their homes. If you are already caring for children informally, getting licensed can increase your income and allows you to join a professional network of early child care providers. If you're interested in learning more, look for flyers and brochures with the dates and locations of upcoming informational meetings (transportation can be provided). Want to know more now? Contact Nilda Aponte at [nilda@allourkin.org](mailto:nilda@allourkin.org) or call 203.909.9151. Any at home business must be approved in advance, contact Lisa Roger at 203-838-8471 et. 188.



### Roodner Court Family Day

Children from Roodner Court were treated to hot dogs, face painting and various activities at the playground for Family Day on Saturday on August 20, 2011. The annual event, which was held from 12 to 3 p.m., featured various games, contests and giveaways as well as DeeJay. Deidra Davis, Vice President of the Roodner Court Tenant's Association, said the goal of Family Day is to get residents involved in the community. Mayor Richard A. Moccia, pictured above greeted children at the event. "There's nothing better than kids, picnics and hot dogs," Moccia said. The Roodner Court's Tenant Association has hosted a well attended series of outdoor movie nights for children at the housing complex. A Halloween parade will be held in the fall.

*"Excellence is never an accident. It is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, and intelligent execution; it represents the wise choice of many alternatives - choice, not chance, determines your destiny." Aristotle*