Would You Like to Become A Resident Advisory Board Member?

The Resident Advisory Board (RAB) provides the Housing Authority and the residents with a forum for sharing information about the Agency's Annual Plan. The RAB membership is comprised of individuals who reflect and represent the residents assisted by the Housing Authority. The role of the RAB is to assist the Housing Authority in developing the PHA Plan and in making any significant amendments or modifications to the Plan. Members meet 3-4 times a year in the evening with a light dinner served. Van transportation is available to and from the meeting. If you are interested in becoming a RAB member, please contact Anabelle DelaCruz at 203-838-8471 ext. 140.

Norwalk Observance of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

The Norwalk Senior Services Coordinating Council is teaming up with the Center for Elder Abuse Prevention and the Coalition for Abuse Prevention of the Elderly, of Jewish Senior Services, in recognition of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) on June 15, 2016 at Norwalk City Hall from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The public is invited to attend and learn how to prevent and detect elder abuse and its many forms, including, physical abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation.

Please Join Us!

The NHF Scholarship Awards Ceremony will be held on June 22, 2016 at 6:00pm at the Stepping Stones Museum, Matthews Park, 303 West Ave, Norwalk.

RSVP to Anabell DeLaCruz at 203-838-8471 ext.140.

The state's largest Career Fair geared to helping recent college graduates find a great job in CT.

Over 90% of Employers surveyed after last year's event indicated that they were likely to hire a candidate they met at RecruitCT for one of the 700 open positions promote.

LOCATION:
Trumbull Marriott
180 Hawley Lane, Trumbull, CT
DATE: Friday, June 10, 2016
TIME: 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

If You Smell Gas:

- Alert everyone nearby and leave the area immediately.
- Do not use anything that could be a source of ignition, including cell phones, flashlights, light switches, matches or vehicles, until you are a safe distance away.
- Call 911 for emergency assistance and then call Eversource at 1-877-944-5325.

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Affordable Housing & Homelessness: Share Your Story

Senator Maria Cantwell has launched a new tool to help make the case to expand the Housing Credit. The Senator is collecting personal stories from people who have struggled to afford housing and/or have experienced homelessness. Senator Cantwell’s office is looking for a large volume of stories to help demonstrate the widespread and urgent need to invest more federal resources in affordable housing.

We encourage you to share this with your networks, members, and residents. Senator Cantwell is looking for stories from around the country. Personal details will be shared only with permission. To submit stories, access the tool on Senator Cantwell’s website, www.cantwell.senate.gov/affordable-housing-and-homelessness/form and fill out the short form.

Financial Management Tip of the Month: Don’t ignore your student loans!

Over 43 million Americans currently carry some amount of student loan debt. One out of every seven student loan borrowers will default on their loans within three years of graduation. Government-backed student loans do not go away. Even declaring bankruptcy is unlikely to free you from your student loans. The Department of Education will make every effort to get you to pay. If you are unable to recover those missed payments, the loan is transferred to the Department of Justice who employs private collection agencies. The end result could lead to your wages being garnished or your tax refund seized, or you could end up in court. It’s best to make some kind of mutual payment arrangement where possible. Call, communicate and negotiate.

JOIN US FOR THESE FUN AND INFORMATIVE EVENTS!

Financial Resiliency Workshop: Begin your path toward economic security and stability. Work towards assessing your current financial situation, identify ways to increase income, decrease and prioritize expenses. Develop a financial recovery plan. The workshop will be held on Wednesday June 8th, 5:30PM – 7:30PM.

Teen Financial Seminars: Financial and budgeting sessions to educate teens on the essential steps needed to achieve financial independence. Whether it’s learning the basics on opening up and maintaining a bank account, managing money while at school and preparing for life after college, if your teen has questions, these workshops are the right place to start! The seminar will be held on Wednesday August 3rd, 10AM – noon and Tuesday August 9th, 4:30PM – 6:30PM.

Investing in Yourself: Build wealth and savings to meet your life goals. Learn how investment accounts work. Identify what’s needed to plan, accumulate, protect, and enjoy wealth for a sound and secure financial life. The seminar will be held on Wednesday August 11th, 5:30PM – 7:30PM.

All events will be held at NHA Choice Neighborhood Office, 149 Water Street, 2nd floor, Norwalk, CT 06854. Call NHA to reserve your spot today, 203-838-8471 Marie (x186) or Nadine (x681).

Learning Skills for Life Bartenders Academy offered by DIAGEO

Job Readiness Training & Internship Program on Monday-Friday, 6 week Program includes 4 weeks classroom training + 2 week (20 hours) internship

Complimentary Program
- Pre-registration required
- Must be unemployed or underemployed to qualify
- Must be a minimum of 21 years old participate
- Pre-screen and background check required
- Must complete 4 week classroom training and 2 week internship

Interested residents must respond by June 5th to Kras Carlucci at 203-838-8471 ext. 125.

Employment Tip of the Month: Tips to calm your post-interview jitters

Don’t be afraid to follow up with your interviewer. At the close of the interview, ask the interviewer when would be an appropriate time to follow up if you haven’t heard anything. If possible get a name and contact number. One to two weeks is a reasonable time for a follow-up in general. Keep yourself focused and stick to a routine to make the most of your job hunting experience. Seeking employment is itself a full time job. Don’t burn yourself out to the point where you’re fatigued and stressed when you finally do get the call. Be kind to yourself; be patient and believe in yourself.

Housing Matters

The Bartender

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Do you suffer from High Blood Pressure? Are you unsure? FREE Blood Pressure Screening!

Struggling to keep your blood pressure under control? Looking to live a healthier lifestyle? In partnership with the Riverbrook Regional YMCA, NHA is hosting a Blood Pressure Pre-Screening to start off our Self-Monitoring Program which will include the following:

- Personalized assistance from a Healthy Heart Ambassador
- Tips for maintaining cardiovascular health
- Learn how to better manage you blood pressure
- Heart Healthy Nutrition Education...and so much more...

Stop by June 16th anytime between 4pm and 6pm at our new workshop location NHA Choice Neighborhood Office, 149 Water St., 2nd floor, Norwalk, CT 06854. Call NHA to reserve your spot today, 203-838-8471 Marie (x186) or Nadine(x681).

Residents Needed for Crime & Safety Survey

The Washington Village Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI) is partnering with the Police Department for the collection of crime prevention and neighborhood safety surveys from South Norwalk residents and business owners. The City of Norwalk has been awarded a Byrne Criminal Justice Initiative planning grant and has a goal of collecting at least 400 surveys. It is important to have your voice heard. Residents of Washington Village, Meadow Gardens, King Kennedy, Roodner Court, Leroy Downs and 20 West Main Street are all encouraged to participate. Surveys are completed with the assistance of intake workers who are going door-to-door and attending community meetings. Washington Village residents should contact their case managers to complete the survey. Watch for notices of other opportunities to complete the survey or contact Nadine at the CNI office (203) 838-8471, ext. 681.

S.T.E.M. Students Create A Homemade Tornado

Students took particular delight in creating a homemade tornado! Using two 2-liter bottles, duct tape, a metal washer, water, and some food coloring, students were able to get a hands-on experience of what happens during a tornado. They learned about how tornados form, the damaging effects a tornado can have, the prominent areas of the United States where tornados occur, and safety steps to take in the event of a tornado storm.

Students are fascinated by their creation of a homemade tornado. From left to right: Sanai McCoy, Xaire Lappots, and James Gross.

The Dangers of Wi-Fi

When using open Wi-Fi, be aware that you're actually sharing a network with other people, thus putting your data at risk. You may think a public Wi-Fi is safe when, in fact, it might be bogus and can compromise your sensitive information and can lead to identity theft or financial loss.

Wi-Fi Tips/Warnings

- Use your personal hotspot.
- Don't use Apple's default password.
- Turn off sharing.
- Use SSL connections.

Upcoming Career/Job Fairs & Employment Opportunities

Unemployed? Underemployed? Looking to make a career move?

JOB CLUB
NHA/HOU CNI OFFICE
149 Water St., 2nd Floor
Norwalk, CT 06854

Wednesdays at 3:00pm starting June 15th, 2016
Call 203-810-5673 for more information.

Hospitality Jobs Available! Call Now!

Do you enjoy helping people? Engage Staffing, a division of The Workplace is looking for candidates to fill several LOCAL part time positions in hospitality such as Housekeeping, Dishwasher, Laundry Attendant, Prep Cook, Server, and Busser. Call 203-810-5673 to register.

Hospitality Jobs Available! Call Now!
**Literacy Corner**

**Literacy in the 21st Century:** Today, Literacy is more than just reading, writing, and arithmetic (what is traditionally known as the 3 Rs). The 21st century learner is a problem-solver, critical thinker, collaborator and communicator. We understand that today’s learner requires a deeper, more fertile learning environment, and we are adjusting our Literacy Program to meet the needs of our students. So, what does that mean? We will continue to reinforce skills taught in school, as this is critical to our children’s success now and in the future. We will also continue to provide enrichment opportunities for ALL of our students. What might that look like?

**Field Trips** Field trips provide our students with quality experiences and exposure to new ideas and concepts. Learners use these experiences to make connections and problem solve. They also use this time to just have fun.

**Technology** We want to teach your students how to navigate the internet and filter through information and ideas using tablets and computers. We also want to ensure that they have access to educational games and tools on the web.

**Educational Videos** We use videos to create a multi-sensory approach to learning. Reading a book is good. Getting information from the web is great. But, sometimes watching a video is “everything”.

**Games** Who said that learning cannot be fun? For example, in an effort to teach the parts of speech, we create lively and vivacious games that allow students to have fun in a non-competitive environment.

As Literacy continues to move forward, we will look to evolve and engage in practices that address the needs of the 21st century learner. But, we can’t do it alone. We look forward to partnering with parents in the near future on this very important endeavor.

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**Free Haitian Health Fair!**

An array of vendors will be on site to do physical and mental health screenings, along with other agencies handing out information and giveaways on June 25, 2016 from 10:00am-2:00pm, 34 Woodland Ave, Stamford, CT.

**Norwalk Dream Community & Mayor’s Gallery**

Students from 20 West participated in a special arts enrichment program in collaboration with Melissa Slattery, the newly appointed curator for Norwalk City Hall’s Mayor’s Gallery. This collaboration allowed students to participate in an open conversation about what their dream of Norwalk would be. Students shared their dreams about wanting new computers for schools, eliminating littering, and even imagined moving the entire community to Africa! Students then created drawings illustrating their dreams, and wrote official statements. This work was accompanied by photographs of 20 West students and displayed in the Norwalk City Hall’s Mayor’s Gallery in an exhibit open to the public. Students visited the opening of the exhibit, and spoke with Mayor Rilling about their experience. The exhibit and the NHA Learning Center’s involvement was highlighted in the Norwalk Hour.

**Students Docents Guide**

**SoNo Art Walking Tour**

Norwalk Public Schools middle school students from the Norwalk Housing Authority 20 West Art Program are offering a free tour of SONO Public Art, sponsored by the Norwalk Arts Commission. During the tour, students will share interesting stories about the art and artists dating back to New Deal as well as murals from the 1980’s. The free tours will take place on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM. Tours begin at Washington Park, the plaza in front of 50 Washington Street in South Norwalk. Public parking is available at the Maritime Garage and the Haviland and Webster Parking Lots. Space is limited and advance online registration is required. Go to http://tinyurl.com/je9nrpe