



NHA News

May 2008

URGENT! Bank Change

Effective May 1, 2008 Wachovia Bank will no longer accept rent payments. Please bring your rent payments to: **Fairfield County Bank, 67 Wall Street, Norwalk, CT**

Please bring your payment to inside tellers only!

Inside Teller Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4:00pm

Friday 8:30am-5:30pm

For your convenience we will still include a postage paid envelope for you to mail your rent payment. We encourage you to pay by mail.

Thank you for your cooperation and should you have any questions/comments, please feel free to contact the Accounts Receivable Specialist at 838-8471 ext. 144.



Family Fun with Container Gardening

Presented by Laura Cohen from Millstone Farm, Wed. April 30 at 6:30 p.m. at Washington Village Meeting Room. All Norwalk Housing Authority families are welcome! Learn how to start a garden at your home. Also, find out about the new community garden at Fodor Farm available to Norwalk residents to grow fresh vegetables, herbs & flowers.



Fun Facts and Helpful Hints! Light Refreshments! Raffle Prize!!! For more information, call Gabrielle at the Norwalk Health Department at 854-7974.

Post-High School Programs For Special Learners

Wednesday, April 30th 7:30pm.

At the Stamford Jewish Community Center, 1035 Newfield Ave. Workshop for parents of teens to discuss post-high school educational options that usually take place on college campuses. Includes, loopholes, financing methods and legal obligations. Diverse panel of experts. Open to the community. No charge. Advance registration is required. To sign up or for more information, call Jewish Family Service at 454-4992 or email edwigel@ctjfs.org.



SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Eat out for lunch or dinner on **Wednesday, May 7, 2008** and **15%** of your tab will go to support the **Norwalk AfterSchool Alliance**. Over 700 of you participated last year, so plan an office lunch, and a family dinner. The more you eat, the more you help! Participating restaurants:

***Bang Bang Pizza, 325 Westport Ave.**

***O'Neill's Irish Pub & Restaurant, 70 North Main St.**

***The Brewhouse Restaurant, 13 Marshall St.**

***Rowley's Tavern, 280 Connecticut Ave.**

***Harbor Lights Restaurant, 84 Seaview Ave.**

***Tavern on 7, 611 Main Ave.**

***Marina d'Amalfi, 172 Main St.**

More Restaurants to be announced.....

For more information, please contact Stephanie Ragin, 854-4117.



MIRIAM CHERKES-JULKOWSKI, Ph.D,

Educational Consultant, Diagnostic & Consulting

May 6, 2008, Tuesday, 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

Learn that an effective evaluation describes strengths and weaknesses, uncovers hidden strengths, explains the specific nature of the disability or problem, shows how it interferes with learning and prescribes detailed steps to take toward intervention. Dr. Cherkes-Julkowski has been involved in special education as teacher, professor, consultant, test developer, diagnostician, clinic director, researcher and author.

The lecture will be held at Norwalk City Hall, 125 East Avenue, Norwalk, CT, A333, 3rd floor, and is co-sponsored by NorwalkSEEKS.org and CACLD (Ct Association for Children & Adults w/Learning Disabilities). For more information or to RSVP, please contact info@norwalkseeks.org or call (203) 846-2501. Contact information for speaker: Dr. Miriam Cherkes-Julkowski, (860) 429-4894 or email at cherkes-julkowski@educational-advisor.com.

NHA Job and Education Fair

Please join us on May 7, 2008 at 20 West Ave. Norwalk, CT 06854 from 12:00pm until 3:00pm

Contact:

Season @ 838-8471 ext.135 or Emily @ 838-8471 ext. 180.



Secretary-Technical Services F/T

Receive/dispatch resident maintenance calls, data entry, switchboard, reports, files. Requirements: Strong customer service commitment, high school graduate, 2 yrs clerical/secretarial exp. \$36,003. Union benefits. Send resume by 5/4/08 to Norwalk Housing Authority, 24 12/ Monroe St., Norwalk, CT 06856-0508 or fax to 838-6535. EOE.

Norwalk Housing Authority Launches Reading Program

The Norwalk Housing Authority (NHA) has just launched an aggressive after school reading program to raise reading levels of low-income youth living in public housing. A Literacy Program Staff of certified teachers as reading coaches, supported by college graduate level assistants has begun to work with students from NHA's five after school



learning centers who are transported twice per week to the King Kennedy Literacy Center.

Haskins Laboratories, a leading authority in reading research and effective teaching techniques, is working with the NHA Literacy Program staff on an ongoing basis, providing training in state-of-the-art reading instruction techniques and

consultation on a case-by-case basis. "We are approaching the problem of reading skills from the ground up, starting with the basics: hearing and decoding for comprehension and fluency, and building from there." says Kenric Greene, Director of the NHA Learning Centers.

"Our program is designed for flexibility to best serve each student's needs. We know that students learn differently. With the assistance of Haskins Laboratories and their Literacy Initiative Program, we will employ diverse teaching techniques tailored to the needs facing each student. There is no *one-size-fits-all* component to this program." For more information contact Kenric Greene, NHA Learning Centers Director, 838-8471, extension 184.

NHA Learning Center Students Participate On Cable TV

On Wednesday, April 9th between 4:00-5:00 PM four NHA Learning Center high school students were interviewed for a Cable TV series. The students participating were: Jamel Brown, who attends Norwalk High School and Martine Liberte, Sade Davis and Keeron Barnes, all students at Brien McMahon High School.

The television segment is part of a Norwalk Education Foundation Program called *Youth Voices*, created to obtain youth perspectives on their educational experience from elementary school through high school. "The objective is to determine how their educational experiences contribute to their development" stated Lauren Rosato, Executive Director of Norwalk Education Foundation. Then Ms. Rosato added, "I want to say thank you to the Norwalk Housing Authority for helping us with this project and to the NHA Learning Centers and the students who participated. They were incredibly articulate and contributed in an extremely positive way. We were so impressed that we wish to continue this."

Questions asked of the students included: 1) Do you feel your education is preparing you for adulthood? 2) What do you like about your education? 3) If you could change something about your education, what would it be? 4) Do you feel safe in your school?

Norwalk Community College is currently editing the half hour segment which is estimated to air sometime in June on Channel 78. Watch your local listings for times and dates.



Norwalk Housing Foundation College Scholarship Application Requests Hit Record Numbers

The 2008 Norwalk Housing Foundation College Scholarship Program has received 41 requests for applications. Applications are due in on April 25th so the number of returns is not available at this printing. Last year 23 scholarships totaling \$72,250 were awarded. Also, there have been record submissions for other scholarship programs open to public housing and Section 8 residents. "This increase reflects a growing interest in pursuing higher education among public housing and Section 8 residents. Education is becoming more critical to obtaining and keeping a well paying job. Employment is very competitive in Fairfield County and residents understand that the only way to be competitive is through obtaining a solid education," stated Curtis Law, Executive Director of NHA. For more information on scholarships, contact Carla Conway at 838-8471, extension 176.

