

## Washington Village Choice Neighborhoods: Two Community Meetings in November

There will be a meeting on **Wednesday November 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 6:00pm** to present data from the Washington Village resident survey to residents of Washington Village at the Learning Center. Each resident met with a survey worker and completed the survey and this meeting is to share a summary of the results. The resident survey was a major task that will serve to inform the planning process as we move forward. It is important that residents are part of the discussion and process. NHA encourages residents to attend this important meeting. The second meeting will be a community wide meeting held on Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30am at Calvary Baptist Church, 21 Concord St., South Norwalk, CT. All of the Task Force members, larger community and Washington Village residents will have an opportunity to hear the survey results. There will be a discussion after the presentation. Please feel free to contact Patricia Marsden-Kish ,203-838-8471, ext. 184 or [pmkish@norwalkha.org](mailto:pmkish@norwalkha.org) if you have any questions.

### Low-Cost Internet Services!

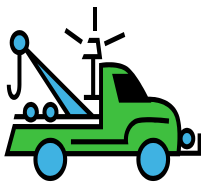
The Comcast Internet Essentials Program offers low-cost internet at \$10/month to low-income families with children who are eligible to receive free school meals. This new program is expected to have major impact on low-income people who have previously been unable to afford broadband Internet. The program will also offer vouchers to purchase a \$150 computer. For information on how you can find out if you qualify for this program, visit <http://www.internetessentials.com/index.html>.



### The SOS Parenting Group in Spanish

Trying to juggle work obligations, family demands, and scarce resources can leave parents feeling stressed and overwhelmed. The Parenting SOS program is designed with the needs of these families in mind to help reduce parenting stress and foster strong and healthy families. There will be a fee of \$10 per parent and financial assistance is available for parents with demonstrated need. Contact Yohanna Cifuentes at 203-299-1315 for more details.

### REGISTER YOUR VEHICLES



NHA residents living at the following developments are required in their leases to register their vehicles in order to park in the on-site parking lots: 20 West Avenue; Chapel Street; Fairfield Avenue; Irving Freese; John Shostak; King Kennedy; Leroy Downs; Ludlow Village; Main Avenue; Meadow Gardens; Roodner Court; Seaview/Fort Point St.; School Street; Senior Court; Washington Village. If you do not register your car, your car may get towed. To register your car, you must bring to the NHA front desk the following 3 documents: 1) your driver's license; 2) vehicle registration; 3) insurance card. All documents must be current and in your name. At the front desk you must fill out the vehicle registration application form. **Partial Applications will no longer be accepted and placed on hold. You must bring all 3 proper documents at the same time.** The cost of your car being towed plus the storage ranges from \$180.00 plus storage fees.

### Citywide Free Book Distribution

The next Norwalk Reads! distribution will be Saturday, Nov. 5 between 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM. Four free books will be given to each child who comes with a parent or guardian to any of Norwalk's public libraries or to the NHA Learning Centers at Colonial Village and Washington Village. Children will have thousands of books to select from. Also, there are special prizes for children who bring in "passports" they received from past distributions filled out with the titles of books they have read.



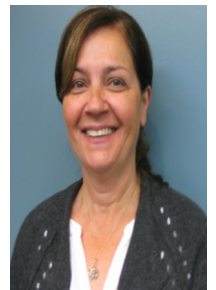
### Dr. John Hinson Retires!



Dr. John Hinson, Director of Housing Operations recently turned in his HUD Handbooks, leases, pen and papers for the joyous days of retirement. John worked 2 ½ years at Computer Learning Center & 7 ½ years as Director of Housing Operations with his team of 10. John will surely be missed and NHA wishes John all the best in his retirement!

### NHA Welcomes New Director of Housing Operations

Kras Carlucci joined the NHA staff as the new Director of Housing Operations. Ms. Carlucci comes to the Housing Authority having served as Senior Vice President at CTE, Inc., the anti-poverty agency in Stamford. While at CTE, she directed a staff of twenty-six individuals and has extensive experience working with HUD, while implementing the HOPE II project in Stamford. Ms. Carlucci earned a Master's in Counseling from Hunter College and a Bachelor's in Psychology from Baruch College.



### Education Opportunities!

Myrtha, a single mother with a three-year old daughter has taken NHA up on the opportunity to move forward in her education by enrolling in NCC's Dental Assistant certificate program funded by Norwalk Housing Authority. Myrtha uses public transportation, changed her manufacturing job work hours, found consistent and convenient day care and has taken on a part-time job, just to further her education. You can too!! Call Sandra Ann Nolfo at 203-838-8471 ext. 181.

## \$125,000 Received For Award-Winning Learning Centers Literacy Program

In a stiff state-wide competition for after-school program support, NHA's Literacy Program, was one of the programs selected to receive a 2-year grant of approximately \$125,000 per year. The funds are for continuing NHA's award-winning Literacy Program which has a literacy improvement rate of 76% among NHA children enrolled at the NHA Learning Centers. Resident families interested in enrolling students in the free after-school learning centers should call the 20 West Learning Center for more information at 203-852-1144.

### Have you been the victim of a scam?

Consumer University is a **FREE** workshop designed to educate Seniors to *about Scams This event will be held on Nov. 2, 2011 from 9:30 am-1:00 pm at Norwalk Senior Center, 11 Allen Road, Norwalk, CT 0685. Seating is limited for this FREE workshop and LUNCH. Reservations are REQUIRED. To RSVP call: (203) 663-7332.*

### Veterans Breakfast

The Senior Center invites Veterans and family members to a **FREE** breakfast including home-made pancakes, fruit & orange juice on **November 10 @ 9:00AM**. Captain John Anstead and the Air Force Junior ROTC Cadets will perform a drill routine and color guard salute. Serendipity Chorus will sing Patriotic songs to finish off the morning's celebration. **Reservations required, call (203) 847-3115 to save your place.**



### TEMPORARY HELP WANTED NOW

Seeking **Norwalk Housing** residents as **temporary laborers** to work with NHA contractors under the Sect. 3 program. Carpentry or construction experience is helpful. **ONLY NHA RESIDENTS MAY APPLY.** For information and application contact me immediately: **Sandra-Ann Nolfo, Resident Services Coordinator at: 203-838-8471 ext. 181 or email: [snolfo@norwalkha.org](mailto:snolfo@norwalkha.org).**

### NHA Honored at Norwalk Reads! Fundraiser

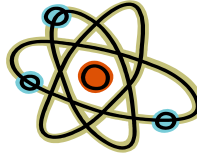
Norwalk Housing Authority was honored as one of two founders of **Norwalk Reads!** at their first fundraiser, held at Stepping Stones Museum for Children. NHA was praised for enriching the lives of Norwalk's children and for its continued support of Norwalk Reads! which has distributed over 70,000 free children's books to Norwalk's children and earned its own official day on Norwalk's Calendar: *Norwalk Reads! Day*, which falls on the first Saturday in November.



### Emergency Work Orders

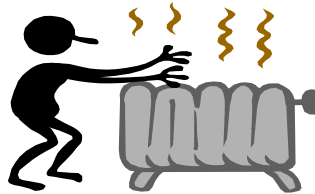
Smoke detector not working; no heat in entire apartment; no hot water; water leaking & causing damage; no electrical service in the entire apartment when the utilities have been paid; toilet, tub or sink stoppage and lock outs, for which there is a charge. A Gas leak is an emergency that the tenant must call Yankee Gas at 1-877-944-5325. Emergency service requests after hours call 203-853-9091. **Please dial carefully.**

### Energy Matters!



The cold weather is approaching! Northeast Utilities, CL&P and Yankee Gas will discuss how to **SAVE MONEY** and energy this winter while keeping your home comfortable. Topics include energy efficiency methods, tips and conservation. Sign up for one of two workshops to be eligible for a drawing for a **FREE refurbished DELL computer & flat screen monitor!** Seminars will be held at Leroy Downs, 26 Monroe Street; Monday, November 14, from 10:30AM – noon; **OR** Tuesday, November 15, 6:00PM – 7:30PM. Pre-registration is required, space is limited. For additional information or to register, please call 203-838-8471 X135 or X187.

### NEON is Accepting Applications for Financial Assistance for Fuel and Energy Bills, for the 2011-2012 Energy Assistance Program



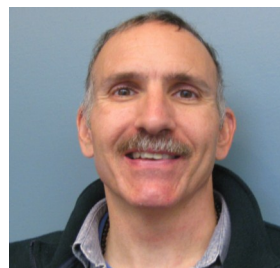
Residents can contact (203) 899-2420 to make an appointment at the NEON Energy Office, 98 South Main Street, Norwalk

CT. Appointments are *required*. Households must apply for energy assistance to receive benefits, including those persons that are automatically income eligible. Residents are required to bring to the appointment: Social Security cards for all household members; energy bills; bank statements; income statements including cash assistance and rent statements, including landlord name, phone number and address. Appointments can be made Mondays through Thursdays, 9:30AM through 3PM.

### \$7,000 & \$5,000 PHADA College

#### Scholarships Applications for Senior High School Students Are Out!

Public housing and Section 8 high school seniors with a B average or better (3.0) overall GPA for all high school years should apply for the 3 PHADA Scholarships worth \$5,000 to \$7,000. Go online to [www.phada.org](http://www.phada.org) to download the application or come to NHA's front desk for a hard copy of the application. Applications must be signed and submitted by NHA, which can only submit 2 applications. Applicants must submit their applications to NHA by January 21 for selection. No handwritten applications will be accepted. For information contact Carla: 203-838-8471, ext. 176.



### Who is the Parent/School Coordinator?

Mark Covello is Norwalk Housing Authority's Parent/School Coordinator. He has a Master's in Education from the University of Bridgeport, with years of experience in

the Stamford and Bridgeport school systems. His role at NHA is to improve parent's interaction with their child's school. He has been working as the Parent/School coordinator for 2 years and has developed relationships with the schools in Norwalk. This support can improve your child's education and thus their future! Mark can be reached at 203-838-8471 x186 or email him at [mcovello@norwalkha.org](mailto:mcovello@norwalkha.org).