NHA Resident Commissioner Election!

NHA will be holding Resident Commissioner Elections to fill the Commissioner term expiring May 31, 2018. The Resident Commissioner is elected to the Norwalk Housing Authority Board of Commissioners and, as member of the Board, represents all NHA residents. This is an unpaid position. To vote a Resident must be 18 years of age by January 30, 2018 and listed on a NHA Public Housing or Section 8 Lease.

Nominations of a NHA Public Housing or NHA Section 8 Resident should be submitted to:
Norwalk League of Women Voters or: lwv.norwalk@gmail.com
PO Box 644
Norwalk, CT 06852
All nominations are due January 16, 2018 by 11:59 PM

CANDIDATE FORUM to meet nominees
January 23, 2018, 6:30pm at South Norwalk Library, 10 Washington St., Norwalk
*SNOW DATE: January 25, 2018, 6:30 PM at Main Norwalk Library, 1 Belden Ave., Norwalk

ELECTION DATE: Locations on mailer and on NHA website
January 30, 2018 from 12:00pm to 8:00pm. You must bring a current photo ID.
*SNEWS DATE: February 13, 2018, 12:00 PM to 8:00PM

*NIGHT DATE: If Norwalk Public Schools are closed or early dismissal is announced before noon, the SNOW DATE will be used for the Candidate Forum or Election Date.
**Any further questions, contact Kras Carlucci, Director of Housing Operations at 203-838-7471, ext. 125. Find voting location by Googling; norwalkha.org, click on NEWS and then click on NEWS and Updates. Look under Updates.

NHA Staff Hosted Annual Senior Holiday Breakfast

Norwalk Housing Authority staff hosted its annual senior breakfast on December 19, 2017 at five senior developments. All NHA seniors were invited and residents feasted on a homemade breakfast consisting of fantastic fruit cocktail, decadent danish, terrific tangerines, blissful bacon, succulent sausage, sensational scrambled eggs, heavenly homefries, outrageous orange juice and captivating coffee. Holiday gifts were given to all attendees. The Norwalk Housing Authority would like to give a special thank you to the following donors who graciously donated money, goods, time, or a word of encouragement for this awesome event:
• Coldwell Banker Employees
• Community Baptist Church Missionary
• David’s Soundview Catering
• Diamond Deli
• Grace Baptist Church Volunteers
• Norwalk Housing Authority staff
• Russ and Barbara Jones
• Seaside Design

Ludlow Commons and Ludlow Villages residents enjoying each others company.

Irving Freese and Shostak residents were served a succulent breakfast by volunteers from Coldwell Banker and Community Baptist Church.
Want to OWN your own HOME?
You can do it!

NHA Federal Public Housing and Federal Section 8 residents may qualify for mortgage subsidies for up to 15 years!

First-time Homebuyers Certification Program. Come to this FREE program presented by Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust, to learn what’s involved in becoming a homeowner on Saturday February 3rd, 9:00AM – 5:00PM, at NHA’s Choice Neighborhood Office, 149 Water Street, 2nd floor, Norwalk. Take the confusion out of home-buying. You’ll be guided step by step through the process including reviewing your finances, determining how much you can afford, reviewing your credit, shopping for a home, obtaining a mortgage, preparing for the closing, and more. This popular class fills up quickly! Pre-registration is required, space is limited. Contact 203-838-8471 Marie (x186) or Nadine (x681) to learn the steps you can take TODAY to become a homeowner! Transportation available to NHA residents only with at least one week advanced notice.

We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies. – Dr. Martin Luther

FREE INFORMATION SESSION!
Date: Thursday, January 11th at 1:00PM
Where: NHA-CNI Offices
149 Water St, 2nd fl
Norwalk, CT

Space is limited. Call now!!
203-838-8471 ext. 678 (Lisa) or X681 (Nadine)

**** Pre-registration required ******

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

Classes are Monday thru Friday, 10:00AM-2:00PM from February 26, 2018-March 23, 2018.

FREE Tax Preparations and e-filing services – Get the tax credits you deserve!

Did you know that many families are eligible for valuable tax credits every year? Whether or not you owe any income tax, you could get thousands of dollars in tax benefits. To get these credits, you MUST file a tax return. IRS-certified trained volunteers at Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites offer FREE tax preparation and e-filing services for low-to-moderate-income from mid-January through mid-April. This alone represents a savings for each filer on average of $200. In addition, VITA Volunteers can determine if you’re eligible for special tax credits, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Retirement Savings Contribution Credit (Saver's Credit). Visit a VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) site at one of the upcoming 2018 Norwalk locations: Norwalk Community College, South Norwalk Branch Library, Norwalk City Hall, Norwalk Main Library, Norwalk Senior Center and Family & Children’s Agency.

Schedules will be updated on Connecticut’s 2-1-1 website: http://uwctaxassist.org/free-income-tax-assistance/

FILE FOR FREE WITH VITA TO RECEIVE ALL THE REFUND THAT ARE DUE TO YOU WITHOUT HAVING TO PAY ANY EXTRA FEES!!!
Thrive By 25 Career Connections Program at NCC

In partnership with the Norwalk Community College Foundation and the Fairfield Community Foundation, NCC is offering full scholarships for a variety of Allied Health Workforce certificate training programs. Completion of an Allied Health certificate can be the first step in launching a career that offers a clear pathway for advancement in one of the fastest growing employment sectors in Connecticut. Career Connections is a comprehensive program that includes internships, clinical experiences, job placement, career development and coaching, and a workplace strategies class. You may be eligible if you are 18 to 25 years old, have graduated from high school or have a GED, are currently not working full time and not attending school, and do not have a college degree. For more on certificate offerings or eligibility please contact Lauren McGuire at Lmcguire@norwalk.edu, 203 857-3307 or complete an application online at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/thriveby25. Applications are encouraged to apply now!

Preaching the Ten Commandments: Timeless Truths for Modern Living by Jeffrey A. Ingraham

This book examines the Ten Commandments to see how they are relevant for us today. Initially presented as a series of sermons delivered in an African American congregation, the author offers new ways of understanding and applying these universal and timeless truths first given to Moses on Mt. Sinai. In some of the chapters, Dr. Ingraham defies political correctness in offering his personal convictions. The book is reader friendly, and each chapter concludes with questions for discussion. It is an excellent resource for both personal and group study. Go to Amazon.com to purchase this awesome book.

Resident Employment Search Tips

By Lisa Tella, Housing Opportunities Unlimited Job Developer

Your resume is not a place for modesty. It is a chance for hiring managers to see all of the awesome things you have done, and can do for them if given the chance. Use action verbs to describe your communication skills. Instead of words like talked, led, presented, organized – use words like addressed, corresponded, persuaded, publicized, reconciled. Action verbs can be used for management skills too. Instead of words like led, handled, and oversaw, use consolidated, appointed, delegated, established.
DIY Snowman

20 West Learning Center Junior Engineers took on the task of constructing a DIY Snowmen! Students learned the concept behind blueprints and used this to develop their very own. Students also utilized the Next Generation Science Standards with the Engineer Design Process. The engineering design process is a series of steps that guide engineering teams as they solve problems. The design process is iterative, meaning that engineers repeat the steps as many times as needed, making improvements along the way as they learn from failure. Students shared their knowledge gained by communicating their building ideas with their peers to receive feedback before building. If you are looking for something different and easy to decorate your home here is what you need to build your own DIY Plastic Cup Snowman: lots of cups, a stapler and lots of staples! Apart from being creative and cheap this project is really easy to do!

Let’s Get Ready For College!

B2CC - High School Track

The high school track program is held at the 20 West Learning Center. 20 West staff help students identify their goals in order to prepare for college. The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 3rd, 6:30-7:30pm.

Sons of Serendip Perform

Middle and high school students from 20 West Learning Center had the opportunity to see the musical group, Sons of Serendip, perform at the Palace Theatre in Stamford, CT on Friday evening, December 8th. The entire evening was an exciting one! Students dined together at Fairfield Pizza, downtown Stamford and enjoyed a wonderful show of holiday music with the well-known musical group. The performance also showcased three children’s choirs from Fairfield County.

NHA Students Publish Book With Silvermine Arts Center

A group of Norwalk students are celebrating the publication of a book they wrote this year through the Norwalk Housing Authority and the Silvermine Arts Center in New Canaan. Students in Norwalk Housing Authority's after-school 6th to 8th grade program completed the project through Silvermine’s Art Partners Outreach Education Program. The book, titled "Just Between Friends," includes photography and poetry focusing on animals, which was this year's subject matter. Danielle Vinci took the students to the Stamford Nature Center to study and photograph the animals in their natural environments. Once their photographs were finished, the students met with author and poet Page McBrier and created poetry to accompany their images. "Just Between Friends" is the finished product of this exploration and adventure. The students celebrated the publication of "Just Between Friends" at 6 p.m. on Dec. 7 at the Norwalk Public Library. A book signing will be followed by a weeklong exhibition of their work at Silvermine's Student Gallery, opening on Tuesday, Jan. 9 from 5 to 7 p.m.