

Haverstraw Center News

Issue 4

April 2012

Village of Haverstraw/Haverstraw Center

Haverstraw Community Garden



*Haverstraw Community Garden
Photo 2010 Plant-A-Row Volunteer*

The Village of Haverstraw Community Garden will enjoy its third season with some beautiful additions this year thanks to a grant from SkillsUSA/LOWE'S Community Improvement Foundation and creativity from the Rockland County BOCES CTEC program.

Look for the kick-off at the "Welcome" gathering scheduled for April 15th at 1:00 PM. Rules of the garden will be discussed, new members will be given their key, and instruction will be offered on how to use the roto-tiller. Light refreshments will be served in the garden, weather permitting.

The Haverstraw Commu-

nity Garden is fortunate to have master gardener, Cliff Elton, to coordinate activities, offer advice and be the go-to person in this wonderful outdoor undertaking.

The garden began in 2010 as a collaboration between the Rockland County Department of Health, the North Rockland Central School District, Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Village of Haverstraw/Haverstraw Center.

Americorps volunteers constructed the pergola and Plant-A-Row volunteers have seen abundant crops which are donated to local

food pantries. Cornell Cooperative Extension offers gardening tips and classes in the various community gardens throughout the County. There are still a couple of plots available. Fees are \$30/season. Call Peggy Koval @ 845.429.5731 for information or go to

[http://www.voh-ny.com/
community_garden.htm](http://www.voh-ny.com/community_garden.htm)

Special points of interest:

- HAVERSTRAW CENTER offers many programs free of charge (See schedule)
- COUNSELING for help with: alcohol, tobacco and other drug use, family problems, boyfriends/girlfriends, school
- RECREATION and homework help
- FAMILY ACTIVITIES

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CREATING HEALTHY PLACES IN ROCKLAND—NEW PLAYGROUND TO OPEN AT THE HAVERSTRAW CENTER!

The Village of Haverstraw in collaboration with the Rockland County Department of Health will be installing a playground at the Haverstraw Center. Called "Creating Healthy Places in Rockland County," the grant is designed to create or enhance parks, trails, playgrounds, community gardens, farmers' markets and other avenues to promote a healthy lifestyle for all Rockland residents.

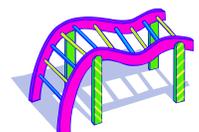
At the March 5, 2012 Village of Haverstraw Board

of Trustees meeting, Mayor Kohut and the board passed a resolution to accept the bid from *Follow the Child*, a company based in Nyack, to complete the project.

The playground will be completed in two phases. The conceptual idea is to incorporate active play space with natural beauty. Platforms for yoga, a rock climbing wall, spinners and a stand-up seesaw are part of the plan. Decorative canopies and mature trees will offer shade in the heat

of the summer. The playground will be located at the Haverstraw Center's courtyard area, accessible through the gymnasium.

Watch for the announcement of the unveiling ceremony. This playground will be an enormous asset to the community in offering a beautiful play space in what was an unusable area at the Center.



Monthly Youth Celebration

The youth who celebrated birthdays or who were "Caught Being Good" in March received their recognitions at the March 27, 2012 celebration. The Haverstraw Center offers this festivity as a way of showing appreciation for the youths' random acts of kindness, good behavior, improvement in study habits, or helpfulness at the Center. By rewarding positive behavior, the incidence of risky behavior is reduced. At each monthly celebration, the youth are treated to a fun activity and/or entertainment and a tasty meal. This month the youth enjoyed pasta cooked by staff members Frankie Vazquez & Pete Fata. The gathering activity focused on the message of "Bullying" - with exercises used to get the youth thinking about how they can help eradicate this social ill.

Those who received certificates for Caught Being Good for the month of March are:

3/1/2012

Adrian Amaro, Johanna Chulde Castro, Matthew Miceus, Justin Moronta, Donovan Quinones, Ivan Real, Jisel Wallace, Adarra Wiley

3/8/2012

Dymmond Bartee, Kwani Harris, Naté Harris, Roger Harris, Kingmil Miceus, Pam Miceus, Crystal Morris, Xavier Perez, Merline Pierre Louis, Rolanda Sand, Aaron Simmons, Jerri Thifault, Elijah Tillman

3/15/2012

Lucy Cousar, Aisha Lundi, Justin Moronta, Rolanda Sand, Jerrie Thifault, Debria Thomas

3/22/2012

Sheyla Clemente, Rony Cruz, Roger Harris, Naté Harris, Tiara Johnson, Merline Pierre Louis, Mekei McCrae, Krystal Morris, Pablo Rivas, Cynthia Tineo, Krystle Torres

CONGRATULATIONS!

Happy March Birthday to:
MARIA HEMMINGS

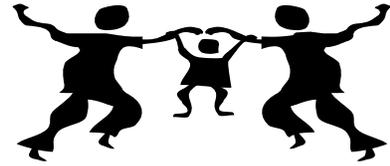
The Haverstraw Center Department of Youth and Family Services staff has been talking about the Center's accomplishments with its FIVE YEAR Anniversary on April 29, 2012 approaching. The Center staff reminisced about the warmth of the day accompanied by the strong winds that allowed for a natural unveiling of the sign.

We would love to hear some of your stories!! Please send an e-mail to Peggy.Koval@VoHny.com

Vanessa Lleras reading from the Martin Luther King, Jr. "I Have a Dream" speech at February's Monthly Youth Celebration.



Attention Middle School Parent/s and Students
(ages 10-14)



Strengthening Families Program

The Strengthening Families Program will provide you with the tools that will put you and your family on the path towards making your dreams come true

Parents

Would you like more closeness between you and your children?
Would you like clearer rules and expectations within your family?

Students

Do you know how to communicate so your parent/s listen and understand?
Do you know how to resist peer pressure and be your own person?

Date: Spring Session Dates ~ Wednesday April 11 to May 16, 2012 (6 weeks)
Time : 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. (dinner included)

Place: HAVERSTRAW CENTER
50 West Broad Street
Haverstraw, NY 10927

Cost: Free (Free babysitting also available for younger siblings)

Registration required. Please call:
Haverstraw Center/Reachout at (845) 429-5731

This program sponsored by the Haverstraw Center/Reachout

HAVERSTRAW SUMMER CAMP

Applications are now available for summer camp at the Haverstraw Village Hall. Camp will run from July 9th through August 17th, 2012, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Completed applications are due no later than April 30th, 2012. Children must be six (6) years old and entering first grade through fourteen (14) years of age. For additional information contact 845.429.0300 or visit the Village website.

Cooking with Family Fun–April Fool’s Colorful Cupcakes: Meatloaf with Mashed Potatoes

Ingredients

- **MEAT LOAF**
 - 1 pound lean ground beef
 - 1/2 cup seasoned bread crumbs
 - 1 cup grated Monterey Jack cheese
 - 3 tablespoons ketchup
 - 1 egg
 - 1/2 teaspoon celery salt
 - 1/4 teaspoon pepper
 - **POTATO FROSTING**
 - 3 cups mashed potatoes
 - Food coloring
- Instructions

1. Heat the oven to 375 degrees. Line 12 muffin tin cups with foil bake cups.
2. In a large bowl, mix together all of the meat loaf ingredients until well combined. Divide the mixture evenly among the lined cups (the liners should be about three quarters full).
3. Place the filled muffin tins on cookie sheets and bake the cupcakes for about 15 minutes or until cooked through.
4. Divide the mashed potatoes among three small bowls and stir a few drops of food coloring into each batch to create blue, yellow, and pink pastel frostings. Spread a generous dollop on each cupcake.

Makes 12 cupcakes.
<http://familyfun.go.com/april-fools-day-recipes/colorful-cupcakes-686085/>



HAVERSTRAW COLLABORATIVE

The Haverstraw Collaborative is for organizations who meet the first Wednesday of every month from 12:00 noon until 2:00 PM to discuss issues and ideas that affect the North Rockland Community and the Village of Haverstraw in particular. The Haverstraw Collaborative was founded in 2001 for the purpose of all community-based organizations serving the children, youth, elders, adults and families of Haverstraw to meet monthly in a spirit of non-partisanship and cooperation which is reflected in the Mission Statement. Some of the Collaborative’s greatest accomplishments include:

- Unity in the Community
- Communities That Care (CTC)
- Bringing multiple organizations with different services together with one goal
- Summer camp
- Source of/Effective Disseminator of Community Information
- Being a role model for other collaboratives
- Video from youth-adult oral

history project

- Complete Count Committee (US CENSUS)
- Community Garden
- Providing incredible support services to youth & families
- Able to adapt to meet needs of community
- Increased collaboration with countywide service providers
- Spanish Classes
- CASAC School

In addition to these wonderful accomplishments, the Collaborative has worked in conjunction with the Rockland County Department of Health to promote healthy lifestyle choices for Haverstraw residents.

The Collaborative has also conducted racism workshops, drafted a Community Prevention Plan to address Poor Family Management and Low Commitment to School and launched successful campaigns to address ciga-



Joe Ehrmann, Former NFL star and founder of Coach for America, gave a captivating message about gender violence on March 7th at the RCC Cultural Arts Theater. Named one of “The 100 Most Influential Sports Educators in America”, Center staff and students were inspired by his words.

Each meeting begins with socialization and a light lunch with dessert. (A \$5.00 donation is suggested.) Minutes are reviewed, introductions are made and an inspirational reading is shared by the group. There are usually two or three presentations, followed by old and new business. Agency updates conclude the meeting giving each an opportunity to share special events or information informally. For additional information, you may contact Marion Breland Oswald, chair or Peggy Koval at 845.429.5731.

Volunteer of the Month

Sandra Hernandez, volunteer extraordinaire has been selected as the Volunteer of the Month for the Haverstraw Center. Sandra came to the Center while interning as an Americorps volunteer with Hudson River HealthCare. She has offered her skills in language, nutrition, fitness, fashion, and compassion.

Besides helping to coordinate the All Teen, All Night event, Sandra has offered workshops, assisted with the popular Get In With Fit program, and volunteers with JUMP.

THANK YOU, SANDRA!!!





Wii exercising at the *All Teen, All Night* event in February

Village of Haverstraw/Haverstraw Center

50 West Broad Street
Haverstraw, NY 10927

Phone: 845.429.5731
Fax: 845.429.5796
E-mail: CommunityCenter@VoHny.com

The Haverstraw Center Mission Statement

The Haverstraw Center serves all residents of the Village of Haverstraw by providing and hosting high-quality, comprehensive services for youth, families, adults and elders, promoting the health, safety, and well-being of community residents of all ages, and raising the quality of life for all people of our diverse community in a spirit of non-partisanship and cooperation.



Join the Haverstraw Center in its Great American Clean-Up

April 30, 2012
11:00 AM

Meet in the gym for supplies

We're on the WEB!
http://www.voh-ny.com/dept_youth.htm

April Special Events and Notable Days

- 4/1 April Fool's Day
- 4/1 Palm Sunday
- 4/2—4/4 Unity in the Community
- 4/3 Town Hall Meeting 4:30 PM
- 4/4 Haverstraw Collaborative NOON
- 4/6 Good Friday (Center closes early)
- 4/6 Passover begins at sundown
- 4/7 Passover
- 4/8 Easter
- 4/11 Strengthening Families Program (SFP) begins
- 4/18 SFP Session #2
- 4/25 SFP Session #3
- 4/30 Great American Cleanup 11:00 AM

- NATIONAL HUMOR MONTH
- KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL MONTH
- NATIONAL POETRY MONTH
- STRESS AWARENESS MONTH



Haverstraw Center Schedule/APRIL Unity in the Community first week in April, Strengthening Families Program begins April 11, 2012

Location	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday/Sunday
Computer Room	Homework Help 3:00PM—7:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00PM—7:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00PM—7:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00PM—7:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00PM—7:00 PM	
Game Room	3:00PM—7:00 PM	3:00PM—7:00 PM	3:00PM—7:00 PM	3:00PM—7:00 PM	3:00PM—7:00 PM	
Multi-purpose Room	Homework Help 3:00PM—7:00 PM Boys' Council A 4:30 PM—5:30 PM Back to Basics 7:00PM—9:30PM	Homework Help 3:00PM—7:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00PM—7:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00PM—7:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00PM—7:00 PM Boys' Council B 4:30 PM—5:30 PM	SATURDAY ESL II Conversational With HKDLibrary 10:00AM—12:00 noon
Gymnasium	Youth Basketball 3:00PM—5:00PM Hav. Knights AAU 6:00PM-8:00PM Steve's Basketball 8:00PM—9:30PM	Youth Basketball 3:00PM—5:00PM J.U.M.P. 6:00PM—7:30PM	Youth Basketball 3:00PM—5:00PM Adult Basketball 8:00PM—10:00PM	Youth Basketball 3:00PM—5:00PM Hav. Knights AAU 6:00PM—8:00PM Steve's Basketball 8:00PM—9:30PM	Youth Basketball 3:00PM—5:00PM	SATURDAY Sharp Shooting Academy Co-ed middle school youth 9:00AM—11:00AM Steve's Basketball 11:00AM—1:00PM
Conference Room	Homework Help 8th—12th Grade 3:00PM—5:30PM RFS Empowerment Group 6:30PM—9:00PM	Homework Help 8th—12th Grade 3:00PM—5:30PM	Homework Help 8th—12th Grade 3:00PM—5:30PM	Homework Help 8th—12th Grade 3:00PM—5:30PM	Homework Help 8th—12th Grade 3:00PM—5:30PM	
Group Room	Girls' Circle Middle School 3:30PM—5:00PM RFS – babysitting 6:30PM – 9:00PM	Girls' Circle Fieldstone 3:30PM—5:00PM Self Expressions 5:30PM – 6:30PM	RGHD Health Insurance 2:00PM – 5:00PM	Teen Advisory 10—12 Grade 3:00PM—4:00PM Teen Group 10—12 Grade 4:00PM—5:00PM		
Art Room				Girl Scouts Journey It's Your Planet— Love It! 4:00 PM—5:00 PM		
Kitchen						
Counseling Room						
Other			Butts Out-Open Arms 4:00PM		Smoker's Aftercare— Open Arms Women's Facility 4:00 PM	