

Haverstraw Center News

Issue 12

DECEMBER 2012

Village of Haverstraw/Haverstraw Center

Special points of interest:

- **Haverstraw Center offers many programs free of charge**
- **Counseling for help with: alcohol, tobacco and other drug use, family problems, boy-friends/girlfriends, school**
- **Recreation and home-work help**
- **Family Activities**
- **Summer Camp**

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DRUG MARKET INTERVENTION (DMI)

The Drug Market Intervention (DMI) program is a community-based initiative to end the sale of drugs in Haverstraw. Through the collaboration of the District Attorney's Office, local law enforcement, and service providers, Haverstraw has hosted two "call-ins", public interventions in which people who have been dealing drugs in our neighborhood and who are often suffering from drug addiction themselves are confronted. They must be considered low-level drug dealers and non-violent to qualify for this program. These people have been given the option to turn their lives around by working closely with the DMI case manager to get the treatment and other services they need. If they follow their individualized

program, they will avoid arrest, criminal charges, and jail time. If not, they will be indicted. The first call-in was done in October of 2010 and eight participants were invited. Out of the initial eight, four are still in the program. The second call-in was conducted this past October at the Haverstraw Center. All three of the participants invited accepted the program and are still working with the case manager. The Haverstraw Center is very proud to be the site of this program and has been instrumental in its success. We strongly believe in helping individuals and families recover from addiction and staying in their communities where we need them as

fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, and neighbors. We will be holding community meetings throughout the year to address the drug problem in Haverstraw and we look forward to seeing more community members like you get involved. You can stay connected to information, updates, and events by liking our Facebook page at Facebook.com/HaverstrawDMI and by reading about us here.

Have a happy and healthy holiday season!

Written by: Melissa Almenas



SUPPER WITH SANTA

On December 1st, the Village of Haverstraw, the 42 Club of Haverstraw and The Greater Haverstraw Chamber of Commerce sponsored a "Holidays In Haverstraw" daylong celebration. Lucas Candies featured "Storytime with Santa" where children could also make a chocolate snowman. There were pictures with Santa at the caboose at Railroad Square. The Bricktown Inn offered elaborate Victorian Teas at two seatings and restaurants had special holiday menus.

A favorite of many was the Holiday Concert featuring the Rockland County Concert Band at the Central Presbyterian Church. After

the concert, refreshments were sponsored by The Greater Haverstraw Chamber of Commerce.

Soon after, the tree lighting took place at the Village Clock, where all were entertained by carolers. Santa



arrived on a motorcycle, much to the delight of the crowd and the countdown to the tree lighting took place, emceed by Mayor Michael Kohut.

Families followed Santa to

the Haverstraw Center where they enjoyed supper with Santa, sponsored by the Village and the 42 Club. Hot dogs, chips, fresh fruit and home-baked goods were provided buffet style. The youth made ornaments and wrote a letter to Santa which they were able to personally present. Santa and his elves gave out goodie bags to all the good girls and boys. A truly delightful ending to a wonderful day in Haverstraw.



MONTHLY YOUTH CELEBRATION "Caught Being Good"



Gabriel Rivera dressed up nicely for the Thanksgiving Celebration and used his new knowledge about etiquette to teach others.

NEW SERVICES COME TO THE HAVERSTRAW CENTER

The Haverstraw Center Staff gives a warm welcome to Rockland Independent Living Center (RILC) as they begin their schedule on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10:00 AM until 2:30 PM in the Art Room on the first floor of the Haverstraw Center. Offering assistance in Spanish and English, RILC is reaching out to the Mental Health Community, filling a huge void when the Haverstraw office was moved to Pomona. They will offer referrals and information to community residents regarding housing, employment and benefits programs.

Andres Nuñez is offering dance classes on Fridays in the first floor multi-purpose room from 6:00PM—8:00PM. Andres used to offer dance classes with former Village Trustee Julia Urena and comes to us with much expertise.

ZUMBA is coming to the Haverstraw Center. Hortense Denny has received wonderful accolades from her supervisors and peers alike. Look for her classes to begin in January.

The Monthly Youth Celebration took place on Wednesday November 21st. This event includes recognition of those youth who have been "Caught Being Good" at the Haverstraw Center as well as birthdays celebrated in November. This month's celebration coincided with the annual Thanksgiving luncheon. Staff, community members and other volunteers cooked turkey, stuffing and all the trimmings. Meals on Wheels donated pumpkin and apple pies for dessert. Emily Dominguez donated cupcakes. No one left the Center hungry!

The girls who participate in the girls groups and Girl Scouts at the Center made beautiful napkin rings and centerpieces to decorate the tables. Open Arms sent volunteers to help set up and clean up. Lunch was served family style and many got to practice their newly learned skills in etiquette.

Besides the wonderful food and company, the festivities included calling up the names of each nominee. Each time a youth is nominated for "Caught Being Good", his/her name is placed in the hat for a drawing of prizes. Most months the prizes are \$10.00 gift certificates to McDonald's in hopes that the youth will make healthy choices when they redeem their prize. Sometimes the prize is a donation from a local business and some months the Town of Haverstraw makes a generous donation of tickets to one of their Youth Board sponsored trips.

Strengthening Families Program

The second half of the Strengthening Families Program finished its sessions with a family dinner and awards ceremony. Six families completed the program, with two families having perfect attendance and receiving recognition.

This program is currently only offered at the Haverstraw Center and is available free of charge to any family in Rockland County with children ages 10—14. The program offers free babysitting for younger siblings who also eat dinner with their families at no cost.

This evidence-based program has been shown to improve family communication skills, helps parents to show love and set limits and offers youths techniques and tips to resist peer pressure.

This month the nominees are:

October 25

Malieq Crowder, Kwani Harris, Naté Harris, Eric Hayden, Angie hamming, Ann Pierre-Jean, Wendy Pierre-Jean, Nathaly Lopez, LEYti Ndiaye, Sherley Tavare, Jerrie Thifault, Krystle Torres

November 1

Teresa Alvarado, Nyimma Bartee, Markeyah Cousar, Roger Harris, Angie Hemmings, Merline Pierre-Louis, Donovan Quinones, Krystle Torres, Kiarra Toussaint

November 8

William Chavez, Mariyah Cousar, Kwani Harris, Angie Hemmings, Carolin Lopez, Kerry Pierre-Louis, Nathaly Lopez, Erik Silverio, Sherley Taveras, Kayla Taylor, Elijah Tiwary, Krystle Torres, Kiarra Toussaint

November 15

Teresa Alvarado, Nyimma Bartee, Markeyah Cousar, Kwani Harris, Nathaly Lopez, Samantha Pierre-Jean, Chelani Rivera, Osmeiry Santana, Nikita Sisco, Krystle Torres, Anai Wilson

Happy Birthday to:

Mayor Michael Kohut, Frankie Vazquez and Tim Sanders



Please watch for the announcement of the Spring session dates.

**Paula Deen's
Mexican Wedding Cookies**

Ingredients

- 1 cup unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar, plus more for coating baked cookies
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for dusting hands
- 1 cup pecans, chopped into very small pieces

Directions

Preheat oven to 275 degrees F. Line cookie sheets with parchment paper.

Using an electric mixer, cream the butter and sugar at low speed until it is smooth. Beat in the vanilla. At low speed, gradually add the flour. Mix in the pecans with a spatula. With floured hands, take out about 1 tablespoon of dough and shape into a crescent. Continue to dust hands with flour as you make more cookies. Place onto prepared cookie sheets. Bake for 40 minutes. When cool enough to handle but still warm, roll in additional confectioners' sugar. Cool on wire racks.



<http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/paula-deen/mexican-wedding-cookies-recipe4/index.html>



GIRL SCOUTS, GIRLS' CLUB AND BOYS' COUNCIL

Girl Scouts, under the leadership of Peggy Koval, has been enjoying huge success with its program. Girls are learning rules of etiquette, enjoyed a birthday celebration of the founder of Girl Scouting, Juliet Gordon Lowe and performing community service while learning leadership skills. The girls range in age from 8 to 14 and work wonderfully together. Much thanks to Jennifer Orante, a former girl scout who is assisting with the operation of the troop. The girls crafted beautiful napkin rings for the Thanksgiving tables at the Center, as well as the pine cone turkey centerpieces. While learning about Juliet Lowe, they discovered that education can be combined

with fun activities. The girls are preparing to present a delightful short skit for the December holiday party at the Center.

Girls' Club meets on Tuesdays with the 4,5 & 6 grade girls and on Wednesdays with the 7 & 8 grade girls. They, too, learned about etiquette, meeting with a graduate of the Culinary Institute and AmeriCorps volunteer Barbara who offered her expertise. The group meets weekly to also talk about issues pertinent to their lives and do so in a safe and confidential atmosphere. They have been watching a video series "The Truth About Drugs" and discussions have been informative and lively.

Boys' Council also meets twice a week. On Wednesdays, the 8—10 year old boys meet with Tim Sanders and on Fridays, boys 11 -13 meet with Frankie Vazquez. These sessions are held in the multi-purpose room from 4:30 PM—5:30 PM and include discussions about life skills and problems that face these young men.

On Fridays, the girls meet once again with Barbara for game day, Arts and Crafts, and just having fun together.



HAVERSTRAW COLLABORATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

The Haverstraw Collaborative consists of agencies 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.

The November agenda did not include any special presentations, but the time was well spent discussing how we, as a Collaborative, might help those in need after the devastation of Hurricane

Sandy. Introductions of the 32 attendees, a warm welcome by Collaborative Chair and director of the Haverstraw Center Marion E. Breland, and a delicious lunch were shared by the group.

Subcommittees on Immigration Advocacy, Drug Prevention, Food and Nutrition, Parental Involvement and Teen Pregnancy gave their updates.

As the concluding agenda item, agencies offered updates and planned events.

The next meeting is scheduled for the first Wednesday of the month, December 5, 2012 from 12:00 noon until 2:00 PM.

Please call 845.429.5731 x 10 to confirm your attendance. The Senior/senior prom subcommittee will meet at 12:00 noon on December 12, 2012.



Volunteer of the Month

Krystle Torres has been more than an amazing volunteer at the Haverstraw Center. She has been a mentor to the youth who attend programs at the Center, an exceptional assistant to staff members and a caring babysitter for the *Strengthening Families Program*.

Krystle's warmth and understanding, plus her giving attitude, has won her many recognitions at the monthly youth celebration.

Krystle has a bright future ahead and we are very grateful for her presence here!



**Thank
you!**

**Great
job!**

Village of Haverstraw/Haverstraw Center



Annual Holiday Party for Center Youth and their families
 December 17th
 3:30PM—6:00 PM
 Please register with Nikki by 12/10/2012



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.

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

December Special Events and Notable Days

- 12/1 Holidays in Haverstraw/Supper with Santa at the Center 5:00 PM
- 12/1 World Aids Awareness Day
- 12/2 International Day for the Abolition of Slavery Day
- 12/5 Haverstraw Collaborative NOON
- 12/6 St. Nicholas Day
- 12/7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 12/8 Hanukkah begins at sundown
- 12/9 Hanukkah
- 12/12 RCDOH FREE HIV Test 2—5 PM
- 12/17 Holiday Party and Monthly Youth Celebration 3:30—6:00PM
- 12/21 Winter begins
- 12/21 Mayan Calendar ends
- 12/21 RCDOH FREE HIV Test 2—5 PM
- 12/24 Christmas Eve *Center closes early*
- 12/25 Christmas *Center closed*
- 12/26 Kwanzaa begins
- 12/31 New Year's Eve *Center closes early*

DECEMBER CELEBRATES:

- World Aids Month
- National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month
- BINGO Month
- Write a Friend Month
- Universal Human Rights Month



Haverstraw Center Schedule/DECEMBER

(Subject to change)

Location	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY/ SUNDAY
Computer Room	Homework Help 3:00 PM—6:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00 PM—6:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00 PM—6:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00 PM—6:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00 PM—6:00 PM	
Game Room	3:00 PM—6:00 PM	3:00 PM—6:00 PM	3:00 PM—6:00 PM	3:00 PM—6:00 PM	3:00 PM—6:00 PM	
Multi-purpose Room	Homework Help 2nd—6th grade 3:00 PM—6:00 PM Back to Basics 7:00 PM—9:30 PM	Homework Help 2nd—6th grade 3:00 PM—6:00 PM	Homework Help 2nd—6th grade 3:00 PM—6:00 PM Boys' Council 11-14 year old 4:30PM-5:30PM	Homework Help 2nd—6th grade 3:00 PM—6:00 PM	Homework Help 2nd—6th grade 3:00 PM—6:00 PM Hip Hop Dance 6:00PM-8:00PM	
Gymnasium	Senior Dancing 2:00PM-3:00PM Open Gym 3:00 PM—6:00 PM Adult Basketball 8:00 PM—10:00 PM	Youth Basketball 3:00 PM—6:00 PM JUMP 6:00 PM—7:30 PM St. Peter's CYO 7:30PM-9:00PM	Open Gym 3:00 PM—7:00 PM 35 & Over Basketball 8:00 PM—10:00 PM	Open Gym 3:00 PM—6:00 PM RPCC Support 6:00PM-8:00PM Adult Basketball 8:00 PM—10:00 PM	Open Gym 3:00 PM—9:00 PM NR Travel Soccer 8:30 PM—10:00 PM	SATURDAY Sharp Shooting Academy Co-ed Middle School Youth 9:00 AM—11:00 AM Steve's Basketball 11:00 AM—1:00 PM
Conference Room	Homework Help 9th—12th grade 3:00 PM—5:00 PM RFS Empowerment Group 6:30 PM—9:00 PM	Homework Help 9th—12th grade 3:00 PM—5:00 PM Clinical Staff Meeting 12:00 noon—2:00 PM	Homework Help 9th—12th grade 3:00 PM—5:00 PM	Homework Help 9th—12th grade 3:00 PM—5:30 PM Staff Meeting 12:00 noon—2:00 PM	Homework Help 9th—12th grade 3:00 PM—5:30 PM	SUNDAY HPAL Basketball 8:00 AM—7:00 PM
Group Room	Girl Scouts 3:30PM-4:45PM (Girls ages 8—15) RFS—babysitting 6:30 PM—9:00 PM	Girls Club 3:30PM—5:00 PM Grades 4, 5, & 6	Girls Club 3:30PM-5:00PM Grades 7 & 8 Project S.H.I.F.T. 6:00PM—8:00PM	Teen Advisory (9th—12th grade) 3:00 PM—4:00 PM Teen Group (9th—12th grade) 4:00 PM—5:00 PM Self Expressions 5:30 PM—6:30 PM	GIRLS GAME DAY 3:00 PM—6:00 PM	SATURDAY Citizenship Exam Prep Course with HKDL 10:00AM-1:00PM
Art Room	Homework Help 7th and 8th grade 3:00 PM—5:00 PM	RILC 10:00AM—2:00PM Homework Help 7th and 8th grade 3:00 PM—5:00 PM	RILC 10:00AM—2:00PM Homework Help 7th and 8th grade 3:00 PM—5:00 PM	Homework Help 7th and 8th grade 3:00 PM—5:00 PM	Homework Help 7th and 8th grade 3:00 PM—5:00 PM	SATURDAY So You! Sewing Class 9:30AM-11:30AM
Kitchen			RCDOH Health Insurance Assistance 2:00 PM—5:00 PM			
Counseling Room	By Appointment	By Appointment	By Appointment	By Appointment	By Appointment	
Other			Smoker's Aftercare	Butts Out		