



# Haverstraw Center News

Issue 12

DECEMBER 2013

## 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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### Haverstraw Center Hosts Health, Safety and Information Fair

On November 20, 2013 the Haverstraw Center hosted a Health, Safety and Information Fair organized by the North Rockland Central Schools FRC, the Haverstraw Center and the Haverstraw Collaborative. As a way to connect families, many agencies provided vital information about services available in the community.

The fair drew a crowd of approximately 300 people who were able to learn about programs at the RC YMCA, what the RC Youth Bureau offers especially in the TEEN WORKS Program, and thirteen agencies from the Haverstraw Collaborative including Cornell Coop-

erative Extension, the RC Department of Health and others who shared their programs in both Spanish and English.

Questions were answered about health care represented by United Health Care who was also a sponsor, Hudson River Health-Care and Affinity Health Care.

The Town of Haverstraw Police offered car seat safety and had their canine unit present. Fire trucks from the Village of Haverstraw volunteer fire department, the Haverstraw Ambulance Corps, the RC Emergency Services helicopter

provided excitement outdoors.

Classes were offered in Zumba and yoga. Tae kwon do performed an exhibition for the crowd.



Tanya Soto and Myriam Saravia (pictured above) did a great job!! Kudos!!

### THE LITERACY ZONE COMES TO THE HAVERSTRAW CENTER

The Haverstraw Center Staff gives a warm welcome to the Literacy Zone as they begin their schedule on Monday evenings from 6:30—9:30 pm in the upstairs group room and Wednesday evenings from 6:30—9:30 pm in the multi-purpose room on the first floor of the Haverstraw Center.

“Literacy Volunteers of Westchester and Rockland Counties is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing student centered English Literacy services to adults in Westchester and Rockland Counties, and acts as a community resource for the advance-

ment of literacy in both counties.” Offering ESOL/civics studies and a range of human services, the Literacy Zone hopes to jointly identify resources and needs by networking with all the members of the Haverstraw Collaborative.

This new five year program is a program sponsored by the New York State Education Department that currently has fifty-one literacy zones in New York State dedicated to “providing services to enable learners to achieve a higher level of proficiency, leading to better educational, social and economic outcomes.” Patricia P. Rajala, Presi-

dent and CEO of Literacy Volunteers of Westchester and Rockland Counties serves 600-700 adult students in multiple ways including: classroom instruction, one-to-one tutoring, small group sessions, U.S. Civics for Immigrants Curriculum, and U.S. Citizenship Preparation Class. This class is offered at the Haverstraw Center on Saturdays from 10 am—1 pm under the tutelage of Jane Lemkin.

For more information about the programs, please contact Literacy Volunteers of Westchester and Rockland Counties at 845.708.9072.

**MONTHLY YOUTH CELEBRATION "Caught Being Good"**



The Monthly Youth Celebration took place on Wednesday November 27th. 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 fabulous desserts. No one left the Center hungry!

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.

As the youth gathered they decorated a leaf to place on the thanksgiving tree—a leaf that expressed their gratitude for someone or something. Most were thankful for their families!! Entertainment was provided by the youth in an amazing dance routine.

Happy Birthday to:

Mayor Michael Kohut, Frankie Vazquez, Tim Sanders and volunteer Chelani Rivera



This month the nominees are:

October 31

Kayla Blackwell, Carmen Gil, Liliana Gomez, yariel Gomez, Cristi Gonzalez, Angie Hemmings, Edison Henriquez, Allison Hernandez, Giselli Lema, Edwendy Lopez, Jasmin Maldonado, Pam Miceus, Lesley Ramos, Laura Ravel, Jade Roché, Darlery Taveras, Wanda Taveras, Darlene Villega, Josue Valentin, Cindy Vargas

November 7

Liana Encarnacion, Jorney Gomez, Allison Hernandez, Matt Miceus, Pam Miceus, Chelani Rivera, Gabriel Rivera, Semaj Tyson, Anai Wilson

November 14

Adriel Abellard, Caroline Alacantara, Laura Delacruz, Carmen Gil, Liliana Gomez, Cristi Gonzalez, Angie Hemmings, Ariel Infante, Edison Martinez, Pamela Miceus, Kenneth Nazario, Anzel Pichardo, Lesley Ramos, Amaya Santiago, Sherley Taveras, Chelani Rivera, Cimajh Tyson, Cindy Vargas, Jisel Wallace, Tattianna Wallace

November 21

Mekei McCrae, Jorney Gomez, Liliana Gomez, Cristi Gonzalez, Kwani Harris, Kenneth Nazario, Chelani Rivera, Kiarra Toussaint



**LOOKING AHEAD:**

**January 18, 2014**

**A Day of Caring**

**In recognition of  
Martin Luther Kings, Jr. Day**

**Sponsored by HOPE Worldwide in collaboration with the Haverstraw Center and the Village of Haverstraw Volunteer Fire Department**

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is: 'What are you doing for others?'" Each year, Americans across the country answer that question by coming together on the King Holiday to serve their neighbors and communities.

Through a grant from the Corporation of National and Community Service (CNCS), **11 HOPEworldwide chapters** and **11 partnering agencies** will help volunteers reach more than 75,000 households through fire prevention and safety projects. In addition to the 22 CNCS grant projects, HOPE worldwide Chapters throughout the U.S. are partnering with the American Red Cross in **more than 60 cities** for fire prevention projects. For more information contact: **Terri Loso** 845-323-4172

**18th Annual Rockland County Storytelling Festival**

Haverstraw King's Daughters Public Library was the new site for the 18th Annual Rockland County Storytelling Festival sponsored by Supervisor Howard T. Phillips, Jr. and the Haverstraw Town Board, Union Restaurant and Bar Latino, Supervisor Alexander Gromack, Green Meadow Waldorf School, Rockland Reading Council, Kastin and Newman Orthodontics, HKDL, RTCI, STAC, ShopRite of Garnerville, The Orchards of Concklin and corporate sponsor First Niagara Foundation.

On a misty, dreary day, many converged for a magical afternoon of storytelling by the likes of Elise Krakower, Andrea Gambardella, Pamela Schembri, Amy Belfer, Felix Pitre, Christopher Agostino and The Story for Kids Club from Clarkstown High School North under the direction of

Mrs. Sevastian and Mrs. Rothstein.

Arts and crafts activities were available and delicious refreshments were provided. Prizes were raffled off and all left with their own story to tell.



**Haverstraw Health and Safety Fair Pictures**



**Thanksgiving Day Breakfast**

The Seventh Day Adventist Church of Haverstraw offered a free Thanksgiving Day breakfast at the Haverstraw Center serving thirty-six families. Pastor Yeury Ferreira and his congregation also gave each family a \$25.00 Shop-Rite gift card. Myriam Saravia said it was a most rewarding morning sharing with family and friends while giving thanks.

**GIRL SCOUTS, GIRLS' CLUB AND BOYS' COUNCIL**

Afternoons are busy times at the Haverstraw Center. Homework help, basketball games, sewing club, arts and crafts and girls and boys groups are just some of the activities that are available for free.

On Mondays, girls ages 8—14 participate in Girl Scout Troop 009060 where the girls enjoy learning new skills, offer community service and have a fun time. Elise Krakower worked with the girls for three weeks on Storytelling techniques including loosening up with tongue twisters. Angela Rivera from Cornell Cooperative Extension has been teaching the girls about health and fitness through the Eat Smart NY program.

Girls in grades 4, 5 and 6 have been participating in Girls' Circle curriculum about "Being A Girl" and enjoyed the closing celebration with a small party. They will continue to meet on Tuesdays after school. Seventh and eight grade girls meet off and on with the boys participating in the evidence based program Life Skills that promotes health and personal development. They meet every Wednesday after school. Boys' Council has begun again for boys ages 8—11 on Thursdays and there is an ongoing class for high school students at the North Rockland High School extension.

Check the calendar for other activities.



**Volunteer of the Month**

Kevin Rodriguez enjoyed his first Halloween celebration at the Haverstraw Center dressed as one of his favorite characters, Indiana Jones (see below). But what Kevin really enjoys is the ability to assist the youth in the homework help program. Kevin, a college graduate with a couple of degrees, has a great rapport with the kids and they love him!! Kevin also assists with ongoing translations including working with the parents' group meetings held the first Wednesday of the month. Kevin's expertise, manners, reliability and helpfulness have earned him the esteem of the staff that work with him.



**Thank you!  
Great job!!**

**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 included many special presentations. Pat Rajala and Elaine Giardino introduced the gathering to the Literacy Zone

with classes being held at the Haverstraw Center. Joanne Goodman updated members about C.A.N.D.L.E. services and LGBTQ issues. Denise Hogan and Alana Boutelle spoke about November being Lung Cancer Awareness Month, Smoke-free pharmacies legislation and Kick Butts Day. Introductions of the 47 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 4, 2013 from 12:00 noon until 2:00 PM.

Please call 845.429.5731 x 32 to confirm your attendance. The Senior/senior prom subcommittee will meet at 1:00 pm on December 11, 2013 in the second floor conference room.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!



# 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 12/10/2013



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 co-operation.



We're on the WEB!  
[http://www.voh-ny.com/dept\\_youth.htm](http://www.voh-ny.com/dept_youth.htm)

### December Special Events and Notable Days

- 12/1 World Aids Awareness Day
- 12/4 Haverstraw Collaborative NOON
- 12/4 RCDOH FREE HIV Test 2—5 PM
- 12/6 St. Nicholas Day
- 12/7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 12/7 Holidays in Haverstraw/Supper with Santa at the Center 5:00 PM
- 12/10 Human Rights Day
- 12/17 Holiday Party and Monthly Youth Celebration 3:30—6:00PM
- 12/20 RCDOH FREE HIV Test 2—5 PM
- 12/21 Winter begins
- 12/24 Christmas Eve *Center closes early*
- 12/25 Christmas *Center closed*
- 12/26 Kwanzaa begins
- 12/26 Boxing Day
- 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—7:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00 PM—7:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00 PM—7:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00 PM—6:00 PM	
Game Room	3:00 PM—6:00 PM	3:00 PM—7:00 PM	3:00 PM—7:00 PM	3:00 PM—7:00 PM	3:00 PM—6:00 PM	
Multi-purpose Room	Homework Help 3:00 PM—6:00 PM Back to Basics 7:00 PM—9:30 PM	Homework Help 3:00 PM—6:00 PM Beach Body Fitness 6:30 PM—8:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00 PM—6:00 PM Literacy Zone 6:30 PM—9:30 PM	Homework Help 3:00 PM—6:00 PM Boys' Council 8—11 year old 4:30 PM —5:30 PM Family Connections 6:00 PM—8:00 PM	Homework Help 3:00 PM—6:00 PM	<u>SATURDAY</u> Literacy Volunteers 10:00AM-1:00PM Eat Smart NY 1:00 PM—2:30 PM
Gymnasium	Youth Basketball 3:00 PM—6:00 PM Adult Basketball 7:00 PM—10:00 PM	St. Agatha's Fitness 9:30 Am—10:45 AM College Basketball 12:00 PM—2:00 PM Youth Basketball 3:00 PM—6:00 PM JUMP 6:00 —7:30 PM St. Peter's CYO 7:30PM-9:00PM	St. Agatha's Fitness 9:30 Am—10:45 AM Youth Basketball 3:00 PM—6:00 PM NR Soccer Assoc 6:00 PM—7:30 PM 35 & Over Basketball 8:00 PM—10:00 PM	St. Agatha's Fitness 9:30 Am—10:45 AM Youth Basketball 3:00 PM—6:00 PM Adult Basketball 7:00 PM—9:00 PM	St. Agatha's Fitness 9:30 Am—10:45 AM College Basketball 12:00 PM—2:00 PM Youth Basketball 3:00 PM—9:00 PM	<u>SATURDAY</u> Sharp Shooting Academy Co-ed Middle School Youth 9:00 AM—11:00 AM Steve's Basketball 11:00 AM— 1:00 PM <u>SUNDAY</u> HPAL Basketball 8:00 AM—7:00 PM
Conference Room		Clinical Staff Meeting 12:00 noon—2:00 PM	Salvation Army 10:00 AM—2:00 PM	Staff Meeting 12:00 noon—2:00 PM		
Group Room	Girl Scouts 3:30PM-4:45PM (Girls ages 8—15) Project SHIFT (Anger Management) 5:00 PM—6:30 PM Literacy Zone 6:30 PM—9:30 PM	Girls Club 3:30PM—5:00 PM Grades 4, 5, & 6 Project SHIFT 5:00 PM—7:00 PM	Girls Club Boys Life Skills 3:15 PM- 4:45PM Grades 7 & 8 Project S.H.I.F.T. 6:00PM—8:00PM	High School Teen Group 2:30 PM—4:00 PM		
Art Room	Art with George 3:30 PM—5:30 PM	Art with George 3:30 PM—5:30 PM	RILC 10:00AM—2:00PM Art with George 3:30 PM—5:30 PM	It's In The Bag! 4:00 PM—6:00 PM	Sewing Club 3:30 PM—5:30 PM	
Kitchen			RCDOH Health Insurance Assistance 3:00 PM—6:00 PM			
Counseling Room	By Appointment	By Appointment	By Appointment	By Appointment	By Appointment	
Other		Smoker's Aftercare	Life Skills NRHS Ext	Butts Out		