

NBHA NEWS

Volume 6, Issue 12

For Residents, Employees & Retirees

December, 2005

HOLIDAY FIRE PREVENTION

By following these precautionary tips, you can greatly reduce your chances of becoming a holiday fire casualty:

PREVENTING HOLIDAY TREE FIRES

Selecting a Tree for the Holiday: Special fire safety precautions need to be taken when keeping a live tree in the house. A burning tree can rapidly fill a room with fire and deadly gases. Needles on fresh trees should be green and hard to pull back from the branches, and the needle should not break if the tree has been freshly cut. The trunk should be sticky to the touch. Old trees can be identified by bouncing the tree trunk on the ground. If many needles fall off, the tree was cut a while ago, has probably dried out, and is a fire hazard.

Caring for Your Tree: Do not place your tree close to a heat source. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame, or sparks. Do not drop or flick cigarette ashes near a tree. Do not put your live tree up too early or leave it up for longer than two weeks. Keep the tree stand filled with water at all times.

Disposing of Your Tree: When the tree becomes dry, discard it promptly. The best way to dispose of your tree is by taking it to a recycling center or having it hauled away by a community pick-up service.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Maintain Your Holiday Lights: Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking or wear before putting them up. Use only lighting listed by an approved testing laboratory.

Do Not Overload Electrical Outlets: Do not link more than three light strands.

(See "Fire Prevention," Page 2)

Supportive Living Services Group Adult Foster Care Comes to Boa Vista

Elderly residents who need assistance with one or more personal care activity can apply for such help at the New Bedford Housing Authority's Tenant Selection Office located at 134 South Second Street in the Boa Vista Apartment Building. *Request for Reasonable Accommodation* applications are taken Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The New Bedford Housing Authority, in partnership with Peabody Resident Services, Inc., now offers Supportive Living and Group Adult Foster Care Services to residents living at Boa Vista. Previously, only Tripp Towers and Caroline Street Apartments offered such assistance.

On Thursday, November 17, the residents of Boa Vista were treated to a delicious turkey dinner in gratitude for their patience during the construction of the new wing at Boa Vista which accommodates the newly offered Supportive Living and Group Adult Foster Care Programs.

In the evening an Open House Reception was held for social service vendors so they could see the new facility and make arrangements for how they will be providing services to the people who live at Boa Vista and need their services.

Nearly all of the supportive services are third-party paid, meaning there is no direct cost to the participant. Some programs may have a nominal co-payment depending on income and calculated on a sliding scale. The Group Adult Foster Care Program is fully covered by Medicaid (MassHealth) for eligible participants.

For more information, contact the Tenant Selection Office at 508-997-4804; and watch for more information in future issues of *NBHA News*.

Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet. Periodically check the wires; they should *not* be warm to the touch. **Do Not Leave Holiday Lights on Unattended.**

Use Only Non-flammable Holiday Decorations: All decorations should be non-flammable or flame-retardant and placed away from heat vents.

Artificial Holiday Trees: If you are using a metallic or artificial tree, make sure it is flame retardant.

CANDLE CARE

Avoid Using Lit Candles: If you do use them, make sure they are in stable holders where they cannot be easily knocked down. Keep them well away from decorations and other objects. Never leave the room or house with candles burning. Don't leave children unattended in a room with lit candles.

Never Put Lit Candles on a Tree: Do not go near a holiday tree with an open flame, candles, lighters, or matches.

SMOKE ALARMS

As in every season, test your smoke alarms monthly and keep them clean and equipped with fresh batteries. Know when and how to call for help. And remember to practice your home escape plan.

REGULACIONES ADMINISTRATIVAS

➤ **Decoraciones festivas:** Por favor de no causar un roto para sujetar en lo exteriores del edificio. En hacer esto usted causara daño al edificio. Esto incluye decoraciones festivas y luces, jardinera para la ventana, mastil, banderas, carillon de viento, plantas de enganchar.

Por favor de usar toda precaución necesaria y pidele permiso a la oficina de administración primero antes de hacer cualquier instalacion con decoraciones en lo exterior. Su cooperación sera apreciado. GRACIAS!

➤ **Grasa:** No pongas la grasa por abajo del desagüe o retrete (toilet) – tienes que despojar de la grasa en un jaro or recipiente y tirar lo en la basura.

Nuestros desagües no son triturador de basura – evite de poner platos que tengan sobras de comida, esto se atrapa en el desagüe.

Si cocinas con arroz – consiguiese una malla fina para el fregador en vez de usar el nuestro, esto atraparà el arroz y evitar que se tape en el desagüe (el arroz engrandece cuando esta mojado).

MANAGEMENT CORNER

➤ **HOLIDAY DECORATIONS:** Please **DO NOT** create a hole to attach **anything** to the exteriors of our buildings. Doing so will damage the building. This includes holiday decorations and lights, flower boxes, flagpoles, flags, banners, wind chimes, hanging plants, etc.

Please use caution when placing decorations on the building. A number of hardware stores sell fasteners which attach to gutters or slide under shingles without causing damage to the building or creating holes.

Please take every precaution and ask permission from your management office before installing exterior decorations. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. THANK YOU!

➤ **GREASE AND FOOD:** Please **DO NOT** put grease or food down the drain or toilet. You must dispose of cooking grease in a jar or container and throw it in the garbage. Our drains are not garbage disposals. Avoid putting plates with food scraps into the sink, as this clogs the drain. If you cook with rice, get a fine mesh sink catch instead of using ours, as it will catch all the rice so it does not go down the drain and cause a clog, as rice expands when it is wet.

➤ **SATELLITE DISHES:** Satellite Dishes are prohibited on NBHA property, as they cause damage to the exteriors of our buildings.

➤ **FRONT AND REAR PORCHES:** The front and rear porches of your apartment must be cleaned for the winter. Everything must be put away, with the exception of your grill. This should be covered and stored on your rear porch.

➤ **RENT:** Rents are due on the 1st of the month but no later than the 5th. The Housing Authority appreciates your cooperation.

GARBAGE PICKUP SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas falls on Sunday, December 25, this year so Monday is a holiday. Residents living at Chaffee/Fairfield Street, Church Street north of Tarkiln Hill, Howard Street, Plainville Road, and Sylvia Street should place their tightly sealed garbage barrels on the curbside by 6 a.m. **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27**, or the night before.

GARBAGE PICKUP SCHEDULE FOR NEW YEAR'S

New Year's Day falls on Sunday, January 1, this year so Monday is a holiday. Residents living at Chaffee/Fairfield Street, Church Street north of Tarkiln Hill, Howard Street, Plainville Road, and Sylvia Street should place their tightly sealed garbage barrels on the curbside by 6 a.m. **TUESDAY, JANUARY 3**, or the night before.

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

What's Going on at the NBHA?

Please remember that HUD will be mailing their Resident Service and Satisfaction Survey to randomly selected households between December 6, 2005, and February 8, 2006. This survey will measure your satisfaction and experience with your living conditions. If your household is selected, please take the time to complete the survey. DO NOT write your name on it.

Resident participation is essential to the survey's success. Your opinion is very important to HUD and to the New Bedford Housing Authority. Questions? Call 508-997-4832.

Welcome Maria Hernandez

Please welcome Maria Hernandez who is the Resident Services Coordinator for Boa Vista. Maria works for Peabody Resident Services, Inc., the Housing Authority's collaborative partner. Her office is on the first floor of Boa Vista, in the back, next to the Wellness Clinic and the Great Room.

DECEMBER RESIDENT RENT REVIEW SCHEDULE

Residents in the following developments will receive a letter regarding their **December** review:

Date	Development	Time	Location
6 - 8	Tripp Towers *	9 - 4	Tripp Towers
12 - 15	Westlawn **	9 - 4	Westlawn

* The resulting rent changes will be effective in February.

** The resulting rent changes will be effective in March.

Nativity Preparatory School

66 Spring Street, New Bedford, MA 02740
508-994-3800

This is a private, tuition-free middle school which provides a highly structured program for boys from low-income families who have demonstrated the will and desire to apply themselves to high academic and moral standards.

HeadStart to College at BCC New Bedford Campus

188 Union Street, New Bedford, MA 02740-5942

CALL DOREEN HENRY:

508-984-8226 or Fax: 508-730-3264

Assistant City Planner Perform a variety of routine and complex technical and professional work in the current and/or long-range planning of the City and the development and implementation of land use and related policies and regulations.

Assistant MIS Director Responsible for the implementation and administration of Police Department computer operations and informational flow tools to increase management awareness, improve communication between departments, heighten productivity, reduce cost, and establish a secure environment to maintain data integrity.

Director - EMS Perform all technical, administrative, and supervisory work in planning, organizing, directing, and implementing the emergency medical services provided within the City of New Bedford.

Dog Officer Picks up stray and unlicensed dogs; makes and refers complaints against owners of dogs not properly licensed and collared; enforces leash laws; collects the bodies of small animals found dead within the municipality and disposes of them; handles all matters and complaints pertaining to dogs and other animals. Performs all duties in conformance with appropriate safety and security standards.

Local Building Inspector Perform a variety of routine and complex technical work in building inspection work plan review and zoning enforcement to insure that the Massachusetts Building code and other related codes and standards are met.

Paramedic (Emergency Medical Technician) (EMT) Provide advanced emergency care to the sick and injured. Comply with all policies, practices, and procedures of the EMS Department and the City of New Bedford.

Temporary Sanitarian Administer, educate, and perform work developing programs and procedures of environmental sanitation and hygiene.

Zoo Caretaker The work involves responsibility for providing all primary care for the Buttonwood Park Zoo animal collection and doing general maintenance, housekeeping, and grounds keeping work for the zoo facility. Requires six months' paid experience; or education toward a degree at a recognized school with a major in Animal Science, Veterinary Medicine, Zoo Management, or Zoology may be substituted for the required experience on the basis of one year of education for three months of experience.

For more job listings, complete job descriptions, and application, please contact:

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
133 WILLIAM STREET, ROOM 212
NEW BEDFORD, MA 02740
(508) 979-1444

or visit: www.ci.new-bedford.ma.us

C A R O L I N E C A F É

Catered by Cobblestone Restaurant ~ All Ages Welcome

26 Caroline Street, New Bedford, MA ~ 508-991-6301 ~ Please Call 24 Hours in Advance

D E C E M B E R M E N U

Meals \$3 Each ~ Served at Noon ~ All Ages Welcome

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1 Shepherd's Pie with gravy and a roll	2 Baked fish with roasted potatoes and steamed broccoli
5 Apple sauced pork chops with mashed potatoes and corn	6 Boiled dinner with ham, carrots, onions, cabbage, and potatoes	7 Pot roast with carrots, celery, onion, and boiled potatoes	8 Salisbury steak with mashed potatoes and peas	9 Cod Bella Vista with mashed potatoes and a roll
12 SOS (creamed ground beef) on sourdough toast with peas and carrots	13 BBQ pork with roasted potatoes and mashed squash	14 Penne pasta and meatballs with green beans and a garlic roll	15 Meatloaf with tomato gravy, mashed potatoes and corn	16 Baked salmon with lemon dill butter, mashed potatoes, and carrots
19 Shepherd's Pie served with a roll	20 Roast chicken with rice pilaf and buttered peas	21 Turkey and stuffing dinner with mashed potatoes and carrots	22 American Chop Suey with buttered green beans	23 Baked fish with roasted potatoes and beets
26 CLOSED MERRY CHRISTMAS	27 Beef tips in gravy with mashed potatoes, carrots, and a roll	28 Spaghetti with meat sauce, green beans, and a garlic roll	29 Roast pork loin with rice pilaf and corn	30 Tuna melt on an English muffin with roasted potatoes and peas

Enjoy lunch ~ Stay for the Activities

Call Marisol at 508-991-6301 if you have any questions.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	<i>Want to quit smoking?</i>	<i>Nutrition Counseling, Podiatry --</i>	1	2
	CALL 508-992-6553	CALL 508-992-6553	1:30 BINGO	9:00 Coffee Hour 11:00 Knitting Group 2:00 Po-Ke-No
5 1:00 Movie	6 1:30 BINGO 2:00 Book Club	7 11:00 Exercise Class 2:00 Po-Ke-No	8 10:00 Memory Group 1:30 BINGO	9 11:00 Knitting Group 1:00 Ice Cream Social 2:00 Po-Ke-No
12 1:00 Movie	13 1:30 BINGO 2:00 Book Club	14 11:00 Exercise Class 2:00 Po-Ke-No 2:00 Quilting 6:30 Neighborhood Safety	15 No BINGO	16 9:00 Coffee Hour 11:00 Knitting Group 2:00 Po-Ke-No
19 1:00 Movie	20 1:30 BINGO 2:00 Book Club	21 11:00 Exercise Class 12:30 Child & Family re services offered 2:00 Po-Ke-No	22 1:30 BINGO	23 11:00 Knitting Group 1:00 Ice Cream Social 2:00 Po-Ke-No
26 CLOSED MERRY CHRISTMAS	27 1:30 BINGO 2:00 Book Club	28 11:00 Exercise Class 2:00 Po-Ke-No 2:00 Quilting	29 10:00 Let's Talk Health 1:30 BINGO	30 9:00 Coffee Hour 11:00 Knitting Group 2:00 Po-Ke-No