



Serving the Community Since 1944

Daniel P. Crawley, Executive Secretary

Post Script

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Still in need of Troop Leaders

THA is still looking for adults to lead a Boy Scout troop at its sites, specifically Griswold Heights.

To begin, meetings would be every other week for a Cub Scouts troop, grades 1-5. Leaders can be male or female and experience with scouting is not necessary.

We are hoping to find volunteers by February and begin meeting in March through May or June, and then restart in September. Initially, the scouts would work on a pinewood derby activity, making wooden toy cars.

Boy Scouts provides educational, healthy and fun activities for boys. Griswold Heights currently has an active Girl Scout troop, but no active Boy Scouts Troop.

Please spread the word if you know someone who may be interested in serving our youth through this valuable program. Any interested persons can call 273-3600 ext. 239 for more information.

From Corliss Park to UMass Boston One scholarship recipient's success story



education to give back to the community.

Felecia Edwards and her two siblings were the first generation in her family to graduate college. She earned a Bachelor of Science in cellular biochemistry at SUNY Plattsburgh, where she also ran track and played college basketball, and was a Chancellor's Award recipient. She continued to the University of New Haven where she earned a Master's degree in Forensic Science.

One former Corliss Park resident received the HAI Scholarship in 2001, and now, 15 years later, is working in

education is transformational and it can mean a lot for us and our families," said Edwards, 32.

See inside for info on current scholarships for residents

She said one reason she was able to pursue her goals were her mentors and strong support system at home and in the Corliss Park community. Now she is helping others pursue college degrees.

Edwards recently accepted a position at the University of Massachusetts in Boston. As the Associate Director of the

Student Success Center in the College of Science and Math, she works to improve retention, graduation and success rates in the student population.

"I think sometimes students are reluctant because they think they may not receive the scholarship, there's a lot of people applying, but I think all of us especially with our backgrounds and where we're coming from have beautiful stories to share," said Edwards. "So I do encourage all my students, even now at UMass Boston, to look for opportunities to finance their education because it is a huge investment, but in the end the rewards are well worth it."

Summer Position at Corliss Park available

Troy Housing Authority has an open position for a children's program aide for the summer nutrition program at Corliss Park.

The seasonal, part-time position is only open to residents of the Troy Housing Authority. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and have completed at least two years of high school.

The position's duties include assisting and supervising children attending the THA Summer Nutrition Program.

The program requires creative and well-



organized staff who can function independently. This position also requires supervision of Summer Youth Employment children and will be responsible for completion of Summer Youth timesheets.

The position will run from Monday, June 27, 2016 through Friday, September 2, 2016 for **25 hours weekly**, including daily food drop off at 6:15 a.m. – 6:45 a.m. and summer program hours 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Interested candidates may stop in the Corliss Park Administrative Offices or their site's office to complete an application.

From the desk of the Executive Secretary

Daniel P. Crawley



Tenant associations are an important piece to the mission of THA.

Tenant associations bring residents together to identify needs in their community and organize program, activities and events to benefit their neighbors. Using funds allocated for such activities, tenant associations can organize programs to benefit youth in their community, as well as to bring adults together and strengthen their neighborhood.

Some of our sites have active tenant associations while others are nonexistent or dormant.

To create a tenant association, there is a specific process required by HUD, but THA staff can help interested residents navigate that process. A tenant meeting must be held, nominations received for association officers and, after informing the community, elections must be held.

Nominations for tenant association officers at Corliss Park are currently open.

As some Martin Luther King Apartment residents have expressed interest in creating a new tenant association, we will be holding a meeting at MLK later this month for those interested in being in-

involved. If tenants from other sites are interested in learning more about tenant associations, they are welcome to join this meeting.

These associations can be the foundation for better interaction between neighbors and positive impact on the community.

If you are interested in supporting a tenant association at your site, you can also contact your site manager or call 273-3600 ext. 239. Also keep an eye on our Facebook page, Twitter and website for more updates.

Tenant Meeting MLK Educational Center

Feb. 22

5 p.m.

Pizza and refreshments served

For MLK residents interested in creating a tenant association

Tenants from other sites are welcome to come learn about tenant associations and the process of starting one

Bring a friend!

Corliss Park tenant association nominations open

Now is the time for Corliss Park residents to make nominations for upcoming tenant association elections.

Corliss residents can nominate themselves or other legal Corliss residents age 18 or older.

Nominations can be made at the tenant association meeting on Thursday, March 17 at 6:30 p.m., or earlier at the Corliss Park management office.

REACT food pantry available

The Resident Empowered Action Council of Troy (REACT), offers a food pantry to all legal THA residents.

The pantry and REACT offices are located at 501A Grand Street (rear) and can be reached at **272-8974**. Their office hours are 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Monday through Friday.

All residents can request an emergency food package every 30 days. REACT requires a photo ID and proof of residency and household composition.

Appointments are required to pick up food and can be made by calling the office or visiting during office hours.

PERSONAL ITEMS/TOILETRIES

While REACT does not currently stock toiletries and personal items, such items may be available at the **Salvation Army** pantry at **410 River Street**. While some pantries have turned away THA residents, Salvation Army does not.

The Salvation Army pantry is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please arrive before 1:30 p.m. Free produce is available there on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Youth Activity: Drum Corps at TBGC

Ages six and up welcome, no musical experience necessary

An all-ages Drum Corps is getting a new start at the Troy Boys and Girls Club.

With the goal of marching in the Flag Day Parade in July, instructors are teaching youth ages 6 and up basic rudiments, drumming techniques and a parade street beat. While the group is currently focused on creating a drum line, they will also include wind instruments and color guard (flags) in the near future.

The group is especially focused on recruiting teens.

The band practices at the **Troy Boys and Girls Club on 7th Avenue** downtown on **Fridays from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m.** Other practice dates and times may be added.

The instructors, who marched in the Troy Boys and Girls Club Skyliners Drum and Bugle Corps in as kids the 1950s, aim to build confidence, leadership skills and character in young people through music, competition and self-discipline.

Youth who play music are more likely to do well in school, and **music could lead them to new places in the future: college and beyond.** Drum Corps is a fun, social



way to interest youth in music and teach them about hard work and self-discipline in a fun setting.

The group plans to perform locally at the Flag Day Parade, Uncle Sam Day parade, and other events in the city and elsewhere.

Find the group on Facebook as **Troy Boys and Girls Club Skyliners.**

Drumming equipment is provided. Transportation can be provided by THA on an as needed basis.

FREE FRUITS AND VEGGIES

**MLK Educational Center
Kane Apartments
Conway Court**

**10 a.m. - noon
Every Wednesday**

Courtesy of the Salvation Army



Next Board of Commissioners meeting:

Feb 25, 2016

Kennedy Towers

4 p.m.

See troyhousing.org for full tentative schedule, minutes, agendas and more.

More scholarships available for residents

While the Feb. 8 deadline for the NYSPHADA scholarship has passed, there are still two others available for public housing residents and Section 8 recipients. See below for more information or

HAI GROUP

Whether attending college for the first time or planning on completing their education, public housing and Section 8 residents may be eligible for a \$2,500 scholarship from the Housing Authority Insurance Group. THA residents have received these awards in the past.

50 scholarships are awarded annually to residents of HAI member housing agencies, which includes THA. Applicants must be a public housing or housing choice voucher resident for at least six months and must be U.S. citizen.

For more information go to housingcenter.org.

If you do not have access to the Internet, please contact HAI Group at 800-873-0242, ext. 639 or email scholarship@housingcenter.com for a paper application that can be completed and returned to the HAI Group office.

Deadline is April 30, 2016.

CHW SCHOLARSHIP

Cannon Heyman & Weiss (CHW) Scholarship Fund will award three scholarships totaling \$17,000 to students living in affordable housing this year.

The Scholarships are available for full- and part-time study at approved colleges, junior colleges, technical schools and other post-secondary institutions leading to a degree, diploma or certificate. Graduate studies are not included.

Application deadline is **May 17, 2016**. Find more information and the application at chwattys.com/2015-scholarship-fund/.

Three scholarships are expected to be awarded in the following amounts: \$10,000, \$5,000 and \$2,000.

This is the third year the scholarship will be awarded.



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Post Script

**TROY HOUSING
AUTHORITY**

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Connect with THA



THA has been actively updating our website, Facebook page and Twitter account with helpful info for tenants and the public.

“Like” [Troy Housing Authority on Facebook](#), follow us

[@Troy_Housing](#) on Twitter and visit our website at troyhousing.org for the latest events and news.

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