



A community-based newspaper serving the Puget Sound area since 1981



# The Voice

January  
2005  
Articles translated  
into six languages

The newspaper of Neighborhood House

## Federal budget leans on public housing

*New policies also burden Section 8 program*

### SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

Since the federal spending plan for the next budget year was approved by Congress last month, housing authorities across the country have been assessing how residents might be affected by the funding cuts to come.

Seattle Housing Authority Executive Director Tom Tierney was disheartened by the course set forth by the spending plan.

"The Bush Administration is pulling away from what has been a federal responsibility and priority for decades," he said. "I think these cuts go against the heart and spirit of the American people, but the public has not yet caught on to how devastating the current path will be."

Since the spring of 2004 when discussion of the federal budget began, low-income housing advocates have seen several back and forth shifts with respect to federal funding.

At first, the Bush Administration wanted to change the Section 8 voucher program so that housing authorities would receive fixed sums of money (referred to as "block grants") to operate. Protests to this suggestion were loud and heated across the country, so Congress reconsidered.

Because recent tax cuts and high wartime spending have contributed to a budget deficit, the pressure on Congress to cut spending for domestic programs remained intense.

So even though legislators backed away from the Section 8 block grant proposal, they made cuts in the public housing program. The new law also includes Section 8 policies that virtually guarantee shortfalls for housing authorities.

Instead of funding each Section 8 voucher at a specific level based on current housing costs, the new funding plan will be a "budget-based" system.

This means that housing authorities will only receive funds based on how many vouchers were being used between May and July 2004 instead of the current number or the number a housing authority is authorized to use.

The money distributed for vouchers in use still might not be enough to cover costs, because it will be an estimate based on past expenditures, with a slight adjust-

ment for inflation. In effect, the program is funded as if it actually were a block grant program, but all of the original rules and regulations are still in place.

"If you have more vouchers currently in use today than you did earlier this year, you're starting at a loss," according to Sunia Zaterman, Executive Director of the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities. "These policies are continuing to shrink the voucher program at the very time we're seeing increasing demand."

The plan also reduces the program's reserve fund to one week's worth of expenses, comparable Zaterman said, "to running a \$13 billion corporation on a one week margin."

"There is no question that current voucher holders and those who have been waiting years for housing assistance will be hardest hit by this new policy," she said.

Other public housing programs were also cut. The fund that pays for major repairs and updates to public housing was also reduced, leaving very little money to tackle a \$20 billion repair backlog nationwide.

Another fund that helps housing authorities pay for the day-to-day operation of their units was both cut and restructured.

There was some good news in the spending plan. The bill President Bush signed into law does not contain language that would have severely restricted the ability of public housing authorities to conduct voter registration activities, as was earlier proposed.

Also, Congress again rejected the Housing and Urban Development Department's proposal to end HOPE VI, instead providing \$144 million for the award-winning redevelopment program.

The existing HOPE VI funds that SHA has been granted by HUD for redevelopments at NewHolly, Rainier Vista and High Point are not at risk.

"Congress understands the huge return on investment that communities receive through HOPE VI grants," Zaterman said. "On average, housing authorities raise \$3 for every \$1 when they use these grants to leverage additional public and private sector investment."

*Some information for this story was provided by the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities.*

## Concerns over high water bills at NewHolly persist



PHOTO BY STACY SCHWANDT

*NewHolly resident Sidney Carter has been fighting high water bills for years.*

By STACY SCHWANDT  
Voice editor

A four-year struggle with high water bills at NewHolly has many residents seeing red and Seattle Housing Authority officials beginning to dig for answers.

For years, residents have complained of sky-high monthly water bills. They question the amount of water the bill says they've used and object that, for months at a time, the amount is based on estimates rather than actual meter readings.

"There's a whole bunch of injustice being done," said Gail-Marie Vielle, a seven-year resident of the Holly Park and NewHolly communities.

Vielle is organizing a community meeting in the NewHolly Gathering Hall on January 22 from 3 to 5 p.m. to talk about the problem.

In fact, faulty meter programming at one time did cause residents to be charged for neighbors' water use, and usage amounts on some water bills seemed excessive to a Seattle Public Utilities official.

Housing Authority officials said they are examining the bills, which are prepared by Minol MTR, a company hired to recoup the agency's water costs. The company's performance is also under review, they said.

"It's obviously an issue," said Andrew Lofton, SHA's deputy executive director. "We have heard from some residents that their bill is too high."

Lofton said the NewHolly bills are high in part because of surcharges tacked on to Housing Authority water bills to pay for improvements to water and sewer drainage lines during the redevelopment.

Those surcharges add \$3.34 per CCF to residents' sewer rate and 92 cents per CCF to their water rate. A CCF is 100 cubic feet of water, or about 748 gallons. A typical single-family household uses about 5 CCF a month.

With the addition of the surcharge, sewer rates in NewHolly jumped 86 percent, a Seattle Public Utilities official said. Residents were informed about the surcharge when

**See "Water bills investigated" on page 6**

### Where is the rest of the Voice?

You may have noticed that this month's issue of the Voice is shorter than normal. Don't worry, we haven't run out of newsprint (or news). Instead, our staff needed to shorten this month's issue in order to allow for holiday time. In February, we'll be back to our normal size. Thanks for reading.

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**"There is a lot of value in people being able to grow their own food,"**  
*Sofia Olson, an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer, on why she is helping Yesler Terrace residents build a second community garden.*

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# New Year holds our hopes and challenges

*A message from Executive Director Tom Tierney*

Over the past year, I have enjoyed meeting many of you and have been impressed and grateful for the quality and integrity of the residents with which that the Seattle Housing Authority works.

I have learned that you care about your housing, your neighbors and the mission of Seattle Housing.

In 2005, we will stay true to our mission of enhancing the Seattle community by creating and sustaining decent, safe and affordable living environments that foster stability and self-sufficiency for people with low incomes.

We will continue to do this by listening to your needs, trying our best to maintain and improve current housing and working toward completion of the NewHolly, Rainier Vista and High Point redevelopments.

You can expect to see me out in the community often, attending your meetings and trying to stay in touch with your viewpoints.

I know that many residents face significant challenges in their efforts to gain new skills, find employment and cope with difficult personal circumstances. And these challenges may be made even more difficult be-



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY  
SHA Executive Director Tom Tierney

cause of a lack of available services.

In spite of this, I have learned of many impressive successes achieved by our residents in 2004.

I hope that you will continue to set challenging goals for yourself, and that the end of 2005 will find you celebrating your own success in achieving them.

I extend my heartfelt wishes to you for a happy and prosperous New Year.

## Health Notes

*A column devoted to your well-being*

By JANELLE WALHOUT, MD  
Special to the Voice

The Washington state Health Department is now recommending a flu shot for all those 50 and older and for those who live with or care for an ill person who is at risk of further complications from their illness.

The flu vaccine is still in short supply, but many of those in the highest risk groups seem to have received their vaccination.

Those groups all children from ages 6 to 23 months, adults aged 65 and older, persons aged 2 to 64 years with underlying chronic medical conditions, all women who will be pregnant during the influenza season, residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities, children aged 6 months to 18 years on chronic aspirin therapy, residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities, health-care workers involved in direct patient care, out-of-home caregivers and household contacts of children under the age of 6 months.

### Preventing the Spread of Germs

Respiratory infections affect the nose, throat and lungs. They include influenza (the "flu"), colds, pertussis (whooping cough) and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS).

The germs (viruses and bacteria) that cause these infections are spread from person-to-person in droplets from the nose, throat and lungs of someone who is sick.

You can help stop the spread of these germs by practicing "respiratory etiquette" or good health manners.

Cover your nose and mouth every time you sneeze, cough or blow your nose. You can cover your coughs and sneezes with tissue or cough into the crook of your elbow or shirtsleeve instead of in your hand.

Put used tissues in the trash. Wash your hands well and often whenever you or someone you are close to is sick. Try using an alcohol-based hand gel, especially after touching your nose or mouth.

If you become suddenly ill with body aches, a fever over 102 degrees, eye pain, and a cough, contact your provider to see if antiviral medications will shorten the course of your illness.

If you suffer from these symptoms or a rash, clinics and hospitals may give you a face mask to wear in waiting areas and exam rooms, so be prepared.

To avoid spreading your germs to others and to keep from catching someone else's germs, avoid contact with other people who have respiratory infections and colds. When you are ill, stay home from work and school and avoid contact with other people.

To learn about the availability of flu vaccine at public health clinics or community health centers, Seattle or King County residents are welcome to call the Public Health's Flu Hotline at (206) 296-1100.

The hotline is staffed from Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to provide information to residents on where they may go to receive a flu shot. You can also visit the agency's Web site at <http://www.metrokc.gov/health>.

*Janelle Walhout, MD is a family physician at the Rainier Park Medical Clinic and an Assistant Medical Director of Puget Sound Neighborhood Health Center. PSNHC operates six medical centers in Seattle-King County - 45<sup>th</sup> St. Clinic, Greenwood Medical Clinic, High Point Medical Clinic, Midwifery & Women's Health, Rainier Beach Medical Clinic and Rainier Park Medical Clinic.*

# Scholarship opportunities for residents available now

SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

Interested in higher education? A degree or certificate, whether it's from Harvard University or South Seattle Community College, can help you get a job or a promotion.

Now is the time for Seattle Housing Authority residents, especially high school seniors and adults considering continuing education, to think about applying for scholarships that could make higher education more affordable.

The Pacific Northwest Regional Council of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) offers the following three scholarships.

**Resident Challenge Scholarships:** Two \$4,000 scholarships, to be used for tuition and fees at a four-year college (\$1,000 per year), will be awarded this year. Preference is given to graduating high school seniors. Recipients must attend an accredited college or university full time and maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.5.

**Resident Continuing Education Scholarship:** One \$4,000 scholarship, to be used for tuition and fees for continuing education over a four-year period (\$1,000 per year) will be awarded.

The recipient must be an adult who has been out of school for four or more years, has a high school diploma or general education development credential (GED) or be pursuing a skill or trade at an accredited trade or specialty school.

**Resident Community College Scholarship:** One scholarship of \$2,000 for tuition and fees at a community college over a two-year period (\$1,000 per year).

Preference is given to graduating high school seniors. Recipients must attend an accredited college full time and maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.5.

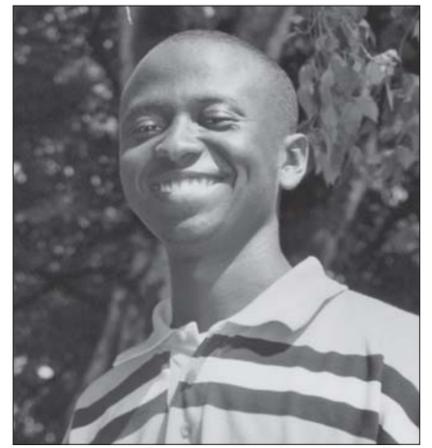


PHOTO COURTESY OF NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE  
Tukwila resident Moktar Batibure won the Heart of Oak scholarship last year

For more information, contact Andria Lazaga at (206) 615-3546 or by e-mail at [alazaga@seattlehousing.org](mailto:alazaga@seattlehousing.org). You can also get an application by going to the Northwest NAHRO Web site at <http://www.pnrcnahro.org/scholarships.htm>. Applications are due by Feb. 11.

SHA residents should also know about a couple of other scholarship opportunities.

**Edna B. Schwabacher Scholarship:** Sponsored by Neighborhood House, this partial scholarship covers some tuition expenses for any person enrolled in vocational programs at Seattle Central Community College. For more information, contact the college's financial aid office at (206) 587-3844. Applications are due March 18.

**Heart of Oak:** Neighborhood House offers two \$2,000 scholarships for high school graduates or GED recipients.

For more information, contact Neighborhood House at (206) 461-8430. Applications are due March 18.

# SHA staff contributes more than \$36,000

By KARI SHERRODD  
Seattle Housing Authority

Seattle Housing Authority staff raised more than \$36,000 in their annual workplace giving campaign, which gives employees the opportunity to make donations to either United Way or the Coalition for Charitable Choice. The donations will help people in need, including residents living in Seattle Housing units and people in the greater Seattle community.

Several organizations that provide services to residents, including Neighborhood

House, made presentations to employees about how their work benefits SHA residents.

One employee commented that, "It is very gratifying to see how my donation can help to directly support services that can make a difference in the lives of our residents."

Organizations that receive the donations will use the money to deliver needed services and commodities. Over 40 percent of SHA's employees either made a pledge or donation, or participated in a fund-raising activity.

# Report natural gas odors in Section 8 and scattered sites

SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

Because more and more Seattle Housing Authority buildings have natural gas furnaces, maintenance workers occasionally receive calls from tenants who smell gas in their unit.

Of course, this is a very serious situation. Recently, a gas leak in Bellevue caused a tragic house explosion and fire, taking a life.

Tenants who smell gas in their home should immediately call Puget Sound Energy. PSE has trained staff that can get to a potential gas leak quickly with equipment to

find its source. This service is offered free of charge to gas company customers. PSE representatives are available 24 hours a day, toll-free at (888) 225-5773.

If a problem is found, PSE mechanics will turn off the gas and leave a note describing where or what is leaking.

If repair work is required, Section 8 tenants should call the property owner. Scattered site residents can put in a work order with the Housing Authority by calling (206) 770-6789. SHA will repair the problem as soon as possible.

# POINT OF VIEW

NEWS ABOUT THE SEATTLE SENIOR HOUSING PROGRAM AND SEATTLE'S HIGH-RISE COMMUNITIES

## Resident council seeks volunteers

By J. M. (Jim) Bush  
Resident Action Council Secretary

After taking a month off to celebrate the holidays, the Seattle Housing Authority high-rise Resident Action Council is getting back to work.

The council helps residents in all 28 high-rises become more organized and better advocates in their own communities and the community at large.

Our board of directors will meet next month at Green Lake Plaza, 505 N.E. 70<sup>th</sup> St., and we'd like to have you join us. We're going to talk about a variety of subjects, including the production of our newsletter the "Rainbow" and the recruiting process we want to use to get more people involved in our organization. We don't have a date for the meeting confirmed, although we've tentatively scheduled it for Tuesday, January 18 at 11 a.m.

Look for the final date, agenda and directions to Green Lake Plaza on our Web site at <http://www.yahoo.com/groups/searaccouncil>.

How can you become a part of the resident action council? If you're a resident of any of the 28 high-rise communities, you already are.

Right now, we are looking for people to take an active role as community representatives. If you want to become a representative all you have to do is be chosen by residents in your own community—we will be coming to your community to talk about who we are and how to become involved.

You can set up a time for us to visit by contacting me at (206) 860-7275 or by e-mail at [jmbsea@aol.com](mailto:jmbsea@aol.com).

Because we are going to start the process of selecting officers in March, we'd like to have representatives from all 28 communities by February 28.

You can also write to the council at 2600 S. Walker, Suite B-1, Seattle, WA 98144 or via e-mail at [searaccouncil@juno.com](mailto:searaccouncil@juno.com).

The council's phone number is (206) 322-2257, the line is shared with another agency, so messages are not always forwarded. It may be better to contact me directly.

I look forward to hearing from you.

## New mental health case manager named

By VOICE STAFF

Mental health case management in Seattle Housing Authority high rises has a new leader.

Duane Darlington, 58, has taken over for former case manager Jeffrey Gerhardstein, who left in November for a new job.

Darlington has worked for over four years as a benefits specialist at Community Psychiatric Clinic, linking clients to services that can help them. Prior to that, he was case manager for the organization for 11 years.

SHA has contracted with Community Psychiatric Clinic to provide mental health services to residents for the past few years.

Darlington said he applied for the new position for the chance to work for the program's manager and to find new opportunities within the organization.

"I'm interested in identifying people who have mental health treatment needs and assisting them with (their) resolution," he said.

Darlington, a native of the Wenatchee Valley, has a Bachelor's degree in social sciences from Western Washington University in Bellingham.

As a young man, he worked for the forest service doing trail management and fire suppression. He said he still enjoys hiking and backpacking.

Darlington said he is eager to settle in to his new role, and looks forward to meeting residents very soon.

"Right now my job is pretty abstract," he said. "I'm still getting my identification and trying to figure out how my cell phone works."

He added that two new case managers will join his team this month. Both are transferring from within CPC and will bring plenty of knowledge to the table.

"Boy, it will be the most experienced team we have in the agency," he said.

Community Psychiatric Clinic is an outpatient mental health treatment service that provides case management, individual therapy and chemical dependency treatment programs. The organization has sites all over the city including Bellevue. They also offer job training programs.

For more information about available services, contact Darlington at (206) 545-8611.

## A feast with old friends shared at Stewart Manor



PHOTO BY JAMES OWENBY

Officer Richard Carr talks to residents before serving a holiday dinner.

By JAMES OWENBY  
Seattle Housing Authority

The holidays are a time to come together as family, friends, community members and neighbors. The annual resident holiday dinner at Stewart Manor in West Seattle was exactly that.

The night was organized by the resident council. A prime rib dinner was provided by Richard Carr, a retired Seattle police officer who was formerly assigned to Stewart Manor.

While the residents were filing in, getting seated and mingling with their neighbors, Carr put the final touches on his scrumptious feast.

The room was full with a rich aroma of a succulent meal as the residents voted for their choice of officers for the upcoming year's resident council.

Although Carr retired from the police force in May, he decided to continue to put together the Stewart Manor holiday dinner.

"I was assigned to this building and three others for seven years," he said. "I used to do the dinners at the monthly meetings for years, now I just do the holiday dinner. I think the meals bring everyone together to interact like a family and have better relations."

He added that both he and the residents enjoy the tradition.

Carr retired from the police force after 32 years of service, part of which was spent working in Seattle Housing Authority buildings.

As the meal was prepared outgoing treasurer Paul Northrup made a few announce-

ments about safety issues and Senior Property Manager Jake LeBlanc answered questions about the exits that are being used in the building.

Sarah Vanclve, the building's new property manager was also introduced.

Seattle Housing Authority Community Builder Marcia Johnson gave out certificates of thanks to the outgoing resident council members including Northrup, President Sharon Browne, Vice-President Matt Huff, Secretary Cindy Coleman, and alternates Abner Gaston III and Linda Stockberger.

Once everyone voted and had been seated, dinner was served.

In addition to the prime rib, residents enjoyed baked corn, mashed potatoes, cheese bread, salad and chocolate cake.

The residents showed their appreciation to Carr with a round of thank-you applause and by enjoying the meal.

While dinner was being served and eaten, the election results for the resident council were tallied and announced.

The new resident council for Stewart Manor are; President Cindy Coleman, Vice-President Stanley Appleton, Secretary Kay Marcellari, Treasurer Matt Huff and Alternates Linda Stockberger and Pamela Lybarger.

Cindy Coleman will remain on the council for another year, moving from the post of secretary to president.

"I'm really excited about the year ahead of us," she said. "I really want to bring the council and residents up-to-date on whom to go to for different issues.... It's going to be an absolutely fabulous year."

## Agency helps seniors and disabled use transportation

By BILL SCHROEDER  
Special to the Voice

Did you recently stop driving?

Are you unsure how to get to the places you'd like to go?

Do you need to know how to use the lift or get on those buses with the new ramps when you're using a walker or wheelchair?

CARES of Washington provides a free travel training program for seniors and people with disabilities.

Instructors provide individuals and groups with information on how to use Metro or Sound Transit bus services in King County. They also provide lift or ramp training for those who need the practice.

The program includes information on Metro's reduced fare permit that allows qualified riders to pay a quarter per trip, or 50 cents during peak rush hours.

Instructors also teach students how to get anywhere in the Metro service area and how to take Sound Transit to Snohomish,

Everett and Tacoma.

If there are people and places you'd like to see, please consider giving CARES of Washington a call. They can help you get there and back again.

There are a lot of options that will help you find more independence and participate in activities in your neighborhood.

For more information call (206) 749-4242 or dial (206) 749-4244 on your text telephone and leave your name and phone number. Someone from CARES will return your call

as soon as possible.

Don't wait for the next sunny day to go someplace - you can get there safely and efficiently by bus, without worrying about parking.

Bill Schroeder is a bus travel trainer with CARES of Washington. CARES is a nonprofit organization working to promote a diverse and competent workforce by providing innovative employment opportunities, training and increased independence in our communities.

# HIGH POINT HERALD

NEWS ABOUT THE HIGH POINT COMMUNITY

## West Seattle gymnastics team flying high with High Point practice space

By ROBIN MCGINNIS  
Voice reporter

Although she is recovering from a broken leg, West Seattle High School student and veteran gymnast Nina Fogle swung effortlessly from one uneven bar to another at gymnastics practice last month. Her teammate Corrine Wise warned her not to overdo it.

Fogle admits that the three-hour practices five times a week can be brutal, but neither girl is complaining.

Just prior to the November start of the season, Fogle and her teammates were in jeopardy of not having any place to practice.

The search began after West Seattle's athletic director Hoover Hopkins learned the West Seattle and Chief Sealth High School team would no longer have space for their equipment at Chief Sealth.

"We have a co-op agreement with Chief Sealth, but they didn't have the room this year," he explained. "But I was certain that we could find another place."

Hopkins' optimism led him to hire former club gymnastics coach Ron Young and former Garfield coach Laura Twedt-Leith before even securing a place for practices.

"Hoover had always said, 'Don't worry. We'll find a place,'" Young said. "His enthusiasm is contagious."

The first option was the vacant E.C. Hughes Elementary School near Chief Sealth, but the school district rejected the idea because of heating costs.

Then, three weeks before the season began, Hopkins received a phone call from High Point Community Builder Kari-Lynn



PHOTO BY ROBIN MCGINNIS  
Sophomore Jana Oliver, 15, tackles the uneven bars.

Frank.

"Kari contacted me with an instant solution," he said.

While working with educators in the area to strengthen relationships between schools and the community, Frank had heard about the team's dilemma and wanted to help. She offered the team use of the gym at the former High Point Community Center.

"When the YMCA moved out last December, we were left with this resource in the community that was being under utilized," Frank said. "I'm glad to see it fill a need at one of our schools."

Housing a set of uneven bars, two balance beams, a vault and a floor layered in blue tumbling mats, the gym now provides

a sense of pride to the once displaced, 15-member gymnastics team.

"We're developing a more established team and have more girls coming out to practices," said 16-year-old Fogle.

A recent addition to the team herself, Fogle is a level ten gymnast, the highest ranking in the world of gymnastics.

"I've known Nina since she was very young," said coach Young. "She and Corrine [West] are veterans... and are a real asset to the team."

The former High Point Community Center's demolition in 2006 will force Hopkins to find yet another a gym for the girls. For now, he is grateful for the space he has.

"Having this gym is crucial to the existence of our gymnastics program," he said. "It's very important that we keep girls athletics going."

Frank, a former club gymnast in Canada, agreed, saying she knows

the difference athletics can make in women's lives.

"Sports allow for leadership opportunities and can set a firm foundation for success later in life," she said. "It's just a bonus for me that I was able to help out a girls gymnastics team."

Frank added that High Point would benefit with even more partnerships like the one with the gymnastics team.

"One of the core values of HOPE VI is to erase the invisible dividing lines within the community," she said. "The more we get to know all of our neighbors and the more we strengthen relationships with our schools, the easier it will be to breakdown the artificial boundaries dividing our community."

## Computer lab a great resource

### Volunteers needed to expand lab hours

By VOICE STAFF

High Point residents and service providers met at the High Point Career and Technology Center last month as part of an ongoing discussion of how to make the computer lab more popular and useful to residents.

"One thing that is unique about our center is our door is unlocked," said Center Director Meredith Blache, pointing out that when computer classes aren't underway the lab, located in High Point Elementary School, is still open.

Still, all agreed that getting the word out to potential lab users is a tricky process.

"We've been doing this for six years and there are people in the community that still don't know we're here," Blache said. "But we have people coming from all over Seattle, from Alki to Issaquah and Auburn."

High Point resident Leonard Whidbey said he did some homework, reaching out to his neighbors to let them know about the lab and to ask them what types of classes they'd prefer.

When he knocked on doors, he said he ran across a number empty units and experienced some language barriers. Still, he thought that practical courses like card-making and Microsoft certification would be welcomed by residents.

The lab is also looking for volunteers to work in the lab in order to expand its hours.

In the meantime, the center will offer a full slate of classes for the winter, including computer classes for seniors, classes in Vietnamese, resume writing workshops and evening ESL classes with a focus on computer use. Activities for children are provided during the ESL classes.

There is also a free after-school youth program on Monday from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. The SafeFutures Youth Center will be running a program for girls on Thursdays from 3 to 6 p.m.

The center also sponsors a computer purchase program where those interested can buy a computer for \$150.

The refurbished computers come with Windows 98, Open Office and no-charge Internet access. A three-hour training class is required for every purchase.

Those who have purchased a center computer in the past can trade it in for a newer model for \$50. A one-hour training class is required for these purchases.

For more information on the classes or computer purchase program contact Mui Bui at (206) 252-9480.

## Holiday party a true community affair

By JAMES OWENBY  
Seattle Housing Authority

Sometimes events just come together and work beautifully.

The High Point Holiday party was one of those instances where everyone stepped up and contributed to a great time.

The event, which took place last month, was planned over the course of six weeks and nobody was solely responsible.

No single service provider took more of a lead than another, and nobody really had any money to pay for it. The event happened anyway, and judging by the participants' smiles and squeals it was awesome.

With the neighborhood under redevelopment it would have been easy to set aside the event, chalking it up to the disruption of construction.

That wasn't so.

In the spirit of cooperation, Seattle Housing Authority, SafeFutures, the Youth Tutoring Program, the Seattle Neighborhood Group, the YMCA, Resident Choices, the High Point Medical Center and Seattle Parks and Recreation put together a holiday event at the High Point Community Center.

The service providers decided that the lack of budget wouldn't stop them from organizing a gala affair.



PHOTO BY JAMES OWENBY  
Nikki Cheth and her children Joanna and Jonathan show the wreath they made at the holiday party.

With the help of the Seattle Parks and Recreation department, they reserved the community center for a couple of hours on a Saturday afternoon. It was the first holiday event in the new community center, which opened last summer.

The gym was open for games and basketball, and the large meeting room hosted a tree donated by former High Point resident Anza Muenchow.

The tree was decorated on the spot with items made at the craft tables run by the teenagers from the Partnership for Anti-violence Enhancement. Children and adults made other holiday crafts at the tables, too.

"Everyone chipped in and made it happen," said David Goldsmith, education coordinator for the Youth Tutoring Program.

The High Point Medical Center and the YMCA hosted giving trees in their offices to collect gifts.

"We have over 200 gifts, the generosity of the people who donated is incredible," he said.

The event went from 1 to 4 p.m. but the gifts weren't given out until 2:30 p.m. There was a lot of eager anticipation, and when the doors were finally opened and gifts were handed out, the room was filled with an electricity of excitement. Adults had to remind the children not to run to get their gifts.

"The response has been fantastic" said Mark Smith, senior director of child and family services for the West Seattle YMCA.

Christine Torres, a case manager for SafeFutures said the food came courtesy of a combination of donations, potluck participants and a little bit of money from service providers' budgets and personal accounts.

The community came together through the efforts of a lot of people to make this happen. If this kind of cooperation is any indication of the future of High Point, then very good things are in store for 2005 and beyond.

## CORRECTION

Due to a reporting error, a story in the December issue of the Voice incorrectly stated that grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences will provide furniture allowances for residents moving into asthma-free homes at High Point.

Unfortunately, no such allowances will be provided. We apologize for the error.

# RAINIER VISTA NEWS

NEWS ABOUT THE RAINIER VISTA COMMUNITY

## Rainier Vista youth create mosaics for cultural center



PHOTO BY STACY SCHWANDT

Rainier Vista youth pose with the mosaic murals they helped create.

By STACY SCHWANDT  
Voice editor

Colorful, shiny and fancy were three of the most popular words Rainier Vista youth used to describe the mosaic murals they made at the Rainier Valley Cultural Center as part of their after-school art program.

About a dozen kids worked with local artist Mauricio Robalino to use smooth glass shards and beads to build larger-than-life renditions of a mermaid, a seashell and the Roman god Neptune.

They squeezed and spread glue over plywood boards, plucked glass pieces from bowls and pressed them down, all the while gossiping about school and friends.

"It's fun to do," said 9-year-old Ramadan Ahmed. "If you're having a bad day and you do it, it makes your day better."

The murals were hung in the lobby of the cultural center's newly renovated lower level.

Supporters gathered at the center last month to celebrate both the installation and the renovation, enjoying music and hot cider.

The mural project was organized by the Public Art Workshop, a program of

SouthEast Effective Development that connects youth with professional artists to create public art.

"We worked with the ideas of bodily functions and water, and came up with these images," Robalino said in a statement. "The mythological figures also work well with the Greek revival architecture of the building."

The students came to the cultural center by way of the Inside-Out Art program.

The program, which is run by the Children's Museum, aims to provide Rainier Vista children with an interactive, safe and multicultural arts- and humanities-based learning environment that encourages the development of social, emotional and academic skills.

Some of the kids have been in the program for almost a decade, and they say art is central to their lives.

"I like art, I like murals, I like drawing," said 12-year-old Nedhi Dadi.

"It's a part of my life," added 13-year-old Quoc Nguyen.

In the months to come, the Rainier Vista youth will build on their mosaic skills by starting work on tiled benches that will eventually grace a corner of their redeveloped community.

## Job training gives family a boost, career

By LARRY HILL  
Seattle Housing Authority

Hoa Nguyen knows that path to success is built one step at a time.

She moved with her husband and family to the old Holly Park neighborhood in 1995. In 1997, they relocated to Rainier Vista.

Before long both Hoa and her husband met with Van Vo of Rainier Vista Jobs Plus program. He encouraged the family to enter into the program.

Soon after, a childcare provider training was made available for interested area residents under the sponsorship of Childcare Resources, and Vo encouraged Nguyen to attend.

The rest, as they say, is history.

Nguyen diligently attended her trainings, received the proper state license and started her own in-home child care business in 1999. She began with an allowed capacity of six children, and she initially cared for two infants and four older children.

In December 2001, Nguyen took advantage of an excellent opportunity to expand when rooms for a child care opened up on-site at Rainier Vista.

She received a new license from the state that increased her capacity to 12 children, moved into the larger building and immedi-



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOA NGUYEN

Hoa Nguyen urges her day care children to smile for the camera on Halloween.

ately began caring for infants and toddlers.

She spent almost three years there successfully providing quality child care.

In November, Nguyen and her husband bought a new five-bedroom, two-story house very close to Rainier Vista on S. Bradford, where Hoa continues to care for 12 kids.

Nguyen and her family were able to make the maximum use of their participation in the Jobs Plus program and set a great example for those planning for a brighter future. Interested in quality child care? Hoa can be reached at (206) 722-0911.

## Dance heralds holiday celebrations



PHOTO BY STACY SCHWANDT

NewHolly resident Gail-Marie Vielle, center, leads seniors and service providers in a Native American welcome dance. Hundreds, including a number of Rainier Vista residents, joined together for an annual holiday meal.

## Many eager to move in



PHOTO BY JAMES OWENBY

Apartments are beginning to be leased in the redeveloped Rainier Vista community. A total of 184 units will be available over the next year. For more information about the new two-, three-, four- and five-bedroom apartments call (206) 721-2980.

### Community notes

#### Free bus tickets

Have you relocated from Rainier Vista as part of the HOPE VI redevelopment?

If you have, and you need help with transportation costs to continue participating in community meetings or services, contact the Rainier Vista management office at (206) 721-2980 or the Jobs-Plus office at (206) 722-4010 extension 1.

People working in those offices may be able to provide you with METRO bus tickets to get to and from Rainier Vista.

#### Children's art program seeks kids

After-school adventures in art and

learning are waiting for youth ages 5 to 14 at Rainier Vista.

Monday through Friday from 3 until 6 p.m. children can create hands on arts projects, write poetry, practice puppetry and learn about other cultures.

The Inside-Out after-school art program is free and offered through the Children's Museum.

In addition to art projects and reading, children have the opportunity to learn hip-hop dancing, go on field trips and make new friends.

For more information call (206) 722-6709.

# NEWHOLLY NOTES

NEWS ABOUT THE NEWHOLLY COMMUNITY

## Reading turns fun at literacy party



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES YOUTH TUTORING PROGRAM

Over a dozen children and their families gathered for the Catholic Community Services Youth Tutoring Program's winter party last month. The theme was "Winter Luau," and the children enjoyed reading-centered activities.



## Talents displayed at Winter Craft Spectacular

By KARI SHERRODD  
Seattle Housing Authority

Necklaces, earrings and blown glass ornaments were some of the handmade gifts sold at the Winter Craft Spectacular at the NewHolly Gathering Hall last month.

The Seattle Housing Authority staff's Committee for Appreciation and Recognition of Employees sponsored the event and gave the opportunity to staff and residents to display and sell their creations. Participants included SHA employees Megan Profit, Jodi Niess, Charles Hayashi, Emily Burns and her husband, Bill Akers.

"I enjoyed the opportunity and idea of being involved with a community that we work with," said Burns, whose husband makes blown glass art pieces.

At the event they sold ornaments, garden art, paper weights, vases and other blown glass pieces.

Niess and Profit, who sold their handmade jewelry, added that it was an opportunity to meet residents and other employees. It was also a good way to make some extra money, they said.

Hayashi, who also sold hand-made jew-



PHOTO BY KARI SHERRODD

Jeannie Connor, on left, admires a glass ornament made by Bill Akers.

elry, and Barb Berg, one of the event organizers, agreed that the event created camaraderie and gave the opportunity for staff and residents to display their creative talents.

The committee is considering organizing the event again next year. If you are interested in participating, please call Barb Berg at (206) 615-3372 or by e-mail at bberg@seattlehousing.org.

## Water bills investigated

*continued from front page*

they brought concerns to the management office or attended a community meeting, SHA officials said.

Lofton added that, in general, high bills are the result of excessive water use, so the Housing Authority is working hard to educate residents on what they can do to conserve water. One key is to keep outdoor watering to a minimum, he said.

Sidney Carter, who has lived with his daughter at Holly Park and NewHolly for 14 years, scoffs at the idea that overuse is the cause of his \$80 bills.

"We don't waste water," he said. "We take short showers, I wash once a week, I only do the dishes when there's a full load... There's a problem with these water bills and all we get is double talk, pass the buck, try to sweep it under the carpet."

Public housing residents in NewHolly began paying their water and sewer bill in 2000, when the redeveloped units opened. The idea, Lofton said, was to encourage conservation and self-sufficiency among residents by asking them to pay for water they used.

As required by federal law, the Housing Authority provides residents with a "utility allowance" in the form of a rent reduction to cover their out-of-pocket costs.

The system isn't unusual. For years, many public housing residents have paid their electricity and gas bills, but residents of the old Holly Park have always had these expenses included in their rent.

New to everyone is the third-party billing system that allows the Housing Authority to measure each tenants' water use.

Third-party billing is a largely unregulated enterprise where outside companies install meters or use formulas to measure tenants' water use.

The landlord pays the water bill and the third-party biller recoups the money for them by collecting from tenants based on their individual use.

In the first two phases of the NewHolly development, the Housing Authority contracted with Texas-based Minol to install submeters to monitor residents' water use.

For many residents, the set-up has resulted in customer service headaches.

Vielle said Minol promised her nearly \$300 in credit for overbilling, but the credit never appeared on her account.

Lofton said the industry is experiencing growing pains.

"There is a frustration with third-party billers," he said. "It is in its infancy... Many

of the companies have work to do. It's simply not good business to not have a customer service response."

While SHA plans to measure tenants' water use in the third phase of NewHolly and the redeveloped High Point and Rainier Vista communities, they do not plan to contract with Minol.

Still, two questions remain. Are NewHolly residents being charged for water they didn't use and are their individual utility allowances adequate to cover the high bills? Housing Authority officials say they are examining these questions.

According to Seattle Public Utilities, a typical single-family residential customer uses 5.2 CCFs of water a month. A one-page billing detail obtained from SHA lists the amount of water for which Minol billed 11 tenants from April 23 to March 23, 2002.

The detail says 8 of the 11 families consumed more water than the average household. The tenant with the highest consumption reportedly used 18,740 gallons or about 25 CCF that month, almost five times the average. The tenant was billed \$266.40.

"I don't know if you can use that much water in one house," said SPU strategic advisor Bruce Flory, adding that the tenant could have a leak in their unit.

As for the utility allowance, to date, Carter's 2004 bills have averaged \$81.59 a month, about \$5 more than the \$76 water and sewer utility allowance he receives. Because of the lag in the billing cycle, Carter will pay for the last two and a half months of usage in 2005.

Bob Wyda, SHA's housing operations support manager, said the agency establishes allowances that correspond to the cost of reasonable utility use, and that they are meant to encourage conservation.

He said his calculations show that, in 2003, the utility allowances development-wide exceeded actual costs of utilities by over \$75,600.

"If a household conserves energy their utility allowance should exceed their utility bill," he said in a statement, although he did not respond to a question about whether SHA would be required to reimburse an individual tenant whose bills exceeded their allowance.

Still residents struggle to pay their bills and await the final word as to whether any relief is in sight.

"It's very hard to face, the bills are very high," said resident Anagi Aman. "I have three kids. We need hot water for the kids."

### Community notes

#### Heath desk coming

The Seattle University College of Nursing will open two health desks in the NewHolly area this month.

One will be located just outside the NewHolly library and will be open from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

The second health desk will be located at the Peter Claver House and will be open on Thursday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Everyone is welcome. Nursing students will be offering blood pressure checks, medication review, referral to nearby medical and dental clinics and health education on a variety of topics including diabetes and heart problems.

#### Annual NewHolly Multicultural New Year Potluck just around the corner

Don't forget! This year's potluck is taking place on Friday, January 7 from 6 to 9 p.m. in the NewHolly Campus Gathering Hall.

Come to share good food and spread New Year's wishes to all of your NewHolly neighbors.

#### Seeking submissions

The Voice is seeking submissions for its NewHolly community section.

Articles, photos and story ideas can be sent to Stacy Schwandt, Neighborhood House, 905 Spruce St., Suite 200, Seattle, WA 98104.

# YESLER HAPPENINGS

NEWS ABOUT THE YESLER TERRACE COMMUNITY

## A warm, dry place *Yesler shelter appreciated by homeless*



PHOTO BY JAMES OWENBY

Shelter volunteer Charles DeLaine sets up beds for the evening.

By JAMES OWENBY  
Seattle Housing Authority

It's no secret that Seattle gets most of its annual rainfall between November and March.

Most of us adjust by pulling out an umbrella, wearing a raincoat and looking forward to returning to our warm, dry homes at night.

For a homeless person like Marco, a day laborer trying to get back on his feet, finding a warm and dry place can be an extreme challenge.

Marco's name has been changed to protect his privacy.

The temporary and controversial Yesler Terrace severe weather homeless shelter provides him with a much-appreciated alternative on nights when finding warm spots outdoors is nearly impossible.

The City of Seattle Department of Human Services has partnered with the Salvation Army and the Seattle Housing Authority to use the gymnasium at the Yesler Terrace Community Center as a severe weather shelter.

The shelter has a capacity of 75 people and is projected to be open about 66 nights between November and March.

City officials closely watch weather forecasts and at 9 a.m. each day decide whether to open the shelter that night.

They aim to open the shelter when the temperature falls below 32 degrees, if there are two successive days of rain, or if there is snow on the ground.

Once the decision is made, an e-mail is sent to service providers, interested residents and the police department for referrals.

The shelter opens at 10 p.m. and houses the individuals until 6:30 a.m.

The shelter is a "bare-bones operation" said Salvation Army volunteer Pete Fenesca.

There is no food, no in-or-out privileges, no smoking or showers.

Teams of three Salvation Army volunteers typically work at the shelter through the night. The volunteers arrive at the shelter around 9 p.m., open the gym and ask for a couple volunteers to carry the sleeping mats up from the basement.

Last month, Marco eagerly volunteered to carry sleeping mats and come in from the

rain. Before he began this task, his bags were searched for weapons or drugs.

Salvation Army volunteers also take medications and pocket knives for the night.

After Marco's bag was checked, he went right to work, bringing up five sleeping mats at a time. He worked fast because the sooner he finished, the sooner he could take off his wet shoes and socks, change into dry ones and go to bed.

He looked exhausted, and his pants were soiled from his day's work.

"I just want to get to bed, I've got to be up and at it early again tomorrow," he said.

Shelter volunteer Charles DeLaine said he knows what it is like to be homeless. He lost his home after a back injury rendered him unable to work and exhausted his savings and Labor and Industries compensation.

"After my L&I ran out I had no money, no job and no where to go," he said.

Fortunately, he was able to get assistance through Veterans Services and local homeless shelters. His back has recovered and now he is employed full-time as a chef.

It is very common for DeLaine to stay up all night working at one of the homeless shelters in Seattle. He will get a couple hours of sleep in the morning and then go to work for a full day.

"This is my way of giving back for all the help I received," he said. "It makes me feel good."

The Yesler Terrace shelter opened for the first night in late November and 33 men were served. During the 10 days between December 3 and 12, it rained over three inches and the shelter housed over 400 people.

"The shelter is projected to be open on the coldest and wettest nights through the end of March," said Al Poole, manager of survival services for the city's human services department. "The majority of homeless people will be homeless for 6 to 18 months."

Police are on site at night while the homeless people are being checked in, and they are also on site at 6:30 a.m. with three additional Salvation Army volunteers to make sure that the men don't linger around in the Yesler Terrace neighborhood.

The homeless are given bus passes so they can go downtown to where there is food, showers, employment and case management services.

## College help available

By ELLEN ZIONTZ  
Seattle Housing Authority

Help is available for Seattle Housing Authority tenants who want to go to college.

The Yesler Terrace Higher Education Project is sponsoring a number of events and resources for anyone living in low-income public housing.

"You Can Go to College!" is a college fair and financial aid workshop on Wednesday, January 26 at 6 p.m. at Yesler Terrace.

The fair is open to all high school students and their parents living in SHA housing. Information will be provided on how to apply for financial aid and scholarships.

Representatives from a number of local colleges and universities will be there to provide information, application materials and to answer questions about what their schools can offer.

Transportation may be available through the Youth Tutoring Program.

Call for additional information.

"Dream Big" is a new scholarship fund to provide financial support to low-income public housing residents who would like to attend college on a full-time basis in the next academic year.

Applicants must be under age 21. The scholarship provides \$1,000 towards tuition paid directly to the school.

A list of several other scholarships available to tenants of Seattle Housing Authority Assisted Housing including out-of-school adults is also available. See the scholarship story on page two for options.

Tenants can apply for more than one scholarship plus financial aid to make college affordable.

A college planning guide is available to help students and parents plan for college. It includes a list of required courses, information on community colleges and facts about taking the SAT.

For questions, to request materials or to register for the workshop contact Audra Gray of the Yesler Youth Tutoring Program at (206) 682-5590 or Community Builder Ellen Ziontz at (206) 343-7484.

## Garden ready to bloom

By STACY SCHWANDT  
Voice editor

Plans for a second community garden in Yesler Terrace are germinating, awaiting their chance to blossom at the first signs of spring.

Sofia Olson, an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer with the P-Patch program, recently provided the Yesler Terrace Community Council with an update on the garden, which is taking shape on the slopes leading to the International District, just above the existing garden.

In a separate interview, Olson said work began last summer and will continue in February and March, when volunteers will build and reinforce terraces, install an irrigation system and construct raised beds.

She added that the garden is being created in part because members of the East African community expressed an interest in gardening.

Once all the work is complete, about 25 plots will be available for residents. All planting in the patch will be organic, with no chemical fertilizers or pesticides used.

Olson added that she is trying to renew community interest in the garden, which has been in the planning stages for about two years. The garden is funded primarily through grants from the City of Seattle and the Washington Insurance Council.

"There is a lot of value in people being able to grow their own food," she said. "A lot of different people from a lot of different

cultures have that in their past, growing food for themselves and their families. Plus, the food they grow is often more nutritious than the food they can buy."

She said she has been doing door-to-door canvassing with interpreters to spread the word about the garden, which will offer more than just patches for fruits and vegetables when it's complete.

Two mosaic benches, built by area children with the help of the nonprofit organization Arts Corps, will provide community members a place to sit and admire the green space.

A local Boy Scout and his troop will also be building an artistic bamboo fence around the garden.

Fourteen-year-old Nick Oki has already started to raise money for the fence, which he and his Bellevue-based troop will build from bamboo and cedar posts in March.

The project will help Oki earn Eagle Scout status.

"A lot of people don't earn Eagle rank," he said. "I'm pretty excited."

Oki added that he'll use skills he learned as a Boy Scout to build the fence. He'll attach the bamboo posts together with a lashing, a special sort of knot most scouts learn.

Oki found out about the garden through the Seattle Parks Foundation and has worked with Cambodian-born artist Bunly Yun on the fence's design.

"I can't wait to build it," he said.

For more information on the garden contact Olson at (206) 684-3028.

### Community notes

#### Correction

A story in the December issue of the Voice included an incorrect job title for Judi Carter.

She is the Senior Property Manager for Yesler Terrace.

#### Basic computer skills classes for seniors

The Seattle Parks and Recreation de-

partment is sponsoring basic computer classes for seniors ages 55 and over on Thursdays.

Instruction on using basic computer programs and navigating the Internet is provided in both Vietnamese and English.

The class meets from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Yesler Community Center, 825 Yesler Way.

# TRANSLATIONS

TRANSLATED ARTICLES FROM THE VOICE

ያለ ብዙ ወጪ የቤትዎን ማሞቅያ ዋጋ መክፈል ይችላሉ።

## Keep your house warm with out breaking the bank

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## Keep your house warm with out breaking the bank

ናይ ጊዜ ክራማት ክሊማ አቀዲምካ ምፍላጥ አሸጋሪ እዩ ኮይኑ ግን እዚ ዝሰዕብ ምስትገብሩ ተጠንቂቓኩም ንክትጸንሑ ይሕግዘኩም ናይ ግዛ መውዓዩ ዋጋ ከንሀር እዩ አብ ዝመጽእ ዘሎ ክራማት። ብጣዕሚ ቆራሪ ክራማት ድማ ንቲ ዋጋ ብተዓጻጸፊ የንሀር ንጋዝ ብዙህ ገንዘብ ትኸፍሉ።

ናይ ሰንትራል ኢርያ ሞቲቫሽን ኤንርጂ አሲስታንት ፕሮግራም አብ ናይ ግዛ ምውዓዩ ዋጋ ጋዝ ኤሌክትሪክ ዕ ንጸይቲ አብ እትኸፍልዎ አብ ሓደ ክረምቲ \$750 ይሕግዘኩም።

ቆጶራ ንምሓገን ነቶም ሰራሕተኛታትን ንምዝርራብ አብዚ ዝሰዕብ ስልኪ ቁጽሪ ትድውሉ 866223 1068 ኮይኑ እዞም አብታሕቲ ተጠቂሶም ዘለዉ ምክርታታትን አብ ግብሪ ምስተውዕሉ ድማ ብዙሕ ዋጋ ተትርፉ።

ናይ ግዛኹም ፋራንስ ፊልተር ትቅይሩምን ትጽርዩን ተንቅሳቀሲ ናይ ግዛ መውዓዩ ሂተር ድማ ብናይ ቫኩም ብራሽ ገርኩም ተጽርዩዎ ደርና ዋጋ የንሀር ንጥዕና ድማ ሕማም የኸትል።

ዘይትጥቀምሉ ክፍልታት ትዓጽዉ ሓድ ሓድ ጊዜ አየር ክእትዎ ድማ ትኸፍዎ ዛዕዛዕታን ጠልን ከይገብር።

ናይ ግዛ ናይ ሙቀት መዕጸጺ ተርሞስታትን አብ 65 ዲግሪ ትገብርዎ ክትወጹ ከልኹም ድማ አብ 55 ዲግሪ ክዳውንቲ ደርቡ አብ ሶፋ ኮፍ ኢልኩም ቲሺ አብ እትርእይሉ ጊዜ ድማ ኮበርታ ትገምገሙ። እዞም አብ ላዕሊ ዝጠቐስናዮም አብ ግብሪ ምስትገብሩ ብዙሕ ውጻእ ተትርፉ።

## Keep your house warm without breaking the bank

### Теплый дом без больших расходов

Зимние бури предсказать сложно, но есть предсказание, на которое можно положиться: счета за отопление в этом сезоне подскочат выше крыши.

Очень холодная зима может значительно повысить стоимость. Вы будете платить больше за природный газ и будете больше его сжигать, если столбик термометра опустится ниже среднего.

Специальные программы Central Area Motivation Program energy assistance могут облегчить

## Keep your house warm without breaking the bank

Xilaga qaboobaha ah waxaa lagayaabaa in aan la sii saadalinkarin, lakiin waakan qiyaas aad ku talagalikarto. Gaska guryaha lagu shito, qaymahiisu kor ayuu u kacayaa xiliga qaboobaha. Runtiina xili aad u qaboobi waxaa uu kor u qaadi karaa qaymaha gaska. Waxaad bixin doontaa lacag dheeraad ah gas dabiiciga ah, hadii qabowgu uu bato oo oo merkurigu hoos u dhaco.

The Central Area Motivation Program's energy ee dadka danyarta caawisa ayaa kaa caawinkarta qaymaha kor u kacaya ee gaska dabiiciga ah. CAMP waxay kaa bixinaysaa ilaa \$750 xiliga qaboobaha ee korantada gurigaaga iyo gaska dabiiciga ah., ama qoryaha lagushito guryaha. Balan hadaad u baahato ama aad doonayso in aad kala hadasho in aad xaq u leedahay wac (1866) 223-1068.

Inta ka horaysa, waxaad awoodaa in aad la dagaasho sidii aad hoos oogu dhigilahayd qaymahan gaska kor u kacaya adiga oo raacaya figrado fudud.

Badal ama nadiifi farnaskaada nadiifiyahiiisa. Ka fogee kulayliyaha ku shaqeeya korontada boorka iyo wasaqda adiga oo ka taxadaraya isticmaalna burashka ku xiran vakayuumkaada. Hiitarka wasaqdu waxay ku dartaa in lacagta ay kugu kororto.

Xir qololka aadan isticmaalayn, laakiin xusuusnow in aad furto mar-marka qaarkood si ay hawo kululi ay u gasho, iyada oo ka ilaalinaysa suyuca iyo qoyaanaka kadhaha guryaha. Ku aadi termostaadkaada 68 digrii xirana dhar kulul oo dheeraad ah. Ku aadi 55 digrii marka aad guriga ka maqantahay. Buste u dhawayso kursiga aad ku daawato telefishanka. Xoogaa yar oo shaqa ayaa wintarka hoos u dhigi karta qaymaha lagacta jeebkaada ka baxaysa.

бремя затрат на отопление дома. Эти программы могут заплатить до 750 долларов за зиму, чтобы помочь вам с оплатой счетов за электрическое, газовое, масляное или дровяное отопление.

Чтобы назначить встречу для обсуждения вашего права на эту помощь, звоните 866-223-1068.

В то же время вы можете снизить расходы на отопление, следуя следующим простым советам.

Замените или очистите фильтры отопительных устройств. Содержите настенные электрообогреватели свободными от пыли, осторожно очищая их специальной щеткой вашего пылесоса. Нагревание

пыли увеличивает счет.

Закрывайте двери в неиспользуемые комнаты, но не забывайте открывать их время от времени, чтобы теплый воздух мог циркулировать, предотвращая скопление влаги и возникновение плесени.

Отрегулируйте термостат на 68 градусов и носите теплую одежду. Держите термостат на 55 градусах на время своего отсутствия. Прикрывайтесь одеялом на диване, когда смотрите телевизор.

Небольшая предусмотрительность может сделать зиму менее разорительной для вашего кошелька.

## GIỎO CHO CAÊN NHAØ BAÏNAÁM AÙP MAØ KHOÁNG PHAÙI TOÁN NHIEÀU TIEÀN

Những cơn bão mùa đông thật khó mà đoán biết trước, nhưng đây chính là điều được loan báo trước: hoá đơn tiền sưởi sẽ tăng lên cao “trở nóc nhà trong mùa này.

Một mùa đông thật lạnh dẫn tới tiền sưởi tăng cao lên. Bạn sẽ trả tiền khí đốt nhiều hơn vì phải xài nhiều hơn để giữ không cho độ ẩm trong nhà tụt xuống thấp quá.

Cơ quan Central Area Motivation Program (CAMP) có chương trình giúp giảm giá tiền sưởi. CAMP có thể phụ cấp lên đến \$750 để giúp trả tiền điện, tiền gas, tiền dầu sưởi hoặc tiền củi để sưởi ấm.

Để làm cuộc hẹn để xem bạn có hợp lệ hay không, xin gọi số 866-223-1068.

Trong khi đó thì bạn có thể chóng lại giá cả tiền sưởi bị tăng cao qua việc thực hiện những hướng dẫn đơn sơ như sau.

Hãy thay hoặc hãy làm sạch cái lọc (filter) của máy sưởi. Hãy giữ cho các máy sưởi điện sạch bụi bằng cách lau chùi cẩn thận với loại bàn chải gắn vào máy hút bụi. Máy sưởi có bụi làm tốn tiền sưởi.

Tắt sưởi ở các phòng không dùng tới, nhưng nên nhớ thỉnh thoảng phải mở sưởi để hơi ấm luân lưu tránh được khí ẩm hay mốc meo đóng lên.

Chỉnh máy sưởi ở mức 68 độ, mặc quần áo dày. Để (sưởi) ở mức 55 độ khi đi ra khỏi nhà trong ngày. Để cái mền ở sofa khi ngồi xem TV

Việc phòng ngừa nhỏ có thể giúp cho bạn đỡ hao tiền túi trong mùa đông.

## Keep your house warm without breaking the bank

### የክፍለ-ሀገር ደረጃ ለማሞቅያ ዋጋ መናገር ለመቆጣጠር የሚከተሉትን ቀላል የሆኑትን ምክሮች ይጠቀሙ።

የቤትዎን ፋራንስ ፊልተር ያጽዱት ተንቀሳቃሽ የቤት ማሞቅያ ሂተር በቫኩም ብብራሽ በማጽዳት ቆሻሻ ዋጋ ይጫምራል።

የማይጠቀሙበት የቤትዎን ክፍሎች ይዘጉ ንጹህ አየር እንዲገባበትና እርጥበትና ሞልድስ ለመላክል አልፎ አልፎ ይከፍቱት።

የሙቀት መቆጣጠርያው ተርሞስታት 68 ዲግሪ ያድርሱት ብርድን የሚከላከል ልብሶች ይልበሱ ውጭ ብሚሄዱበት ጊዜ 55 ዲግሪ ያድርሱት ቲሺ በሚመለከቱበት ጊዜ ብሶፋው ብርድ ልብስ ምክናንብ ።

ከዚህ በላይ የጠቀሰናቸው ምክሮች ከተከተሉ በሚከፍሉት ዋጋ ብዙ ገንዘብ ለማትረፍ ይችላሉ።

## Keep your house warm without breaking the bank

### የክፍለ-ሀገር ደረጃ ለማሞቅያ ዋጋ መናገር ለመቆጣጠር የሚከተሉትን ቀላል የሆኑትን ምክሮች ይጠቀሙ።

የቤትዎን ፋራንስ ፊልተር ያጽዱት ተንቀሳቃሽ የቤት ማሞቅያ ሂተር በቫኩም ብብራሽ በማጽዳት ቆሻሻ ዋጋ ይጫምራል።

የማይጠቀሙበት የቤትዎን ክፍሎች ይዘጉ ንጹህ አየር እንዲገባበትና እርጥበትና ሞልድስ ለመላክል አልፎ አልፎ ይከፍቱት።

የሙቀት መቆጣጠርያው ተርሞስታት 68 ዲግሪ ያድርሱት ብርድን የሚከላከል ልብሶች ይልበሱ ውጭ ብሚሄዱበት ጊዜ 55 ዲግሪ ያድርሱት ቲሺ በሚመለከቱበት ጊዜ ብሶፋው ብርድ ልብስ ምክናንብ ።

ከዚህ በላይ የጠቀሰናቸው ምክሮች ከተከተሉ በሚከፍሉት ዋጋ ብዙ ገንዘብ ለማትረፍ ይችላሉ።

