

## The Captain Cook After-School Program

Over the years, everyone has given something, donated something, or has visited the after-school program. Most families have children that have come to the program at some point. While everyone knows it exists, not everyone knows who runs the program.

Deondre, the after-school director, has been with us for the past 4 years. A Northeastern student, Deondre wears many hats in his own life. He has a hobby of collecting training certifications (and old cars). He has certifications in first aid, personal training, real estate, and safety training. This afterschool program seems to be his greatest passion.

Before a program even begins, a great deal of time and effort goes into planning the semester's and even day's activities. Although flexible, projects are usually chosen, Planned and prepared for

in advance and take 90% of Deondre's time before a single student even comes through the door of the Community Center.

After the children come in and have snack, they usually get some time to decompress and relax. Once they have their daily meeting, where we let the children know what's going to happen for the day, the tutors are taking over with the day's program. On alternating days, students come from Babson College or Nobles and Greenough private school to help the children with homework and to do activities with them.

One Twist this year is that we're increasing the amount and the type of field

trips that we are going on this year. So far, we've had a trip to go to bowling. Next, we have a trip to Babson College to explore its campus on the schedule. In March we are planning to visit the Harvard Museum of Natural Science and Breakout, an escape room adventure in Woburn. The best thing about the program is the way the children have come together and really help to bring energy to the program.

We currently have 10-15 children attending, and would like to enrich the lives of many more.



We're on the web:  
[Needhamhousing.org](http://Needhamhousing.org)

February 2019



Happy President's Day to the residents of Needham Housing Authority

### Reminder

- **Needham Housing Authority Board of Commissioners meeting on Thursday, 7:30 PM, 2/21/2019 at Seabeds Way Community Room**
- **No smoking** allowed inside Needham Housing Authority apartments, buildings, or within 25 feet of the building.

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## Needham Housing News

Hien Tran, Editor

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### Computer Literacy: A Bridge to Modern Society

In today's world, the majority of human interactions occur in the social media, where persons meet, stay in touch, and exchange ideas. To engage in the social media, like getting online with Facebook for example, (<https://www.facebook.com/>) where 2.7 billion people communicate, basic computer skills are necessary. Getting these skills may at first be daunting, but most find that they are relatively easy to acquire with the right instruction, and can open up an entirely new world of interaction, information, and entertainment that one never knew existed. I remembered the last year before I graduated from college in 1989 while I was working on the newspaper as a photographer. We were buying computers to replace our typewriters to put out our weekly newspaper. There was excitement in the air, but also confusion about the new technology. The big question was how to begin to use this new tool so that we could put out the newspaper in a much more efficient way. With some basic instruction, we found that it became so much easier to use a computer to write stories than to use the typewriter – we could easily correct mistakes, do immediate research online, we could email our sources, and publish our final product. Of course, now almost everyone carries a computer with them in a Smart phone, and many news sources are no longer even in print but are totally online. If you are interested in acquiring computer skills, your best bet is to go to the Needham Public Library. They offer one-on-one tutorials with step-by-step instructions to teach you how to use a computer, at no cost. With regular visits, you

can eventually set up an email account and sign up with other social medias such as Twitter, Snap Chat, and especially Facebook where you can find old friends and perhaps an old fling. The rewards for the small effort of learning computer skills can be tremendous.

**Comcast has a special program for housing tenants !**

**Internet Essentials**

WIFI \$10/month for tenants of housing  
 Internetessentials.com to sign up and get installation date  
 One time offer of desktop or laptop computer (Refurbished) for \$150  
 Through Comcast

**Needham Community Farm**

2019 Gardening Class Registration is now open!

Class Details:

- Held at Pine Street location
- Mondays or Wednesday
- 6:00 PM– 7:25 PM
- \$275 - Half Garden Bed – 4 X 6 Feet
- \$350 - Full Garden Bed - 4X 12 Feet

If you would like more information please call 781-343-1106 or [info@needhamfarm.org](mailto:info@needhamfarm.org)

**2019 Resident Scholarship Program**

The 2019 HAI group Resident Scholarship Program is open for submission. This year, 20 people will win scholarships valued at \$6000.00 each to continue their education. Public housing and Section 8 residents are encourage to submit their completed **entry form** by **5 pm EST Tuesday, April 30, 2019**. Completed entries will be placed into a drawing to be held on or about Friday, May 3, 2019. Question? Please contact [scholarship@housingcenter.com](mailto:scholarship@housingcenter.com)

Everyone is welcome to a **free grocery tote bag** at our office  
 Captain Robert Cook Drive

# February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1. 1 PM Movie At Senior Center	2.
3.	4. "Coffee Hour" Chambers/ Linden 9:30 AM	5. Trader Joe's at Seabed at 9:30 AM	6. "Coffee Hour" Seabeds 10am	7.	8. 1 PM Movie At Senior Center	9.
10.	11. "Coffee Hour" Chambers/ Linden 9:30am	12. Trader Joe's at Seabed at 9:30 AM	13. "Coffee Hour" Seabeds 10am	14. NHA Board Meeting Seabeds Way 7:30PM	15. 1 PM Movie At Senior Center	16.
17.	18. NO HOLIDAY NHA CLOSED	19. NO Trader Joe's at Seabed at 9:30 AM NHA CLOSED	20. "Coffee Hour" Seabeds 10am	21. NHA Board Meeting Seabeds Way 7:30PM	22. 1 PM Movie At Senior Center	23.
24.	25. NO "Coffee Hour" Chambers/ Linden 9:30am	26.	27. "Coffee Hour" Seabeds 10am	28.		

**SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING**

**February 21, 2019 Thursday/Seabeds**  
**March 21, 2019 Thursday/Chambers**  
**April 18, 2019 Thursday/Seabeds**

**ALL MEETINGS BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 7:30 PM. IT IS ON 3RD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AND ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**Staff Directory:**

- Bernie Kirstein** -Executive Director (Interim)
- Sandra Amour**-Office Manager/Leasing
- Carol Capone**-Bookkeeper
- Marie Celestin**-Receptionist
- Hien Tran**-Resident Services Coordinator