

# Needham Housing News/ NHN



Needham Housing Authority

## Special points of interest:

- Deb Jordan bids farewell
- Paving repairs and roofing planned for L/C
- Meetings June 8th regarding transition.
- Working to start a garden behind Chambers
- New planting for Seabeds lobbies planned.

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## Letter to Residents From the Executive Director

Dear Residents:

I want to inform you of my plans to leave my position as Executive Director of Needham Housing Authority. My last day of work will be June 17, 2016. I have made this decision for personal reasons. It has been my pleasure to serve you and to get to know so many of you. We have made a lot of improvements and changes during the past three years and struggled through one of the worst winters on record. While the winter of 2015 certainly took its toll on Seabeds Way residents, we were able to pull through together and make the necessary repairs. We are completing the Seabeds project and have turned our attention to some necessary repairs at Linden/Chambers. Paving repairs will be underway this summer, and roof replacements will begin on the Chambers Street buildings.

Paul Dumouchel, Assistant Director, will assume the role of acting Executive Director after my departure. Many of you know Paul through the various meetings he has conducted and attended. He is very capable and I am confident that he will keep things running smoothly. Our excellent staff will continue to serve you and maintain the properties. The Board will conduct a search for a new permanent Executive Director. This process will likely take several months.

Paul and I will be conducting meetings at the Chambers Street Community Room on June 8th at 10:00 AM and at the Seabeds Way Community Room on June 8th at 2:00PM for anyone who has any questions about the transition.

Thank you and best wishes,

Debra Jordan.



Goodbye and thank you!

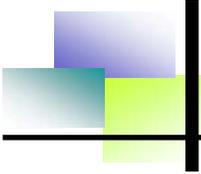
## Ilene Hoffman to conduct a Photo Club Meeting

Ms. Hoffman, a resident of Needham Housing and an accomplished photographer, announces that the next Camera Club meeting will be on June 12, Sunday from 3:00PM-6:00PM. As usual, the meeting will take place at the Chambers Community Room. The topic for the day will be Macro

Photography. It is not necessary to have a lot of experience with photography. Ilene will be glad to get you started with a hobby that is very fulfilling.

Ilene has presented her work at previous exhibitions at Chambers Street along with other artists and

collectors. Many of the NHA residents are familiar with her outstanding work. The natural settings of her photography can be found right here in Needham. In addition to her photography Ms. Hoffman is a Macintosh consultant and a writer.



# JUNE 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Noon: Blood pressure clinic/BOH/ Birthday Party/ L/C	3 NHA training/ L/C Comm. Room	4
5	6 10 AM: Breakfast/ L/C	7 9:30 AM Visit from Newman Second Graders: L/C	8 Noon: Summer BBQ/ L/C. Sign up by 6/3	9	10 1 PM: Joy, the movie/ Sr. Center	11
12 3:PM Camera Club meeting/ Chambers community Room	13 10 AM: Breakfast L/C	14 1: PM: The Swing Era/ Sr. Center	15 9:30: Play group, CRCD 1 PM: Diversity Documentary/ Sr. Center	16 1 PM: Book Circle/ Seabeds Comm. Room	17 1 PM: Star Wars: The Force Awakens/ Sr. Center	18
19	20 10 AM: LCRA Father's Day breakfast L/C: sign up in comm. Room	21	22 9:30 AM: Play Group, CRCD 2:PM Regards to Broadway/ Sr. Center	23 1 PM: Board games and cards with snacks: L/C23	24 1 PM: Lady in the Van/ Sr. Center	25
26	27 10AM: Breakfast L/C	28	29 9:30: Play Group/ CRCD	Elder abuse hotline: 1-800-922-2275		

**SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 16/ SEABEDS WAY**

**THURSDAY, JULY 21/ CHAMBERS COMMUNITY ROOM**

**ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND START AT 7:30 PM**

## Focus of Education Needs to Change

The Needham Times editorial of April 7, 2016 is summarized here : “Needham High School students are stressed out and overwhelmed by their desire to achieve things that, it turns out, proved to be of no benefit to them in the long run.”

“As the community looked at stressors affecting young people, they found many, ranging from struggles with friends and family to self-image and more.”

One stressor is obviously the pressure to achieve academically. It’s “no secret that the pressure to get good grades, ace standardized tests and get into an outstanding college overwhelms many

Needham teens’ lives.”

“As it turns out, none of these things will help them to achieve a successful professional life. Their stress is misplaced.”

A documentary, “Most Likely to Succeed” points out that in 1893 the skills needed were far different from now. Today’s workplace, according to the film, needs workers who are confident, independent, creative, resilient and good at collaboration and communication-qualities not measured by grades or standardized tests.

Panelists who watched the film acknowledged that education must

be reinvented to meet the needs of today’s society.

The editorial stated that “we hope the Needham community and schools will be willing to take on this uphill battle. Reinventing education would likely lead students to better professional lives in the future and would also reduce the overwhelming stress of their daily school lives now.”



## Some Suggestions About Changing Football

David Berger, Harvard MBA, 1955, wrote a letter to Harvard Magazine with some constructive suggestions to make football safer. He prefaces his remarks by saying that he had one concussion while playing at Harvard which left him unable to read class notes for six full days. He speaks from experience.

Mr. Berger says that studies now show that “repeated hits to the head damage players’ brains and

ruin their lives. The issue is how to stop the hits to the head.”

“Two suggestions: Let every player on offense receive a forward pass. The 300 pound athlete with braces on his knees would re-emerge lighter and faster. This might somewhat resemble ultimate Frisbee, but it would still be football. Second, penalize any hit to an opponent’s head-purposeful or not—with immediate ejection from play. Lower-on-the-body tackling would

result. Lower blocking, too. The game might somewhat resemble rugby, but it would still be football.”

Note: There is a study in partnership with the NFL Player Association; the union won annual funding for medical research, among other benefits. The goal of the study launched in 2014, is to reach as many of the estimated 20,000 former NFL players as possible.

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***“More and more varied, offensive and defensive strategies would be possible. Thrilling to watch but with far less damage to brains.”***

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## Salem Bank Arrives With a Partnership Plan

A new branch of the Salem Five Commercial Bank has reached out to the community in an inventive and helpful way. The YMCA and Needham Housing were invited to meet with Eileen Porras, Vic President, Corporate Banking, to investigate the possibility of helping residents who want to attend YMCA camps with a financial boost. The Y is already offering to help NHA children with camp tuition help, but there is a limit to what funds are available. The bank has pledged \$1,500 to defer costs.

The YMCA has a number of



Cabin in the woods

camps throughout the area. Here in Needham there are several varieties of day camps, and in New

Hampshire there are overnight camps located on Lake Winnepesaukee. There is a Family Camp on an island with beautiful beaches and views of the mountains. Members of the Military are eligible to take their families there free of charge!

Two other camps, one for girls, the other for boys are on the shore of the lake.

Please contact Penny Kirk about the many opportunities the Salem Five and the YMCA can offer.



## Needham Housing Authority

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*Improving quality of life*

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

### Cooks After School Has Final Week

After a wonderful field trip to the Eco-Tarium the after school program continued to meet for another two weeks before they said a heartfelt good-bye and thank you to the Nobles tutors on Thursday, May 26. Their visit that day was quite short because our wonderful Community Garden friends arrived with more plants. The garden is fully loaded now with beans, strawberries, broccoli, eggplant, kale, lettuce, radishes and carrots. There is a plan to make a large swath garden in addition to the raised beds in order to accommodate squash, pumpkins and watermelon. The children are very helpful and cooperative with Marjorie Dean at the helm along with her helper Linda.

This summer the Babson entre-

preneur program will take place for one week. Seven children have signed up for it. The Communities United teachers are planning a small play group to continue for the summer; details to follow.

Again, the YMCA reminds everyone that the day camps are lots of fun and that NHA residents can receive a good discount.

Also, reminders to all NHA residents that Pool passes are available for the asking through Penny Kirk. This summer will be the last one for the present pool as has been reported. Everyone is looking forward to a wonderful new pool next year. Keep in mind the Summer Explorations program that offer over 60 workshops. Summer is heating up!



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