

# Schwartz-Robeson Times

Volume I

November 11, 2002

Issue 1

## Letter from the Executive Director

# WELCOME!!!

*Welcome to the first issue of the Schwartz-Robeson Times!!!*

This newsletter will be coming out quarterly, in order to give the residents of Schwartz Homes and Robeson Village information about what is going on in the Housing Authority community and in the community of New Brunswick.

This newsletter is for you! If there is any information that you would like to see, or any questions about Housing Authority Policies you want answered, please let us know, and we will try to put them into the next newsletter!

To submit a question or suggest an article, please call Meredith Masin at 732-745-9110.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### SCHWARTZ-ROBESON CRIMEWATCH

Are you tired of drugs, gambling and noise outside your door?

Come to the Schwartz-Robeson Crime Watch Meeting and learn how to make a difference in your neighborhood!

The meeting will be held on:

**November 13, 2002**

**6:30 PM**

**Schwartz-Robeson Community Room  
37 Van Dyke Avenue  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901**

Dear Residents of Schwartz-Robeson,

Welcome to the first edition of the Schwartz-Robeson Times! This newsletter will be brought to you quarterly by the Housing Authority and Schwartz - Robeson Tenant Association, so all families remain fully informed of the activities, programs, and events that are available within the communities that you live. You can look to future issues of this newsletter to bring you information about updates to Housing Authority Policy, events brought to you by the Tenant Association, and achievements of Housing Authority residents. This newsletter is one of the many new initiatives that the Authority is undertaking at all of it's facilities, and I am hopeful that you will read these news letters and continue to work with our staff as we make a better future for all our residents.

Look around your neighborhood – changes are happening! New planters decorate the entrance of Wright Place, a new playground in Robeson Village allows children to play close to home, and the second stage of that playground will be complete shortly! The Authority has made these changes, and will continue to make changes in the Schwartz-Robeson Community, because we want all residents to be proud of where they live.

Residents should be proud of themselves, too! We have some of the most talented people in the City of New Brunswick living right here in Schwartz Homes and Robeson Village. The Authority would like to congratulate Anthony McLaughlin, on his 2<sup>nd</sup> Place finish in a recent boxing tournament. You can read more about Anthony's accomplishments in this newsletter. If you or someone in your family has achieved a goal – winning a tournament, starring in a play, or graduating school (on any level), we would love to hear about it! Please contact our CSS Coordinator Ms. Meredith Masin at 732-745-9110 and tell her your good news, so we can include it in our next addition of the newsletter.

We are working more closely with the New Brunswick Police, Internal Intelligence Security Service, and the neighborhood crime watch groups, to rid our sites of illegal activities and of those people who are participating in them. There are many other changes going on in our neighborhoods, and everyone at the Authority hopes you will join us in making the New Brunswick Housing Authority the best place to live in New Jersey!

We can only continue to improve if we work together. I hope you will join me in this effort, and I hope you enjoy the first addition of your newsletter.

Sincerely,  
John Clarke, Executive Director



# Local Champion



When 12-year-old Anthony McLaughlin went to the New Brunswick Boxing Club with his friend three months ago, he went just to “check it out.” What Anthony didn’t know, was that just three short months later, he would be first runner up in his first boxing tournament.

“I was excited,” Anthony said. “I was really excited because that was my first fight.”

Anthony has been at the New Brunswick Boxing Club, located at 121 Jersey Avenue, learning how to box six days a week, three hours a day, for the last three months. At the school, he has been learning the rules of boxing and practicing for competitions.

All that practice paid off on October 25, 2002, when Anthony won a three round fight with another 12-year-old boxer in the Knights of Columbus Boxing Club in South River. Based on a points system, Anthony was determined First Runner Up and came home with a trophy.

Congratulations Anthony, and good luck in your next competition!



## **NATIONAL FAMILY WEEK:** **November 24 – November 30**

Celebrate National Family Week with YOUR family, by doing some of these simple things:

- ❖ **Write a thank you note!** Take the time to say thank you to someone who makes your life easier. Say thanks to your mom for always being there, your son or daughter for being a great kid, or your brother or sister for walking you to the bus stop. Or just say, “thanks for being in my family!”
- ❖ **Volunteer!** Reach out to your neighborhood family: volunteer at a soup kitchen, visit an elderly neighbor, or make dinner for a friend.
- ❖ **Extend your family!** Redefine what it means to be “family.” “Adopt” neighbors and friends, and make your own family!

## **Did you know...**

The Schwartz-Robeson Community Room has a computer lab?

If you need to type up homework reports or work on your resume – please call 732-745-9110 to find out the computer lab hours or to make an appointment to use the computers.

Keep your eyes open for activities going on at the New Brunswick Housing Authority for National Family Week!

National Family Week is coordinated locally by the New Brunswick Housing Authority, with nationwide collaboration by the Alliance for Children and Families as well as the generous support of The Annie E. Casey Foundation.

## HOTLINES

*If you need to reach out for help, but don't know who to talk to, call one of these anonymous, toll free help lines.*

### CHILDREN/TEENS

#### **Girls and Boys Town**

Hable espanol  
1-800-448-3000

#### **Youth Crisis Hotline**

17 & younger  
1-800-448-4663

### PARENTS

#### **Child Care Aware**

**Toll-Free Parent Information Line**  
Parents who need child care.  
Hable espanol  
1-800-424-2246

### OTHER

#### **National Domestic Violence Hotline**

Hable espanol  
1-800-799-7233

**Hope Line: National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependency**  
1-800-622-2255

#### **RAINN**

(Rape, Abuse, Incest National Network)  
Hable espanol  
1-800-656-HOPE  
(1-800-656-4673)

#### **Planned Parenthood**

Hable espanol  
1-800-230-7526

#### **Gay and Lesbian Hotline**

M-F: 4pm-12am / Sat: 12pm- 5pm  
1-888-843-4564

## **A letter from the Robeson-Schwartz Tenant Association**

Dear Residents:

Now is the time to get involved!

The Robeson-Schwartz Tenant Association is working hard to create programs for our children, and setting up meetings to improve the community. In the past, we have had movies nights and holiday parties where everyone had fun. Here are some activities coming up this month:

- ✓ CrimeWatch Meeting: November 13, 2002, 6:30 PM at the Community Room
- ✓ Thanksgiving Dinner for our residents on November 27, 2002.
- ✓ Resident Council Meetings – flyers will be distributed with the date.

With all the activities and meetings we have planned, now is the perfect time to start becoming involved in the Tenant Association, by coming to meetings and activities.

The Tenant Association doesn't just organize meetings and activities. We work closely with the Housing Authority to get the needs and concerns of our community heard. If there is anything you want to see in our community, or any problems that you are having in our community, come tell us. We are here for you.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Weeks  
President, Robeson – Schwartz Tenant Association

### **SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH**

When walking – stay in well-lit areas, away from bushes, and have your keys in your hand.

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES

### New Brunswick Housing 2003 Scholarship Program

Going to a college or  
trade school? Need help  
paying for it?

Contact Cynthia Maiden at 732-745-5157  
or pick up an application at all Housing  
Authority offices after January 1, 2003 –  
and apply for a scholarship up to \$2500!



#### GED & ESL Classes

Adult Learning Center  
732-745-5300 x4100

#### Have a job interview...need "new job" clothes?

Adult Learning Center – Higher Attire  
732-745-5300 x4501

#### INFO-LINE

To locate services within Middlesex County –  
clothing, food, furniture, transportation, etc.  
1-888-908-4636

# ASK NBHA about...

## PETS

### Q – Can I have a pet?

A – Yes! But before you run out and buy one –  
there are some rules that pet owners have to  
follow in order to have... and keep... a pet on  
Authority property.

1. All pets have to be registered with the  
New Brunswick Housing Authority.  
(Please see the rental office if you  
need a registration packet.)
2. Before a cat or dog is registered with  
the Authority, it needs to be registered  
with the City of New Brunswick.
3. A DEPOSIT IS MANDATORY: For residents  
60 and under, \$150 deposit is required  
for a cat or dog, and \$100 is required  
for a fish tank over 20 gallons. For  
other pets, or if you are over 60,  
please see the rental office for more  
information.
4. PROHIBITED ANIMALS: Snakes, reptiles,  
certain dogs (Rottweilers, Doberman  
Pinschers, Pit Bulls) and animals with a  
history of or existing vicious behavior.

### Q – Do I have to register my pet?

A – Yes. If you fail to register your pet, you will  
be in danger of being evicted, as it is  
considered to be a violation of the lease.

### Q – What type of pets can I have?

A – There are a wide variety of pets you can own,  
but there are some limitations for each type of  
animal:

#### Cats

- Must be spayed/neutered AND de-clawed
- Cannot exceed 15 pounds (fully grown)
- Appropriate shots (rabies, etc.)
- Water and leak proof litter boxes
- Registered with the City of New Brunswick

#### Dogs

- Must be spayed/neutered
- Cannot exceed 40 pounds (fully grown)
- NO: Rottweilers, Doberman Pinschers, Pit Bulls
- Registered with the City of New Brunswick

#### Birds

- Must be kept in cage at all times

#### Fish

- One tank – no limit to number of fish

#### Other 4-legged animals

- Cannot exceed 10 pounds.

Do you have a question for the  
Housing Authority? Call 732-745-9110  
to ask your question and we will try to  
answer it in the next newsletter!