

### Good News All Around

We have much to report since our last newsletter. Everyone is anticipating the opening of the Taunton Family Center, our third shelter for homeless families slated to open later this month. Located in a residential section, it has close proximity to downtown and the distinction of being the oldest con-

crete house in the country. Residents will appreciate the spacious yard, in addition to the charm that only an older structure can possess.

Our Taunton residents have been living at the Fall River Y's facility for the past year and a half, along with Fall River Family Center residents as renovations

were made to both shelters. Fall River moved into its new home on Cherry Street in May. The management at the Y was very accommodating to our families, and we appreciate their support.

On another front, the childcare facility at Harbour House Family

Center is in the final stages of completion. We look forward to partnering with NorthStar Learning Centers, which will operate the facility opening in the fall.

Sincerely,

*Stephen R. Montebault*  
VP & COO Residential & Shelter Services



**SCHOOL on WHEELS**  
MASSACHUSETTS

### School on Wheels Brings Tutoring to Harbour House

Children living in shelters often deal with a lot of stress. On top of that,

many are attending new schools in new communities. A helping hand could make

all the difference. Based in Brockton, School on Wheels' mission is to educate

children impacted by homelessness by providing academic support and

See "School" pg. 3



Anthony and his son

### Success Story in Taunton

Although the Taunton Family Center doesn't 'officially' open until later this month, there is already a success story coming out of it.

Taunton Family Center residents have been temporarily housed in Fall River until the new facility is renovated.

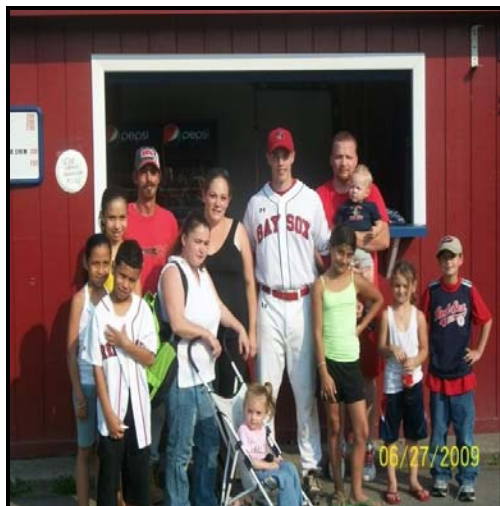
See "Taunton" pg. 2

### Back Pack Drive Underway

Back to school shopping? Please don't forget Harbour House. Items like flash cards, pens, stickers, and back packs are needed. Deliver to 713 Shawmut Avenue in New Bedford M-F from 9-4 PM, or call to drop-off: 508-992-6027.

# SRN Family Centers

## Room Dedication July 9



**TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME...**  
 Harbour House residents enjoyed a Bay Sox game on June 27, courtesy of the DA's Office. Children were treated to a T-shirt, hot dog, chips, and a free ice cream coupon from Cold Stone Creamery.



### Volunteer Honored

Anne Moniz introduced new volunteers to the program. According to Horizons for Homeless Children's Play-space Programs at Harbour House Family Center for two years.

Engaging children in educational play is the program's objective. To become a PAL (Playspace Activity Leader), one must take the training offered by Horizons for Homeless Children.

But Amy says her contributions extend beyond that. She regularly donates toiletries, kitchen items, sheets, and towels. In addition, she and her co-workers donated 70 new toys this past

visit. Anne has also

On July 9, YouthBuild donated \$1,500 to purchase beds and bureaus for a family unit. From left, Steve Montembault, VP & COO Residential & Shelter Services; Harbour House Program Director Shelly Correia, Tem Ferreira of YouthBuild, and Yvonne Ritter and her daughters Jovanna and Jada, who are feeling fortunate to occupy the room.

### "Taunton," *cont. from page 1*

One of those residents was Anthony, determined to getting his GED. He attended the BCC Center for Adult Basic Education and Workplace Literacy and graduated with Honors in June. The ceremony was held at Bristol Community College, and two of the family center's staff attended his graduation.

He and his family have since moved into public housing in Taunton. According to the case manager, he was a bit overcome when he realized staff was attending his graduation ceremony.

- Fall River Family Center Wish List**
- \* Kitchen items
  - \* Baby monitors
  - \* Umbrella strollers
  - \* SRTA bus passes
  - \* Toiletries
  - \* Vacuums
  - \* Gift cards

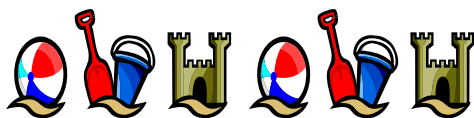
- Taunton Family Center Wish List**
- \* Diapers & wipes
  - \* Baby monitors
  - \* Towels
  - \* Gift cards for grocery stores or Wal-mart
  - \* Toiletries
  - \* Color books/crayons

- Harbour House Wish List**
- \* New twin sheets
  - \* Diapers
  - \* Gift cards for grocery stores or Wal-mart
  - \* School supplies
  - \* Family & baby toiletries
  - \* New twin blankets

# SRN Family Centers



## Cooling Off at the Beach



On Friday, July 16, families from the Taunton and Fall River Family Centers had a fun visit at Easton Beach in Newport. Staff is hoping to schedule more beach trips before the summer ends.

### Looking Ahead

In November's issue, we will have information on how you can help make families' holidays brighter.

### "School," *cont. from page 1*

one-on-one tutoring, so they can reach their full potential.

According to School on Wheels, "Each student, from preschool through Grade 12, will be matched with a

trained tutor to help with homework and to fill in layers of learning that a child may be missing due to frequent moves. Students will also be given school supplies for projects throughout the year and have any school fees

paid for." Volunteer training will be held at Harbour House on Sept. 20 from 6-8:30 PM and Oct. 2 from 10 AM-12:30 PM. Call Joanna at 508-587-9091 for more details, or visit [www.sowma.org](http://www.sowma.org).

## Fall River Family Center Round-Up

St. Theresa's Church of Tiverton holds an annual yard sale and donates unsold items to local charities. For several years, the Fall River Family Center has received unsold items. This year was no exception, with various household items collected on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Gabrielle and

Caleb Fiero, who donated their shower gifts to the shelter, married in June. Their next act of generosity is to donate a percentage raised from pieces sold at Caleb's upcoming art show. It will be held August 22 at 7 PM at Mom & Pop's Tattoo in Fall River; all are welcome. The Fall River

YMCA has given free

family passes to residents, enabling them to enjoy many activities, especially the pool.

Horizons for Homeless Children has play groups running at both the Fall River and Taunton shelters. Last week's play group included a sprinkler splash, which was a great hit with the kids.



**Taunton Family Center, housed in the oldest concrete dwelling in the country**

### Taunton Family Center Opening Later This Month

Work, including exterior painting, is being completed on the Taunton Family Center, so it can open in late August. The program, temporarily housed in the Y in Fall River, is gearing up for its permanent move. Getting ready also means hiring new staff. Recent hires include Nadine Verieau, Laura Posca, and Amelia Smith.

Harbour House Program Director Shelly Correia says, "Our year-long effort has paid off. We are looking forward to our partnership and believe School on Wheels of MA will be a great fit here."