



Fort Collins Housing Authority

# HOMEPAGE

Fort Collins Housing Authority & Wellington Housing Authority  
1715 West Mountain Avenue, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521, 970-416-2910

January / February 2010  
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## January and February FCHA Closures

The FCHA Mountain Avenue and Riverside Street offices are open 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. daily. All FCHA offices will be closed on January 18<sup>th</sup> to remember the civic efforts of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. FCHA will open at 9:00 am on February 10, 2009. All FCHA offices will be closed on Presidents day, February 15, 2009. If you have emergencies (pipes breaking, furnace not working etc.) during hours we are unavailable, you may call (970) 416-2092 for help from an on-call staff member.

## Of Good Repute

Character Fort Collins invites you to our free monthly Community Character Breakfast or Lunch. Character Fort Collins is providing a choice of times to come to learn about this community-wide initiative. The breakfast will be held on **Thursday, January 21, 2009**, from 6:45 a.m. - 8 a.m. at the Moot House Restaurant, 2626 S. College Ave, Fort Collins. The lunch will be held on **Thursday, January 21, 2009**, from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Cache Bank and Trust, 100 S. College Ave, Fort Collins. **There is no cost to attend one fun, light meal and fantastic conversation that is certain to better our community.** At the event, you will be able to participate in a brief overview of the Community-wide Character Initiative, an advance discussion of our monthly character focus for the next month. The character quality will be **SELF CONTROL: Rejecting wrong desires and doing what is right.** Also discussed will be steps to start and sustain a character initiative for your workplace, school or home. You are invited to come and learn about our

(Of Good Repute) community's character initiative and the benefits of active participation for families, schools, and workplaces. For reservations or information, phone **Character Fort Collins** at 970-266-2671 or indicate your plan to attend at: **[reservations@characterfortcollins.org](mailto:reservations@characterfortcollins.org)**

## Village's Winner

Roxanne H. at Swallow was our winner of a \$25 rent credit for January. February's winner is Jane C. at Plum You too can have a chance to win if you pay your rent by the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month and do not owe any money to the Housing Authority.

## Success

Fort Collins is credited with success. The city was featured on the Environmental Protection Act's website. <http://www.epa.gov/waste/conserve/tools/payt/tools/ssfortco.htm> It features the city's efforts and community participation to make the area's Pay As You Throw ordinance a successful venture. As Fort Collins Continues to Recycle, the area may see more and more improvement in solid waste reduction.



## Maintenance News

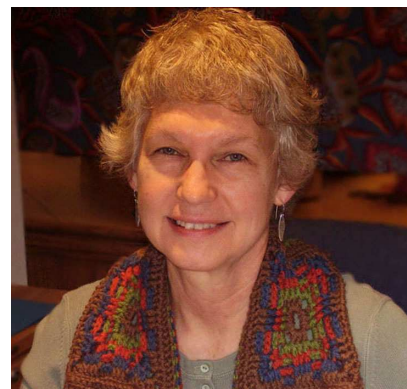
Someone once said, "You can behave any way you like, so long as you can afford to pay for the consequences." The consequence for speeding is a ticket or a crash. If you can pay for it, you can freely do it. The consequences for smoking go further than being able to purchase a pack of cigarettes; they can be very costly. Fort Collins Housing Authority is converting units to smoke-free status. This change will begin a new era in healthy behaviors for many. Still others find this gripping addiction too much to kick and will trudge outdoors. Tenants should remember that although the Fort Collins Housing Authority is enacting a smoke free policy, the obligations of smoking tenants remain the same regarding responsibility of payment for damages. In short, if smoke damages your unit, before or after this policy began, you are responsible to pay for the repair of any damage to your unit, smoking or otherwise. Doris is an example. Doris rented a unit from FCHA for 10 years and smoked in her apartment. She loved a clean home and was careful to tidy up every day. FCHA began the smoke-free policy. The next year Doris' children moved into the state and Doris went to live with them. She had not smoked in her unit for a year at that time but still incurred move-out charges that included smoke decontamination fees. FCHA could not refund her security deposit because the entire amount was used to "de-smoke" the unit. It's important to know that the price for smoking goes far beyond personal health issues.



*Patti Weinbeck  
Housing Choice Voucher  
Administrative Support*



*Nancy Stafford  
Portfolio Manager*



*Nancy Harcourt  
Executive Assistant / Business  
Manager*

## New Staff

Exciting changes are happening at the Fort Collins Housing Authority. For better service and greater overall performance, your housing authority is forming teams that will focus on specific housing programs. These teams will give FCHA a greater purpose in meeting community needs. New positions were created to give clear direction and the management staff has been eagerly interviewing prospective applicants. Three people were hired: Patti Weinbeck, Nancy Stafford and Nancy Harcourt. These additional staff members are warmly welcomed. You will find that there will be much for us to learn and change in the coming months and we ask for your cooperation and patience as we endeavor to make your housing authority an even more dynamic agency. It is our hope that with these changes, your needs may be better served.

### Paula's Pearls

Paula Reminds us of the importance of writing your name and address on everything you bring to the Fort Collins Housing Authority. It would be a shame if someone was not given credit for the proper amount of rent or if a paper was misdirected because of improper labeling. Your name is your badge! Write it! Paula also reminds us that a late rent request may delay your files presence at the attorney's office but late fees are charged unless waived in advance.



## Variety

*A little of this and that; the spice of life.*

### Jobs

The Workforce Center offers help to those seeking employment. A calendar full of events, classes and opportunities awaits registered participants. At a time when many are struggling for work, it makes sense to do everything possible to increase the chances of being hired. Checkout their website at [www.larimerworkforce.org](http://www.larimerworkforce.org) or visit their office at 200 W. Oak Street, Suite 5000 Fort Collins, Colorado 80521

### Emergency Information

Emergency Contact information can be added to the documents used by the Department of Transportation. This information can be electronically attached to your Drivers License or Identification card. In an emergency, your information can be used to help find family members for help. See [www.colorado.gov](http://www.colorado.gov)

### Historical Thought

In the early 1800's, French Canadian Fur Traders sought to lighten their loads of gun powder (in French – "poudre") by hiding them in small places ("caches") near the river located in northern Colorado. This is thought to be the origin of the name "Cache la Poudre River."

## Just for Seniors

*Up and coming events for Senior Tenants*

### Helping Hand

Larimer County Options for Long Term Care program provides help for individuals who are older or disabled; and, who have limited or low income or who qualify for Medicaid. This program works to help these individuals stay at home and avoid lengthy nursing home stays by offering help with tasks such as personal care, homemaking, electronic monitoring, and services like adult day programs and assessment for other care.. Participants must qualify for this program financially and must show functional need during screening. For more information please contact 498-7780 and request services from Options for Long Term Care. Be ready for a telephone interview and then an appointment at your home for assessment.

### Seniors Resolve

The American Heart Association began a new program to help people keep their New Years resolutions. Research indicated that Senior Citizens were, most likely to follow through with their plans. Most found it easier to diet than exercise, even as statistics show that American's who exercise reduce their risk for cardiovascular disease by thirty percent.

## Kinder Korner

*An area to showcase topics for kids and parents.*

### Helpful Website

Colorado's Family Guide website is an amazing and abounding resource for all things related to kids and family. You can find their website at <http://www.coloradokids.com/> When you visit, you will see fantastic coupons, activities, child care resources, vacations and so much more.

### Discover for Free

The Discovery Science Center, located at 703 E. Prospect Road in Fort Collins, offers free admission on the third Sunday of each month. This fantastic exploratory museum is a hands-on museum for kids of all ages. For more information please call (970) 472-3990

### School of Choice

The options for School of Choice are great. There are so many options for kids in the Poudre School system. Participation in choosing the school of your choice requires application, or re-application, for "School Of Choice". This application must be turned in by January 29, 2009 for Secondary students and by February 12, 2009 for kids in elementary school. For a more detailed listing of educational options, please see: <http://www.psd.k12.co.us/index.aspx>



# Affordable work skills training!

Winter Session – call for more information.

Classes begin Jan 19<sup>th</sup>

Pricing on an income-based, sliding fee scale. Call to determine 970.482.4357

## Computer & Technology Training Classes

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Price
<b>Computer Basics</b> “Computer 1”		<b>Lab:</b> 9:00-10:00 <b>Class:</b> 10:00-12:00		<b>Lab:</b> 9:00-10:00 <b>Class:</b> 10:00-12:00		\$125-250 +\$10 materials fee + \$25 lab fee
<b>Beyond Basics</b> “Computer 2”		<b>Lab:</b> 12:00-1:00 <b>Class:</b> 1:00-3:00		<b>Lab:</b> 12:00-1:00 <b>Class:</b> 1:00-3:00		\$125-250 + \$10 materials fee+ \$25 lab fee
<b>Microsoft Office</b> “MSO - The Big 4” 6 week course ends 3/24	<b>Lab:</b> 12:00-1:00 <b>Class:</b> 1:00-3:00 <b>Or</b> <b>Lab:</b> 5:00-6:00 <b>Class:</b> 6:00-8:00		<b>Lab:</b> 12:00-1:00 <b>Class:</b> 1:00-3:00 <b>Or</b> <b>Lab:</b> 5:00-6:00 <b>Class:</b> 6:00-8:00		<b>Lab:</b> 12:00-1:00 <b>Class:</b> 1:00-3:00 <b>Or</b> <b>Lab:</b> 5:00-6:00 <b>Class:</b> 6:00-8:00	\$125-250 +\$10 materials fee + \$25 lab fee
<b>Business Communications</b> 4 week course begins 2/08		9:00- 11:00		9:00- 11:00		\$125-250 +\$10 materials fee
<b>A+ Certification</b> 12 week course ends 4/08		5:30-8:30		5:30-8:30		\$549-1099 +\$140 materials fee

## Allied Health Classes

<b>Medical Terminology</b> 16 week course ends 5/13		9:00-11:00		9:00-11:00		\$320-640 +materials fee
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## Literacy Classes

<b>English as a Second or Other Language</b>	6:00-8:00 <b>Level 1 &amp; 2</b>	10:00-noon <b>Level 3</b>	6:00-8:00 <b>Level 1 &amp; 2</b>	10:00-noon <b>Level 3</b>		\$25/term
<b>GED Math</b>	10:30-12:30		10:30-12:30			\$60/year
<b>GED English</b>	1:00-3:00		1:00-3:00			\$60/year

Fort Collins Housing Authority  
1715 West Mountain Avenue  
Fort Collins, CO 80521

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