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NICHOLS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
1773 HUNTINGTON TURNPIKE
NICHOLS, CT 06611
VISIT NIA at www.nicholsct.org



**N I C H O L S
N E W S L E T T E R**

VOLUNTEERS COMING TOGETHER FOR THE
BETTERMENT OF OUR NICHOLS COMMUNITY

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION IN THE HEART OF THE NICHOLS FARMS HISTORIC DISTRICT, NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

20th Annual Jingle Bell Run

Saturday, December 5th, 2009 at 9:30am

On Saturday, December 5th, the NIA will sponsor the 20th annual “Jingle Bell Run”, a 5K road race through the heart of our Nichols Community. This race, which is the symbolic start of the holiday season here in Nichols, annually attracts several hundred participants of all ages from around the region.

This year, as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the race, the Jingle Bell Run will be dedicated to the memory of Joanna Bruner. Joanna, a long-time Nichols resident, worked tirelessly with the NIA on several of the past Jingle Bell Runs. She provided immeasurable help with the planning and details associated with the race. Her presence at this year’s race will be greatly missed by those who knew her and worked with her. It is a tribute

to her efforts that the race continues on as a Nichols tradition.

As you are aware, the Jingle Bell Run is one of the primary events on the NIA calendar. Through the generosity of the various race sponsors, as well as the proceeds from those who run, the NIA receives generous support for the various activities and facilities which are provided for the benefit of all Nichols residents.

Everyone is invited to participate – by either running, walking, volunteering to help, or cheering the runners as they pass by. For information and to register please go to www.niajinglebellrun.com or you can visit the NIA website, www.nicholsct.org.

We look forward to a successful race!



NIA Nichols Kids Care

*Coat and Children’s Book Drive
November 20th & November 21st*

Do you have coats in your closet you don’t use anymore, and children’s books sitting in boxes? We can put them to good use!

Nichols Kids Care, our youth based community service group, will hold a coat and children’s book drive at the NIA Starkweather House on Friday, November 20th from 4:00-7:00pm and on Saturday, November 21st from 9:00am-3:00pm. The children’s books and coats will be sorted and delivered to needy area schools and other agencies serving those less fortunate and in need of these items. For the past several years our youth group has held this type of a project in November – and it always been successful. The efforts of these young people have been greatly appreciated by those who have received the benefit of their work.

Please consider taking a look in your closets and basements, do a little fall cleaning, and help us recycle those children’s books and coats you no longer need. We will give them to some folks who really do need them and would love to have them. For information and to volunteer, please call Laurie Quatrella at 375-9148.

NIA 2010 Membership Drives Continues

NOW is the time to join the NIA for 2010

Valued NIA Members And Nichols Neighbors:

NIA membership entitles you to the NIA monthly newsletter filled with each month’s social activities and community news. The NIA offers our members 42 beautiful acres of open space with a playground, skating and fish pond, baseball fields, walking trails, village green and a community house for their use.

- › Membership dues help to PRESERVE THIS UNIQUE ASSET IN YOUR COMMUNITY.
- › Membership dues are the primary financial support for the NIA.
- › We receive no government funding
- › Please watch for your NIA Membership Mailing in your Mailbox this Month!!
- › You can also use the convenient coupon below to mail in your membership dues today.

Please mail membership dues to Carrie O’Brien, 14 Carriage Drive, Trumbull CT 06611

name _____ address _____

telephone _____ e-mail address _____

NIA Garden Club November News

The Nichols Garden Club will meet Tuesday, November 10 at 7:00pm at the Starkweather House, 1773 Huntington Turnpike, Nichols. The presentation by Master Gardener Katherine Neville will be Holiday Table Decorations. This will be a workshop on creating fast, easy and beautiful holiday table decorations. Arrangements will be in member's containers, so bring your favorite!

Katherine will provide the greens and flowers necessary to create a spectacular, unique arrangement that complements your holiday table. Refreshments will be provided by Gloria Gotti and Audrey Saad.



Annual Holiday Boutique

The Nichols Garden Club will hold its popular Annual Holiday Boutique on Friday, December 4, from 12:00-8:00pm and Saturday, December 5, 10:00am-2:00pm at the Starkweather House, 1773 Huntington Turnpike. The Holiday Boutique will feature beautiful, original and unique hand-made table decorations, wreaths and mantle swags created with fresh assorted evergreen boughs. All decorations are designed and created by members of the Nichols Garden Club.

Starkweather House is Available

Are you looking for that extra space to host a bridal shower, baptism, and anniversary or birthday party? If you are a Nichols resident and an NIA member, why not utilize the Starkweather House! For a very reasonable house use fee of \$50.00, you can reserve this Nichols gem.

The Starkweather house is a beautifully maintained, decorated, spacious community house with a full working kitchen and rest room. The kitchen is stocked with utensils, glassware and plateware. Various table sizes and chairs are available for use as well. There is a 45 person maximum. Why not take advantage of this wonderful benefit as an NIA member and host your next event here.

Please see the NIA website for further details and/or contact Annie Shay, House Use Chair, at 218-4686 or email at aebshay@charter.net.



Nichols Preservation Association Christmas Tree Sale

Once again, beautiful Christmas Trees will be offered for sale on the NIA Grounds adjacent to the gazebo. All proceeds will go to Nichols Preservation Association, a non-profit organized to "protect and preserve the charm and character of Nichols". This is not affiliated with the NIA.

The sale will begin on December 4th.

Pony rides will be available for the children on the weekends.

For further details and if you would like to volunteer, please call Joe Potvin at 380-9362.

Please Help: The Nichols Green Flag Pole is in Need of Restoration/Replacement

The historic wooden flag pole sitting on the Nichols Green is in need of repair or replacement. The 80-foot high wood flag pole is one of the few remaining flag poles of its kind in the state of Connecticut and all of New England. We are in the process of researching whether to restore or replace the flag pole.

This flag pole was installed in 1934; it replaced the original flag pole on the green which was installed in the 1880's. The pole was repaired in 1976. It is once again in need of care. We would like to have a structural engineer evaluate the flag pole. We are reaching out to our community for any financial support through donations that could be used to assist in this effort. Also, if anyone has some expertise they could offer to help us determine the exact condition of the flag pole and the best way to repair/replace it, your efforts would be much appreciated.

Please help us to preserve this valued treasure in our community. If you have any suggestions, questions or comments please contact Laurie Quatrella at 375-9148 or ldda@earthlink.net.

Save-a-Date

NOVEMBER

NIA Kids Care Coat and Children's Book Drive

November 20th, 4-7pm
November 21th, 9-3pm
Starkweather House

DECEMBER

NIA Garden Club Holiday Boutique

December 4th, 12-8pm
December 5th, 10-2pm
Starkweather House

Nichols Preservation Society Christmas Tree Sale

Starts December 4th
5:30-7:00pm
Gazebo

Jingle Bell Run Pre-registration Packet Pickup

Friday, December 4th
5:30-7:00pm
Starkweather House

Jingle Bell Run & Jingle Bell Fun Run

Saturday, December 5th
Registration @ 7:30am
Run @ 9:30am
Nichols United Methodist Church

Kids Fun Run

Saturday, December 5th, 9:15am
Nichols United Methodist Church

Tree Lighting Ceremony

Sunday, December 6th, 5:00pm
On the Green

Bonfire & Carol Singing

Sunday, December 13, 5:00pm
NIA parking lot