

January 2013

Taft Tidings

265 College St #2A ~ New Haven, CT 06510 ~ 203-495-8238 (TAFT) ~ www.taftapartments.com
facebook.com/TaftApartments ~ Emergency Maintenance: 877-472-7532 ~ twitter.com/#!/taftapartments
The Sun Always Shines At The Taft ~ A New Haven Tradition Since 1912



MAINTENANCE CORNER

RATE-YOUR-MAINTENANCE

If the Maintenance Team has recently completed work in your apartment home, do not forget to fill out your "Rate Your Maintenance" card. Return it back to the office for your chance to win a \$25 gift certificate to the downtown New Haven business of your choice. November's Rate-Your-Maintenance winners are Taft Resident Peter Van Ness and Joel Celi from our Maintenance team.



[Facebook.com/taftapartments](https://www.facebook.com/taftapartments)

[Twitter.com/taftapartments](https://twitter.com/taftapartments)



Important Reminders

- If you are not planning to renew your lease, stop by the office or visit the Resident Portal to get a Move-Out Notice form. The Taft requires our residents to provide a 60 day written notice prior to the end of their lease. If there are questions about this please call, e-mail, or stop by the office.
- By this point all air conditioners should be removed and heat should be "on and pumping". Please let us know if you are experiencing any issues regarding the temperature in your apartment.
- If you plan on being away at any time during heating season, please be sure to leave your heat ON and windows closed. Residents are held responsible for the damages and repairs of costly frozen burst pipes!
- Please make sure to get your service requests in as early into the day as possible to ensure it is handled promptly.
- Be on the lookout for lease renewals ... Remember, the early bird gets the worm!



The Taft wishes everyone a happy, safe & fruitful New Years. During the transition from 2012 to 2013, remember to spend more time with family & friends and always welcome each day with a bright and positive outlook! Keep up those New Year's resolutions too!

The Taft Management Office will be closed on Tuesday, January 1st in observance of New Year's Day. The office will re-open for regular business hours on Wednesday, January 2, 2013. There will be a Service Assistant available to help you with packages, dry cleaning and any other further needs you may have in our absence.

The Taft Management Office would like to welcome back Erik Kennibrew, Leasing and Service Coordinator. He is back for Winter Break from Bryant University. Stop by the office and say hello if you have not already!

Happy Martin Luther King Jr. Day

King was the chief spokesman for nonviolent activism in the civil rights movement, which successfully protested racial discrimination in federal and state law. The campaign for a federal holiday in King's honor began soon after his assassination in 1968. Ronald Reagan signed the holiday into law in 1983, and it was first observed on January 20, 1986. At first, some states resisted observing the holiday as such, giving it alternative names or combining it with other holidays. It was officially observed in all 50 states for the first time in 2000.

Thank you everyone for all your donations to the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen! It's been greatly appreciated by those in need. For more info: <http://www.downtowneveningsoupkitchen.com/>

Keep a lookout for The Taft's Resident Survey!



There will be a survey circulated into all of the residents mailboxes the first week in January. We appreciate your participation as we try to gain more of a awareness of our residents in regard to monthly activities and marketing strategies! Thank you in advance!

Have a Car and are New To New England?

Never experienced a harsh winter before? Find winter and snow tips and tricks on the back!

Driving Safety Tips

Driving in Snow and Ice

The best advice for driving in bad winter weather is not to drive at all, if you can avoid it. Don't go out until the snow plows and sanding trucks have had a chance to do their work, and allow yourself extra time to reach your destination. If you must drive in snowy conditions, make sure your car is prepared, and that you know how to handle road conditions. It's helpful to practice winter driving techniques in a snowy, open parking lot, so you're familiar with how your car handles. Consult your owner's manual for tips specific to your vehicle.

Driving Safely on Icy Roads

- Decrease your speed and leave yourself plenty of room to stop. You should allow at least three times more space than usual between you and the car in front of you.
 - Brake gently to avoid skidding. If your wheels start to lock up, ease off the brake.
 - Turn on your lights to increase your visibility to other motorists.
 - Keep your lights and windshield clean.
- Use low gears to keep traction, especially on hills.
- Don't use cruise control or overdrive on icy roads.
 - Be especially careful on bridges, overpasses and infrequently traveled roads, which will freeze first. Even at temperatures above freezing, if the conditions are wet, you might encounter ice in shady areas or on exposed roadways like bridges.
 - Don't pass snow plows and sanding trucks. The drivers have limited visibility, and you're likely to find the road in front of them worse than the road behind.
 - Don't assume your vehicle can handle all conditions. Even four-wheel and front-wheel drive vehicles can encounter trouble on winter roads.

If your Rear Wheels Skid

- Take your foot off the accelerator.
- Steer in the direction you want the front wheels to go. If your rear wheels are sliding left, steer left. If they're sliding right, steer right.
- If your rear wheels start sliding the other way as you recover, ease the steering wheel toward that side. You might have to steer left and right a few times to get your vehicle completely under control.
- If you have standard brakes, pump them gently.
- If you have anti-lock brakes (ABS), do not pump the brakes. Apply steady pressure to the brakes. You will feel the brakes pulse — this is normal.

If your Front Wheels Skid

- Take your foot off the gas and shift to neutral, but don't try to steer immediately.
- As the wheels skid sideways, they will slow the vehicle and traction will return. As it does, steer in the direction you want to go. Then put the transmission in "drive" or release the clutch, and accelerate gently.

If you Get Stuck

- Do not spin your wheels. This will only dig you in deeper.
- Turn your wheels from side to side a few times to push snow out of the way.
- Use a light touch on the gas, to ease your car out.
 - Use a shovel to clear snow away from the wheels and the underside of the car.
 - Pour sand, kitty litter, gravel or salt in the path of the wheels, to help get traction.
 - Try rocking the vehicle. (Check your owner's manual first, it can damage the transmission on some vehicles.) Shift from forward to reverse, and back again. Each time you're in gear, give a light touch on the gas until the vehicle gets going.

Sources: National Safety Council, New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Washington State Government Information & Services

EVENTS

January 4—*CheerOn9*. Celebrate another year of first Friday open-houses in our neighborhood famous for innovative art, food, music and experiences. 6pm–8pm. FREE. **9th Square** - On9newhaven.com

January 20—*Deirdre Schiffer: A Retrospective & Dorothy Powers: The Women*. Mon–Fri 9:30am–5:30pm, Sat 9am–12pm. FREE. Creative Arts Workshop, **80 Audubon St**—creativeartsworkshop.org

January 20 & 21—*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Legacy of Environmental and Social Justice 2013*. Noon-4:30pm Sunday, 10am-4:30pm Monday. FREE. Yale Peabody Museum – **170 Whitney Avenue**—peabody.yale.edu



Happy Financial Wellness Month

January marks National Financial Wellness Month and, in today's economy, now is definitely the time for you to pay close attention to your financial health.

Now, more than ever, it is important to be smart with your income and protect your nest egg that you worked so hard to build. Just because the economy falters doesn't mean that you have to. You can take control of securing your most valuable asset – your identity. Here are some suggestions to take in the New Year to protect your financial health and wellness:

1. Educate yourself on the different kinds of identity theft and scams that are out there. Besides this blog, another good resource for trustworthy information about identity theft is the Identity Theft Resource Center.
2. Review your monthly credit card and banking statements. Make sure that every transaction was done by you; otherwise contact the appropriate institution immediately to start a fraud claim.
3. Shred documents that contain your personal information before throwing them away. This involves the proper disposal of receipts, bills, bank statements, credit card applications and any other paper materials that can potentially be used for identity theft.
4. Safeguard your identity by being careful with personal belongings with information about yourself on them. You can also research identity theft programs online which offers protection and fraud resolution products designed to help consumers prevent the damages caused by identity theft.

Keep in mind – this should be a daily, monthly, and yearly proactive habit!

Source: <http://blog.protectmyid.com/>

Also, keep a lookout for financial tips posted in the lobby all January long!

