RATE YOUR MAINTENANCE:

• **WINNER:** This month’s winner of the Rate-Your-Maintenance drawing is Maura Rosell. She will have her choosing of a $25 gift certificate to any of the Taft retail vendors, including Mac Gray.

• **Rate-Your-Maintenance:** When you submit a Service Request the Office will input it and give it to the Maintenance Team. The Maintenance Team will do the necessary work, and leave copy of the completed service request. A Rate-Your-Maintenance Card will be delivered from the Office after completion. Please remember to complete and return the form to the Office for your chance to win a $25 gift certificate to your Taft retail vendor (including Mac Gray) of your choice.

• **Message From the Maintenance Team**

Please ensure that you are doing your part to help keep the building clean. Our team works really hard to maintain an above standard level of cleanliness in the building. However, this can only be up kept if you aid us in our mission. Take care in the hallways and common areas to pick up after yourself. Be sure you are using the trash rooms properly and being respectful of the Recreation Center.

• **Moving On** Eddie Vasquez no longer works at The Taft. We wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

DID YOU KNOW?

**FOOD**

August is host to numerous National Food Days, including S’Mores, Cherry Turnovers, Potatoes, Filet Mignon and Ice Cream Sandwiches. In honor of such a rich culinary month the Taft Management Office is looking to host a Recipe Swap! Going on throughout the entire month of August bring down your favorite recipes and take one from another resident or Staff member. Appetizers, dinners, and desserts we would like to see recipes for it all come through the Office. We plan to compile all of the recipes and make a mini Taft Cookbook for all to enjoy. As a note, we are not asking you to make these dishes, simply just share your favorite recipes with us, so we can share them with the rest of the Community.

**SMILES**

The Sun Always Shines at the Taft—undoubtedly puts a smile on the face of a least a few people a day. The second week of August is National Smile Week. So show us your pearly whites! Check out “Kids Say the Darnepest Things” in this month’s newsletter and add a little laughter to your life.

WHAT MAKES YOU SMILE?? Let the Management Office know how we can help make you smile EVERYDAY!

**SPORTS**

So not only does National Sports Day occur in August; it is also, National Golf Month. So we challenge you to get out and do something physical this Month. How do you plan to stay healthy and have fun in the process?

The City of New Haven offers Open Swim, Open Gym, Adult Aerobics, and Adult Basketball.


And you cannot forget about the gorgeous parks for hiking.

For those a little less athletic, take a shot at our Ping Pong Table downstairs! A bit of competition can make just about any physical game into a fun sport.

WELCOME BACK!

The time has come to take a moment to welcome back all of our residents new and old that depart for the summer months. We have surely missed all of you very much and look forward to seeing your faces around the building again. Look forward to celebrations sometime in September once we have settled down from getting everyone settled into their new home. Just a few notes to get you up-to-date with some things you might have missed while not in the building...

- The Taft website—www.taftapartments.com was launched and is continually being updated. Any and all feedback is greatly appreciated.

- The Taft Apartments Recreation Center has gotten a new treadmill, adding a little pizzazz to the Fitness Center.

And there are plenty of things to look forward to in the coming months around the Taft Community

- A major facelift to the Grand Lobby will begin over the next couple months. We are all very excited to get the project started!

- The Music Practice/Conference Room is hoping to see a little color update — if we Have any artists in the building that would be interesting in getting a whole wall to use creatively come talk to us in the Management Office!
**BABY HEIRLOOM TOMATO AND CUCUMBER SALAD**

**INGREDIENTS**
- 1/4 pound country bread, cut into roughly 1-inch cubes
- 5 tablespoons basil infused olive oil
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1/3 cup aged balsamic vinegar
- 2 pounds assorted mixed baby heirloom tomatoes
- 1 cucumber, peeled and seeded, if necessary

**DIRECTIONS**
Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F.

In a large bowl, toss the bread cubes with 2 tablespoons of the basil olive oil and season with salt and pepper, to taste. Arrange on a baking sheet and bake for 5 minutes, then toss the bread cubes and bake until golden, another 3 to 5 minutes. In a small saucepan, over low heat add the balsamic and simmer until reduced by half.

Cut the smaller tomatoes in half, quarter the medium tomatoes and slice the larger tomatoes. Cut the cucumber, lengthwise in half, and slice it into half moons or dice it into cubes.

In a large serving bowl, mix the tomatoes, cucumbers and remaining oil and season with salt and pepper, to taste. Add the bread cubes and toss. Drizzle with the reduced balsamic and serve.

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**Good Advice About Love:**
* "Spend most of your time loving instead of going to work." - Dick, age 7
* "Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough." -- Lynnette, age 8
* "Tell your wife that she looks pretty even if she looks like a truck!" -- Ricky, age 7
* "Don't forget your wife's name. That will mess up the love." -- Erin, age 8
* "Sensitivity don't hurt." -- Robbie, age 8
* "Be a good kisser. It might make your wife forget that you never take out the trash." -- Erin, age 8
* "Don't say you love somebody and then change your mind. Love isn't like picking what movie you want to watch." -- Natalie, age 9

**Deciding Who To Marry:**
* "You got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. Like if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the chips and dip coming." -- Allan, age 10
* "No person really decides before they grow up who they're going to marry. God decides it all way before, and you get to find out later who you're stuck with." -- Kirsten, age 10

**Strategies For Making People Fall In Love With You:**
* "Tell them that you own a whole bunch of candy stores." -- Del, age 6
* "Shake your hips and hope for the best." -- Camille, age 9
* "Yell out that you love them at the top of your lungs...and don't worry if their parents are right there." -- Manuel, age 8
* "Don't do things like have smelly, green sneakers. You might get attention, but attention ain't the same thing as love." -- Alonzo, age 9
* "One way is to take the girl out to eat. Make sure it's something she likes to eat. French fries usually works for me." -- Bart, age 9

**Love and Marriage:**
* "If falling in love is anything like learning how to spell, I don't want to do it. It takes too long." -- Glenn, age 7
* "Love is like an avalanche where you have to run for your life." -- John, age 9

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**The Darnedest Things**

In each of these puzzles, a list of words is given. To solve the puzzle, think of a single word that goes with each to form a compound word (or word pair that functions as a compound word). For example, if the given words are volley, field, and bearing, then the answer would be ball, because the word ball can be added to each of the other words to form volleyball, ballfield, and ball bearing.

1) Back, Short, Watch
2) Blue, Cake, Cottage
3) Stool, Powder, Ball
4) Big, Soil, Table
5) Made, Cuff, Left
6) Motion, Poke, Down
7) Light, Hot, Check
8) Light, Hot, Back
9) Wood, Liquor, Luck
10) Drop, Off, Stand