

-- OUR CORNER --

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF AMERICUS NEWSLETTER

"Building Bridges For Better Communication"

APRIL 2018

SUMMER READING PALS 2018



Summer Reading Pals waiting for Story Time to begin.

ARE YOU READY for **Summer Reading Pals 2018**? The Housing Authority is gearing up for another summer of reading and fun for our 1st and 2nd graders that reside in Public Housing.

Registration is currently underway. The deadline for reserving a seat for your child is Thursday, May 17th. If you have not received an application by mail, you may pick one up from the lobby of our main office on Mayo Street. Seats are being reserved on a first-come, first-serve basis. Seats normally go fast so make sure you turn in your registration form as soon as possible. You don't want your child to miss out on this fun-filled learning adventure.

Our Resident Services Coordinator (*Ms. Diana Roberts*), along with our certified instructor (*Ms. Sandra Mitchell*) are lining up a variety of learning activities and field trips for our children. We are certain that every child will complete this program ready for the upcoming school year.

READING IS FUNDAMENTAL!!



Reading Pals display their hand-crafted artwork.

There is absolutely **NO COST** to the parents. The Housing Authority pays for all supplies, meals, tee shirts, and field trips. All that's required of parents is to make sure that your child is on his or her best behavior every day of the program.



Ms. Mitchell helps prepare strawberry shortcakes.

The program is scheduled for June 4th thru June 28th. Classes are held Monday thru Thursday of each week. **NO FRIDAY CLASSES**. Transportation is provided by the Housing Authority. For more information, please contact Diana Roberts at 924-3386, Ext. 240.

Registration Deadline – Thursday, May 17th

WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU

Main Office Number (229) 924-3386

7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Monday thru Thursday

Closed on Fridays

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Cherryl Furlow (*PH/HCV Compliance Reviewer*) – Ext. 221

Katina Garrett (*Case Manager for Section 8*) – Ext. 218

Paula Harmon (*Occupancy Specialist for Public Housing*) – Ext. 217

Sharon Haugabook (*Project Manager*) – Ext. 215

Jan Olek (*Accounting Clerk*) – Ext. 243

Virginia Sims (*Project Manager*) – Ext. 220

Tamika Sparks (*Occupancy Specialist for Section 8*) – Ext. 216

Rachel Spencer (*Customer Service Representative*) – Ext. 210

Gail Watkins (*Housing Inspector for Section 8*) – Ext. 222

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Shelia DeLoach (***Manager of Finance***) – Ext. 241

George Edge (***Manager of Housing***) – Ext. 214

Gary Woods (***Manager of Technical Services***) – Ext. 213

RESIDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Diana Roberts

(*Resident Services Coordinator*)

Ext. 240

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

John C. Anderson, *CEO*, Ext. 211

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

(*Work Order Requests*)

229-924-9073

Bernice Johnson (***Maintenance Clerk***) – Ext. 225

**Our Maintenance Department is open
for “*emergency work orders ONLY*”
24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**

Our staff takes great pleasure in doing our very best to provide affordable and comfortable housing for you and your families. We desire to meet this goal in the most professional and economical way possible. Should you have any questions, problems or suggestions please do not hesitate to contact one of our capable staff people. Please keep this employee roster available so that you will know how to contact us in your time of need.

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF AMERICUS
825 N MAYO STREET, AMERICUS, GA 31709**

OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

Monday (May 28th) – **MEMORIAL DAY**



Wednesday (July 4th)



PET RULES

(Pet policies are available upon request.)

All pets are required to be registered with the Housing Authority prior to moving into a unit. Pet registrations should be updated annually at the time of the annual re-exams. A \$100.00 security deposit is required in addition to any deposit required by the lease. Household pets are confined to (a) Dogs under 20 lbs. when full grown, cats, and fish commonly kept as pets; and (b) Caged birds (*not domestic fowl*), hamsters, turtles and guinea pigs.

REPORTING ALL FAMILY INCOME

Tenants are required to accurately report all sources of income. Failure to do so is considered as **fraud**. Tenants that intentionally fail to report all sources of their income will be required to make retroactive payments. **Fraud** could lead to possible jail time and/or lease termination. The family will be liable for any underpaid rent, and will be required to enter into a Repayment Agreement with the Housing Authority or to make a lump sum payment.

Income to be reported includes but are not limited to:

- Earned income (Employment)
- Social Security, Pensions, SSI, Disability Income
- Unemployment Compensation
- Welfare Payments or General Assistance
- Alimony or Child Support Payments
- Net Income from a Business

Families are required to report the following increases in income:

- Increases in income from the employment of a current household member
- Increases in income because a person with income joins the household
- Increase in household income which comes as a result of a new income source.

When income change is reported in a timely manner:

- Increases in Tenant Rent* are effective on the first of the second month following the month in which the change actually occurred.
- Decreases in the Tenant Rent* are effective the first of the month following the month in which the change is reported.

**Resident Eviction and Lease Terminations
January 2018 thru April 2018**

Lewis Lowe
1 (Non-Payment)

Cherokee Street
1 (Non-Payment)

Bozeman Circle
1 (Non-Payment)

Please obey the rules & regulations that are outlined in your lease agreement. They have been put into place for the safety of your family and guests. It is a privilege to live in the Housing Authority.



**BARRED FROM THE HOUSING
AUTHORITY**
(January 2018 – April 2018)

Herman Stephens Jr.
10 Years
All Housing Authority Properties

*If you don't like something,
change it;*

*If you can't change it,
change your attitude.*

-Mayo Angelou

SCHOOL READINESS TIPS

Help your child succeed in school by building the habit of good attendance early. School success goes hand in hand with good attendance.

When Do Absences Become A Problem?

CHRONIC ABSENCE: 18 or more days

WARNING SIGNS: 10 to 17 days

SATSIFACTORY: 9 or fewer absences

DID YOU KNOW?

*Missing 10 percent (*or about 18 days*) can make it harder to learn to read; and children become embarrassed to read when they get behind others students in their class.

*Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.

*Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.

*Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

*Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school and about themselves.

*Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time each day is important.

*Good attendance will help children do well in all levels of schooling.

Goal of Head Start / Early Head Start

The goal of the Head Start and Early Head Start Program is to break the cycle of poverty by working with pregnant women, children, and families to strengthen the family unit. This enhances the child's everyday effectiveness in dealing with both their present environment and their later responsibilities in school and life.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY WORKSHOPS



Kimberly Hicks, Phoebe Health Care

The Resident Services Department continues to provide a variety of speakers at the monthly Self-Sufficiency Workshops. All workshops are held at our Cherokee Community Center located at 117C Hanson Drive.



Shelia Hines
(Fatherhood Program & Parent Accountability Court)

In conjunction with our regular monthly workshops, the Resident Services Department will be sponsoring a **Community Resource Fair** on August 21st. This event is scheduled from 10:30 to 12:30 and free food and literature will be distributed, along with free blood pressure checks.



Linda Gardner, Harriett Rouland, Krystal Heath
(Sumter County Head Start / Early Head Start Program)

Presenters for 2018 have included staff members from Phoebe Health Care Center, Sumter County Head Start and Early Head Start Program, along with staff from the Fatherhood Program and the Parental Accountability Court. The Housing Authority is very appreciative of these organizations for coming out and sharing information with our residents at no cost. Several other presenters have committed to be in partnership with the Housing Authority throughout the remainder of this year.



Residents in attendance at monthly workshop
@ Cherokee Community Center

Remaining 2018 Workshop Dates

May 3rd
May 9th
July 17th
August 21st
September 18th
October 16th
November 13th
December 11th

RECIPE CORNER

BACON EGG CUPS

TIME: 50 minutes **SERVES:** 8



You will need:

16 slices of Smithfield Hometown Original Bacon
8 ct. package Home-style Buttermilk Biscuits
8 eggs
Salt and pepper to taste
Dash of hot sauce, if desired
Shredded cheese, if desired

Preparation:

- *Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- *Spray 8 jumbo muffin cups or 8 6-ounce glass custard cups with cooking spray. Set aside.
- *In a medium skillet, cook bacon over medium heat for about 4 minutes or until cooked, but not crisp- turning once (it will continue to cook in the oven).
- *Separate dough into 8 biscuits. Place one biscuit in each muffin cup, pressing dough $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way inside of cups. Place 2 bacon slices in each biscuit cup, and crack an egg over each cup. Season each egg with salt, pepper, and hot sauce, if desired. Cheese is also an option to be included or sprinkled on top.
- *Bake 25 to 30 minutes or until egg is done and egg whites are set. Use knife to loosen cups.
- *Serve immediately.

PASTEL GELATIN SALAD

TIME: 25 minutes **SERVES:** 12-15



You will need:

1 package (3 ounces) lemon gelatin
1 package (3 ounces) lime gelatin
2 cups boiling water
1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, cubed
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup evaporated milk
1 can (8 ounces) unsweetened crushed pineapple, drained
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped walnuts (or pecans)
1 package (10-1/2 ounces) pastel miniature marshmallows

Directions:

- *In a large bowl, combine lemon and lime gelatin with boiling water; stir until dissolved. Add cream cheese; let stand for 10 minutes.
- *Beat on high speed until smooth. Stir in milk and mayonnaise. Fold in pineapple.
- *Pour into greased 13x9" dish. Sprinkle with nuts and marshmallows.
- *Cover and refrigerate until set.

Facts About Alcohol Abuse



Myths About Alcohol Abusers

Myth #1: They can stop drinking whenever they want.

Myth #2: Their drinking is their problem.

Myth #3: They don't drink every day so they don't have an alcohol problem.

Myth #4: Drinking is not a real addiction.

WHAT IS MODERATE DRINKING?

FOR WOMEN, moderate drinking is considered consuming no more than one drink a day.

FOR MEN, it is up to two drinks each day.
(These numbers refer to the amount consumed on any single day and are not an average over several days.)

Alcohol abuse isn't defined by when drinking occurs but rather by the trouble the drinking creates. Getting a DWI/DUI, missing a day of work, starting relationship problems with your spouse/children, or losing a good friend because of drinking means that there is a problem.

DO I HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM?

If you agree with one or more of the following statements, you may be abusing alcohol.

-Once I start drinking, I find it difficult to stop.

-I feel guilty about my drinking.

-I hide my drinking habits or lie to others about it.

-My family and friends are worried about my drinking.

-I have hurt myself or someone else as a result of my drinking.

Alcohol can cause changes in the brain and body just like other drugs. If alcohol is abused regularly, those changes can result in addiction. Both alcoholics and drug addicts suffer from physical withdrawal symptoms when they stop using.

Alcohol abuse can hurt family, friends, and others. Alcohol is frequently a factor in cases of domestic violence, and alcohol-related car accidents can kill both loved ones and strangers.

Chances are, without professional help, alcoholics won't stop. Those who drink too much need help to find healthier ways to handle whatever issues started the alcohol abuse in the first place.

Do not face your drinking problem alone. A good place to start is with a supportive group such as Alcoholics Anonymous. There may be other help groups in your area. If you are a member of the military, your installation should have services available. Remember that there are many others who have gone through what you are going through. Their support can be very valuable.

"Today is a day of new beginnings."



SUMMER READING PALS 2018!!

June 4th thru June 28th

‘REGISTER TODAY’

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