

- - OUR CORNER - -

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF AMERICUS NEWSLETTER

"Building Bridges For Better Communication"

SEPTEMBER 2020

HOUSING AUTHORITY DISTRIBUTES USDA FOOD BOXES



Food boxes arrive during a light drizzle of rain.



Tenant arrives, using her rollator to carry her food box.

Residents also have the opportunity to earn **free** college credit while attending the GED classes. All books, study materials, and tests are provided at no cost (**free**).

L-R: Mrs. Sharon Haugabook (Project Manager), Mr. George Edge (CEO of HAA), a



nd Ms. Annie Durham (

ATTENTION ALL RESIDENTS who are in need of a high school diploma!! The Americus Housing Authority, in partnership with South Georgia Technical College is continuing to offer **free** GED classes for residents age 16 and older. There is no cut off age limit beyond 16. Perhaps you are a senior resident who has always dreamed of getting your GED. If that is your case, then this learning opportunity can help make your dream come true.

Classes are held each Monday and Thursday from 8:00 am until 12:30 pm at the Lakeview Community Center located at 158 Lakeview Circle. Walk-ins are welcome on any Monday to join the GED classes. Progression is made on an individual basis so there is no pressure to keep up on a group level.

Americus Housing Authority 2nd ANNUAL



"DONUTS WITH DAD"

SATURDAY MORNING

June 11, 2016

9:00 a.m. UNTIL 12 o'clock noon

LOCATION:

Cherokee Community Center

117C Hanson Drive

CALLING ALL DADS.....

The Americus Housing Authority will be hosting its 2nd Annual "**DONUTS WITH DAD**" initiative. The morning outing for dads and their children will include guest speakers, games and door prizes. There will be free donuts, coffee, juice and fruit for everyone.

OPEN TO: ALL PUBLIC HOUSING CHILDREN AND THEIR DADS ONLY (or male father figures)

Please call **Diana Roberts @ 924-3732** or stop by our Resident Services Department at 825 North Mayo Street to give a headcount for your household and to ensure that enough refreshments and door prizes are available. Tickets will be mailed back to each household for entrance into the event.

**TICKETS ARE REQUIRED
FOR ENTRANCE!!**

ALL DADS MUST HAVE TICKETS so please call **Diana Roberts** today @ **924-3732** to give a headcount for your household.

**NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED
WITHOUT THEIR DADS
OR MALE FATHER FIGURES!!**

REMAINING 2016
Self-Sufficiency Workshop Schedule



APRIL 27TH
MAY 12th
JULY 20TH
AUGUST 17TH
SEPTEMBER 21ST
OCTOBER 19TH
NOVEMBER 15TH
DECEMBER 13TH



Resident Evictions and Lease Terminations
January 2016 thru April 2016

Forrest Street
1 (Nonpayment of Rent)

Barbara Battle Way
1 (No Utilities)

Howell Street
1 (Unauthorized Pet)

WAYS TO GET MORE
FROM YOUR MONEY



*Set a financial goal and make a plan by pledging to save.

*Save your tax refund instead of rushing off to spend it.

*Don't go from credit use to credit abuse. Think before you buy!

*Ask about automatic savings at your job. You can't spend money you don't see.

*Prepare for emergencies. They happen when least expected. Make sure you are covered – start saving today.

*Track money throughout the day to see how much is spent. (*Track you steps as well by walking with a pedometer for wellness.*)

*Protect your credit cards. Save your receipts and check them against your statements to make sure you can identify all charges.

SIGNS OF CREDIT TROUBLE

-You owe more than 20% of your monthly income, excluding rent or mortgage payment.

-You must borrow money or get an extra job to make ends meet.

-You must choose which bills to pay each month or are always late with your payments.

-You often worry over money.

-You always extend payments beyond 30 days.

SUMMER READING PALS 2016

(June 6th – 30th)

SENIOR BINGO CLUB



(Ms. Annie Taylor)

Applications are currently being accepted for **Summer Reading Pals 2016**. This summer's program is scheduled to begin on Monday, June 6th and end on Thursday, June 30th.

Due to specific guidelines, the Summer Reading Pals Program is open first to those 1st and 2nd graders that live in public housing. Seats are available on a first-come first-serve basis. There are only 24 available seats.

A signed "release form" must be submitted to Resident Services before a reservation becomes final.

Should there be any available seats remaining *after* all interested public housing kids are enrolled; seating will then become available to children that are on our section 8 program. All names of interested section 8 children will be kept on a waiting list and parents will be notified of their acceptance or denial when the registration period closes.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION:

Thursday, May 19th

A very exciting summer of learning and field trip activities has been planned for your children. The Housing Authority will provide **FREE** transportation, field trips, tee shirts, and snacks. There will be absolutely "*no cost*" to the parents!!

This summer's program will be housed at the Cherokee Community Center located at 117C Hanson Drive. For more information, please contact Diana Roberts in Resident Services @ 924-3732.

Pictured above is Ms. Annie Taylor, a member of our Senior Bingo Club. Ms. Taylor was the lucky winner of a gigantic Easter basket. Ms. Taylor won by being the first person to completely cover her bingo card in a game called "blackout". Even though Ms. Taylor was excited to be the winner of the basket, she wasn't quite sure how she was going to share it with her grandchildren. She said she might end up keeping the prize for herself.

The Senior Bingo Club continues to meet at least once a month to fellowship with each other and to play bingo. When not playing bingo, this young-at-heart group can be found on a road trip somewhere in and around the Americus area.

There are several new members in the Senior Bingo Club. They are filling the seats of some former members; some relocated while others passed away.

We are happy to welcome the following new members: Ms. Doris Robinson, Ms. Annie Taylor, Ms. Sherryl Sampson, Ms. Graden Deriso and Mr. Johnny Evans. The Senior Bingo Club is made up of both men and women who reside in public housing.

The members will be celebrating their 25th Anniversary in July of this year. In honor of this great milestone, the group will be loading the Housing Authority bus and traveling to Atlanta for a luncheon and visit to a Farmers' Market. Everyone is looking forward to a long but enjoyable day filled with food, laughter, and fun. The fellowship shared amongst the seniors is always priceless.

RECIPE CORNER

EASY CROCK POT MACARONI & CHEESE



You will need:

¼ cup flour
1 teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon pepper
2 tablespoons minced onions
¼ teaspoon paprika
3 cups milk
1 cup of grated cheddar cheese
2 cups uncooked elbow macaroni

*Spray crock pot with non-stick spray for easy cleaning.

*In a saucepan, combine first 5 ingredients.

*Pour in milk and stir with a whisk until no lumps remain.

*Heat and continue stirring until mixture boils and is thickened.

*Add cheese and then macaroni.

*Stir until well mixed.

*Pour into 3 ½ quart (3.5L) crock pot.

*Cover and cook on low for 1 to 2 ½ hours or on high for 1 hour.

Serve warm.

Yield: 4 Cups

EASY MEATLOAF



You will need:

1 ½ pounds ground beef
1 egg
1 chopped onion
1 cup milk
1 cup dried bread crumbs
Salt & pepper to taste
2 tablespoons brown sugar
2 tablespoons prepared mustard
1/3 cup ketchup

*Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

*In a large bowl, combine the beef, egg, onion, milk and bread OR cracker crumbs.

*Season with salt and pepper to taste and place in a lightly greased 5x9 inch loaf pan, OR form into a loaf and place in a lightly greased 9x13 inch baking dish.

*In a separate small bowl, combine the brown sugar, mustard and ketchup.

*Mix well and pour over the meatloaf.

*Bake at 350 degrees F for 1 hour.

This is a very easy and no fail recipe for meatloaf. It will not take long to make at all, and it's quite good.

Yield: 8 to 10 Slices

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

Cheryl Furlow (*PH/HCV Compliance Reviewer*) – Ext. **221**
Katina Garrett (*Case Manager for Section 8*) – Ext. **220**
Shelia Green (*FSS Case Manager*) – Ext. **245**
Paula Harmon (*Occupancy Specialist for Public Housing*) – Ext. **217**
Terri Harris (*Occupancy Specialist – HCV*) – Ext. **216**
Sharon Haugabook (*Project Manager, Public Housing*) – Ext. **215**
Gwen Laster (*Case Manager – HCV*) – Ext. **218**
Jan Olek (*Accounting Clerk*) – Ext. **243**
Rachel Spencer (*Customer Service Representative*) – Ext. **210**
Gail Watkins (*Housing Inspector for Section 8*) – Ext. **222**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

George F. Edge, CEO, Ext. 211

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Shelia DeLoach (*Manager of Finance*) – Ext. **241**
Penny McPeck (*Manager of Housing*) – Ext. **214**
Gary Woods (*Manager of Technical Services*) – Ext. **213**

RESIDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Diana Roberts
(*Resident Services Coordinator*)
Ext. **240**

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

(*Work Order Requests*)
Bernice Johnson (*Maintenance Clerk*) – Ext. **225**

SOUTHLAND HEIGHTS APARTMENTS

Cheryle Henry (*Site Manager*)
(229) 924-4253

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 members. Please keep this employee roster available so that you will know how to contact us in your time of need.



By Diana H. Roberts, Resident Services Coordinator

WHERE HAS ALL THE TIME GONE? Here we are standing at the crossroad between 2020 and 2021. This year (**2020**) has been a year that is fit for the history books.

All of us have been affected by the dreadful Coronavirus (*Covid-19*) to some extent. Our sincere condolences to those of you who have experienced the loss of loved ones and dear friends. Know that we prayed for you (*our residents*) as diligently as we prayed for our staff members that contracted the virus. Likewise, we celebrated when hearing about your recoveries. All of you have been so resilient; you have stood tall in the midst of this “*strange time*” that we are living in.

The Housing Authority has been there for you and we are not going anywhere. Together we are going to get thru this; resident by resident and household by household. Are we our brother’s keeper? Yes we are!! Call on us and we will be there to assist you in any way that we can.

We encourage you to continue to adhere to safety practices and guidelines that are set in place for each of our safety.

BIDDING FAREWELL TO 2020

- *Practice social distancing whenever possible.
- *Avoid large gatherings; especially those that are held on the inside and the people are unmasked.
- *Do wash your hands frequently.
- *Unless you have medical restrictions, please wear a face mask whenever you are outside of your home.
- *Continue to shelter in place as much as possible.
- *Use a “drive-thru” option when you are out doing business, whenever possible.
- *Voluntarily quarantine yourself when you have been in contact with someone who has the virus.

*Get tested immediately if you have reason to believe that you have contracted the virus.

We encourage **ALL PARENTS** to make sure your child(ren) attends virtual school on a daily basis. Your participation in the process will make learning much more meaningful. Should you have questions about anything, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or other school personnel. Failure to have your child accountable in school on a daily basis could lead to legal charges against the parents.

As you continue to be careful, remember to enjoy your life as well. Continue to *fall in love*, to *have beautiful weddings*, to *have babies*, to *go back to school*, to *buy new homes*, to *get new jobs*, and to *enjoy your families*.....all of these things and more that make life worth living. For as long as we have life we have hope; and we are going to live our lives just that way.....**FULL OF HOPE.**

It gives me great pleasure to wish each of you and your families the most joyous and blessed holiday season ever (*a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year*) on behalf of our CEO, Mr. George F. Edge, our Board of Commissioners and the entire staff of the Americus Housing Authority. You all have been the best residents possible and we look forward to serving each of you in 2021.

LOVE what you have.
NEED what you want.
ACCEPT what you receive.
GIVE what you can.
Be **SAFE**, stay **WARM**, eat **WELL**.

**WE ARE A
COMMUNITY**

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PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
AMERICUS, GA 31709
PERMIT #447

Our corner is a quarterly publication of the:
Housing Authority of Americus
825 North Mayo Street
Americus, Georgia 31709

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CURRENT RESIDENT OR



**Let's look out for one
another!!**

“MASK UP”
*Americus
Housing
Authority*