



Northeast Georgia Housing Authority

Serving the cities of...Clarkesville, Cleveland, Cornelia, Demorest, Helen, Homer, Toccoa



Housing Happenings

Upcoming Holidays and Office closures!

- August 17-** Office closed
- August 31-** Office closes @ 3
- September 4** – Labor Day/
Office Closed
- October-** Halloween



*We would like to
WELCOME our two
new maintenance
mechanics.*



Jeff (Peanut) Fogle (left) and Tyler Cantrell (right). Jeff started working with the maintenance department in April and will be working in the Toccoa area. Tyler started working with the maintenance department in May and will be working in the Clarkesville and Cornelia areas.

Well done is better than
well said.
-Benjamin Franklin

****CAUTION**CAUTION****

***Aluminum Foil-** Based on the number of fires that are a result of the use of foil in ovens and on cooktops, we must advise that you may no longer line drip pans, ovens and burners with aluminum foil.





It is summertime and the grass is growing!

Yes, there have been issues with the grass contractor that were beyond our control but, the Maintenance and Administrative Office now have control of the lawn care. We sincerely appreciate your patience as I am well aware that your grass was knee high. We have new equipment and also hired two seasonal employees to work strictly with the maintenance staff to help in keeping the yards mowed and trimmed.

Summertime also brings unwanted pests to your yard. Please do not keep water in buckets or containers as this is a breeding area for mosquitoes. Remember pools are not allowed! Also, toys (when not being used) or yard decorations need to be

placed near the apartment and not in the yard so that the mowers can safely mow the grass.

Please do not keep bags of cans or garbage near your apartment as this creates a place for mice and snakes to hide as well as making it difficult for the mowers to mow the grass. Also, please do not put food outside or on your porches. This can invite skunks, raccoons, fox, etc. to the site.

You may think we are being too picky or too strict when in fact, our only concern is for your safety and well-being. I hope everyone has a wonderful summer.

Angie Cothran
Executive Director



We at Housing wanted to thank all who participated and attended the Resident Meetings and Activities.

You help make your neighborhoods better!

Some recap's thus far in Resident Activities this year:

Senior Expo

Peach State Health Plan Seminar

Helen: Glass Blowing Demonstration Trip

Father's Day Event

Reins of Life (Equestrian) Trip

Poster Contest

Cleveland Historical Sites Trip

College Scholarships

Easter Celebration & Egg Hunt

After school programs

Merge Summer Activities

Monthly Association Meetings

From the Housing Management Department



We hope that everyone had a safe and enjoyable July 4th holiday. During the summer season we want to remind you to drink plenty of water and wear sunscreen anytime you are out in the sun.

There are several activities planned in the upcoming months and Jessica will be sending information to each area regarding locations and times. We have received information that some residents want certain programs and activities in their area. If you see a need then the Resident Association Meeting is the place to let that be known. If you do not attend these meetings the Housing Authority doesn't know your wishes.

The Resident Services Coordinator and your Site Manager are your contacts with the Housing Authority. These are the people that insure we provide you the services that keep you safe, secure, and informed.

Your Site Manager will be in certain areas doing their Annual Inspections that are required by HUD. Remember you do not have to be present for this inspection but you **MUST** make your unit available.

You will be notified of the month they will be in your area so please be prepared. We have recently had a number of residents whose income has changed and it has not been reported to us in a timely manner. Your lease states that you have ten (10) days to notify us of any increase or decrease in your income of \$200 or more per month. It is to your benefit to notify us as quickly as possible so that you do not incur excessive retro rent that has to be repaid.

Our occupancy rate is the highest it has been in several years but we continue to have openings in the larger units. If you know anyone who needs housing, particularly two and three bedroom units please have them come in and apply. Our goal is to fill every unit before the year ends.

If we can assist you in any way with your housing needs please contact your Site Manager. We want to insure that we are doing all that is possible to keep you in your residence.

Colleen Jarrett
Director of Housing Management



“The people heard it, and approved the doctrine, and immediately practiced the contrary.”

— Benjamin Franklin, *The Way to Wealth*



Resident Services introduces and links residents with a wide range of programs and services to enhance the quality of life and to encourage upward mobility into the community.

Through vital community partners we are able to provide a variety of education, social and cultural programs, health and wellness screenings and recreational activities designed to assist residents in achieving stability, strength and self-sufficiency.

Keep a **LOOK** out in the mail for information about your next upcoming **Resident Association Meeting**

Resident Association

What is a Resident Association?

A resident association is a group of residents that live in the same area and whose interests and concerns are improving the quality of life and living conditions in their neighborhood. It also consists of officers elected by residents who will lead their neighborhood in planning and carrying out activities and programs.

Requirements NEGA Housing Resident. To be or become an active association member. All you need to do is attend the monthly or bi-monthly meetings at your nearest community room.

Watch for Flyer's from Resident Services detailing meeting times and locations.

What are the perks?

Find out important information. Get to know your neighbors. Find out what's going on in your community. Bingo (Win household items like: soap, toilet paper, welcome mats/paper towels etc... and select grand prizes). Trips. Activities. Fun.

Did you know that one benefit of being a NEGAHA Resident is the ability to use the Community Rooms for Special Functions, Events and Activities?

Birthday Parties

Chess Clubs

Baby Showers

Reunions

Kid Activities

Bible Studies

+ much more!

Call Resident Services today to reserve your date.

Book Club

5 Reasons You Should Get Along With Your Neighbors

By Jim Dalanch

Here are 5 reasons why and even some tips on how you can get along with your neighbors.

1. **Make New Friends!** Probably one of the easiest reasons you should try to get along with your new neighbors is to see a friendly face near your new home. Life can get so busy and it becomes difficult to make new friends and keep in touch with old ones, but with new and emerging social media and technology keeping in touch is easier than ever. You'll feel less lonely (if single or not moving with a family) and it'll make the transition easier if you DO have a family. Neighbors are often the first friends that kids make when they move so the sooner they make those friends the more accustomed they'll get to their new residence.
2. **Keep each other safe.** One of the most important reasons is for safety measures. There are always unforeseen circumstances that occur and it's important to feel safe in your new neighborhood. If you start off on the right foot with your neighbors you can give them a spare key for emergencies and they can give you one of theirs.
3. **Stay informed with local events and news.** As mentioned, work and school and other events in life can make it insanely busy sometimes. If you have neighbors that are more aware of neighborhood news like; changes in the trash pick-up or detours for road construction, getting along with them will help keep you both informed of these upcoming circumstances.
4. **Do favors for each other.** There's the old cliché of getting a cup of sugar from your neighbor, but a favor can be more than that. Offer to babysit their kids sometime and they'll do the same for you. If you have a snow blower and they don't, clear their driveway or sidewalk. Pickup their mail and take care of their pets while they're away and they'll do the same for you! The old cliché of "treating others as you wish to be treated" certainly applies here! Use it wisely!
5. **Be considerate of each lifestyle.** Finally the best way to do all of the above tips and get along with your neighbor is simply by being considerate of each other. Even if you don't get along with each other for whatever reason, there are certain things that can be done to show respect of each other's lives and lifestyles. If you know they work nights and you work days, try to keep your music or other noise-making appliances at a low volume. If you're having a party or you have a child that plays a loud music instrument tell them they shouldn't hesitate to call them or knock on the door if it's too loud. It's obvious that not everyone in the world gets along with everyone else, but it's important to at least be considerate of each other so you don't add more stress to adjusting to your new residence!



A Word from your **Maintenance Team**

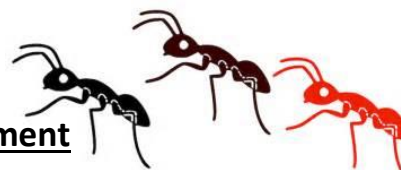


FROM THE DESK OF...

WILLIAM DUNSON, MAINTENANCE MANAGER



Treating Ants/Spiders in your Apartment



If you have ants inside your apartment,

below is a list of spray cleaner recipes you may want to try...

Clean countertops and surfaces well with one of the cleaners below, these can also be used to spray them directly.

- Vinegar
- Vinegar and water (50/50 mix)
- Cider Vinegar and Water (50/50 mix)
- One of these essential oils: peppermint, Lavender, Eucalyptus, Tea Tree Oil, Witch Hazel Extract (1 tablespoon) plus water-per spray bottle (these oils can also be used to repel spiders)
- Liquid Dish Detergent and water (about 1 table spoon detergent, fill spray bottle with water)

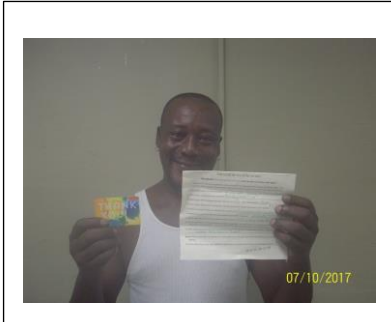
Thank you for your cooperation, and if you have any questions or concerns about the maintenance of your apartment, please feel free to call.

The office is open 7:30 am to 6:00 pm, Monday thru Thursday for your questions or non-emergency work order requests.

The after- hours maintenance emergency numbers are 706-886-7326 or 1-800-752-8546. Please DO NOT call after hours unless you have a maintenance emergency. Emergencies consist of life threatening and safety requests dealing with the maintenance of your apartment.



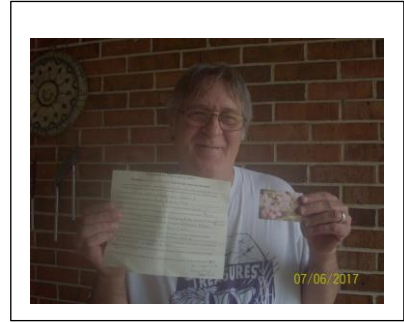
August 2017 Newsletter Winners



*Mr. James Tukes. of
Toccoa Won!*

Congratulations to our winners!

For your chance to win a
\$25.00
Wal-Mart Gift Card
Entries must be received
by
September 25, 2017



*Mr. Michael Vaughn of
Clarkesville won!*

This could be **YOU** enter to **WIN !**

Residents Two winners will receive a **\$25.00 Gift Card From Wal-Mart !**

Answer the following questions, clip out and mail or bring to the Housing Authority office. Two winners will be drawn. The winners will be contacted and announced in the next newsletter!

1. Who is the author of the quote in the newsletter? _____
2. What areas (cities) are the new maintenance employees working in? _____
3. How many days are you given to report income changes? _____
4. What should you not use/be cautious of using in your kitchen? _____
5. What is one household item that you can use to treat spiders/ants in your apartment? _____
6. What is tip #5 for getting along with your neighbors? _____
7. What are the perks to attending a Resident Association Meeting?

8. What two positions work as contacts between residents and housing? _____

Resident Comments:

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Housing Authority**

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