

# HOME MATTERS

Spring, 2018



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## Springtime has arrived!

### Important Points to Remember

- Residents and their guests are NOT ALLOWED to park on the grass, in the street, or behind other vehicles.
- Only outdoor furniture is allowed on porches.
- Porches are not for storage and must be kept neat and clean.
- All vehicles on GHA property must be registered, licensed, and operational. Vehicles that do not meet these standards will be towed at the owner's expense.
- Don't send small children to dispose of trash in the dumpster. If they can't reach high enough to put it in the trash dumpster, it will end up on the ground. If we can identify the trash, you will be charged. Close trash receptacles to keep out birds and other animals. Roll carts should be placed behind the units once trash is collected. Don't bust glass on the ground, this is very dangerous to all residents. Remember, trash hurts all!
- Loud music is a nuisance. Please be considerate of others by keeping your music down in apartments and parking lots. If guests have loud music playing in their cars, remind them to turn the music down.
- The resident will keep their residence, including all appliances, fixtures, and equipment in the residence, grounds, parking space, and common areas clean and in proper working condition, and will not destroy or deface any of the property.

### Work Orders

If any resident notices any part of their unit, common areas, or grounds damaged or defective, they must immediately call in a work order. Maintenance will make necessary repairs and upkeep to maintain all aspects of the property.

### DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE WEEK OF INSPECTION TO CALL IN WORK ORDERS.

When calling in work orders, remember to speak clearly and describe in detail what needs to be fixed and the address. Maintenance will be there as soon as they can, please be patient for all emergency work orders need to be completed first. During regular working hours, please call 843-546-9621 x 221 and leave a message. For after-hours emergency work orders, please call 843-946-0908, and leave your phone number.

### Yard Trash

Please be sure that you remind your children and guests to dispose of trash properly. If we find trash in your yard, you will be charged. Litter on property is not only a violation of your lease, but could cost you the following:

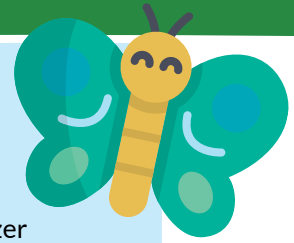
- \$50 for each occurrence.
- Termination of your lease for continued offenses.

School will be out soon, so it is even more important to talk to your children about keeping their surroundings neat and clean, and taking pride in their neighborhood.

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## Above all else, please keep your apartment clean.

### Follow these tips:

- Don't wait until tomorrow to pack up or discard food you enjoyed today. Don't feed pests!
- Keep snack bags clipped shut or use Ziploc bags.
- Promptly wipe up messes and spills on counter tops and floors.
- Keep garbage in sealed containers and dispose of your trash daily.
- Clean up promptly after a party - you'll go to sleep even happier.
- Check for crumbs and wrappers that may get hidden under sofa cushions or bedspreads after snacking.
- Clean the stove, oven, and around it regularly.
- Clean out the inside of your fridge and freezer on a regular basis (once a week), and around the refrigerator by rolling it out on a regular basis.
- Declutter! You probably know that decluttering can do wonders for organizing your apartment and even getting a firm handle on your life. Removing unwanted and unnecessary items from your home means you have less to clean. It will cut your cleaning time and expenses drastically. It's also a useful tool for keeping pests away. Piles of papers and other objects strewn about your apartment can provide food or shelter for pests, such as cockroaches.



## Children & Parenting

### Summer Camp

With the weather getting warmer, now is the time to start planning for summer. Soon the children will be out of school and ready for a fun filled summer with the GHA Summer Camp program. The Georgetown Housing Authority will offer summer camp for children in grades 1 through 6. Sign up notices will go out in May and summer camp will start in mid-June. If you have any questions, contact the Resident Services Coordinator, Helen Rudolph, at 843-546-9621, ext. 226.

### After School Program

The After School Program wrapped up a successful first semester with their annual Christmas Party held in December. The children received presents and had their picture taken with Santa. Refreshments were served. Gifts were donated by an area church and delivered by the Georgetown Police Department.

### Early Head Start (0-3) / 4K Programs

The Early Head Start (0-3)/ 4K Programs are full day preschool programs with wrap around services to accommodate parent's work and school schedules. Residents do not have to be working to enroll their children. With the collaboration of First Steps and Small Minds of Tomorrow, whose owner and director is Lunda Green, these programs have made a huge impact in our community.

Please contact Ms. Green at 843-318-1852 if you are interested in enrolling your child for the upcoming year. It will be a first come, first serve basis at no cost to our residents in both public housing and Section 8. Transportation will be provided, as needed.



## On the Beat

Creating a better place to live in our communities is everyone's job. Crime prevention and community safety is at the top of our list. You might ask what is crime prevention? It is being aware that a crime can occur and taking action to prevent or reduce the chances of it happening. Crime prevention involves instinct, common sense, and action to take away a criminal's opportunity. Some ways to prevent crime in our community: get to know your neighbors, become familiar with the vehicles on your street, be aware of your surroundings, lock your front and back doors, don't leave your car unattended, and always lock your car doors and secure items of value.



## FREE Job Training?

Training and certification can get expensive, but it doesn't have to!

**Before you take out a student loan to pay for your education, look into these alternatives:**

- Contact a prospective employer who hires people in the field you wish to study. They may select motivated individuals and offer free training if you agree to work for them for a specific amount of time. Some of these include: healthcare facilities, ambulance services, fire and police departments, and utility companies.
- You can apply for financial aid in the form of scholarships and grants if you are attending a training program that is offered at a college or other institute of higher learning. Your income will have an impact on whether or not you are approved for financial aid and how much financial assistance you can receive. There may even be special grants for adult learners and single mothers.
- Visit the local Department of Employment & Workforce. They may have programs, or know of programs, to help you pay for your training. If you're a veteran, speak to the VA rep at the local OneStop employment center. There are lots of training programs geared specifically for veterans.
- Contact the administrator of the training program that you'd like to attend. Let them know that you are very interested but are unsure of how you will pay for your training. They will let you know if the training program offers any scholarship options or financial assistance programs. The program administrators may also be able to refer you to any community-based organizations or programs that could help you to cover the cost of training. One example is ZONTA, a women's organization that works to empower women worldwide. They sometimes award small scholarships to women in need to help pay for education and the expenses associated with getting an education.
- Some employers offer a tuition assistance program which pays for some or all of your training while you work there. If you already paid for your training program ask your new or potential employer if they reimburse part of all of the training you received in the past year.

Take the time to explore all your options before you dig yourself into education debt, and remember, even if you can't get your education completely free, every little bit helps!



## April is National Humor Month - "Laughter is the best medicine" is not just another old adage.

**Laughter can have a positive effect on your body. Some of the benefits include:**

- It increases your oxygen intake and blood circulation, which is great for your heart, lungs, and muscles.
- When you laugh, you will feel more relaxed and less tense because it releases your body's natural painkillers.
- Over time, laughter will help to boost your body's immune system.
- Laughter can actually burn calories (10 to 15 minutes = 50 calories).
- It's good for the soul and can make you smarter.
- Laughter can strengthen social bonds.
- Forcing yourself to smile or laugh can actually positively influence your mood to reduce symptoms of depression and anxiety.

**Here are a few jokes to get you started:**

**What do cows read in the morning?** A Moospaper.

**How do you get a tissue to dance?** Put a little boogie in it.

**Why do seagulls fly over the sea?**

If they flew over the bay, they'd be bagels.

**What did the baby corn say to the mama corn?**

Where's popcorn?

**What does a nose pepper do?** Gets jalapeno business.

**What's the difference between a guitar and a fish?**

You can't tuna fish.

**Why did the belt go to jail?** He held up a pair of pants.

**How do you catch a unique rabbit?** You neek up on it.

**How do you catch a tame rabbit?** The tame way.



## May is National Military Appreciation Month

Memorial Day has come to mean the beginning of summer, a time for picnics and barbecues- a holiday to gather with family. That happiness and freedom is a product of the real cause for the holiday, the sacrifice made by men and women who have fought and died for the freedoms and liberties Americans hold dear.

### Facts about Memorial Day

- Memorial Day was established after the Civil War. May 30th was chosen because flowers would be in bloom all over the country.
- Memorial Day was first observed at Arlington National Cemetery.
- After World War I, Memorial Day was expanded to honor all Americans who died in war.
- In December 2000, Congress passed and President Clinton signed "The National Moment of Remembrance Act."
- Bright red poppies were first sold in 1920 to help orphans and others struggling after the war.
- On Memorial Day, the flag should be flown at half-staff from sunrise until noon only, then raised briskly to the top of the staff until sunset.
- More than one million Americans have died in our nation's conflicts going back to the Revolutionary War. World War II was the deadliest with 405,399, and the Civil War came in second with a total of 364,511 (Union and Confederate).
- There are more than 83,000 missing and unaccounted Americans who served in war.

*Remember those who served before.*

*Remember those who are no more.*

*Remember those who serve today.*

*Remember them all on Memorial Day.*

~Emily Toma





**READY,**



**SET,**



**SUCCEED!**

## Tickets to Success

Starting in January, every Public Housing resident can earn Tickets to Success for an opportunity to win great prizes for you and your family throughout the year. A house drop box will be located in the lobby for entries, and at the end of each month a winner will be drawn. In December 2018, we'll announce a grand prize winner!

- Pay rent and charges on time.
- Make repayment agreements when they are due.
- Pass inspections.
- Keep your yard free of trash and unsightly items.
- Come in for appointments.
- Attend Resident Council monthly meetings and other activities.

January Winner

**Eugene Hardy - Westside Apartments**  
Everything for a complete bathroom make over.

February Winner

**Raymond Edwards - Maryville Apartments**  
Dirt Devil and accessories for the kitchen.



## June is National Child Safety Awareness Month

### Ways to keep your child safe:

- Secure furniture and TV's.
- Make sure that your child's car seat is buckled correctly.
- Keep all medicines out of child's reach.
- Beware of windows. (Toddlers can easily tumble through window screens).
- Check around your house for coin-sized button batteries, such as those that come in musical greeting cards, remote controls, and key fobs. (Swallowing these lithium batteries can be dangerous).
- Maintain a close relationship with your child. (Talk to your child constantly - listen more than you talk).
- Make sure your child stays hydrated during those hot summer days.
- Teach your child to cross the street.
- Give your child the tools to prevent bullying.
- When your child goes to someone's house on a playdate, be sure to know the family.
- Make sure that you put your child in someone's care that you totally trust.
- Never leave your child unattended in a vehicle.
- Teach your child how to swim.
- Help your child to develop good judgement.
- Use sunscreen and insect repellent.
- Make sure your child is always supervised around water.
- Make sure your child wears a helmet when recommended.
- Review what to do if your child gets lost or separated from you.



Home Matters is published quarterly by the Georgetown Housing Authority. Please send articles to: PO Box 209, Georgetown, SC 29442 by June 1st for the next issue. You may also fax or email Elaine Adesso: (843) 527-7536 / customersvc1@gtownhousing.org. Material is subject to approval at editing.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### APRIL

- 1st - RENT, RETIREMENT & REPAYMENT AGREEMENTS DUE
- 6th - LATE CHARGES ADDED (morning)
- 10th - Board of Commissioners meeting 6:00 pm
- 15th - MAGISTRATE (for anyone who hasn't paid their bill)
- 19th - Resident Council meeting 5:00 pm
- 23rd - 26th - GHA office closed to the public

### MAY

- 1st - RENT, RETIREMENT & REPAYMENT AGREEMENTS DUE
- 6th - LATE CHARGES ADDED (morning)
- 8th - Board of Commissioners meeting 6:00 pm
- 14th - June 1st - Pest Control/Housekeeping Inspections
- 15th - MAGISTRATE (for anyone who hasn't paid their bill)
- 17th - Resident Council meeting 5:00 pm
- 24th - GHA office closed to the public
- 28th - Memorial Day, GHA office closed

### JUNE

- 1st - Pest Control/Housekeeping Inspections
- 1st - RENT, RETIREMENT & REPAYMENT AGREEMENTS DUE
- 6th - LATE CHARGES ADDED (morning)
- 12th - Board of Commissioners meeting 6:00 pm
- 15th - MAGISTRATE (for anyone who hasn't paid their bill)
- 21st - Resident Council meeting 5 pm
- 28th - GHA office closed to the public

### JULY

- 1st - RENT, RETIREMENT & REPAYMENT AGREEMENTS DUE
- 4th - Independence Day, GHA office closed
- 6th - LATE CHARGES ADDED (morning)
- 10th - Board of Commissioners meeting 6:00 pm
- 15th - MAGISTRATE (for anyone who hasn't paid their bill)
- 19th - Resident Council meeting 5:00 pm
- 23rd - 26th - GHA office closed to the public

### GHA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mr. Richard Smith, Board Chair	Mr. Kalib Moyer
Mr. Tomas Langley, Vice Chair	Ms. Betty Wilson
Mrs. Christina Woodruff, Secretary	Ms. Taneka Deas

### GHA MAIN OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. & 1 - 6 p.m.

### PHONE DIRECTORY: (843) 546-9621

Christina S. Woodruff, Executive Director	ext. 227
Johanna Jefferson, Public Housing Manager - AMP1	ext. 230
Alissa Collington, Public Housing Manager - AMP2	ext. 222
Kiara Logan, HCV Coordinator	ext. 223
Elaine Adesso, Administrative Assistant	ext. 224
Joe Geathers, Maintenance Director	ext. 228
Lois Parsons, Front Desk	ext. 221
After hours' emergency work orders	(843) 946-0908
TTY / TDD	(843) 461-3910