

# HOME MATTERS

Summer, 2018



**READY,**



**SET,**



**SUCCESS!**

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The Ready, Set, Success program is well under way. As of January 2018, every public housing resident has been given the opportunity to earn tickets for awesome prizes. Throughout the year, names will be drawn at the end of each month to reveal a winner. The winner will be contacted to pick up their prize within 5 business days of the drawing!

### How to Earn Tickets for Success

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

### Congratulations to our **READY, SET, SUCCESS** Winners!

#### March Winner

**Erica S. Sherald**  
- Westside Apts.

*Pots and pans set & food storage containers*



#### April Winner

**Elizabeth Anderson**

*Ceramic bakeware set, cutting boards & accessories*



### **READY** is the Preparation Step to be Successful!

- Decluttering can do wonders for organizing your apartment and significantly decreases the possibility of having mice and roaches.
- Store dry goods (flour, sugar, pasta, etc.) in tightly closed containers.
- Store grease in refrigerator, do not keep grease in a container on the countertop because it is a perfect breeding ground for roaches.
- Keep it dry! Report all leaks and damages immediately. Many insects and rodents thrive in wet environments and come through holes.

### **SET** a Plan in Place and Follow Through!

- Keep a daily/weekly cleaning schedule to help from getting overwhelmed with tons of household chores on your days off.
- Store or discard food immediately after use. Do not leave food sitting out or uncovered, it is an open invitation for pests!
- Promptly wipe up messes and spills on countertops, stove, and floors.
- Clean up crumbs, trash, and dirt hidden under sofa cushions or bedspreads. It is good practice to eat in designated eating areas and not in bedrooms.
- Clean out the fridge and freezer on a regular basis (weekly cleaning is highly suggested).
- Dispose of trash daily.

### **SUCCESS** is Possible!

- A clean home not only ensures you will pass inspection but also will help get a handle on pest control. Organization has been known to reduce depression and stress levels, improve productivity, and will help you get a more restful sleep.
- Piles of laundry and endless to-dos are exhausting, but they can actually mess with all aspects of your life—not just your daily schedule or orderly home. “At the end of the day, being organized is about having more time for yourself, and enabling you to live a more balanced life,” says Eva Selhub, M.D., author of *Your Health Destiny: How to Unlock Your Natural Ability to Overcome Illness, Feel Better, and Live Longer*. Clearing away the clutter can help you make healthier choices, improve your relationships, and even boost your workout.

**Remember, by passing inspections you receive an entry for our monthly Ready, Set, Success! drawing. The more entries you receive, the more chances you have to win!**

## June is National Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Month

Celebrate June as Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Month by solving these riddles. The answers just happen to score among the top 10 fruits and vegetables for antioxidant power.

After you solve the riddles, stock up on fresh fruits and veggies at your local **Farmers Market, Saturdays 8AM-1PM at 122 Screven St., Georgetown, SC 29440**. Summer is the easiest time to fill half your plate with fruits and vegetables because so many fresh fruits and veggies are in season and at their peak flavor!

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1. You love me in a muffin and as dessert, too; small, plump, and juicy, my color is blue.                        | 1. _____  |
| 2. Watch out for thorns when you pick this treat; it's a berry, black and sweet.                                  | 2. _____  |
| 3. They call me the "stinking rose;" vampire-slayers wear me under their clothes.                                 | 3. _____  |
| 4. Wind, snow, sleet, or hail, try a leafy green called...  | 4. _____  |
| 5. Breakfast, lunch dessert or dinner, I'm a popular red berry that's sure to be a winner!                        | 5. _____  |
| 6. Here's a leafy green that's tried and true; try it raw or even cooked too.                                     | 6. _____  |
| 7. This "baby cabbage" is named for a city in Europe; don't wrinkle your nose, just eat it up.                    | 7. _____  |
| 8. Eat this for breakfast, lunch, or snack; or eat it in a corner, just like Jack.                                | 8. _____  |
| 9. I'm a handsome white vegetable that's actually a flower. I remind you of broccoli and bring great phyto-power! | 9. _____  |
| 10. People eat its green flowers, which are oh so delicious; here's the most popular veggie cruciferous.          | 10. _____ |

Answers: 1. Blueberry, 2. Blackberry, 3. Garlic, 4. Kale, 5. Strawberry, 6. Spinach, 7. Brussels Sprouts, 8. Plum, 9. Cauliflower, 10. Broccoli

By Hollis Bass, MEd, RD, LD



## July is National Grilling Month - Be safe this summer while enjoying your scrumptious food.

### DO:

1. Keep your grill at least 10 feet away from your house. Further away is even better. This includes portions attached to your house like carports, garages and porches. Grills should not be used underneath wooden overhangs either, as the fire could flare-up into the structure above. This applies to both charcoal and gas grills. This can cause siding to melt and structural fires.
2. Clean your grill regularly. This will remove grease that can start a fire. If you allow grease and fat to build up on your grill, they provide more fuel for a fire. Grease is a major source of flare-ups.
3. Check for gas leaks. Make sure to open the gas grill before lighting. You can make sure no gas is leaking from your gas grill by making a solution of half liquid dish soap and half water, and rubbing it on the hoses and connections. Then, turn the gas on (with the grill lid open). If the soap forms large bubbles, that's a sign that the hoses have tiny holes or that the connections are not tight enough.
4. Keep a 3-foot safe zone around your grill and keep decorations away from your grill. This will keep children and pets safe. Decorations like hanging baskets, pillows and umbrellas look pretty AND provide fuel for a fire. To make matters worse, today's decor is mostly made of artificial fibers that burn fast and hot, making this tip even more important.
5. Keep a spray bottle of water handy. That way, if you have a minor flare-up you can spray it with the water to instantly calm it. The bonus of this tip is that water won't harm your food, so dinner won't be ruined!
6. Store coals and lighter fluids safely. Do not store charcoals or lighter fluids in the unit. Discard of coals from the grill in a metal can with a lid once the have cooled.
7. Keep a fire extinguisher within a couple steps of your grill, and KNOW HOW TO USE IT. If you are unsure how to use the extinguisher, don't waste time fiddling with it before calling 911. Firefighters say many fire deaths occur when people try to fight a fire themselves instead of calling for expert help and letting the fire department do its job.

### DO NOT:

1. DO NOT turn on the gas while your grill lid is closed. NEVER do this. It causes gas to build up inside your grill, and when you do light it and open it, a fireball can explode in your face.
2. DO NOT leave a grill unattended. Don't walk away from the grill when it is lit. Fires double in size every minute. Plan ahead so that all of your other food prep chores are done and you can focus on grilling.
3. DO NOT overload your grill with food. This applies especially fatty meats. The basic reason for this tip is that if too much fat drips on the flames at once, it can cause a large flare-up that could light nearby things on fire.
4. DO NOT use a grill indoors. People often think it will be safe to use a grill, especially a small one, indoors. NOT TRUE. In addition to the fire hazard, grills release carbon monoxide, the deadly colorless, odorless gas. That gas needs to vent in fresh air or it can kill you, your family, and pets.



## August is Family Fun Month

### Visit a water/amusement park, aquarium, or planetarium.

- Family Kingdom Amusement Park offers a local discount of \$16.10 per person per park for Horry, Georgetown, Williamsburg, and Brunswick counties and military discounts of \$16.10 per person, per park.
- Splashpads
- Museum of Coastal Carolina Ingram Planetarium
- Wild Water & Wheels

### Take a trip to the local history/art/children's museum.

- EdVenture Myrtle Beach  
Monday– Saturday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Sunday: Noon – 5 p.m.  
Members: Free, Children and Adults: \$8  
Children 23 months and younger: Free

### Go out for ice cream.

### Play miniature golf.

### Take a day trip to the zoo.

- Brookgreen Garden
- Waccatee Zoological Farm

### Go fishing, hiking, or geocaching.

- Geocaching is an outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices. The only necessities are a GPS device or a GPS-enabled mobile phone so that you can navigate to the cache. There are 40+ geocaches near Georgetown, SC. Learn more at [www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com).

### Go to the movies, bowling, skating, or a fun park.

- Rockin' Jump
- Fun Warehouse

### Go on a picnic, the park, or a summer concert series.

### Put a jigsaw puzzle together.

### Spend an evening star gazing.

### Go through your childhood pictures and share a special memory.



## Hurricane Season is Upon Us! Are You Ready? Here are a few tips to help you get prepared:

- Put your hurricane kit together NOW to avoid crowded stores and low supermarket stock.
- Set up a room in your home as a designated "safe room" in the event of high winds.
- KNOW YOUR EVACUATION ZONE!**  
Westside Apartments – Zone B  
North Street Apartments – Zone B  
Maryville South Apartments – Zone A  
For more information, call 843-545-3900.
- Update your first aid box, replace expired medicines and replenish bandages.
- Keep your cell phone charged- if possible have a battery back-up or solar powered recharger on hand.
- Keep a full tank of gas in your car.
- Keep emergency contacts and phone numbers in your hurricane kit.
- Prepare 1-2 weeks supply of emergency items. These should include flashlights, batteries, bottled water, canned and dry foods, baby food and formula, blankets, cash, credit cards, diapers, change of clothes, toilet paper, soap and shampoo, insurance information, valuable papers, utensils and paper towels.

**REMEMBER** – The landlord is not responsible for a resident's property, nor any damage to a resident's property. Now is a good time to start thinking about investing in renter's insurance.

\*Check with your local insurance agent for more accurate quotes. Most insurance agencies will bundle renter's insurance with your car insurance.

<b>All State:</b>	Min coverage of \$15,000 for personal property	Estimation as low as \$9/monthly payment
<b>Geico:</b>	Min coverage of \$5,000 for personal property	Estimation as low as \$167 for the year; between \$15-\$20/monthly
<b>State Farm:</b>	Min coverage of \$20,000 for personal property	Estimation as low as \$180 for the year; about \$15/monthly
<b>Farm Bureau:</b>	Min coverage between \$15,000-\$20,000 for personal property	Estimation as low \$180 for the year

## Children & Parenting

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

These 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 (843-318-1852), these programs have made a huge impact in our community.

Please contact Ms. Green 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 HCV Program. Transportation will be provided as needed.



## After School Awards Ceremony

The GHA After School Program held their annual award ceremony on Thursday, May 31, 2018. This year GHA chose two children from the class that have shown great improvement in academics, displayed good character, leadership skills and a willingness to help others. As well as one student that exemplified great academic discipline and leadership all year long. These three recognized students received a gift card.



**Congratulations to Nolan Sutton, Nevaeh Sutton, and Shayanna Brown for an outstanding year!**

A big thank you to all the students and parents that participated in the 2017-18 After School Program and made it a successful year. Thank you to our Program Coordinator, Helen Rudolph, and her assistant, Virginia Boyles-Gibbs, who provided the children with educational opportunities every day! Also, we would like to thank the GHA staff and Board of Commissioners for all their support.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## JUNE

- 1st – Rent, Retrorent & 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 5:00 pm
- 28th – GHA office closed to the public

## JULY

- 1st – Rent, Retrorent & Repayment Agreements Due
- 4th – Independence Day, GHA office closed
- 6th – (morning) LATE CHARGES ADDED
- 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
- 23 to 26th – GHA office closed to the public

## AUGUST

- 1st – Rent, Retrorent & Repayment Agreements Due
- Pest Control/Housekeeping Inspections
- 6th – Late Charges Added (morning)
- 14th – Board of Commissioners meeting 6:00 pm
- 15th – MAGISTRATE (for anyone who hasn't paid their bill)
- 16th – Resident Council meeting 5:00 pm  
(Review of Annual Plan)
- 23rd – GHA office closed to the public

## SEPTEMBER

- 1st – Rent, Retrorent & Repayment Agreements Due
- 3rd – Labor Day, GHA office closed
- 6th – Late Charges Added (morning)
- 11th – Board of Commissioners meeting 6:00 pm
- 15th – MAGISTRATE (for anyone who hasn't paid their bill)
- 20th – Resident Council meeting 5:00 pm
- 27th – 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 |

## From the Desk of the Executive Director

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) final rule to restrict smoking in public housing has gone into effect. By July 30, 2018, all Public Housing Authorities must be in compliance by adopting a smoke-free policy.

What does this mean to Georgetown Housing Authority's residents? Effective July 1, 2018, GHA will prohibit the use of "prohibited tobacco products" in all public housing units, including scattered sites and single-family properties. All outdoor areas within 25 feet of administration office buildings and housing properties will also be smoke-free.

GHA will implement a phase-in period to help residents adapt. During the upcoming months, more information will become available. Resident Council Meetings, held every third Thursday at 5:00 p.m. at 1 Lincoln Street, will address these issues.

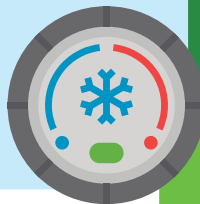
**As always, we rely on your patience and understanding as this required change is implemented.**

## Housing Authority Reminder – HVAC Unit

- Do not use bleach to clean the cold air return.
- Maintain proper temperatures for heat and air (68-75°).
- AC should not be below 72°.
- Heat should not be above 75°.
- Damages can occur from setting the air conditioning too low.
- Leave the fan on 'Auto'.
- Never use the 'emergency heat' setting.

### Contributing factors for a high utility bill:

- Remember: hot air rises and cool air falls.
- Leaving windows and doors open while unit is running.
- Clogged filters.
- Turning unit off and on.



## In Your Neighborhood - Help Your Local Veteran

GHA has partnered with Myrtle Beach Housing Authority, Veteran Affairs of Myrtle Beach, ECHO (Eastern Carolina Homelessness Organization), and the Low Country Veterans Group to offer VASH vouchers to Georgetown County veterans. If you are a veteran or know a veteran who is homeless or in danger of becoming homeless, let them know there is help!

Veterans interested in learning about the program should contact Kiara Logan, HCV Coordinator, at 546-9621 x223, or Christina Woodruff at x227.

**Let's give back to those men and women who served so courageously for our country!**



Home Matters is published quarterly by the Georgetown Housing Authority. Please send articles to: PO Box 209, Georgetown, SC 29442 by September 1st for the next issue. You may also fax or email Elaine Adesso: (843) 546-9621 / chrish45@gtownhousing.org. Material is subject to approval at editing.