

HOME MATTERS

Winter, 2019



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Community Center Undergoes Renovation

In November 2018, the Community Center, where our afterschool program is held, received a new look. The center received new computer desks, televisions, a projector screen, and a built-in bookshelf. These improvements give the children of the center more space to explore and learn.

The David H. Drayton Community Center, under the direction of Mrs. Helen Rudolph and Virginia Boyles-Gibbs, serves 1st -8th grade. The center assists with homework, social skills, and provides children with access to computer labs and enrichment programs to further their progress in school and their community. Hours of operation are 2:30 to 4:30 pm, Monday - Thursday



READY,



SET,



SUCCESS!

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

August Winner



Herbert Bromell Jr.
- Maryville Apts.

Dirt Devil vacuum & kitchenware

September Winner



Arlene Gamble
- Westside Apts.

Cordless sweeper & household organizers

October Winner



Jessica Deas
- Westside Apts.

Kitchen utensils

Financial Fitness and Vitality

Make financial fitness your New Year's Resolution.
No better time than the new year to get your finances fit and in shape.

Understand Why You Want To Be "Financially Fit"

Your "why" is unique to you. Whether it is to save your marriage, purchase a home, or put your kids through college. Make sure you know what motivates you to want to be financially fit.

Establish Your "Financial Workout Routine"

Evaluate your spending habits, keep tabs on your credit score each month, and lower any unnecessary debt. These essential basics will help you whip into financial shape.

Identify Your Workout Buddies

Accountability! A financial workout buddy will help to keep you in good financial shape. Solicit advice from a financial services representative or supportive family and friends who are already financially fit.

Push Yourself for Growth

Just as no one else can push you into physical fitness, you are the only one who can decide to get financially fit. Overcome the challenge of being comfortable with a bad diet (no savings/poor spending habits) and create habit a of financial discipline.

Reward Yourself

Set a goal for yourself, and when you reach it, treat yourself. Allocate a small amount of money to reward yourself to something nice once you reach a specific financial goal.

Set S.M.A.R.T. Goals

- **Specific** - What exactly do I want to do next?
- **Measurable** - How will I track my progress?
- **Attainable** - Is this realistic for?
- **Relevant** - Why am I doing this? Does it matter to me?
- **Time-oriented** - When will I have this completed?

It's a ball. It's a shoe. No, it's a massive wad of baby wipes clogging the main line.

In October 2018, at a Charleston wastewater treatment plant, divers had to dive blindly into 80 to 90 feet of sewage to unclog a massive blockage. When divers surfaced, they were carrying several pounds of baby wipes. This massive load of baby wipes had clogged a large pump at the wastewater treatment center.

This is a great example why we urge our residents to **NEVER** flush baby wipes, or any foreign objects, down your toilet. Please refer to pages 36 and 37 in the resident handbook, **Welcome Home**, for a list of some common items not to flush down your toilet or pour down your drain.

Picture Source: Charleston Water System via live5news.com article: *Massive collections of baby wipes clogged up some pumps at a Lowcountry wastewater facility, by Ray Rivera 10/15/18*



A Celebration to Honor Our Veterans



On November 8, the Low Country Veteran's Group held their 6th annual Veterans Day Celebration. No rain could dampen the spirits of everyone that came out to celebrate and honor the men and women who have served our country with the ultimate sacrifice. Food and refreshments were served by the Low Country Veteran's Group.



Thanks to everyone you help make this annual celebration a success. Thanks to the ECHO and Tidelands Health for setting up a booth. A gracious thank you to the Lions Club for serving up the best scoop of ice cream. Thanks to the Pawleys Island Community band for playing at our event. And a great big thank you to the Low Country Veteran's Group for organizing and setting up this honorary event.

Many thanks and gratitude to the many men and women, present and fallen, who have served in the armed forces.

Trash Advisory



- Please be aware garbage should be bagged before it goes into the dumpster. Bagging prevents garbage from blowing out of the canister and into the neighborhood. Trash bags also prevent smells and can help deter animals from climbing into the dumpsters.
- Do not leave trash laying outside of or around the dumpster. All trash must go into the canister.
- Do not send small children to the dumpster to throw trash away. They are unable to reach to properly throw trash away and tend to leave it laying outside the canister. Leaving trash around and outside of the dumpster increases the chances of rodents and other animals on the property and in your unit.
- Do not leave furniture, televisions, mattresses, toys, etc. near the dumpsters. Waste Management Industries does not dispose of these items.



February is National Black History Month

Georgetown was once a predominantly African American neighborhood, and it is the third oldest city in the U.S. In the early 1800's, Georgetown was an independent tobacco and shipping port. At that time, Georgetown and surrounding areas had a population of 5,120, which included 1,449 black slaves; South Carolina had 140,178 white residents and 108,895 black residents, which were mostly slaves.

In 1860, with over 120 plantations, the population in South Carolina grew to 412,320 black residents, most of which worked the rice crops, and 291,300 white residents. Georgetown District produced one-half of the total rice crop of the United States. With the devastation and no one working the crops, Georgetown County suffered terribly during the Reconstruction Era after the Civil War.

In 1905, Georgetown reached its peak as a lumber port with the great help of the black community. With no work to be

found, the Georgetown people suffered again during the Great Depression, and a strong religious faith would once again get them through these rough times.

In 1944, the Southern Kraft Division of International Paper opened a mill which employed many locals. It was the largest in the world.

Today, Georgetown with a population of approximately 9,163, of which 5,192 are black, heritage tourism has become a booming business. Approximately, 4,625,364 people now live in South Carolina, of which 1,290,684 are black. Each year, the whole month of February, our After-School Program participates in activities such as crafting items made by black/African Americans. They also study notable black/African Americans.

To name a few, some of these famous South Carolinians are as follows:

- **Kimberly Aiken**, Miss American 1994
- **Charles P. Austin, Sr.**, Columbia's first African-American Chief of Police
- **Brendon Barber, Sr.**, the first black Mayor of Georgetown, SC.
- **Chadwick Boseman**, film actor, portrayed James Brown, Thurgood Marshall, and the infamous Black Panther
- **James Brown**, singer, Godfather of Soul
- **James E. Clyburn**, SC Congressman
- **Willis Crosby**, black radio legend
- **Viola Davis**, TV and film actress
- **Bobby Engram**, professional football player
- **Ernest Evans (Chubby Checker)**, singer
- **Matilda Evans**, first African American woman physician in SC
- **Joe Frazier**, professional heavyweight boxer
- **Kevin Garnett**, basketball player
- **Jumpy Geathers**, football player with 2 super bowl wins
- **John Birks Gillespie (Dizzy)**, famous trumpeter
- **Alberta Tucker Grimes**, organized first SC Head Start Program
- **Edwin A. Harleston**, artist
- **Charlayne Hunter-Gault**, journalist
- **Willie Jeffries**, football coach
- **Etta Jones**, jazz singer
- **Eartha Kitt**, singer, actress
- **Raphael C. Lee**, surgeon
- **Wes Mackey**, blues musician
- **Cassandra Maxwell**, first African American woman admitted to the SC bar
- **Ron McNair**, astronaut
- **Frieda Mitchell**, Director of United Communities for Child development
- **Reverend Newman**, State Senator
- **William "Refrigerator" Perry**, Chicago Bears defensive lineman, key player in Super bowl XX
- **Bill Pinkney**, singer for the Drifters
- **Joseph Hayne Rainey**, US Congressman
- **Willie Larry Randolph**, baseball player and Manager of New York Mets
- **Sarah Reese**, opera singer
- **Eugene Robinson**, Pulitzer Prize winner
- **Chris Rock**, TV and film actor
- **Darius Rucker**, songwriter, singer
- **Tim Scott**, US Representative
- **Marlean Smalls**, Gospel singer
- **Harold A. Stevens**, Justice of the New York Supreme Court
- **Dr. Charles W. Swan**, Presidential Policy Advisor
- **Irene Trowell-Harris**, first female African American General, National Guard
- **Wilfred Junius Walker**, educator
- **Armstrong Williams**, entrepreneur, Cecil J. Williams, photographer
- **William Hayward Mookie Wilson**, baseball player
- **Justice Wright**, SC Supreme Court Justice

Georgetown is deeply rooted in black history- take this time to explore and reflect on the beautiful and enriching history of this great city. Stop by the Gullah Museum to learn about the rich Gullah history from slavery to emancipation. Allow Mr. Andrew Rodrigues, curator of the Gullah Museum, to elaborate on how the Gullah people once made South Carolina the second wealthiest colony of the 13 colonies. You will trace the lineage of Michele Obama's family, from a Gullah slave cabin to the White House. The Gullah Museum is open Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Friends of Georgetown Library will be hosting "The Language You Cry In" on February 19th, 2019 at 10 a.m. It is a film and lecture on connections between the Gullah Geechee and people of Sierra Leone. The speaker will be Heather Hodges of the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Commission.

[Honor the past as we look towards the future. Learn about some of our local heroes at the Rice Museum.](#)

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 843-546-9621 x223, or Christina Woodruff at x227.

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY

- 1st – RENT, RETRORENT & REPAYMENT AGREEMENTS DUE
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!, GHA office closed
- 6th – LATE CHARGES ADDED (morning)
- 8th – Board of Commissioners meeting 6:00 pm
- 15th – MAGISTRATE (for anyone who hasn't paid their bill)
- 21st – MLK Jr. Day, GHA office closed
- 29th – GHA office closed to the public

FEBRUARY

- 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)
- 28th – GHA office closed to the public

MARCH

- 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)
- 25th - 28th – GHA office closed to the public

APRIL

- 1st – RENT, RETRORENT & REPAYMENT AGREEMENTS DUE
- 6th – LATE CHARGES ADDED (morning)
- 9th – Board of Commissioners meeting 6:00 pm
- 15th – MAGISTRATE (for anyone who hasn't paid their bill)
- 22nd - 25th – GHA office closed to the public

Job Opportunities / Skill Classes

The Georgetown JobLink Center at the Goodwill store holds job skills classes daily. These classes are a great way to learn job skills to help you receive and retain employment.

- Mon.:** 1:00 – 2:00 pm – Soft Skills (Needed for workplace success)
- Tues.:** 1:00 – 2:30 pm – Resume Writing
2:30 – 3:30 pm – Dress for Success
- Wed.:** 12:30 – 1:30 pm – Interview Skills
- Thurs.:** 1:30 – 2:30 pm – Basic Computers
- Fri.:** 1:30 – 2:30 pm – Soft Skills (Needed for workplace success)



Class times are subject to change. A monthly calendar of skills classes and events will be available in the kiosk in the front office. For more information or to register, call Tish Cromley at 843-527-3022.

Who's Who at GHA

Welcome B!

Having worked as the bookkeeper for St. Cyprian Church and Outreach for over 13 years, and with Charlie Ball at Friendship Place for several years, B is looking forward to working with the team here at GHA.

"The staff here has been wonderful to help me learn my new job. It's great to work with such cheerful, caring, and professional folks."

Welcome Katisa!

Katisa comes to us from Salt Lake City, UT. She has several years of experience in customer service and administration.

Katisa looks forward to serving the community in her new role as administrative assistant.



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 am – 12 pm & 1 – 6 pm

PHONE DIRECTORY: 843-546-9621

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| Christina S. Woodruff, Executive Director | ext. 227 |
| Lois Parsons, Front Desk | ext. 221 |
| Johanna Jefferson, Public Housing Manager - AMP1 | ext. 230 |
| Alissa Collington, Public Housing Manager - AMP2 | ext. 222 |
| Kiara Logan, HCV Coordinator | ext. 223 |
| Joe Geathers, Maintenance Director | ext. 228 |
| B Kisner, Bookkeeper | ext. 224 |
| Katisa Kersey, Administrative Assistant | ext. 237 |
| After hours' emergency work orders | (843) 946-0908 |
| TTY / TDD | (843) 461-3910 |

Home Matters is published quarterly by the Georgetown Housing Authority. Please send articles to: PO Box 209, Georgetown, SC 29442 by March 1st for the next issue. You may also fax or email Chris Woodruff: (843) 546-9621 ext. 227 / chrisw45@gtownhousing.org. Material is subject to approval at editing.