

# HOME MATTERS

Fall 2021

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Hello Fall!

P1



National Hispanic Heritage Month

P2



New Staff Members  
- Nicole J. McCray

P2



Tickets to Success

P2



GHA Resident Council Meetings

P2



Available Assistance

P2



COVID-19 Reminders

P3



Breast Cancer Awareness

P3



Public Housing & Section 8 Docs

P3



GHA / CHRSC

P3



Help Your Local Veteran

P3



Halloween Safety Tips

P4

## IN EVERY ISSUE

Upcoming Events & General Information

P4

## GOODBYE SUMMER, HELLO FALL!

Clocks will **FALL** back to standard time on Sunday, November 7, 2021, at 2 AM!



### Children's Reading List for Fall

Welcome fall with one of these seasonal titles perfect for kids!



**Thankful** by Eileen Spinelli

**Wonderfall** by Michael Hall

**Hocus Pocus, It's Fall** by Anne Sibley O'Brien

**Too Many Pumpkins** by Linda White & Megan Lloyd

**Goodbye Summer, Hello Autumn** by Kenard Pak

### 5 Safety Tips for Kids in School

- ☐ Practice safe distancing.
- ☐ Wear a mask.
- ☐ Wash and keep hands clean.
- ☐ Clean and disinfect surfaces.
- ☐ Stay home if you're sick.





# NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

**Hispanic Heritage Month runs from September 15- October 15th!**

This is an annual celebration of the history and culture of the US Latinx and Hispanic communities and commemorates how these communities have influenced and contributed to American society at large.

## New Staff Members:

Please welcome our new GHA staff members!

**Essence Greene**  
GHA Office Manager

**Pat Shepley**  
Public Housing  
Administrative Assistant

**Nicole J. McCray**  
Resident Services  
Coordinator

## Meet the newest member of GHA: Nicole J. McCray

Mrs. McCray is our new Resident Services Coordinator (RSC). A native of Pawleys Island, she is a joyful wife, mother of two, a grandmother of two, and holds a BA from Claflin University, Orangeburg, SC.

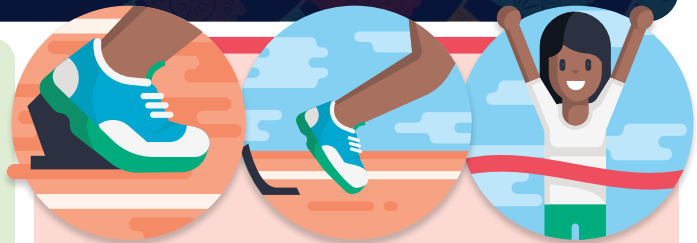
Because of her love for people and her people skills, she can, and will, assist in any way she can. Her role as a Resident Services Coordinator is to assist GHA residents in obtaining services they may need, socially and economically, so they will become self-sufficient. She can connect you to services in the community, advocate for you, and will help build the GHA community through events and providing services.

Please feel free to contact her at 843-546-9621, ext. 226 or by email at [residentservices@gtownhousing.org](mailto:residentservices@gtownhousing.org)



## GHA Resident Council Meetings

The GHA Resident Council meets every 3rd Thursday of the month at 5 PM in the Community Building. All residents are welcome to attend.



## READY, SET, SUCCESS!

The Ready, Set, Success program has been a great success, and will be returning. Every public housing resident is given the opportunity to earn tickets for awesome prizes. Throughout the year, names are 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.

## Available Assistance

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused some difficult times. Please be aware that there is help and resources available. The following short list is just a few places you can call and inquire for help.

### Helping Hands of Georgetown

Hours of Operation:  
Mon. - Thurs., 9 am-2 pm  
843-527-3424

### St. Cyprian Outreach

(Currently assistance is restricted to first time applicants only.)  
843-546-1470

### Waccamaw Economic Opportunity Council Inc. (WEOC)

Must call to make an appointment: 843-546-6161



## COVID-19 Reminders

- ❑ Clean high touch surfaces daily.
- ❑ Often wash your hands for at least 20 seconds.
- ❑ Visit a testing site if you have symptoms.
- ❑ Inform yourself daily of changes and updates.
- ❑ Distance between yourself and others by 6 feet.

## Office Hours

Due to the rise in positive COVID-19 cases, the office is closed to the public. Admittance to the office is by appointment only. The phone lines are open for communication and we can be reached via email at [info@gtownhousing.org](mailto:info@gtownhousing.org).

## Great News!

**WHAT:** Residents can now access and print documents needed by your Public Housing and Section 8 Case Managers.

**WHERE:** The Community Building, inside the GHA office.

**WHEN:** Monday - Thursday, 9-11 AM

**CONTACT:** Nicole J. McCray, Resident Services Coordinator, 843-546-9621, Ext. 226



## GHA/CHRSC

The after-school program has returned to their regular schedule of Monday - Thursday from 2 - 5:30pm. If you have any questions, please contact the following:

**Gianny Guedjo**- Executive Director, 843-461-4305, [gianny@chrsc.org](mailto:gianny@chrsc.org)

**Nicole J. McCray**, Site Manager, 919-345-9794, [residentservices@gtownhousing.org](mailto:residentservices@gtownhousing.org)

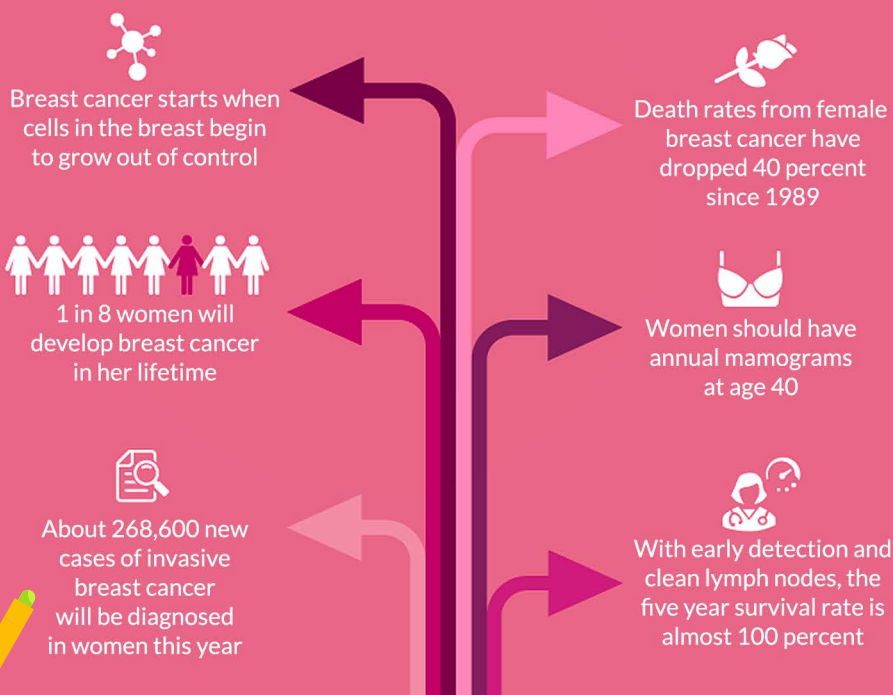


## BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

Breast cancer awareness month is an opportunity to increase attention and support the early detection and treatment of breast cancer. You can do your part with monthly self-exams and regular screenings.



## BE INFORMED ABOUT BREAST CANCER



**SCHEDULE YOUR SCREENING  
CALL 1-800-4-CANCER**

## 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 Alissa Collington, Interim Executive Director at 843-546-9621, x222.

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

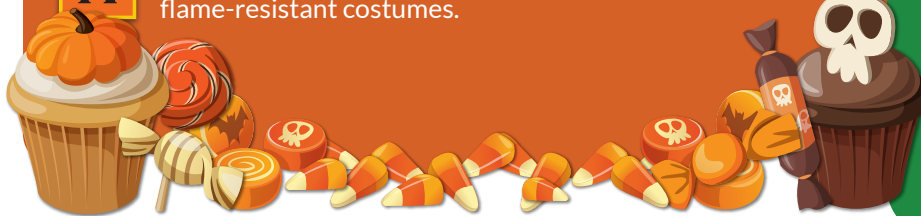




## Halloween Safety Tips

Halloween is fast approaching and with it, sweets, treats, and all that's scary! Here are some helpful tips to make Halloween safer and less scary.

- S** Swords, knives, and other costume accessories should be short, soft, and flexible.
- A** Avoid trick-or-treating alone. Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.
- F** Fasten reflective tape to costumes and bags to help drivers see you.
- E** Examine all treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating them. Limit the amount of treats you eat.
- H** Hold a flashlight while trick-or-treating to help you see and others see you. WALK and don't run from house to house.
- A** Always test make-up in a small area first. Remove it before bedtime to prevent possible skin and eye irritation.
- L** Look both ways before crossing the street. Use crosswalks wherever possible.
- L** Lower your risk for serious eye injury by not wearing decorative contact lenses.
- O** Only walk on sidewalks whenever possible, or on the far edge of the road facing traffic, to stay safe.
- W** Wear well-fitting masks, costumes, and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips, and falls.
- E** Eat only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats made by strangers.
- E** Enter homes only if you're with a trusted adult. Only visit well-lit houses. Never accept rides from strangers.
- N** Never walk near lit candles or luminaries. Be sure to wear flame-resistant costumes.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### OCTOBER

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  
 – GHA office closed to the public

### NOVEMBER

1st – **RENT, RETRORENT & REPAYMENT AGREEMENTS DUE**  
 6th – **LATE CHARGES ADDED** (morning)  
 9th – Board of Commissioners meeting 6:00 pm  
 11th – Veterans Day, GHA office closed to the public  
 15th – **MAGISTRATE** (for anyone who hasn't paid their bill)  
 18th – Resident Council Meeting 5:00 pm  
 22nd – 23rd – GHA office closed to the public  
 24th – 25th – Thanksgiving, GHA office closed

### DECEMBER

1st – **RENT, RETRORENT & REPAYMENT AGREEMENTS DUE**  
 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  
 22nd – 23rd – Christmas Holiday, GHA office closed  
 27th – GHA office closed to the public  
 30th – New Year Observance, GHA office closed

### JANUARY

1st – **RENT, RETRORENT & REPAYMENT AGREEMENTS DUE**  
 6th – **LATE CHARGES ADDED** (morning)  
 11th – Board of Commissioners meeting 6:00 pm  
 15th – **MAGISTRATE** (for anyone who hasn't paid their bill)  
 17th – MLK Jr. Day, GHA office closed  
 20th – Resident Council Meeting 5:00 pm

### GHA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mr. Kalib Moyer, Board Chair	Ms. Betty Wilson
Mr. Tomas Langley, Vice Chair	Ms. Taneka Deas
Ms. Alissa Collington, Secretary	Mr. Nate Fata

### GHA MAIN OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday: 8 am – 12 pm & 1 – 6 pm

### PHONE DIRECTORY: 843-546-9621

Johanna Jefferson, Public Housing Manager - AMP 1 & 2	ext. 230
Alissa Collington, <b>Interim Executive Director</b>	ext. 222
Victoria Taber-Santos, HCV Coordinator	ext. 223
Essence Greene, Office Manager	ext. 227
Joe Geathers, Maintenance Director	ext. 228
Lois Parsons, Front Desk	ext. 221
B Kisner, Bookkeeper	ext. 224
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 December 1st for the next issue. You may also fax or email Essence Greene: (843) 546-9621 ext. 221 / GHAofficemgr@gtownhousing.org. Material is subject to approval at editing.