

## MHA Scholars Receive Recognition

The Meridian Housing Authority 2013 scholarship award ceremony reception was held Thursday, May 16, 2013, at 11:30am. MHA awarded/presented scholarships to eight 2013 graduating seniors from Meridian High School. A reception was held to celebrate their success in reaching a milestone in their lives and to offer scholars encouragement in their academic endeavors. Proud parents, MHA staff, and Meridian High School Counselors were present to show support. Each scholar will receive the Annual MHA \$1,000 scholarship.



*Principal Victor Hubbard along with the scholarship recipients, Dr. Alvin Taylor, MPSD Superintendent, and MHA Executive Director, Ron Turner, Sr., poses to celebrate this milestone*



*Principal Victor Hubbard and MPSD Superintendent Dr. Alvin Taylor listens as the awards are announced*

The honorary guest speakers were Superintendent of Meridian Public Schools, Dr. Alvin Taylor and Principal Victor Hubbard of Meridian High School. The award ceremony gave much pride to the residents as they have achieved a great academic success and now their journey of obtaining higher education has just begun. MHA salutes these residents on their accomplishments and wants this scholarship to serve as a symbol of appreciation for the hard work that each one of them has displayed in their pursuit of education. Keep up the good work!



*MHA residents preparing to receive their scholarship award*

## MHA Residents Celebrate 1 Year Of Participation in the B.E.E.P Program

The B.E.E.P. (Basic Early Education Practices) celebrated one year of service to the residents of Meridian Housing Authority. This event highlighted the services and activities that were conducted by the B.E.E.P. Program. Residents from Mt. View, Frank Berry Courts, Magnolia Courts, George Reese Courts, and Western Gardens were in attendance. Everyone enjoyed catered food from Weidman's Restaurant along with a special celebratory cake. Family members along with MHA staff were on hand to congratulate everyone who participated in the BEEP program. BEEP is now gearing up to serve more residents in additional locations in efforts to provide much needed child educational services. Anyone interested in enrolling in the BEEP program, please contact MHA CSS Department.



*BEEP presents to the participants*



*Large resident attendance at the BEEP Celebration*



*Residents having a great experience at the BEEP celebration*

## Residents of Sowashee Courts Participate In Diabetes Workshop

MHA continues to push for healthy residents by hosting a diabetes workshop at Sowashee during the month of May. Lisa Camel, IQH Regional Project Leader worked with the residents to ensure that they are aware of proper care and diet associated with diabetes. Ms. Camel talked about the symptoms if unknown of being a diabetic. Some of the symptoms will include; increased thirst, increased hunger, weight loss, and blurred vision only to name a few. At the completion of the workshop Ms. Camel awarded each participant with a certificate to celebrate their success during the workshop.



*Sowashee residents receiving certificates of participation*

# “Committed to Excellence”

## Executive Director’s Message

The mission of the Meridian Housing Authority is to make every effort to provide decent, safe and affordable housing opportunities that enhance the quality of life for all eligible Meridian citizens.

MHA along with its Board of Commissioners also remains committed to creating and maintaining viable housing communities throughout the City of Meridian.



Ronald J. Turner, Sr.

I am pleased to list some of our agency’s most recent accomplishments: On March 1, 2013, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) validated MHA’s “Commitment to Excellence” by designating our organization as a “2013 HUD High Performer.”

During the month of April 2013, MHA received a much needed nine percent tax allocation from the Mississippi Home Corporation to revitalize eighty (80) units of affordable housing apartments owned by the agency.

A recent collaborative partnership with the Meridian Public School District now makes it possible to provide pre-kindergarten educational services to the residents of Western Gardens during the upcoming school year.

We are eagerly awaiting the grand opening of ten (10) new single-family homes known as Carousel View. These new homes will offer transitional housing opportunities to over seventy (70) residents who currently participate in Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) programs at MHA.

Eight of MHA’s graduating high school seniors received scholarship opportunities provided by MHA and its partners.

We are fast approaching the finalization of our Meridian East End transformation plan to revitalize the George Reese Court housing community. We are currently planning to submit a funding request to HUD to support our plans to revitalize the East End Community.

I highly encourage all residents to stay engaged in your community by becoming an active member of your resident association.

## KEEPING COOL WITH MHA

### COMMUNITY PARTNER MULTI COUNTY

Summer is approaching and Multi-County Community Service Agency like to help you keep cool. MCCA will assist by donating an air condition unit to eligible clients who are in need of a unit. If you are resident of public housing, elderly, disabled or a parent with child/children under the age of five years old, you might be qualified to receive a free air condition unit from Multi County Service Agency. If you are interested in applying for an A/C unit, please feel free to come by Meridian Housing Authority Social Service building during the month of June and sign up. Assistant will be provided on a first come first serve basis The contact persons would be Elaine Mauriscey @601 693-2800 ext. 230 or Sheila Austin @ext.228.



## NAHRO Poster Contest for Housing Residents

Meridian Housing Authority will conduct a poster contest and the winner will receive a CASH prize with theme, “What Home means to me”. The poster should be no longer than 26” X 26”. This initiative is part of a national campaign to bring awareness to the need of public housing. Each participate can drop their poster off at MHA Social Service building along with their name, address, and public housing site on back of the board. There will be a winner from each site. The deadline for the boards is July 1, 2013. Also, there will be an overall winner selected to represent MHA at the State level and possibly move on to compete at the national level. If selected as a winner at the national level, the participant will have the opportunity to win a free trip to Washington, DC and win a \$500 Savings Bond. If you are interesting in participating in the poster contest and would like more information please contact: Elaine Mauriscey @ 601 693-2800 ext 230 or Sheila Austin @ 601 693-2800 ext 228.



## MHA PHONE NUMBERS

Maintenance Department 601-483-3328; Social Services 601-693-2800; Frank Berry Courts 601-482-1880; Eastern Gardens 601-482-3312; Mountain View Village 601-481-3424; Western Gardens 601-483-8612; Oakland Heights 601-481-3421; Highway Village, 8th & 9th Ave. 601-483-1816; George Reese Courts/Magnolia Courts 601-693-4586; Mount Barton/Sowashee Courts 601-483-0202; Carousel Place 601-482-0085; J.T. Davis 601-482-0077; MHA Police Liaison Cell 601-527-0407; Meridian Police Dispatch 601-484-6845; Central Office 601-693-4285





# to Excellence”

## Public Housing FSS Participants Attends MHA’s Credit Repair Financial Workshop

Financial Workshop “Basics of Building and Repairing Your Credit” was a huge success. The workshop was held at the Meridian Housing Authority Central Office. Many residents in the public housing community came to receive information regarding rebuilding and repairing their credit. Mark Floyd of Citizens National Bank shared information on how to improve and establish a good credit history. Residents were interested in reading and understanding their credit report and the effects that delinquent medicals have on credit history. At the end of the workshop session, residents were able to enjoy lunch and networking opportunities.



Mark Floyd, CNB representative, presents tools on repairing credit

## Message from the Asset Management Coordinator



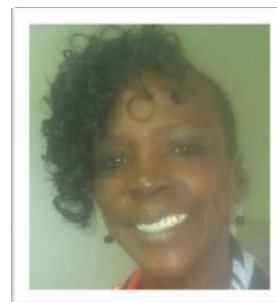
Asset Management Coordinator, Trevelle McGlothlin

Be mindful of the high temperatures while enjoying the summer break. Drink plenty of water and dress cool. For everyone’s safety, we urge children to stay clear of the mowers when they are on the property. We are aware that although children are out of school some parents still have to work and run daily errands, but please be mindful when leaving children alone at home.

No child under the age of thirteen should be home alone, and small children are **NEVER** to be left unattended for **ANY** period of time. It does not take long for a child to have a serious accident or unlock the door for a stranger. If children will open the door for a Meridian Housing Authority employee, it is also possible for them to open the door for a stranger. Lastly, check on your elderly neighbors and friends to make sure that they are safe during this very hot season. MHA has concern for every family in our communities and we strive to ensure that everyone’s safety is maintained at the highest level possible. As MHA strives to promote resident safety, please be observant of all your household members and guest. Recently there has been a concern regarding the tampering with exterior panel boxes. Tampering with electricity can be dangerous, i.e. electric shock, and even fatality. I encourage all residents to practice safety at all times, know where you children/guests are and more importantly what they are doing. Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

## Resident Advisory Board President’s Message

The Resident Advisory Board is a resident-driven board and with that in mind I would like to inform each resident of several of the most important activities we are currently getting involved in :



1. We will be hosting a community wide poster contest for the youth.
2. We will be hosting a community wide Spelling Bee for the youth.
3. Lastly, we will be hosting a Track & Field competition for the youth.

There are other activities that we are want to do to keep our youth active for the summer. However, we need the support of the parents in order to make this happen. Please come out to the resident meetings and voice your opinion on the activities so we will be able to have your support and your suggestions on other things that we may we want to do.

**Brenda Griffin, Resident Advisory Board President**

## Meridian Community College Empowering MHA Residents

Meridian Community College representative, Adrian Cross, MCC recruiter will be visiting each public housing site during the month of June to share great information with the residents on attending MCC. In order to receive first hand information you will need to be in attendance at your monthly resident meeting which is held on your MHA public housing site. Ms. Cross will cover topics such as: obtaining a GED, enrolling in college classes online or on campus, and assists you with receiving financial aid. Also, Ms. Cross will be informing the residents on the new partnership between MHA and MCC to offer college courses to residents. The plan is to offer these courses at the Frank Berry Community Resource Center. However, we are asking residents to please attend the meetings for more information.





"Committed to Excellence"

"Committed to Excellence"

Meridian Housing Authority  
 2425 E Street  
 Meridian, MS 39301  
 601-693-4285

Mail To:

# June 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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30						



**The MHA Home Life Newsletter For Residents**

The MHA Home Life Newsletter For Residents is published monthly by the Resident Community & Supportive Services Department. We welcome submissions and we reserve the right to edit all materials used. Materials may be submitted to:

**Meridian Housing Authority**  
 Resident Services Department, Attn. Newsletter  
 2305 D. Street, Meridian, MS 39301

**OR**

E-mail to: [saustin@meridianhousing.net](mailto:saustin@meridianhousing.net)

6/04 George Reese @ 3:30 p.m. Community Center	6/17 Hwy Village @ 2:00 Community Center
6/05 Magnolia @ 3:30 a.m. Community Center	6/17 Sowashee @ 3:30 Community Center
6/13 Oakland Heights @ 10:00 Community Center	6/20 Eastern Garden @ 3:30 Community Center
6/14 Western Gardens @ 3:30 p.m. Community Center	6/27 Mt. View @ 3:30 Community Center