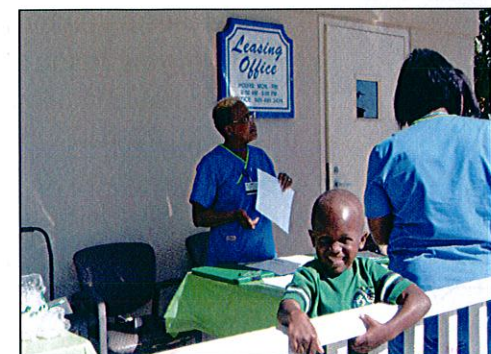


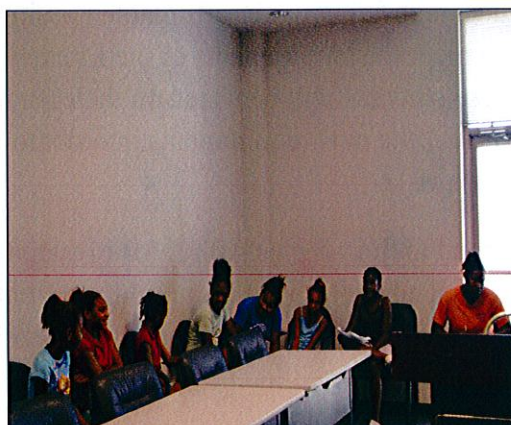
Early Childhood Education is Vital to a Child's Academic Success



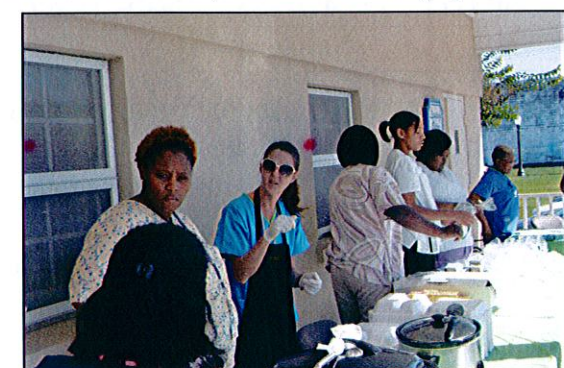
Beep members prepare to take registration enrollment at Mt. View

The Meridian Housing Authority has partnered with BEEP to eliminate academic challenges and barriers encountered by MHA residents. BEEP is an early childhood education project that supports children's educational development. The program prepares children six weeks to four years of age for kindergarten success and advancement. Best Early Education Practices (BEEP) promotes the development of the whole child. Activities in the curriculum enhance independence skills that children need before entering a kindergarten classroom.

Activities will encourage the social, emotional, physical, language, and independence skills that children need before entering a kindergarten classroom setting. Each ONE HOUR SESSION targets age and developmentally appropriate pre-reading, math, and music/movement activities. Each session includes books, educational toys, and a snack. The cost is free to



MHA youth of tomorrow are preparing to show off their spelling skills



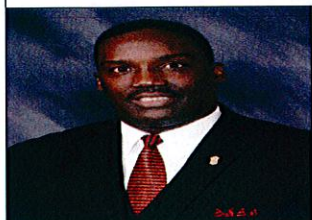
Beep members are ready to answer questions regarding program

all MHA school aged students. Parents are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. On October 29, 2012, BEEP staff began facilitating the program at several properties managed by MHA. We all want our children to have a bright future – more opportunities than we had and a fair chance to achieve their potential and be successful. As a reminder, English language arts and math are the subjects chosen for the Common Core State Standards because they are areas

upon which students build skill sets that are used in other subjects. Grades K-12 are affected by Common Core State Standards. Parents enrolling their pre-school aged children in the Best Early Education Practices (BEEP) can give their child a head start in the educational process. Participation in BEEP can be a building block towards a child's future. For additional information contact BEEP at 601-581-3527 or visit the website-beep@meridiancc.edu or contact MHA Community and Supportive Services at 601-693-2800.

"Committed

Executive Director's Message



We are dedicated to a "Commitment to Excellence" in providing quality affordable and superior customer service to all families residing under the Meridian Housing Authority's affordable housing portfolio.

Ronald J. Turner, Sr.

Several major initiatives including MHA's Housing Transition Program (HTP) and the Officer Next Door partnership with the Meridian Police Department ensure that our residents and employees enjoy a friendly, safe, efficient and professional work environment.

I applaud the MHA Resident President Advisory Board (RAB) and their efforts to promote a special reading initiative to over fifty (50) third (3rd) grade students residing in our affordable housing communities who are striving to meet the requirements of the Literacy Based Promotion Act of 2013. These students will be tested on their reading comprehension levels and must meet the new requirements in order to move forward to the fourth (4th) grade.

We are proud to join forces with RAB President, Brenda Griffin and the entire resident advisory board in providing volunteers and facilities and encouraging parents to become proactive in an effort to ensure the academic success of their children.

MHA will continue to provide decent safe and affordable housing with reasonable accommodations for eligible citizens of Meridian, in addition to providing programs that promote self-sufficiency empowerment and respect.

To learn more about MHA's Housing Transition Program, Officer Next Door police partnership and other initiatives, please visit the MHA website at www.meridianhousing.net.

Have a Happy Valentine's Day.

Ronald J. Turner Sr., PHM

Executive Director

Family Self-Sufficiency Program Success Story



Willisha Alford

Willisha Alford has taken advantage of several programs offered by the Meridian Housing Authority. While staying in the affordable housing community, Willisha participated

in the AmeriCorp Program, Esteem Work Training Program, and the Family Self-Sufficiency Program. With help from the Family Self Sufficiency Program, she is now a proud homeowner. Willisha enrolled in the program in 2010 and has been a consistent participant throughout the course of her contract. She attended the homeownership workshops and rebuilt her credit while enrolled in the program. Also, during of this time, she obtained a certificate as a licensed cosmetologist. She worked hard to achieve her goal of homeownership and we congratulate her for purchasing her first home!

Eastern Gardens Resident Receives Scholarship



Andro Young

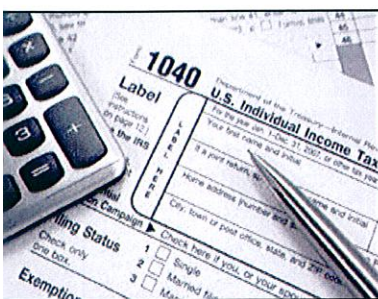
Andro Young, a resident of Eastern Garden was recently awarded the Dr. Andrea Renee and Dorothy Wilson Shadwick Scholarship from Shiloh Baptist Church. Mr. Young is also a 2014 MHA Scholarship recipient. Andro is currently a freshman at Jackson State University majoring in electrical engineering. His future plans are to attend graduate school and become an entrepreneur in business as well as to pursue a career in music.

MHA IMPORTANT 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. 483-1816; George Reese Courts/Magnolia Courts 601 693-4586; Mount Barton/Sowashee Courts 601 483-0202; Carousel Place 601 482-0085; J.T.



Tax and Affordable Healthcare Workshop



Do you understand the tax and healthcare laws and how they can have an effect on your 2014 tax return? The Meridian Housing Authority has partnered with The

Greater Meridian Health Clinic and HR Block to provide MHA residents with valuable tax information under the Affordable Healthcare Act. The Affordable Healthcare Act requires you and everyone on your tax return to report health care coverage, or claim an exemption or make a payment with your return.

The workshop will provide valuable information on tax and healthcare insurance laws. If you are required to complete a tax return and do not have health care insurance, you could possibly pay a penalty on your 2014 income tax return. You will be able to make application for healthcare insurance. The deadline to enroll in the affordable healthcare insurance is February 15, 2015.

You do not want to miss this workshop! You are encouraged to attend .

WORKSHOP INFORMATION

When: Thursday, February 12, 2015

Time: 3:00pm

Location: MHA Community and Supportive Service Building also known as the Eugene F. Young III Community Service Building

For more information regarding the tax and affordable healthcare workshop, contact MHA Community and Support Services at (601) 693-2800.



Resident Advisory Board President's Message



Brenda Griffin

All third grade public school students will be tested on their reading comprehension under the Common Core Standards. The Common Core Standards state that any child reading below grade level will not be promote to the 4th grade. The Resident Advisory Board has joined with the community to promote a special reading initiative to those students who will have to meet the requirements of the Literacy-Based Promotion Act of 2013. All MHA affordable housing sites have committed volunteers available one to two days a week for ANY students who are interested in receiving extra one on one tutoring in reading and comprehension. I strongly encourage parents to become proactive in their child's academic success. For more information, please contact your resident president or MHA Community and Supportive Service at (601) 693-2800.

Brenda Griffin, Resident Advisory Board President



Trevelle McGlothlin

Message from the Asset Manager

With eight weeks of winter remaining, let us continue to be neighborly and check in on one another, especially our elderly residents. Remain warm and report all heating concerns to your property manager. Also please properly dispose of all cooking grease within a container into garbage cans or garbage dumpsters. Depositing grease down the kitchen drain clogs the drain and produces other plumbing problems.

I encourage all residents to assist your RAB presidents with your property's after school reading program; together we will make a difference in the lives of our children. Remember, you can get credit for community service for your volunteer time to the afterschool reading program. For dates and times please contact your property manager or RAB president.

Finally as REAC inspections draw near, please report any deficiencies within your unit to your property manager or the maintenance department at 601-483-3328.

"It does not mater how slowly you go as long as you do not stop."

Thanks

Trevelle McGlothlin- PHM



Please visit the new MHA website: www.meridianhousing.net

**Meridian Housing Authority
Board of Commissioners**

Wilbert Jones Chairman
Donnie Smith Vice Chairman
Jeanelle Kidd Commissioner
Kathy Price Commissioner
Rob Arline Commissioner

Mail To:

February 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day
15	16 President's Day	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28



RESIDENT MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE FOR FEBRARY

2/10 George Reese Courts @ 3:30 p.m. Community Center
2/11 Magnolia Courts @ 3:30 p.m. Community Center
2/12 Oakland Heights @ 10:00 a.m. Community Center
2/13 Western Garden @ 3:30 Community Center
2/15 Highway Village @ 2:00 Community Center
2/15 Sowashee Court @ 3:30 Community Center
2/19 Eastern Garden @ 3:30 Community Center
2/26 Mt. View Village @ 3:30 Community Center

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

emauroiscey@meridianhousing.net