

FSS Participant Earns Bachelor of Science Degree



Kedunda Stevens is a recent graduate from the Meridian Housing Authority's Housing Choice Voucher family Self-Sufficiency programs. She accomplished a major milestone while participating in the HCV-FSS program by receiving a Bachelor of Science of Arts Degree from Mississippi State University- Meridian Branch. Kedunda's future plans include continuing her college education by obtaining a Bachelor of Social Work Degree. She wants to enhance her career goals by working with "at risk" youth in the community. MHA's HCV program exist to assist families with individualized service geared towards achieving academic and economic success. Residents are highly encouraged to take advantage of MHA's self-sufficiency programs. The MHA CSS department salutes all of the accomplishments of this determined program participant. Kudos to Kedunda and we would like to wish her the best on all her future endeavors!

Kedunda Stevens poses with her degree

Valentine Bingo Huge Success

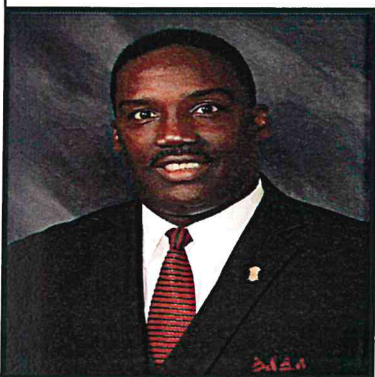
The new Eddie Lee Griffin Jr. Multi-Purpose Center serves as a hub for hosting various events and activities in the Oakland Heights affordable housing community. During the month of February, Oakland Heights residents participated in Valentine Bingo. Food, fellowship and fun was enjoyed by everyone in attendance. Oakland Heights resident president, Gloria Cole, encourages all residents to participate in the upcoming events at the new state of the art facility. Kimmea Spears, ROSS Service Coordinator, assisted in organizing the event.



Bingo Winners from left to right: Gloria Cole, Jerry Finley, Vanessa Roberts, and Clyde Rew

"Committed"

Executive Director's Message



Ronald J. Turner, Sr., PHM

As we embark upon the Spring Season, it is a pleasure to report that the Meridian Housing Authority is working diligently to provide its residents with a variety of opportunities which will empower and enhance their ability to become self-sufficient. MHA's Community and Supportive Services (CSS) Department conducts routine group meetings to inform residents of the possibilities available for homeownership, educational advancements and entrepreneurship opportunities. MHA's housing

transition program is now available for residents enrolled in our family self-sufficiency programs. Some of these participants are close to purchasing their own homes. MHA will continue its mission to implement programs which will allow residents to climb the ladder of success. Become a member of your resident advisory council. Your community needs you. For more information regarding MHA's Community and Supportive Service Programs please contact your property manager or call (601) 693-2800.

Ronald J. Turner, Sr., PHM
Executive Director

MHA Offers Scholarships

The Meridian Housing Authority is a continued supporter of educational advancement. GED classes are afforded to those who choose to further their education and remain committed to becoming self-sufficient. The youth at MHA are afforded the opportunity to further their education after high school by applying for an MHA Scholarship. Any 2019 graduating senior residing in MHA's affordable housing communities may apply for the scholarship. Graduating seniors interested in this scholarship can pick up an application from your senior guidance counselor at Meridian High School, your property site manager or MHA Community and Supportive Service employees. Contact Elaine DuBose or Sheila Austin at 601 693-2800 ext. 230 or 228. This year's Senior Awards night will be held on May 2, 2019 at 6:00p.m. at Meridian High School Auditorium. All Scholarship applications need to be received by MHA CSS department no later than April 25, 2019 by 5:00p.m.

MHA Welcomes New ROSS Coordinator



Gretchen Luvene, MSW
ROSS Coordinator

MHA's Human Resource Department is pleased to announce that Gretchen Luvene has been hired to fill the vacant Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency (ROSS) coordinator's position. The MHA-ROSS program works to promote the development of local strategies to coordinate the use of assistance under the HUD Public Housing program with public and private resources, for supportive services and resident empowerment activities. These services enable participating families to increase earned income, reduce or eliminate the need for welfare assistance, make progress towards achieving economic independence and housing self sufficiency. Gretchen holds a Master of Social Work from the University of Southern Mississippi. Welcome to the MHA Team.

Spring Cleaning Tips



- Make a List of What Needs to Be Cleaned in Each Room
- Clean One Room at a Time
- Declutter
- Use Natural Cleaners

to Excellence”

CSS Representatives Attend 2019 Governor’s Job Fair

The Meridian Housing Authority Community and Supportive Services Department (CSS) Department attended the 2019 Governor Job Fair sponsored by the Job Win Center. The event was held at the Meridian Community College Tommy Dunne Center. There were over fifty vendors in attendance. Job seekers were provided an opportunity to network and pursue employment opportunities.



HA CSS Department left to right are; Gretchen Iwene, Shelia Austin, Elaine DuBose, and Kimmea Iwene.



potential employment and meet new employers. More information will be coming soon concerning the Job Fair.

Upcoming Job Fair

The Meridian Housing Authority Community and Supportive Service Department will host an upcoming Job Fair for its residents in the month of June. Residents will have the opportunity to gain po-

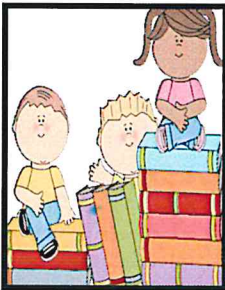
Resident Advisory Board President’s Message

Spring is just around the corner. As students are preparing for Spring Break vacation, families are encouraged to spend quality time together by exploring the outdoors and by participating in community programs such as the library. The Meridian-Lauderdale County Public Library will host a **free** movie on Wednesday, March 13th at 3:00 p.m. Popcorn and drink will be provided. Also, take this opportunity to explore a world of wonderful books for the whole family. If you do not have a library card for your child(ren), please take this time to apply for a library card. Reading provides rich language and builds strong communication and vocabulary skills. Arts and crafts are also made available for both children and adults at no cost. Remember to become an active member of your resident council.

For more information, please call: (601) 693-6771.



Brenda Griffin



Message from the Asset Manager

Trevelle McGlothin,
Asset Management Coordinator



Trevelle McGlothin, PHM

Springtime increases our outdoor activities. MHA will begin its Lawn Care season March 2019. These services will begin each Monday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Please practice

safety by monitoring your children and or guests during the lawn cutting period. In some instances, lawn mowers may throw rocks or debris that may cause injury. Also be mindful not to hang out clothing items during lawn care hours of operation.

May this season bring you new beginnings, new hope and new growth. Lastly, please report all maintenance concerns to your Property Manager in a timely manner. Stay informed on all matters related to your community by joining your resident council.

T. McGlothin
Asset Management Coordinator



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
Rob Arline Commissioner
Greg Lane Commissioner

Mail To:

March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



RESIDENT MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 2019

3/12 George Reese Courts @ 3:30 p.m. Community Center
3/13 Magnolia Courts @ 3:30 p.m. Community Center
3/14 Oakland Heights @ 10:00 a.m. Community Center
3/8 Western Garden @ 3:30 p.m. Community Center
3/21 Eastern Garden @ 3:30 p.m. Community Center
3/18 Sowashee Court @ 3:30 p.m. Community Center
3/19 Highway Village @ 2:00 p.m. Community Center
3/28 Mt. View Village @ 3:30 p.m. 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
Social Services Department, Attn. Newsletter
2305 D. Street, Meridian, MS 39301
OR
E-mail to: gluvene@meridianhousing.net