



# HOME LIFE

## MERIDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITY



Monthly newsletter of housing and community activities published for MHA residents

May 2019

### **MHA Celebrate Rededication Day for George Reese Courts Housing Community**



On April 14, 2018 the City of Meridian experienced an EF-2 tornado which caused over \$1.5 million dollars in property damage throughout five of MHA’s affordable housing communities. Eight families were successfully relocated from the severely damaged George Reese Court “L” building as a result of the immediate actions of the city’s first responders and local community volunteers. As a show of appreciation, George Reese Court Resident leaders held a special ribbon cutting celebration on April 24<sup>th</sup> along with a community BBQ cookout. Honored attendees included George Reese Court’s Resident Advisory President, Marshall McKey, David Loyd, Pastor of Free Gospel Temple, Meridian Housing Authority’s Board of Commissioner, Greg Lane, Representing the Mayor’s Office was Laura Carmichael and Richard McAlister, City Councilman Tyrone Johnson of Ward II, First responders from The Meridian Fire Department, The Meridian Police Department, The Lauderdale County Sheriff Department, and community volunteers.

### **MHA’s Public Housing Family- Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program graduates 2 Participants for Securing Homeownership**

Abbrevian Naylor and Kimberly Young, participants in the Public Housing Family Self-Sufficiency Program, recently successfully completed the program. Abbrevian and Kimberly signed homeownership closing documents and plans to transition into their new homes in the immediate future. Both participants made commitments to attend the homeownership workshop training sessions to achieve permanent homeownership which is highly encouraged to secure permanent homeownership. They were both able to use funds from their FSS escrow accounts as down payment assistance to assist with the purchase of their homes. MHA utilizes community partners to assist with facilitating some of the once a month homeownership work training sessions that are held at the MHA Community and Supportive Eugene Young III Building. For more information regarding how you can enroll in the Public Housing Family Self-Sufficiency



Kimberly Young



Abbrevian Naylor

(FSS) Program, please contact Shelia Austin at (601) 693-2800, Ext. 228. Valuable information regarding homeownership opportunities can also be obtained by visiting the MHA website at [www.meridianhousing.net](http://www.meridianhousing.net).

MHA Salutes Abbrevian Naylor and Kimberly Young for securing permanent homeownership.

## Executive Director’s Message



Ronald J. Turner, Sr., PHM

As a result of MHA’s most recent annual planning process; the following projects are now 100 percent complete: (1) Interior painting at George Reese, Magnolia and Sowashee Courts, (2) Painting projects are also completed at Eastern and Western Gardens in addition to Highway Village, Oakland Heights and Mt. View, and (3) The George Reese Courts “L” building has been totally renovated after sustaining severe storm damage during an EF2 Tornado. To learn more about our agency, please visit [www.meridianhousing.net](http://www.meridianhousing.net).

Ronald J. Turner, Sr., PHM

## MHA Gearing Up for the 2019 HUD Strong Family Initiative Celebration

Meridian Housing Authority is gearing up for the Strong Families Initiative Celebration on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. The Strong Families Initiative supports HUD’s nationwide outreach to encourage the bonding of families and their children in addition to connecting families to healthy life style choices, homeownership opportunities and a wealth of community resources. The celebration will include festivities for the whole family. For more information concerning the initiative, please contact the CSS (Community and Supportive Service) Department and speak to either Shelia Austin or Elaine Dubose at (601) 693-2800 ext. 230 or 228 or Kimmea Spears and Gretchen Luvene at (601) 693-4285 ext. 227 or 239..



## George Reese Courts Takes Pride in Community

Residents of George Reese Court held a neighborhood cleanup initiative on April 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> from 10:00



Marshall McKey Resident President

a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Marshall McKey and other residents picked up trash and debris found along the side walk of the property. The clean up initiative encourages residents to take pride in their community and to beautify their surroundings. Residents in need of community service hours were encouraged to utilize this opportunity to gain hours and play a vital role in their thriving community. Contact your property manager for more information on community service.

## MHA Recognizes “What “Home Means to Me” Poster Contest Winners

This year’s “What Home Means to Me” Annual Poster contest winners are as follows: Ja’Alysia Scarbrough, of Mt. Barton Apartments, was the first place winner. She received a \$50.00 cash prize. Second Place winner, Janyia Rush, of Mt. Barton Apartments, received a \$30.00 cash prize and Third Place Winner was Marshayla Evans of Mt. View Apartments. She received a \$20.00 cash prize. These outstanding young artists will have an opportunity to enter their drawing in the advance round on May 16<sup>th</sup> in Jackson Mississippi. Congratulations to our 2019 Poster Board Contestants.





# to Excellence”

## CSS Department Host Job Fair for Residents

The Community and Supportive Services Department will host a Job Fair on Wednesday, **June 26<sup>th</sup>** from **10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** at the **Meridian Housing Authority Central Office**. Residents are encouraged to come prepared for employment opportunities. Please bring the following required documents as they are essential when looking for employment:



- Resume’
- Identification
- Be prepared to tell about your prior work history
- Two working phone numbers
- References

If you do not have a resume’, please contact the CSS Department by calling either Shelia Austin or Elaine Dubose at (601) 693-2800 Ext. 228 or 230 or Contact Kimmea Spears or Gretchen Luvenc at (601)693-4285 Ext. 227 or 239 for assistance. Please come dressed for success. The CSS Department is encouraging all residents to attend the upcoming Job Fair. Vendors will be available to answer questions you may have. We look forward to seeing you.

## 2019 NAHRO Washington Conference



NAHRO’s (National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials) 2019 Washington three day conference was held in Washington D.C. from April 7<sup>th</sup> – April 9<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the conference was to learn the latest news and updates from HUD and its impact on public housing. From left to right pictured is Mr. Ron Turner and Adrienne Todman, NAHRO’s CEO. Also, Wilbert Jones, Chairman, MHA Board of Commissioners and Gregory Lane, MHA Board of Commissioners.

## Resident Advisory Board President’s Message

Greetings from the Resident Advisory Board. RAB would like to take this time to encourage all residents to vote in the upcoming RAB election. The election will be held on **Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>** in each community housing site. Residents can cast their vote in the manager’s office between the hours of **9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

Also as a friendly reminder, don’t forget about your community service responsibilities. Take the opportunity to build a rapport with your property manager and attend the monthly resident meetings which are held monthly in your communities. **HUD Strong Families Initiative Celebration** will be held on **Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>** from **8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** The event will be held at MHA Central Office. We are encouraging all families to get involved and participate in all the festivities that will be available. As a last reminder, please don’t forget to register to **VOTE** on **June 12<sup>th</sup>**.



**Brenda Griffin**

**Brenda Griffin, Resident Advisory Board President**



## Message from the Asset Manager



**Trevelle McGlothlin, PHM**

*Trevelle McGlothlin,  
Asset Management Coordinator*

It’s that time of the year again to soak up the sun and have some summer fun. The heat will be rising and the air conditioners will be on at full speed so keep in mind that air conditioner charges begin May1, 2019 to October 1, 2019. Please make sure you report

any changes to management.

Be mindful that Annual Recertification are now in process on all MHA sites. Residents are regulated by their dwelling lease to meet scheduled appointments. Should there be any scheduling conflicts, contact your Property Manager immediately. Residents are required to provide updated income and household composition information. Also, MHA will be conducting its Annual Fire Extinguisher Inspections in May for all of its housing units.

During the Memorial Day Holiday, remember City Ordinances requires all grills are to a minimum of 15 feet from the building.

Have a wonderful fun-filled summer!

Housing Operations Department



"Committed to Excellence"

Please visit the new MHA website: [www.meridianhousing.net](http://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:

# May 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 MAY 2019**

5/08	Magnolia Court	@ 3:30 p.m.	Community Center
5/09	Oakland Heights	@ 10:00 a.m.	Community Center
5/10	Western Gardens	@ 3:30 p.m.	Community Center
5/14	Reese Court	@ 3:30p.m.	Community Center
5/16	Eastern Gardens	@ 3:30 p.m.	Community Center
5/20	Sowashee Court	@3:30 p.m.	Community Center
5/21	Highway Village	@2:00 p.m.	Community Center
5/22	Mt. Barton	@ 3:30 p.m.	Community Center
5/23	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](mailto:gluvene@meridianhousing.net)