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The *Anniston Housing Authority* Informer



“Let Them Shine” Family Summit a SUCCESS

The Anniston Community Education Foundation, along with the Anniston Housing Authority and other organizations served over 1100 people and provided school supplies to 707 students through the 2011 “Let Them Shine” Family Summit. The “Let Them Shine” project totaled 455.33 volunteer hours (*valued at \$9,725.85**) and received \$7,516.53 of in-kind contributions. Without a doubt, these projects were made possible through collaborative efforts.

The following participated in the events:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Waffle House | Solutia, Inc. |
| Alabama Power Foundation | Anniston Army Depot (Bldg – 190) |
| Anniston Housing Authority | Birmingham Barons |
| City of Anniston – PARD | Clester Burdell |
| Coca Cola Company – Oxford | Anthony & Cristy Humphries |
| Jack’s (Manna Enterprises, Inc.) | McAlister’s Deli |
| Oriental Trading Company | Victory Headquarters |
| Wal-Mart Foundation | City of Anniston –PARD |
| Family Links | Quality of Life Health Services |
| Community Advisory Group for the Consent Decree | |
| Anniston City School – Gifted Enrichment Program | |
| Boys & Girls Club of East Central Alabama | |
| Do Something Youth Development Center | |

ACEF was established as a result of the Partial Consent Decree among the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Solutia, Inc., and Pharmacia Corporation in 2003. The mission of the Foundation is to build a collaborative network of diverse stakeholders to improve the quality of education in its targeted communities, with the vision to empower youth with need-based educational resources. ACEF serves the Anniston, Oxford, Saks and Wellborn communities. To learn more about ACEF, visit www.annistoncef.org or call 256-741-1630.



Executive Board of Directors:

- Kathy Dreyer**
Chairperson
- James Smith,**
Vice Chairperson
- Curly Davis,**
Commissioner
- Penelope Williams**
Commissioner
- Susan Ponder**
Commissioner

If you live in Public Housing, you may be eligible to receive an educational stipend of a **\$175-250** when you receive an associate or a bachelor degree.



The Informer

Anniston Housing Authority

From the desk of

*James L. Smith,
Interim Executive Director*

I want to extend to each and every one of you my warmest wishes for the coming holiday season.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome all new residents to the Anniston Housing Authority. I am very pleased that you have chosen us to provide you with your housing need. The AHA staff wants to encourage our resident to take advantage of opportunities of the Public and Section 8 housing program that are available in this city, to improve your standard of living and to economically self-sufficient to transition into the private sector.

Lately, the staff have been focusing heavily on passing our REAC inspections by HUD. The process is complete. Our housing communities: Glen Addie, Washington and Parkwin Homes received a score of 86 which is very good. We have not received scoring from the other housing communities but we are hoping to score very high within those communities also. I want to give a very special "Thank You" and appreciation to the residents that volunteered to help with the cleaning project on our entire public housing sites. We could not have done it with your help and support.

In addition to the clean-up effort of our communities, I want all residents living in the various communities to continue the joint effort in keeping your communities clean. In order to do this, please refrain from disposing food, grease and other objects outside of your unit because it causes unsanitary and health issues. Also, I have noticed spider webs on the front and back areas surrounding your windows and doors remove them from your entry and window area. Please remove the webs, it will help control annoying pest from entering your unit. If you have issues with your housekeeping effort, please take advantage of our resident program for better housekeeping practices and other programs that are provided to assist you see Ms. Swain, Resident Coordinator for assistance.

May your Thanksgiving and Christmas season be filled with happiness and joy, followed by a most wonderful New Year! We do hope you will afford us the opportunity to continue serving you in the future.

*Geraldine Allen,
Director of Operation*

Community Clean Up for REAC Inspections... A big **Thank You** goes out to each resident and staff that participated in the clean ups at the apartment communities. It was really good to have as many residents care enough to help make the grounds look tidy before inspections took place. People raked yards, picked up trash and swept curves. Boy did we pick up a lots of cigarette butts! Your help in picking up the grounds has made a tremendous difference in the appearance of the grounds. We look forward in your participating in the Community Yard Pick Up again. Next time, bring a neighbor. The more helping out the better. This was a first time for staff and all efforts are appreciated for what was done to make this a reality.

REAC Inspections... All inspections have been completed at Glen Addie, Cooper, Norwood, Washington and Parkwin Homes and Fairview Terrace. Constantine, Barber Terrace and Tinsley Manor are completing today, September 20, 2011. We have gotten a very good score for our first inspections that were in August for Glen Addie, Washington and Parkwin Homes. We are waiting for notice of our other scores. We would to thank residents for preparing their apartments for the inspections.

The Coming Holidays... I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed and Happy New Year!

To Our Interim Executive Director... All the efforts you have made in helping to keep Anniston Housing Authority running until a new E. D. can be found are appreciated. Thank you Mr. Smith for your willingness to lend a helping hand.



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Anniston Housing Authority

Getting Involve with ACEF.....

Anniston Community Education Foundation Parents as Leaders “PAL” Program (Head Start Parent Workshops)

Since 2006, ACEF has conducted monthly parent workshops for parents of children ages 3-5 at each of the local head start centers in Anniston. These workshops are designed to empower parents to become involved in their child’s (ren’s) education and increase Kindergarten readiness of children in our targeted communities. The PAL Program is held monthly, beginning in October and concluding in May. Parents who attend PAL workshops may earn community service hours and will receive a Certificate of Completion upon completion of the program. This year, ACEF will form a parent advisory committee. The PAC (Parent Advisory Committee) will assist with identifying training areas for parents in the ACEF’s targeted communities. The PAC is not limited to head start parents: all parents are welcomed to join the committee. For more information, please contact the ACEF office at (256) 741-1629/1630.

CALLING ALL YOUTH!!!

The Anniston Community Education Foundation has recently formed its Making a Change Youth Coalition. The Making a Change Youth Coalition is an initiative committed to promoting educational opportunities to youth of the Anniston, Oxford, Saks, and Wellborn communities. Youth of all ages are encouraged to join the coalition. For more information about joining the Youth Coalition, please contact the ACEF office at (256) 741-1629/1630.



Accepting Applications

ACEF is now accepting applications for the Leadership Honors Academy. The academy is an annual youth leadership development program designed to work closely with 9th grade students from Anniston, Oxford, Saks, and Wellborn High Schools throughout their freshmen high school year. The goal of the program is to reduce the dropout rate, while building strong leadership skills and promoting college/ career readiness among high school freshmen in the area’s high schools. Limited spacing. please contact the ACEF office at (256) 741-1629/1630.





Community Service Activities

EDUCATIONAL STIPEND FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER RECIPIENT

Khadija A Kelley - Barber Terrace
\$100 Post-Secondary Stipend

Congratulation to Ms. Khadija Kelley of the Barber Terrace housing community. She has earned her Alabama High School Equivalency Diploma by passing the test of General Education Development (GED). We the staff of Anniston Housing Authority support you and keep up the good work.

Adult and Youth Computer Lab

We have three computer labs located at the following areas:
Glen Addie Homes Community Building, Norwood and Constantine Homes.

The computer labs are provided for the youth in public housing to assist in the after-school program at Norwood and Constantine Boys and Girls Club. In addition, the lab at Glen Addie is for the youth, adult education and computer classes.

Computer classes at Glen Addie Homes Community Center are available Monday—Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Classes are taught by Ms. Faye Gregory. If you have any additional questions, please call 236-1575, ext. 35. We look forward to seeing you there. *(Will count as community service hours)*



Each year, Anniston Housing Staff issues Thanksgiving gift cards to the elderly residents living in public housing. The Housing Staff would like to wish all residents a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving.

If you do not report all income, or
You must repay.....
It's the Law!

If you live in Public Housing, you may be eligible to receive an educational stipend of a \$175-250 when you receive an associate or a bachelor degree.

“Please remember to complete your community service requirements.”



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Community Service Activities

Adult Education Services

Coming soon, GED classes will begin in the month of October 2011. As we begin, the Adult Basic Education classes will be held at the Glen Addie Homes Community. If you live in Public Housing, you may be eligible to receive an educational stipend of a **\$100** when you pass the GED exam. All individuals living surrounding the housing communities are also welcome to attend the classes. However, only the tenants in public housing are eligible for the educational stipend.

In January 2014, there will be two major changes within GED Testing as we know it today. First, the entire GED Testing procedures in January 2002 changed the scoring system, as well as updating tests questions. In January 2014, the scoring system may not change this time, but the actual GED Test question will be updated and enhanced.

Secondly, the GED Testing Center will be conducting the GED Tests on the computer which will be located at the GED Testing Center. However, they will still do some "limited" testing by paper.

Be aware starting January 1, 2014 any person who tests prior to that date and has not passed the GED Tests will have to completely start all over again with the entire tests. Your scores will be deleted and may not be counted for score after 1 January 2014. So it is very important that you take advantage of this opportunity and acquire your GED within the next two years. There will be lots of variables that will be decided by the State. If you are interested in obtaining your GED or just completing refresher studies in basic math, reading, language and comprehension skills, please contact Carolyn Swain at 236-1575, ext. 35.

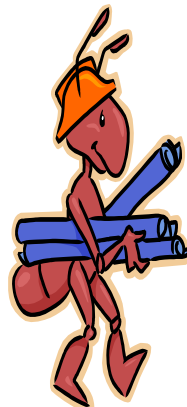
Participating in the program can be counted as community services.

AHA Community Ambassadors

I am current seeking AHA Community ambassadors which will act as liaisons with the community and Anniston Housing Resident Services, interacting with the tenants and new admission tenant to promote a safe and decent communities to be proud of.

By becoming an ambassador, you would become part of a dynamic group of tenants who assists the AHA Resident Services in special activities, events and promoting programs to enhance the tenant standard of living in Public housing. Working through the resident service office and community buildings on all nine housing communities, Ambassadors serve as a vital link between the Housing Authority and prospective tenants, current tenants and community visitors.

If you would like to become an ambassador in your community, you can contact Resident Service for additional information. AHA Community ambassadors will also be required to devote a minimum of 10 hours per week (with flexibility in schedule as needed) and be able to provide their own transportation for duties would be helpful but not required. Please contact, Carolyn Swain at 256-236-1575, ext.35 for additional information.



Coming soon renovation at Glen Addie and Barber Terrace on September 12, 2011, we contracted with Park Lane Construction out of Birmingham, Alabama for installation of exterior doors and screen doors at Glen Addie Homes and at Barber Terrace they will be replacing window and screens.



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Anniston Housing Authority

Things tenants can do to help eliminate nasty household pests:

1. Keep all trash picked up.
2. Keep dishes washed.
3. Don't leave food out over night.
4. Don't dispose of food and grease in the yard.
5. Remove all bags, plastic and paper from your unit.
6. Don't keep bags of emptied cans and bottles in the unit or outside the unit.
7. Remove all spider webs from the inside and outside of the unit it will deter spiders.
8. Keep the top of the refrigerator clean.
9. Refrain from eating in the bedroom it is just another place for pest and rodents to find food.
10. Don't leave piles of wet or dry clothes in the floor for a long period of time this is another way to attract pest and rodents



PEST CONTROL SCHEDULE for 2011

Oct. 3; Nov. 9; Dec.22	Hobson City Community
Oct. 4-6; Nov 14-16; Dec. 27-29	Glen Addie Homes Community
Oct. 10-11; Nov. 17 & 21; Dec. 20-12	Washington Homes Community
Oct. 12	Fairview Terrace Community
Oct. 13; Nov. 10; Dec. 8	Southern Ridge Community
Oct. 17-18; Nov. 28-29	Parkwin Homes Community
Oct. 19-20; Nov. 30; Dec. 1	Norwood Homes Community
Oct. 24-26; Dec. 5-7	Cooper Homes Community
Oct. 27	Tinsley Manor Community
Nov. 1-3; Dec. 12-14	Constantine Homes Community
Nov. 7-8; Dec. 15 & 19	Barbara Terrace Community

* Please remove all items from cabinets, corner of the walls and closet for easy access to treat your unit. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Please contact the maintenance department for further information concerning pest control and other maintenance issues at 256-236-6741.





The Informer

Anniston Housing Authority

A note from Resident Services,

I am soliciting input from residents to enhance the resident services department. In the near future there will be some significant changes to resident services mandated by HUD. I will inform you as these implementations take place. I am asking all residents to participate in the upcoming events and services that will be provided to you and your family.

If your child is not enrolled in an after-school program, I encourage you to utilize the benefits of the Boys and Girls Clubs located in the three housing communities, Glen Addie, Constantine, and Norwood it is free to all housing youth between the ages of 8-18. Also, there is an after-school program for youth at the Cooper Homes Community so again I ask you to allow your children to take advantage of the programs.

Have a blessed and happy holiday days from the Anniston Housing Authority staff.



The City of Anniston Christmas Parade will be held on December 12, 2011 if it rains it will be held on December 15, 2011. For additional information please call, Resident Services at 236-1575, ext. 35

Halloween
October 31, 2011
Daylight Saving End
November 6, 2011
Veterans' Day
November 11, 2011
Thanksgiving Break
November 24-25, 2011
Christmas Eve
December 24, 2011
Christmas Day
December 25, 2011

The Resident Council is a group of individuals living in public housing from the nine developments located in Anniston, Alabama that meet monthly to discuss issues that will improve the quality of life for residents living in public housing.

I would like to thank the following residents that has volunteered to serve on the Resident Council:

Alana Woods (*Fairview*), Angela Irby (*Norwood*), Brenda Nail (*Constantine*), Maxine Smith (*Constantine*), Nellie McMillian (*Cooper*), Janice Finley (*Washington/Parkwin*).

The council will meet every 1st Tuesday of the month at Glen Addie Homes Community Center. If you are interested in participating on the Resident Council or have inquiries about the council, please contact Carolyn Swain at 236-1575, ext. 35.

A special thanks and great appreciate goes out to the following residents that helped in working with management and maintenance staff for the REAC Clean-Up effort beginning August 2011 through September 2011. We are looking forward to working with you again in the future.

Fairview Terrace Resident

*Cassandra Simmons Lasandra Nunn
Penelope Briskey Octavior Goodman
Alina Wood*

Cooper Homes Resident

*Linda Elston Nellie McMillian
Angela Kite David Byrd
Sharon Kilpatrick Glenda Bethune
Jerry Kirksey David Herod
Jacqueline McMillian Tamaya Thompson
Sharon Goggins Annette Sims
Benjamin Smith*

Constantine Homes Resident

*Regina Heard
Katrina Jackson
Chanda Russell
Joseph Jarrett*

Glen Addie Homes Resident

*Deborah Frazier Claudia Elston
Johnny Moss Dorothy Berry
Joseph Ragland Ebony Rush
Iler English Alice F. Edmondson*



Anniston Housing Authority
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