

The VOICE



NEWSLETTER



JAN – MAR 2025 Volume 2, Issue 1

Winter Edition

2025

Happy New Year!

To all our residents:

As we enter 2025, we wish you a joyful and prosperous year filled with fresh beginnings, hope, and growth for our community. Thank you for being an essential Part of our journey. Here's To a bright and inspiring year ahead!

From the Executive Director's Corner



As we approach 2025, I'm reminded of the philosopher Heraclitus, who said, "The only constant in life is change." This truth affects many aspects of our lives, from shifting seasons to evolving personal relationships and careers. Change drives growth and shapes our experiences. We can develop resilience and gain a deeper appreciation for life's journey by embracing it.

Every day offers opportunities for new beginnings, whether it's the start of a new year, a challenging job, or a blossoming relationship. Each morning symbolizes a chance to embrace the unknown, filling us with excitement and anticipation. Change and new beginnings can bring feelings of fear and uncertainty. Moving into the unknown can be scary, and it's normal to feel hesitant during these times. To help with these feelings, take a moment to pause and think about the new opportunity in front of you. Consider what you want to achieve and how this change can improve your life.

Happiness starts with loving yourself, embracing every part of who you are, and forgiving yourself to foster growth. It might seem complicated, especially if you're feeling low, but reflecting on life's big and small joys can help. Practicing gratitude daily enhances positive emotions and brings joy from memories. Let us remember that God's Word is a constant source of encouragement during challenging times, reminding us of the goodness in change and His unwavering presence. Trust in His guidance; He loves and desires the best for you.

We stand at an exciting beginning, poised to transform our community into a better place for everyone. It is essential to recognize that we cannot achieve this transformation alone. Your steadfast support and active cooperation are vital on this journey.

Let's start making changes in our own homes. Take a moment to tidy up your living space both inside and outside. A clean and organized environment promotes positivity and well-being. Additionally, let's foster a spirit of respect for our neighbors by valuing their opinions and protecting their privacy.

Remember, when one of us succeeds in making a positive change, we all benefit. Together, we can work to enhance our neighborhood and create a vibrant community we can be proud of. Join us in this effort to make our shared spaces more welcoming and enjoyable for everyone.

Forever thankful,

Deborah Story

Deborah Story
Executive Director

From the Commissioners' Corner

The Housing Authority of the City of Lanett, Alabama, is governed by a five-member Board of Commissioners. The City's Mayor appoints these individuals and represents a diverse group of people from the community. The Commissioners are responsible for overseeing and monitoring the fiscal management of the Agency and approving all policies. They also appoint an Executive Director, as needed, to administer the daily affairs of the Housing Authority. Board Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. (Meeting dates are subject to change.)

Thank you, Commissioners, for your loyal and dedicated service to LHA!

CURRENT MEMBERS

Dr. Rose Wood, Chairperson
Mrs. Phyllis Stiggers, Vice-Chairperson
Mrs. Kay Moore
Mrs. Wanda Allen
Ms. Susan King, Resident

Our Community Team

Deborah Story, Executive Director
dstory@lanetthousing.com
Gary Belyeu, Accountant
gbelyeu@lanetthousing.com
Temekia Carr, Operational Manager
tcarr@lanetthousing.com
Angela Johnson, Senior Property Manager
ajohnson@lanetthousing.com
Anita Ferrell-Bamby, Property Manager
abamby@lanetthousing.com
Deborah Brooks, Receptionist/Office Assistant
dbrooks@lanetthousing.com
Melissa Winston, Tenant Services Coordinator/
Activities Director
mwinston@lanetthousing.com
Antonio Butler, Working Foreman
abutler@lanetthousing.com
Kendall Goosby, Maintenance Technician Aubrey Hodge, Maintenance Technician Assistant

Expanding Our Knowledge

Two of the Agency's members, Mrs. Deborah Story, Executive Director, and Mrs. Temekia Carr, Operational Manager, attended the Alabama Association of Housing and Redevelopment Authorities (AAHRA) Annual Conference, which was held at the Edgewater Beach Resort in Panama City Beach, Florida September 16-18, 2024. This conference provided valuable insight into several important topics, including Building Effective Partnerships Between Commissioners and Executive Directors, Understanding HOTMA Annual Income and Recertification Processes, learning about Public Housing Authority (PHA) Contracts with HUD, and Addressing Operational Challenges. The information acquired has dramatically enhanced the team members' understanding of the housing and redevelopment sector. The Expansion of Knowledge is a key priority in keeping team members and residents alike abreast of current developments that have the potential to affect both.

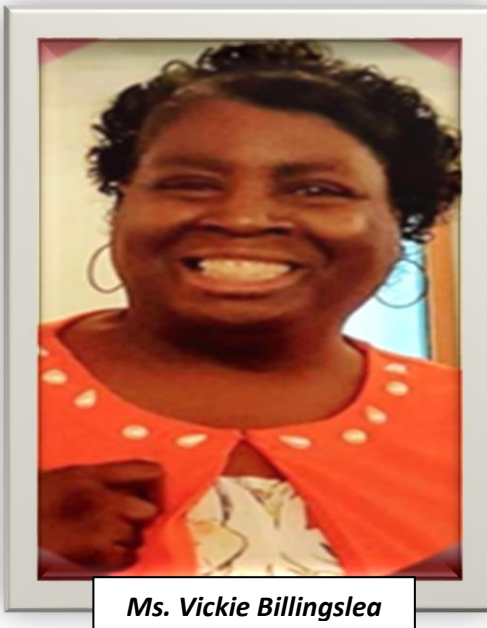
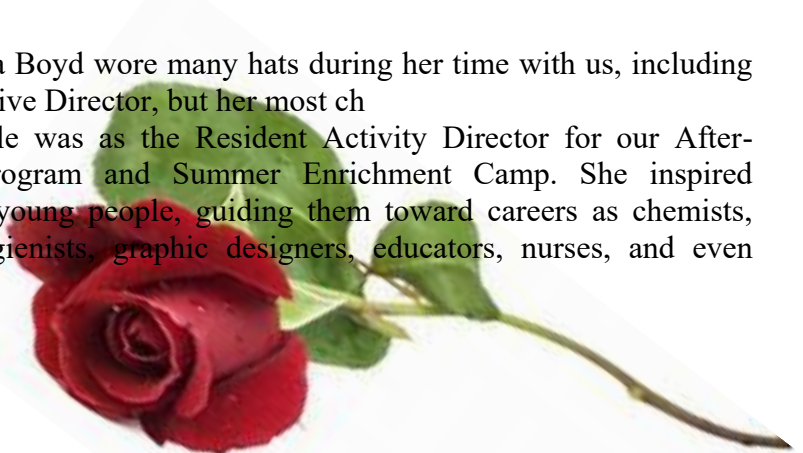


Dedication Celebration of the B & B Youth Development Center



On Saturday, December 7, 2024, we had an amazing celebration for the grand reopening of our youth center, honoring two incredible women and former team members of The Housing Authority of the City of Lanett, Alabama: Ms. Teresa Boyd and Ms. Victoria “Vicki” Billingslea. This special occasion brought to life the heartfelt vision of our Executive Director, Mrs. Deborah Story. Our Occupational Manager, Ms. Temekia Carr, played a big role in naming the center and ensuring we celebrate the remarkable legacies of these two wonderful women.

Ms. Teresa Boyd wore many hats during her time with us, including the Executive Director, but her most cherished role was as the Resident Activity Director for our After-School Program and Summer Enrichment Camp. She inspired countless young people, guiding them toward careers as chemists, dental hygienists, graphic designers, educators, nurses, and even athletes!



Ms. Victoria “Vicki” Billingslea left a lasting impression on everyone she met. Her exceptional service, care, and dedication to our residents made everyone feel at home. With her bright smile and friendly personality, she had a special way of making everyone feel valued and welcomed.

We were thrilled to have the families of these two amazing women join us for this memorable event. We proudly unveiled the new sign for the center and a plaque in their honor. The celebration was filled with joy, delicious food, and fun as children, staff, and families came together to honor their legacies and celebrate this important milestone.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who helped make this day possible! We are especially grateful to the families, staff, and residents, as well as our generous donors and program participants, including Mr. Torrence Rudd, Executive Director of the Cameron

Reed Foundation and Senior Pastor of Power Chapel Ignite Ministry, along with his wife, Mrs. Serena Rudd; Mr. Teddy Houston, owner of Superior Indoor and Outdoor Commercial Cleaning; Mr. George King, owner of King’s Jumpers; Mr. John Radford, owner of Piquarious Graphics; Evangelist Mrs. Annie Bell Williams; and Pastor Kelsey Barnes of Goodsell United Methodist Church. A big shoutout also goes to our dedicated board members, whose support and involvement were key to making this celebration a success!

B & B Youth Development Center

Reopening Snapshots

(The Family of Teresa Boyd and Vicky Billingslea)



Bree McCants (niece), Erin Boyd (niece), Alexis Boyd (daughter), Jennifer Boyd (sister) and Ian Quincy (grandson)



Mr. Bobby Williams (cousin), Dond "DJ" Towles (nephew), Jasmine Burton (niece), Yolanda Burton (friend) and Bryan Burton (nephew)

Several of our board members
joined us in celebrating our grand
reopening.



Dr. Rose Wood, Chairperson and Deborah Brooks, LHA Receptionist



Mrs. Susan King, Resident Commissioner and Ms. Deborah Brooks



Mrs. Phyllis Stiggers, Vice-President and Mr. Gary Belyeu, Accountant

B & B Youth Development Center After-School Program



Thank You for Your Generous Support!



**Mr. Teddy Houston, owner of
Superior Indoor & Outdoor
Commercial Cleaning**



**Mr. Marchello Jones, our
neighborhood handyman, and a great
father. His support and involvement
make him a true asset to our
community.**



**Pastor Torrence Rudd, Executive
Director of the Cameron Reed
Foundation, Senior Pastor of
Power Chapel Ignite, and his lovely
wife Mrs. Serena Rudd.**

Recognizing Excellence

Mrs. Deborah Brooks, Receptionist/Administrative Assistant

In just a year and a half, our wonderful Receptionist, Mrs. Deborah Brooks, has made a lovely impact at LHA! Not only does she shine in her role, but her unique passion for decorating has transformed our space into something special.

Residents, visitors, Board Members, and just about everyone who walks in can't help but be amazed by our beautifully decorated office. Because of her incredible eye for design, Mrs. Brooks has become our go-to in-house decorator. Her creativity and enthusiasm inspire us all, and she truly is a treasured member of our team.

Thank you so much, Mrs. Brooks, for all your hard work and for filling our community with beauty and warmth!



Mrs. Melissa Winston, Resident Activity Coordinator



Melissa Winston as the newest member of the LHA team! With almost 10 years of experience in our Summer Program and strong ties to the Cahaba Springs Community, she brings a wonderful blend of knowledge and compassion to her role as Resident Activity Coordinator.

Melissa earned her Master's Degree in Biology Secondary Education in 2015, showcasing her dedication and passion for growth. As a proud mom to two amazing kids, Dee and Madison, and a first-time grandmother, her life overflows with love and inspiration.

Having lived among our residents for 23 years, Melissa has a special ability to connect with them and truly understand their needs. We're excited to see the positive impact she will continue to make on our community! Welcome aboard, Melissa!



Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and we were excited to celebrate it with the cheerful theme "Give Cancer the Boot!" This special time was all about honoring the incredible strength of our breast cancer survivors and remembering those we've lost to this challenging disease. We came together to share stories, provide support, and uplift one another with hope and determination.

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for this heartfelt celebration. Let's keep standing together, spreading awareness, and supporting each other as we work towards a future without breast cancer!



In honor of
Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Please join us for
Lanett Housing Authority
Balloon Release
for the fight against Cancer

Monday, October 28th, 2024
3:30 PM
506 1st Street
(Lanett Housing Authority Administration Office)


Attire: Shade of Pink & Western Wear



Admiring the Survivors

Give Cancer The Boot

Supporting the Fighters



AWARE

Resident Showcase

“A Clean Space promotes a Clean Mind and a Calm Spirit,” ~ Shoukei Mastsumoto



Mrs. Sharon Brooks, front porch stands as a beautiful extension of her home.

Mrs. Cassandra Abner, Mrs. Mary Barnes, Ms. Susan King, Resident Commissioner



Cassandra Abner and Susan King present Mrs. Mary Barnes with a certificate for her generosity and neighborly gestures.



Mrs. Alisia Hill and Mrs. Mary Floyd both created welcoming spaces for all who visited their homes.

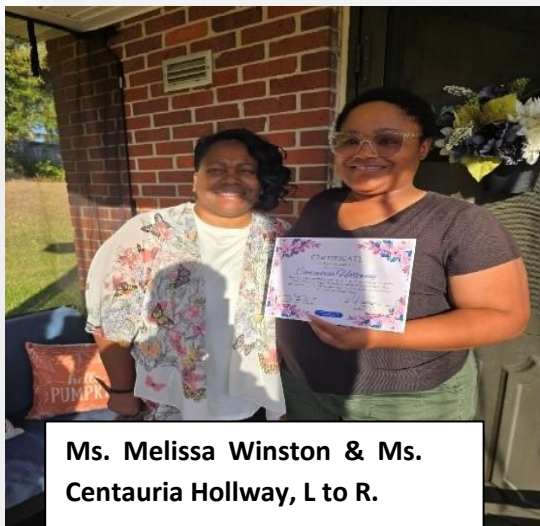
On Wednesday, October 23, the Resident Council Committee honored our incredible neighbors who always step up for our community! We've seen so many of you taking care of our shared spaces and spreading kindness to one another, all while keeping our neighborhood looking fantastic. It's these little things that truly highlight the heart of our community. To show our appreciation, we had the pleasure of visiting all four communities to present Certificates of Appreciation to these fantastic residents. This was our way of celebrating their outstanding contributions and letting them know how much we cherish their positive impact on our lives. Thank you all for helping to make our community an even nicer place to call home!



Mrs. LaRhonda Jackson & Ms. Susan King, L to R.

Our wonderful Resident Commissioner, Ms. Susan King, is excited to honor Mrs. Jackson with not one, but two special certificates! Mrs. Jackson has truly gone the extra mile to keep our neighborhood clean, safe, and inviting. Her dedication to making life better for everyone around her shines brightly, and we couldn't be more grateful!

Resident Showcase (cont'd)



Ms. Melissa Winston & Ms. Centauria Hollway, L to R.

Ms. Winston happily hands the certificate to Miss Holloway, a devoted single mom who works hard to create a loving and stable home for her kids. Her incredible dedication makes her an inspiring role model of strength and care!

Not pictured are Ms. Marcilyn Patrick, Mrs. Bernadette Winston, Ms. Sharon Brooks, Ms. Deanna Askew, and Mr. Norman Glaze.



Mrs. Natalie Fanning & Mrs. Mary Floyd, L to R.

Ms. Natalie Fannings proudly presents a certificate of appreciation to Mrs. Mary Floyd for her beautifully maintained home, tidy porch, and well-kept yard—truly an inspiration to us all!



Mr. Herbert Heard and Ms. Susan King L to R.

Ms. Susan King had the privilege of presenting Mr. Herbert Heard with his certificate of appreciation. Mr. Heard approaches everything with a heart full of gratitude toward his community. His actions reflect a deep sense of service, and his unwavering commitment makes him a true beacon of light to those around him.

Shining a Light on Our Residents

Travaunta "Tre" Abner

Travaunta, affectionately known as Tre, is the son of Cassandra and the late Tracy Abner, with a sister named Shunbil. He is currently a junior at Miles College in Fairfield, Alabama, where he pursues a football scholarship while majoring in Communications with a concentration in Graphic Design.

Tre has excelled academically and socially, achieving the distinguished status of Presidential Scholar with a GPA of 3.7. In athletics, he has earned the Elite 16 award for the highest academic honor in the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and was recognized as a 1st Team All-Conference and All-Region player for 2023 and 2024, playing a vital role in his team's achievement in the 2024 SIAC Championships.

He was also honored as Mr. Iota Delta 2024 for Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., a testament to his leadership and charisma. This recognition propelled him to the role of Captain of the Golden Bears football team.

Tre's unwavering dedication to academics and athletics exemplifies his resilient spirit and well-rounded character. His parents, Renea, and the late Tracy Abner, deserve recognition for their profound influence in shaping an extraordinary young man destined for greatness.



LHA Halloween Celebration

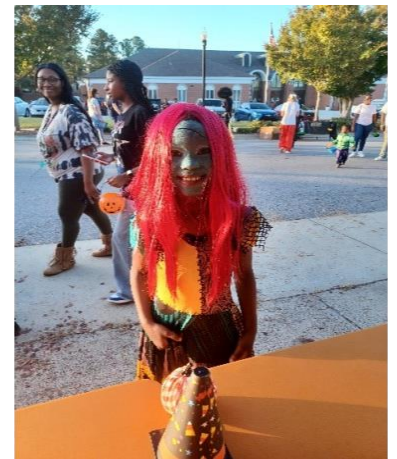


Happy Halloween from The Lanett Housing Authority

We had such a wonderful time celebrating Halloween with our residents this year! We joined in on the City of Lanett, Alabama's annual Halloween Decorations Contest, and it was a great way to show off our community's creativity and festive spirit. A big thank you to our amazing in-house decorators, Mrs. Deborah Brooks and Mrs. Deborah Story, for their fantastic vision and leadership in making our Halloween celebration so special! Even though we didn't take home the trophy this time, the contest was a fun opportunity for friendly competition and brought us all even closer together. Here's to many more joyful and spirited Halloween celebrations in our amazing community!

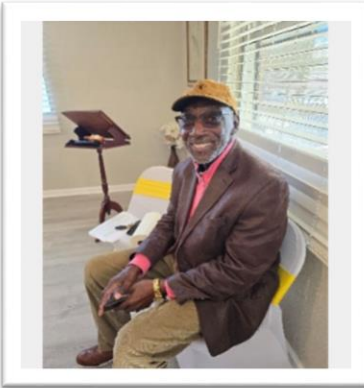


Mrs. Deborah Story, Executive Director; Ms. Temekia Carr, Operational Manager; Ms. Melissa Winston, Resident Activity Coordinator



Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Brunch

~ " The longer I live, the more beautiful life becomes. " ~Frank Lloyd Wright



**Mr. Jamie Heard,
Mayor of Lanett,
Alabama**



**Mr. John Johnson Jr. is our
oldest male resident. He lives
with his wife, Mrs. Sarah
Johnson, in the New Jackson
Heights Community.**



**Mrs. Mattie Davis is our oldest
female resident, residing in the
Crystal Springs Community.**



**Dr. Rose Wood, LHA
Board of Commissioners
Chairperson**

We had such an amazing time celebrating Halloween with our residents this year! We joined in at the City of Lanett, Alabama's annual Halloween Decorations Contest, and it was a fabulous way to show off our community's creativity and festive spirit. A huge shoutout to our wonderful in-house decorators, Mrs. Deborah Brooks and Mrs. Deborah Story, for their incredible vision and hard work in making our Halloween celebration so special! Even though we didn't take home the trophy this year, we had a blast with the friendly competition, and it really brought us all closer together. Here's to many more joyful and spirited Halloween celebrations in our fantastic community!



**Mayor Heard, Mrs. Gloria Wallace,
Mr. Terrell Johnson and Mr.
Charles Carlisle (residents).**



**Mrs. Deborah Brooks once again
did a phenomenal job with our
decorations.**



Residents and Staff



Christmas Parade 2024

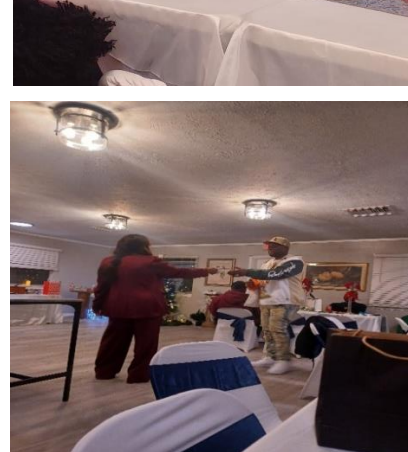
This year's Christmas Parade was absolutely delightful for everyone involved! We wanted to make sure our residents had a fantastic time, so we offered two fun options: a cozy van for the adults and a super exciting float for the kids. Mrs. Patricia Diane Wilson was so excited, hoping to hop in the van and enjoy the parade once again. She loved sharing stories about all the wonderful Christmas parades she experienced with her friends, including Mrs. Jimmie Booker, Mrs. Mary Doris Reed, Mrs. Mary Nell Washington, Mr. Terrell Johnson, and Mrs. Sheila Turner. It was such a joy to have Mrs. Jimmie Booker with us this time, and the smiles in the pictures show just how much fun she had!

The kids were adorable in their pajamas, just like the characters from **The Polar Express**, and they had an absolute blast on the ride from West Point, GA, to Valley, AL. Overall, it was a truly magical experience for everyone involved, and we can't wait to make more wonderful memories together next year!



Staff Christmas Party

~ "Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much." ~ Helen Keller



Urgent: Prepare for Upcoming Inspections

Urgent Reminder:

Importance of Keeping Your Home Clean Ahead of Inspection

We would like to remind you of the importance of keeping your home clean and organized at all times. A clean and well-maintained home not only contributes to a positive living environment, but is also essential for ensuring that all standards are being met in preparation for upcoming inspections. Please take the time to:

1. Ensure all areas are clean and free from clutter from the ceiling to the floors including porches.
2. Ensure that common areas, if shared, are clean.
3. Dispose of any trash properly.
4. Check for any maintenance issues that may need attention and submit a work order to LHA as soon as possible

Your cooperation in maintaining these standards is greatly appreciated and will help to ensure the inspection process goes smoothly and a success for us all.

Helpful Tip for Decluttering a Room:

As you get ready to start the decluttering process, it helps to have a system in place that you can use as you clean and reorganize. One super simple, straightforward option is the “Four-Box Method” — using four boxes or storage bins, you can streamline your decluttering job.

Box 1: Trash

The first box will be your designated trash dump. Any items you want to get rid of that aren't worth donating or selling goes here.

Box 2: Give Away/Sell

Next, designate a box for items that are still in OK condition, but that your household could do without — like old books or toys, for example. Whether you want to give these things away to family/friends, donate them to charity, or sell them in a yard sale to make a little extra money is totally up to you.

Box 3: Storage

This box is for things that you can't or don't want to get rid of, but that you aren't in need of on a day-to-day basis (think things like seasonal decorations). It's also a good idea to make an inventory of items that you're putting in storage as you go — that way, you won't be left wondering what exactly is taking up space in your garage or attic down the line.

Box 4: Put Away

Lastly, have a box ready to place any items that need to be kept in your house, but relocated to their proper place. If you want to get really organized, you can have a few smaller boxes — one each for places like your bathroom, kitchen, or bedrooms — and sort misplaced items into their “homes” to save yourself the hassle later.

Property Managers' Corner

LHA is dedicated to ensuring that all residents have access to safe, decent, and sanitary housing, ensuring that they have the right to peaceful enjoyment of their living environment.

As part of this commitment, the Property Managers conduct quarterly property assessments, and we encourage all residents to comply with the rules and regulations of their lease requirements.

Parking on or driving across lawns is not permitted at any time.



Before bringing a pet and/or service animal home, you must contact housing officials for approval. LHA implements a no-pet visitation policy.



All smoke detectors inside the Apartment must be operable. Residents should contact the Administrative Office to report any issues concerning smoke detectors. Smoke detectors should not be tampered with, removed, disconnected, or covered. To do either is a violation of your dwelling lease to which penalties and fines apply.



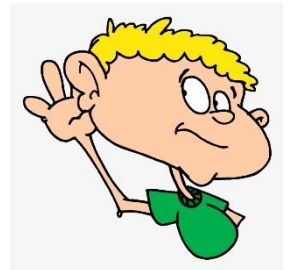
The Property Managers may be contacted, via phone, at (334) 644-5330, (334) 644-5331, or (334) 644-5333 and, by e-mail, at ajohnson@lanetthousing.com and/or abamby@lanetthousing.com to address any concerns you may have.



Listen Up!

Exterior of Apartments and Grounds Upkeep

LHA strives to provide an attractive environment for all of its Developments. Residents, please be reminded that:



- All garbage and debris must be disposed of in garbage bins that are provided by the City of Lanett. No trash should not be allowed to accumulate on the grounds or porch of the apartment.
- All garbage bins must be stored at the rear of the apartment. Garbage bins are allowed at the curbsides the night before the scheduled pickup but must be returned to storage location the next day.
- The conduct of all lease members and their guest(s) must be controlled to prevent damage to the interior and exterior of the apartments.
- No litter, debris, or objects of any kind should be thrown on rooftops.
- The porch, yard, and/or any other property premise must not be used as storage area.
- Inoperable vehicles are prohibited on the premises.
- Bicycles and toys must not be scattered across the lawn. These items must be stored in their proper locations.
- All sizable items (sofas, mattresses, etc.) must not be placed at the curb. Such items must be disposed of in the large dumpsters located throughout the Development.



New Implementations/Updates/Reporting - Alerts

What is Fraud?

Fraud occurs when you fail to report any changes in your family composition or income. For instance, if a resident begins working or experiences a change in income, they must inform the Property Manager within ten (10) days. Failure to do so may result in lease termination and retroactive rent charges.

Additionally, please remember that the Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) system tracks the income of all individuals residing in public housing. It is your responsibility to report all changes in your income to a housing official promptly.

Annual Housekeeping Inspection

Effective July 15, 2024, LHA staff members will conduct housekeeping inspection between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM. Please note that photos will be taken of any deficiencies, copies of which will accompany violation notices. Your cooperation during the inspection will be appreciated. If you are not at home at the time of the inspection, we will enter your unit and leave a notice to inform you that the inspection has been completed.

Rent

Rent is due and payable on the first day of each month without advance notice. If payment is not received by the 10th day of the month, it will be considered delinquent and a late fee of \$25 will be added to all affected accounts. Partial payments will not be accepted. **Beginning August 1, 2024, LHA will no longer accept cash of any amount.**

Lease Violations

A lease violation can lead to the termination of one's lease. Please be mindful that you are responsible for your guests while they are on the Housing Authority premises. If you have lost your original lease and need a copy, please call the Administrative Office to request a replacement. The fact that you have misplaced/lost your lease is NOT an excuse for violation of the lease!

Top lease violations:

- Nonpayment of Rent
- Criminal Activity / Drugs
- Unauthorized Guests / Individuals on Banned List
- Unreported / Under-reported Income

If it is discovered that you, knowingly, are harboring a fugitive or allowing any visitors into your apartment, who are engaged in criminal activity, you will be evicted.

New Reporting Requirements to Receive Alerts

Stay in the loop by signing up to receive alerts from Lanett Housing Authority. **If you have not yet provided us with a current email address and cell phone number, please do so immediately.** The deadline for providing your email and accepting opt-in for text messages is 30 days from receiving this newsletter. Thereafter, keep personal updates current.

Maintenance Department's Corner

Effective immediately, for the safety of our residents and Maintenance Staff and best interest of the Housing Authority, residents will not be allowed in areas where either interior or exterior repairs are being performed inside LHA units. Residents must either go into another room or leave the surrounding area until all work has been completed.

Routine and non-emergency work orders will be resolved within three business days. Emergency work orders will be completed within 24 hours. If a work order request is thought to be an emergency but is actually determined to be routine, the resident making the request will be informed of such. An emergency work order involves 1) a serious threat to the life, safety, or health of individuals, or 2) immediate potential for severe damage to property, structure, and/or systems.

Examples of an emergency work order are:

- Broken exterior door lock
- Fires
- Damaged or inoperable electrical outlets
- Power outage
- Broken water line (s)
- Sagging/collapsing ceiling (s)
- No heat (when the outside temperature is less than 35 degrees)
- Inoperative HVAC (when the temperature is above 85 degrees Fahrenheit)
- Smell of gas fumes



Report all work order requests by dialing (334) 644-5330. For police and fire emergencies, dial 911.



Your Trusted Maintenance Technician,
Here to Fix What Matters!



Why Not Make Someone's Day?



Hello neighbors! We'd love to hear about your special moments and share them in our quarterly newsletters! Whether it's a birthday, wedding, baby shower, graduation, or any other joyful occasion, this is a wonderful chance to celebrate together as a community. If you'd like to feature your announcement, just send it over to Melissa Winston, our Resident Activity Coordinator, at least one month before the newsletter comes out. Don't miss out on the fun—let's shine a light on your important milestones! Here are the submission deadlines:

Spring Edition: February 28th

Summer Edition: May 31st

Fall Edition: August 31st

Winter Edition: November 31st

For Your Information

THE CIRCLE OF CARE



Welcome...

a program of the Circle of Care Center for Families

Recognizing the local need for a successful future workforce, we created The YES Project. This program helps young adults ages sixteen through twenty-four attain their academic goals and receive employment training.



Through our efforts we hope to maximize employment, post-secondary, and specialized training opportunities for young adults in our service areas.



Participants must be withdrawn from public school to receive services. This program is in partnership with the Alabama Career System and Department of Commerce Workforce Division.

Circle of Care

Center for Families



Circle of Care center for families provides a number of resources to families in the community, for more information please contact them at 334-768-4091.

For For Your Information

LEE & CHAMBERS COUNTIES

YOUNG ADULT EMPLOYMENT SKILLS

YES! Project

**16-24 YEAR OLDS WHO WANT ASSISTANCE
WITH CAREER & EDUCATION GOAL**

We are eager to help you move forward in your life with excellent training resources and tools to accomplish your goals with support

ALL SERVICES ARE FREE

GED Prep
Career Exploration
Life & Leadership Skills
Financial Literacy

Technical Training
Post-Secondary Prep
ASVAB Support-Military
Job Assistance

Employment Readiness
Job Shadowing
Work-Based Learning
Skills Gains

Earn Cash Incentives While Training

Program is for young adults needing to complete H.S. Diploma (G.E.D.).
Additional eligibility requirements for H.S. graduates.
Call the numbers below or scan the QR Code to inquire today!


*This project is funded 100% with Federal funds made available to the State of Alabama Department of Commerce by the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration as the Grantor.



**Circle of Care Center for Families
14 Medical Park, Valley AL 36854**

334-768-4091




For Your Information (cont'd)



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

The Lanett Housing Authority would like to remind you to always call Alabama 811 before digging.

By locating and marking underground utilities, you protect yourself as well as your utility service. Unintentional damage to underground facilities during excavation is a significant cause of disruption in utility services, as well as other vital service operations. Accidentally breaking a natural gas pipe isn't just an inconvenience, it's a hazard to you, your neighborhood and your community.

REMEMBER : NOTIFY 911 IMMEDIATELY

DO NOT allow open flames or spark producing objects in presence of un-ignited gas

DO NOT extinguish flames of escaping gas unless life is in danger

DO NOT operate any type of machinery

DO NOT operate any valves on the city installations without consulting gas company

DO NOT ring doorbells, operate electrical switches, or use any type of phone where un-ignited combustible natural gas is suspected

SMELL GAS? CALL 334-644-5330

**WHEELER BASIN
NATURAL GAS
COMPANY**

256- 974-9023

**KNOW WHAT'S
BELOW**

**CALL 811..... BEFORE YOU
DIG!**

WHAT'S THAT SMELL?

THE STRONG SMELL OF ROTTEN EGGS MAY INDICATE A NATURAL GAS LEAK

THE CHEMICAL MERCAPTAN IS ADDED TO NATURAL GAS TO PRODUCE THIS SMELL. SCRATCH THE FLAME TO GET A WHIFF OF THIS DISTINCTIVE ODOR. A GAS LEAK CAN BE DANGEROUS. MEMORIZE THE SAFETY RULES WE'VE PROVIDED DOWN BELOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT OF A GAS LEAK.

KEYS TO NATURAL GAS SAFETY

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF A NATURAL GAS LEAK

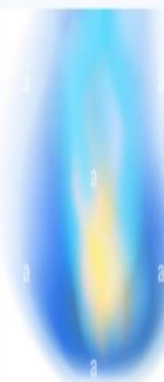
Leaking natural gas is dangerous. It can be deadly to breathe. Also, it can cause a fire or explosion. A natural gas leak is indicated by the strong smell of rotten eggs (It is the result of the chemical ethyl mercaptan, which is added to natural gas): Here are safety rules to follow if you smell the strong odor of ethyl mercaptan:

DON'T-


- Operate anything electrical or light a flame.
- Turn on the lights.
- Use the telephone.
- Turn on the television or radio.
- Turn on a flashlight.
- Turn on the gas range or other gas appliances.
- Strike a match.
- Open an automatic garage door.

DO -

- Exit the building immediately.
- Leave the door open on the way out.
- Leave the area immediately if you're outside.
- Go to another place and call the fire department or gas company to report the leak.
- Stay away until someone from the fire department, gas company, or emergency agency informs you that it's safe to return.




IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION



SCRATCH THE FLAME and keep your family safe!

It's important that you and your family recognize this odor, whether or not you have natural gas service.



Lanett Housing Authority

334-644-5330

Fun Educational Tools

Hey parents! If you're looking for some fun and enriching activities for your child during those afternoon or weekend hours, check out these awesome websites. They're fantastic alternatives to screen time and can really help spark your child's curiosity and growth. Dive in together and watch their minds flourish!

FUN AND FREE WAYS TO LEARN FROM HOME

MATH:

Prodigy

play.prodigygame.com



Khan Academy

www.khanacademy.org



READING:

Squiggle Park

www.squigglepark.com



Storyline

www.storylineonline.net/

Storyline Online

SCIENCE:

Mystery Doug

mysterydoug.com



National Geographic

kids.nationalgeographic.com



SOCIAL STUDIES:

History for Kids

www.historyforkids.net

History for Kids

THAT FUN TEACHER

WRITING:

Typing Club

www.typingclub.com



Scholarship Information

A flyer for the Alabama Housing Authorities Education and Enrichment Fund, Inc. Scholarship Program 2025. The top features a photograph of a large brick building. Below the photo is the organization's logo and name. The word "SCHOLARSHIP" is prominently displayed in large white letters on a purple background, with "PROGRAM 2025" in a red banner below it. A QR code is centered under the text "APPLY DOWN BELOW". At the bottom, a white box contains the application deadline and contact information.

Alabama Housing Authorities
Education and Enrichment Fund, Inc.

SCHOLARSHIP

PROGRAM 2025

APPLY DOWN
BELOW



Scholarship applications are due March 3rd, 2025 at 5pm CST.
If you have any questions, contact Blessa Peyton at 334-493-9741 or via email oha@medicombb.net



If you are a HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR, the following is required:

1. Your most recent High School Transcript and ACT score and the date of the test.
2. If you took and successfully completed any Advanced Placement Classes, Honor Classes or College Equivalent Courses, THEY MUST BE INDIVIDUALLY LISTED AND CLEARLY VERIFIED IN A LETTER FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC COUNSELOR ON THE SCHOOL'S LETTER HEAD.
3. If you participated in any extracurricular school activity, please provide a typed list with the years you participated in these activities. This list must be verified by your high school academic counselor.
4. If you received awards of achievement, please a list and provide evidence of their receipt.
5. If you participated in community activities (i.e., church activities, local blood drive, big brother/big sister etc.) please provide a letter of involvement from the appropriate official on the organization's letterhead indicating the dates of involvement.

Scholarship Information Cont'd

Strategies to Help Secure Scholarships

1. Use a free scholarship search site such as
2. Chegg, Fastweb.com, or the U.S. News
3. Scholarship Finder
4. Check out local organizations and nonprofits
5. Contact colleges about institutional
6. scholarships
7. Earn a merit scholarship
8. Apply for scholarships based on specific
9. college majors
10. Write an award-winning essay
11. Meet your deadlines
12. Find employment with companies that offer scholarships to employees or a child of an employee, such as Taco Bell, Chick-fil-A,
13. or KrogerComplete your FAFSA application promptly



1. All questions outlined in the application must be completed. If a question is not applicable indicate by clearly marking "N/A".
2. All answers on the application must be typed.
3. Any essays submitted MUST BE TYPED.
4. If you are a CURRENT COLLEGE STUDENT OR FUTURE ATTENDEE, the following is required:
 - a. Proof of completion of a HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR GED
 - b. If you participate in community activities (i.e., church activities, local blood drive, big brother/big sister etc.) please provide a letter of involvement from the appropriate official on the organization's letterhead indicating the dates of involvement.
 - c. If you are employed, please list the employer, dates of employment, and an estimated number of hours worked per week. For those that work more than 25 hours per week, verification from the employer must be submitted.
 - d. To complete the application, each applicant must submit the following:
 - i. A short essay outlining each applicant's accomplishments, goals and aspirations.
 - ii. At Least TWO letters of recommendations. All recommendations must be typed, on proper letterhead, and signed by the person submitting the recommendation. One letter of recommendation must come from an employer, housing authority employee, community member that knows the applicant well. The other letter will come from whomever the applicant wishes. It is recommended that the recommendation not come from friends, church acquaintances or relatives but from someone who can more clearly objectively provide the recommendation.
5. All applicants entering college, trade, or technical school for the first time must expect to receive a Diploma or General Education Development (GED) Certificate by June 15, 2025.
6. Applicants continuing their college careers, regardless of age, are eligible to apply for the scholarships. Prior year applicants and recipients are eligible to apply again for the scholarship. Scholarships may only be awarded a maximum of four (4) years to the same recipients and ONLY for Bachelor Level Degrees, no Graduate school degrees.
7. The Executive Director Memorial Scholarship will be made to a current employee's son or daughter. The employee must have been employed by a public housing authority in the State of Alabama for at least two (2) consecutive years, and the recipient must have been living with the employee for the period and be a graduating high school senior or continuing their college career.
8. Funds are to be utilized by July 1, 2026. Funds may be used at accredited universities, colleges, community colleges, and trade/technical schools. If awardee needs an extension due to unforeseen circumstances, a request must be sent in writing to the AHAEF, Inc. Board, which has the discretion to approve or deny the extension. The grantee's failure to continue the required course of study will cause the unused portion of funds to revert to AHAEF for award to another applicant. Awarded funds will be sent directly to the university, college, community college or trade/technical school noted on the application.
9. Scholarship awarded funds are ear-marked for tuition and/or books.
10. The AHAEF Board will convene for the purpose of selecting the finalists after reviewing all applications received. The applications from high school students will be judged primarily on academic achievements; however, extracurricular school and community activities and achievements will also be considered. Success in core curriculum courses will have a bearing on the weight given to academic achievements. The applications from adult applicants will be judged primarily on grades/volunteer services, resume, personal essays, and recommendations.
11. The sponsoring housing authority shall provide travel and/or lodging for the applicant and one family member to the scholarship award ceremony for winners.

Word Search/Puzzle

Martin Luther King Jr.



ACTIVIST
AMERICAN
CHANGE
CIVIL RIGHTS
COURAGE

DREAM
EQUALITY
FREEDOM
HERO
JANUARY

JUSTICE
LIBERTY
NOBEL PEACE PRIZE
MINISTER
SPEECH




CRAYONSANDGRAVINGS.COM

Let us take this opportunity to reflect on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s inspiring vision and legacy while engaging in a fun and creative activity.



January

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Rent due Happy New Year Office Closed	2 Van Service 9 am-12 pm	3	4
5	6 After-School 3-5:30 pm	7 Van Service 9 am-12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	8 Dominos/Spades 11 am Soup for Our Soul 12 pm @ Crystal Springs CC After-School 3- 5:30 pm	9 Van Service 9 am- 12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	10 Last day to Pay Rent Before Fee	11
12	13 After-School 3-5:30 pm	14 Van Service 9 am-12 pm Board Meeting 5 pm Pest Control After-School 3-5:30 pm	15 Checkers/ Bingo 11 am Soup for Our Soul 12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	16 Van Service 9 am- 12 pm Resident Council Meeting 5 pm @ CSCC After-School 3-5:30 pm	17 Report Cards	18
19	20 Martin L. King, Jr. Holiday Inauguration Office closed 	21 Van Service 9 am-12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	22 Board Games 11 am Soup for Our Soul 12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	23 Van Service 9-11 am PHADA'S Scholarship Deadline 5 pm EST After-School 3-5:30 pm	24	25
26	27 After-School 3-5:30 pm	28 Van Service 9 am-12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	29 Dominos/Bingo 11 am Soup for Our Soul 12 pm After-School	30 Van Service 9 am-12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	31	



February



2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Rent Due
2	3 Van Service 9 am-12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	4 Van Service 9 am-12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	5 Crafting 11 am Soup for Our Soul 12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	6 Van Service 9 am-12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	7 LHA/Resident Council Comm. Yard Sale 9-11:30am	8
9	10 Last Day to Pay Rent Before Fee After-School 3-5:30 pm	11 Van Service 9 am-12 pm Board Meeting 5 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	12 Board & Card Games 11 am Soup for Our Soul 12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	13 Van Service 9 am-12 pm Progress Report After-School 3-5:30 pm	14  Valentine's Day	15
16	17 President Day – No School/No After-School Tutoring for Students	18 Van Service 9 am-12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	19 Crafting 11 am Soup for Our Soul 12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	20 Van Service 9 am-12 pm Resident Council Meeting 5pm @ CSCC After-School	21	22
23	24 After-School 3-5:30 pm	25 Van Service 9 am-12 pm	26 Dominos/Checker/ Spades	27 Van Service 9 am-12 pm	28	

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

March

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Rent due
2	3 Van Service 9 am-12 pm After-School	4 Van Service 9 am-12 pm After-School	5 Crafting 11 am Soup for Our Soul 12 pm After-School	6 Van Service 9 am-12 pm After-School	7	8
9	10 After-School 3-5:30 pm	11 Van Service 9 am-12 pm Board Meeting	12 Board/Card Games 11 am Soup for Our Soul 12 pm After-School	13 Van Service 9 am-12 pm After-School	14	15
16	17 After-School 3-5:30 pm	18 Van Service 9 am-12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	19 Bingo 11 am Soup for Our Soul 12 pm After-School 3-5:30 pm	20 Van Service 9 am-12 pm Resident Council Meeting @ 5pm CSCC After-School	21	22
23	24 Spring break for Lanett City Schools 24-28 th No After-School Tutoring	25 Van Service 9 am-12 pm No After-School Tutoring	26 No After-School Tutoring	27 Van Service 9 am-12 pm No After-School Tutoring	28	29
30	31 After-School 3-5:30 pm					





IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO REMEMBER

Administrative Office	(334) 644-5330
Maintenance Department	(334) 644-5341
Fax	(334) 644-6468
E-mail	dstorv@lanetthousing.com
After Hours Emergency.....	(334) 644-5330 (Press #1)

The Lanett Housing Authority does not discriminate against any person for employment or housing because of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or familial status. Any tenant can place an Announcement, Birthday, Wedding Anniversary, or Special Event in the Quarterly Newsletter by calling or coming by the Administrative Office during regular business hours.

