

Morristown Housing Authority Neighborhood News

COMPUTER LEARNING CENTER

1149 KENNEDY CIRLCE



Dear friends,

The holiday seasons have come and gone, and we are all settling back in to our “normal” routine of life. COVID-19 has changed everything about life as we know it. We all continue to focus on how to best support and protect our families, employees, residents and our communities in the face of this unfolding crises.

I realize that the stress and anxiety is heightened during this time. Balancing the strains of normal life has been difficult for us all. Some things you can do to relieve the stress is to take deep breaths throughout the day, stretch and go for a brisk walk and get plenty of rest. Our team is here to assist you, and we encourage you to reach out.

How many of you had a dedicated African American history unit in February—Black History Month—as part of your high school curriculum?

In the United States, it’s common for schools to recognize Black History Month. Carter G. Woodson, known as the “Father of Black History,” developed Black History Month. Woodson, whose parents were enslaved, was an author, historian and the second African American to earn a Ph.D. at Harvard University. He recognized that the American education system offered very little information about the accomplishments of African Americans and founded the Association for the Study of African American Life and History.

But as we get older, mandated education and celebration of African American history gets less common. This is a lost opportunity! There’s so much positivity that can be celebrated!

As President Gerald Ford said in 1976 when he officially recognized Black History Month, we need to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.”

If you’re wondering how to honor these accomplishments or learn more, I have some helpful ideas for you.

Organize a book club - Reading nonfiction or fiction books by Black authors can be a poignant and meaningful way to recognize Black History Month. We have a list of book titles at the CLC to get you started.

Volunteer – Volunteering with local nonprofits and charities is an excellent way to get involved. There are many known around the community, but Black Girls CODE, National Society of Black Engineers, and My Brother’s Keeper Alliance are good places to start if you’re looking for national Black-led organizations.

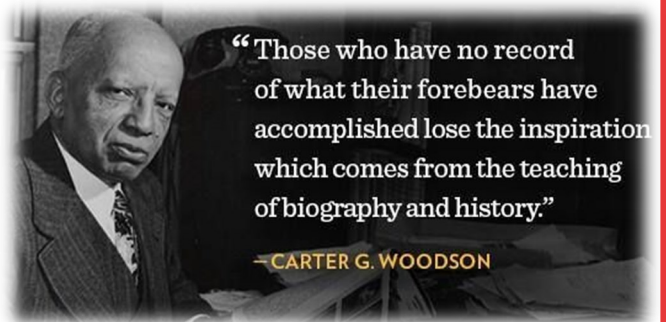
Donate - Pool resources together or arrange a fundraiser to support racial justice. Sometimes, the gift of money is the most impactful thing you can give to a charity, especially when it comes to education or legal funds. We recommend checking out The Sentencing Project, Thurgood Marshall College Fund, and the NAACP Defense and Educational Fund. It’s also worth it to look into Historically-Black Colleges or Universities (HBCUs).

On behalf of the MHA Board Members, myself, and our team here at MHA, we wish you continued health and happiness this year alongside your family and friends. Have a good month and stay warm.

All my best,

Sean Gilbert

Executive Director



600 Sulphur Spring Rd. Morristown, TN 37813

From the Desk of Jeff Green—Operations Director



Maintenance After Hours Emergency Number 423-273-2489

If you are unsure if you have an Emergency please refer to your "Emergency Calls" on this paper of refrigerator magnet.

Hearing impaired residents, should call TN Relay Center at 1-800-848-0298

Office Hours **Monday- Thursday 9:00 am to 6:00 pm** **CLOSED Fridays**
(closed for lunch 12:30pm -1:30 pm)



Effective February 2021 Pest Control Procedure Update All MHA units will receive Pest Control treatments in the months of March and September. The semi – annual treatments will begin on the second week of the month and continue until all MHA units receive Pest Control Treatments. No units will be excluded from the March and September treatment schedule. Additional Pest Control Services will be on a call-in basis. To schedule additional Pest Control at your unit, please contact the MHA office at 423-586-5115 extension 8010. Call in treatments will begin on the second Tuesday of each month until complete. You must contact the office by 12:00 p.m. on Thursday to have your unit scheduled for the following week.

Emergency Work Order Calls

MHA maintenance will only be addressing Emergency Work Orders. This is due to the increase of COVID-19 cases in our area. This will be in effect until further notice.

1. Roof Leaking
2. Refrigerator not working
3. Outside door lock torn up
4. Broken water lines on M.H.A. property.
5. Gas leak at any appliance or meter.
6. Fire in any building in the M.H.A.
7. Range (only if entire range doesn't work)
8. Commode stopped up and overflowing.
9. An elderly tenant is thought to be hurt or in difficulty.
10. Smoke alarm (alarm going off, needs repaired, lose or hanging).
11. Heating system off (only if outside temperature is below 55 degrees F.)
12. Give assistance to the Police Department in case of break in or emergency.
13. Any electrical problem which causes a power failure or poses a threat to persons or property.
14. Any water heater where the relief valve pops off or develops a hole in the tank where water runs constantly

HVAC Filter Changing Beginning August 2021, the HVAC filter change protocol will change. MHA staff will change filters bi-monthly. Filter change begins the second Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November until completed. Additional filters will be left for residents to change on the alternate months. No items may be stored in the Mechanical Closets. Residents will be charged for any damages resulting from non-compliance with this notice. Thank you for your assistance! Remember Mechanical Closets cannot be used for storage! Revised 8/2/21

Bed Bug Treatments Is A Service That Is Provided by The Housing Authority at No Cost to Compliant Residents

If you get Bed Bugs, it is imperative that you completely follow, step by step instructions of the pest control providers prep list to begin the extermination process. MHA will continue to provide this service at no cost for residents who comply with the pest control provider's prep list. Lack of cooperation on the part of some residents has caused our pest control provider to request additional charges from MHA. We have negotiated with the pest control provider to hold these additional charges to a minimum. These charges are only what will be charged by the pest control provider. MHA will not add additional charges **NON-COMPLIANCE FOR BED BUG TREATMENT Charges will be rated MHA's current pest control providers charges**

Trash Notice to Residents Morristown Housing Authority's trash truck runs each Monday. This is a service provided by MHA to help residents dispose of large items such as televisions, couches, washers & dryers, etc. Lately, small items such as pizza boxes, bags of trash, etc. have been placed at the street. Please be aware that smaller items must be disposed of in the household trash can furnished by the City of Morristown. MHA will no longer pick-up small items. If small items are placed at the street, you may receive a maintenance charge for pick-up. After the City empties your trash can, please return the trash can to your unit. Do not leave trash cans at the street from week to week.

Large items for MHA pick-up should be placed at the curb from Sunday afternoon to no later than 7 a.m. on Monday morning. Do not place the large items at the street after 7 a.m. on Mondays. The trash truck will make one pass through each neighborhood and anything placed at the street after this time may result in a maintenance charge to your household. If a holiday falls on a Monday, the MHA trash truck will run on Tuesday.

Morristown Housing Authority does not furnish or repair the City provided trash cans. If you need a trash can or have one that is in need of repair, please contact: The City of Morristown Public Works Department at 423-585-4658.

COLD WEATHER PRECAUTIONS

When temperatures are below freezing for an extended period of time or extremely cold for short periods, water lines could freeze. In an effort to prevent frozen water lines please take the following precautions:

- Open your kitchen cabinet doors below the sink. This allows warm air to enter and help keep pipes from freezing.
- Allow a small stream of water to run through your kitchen faucet at night. A constant flow of water will help prevent freezing.
- Do not open your faucet all the way. A small stream is all that is needed.
- Make sure water hoses are not connected to the outside spickets. If outside faucets freeze because a water hose has been left connected, you could be charged for repairs.

When temperatures rise above freezing throughout the day there is no need to take these precautions.

Free COVID-19 tests.
Available to order January 19.

No shipping costs.

Visit: <https://www.covidtests.gov/>



MORRISTOWN HAMBLEN

Ready by 6

Earn **\$50** gift card by attending a

Focus Group on

Friday, February 11th, 9:30am

1149 Kennedy Circle

Must have children under the
age of 6 to attend.

Childcare will be available!

Brunch will be served!

Limited spots available,
please RSVP 423-586-5115 x 8026

SPRING CLEANING LIST

OLDSALTFARM.COM

- *wipe down all baseboards, doors, outlet covers, and light switch plates
- *wash all bedding and rotate mattresses
 - *wash windows and vacuum out windowsills and ledges
- *dust all surfaces, including ceiling fans and vents
- *vacuum out couches and chairs, plus all carpet
- *clean kitchen: counters, appliances, drawers, cabinets and floors
- *rotate clothes: switch over fall/winter to spring/summer

How to Get Help from Social Security

Social Security is here to help. We want you to know how to get the service you need and to be prepared so we can help you as quickly and safely as possible.



Go online to **SSA.gov**. Our website is the best way for most people to get help.



If you cannot use our website call our National 800 Number (1-800-772-1213) or your local Social Security office for help.



We will schedule an **appointment** for you, if **necessary**, to serve you by phone or in person.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community Service requirements return effective with the May 1, 2022, Annual Recertifications. Each adult is required to perform 8 hours of Community Service monthly unless qualifying for an exemption.

The exemptions are as follows:

Program Exemptions:

- 62 years or older;
- Blind or disabled;
- A primary caretaker of such individual;



Engaged in work activities:

- Unsubsidized employment;
- Subsidized private-sector employment;
- Subsidized public-sector employment;
- Work experience (including work associated with the refurbishing of publicly assisted housing) if sufficient private sector employment is not available;
- On-the-job-training;
- Job-search;
- Community service programs;
- Vocational educational training (not to exceed 12 months with respect to any individual);
- Job-skills training directly related to employment;
- Education directly related to employment in the case of a recipient who has not received a high school diploma or a certificate of high school equivalency;
- Satisfactory attendance at secondary school or in a course of study leading to a certificate of general equivalency, in the case of a recipient who has not completed secondary school or received such a certificate;
- Able to meet requirements under a state program funded welfare program of the State in which PHA is located including a State-administered Welfare-to-Work program; or,
- A member of a family receiving assistance, benefits, or services under a state program funded any other welfare program of the State (SNAP-Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) in which the PHA is located, including a State-administered Welfare-to-Work program, and has not been found by the State or other administering entity to be in noncompliance with such a program.
- For a copy of the Community Service Policy or more information, contact the MHA office. Community Service forms will be sent in each Annual Recertification packet

Community Service Hours can be completed at Computer Learning Center (423)586-5115 x 8026

Other agencies will be listed in upcoming Newsletters

February 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Happy Birthday to everyone in the month of February!</i>		1 	2	3 CLC Reading	4	5
6 Rent Late	7	8 Smoke-Free Housing	9 NO BINGO	10 Pizza for Youth @ CLC	11 RB 6	12
13	14 Valentines	15	16	17 CLC Reading Program 4pm	18	19
20	21 Food Truck 2pm	22	23	24 Pizza for Youth @ CLC	25	26
27	28 	Morristown Police Department—MHA Liaison & Crime Prevention Officer Network Center —1149 Kennedy Circle—Office: 423-587-0376 *Reminder* ALL vehicles parked at the unit must have a MHA parking decal ! “To view a full Trespass list go to our website www.morristownpha.org “				