

BRIEFLY SPEAKING

LOUISVILLE METRO HOUSING AUTHORITY EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



July/August 2009

ACHIEVING GOALS, CELEBRATING SUCCESS

A MESSAGE FROM TIM BARRY, LMHA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Each year that I attend the scholarship ceremony, I take great pride in LMHA's ability to provide financial and educational assistance to our residents. Time and time again, these individuals demonstrate the desire to achieve their goals, and the willingness to work hard to make a positive changes in their lives.

Whether it's a graduating high school senior looking forward to attending college, an individual who deferred career aspirations due to family responsibilities or someone who wants to take a vocational path to achieve financial independence, one theme remains constant...desire, tenacity and willingness to work hard to achieve their goals.

While we congratulate the 24 residents who received scholarships this year, we should also acknowledge the LMHA youth programs that provide assistance to students on an on-going basis. Special thanks to the LMHA staff who helped to make a difference in the lives of the residents, and whose efforts will positively impact those who still need us most, our youth! Here's a listing and the types of youth programs we offer:

LMHA Youth Programs

After-School Tutoring

Tutors provide homework assistance to public housing and Section 8 youth Monday through Friday throughout the school year at Beecher Terrace, Parkway Place, Sheppard Square and Iroquois Homes.

Ballard High School/Beecher Terrace Learning Center

Ballard High School staff and volunteers provide academic services to area youth.

Youth Opportunity Unlimited (Y.O.U.)

Y.O.U. program helps out-of-school youth complete their GED and find employment.

Children Have Options in Choosing Experiences, Inc. (C.H.O.I.C.E.)

C.H.O.I.C.E. is a grassroots organization that provides preventive services to at-risk youth in a school setting.

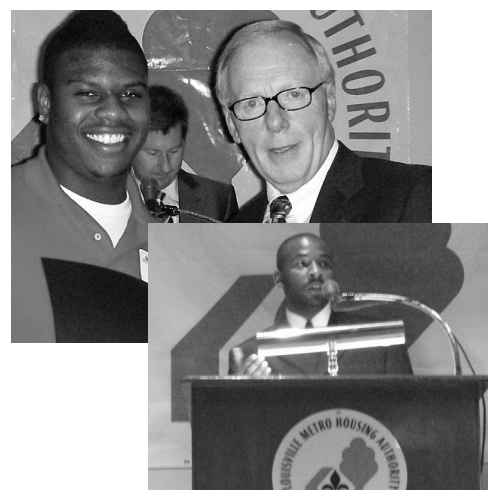
LMHA AWARDS 24 SCHOLARSHIPS AT ANNUAL CEREMONY

Over 100 attendees watched as LMHA Executive Director Tim Barry awarded \$36,000 worth of scholarships to 24 public housing and Section 8 residents at the annual ceremony held in July at Masterson's Restaurant.

While in attendance at the event, Louisville Metro Council President David Tandy, congratulated the scholarship award recipients and encouraged them to work hard, stay focused and continue to obtain the education and skills needed for their future. "Now more than ever, it is important for students to prepare for today's competitive work environment," said Tandy.

"These award recipients are to be commended for their dedication and commitment to achieving their goals.

This year's featured speaker was Lavel White. A 2005 LMHA scholarship award recipient, Lavel is currently completing a degree in Communications at the University of Louisville. He is also an aspiring film director, owns a multi-media company, and is involved in a variety of community activities.



Other community interests include the Annie E. Casey Making Connections program, KET Youth Video Project and the Ceremonial Healing Group in his Smoketown neighborhood. Lavel shared his personal story and encouraged the students to continue to strive to achieve their goals.

Over the past 23 years, the LMHA scholarship program has awarded 375 scholarships worth more than \$1 million to residents of public and assisted housing. "We were particularly pleased to have Lavel speak at this year's awards ceremony," said Barry. "His story is one of tenacity, commitment and true belief in what can be accomplished with hard work. I feel certain we will be seeing and hearing great things about this young man in the future".



SAFETY TIPS TO FOLLOW DURING A FLOOD WATCH OR WARNING

The recent rain storm and subsequent flooding reminds us all of how important it is to be prepared in case of inclement weather. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offers the following suggestions in case of a flood watch or warning:

- Gather emergency supplies and stay tuned to local radio or television station for updates.
- Turn off all utilities at the main power switch and close the gas valve if evacuation appears necessary. Don't go into the water to turn the power off – you could be electrocuted.
- Have your immunization records handy in case you should receive a puncture wound or a wound becomes contaminated during or after the flood.
- Stock your home with supplies that may be needed during the emergency period such as bottled water or clean containers for water, 3-5 day supply of non-perishable food and can opener, first aid kit, battery powered radio, flashlights and extra batteries, sleeping bags or blankets, water purifying supplies such as chlorine or iodine tablets, baby food and other baby supplies, personal hygiene supplies, rubber boots, waterproof gloves, insect repellent or long-sleeved and long legged clothing for protection from mosquitoes.
- Fill your vehicle's gas tank and make sure your car emergency kit is ready. An emergency car kit may include items such as food, flares, booster cables, maps, tools, a first aid kit, fire extinguisher and a sleeping bag.
- If you have to evacuate: 1) take only essential items with you; 2) if you have time, turn off the gas, electricity and water; 3) disconnect appliances to prevent electrical shock when power is restored; 4) follow the designated evacuation routes and expect heavy traffic; and DO NOT attempt to drive or walk across creeks or flooded roads.

*Source: Center for Disease Control and Prevention
Emergency Preparedness Response*



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

July (belated)

Phonsine Baber, Sheppard Square
Byron Bishop, Dosker Manor
Latacha Brewer, Lourdes Hall
Patricia Brooks, Lourdes Hall
Patrick Clay, Parkway Place
Janell Coghill, Finance
Diane Coleman, Avenue Plaza
Margi Decker, Sheppard Square
Yvonne Feger, Finance
James Goff, Vacancy Prep.
Terry Good, Regional Maint.
Stephen Higgins, Regional Maint.
William Jackson, Regional Maint.
Donna Keehn, Louisville Housing Services
LaTasha Kilgore, Construction Admin.
Pat Laster, Operations
Shirley Leonard, Avenue Plaza
Mark Lindenmayer, Extermination
Allen Martin, Dosker Manor
Talena McCrary, Occupancy
Danny O'Daniel, Lourdes Hall
Charles Parker, Beecher West
Emma Robinson, Louisville Housing Services
Will Seay, Operations
Larry Selmon, Dosker Manor
Shameca Smith, Lourdes Hall
Robert Thompson, Auto/Grounds
Marie Tull, Personnel
Larry Votaw, Vine Street
Art Wasson, Vine Street
Thomas White, Purchasing
Carlos Whitehorse, Regional Maint.

August

Rebekah Aman, Vine Street
Derry Baker, Auto/Grounds
David Bald, Beecher Terrace
Kenyatta Ballard, Operations
Mike Barnett Sr., Dosker Manor
Ramona Brewer, Vine Street
Cecil Burgin, Extermination
Sherri Churchill, Avenue Plaza
Gary Cunningham, LHS
Brenda Dodson, Vine Street
Deborah Gilbert, Vine Street
Keith Grinstead, Parkway Place
Ronald Hall, Lourdes Hall
Lawrence Hardy, Vine Street
Mary Head, Occupancy
Vanessa Holland, Occupancy
David Hughes, Iroquois Homes
Bobby Jackson, Vacancy Prep.
Theresa Jaimes, Vine Street
Michele Jefferson, Vine Street
Cynthia Johnson, Construction Admin.
David Kelley, Finance
Sonia Lester, Avenue Plaza
Mary Masden, Beecher West
John McGuire, HVAC
Cornelia Oldham, Info Tech.
Clark Rose, Regional Maint.
Ramon Salter, Parkway Place
John Savage, Auto/Grounds
William Smith, Vine Street
Robin Sneed, Personnel
Vickie Spencer, Bishop Lane Plaza
Phil Stepteau, Executive
Shelly Winstead, Finance
Tonya Wise, Construction Admin.



ARE YOU PUZZLED?

The following puzzler was published in the January – March 2009 “Briefly Speaking” newsletter.

Answers to the puzzler:

1. What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a head but never weeps, has a bed but never sleeps? **river**
2. What object has keys that open no locks, space but no room, and you can enter but not go in? **computer keyboard**
3. What eats rocks, levels mountains, rusts metal, pushes the clouds across the sky, and can make a young man old? **time**
4. No sooner spoken than broken. What is it? **silence**
5. Who spends the day at the window, goes to the table for meals and hides at night? **A fly**

The prize winner is Tonya Wise, Construction Administration. Congrats Tonya, stop by Executive at your convenience to pick up your prize. **If you would like to submit any puzzles or brain teasers for future consideration, please send them via e-mail to vstone@lmha1.org.**



NEWS OF NOTE

LMHA EMPLOYEES COMPLETE TRAINING TO BECOME CERTIFIED FIRST AID RESPONDERS.

Recently, 56 LMHA employees completed training to be certified as First Aid Responders. The instruction, provided annually by the American Red Cross, covers Adult CPR/First Aid and Preventing Disease Transmission. As a result of the training, Maintenance and A&S staff who volunteer to participate in the instructional program are better prepared to be of service to fellow employees who might become ill or injured in the workplace.



Employees utilize mannequins to learn how to apply CPR chest compressions. Pictured from left to right: (front row) Macen Boggs (Beecher Terrace), Chris Brown (Beecher Terrace), Kelly Thompson (Bishop Lane) and Stephen Bland (Parkway Place) and (back row) Mary Wethington (Iroquois Homes), Dynell Bush (Bishop Lane), Migel Nero (Bishop Lane), Terry Brown (Sheppard Square).

HAVE YOUR UNDERGROUND UTILITY LINES LOCATED

Before you take on your next landscaping or home improvement project, call 811 to have your underground utility lines located and marked free of charge. The new call center, that serves both contractors and homeowners, will notify the utility companies for you – just be sure to call at least two days before you dig.

Briefly Speaking is a bi-monthly employee newsletter published by the Public Information Office (PIO) for the LMHA. For more information contact Vikki Stone, PIO officer, (502) 569-3421 or vstone@lmha1.org. Executive Director: Tim Barry; Deputy Executive Director – Operations: Will Seay; Deputy Executive Director – Finance: Wavid Wray; Website: www.LMHA1.org

STAFF UPDATE

New Hires

Full-Time

Timothy Cohens
Maintenance Worker II - Vacancy Prep.
Mark Kirby
Maintenance Worker III - Beecher Terrace
David Mills
Maintenance Worker II - Dosker Manor
Russell Sanders
Maintenance Worker III - Avenue Plaza
Daniel Woods
Maintenance Worker III - HVAC

Temporary to Full-Time

Marquis Johnson
Maintenance Worker I - Auto/Grounds
Bryan Lindsey
Maintenance Worker I, Auto/Grounds
Robert Standifer
Maintenance Worker I - Auto/Grounds

Temporary

Derry Baker, Jr.
Maintenance Worker I - Auto/Grounds
Jernarick Ellington
Maintenance Worker I - Dosker Manor
Theresa Horsley
Hospitality Coordinator – Operations
TaShawn McBroom
Clerical Aide - Dosker Manor
Joyce Monty
Hospitality Coordinator - Operations
Anton Murrell
Maintenance Worker I - Auto/Grounds
Brandon Ndife
Clerical Aide - Beecher Terrace
Jamesetta Phelps
Hospitality Coordinator - Operations
Marla Powell
Key Control Monitor - Construction Admin.
Cavanaugh Rankins
Maintenance Worker I - Auto/Grounds
Charles Smithson
Maintenance Worker I - Auto/Grounds
Chad Williams
Maintenance Worker I - Auto/Grounds
Jasmine Williams
Clerical Aide - Sheppard Square

Resignations

Kristopher Brown
Housing Inspector - Vine Street
Joseph Nalley
Maintenance Worker IV - HVAC
Patricia VanMeter
Housing Clerk Typist - Vine Street



SALUTE TO SERVICE (JULY – AUGUST)

20 years

(7/2009) Angela Sharp, Finance

15 years

(7/2009) Diane Coleman, Avenue Plaza
(8/2009) Clifford Irons, Iroquois Homes

10 years

(7/2009) Mika McClain, Parkway Place