

COMMUNITY REPORTER

HHA staff would like to wish all our residents Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year! 2005 saw many new challenges and opportunities for us as



an agency as well as for many of our residents. Congratulations to our residents who took advantage of many of the programs we offer to help you obtain employable skills through the Cabell County Youth Empowerment Program, Youthbuild, R.O.S.S., and the Huntington School of Fine Woodwork.

We also commend those who got their GED's or continued their educational pursuits by attending college, trade school or took advantage of educational tutoring opportunities. We certainly congratulate those who worked hard and found employment opportunities.

We also commend those residents who made a positive difference in their communities and high rises by living in peace and harmony with your neighbors and taking an active role in making your community or highrise a better and safer place to live.

As we stand on the dawning of a new year, HHA staff are committed to our mission statement of "**Providing safe, affordable housing and supportive services through community partnerships**".

2006 will provide a wide range of challenges and opportunities for each one of us. HHA continues to pursue funding and supportive services to provide the best services possible for all our residents. Each time we publish the Community Reporter we highlight as often as possible the programs and activities we offer to better the lives and futures of our residents.

Some of you will celebrate the holidays in your new home. Some of you will celebrate the holidays with gifts and food you purchased through hard work and a paycheck you now receive due to employment. Some of you will celebrate the holidays by looking back over the past year and acknowledging your accomplishments of obtaining your GED or completing a semester of college or trade school.

Unfortunately, some of you will look back over 2005 and realize your life did not change for the better and maybe it got worse due to poor choices you made. Don't let 2006 be another year to look back in regret. Take advantage of the various programs and activities we offer. Let 2006 be the best year yet for you and your family.

HHA staff

WAYS TENANTS CAN ASSIST IN CONSERVING ENERGY

With energy prices going sky high, HHA staff wants to share some very important ways our tenants can help lower heating bills and conserve energy.

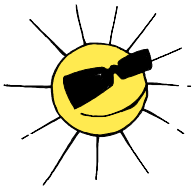


1. When high wattage light bulbs burn out, replace them with lower wattage bulbs.
2. Turn off lights when not in use both in own unit and in community rooms.
3. Do not use electric appliances longer than necessary, and be sure to turn off appliances when not in use.
4. Do not run hot water longer than absolutely necessary.

5. Do not leave stove burners on longer than absolutely necessary.

6. Call the management office immediately to report leaky faucets, plumbing leaks and drafty rooms.

7. In the winter, close the shades or drapes in the evening and leave the thermostat at 70 degrees or less. Lower the thermostat to 65 degrees when retiring for the night. Open drapes or shades in the morning to admit winter sunlight and warmth through the windows.



8. In the summer, open shades or drapes in the evening and leave the thermostat at 78 degrees. Close drapes or shades in the morning to reduce heat from the sunlight.

9. If you leave your apartment for a day or more, set thermostat at 85 deg. in the summer and 60 deg. in the winter.

HHA ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARTY HUGE SUCCESS

Sockie Minor, Clerk/Aide

The HHA Sport Center's annual Halloween Party was a blow out. The youth and adults had a chance to win door prizes and play games.

The games were bobbing-for-apples, pin-the-nose-on-the-pumpkin, a pie eating contest, the quarterback challenge, box-of-tricks, musical chairs, find-the-ball, palm reading, ring toss, and other guessing games. Two volunteer mothers led the youth in line dancing. Everyone had refreshments after playing games and dancing.



We served chips, pop, cupcakes, and pizza to everyone and handed out treat bags to people as they left the Center. The treat bags were filled with candy and toys that came from donations. We had 77 adults and around 130 children, for a total of 207. Everyone said they had a good time.

I would like to thank all the businesses for their donations. We could not have done it without you! We had many businesses and people donate food, prizes, and time to help put the party together.



I want to give my volunteers a special thank you. You are the best! Again thanks so much for your time! We could not have done this without the help of Housing staff and resident volunteers.



Girl Scout News

By Kim-Lee Jones

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and ate lots of turkey!

Christmas Caroling

In December, the Girl Scouts will be Christmas caroling in the Riverview Manor Apartments on Dec. 19th and Fairfield Manor Apartments on Dec. 22nd, and serving hot chocolate and warm apple cider and Christmas treats. Come join us as we sing your Christmas favorites and share some holiday spirit with our seniors. If you would like to donate a desert so that the Girls can present it to the seniors, please contact us.

Remember, meetings for December are as follows: *W.K. Elliott, Dec. 5th & 19th; Ebenezer/Washington Square, Dec. 8th & 22nd; Marcum Terrace, Dec. 9th; Northcott, Dec. 12th; Fairfield, Dec. 16th* for other locations, please contact us. Merry Christmas!

In January, the Girl Scouts will be participating in the "Cookie kick-off" at the Huntington Mall on Jan 6th from 6:30-8-00P.M. and the "Huntington Mall Lock-in" information to be announced. We will also continue our voyage through the curriculum "Steps to Respect," which involves resolving issues about bullying, abuse, conflict resolution and much, much more in a relaxed, enjoyable, open atmosphere that encourages input from the girls regarding their experiences. Parents, these are meetings you don't want to miss! Parents are always welcome to participate in Girl Scout meetings.

As always, volunteers are needed, appreciated, and welcomed at all Girl Scout meetings. It is important that the adults in our community take an active roll in furthering the success of our young girls. Help me, help them! Let me hear your ideas and/or comments.

Girl Scouting is free to girls 5-17 who are residing the jurisdiction of the Huntington Housing Authority, and snacks are provided (including Section 8 and/or acquisition housing).

If you know of a girl who would benefit from Girl Scouting or you would like information on how you can help, please contact Kimlee Jones 304-412-4140, Marilyn Pemberton 304-736-1412 or Kathy Storage 800-756-7616, ext. 22. Let's make Girl Scouting in your community SHINE!