



# NEWSLETTER

Housing Commission of Anne Arundel County

“HOUSING CHOICES AND AFFORDABLE COMMUNITIES”

[www.hcaac.com](http://www.hcaac.com)

## Mothers, Tell Your Children....



Actually, the title of this article is misleading. This article is not just for mothers to read, but is important for fathers, grandmothers, grandfathers, aunts, uncles, and anyone who has influence over the children in their lives.

School is starting up again soon. How many of you have children who are in middle or high school? Have you talked to your children/grandchildren about their plans for the rest of their lives? Even middle school is not too soon for a child to start to think about it. I started with my children when they were still in grade school.

Children have many career options today and many, many educational options. Today, your child may want to be a teacher, or a nurse. Tomorrow they will change their minds and want to do something else. What is of utmost importance is that your children *think*

about it. Explore all the possibilities. And you, as mentor and role model, should be encouraging them to think about their future.

Of course, every little boy wants to be a professional football player, or a baseball player. Unless your child is a star athlete with college coaches knocking on your door, you need to gently deflect such lofty ideas. Rather than telling your child that they are not good enough to be a professional athlete, tell your child that he/she needs to have a ‘fallback’ career lined up, in case of injury, or in case he doesn’t make a team. It’s a reality check for them.

Think your child isn’t college material? Perhaps she isn’t the brightest star in the sky. Or maybe he just doesn’t like school – and every day is a struggle. He’s good with his hands, but doesn’t like to read. There are alternatives to college.

Anne Arundel County Public School System has excellent career programs at its Centers of Applied Technology. Programs include car repair, collision repair, computer networking, culinary arts, electrical, plumbing, nursing, and many more. Many of these programs offer certifications. And most importantly, your child can get a *life skill* that will enable them to be self-sufficient as adults. If you don’t know where to get information about the programs, contact the Career Connections Facilitator at your child’s high school. They can be of great assistance to your child in determining his or her own future.



You *can* make a difference in whether your child succeeds – but you need to steer them in the right direction – with guidance for a career and the future. Now is the time to start.

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**Toni Jordon,**

**Community Safety Coordinator**  
 Freetown Village, Pinewood Village, Pinewood East & Glen Square

The Housing Commission encourages residents to enjoy all the amenities their community offers. We understand the desire to sit outdoors and enjoy the nice weather and each other's company. We realize that most of our apartments lack patios or balconies, which is why benches and picnic tables are placed throughout some properties.

In communities where benches aren't available, some residents like to relax and socialize by sitting on the apartment stairs or

in chairs in front of the building. This isn't a problem until access to and from the building is impeded or neighbors start complaining about noise. Then it becomes a police matter and the responding officer(s) are likely to use the County's loitering statutes to address the problem. Anne Arundel County Ordinance, Sec. 9-1-703, says that it's unlawful for a person to *"...remain on a public street, sidewalk, or pathway, including one privately owned but used by the public in general, so as to obstruct the free passage of a pedestrian or vehicle after a regular or special police officer has notified the person that the action is unlawful and has requested the person to move on."* Further, if you come back to the same public or private

property within 24 hours of being asked to leave and are there "for no apparent lawful reason" you're loitering and subject to be arrested.

We all want a quiet, peaceful living environment where we can sit outside enjoy the weather relax with neighbors and friends. But remember that these are apartment communities and apartment living sometimes means doing without some of the things associated with single-family homes; like private yards and space between neighbors. That doesn't mean you can't sit out and take advantage of a nice summer night every now and then. Just use common sense and respect your neighbor's right to peaceful enjoyment and you shouldn't have a problem.

**Maurice Price**

**Community Safety Coordinator**  
 Meade Village, Stoney Hill, and Burwood Gardens

**THE KID WAY!**

This seems to be the summer of disagreement, arguments and fisticuffs! Racking my brain to find solutions to these unseemingly endless seas of distrust, dislike and combat, I decided to try a little experiment.

Over the last few weeks I've asked various people of diverse and ethnic backgrounds, of all ages, residents of our various communities this question; **HOW SHOULD WE LOVE AND TREAT OUR NEIGHBORS?** I will confess that the answers are not at all shocking but who gave what answer is. I felt somewhat ashamed of my own thoughts on the matter!

I didn't statistically record who precisely gave what answer but the general consensus was this; from ages ten and above these were the types of answers I got.

- I'll respect them as long as they don't disrespect me!
- I don't care - I just stay to myself!
- If you give respect you get respect!
- You don't bother me and I won't bother you!

**WORST ANSWER!!!**

- Which neighbor???  
 Almost no teen and/or adult actually answered the question **HOW DO YOU?**

Now these are the answers of the littlest ones;

- Don't yell, bite, hit or scratch them!
- If you say something to make somebody cry, say you're

sorry real fast and pat them on the back and if they want a hug then hug them!

- When you're mad at them go away for a little while so you can be mad and then come back and play with them and everybody will forget!
- Sometimes give them a toy you don't play with anymore but don't give them a broken one!
- Race them or play a game and let them win so they can feel better!
- **THE BEST ANSWER OF ALL!!!** Say you love them and then go with them and take care of them and take them to get something to eat!

**LET'S NOT ALWAYS LOOK UP THE ANSWER, LET'S LOOK DOWN!** Boy I wish I was a kid again!!!

## PINEWOOD VILLAGE & PINEWOOD EAST

**Lanita Hopkins,**  
Property Manager

### BE CONSIDERATE

While enjoying the common areas of the buildings, please be considerate of other residents. Keep the noise at a comfortable level so as not to disturb other residents. If the community rooms, library or sitting areas are where you like to spend your time, you still need to be considerate of other residents. That means not gossiping about others as they pass through the lobby. Your stares, whispers and comments could have a profound effect on someone

else's well-being or emotional stability. Remember to treat others as you would like to be treated.

### LITTERING

As I walk through the property on a daily basis I am inevitably always picking up trash; and not just items that may blow in the wind from the dumpster. This is your community and you should not expect that Management would clean up behind you. Everyone living here has signed a Lease stating that you are **OBLIGATED** to dispose of all garbage and other waste in a sanitary and safe manner **ONLY IN THE CONTAINERS** approved or provided by the Housing Commission. That means it is unacceptable for you to throw your garbage on the grass, on the sidewalk, in the parking

lots, in the bushes or anywhere else that is not a designated trash receptacle. Please clean up behind yourselves and if you see trash while you are strolling through your community, why not pick it up? This is **YOUR** community, so pitch in to keep it clean.

### I HAVE A QUESTION

There have been a recent rash of residents coming in to say, "I have a question", to only ask about what is going on with another resident. Please remember that Management respects everyone's right to privacy and cannot discuss issues concerning other residents unless that resident has given written authorization to do disclose information.

## MEADE VILLAGE

**Stacie Ringgold**  
Property Manager

### CONNECT WITH YOUR TEEN

As your child approaches the teen years and becomes more independent, staying connected may seem like more of a challenge. But it's as important as ever - maybe even more so now.

While activities at school, new interests, and a burgeoning social life become more important to your growing child, you are still home base, providing love, guidance, and support. And that connection to you will

provide a sense of security and build the resilience your child needs to roll with life's ups and downs.

Your preteen may act as if your guidance isn't welcome or needed, and even seem embarrassed by you at times. This is when kids start to confide more in peers and request their space and privacy - expect the bedroom door to be shut more often.

As difficult as it may be to swallow all these changes, try not to take them personally. They're all signs of your child's growing independence. You're going to have to loosen the ties and allow some growing room. But you don't have to let go entirely. You're still a pow-

erful influence - it's just that your preteen may be more responsive to the example you set rather than the instructions you give. So practice what you'd like to preach, just preach it a little less for now.

Modeling the qualities that you want your preteen to learn and practice - respectful communication, kindness, healthy eating, and fulfilling everyday responsibilities without complaining - makes it more likely that your son or daughter will comply.

Small, simple things can reinforce connection. Make room in your schedule for special times, take advantage of the routines you already share, and show that you care.

**FREETOWN VILLAGE**

**Lisa Hahn,**  
Property Manager

**RESIDENT COUNCIL MEETING:**  
Freetown Village Resident Council Meeting is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month. The next meeting is Monday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007. All residents are invited and encouraged to attend the meeting.

**ARE YOU REPORTING YOUR INCOME**

Please remember that ALL income must be reported to Management. Your Lease states that all income must be reported within ten (10) days. Whether your income has increased or decreased you MUST report it within those ten

(10) DAYS. If you question what income might be, please contact your Manager so they can assist you.

What could happen if you don't report your income? Ultimately, you can be charged back rent on the amount of time you have been receiving that income.

**BACK TO SCHOOL**



Summer is almost over! Now back to the books. The definition of education is the knowledge or skill obtained or developed by a learning process.

Supporting your child's growth as a reader and writer begins at birth and continues throughout the school years. Here are some things you can do at each stage.

**TODDLERS**

Talking, sing and enjoy simple books together. Name the people and objects around you and in books. Talk about the things the two of you are doing. Learning words and conversations skills are first steps to literacy.

**PRESCHOOLERS**

Enjoy picture books at the library. Encourage your child to draw and "write" in whatever way he or she chooses. Write down stories your child tells you, then read them back to your child.

**OLDER CHILDREN**

When your child begins to read, be a good listener! Keep reading aloud to your child, too. When you write letters invite your child to add a drawing or a note. Parents be active in your child's learning process.

**GLEN SQUARE**

**Jaycie Bramlet,**  
Property Manager

As some of you already know, or have learned by now, I am no longer working at the Housing Commission. This was a difficult decision as I have made many friends and shared many special moments with so many residents, co-workers and staff. You have made me a part of your family and I will always cherish the memories and knowledge I received from each of you. I

wish everyone the best, always live for the moment, and remember to take care of yourselves.

Residents: If nothing else I say in this article is understood and adhered to, please at least remember this one thing - the roof over your head is first and foremost, which means you must always pay your rent and always pay it on time!

**RESIDENT COUNCIL MEETING**

Resident Council meeting for the month of August is scheduled for August 2, 2007 at 7:00 PM. Everyone is wel-

come. They look forward to seeing you there.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Remember the birthday celebration will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month. Everyone is invited to attend the party and celebrate with the Resident's who have a Birthday in August. HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Good bye and best wishes to all that I've come to know.



# CASEWORKERS CORNER



**LaShonda Godwin, BSW**  
Human Services Caseworker  
Freetown and Pinewood Villages

Have you completely and thoroughly read your residential lease agreement? Although, property managers thoroughly explain and answer all questions residents may have regarding the lease agreement during the move-in appointment, all residents should review their leases periodically.

Reviewing your lease periodically enables you to be an informed and educated consumer about the regulations, violations, and obligations of the Commission as well as yourself, which are stated in the lease agreement. Your lease agreement can also answer questions like, "How many days can I have overnight guests?" or "Can I have a pet?" It is also recommended that you speak with your property manager about any con-

cerns or questions you may be confused or unclear about regarding your lease agreement. Resident Council Meetings are also great opportunities for residents and property managers to discuss the lease agreement. Knowing and adhering to your lease agreement prevents violations and termination, which results in the peaceful enjoyment of your home and community.  
Be Empowered!



**BONNIE'S BEACON**  
Health Guidance

**Bonnie Woodall,**  
CHSP Manager

### A SUMMER HEALTH NOTE

Now that the hot months of summer are upon us, please

keep yourself safe from heat prostration or heat stroke by following these simple tips:

- Drink plenty of fluids to avoid dehydration-water is the best! (Carbonated & Caffeine beverages actually dehydrate the body).
- Wear a wide brimmed hat to protect your face from the sun. Wear a sun-screen lotion of at

least 30+SPF to protect your exposed skin parts.

- Wear light and loose clothing.
- Walk gently-do not over exert yourself!
- Stay in an air conditioned area on those extremely hot and humid days, such as, your apartment, a shopping mall, or perhaps take in a movie!

## STONEY HILL

**Stacie Ringgold**  
Property Manager

### HOW TO BE A GOOD TENANT

Be a dream tenant and your landlord will have no reason to complain. Here's how to win the heart of the person who owns (or manages) the roof over your head.

### INSTRUCTIONS

**STEP 1:** Know and comply with

the conditions of your lease or rental agreement.

**STEP 2:** Refrain from damaging the premises or allowing guests to cause damage.

**STEP 3:** Keep your rental unit clean, and properly dispose of garbage.

**STEP 4:** Submit requests to your landlord in writing to avoid disputes and misunderstandings; keep copies of all correspondence.

**STEP 5:** Notify your landlord of needed repairs to keep components in good working order.

**STEP 6:** Allow your landlord to enter your rental unit for safety or maintenance reasons, with proper advance notice.

**STEP 7:** Keep noise levels to a minimum.

**STEP 8:** Purchase renter's insurance to cover your personal property in the event of loss.

**STEP 9:** Give proper advance notice to your landlord about your intentions to vacate the property, according to the terms of your lease or rental agreement.

# BURWOOD GARDENS

**Valerie Robinette,  
Property Manager**

**IMPORTANT DATES**

August 9, 2007 — Resident Council Meeting

I have not been at Burwood very long but I have heard from many of you with concerns or complaints and after reviewing our records, I see these very items have been addressed many times in the past. Let me share them with you and let's ask why we are still addressing these same issues:

- Slamming of doors — Please don't let your door slam when entering your unit, this is just being neighborly and respecting the other tenants in your building.
- Gossip — aren't we all adults here? If you are the one gossiping, no one wants to hear it and it will only lead to bad things. To the rest of

you, ignore it. If it falls on deaf ears and goes no further, it's not gossip.

- Assigned parking — as you all know, we do not have assigned parking here at Burwood. We do ask that if you are having guests, ask them NOT to park in front of the buildings, ask them to park across the parking lot and leave the spots in front of the building for the tenants. This is common courtesy.
- Please no backing into the parking spaces that are in front of the buildings, pull in parking only. When you have backed into a space, the next time you start your vehicle, the fumes and exhaust from your vehicle go into the building and windows.
- Please STOP propping open the laundry room door, doing that breaks the sensor and the automatic open and close breaks on the door and we have to have it repaired.

- Laundry Room hours are 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. That means you must leave by 7:00 p.m., not start your last load at 7:00 p.m. And there are to be no shopping carts in the Laundry Room!
- Shopping Carts — the ongoing saga with the shopping carts! When you are *done* with them, please leave them by the closest dumpster, not in the street, in parking spaces, in the hallways or on sidewalks.
- If you have children coming to visit you, please be mindful of your neighbors, kids can be quite loud and active, they must keep it down and be respectful when visiting Burwood.



Burwood is a great place to live! You have a wonderful neighborhood, very active Resident Council and plenty of great neighbors. Let's work together and get rid of the above list! !

## WORK ORDERS – HELP US GET THE JOB DONE

Your requests are important to us! When calling in your maintenance request please state your unit number, property address and then the problem you are reporting. Please explain the problem as clearly as possible. The more information you provide, the better prepared we are to correct your problem. The clerk will enter the data into the computer to generate a work order. The work order will then be forwarded to the Property Manager who in turn will pass it onto the site technician. The technician works on all the calls as they come in, in priority order, and when he gets to your work order, he will be out to your unit to do the work.



**MAINTENANCE SERVICES  
WORK ORDER LINE:  
410-553-9675**



**HCAAC TIPS:  
HELPING US  
HELPS YOU!**

When writing a check or money order for rent or other charges.... **PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME CLEARLY AND ALWAYS INCLUDE YOUR UNIT NUMBER.**



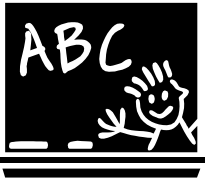
# BACK TO SCHOOL



# AUGUST kidz biz

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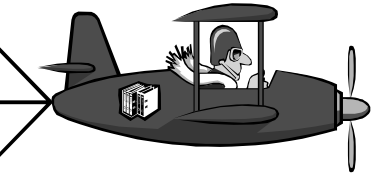
art	desk	language	paper	scissors
backpack	eraser	library	pencil	social studies
books	glue	lunch	play	stars
bus	grades	lunch box	recess	study
college	gym	math	ruler	supplies
crayons	history	notebook	science	teacher



Turn in your completed KIDZ BIZ PUZZLE within the week and if you find all of the words, your name will be entered in a drawing to **WIN \$10!** Three winners will be selected from each family community.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**  
**July Winners**

<b>Meade Village</b> Kyra & Sade Gaston Tamara Johnson Royshawn Jones	<b>Freetown Village</b> Darryl Allen Shaquanda Jones Tyrell Francis
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# IMPORTANT NUMBERS

www.hcaac.org

**Family Self-Sufficiency, Section 8,  
Mainstream Housing, H.O.P.W.A.  
& Caseworkers.  
410-222-6205**

**Facilities Management Office  
Work Orders  
(Maintenance Request)  
410-553-9675**

**Burwood Gardens**

Property Manager 410-222-6226  
Fax 410-761-7944  
Human Services Caseworker 410-760-6303

**Freetown Village**

Property Manager 410-222-6237  
Fax 410-360-3225  
Community Safety Office 410-222-6252x223  
Human Services Caseworker 410-222-6253x217

**Meade Village**

Property Manager 410-222-6241  
Fax 410-551-0430  
Community Safety Office 410-222-6644x214  
Human Services Caseworker 410-222-6645x215

**Glen Square**

Property Manager 410-222-6220  
Fax 410-768-3889  
Human Services Caseworker 410-222-6217x230

**Pinewood Village/Pinewood East**

Property Manager 410-222-6210  
Fax 410-590-6723  
Human Services Caseworker  
(Pinewood East) 410-222-6304x204  
(Pinewood Village) 410-222-6347x217

**Stoney Hill**

Property Manager 410-222-6232  
Human Services Caseworker 410-222-6645x215

**DEAR RESIDENTS:** Please remember to call and schedule an appointment. Your time is valuable as is ours. It is our sincere desire to serve you well. Our daily schedule includes meetings with residents, completing inspections, re-certifications and general problems within units. Your understanding is greatly appreciated.

**Workforce Development Center-Meade Village**

1710 Circle Road, Severn, MD 21144  
410-519-7575  
9 am – 3 pm Monday to Friday  
Located in the Meade Village Boys & Girls Club

**Workforce Development Center-Freetown Village**

7831 Huff Ct., Pasadena, MD 21122  
410-360-9353/9354  
9 am – 5 pm Monday to Friday

**IMPORTANT COUNTY TELEPHONE  
NUMBERS FOR SENIORS**

County Information 410-222-7000  
Department of Aging 410-222-4464  
Weekday Nutrition 410-222-6240  
Pascal Senior Center 410-222-6680  
Taxi Program 410-222-4222  
Transportation 410-222-4826  
Trip Desk 410-222-6682  
Meals on Wheels 410-431-5257



## CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

The following table is used as a guideline. Items and dates listed are subject to change by the Director of Modernization.



<b>BURWOOD GARDENS</b>	<i>PLAN</i>	<i>BID</i>	<i>START</i>	<b>FREETOWN VILLAGE</b>	<i>PLAN</i>	<i>BID</i>	<i>START</i>
Refurbish Hallways	2005	2007	2007	Roof Replacement Community Bldg	June 2007	Aug 2007	Sept 2007
Renovate Entrances	2005	2007	2007	<b>PINEWOOD VILLAGE</b>	<i>PLAN</i>	<i>BID</i>	<i>START</i>
<b>MEADE VILLAGE</b>	<i>PLAN</i>	<i>BID</i>	<i>START</i>	TBA			
Renovate Kitchens	2006	July 2007	Dec 2007	<b>PINEWOOD EAST</b>	<i>PLAN</i>	<i>BID</i>	<i>START</i>
<b>GLEN SQUARE</b>	<i>PLAN</i>	<i>BID</i>	<i>START</i>	Main Entrance Doors	2007	June 2007	Aug 2007
Refurbish Hallways	June 2007	Aug 2007	Sept 2007	<b>STONEY HILL</b>	<i>PLAN</i>	<i>BID</i>	<i>START</i>
Paint Hallways	June 2007	Aug 2007	Sept 2007	Install Water Heaters			Complete
				HVAC Replacement			Complete