

Grass Roots



Volume 12, Issue 8, August 2011

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Project HOPE

(Help Our People Eat)

First Presbyterian Church

400 East Carroll, Macomb, IL

4PM-6PM

August 28, 2011

For a ride call 309-333-7747

The Crossing will now have a food pantry open the 3rd Saturday of every month!

Housing Authority Emergency

Maintenance number for

After hours, weekends &

holidays

309-313-1116



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IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL TIME

If you have been letting the kids stay up later during the summer break or letting them sleep in, it's time to get them back into a bedtime routine prior to school starting. About two weeks before the big day, start getting them to bed a few minutes earlier each night and up a little earlier the next morning. By the time the school year starts, they should be used to the routine. It is also a good idea to have your kids read, color or draw, journal, etc. to ease them back into homework.

PHYSICALS AND IMMUNIZATIONS

Kindergarten, Sixth Grade and Ninth grade students need physicals prior to the first day of school. Kindergarten, Second and sixth graders require dental exams prior to the first day of school. Children going to Kindergarten require an eye exam prior to the first day of school. Children's immunization's must be up-to-date as well. Please contact the Health Department or your child's physician if you have questions about your child's immunization history.

School Districts will not let your child start school if these requirements are not met. If your child needs immunizations or physicals, call your doctor soon.

Sports physicals will be held at Edison School August 3, 2011 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for High School Students. (Macomb Students). Sports physicals will be held at Edison School August 4, 2011 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for Junior High School Students. (Macomb Students)

NOTE: SPORTS PHYSICALS DO NOT COUNT AS SCHOOL PHYSICALS.

BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC

Macomb 4 Kids and Macomb Assembly of God are working with Big Brothers Big Sisters; Catch A Star Learning Center; Dollar General; Family Video; Shephard's Gate Church; STAR-Online/Onsite; The Crossing Church; Walmart; and Western Illinois University to supply kids with everything they need for a successful school year!

This event will also have a water slide, dunk tank, bouncy house, food and much more. Please plan to attend. The event will be held in Chandler Park on Saturday, August 13, 2011 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. If you have questions, please call 309-837-5470.

FITCH MANOR NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Just a reminder, while Housing Authority staff has completed annual inspections, Fitch residents will have an inspection by the HUD. Thanks in advance for keeping your apartments tidy and free of trip hazards.

Resident council meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of the Month at Greenbrier Community Center at 3:00 p.m. All Fitch Residents are encouraged to attend and get involved. If there are ideas you have for Fitch Manor, contact Clydeena Hiatt. **Join us in the Garden every Monday @ 2:30 p.m.**

EISENHOWER TOWER UPCOMING EVENTS

Garden meetings are held every Monday at 6:30 p.m. at the Gardens. Join us! There is a new list for vegetables so please sign up.

August 6, 2011 @ 5:00 p.m. is the monthly potluck and resident meeting. Dress like a farmer or gardener.

August 20, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m. is Bingo in the Community Room. Watch for other upcoming activities on the bulletin boards.

PRAIRIEVIEW TOWN HOMES

Garden meetings are held every Monday at 5:30 p.m. at the Gardens. We are beginning to work on “What Home Means to Me” posters. Please plan on participating on August 1, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. at the Community Center.

GREENBRIER TOWN HOMES

There were a lot of **“trip hazards”** discovered in apartments during the annual inspections causing residents to fail their annual inspection. Please remember that cable must be secured along walls and over doorways at all times.

Just a reminder, while Housing Authority staff has completed annual inspections, Greenbrier residents will have an inspection by the HUD. Thanks in advance for keeping your apartments tidy and free of trip hazards.

If you want to get involved in the community garden, it's not too late! **Join us in the Garden every Monday @ 3:30 p.m.** Attendance has increased over the summer and we are happy to see that. Most recently participants dug up potatoes and took them home for their family. **Join the fun!**

IMPORTANT LEAST CHANGES

The Housing Authority of McDonough County is proposing to make the following revisions to the Lease Agreement (additions are underlined). (PHA stands for Public Housing Authority.)

XV: Tenant's Obligations: Tenant shall be obligated:

Not to give accommodation to boarders or lodgers; who are defined as persons who have no other residence or who are homeless.

Not to give accommodation to long term guests (in excess of 14 days) without the advance written consent of PHA. Guests who remain in the unit beyond the allowable time limit will be considered unauthorized occupants, and their presence constitutes violation of the lease.

Tenant must notify the PHA when overnight guests will be staying on the premises for more than 3 days. Former residents who have been evicted are not permitted as overnight guests.

Guests who represent the unit address as their residence address for the receipt of benefits or other purposes will be considered unauthorized occupants.

XVII: Termination of the Lease: In terminating the Lease, the following procedures shall be followed by PHA and Tenant:

This Lease may be terminated only for serious or repeated violations of material terms of the Lease, such as failure to make payments due under the Lease or to fulfill Tenant obligations set forth in Section X above, or for other good cause.

Serious violation of a material term **shall include but not be limited to:**

Repeated late payment, which shall be defined as failure to pay the amount of rent or other charges due by the seventh of the month. Six such late payments within a 12 month period shall constitute repeated late payment.

If a household member has engaged in or threatened violent or abusive behavior toward PHA personnel.

Abusive or violent behavior towards PHA personnel includes but is not limited to verbal as well as physical abuse or violence. Use of racial epithets, or other language, written or oral, that is customarily used to intimidate may be considered abusive or violent behavior.

Threatening refers to, but is not limited to oral or written threats or physical gestures that communicate intent to abuse or commit violence.

If a tenant is fleeing to avoid prosecution, or custody or confinement after conviction, for a crime, or attempt to commit a crime, that is a felony under the laws of the place from which the individual flees.

Failure to abide by the provisions of the PHA pet policy.

If the family has breached the terms of a repayment agreement entered into with the PHA.

Failure to transfer to an appropriate size dwelling unit based on family composition, upon appropriate notice by the PHA that such a dwelling unit is available.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

Bicycles We would ask that you remind your children that when they are riding their bikes on side walks to be considerate of other residents.

Private Property Please respect the privacy and property of your neighbors.

THE COMMUNITY GARDENS



Community Gardener's have been busy this summer. Gardener's participated in the Heritage Days Parade (Top left), each garden site had representatives; participated in "Eating Healthy on a Budget" presented by Hy-Vee (Top right), they were able to prepare their own healthy snacks; a Prairieview Family works their garden (Bottom left); and resident's at Greenbrier painted and decorated flower pots for herb gardens (Bottom right) and the new Community Garden sign created and painted by Mike Newsad of Newsad Design (Center photo).