

RHA Update

Let's Celebrate Bob!

**Help us celebrate
Bob Killary's 30 Years
of Service at
Rutland Housing Authority!**

When: Thursday June 27th @
1:00pm

Where: Templewood Court
Community Room



Please join us for cake and refreshments to celebrate Bob and his years of dedication and hard work at RHA.

RENT REMINDER

June rent is due no later than Friday, June 7th. A 5% late fee will be added to any payments made after this date. If you are not able to pay your rent on time, please call to make payment arrangements:

Julie – 775-2926 ext. 14



RAD & Section 8 Vouchers

Recently we've gotten some calls from Public Housing residents asking, "When will I get that Section 8 voucher you told us about last fall?" They're remembering what they heard at the meetings we held about the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) conversion at Templewood Court and Sheldon Towers, which will turn our Public Housing units into Project-Based Section 8 units. The Choice Mobility piece of the program is what will give current tenants access to a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) after the conversion. These vouchers allow you to find an apartment in the community, where you would pay your landlord directly and your rent will be about what you would pay RHA. RHA will pay the balance of the rent to the landlord.

Here are reminders of how the Choice Mobility process works:

1. First, it will be 12 months after the conversion is final before you will be eligible, and you must be in good standing. Then you can ask to be added to the HCV waiting list.
2. You can only have a voucher if one is available. We have a limited number and they do not turn over very often, so you will not

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** RHA Summer Hours **

Please make note: We're trying out a new schedule for the Summer:

**Monday – Thursday:
7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Friday:
8 a.m. – Noon**



After noon on Fridays, if you have a maintenance emergency please use the on-call number.

Regular hours resume in September.

Submit Your Creations!

We occasionally have space in the newsletter (like this one!) where a photo, drawing, cartoon panel or short poem would fit nicely. If you would like to share your creative works with the RHA community, please drop them off at the office or send them to brichardson@rhavt.org. Thanks! ☺ Barbara

Property Management Reminders

Julie Sanderson, Property Manager

Templewood Court - Please remind your healthcare workers, homemakers, and guests that they must park in the spots marked for “Guests/Visitors”. I’ve recently noticed cars parked in tenant parking spots and even where there is no parking spot (for instance, someone has parked repeatedly in the driveway at the end of Building 3). This could be a problem if emergency services needed access.



Sheldon Towers - Please remember that the carts in the lobby are not to be kept in your apartment. They are there for all tenants to use. When you use a cart please return it promptly to the lobby after you have unloaded it. Do not wait until the next time you need to go to the first floor. Other tenants may need to use them.

Hickory Street - We continue to receive noise complaints. Please be respectful of your neighbors. I remind you that you are responsible for the actions of your guests, and complaints related to your guests can result in RHA sending you a lease violation.

Reminders for All Tenants:

Visiting Pets - Visiting Pets are not permitted on or in any RHA owned or managed property. The only exception is for certified/registered service animals who must be under the control of the individual requiring the animal. There are no exceptions to this rule.

Bottles & Cans - We are aware that there are some residents who are collecting returnable bottles and cans for their cash deposits. This is not a problem so long as you do not allow them to pile up in your unit and become a health and safety risk. It's best to turn them in right away and not bring them into the building. For Sheldon Towers there is a redemption center – Terrill Street Beverage – just a short walk from the building.

Be a Good Neighbor - Please consider your neighbors while using the common spaces at your site, and clean up after yourself in the kitchens and community rooms when you're finished using these areas. It takes just a moment to put yourself in the shoes of another, look at the space through their eyes, and think about what might be important to them.

Thanks so much for your cooperation.

RAD, continued

automatically get a voucher upon request.

3. Once you get a voucher and move out of RHA housing, if you have any issues or concerns with your apartment, you need to contact your landlord, not RHA.
4. Before you can sign a lease with a landlord, RHA has to inspect the unit to make sure it has the right number of bedrooms for your family size and is safe, sanitary and affordable.



5. You will still need to have an annual rent recertification, and rent will continue to be no more than 30% of your adjusted income.
6. RHA will inspect your apartment once per year.
7. Remember: RHA can't add you to the HCV list until 12 months after the conversion is complete. We are working with HUD to determine a conversion date, but as you know, HUD processes are complicated and it is taking many months to complete. We expect it to occur before the end of the year.

Enclosed with this newsletter is a HUD Fact Sheet that explains Choice Mobility – please save this newsletter and fact sheet. If these documents don't answer all of your questions, please call the RHA office.

Scoobi & Pema's Summer Safety Tips

You know Scoobi-doo, Finance & HR Director Staci's beloved pooch, from previous appearances, and in this issue we introduce Pema, Executive Director Kevin Loso's princess-in-residence. They want to remind us that summertime means fun, sun, and hopefully lots of play outdoors! But as much fun as summer can be for you and your pet, it's important to use caution and consider these tips that can help make the warmest of seasons safe and carefree for all.



Pema dons her flag scarf in honor of Memorial Day. It provides shade, too!

Apply Sunscreen - That's right, if your pet spends more than just a few minutes outside every day in the hot summer sun, they need skin protection. Pets with light skin and short or thin hair coats are particularly prone to sunburn or skin cancer. The sunscreen should be fragrance-free, non-staining, and contain UVA and UVB barriers similar to sunscreens made for humans. Because ingredients in some sunscreens are toxic to pets, be sure to ask your veterinarian for suggestions. There are also sunscreens made specifically for pets!

Provide Plenty of Water, Plenty of Shade - Dehydration in dogs and cats is a real possibility during the summer, especially if your pet is the type to run and play outside for extended periods without drinking much. Telltale signs of dehydration include dry gums, loss of skin elasticity and excessive drooling. Don't let it get to that stage: Give your active pet plenty of playtime breaks in the shade with access to fresh water.

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WORDSEARCH: Birds Are Back

Find these words:

BITTERN	LOON
BUNTING	ORIOLE
FALCON	ROBIN
FINCH	SPARROW
FLYCATCHER	THRUSH
HAWK	VERIO
HERON	VULTURE
WARBLER	

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P W N E J T K W B L K E Z H L
O I R E V S J W H I V K X E Z
F L Y C A T C H E R T S L R S
B R A V T H R U S H P T O O P
U O E R N V B X A A H B E N H
N N T L C H T A R P I E D R Z
T O S F B F P R N N W B Y Y N
I C F J K R O E R U T L U V N
N L N I V W A Q M X R L N Y O
G A P X N E A W M X Y F W H O
U F D A L C F H X K P P W J L
K H M O R H H N K L R O Z P P
V N I L B V N K L Y L F L U O
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Resident Events at Sheldon Towers

- Activities Meeting on Monday, June 3rd at 8:15 a.m.



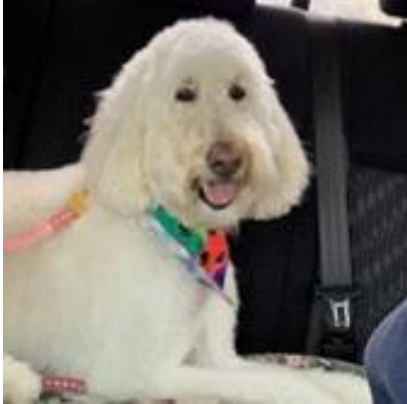
- Community Coffee Time - Every Monday & Friday, 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM (Except June 10th – RHA BOC meeting)
- Bone Builders - Every Wednesday at 4:30 PM

We look forward to seeing you at these resident events!

Safety, continued

Don't Leave Your Best Friend in the Car

You may think leaving your pet in a car for a few minutes is no big deal, but it can quickly lead to heat stroke in dogs and cats. In bright sunshine, your car acts like an oven. In fact, on a pleasant, sunny 70-degree day, your car can heat up to over 100 degrees within minutes. So, either take your pet with you or leave him or her at home during shopping trips.



Scoobi trusts her chauffeurs to keep her cool on the road.

Be Cautious of Unknown Green Spaces

Pets love to run, play and just investigate grassy areas. But did you know many lawns are treated with fertilizers and pesticides during the summer? Keep your beloved friends off unknown grassy areas or find a safe spot to play in your neighborhood, like a dog park.

Watch Out for Antifreeze Leaks

Antifreeze is something to be cautious of all year round, but in summer cars are more likely to overheat more and leak antifreeze. Pets find it delicious, and even in very small amounts antifreeze is poisonous to dogs and cats. So be attentive when walking your pet around the neighborhood.

Wishing you all lots of summer fun in the great outdoors!

Summer Learning Loss and How to Overcome It

Summer vacation is almost here, and as you look for summer activities for your children, it's important to find some that offer academic enrichment. Where access to reading, math and other learning material is less available in summertime, most students lose one

to two months of learning gains - this is known as summer learning loss, or "summer slide", and it has a higher impact on kids from high-poverty environments. By the fifth grade, summer learning loss can leave low-income students 2½ to 3 years behind their peers. Students who fall behind over the summer are less likely to graduate from high school or go on to college.

There are organizations in our community working to deliver high-quality summer learning opportunities to help close the achievement gap and support healthy development. We encourage you to seek out classes, camps and other programs that help fill the gap created when school is not in session. Parents can take the lead by making summer learning fun and exciting. Here are five tips for free and easy ways to help your children retain what they've learned during the previous school year and reduce summer slide:

1. Summer Reading – Library trips are a treat for children of all ages. Most libraries also sponsor Read-a-Thons, where prizes and rewards can motivate kids to participate. For middle-school students, reading 4 or 5 books over the summer has a positive effect on achievement during the following school year.

2. Use Math Every Day – Involve kids in measuring ingredients for recipes, have them count and roll coins, or teach them games like rummy or cribbage that involve tracking scores.

3. Get Outside and Play – Research shows that intense physical activities have positive effects on academic achievement. Encourage playing games that spark imagination (e.g., playing explorer), or taking a hike and making observations of plants, insects and animals.

4. Write Every Week – Have your child write a weekly letter to you or a relative, make grocery lists, create a cartoon series, or keep a summer journal. Journal entries can also be repurposed down the line into essays for school.

5. Do a Good Deed – Students learn better and "act out" less when they take part in community service activities, which aid in their social emotional development. There is no shortage of organizations that need volunteers. Older children can volunteer to read to children or seniors – and that opens two locks with one key.

Adapted from OUR VOICE, the resident newsletter of the Oakland Housing Authority