

**Abilene Housing Authority**

**Special points of interest:**

- ◆ Manager's Corner
- ◆ Renter's Insurance
- ◆ April National AutismMonth
- ◆ Income Tax Time!!

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# In the Know April 2020

Volume 16, issue 4

Abilene Housing Authority

## Housing Happenings

Well it's here again; Income Tax Season Time! There are various tax preparation sites in Abilene that prepare your income tax preparation and filing free.

**Rolling Plains Management**  
**1150 Estate Drive**

Call 672-3969 for appointment. Walk-ins welcome  
Mon-Fri-4:00-8:00pm  
Sat—8:00-12:00p.m

**Abilene Public Library**  
**Downtown, 202 Cedar**  
Closed due to COVID-19

**Abilene North Library**  
**1326 N. Mockingbird**  
Closed due to COVID-19



ABILENE HOUSING AUTHORITY

Taxpayers, Please Bring With You:

- ◆ Social security cards for each person named on return, including children
- ◆ Drivers License/ID
- ◆ 2019Tax Documents including all W-2 forms
- ◆ All 1098 & 1099 forms

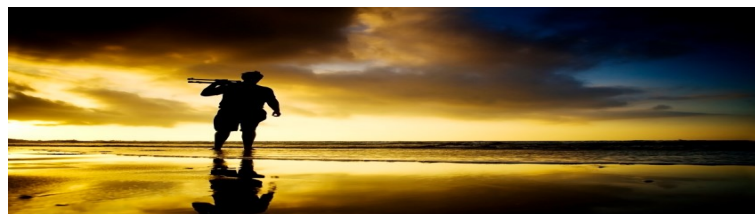
- ◆ Receipts for charitable gifts, medical expenses (including medical insurance), college expenses and child care expenses
- ◆ Blank check with routing number and account for direct deposit



Tax Deadline extended until July 15, 2020 due to COVID-19

## Our Mission Statement:

*The Housing Authority's mission is to service the housing needs of low-income families in the Authority's jurisdiction in order to enhance self-sufficiency and promote community quality of life and economic viability.*





Exterminations:

14—Deegan/Riviera

14—E.W. Williams/Office

15—Vogel

# April Events



- ◆ 1—Rent Due!
- ◆ 5—Last day to pay rent without the \$15 late charge (if the 5th is on a weekend, rent is due before 8:00am on Monday)
- ◆ Every Thursday-Free Admission at the Grace Museum 5-8pm.
- ◆ Family Fun Saturdays at the NCCIL, 102 Cedar St. Create a work of art for FREE. 1pm-4pm
- ◆ 10—Good Friday
- ◆ 12—Easter Sunday



## Current RAB Members:

**Lester Crenshaw**

**Celestine Daugherty**

**Oscar Fields**

**Carmella Hall**

**Joy McGee**

**Phyllis Rister**

**Kathleen Ritz**

**Tonya Smith**

# What is RAB?

RAB stands for Resident Advisory Board. The Resident Advisory Board is made up of residents from Public Housing and residents from Section 8. These residents reflect and represent the residents assisted by the Abilene Housing Authority. The role of this board is to assist and make recommendations regarding the development of the PHA plan and any significant amendment or modifications to the PHA Plan. We

want YOUR Input!

Interested?

Call Tanya —676-6032



# Resident Council

This is a council consisting of only residents from public housing. Unlike RAB, Resident Council is a tenant association geared towards the revitalization of public housing. The Resident Council exists to make public housing better. With a Resident Council, people can come together and get things done, get things changed!

Now, we all know that there are some things that cannot be changed. However, we are dedicated to making changes that will bring improvement.

Interested?

Call Tanya —676-6032

**Participation in RAB and/or Resident Council**

**counts toward Community Service Hours**





# National Autism Awareness Month

## April is Autism Awareness Month

April 2

Autism is a complex, life-long developmental disability that appears in early childhood and can impact a person's social skills, communication, relationships and self regulation.

1% of world population has autism disorder

3.5 million americans live

with this disorder.

There are Autism society affiliates that are located in your local area.

For more information contact 1-800-3-AUTISM OR WWW.AUTISM-SOCIETY.ORG



APRIL IS NATIONAL  
**AUTISM**  
AWARENESS  
MONTH



In order to change we must be sick and tired of being sick and tired.  
Author Unknown

# Renter's Insurance

As a resident of Public Housing, you may want to consider purchasing renter's insurance.

- ◆ Renter's insurance is a form of insurance that covers a policyholder's belongings against perils such as fire, theft, windstorm,

hail, explosion, vandalism, riots, and others. It also provides personal liability coverage for damage the policyholder or dependents cause to third parties. It also provides additional living expenses, known as loss-of-use coverage, if a policy holder must

move while his or her dwelling is repaired. It also can include coverage for property improvements. Possessions can be covered for their replacement cost or the actual cash value that includes depreciation. (Insurance Information Institute)

Additional information is available in the PH Office Lobby!

# Manager's Corner

## Update on HUD's Eviction Suspension Process during COVID-19

The Abilene Housing Authority that HCV and Public Housing participants are concerned about rent and possible evictions during the COVID-19 pandemic

HUD has developed a flyer to provide HCV and Public Housing Tenants with important information and resources about

Paying rent during the national emergency concerning the coronavirus pandemic.

The following page is important information regarding temporary suspension of evictions for nonpayment of rent.





# Addressing Tenant Concerns Regarding Rent and the Temporary Suspension of Evictions for Nonpayment of Rent

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) developed this flyer to provide Housing Choice Voucher (HCV), Public Housing, and Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation (Mod Rehab) participants with important information and resources about paying rent during the national emergency concerning the coronavirus pandemic.

## What is the suspension of evictions about?

Evictions for nonpayment of rent, and charges/fees for nonpayment of rent, have been temporarily suspended. This applies to all HUD-assisted participants from March 27, 2020 to July 24, 2020<sup>1</sup>. Although your Public Housing Authority's (PHA) Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policies (ACOP) and/or Administrative Plan may not be updated, please be aware that the suspension of evictions for nonpayment of rent is in place.

## Having trouble making rent?

- **Voucher and public housing participants:** If you lost your job or had a significant loss of income, [request an interim reexamination](#) with the housing authority as soon as possible. Your rent can be adjusted to reflect the change in income or you may be eligible for a financial hardship exemption. Your housing authority may also know about other local resources.
- **Voucher participants only:** [Contact your landlord right away](#). Reach out early to discuss potential payment plans or accommodations. Due to loss in income and the resulting interim reexamination, your rent adjustment may be retroactive. Confirm with the PHA and your landlord whether you will receive a credit for the previous month.

## What else should you know?

- [Rent is still due](#) during this time period and will accumulate if unpaid.
- Your landlord and the PHA cannot initiate a new eviction action for nonpayment of rent and you should not receive a notice to vacate for nonpayment of rent from March 27, 2020 – July 24, 2020.
- Your landlord and the PHA cannot charge any late fees, or accrue charges/fees, and your assistance cannot be terminated for past due rent in April, May, June and July 2020.
- If you are behind on rent after the suspension of evictions expire: [Voucher participants](#) need to negotiate directly with your landlord to determine requirements to repay unpaid rent. Otherwise, your landlord could file an eviction. [Public housing participants](#) need to work with the PHA to pay unpaid rent in a lump sum or set up a repayment agreement. Otherwise, your assistance could be terminated and/or the PHA could file an eviction.
- Evictions for nonpayment of rent filed with the court before March 27, 2020 can proceed if there is no conflict with state or local laws.
- The PHA or your landlord can still terminate assistance and evict for drug abuse, criminal activity, lease violations, fraud, repeated minor violations, other good cause, etc.
- HUD does not intervene or participate in eviction proceedings. If you feel you are being wrongfully evicted, contact your local legal aid organization or social service agencies. If you are a Voucher participant, you may also contact your local PHA.



<sup>1</sup> Enacted in Section 4024 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, 2020 "CARES Act" (Public Law 116-136).

# Happy Birthday



ANTOINETTE BAHATI  
CADEAU BATENDJI  
ELISHA BATENDJI  
NOVA BLOCK  
FORTUNE BOUSSOUKOU  
JAYDEN BRUSH  
ISAAC BUSTILLOS  
GERMAINE CHARLES  
MORIAH CLAY  
JOSHUA COLLINS

CHERISH DAVIS  
KREED FLORES  
MICHAEL GARCIA  
MARYLOU GARCIA  
NTUMBA KASONGA  
YESENIA LOYA  
MUTESI LUCY  
MARTHY MABIKA  
DAVID NSABIMANA  
DENISE NYIRAMUGISHA  
KEAUNAH SHATTAH







Abilene Housing Authority

4398 North 7th St.

Phone: 325-676-6032

Relay Services  
711 or 1-800-RelayTX



**Office Hours:**

**Monday-Friday,  
8:00am-5:00pm**

**Closed from  
12:00pm-1:00pm  
for lunch**

## Abilene Housing Authority Office Personnel

Chief Executive Officer—Gene Reed

Housing Manager—Tanya Charriez

Assistant Housing Manager—Amy Cook

Resident Services Coordinator—Tanya Johnson

Housing Counselor I—Veronica Berube

Ross Coordinator—Darlene McCoy

Crew Chief—Ali Mitachi

Maintenance—Oncecimo (Mo), Earl and Evaristo

Equal Opportunity Employer/Equal Housing Opportunities

