

February, 2012



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AARP Foundation Tax-Aide, an AARP Foundation program, helps low- to moderate-income taxpayers have more discretionary income for everyday essentials, such as food and housing, by assisting with tax services and ensuring they receive applicable tax credits and deductions.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is available free to taxpayers with low and moderate income, with special attention to those 60 and older. AARP Foundation Tax-Aide has helped low- to moderate-income individuals for more than 40 years in every state and the District of Columbia in cooperation with the IRS.

This past year, more than 32,500 volunteers helped prepare tax returns at 6,233 sites across the country for 1.6 million taxpayers.

Preparation sites throughout Carteret County will be open Feb. 1 through the end of the tax season. The site for Beaufort residents will be located at the Carteret County Public Library, 1702 Live Oak St., from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. every Tuesday and Saturday beginning Feb. 7th, 2012.

Taxpayers who need assistance are reminded they need to bring the following:

- Last year's tax return
- Social Security cards or other official documentation for yourself and all dependents
- Checkbook if you want to do a deposit of any refund(s)
- W2 from each employer

- Unemployment compensation statements
- SSA-1099 form showing total Social Security benefits paid to you for the year, or form RRB-1099, Tier 1 Railroad Retirement benefits as well as all other 1099s showing earnings, dividends or proceeds from sales
- All forms and cancelled checks indicating federal and state income tax paid
- If you plan to itemize deductions you will need receipts or cancelled checks for medical/dental expenses (including doctor and hospital bills and medical insurance premiums), receipts for prescription medicines, costs of assisted living services and bills for improvements, such as ramps and railings for people with disabilities. Receipts for contributions to charity and receipts or cancelled checks for all tax income and property taxes you paid, as well as records of tax refunds. Dependent care provider information (name, employer ID or Social Security number). Receipts, cancelled checks or 1099 forms related to continuing education.

AARP Tax-Aide Program volunteers are trained to complete both state and federal taxes. These volunteers go through training and are required to pass a comprehensive exam prepared by the IRS, which partially funds the program.

For more information, contact district coordinator John Provertero at 393-2087.

**The Following Changes Have Been Made to the Banned List:**

- Jeremy Jeroy Reels has been added to the Banned List.
- Ashley Page has been added to the Banned List.

## Maintenance/Reminders



BHA Maintenance Staff:  
Thomas Lewis, Jr., Aide  
Bill Timblin, Maint. Director  
T.L. Lewis, Mechanic

### Official Notice:

#### **Pre-REAC inspections, 1st week in Feb.**

**Make sure windows are not obstructed in any way.**

**HVAC Filters are replaced by Maintenance Staff every 90 days.**

Remember:

- Rent is always due on the 1st working day of the month. A late charge of \$15.00 will be added to any account with a balance in excess of \$20.00 on the 6th working day of the month.
- Utility charges are due with your rent. Rent will not be accepted if you have outstanding utility charges.
- Do not tie pets outdoors for any

reason. **Please be sure that you clean up after your pet.**

- Clegg's is on the property for monthly pest control the first Monday or Tuesday of every month. Please call the office if you would like to be put on the extra spray list.
- Get approval from the Office before the installation of satellite or cable. Wires run across floors or through windows are a safety violation. Office approval is required for all landscaping.
- Porches are for outdoor furniture only. Please remove all household furniture from your front porch.
- The Board of Commissioners meeting will be held in the Authority office on Thursday,

Feb 16, 2012 at 1pm.

- Dispose of food in kitchen size trash bags and remove for regular trash pickups. **DO NOT** throw food out the front or back door. This attracts pests and will lead to maintenance charges.
- All vehicles on Authority property should be in working order and be properly licensed and insured.
- Do not drive nails, screws, hooks, ect. through any part of the exterior of the units. As Maintenance staff are scraping and painting windows they are having to remove nails. Going forward you may be responsible for the cost of repairs.

## Neighborhood Courtesies



Keep our neighborhood peaceful and clean and avoid Maintenance charges by remembering the following:

Please keep your neighbors in mind when playing music, watching TV, entertaining guests, opening and closing doors, or communicating with your neighbors.

Sharing a wall with your neighbor means that consideration must be given to the volume of electronic devices. Remind kids and guests not to allow doors to slam behind them.

If you want to speak to a neighbor please walk within talking distance, screaming is never polite and invites others into your private conversations.

The Town of Beaufort has a noise ordinance that begins at 10pm but there is a nuisance ordinance in effect at all times.

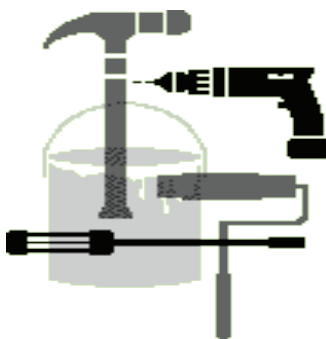
If you do not have a recycle bin please call the Town to request one at 728-3175.

Remember to put your garbage can and recycle bins by the curb for all regular trash pickup.

There will be a \$25.00 first offence fee for anyone guilty of throwing food or garbage out onto the property or allowing trash cans to overflow.

Thank you for your assistance.

## Upcoming Repairs/Upgrades/Projects



The Housing Authority has received a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Beaufort Historic Preservation Commission for the exterior painting of units on Broad and Queen Streets. Members of the Maintenance Staff will handle this project and we expect that the new color, a light beige, will blend well with the surrounding neighborhood and greatly improve the look of these buildings. Painting is scheduled to begin at the end of

January.

The Board of Commissioners has approved the contract for the kitchen upgrades on Broad and Queen Street units. Cabinet Works, a Beaufort company, was the low bidder for the cabinet work and Plisko Service Solutions, a Newport company, was the low bidder for the electrical portion of this project.

Work is slated to begin the 2nd week

in February and we expect completion within 90 days of the start date.

Near the end of February and through March, Maintenance Staff will be installing magnetic Fire Stoppers in all range hoods. Staff will send out a notice before this project begins and will include details to inform residents of the function of these Fire Stoppers and the residents' responsibilities for them.

## Resident Advisory Board

Over the next few months, the Housing Authority will be working on its Annual Plan and 5-Year Capital Plan for fiscal year beginning October 1, 2012. Part of the process of developing this plan is to have it reviewed by the Resident Advisory Board. The Resident Advisory Board is made up of public housing residents who are interested in helping us identify major work projects for the coming years.

Recommendations made by the Resident Advisory Board will be considered by the Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners when the final plan is approved.

Any Housing Authority resident is eligible to serve on the Resident Advisory Board. If you are interested in participating in this effort, please call Caryn Stein, Executive Director, at 728-3226



## REAC Inspections February 16th & 17th

The REAC Inspector will be on-site, February 16th & 17th and will conduct 25 random unit inspections. Maintenance Staff will conduct pre-inspections the first week of February. Staff will be looking for the same potential point deductions as the REAC Inspector. Housekeeping and clear walkways and exits will be of major importance. Please be sure that you clean cabinets well. Points will be deducted for the presence of bugs, even pests that have died due to monthly and quarterly pest control visits will count as deductions.

Another major item will be the presence of mold and mildew in windows and in bathrooms. Residents can purchase cleaning products specifically formulated for the removal of mold and mildew. One such product would be Tilex Mildew Root, available at Family Dollar. It may be necessary to treat effected areas more than once. If Maintenance Staff are required to remove and replace caulking to abate mold and mildew, the resident will be responsible for Maintenance charges. It is also very important that pathways and exits are clear and free from obstacles that may

impede evacuation during an emergency. Did you know that one window in every bedroom is considered an emergency exit? This means that you cannot put anything in front of these windows that would hinder opening and exiting through them in case of a fire. Please be sure that bedroom windows are not blocked by dressers or headboards and that hallways are free from debris and trip hazards.

Maintenance Staff will inform you of any other potential issues after they have completed pre-inspections.

Thank you for your help!



## Saint Valentine's Day

The history of Valentine's Day—and its patron saint—is shrouded in mystery, but we do know that February has long been a month of romance. St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. So, who was Saint Valentine and how did he become associated with this ancient rite? Today, the Catholic Church recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine or Valentinus.

One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men—his crop of potential soldiers. Valentine,

realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be jailed.

While imprisoned it is believed that Valentine fell in love with a young girl—who may have been his jailor's daughter—who visited him during his confinement. It is alleged that he wrote her a letter, which he signed "From your Valentine," an expression that is still in use today. Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky, the stories certainly emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic, and, most importantly, romantic figure. It is no surprise that by the Middle Ages, Valentine was one of the most popular saints in

England and France.

It is estimated that St. Valentine penned his famous love letter around 270 A.D. Americans probably began exchanging hand-made valentines in the early 1700s. In the 1840s, Esther A. Howland began to sell the first mass-produced valentines in America. According to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated one billion valentine cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year, second only to Christmas.

Approximately 85% of all valentines are purchased by women. In addition to the US, Valentine's Day is celebrated in Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, France, and Australia.



## Housing Authority of the Town of Beaufort

716 Mulberry Street  
Beaufort, NC 28516

Phone: 252-728-3226

Fax: 252-728-3210

E-mail: [information@beauforthousingnc.com](mailto:information@beauforthousingnc.com)

The Housing Authority of the Town of Beaufort is a not-for-profit, 100 unit Public Housing facility incorporated June 9th, 1966. For more than 40 years it has been our privilege to serve the Beaufort community by providing safe, decent and affordable housing. The goal of the Housing Authority has always been to assist low income, working families in the dream of become economically self sufficient.

To date there are 1.2 million households living in public housing units, managed by some 3,300 Housing Authorities across the nation. Eligible low income families, seniors, and persons with disabilities in need of housing have found a place to call home.

We're on the Web!

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

Promoting Economic Self-Sufficiency



### Join the Sunshine List!

Send your email address to

[information@beauforthousingnc.com](mailto:information@beauforthousingnc.com)

or call us at (252) 728-3226 to receive the most current information on upcoming events.

## Upcoming Events

Be sure to check out the Town of Beaufort Newsletter that comes with your water bill!

Fri. - Sun. Feb 3 - 5: 10th Annual Carolina Chocolate Festival being held at the Crystal Coast Civic Center, Morehead City. Prepare to pamper yourself in decadence! Featuring vendors from around the state and beyond, the festival provides lovers of mankind's best loved desserts - chocolate. From chocolate cake and tortes to chocolate bars and ice cream, the event offers more than a sampling of everything chocolate. For tickets please call 877-848-4976 or email [tpevents@earthlink.net](mailto:tpevents@earthlink.net)

Tuesday, Feb. 7: AARP Foundation Tax-Aide begins and goes until April 14. Tuesdays and Saturdays 9am to 1pm. Carteret County Public Library, Live Oak St. Beaufort.

Friday, Feb. 10: Second Friday Free Flick: Movies are family oriented. Free and open to the public, children must be accompanied by an adult. Popcorn and drinks for \$1.00. Please bring chairs and or blankets, no outside beverages or snacks. Call 252-354-6350 for movie title one week prior to showing. Emerald Isle Parks & Rec. Leisure Lane, Emerald Isle.

Saturday, Feb. 11: Gloucester Mardi Gras: Party like you're in New Orleans! Gloucester Community Center. Band plays at 3pm. For information call: 729-8021

Sunday, Feb. 12: Lincoln's Birthday!

Tuesday, Feb. 14: Happy Valentine's Day!

Thursday, Feb. 16: Housing Authority Board of Commissioners Meeting, Authority Conference Room, 1PM.

Monday, Feb. 20: Carteret County Schools, Teacher workday, Student Holiday.

Monday, Feb. 20: President's Day!

Wednesday, Feb. 22: Washington's Birthday!

Wednesday, Feb. 22: Ninth Annual Empty Bowls Luncheon: Benefits the Hope Mission and Martha's Cupboard. Crystal Coast Civic Center, Morehead City. Tickets \$18.00. For Information Call 240-9841.

Monday, Feb. 27: Blood Drive, First United Methodist Church, 900 Arendell St. Morehead City, 9am-3pm

Wednesday, Feb. 29: Leap Year!

### Happy Valentine's Day !

**Town Hall Has Moved! Now Located  
at 701 Front Street, Beaufort**

**(The old Post Office Building)**

