

The Resident Times

The New Smyrna
Beach Housing
Authority

"Affordable Housing
for the Community"

Special points of in- terest:

- Happy Easter and Happy Spring Everyone!
- Please aware of preventing mold in your unit, and our community service requirement
- Please see inside for important reminders about housing authority policies
- Check out our calendar of important dates on page 8!

Inside this issue:

Happy Easter and Happy Spring!	2
Earth Day is April 22nd!	3
Lagoonacy is April 21st!	3
Prevent Mold	4
Community Service Requirement	4
Friends of the Library Reading Program	5
Free Tax Assistance	5
Coastal Community Workshops	6
NSBHA is smoke-free	6
HA Reminders	7

April 2018

Welcome to Spring!



Happy Spring everyone! We hope everyone is enjoying the warmer weather, and looking forward to spending more time outside. Easter and Earth Day are coming up, and there are many local events that you can participate in to celebrate spring. Also look for information on Mother's Day and Father's Day events from the Resident Council soon.

The City of New Smyrna Beach will be holding its annual Easter Egg Hunt at noon on Saturday, March 31st, 2018 in Old Fort Park. You can also bring your kids to breakfast and picture taking with the Easter

bunny at several restaurants on Canal St. (pictures will be at the Butterfly Kisses boutique). In addition to Easter services, many local churches will also be hosting special events for the holiday.

Please keep in mind as more outdoor activities resume and it is lighter later in the evening, that children should be supervised when playing outside. They are not to be climbing on sheds, clothesline poles, or other housing authority property, and we do have security cameras around the community resource center to monitor such behavior. Spring is also a great

time for gardening, and we want to remind everyone that you are only allowed a maximum of four potted plants on your front porch, and nothing can be planted in the ground around your unit. This is to make it easier for our lawn company to mow around all the units, and we appreciate everyone's cooperation in this matter.

Summer camp scholarships for kids are now available through Volusia County. To be eligible, children must live and attend school in Volusia County, and be 6-12 years old, or 5 years old and have completed Kindergarten. You can find the application at

Welcome to Spring!, pt. 2



County Public Schools, and private camp sites.

Volusia County may stop accepting applications at any time, so get your application in as soon as possible. Summer camp is a great opportunity for kids to have fun, make friends and develop important skills, so make sure yours don't miss out!



K.Spear



LOOK OUT FOR GREAT SPRING EVENTS AND SUMMER CAMP INFO!

http://www.volusia.org/community_assistance/application, as well as at all Volusia County public library locations and the Human Services office on Canal St. You will need to fill the application out completely, and you can turn it in at the following locations at the dates and times below:

Tuesday, April 3, 2018
Deltona Regional Library
2150 Eustace Ave, Deltona
9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 11, 2018
Midtown Cultural & Education Center
925 George W. Engram Blvd.,
Daytona Beach
7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 19, 2018
TCK, County Admin Building
123 W. Indiana Ave, DeLand
7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

There are a limited number of scholarships available, and they are awarded based on income, funding availability and camp site availability.

They cover up to an 8 week period beginning June 4th and ending July 27th at various camp sites including Volusia County Parks & Rec, the Boys and Girls Club, the Extended Day Enrichment Program (EDEP) through Volusia

NSBHA is on Facebook!

Did you know the Housing Authority is now on Facebook? Search for The Housing Authority for the City of New Smyrna Beach and like our page.

You can follow us to receive updates on Housing Authority activities, including the calendar of events at the new Community Resource Center when it opens. We will also post information from other local community re-

sources, such as Gifts of Love, FROG Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, the Utilities Commission, the City of New Smyrna Beach, and others.

Many organizations are now creating pages on Facebook to keep in touch with clients. This is an easy way for all our tenants to stay informed and keep up with what the Housing Authority and our Resident Council is doing, as well other local events in our community.



Follow us today!

Earth Day is April 22nd!

Earth Day is April 22nd, and we encourage all of our residents to learn about recycling and conservation efforts and do their part to help preserve our planet. Founded in 1970, this day is meant to bring awareness to climate change and other environmental issues. During the inaugural event in 1970, approximately 20 million took to streets, parks and auditoriums to show their support for these issues.

This annual event has only grown over the past 47 years, and climate change has only worsened, which makes this event more important than ever. As a coastal community, we are in a particularly good position to see the effects of global warming. In 2010, more than 8 million tons of trash were dumped in the ocean according to a study published in the journal *Science*, and that number was projected to increase tenfold by 2020. Currently, the “Great Pacific Garbage Patch,” a large area of garbage floating between California and Hawaii, covers an area more than

twice the size of Texas and contains approximately 1.8 trillion pieces of plastic. To help conserve resources, and keep your utility bills low, try the following tips:

- Turn off lights when you are not in the room
- Don't leave televisions, radios, or cell-phones plugged in when they or not in use or aren't being charged
- Make sure to turn off sinks and showers completely, and report any leaks to the Housing Authority immediately
- In the summer, keep your shades drawn during the day, especially when you are not at home. This will help keep your apartment cooler and help keep your air conditioning costs down
- In the winter, keep your shades open during the daytime to let in sunlight and help warm your apartment
- Make sure that you recycle plastic bottles and grocery bags, glass bottles, cardboard, and other items. Also, con-

sider using reusable plastic water bottles, Tupperware, and other such products to reduce your waste

- Make sure to wash full loads of laundry (as opposed to just a few items), and consider using your washer's cold cycle to save on the cost of heating water
- Try to limit your use of paper plates and plastic cups and silverware
- Purchase reusable lunch bags for you and/or your kids; don't use paper or plastic ones
- Plan out your errands so you can only make one trip and conserve gas



Rent Drop Boxes and New Vital Records Office

The Housing Authority now has drop boxes at both the Community Resource Center and our office, and tenants may now drop off their rent after hours. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE BOXES ARE ONLY TO BE USED FOR RENT PAYMENTS! WE WILL NOT ACCEPT OTHER DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING APPLICATIONS AND INFORMATION FOR LEASE RENEWALS, IN THE DROPBOXES.**

Additionally, we will continue our policies of not accepting partial payments and not taking cash. **IF YOUR RENT IS NOT THE CORRECT AMOUNT, OR IT IS IN CASH, IT WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU. JUST PUTTING IT IN THE DROP BOX DOES NOT MEAN IT HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY.** Of course, tenants are still welcome to drop off their rent in person or mail it to the office.



If you need your birth certificate, or one for your child, Volusia County's Department of Health is making it easier. They will now be offering vital statistics services at their New Smyrna Beach location at 717 W. Canal St. Staff are available Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Certified Florida birth and death certificates are available, and you can also order certificates online or by mail.

Many organizations, including schools and human service organizations that provide aid require birth certificates. For more information on requesting certificates, call the Department of Health at (386) 274-0614 or visit www.volusiahealth.com. Marriage and divorce certificates are only available through the Volusia County Clerk of Court and the Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics.

Prevent Mold in Your Unit

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR MOLD IN YOUR UNIT, AND CHECK OUT HOW TO PREVENT IT!

Due to the humid Florida climate, we are asking all our tenants to pay particular attention to preventing and treating any mold in their units. Mold consists of naturally occurring microscopic organisms which reproduce by spores and breaks down and feeds on organic matter in the environment. Spores spread through the air, and the combination of excessive moisture and any organic matter present allows for mold growth.

Some people with existing health/breathing problems may be particularly susceptible to mold, and certain types and amounts of mold can lead to adverse health effects and/or allergic reactions. Not all mold is readily visible, but it can often be seen in the form of white, orange, green, brown and/or black, and often there will be a musty smell. Reducing moisture in your unit and proper house-keeping significantly reduces the chance of mold growth. Taking the following steps can help keep your unit free of mold:

- We encourage all of our tenants

to keep their units between 74-76 degrees, and to use their air conditioners and ceiling fans. Even when the weather isn't at its hottest, your air conditioner and ceiling fans can help to circulate air and regulate the temperature in your unit so it doesn't fluctuate. Keeping your unit at 78 degrees or above creates better conditions for mold to develop.

- Check your faucets, shower and fridge for leaks regularly, and please report any water leaks to the housing authority office immediately. Also, clean up any water from leaks promptly.

- If you notice any small areas of mold in your unit, please clean the area with bleach (be sure to follow all safety/usage instructions on the product), and dry it thoroughly.

- Make sure to utilize the fan in your bathroom while showering, and for at least 10 minutes afterward. Additionally, open the window and bathroom door when you are done showering to help increase air circulation and remove the moisture from the air.

- Opening your blinds to let sunlight into your apartment, as mold grows best in a dark environment. Additionally, open some of your windows during dry weather to increase air circulation.

- Decluttering and making sure your apartment is not too crowded with furniture and other items is also helpful for preventing mold. If your apartment is so crowded that air cannot circulate well, this can create a good environment for mold to develop.

- Avoid having excessive amounts of indoor plants, and be sure to water them outside, wait for them to mostly dry out, and then bring them back in.

- Keep your unit clean, and make sure to clean up any spilled food quickly. Remove garbage regularly, especially any food that has gone bad.

You are required to report mold in your unit. Tenants will be held responsible for non-compliance with any of the above provisions, and the housing authority will not be responsible for any health problems or property damage.



Community Service Requirement

PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENTS MUST PERFORM 8 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE A WEEK UNLESS YOU MEET THE EXEMPTION REQUIREMENTS!

As a friendly reminder, please keep in mind that public housing residents who do not meet the following requirements **MUST** perform 8 hours a month of community service:

- working at least 30 hours per week
- 62 years of age or older
- disabled (must be receiving SSDI or provide other proof of disability)
- receiving food stamps and/or cash assistance
- full time student

- caring for a disabled family member

HUD has put this policy in place as part of the public housing program, and they require us to enforce it and terminate a tenant's lease if they do not fulfill this requirement. We have forms at the office that you can use to document your community service hours, and they must be signed by someone from the organization who has been supervising your work.

If you are looking for somewhere to complete your hours, many local churches have opportunities to perform community service, and you can also try contacting service organizations such as Meals on Wheels, Halifax Urban Ministries and FROG Ministries.



Friends of the Library Reading Program

The Friends of the New Smyrna Beach library will be returning with their **FREE** read-aloud program weekly at the new Community Resource Center at 600 Greenlawn Street. We had a lot of success with this program before the renovations to the new Community Resource Center, and we are hoping that with an improved facility we will have even more interest.

This program is taking place every Wednesday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Stories, snacks, games, art projects and read-aloud training will be offered as part of the program. Children from newborn to age 8 are welcome, and they **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

Reading aloud to your children is a very im-

portant and fun way to instill a love of reading and learning that can last your child a lifetime. Reading is important not just so your child can enjoy reading as a fun pastime and to assist in your child's education, but it is also a vital skill for everyday life. Many studies have shown that reading aloud to young children is not only one of the best activities to stimulate language and cognitive skills (the greatest amount of brain growth occurs between birth and age five); it also builds motivation, curiosity, and memory.

Nothing is required to participate in this program, and for more information, you can contact the Housing Authority office at (386) 428-8171 or the New Smyrna Beach Library at (386) 424-2910. You can also stop by and visit the library at 1001 S. Dixie Freeway.

Join the Friends of the New Smyrna Beach Library every Wednesday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Community Resource Center at 600 Greenlawn St. for a FREE reading program!



friends
of the New Smyrna Beach Library



Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

It's tax season, and The United Way's Campaign for working families, along with their partners, will once again be providing **FREE** tax preparation services from **February 6th, 2018 through April 12th, 2018**. Please note the deadline to file your federal taxes is April 17th.

Help will be available at the Oretta Bell/New Smyrna Beach location of the Boys & Girls Club of Volusia-Flagler County (813 Mary Avenue New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168).

Help will be available on Mondays from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and Tuesdays from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Free help preparing your tax returns is available for those who make less than \$54,000 per year, persons with disabilities, elderly and limited English speaking taxpayers.

You will need to bring all relevant documentation with you (W2 forms, photo ID, social security cards for you and all family members, bank account information, etc.)

They have many locations throughout Volusia County, and for more information, please call (386) 253-0564 or visit <http://www.unitedwayvfc.org/Get-your-taxes-done-for-FREE--1-66.html>.



Get your taxes done for FREE!

February 6th, 2018 - April 12th, 2018

**Boys & Girls Club
813 Mary Avenue NSB, FL 32168**

**Mondays 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Tuesdays 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

Coastal Community Resiliency Workshops



COASTAL COMMUNITY RESILIENCY



New Smyrna Beach is hosting a yearlong series of citizen-led monthly workshops to discuss various issues unique to coastal communities. As the first municipality in Volusia County to establish such a program, New Smyrna Beach hopes to promote public engagement in the development of priorities, policies, and strategies to improve city planning and define new policies.

Topics for each session are listed below, and all sessions will be held at the Brannon Civic Center (105 S. Riverside Drive) from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. on the following dates.

February 20th: Environment and Cultural Resources

March 20th: Growth and Development

April 17th: Social Equity

May 15th: Public Safety

June 19th: Economy

August 21st: Parks & Recreation

September 18th: Tourism

October 16th: Transportation

November 27th: Program Wrap-Up

These Coastal Community Resiliency (CCR) workshops are open to all, so don't miss the opportunity to make your voice heard! For more information, call (386) 410-2614.



The City of NSB is holding community workshops to get your input!

NSBHA is now smoke free! Smoking is PROHIBITED inside your unit!

NSBHA is now smoke-free!

NSBHA is now officially smoke free! **Please remember that you are no longer allowed to smoke inside your unit, and you MUST go outside to smoke.**

Violations of this policy will be documented like violations of the house-keeping policy, and for every violation after the first one you will be charged a \$1,200 cleaning fee.

Again, HUD is requiring all housing authorities across the country to implement

smoke-free policies in their public housing units, and we have no discretion to refuse to implement this policy.

This is for the health and safety of all of our residents, and we appreciate everyone's cooperation in complying with this policy. If you have any questions or are interested in quitting, please contact the office. We can direct you to resources from Tobacco Free Florida and others that can offer assistance in quitting smoking.

For more resources on quitting smoking, you can visit [tobac-](#)

[coreeflorida.com](#). You can also call 1-877-822-6669 to reach their quit coaches and ask about receiving free nicotine patches or gum to help you quit (if medically appropriate).

Additionally, you can also visit [smokefree.gov](#), a Web site from the Department of Health and Human Services, the National Institutes of Health, and the National Cancer Institute.





IMPORTANT REMINDERS PLEASE READ!



- Rent is **DUE** on the first of every month, and a \$25 late fee (\$50 for our open market properties at Railroad and Julia Streets), will apply after the **5th** of the month
- **THE HOUSING AUTHORITY HAS A ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY REGARDING ILLEGAL DRUG USE AND WEAPONS ON OUR PROPERTY**, if you see any of this activity please call the police and then the Housing Authority office
- Please note that **YOU** can be held responsible for guests engaging in illegal behavior in your unit
- Unwelcome visitors engaging in harassing behavior can be trespassed if you call the police and the Housing Authority office
- **ONLY** household members listed on your lease may reside in your unit and overnight guests are **ONLY** allowed to stay for **up to 14 days per year**
- Please note that **A 24 HOUR NOTICE IS REQUIRED** for us to make copies from your file, and **WE CHARGE 15 CENTS PER PAGE**
- Especially during the warm summer months, please be careful when adjusting your air conditioning units to avoid maintenance issues
- In order to prevent high electricity bills, when your air conditioner is running please keep all windows closed and do not block any doors to allow your air conditioner to work more efficiently
- Do not place towels or anything else over your thermostat, this affects the sensor that detects the temperature
- Children **MUST** be supervised when playing outside
- **NO INFLATABLE POOLS ARE ALLOWED!**
- **NOTHING** may be attached to the outside of houses, including satellite dishes, basketball hoops, etc.
- Pets **MUST** be registered with the Housing Authority and have up to date vaccinations, and residents are **NOT** allowed to pet sit animals not registered with their household
- Residents **MUST** report all changes in income (such as a new job, a raise, or loss of income), **WITHIN 10 DAYS**
- **IF YOU FAIL TO REPORT NEW INCOME OR CHANGES IN PAY OR HOURS TO US, YOU CAN BE PROSECUTED FOR FRAUD!**
- Please call the office for all maintenance issues/emergencies that occur during office hours
- The maintenance emergency phone number should **ONLY** be called for maintenance emergencies that occur outside of office hours
- The maintenance emergency number is the **ONLY** number you should call for an emergency outside of office hours. Leave a message with your phone number and you will be called back
- Please refer to our housekeeping standards when maintaining your unit
- Residents are **ONLY** allowed one set of outdoor/weather proof patio furniture (a table and four chairs), and a barbecue grill in the yard
- Outside areas (i.e. porches and yards) **MUST** remain neat and no more than 4 potted plants are allowed
- Parking is **ONLY** allowed in designated paved areas, **YOUR CAR WILL BE TOWED IF YOU PARK IN THE GRASS!**
- Please note that there is technically no assigned parking, but we ask that you be courteous to your neighbors and park in the spaces closest to your unit
- Please check your mailbox frequently for important communications from the Housing Authority
- **PLEASE NOTE THAT NOT RESPONDING TO CERTAIN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE HOUSING AUTHORITY AND MISSING RE-CERTIFICATION APPOINTMENTS CAN BE CAUSE TO TERMINATE YOUR LEASE**
- **PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR PETS, ESPECIALLY IN COMMON AREAS! IF MAINTENANCE STAFF CLEAN IT UP YOU WILL BE CHARGED \$25!**



1101 S. Dixie Fwy.
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168

Hours of Operation:
Mon. - Thu.; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Friday; 7:30 a.m. - noon

Phone: (386) 428-8171
Fax: (386) 427-3429
Maintenance Emergency: (386) 847-3007
Email: mknight@newsmyrnahousing.com

Under the direction of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the New Smyrna Beach Housing Authority works to provide safe, quality and affordable housing for local residents in our designated area of Daytona to Oak Hill. We do this through both the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program and our own self-managed public housing units. Our mission is to create vibrant, thriving communities where our residents can grow and become more self-sufficient. We encourage all our residents to come to us or the Resident Council with any suggestions and/or concerns.

Resident Council:
President - Yvonne Jefferson
Vice President - Charleisha Green
Treasurer - Carolyn Whaley
Secretary - Judith Sell
Assistant Secretary - OPEN

THE EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE PHONE NUMBER IS ONLY FOR MAINTENANCE EMERGENCIES THAT OCCUR OUTSIDE OF OFFICE HOURS. PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE AND YOU WILL BE CALLED BACK.

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1  RENT DUE!	2 OLSS	3	4 Friends of the Library 3 - 4 p.m.	5	6 LATE FEES AND 14 DAY NOTICES AT 12 Office closes at 12	7
8	9 OLSS HA BOARD MEETING @ 5:30 p.m.	10	11 Friends of the Library 3 - 4 RC MEETING @ 5:30 p.m.	12	13 Office closes at 12	14
15	16 OLSS	17 Community Workshop 6 - 8 @ the Brannon Center	18 Friends of the Library 3 - 4 p.m.	19	20 Office closes at 12	21 
22  Earth Day	23 OLSS	24	25 LAST DAY TO PAY Friends of the Library 3 - 4 p.m.	26 EVICCTIONS	27 Office closes at 12	28
29	30 OLSS					