

The Housing Chronicle



Project ALIVE Participants Thank The Women's Giving Circle

Over twenty-five women gathered at the Bernard W. Brown Community Center on March 18th to thank The Women's Giving Circle for their generous help with "transportation assistance" and child care assistance. The Women's Giving Circle was represented by Karlys Kline, founder.

Project ALIVE participants stood up one by one to thank Karlys (and others) for investing in their efforts to move forward. Many spoke of how the assistance helped them forge ahead and how they plan to lift a hand up to other women when they are in positions to do so. We were inspired by the hard work and perseverance of all those present!

The Housing Authority was well represented by Teresa Justice, Executive Director; Frances Jenkins, Director of Housing; Tonya Brown, Housing Management Coordinator; Ann Ryan, Project ALIVE Coordinator; Linda Helms, FSS Coordinator; Helen Pearson, Office Manager/Employment Specialist.

Inspiration Corner



“One cannot expect to become happy without hardship or effort. Because we challenge ourselves we become strong. To become strong is to become happy.”

From the Maintenance Department



With the warmer weather now here and grass growing, if you are responsible for mowing your grass please keep it cut. If you have any questions, please contact the Maintenance Department.

Standard Price List Approved



The Housing Authority of the City of Frederick Board of Commissioners recently approved the Proposed Standard Price List that was circulated to each resident. The Standard Price List contains the cost that the Housing Authority charges for repairs. Please keep in mind that residents are only charged for repairs or damage that occurred at the fault of the resident. You may use the Standard Price List as a reference for the cost of repairs. Additional copies are available at the Main Office on Madison Street.

Need a Job?



Guess what? There are jobs to be found! You just need to have the tools in order to be successful in landing one of them! What are the tools? **A resume, a cover letter, and an email account.** Where can you get those?? Call the Family Services office and make an appointment with Helen. Her number is (301)696-1875, same as Ann's.

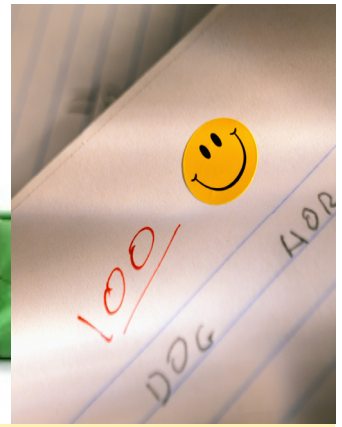
Also, if you already have the tools and just need leads, stop by and check with Helen. **There are jobs out there waiting for you.**

Extermination Schedule



April 12, 2011	2-40 Carver Apts.
April 13, 2011	42-82 Carver Apts.
April 14, 2011	84-120 Carver Apts.
May 17, 2011	113-151 Pennsylvania Avenue
May 18, 2011	153A-F—169 Pennsylvania Avenue
May 19, 2011	171 Pennsylvania Avenue thru 482B Vermont Court
May 24, 2011	101 - 115 Rhode Island Court (odd numbers only)
May 25, 2011	117 - 129 Rhode Island Court
May 26, 2011	116 A-F - 102 Rhode Island Court (even numbers only)





Math and Reading Celebration on March 16th

Another celebration was held on March 16th to honor and celebrate the kids that have been participating in the Wednesday Math Club at the PAL Center and the Wednesday Family Reading Night at the Sagner Community Room. The celebration began with Spring Ridge Elementary principal recognizing the partners involved in helping the kids be successful, including the parents, volunteer, and teachers. The Math Club students being honored were: Antonio Aviles, Amira Bandy, Jaiana Brown, Jordan Brown, Timisha Carmen, Paurell Dudley, Faith Flanary, Larry Gennes, Shamon Gennes, Javon Gholston, Elijah Goines, Deshawn Green, Corey Jameison, Naomie Kirby, Jaion Penamon, Kivoni Porte, Kmani Porte, Monay Shaw-Johnson, Breia Sneed, Emily Toney, Sabrina Toney, Avonne Wade, Marquis Wade, Chante Weedon, Terrell Weedon, Tyliessa Williams, Malik Witherspoon, and Melvin Valientes. Special Honors were given to Anonio Aviles, Larry Gennes, Duman Lopez, and Emily Toney for attending at least five out of the six Math nights .

The Family Reading Club students honored were Alex Elleby, Alexandra Garcia, Janiya Jones, Jaina Naylor, Jamira Naylor, Lydia Soloman, Malachi Kirby, Lexa Mender, Jackson Toney, Katelyn Toney, Malachi Witherspoon, Malayah Witherspoon, Micah Witherspoon, Marcellus Wade, Jayden Hollaway, and Zahara Putu. Special Honors were given to Alexandra Garcia and Lydia Soloman for perfect attendance! Thanks was also offered to Ashley Schley for all her help with Family Reading every Wednesday!



Children ages 4 to 7 , please join us at the Sagner Community Center from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday. We will be doing reading, math, and crafts. If there is anyone in need of Community Service Hours, contact Linda Helms, at 301.696.1874.



Just so you know, the summer lunch program will be offered again this summer starting the week after school is out. It will be offered at the Carver Community Center and the Clara Harris Community Center at Sagner every week day at noon.



Summer Activities

Garden at Sagner



The Girl Scouts will be working on a garden project behind the PAL Center. Some of the Sagner girls will be helping. They will be growing several kinds of veggies and are planning a little farmer's market when there is enough produce.

Spring Soccer

Thanks to community leader Jason Judd again for finding the funds to sponsor 13 kids in the City Rec. league's soccer teams! Our soccer players are Imane, Natalie and Malachi Bennett, Malik and Malachi Witherspoon, Antonio Aviles, Melvin Valiente, Samira Bowins, Isaiah Jordan, Duman Garcia, Janisha and Jakiyah Harrington and Ahava Thomas. Have a good season!!



IMAGINE ME

Imagine Me continues to inspire, empower, and encourage all that come. We thank Belinda Pierce-Afi for being our guest speaker on April 4, 2011. Belinda shared with us that Extreme Makeovers should not just be on the outside, but the inside too. Belinda is the Executive Director of The Empire Beauty Schools in Owings Mills MD. I would also like to thank Tracey Solomon-Moore for assisting Linda Helms in a skit called "My Body and Me."

Our speaker for May will be Lashelle Cardwell from The Mental Health Association. Our theme will be about Mothers since we will be celebrating Mother's Day. For more information contact, Linda Helms 301.696.1874.



International Women's Day

The Ausherman Family Foundation, Rotary Club of Carroll Creek and

Hood College teamed up to bring Frederick its First International Women Day Celebration at All Saints Episcopal Church on March 8, 2011. The event featured The Glow Project Movie, and benefited the Women of Hope Project.

This is a 501(c)3 organization that was founded in 2001 to free families in war-torn Afghanistan from poverty and oppression by providing a hand-up vs. a hand-out. Originally established for women by women to help them build businesses and become self-sustaining, vocational training is now offered to men, and hundreds of children have returned to school.

Family Services provided transportation for some of the residents to attend this event. The Glow Project Movie touched the hearts of the residents that attended this event. The movie was about the struggles that some of the women experienced in their lives that resulted in changes.

I believe one of the most difficult parts in the movie was about a young homemaker who had 2 children and found out that she had breast cancer and her husband left her. In the state she was in, she was ready to give up, but a friend helped her with a resume and she got a job as a car salesman and went on to own two major dealerships. This didn't happen over night, and it was a challenge, but she persevered.

~Linda Helms



Lincoln Apartments

Loving Our Neighbors



Resident Council Meeting

- Resident Council Meetings are the 2nd Monday of every month. However, this month's Resident Council Meeting was held on Tuesday, April 12, 2011, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Where residents enjoyed: *Food, Fun, & Job Information!*

Congrats, Welcomes & Get Wells

- Congratulations to Treyvon Hoy who is entering Wesley College in Dover, Delaware.
- Congratulations to Teleola Bouraima who has been accepted to Frederick Community College's Nursing Program.
- Sending get well wishes to Ms. Emmetta Smallwood and Ms. Joyce Snowden.
- Warm welcome to our newest resident Gina Hansen.
- Thank you to Amy Chanthavong for doing an awesome job putting together the information for our April Loving Our Neighbors Column.
- Sincere thanks to the United Methodist Church and Ms. Brenda for the neighborhood potato drive.

Computer Updates

- We have updated the computer in the Community Room with Microsoft Publisher, Excel, One Note, and Outlook.

"Know your Lease Sessions" – coming soon

- "How to Better Understand your Lease" presentation on May 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room with Ms. Cherise. For more information or questions contact her at 301.898.2751.

Resident Input Needed

- We are in need of all our resident's comments, suggestions, and concerns to help make our community a better environment for all. Come to our May 9th meeting!

REMINDER

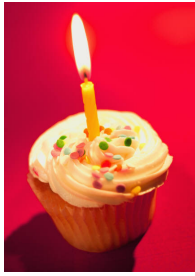
- There is a new trash protocol in effect. Please contact Ms. Brenda with any questions.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To everyone born in April!

Kids Biz

April Birthdays



Orlando Teran

Lundyn Wims

LaTiyah Mathis

Camren O'Connell

Marques Miller

Alicia Arthur

Ava Della Keefer

Monay Shaw-Johnson

Riddle Answers:
1. In a river bank
2. Stick with me and you'll go places.
3. I got you covered
4. Footsteps

1. Where do fish keep their money?
2. What did the leg bone say to the foot?
3. What did the rib cage say to the heart?
4. The more of them you take, the more you leave behind. What are they?

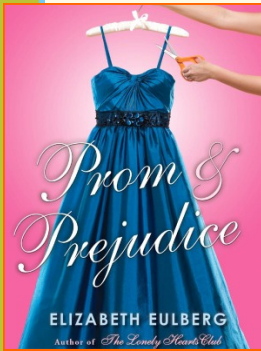
Riddles!

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

ALL
FOOLS
ONE
PRANK

APRIL
FUNNY
PLAY

DAY
JOKE
PRACTICAL



Prom Advice by: Elizabeth Eulberg author of "Prom & Prejudice"

But what if I don't get asked to prom?

I'll totally admit, this thought went through my mind a lot my junior year of high school (okay, okay, maybe a little bit sophomore year...and freshman year). At the time, I was so worried that I would be stuck at home, alone that night while all my friends got glammed up and went with their dates. Sure, I didn't go to one or two Homecomings (alright *none* of them!), but this was *prom*.

My friends started to get asked and I was happy for them. But a thought would start to creep into my head, *what about me?* And then I got the call. (This was back before you texted...or had cell phones, so yes, someone actually called me on my parent's *home* phone!) I was asked if I had a prom date because someone was going to ask me, and not just anyone, this super cool and nice guy who is friends with the guys taking all my friends. It was the perfect scenario. Not only was I going to prom, but I was going to be with my closest friends.

I loved going shopping for my dress and getting dolled up. But what I remember most from my prom was how much fun we all had. There were about a dozen of us who carpooled to Madison (which is about 45 minutes away from the tiny town I grew up in) to go to dinner at this really yummy Italian restaurant that was in an old converted church. We then went to the big dance, which oddly enough, wasn't even close to the highlight of the evening. Afterwards, the movie theatre in town hosted all the juniors so we put our normal clothes back on and went to see *My Cousin Vinny*. Then everybody came over to my house and we just hung out and laughed.

Because most of us were just going as friends, we didn't have any couple drama (not that all couples create drama, but you know who I'm talking about!). There was no fighting, no pressure, nothing but a bunch of friends hanging out, getting dressed up and having a blast.

Let's face it, You've got enough pressure in your life - grades, work, parents (by the way, no matter how old or accomplished you become, your parents can still yell at you - mine do it all the time!). Prom shouldn't be one of them. At the end of the day, it's just a night. If you go, remember to have fun. If you don't have a date to go with and want to go, go with a group of girl friends. And if you don't go, do something else.

Going to prom isn't a life-altering event (this is something I didn't realize at 16). It won't make you a smarter, richer, more successful person if you go. Sure, there might be some people who will judge you if you don't go, but seriously, do you care what people like that think of you? But if you *choose* to go, make the most of it, as you should with everything in your life. Make it fun! Make it memorable! Laugh!

Or you can curl on up on the couch, put on a fun, semi-cheesy prom/dance movie (my suggestions: *Footloose* or *Pretty in Pink*) with your favorite comfort food. Enjoy!

One last piece of advice: just remember when picking out your dress and how you're wearing your hair, that you may write a novel about prom someday and be asked to share that photo to the world. If only someone would have told me that, I may have opted for less hairspray and not so many white bows.

But **live** and **learn**...and **laugh**!

For more Prom advice, quizzes, celebrity news, and health check out: www.seventeen.com

Left

L

The

I Can't Be "Mommy" and "Me" By Aja Dorsey Jackson



I love my children. With every fiber of my being I love them.

But I'm struggling to enjoy motherhood right now.

Please allow me to bare my soul and be completely honest with you for a moment. I'm not going to give you any standard lines about my kids being the best thing that ever happened to me or say that they've made me a better person.

The truth is that I'm tired.

I feel tired. I look tired. I looked at myself in the mirror the other day wearing the plain, snatch back bun that I wear every day, weighing 15 pounds more than I ever thought I would and thought "Who are you?"

I don't recognize the woman that I am now. The real me is a laid back, go-with-the-flow kind of girl. I rarely stress about anything. Hakuna Matata (no worries) is my mantra. I'm naturally soft-spoken. Before I had my son I probably raised my voice, slightly, once a year. I'm a loner. I can go days without speaking to another person and that's alright with me. I hate conflict and chaos with a passion. I love to read. I care a lot about my appearance and invest time and energy in preserving my beauty.

That is who I am. Or who I was. Now I wake up and go to sleep stressed out. I scream at the top of my lungs at least five times a day, on a good day. I clean up and my house looks like it was caught in a hurricane 15 minutes later. The rare moment that I do spend away from the kids I never spend on manicures or shopping. I spend the time catching up on everything in the house that I have been neglecting otherwise. I haven't read a book in over a year.

My husband and I have gotten really good at spending what little time we have after the kids are asleep cuddling and watching television, but we haven't been out on a date, outside of weddings or birthday parties of our friends, since our anniversary six months ago. I'm excited for work every day, because more than anything else, it feels like a breather.

The truth is that I'm struggling to find the balance. I am trying to be a wife, mother, a writer, hold down a day job, and wear the many other hats that I need to wear on a daily basis and it's just not easy. One thing that motherhood has taught me is the importance of putting others' needs before your own. I think that I've gotten very good at putting myself last. But sometimes I feel like I'm just getting lost.

For more articles like this check out: www.blackandmarriedwithkids.com

