

Resident Report

New ideas. Better communities.



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Resident Report is a regularly published newsletter for and about Athens Housing Authority residents

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Open for Business



Columbia Brookside Phase 2 has officially opened and families are moving into their new apartments and town homes. An open house was held for Athens-Clarke County community leaders recently to show off the newly completed apartment homes.

Open house attendees learned about the features of the second phase of Columbia Brookside and toured the model apartments. Columbia Brookside is located at the site of the former Jack R. Wells public housing community. Columbia Brookside is a mixed income community that provides a variety of homes at public housing, subsidized housing, and market rate rents. The first phase of Columbia Brookside, a senior residential building, opened in early 2015. The new community is a partnership between the Athens Housing Authority and Columbia Residential, a nationwide develop-

ment firm based in Atlanta. The partnership is bringing a new style of community to Athens.

Work has started on the final phase of Columbia Brookside. Phase 3 will also consist of apartment homes and townhouses and will open in 2017.



The new Columbia Brookside office for Phase 2 (above); the kitchen at one of the townhomes at Columbia Brookside. Families interested in learning more about Columbia Brookside should call 706-369-6960 for the senior residences or 706-850-9675 for information about Phase 2 apartment homes.

Neighborhood Corner

Parkview Art Class



During the last several weeks, a number of youth from Parkview have participated in an art class at the community

center. This is the second year of the program conducted by Athens Academy student RaRa Williams. She was awarded a grant from the Anne Taylor Foundation to teach art in underserved neighborhoods. Last year's program was held at Broadacres. The art class meets twice a month. Recently, the group visited the Georgia Museum of Art on the University of Georgia campus and the High Museum of Art in Atlanta. The youth have shown a great interest in all kinds of art and have used a variety of materials to create their art work.

Farmers' Markets

Fresh garden produce is available at the the West Broad Street and the Athens Farmers Markets from now until mid-December. Located at the site of the former West Broad Street School, the market was started with the help of the Athens Land Trust. Vegetables are grown by a number of neighborhood gardeners. The market is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. The Athens Farmers Market is held at Bishop Park from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. Both markets offer special pricing for EBT cardholders. For seniors only, the Athens Area Council on Aging hosts the UGarden Produce Stand on Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Prices for fresh vegetables are \$2 a pound and \$1 a pound with an EBT card.

Summer Camps

Don't get left with nothing to do this summer. There are many opportunities for children and youth to enjoy themselves while school is out. Spaces are still available at ACC Leisure Services day camps at Parkview, Thomas Lay Park, Rock-

Community Center. Camp signups must be completed online. Watch the video on summer camp registration posted on the Leisure Services web site and on the AHA Facebook page for instructions. Most AHA families will qualify for scholarships. Call 706-616-3800 for more information and assistance with signups.

Other daycamps offered this summer include: **Boys and Girls Club** - call 706-546-5914 for information.

Athens Tutorial Program - call 706-354-1653 to learn about summer activities..

YWCO Girls Club - call 706-354-7880 for information.

Club Youth of the Year



Isiah Dotson of Parkview Ext. was named the H.T. Edwards Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year at the annual Steak and Steak dinner held at the Classic Center in April. Isiah attends Athens Christian School and is active in theater productions. He plays an active role at the Boys and Girls Club with helping to mentor younger members. Isiah is shown with his mother Marcia and sister Kimora.

Congratulations to...

Rocksprings resident and graduating Clarke Central senior, Fajr DeLane. Fajr was awarded a Gates Millennium Scholarship. She will attend Agnes Scott College in Atlanta this fall.

Free Little Libraries



A big thank you goes to LEAD Athens for donating two beautifully decorated Little Free Libraries and locating them at the Rocksprings Community Center and the Rocksprings Daycare Center.

LEAD Athens is a leadership training program run by the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce. Local businesses nominate employees to participate in the program. Participants identify needs in the community and work on projects to benefit those issues.

Several years ago, literacy was identified as a community issue and LEAD Athens participants began to install the Little Free Libraries at local business and neighborhoods in an effort to



encourage children, youth, and families to read together. This year's class selected the Rocksprings community as an area that would benefit from having a Little Library. Families are encouraged to donate gently used books for children, youth, and adults and to borrow and return books to maintain a good supply of reading materials for all. The Little Free Libraries at Rocksprings

are the 18th and 19th of the structures that LEAD Athens has installed around town.

To celebrate the new addition to the neighborhood, Rocksprings resident Jennine DeLane arranged a puppet show and a story time for neighborhood children. She encouraged them to read all summer long.

Since the libraries were installed, many children and youth have been spotted reading near the Little Libraries after school. Rocksprings is encouraged to become a Literacy Friendly Neighborhood as part of the program.

Little Free Libraries is a national program that promotes literacy and a love of reading.

Summer Lunch

The Summer Food Service Program will return this year when school is out to make certain all children and youth in Athens Clarke County have a nutritious lunch each day when school is out.

"Summer can be difficult on family budgets," says Dr. Geraldine Clarke, AHA Resident Support Director. "Many youth receive a free lunch during the school year. The Summer Food Service Program will ensure that lunch is available and free to all youth in our community from May 31st to July 15th."

Along with favorites such as pizza, hamburgers, and chicken filets, lunches will also include fruit and vegetables. AHA serving sites will include the community centers in Nellie B, Bonnie Lane, Tanyard Creek, and Towne View Place.

Another 30 serving sites will be located at summer day camps run by ACC Leisure Services, the Boys and Girls Clubs, the YWCO Girls Club, the YMCA, Athens Tutorial Program, and faith community programs in Athens and Winder. Children and youth not enrolled in the programs may attend lunch at any of the sites. Youth should arrive at the serving time and will be served lunch as additional meals are delivered each day. However, to make sure there is a lunch each time, families

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Summer Lunch

should let the site staff know how often the children will attend. All lunches must be consumed on site and the program is for children and youth aged three to 18 years.

This year, Dr. Clarke estimates that 50,000 lunches will be served. At the end of last summer, it was determined that over one million meals have been served since 1990 when AHA started sponsoring the Summer Food Service Program.

Information about the Summer Food Service Program was sent home from school with students. The list of serving sites will be listed on the AHA web site. In addition, families may call 706-425-5354 to learn more about this valuable community program.

There's no reason to miss out on eating healthy and saving money this summer.

Pool Season Begins

The ACC Leisure Services pool season begins on Sat., May 28 from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Pool hours will be 1 p.m. - 5:30 p.m, Tuesdays - Fridays and Sundays and from noon - 5:30 p.m. on Saturdays. The Bishop Park pool is open on weekends only due to maintenance work. Other pools are located at Rocksprings Recreation Center, East Athens Community Center, Memorial Park, and, Thomas Lay Park. Pool admission is \$1 per person. Individual pool passes are \$20 and a Family Pass (up to four) is \$40. All payments must be in cash.

ACC Leisure Services offers a Report Card Rewards program to honor students with good grades. Report cards must be provided for review to the Aquatics Center and those with A's and B's may qualify for a number of free swims. Call the Aquatics Center at 706-613-3589 ext. 226 for more information about the Report Card Rewards program.