

# HOUSING HEADLINES

A NEWSLETTER FOR RESIDENTS AND FRIENDS OF THE BHA



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## 70 Years of Service to the Community

The Bethlehem Housing Authority is celebrating 70 years of service to the community in 2009. In past issues of our newsletter, we have highlighted the many physical changes which have taken place since 1939. None of the changes and improvements could have occurred without the fine stewardship provided by the leaders of public housing during that time. From the time of its inception, BHA has been governed by a board of commissioners, appointed by elected officials. In the early years, these appointments were made by the governor. For a long time now, all appointments are made by the Mayor of Bethlehem. Commissioners serve staggered five year terms and they serve at the will of the Mayor. In recent years, HUD has mandated that at least one board member be a current resident of public housing. Commissioners are not paid for their service. By the time you read this article, the BHA board will have met, as always, on the second Monday of every month some 840 times since that first meeting back in 1939! Here is a listing of all of the men and women who have served the interests of the low-income community. ▲



Current commissioners include George Samuelson, Iris Linares, Chairman David Sanders, Dorothy Saby and Joseph Long.

**LIST OF COMMISSIONERS:**

DATE	APPOINTMENTS
4/26/38	John F. Stefko, Samuel E. Fishburn, Wm. C. Bader, Robert Pfeiffe, Andrew W. Litzenberger
2/5/41	Colonel William R. Coyle, Weir Jepsen
5/26/41	Merritt S. Kriedler
9/10/45	Henri A. Bodder
1/14/46	George W. Sides
9/28/49	Louis A. Villard
6/28/50	Marvin M. Steyers
7/11/55	J. Robert Judd
4/14/58	Fred B. Rooney
7/8/55	Milton Greenberg
7/17/59	George A. Kotich
3/11/64	George J. Desh
9/13/65	Charles G. Stehly
1/8/67	Rev. Frank Flisser
6/14/71	Timothy D. Mead
9/13/71	Robert F. Czopoth
9/17/73	William J. Werpehowski
4/8/74	Joseph Albanese
2/13/78	Victor M. Garcia, William L. Gorcsan, Robert J. Donchez
1/10/83	James J. McCarthy
4/14/86	Dolores W. Caskey
11/30/87	Daniel Harrigan
3/14/88	Dr. Leonard A. Wenzel
4/10/89	Dr. Mahlon H. Hellerich
5/14/90	Sergia Montz
8/11/94	*Teresa Negron
3/13/95	John C. Cornish
2/9/98	Robert F. Czopoth
9/13/99	Larry Kisslinger
8/10/01	*Barbara McNeely Fains
11/13/01	Regino Cora
3/11/02	Eugene Learn
11/01/02	Joseph Long
3/8/04	David Sanders
1/11/05	*Paul Reitmeir
1/8/07	Iris Linares
3/12/07	George Samuelson
4/21/09	*Dorothy Saby

\*Resident Commissioner



BETHLEHEM HOUSING AUTHORITY

645 Main Street Bethlehem, PA 18018

610-865-8300

Fax: 610-865-8318

TDD 610-865-8333

www.bha645.com





## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

Grandmother's, Mother's, Sister's, Aunt's, all have something in common. They worry about their families. Now it is time for all of us to encourage these nurturers to take care of themselves. BHA has partnered with the YWCA of Bethlehem, to offer to women over 40 years of age, information on breast cancer awareness. This program includes a free mammogram, which will be offered by the Bethlehem Health Bureau.

You will soon be receiving an invitation to attend an educational program, at our Community Building, which will involve refreshments, a raffle and most important, a free mammogram.

We encourage women age 40 and older to get regular mammograms for early detection of breast cancer, when it is most curable.



*Clara A. Keady*



## FIRST TEE PARTICIPANTS ATTEND U.S. WOMAN'S OPEN

By Robbie Robinson

**ON** July 7th, Tom Fenstermacher and Hector Alvarez joined me as we took sixteen of our golf program participants to the U.S. Woman's Open golf tournament, which was held here in Bethlehem. The kids had a great time interacting with the pros and they were very impressed by the beautiful Saucon Valley Country Club, to say the least. There was also an opportunity to attend an event called "Celebration of Women in Sports", presented by the Women's Sports Foundation. Special speakers were on hand and the kids had a chance to meet the stars and get autographs. From there it was on to the Kid's Café for lunch. The day also included time at the driving range where we were able to see the lady golfers demonstrate their considerable skills. My thanks go to the law firm of Fitzpatrick, Lentz & Bubba and to my contact at the firm Laurie Teeter for all of their help in putting this together. ▲



Monocacy tenant Irma Soares finds that the new front-load washing machines are much easier for her to use.

### HARIE SCHOLARSHIP WINNER IS A FAMILIAR FACE

Each year, BHA students have opportunities to earn scholarship money. This year Danel Alvarado of Lynfield was awarded a \$3,000 scholarship for tuition and books from BHA and his application was also forwarded to The Housing And Redevelopment Insurance Exchange (HARIE), and he was chosen as recipient of their \$1,000 cash award. Our congratulations once again go to Danel, who was competing with students from across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.







# HIGHRISE HIGHLIGHTS

MILLIE MATOS

**At Monocacy Tower** the new tenant council has reinstated "hot dog day" each Thursday. Stop down any Thursday during the noon hour for a tasty treat.

**We have recently partnered** with Lehigh University on what they call their "Global Citizenship" program. When it's up and running this fall, a group of freshmen will be on hand working one on one with residents of the Litzenberger House with a goal of building mutual trust, finding key points where students and residents can interact, and of course, provide service.

**My lease tip** for this issue involves "Late Charges". Save yourself these charges by remembering that a \$15.00 charge is assessed for rent paid after the fifth day of the month. Also, your rent will be considered unpaid when a check is returned at NSF. If you ever have any questions about this topic or any others, contact CHOO at 610-865-8352. ▲



On August 15th, the staff gathered at Dankeplatz during Musikfest for what has become an annual event. The Musikfest Luncheon is a great opportunity for the staff to gather in an informal setting and enjoy a nice lunch in festive surroundings. The staff and commissioners enjoyed the Mexican-themed food and the camaraderie.







**FIELD DAY**

This year, we held our Field Day on August 15th. The theme was a celebration of BHA's 70th anniversary. As the pictures indicate, a great time was had by all. Many thanks go out to all sponsors and volunteers.





## CONSTRUCTION CHECK LIST

CURT KICHLINE

As the busy summer season draws to a close, I can provide this update. **Marvine** reconstruction continues for 36 apartments. Storm window installation at **Lynfield** is complete, as is window replacement at **Parkridge**. Work on the new roofs is done at **Fairmount**. Energy Performance Contract work moves ahead in all developments. One of the more obvious jobs is the extensive insulation at **Pembroke**. Workers are removing bricks in strategic areas and introducing insulation between wall cavities. This should have a dramatic effect on resident comfort and on energy costs. ▲

## BHA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Quite a few years ago, the Bethlehem Housing Authority commissioners and executive director had an idea for some money they wished to invest. Following a discussion it was decided that the money would be set



aside to be used to provide educational scholarships for BHA residents. The money has grown and a scholarship committee has annually awarded money to deserving students who reside in public housing here in Bethlehem. "We gladly continue this proud tradition of helping young people to achieve the goal of higher education", said chairman David Sanders recently. At the May board meeting, three young people received their BHA scholarships. They are Marvel Merejo, Jessica Santana and Danel Alvarado. Pictured here at the July meeting receiving Eighth Grade scholarship awards are twin sisters Shantelle and Siani Jeffries. With the young ladies are Committee members BHA vice chair Iris Linares (right) and Helen Jarinko (left). If you would like more information about the BHA scholarship program, contact Helen Jarinko at 610-865-8312. ▲



Once again this season, Monocacy, Bartholomew and Bodder residents had the good fortune of receiving fresh fruit, vegetables and eggs from Baarda Farms. Here, Monocacy residents peruse the selection during the "Veggie Van's" June visit.



Northampton Community College's Center for Adult Literacy & Basic Workforce Development held its annual celebration of achievement on June 18, 2009 at the Northeast Middle School auditorium. The Center offers basic education and GED preparation classes for people seeking to further their education and improve the quality of their lives. Three BHA residents who participate in the NCC-sponsored Learning Program at Bartholomew House were among those receiving certificates. They are Philomena Fritchman, Karen Petrill and Anastasia Polenchar.

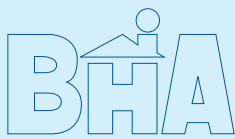




Bethlehem Housing Authority  
 645 Main Street  
 Bethlehem, PA 18018-3899



PRSRT STD  
 US POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 LEHIGH VALLEY PA  
 PERMIT #121



**ADMINISTRATION**

Clara A. Kendy,  
*Executive Director*  
 Helen Jarinko,  
*Executive Secretary*  
 Mark Iampietro,  
*Deputy Director*  
 Eugene Gonzalez,  
*Deputy Director*

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

David Sanders  
*Chairman*  
 Iris Linares  
*Vice Chairman*  
 Joseph Long  
 George Samuelson  
 Dorothy Saby  
*Resident Commissioner*



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
 SO YOU DON'T  
 MISS OUT ON THESE  
 MEETINGS  
 AND ACTIVITIES!

- Nov. 9..... Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m.,  
 Monocacy Tower
- Nov. 11..... Office closed for Veterans Day
- Nov. 12..... Resident Advisory Board Annual  
 Meeting
- Nov. 26-27..... Office closed for Thanksgiving
- Dec. 14..... Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m.,  
 Monocacy Tower
- Dec. 25-28..... Office closed for Christmas

**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

- Central Office ..... 610-865-8300
- Central Highrise Operations Office (CHOO) Litzenberger, Bodder,  
 Bartholomew and Monocacy Towers..... 610-865-8352  
 OR 610-865-8353
- Central Family Development Office Pembroke, Marvine, Fairmount,  
 Pfeifle, Lynfield and Parkridge ..... 610-865-8342  
 OR 610-865-8343
- Maintenance ..... 610-865-8319