



February 2017

HOUSING HAPPENINGS



Crossville Housing Authority

67 Irwin Ave.

Crossville, TN 38555

(931) 484-2990

crossvillehousing.org



Emergency Numbers

Weekends and after hours:

931-287-5206

931-287-5072



Gateway:

931-484-4546

DHS:

931-484-2573



UCHRA:

931-456-0691

From Don's Desk

Laughter gives us distance. It allows us to step back from an event, deal with it and then move on.

Bob Newhart

Bob Newhart is one of my favorite television personalities. Bob is a stand-up comedian and had a TV series in the 70s, another in the 80s and one that did not last very long in the 90s. He also played on the Simpsons, ER, The Big Bang Theory, and in several Disney movies. He has a very low-key persona that I enjoy. He's right, life without the ability to laugh is no life at all.

It may not seem like it now but spring is here or will be. So, as we all know, when spring comes we start planning spring inspections. This year I will not be inspecting. Kathy Vanlandingham and Donna Parker will be taking on those duties. There will be a schedule in next months newsletter and more scheduling in later editions. Inspection time is a good time for us. We get to see old friends and meet new ones. As mentioned in an earlier edition, about 30% of the people living in Crossville Housing Authority properties did not live with us 12 months ago, and have never been through our inspection process. So for these people, allow me go through the process.

As stipulated by housing authority policy and HUD, we are required to annually inspect every unit we own or manage. These inspections are to ensure that the dwelling units are in good physical condition, that the maintenance department is working properly, and

that the residents are keeping the units in a safe and sanitary living condition. We always schedule the inspections well in advance so no one is surprised. The schedule is announced in the newsletter and we send a letter to every household prior to the inspections. In spite of all of these resident notification efforts, we show up and often hear someone say "I didn't know you were coming". So please if you have a new neighbor, let them know that the inspections are coming.

Every year we will have about 5% of the inspected units that will not pass for a single item. Often that is a dirty stove or bathroom. This does not make us happy. It adds to our work load and consumes valuable time. Sometimes a house is so dirty that we simple fail the house. If that happens we will give the family one more chance. If they do not pass the second time they lose their house. This is the last thing we want to do, but every year there is a handful of people who we will be forced to take this position with. Don't let that be you!



Don Alexander



ATTENTION RESIDENTS
 MAINTENANCE WILL BE CHANGING ALL AIR FILTERS DURING THE MONTH OF FEB. THERE IS NO SET SCHEDULED TIME AND WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SCHEDULE A TIME FOR YOU.
THANK YOU



February Horoscope The two zodiac signs associated with February are Aquarius and Pisces. Those born from February 1st to February 18th are members of the Aquarius zodiac signs. Members of the Aquarius can be identified by their unique style and their flowing personalities. For people born February 19th to February 28th/29th, they are born under the influence of the Pisces sign. The Pisces is a dreamer, but luckily their determination can turn far-off dreams to tangible realities. For more horoscope fun visit: <http://www.famousbirthdays.com/horoscope>

RESIDENTS

The height limit for a dog is 15" from its shoulder. If you are the owner of a dog larger than our limit, you must find it a new home, or face possible eviction.



Thank you.

Janet Collins

The BEST gift you can give yourself



Call 484-5446 or stop by the Career Center!



Updated Thursday, January 21, 2017



REMINDER: NO TRESPASSING POLICY

It will be a serious violation of the lease to allow any such person on or near the dwelling unit after notice to the resident of the person's name and nature of trespass notice.

The following people are not allowed on Crossville Housing Authority property:

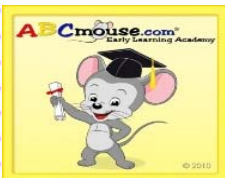
- | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Michael Almonrode | Joseph Harris | Randy Floyd | Kozzi Christopher Cole | Christina Ann Randolph | Christopher Lee Taylor |
| Tracy Wright | Cody Rector | Michael Schebel | Mary Talley | Marcus Clarnie Melear | Mark Connolly |
| Bobby Worthington | Jean Ann Cowen | Shawn Ridener | Elicia Rollins | Billy Ray Rollins | Pamela Copley |
| Kelsey Findley | Brandy Campbell | Chole Harris | Chad Roland | Kimberly Hall | |

Resident News from Becky Davis

There will be a Resident Services, Security, Maintenance and Occupancy meeting on **Thursday February 16th at 10:00 a.m. at Gateway Education Center**. We will discuss services and programs of the housing authority, Janet will be here to discuss security, Benny will be speaking about maintenance issues and Donna Parker will be speaking. We welcome any comments or suggestions. This is an excellent time to let us know of services or programs that would benefit your family. Please come out and join us. There will be a drawing for a door prize. The time spent at these meetings will count toward community service hours.

If you are a young adult between the ages of 18 and 24 years old and would like to attend college or a technical school you could be eligible for assistance with fees, books, uniforms, tools, travel money and work experience. There is a new program called "Out of School Youth Program". If you would like more information please call Pat Phillips or Janice Cole at 484-7456.

Our Learning Works children participated in a study on Martin Luther King. The children watched a video of the life of King and Rosa Parks, read stories, did crafts and answered questions. This has become a much anticipated annual event for our kids.



Remember if you would like a free subscription to ABC Mouse for your child please call Becky or Ferlin at Gateway. It is available on computers, tablets, and smartphones. There are thousands of learning activities that are targeted to your child's age and learning ability. Full access to the site can be used at Gateway any time, but your child can also do activities at home. If you are interested or have questions call Becky at 484-4546.

Love to read? Check out our little library's! They are set up at various locations, call Becky for more info. Also, get your child started on a reading adventure of their own. Dolly's Imagination Library, offers free books to children 5 and under. Register at: www.imaginationlibrary.com

Becky

New tax laws are in effect! If you are claiming Earned Income Tax Credit and/or Additional Child Tax Credit **your refund will not be available until after February 15th or later** depending on when you file. DON'T pay to get your taxes done and DON'T get sucked into the rapid refunds— these are loans at a high interest rate or flat rate which can end up costing you hundreds of dollars. Be patient, **get your taxes done free**, and arrange for direct deposit into your bank account.

IT'S TAX TIME!

Don't spend your money on the promise of a fast return that could end up costing you hundreds of dollars. **AARP** is offering **FREE tax preparation services** for low and moderate income families. The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide volunteers are trained and **IRS-certified** each year to ensure their knowledge of revisions to the U.S. tax code. Including E.I.T.C's & A.C.T.C's (Earned income Tax Credits/Additional Child Tax Credit) and have saved taxpayers across the States combined totals of millions of dollars.

This **FREE service** will be offered at the Art Circle Library, 3 East Street, Crossville, TN., beginning on or about **February 2nd, 2017** on Thursdays & Fridays 9am to 3pm, through March. You **MUST** make an appointment by calling: **(931) 707-3314**. Don't wait until the last minute, call now to schedule. They will only be at this location for a limited time. Other tax preparation sites are available. You can locate them by going to: <https://secure.aarp.org/applications/VMISLocator/searchTaxAideLocations.action>. Search by County, the zip code locator does not function properly, or please check the FSS Facebook page for dates and locations or call Brenda Hays at (931) 484-2990 ext. 1030.

www.Facebook.com/CHAFSS



Great Bargains

If you are looking for bargains, from clothes to furniture, gifts, etc. Be a thrifty shopper. Check out some of the area thrift stores listed here, that help our community.

Habitat Re-Store-McLarty Ln. at Dooley St.

Good Samaritans-Tenth St. (near Miller Ave)

Hilltoppers-E. First St. (Old Library)

Avalon 2nd Chance-Crossville Outlet Mall

Threads of Hope-in Woodmere Mall

VORP Vintage Resale & Thrift Shop

2625 N. Main St. In back-next to Crossville Mem. Funeral Home.

Bread of Life Thrift Store-356 West Ave.

Be a \$mart \$hopper for a good cause!



- It's that time of year again when we have to start thinking about frost, snow and ice. I have looked at a few websites and these are a few of the most common tips for keeping our cars free of the wintery elements.
- Cover it.** Simple as that and it works the best. By keeping your windshield protected from the elements, you can prevent ice build-up, frost, or snow from ever touching the glass. Car mats, carpet remnants and cardboard work great. If you have it, use a large tarp-but just remember-this can be really heavy to take off if there has been a big snow. If only we all had a garage!
- Prevent it.** I don't think I would want to bother with a large tarp or worrying if the other stuff blew off my car; so I'm leaning toward the deicers found on the Dollar Stretcher for a safe, non-toxic, ice retarding concoction.
- Recipe:** Simply mix 3 parts vinegar and 1 part water in a spray bottle. Apply to all the car windows (including side and rear) before going to bed at night. Worth a try, right?!
- Remove it.** A good scraper can do amazing things, but add that with a homemade de-icing mixture and you will find it easy-peasy! Here are two more recipes found on the Stretcher site.
- Recipe #1:** Mix one part water to two parts rubbing alcohol. Apply to the window and watch it peel right off!
- Recipe #2:** Use a bottle of 70% isopropyl alcohol (50% works, too, but not as well) with a few drops of dish soap. Apply liberally to the glass with a spray bottle.
- Personally I don't know what the difference is between 70%, 50% or rubbing alcohol vs. isopropyl. I just know I usually have rubbing alcohol on hand so I think recipe 1 sounds the easiest.



HUD Inspections

The Department of Housing and Urban Development will be here March 1-3 for public housing inspections. If you are a public housing resident, please prepare for this important inspection!

You will receive a letter with more information later.



FURNITURE STORE

The CHA furniture store has good used bargains! It is located at Goodwin Circle behind the baseball field.

Open By Appointment only.

Please call Gateway Education Center at 484-4546



The Caregivers

Are you receiving home health care services?

Do you know that *The Caregivers* can provide that service for you? We strive to provide service to our clients that's graced with the virtues of integrity, compassion, and patience.

If you need assistance with personal hygiene, light housekeeping, shopping, errands, etc., give Ragenia a call at **484-4546** for a free consultation. Services may be provided free to you by your insurance.



HOMEOWNERSHIP IS POSSIBLE

NEW BEGINNINGS

Self-Help Housing Program



If you are like a lot of us, the New Year brings many resolutions...losing weight, eating better, exercising more... these are resolutions I make every year. Some years I do better than others. But that's the beautiful thing about New Years—it's a New Beginning.

A couple of years ago, I had a lot of medical debt. I mean A LOT. Drowning in this debt, I resolved to get out of it. I knew I would be getting a tax refund, so I thought I could make some headway by using that. Believe me, there were MANY things I dreamed of doing with that refund! I wanted to go on vacation, wanted to see my family and friends in Seattle—wanted new furniture. Instead, my husband and I decided to bite the bullet and pay off the medical debt. It was, in all honesty, the best thing we ever did. Not only did we rid ourselves of the debt, putting us in a better credit position, but we achieved peace of mind.

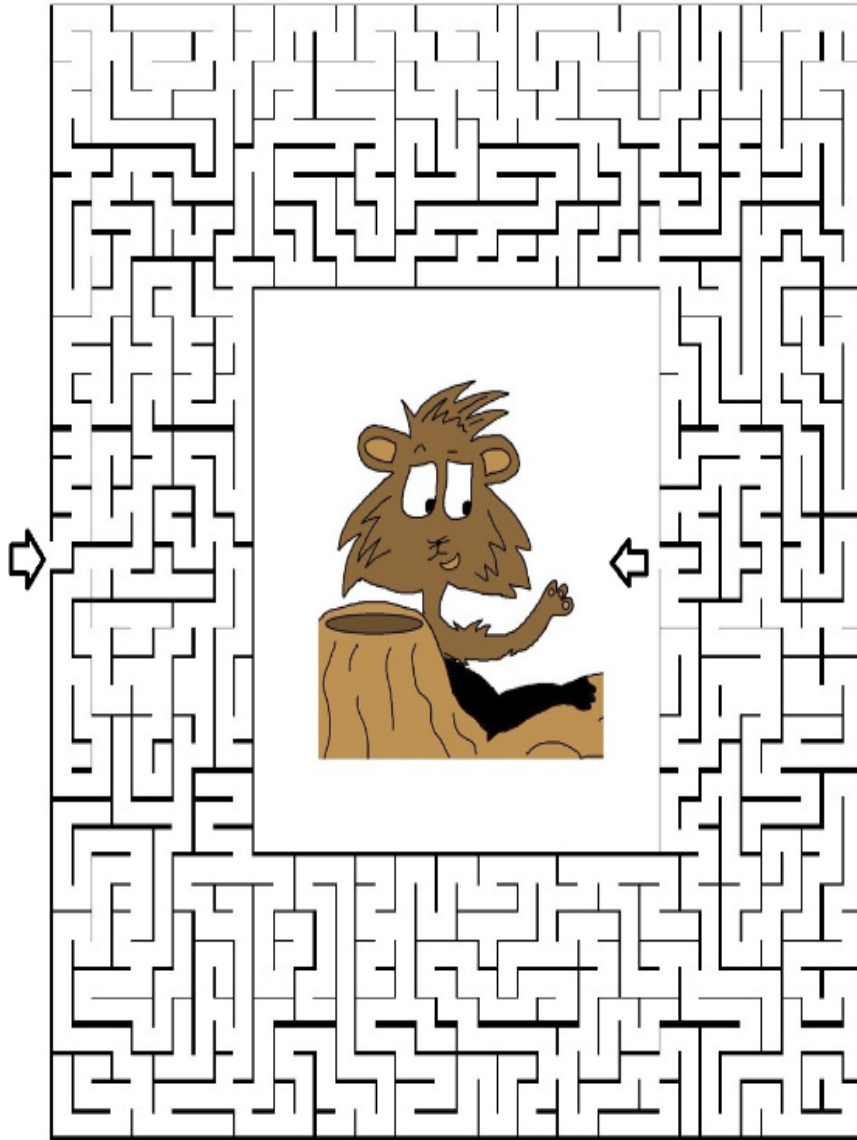
As tax time approaches, it is tempting to get that refund as quickly as possible...and spend it on those things that we need or want, without really thinking. One of the easiest ways is through "rapid refund" options. Please use caution. Many of these "rapid refunds" are actually very high interest rate loans. How high? Upwards of 100% APR. Meaning if you had a refund of \$1500 coming, you might be paying about \$72.00 for the service. That's a lot of money! Especially when you are only talking a few days between the "rapid refund" and the date your refund would actually come back from the IRS. Think about that extra money—almost a hundred dollars... what could you do with that? If you are not sure about filing taxes, there are agencies here in Cumberland County that specifically work with elderly and low income residents to assist them with their taxes—and those services are free!

Here at New Beginnings, we offer FREE budgeting and credit counseling. We don't tell you what to spend your money on...but we will help you get yourself and your family in the best financial health possible. I encourage you—if you are getting that refund, think about those bills that are preventing you from achieving your goals. I promise you, the satisfaction you get from knowing you have a good credit history will outweigh the short-term feeling you get spending your refund. And even better—knowing you can buy or build the house of your dreams, will be the best feeling ever! I know, because I've been there, and I can't wait to help you get there, too! Your New Beginning is just a phone call away!

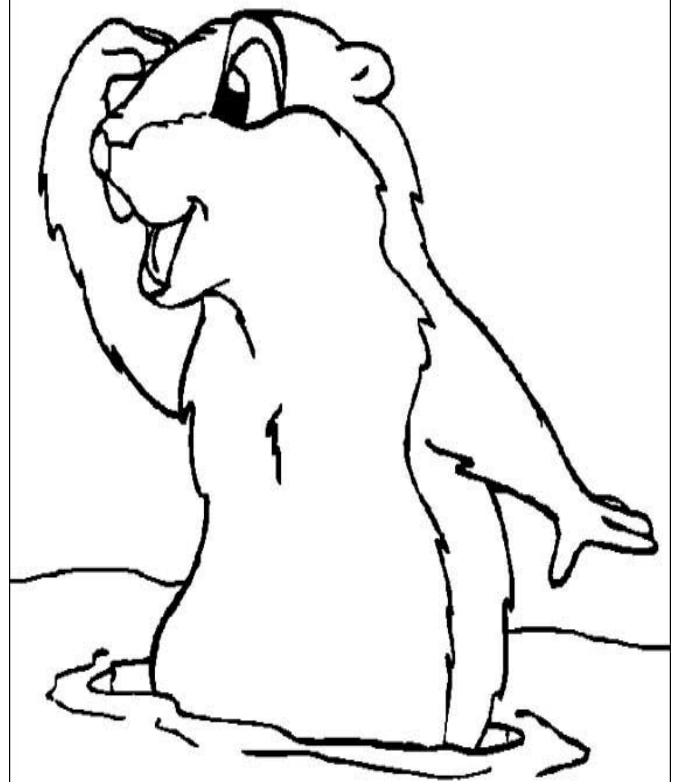
Be Blessed!

Stace Karge
Housing Counselor

Fun Page



Happy Groundhog Day!



COLOR ME FUN

<http://www.educationalcoloringpages.com>

Find the words in the list hidden in the puzzle grid below.



- | | |
|------------|------------|
| ARROW | KISS |
| BOUQUET | LETTER |
| BOW | LOVE |
| CAKE | MAILBOX |
| CANDLE | NECKLACE |
| CANDY | PARTY |
| CARD | PERFUME |
| CELEBRATE | PINK |
| CHOCOLATE | PRESENT |
| CUPID | RED |
| DANCE | RING |
| DEAR | ROSES |
| DIAMOND | SAINT |
| FAMILY | SMILE |
| FEBRUARY | SWEETHEART |
| FLOWERS | SWEETS |
| FOURTEENTH | TEDDY BEAR |
| FRIENDS | TRADITION |
| GIFTS | VALENTINE |
| HEARTS | WEDDING |
| HONEY | WHITE |
| HUG | WINK |

Q: WHAT DO YOU CALL TWO BIRDS IN LOVE?

A: TWEET-HEARTS.



Q: WHAT DID THE STAMP SAY TO THE ENVELOPE ON VALENTINE'S DAY?

A: I'M STUCK ON YOU.

Q: WHAT DID THE CALCULATOR SAY TO THE PENCIL ON VALENTINE'S DAY?

A: YOU CAN COUNT ON ME.

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			Resident Council Food Pantry Wednesdays 11:30-12:30	2 GROUNDHOG DAY February 2nd AC) TAE KWON DO 5:30-8 PM CROSSVILLE BOXING CLUB 7-8:30	3	4
5	6 AC) TAE KWON DO 5:30-8 PM CROSSVILLE BOXING CLUB 7-8:30	7 AC) TAE KWON DO 5:30-8 PM CROSSVILLE BOXING CLUB 7-8:30 RENT TAKEN AT SPRING CITY 11am to 12 noon	8 HA Activity Ctr. Res. Council Food Bank 11:30am. BRING BOX AC) FENCING 6:30-8:30PM	9 AC) TAE KWON DO 5:30-8 PM CROSSVILLE BOXING CLUB 7-8:30	10 LAST DAY TO PAY RENT WITHOUT LATE FEE	11 AC) Young Marines 10-4
12	13 AC) TAE KWON DO 5:30-8 PM CROSSVILLE BOXING CLUB 7-8:30	14 AC) TAE KWON DO 5:30-8 PM CROSSVILLE BOXING CLUB 7-8:30 Happy Valentines Day	15 HA Activity Ctr. Res. Council Food Bank 11:30am. BRING BOX AC) FENCING 6:30-8:30PM	16 AC) TAE KWON DO 5:30-8 PM CROSSVILLE BOXING CLUB 7-8:30	17 (CHA) Resident Council Meeting 10 a.m.	18
19	20 AC) TAE KWON DO 5:30-8 PM CROSSVILLE BOXING CLUB 7-8:30	21 AC) TAE KWON DO 5:30-8 PM CROSSVILLE BOXING CLUB 7-8:30 CARE CLOSET 10am-12pm (Twin Oaks)	22 HA Activity Ctr. Res. Council Food Bank 11:30am. BRING BOX AC) FENCING 6:30-8:30PM	23 AC) TAE KWON DO 5:30-8 PM CROSSVILLE BOXING CLUB 7-8:30	24	25 AC) Young Marines 10-4
26	27 AC) TAE KWON DO 5:30-8 PM CROSSVILLE BOXING CLUB 7-8:30	28 AC) TAE KWON DO 5:30-8 PM CROSSVILLE BOXING CLUB 7-8:30				

Crossville Housing Authority
 67 Irwin Avenue
 P.O. Box 425
 Crossville, TN 38555
 Phone: 931-484-2990
 Fax: 931-456-1513

crossvillehousing.org

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Read me! It's good stuff!

If Undeliverable, Do Not Return.

CHA Resident Council Care Closet Helps with Cleaning & Personal Hygiene Needs



The Care Closet program is open to Public Housing, Twin Oaks and Willowwood residents who are in need of cleaning and personal hygiene items.

The Care Closet is held on the third Tuesday of each month from 10AM to NOON at the Twin Oaks building on Mitchell Blvd., off of Wayne Ave.

Those needing assistance must register for the program once, and are issued a card to pick-up supplies. Those who are not elderly or disabled are requested to provide volunteer time to their neighbors, church, or a local non-profit agency.



The groundhog plays a little game.
 (Woodchuck is his other name.)
 If he finds no shadow here,
 Spring is very, very near.
 But if he sees his shadow small,
 Winter isn't done at all,
 And back into his hole he'll creep
 For six more weeks of winter sleep.

