

Peabody Post

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November 2005



**Community
and
Supportive
Services
Team**

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Newsletter Contents:

Reminders	1
Ashley Station	2
NeighborWorks®	3
Boys and Girls Club	3
Savings Ideas	4
Resident Spotlight	5
Vision of the South	6

DON'T MISS THE MEETING!!

There will be a very important meeting on Thursday, November 10th, 2005 at 5:30pm in the Warren Williams Community Room. This meeting will provide the information you need to move into Ashley Station, the new community where Peabody was located, once the construction is complete. Former Peabody residents will be given first priority to apply if they indicate they would like to return, but ***YOU MUST ATTEND THIS MEETING!***

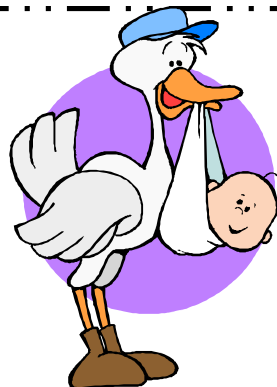
In order to qualify to move back on site you must meet the Eligibility and Screening Criteria (*see page 2*). Transportation is available! Pick-up will take place at the following rental offices:

Chase and BTW	4:45 pm
E. Canty and Wilson	5:00 pm
Farley	5:15 pm
Nicholson Terrace	5:20 pm



Ashley Station

For more information, contact your Family Advocate at 649-6507, ext 350. If you miss a meeting, you might miss your chance to move back!



Had a Visit from the Stork?

Congratulations! Let your Housing Manager know! By providing information on your little bundle of joy, you may be entitled to a larger apartment. You will also need to have this information on file to speed up the process for Childcare Assistance through Community and Supportive Services. Notify your Manager today or contact your Family Advocate for more information.

We hope that you are preparing to return to Ashley Station, the new Community at the former Peabody site.

Please remember the following:

Rents will be affordable, just like in HACG Public Housing.

HACG can assist you to move into the new community.

All families will be required to meet the Eligibility and Screening Criteria.

Please call your Family Advocate to discuss how you can meet the screening and eligibility criteria to be qualified to return to the new community. Family Advocates can assist you to resolve some of these issues.

- | **Credit History** – If you have concerns about your credit record, including a record of eviction, judgment, or significant debt that would reduce ability to pay rent, please call for a credit counseling appointment.
- | **Criminal History** – If you or a member of your family have a record of past or current criminal activity, Family Advocates can work with you.
- | **Property Manager Verification** – If you are having trouble with rental payments, please call for a budget/finance counseling appointment.
- | **Utility Verification** – If your utility payments are frequently late or not up-to-date, you may be a candidate for budget billing, a level payment plan for utility expenses. Family Advocates can help explain this program to you.
- | **Lease Compliance** – Remember that you must stay in compliance with your current lease. This includes property damage, housekeeping, substance or alcohol abuse, disturbances, unauthorized persons, etc.
- | **Home Visits** – An inspection of your current home will be completed before you are eligible for the new community. If you need assistance with housekeeping responsibilities, please call for information.
- | **Employment** – Remember that adult members of your household need to be employed. (Some adults may be considered exempt from employment based on disability, training, educational attendance, etc) Family Advocates have information on job training and placement.

The time to do this is **NOW**. Construction is planned to begin soon. All families will have to meet the return criteria to be considered for occupancy.



**Family Advocates
may be reached at
(706) 649-6507 ext. 350**



Drawings of how Ashley Station will look after construction.

NeighborWorks® Columbus offers:

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North Columbus Branch




BOYS & GIRLS CLUB



A United Way Agency

The Positive Place For Kids

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1	2	3 Staff Meeting 6:00p.m. Culture Day (Japan)	4
7 Last week to sign-up for youth basketball	8 Election Day	9 Inter Club Fine Arts Day	10 Microsoft Anniversary (1983)	11 Last Day to Sign – Up for Youth Basketball Soc. Rec. Tournament Veteran’s Day No School
14 National Children’s Book Week	15 Early Release Day Students Leave at 1:15p.m.	16	17 Thanksgiving Dinner Day North Columbus 	18
21 National Game & Puzzle Week Bingo Tournament	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Day	25
Club Closed-Thanksgiving Holiday School Break				
28	29	30 All 2004 –2005 Membership Expires		

*****NEWS FLASH *** NEWS FLASH***NEWS FLASH ***NEWS FLASH*****

Club membership rates have changed! The membership cost is now \$20.00 for all new and old members. Registration will begin on Thursday, December 1st 2005.

Basketball Registration for Youth ages 6-8, ages 9-10, 11-12, 13-14 and 15 & up will end on Friday, November 11, 2005. There will be a \$10.00 charge for each child participating, which will cover the cost of the player’s jersey.

Want to join our Youth Jr. NBA or Jr. WNBA teams? You can! Contact Mr. Owens for more information about all that’s taking place at the Club. Call (706)323-1743 TODAY!

Financial Savings Ideas



How many of you are in debt? Do you owe friends or family money? Studies have shown that America is in more debt than ever before. We need better ways to make and keep more of the money we have. If you have a problem with overspending, high credit card debt, or are constantly dealing with unexpected emergencies, this is for you!

In order to relieve yourself from some financial stress, you must set financial goals. The goals don't have to be big and they should start out small until you are comfortable enough to increase them. If you wait until you have more money before you begin saving, you will never save. Each time you are paid, set aside \$10 or \$20. Treat it like a bill and pay yourself. Take that money and place it in a financial institution. If you are paid every two weeks, by saving just \$20 from each paycheck you will have saved almost \$500 by the end of the year! You could use that money to make Christmas shopping a little easier.

Another great way to save money is by having a Family Movie Night or Family Game Night. By playing games or renting movies and having pizza or popcorn at home, you can save money by not going out and also enjoy quality time with your family. If you are really great at doing something such as braiding hair, turn that into a business! You can take classes at Columbus Tech and begin learning skills that can help you with your own business.

If you don't already do so, start writing down a list of everything that you must pay for during the month. The list should have items such as your savings account bill (which we discussed earlier), rent, utilities, food, transportation expenses, and childcare expenses to name a few. Create a budget of what each item usually costs. Then write the amount that is listed on the bill. If you get in the habit of doing this every month, you can see where your money is going and ways you can cut back and start saving. For example, if you set the thermostat in your home to 72 instead of 75, you can lower your bill by 15%. Especially now that electric and natural gas rates are already beginning to rise, monitoring that thermostat will be your key to controlling your utility bill. It really can add up.

If you think that 2006 is your year to become financially free and you are ready to make a change in the way you have been spending money, then give our office a call. We have access to many agencies in Columbus that will sit down with you one on one and create a financial plan that is designed for your needs and financial goals. Sure, you could win the lottery, but until that happens, call us today at 649-6507 ext 350. You can have more and improve your way of life!



Resident Spotlight - *Ms. Anita Seay*



At home with Ms. Anita Seay.

The last spotlight for the year will be devoted to Ms. Anita Seay (pronounced as 'say'). Ms. Seay was nominated by her Family Advocate, Doris White-Miles because she is constantly striving for self-improvement.

Ms. Seay has a long list of accomplishments. Currently, she is a full-time employee with Groome Transportation. Groome is a shuttle service which provides transportation anywhere from Columbus to the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, making stops in Lagrange and Fort Benning. Not everyone will qualify to work at Groome. One must have a valid driver's license, clean motor vehicle record, and pass a drug screening test. Ms. Seay had no problem

meeting all those requirements.

Ms. Seay credits Ms. Bell Powell, a Career Counselor at Goodwill, for telling her about the job opening at Groome. Ms. Seay was introduced to Ms. Powell after her Family Advocate referred her to Goodwill for the Work Adjustment Training Program. "Ms. Powell took me to Groome so that I could complete my application. I am glad she did because I love my job!", exclaimed Ms. Seay. She is also thankful for her Family Advocate. "Ms. Miles helps me a lot. Whenever I need to talk she always has encouraging words for me. When I was moving from Peabody, she would go with me to different places when I was looking for a home."

Another major accomplishment for Ms. Seay, is the fact that she has raised three successful children. She has always told her children that, "just because you live in the projects, doesn't mean that you have to fit the quota. You can do better." Those words were taken to heart and her children, two teenagers, Robert and Shenita, and another older daughter, Tonya, are making their Mom very proud! Robert and Shenita both attend Jordan High School and are straight- A students and have maintained perfect attendance, while Tonya is enrolled at Columbus Technical College and is studying to become an Accountant. She has one grandchild from daughter Tonya. Her 8 year old grand-daughter, Tatyana, is following their examples and also has straight A's! Needless to say, Tatyana is "Granny's baby" and she is off to a great start!

While Ms. Seay is looking forward to homeownership one day, she says that she wants to focus on other priorities first. Those include going back to school and purchasing a car. She's not rushing homeownership because she wants to work at Groome a little while longer so that she can make the move when the time is right. In Ms. Seay, her Family Advocate Ms. Miles sees a lot of potential, "I am proud of the accomplishments she has made through Community and Supportive Services. She has always shown a willingness to work and achieve. I look forward to hearing more positive things from her in the future."

There is no doubt that we will. You and your family are all positive examples of how hard work and dedication are possible. We wish you and your family continued success.

Community and Supportive Services

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