

The mission of the Greensboro Housing Authority is to provide safe, quality, affordable housing to low-income, elderly, and the disabled in the Greensboro Community; to maintain a safe and secure community environment; and to encourage personal responsibility and upward mobility of residents while maintaining the fiscal integrity of the agency.

# INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Okoro gives back 2

Hill is newest 2
Board member

Avoid costly 3 repairs

Applications 3 accepted

Smoke detectors 3 save lives

RAD Update 3

Girl Scouting locations

### **Greensboro Housing Authority**

# **Community News**

WINTER 2015

### Otis Wilson Honored for Service to GHA

Greensboro Housing Authority (GHA) Board of Commissioners and executive staff joined together to recognize and thank Otis Wilson for his years of service on December 15. 2014. Wilson was appointed to the GHA board in June 2004 and was elected chairman on December 7. 2006. He contributed ten vears of dedicated service to the housing authority and provided leadership during the conversion of Morningside Homes public housing to a mixed-income community through the use of HOPE VI funds. During his ten-year tenure, Wilson also led the agency in the acquisition of four new public housing properties and the completion of major renovations to Hampton Stoneridge and Homes. Claremont Courts public housing communities.

Wilson has been a tireless supporter of agencies who serve to benefit residents of the Greensboro area and has served on numerous boards including United Way of Greater Greensboro, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Human Relations



Otis Wilson, GHA Chairperson from 2006-2014

Commission for the City of Greensboro, the YMCA and Community Foundation of Greensboro. He is a retired director of Translucent Technologies and volunteered his business expertise to assist facilities management at Mt. Zion Church and was instrumental at the new church where he also served on their Board of Directors.

During the luncheon, the GHA Board of Commissioners unanimously commended Wilson for his outstanding commitment and distinguished service to the Housing Authority of the City of Greensboro and to the Greensboro community and presented a plaque commemorating his service by CEO Tina Akers Brown.

Nancy Hunter was elected as the new chairperson for the GHA Board of Commissioners in December and Dr. Manuel Dudley serves as vice chairperson.

Kelsey Okoro hands out gift cards to Smith Homes' children on behalf of his brother, Washington Redskin Defensive Back Kenny Okoro.



(above and rt.) Smith Homes families enjoy shopping for Christmas gifts at Toys R Us.

# Okoro gives back to his community

Children from the Smith Homes public housing community owe a big thanks to new Washington Redskin recruit Chibuikem Kenneth Okoro, better known as Kenny Okoro. Okoro grew up in Greensboro and his family lived in both Smith Homes and Hampton Homes. The son of Nigerian immigrants, Okoro decided to give back to his community this Christmas by providing Toys R Us gift cards to children currently living in Smith Homes.

Greensboro Housing Authority's resident services staff worked with Smith Homes' resident council and management staff to contact those living in Smith Homes about Okoro's generous offer. GHA staff used vans to transport the children and their parents to Toys R Us where they were greeted by Okoro's

brother Kelsey. Kelsey handed the cards to each child with his brother's best wishes for a happy holiday.



A 2008 graduate of Dudley High School and an honor student all four years of high school, Okoro was Greensboro News and Record All-Area Player of the Year as a high school senior. After high school, Okoro chose to attend Wake Forest University where he majored in health and exercise science with a minor in dance. Okoro was signed to the Washington Redskins' active roster as a defensive back in December 2014.

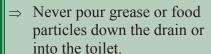
# J. Gary Hill joins GHA Board

J. Gary Hill, president of the North Carolina Homebuilders Association in 2013 and 2014, is GHA's newest Board of Commissioners member. Hill took the oath of Commissioner on October 21, 2014, and joins fellow board members in serving the City of Greensboro, the housing authority, and its residents. Hill graduated from the UNCG Management Development Program and graduated with honors from Rockingham Community College with a degree in mechanical drafting.

Hill has served numerous area organizations and has served on the boards for Habitat for Humanity, Triad Real Estate & Building Industry Coalition, Greensboro Housing Coalition, Greensboro Regional Realtors Association, and Builder's Mutual Insurance Company among others.



# **Avoid Costly Repairs** and Clogged Sinks





- ⇒ Scrape food and grease from all cookware before washing.
- ⇒ Solidify cooled fats, oils and grease and put in a sealed container and place in the garbage.
- ⇒ Do not pour grease down garbage disposals.

### GHA is currently taking applications for

- Public Housing
- Housing Choice Voucher and
- Mainstream Programs visit www.gha-nc.org to apply.

### **Smoke Detectors Save Lives**

Make sure yours is in good working order



For the safety of our residents, each GHA dwelling is equipped with at least one life-saving smoke detector. The smoke detector is possibly the single most important item that can save your life in the event of a fire. If your smoke detector is not operating correctly, please contact the management office and it will be repaired. Do not remove detectors of the batteries. A smoke detector that is not working may result in your death or the death of one of your family members! Tampering with a smoke detector is a serious violation of your lease which may result in eviction.



### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

A publication of the Greensboro Housing Authority

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PRST STD U.S. Postage Paid Greensboro, NC Permit No. 7

#### **Contact Us**

Administrative Office 275-8501

Assisted Housing Office 271-3368

Property Management Region 1 Claremont Courts · Woodberry Run · Laurel Oaks · Foxworth · Lakespring Ct. 274-3491

Property Management Region 2 Hampton Homes · Hickory Trails · Woodland Village 274-3236 · 297-2114

Property Management Region 3 Smith Homes · Abby Court 273-3688

Property Management Region 4 Ray Warren Homes · Applewood · Silverbriar · Riverbirch · Pear Leaf 275-6995

Property Management Region 5 Gateway Plaza · Hall Towers · Stoneridge 275-9892 · 272-7869

Housing Choice Voucher Program Family Self Sufficiency · Homeownership 303-3079 · 271-2546

Public Housing Family Self Sufficiency 303-3003 · 303-3009 · 303-3034

GHA Maintenance Emergencies 272-4137 (Primary #) (Secondary 336-659-3050 - Call only if primary # is not operating)







@gha450

# girl scouts

Girl Scout troops are now meeting at the following GHA communities for girls ages 5 to 17.

- **⇒** Claremont Courts
- **⇒** Hampton Homes
  - ⇒ Hickory Trails
  - ⇒ Smith Homes
  - ⇒ Ray Warren
    - ⇒ Pear Leaf

Building girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place.

Contact Debra Julian at 336.274.8491 ext. 3128 for further information