

Buford Housing Authority
"The Interview"
October 2019, Newsletter



Tallulah Gorge State Park
Tallulah, Georgia

"Interview"

A newsletter for the Residents of the
Buford Housing Authority
Calendar of Events for October 2019

**LAST DAY TO PAY RENT IS
TUESDAY, October 8, 2019.**

GET WELL WISHES: Those who have been seriously ill or in the hospital during the month of September include: Sherry Morgan, Vicky Moulder, and Robin Twitty of Buford; of Duluth; Genise Crowder of Flowery Branch; Carolyn Cowart of Sugar Hill. A telephone call, a kind note, or a smile would be appreciated by these neighbors and might speed them toward complete recovery.

IN MEMORIAM



DEATH: Topsy Merelda Ho-Shing, age 86, of Sugar Hill, GA passed away on Sunday, September 8th. She is survived by her children, Patricia Allen-Mair, Buford, GA, Audley Ho-Shing, Ceritsie Ho-Shing, Desmond Thompson, Celia Bell Sterling, Roselette Allen; grandchildren; great grandchildren; great great grandchildren; a sister, 2 brothers; numerous other relatives. Ms. Ho-Shing was born on December 20, 1932 in Trelawny, Jamaica. She was a nanny for families in the area and loved caring for children. Please remember

Topsy in her passing, and her family and friends who loved her and will miss her.



Trick or Treat

Keep an eye out for children Trick-or-Treating in neighborhoods on the 31st.

Tips to Select LED Bulbs

Why You Can't Use Certain LED Bulbs in Enclosed Fixtures?

Enclosed light fixtures that don't allow for proper ventilation can drastically affect the temperature of the LED bulb, causing it to overheat and shortening the lifespan of the bulb and possibly causing damage to the fixture. That's why some bulbs will tell you not to use it in an enclosed ceiling fan or fully enclosed light fixture.

What is an Enclosed Fixture?

An enclosed fixture is any fixture or application where the light bulb is encased in a way that does not allow for proper airflow or ventilation. This includes but is not limited to porch lights where the bottom is glass or plastic instead of open air, enclosed Mason jar light fixtures, and flush mounted ceiling fixtures with a full glass globe.



How Do I Know if a Light Bulb is Rated for Enclosed Fixtures?

Check the packaging and the bulb itself. It should state "Suitable or Rated for Enclosed Fixture". Using an LED bulb in an enclosed fixture when it isn't designed for that may cause the bulb to overheat, potentially causing damage to the light bulb and fixture. Even a little extra heat can shorten the lifespan of the bulb and keep you from enjoying the full value of your investment.



GWINNETT PUBLIC LIBRARY HOME DELIVERY:

Gwinnett County Public Library has launched a program that allows homebound patrons to access library materials and have them delivered to their home for free.

Called Mailbox Books, the service is designed for people who can't visit the library because of age, physical disability, chronic illness, visual impairment, or a temporary condition that renders them homebound.

Users will receive the Best Readers' Advisory and customer assistance. Staff will help patrons locate books in their preferred format, such as regular print, large print, DVD, or CD books. To participate, Gwinnett residents must fill an online application at www.gwinnettpl.org, where you can also see a comprehensive listing of all Gwinnett County Public Library's accessibility resources.



PARKING: If your development has numbered parking spaces, please make sure you park in your assigned numbered space first and a blank parking space only if necessary. DO NOT PARK IN ANOTHER APARTMENT'S SPACE. If you have guests over it is your responsibility to make sure they do not park in your neighbor's numbered space. **If your vehicle is photographed in someone else's numbered space, you can be charged a \$20 parking fine for EACH OCCURANCE.**



Your lease states:

6. OBLIGATION OF RESIDENT

- F. If I live in a development where the parking spaces are assigned, I will park only in my assigned parking space or another unmarked parking space. I will not park in the assigned parking space of another resident nor will I allow my family or guests to do so. My parking in another's assigned parking space or my family or guests doing this will be considered a serious violation of my Lease.

NOTICE: This will inform you that Maintenance personnel will be going door to door during the month of **December on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, & 6th** to replace furnace filters and to check the vent systems. Maintenance will be going into each room to check every vent. This is your NOTICE that Maintenance personnel will be coming into your apartment. **Please make sure your maintenance closet is not blocked with furniture or other personal belongings.**

ANSWERING SERVICE: When calling the after-hours answering service please remember, Maintenance staff will only come out for emergency problems. An emergency problem includes, but is not limited to, issues with toilet or water leaks; no hot water or a leaking water heater; no heat or air conditioning, smoke alarm beeping, locked out of unit; gas leak; major electrical issues; non-working refrigerator etc.

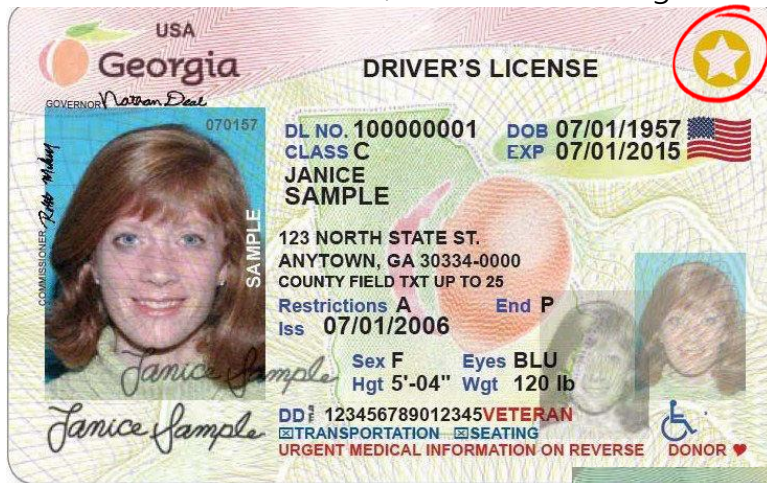
When you call the answering service please give them the following information:

- Your name
- The head of household's name
- The complete address
- A description of the problem or emergency
- A working phone number where you can be reached to answer questions regarding your emergency.



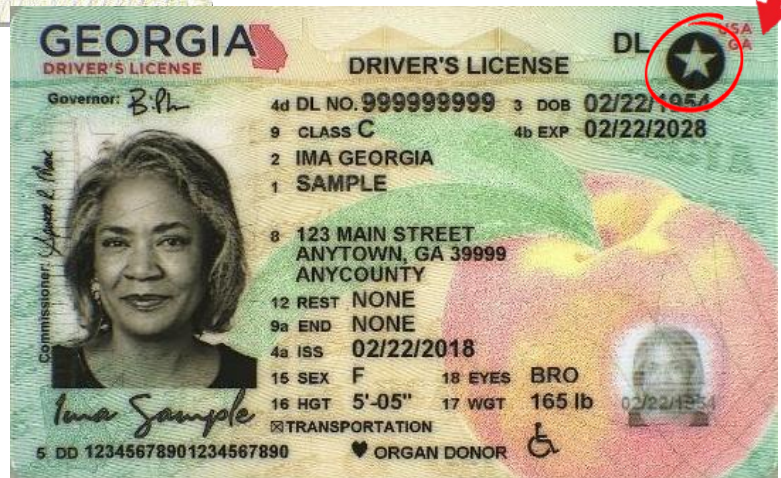
The answering service will relay your message to the Maintenance man who is on-call and he will call you back to get the details of the problem. It is important that you answer his call so he can assess the situation and bring the appropriate repair supplies and equipment.

FEDERAL REAL ID REQUIREMENTS: If you want to fly on commercial airplanes or enter a federal building next year, you may need to update your driver's license. **New REAL ID requirements will be enforced starting October 1, 2020.** They will require people to have a secure driver's license or ID to enter federal buildings or fly. Georgia has been in compliance with the REAL ID Act since 2012, so licenses issued from that point on should meet the federal standards. However, some older Georgia licenses are still in circulation.



To check if you have a secure ID, look for a star in a gold or black circle in the upper right corner of your driver's license.

People without the validation must visit a Department of Driver Services office in person to get a secure ID. You'll have to bring several documents, including an original birth certificate or passport to prove who you are and something with your Social Security number and name on it, which could be a Social Security card, tax document (W-2 or 1099), or bank statement. Also, two documents are required to prove where you live, such as a current bank statement or utility bill. Lastly, if your name has changed, bring the legal document showing the change, such as a marriage or divorce certificate. If you have a passport with your married name on it, it will suffice as both your birth certificate and marriage license.



After a driver has a secure license, it can be renewed online up to three times, until you are 64 or older. The fee is \$32 for an eight-year license. Your old license can be replaced with a secure one for free if it has 150 days or more until it needs to be renewed.

Go to the Georgia Department of Driver Services website dds.georgia.gov for details.

Congress passed the REAL ID Act in response to a recommendation from the 9/11 Commission. The goal is to prevent terrorists from obtaining state-issued identification documents, according to the Department of Homeland Security website.

The Transportation Security Administration will require them for air travel beginning October 1, 2020, but the DHS website states that U.S. passports, military IDs and permanent residency cards also will be accepted.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THE OFFICE HAS A CURRENT COPY OF PHOTO IDS FOR EVERYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD.



Census Takers in Your Neighborhood

Starting in August 2019, you may notice census takers in your neighborhood.

This is a normal part of preparations for the 2020 Census. Census Bureau employees will also be in the community to continue collecting information for the American Community Survey and other ongoing surveys.

How Can You Verify That Someone Is a Census Worker?

If someone visits your home to collect information for the 2020 Census, you can do the following to verify their identity:

- First, check to make sure that they have a valid ID badge, with their photograph, a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date.
- If you still have questions about their identity, you can call [800-923-8282](tel:800-923-8282) to speak with a local Census Bureau representative.

Why Are Census Workers Out in Communities?

You might see census takers in your neighborhood for a few different reasons:

- They are **verifying addresses** in preparation for the census.
- They are **collecting responses** to the census or another survey.
- They are **dropping off census materials**.
- They are **conducting quality checks** related to the census.

READ MORE

Census takers who verify addresses are called address canvassers. They help ensure an accurate and complete count by verifying addresses and noting where houses, apartments, shelters, and other residences are located. Census takers will attempt to knock on every door in the neighborhood they are canvassing.

In May 2020, census takers begin visiting homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census to help ensure everyone is counted. At the same time, other Census Bureau representatives will be visiting homes for ongoing surveys, such as the American Community Survey.

Be Proactive

By April 1, 2020, all homes will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. **The best way to avoid a follow-up visit from a census taker is to fill out the 2020 Census questionnaire online, by phone, or by mail as soon as you receive your invitation to participate.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE 2020 CENSUS WEBSITE
www.2020Census.gov



October Programs

Featured Programs:

- **Advanced Math and Physics Help** (All ages)
Wednesdays, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- **Optimal Hearing Information Session and Free Hearing Screening** (All ages)
Wednesday, October 2; 6:00 pm
- **Haunted Library** (All ages)
Wednesday & Thursday, October 23 & 24; 4:00 pm
- **Family Storytime** (All ages)
Saturday, October 26; 11:00 am

Highlighted Service:

Park and Museum Passes



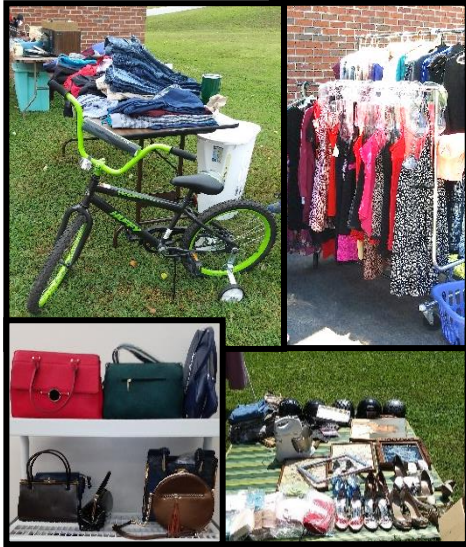
...and more!
Ask a librarian
for details.

Branch hours

Monday - Thursday: 10 am - 8 pm
Friday - Saturday: 10 am - 5 pm
Sunday: 12 pm - 5 pm

Passport hours

Monday - Thursday: 12 pm - 7 pm
Friday - Sunday: 12 pm - 3 pm
First come, first served.



RESIDENT ASSOCIATION YARD SALE: The Community yard sale was such a success; we are doing it again! It was a great time and the best part is, everyone made money. So, we're going to give it another go on Saturday, October 19th. Come get to know your neighbors, support a good cause, get rid of stuff around your apartment, and make some extra money. Details below.



The Resident Association is having a community yard sale on October 19th from 8am-3pm at the BHA Community Building located at 100 Circle View Drive, Buford. Residents may reserve a space that is approximately 6 x 10 to sell their items. The charge is \$10 for an empty reserved space and \$15 for a space with a table. Spaces are available inside and outside the Community Building. If you would like to reserve a space to sell your household items, please fill out the form below and return it to the office



along with your **CASH PAYMENT**, no-later than October 16th. The money collected for reserved spaces will go toward purchasing gifts for our resident children's Holiday Party. So, clear out the clutter from your apartment and support your Resident Association. Reservations are made on a first come basis. Tenants are responsible for setting up and selling their own items. All spaces must be cleared by 4pm on sale day.



Tenant's name: _____

Tenant's address: _____

Phone number: _____

Tenants are responsible for setting up and selling their own items. All spaces must be cleared by 4pm on sale day. By signing below, I understand and agree that I will be charged \$20.00 if I do not have the space assigned to me cleaned by 4pm on Oct. 19th.

☐ Reserved space \$10 **OR** ☐ Reserved space with table \$15 **CASH ONLY**

☐ Inside Community Building **OR** ☐ Outside Community Building

SIGNATURE



BUFORD HOUSING AUTHORITY MOVING TO PROVIDE ONLINE RENT PAYMENTS!

Our office is working hard to help make it easier for our tenants to make their rent payments online! Our website www.bufordhousing.com will be updated very soon so that our participants can go to our site and make their rent payments. We hope to roll out the new website and payment options by mid to late October so please be checking the website regularly!

DOWNLOAD FORMS FROM THE WEBSITE!

If you go to our site www.bufordhousing.com you will already note that we have made it easier for you to get any forms you need to report income, Authorization of Release, Child Care and background consent forms. If you go to the Public Housing Tab and select "Tenant Forms" you can now print off these form(s) directly to your home printer. We'll continue to update the site with additional forms for your convenience in the near future.



DON'T FORGET TO GET YOUR TEXT AND EMAIL ALERT FORM BACK TO OUR OFFICE!!

We want to keep the lines of communication open with you!! Please make sure to complete your **TEXT AND EMAIL ALERT FORM** and turn it in to the front office if you have not already done so. If you don't have the form, then complete the back of this page and turn it into our office! Also, we have made them available in our lobby. When you come in to make rent payments this month please make sure to complete one of these forms and turn it in.

The Buford Housing Authority

E-NOTIFICATION APPLICATION/OPT-IN FORM

What Is the Purpose of This Form?

By completing this form and returning it to the Buford Housing Authority (BHA), you allow the BHA to send you text alerts to your phone and/or email reminders and alerts to let you know when your rent is due to avoid late fees, reminders on recertification appointment and other agency alerts. This option is provided as a convenience to our tenants.

General Information

Complete the information below and return this form to the above selected housing authority. Once your information has been entered into the system, you will begin to receive your e-notifications. The e-notification, which will be an email and/or a text message, will not include any personal information nor will it provide any type of status or benefit. This service is merely a convenience to the residents of the above listed housing authorities. The information that you provide is **voluntary**. If you choose not to opt for this service, you will not receive e-notifications, alerts or reminders from the housing authority.

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974, 5 USC 552a, provides protection to individuals by ensuring that personal information collected by Federal agencies is limited to that which is legally authorized and necessary and is maintained in a manner which precludes unwarranted intrusions upon individual privacy.

Consent

- ☐ I have read the information provided above for the e-notification system and have had the opportunity to ask questions. I wish to voluntarily provide my information and agree to receive e-notifications, reminders and alerts via email and/or text message from the Buford Housing Authority. I understand that the housing authority is **not responsible** for any charges that may be incurred as a result of utilizing the e-notification system and any failure to receive an e-notification reminder (i.e. rent reminder) does not mean my rent is not due by the 1st of the month and considered late after the 6th working day of each month.
- ☐ I DO NOT wish to take part in the above e-notification system and confirm that you Do NOT have permission to use data already collected about me for the above e-notification system.

Participant's/Resident's Signature

Date

Please complete this section if you are participating in the e-notification system (PRINT CLEARLY)

Full Last Name	Full First Name	Full Middle Name
E-mail Address	Mobile Phone Number (Text Message Purposes)	

BUFORD HOUSING AUTHORITY