



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO LHA STAFF AND RESIDENTS WHO CELEBRATED THEIR BIRTHDAY DURING THE MONTHS OF MAY-JUNE—2023!**

## HAPPENINGS

### Grand Opening

June 15—Triangle Homes

### Summer Youth Employment

June 5-July 21

### Arco Lane Meals Program

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.—Mon.-Fri.  
Mondays-Fridays at Arco Lane

### Annual Board Meeting

August 24

### Office Closed

September 4—Labor Day  
November 11—Veterans Day  
November 23-24—Thanksgiving  
December 25—Christmas



**Housing Authority  
of the City of Laurel, MS**

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**The Laurel Housing Authority's mission is to provide and create affordable housing opportunities that promote and provide safe housing, self-sufficiency and viable productive communities for individuals and families within Laurel and Jones County.**

**Anyone wanting more information about the Housing Authority can call 601-425-4651.**

#### MANAGEMENT OFFICES

- ◆ Beacon Homes-----Tramel McMillan @ 601-425-3602
- ◆ Triangle Homes----- Ruby Jones @ 601-426-3574
- ◆ Brown Circle Homes----- Charlotte Williams @ 601-425-3903
- ◆ Arco Lane Homes----- Semeka Seals @ 601-425-2611
- ◆ Windsor Court Homes -----Semeka Seals @ 601-428-4042

#### R.O.S.S. COORDINATORS' OFFICES

- ◆ Beacon Homes-----Eloria Newell James @ 601-425-3602
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#### TO CONTRIBUTE TO NEWSLETTER

- ◆ Anyone with information or photos can submit them to Eloria Newell James by email to ejames@laurelha.net or call 601-425-3602 for more information.



# HOUSE TALK

**HOUSING AUTHORITY  
CITY OF LAUREL, MS**



SUMMER EDITION 2023

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 18

## LAUREL HOUSING HOSTS HUD EVENT ON HOMEOWNERSHIP

In recognition of June as National Homeownership Month, citizens from throughout Laurel and Jones County convened at the Laurel Train Depot on June 14 to take part in a Homeowners Event hosted by the Laurel Housing Authority and partnering with the Jackson Field Office of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Realtors and representatives from financial institutions throughout the area and the Jackson attended and participated in this community event.

**SEE PHOTO  
FROM  
EVENT**



Ailrick Young, Executive Director of the LHA, said the event was designed to present homeownership programs to residents.

Jackson HUD Office representatives were on hand to discuss homeownership and representatives of financial institutions provided information about credit, loans and other information people need to know in the homeownership process. Additionally, each entity partnering in this endeavor was available to explain to attendees the advantages of homeownership and how to make it possible in their individual situations.

LHA's ROSS Coordinator Latesa Phillips spoke about how she progressed from being a resident at the LHA to becoming a home owner.

LHA Property Manager Semeka Seals informed the audience of her experiences of moving from resident to becoming a renter in the private sector to beginning the process of seeking for a home to purchase after increasing the components of financial literacy.

Organizers said it did not matter what

stage of the homeownership process a person was in, they should have been able to benefit from this event.

Laurel Mayor Johnny Magee addressed the crowd and praised the Laurel Housing for its work to keep its residents, and the community, informed about housing and financial services available to them.

"This doesn't happen at every housing authority, but the Laurel Housing Authority goes beyond its requirements to help better the community," Magee said.

Young added "This event was an excellent opportunity for those individuals seeking information and resources on Homeownership to get it all in one place."

Adrenace "Shae" Williams, Field Office Director for the HUD's Jackson Office, was the keynote speaker. Williams told attendees about the importance of homeownership and shared statistics about home-

ownership in the state and affordable housing opportunities in Mississippi and America.

"We want to make sure we have events like this to help us be able to serve the residents," Williams said. "HUD is listening. There are so many things out there to benefit the residents.... Take it one step at a time."

Representatives of Cadence Bank, Citizen National Bank, Community Bank, Hope Credit Union of Jackson, the Jackson HUD Field Office, LHA's Resident Council, Regions Bank, Sunbelt Credit Union, The First Bank, Trustmark Bank, USDA, Voice of Calvary Ministries, and Woodland Realty were among the agencies taking part in the community event. The LHA strives to provide quality enrichment activities along with its mission of providing decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing and effective personal improvement training, including opportunities for low-income families.



# LAUREL HOUSING AUTHORITY

Executive Director Speaks.....



Mr. Ailrick D. Young

Greetings, Summer is coming to an end soon and with the recent heat index temperatures rising over three digits, I think we are all ready for Fall. As the summer ends, this is also the time that our youth are getting ready to return to school. Let's all commit to ensure they have all of the tools and resources they need to return. We must also prepare for an heightened awareness of our safe driving habits and be on the look out for the increased presence of youth out in the morning and afternoon traveling to and from school. **We all have a part in ensuring the success of our youth, let's do our part!**

Sometime in the fall our Visitors Center will be completed as well. We look forward to this project's completion so that we can all join together in celebration of the Center.

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Shirmecca Currie is the new ROSS Coordinator for Triangle Homes. She began her training on June 5, 2023 and has visited and trained with the other ROSS Coordinators. She is now at her ROSS Office on the Triangle Homes Site.

# LHA HOSTS HOMEOWNERSHIP EVENT

SEE COVER FOR STORY ABOUT EVENT



# BEACON R.O.S.S. HAS FINANCIAL LITERACY ACADEMY

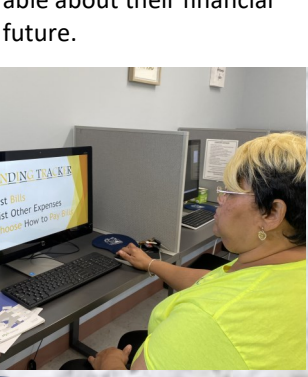
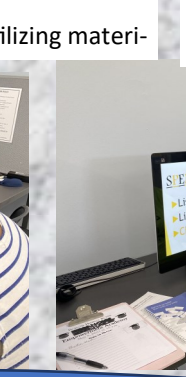
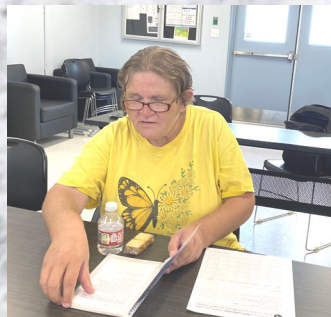
## Site-Based 5 Monthly Sessions



The Beacon Homes' Resident Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency Program began a Site-Based Financial Literacy Empowerment Academy in February. The five-monthly

sessions concluded in June. The Academy, which is conducted by R.O.S.S. Coordinator Eloria James, was held at the Beacon Homes Office. It is a financial workshop conducted monthly addressing a variety of topics. The Academy, utilizing materi-

als from Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, is designed to encourage LHA residents to become aware of their financial situation and empower the residents to become more knowledgeable about their financial future.



## "Your Money, Your Goals"

### HOT TOPICS

Renters insurance **protects your belongings from loss, damage, or destruction** following things like burglaries, fires, tornadoes and other covered events. Plus, renters insurance also protects your liability (and your money) if someone is injured at your rental home or apartment. Top reasons one should purchase:

- Protection for your personal belongings
- Liability coverage if someone is injured at your rental home or apartment.
- **You're not covered by your landlord's insurance.** Many tenants mistakenly believe their landlord's insurance will protect them, but that's just not the case. As the owner of your rental home or apartment building, the landlord has a form of homeowners insurance that covers the physical structure itself, but it doesn't cover your belongings inside.

- Coverage for additional living expenses.

#### The 2023 Hurricane Season predicted Atlantic Storm Names:

Arlene, Bret, Cindy, Don, Emily, Franklin, Gert, Harold, Idalia, Jose, Katia, Lee, Margot, Nigel, Ophelia, Philippe, Rina, Sean, Tammy, Vince

#### Rental Payments

Due on the 1st of each month and not later than the 5th. See the Property Manager for more detailed information.

## GARDNER SUPERVISES LHA'S MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Johnny Gardner is the supervisor of the Laurel Housing Authority's Maintenance Department.

Gardner said his ability to fix things has resulted in him working for the Housing Authority more than 25 years.

Gardner, who is a native of Collins, is a 1990 graduate of Collins High School.

Gardner said he joined the department as a grounds' laborer, and since that time he has seen a lot of changes. When he joined the department more than two and a half decades ago, the department had 20 people working in various divisions of the department that included grounds, renovations, service calls, and preventive maintenance.

The department has consolidated the various divisions within the department and now oper-



Johnny Gardner

ates with four full-time people. Gardner said his ability to make a difference is his motivating

force.

"I like assisting people," he said.

"I like being able to help others."

As maintenance supervisor, Gardner works to maintain the operations of things in the housing units and ensure those with the housing authority have everything needed to maintain housing for all residents.

Gardner said he finds gratification in knowing that he is making a difference in their quality of life for residents of the housing authority.

Gardner said he enjoys his work at LHA and being able to help others.

Gardner is a member of the F Troop, which is a facet of the housing authorities in the state of Mississippi.

"I joined the F Troop following (Hurricane) Katrina," Gardner explained. "We went to the Biloxi and Gulfport area to help out after the storm."

Gardner is married and they have three children and two grandchildren.

Gardner enjoys fishing, family and working.

"I love figuring out what's wrong with things and fixing them," Gardner admitted. "I just like fixing things."

He is motivated by Romans 12:13 NLT Version: "When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality."



## News from LHA Safety Officer

Hello All:

Let's give God thanks for bringing us through the pandemic. Every season brings about a change. Summer is in, let's stay out of the heat as much as possible. Let's keep check on our neighbors, friends, relatives and elders: making sure we all have and taken in plenty of fluids to stay hydrated.

If you see or find someone dehydrated, please get them to a cool spot. If needed call 911, your local officers (Laurel Police



Charlie Turner

or Jones County Sheriff's Department) or Mr. Charlie.

We are always here for your needs and some of your wants. As I always say to you, see something, hear something, know something: say something!

The beginning of school is closer than we want it to be. Let's get our children off to a great beginning by telling them every morning how much you love them. This will make your day better. Stay safe, call whenever you need us.

### LHA BROWN CIRCLE R.O.S.S. MENTORING PROGRAM

Laurel Housing Authority Brown Circle ROSS Program is continuing to do its monthly mentoring program.

In June, the young males were transported to the Lauren Rogers Museum of Art.

George Bassi, LRMA director, talked to the young people and encouraged them to succeed in life.



### HUMANA CONDUCTS RESIDENT DAY OF FUN AT WINDSOR COURT



#### Windsor Court Monthly "Resident Day of fun"

Windsor Court residents got a chance to play Bingo hosted by Jason Caire of Humana Market-point. Also, Mr. Caire did a short presentation of seasonal allergies before starting the Bingo game.

### COOL DOWN TREAT

Awarded to All Staff During Summer Months Through A Partnership With Local Owners



### R.O.S.S.'S PARTNERS NETWORKING LAUREL HIGH SCHOOL HOSTS P.C.C. MEETING

On April 6, 2023, the Laurel Housing Authority's Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency (R.O.S.S.) conducted its Program Coordinating Committee Meeting at the Laurel High School Career Technical Center for the First Quarter (January, February and March) of 2023.

The speaker for the event was Dr. Jasmine Baldwin-Smith, director of the Laurel High School's Career & Technical Education Center. LHS Culinary Students prepared the food for the event.



# BACK2SCHOOL/BACKPACK GIVEAWAY CELEBRATION

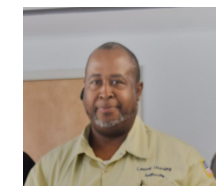


# Maintenance: Residents Should Declutter Regularly

LHA's Maintenance Division is recommending that residents be aware of their surroundings and avoid excess items in their apartments. Johnny Gardner, who supervises the Maintenance Division, said the safety and security of the residents are important in ensuring their safe and prosperous stay with the housing authority. Gardner said he is recommending that residents this summer consider decluttering their units. He said when space is limited, getting the most out of every square foot becomes paramount. After living in a small area for a while clutter can creep in and make every room feel smaller. Fortunately, there are multiple ways to maximize the look and feel of apartments everywhere. Gardner said too much clutter can be a fire hazard. Also, dust, mold, and animal dander that collect in cluttered living areas are all bad for allergies and asthma.

Officials said when people think of cluttering, they think about the inside of a hoarder's home. However, cluttering can simply involve the accumulation of more things than can fit into the available space. Some tips to decluttering are:

- \*Do one area at a time.
- \*Transfer physical documents to digital document. If you have lots of important documents, old photos, and other items lying around, one of the best ways to address these potentially heaping piles of paper is to transfer them to a digital format. This means scanning said documents and saving them on your computer, thumb drive, or anywhere else you feel comfortable storing



**Johnny Gardner**  
Mtn. Supervisor

them. Remember that everything has a home. Designate a place where items should go. If there is not a place for an object you elected to keep, determine if you need it, should donate it, or toss it before moving forward.

\*Make Space Work for You Most apartments should have some type of built-in storage space. This could be kitchen and bathroom cabinets, or even bookcases flush with one of your walls. Plastic storage bins can be handy when you want to change your wardrobe from the fall to the winter collection. Look at your furniture. Do they include drawers or shelves? If your answer is little, then aim to only procure multi-purpose furniture. Think coffee and end tables equipped with drawers or shelves.

\*Stay Proactive\* Your long

term goal is to make decluttering a habit. This is feasible to do and given enough time, most space-saving tasks will become second nature to you. To overcome the initial resistance, make up a schedule filled with mini-tasks you can do in under 10 minutes. When those activities start to become normalized, or if you are already doing these, it is time to step up the difficulty level! Challenge yourself a bit by adding in a few space-saving activities that take longer than 10 minutes. Gardner said anytime is a good time to consider decluttering the area around you and improving your living conditions. Anyone wanting more information about Maintenance can contact your property manager or the LHA Maintenance Department.



## Beacon ROSS Program Has Activities and Celebrates Birthdays



Bingo Winners at the monthly event

## MLK C.D.C. & Beacon Homes R.O.S.S. Partner

MLK Community Development Corporation continues its monthly sponsorship of the Beacon Homes ROSS Fun Day Activities designed to promote mobility and Aging in Place.



First Timers participate



Concentrating on the Numbers

Beacon Homes' Residents with varying mobility attend the monthly Fun and Games Activity to fellowship, increase mobility skills and to win prizes. Those in attendance win prizes through bingo and the group celebrates persons with birthdays during that month. The MLK Community Development Corporation has been partnering with the Beacon Homes ROSS Program since 2022.

# HUMANA INFORMS BEACON RESIDENTS ABOUT HEALTH ISSUES



Beacon Homes conducted its Tenant Meeting at the Townley Center.

Beacon Homes Resident Council President Clifton Nicholson coordinated the program in conjunction with Beacon Homes Property Manager Tramel

McMillan and Beacon Homes R.O.S.S. Coordinator Eloria James. Jason Caire with Humana Market-point was the guest speaker for the event.

Resident of the Month Presentation



# BEACON HOMES' ROSS CONDUCTS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS EVENT



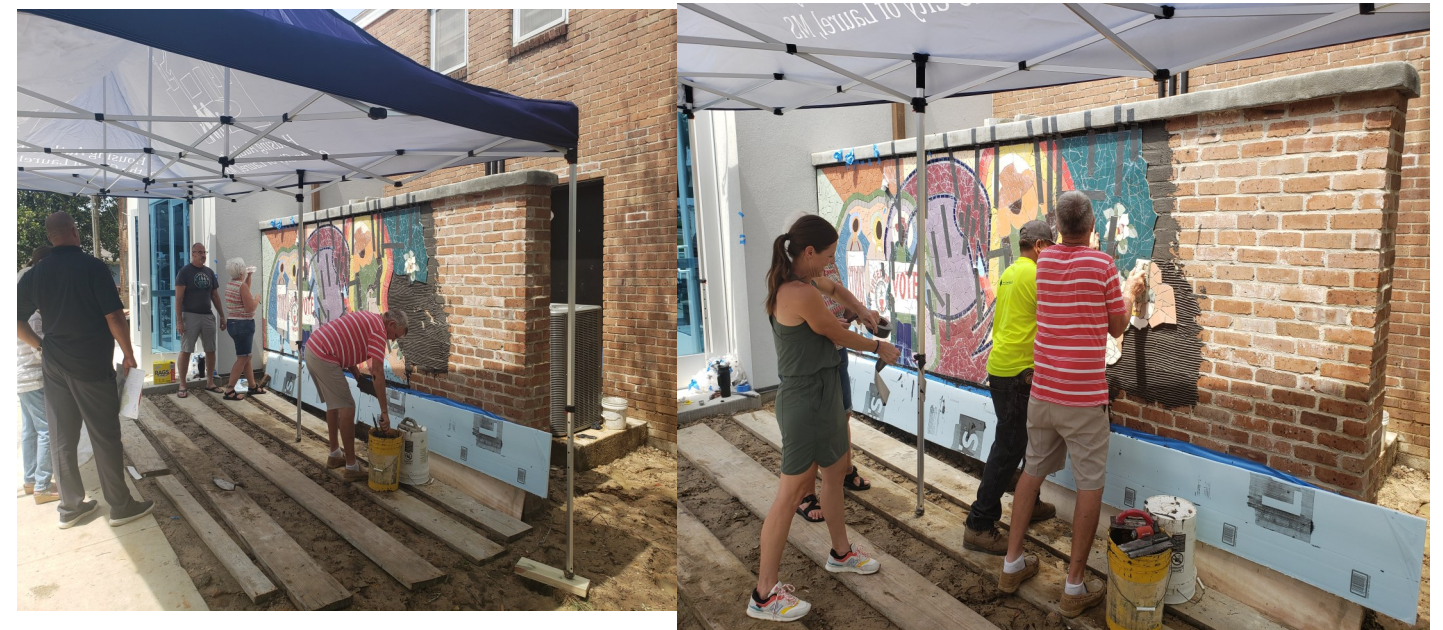
# Laurel Fire Department Water Splash Activities



The youth enjoyed the water activities.



## UNVEILING OF HISTORY-MAKING EVENT



Laurel Housing Authority Residents participated in the designing and displaying of Mosaic The finished artwork was unveiled during a ceremony at the Visitor's Center on Leontyne Price Boulevard. The Visitor's Center is progressing well.

# LHA CONDUCTED 2023 SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM



## SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM SITES

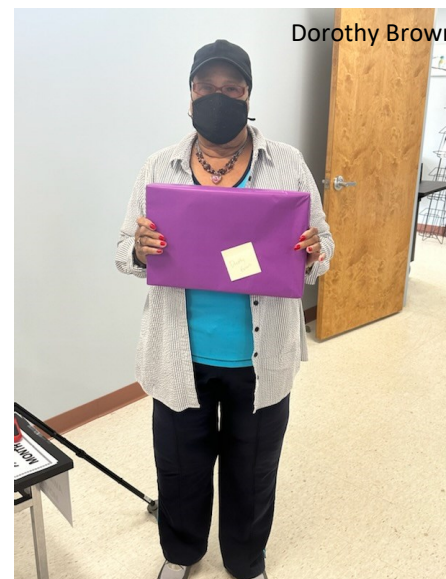
- ⇒ Brown Circle Homes
- ⇒ Beacon Homes-Townley Center
- ⇒ Triangle-St. Paul U.M. Church
- ⇒ Windsor Courts Homes



Youth from through the community and Jones County took part in the Laurel Housing Authority's Annual Summer Food Program.



## LHA RESIDENTS



Dorothy Brown



Photo of gift received

## RECOGNIZED FOR CULINARY

Residents from each Laurel Housing Authority's site participated in a Culinary Arts Workshop.

This 6-week Course for adults and youth was held every Saturday in February and March at the Housing Authority's community center.

Classes were conducted by local chef, Dormemus Johnikin.

At the conclusion of the classes, each participant received a set of culinary tools.



Leslie Thomas



Mildred Lyles





# ROSS Provides Summer Activities

Outdoors Garden



Outdoors Garden



Shafer Crisis Center



Lauren Rogers Museum of Art



Lauren Rogers Museum of Art



Lauren Rogers Museum of Art



# SALVATION ARMY SPONSOR BROWN CIRCLE EVENT



Full of colors and artwork! Funday Mondays at Brown Circle Homes.

LHA Property Manager Charlotte Williams with Captain Keisha McMullin of The Salvation Army are working to make a positive impact in the community.

*Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 2 Corinthian 3:17*



# LHA ROSS Participates in Community Activity



LHA's Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) Coordinators joined local community groups in recognizing Crime Victims' Rights Week 2023, which was celebrated April 23-29, 2023.

Beacon Homes Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency (R.O.S.S.) Coordinator Eloria James and Malik Davis with LHA Administrative Coordinator (not pictured) represented LHA at



the quarterly Inter-agency Council Meeting sponsored by the United Way of the Pine Belt Region.



# MLK CDC & BEACON R.O.S.S. SPONSOR WALKING CLUB



## BEACON WALKING CLUB ADDRESS HEALTH ISSUES

- ⇒ Stroke Awareness
- ⇒ Alcohol Awareness
- ⇒ Mental Health Awareness
- ⇒ Financial Literacy Awareness

The Residents of Beacon Home gather at the R.O.S.S. Office every Wednesday at 9 a.m. to take part in the Beacon Homes Walking Club. The MLK CDC, Inc. sponsors the water and snacks for the walk-



# WINDSOR COURT HAS 'PAINT AND AQUAINT' EVENT

Windsor Court conducted a "Paint and Acquaint" Event to celebrate Older Americans. The event was hosted by Amanda Cooley of Unlimited Dreams Christian Learning Center

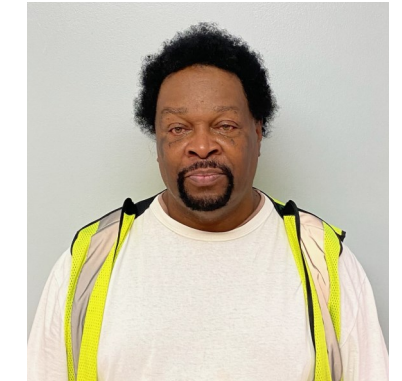


whereas the residents got an opportunity to learn their neighbor as they used their patience and motor skills to paint their canvas.

## RESIDENT HIGHLIGHT: ARCO LANE SITE

# ARCO RESIDENT EDWARD BROWN RECOGNIZED

Mr. Edward Brown is being recognized as Arco Lane's Resident Highlight. He strives to keep the property clean inside and out. He distributes flyers when needed and he assists other elderly residents by bringing their rent into the office and giving them rides around town. He also participates in the elderly meal program. Mr. Brown is an outstanding resident here at Arco Lane Home.



## RESIDENT HIGHLIGHT: BROWN CIRCLE SITE

# BROWN CIRCLE RESIDENT RECOGNIZED

This is Brown Circle Homes Spotlight Resident presented at Resident meeting.

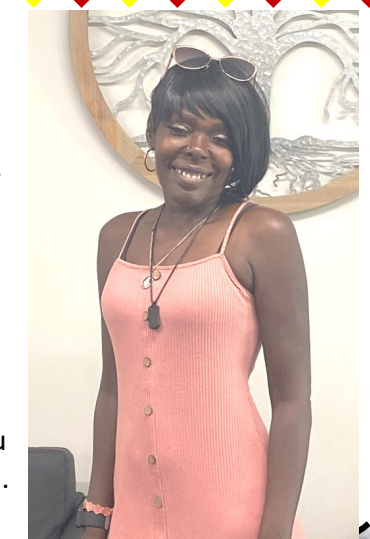
For monitoring the bus stop every morning. She is Cassandra Lacey 184 Brown Circle Homes.



## RESIDENT HIGHLIGHT: TRIANGLE SITE

# JONES RECOGNIZED FOR WORK AT TRIANGLE

Gnetta Jones works to keep Triangle Homes beautiful for the Laurel Housing Authority. Property Manager Ruby Jones said she is so grateful for Gnetta's hard work and dedication. Jones has worked at LHA as a grounds keeper for the past seven months. She is always a phone call away whenever needed. She attends workshops and meetings on the regular basis and makes sure that Triangle Homes' grounds and office space is always clean and up to par. Gnetta says that she loves working for LHA and is grateful for the staff always making sure that she is okay. She said that she can do all things thru Christ that strengthens her. Jones is the mother of three and one grandson.





RESIDENT HIGHLIGHT: BEACON HOMES SITE

# DARTY GETS HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA



It's never too late to finish. Beacon Homes Resident Madarrien Darty had a determination and he was able to accomplish it. Darty, who moved to Laurel from Chicago, Ill., was missing a credit for completion of his high school diploma. After several years, Darty, who moved into the Laurel Housing Authority's Beacon Homes Site, decided to go back to school and complete the requirements. Darty enrolled at Penn Foster High School and completed his requirements for a High School Diploma and graduated from Penn Foster High School.



Madarrien Darty right, is pictured with Beacon Homes ROSS Coordinator Eloria James, left, holding Darty's High School Diploma from Penn Foster High School.



RESIDENT HIGHLIGHT: WINDSOR COURT SITE

# PEARLINE BENDER RECOGNIZED FOR HER INVOLVEMENT

Mrs. Pearlina has been a resident for the past 6 years. She is one of Windsor's senior citizens that's aging in place. Her hobby is planting flowers and her apartment is decorated outside with beautiful pot plants. She is a regular attendant of ROSS events and resident meetings at the office. She is an outstanding resident that's never late on rent and her apartment is always immaculately clean. She checks on the other elderly neighbors around her often to ensure they are okay as well as invite them out to events held at the office. She takes advantage of any service or resources that's benefi-



cial to her as she's aging in place. Resources included utility assistance, free WiFi service, bingo, Black History program and the Christmas Mingle to name a few. She says she reads all the flyers to make sure she isn't missing out on anything because it gives her something to do to get out of the house. She exemplifies a perfect example of a great resident.

# Windsor Courts R.O.S.S. HAS FREE TECHNOLOGY DAY

Windsor Court Homes "Free Technology" Event for Digital Inclusion was sponsored by Forbes Telecom & Services. They provided free cellphones and tablets for residents that qualified.

Also, during the event, Ezsma Brady provided information on Medicare supplements.



# LHA PARTICIPATES IN STATE'S I-59 JOB FAIR



Laurel Housing Authority (Eloria James and Tramel McMillan) participated in the I-59 Job Fair held at the Sawmill Square Mall held in June.



# NUTRITION EDUCATION

## Beacon Homes ROSS, Community Partner Offer Hands-on Education



Beacon Homes R.O.S.S. Coordinator Elo-ria James partnered with a local resident to give part in a Nutrition Education Event where they learn about growing tomato plants and they received free tomato plants to grow their at their own home thanks to a local resident.

## Windsor Courts Resident Council conducts Tenant Meeting



Windsor Court Homes Resident Council conducted a Resident Meeting with guest speaker Abraham McKenzie. McKenzie talked about violence in the community and how the neighborhood should be the first line of defense to combat the violence by speaking up and reporting things to law enforcement.



## HARDY: 2023 LHA SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Shy'Nearia Hardy is the 2023 recipient of the Laurel Housing Authority Scholarship in the amount of \$3,000.

Hardy, a resident of Beacon Homes, is a 2023 graduate



of Laurel High School. She was a member of the Laurel Golden Art, Volley Ball Team and Culinary Arts Program

education at Hinds Community College in Raymond, Mississippi

Shy'Nearia is the daughter of LaToya Jones and the granddaughter of Lenora Barnes.

Miss Hardy plans to further her ed-

## "ENHANCING OUR COMMUNITY" LHA RECEIVES TRANSPORTATION AWARD

The Laurel Housing Authority has received the Friend of Transit Award from Mississippi Public Transit Association.

Deshella Butler with D.J. Transit presented the award to Mr. Malik Davis in absence of Ms. Felicia Jackson with the special State Award to the Laurel Housing Authority .



Deshella Butler with DJ Transit, on right, presents the Laurel Housing Authority's award to Malik Davis with LHA's Administrative Coordinator



## Laurel Housing Celebrates Older American Month



The Laurel Housing Authority Celebrated May as Older American Month by sponsoring the photo on the left in a Billboard

Effort spearheaded by D.J. Transit. Also, LHA's R.O.S.S. Coordinators took part in the transportation service's annual Senior Recognition Parade.



# PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE LHA Recognizes its Graduates



**Riyah Breland**  
2023 Graduate of West Jones High School  
Plans to attend the University of Southern Mississippi  
Daughter of Amber Strickland



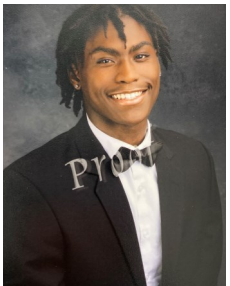
**Dewayne Carter**  
2023 Graduate of Laurel High School  




**Shy'Nearia Hardy**  
2023 Graduate of Laurel High School  
Plans to attend Hinds Community College in the fall.  
Daughter of Latoya Jones and Granddaughter of Lenora Barnes.



**Denasia Jones**  
2023 Graduate of Bay Springs High School.  
Granddaughter of Mary Walker



**Quandarius Keyes**  
2023 Graduate of Laurel High School.  
He is attending Pearl River Com. College.  
He is the grandson of Willie Edna Bell



**Eric Lee II**  
2023 Graduate of Laurel High School.  
Plans to attend Jones College.  
He is the son of Kwanika Drummond



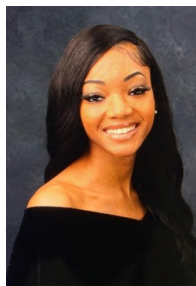
**Gabrielle McCarty**  
2023 Graduate of Laurel High School.



**Jaquillious McDonald**  
2023 Graduate of Laurel High School.



**Ke'tarius McLeod**  
2023 Graduate of Laurel High School.  
Plans to enter the workforce after graduation.



**Shikasha Pruitt**  
2023 Graduate of Laurel High School.  
She is the daughter of Fredia Pruitt



**Ronnie Richardson III**  
2023 Graduate of Laurel High School.



**Cyderica Smith**  
2023 Graduate of Laurel High School.



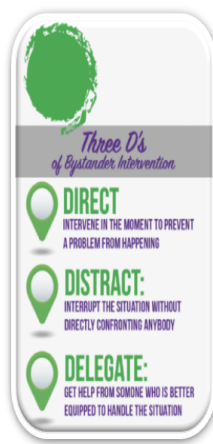
**Lamareanna Taylor**

Lamareanna Taylor is a 2023 Graduate of Laurel High School. She is the daughter of Tasha Lindsey.



# LHA R.O.S.S. ADDRESS DOMESTIC, SEXUAL ABUSE INCIDENTS

## Green Dot Bystander Intervention Training



The Laurel Housing Authority's Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency (R.O.S.S.) Program is working to inform and prepare individuals on how to identify and respond to possible domestic and sexual incidents. As a part of the Green Dot Training, the ROSS Program hosted instructors Kim Newell and Ashton Thompson, along with Teresa Ellzey with the Shaffer Center for Crisis Intervention. The group conducted the first of a two-part intervention training on June 22,

2023. Green Dot is a comprehensive violence prevention strategy that depends on the power of bystanders to prevent violence and shift social and cultural norms. Green Dot sees all community members as potential active bystanders and seeks to safely engage them in violence prevention. Active bystanders do "green dots" by expressing intolerance for violence through both proactive and reactive behaviors.

# YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM: BANKING SESSION

Kelli Lawson and Amy Ray with Trustmark National Bank presented the Summer Banking Workshop to Summer workers. Youth had sessions on "How To Write A Check, Open an Account, Safeguarding Credit/ Bank/Debit Cards, On-line and Mobile Banking, Budgeting, and Financial Literacy". Prizes and other incentives were distributed to youth for their session participation. Dwayne Carter, IV received an incentive for the most interactive youth!

