Special points of interest:

- HRA Board meeting’s are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month starting at 3:30pm. Next meeting will April 15th - general board meetings are open to the public and held at the HRA office.
- A Huge Thank YOU to the Public Housing and HRA property residents that returned the Tenant Satisfaction Survey. Your thoughts and opinions are important to the HRA. Congratulations to the winners of the gift card drawing: Xee of Cottage Grove, Louis of Stillwater, Jaymi of Stillwater.

Message from the Resident Council Chair:

Welcome to our slow-starting spring. There is some grass starting to show and at least some precipitation is in the form of rain!

For the Resident Advisory Board, (the chair and vice chair of the two WCHRA’s Resident Councils) April is the month we meet to review our HRA’s 5 year PHA plan (goals set by the HRA). We will then take what was discussed at the RAB meeting to our resident councils’ were you will be able to comment, make suggestions, and approve the PHA plan at our May Meeting. In addition to the PHA plan, we will set the agenda for remaining 2014 Council meetings.

Also, as citizens we were able to attend an open HRA Board of Commissioners meeting, the PHA plan will be discussed and voted on at the September meeting.

Hope to see you in April,
Steve

Resident Council Meeting Notice

NEXT MEETING
Thursday, April 10th from 6-7pm
at the HRA office, 7645 Currell Boulevard, Woodbury.
Resident Chair Person - Steve
Resident Co-Chair - Victoria

Program: Container Gardening

The Washington County HRA is committed to making your residency in the Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) or the Public Housing Programs a positive experience. Resident Councils are run by and for residents, focusing on adding to your quality of life using educational opportunities determined by the residents.

We welcome all resident to become a part of our community meetings.

HRA Staff Contact: Ann Lindquist Direct Number: 651-202-2813 Email: alindquist@wchra.com
Scholarship Programs

The Resident Scholarship Program, sponsored by Housing Authority Insurance, Inc., provides residents of Member public housing authorities with scholarships to help them attend college.

Using STARS Online, we will again be offering 50 scholarships worth $2,500 each. The process is simple; go online to:

https://HAIGroup.STARSScholarshipsOnline.com/STARS/default.aspx

select ‘Sign Up’ to create an account, then answer the questions and attach the required documentation. By successfully completing the Scholarship Application process, you will be entered into a drawing for a chance to be awarded one of the $2,500 scholarships.

How to qualify?
You may qualify if you are a high school senior, a current college student, or an adult with a high school diploma or GED, have a GPA of at least 2.0, have been a resident for at least six months of a housing authority that is a Member of Housing Authority Insurance, Inc., and are a US Citizen.

Act fast!
Applications must be submitted by April 30, 2014.

For more information and a copy of the application, go online to www.housingcenter.com and click the Resident Scholarship Program link.

2014 MINNESOTA NAHRO EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
To be eligible to apply for the MN NAHRO scholarship program, an applicant must:
• Be a resident of a publicly-owned housing unit or a participant in a rent assistance program administered by a Minnesota NAHRO agency member.
• Be enrolled in a post-secondary program or be accepted into a post-secondary program beginning Fall 2014. Education programs must be accredited and may not be graduate or post-graduate programs.
• Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better on a scale of 4.0. (Applies to current students only.)

HOW TO APPLY:
• Return a completed application to your sponsoring agency member by April 25, 2014.
• Applications can be downloaded at www.mnnahro.com

Other Area Colleges:
Normandale Community College—Bloomington, www.normandale.edu
Metro State University—St. Paul, www.metrostate.edu
ITT Technical Institute—Woodbury (Learning Site) - 651-379-7700
Rasmussen College—Lake Elmo,, www.rasmussen.edu

Financial Aid:
• Federal Student Aid—www.fafsa.gov
• Online guide to financial aid—www.finaid.org
• Check out individual college websites for additional information.

Community Education:
Forest Lake  661-982-8110
Mahtomedi   651-407-2037

Oakdale    651-748-7630
South Washington  651-458-6600
Stillwater  651-351-8300

Computer Access:
Affordable high-speed internet and computer opportunity. Log on to www.connect2compete.org and enter your zip code to see what is available in your area.
Washington County Workforce Centers
Calendar of Workshops

Woodbury Location:
2150 Radio Dr, Woodbury MN 55125

Forest Lake Location:
19955 Forest Rd N, Forest Lake MN 55025

Cottage Grove Location:
13000 Ravine Parkway S, Cottage Grove MN 55016

Employer of the Day
April 1-3 Cottage Grove
April 2-3 Woodbury
April 8-12 Forest Lake
April 22-12 Cottage Grove

Exploring Self Employment
April 2-3:30 Woodbury

Job Talk
April 7, 14, 21, 28 9-11 Cottage Grove

National Career Readiness Certificate
April 7, 14, 21, 28 1-4:30 Woodbury

Boot Camp
April 8 9-4 Woodbury

Creative Job Search
April 14 9-4 Forest Lake

Career Exploration
April 15 9-1 Woodbury

Navigating MinnesotaWorks.net
April 15 2-3 Woodbury
April 28 9:30-10:30 Forest Lake

Interviewing 101
April 22 9-12 Woodbury

Resume 101 Computer Lab
April 22 1-4 Woodbury

Age as an Advantage
April 23 9-4 Woodbury

www.mn.gov/deed/job-seekers

Workforce Center

National Career Readiness Certificate
The National Career Readiness Certificate is a credential that helps you stand out in a competitive job market by showing employers that you have the skills and motivation they're seeking.

The exam highlights your strongest, most marketable skills. It also identifies areas of improvement that would make you a stronger candidate with potential employers.

The NCRC™ assessments are offered at no charge at select Minnesota WorkForce Centers and other locations. For more information, contact a WorkForce Center to find the nearest testing location.

Boot Camp
This 4-day workshop series covers the basics every job seeker needs to know for a successful job search. Topics include transition, empowerment, preparation (job search tools and methods), resume foundation (resume strategies and cover letters), marketing tools (leave behind materials and portfolios), networking and interviewing.

Career Exploration
Are you considering changing careers? Career assessment can identify a career that's right for you and what you need to do to break into the field of your choice.

Summer Camp

Sign up your child(ren) now for an exciting Summer Camp experience.
www.camppage.com
www.mysummercamps.com
www.campchannel.com
www.ymcatwincities.org
www.kidscamps.com

YMCA Camp Options:

Day Camp | Ages 4 - 14
Campers can check out camp and still come home each night. With 10 day camps around the metro area there's bound to be one nearby.

Overnight | Ages 7 - 17
Campers get a well-rounded experience with activities like horseback riding, swimming, ropes, kayaking, and camp fires. 3 - 26 day sessions are available.

Teen Wilderness | Ages 12 - 18
Campers start in base camp then head out on canoeing, backpacking and rock climbing trips. Sessions range from 8 days to 1 month or more.

Family Camp | All Ages
Families get away and come together through opportunities for growth, spiritual development and environmental awareness.

Summer Programs
Full-day enrichment programs for Preschool - Grade 8

Even though the snow is still falling—summer is just around the corner.
In the Know…

- **TAX Day** - April 15th
- **Earth Day** - April 20th
- **Fare for All** - Save up to 40% on Groceries. Go to www.fareforall.org for distribution locations.
- Washington County residents may now watch live county board meetings through website. Residents may find the live webstreaming by searching for “webstreaming” on the front page of the county website at www.co.washington.mn.us, or clicking on the County Board link from the front page.
- From Windows to Macintosh and from desktop publishing to database design, the Science Museum offer more than 200 courses covering more than 80 subjects. Regardless of your occupation or computer experience, we have software classes for you. Go to http://comped.smm.org/ for complete list of classes.

Wendy’s Corner for Public Housing Residents:

- Pay stubs, it is now the residents responsibility to bring in 6 consecutive, most current paystubs for each Annual Recertification appointment. If you have started a new job I will need at least 2 to 4 paystubs to complete your Interim recertification.
- If you have a 401 K we need a current statement and if you have access to withdrawal, how much can be taken out and if there is a penalty for early withdrawal.