



**Gainesville**  
housingauthority

SPRING 2017

750 Pearl Nix Parkway, Gainesville, GA 30501 770-536-1294 www.gainesvillehousing.org

**WALTON SUMMIT**  
AT THE FORMER SITE OF GREEN HUNTER HOMES



**Atlanta Street construction begins**

Gainesville Housing Authority (GHA) and Walton Communities held a ground-breaking ceremony for Walton Summit development, a 252-apartment complex to be built in three phases. The first phase of this project will open by early 2018.

Watch the site to see the first phase begin to take shape!



*The Walton Summit groundbreaking on Feb. 23.*

**Resident Meeting: We want your input**

Come participate in a focus group to provide input into community services. Also, register for RISE Spring Break and Summer Program.

- Each family who attends will receive a free food box. Meetings are **Monday, March 27th**, 5-6:00pm, 750 Pearl Nix Pkwy, in Computer Lab; **Wednesday, March 29th** 5-6:00pm 815 Harrison Square in the Office/Community Center.

Resident Meeting  
March 27th and 29th

**MLK Apartments get a makeover**

MLK Apartments were recently renovated inside and out, including new heat and air systems, new appliances, wall paint, granite countertops and other amenities.

For the exterior, a stone and painted-brick surface freshens up the front.

If you haven't seen them, it's worth a drive.  
(925 MLK Drive SW)



# Harrison Square's former family celebrates

By Beatriz Shirley

As we approach a beautiful spring season, Gainesville presented its own spring fashion show, "Dressed to Kill Cancer," sponsored by the "Thumbs-up Mission."

The fashion show participants, or their family members, were "cancer warriors" who battled cancer at some point in their lives. One of those warriors was our very own Deann Watson, who has not only inspired those who work with her in the Gainesville Housing Authority office, but a whole community as well. Deann – mother of Gainesville High and Clemson football great Deshaun Watson – and her family, once lived at 815 Harrison Square.

The Watson family has also recently experienced another significant life accomplishment. The former "Touchdown Way" in Gainesville was rechristened "Deshaun Watson Way." The road leads to the football stadium where Deshaun built his football career and where Deann has spent many hours cheering for her children participating in multiple sports.

The renaming of the road brings pride not only to the Watson family but to the many "Big Red" fans who admire his athletic achievements and his unpretentious character.

Deshaun Watson is a true "Hometown Hero" who brings a rich legacy to the Watson family, 815 Harrison Square and to Gainesville, Ga.



## Boys & Girls Club at Melrose

Welcome Kerv Augustine, who is now leading the Boys and Girls Club of Hall County (BGCHC) at Melrose! Kerv joins Victor Rosas, Youth Development Professional, and Anaya Willis.

Victor has served at Melrose for a year and a half, and Anaya has volunteered here for about five months.

Welcome Kerv! And thank you to Victor and Anaya!

### Get Involved

The BGCHC meets daily at Innovation Station, Melrose Apartment's community center. Monday – Friday, 3:00-5:30 K-5th grade, For more information, please contact Kerv: kjca777@gmail.com



[www.gainesvillehousing.org](http://www.gainesvillehousing.org)



## Got Your Pet Permit?

Residents with pets need to update vaccination records in the main Pearl Nix office in order to receive a 2017 Pet Permit.

Please bring any new records to the office to keep your pet registered and avoid a fine.



# Avoid those potential housekeeping fines!

Annual inspections are coming up fast, so you must have your apartment ready for them – plus, you may save yourself some money by avoiding fines.

## ***Some tips for getting your apartment in good shape for inspection:***

- Clean up clutter.
- Make sure there is no mold or mildew in bath or kitchen.
- If you see roaches in apartment, let GHA staff know immediately.
- Disconnected or removed smoke detectors by residents is a \$50 fine.
- Parking on grassy areas is a \$80 fine.
- Litter/trash on porches and yards is a \$50 fine.

For a complete listing on preparing for inspection, download the Inspection Preparation Guide at:

<http://www.gainesvillehousing.org/fullpanel/uploads/files/prepareforinspoections.pdf>



**Save yourself some cash!**

## **Avoid Rent Late Fees**

Rent is due on the 1st day of the month. It is late after 3:00 p.m. on the 5th calendar day of each month. A \$25 late rent charge will be applied.

## **Recertification Dates:**

**We start the recertification process in March so be sure to watch your mailbox for this important letter with the details.**

**Watch for Notification Letters in the Mail**

## **New GHA Office Hours**

- The Pearl Nix Parkway main office at

**Melrose Apartments** is open:

**MONDAY** (Lunes): 8am-5pm; closed 1pm-2pm for lunch

**TUESDAY** (Martes): 8am-5pm, closed 1pm-2pm for lunch

**WEDNESDAY** (Miercoles) : 8am until 12 noon

**THURSDAY** (Jueves): 8am-5pm; closed 1pm-2pm for lunch

- **Harrison Square Office**

Open by appointment only.

*"It's your apartment; take care of it."*

## *Meet our Staff*



**Beth Brown** is our Executive Director.



**Alfredo Escobedo** works in Maintenance and serves the AMP II area.



Shanna Kennedy is our Office Manager.



## **How to call in for Repairs**

**All work orders must be called in at 770 536-1295.**

• **Non-emergency work orders will be completed within 5 days.**

• **Emergency work orders will be completed with 24 hours.**

**Please see Resident Guide book for all charges.**

[www.gainesvillehousing.org](http://www.gainesvillehousing.org)

Sign up today!

# RISE – Spring Break is new for 2017

What are your kids doing for spring Break?

Why not sign them up for a week of learning and fun?

Our teachers will review the literacy and reading framework recommended by Gainesville City Schools so that our students can be prepared and successful in their spring testing. If the children attend Monday through Thursday, they may attend a FUN field trip on Friday. Please fill out a Registration Form to hold a spot.

Please fill out a Registration Form to hold a spot.

Forms are available online at [gainesvillehousing.org](http://gainesvillehousing.org) & at our offices.

RISE is first-come-first serve!

**Sign Up NOW!**

**NEW!**

**Monday – Friday**

**3:00 – 5:30pm**

**April 3rd – 7th**

Sign up today!

## RISE Summer Program

Each summer, Gainesville Housing Authority sponsors, in partnership with Brenau University and United Way, offers RISE, a 6-week curriculum-based summer program, to address summer learning loss, for rising 1st-6th graders. RISE sites are Melrose's Innovation Station and Fair Street School. The program is free, breakfast, lunch and a snack are provided daily. Transportation is provided by Gainesville City Schools for students who live in Gainesville. Go to [rissummerprogram.com](http://rissummerprogram.com) for more information and registration materials.

**Contact Maria Calkins,**  
[mcalkins@gainesvillehousing.org](mailto:mcalkins@gainesvillehousing.org)

### SHINE

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:30-5:30, Harrison Square playground or community center when weather is bad. For children, K-5th grade After-school program that provides homework assistance, art projects, holiday parties, fellowship and fun! Also, special Saturday activities: arts and crafts, movies, holiday parties!

**Contact: Amy and Jack Bentley,**  
[occband.jb@gmail.com](mailto:occband.jb@gmail.com)

### Awana

Wednesdays, 5:30 – 7pm

For children, K-5th

Bible Study sponsored by In His Name Church for K-5th graders.

**Contact Jon Huebner,**  
[jonhuebner@gmail.com](mailto:jonhuebner@gmail.com)

### College Bound

For all GHA high school students.

Assistance and mentoring by Resident Services Coordinator, Maria Calkins. Resources include: helping with FAFSA, searching for scholarships, college planning, after-school and summer job search. **Contact: [mcalkins@gainesvillehousing.org](mailto:mcalkins@gainesvillehousing.org)**

### English as a second language classes

While the parents are in class, we offer a kids "Reading Club" at the Melrose main office, a literacy-based programming for kids, at the same time. Includes snacks and a free book for the children each visit! **Contact: [Olga Burch, olga\\_burch@yahoo.com](mailto:olga_burch@yahoo.com)**

### Senior lunch bunch @ Tower Heights

Tuesdays, 11am-1pm: Sponsored by In His Name Church, residents are invited to join us for a short Bible Study, singing, BINGO and lunch. All free of charge for Gainesville Housing Authority residents. **Contact:**

[jonhuebner@gmail.com](mailto:jonhuebner@gmail.com).

Thursdays, 11-1pm: Join us for lunch and programming, as requested by the residents. Referrals and assistance with services are available.

**Reminder:**  
**April 18th**  
**is Tax deadline:**  
**Don't forget to**  
**file your income**  
**taxes.**



[www.gainesvillehousing.org](http://www.gainesvillehousing.org)