



2025 Three months in

Do we blame it on COVID, the press, the billionaires, or the politicians? I try, if at all possible, not to listen to any news or opinionated podcasts. I gauge the state of public housing by what I am sent by HUD or the housing journals I subscribe to. There is a lot of confusion and anger about proposed legislation. If some of these things are made law, it could cause some pain for the low income folks in the U.S. I try to be the eternal optimist and hope for the best. Our housing authority is still considered a high performing agency which keeps us running and not being monitored heavily for non-compliance. There are many changes coming. Rents are going up, food prices are going up, jobs are being lost, and artificial intelligence is rearing its ugly head. We have a great housing authority here and on a daily basis we field numerous calls of people wanting to live here. Our success has been a result of: Great tenants, great employees, a supportive board of directors, and the sense of community here at SHA.

There was a group in the 60's and 70's called the Youngbloods. They had a hit called "Come Together". In 1969, the year this song was re-released, there was a lot of fear and strife around the world, especially in the United States. There was a lot of violence happening in the nation, and the people needed a reminder that everyone must unite. This song encouraged listeners to foster tolerance, non-violence, and unity.

Soak in some of the great lyrics: *"If you hear the song I sing, you will understand, listen. You hold the key to love and fear all in your trembling hand. Just one key unlocks them both. It's there at your command. Come on, people now. Smile on your brother. Everybody get together. Try to love one another right now."*

I was young in the 60's. I experienced a massive flood here in 1965, the riots in Kansas City in 1968, and many different cultural shifts. When I faced an adversarial event in my life if I focused on music and started counting my blessings I achieved inner peace. It is my wish for us all that the last 3 quarters of 2025 will offer peace, hope, and tranquility.

SHA is a wonderful place and it is an honor to be your director.

Bob



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Mar 9 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day
- Mar 20 Chili Sign-Up Due
- Mar 20 Spring Begins
- Mar 25 Chili Cook Off!





SOCIAL SECURITY AND SCAM AWARENESS

Social Security imposter scams continue to be widespread across the United States. Scammers use tactics to deceive you into providing sensitive information or money. If you receive a suspicious letter, text, email, or call, do not respond and DO NOT click on any links in a text that you are unsure of.

Social Security will NEVER:

- * Text or email images of an employee's official government identification.
- * Suspend your Social Security number.
- * Threaten you with arrest or other legal action unless you immediately pay a fine or fee.
- * Require payment by retail gift card, wire transfer, internet currency, or cash by mail.
- * Promise a benefit increase or other assistance in exchange for payment.
- * Mail or email "official" letters or reports containing your personal information.

Social Security ONLY sends text messages in limited situations, including:

- * When you have subscribed to receive updates and notifications by text.
- * As part of their enhanced security when accessing your personal **my Social Security** account.

If you owe money to the Social Security Administration, they will mail you a letter with payment options and appeal rights. Social Security employees do not contact the public by telephone for business purposes. Ordinarily, the agency calls people who have recently applied for a Social Security benefit, are already receiving payments and require an update to their record or have requested a phone call from the agency. If there is a problem with a person's Social Security number or record, Social Security will typically mail a letter.

We encourage you to report suspected Social Security imposter scams — and other Social Security fraud — to the OIG's website at oig.ssa.gov/report. You can find more information about scams at www.ssa.gov/scam.



Please share this information with your friends, family, and colleagues to help spread awareness about Social Security imposter scams.

Spring Forward

Spring forward

Don't forget to set
clocks ahead
one hour
at 2 a.m.
Sunday.



AP

Prepare to enjoy more sunlight and also to lose an hour of sleep. March 9th is the change.

There has been a lot of conversations regarding daylight savings time and whether to get rid of it or keep it as is. Arizona and Hawaii don't observe DST. In Arizona an exception is the Navajo nation in Arizona. DST was used in Germany in 1916. In 1918 the US implemented it as a wartime measure, it was repealed the next year. Roosevelt temporarily reinstated it in WWII. In 1966 Lyndon Johnson passed the uniform time act. In 1974 Nixon made DST year round. In 1975 Ford made it seasonal as it is now.

Our current president stated that he would do away with DST, no bills passed to date.



Keep track of the Kids!

We have more children living at SHA than we have had in the past. I am on site sometimes at night and on weekends. It alarms me if I see a child wandering around the grounds with no supervision. We have some drivers that don't pay attention and drive too fast.

In today's world you never know when a child could be scooped up and taken away. We have great kids living here, parents please keep sight of our SHA kids.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

REDACTED



IRISH SODA BREAD

INGREDIENTS:

- 4 cups all-purpose flour, plus extra for currants / berries
- 4 tablespoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) cold unsalted butter, cut into 1/2-inch dice
- 1 3/4 cups cold buttermilk, shaken
- 1 extra-large egg, lightly beaten
- 1 teaspoon grated orange zest (optional)
- 1 c. dried currants or other dried berry (optional)



DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. Line a sheet pan with parchment paper.
2. Combine the flour, sugar, baking soda, and salt in the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment. Add the butter and mix on low speed until the butter is mixed into the flour.
3. With a fork, lightly beat the buttermilk, egg, and orange zest together in a measuring cup. With the mixer on low speed, slowly add the buttermilk mixture to the flour mixture. Combine the currants with 1 tablespoon of flour and mix into the dough. It will be very wet.
4. Dump the dough onto a well-floured board and knead it a few times into a round loaf. Place the loaf on the prepared sheet pan and lightly cut an X into the top of the bread with a serrated knife. Bake for 45 to 55 minutes, or until a cake tester comes out clean. When you tap the loaf, it will have a hollow sound.
5. Cool on a baking rack.

PEST CONTROL FOR MARCH

The Housing Authority has a pest control company come in every month to our facility and usually covers 1/3 of our apartments and inspects other areas reported by our staff.

Due to changing weather patterns and environmental issues pest issues are ever changing. Please do not leave garbage or trash outside on your porches and please make certain to keep food in your homes (both human and animal) sealed and get rid of spoiled and outdated items.

The exterminators primary job is to inspect the apartments to see if any treatment is needed. If you do not want them to spray please notify the pest control specialist. If there are roaches or other infestations due to housekeeping issues that will be reported to our office. Please contact us with any questions.

Pest control on **March REDACTED**. You do not need to be home for the exterminator. They will always be accompanied by one of our staff members.

Please secure your animal.



Compliance and Lease Issues

Responsible Pet Owners: Many of our SHA pet owners are responsible we do have those that are chronic violators. 1.) Pick up your dogs waste. It would be a courtesy to have your dog do their bodily functions away from other folks apartments. It is good exercise to walk the dog, the best place is in the parking lots or around your own apartment. 2.) Leash laws when violated are very expensive, keep the animal on a leash at all times. 3.) Keep up with vaccinations 4.)

Smoking: The violation of the smoke free federal law is being violated more now that ever. There are some apartments that have a strong cigarette stink, please obey the law. Smoking marijuana on this site is illegal, marijuana smells like a skunk that's been run over. If you get caught smoking marijuana on this property you will be prosecuted.

Squatters and Unauthorized Guests: The lease that you signed is for only the tenants listed on the lease. If a tenant allows a squatter in the apartment leased to them, the head of household could face lease termination.

Bridge Street Project

The Bridge leading to down town has been closed since September 23, 2024. Weather permitting the sidewalk and street will be closed and off limits until completion. The contractors are taking down and replacing the fencing that is currently in place. The lighting is in the finishing stages.

Please do not use the sidewalks and streets going over Bridge Street until the city gives us clearance. It is anticipated to be finished in the spring of 2025.

We will notify you when we get the all clear.



Upcoming Events in town and at SHA



The 4th annual Crawfish boil will be held at the American Legion on March 4th.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
FRIDAY FISH FRIES
 Served every Friday during Lent:
 March 7 through April 11
 4:30pm - 7:00pm

Shrimp Dinner (8 pieces)	\$14
Seniors (60+) & Children (ages 7-12)	\$12
Combo Dinner (half fish/half shrimp)	\$14
Seniors (60+) & Children (ages 7-12)	\$12
Fish Dinner (Cod, baked or fried)	\$14
Seniors (60+) & Children (ages 7-12)	\$12
Any Refill (includes cornbread)	\$9
Toasted Tuna Fish Sandwich	\$5
Grilled Cheese Sandwich	\$5
Cheese Pizza	\$5
Children 6 and under (Dine in only)	Free

Dinners include choice of potato, corn, coleslaw, cornbread, and drink.

Desserts - \$2

Carry out orders call 816-532-4344

Friday-fish-fries-by-the-knights-of-Columbus. The image is hard to read, but it can be accessed on the Smithville Chamber of Commerce web site. The fish fries are held at the Catholic Church during lent on Fridays March 7 through April 11 4:30 to 7:00.



Sha 2nd annual Chili, Soup, or stew contest. See the flyer in this addition.

LOOKIN' AT TODAY'S COUNTRY MUSIC, I CAN SAY

"I'M GLAD I GREW UP IN THE ERA OF REAL COUNTRY MUSIC!"

Guitars, Cadillacs, and Hill Billy Music.



MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 CLOSED St. Patrick's DAY 	18	19	20 CHILI RSVP / Sign-Up DUE! 	21	22
23	24 BOC	25 12 Noon! 	26	27	28	29
30	31					

FOR RESIDENTS, BOC, AND STAFF ONLY



Smithville Housing Authority
2nd Annual



When? Tuesday March 25th, 2025

High Noon! (12:00 PM)

RSVP BY 3/20/2025 TO ATTEND 816-532-3744 ~ Jenna

If you want to COMPETE – FILL IN FORM BELOW & RETURN



Set Up: March 25th, 2025 AT 11:30 AM

Tasting, voting, and lunch begins at 12:00

Winners announced between 1:30 and 2:00

Entry Deadline: March 20th EOD

Name _____

Apt _____ **Type of Chili or Soup** _____