



**Ghosts and Goblins Spooks Galore
Scary Witches At Your Door
Jack-O-Lanterns Smiling Bright
Wishing You a Haunting
Halloween Night!**

Are you thinking about Moving Out of Fayette County?



If you have decided you would like to Move out of Fayette County and you have a Voucher in the Housing Authority Section 8 Program - This is called a PORT-OUT. A Port-Out could be considered moving to another county in Ohio or to another State. There are certain steps you need to take in order to take your Housing Choice Voucher with you and to keep your Section 8 Housing Assistance:



- ◆ First, do some research Find out the name of the Housing Authority in which you would like to be transferred to and let your Fayette Metropolitan HA Housing Specialist know. He or She will then send what's called a Portability Questionnaire to the Housing Authority you have chosen to ask if they are accepting new clients.
- ◆ If so ... you then must first give your Current Landlord a 30-Day Notice before moving. Inform your Housing Specialist who will then give you a Notice of Intent to Move Form for you to sign and your current landlord to sign.
- ◆ Once you have submitted this form to the Housing Authority, your Housing Specialist will schedule you for a Port-Out Appointment where you will be mailed a Letter making you aware of your appointment time & date and a list of the verification you are to bring with you to your appointment along with an Application to have completely filled-out prior to the day of your appointment.
- ◆ During your Port-Out Appointment, you will be Issued a Voucher allowing you to Port-out of Fayette County with your assistance. Your Housing Specialist will then forward all the necessary verification & documentation to the New Housing Authority of your choice - where they will be contacting you for an appointment.



Please keep in mind, if you want to Port-Out, it is a process that will take 30 Days/1 Month to complete in order to keep your Housing Assistance.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN





Fayette Metropolitan Housing Authority Newsletter

How to Free Yourself from Public Assistance

Special Points of Interest:

- ◆ Shadows of a thousand years rise again unseen, voices whisper in the trees, "Tonight is Halloween!"
- Dexter Kozen
- ◆ Use your imagination not to scare yourself to death but to inspire yourself to life.
- Adele Brookman
- ◆ Just because I cannot see it, doesn't mean I can't believe it.
- Jack Skellington
- ◆ Nothing on Earth so beautiful as the final haul on Halloween Night.
- Steve Almond
- ◆ Hold on, man. We don't go anywhere with "scary", "spooky", "haunted" or "forbidden" in the title.
- Shaggy from Scooby-Doo
- ◆ The witches fly across the sky, the owls go, "Who? Who? Who?" The black cats yowl and green ghosts howl, "Scary Halloween to You!"
- Nina Willis Walter

Talk to your Case Worker. Much of the time, your case worker knows of a program that assists you on getting off assistance. These programs are designed to support you while you're looking for a job and often include things like job training classes, resume building workshops, and job lead generation help. Not only that, but they also provide transportation to a new job and gas money as well if that's hard for you to come up with.

Go to College. Minimum wage jobs perpetuate poverty. Getting either a bachelor's degree or a tradesman certificate raises your chances to get off welfare. Take a moment to discover what truly makes you happy. If you want to spend time healing the sick, consider a nursing program sponsored by local hospitals. If you want to rid the world of crime, consider the police academy. Choose a dream to pursue and get the education. If you have children and need some help caring for them, there is also assistance available for that through your case worker. If you want to go to school at the same time, often schools have small child care programs on campus that will care for your children while you go to class, and most of the time they're either low cost or completely free, especially if you're already low income. You might not be able to see your kids very much, but once you're done completing the program, you'll be able to provide a more stable life for them in the long run.

Find low cost child care. This sounds easy, but is the very reason most single moms are on welfare. Consider a co-op. Enlist people in similar situations. Offer to watch a nurse's kids during her night shift. Arrange your schedule around a relative's availability. Look into church-based child care facilities that offer sliding scales for child care.

Look for Work Online. The internet is one of the greatest aids in finding more income so you can stop using the welfare system. Not only can you search for jobs in the area and apply to them, but if you have a particular skill – say, you can write well, or are good with numbers – then you can market yourself online and bring in some income. Even if you don't bring in a lot of income, every single thing that builds your resume can help you find prospect jobs later, and working on specific projects can give you a better understanding of what you want to do in your life.

Save money while living in low rent housing. Talk with your social worker about ways to save money. Ask about low rent subsidies that free up added funds to put aside each month. Place the funds in an interest bearing account.

Network yourself. Even when you think you don't have the necessary skills to do what you want to do for the rest of your life, start networking now. Start finding people who may be able to help you once you have developed your resume and skill set. This means whenever you hear about a job fair you should go to it, and whenever someone says something about what they do for a living, you should listen, and even hand them a business card if you think it's appropriate. Getting off public assistance starts with who you know, not what you know, and the more people you know today, the more likely you are to make progress on getting off welfare.

We should measure welfare's success by how many people leave welfare, not by how many are added. - Ronald Reagan

Motivational Message For The Month

Do what is best

What do you do when you feel like nothing you do is appreciated? Continue with what you know is best, for even when no one else seems to care, it matters that you care. Don't let anyone steal your values or your self esteem. Do what you know is best, no matter what response you get. If you think no one notices, you're mistaken. You notice, and that makes an enormous difference. The purpose of doing good is not to look good, not to impress anyone. Do what is right because it is right, and feel the inner peace, the inner strength it brings. Ultimately, integrity wins. Truth and goodness cannot be denied for long. Do what is best, but not for show. Do what is right, what is best, because your precious life deserves nothing less from you.

- Ralph Marston

Fun HALLOWEEN Cheeseballs!

Pumpkin Cheeseball

16 ounces Cream Cheese, room-temperature
1 1/2 cups Shredded Sharp Cheddar Cheese
3 tablespoons Minced Onion
2 tablespoons Salsa
2 teaspoons Ground Cumin
1 teaspoon Minced Jalapeño Pepper
Crushed Dorito Chips
Green Bell Pepper Stem

With a Mixer - combine the first 6 ingredients. Scoop onto plastic wrap and use the wrap to form the mixture into a 5-inch pumpkin-shaped ball; chill at least 2 hours. To serve, unwrap, roll in crushed Doritos and press a bell pepper stem into the top. Serve with Black Tortilla Chips or Crackers.



Cheeseball Mummy

16 ounces Cream Cheese, room-temperature
1/2 cup Light Sour Cream
2 cups Shredded Swiss Cheese
2 cups Shredded Sharp Cheddar Cheese
1/2 cup Minced Onion
1/4 cup Diced Roasted Red Bell Pepper
1/4 cup Crumbled Prepared Bacon
1/4 cup Fresh Chopped Parsley
1/4 cup Slivered Almonds
3 tablespoons Milk
2 Peppercorns & a Sliver of Roasted Red Bell Pepper

With a Mixer - beat one cup of the cream cheese and sour cream until fluffy. Add Swiss & Cheddar cheeses, onion, roasted pepper, bacon, parsley and almonds - mix well together. Refrigerate for an hour until firm. Shape into a body on a cookie sheet or platter. Mix the second cup of cream cheese and milk. Spoon into a pastry bag with a flat or basket weave tip and pipe bandages onto the Mummy's body. Use peppercorns and red pepper sliver to make the eyes & mouth. Serve with an assortment of Crackers.



Carving The Perfect Jack-O-Lantern!

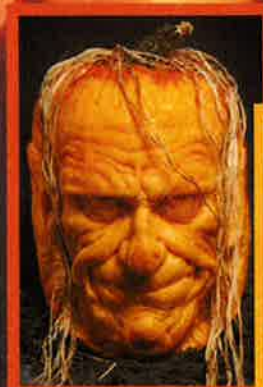
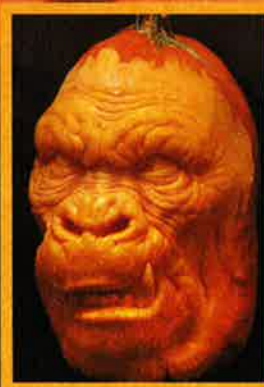
Never carry your **pumpkin** by the stem. It's part of the visual allure, and if it snaps, it can accelerate the pumpkin's rotting. Always carry the pumpkin from the bottom. Store your uncut pumpkin in a cool, dry place. Once pumpkins ripen, they will deteriorate fast - heat and light speed up the process. Wash the exterior of the pumpkin before carving. Use a solution of 1 gallon water and 1 teaspoon chlorine bleach. This will help prevent mold. Draw your pattern on paper or use a **pumpkin carving template**. This is easier and cleaner than drawing right on the pumpkin and makes revisions a snap. To transfer a template to the pumpkin, enlarge it, cut it out and adhere it to the pumpkin with masking tape. Then either use pinpricks to mark the shapes and lines on the pumpkin or use a craft or utility knife and cut through the design to score it on the surface. Don't just think of face designs. Moons, stars, cats and witches are all fun and easy to do. You can even use a drill to make patterned light holes. Consider buying a **pumpkin carving kit**. Often they can be found for just a few dollars. Kits usually contain small scoops and serrated saws that aren't commonly found in the typical toolbox. They're great for detailed carving work. When cutting out your shapes, always use a sawing motion. Go slowly and gently. A small serrated saw is best for the detail work. Never try to forcefully cut your pumpkin with a straight-edge razor - you'll damage the pumpkin, hurt the knife and possibly cut yourself! The more pumpkins in your display, the better. Four or five small pumpkins have much more visual impact than one large one.



Don't Throw-Away The Pumpkin Seeds!

- ◆ 1 1/2 tablespoons melted Butter
- ◆ 3/4 teaspoon Lawry's Season Salt
- ◆ 2 teaspoons Worcestershire Sauce
- ◆ 2 cups Raw Whole Pumpkin Seeds, cleaned & dried

Preheat oven to 275 degrees. Combine all ingredients, mix thoroughly. Spread in a shallow baking dish. Bake for 1 Hour, stirring occasionally.



Are You Interested in Owning Your Own Home?

If you are currently a participant in the Housing Authority Program receiving Rental Assistance
- Your Voucher can easily be converted into a Homeownership Voucher.

The mission of **Self-Help Housing** is to facilitate the production of affordable housing and the development of sustainable communities throughout Fayette and surrounding counties of Ross, Greene, Madison, Clinton and Highland in Ohio. We provide safe, permanent, affordable housing and supportive services for low and moderate income individuals and families. Supportive services provided will enable individuals and families to become educated in financial fitness, predatory lending and homeownership. We are committed to livable and sustainable rural communities by asserting the importance of developing safe, healthy, and adequate housing as an integral part of the community infrastructure. We are dedicated to smart growth and the achievement of helping people obtain the American Dream of homeownership.

Services Include:

- ◆ New Home Ownership Opportunities
- ◆ Credit Repair & Credit Analysis
- ◆ Budgeting
- ◆ Financial Literacy
- ◆ Homebuyer Education Classes

Applicants must have acceptable credit however, FREE credit analysis and repair is always available. We will provide you with tips and instruction on how to rebuild/repair your credit over time. Applicants must have incomes at or below 80% of the area median income (AMI). (some deductions apply) Call for more details. Families may be eligible for a subsidy from USDA Rural Development to make their mortgage payment more affordable which includes the principal, interest, taxes and insurance. The amount of subsidy is determined by family income with payments ranging from 1% interest up to the current note rate. There is no required down payment. Repayment feasibility is determined by using ratios of repayment (gross) income to principal, interest, taxes, insurance, and to total family debt. Loan terms are for up to 33 or 38 years. Families will perform 65% of the construction labor on each other's homes under qualified supervision. The savings from the reduction in labor costs allows otherwise ineligible families to own their own homes. Families move in to their new homes with an average of \$25,000.00 in equity.

Please contact **Tina Dahmer** or **Kathy Brown** for more information on the program:

SELF HELP HOUSING

Community Action Commission of Fayette County

1400 US Route 22 NW

Washington Court House, OH 43160

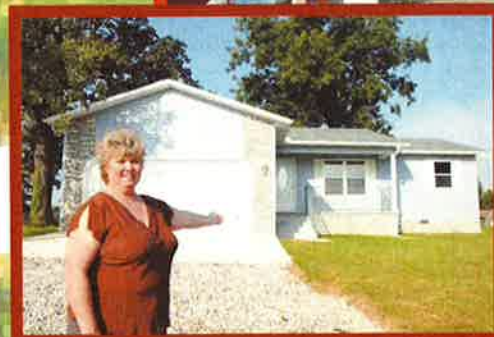
Phone: (740) 335-1831

Fax: (740) 335-6802

tinadahmer@gmail.com

Hours: Mon- Fri, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

Check-out the Self Help Housing Program Facebook



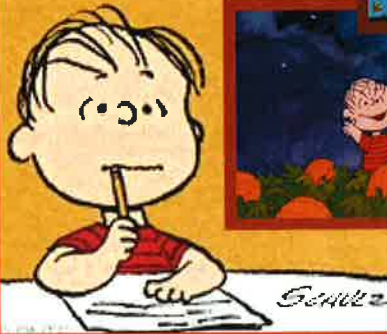


DEAR GREAT PUMPKIN,
I AM LOOKING FORWARD
TO YOUR ARRIVAL ON
HALLOWEEN NIGHT.
I HOPE YOU WILL BRING
ME LOTS OF PRESENTS.

EVERYONE TELLS ME YOU ARE
A FAKE, BUT I BELIEVE IN
YOU.

SINCERELY,
LINUS VAN PELT

P.S. IF YOU REALLY ARE A
FAKE, DON'T TELL ME. I
DON'T WANT TO KNOW.



Don't Let Your Halloween Be
**HAUNTED
by FIRE**

DECORATION SAFETY

Use flameless LED
candles instead
of candles
to decorate
walkways

Keep decorations
away from flames
and heat
sources



International Association
of Fire Fighters



DRIVERS! Watch for children walking on
streets, medians and curbs. Excited kids, often in
dark costumes, may cross between parked cars.



TRICK OR TREAT *Safety Checklist*

- Carry a flashlight with fresh batteries or glow stick
- Ensure masks do not obscure vision
- Add reflective tape to costumes and accessories for better visibility
- Avoid costumes that are too long as they might cause tripping
- No hard accessories (they should be made of soft foam with no sharp edges)
- Have an easy-to-carry Halloween Candy Bag
- Always have a responsible adult walk with children
- Only visit familiar areas and neighborhoods
- Never trick-or-treat alone
- Be cautious of jack o'lantern flames at houses while trick-or-treating
- Walk, don't run!
- Never enter a stranger's home or car
- Cross streets only at corners or crosswalks
- Stay on sidewalks or walkways
- Never eat unwrapped candy or food
- Bring all candy home to be inspected by an adult
- Notify law enforcement authorities of any suspicious or unlawful activity

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