



## Independence Day

Today is a time for fireworks and fun - but we shouldn't forget it's reason.

This is one of the most important days of the entire summer season.

Today's the day our nation became free and the date of the country's birth.

For so many years we have grown to be one of the best countries on earth!

## Applying To The Housing Authority Waiting List For Rental Assistance

It is the Fayette Metropolitan Housing Authority's mission to provide decent, safe and sanitary housing for low-income families. H.U.D. (Housing and Urban Development) is a government funded program. **THE WAITING LIST IS CURRENTLY OPEN.**

In order to qualify for assistance for the following statuses - there must be supporting documentation provided:

- If you apply for the Veteran Waiting List - You must be able to provide your DD214 Honorably Discharge Document.
- If you apply for the Terminally Ill Waiting List - You must be able to provide a Letter from your Physician stating that you are Terminally Ill.
- If you apply for the Disabled Waiting List - You must be able to provide a Letter from your Physician stating that you are Disabled or produce a current Social Security Disability Award Letter and/or a Social Security Income (SSI) Award Letter.

Once you have applied to the Waiting List, be aware that it may take several months to a couple of years before you will be contacted for an Eligibility Appointment.

Unfortunately, there are so many Families in need of assistance in Fayette County. Families are selected from the list in the order in which they applied. It is very important to keep the Housing Authority updated on your current Address and Phone Number in order to be contacted when your application comes up on the Waiting List.

***Waiting List Applications can only be completed on-line by going to [www.fayette-co-oh.com](http://www.fayette-co-oh.com).***

Go to Departments and drop down to Housing Authority, find Helpful Links and follow the prompts. If the applicant does not have access to a computer or requires assistance completing an application - the Housing Authority offers a Computer in the Waiting Room with assistance if needed.



# Fayette Metropolitan Housing Authority *Newsletter*

JULY 1, 2017

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 7

## *The Meaning of the 4th of July*



Blood and Freedom – Fourth of July, 1967 . . . I'm on a fire support base in the mountains of Tam Ky Vietnam that's separated from its main unit, the 4th of the 31st of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade. I've recently returned to my unit from an unscheduled "visit" to the Cam Ranh Bay hospital because of my cravings for some enemy's metal souvenir in my body. Seems like the REMF's (non-combative types) in Cam Ranh seem to think that the recuperating grunts are there to build their bunkers, sweep out their fancy living quarters and scraping and washing the dishes that we had fed them on. This grunt's mind is on "payback" and getting back to his unit and his men, and repaying the pain that he had gone through. All it takes is slipping out and bumming a ride from a gun or supply ship going up "North". Travel is no problem, without ID or travel orders, since no questions are ever asked. Why would someone want to leave the peaceful and secured hospital and beach in Cam Ranh Bay to go back to "I" Corp where the spilling of our enemy's blood, and especially our own, is creating a "brotherhood" between our Allied forces? I'm again with my squad and I feel safer in this area of death and destruction than I did in the hospital, having been stripped of what I had been trained for, the use of my knowledge, a reliable weapon and support to protect and defend my life that now belongs to the US Army. The security of being around my fellow squad members relieves me since I know that they will not hesitate to do anything within their ability to protect me, as I would them. It's the fourth of July and we sit and listen to the Armed Forces radio station through ragged, banged up and taped together portable radios, with what ever metal we can find as an antennae. Batteries have been scrounged and put together from discarded batteries from our own PRC radios, that are the number one means of communication in this hell hole. We listen to the patriotic music, but yearn to hear the hard rock, soul, TexMex, or country music that our relatives and friends are listening to back home.

I believe that there is no patriotism here and as I look around my surrounding, I'm almost convinced. Our two to three men bunkers have been dug into the side of a steep incline without the advantage of steel aircraft planking, PSP, or pierced-steel-planking, like we "borrowed" from the airfields down South. There are no airfields where we are now and we make due with whatever lumber we can find to put a roof over our heads. Half heartedly sandbagged, they don't really protect us, but cover over our heads, puts our minds at ease. We squat or sit in our bunkers since there is no room to stand, grunts without having bathe for weeks and afraid to take off our boots because of the urgent need to have them on at any second. Merely loosening our boot strings is a luxury. Surprisingly, when one of us takes off their boots, the whiff that is expected is not experienced . . . more than likely because of the surrounding stench that we already live in. As the Fourth of July is upon us, we watch from our vantage point, far in the distance and all around us, the fireworks and actual weapons' fire coming from many of the more secured bases in celebration. We, ourselves, cannot compromise ourselves to using up any ammo that we have. The rains have been upon us, the drainage flowing freely through our bunkers and the heavy cloud cover on this mountain top has greatly affected our supply runs. It is only with the bravery of the many helicopter pilots and their crews that ignore the fog and heavy cover to bring us our rations of food, medical supplies, mail and ammo, that we get to this point. I have to think, "Maybe, this is part of patriotism". As I sit and stare into the darkness and unknown, I think back to my school days when we were taught that the Fourth of July was associated with the Magna Carta, the Declaration of Independence and basically all having to do with the freedom of our country. Is it patriotism that has me sitting in this hole in the ground and glad that it's not in my own front yard? Is it patriotism that ties us together as brothers to the death, to fight a war that we don't understand? Is it patriotism that makes me follow the orders of my government to do things that are probably against every fiber of my moral? Is it patriotism that causes so many of my present and past relatives, friends and fellow countrymen to sacrifice so much to live in a country of dreams, free of oppression and prejudice? . . . Maybe so. I have to think if these were the same thoughts going through the mind of some colonist as he waited for the English enemy to show, and sat in his own little "bunker" contemplating. Two centuries and a couple of decades separate our thoughts, but not the idea of freedom. The very idea of me writing this and expressing my feelings is a sign of the freedom of speech that came about on the Fourth of July so long ago.

To many, the Fourth of July means just another day off work, as on Memorial Day, Veterans Day and so many other holidays. But to many others, what the Fourth of July really means, is the involvement in the creation of this freedom for our country. It means not only the history of that date in 1776, but the events that followed and the blood shed to keep this freedom. As a Vietnam Veteran, I have considered the personal meaning of the 4th of July. I realize the heart of the 4th of July resides within the great documents and framework of this Republic, but the spirit of the 4th was best summarized by the Prisoner of War who scratched on a wall at the Hanoi Hilton in Vietnam: "Freedom has a taste to those who have fought and almost died for it that the protected shall never know." That "taste", or lesson, is the truism, also inscribed in stone, of the Korean War Monument in D.C.: Freedom Is Not Free. So, on this 4th of July, I pray our protected citizens recognize that our country's freedom was won by the blood of veterans, is retained by the blood of veterans, and shall exist so long as we, the American people, stand fast against any enemy who would challenge our right to be free, and are willing to pay the price in blood . . . Freedom is not, and never will be free.

- By Patrick Camunes

## *Motivational Message For The Month*

### **You can do more**

You can do more. Today is when. Sure you're busy. No, you're not greedy. Yet you can improve. If you're not improving, you're declining. Use this day to improve, to get better. It's not a greediness thing, it's a generosity thing. Life benefits from what you're able to give. So enable yourself to give more, to be better at what you do. Whatever it may be, improve what you do, a little bit each day. It's in your best interest, and in the best interest of all life.

- Ralph Marston

## Light Up The Grill!


### The Best Grilled Pork Chops

#### For the Brine:

- ◆ 6 cups Water
- ◆ 1/4 cup Cider Vinegar
- ◆ 1/4 cup firmly packed Brown Sugar
- ◆ 1 teaspoon Dried Thyme
- ◆ 1/8 teaspoon Red Pepper Flakes
- ◆ 2 tablespoons Kosher Salt
- ◆ 1 tablespoon Black Pepper
- ◆ Large Sealable Plastic Bag

#### You'll Also Need:

- ◆ 6 bone-in Pork Chops, at least 1 inch thick
- ◆ 6 ripe but slightly firm Plums, Peaches or Nectarines, halved and pitted
- ◆ Canola Oil for brushing




To make the brine, in a large bowl, combine the water, vinegar, brown sugar, thyme, red pepper flakes, salt and black pepper. Stir until the sugar and salt dissolve. Place the pork chops in a large sealable plastic bag and pour in the brine. Seal the bag closed, squish the brine around the chops and refrigerate overnight. At least 30 minutes before you plan to begin grilling, remove the chops from the refrigerator. Discard the brine, rinse the chops briefly in cold water and pat dry with paper towels. Prepare a charcoal or gas grill for indirect grilling over medium heat; the temperature inside the grill should be 350° to 375°F. If using charcoal, bank the lit coals on either side of the grill bed, leaving a strip in the center without heat, and place a drip pan in the center. If using gas, preheat the burners, then turn off 1 or more of the burners to create a cooler zone. Brush and oil the grill grate. Place the pork chops on the grill over the direct-heat area and sear, turning once, until nicely grill-marked on both sides, 2 to 3 minutes per side. Move the chops to the indirect-heat area and cover the grill. Cook until the chops are somewhat firm to the touch or until an instant-read thermometer inserted horizontally into the center of a chop, away from the bone, registers 145°F, about 15 minutes more for medium. Transfer the chops to a platter and let rest for 10 minutes. Meanwhile, brush both sides of the fruit halves with oil. Place the fruit over the direct-heat area and cook, turning once, until nicely grill-marked, about 2 minutes per side. Serve the pork chops immediately with the grilled fruit on the side. Serves 6.

### The Best Barbecue Chicken

#### You'll Need:

- ◆ Vegetable Oil (on the Grill Grates to prevent sticking)
- ◆ 2 tablespoons Paprika
- ◆ 2 tablespoons Chili Powder
- ◆ 2 teaspoons Coarse Salt
- ◆ 1/2 teaspoon Pepper
- ◆ 1 Chicken (about 3 pounds) cut into 10 pieces
- ◆ 2 cups of Your Favorite Barbecue Sauce



Heat grill to medium. Lightly oil grates. In a small bowl, combine paprika, chili powder, salt and pepper; sprinkle spice rub all over chicken. Reserve 1 cup barbecue sauce in small bowl for serving. Keep remaining sauce in another bowl for basting. Grill chicken, turning often, until cooked through, 15 to 20 minutes (if browning too quickly, move to cooler part of grill). During final 5 minutes of cooking, baste chicken with barbecue sauce. Serve chicken with reserved sauce.

## Patriotic Bandana Hanging Banner

### You'll Need:

- ◆ **Red, White & Blue Bandanas** (as many as you want depending on how long you want your Banner to be)
- ◆ **Scissors**
- ◆ **An Iron**
- ◆ **Hot Glue Gun**
- ◆ **Twine**

Cut up the Bandana into (4) Squares. Fold each square into a Triangle & iron to get nice creases. Using the hot glue gun, glue the creases down. Fold the top of the triangle over your string of twine & attach it using the hot glue gun. Repeat this process creating a Red, White & Blue pattern making your Banner as long as you want it.



### You'll Need:

- ◆ **A White or Red T-Shirt**
- ◆ **Red & Blue or White & Blue Fabric Paint**
- ◆ **Paint Brush**

Paint your child's hand with the blue paint making sure the entire palm and bottom of fingers are covered. Then, press their hand on the upper left chest area of the shirt. Be sure to check that all areas of the hand press down on the shirt to get a good hand print. Now paint stripes on with the red or white paint (depending on if your shirt is white or red ) on the right side of the blue hand print and a few directly underneath. Let Dry - Now your child has a cute outfit for the 4th and they had lots of fun making it!

## Patriotic T-Shirt





Don't Forget to Think of Your Pets This Summer and What's Best For Them.

Don't run the risk of Dehydration and Heat Stroke - Always Make Sure Your Pets Have Plenty of Cool, Fresh Water to Drink and a Shaded Area Out of the Sun.



## FOURTH OF JULY

Safety Tips for Dogs



More pets go missing on July 4th than any other day.



Fireworks are Scary



Keep Your Pets Safe

Fireworks terrify pets!

Create a safe haven for your pets in a sheltered, escape-proof part of your home with plenty of water. Also, turn on the TV to help mask the fireworks with familiar sounds.

## CAR TEMPERATURE PET SAFETY CHART

How long does it take for a car to get HOT?

### VEHICLE TEMPERATURE

Outside Temp (F)	Inside Temp (F)	
	10mins	30mins
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°



DOGS DIE EVERY SUMMER  
In minutes your car temps are deadly!

## Fireworks

*"Fire in the Sky"*

Washington Court House, Ohio  
July 3, 2017 at 10:00 p.m. - Fayette County Fairgrounds

*"Jeffersonville Fireworks Display"*

Jeffersonville, Ohio  
July 4, 2017 at 10:00 p.m.

*"Patriotic Celebration"*

London, Ohio  
July 3, 2017 at 10:00 p.m. - London High School

*"Wilmington 4th of July Celebration"*

Wilmington, Ohio  
July 4, 2017 at Dusk - J.W. Denver Williams Park

*"Chillicothe July 4th Fireworks"*

Chillicothe, Ohio  
July 4, 2017 at 10:00 p.m. - Yoctangee Park





# Fireworks Safety

Light up the night. And, stay safe.

Whether you like to light a sparkler or two or plan the most eye-catching display in your neighborhood, here are a few quick tips to keep in mind before you start the show.

### Keep it legal.

The majority of injuries sustained from fireworks result from illegal fireworks. Buy only legal fireworks. Looking for a quick way to tell what's legal? Avoid fireworks packaged in brown paper. (That's usually an indication that those particular fireworks were made for professional displays and not intended for consumers.)

### Keep water close.

Always have a bucket of water nearby in case of an emergency. As an extra precaution, douse burned fireworks with water before discarding them in the trash.

### Keep away.

Once you've lit the fuse, back up immediately and maintain a safe distance. What if one of your fireworks doesn't do what it's supposed to do? Douse it with water. Do not attempt to retrieve or reignite a fireworks device that did not light properly.

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**EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY**

Source: "Firework Safety Book," Fireworks Safety, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, With: 11 June 2012, <http://www.cpsc.gov/info/fireworks/index.html>.