

# Clay Center Housing October 2013

Office hours are 9AM to Noon Monday - Friday and 1PM to 4PM Monday

& Wednesday. The office is closed Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons, weekends and holidays. We will be available by advance appointment **ONLY** these afternoons.. Call and leave a message, someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

Window hours are 9AM to Noon Tuesdays & Fridays. Residents may get

change or stamps and pay rent during these times. If you pay rent by check and don't need a receipt, you can put the check in the drop box slot of the office door at any time. Please make arrangements to pickup packages between 8:00AM and noon. As always, if you have a lock-out, call or come to the office. If no one answers the door call 447-9352.

Newsletters and statements are available at the office the last week of each month. Each household is responsible for picking these up and **READING** the information provided

If you have a work order, call the office. Please leave a message stating the unit number, nature of the problem and whether maintenance has permission to enter. It is **NOT** necessary to come to the office, just call. Your needs will be addressed as soon as possible in the order of urgency.

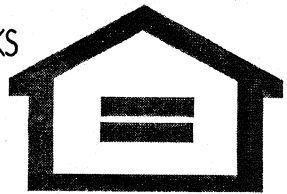
330 West Court- St. Clay Center, KS

Telephone: 785-632-2100

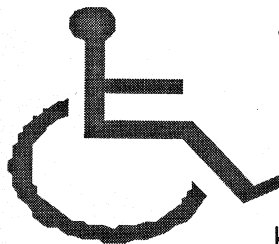
Fax: 785-632-6363

Website: [claycenterhousing.com](http://claycenterhousing.com)

KS Relay Center TDD 800-766-3777

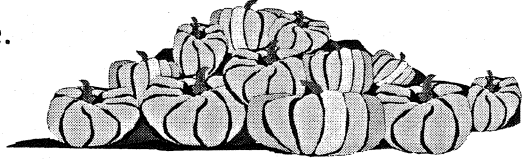


**EQUAL HOUSING  
OPPORTUNITY**



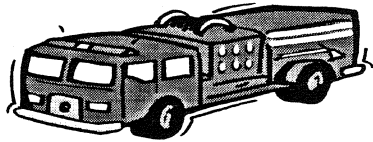
# Safety

**October is fire safety and prevention month**, and is a month in which many seasonal changes occur. Not only does the weather get drastically colder in some regions of the country, but the sun also sets at an earlier time, posing safety hazards as it gets dark. It is important to take steps and precautions throughout the month of October to ensure that you and your family are safe.



## Health

Health is an essential safety topic for the month of October, as the cooling weather makes it easier for viruses to thrive. This increases the chances of you and your children getting sick from viruses such as the common cold and the flu. To guard your family against airborne viruses, practice good hygiene such as washing hands, using hand sanitizer and wiping down surfaces with antibacterial wipes. You may also consider getting a flu shot to decrease your likelihood of contracting the flu.



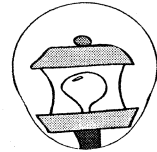
## Fire

October is fire safety awareness month, which you can use to better prepare your home in the event of a fire. Teach your children what to do if the house is on fire, such as the stop, drop and roll technique. Create a safety plan for your family and have multiple evacuation plans ready. This is also a good time to have anti-fire features added to your home; make sure you have a fire extinguisher and purchase fireproof safes to store your valuable belongings.

## Halloween



Halloween occurs on the 31st of October, and can be a potentially dangerous holiday for children. To address safety concerns for the holiday, make sure that your children have a portable light source to carry while trick-or-treating, such as miniature lanterns, flashlights or glow sticks. These will make it easier for your children to see and be seen. You may also decide to add reflective tape to your children's costumes to make it easier for passing cars to see them. Make sure that your children's costumes are not long enough for them to trip over, and that the costumes are warm enough to be worn outdoors if the night is cold. Check all of the candy your children receive while trick-or-treating. Throw away any candy that has been opened or punctured.



## Darkness

With the days becoming shorter during October, it is important to address safety concerns involving your children playing outside. You may need to establish an earlier curfew to prevent your children from playing outside once it gets dark. Whenever outside after dark try to stay in areas that have lighting and always be aware of your surroundings.

# Have a safe and happy October!

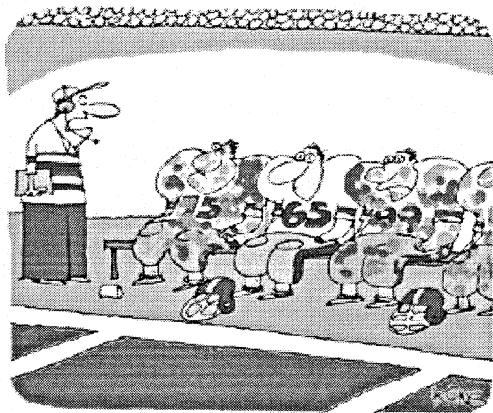
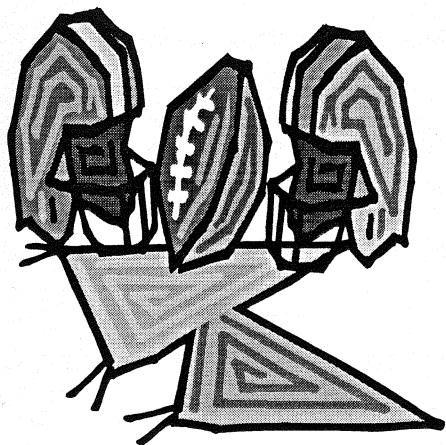


**October Trivia** - October is the tenth month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendars and one of seven months with a length of 31 days. It received its name from the Latin numeral “octo” meaning “eight”, because in the first Roman calendar it was the eighth month. It retained its name after January and February were inserted into the calendar. In merry old England during olden times the month of October was once named “Winmonth”, which meant wine month. It has also been called ‘Teo-monath’ (Tenth month) and ‘Winter-fylleth’ (Winter full moon) in the Old Saxon traditions.

October isn't just about Halloween or Columbus Day. There is Mother-in-law day, Boss' Day, National Bologna Day, World Pasta Day, Moldy Cheese Day, National Dessert Day, Fire Prevention Day, Dictionary Day, National Tell a Story Day, National Nut Day and many more.

October is Adopt-A-Shelter Dog Month - Children's Health Month - Class Reunion Month - Frugal Fun Month - National Crime Prevention Month - Family Health Month - National Breast Cancer Awareness Month - National Positive Attitude Month - National Cookie Month - National Seafood Month - National Dessert & Cookie Month - National Popcorn & Popcorn Poppin' Month - National Pretzel Month - National Pork Month - National Stamp Collecting Month - National Chili Month - National Domestic Violence Month.

What are you going to celebrate this month?



"I don't want to mention any names, but one of you isn't giving a 100% out there."

## Football Word Search

Find the football terms hidden in the puzzle.

I W Q I C L V B N W O D H C U O T  
 R K J Q E T Z P U N T O U Q G G E  
 S H P K N X F C L I P P I N G E B  
 X S X I T J X L T W T E D U O D L  
 C U G C E D B E B W T E U O K R L  
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BLOCK  
 CENTER  
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 FOUL  
 FUMBLE  
 GUARD  
 HELMET  
 HUDDLE  
 KICK  
 LINE  
 OFFENSE  
 OFFSIDE  
 PASS  
 PENALTY  
 PLAY  
 PUNT  
 RECEIVER  
 REFEREE  
 RUSH  
 SCORE  
 TACKLE  
 TEAM  
 TOUCHDOWN  
 YARD

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## TENANT NOTICES -

**PARKVIEW AIR CONDITIONING** Now that the weather has cooled it is no longer a major topic. However, since there was much unjustified criticism and rumor in early September that the Housing Authority Staff turned the thermostat up in the hallways of Parkview Plaza it is time the truth be told. The air conditioning condenser for the upper floor hallways of Parkview is probably the original. A few years ago it sustained significant hail damage. However, it has still managed to maintain a reasonable temperature up until the 2 week period in early September when the outside temperature was in upper 90's and 100's. Carlson's worked on the unit and it is doing better but it was simply unable to maintain the 78 degree mark. Due to the budget and the time of year (the heat is over) we will replace the unit in the Spring of 2014. There has been plenty of complaining this summer about the temperatures we set in the common areas at Apollo and Parkview. For your information, the electric bill for August was \$3,493 for Apollo Towers and \$4,586.57 for Parkview Plaza. In a month that we are fully occupied, we receive \$1,025 from Apollo Towers residents, \$750 from Parkview residents, \$500 from the Clay County Senior Task Force, and approximately \$475 from laundry and vending. In August, that leaves \$5,330 for the taxpayers to cover. I think you can see that we do not operate like a normal business as our rents and utilities billed to our tenants do not come close to covering our operating expenses. There are a growing number of politicians who do not think we should continue to fund these properties. In fact, they have significantly cut our funding in

2013. Our operating expenses for this year on the two towers will be at least \$40,000 over what we will receive in revenue. While we are going to convert our operations to HUD Project Based Section 8 Vouchers in 2014 to get back on the plus side, there is no guarantee that Congress and/or HUD will continue to fund us at an appropriate level going forward. In the meantime, Public Housing Authorities are eliminating properties and programs across the country and in Kansas. Therefore, we will do everything possible to keep our costs down with no apologies.

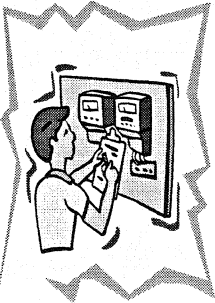


**TENANT TRASH** Our staff has been instructed to search trash bags for personal tenant correspondence for receipts to identify the source of the trash. We will also use video replay when expedient to find out who is abusing our trash policy. Just like mud tracking, we will charge a \$50 penalty for putting trash in the Parkview trash room containers that is not in a trash bag, is not properly tied, or weighs over 25 pounds.

**CARPET STAINS** Beginning immediately, we will charge a \$50 penalty for anyone found staining the carpet in our hallways. It is also the tenants' responsibility to clean your apartment floors and remove stains before they become old.

**SMOKING** We have designated smoking areas for a reason. Some of our residents think they can smoke anywhere outside. All of our properties are "Non Smoking" except for designated areas. The signs are clear. Tobacco may be a legal substance but this housing authority reserves the right to evict those who abuse our "No Smoking" policy.

Tuesday & Friday mornings are set aside as "Window Hours" for the residents of the housing authority. Selling stamps and making change is a courtesy we provide. It is NOT your right to have these things provided. DO NOT come to the office outside of these times to get change or stamps.



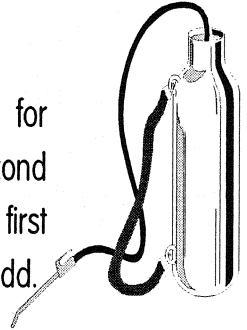
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Parkview electric meters will be read in the morning on the 2nd Monday of each month. This will take place on the 14th this month. Your meter will be read whether you are home or not.

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SPRAY DAY - Wednesday, October 9th is bug spray day for Parkview & Tolin Terrace. Spray day is always the second Wednesday of the month and will start around 8:30 AM on the first floor. Parkview and Tolin are the even months and Apollo the odd.

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ANNUAL INSPECTIONS - All units and common areas of Parkview third floor will be inspected **Thursday, October 10th**. Each unit will be inspected once a year unless there is a problem. Whether you are home or not these inspections will take place. Please consider this your advance notice.

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*Beauty Shop - Arlene Stewart*

*Located at Apollo Towers*

*first floor by the community room.*

*For an appointment, call (785)630-0742*

