

# Executive Director's Report

*Housing Authority Of The City Of Orlando, Florida*  
*Vivian Bryant, Esq., Executive Director*  
*Ed Carson, Chair*

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DESK

### Calendar of Upcoming Events

- NAHRO Summer Conference  
Nashville, TN  
July 25-27, 2008
- FAHRO Annual Convention & Trade Show  
Miami, FL  
August 12-15, 2008
- PHADA Legislative Forum  
The Liaison Capitol Hill  
Washington, D.C.  
September 7-9, 2008
- Florida Housing Coalition's 21st Annual Statewide Affordable Housing Conference  
Orlando, FL  
September 15-17, 2008
- NAHRO National Conference  
San Antonio, TX  
October 26-28, 2008

### Inside this issue:

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS	1
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING	1
OHA's DUAL CELEBRATION Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony and the Seventieth Anniversary	2
OHA's HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAM	3
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS REPORT	4



**VIVIAN BRYANT, ESQ.**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

This Fourth of July, for me, was more than the traditional family time with picnics and fireworks. I recently had the opportunity to testify at a Congressional subcommittee hearing Chaired by Congresswoman Maxine Waters about the HOPE VI program. Thanks go to Congresswoman Corrine Brown and Congressman John Mica for sponsoring a bill to extend the deadline for 2002 HOPE VI recipients that were impacted by hurricanes, soil impacts and a bald eagle that took residence on a HOPE VI site. HOPE VI is the program that provides partial funding for the redevelopment of former public housing sites and created Hampton Park and Carver Park. Actually, what I testified about was not nearly as fascinating to me as the fact that I, an ordinary citizen, was speaking before the voting members of a Congressional committee! As an Executive Director, I was happy to provide information that may result in a continuation of the HOPE VI program. As an American, I was proud to be able to participate so directly in the system of how our laws and policies are made!

Washington, D.C. is a beautiful city with buildings that house all the departments of the U.S. government. Most of the buildings are old and very imposing structures. Every time I visit, I am awed by the Capitol and Senate office buildings. I thank my staff who through faxes, emails and phone calls, made sure I was

prepared for my five minutes before the Congressional subcommittee, I felt truly blessed to live in a country where every one of us is part of the governmental process.

Although no one can just walk into a Congressional hearing and speak, watching the Senate and Congressional staffs interacting, exchanging information, running up and down long corridors trying to beat deadlines; everything is impressive and well-planned. At the same time, the process is really quite simple. A citizen has an idea or opinion, lets their representative know, and the representative decides how to vote. Seeing it all works reminded me that every single vote, every single election, is essential to keeping our country strong.

Every time you think your vote doesn't count, think about the elected officials and how they get into office. They can only get into office if they are voted in. Whatever our opinions of individual politicians or party politics, the bottom line is that, without votes, no one can win. That includes your vote!

As we get ready for both the Democrat and Republican conventions this summer, we will enter into the full arena of the Presidential election. We will be bombarded with commercials, speeches, arguments and scandals. Are you registered to vote? Will you be part of the decision-making process? Politicians will listen and act when they know your vote is at stake. Even more importantly, they will respond when large numbers of votes are in the balance, such as with any one of our public housing sites.

Please pay attention to the election. Separate all the talk and campaigning and look at the values of each candidate. Think about what you want for your children and the future of the United States. And remember that our process does work. It has worked for over 200 years! God bless each and every one of you, especially our military personnel.  
 God Bless America!

### Board of Commissioners' Meeting

The Orlando Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners will hold its regular Board Meeting Thursday, July 17, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. at the OHA Administration Building, Board Room, 390 N. Bumby Avenue, Orlando, FL 32803.

Orlando Housing Authority residents interested in attending the meeting who need transportation, please call the Family Services Department at (407) 895-3300, extension 6001.

# OHA's DUAL CELEBRATION -- Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony and the Seventieth Anniversary Celebration



Vivian Bryant, Esq., OHA's Executive Director and Ed Carson, OHA's Board Chair

Thursday, June 26, 2008 marked a dual celebration for the Housing Authority of the City of Orlando, Florida (Orlando Housing Authority or OHA). OHA began the festivities with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at its model home at the Carver Park development at the corner of Short Avenue and Conley Street, in the south Parramore area.

The festivities then moved to the Orange County Regional History Center, 65 East Central Blvd., Orlando, Florida 32801 at 5:30 p.m., where a reception was held to celebrate OHA's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Photographs of OHA's 70-year history were displayed.

Carver Park is a planned 203-unit mixed-income development, funded, in part, with a 2002 HOPE VI grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The grant provides leverage for other public and private financing. Carver Park is modeled on the Orlando Housing Authority's award-winning HOPE VI-funded development, Hampton Park.

PICTURES FROM OHA'S 70th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



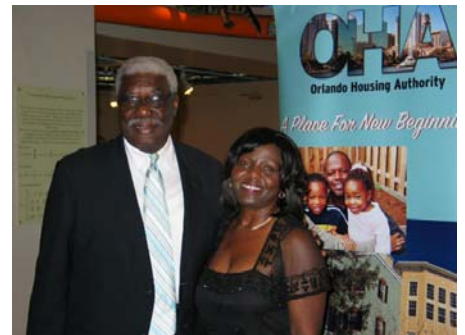
City of Orlando's Mayor, Buddy Dyer and Vivian Bryant, Esq., OHA's Executive Director



TO ALL OUR GUESTS FOR BEING A PART OF THIS WONDERFUL CELEBRATION AND TO OUR SPONSORS FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT!



Randolph Bracy, Jr., Pastor, New Covenant Baptist Church of Orlando



## OHA's HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAM



The Orlando Housing Authority operates a homeownership Program since 1999. Since 1999, the OHA has assisted sixty three families in the purchase of their first home. In addition, hundreds of families have received homeownership counseling and information to help move them towards achieving the goal of self-sufficiency and homeownership. Gloria Oliver, Executive Director of the Homebuyer's Counseling Collaborative of

Central Florida, Inc. and the OHA's Housing Counseling provider recently received the following letter from a future homeowner.....

*To Whom It May Concern:*

*I would like to thank God for bringing Gloria Oliver into my life to make this happen. When I first started the Home Ownership Program in 2001, I was happy that I was going to be in the process of owning my own home by the end of the program. Once the program ended, I was referred to a mortgage lender and all my dreams were crushed. The home that I thought I was going to get was taken away from me right from under my nose. I had given up on the idea of owning my own home.*

*Six years later I received a phone call from the Home Ownership Program stating that they were having another workshop. I went the first day and I had deja vu. I was hearing the same speech from six years prior. I decided that I was not going to go through this again. Gloria must have seen it on my face. She convinced me to come to the next meeting. I went and she convinced me to sign the paperwork so that she could get my credit report. I explained to her that I did not want to go through this and be disappointed again.*

*She told me that I would not be disappointed again and she was right. Gloria stuck by me all the way through the program. She found mortgage lenders that were willing to actually help me and get my process moving toward owning my own home. She stayed in contact with me and my lenders throughout the program and after the program, she never refused any of my phone calls, and she always tried to answer my questions.*

*When we had guest speakers she actually asked questions that the class did not think of just so the class could get a better understanding of the program and what were going to happen in the long run. I can actually say that am truly happy that I took the Home Ownership Program the second time around. If it wasn't for Gloria Oliver I would have given up again.*

*Thank you,*

*Carol Morris*

Do you also dream of one day becoming a homeowner? If so, the Orlando Housing Authority wants to help you make this dream a REALITY. Call the OHA's Homeownership Department 407 895-3300, Ext. 6008 or 4008.



### THE MODEL HOME

*Carver Park is a vital link, into a unique and vibrant neighborhood, as described in the Orlando Downtown Outlook Plan.*





ORLANDO HOUSING AUTHORITY

390 N. BUMBY AVE  
ORLANDO, FL 32803  
Telephone: (407) 895-3300  
Fax: (407) 895-0820

**WE ARE ON THE WEB**  
**WWW.ORL-OHA.ORG**

**HUD's Mission Statement:** To promote adequate and affordable housing, economic opportunity and a suitable living environment free from discrimination.

**Orlando Housing Authority Mission Statement:** To offer a choice of safe and affordable housing options and opportunities for economic independence for residents of Orlando and Orange County.



## Capital Improvements Report



### Complex 4-1 Griffin Park Apartments

- ◆ Refinish 162 Bathtubs: Permaglaze of Central Florida, LLC began work February 11, 2008. Work is 80% complete. The estimated completion date has been changed to September 16, 2008.
- ◆ Supply and Install Aluminum Replacement Windows at Griffin Park Apartments: Breen Construction began installation May 26, 2008. The work is 50% complete. The estimated completion date is November 7, 2008.

### Complex 4-2/5 Reeves Terrace Apartments

Supply and Install New Windows, Kitchen Cabinets, Bathtub Refinishing, Electrical Upgrade from 100 amps to 125 amps, Interior PEX Re-Pipe, 220 Volt Electric Circuit for Washer/Dryer, Electric Stove and Electric Water Heater, Exterior Stucco and Exterior Painting at Reeves Terrace Apartments: The apparent low bidder is Britt Construction, Inc. will begin work July 28, 2008. The estimated completion date is April 26, 2010.

### Complex 4-4 Lake Mann Homes

Supply and Install Interior and Exterior Doors, Windows, Ceramic Floor Tile, Water Heaters, 220 Volt Electrical Circuit, Bathtub Refinishing, Exterior Stucco and Exterior Painting: Britt Construction began work March 17, 2008. Stucco application has been completed on all buildings. Forty (130) bathtubs have been painted. Tile has been installed in all units. Windows have been installed on sixty-five (65) buildings. The estimated completion date is September 18, 2009.

### Complex 4-6 Murchison Terrace Apartments

- ◆ Supply and Install Interior Doors, Windows, Ceramic Floor Tile, Water Heaters, Exterior Stucco and Exterior Painting: Britt Construction began work June 4, 2008. The work is 40% complete. The estimated completion date is August 5, 2009.
- ◆ Supply and Install 220 Volt Electric Circuit at Murchison Terrace Apartments: JF VII Corporation began work May 28, 2008 and completed work June 13, 2008.
- ◆ Refinish 190 Bathtubs: Permaglaze of Central Florida will begin work July 21, 2008. The estimated completion date is

November 25, 2009.

### Complex 4-9 Ivey Lane Homes

Supply and Install Interior and Exterior Doors, Windows, Ceramic Floor Tile and Interior Painting: Breen Construction began work April 28, 2008. Work is 50% complete. The estimated completion date is November 25, 2009.

### Complex 4-10 Lorna Doone Apartments

Re-build Two (2) Elevator Piston Cylinders: General Elevator began work April 21, 2008. Work is 50% complete. The estimated completion date is August 29, 2008.

### Complex 4-12 Johnson Manor Apartments

Supply and Install Kitchen Cabinets, Bathroom Vanities, Interior Doors and Interior Painting: RC Engineering began work March 17, 2008. Work is 42% complete. The estimated completion date is September 8, 2008.

### Complex 4-12A Citrus Square Apartments

Supply and Install Steel Exterior Entry Doors: Jacaranda Air Construction, Inc. will begin work August 18, 2008. The estimated completion date is February 8, 2009.

### Complex 4-13 Omega Apartments

Interior Painting: Ovation Construction began work April 21, 2008. Work is 65% complete. The estimated completion date is August 19, 2008.

## Bid Packages Being Prepared

Supply and Install Kitchen Cabinets and Sinks at Griffin Park Apartments.

Supply and Install Exterior Doors at Omega Apartments.

Supply and Install Insulation at Lake Mann Homes.

Supply and Install Insulation at Murchison Terrace Apartments.

Supply and Install Insulation at Reeves Terrace Apartments.