



# Springfield Housing Authority Tenant News

“Quality Housing for a Strong Community”

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## Farris Mitchell Scholarships go to two SHA residents

Springfield Housing Authority’s Farris Mitchell Scholarships have been awarded to two high school seniors, one with dreams of being an orthodontist and the other of owning a dance studio for urban children.



Lizaundra Rodriguez and Jimmie Mitchell.

Lizaundra Rodriguez, a senior at the Springfield Renaissance School, and Zyaire Cottle, a senior at the Springfield Conservatory of the Arts, each won a \$1,000 scholarship to help fund their first year of college. The scholarship is given annually to two graduating seniors at Springfield high schools who either live in SHA public housing, or who have rental subsidies

administered by the authority. This year, both awardees live in public housing.

SHA Executive Director Denise Jordan said the authority is excited to be giving the scholarships to these two outstanding students, both with specific plans for their futures as they move into their young adult years.

“We’re so pleased with these awardees, and that we are able to help them get a good start in their lives,” Jordan said.

Named after the late Farris Mitchell, the scholarship is in its 24<sup>th</sup> year of providing funds to young men and women in public housing or rental assistance apartments. Neither Mitchell nor his wife Julia completed high school, but they raised 10 children in an SHA development, where they instilled in their children a focus on education. The eldest of the children is Jimmie Mitchell, a retired dean from the Putnam Vocational Technical Academy and now a Youth Engagement Coordinator at SHA.

The scholarship began in 1996 as a family endeavor shortly after Farris

Mitchell died of cancer, as a way to honor his steadfast commitment to youth and education. The SHA began providing funding



Zyaire Cottle & Jimmie Mitchell.

and resources in 2011.

Rodriguez said she is grateful and happy to be a recipient of the scholarship, and will use the money to help pay for books and other expenses as she enters her freshman year at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in September.

“I feel so thrilled to have this. It’s so exciting for me,” said Rodriguez, who plans to major in  
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## Children get their creative joy on at three SHA developments

Creativity is in full bloom at three Springfield Housing Authority developments.

Children at Duggan, Moxon and Riverview Apartments are critically assessing and discussing a variety of art works, both classic and modern. And then, they are creating their own art inspired by their new way of seeing and reflecting on how artists create.

The results are colorful, free-wheeling, intense, eye-catching, and much more.

With funding from the Mass Cultural Council, the Innovation Learning Center has provided trainings in the Creative Minds Out of School curriculum

throughout Massachusetts. Here in Springfield, the curriculum is



Getting creative at Riverview Apartments.

being used at the after-school programs at the three developments whose after-school pro-

grams are run by ADC Prevention Service of Springfield.

Creative Minds is an arts-based curriculum designed to support staff in guiding the creative process with children, providing both structure and flexibility. For participating children, is a perfect blend of doing what they love best -- learning, exploring and creating.

“First, we looked at a picture and tried to figure out what it was. Then, we made random shapes in all kinds of colors. It was pretty cool,” said nine-year-old Alijah Rodriguez at Riverview. “When we were all done we looked at everyone else’s work and talked about how good they were.” His twin, Angel, agreed heartily.

“I like doing this because I’m kind of good at it, so it’s always fun when we do art,” Angel said. “I liked looking at the pictures before we did our own.”

At Duggan Park and Moxon Apartments, children studied collage works by Henri Matisse before trying their own hands at ‘using scissors to paint’ as Matisse did in his later years. Their creations now liven up a corner space at the nearby People’s United Bank on Boston Road, where customers frequently stop for a look. In addition to the cutouts of colorful construction paper, the art at the bank also features an activity involving characters made from a collage process using felt shapes, decals, hearts, candy canes, ribbons, feathers and more.

## From the desk of our Public Safety & Investigative Services Department

The Springfield Housing Authority is dedicated to keeping our properties safe. The SHA has a Safety & Investigative Services Department that strives to ensure the safety of SHA's residents.

Along with all the SHA staff, our Safety Officers encourage residents to not only take pride in their housing community but to also report any suspicious occurrence that they may see on SHA property.

Creating and maintaining positive relationships with residents is an essential goal of the SHA.

SHA does everything possible to keep our properties clean, safe, enjoyable, drug, and crime free. If you have any questions regarding the health and safety of yourself or anyone else, please contact the SHA Safety & Investigative Services Department.

**SHA Safety & Investigative Services Department ~ 413-785-4541**

- Go to the SHA website at [www.shamass.org](http://www.shamass.org) and click on contact

- SHA Public Safety Officers (NON EMERGENCY and part-time evening hours only)

• **413-246-0809 or 413-386-4952**

**Other important contact information:**

- Emergency ~ 911
- Non-Emergency ~ 413-787-6302
- Narcotics Tip Line ~ 413-734-2222
- Gang Hot Line ~ 413-787-7027
- 311 ~ can be used for routine city service calls, complaints, and questions that do NOT need a response that day.

[https://www.springfield-ma.gov/police/fileadmin/Police\\_Dept\\_files/acrobat\\_files/Good\\_Neighbor.pdf](https://www.springfield-ma.gov/police/fileadmin/Police_Dept_files/acrobat_files/Good_Neighbor.pdf)

**Remember:**

**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING,  
SAY SOMETHING**

**IT TAKES A COMMUNITY  
TO LOOK OUT FOR A COMMUNITY**

## Scholarships, cont'd from Page 1

Health Students and then move on to a graduate program where she will study to be an orthodontist.

Rodriguez has an amazing 4.45 grade point average, with the high score being a 4. She earned extra points by excelling in the many honors courses she has taken at Renaissance.

Zyair Cottle chose to attend the city's only arts-based school because of his love of song and dance, and he found he flourished at the Franklin Street facility. He has focused on dance – especially ballet, his favorite – but has also taken other arts courses including painting, drawing, sculpture, singing, and more.

He furthers his craft as a student at the Stadium of Dance, located in Springfield.

Cottle said he will use part of the scholarship to pay the deposit needed to enter his freshman year at Westfield State University.

"I'm so excited and grateful about this," Cottle said. "To be acknowledged is great, and to have this help that I need is perfect."

Cottle's plan is to major in Business Management at Westfield, and then launch a dance studio/education center that will reach out to urban youth like himself.

Jimmie Mitchell, who helps oversee the scholarship at SHA, said he is most pleased with this year's recipients. He also expressed gratitude for his family that the scholarship lives on to help students every year who are much like he and his siblings were years ago.

## Help stop illegal dumping at SHA properties

It is **ILLEGAL** to "dump" on any public or private property, including on any grounds of SHA. If a vehicle is used to dump illegal trash, it may be seized. If convicted, the operator may have his/her license suspended.

**First Offense: \$5,500**

**Subsequent Offenses: \$15,000**

If you see someone or a vehicle dumping illegal trash on any SHA Property, **PLEASE:**

- Note your safety first and then take a photo of the vehicle and get the plate number. Note the location of the dump site.
- Call the Public Safety & Investigative Services Department at 413-785-4541.
- Go to the SHA website at [www.shamass.org](http://www.shamass.org) and click on contact.
- Contact the Springfield 311 Service

Center:

**You can file a complaint on the following links:**

- [citizen.springfieldma.intelligovsoftware.com/](http://citizen.springfieldma.intelligovsoftware.com/)
- [311@springfieldcity.com](mailto:311@springfieldcity.com)
- [www.springfieldcityhall.com/311](http://www.springfieldcityhall.com/311)
- 311 Landline



## Saab Court man aims to make a difference

Richard Mills is on a mission.

A diagnosed epileptic for most of his life, the Saab Court resident now aims to spread education and awareness about the neurological disorder that once was barely discussed above a whisper.

For Mills, it's a matter of being a man on a mission. And he's off to a great start, working with the Epilepsy Foundation of New England, and the Springfield Epilepsy Coalition, and recently hosting an educational forum at the Mason Square City Library branch that drew a full house.

"This is my initiative. I'm trying to raise more awareness in Springfield," Mills said.

At the Mason Square library branch, guests filled chairs and stood along the side as both Mills and Susan Welby, director of education and volunteer services with the New England organization, shared information about different types of epilepsy and how they are treated.



## Spring/summer safety rules

With Spring here, our minds turn to warm weather activities. Residents are encouraged to enjoy many outdoor activities, such as walks, sports and picnics. At the same time, for the safety of you and your family, as well as your fellow neighbors, this notice serves as a reminder to you of some summer activities that create risks for you and others and that are **NOT PERMITTED** on SHA property.

### Gas Grills/Propane Tanks/Flammables/Lawn Mowers/Weed Whackers

- Propane gas grills are **NOT** allowed.
- Tenants are responsible for preventing fires and not to store or keep explosive or flammable materials upon the Development and/or the Unit. **NO PROPANE TANKS may be kept inside or outside on SHA property.**
- Charcoal grills are allowed, however, tenants may not keep flammable starter fluids upon the Development and/or the Unit. Grills must be attended at all times until fires are completely extinguished.

### FIRE PITS ARE A DANGER and NOT ALLOWED.

### Swimming Pools/Swing Sets/Water Usage/Bounce House/Trampolines

- SHA does not allow tenants to install, keep, store or use any swimming pools or swing sets due to the risk of injury. Plastic pools, water slides, and other water-consuming items are not allowed on SHA property.
- Bounce houses/Trampolines are not allowed, they present a significant risk of child injury.
- Washing of cars on SHA property is prohibited.

### Motor Vehicles including Motorcycles, Mopeds, and other Similar Types of Vehicles

- Tenants and visitors must adhere to the Parking Lots and Parking Lots Use Policy, which has been distributed to all tenants. This policy covers ALL motorized vehicles, including scooters and mopeds.
- Tenants and visitors are not allowed to drive or park any motor vehicles on grassy areas, sidewalks, or in any area not specifically designated for driving or parking.
- SHA does not allow tenants to store any smaller motor vehicles (i.e., mopeds, etc.) within the Unit. **ALL SUCH VEHICLES MUST BE STORED AND OPERATED AS ANY OTHER MOTOR VEHICLE, INCLUDING CARS. VEHICLES IN VIOLATION MAY BE TOWED.**
- Residents are responsible for ensuring that their guests and visitors comply with all SHA motor vehicle and parking policies.

Please note that should any SHA staff member observe any violation(s) to the above guidelines, Tenant shall be advised that they must remove the prohibited items or otherwise comply with these guidelines. Failure by the Tenant to comply will result in lease enforcement.

## Reglas de seguridad primavera/verano

Con la Primavera ya aquí, nuestras mentes van hacia actividades de clima cálido. Animamos a los residentes a disfrutar de muchas actividades al aire libre, como caminatas, deportes y picnics. Al mismo tiempo, por la seguridad de usted y su familia, así como sus compañeros vecinos, este aviso sirve como un recordatorio para usted de algunas actividades de verano que crearan riesgos para usted y otros y están **PROHIBIDO** en propiedad SHA.

### Materiales de gas parrillas/ tanques propano /inflamables/ Cortacéspedes

- Las parrillas de gas propano no está permitido.
- El inquilino debe prevenir incendios y no guardar o almacenar materiales explosivos o inflamables en el desarrollo o la unidad. Ningunos tanques de propano se conserven dentro o fuera de propiedad SHA.
- Asadores de carbón están permitidos, sin embargo, el inquilino no puede tener fluidos inflamables arranque sobre el desarrollo y/o la unidad. Parrillas deben ser atendidas en todo momento hasta que los incendios se apagan completamente.

### Fogatas son un peligro y, por tanto, no se permite.

### Piscinas/ Columpios/El uso de agua/Casa de Brinco/Trampolines

- SHA no permite a los inquilinos instalar, mantener, almacenar o utilizar cualquier piscina o columpios. Piscinas de plástico, toboganes de agua y otros artículos de consumo de agua no se permiten en propiedad SHA.
- Las casas de brinco no son permitidas, presentan un riesgo significativo de los niños ser lastimados.
- Lavado de coches en SHA propiedad está prohibido.

### Vehículos de Motor incluyendo otros Tipos Similares de Vehículos, Motocicletas y Ciclomotores

- Los inquilinos y los visitantes deben adherirse a la política de uso de estacionamientos, que ha sido distribuido a todos los inquilinos. Esta política cubre TODOS los vehículos motorizados, incluyendo las motocicletas y los ciclomotores.
- El inquilino y los visitantes no están permitidos manejar o estacionar su coche o cualquier vehículo de motor en zonas verdes, aceras, o en cualquier zona no específicamente designado para conducir o estacionamiento.
- SHA no permite a los inquilinos almacenar cualquier vehículos de motor más pequeños (es decir, ciclomotores, etc.) dentro de la unidad. **TODOS LOS VEHÍCULOS DEBEN ALMACENAR Y FUNCIONA COMO CUALQUIER OTRO VEHÍCULO DE MOTOR, INCLUYENDO LOS COCHES. VEHÍCULOS EN VIOLACIÓN PUEDE SER REMOLCADO.**
- Los residentes son responsables de asegurar que sus huéspedes y visitantes cumplan con todo vehículo de motor SHA y las políticas de estacionamiento.

Por favor tenga en cuenta que si cualquier miembro del personal SHA observar cualquier violación a los lineamientos anteriores, inquilino se aconseja que debe quitar los artículos o si no cumplen con estas directrices. Incumplimiento por el arrendatario resultará en cumplimiento del contrato de arrendamiento.



Executive Offices  
60 Congress St.  
Springfield, Mass. 01101  
413-785-4500

**www.shamass.org**

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## Xilliyada gu'ga / xaga amaanka xagaaga

Maadaamo uu xiliga guga soo galay, waxaanu ku fikireynaa hawlaha la sameeyo markay hawada kulushahay. Degenyaalka ayaa lagu dhiira gelineyaa inay ka faa'ideystaan hawlaha dibadda guriga badan, sida socodka, isboortiga iyo hergelka dibadda. Isla markaasi, nabadgelyada shakhsigaada iyo qoyskaada dartiisa, iyo dariskaadaba, ogeysiiskan ayaa la doonaayaa inuu ku xusuusiyo hawlo qaar ee xagaaga ee halis u noqon karo shakhsiyadaada iyo dadka kale oo na **LAGU OGOLAYN** dhismaha SHA.

**Cunto Kariyaha Gaaska Istimaaalo/Taangiga Gaaska Propane / Waxyaabaha Guban Karo/Caws Jareyaalka/Caws Jaraha Korontoda**

- Cunto kariyeyaalka gaaska propane LAMA ogolo.
  - Kireysteyaalka ayaa masuul ka ah ka hortagga dabka iyo inay ku keydinin waxyaabaha qarxi karo ama dabka bilaabi karo **Dhismaha iyo/ama Goobta. TANGIYADA GAASKA PROPANE AYAA MARNABA** lagu kaydin karin gudaha ama dibadda dhismaha SHA.
  - Cunto kariyeyaalka dhuxusha ayaa la ogol yahay, laakin, kireysteyaalka ayaa **Dhismaha iyo/ama Goobta** ku kaydin karin dareereyaalka dabka bilaabi karo. Cunto kariyeyaalka ayaa ah in marwalbo la ilaaliyo intii dabka laga daminaayo.
- CUNTO KARIYEYAALKA DALOOLKA AYAA AH KUWA HALIS AH** sidaa darteed na **LAMA OGOLU**.

- **Barkadaha Dabaalka/Qalabka Lulmiyaha Caruurta/Istimaaalka Biyaha/Guri BoodBood/Qalabka Bood Boodka**
- SHA ayaan u ogolayn kireysteyaalka inay rakibin, kaydinin ama istimaalin barkadaha dabaalka ama qalabka lulmiyaha caruurta halista ka dhalan karto darteeda. Barkadaha caaga, meelaha sibiibixashada leh ee biyaha ee ciyaarta logu talagalay, iyo waxyaabaha istimaalo biyaha oo kale ayaan lagu ogolayn dhismaha SHA.
- Guri Boodbood/Qalabka BoodBoodka ayaa iyagana la ogolayn, waxay kordhiyaan halista dhaabaca ilmaha.
- Ku dhaqitaanka baabuurada dhismaha SHA ayaa mamnuuc ah.

**Baaburada Motoorka leh ay ka mid yihiin Motooyinka, Mootoyinka awooda hoose, iyo Dhamaan Baabuurada la midka ah**

- Kireysteyaalka iyo martida ayaa ku qasban inay raacaan Sharciga Baarkinka iyo Istimaaalka Baarkinka, ee loo qaybiyay kireysteyaalka oo dhan. Sharcigan ayaa khuseeyo **DHAMAAN** baabuurada motoorka leh, iyadoo laga tagin mootoyinka iyo mootoyinka awooda hoose.
- Kireysteyaalka iyo martida ayaa loo ogolayn inay ku wadaan ama ku baark gareyaan baaburada meelaha cooska leh, geesaha logu talagalay socodka, ama goob walbo aanan logu talagalin in baabur lagu wado ama lagu baark gareeyo.
- SHA ayaanu ogolayn kireysteyaalka inay ku kaydiyaan baabuurada motoorka leh oo yaryar (sida mootoyinka) dhismaha dhexdiisa. **DHAMAAN BAABUURADAAS IYO KUWA LA MIDKA AH WAA IN LAGU KAYDIYO OO NA LOOLA DHAQMO HABKA LOLA DHAQMO BAABUUR KALE, SIDA BAABUURADA CAADIGA AH. BAABUURADA SHARCIGA JEBIYA AYAA LA JIIDI DOONO.**
- Degenyaalka ayaa masuul ka ah in martidooda ay raacaan sharciyada baabuurada motoorka leh ee SHA iyo sharciyada baarkinka.

Fadlaan xusuuso in haduu shaqaala walbo ee SHA arko xadgudub walbo ee sharciyada lasoo xusay, Kireystaha ayaa lagula talin doono inuu dibadda u saaro sheyga mamnuuca ah ama inuu raaco sharciga. Haduu kireystaha raaci waayo sharciga waxaa lagu fulin dacwada ijaarka.

