

## Claremont Courts Modernization



*Congressman Brad Miller joined a large crowd of local and area officials in opening the new Claremont Courts Resource Center and community modernization May 11. Joining him at the ribbon-cutting ceremony were (front row, left) Mayor Pro Tem Yvonne Johnson, Miller, GHA Commissioners Mary Moore and Ledford Austin, GHA Chief Executive Officer Tina Akers Brown, HUD's Regional Director of Public Housing Michael Williams, (second row, left) GHA Commissioners Ann Gainey Pinto and Nancy Hunter, Claremont Courts Resident Council President Charlene Washington and City Councilman Jim Kee.*

GHA officially opened a modernized Claremont Courts May 11, complete with a new Resource Center.

The Community also has newly designed exterior facades, new heating and cooling systems and improved landscaping.

The new Center has meeting space, a kitchen, management and staff offices, plus space for a Police Neighborhood Resource Center.

A second ribbon cutting was held for the new "Born Learning Trail" at the community, made possible through a partnership with the Tocqueville Women's Leadership of the United Way of Greater Greensboro.

Extending 1,373 feet through the heart of the community, the Trail is an engaging path of interactive activities that promotes language and pre-literacy skills, motor skills and school readiness for children, as well as exercise equipment, play stations and sidewalk graphics.



Claremont Courts is located in northeast Greensboro and provides 250 affordable housing apartments for over 700 low-income, handicapped and elderly Greensboro residents.

# Poster Contest Winners Announced

Eight youth in three age categories from GHA communities all across Greensboro have been named local winners in the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials' "Housing America" Poster Contest.

The winners include 14-year-old Symeon Davis, a middle school student from Hampton Homes, who was a national winner the last two years and had his poster included in NAHRO's 2011 and 2012 Housing America Calendar.

This year's first-place local winners are: Zoe Best, an elementary student from Hickory Trails; Davis; and Angela Dukes, a high school student from Riverbirch.

Second-place winners are: Symiah Davis, an elementary school student from Hampton Homes; Anyah Davis, a middle school student from Hampton Homes; and Imani Upsher, a high school student from Riverbirch.

Third-place winners are: Shyanne Harrison, an elementary school student from Ray Warren Homes; and Serenity Johnson, a middle school student from Ray Warren Homes.

The theme of the competition was "What Home Means to Me."



*ONE MORE TIME? - Symeon Davis, (top left), a national winner in the poster contest for the last two years, is in the running again. Zoe Best, (left), an elementary school student from Hickory Trails, and Angela Dukes, (top), a high school student from Riverbirch, also took first place prizes for their posters.*



## A Celebration of Fatherhood

*SPECIAL DAY - Father figures had a special day of fun, games, music and food with their children in GHA's first "Father's Day Celebration" held at Ray Warren Homes.*



## News Bits

- Two GHA students have won SERC/NAHRO scholarships for college. Brandy Rene' Crawford will get \$1,000, and Kadi Egharba will get \$1,500.
- Summer lunch will be provided at the following communities: Hampton Homes, Smith Homes, Claremont Courts, Hickory Trails and Ray Warren Homes. The **Summer Lunch Nutrition Program** is open to children ages 1-18 from any GHA community and the surrounding area. The program runs through July 26, Monday-Thursday from noon - 1:30 pm.

## Central Office Wins “Business Landscape Award”

The GHA Central Office on North Church Street has won the “2012 Business Landscape Award” for what the organization Greensboro Beautiful calls its “outstanding contribution to the beautification of our city.”

The group’s Chair Carolyn Allen said the office, which was renovated in 2010 with new stonework, walls and landscaping, “creates a favorable impression to visitors and residents passing through our city.”

The award will hang on a Central Office wall.

“This is quite an honor,” said Chief Executive Officer Tina Akers Brown. “We, of course, enjoy the beauty, and we’re happy others do as well.”

The landscaping is planted and maintained by New Garden Landscaping and Nursery.



*BEAUTIFUL - Chief Executive Officer Tina Akers Brown receives the “2012 Business Landscape Award” from Greensboro Beautiful Chair Carolyn Allen.*

## Viking Cheerleaders Win Again

The GHA Viking Cheerleading Squad won the PHASAC Hoops and Hope State Tournament Cheerleading Competition in May for the second consecutive year with a six-minute routine that incorporated jazz dance techniques infused with hip-hop and props. The new routine, “School Girl Rock,” put together by Cheerleading Coach Sabrina Abney, Assistant Cheerleading Coach Myleeka Moreland and Dance Choreographer Reginald Johnson, is about a “nerd” at cheerleading tryouts for Greensboro High School. She was picked on by her peers, but by the end of the routine, they accepted her because to everyone’s surprise, she was an exceptional cheerleader.

“I’m proud of them,” Abney, said. “Through all the ups and downs, they bonded as a team. That’s how they won.” Two cheerleaders also pulled in individual awards. Keyera Matthews won the “All-State Cheerleader Award.” She will be attending GTCC in the Fall, then transfer to a 4 year university to major in Pre-Med.

Ariel Nicholson won the “All-Academic Award,” and she also took home the “Highest GPA” trophy for having the highest Grade Point Average among all PHASAC female participants. Ariel will be attending UNC-G in the fall and pursue a degree in Pharmaceuticals. Team members are: Captain Matthews, Captain Cristaneke Thomas, Nicholson, Shantelle Lane, Khadijah Blakely, Alexis Bridges, Sabria Tomlin, Nyobi Abbot, Angela Dukes, Claudine Mukoma and Essence Woodberry.

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The mission of the Greensboro Housing Authority is to provide safe, quality, affordable housing to low-income, elderly, and the disabled in the Greensboro Community; to maintain a safe and secure community environment; and to encourage personal responsibility and upward mobility of residents while maintaining the fiscal integrity of the agency.

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*DEDICATION - Carolyn Turner (seated center) and Susannah Turner (seated right) join Greensboro Housing Development Partnership members Carolyn Allen and Elaine Ostrowski and City of Greensboro staff Barbara Harris and Chancer McLaughlin in the dedication of a bench in memory of Jim Turner.*

## More Than Just A Bench

Almost lost in the fanfare of the May 11 ribbon cuttings at the new Claremont Courts Resource Center and the new “Born Learning Trail” was the special dedication of a bench located at the heart of the new Trail.

Placed by the Greensboro Housing Development Partnership, the bench is dedicated to the memory

of former State Senator and GHA Attorney James R. Turner, a tireless advocate for affordable housing.

Over his 33 years of service with GHA, Turner collaborated with the City of Greensboro and other organizations in many projects aimed at providing affordable housing for Greensboro’s residents.