



Menard County Housing Authority

Hours of Operation

- ♦ Give & Take will be *open* **January 14 & 28** weather permitting and it will be *closed* **December 24**.
- ♦ Menard County Housing Authority will be **CLOSED Monday, December 26th, 2016, Monday, January 2nd, 2017, and Monday, January 16, 2017.**

The staff at MCHA wishes you a very happy holiday season!

Maintenance Emergency Calls

24 hour emergency number is 217-632-7723. Please pick "option 2" for after hour calls

As the winter weather is upon us, please remember that if you call in an emergency work order, whether it is during working hours or after hours, Menard County Housing Authority staff has up to 24 hours to respond to your call. In most cases, our maintenance staff is usually at an emergency call within an hour or two. However, if the weather conditions are poor outside, our staff must exercise judgment in making sure they can respond, so please be patient and we will get the work completed as soon as possible.

Utility Change

Menard County Homes, County Estates and Prairie Place will be increasing utility allowances effective 1/1/17. A Copy of the new allowances are posted in the lobby of MCHA.

Please contact the office with questions.

Making Your Rent

Payments at the Bank

Please, if you live in the **Public Housing** units, your rental payments must be made at the **Petefish, Skiles, & Co Bank** only. If you live in **County Estates, Prairie Place, or Parkside Homes**, your rental payments must be made at the **Athens State Bank** only.

The Jobs for Life program will be back in Petersburg beginning in March.

This program teaches life skills that will help anyone not only get a job but keep it as well. The program was a HUGE success last year with 11 residents graduating. Some students received scholarships to obtain their GED, attend classes for a trade or certification, and return to college! Several students are employed and on their way to a rewarding career. This program is brought to Menard County by CAPCIL. Seating is limited for this 2 hour, 2 day a week, 8 week program. Snacks are provided. Please call Laura today to reserve your place, 632-7723.

Springfield Center for Independent Living will be providing a 1 day course to

receive your **Personal Attendant Certification**. Have you ever wanted to help others in their home, run errands, or take people places? These are just a few things that a paid personal attendant may do. Please call SCIL, 523-2587 to get more information about becoming a PA. Please call Laura at 632-7723 to enroll in the Friday January 20th session at the Athens community room. Space is very limited.

Things to be Grateful for this Holiday Season

With so much going on during the holiday season, sometimes we forget to reflect on all of the things in our lives to be grateful for.

Freedom. We live in a country that honors and respects that right.

Family and Friends. Take the time to thank them for all the love and support you receive year after year.

Health. Whatever your health status may be., find something to be grateful for.

Food and Water. 1.1 billion people worldwide lack access to clean water. There are 795 million people on Earth starving every day. Take the time to count this blessing.

Mistakes. Be grateful for your blunders and faults, as they are what makes you stronger mentally and physically, while preparing you for what's ahead.