

# Housing Choice~quarterly

July - August - September 2004

Welcome to *Housing Choice~quarterly*! This quarterly newsletter is designed especially for YOU...the Housing Choice Voucher Program participant. You'll receive valuable information on up-coming events, workshops and up-dates to program rules and regulations. We hope you enjoy receiving the *Housing Choice~quarterly*. If you have questions or comments regarding this newsletter, please contact us at 522-7815 or email [wwha@wallawallaha.org](mailto:wwha@wallawallaha.org). Visit us on-line at [www.wallawallaha.org](http://www.wallawallaha.org).

## Are you registered to VOTE?

### Notify your landlord when...

- your home needs repairs;
- you wish to have a guest;
- you'll be away from home for a number of days (refer to your lease agreement).

Keeping the lines of communication is important in your landlord-tenant relationship.

### Walla Walla Housing Authority

Board of Commissioners

**Jill Zagelow**  
Chair

**Bob Adams**  
Vice Chair

**Anne-Marie Zell-Schwerin**  
Commissioner

**Jude Noland**  
Commissioner

**Brian Jones**  
Commissioner

**Cathie Antle**  
Resident Commissioner

**Renée Rooker**  
Executive Director

As citizens of the United States of America we are given the opportunity to cast our votes and thereby adding our voice to the democratic process. The alternative to the democratic process is a totalitarian system where by government is chosen by a group of influential persons. The original founding fathers of America did not award this freedom to vote to all citizens, even in their day. Mostly wealthy land owners, white, and of the male gender, were considered to be wise and informed enough for the responsibility of the vote. Only through struggle and adversity did other minorities and women win the coveted right to vote.

Today we take it for granted. Today, many simply do not vote for a multitude of reasons, but taken as a whole they squander what others have died to protect -- individual freedom and democracy -- that guarantees us the right to be ourselves.

Registering to vote is quick, easy, and FREE! In the State of Washington, you must be:

- a citizen of the United States
- a legal resident of Washington state
- at least 18 years old by election day

You do not have to register by political party or declare political party membership to vote in the state's regular primaries or general elections.

If you meet the above criteria you can register by completing the voter registration form. Voter registration forms are available at the Walla Walla County Courthouse, 315 W Main St, 2nd Floor, Room 201. Forms can be downloaded from on Washington's Secretary of State website at

[www.secstate.wa.gov/elections](http://www.secstate.wa.gov/elections). WWHA also has voter registration forms available in our office.

On the voter registration form, you may choose to mark the box to request an ongoing absentee ballot. This means you are requesting to receive a ballot by mail for each election in which you are eligible to vote. If you choose not to receive absentee ballot automatically, you may either vote at the polls or request an absentee ballot for any given election. If you decide at a later time you would like to receive a ballot by mail for each election, you may do so by written request to the Walla Walla County Auditor.

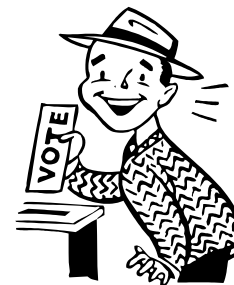
In general, you must register at least 30 days in advance of an election to be eligible to vote in that election. It is especially important to remember this deadline if you are registering by mail. Your application must be post-marked by the 30-day cutoff or it will not become effective until after the election.

If you miss the 30-day deadline, you can still sign up in time for the election, but you must register in person at the Walla Walla County Auditor's office no later than 15 days before the election.

### 2004 Up-coming Election Dates

- September 14th
- November 2nd

Exercise your right to **VOTE!**  
Your vote does make a difference.



**Office Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
9:00 am to 6:00 pm  
we are OPEN during  
the noon hour

### Office Closures

July 5th  
Observance of  
Independence Day  
September 6th  
Labor Day

### Rental Assistance Division

**Anita Hernandez**  
Rental Assistance Manager  
Participant last names Mi-Z  
526-6277

**Jason Hahn**  
Rental Specialist  
Participant last names A-Ga  
527-4606

**Jack Ball**  
Rental Specialist  
Participant last names Ge-Me  
527-4607

**David Mitchell**  
HQS Specialist  
522-7813

**Donna Larsen**  
Eligibility Coordinator  
Waiting List  
527-4608

**Christy Drake**  
Family Programs Coordinator  
Dare to Dream Program  
522-7811

**Nina Hill**  
Information Coordinator  
527-4542 extension 100

Voucher Payment Standards - Effective July 1, 2004						
COUNTY	Zero (0) Bedroom	One (1) Bedroom	Two (2) Bedroom	Three (3) Bedroom	Four (4) Bedroom	Five (5) Bedroom
Columbia	\$343	\$410	\$535	\$705	\$782	\$899
Walla Walla	\$343	\$410	\$535	\$714	\$844	\$969

### Discharging Fireworks -- Do you know when?

WWHA encourages residents to celebrate with family and friends, and also take part in community sponsored celebrations. However you decide to celebrate, do so safely and responsibly.

In the City of Walla Walla, residents may discharge fireworks on July 4, between the hours of 9:00 am and Midnight.

In the City of College Place, residents may discharge fireworks on July 1, 2, 3 and 5th between the hours of 9:00 am and 11:00 pm; on July 4th, between the hours of 9:00 am and Midnight.



### Community Voice Mail Available

Walla Walla Housing Authority is a distributor of the South Central Washington Community Voice Mail program operated by Benton-Franklin Community Action Council.

Community Voice Mail is a unique program that provides **FREE** voice mail service to those in need of voice messaging services.

If you are without a telephone or a reliable message telephone, Community Voice Mail may be just what you've been looking for. Contact Rosanna Morgan at 522-7815 or Christy Drake at 522-7811 for more information about how you can be signed up today.



### REMEMBER TO REPORT...

#### Changes in Income

Whether your income increases or decreases, your portion of the rent is based on the total household adjusted monthly income.

#### Changes in Family Composition

Someone moving in or moving out of your home may affect the level of subsidy you receive.

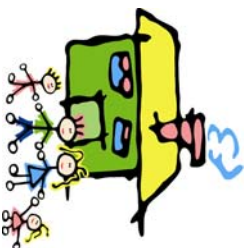
Changes in your household income and/or family composition is required to be reported, in writing, within ten (10) days of the change.

Contact your Rental Specialist if you have any questions.



Check out what's new @

[www.wallawallaha.org](http://www.wallawallaha.org)



A Community Partner, Helping People to Help Themselves

### Walla Walla Housing Authority

501 Cayuse Street  
 Walla Walla WA 99362  
 509-527-4542 \* Fax 509-527-4574  
 Hearing-impaired, use relay service  
 www.wallawallaha.org \* [wwha@wallawallaha.org](mailto:wwha@wallawallaha.org)



*Serving Families in Walla Walla and Columbia Counties*

The Housing Choice ~ quarterly newsletter is written, edited, and published by the staff of the WWHA  
 For more information or questions about this newsletter, contact us at 509-527-4542 or [wwha@wallawallaha.org](mailto:wwha@wallawallaha.org)

