



Now, more than ever, it's important to take part in the 2020 Census, as the official count is what helps determine federal funding levels for school lunch programs, public safety allocations, hospitals, highway projects and more. Data collected from the 2020 Census will also be used as a determining factor in our city's congressional representation.

Responding to the Census is easier and safer than ever, and it's not too late to participate. During the self-response phase, there are three easy ways to respond to the Census form that you have received in the mail:

- 1) Online at my2020census.gov will be available until August 14th.
- 2) By phone you can call 844-330-2020.
- 3) By mail you can just send back your paper questionnaire.

Options #2 and #3 are available until October 31st.

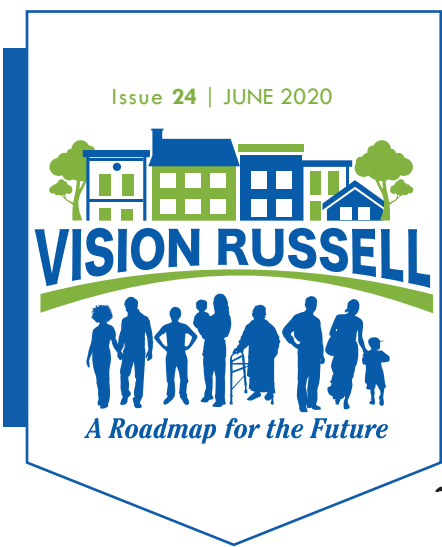
Beginning August 11th, Census takers will be visiting those households who have not responded. The Census Bureau DOES NOT CALL households to ask them to complete the Census.

Please encourage your family and friends to fill out their 2020

Census and be counted! Louisville's official Census count will be delivered to Congress and the President in April 2021.

You can visit www.2020census.gov or talk to your Urban Strategies Case Manager at (502) 384-0786 about any questions you might have about filling out your form.

Louisville Metro Housing Authority
420 S. 8th Street
Louisville, KY 40203
Phone: (502) 569-3400
www.visionrussell.org



Russell

Choice Neighborhood Initiative

Newsletter

THE NEW BEECHER TERRACE PHASE I & II

LMHA has some exciting news to share! On- and off-site Beecher Terrace replacement housing options are coming on-line. The first two phases of new housing at the redeveloped Beecher Terrace community are anticipated to be ready for occupancy late this year. Visit <https://visionrussell.org/new-to-beecher-terrace/> to see renderings of the completed buildings, floor plans, neighborhood information, nearby attractions, and more!

All Original Beecher Terrace residents (those who lived at Beecher Terrace on

or after June 28, 2016 and are in good standing with LMHA) are eligible for a lifetime preference to return to any on- and off-site Beecher Terrace replacement units. Packets have been mailed with pre-applications and other important information on the reoccupancy process and should have been received by the first week of April. All pre-applications that were received by May 13th were randomly sorted by a computerized lottery system at the LMHA Board Meeting on May 19th and assigned a place on the Beecher Terrace Resident Waiting List. Nearly 200 pre-applications were included in this process.

Original Beecher Terrace residents can still turn in a pre-application and be placed on the waiting list in the order received. If you did not receive a packet and believe you are eligible, please call (502) 569-6060 to have one mailed to you. For more information, visit <https://visionrussell.org/original-beecher-residents-3/>. A virtual Resident Reoccupancy Meeting was held on Tuesday, April 14th, and a recording of that meeting, along with a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document, are located there.



Louisville Metro Housing Authority, 420 S. 8th St., Louisville, KY 40203 | 502.569.3400

[WWW.VISIONRUSSELL.ORG](https://www.visionrussell.org)



THE BEECHER TERRACE STORY: LAVEL D. WHITE



When Lavel White heard about the upcoming redevelopment at Beecher Terrace, he felt the time had come to tell the stories of one of Louisville's oldest public housing developments by the people who lived those stories. "Seeing the community was about to be torn down, I wanted to tell this story. There was so much in the way of spoken history and fragmented stories on the news and from outside sources.

I wanted to tell the positive stories from the people (who were there)." White himself, learned more than he could have imagined from the more than fifty people he interviewed over the course of two years for his most recent documentary centered on life in Louisville's public housing community.

White found stories of the vibrant atmosphere around Walnut Street (now Muhammad Ali Boulevard) among the most interesting tales. The passion and pride neighbors showed for their homes, businesses and one another was positive and uplifting. LMHA Board Chairman and resident, Manfred Reid, Sr., echoed those sentiments of the time after World War I when Old Walnut Street and West Louisville were comprised of dozens of black owned businesses ranging from theaters to drug stores, night clubs and more.

Creating a body of work that shines a light on the power of community and humanity was one of Lavel White's motivations in making "The Beecher Terrace Story." The film premiered to a



crowd of more than three hundred on February 13, 2020 at Louisville Central Community Center's Old Walnut campus, in the same neighborhood White called home as a high school student. His own fond memories of growing up in West Louisville were reflected in those stories told by former Beecher Residents like the late Arthur "Radio" Horne, a respected maintenance supervisor for LMHA, who shared his memories of Beecher beginning in the late 1940's.

While all the experiences shared in the film might not be positive, they are real and impactful. The neighborhood experienced it's share of crime, but as District 4 Councilwoman, Barbara Sexton-Smith points out, "Just because there are some folks in a neighborhood who have conducted illegal activity, that doesn't mean everyone in that neighborhood is a criminal or destined to be a criminal." While the film is a testament to the true beauty of the families of Beecher, White and others do not shy away from the fact that there is still work to be done. The residents of Beecher and Russell are showing up ready to do that work. Former Beecher Terrace resident and Kentucky State Representative Attica Scott asserts, "The Russell neighborhood has been the home of people who now are serving in office, they're principals of high schools, running non-profit organizations, they're athletes. We've got that history, with this revitalization we have to make sure we lift that up, so the next generation knows that history and knows they come from something of value."

White feels "The Beecher Terrace Story" will be "very fundamental in understanding where the community comes from, their experiences, and will provide great value for citizens (of Louisville) moving forward." He hopes it will help to provide valuable and informative framework for future design and community programming in Russell. The impact to the community will be a constant reminder of the sense of pride for people who have lived there in the past, are returning and for generations to come.



LMHA, in partnership with the Louisville Free Public Library and the National Book Foundation are excited to continue Book Rich Environments (BRE), a literacy program with the goal of distributing more than 10,000 books to children newborn through 18 years of age, who live in public housing communities throughout Louisville Metro. The diverse selection of books is made possible thanks to generous donations from a multitude of award-winning publishing houses such as: Algonquin



Books for Young Readers, Penguin Random House, Scholastic, Simon & Schuster and many more.

This spring, the BRE team partnered with Jefferson County Public Schools to distribute books at Emergency Feeding Sites. Library staff stuffed over 2,300 backpacks with age-appropriate books and distributed them to families at twenty-three sites. More books will be distributed as part of the Louisville Free Public Library's Summer Reading Program. Be sure to visit www.lfpl.org for more information and to sign up for Summer Reading!

Questions or ideas for book distributions can be directed to Pam Bischoff at bischoff@lmha1.org or 502-569-3454.



FREE, VIRTUAL SUMMER FUN!



Camp Wonderopolis® is the free online summer-learning destination that's full of fun, interactive STEM and literacy-building topics boosted by Maker experiments! Keeping kids and their families learning together throughout the summer and out-of-school time, Camp Wonderopolis can help build vocabulary, background knowledge in science, reading comprehension, critical thinking, and other literacy skills along the way. When you register as a Camper (kids of all ages) or Counselor (parents, community and library program staff, teachers), you'll enjoy learning through wonder – an approach honed by the award-winning www.Wonderopolis.org.

Reading Rockets 2020 from St. George's Scholar Institute is now taking registrations for youth in grades 1 through 8. The program includes morning Pep Rally's, Reading Literacy, S.T.E.A.M. education, Family Interaction, Arts & Crafts, Organized REC, Healthy Cooking, and more! Interested candidates can RSVP your youth now at: www.sgsi.app.rsvpify.com. For questions, call (502) 907-0670 or email khughes@stgeorgesky.org.

