A TIME OF TRANSITION - This past June marked 25 years of my being executive director of the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority. Twenty five years is a long time to work in any organization. I decided in January that now was a good time to exit and make the transition to new leadership. The hardest part for me is there always seems to be work undone and it will always be so.

Like many in my generation, I committed to a career in public service as a very young man, inspired by the historic events of the 1960's and 70's. I learned in my youth watching the nation’s transformation through events like the election and then tragic death of President Kennedy, the assassination of Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, the Vietnam War, the deaths at Kent State and the wonder of space travel, how important government service was to the country and to your own community. Much has changed in the years that followed, government in general no longer enjoys that special sense of mission for the common good that it once did. Or maybe the flaws of government and our leaders are just more apparent. True leadership does seem to be harder to find today and bi-partisan cooperation even harder. Housing should be a non-partisan issue yet has not received adequate focus given the impact upon every family and the overall economy. READ MORE AT akronhousing.org/tony

REAC INSPECTIONS

REAC Inspections are coming to a property near you! HUD’s Real Estate Assessment Center conducts physical property inspections of properties that are owned, insured or subsidized by HUD, including public housing and multifamily assisted housing. About 20,000 such inspections are conducted each year to ensure that assisted families have housing that is decent, safe, sanitary and in good repair. Twenty-two AMHA properties will be inspected between July and October. AMHA independently inspects each of its over 4300 public housing and multifamily assisted housing units on a bi-annual basis as proactive measure to ensure all units and building systems are safe, operational, and in sanitary condition. LEARN MORE AT akronhousing.org/reac

First Serve brings together more than 1,000 individuals from different faiths and backgrounds to volunteer together. Founded by First Congregational Church of Hudson, our partners include Temple Beth Shalom, the Islamic Society of Akron and Kent, the City of Akron, and the Ohio & Erie Canalway - among others. This year, other churches from the Hudson community will be joining us. There are plenty of volunteer opportunities including projects at our developments - Summit Lake, Colonial Hills, Lauer, and Valley View. Registration opens in August. To volunteer go to www.joinfirstserve.org.

LEARN MORE AT akronhousing.org/firstserve
AMHA would like to thank Mr. Leonard Foster for his 25 years of service to this agency and the community at large. Mr. Foster’s dedication to our mission is evident in his steady guiding hand in setting policy and his advocacy. As always in these situations, it is a bitter-sweet farewell, as we wish him the very best in his retirement but will miss his wisdom and support.

Henry David Thoreau once said, “Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after.” This statement resonates in the Summit Lake community weekly as Summit Metro Parks staff take out fishing reels and coolers of bait on Saturday mornings.

Summit Lake has an extensive history of tall tales and myths that are partially rooted in truths. Everything from Ferris wheels to alligators are factors in the local folklore of Summit Lake. The renewed energy in the development of friends and family while connecting with nature encourages us to cast our lines for a brighter future in Summit Lake.

Email Director@akronhousing.org to sign up for our e-newsletter.

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A nonprofit instrumentality of the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
Donations may be made to AMHA’s non-profit subsidiary Building for Tomorrow by visiting www.amhabft.org or contacting Christina Hodgkinson at chodgkinson@akronhousing.org

LEARN MORE AT amhabft.org

100 West Cedar Street  |  Akron, OH 44307
330.762.9631  |  M-F 8:00am - 4:30pm
akronhousing.org

FISHING FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE – SUMMIT LAKE

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