

Pike County Housing Authority

March 2018



Important Dates

March 11th—Daylight Savings Time begins (set clocks ahead one hour)

March 17th –St. Patrick's Day

March 20th—SPRING BEGINS!!!!



Tenants!

Reminder: PCHA pays for tenants to use West Central Mass Transit. Call 217-285-4529 to get on the schedule. They will take you to doctor appointments, the grocery store, pharmacy, etc.

For those tenants that pay their own Ameren bills, your utility allowance changes this month.

Do not call the sheriff's department if you believe your heat is not working. This is for the maintenance to check. You **must** call the office or the maintenance number if after hours.

The new deposit will not be charged to your account until May and you have until the end of November to pay in full. If you cannot pay in full by that time, you have the option to do a repayment agreement.

We require a 30 day notice if you decide to vacate your apartment. If you do not give at least 30 days' notice, you will not receive a refund of your security deposit. Also, in order to receive a refund of your security deposit, you must remain in your apartment for at least 1 year.

**There was a green house.
Inside the green house
there was a white house.
Inside the white house
there was a red house.
Inside the red house
there were lots of babies.**

What is it?

**Be the first to answer correctly and
receive a \$25.00 credit on your
account. One phone call per tenant
per day, please.**

The electric work is progressing. We only have 2 properties that will need to do the switchover once the work is done.

We have been receiving complaints about stray cats at one of our properties. Animal control does not pick up cats. We apologize but there is nothing we can do about the cats.

REMINDER: If you receive an Ameren bill and you have not made the switchover, please make sure that you turn it in to the office as soon as possible. You are not responsible for this bill.

The window project is moving along quite nicely. We believe that they should be finished with this within a month.

If you find yourself always behind on your rent you might want to utilize your income tax refund to pay ahead or to bring your account up to date.

Tax Preparation Assistance for Seniors

If you are interested please call Connie Lerch at 217-285-6150 to sign up or for more information

2018 brings lower electric rates

For the second year in a row, Ameren Illinois residential customers are beginning the New Year with lower electric rates.

Under Ameren Illinois' plan, approved December 6 by the Illinois Commerce Commission, the typical residential customer will save approximately \$1.70 per month on their electric bill. This marks the second consecutive, and fifth overall, rate decrease since the landmark Energy Infrastructure Modernization Act — or Smart Grid Bill — was passed in 2011.

Ameren Illinois invested approximately \$480 million to improve the electric grid in 2017, including the addition of storm-resilient power poles, automated switches and smart meters. Modernization efforts over the last six years have led to an overall 17 percent increase in reliability and saved customers an estimated \$45 million each year.

To learn more about our electric and natural gas modernization programs, visit AmerenIllinois.com/focus, [Facebook.com/AmerenIllinois](https://www.facebook.com/AmerenIllinois), and [Twitter@AmerenIllinois](https://twitter.com/AmerenIllinois).



There has been some confusion about the security deposit, this is a one-time charge for the change in the amount of the deposit.

It will not be changing every few months.

Delinquent Accounts

We are being very aggressive with delinquent accounts. You will receive a letter asking that you make an attempt to pay your account, before receiving an eviction. We use debt recovery through the State of Illinois and if you think you don't have to pay, we can get your Illinois state tax refund to pay your debt once you are evicted.

DON'T FORGET YOU CAN PAY YOUR BILL ONLINE AT OUR WEBSITE OR YOU CAN CALL THE OFFICE. A \$3.00 CHARGE APPLIES.



Please make an appointment before coming into the office to see Chris or Amber, they are very busy.

Please allow Tonya or Michelle to try to answer your questions before asking to speak to Chris or Amber on the phone. If they cannot answer your question, they will get you an answer or will get you to someone who can.



Mint Oreo™ M&M's™ Brookies

★★★★★

Prep	Total	Servings
10 MIN	3 HR 55 MIN	16



Ingredients

1 box Betty Crocker™ fudge brownie mix

Water, vegetable oil and eggs called for on brownie mix box

1 pouch Betty Crocker™ sugar cookie mix

Butter and egg called for on cookie mix pouch

1 1/4 cups green M&M's™ milk chocolate candies

12 Oreo Thins™ chocolate mint creme sandwich cookies, cut into fourths (about 1 cup)

Steps

- 1 Heat oven to 350°F. Line 9-inch square pan with foil, allowing foil to hang over sides of pan for easy removal after baking. Spray with cooking spray.
- 2 Make brownie batter as directed on box. Spread in pan. Bake 32 to 35 minutes or until brownies are set around sides and toothpick inserted in center of brownies comes out almost clean. Cool in pan 10 minutes.
- 3 Meanwhile, in medium bowl, make cookie dough as directed on pouch for drop cookies. Stir in 1 cup of the candies. Drop half of the cookie dough mixture in chunks on top of baked brownie layer; add half of the Oreo™ pieces. Repeat with remaining cookie dough and Oreo™ pieces. With back of spoon or offset metal spatula, gently press cookie dough together to form even layer. Top with remaining 1/4 cup candies, pressing gently into cookie dough.
- 4 Bake 23 to 28 minutes or until cookie layer is set, covering with foil last 10 minutes if necessary to prevent overbrowning. Cool at least 2 1/2 hours; remove bars from pan, and cut into 4 rows by 4 rows.

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The Answer to February's Puzzle was Charcoal

March 2018

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
26	27	28	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Daylight Savings Time Begins
12	13	14	15	16	17 <small>St Patrick's Day</small>	18
19	20 <small>First Day of Spring</small>	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Rent Due	31	1 Easter April fool's Day <small>Palm Sunday</small>
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

WhatIsTheDateToday.Com

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Our office closes from 12pm to 1pm for lunch daily. Our employee meeting for March will be on April 6 at 2pm, our office will be closed that afternoon for this meeting.