Navigating the Waves of Change

75th Anniversary

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Greetings!

What a challenging year this has been! We are starting to see more and more changes take place within our industry as well as within our state. As more of us reposition, we will continue to see change, not only in the way we operate, but also in the way we train and interact with our membership. Change is not new within HUD, but we have always answered the call, and this time will be no different. I encourage everyone to work together for the same goal: to provide housing for our residents no matter what changes are around the corner.

As many of you know, most housing authorities within the state partnered with MS Home Corporation to complete an Analysis of Impediment. This has been a lengthy process but we can see the finish line. This could not have been done without the partnership of MS Home Corporation. They have worked tirelessly on our behalf to see this process through. This will provide each participating housing authority a useful document to assist them in dealing with many fair housing issues. Now, our work begins. We must take the analysis and address the issues that have been identified. Mississippi should be very proud of the work that we have done, and I know we will work just as hard in the future.

The theme of my presidency was Embrace the Chaos. With all we have faced, from a government shut-down and UPCS changes to repositioning, we have definitely seen the chaos. I also believe we have embraced it. Thank you for allowing me the honor to serve you for the past two years.

Ginger Ming, MAHRC president

Abraham Green of the Vicksburg Housing Authority was honored with the Commissioner of the Year Award at the recent conference in Point Clear. In addition to his service as commissioner and board chairman for the Vicksburg Housing Authority, Green currently serves on Regions Bank CRA Advisory Board, the city of Vicksburg housing committee, and on the board for the Mountain of Faith Ministries, a homeless shelter for women and their children.

As current director for the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity, he can often be seen on site wearing a tool belt and anchoring roof rafter. He has served on the board with the Vicksburg Housing Management Development and the Vicksburg Housing Authority since 2009. He is a past-chairman of the local United Way, and an active member at Mt. Calvary MB Church where he serves as chairman of the deacon board and as church secretary. Green is also a proud member of Alcorn State University Alumni.

Green and his wife Edna have been married for 50 years and have one daughter. Green retired after 35 years from International Paper Mill in Vicksburg and worked with the Vicksburg Warren School District as a substitute teacher in his spare time. Congratulations, Abraham Green, from all of us, on being selected as commissioner of the year!
MAHRO commissioners returned to the newly renovated Grand Hotel Resort and Spa in the picturesque beach hamlet of Point Clear, Alabama for the 2019 Annual Commissioners’ Conference. Regardless of the weather, which was very wet this year, the grounds at the Grand Hotel are always manicured to perfection, and the view is breathtaking, creating a relaxing place to stroll after a long day of training. This beautiful resort keeps our commissioners longing to return year after year to enjoy the ducks, cranes and the flowing fountain in the pond at the center of the property.

President Ginger Ming and Vice President of Commissioners John Bounds presided over the opening session, followed by a presentation of colors by the American Legion, Post 280. Laurel Housing Authority Executive Director Ailrick Young led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Robert Finch from the Louisville Housing Authority led the group in the National Anthem.

The president’s dinner was a fun, first-night event offering great food and entertainment. Commissioners were able to enjoy an evening of socializing with other members and prepare for long sessions the next day and half.

The entire two-day conference provided training for commissioners, old and new. Sessions included Ethics for Commissioners, presented by John H. Jeffries of C.I.A.G. Inc, Athens GA; Successful Planning & PHA 101, presented by Mickey McInnish, attorney from Montgomery, AL; and Responsibilities & Qualifications, presented by Johnny Taylor of JWT Consulting. Also a commissioner certification session was provided by Jim Inglis, director of housing, Livonia, MI.

Vice President of Commissioners John Bounds provided a legislative update at breakfast on the final day.

Continued on pages 8-10
MAHRO— IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

MAHRO members attended the NAHRO 2019 Washington/Legislative Conference April 7. The conference was held at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, Arlington, Virginia.

Attending this year’s conference and visit to Capitol Hill were: (left to right) Gregory Partman, Jason Spencer, Ailrick Young, George Barnes, Senator Roger Wicker, Ben Washington, Judy Mellard, Thomas Coleman, Robert Finch, Janice Isaac, and John Bounds.

North Mississippi mini-meeting hosted in Batesville

Recently, representatives from public housing authorities (PHA) of the North Mississippi mini-meeting group met and toured the Finch-Henry Job Corps Center in Batesville. Those in attendance from North Mississippi housing authorities were Royal Ann Spencer, Clarksdale; Debra Taylor, Columbus; Jacklyn Weir, Columbus; Brian Power, Mississippi Regional Housing Authority IV; Clarisse Adams, Okolona; Michelle Richardson, Senatobia; Tabitha Smith, Tupelo; Tonya Williams, Tupelo; Jason Spencer, TVRHA; and Terri Holt, Winona.

Finch-Henry Job Corps Center Director Mike Salazar presided over the meeting and introduced the group to several of the students attending the center. Salazar explained the center’s purpose and told how a typical day goes for the students. The North Mississippi PHA group toured all of the facilities including administration offices, classrooms, dorm rooms, and the gymnasium, and we had the opportunity to see the students conducting hands on training in masonry, welding, painting, culinary, and classroom work.

Salazar explained to the group how the process works for a student, and many questions were asked. PHA representatives can use this information to direct residents to the center as needed.

The group was treated to a delicious lunch prepared by the culinary students, and each student introduced him/herself after lunch and explained his/her goals.
MAHRO members attended the SERC-NAHRO conference in Orlando, FL in June. Several members of MAHRO serve on committees including the executive committee. These members arrive early to plan and budget the workshops and conferences SERC provides for nine participating states.

High School

Raven Dent (Natchez, MS)

MAHRO: 1st Place

SERC: 2nd Place

SERC-NAHRO, in association with Housing America, accepts entries from around the region for a poster contest each year featuring art by talented residents in categories of elementary, middle school and high school. The hope of entrants is for winning spots in the annual calendar. Each state association submits a 1st place entry in each of these categories. The entries are judged categorically and receive 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards from SERC. Winners are then sent to NAHRO for the national association competition.

This year Raven Dent from Natchez Housing Authority won 1st place in the MAHRO competition for her artwork themed ‘what home means to me’, then, she went on to win 2nd place in the SERC competition in June. Previously, Raven won 1st place in the 2018 SERC competition.

Natchez Housing Authority and MAHRO are very proud of all of the students who participated in the competition. Each year, we look forward to seeing students excel in the SERC poster contest. Congratulations to Natchez Housing Authority for having such talented young residents, and especially to Miss Dent for her excellent showing in this year’s competition!

Poster entry takes second place honors in 2019 SERC POSTER CONTEST

Laurel Housing Authority takes award at SERC for medium newsletter

Laurel Housing Authority took home the award for the SERC Newsletter of the Year for medium housing authorities. Each year the SERC newsletter committee awards prizes for small, medium and large newsletters and websites. "House talk" won for medium agency newsletter award. We are proud of the people who work and prepare the "House talk" newsletter and for their continuous efforts to provide news and information to the residents of Laurel Housing Authority.

Congratulations!

Left to right: Executive Director Ailrick Young, Assistant Executive Director Felicia Jackson, Presenter Beverly Barber, OPPS Housing Authority, AL and SERC President Sean Gilbert.
School's out and summer is here! Most of us couldn't wait! As they say, "be careful what you wish for". Now that it's here and you're working out in the sun and heat every day, you should all be very careful of these words - "heat exhaustion" and "heat stroke". I wrote about this very topic back in 2015, and the sound of it may be getting out, but the consequences of it can be deadly. I know we are told day in and day out to be sure we are hydrated. I can't remember the number of times I have been told to drink plenty of water. The fact is, if you don't, you may experience some level of heat exhaustion. Mild cases can have detrimental effects on your health. Remember, you're not as tough as you think you are. I just read of a former NFL lineman for the New York Giants, Mitch Petrus, age 32, died of heat exhaustion on July 18, from working in his shop, not even in direct sunlight. He was in excellent condition.

In recent weeks, we have been told that almost the entire county will be in a heat warning and especially those of us who happen to live in the Southeastern part of the country. It has gotten so bad that they have established three levels of danger - heat advisory, excessive heat watch and excessive heat warning. Whether you're working or playing in the sun, the risk of heat stroke and heat exhaustion increases with the temperature. The 100 degree days with the 110 degree heat indexes that we have been experiencing are here to stay for at least another month. Not all people are exposed to the sun on a daily basis and venture in and out of air conditioning throughout the day, and those people are more susceptible to the heat. If that sounds like you, heed the warnings carefully so you won't be the next statistic.

According to Travelers Insurance you should know the warning signs of heat injury. Simply put, heat injury occurs when the body is exposed to excessive temperatures, and when one spends long periods of time exposed to high temperatures, a body gets too hot. Knowing these warning signs will assist you in preventing a serious case of heat stroke or exhaustion.

Summer is a time for vacations and fun with family and friends. Heat exhaustion and heat stroke can also occur while outside the working environment. No matter how many times you hear it, listen to these wise words. Drink plenty of fluids, and avoid the heat whenever possible. It is very difficult for most of us to avoid the heat just because of the nature of what we do. But heat exhaustion and heat stroke do not have to happen to anyone, if we are smart and follow those simple suggestions.

Brian Power
MAHRO'S education and training committee

mharm update

We are excited to roll out RiskPartner, a web-based system developed for Arthur J. Gallagher pool clients that manages exposures, claims and policy data. The system collects and organizes member data in a secure environment at no cost to the corporation or its members. MHARM members should be able to access RiskPartner by August 15. In addition to many other features, the program can provide claims information retroactively for all lines of coverage going back as far as members need. MHARM will have a hands-on training session on RiskPartner at the MAHRO Annual Conference in Biloxi. We look forward to seeing you there!

As you probably have seen in the national media, with ongoing major coast-to-coast catastrophic losses, the state of the property insurance marketplace continues to suffer. The last couple of years have been some of the worst years for catastrophic property losses in history, with billions of dollars in losses resulting primarily from weather and climate disasters. Increased deductibles are becoming commonplace with many carriers now asking for added 2% or more wind/hail deductibles in noncoastal areas. Pools are having to be more creative in order to control rates by changing deductibles and self-insured retention amounts. We are already working diligently on the upcoming renewal for December in order to offer you the best coverage and premiums. Rest assured that the MHARM board of directors is cognizant of this nationwide problem and will do everything feasible to ensure the finest product is offered to our membership at the best possible cost.

As always, thank you for your membership in MHARM. Remember that you created and own MHARM. Participation in MHARM is limited to Mississippi public housing agencies and nonprofit entities associated with PHAs and engaging in activities only for housing authorities or housing authority residents. We are proud of our history. Our purpose is to serve you.

Tommy Robinson
MHARM administrator

Notice: MHARM has moved the annual meeting of the members from the MAHRO 2019 annual conference to the January 2020 MHARM workshop. Please check the website for information and dates.
The MAHRO occupancy workshop was held at the Embassy Suites Hotel in mid-May. Conducted by the HUD office in Jackson, the workshop featured discussions on proposed changes and concerns that are a ‘must-know’ for the current public housing program.

Director Sheila Jackson of the Jackson HUD Field Office welcomed everyone to this important workshop. Each year, it is vital for housing authorities to be informed of the latest occupancy changes and updates.

Rochelle Culp Thomas of the American Lung Association was the guest speaker. A key topic discussed by Claude Weathers and John Spears of the Jackson HUD Field Office was the eLOC system. The Line of Credit Control System (LOCCS) is the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) primary grant disbursement system, handling disbursements for the majority of HUD programs.

Terrance Course talked about the importance of the “strong family initiatives” program. Housing authorities are encouraged strongly to participate in this effort to help strengthen family ties while promoting economic empowerment.

PIN notices were shared by Darlene Maucelli, Kendra Mitchell and Samuel Watson. After the break, Bonnie Lovorn and Timothy Weathers provided data on the Hepatitis C virus that is a major health problem worldwide, and discussed the adequate tools needed to face this health issue.

A hot topic on this year’s agenda was environmental concerns. Dennis Kelly of the Mississippi Department of Environment Quality shared information about important global changes and how our area of the country is affected by these changes.

The workshop ended with the presentation of the newsletter/website award by Alan Ingram, executive director of Natchez Housing Authority.
Sessions from the previous day continued until noon. Members of MAHRO’s commissioner committee include John Bounds, Oxford; James Belton, MRHA 7; Tillmon Calvert, Tupelo; Willie Clark, Hattiesburg; Dorothy Duncan, TVRHA; Kenny Goza, Brookhaven; and Johnny Johnson, MRHA 4. The Commissioner of the Year award was presented to Abraham Green, commissioner and board chairman for the Vicksburg Housing Authority.
A beautiful evening with an open fire-pit on the beach...it just doesn’t get any better than this! Hot, rainy days turned into sunsets and cool temperatures for our commissioners to enjoy.

S-mores ‘n More!

After a long day of training, the hospitality event “S’MORES & MORE” treated attendees to an open fire-pit on the beach where they roasted marshmallows and made s’mores. Commissioners also enjoyed bingo, with the help of the hotel by providing a caller for the games. Prizes were given to winners of each game making it a competitive and fun event.
The Laurel Rehabilitation Program (LRP) was a blessing to Dorothy Gailes. Gailes, who lives at 709 Arco Lane in Laurel, said the improvements made to her home through the rehabilitation program were needed and changed her living conditions. The LRP provides housing repair assistance for very low-income, elderly and disabled homeowners in the city of Laurel. In February 2018, over 170 homeowners completed the application intake process to participate in the LRP.

Seventy-two eligible clients of the 170 homeowners received targeted home repairs and improvements designed to bring eligible properties of occupied units into compliance with locally adopted housing standards. Gailes, who lives in her family home, said last summer the program upgraded the flooring and rehabilitated the bathrooms in her home.

“I’m 60 years old, and I’ve lived here all my life. I’m just glad that I was selected for the program,” Gailes said. “I utilize a wheelchair, and prior to the improvements, I was not able to get around the house good because I had carpet on the floors, and the floors needed some work. “Thanks to the program, Gailes said all that changed. “Now, I’m able to get around the house in my wheelchair,” she said excitedly. “This was a good thing. The program was truly a blessing to me.”

Ivory Shelby, program coordinator, said the overall grant is for $488,000 and is designed to improve 72 units. The program is set up in four phases with approximately 18 units in each phase. She said 20 projects have been completed.

Shelby said the program is in Phase II with 20 units scheduled for completion by the end of April. The program is expected to impact 72 clients.

“The Laurel Rehabilitation Program is a great opportunity for the population of very-low income, elderly and handicapped clients in the city of Laurel get help having needed repairs made in their homes,” Shelby said. “The LRP is designed to make targeted, limited repairs that local inspection officials have classified as needed for units to comply with code and safety standards. All clients have expressed great appreciation for work completed on each unit.”

FHLB awards $375K grant to rehabilitate 38 Mississippi homes in Laurel

A $375,000 Affordable Housing Program (AHP) grant from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas (FHLB Dallas) and member institution, The First, A National Banking Association, will rehabilitate 38 homes in Laurel. The grant was awarded to Laurel Housing Authority, which will provide repairs ranging from minor repairs and painting to substantial roof and structural repairs.

Laurel Housing Authority Executive Director Ailrick D. Young said the grant will make a significant impact on the community. “This grant will help residents who have worked their entire lives to own their own homes, yet their retirement funds don’t cover the costs of critical repairs,” said Young. “The AHP grant will make life more comfortable for 38 families in an area that so desperately needs it.”

Senior vice president and director of community development at The First, Jerome Brown, said partnership and heart are the foundation of community investment. “Our philosophy is rooted in our commitment to the community,” said Brown. “Community investment starts with a passion for paying it forward and utilizing the tools at hand. In this case, the tool we used is the AHP through our FHLB Dallas membership.”

FHLB Dallas annually returns 10 percent of its profits in the form of AHP grants to the communities served by its member institutions such as The First. AHP grants fund a variety of projects, including home rehabilitation and modifications for low-income, elderly and special-needs residents; down payment and closing cost assistance for qualified first-time homebuyers; and the construction of low-income, multifamily rental communities and single-family homes.

“We appreciate The First’s long-time use of the AHP,” said Greg Hettrick, first vice president and director of community investment at FHLB Dallas. “Many people will be positively affected by their commitment to the improvement of the community.”

In 2018, FHLB Dallas awarded $14 million in AHP grants to 29 projects that will result in 1,853 new or renovated housing units. Of that, $6.2 million was awarded to Mississippi projects, and will result in 897 new or rehabilitated housing units. Since the inception of the AHP in 1990, FHLB Dallas has awarded more than $278 million in AHP and AHP-funded grants to assist more than 51,000 families.

Young said without the grant, the repairs most likely would not be possible. “We are overjoyed to have received the funding for these repairs,” said Young. “I cannot emphasize how important programs such as the AHP are to our mission.”
The months of May and June were very busy at Starkville Housing Authority. All resident mothers were honored in the month of May, and fathers were honored in June. There were a variety of events held each week of both months. Mothers were treated to a “Top Hat Luncheon” where a guest speaker talked about the importance of good mothers. Participants were given an array of gifts ranging from tote bags to hanging plants. Each participant received a Certificate of Appreciation for being a great mom! The event was sponsored by the Starkville Housing Authority Resident Council.

In June, fathers had the opportunity to have a “Fatherhood Health Fair and Cookout”. Former commissioner, Rev. Larnzy Carpenter, served as guest speaker and gave a riveting speech on being a Godly man and father. A representative from Starkville Community Counseling spoke to participants about mental health and gave tips on how to maintain one’s mental health through exercise and activities. Nurses from Baptist Hospital were on site to give blood pressure screenings. Afterward, a cookout was held on housing authority grounds. Fathers were treated to vouchers for free haircuts at a local barbershop and gift cards. The event was part of the Strong Families Initiative.

Laurel Housing Authority—HUD funds ROSS programs at Triangle & Windsor Courts, renews Brown Circle

The Laurel Housing Authority’s ROSS program is growing. The local housing authority has received notification of funding for ROSS programs at three of its sites.

In an effort to help public housing residents become self-sufficient, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded $28 million in grants to public housing authorities and non-profit organizations across the nation to hire or retain service coordinators to help residents find jobs and educational opportunities. The local programs being funded are ROSS Grant for Triangle Homes, Windsor Court Homes and the renewal for PHA Wide (Brown Circle).

With this funding, the Laurel Housing Authority now has all AMPs in the ROSS portfolio. HUD’s Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency—Service Coordinators Program (ROSS-SC) helps public housing authorities, resident associations, non-profit organizations, Indian tribes or entities representing Indian tribes hire or retain “service coordinators” who work directly with residents to assess their needs and connect them with education, job training and placement programs, and/or computer and financial literacy services available in their community to promote self-sufficiency.

“Providing families who live in public housing the opportunity to invest in themselves is a win-win as it helps them to gain economic and housing independence,” said HUD Secretary Ben Carson. “Today, we’re investing in our residents, offering them the tools they need to build a brighter future for themselves and their children.” The purpose of HUD’s ROSS-SC program is to encourage local, innovative strategies that link public housing assistance with public and private resources to enable participating families to increase earned income, reduce or eliminate the need for welfare assistance, and make progress toward achieving economic independence and housing self-sufficiency.
On June 12, BancorpSouth, in partnership with the Columbus Housing Authority (CHA), presented our fourth annual Elder Abuse Presentation. Refreshments were provided by various individuals and volunteers.

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day was started on June 15, 2006 by the World Health Organization of the United Nations (UN). This has become an annual opportunity to promote a better understanding of the abuse and neglect of older persons by raising awareness of the cultural, social, economic, and demographic forces affecting elder abuse and neglect.

The event was held at Regal Hall in Columbus where over 80 people were in attendance. Our featured speakers for this event were Fire Chief Martin Andrews, Columbus Police Chief Fred Shelton, BancorpSouth Senior Vice President Walter Thatcher, Director of Pastoral Care Steven Brown, Carter Funeral Home Director Johnathan West and Golden Triangle Planning and Development District Representative John Bauer.

Each speaker discussed ways in which seniors are taken advantage of and provided informative examples of scams along with tips for detecting and preventing scams. Food and beverages were provided by Bancorp South, the CHA Resident Council and CHA employees and volunteers. CHA’s youth

To promote our HUD Strong Families Initiative, we provided a day of fun, food, games and free health screenings. Collaborative partners who participated and set up resource tables that contained educational information were Columbus Housing Authority’s (CHA) ROSS coordinator, Mississippi Department of Health-Lowndes County, Magnolia Health and Greater Meridian Health Care Mobile Clinic.

Food and drink donations were provided and served by Southern Foundation, CHA employees, and Sqwincher.

The event was hosted on June 28, which was the final day of CHA’s youth summer enrichment program.

Special activities included free health screenings, indoor picnic, outdoor games, self-defense by Miller’s Tae Kwando, water-slides, inflatable jumps and free educational information were made available and provided to participants.
Clarksdale Housing Authority— CLARKSDALE SENIOR RESIDENTS ENJOY FISHING OUTING

The Clarksdale Housing Authority recently sponsored a fishing outing for their senior residents and participants of the Jones Elderly Activity Center. The residents were bussed to the Expo Center in Clarksdale where they enjoyed a beautiful day of fishing and were treated to snacks and lunch. All participants were able to catch some catfish, as the pond was recently stocked for their enjoyment. Local police, firefighters, and sheriff’s department staff were invited to share in the events of the day with these special seniors. Once the fishing was completed, the participants were taken back to the elderly center, where they enjoyed ice cream and cookies, played a few rounds of bingo, and decided who caught the biggest fish. All in all, it was a day enjoyed by everyone.

Winona Housing Authority— provides events to promote strong families

Winona Housing Authority had a busy summer filled with activities celebrating the third year of their Youth Summer Meal Program. Activities were held on Monday and Wednesday afternoons throughout the summer. Some of this year’s activities included making shoes with local law enforcement for children without shoes in foreign countries; decorating cupcakes with a local baker; playing Bingo and making ice-cream with a local senior adult day care group; a fun water day with Winona Fire Department; visits from the Winona Police Department; and sports camp activities with a local health club instructor. The main partners for the summer program were Blessings for All, Empowered by Faith, Inc. and Families First for Mississippi, along with many other local groups sponsoring various weekly activities. Students eagerly arrived early each morning and were slow to leave every afternoon, letting us know how much this program meant to them!
Wow, what a great, long run it has been! I’m getting closer to several “goodbyes” of sorts. After having worked for the Natchez Housing Authority (NHA) since April 29, 1981, I’ll be retiring April 30, 2020 - thirty-nine years later. So, for those of you expecting housing issues discussion, I sincerely apologize, because this won’t satisfy your interest.

When I began my career with the NHA, there was one development of 96 units, and another that had been bought and was undergoing rehab of 38 units. That rehab was completed shortly after I came to work. We had another development being built that opened later in 1981, with 80 units. Another development was in its beginning phase and would open in 1982 with 32 units. I was administrative assistant through all of those and became executive director May 1, 1987, with yet another development on our drawing board. It was completed and opened with 50 units in 1990.

Those were the days when it was so much easier to add units to your inventory! Apparently, those days will never be seen again, with development programs having been terminated in the 1990’s. Back then, in the days of higher interest yields, you would get money up front which could be invested in HUD-approved ways, and make your authority some good money. Oh, for the good old days!

In 2004, I was approached by Brian Power, who would become president of MAHRO in 2005, to gauge my interest in being on the MAHRO board. I was flattered and honored that he asked, since nobody prior had ever said anything to me about becoming involved. So in 2005, I became a part of the MAHRO board of directors, a position I would hold for two terms, 2005-2009. Then, after discussions with Mike Proffitt and Brian Power, I was nominated to become senior vice president, and served in that capacity, 2009-2011. The next step up was president, which I served as from 2011-2013, followed by immediate past president for 2013-2015. Finally, I served two terms as vice president for member services, 2015-2019.

Being active on the MAHRO board of directors really was an awakening! I never knew just how much hard work the board did, nor did I know the rewards of that hard work! Serving on the board is something that I’ll always take with me; I have wonderful memories of the work we did and the great people with whom I served. The one thing that I consider the highlight of my presidency was the creation of the Emerging Leaders to help get new blood involved not only on the MAHRO board, but also on MAHRO committees. You can see this new blood all throughout the board and committees now, and it continues to grow.

I will truly miss some folks with whom I have become great friends over the years through both the MAHRO and SERC-NAHRO organizations. Those relationships, along with missing the everyday interaction with my beloved staff and board of commissioners, are the most difficult parts of stepping out to retirement.

I’ll still be attending the Executive Directors’ Retreat in September, SERC functions in October and November, and then wrap up my attendance at the MHARM Conference in January. So, I will still see some of you past the annual conference, but chose to say my goodbye in this issue of the MAHRO Informer, as it will be my last editorial with me leaving the MAHRO board at the end of the conference.

As I began, it has been a nice run! I’m hoping retirement will be nice, too! One thing that I know, you all will be in good hands with the folks of the MAHRO board. You may not realize it, looking from the outside-in, but rest assured, their hard work will continue with your support. Take care, all, and may God bless each of you in every way!

Alan Ingram, executive director —Natchez Housing Authority
The MAHRO Informer is an official publication of the Mississippi Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials.

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES TO:
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Visit our website at:
www.mahro.org

calendar of events—2019

September 8-10
PHADA Legislative Forum
Hyatt Regency Washington
Washington, D.C.

September 18-20
E.D. Workshop and MAHRO Transition Meeting
Location: TBA

October 10-12
NAHRO Executive Director Retreat
Marriott Rivercenter and Marriott Riverwalk
San Antonio, TX

November 3-5
SERC-NAHRO Fall Workshop
Hilton Head Marriott Resort & Spa
Hilton Head, SC

SERC-NAHRO Fall Workshop
November 3-5
Hilton Head Marriott
Hilton Head, SC

NAHRO 2019
National Conference & Exhibition
CONNECT TO PARTNERS
October 10-12
Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
San Antonio, TX