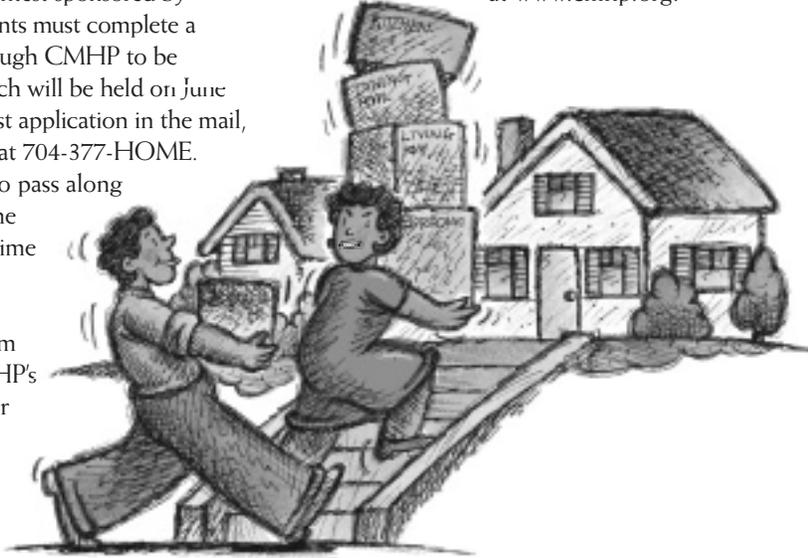


# Be The Lucky Winner Of A New Home

What are the odds of winning a beautiful, brand new home? Not as slim as you might think. Sign-ups are underway now through April 15th for the second annual Home Giveaway Contest sponsored by CMHP. Qualified participants must complete a homeownership course through CMHP to be eligible for the drawing which will be held on June 30, 2004. To obtain a contest application in the mail, please call our message line at 704-377-HOME.

We encourage realtors to pass along information about the Home Giveaway Contest to first-time homebuyers. Realtors who complete the Affordable Housing Certificate Program can also participate in CMHP's Realtor Referral Program for participants who do not already have a realtor. Everyone who enters the contest will take home

valuable knowledge, and one lucky person will take home a key to the house. For more information, please call 704-377-HOME or visit our website at [www.cmhp.org](http://www.cmhp.org).



Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Partnership, Inc. is a broad-based, private, non-profit housing development and finance corporation organized to expand affordable and well-maintained housing within stable neighborhoods for low and moderate income families in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County with a continuing interest in the ability of occupants to more fully enter the economic mainstream.

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The Partner is published quarterly by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Partnership, Inc. and provided to public, private and community partners. Others interested in affordable housing issues may obtain a copy at no charge.



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Housing Partnership**

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# The PARTNER

A NEWSLETTER *from*  
CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

Winter 2004

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## Ceremony Marks Opening of Senior Complex



*Perry Craven, Charles Woodyard, Par Garrett, Fran Mathay, Roger Lewis and Councilman James Mitchell*

The attitude was gratitude during ground-breaking ceremonies for The Anita Stroud Senior Complex held just before Thanksgiving. Three outstanding women were honored as construction officially commenced on the \$7.1 million project which includes 83 affordable rental homes for seniors. It is part of the redevelopment of the former Fairview Homes public housing site which has been transformed into The Park at Oaklawn community. Funding came from a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant awarded to CMHP and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Senior Centers, Inc.

Anita Stroud was a beloved and pivotal figure in the lives of children from the Greenville,

Double Oaks and former Fairview Homes areas of Charlotte. Born in a tenant farm shack in 1899 to parents she never knew, Anita Stroud began working at age seven, dreaming of a day when she would gather children together in a "warm, dry place and give them love, acceptance and stability." That "place" was her apartment in Fairview Homes, her ministry growing into what is today the Anita Stroud Youth Development Center, an after-school education and enrichment program. Miss Stroud was nationally recognized for her work and received many awards, including an honorary doctorate from

*continued on page 2*

continued from page 1

## Ceremony Marks Opening of Senior Complex

UNCC. Her mission continues today, thanks in great part to efforts of the two other women honored at the ceremony: Ethel Guest and Geraldine Powe.

Crosland Contractors will construct the Senior Complex, which is slated to open in Spring 2005. On hand to cut the ribbon were City Councilman James Mitchell, Mayor Pro Tem Patrick Cannon, North Carolina State Representative Pete Cunningham, Charlotte Housing Authority President/CEO Charles Woodyard and Fran Mathay, Chairman of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Senior Centers. The children of nearby Double Oaks pre-school provided musical entertainment.

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*Traveling down the road of life, it makes all the difference to have a loving guide. Hundreds of children have found just that in their relationship with Ethel Guest and Geraldine Powe so it is especially fitting that these two special women have streets named in their honor.*

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## Street Names Honor Special Women

Traveling down the road of life, it makes all the difference to have a loving guide. Hundreds of children have found just that in their relationship with Ethel Guest and Geraldine Powe so it is especially fitting that these two special women have streets named in their honor in the new Park at Oaklawn community. Guest and Powe are the first and current Executive Directors, respectively, of the Anita Stroud Foundation whose mission is to "provide at-risk children with love, encouragement, educational lessons, experiences and role models that will help them gain basic skills, self-esteem and improve the quality of their lives."

An art teacher in the Charlotte Mecklenburg school system, Ms. Guest volunteered alongside Miss Stroud for 25 years before the non-profit

Anita Stroud Foundation was formed in 1974 and she was hired as its first Executive Director. A graduate of North Carolina A&T University, she recruited countless other school teachers to the program before retiring in 1990. She was succeeded by Geraldine Powe, a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University who taught for over 30 years in the New York public school system. She, too, began as a volunteer and now serves as the Executive Director of the Anita Stroud Youth Development Center which is operated by the Anita Stroud Foundation.

The Center will relocate to the recreation center in the Park at Oaklawn where two of the community's streets are now officially named after Ethel Guest and Geraldine Powe.



Ethel Guest, Councilman James Mitchell and Geraldine Powe

# CMHP Wins Leadership Charlotte Award

When Leadership Charlotte gathered for a 25th anniversary celebration, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Partnership received its 2003 Community Service Award for "demonstrating creativity and innovation to enrich the quality of life in the community" Keynote speaker for the event was Bob Johnson, owner of the NBA Charlotte Bobcats and the recipient of Leadership Charlotte's Newcomer of the Year award. Hundreds attended the ceremony which was sponsored by Bank of America.

Leadership Charlotte's mission is to "develop and enhance volunteer community leadership by providing a diverse group of emerging and existing leaders with the opportunity to increase their community knowledge, civic network and service to the community." Learn more about the not-for-profit organization at [www.leadershipcharlotte.org](http://www.leadershipcharlotte.org).

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*CMHP has evolved into a leader in neighborhood revitalization, a housing developer and a "one-stop shop" for homeownership education and services.*



## The Statesville Avenue Corridor Plan: **A REPORT CARD**

Since 1990 CMHP has been revitalizing an area roughly 10 square miles just north of downtown Charlotte and bounded by I-77, I-85, Graham Street and Brookshire Freeway. This area is referred to as the Greater Statesville Avenue Corridor, comprised of the following neighborhoods: Greenville, Genesis Park, Fairview Homes/Double Oaks. Initially focusing on the development and financing of affordable for sale housing, CMHP has evolved into a leader in neighborhood revitalization, a housing developer and a "one-stop shop" for homeownership education and services.

When CMHP started working in the area, the City passed a series of bonds to improve infrastructure in the area, much of which has been completed. CMHP has spent almost \$43 million on affordable housing in the Greater

Statesville Avenue Corridor, much in the form of tax credit investments and governmental funding. The impact that CMHP has had on the community can be seen in the following ways:

- A safe, secure place to live
- Increasing property and resale values
- Communities with more involved citizens
- Continued investment in the form of lending, services, people moving to the area
- Recognition by Charlotte citizens that inner city neighborhoods can be revitalized and become desirable places to live. This is demonstrated through the commitment of public and private groups to commit financial and technical resources for an extended period of time.