



Harrietstown Housing Authority

A Place to Live is more than a Roof over your Head

Happy Healthy Attitudes

March 2022
Volume 22, Issue 3

SARAH'S NEWS

Locally, COVID numbers are trending downward. Looking at the New York State COVID-19 Testing Tracker data for February 22, Franklin County had a 6.2% positivity rate for the day and a 6.7% seven-day average positivity rate. Franklin County's website reports 68 community active cases. These numbers are much lower than the rates of a month ago. Let's hope for continued declines in these rates.

If you haven't yet heard, there is a new strain of the Omicron variant circulating – BA.2. It is reported to spread roughly 30% more easily than the highly transmissible strain of the Omicron variant we've been battling in recent months. Currently, the new strain accounts for an estimated 3.9% of all new infections in this country. The hope is that so many people have immunity from prior infections and vaccinations that it won't result in a new surge. Experts are holding their breath and waiting.

All residents are encouraged to continue wearing masks in the buildings' common areas – hallways, mailrooms, elevators, etc. It is always a good idea to wear a mask, practice social distancing, and wash your hands.

Remember – if you've had your booster, show proof of it to Irene and get a gift card for Owl's Nest!

Staff will remain cautious for your and our safety and will continue to wear masks for now.

It won't be long before masks cease serving as an additional way to keep warm. Spring is just around the corner – March 20. More daylight! More birdsong! Hooray!

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HHA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Jim Connolly (Chair)
Allen Dunham (Vice Chair)
Christine Conover
Emily Fogarty
Eugene O'Dell
Dan Ruchkin
Chad Wilkes



TID BITS FROM DAVID SEGRIST

March is a funny month around here. We never really know what the weather is going to do.

We all want the warm temperatures to arrive and thaw things out.

It is the month that Irene's Daffodils are supposed to poke their heads out of the ground in front of the Lake Flower Apartments. All 1000 of them. Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

It is the month that Maple Hill's stream will jump back to life from snow melt and rain. Sand bags have been acquired. Color, orange.

It is the month when I will be able to wash the salt off my vehicles and determine which part will fall off next. Get out the welder. OK, duct tape will have to do.

It's the month that my wife was born. I just have to figure out which day. OK.....?????

It's the month when all the trash will protrude from the snow banks for removal. Oh look, there's another free TV.

It's the month when all dog owners can say " So that's what you have been doing in the yard when I let you out over the winter! "

And yes, it's the month that lets us know that Winter really isn't over until the 20th. Here comes the snow.

I think Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow meaning he's predicted 6 more weeks of winter. Or something like that. Time will tell.

SUBMITTING WORK ORDERS

No work will be performed without a proper work order request

Call system 518 891 3050, Ext. 106 or Option 3
Email or Text request to
hhaworkorder@gmail.com

LEAVE DETAILED MESSAGE, THAT INCLUDES:

- ◇ Name and apartment #
- ◇ Phone number/text-able cell phone number or email address for communication and scheduling
- ◇ Description of problem – attach photo if possible
- ◇ Are any pets in the apartment?
- ◇ Time slot preferred for work to be completed
 - ◇ 9:00am to 11:00 am, or
 - ◇ 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Requests deemed emergency are not subject to 24-hour prior notice to enter apartments

IRENE'S THOUGHTS

Simple Ways to Declutter Your Spaces

1. Start by removing trash.
2. Begin by choosing one small area to organize — like a drawer.
3. Sort items into three piles: Keep, donate and toss.
4. Find a specific home for everything you intend to keep — for example, a hook for your keys.
5. Group similar items together, instead of storing them in multiple places, so you always know where to find them.
6. If you buy something new, pledge to get rid of something else to limit items in your home.
7. If you're holding on to items to pass to the next generation, ask your heirs if they want the items. Be prepared for them to say no, and be gracious.
8. Don't try to do everything all at once. Schedule limited amounts of time to work on decluttering and organizing on a regular basis.

<https://www.aarp.org/home-family/your-home/info-2021/simple-decluttering-and-organization-tips.html#:~>

EMERGENCY PULL CORDS BEING DISCONTINUED AT LAKE FLOWER

Emergency pull cords are being removed from the apartments in Lake Flower due to better technology and insurance issues. There are faster and better ways to request emergency services than using a pull-cord, such as Life Line or a cell phone. For information on learning about Life Line Medical Services or a free cell phone plan, see information below or contact Irene — she has answers!

LIFE LINE MEDICAL ALERT SERVICES

- ⇒ If you have Fidelis or Medicaid, call 518-481-1526
- ⇒ If you have neither, call 518-481-1569
- ⇒ Direct number to Life Line, call 1-800-635-6156

FREE CELL PHONE PLAN

- ⇒ SafeLink Wireless at 1-800-723-3546 or www.safelinkwireless.com



INTERESTED IN HOUSING ASSISTANCE?

If you are not currently living in the Lake Flower high rise or Algonquin Apartments, and you are not currently participating in the Housing Choice Voucher program, don't be shy!

If you are interested in assistance, you should start the process of determining your eligibility. You can go onto our website to print out an application and either drop it off at the office or in the mail. you can also call us and have us mail you an application or stop by to pick up an application. See contact information on last page.

You must be at least 18 years old, and a United States citizen or a non-citizen who has eligible immigration status. Single persons are eligible, as well as households with or without children. HUD commonly refers to a household as a "family," so don't let that term confuse you. A "family" consists of one or more persons, and having children is not required to be considered

“Wherever
you go, no
matter what
the weather,
always bring
your own sunshine.”

Anthony J. D'Angelo,



You can progress from one word to the next changing only one letter at a time.

Answer:

A LUCKY PICKLE?

I'M KIND OF A BIG DILL.

RESIDENT NEWS AND ISSUES...By Tammy Burdt

Saranac Lake Winter Carnival is over, and the Ice Palace has been knocked down! Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow. Does this really mean we have six more weeks of winter? Nah, Spring is right around the corner! I hear birds chirping in the early morning hours, rain, wind, snow melting, ice jams, pot-holes, large puddles, like I said, Spring is right around the corner! Daylight Saving Time begins on March 13 and St. Patrick's Day is on March 17. 🍀 🍀

If you know of anyone looking for employment in the maintenance field, please send them our way. The description and application can be located on our website at www.harrietstownha.org.

Lake Flower News: The new outdoor lift is still having problems. Otter Creek was here to measure for the new awnings, but we are not sure when they will be installed. Please be careful of icy patches on sidewalks and driveways. During this time of year, they are hard to avoid. Unfortunately, one of our tenants passed away last month. Condolences go out to his family. One person moved out during February.

Algonquin News: Just look at all the things that got left out before the snow came!! Things are popping up everywhere. Now is the time to start picking them up as they become unfrozen from the ground. Do not forget the dog waste too! Do not want to let that set for too long! One family moved in during February.

Remember, a kind word goes a long way! Stay safe!

Happy St. Patrick's Day!



Bed Bug Information

Where should you look?

- Mattress (piping, sides, underside)
- Box spring (remove ticking)
- Bed frame
- Linens
- Furniture – seams, pleats, piping, joints
- Corners and drawers of desks, dressers, etc.
- Door, window, and baseboard trim
- Items on the floor

What should you look for?

- All life stages: eggs, nymphs, adults
- Skin casts
- Blood spots

How do you avoid them?

Carefully inspect all used furniture, linens, and clothing before bringing them into your home.

- Wash and dry clothes on hottest setting items can stand. Transport clothes in plastic bags. Do not put clean clothes in bags used to transport dirty clothes. Throw those away!
 - Vacuum frequently.
 - Remove clutter.

If possible, use a high powered flashlight when looking around your unit. If you find a bed bug, notify staff immediately. Staff and you will work together to prepare for any needed treatment. Don't delay. It's much easier to treat one or two than it is twenty or thirty. Again, successful eradication requires resident involvement and cooperation.

The sooner we know, the lower the cost to you.

Our Mission

The mission of the Harrietstown Housing Authority is to provide public housing and tenant-based assistance program residents with clean, safe and affordable housing in a non-discriminatory manner.

The Harrietstown Housing Authority is committed to operating in an efficient, fiscally prudent, ethical and professional manner.

The HHA will encourage and monitor partnerships with appropriate community agencies in order to improve the quality of the resident's lives.

Our Staff

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sarah A. Clarkin

HOUSING ASSISTANT

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HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER SPECIALIST RESIDENT SERVICES COORDINATOR

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HHA Office Hours

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

After Hours Emergency Call Number
(518) 923-1082

Get the Newsletter Via E-Mail!

We encourage those with access to e-mail to sign up for e-mail delivery of the monthly newsletter. To sign up, send a quick e-mail to kscriver@harrietstownha.org.

The newsletter is also available on the website:
www.harrietstownha.org