



# Harrietstown Housing Authority

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

*Happy Healthy Attitudes*

March 2024  
Volume 24, Issue 3

## SARAH'S NEWS

My ongoing blurbs about HUD's new physical inspection protocol, NSPIRE (National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate), may tire you. If you're tired, just think how the staff are feeling!

Under NSPIRE, the focus is on the units. The third-party inspector identifies problems in the unit. Those problems lead to point deductions. The more point deductions, the lower the score. The lower the score, the more we need to report to the federal government. And, the lower the score, the less money we receive from the federal government. The less money we receive, the less we can do.

Please call in work orders when there is a problem in the unit. The Facilities Manager prioritizes the work orders based on any health and safety risks and overall impact on daily living.

The Housing Authority's lease emphasizes the residents' role in maintaining the units' health and safety.

- **Section 6: Occupancy.** The tenant shall not (f) remove any batteries from a smoke detector or fail to notify the Authority if the smoke detector is inoperable for any reason.
- **Section 14(a): Maintenance.** The tenant agrees to (1) keep the dwelling unit ... in a clean and safe condition; (4) not undertake ... any hazardous acts or do anything that will damage the property; (5) not destroy, deface, damage, or remove any part of the dwelling unit....; (6) give the Authority prompt notice of any defects in the plumbing, fixtures, appliances, heating equipment or any other part of the unit....; (8) remove garbage and other waste from the dwelling unit; (11) inform the Authority immediately of any mold or mildew problem.

The Housing Authority works with residents to schedule a reasonable date/time to address work orders.

Thank you for maintaining your apartment.

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### HHA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Rich Loeber (Chair)  
 Amy Oliveras (Vice Chair)  
 Allen Dunham  
 Carrie Bradley  
 Rachel Karp  
 Eugene O'Dell  
 Susan Steen

# TID BITS FROM DAVID SIEGRIST

“Hey can you get off the internet so I can make a phone call? “  
Say what?

“Just call my Land Line and leave me a message on my answering machine?” What the heck is that?

Echo Valley 2-6809, 867-5309, 555-555-5555, Rikki Don't Lose That Number, "Deposit 10 cents for an additional 2 minutes." Huh?

Times have changed a little bit I think. Where the heck am I going with this.?

Well we are trying to clear some of the backlog of work orders and are reaching out to tenants in various ways to schedule appointments.

One of them is via phone call. Old school cool. If you get a call from us, please respond to it. It would help if your mailbox was set up and not full so we can leave you a message . “I don't recognize that number so I'm not going to answer.” We get that, but if you have called us for something, the number that calls you back may not be one you recognize. Answer the call because it's time to extend your new car's warranty. Even though you don't own it anymore! And yes 555-555-5555 is the executive director's personal cell number.

Second, we may send you a text message to try and arrange a time to complete your request. 95% of texts are read within three minutes so, if you're gonna read it, you might as well respond to it! On average, it takes people 90 seconds to respond to a text message. So just do it.

Third we may send you an email. People still use that? Yes they do, and it allows for a more lengthy interaction. And it's fun for us to see what creative email addresses people have come up with! “ [iwanttobangonthedrumallday@ny.gov](mailto:iwanttobangonthedrumallday@ny.gov)” So let's communicate with each other and work together and get things done.

Oh and we might leave a note on your door if we get desperate! “(click) I think they just hung up on me!”

## 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](mailto: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

On March 6<sup>th</sup> we will be having a Pizza Party in the Lake Flower Community Room at 1:00 p.m. Please sign up on the sheet by the elevator so that we know how many pizzas to get.



We're also planning for the Red Cross to come to the High-rise and Algonquin to talk about fire prevention. Flyers will be posted with dates and times.

After all of Kathy's hard work, the new Good Neighbor Stars have arrived. So get those nominations in. It's a great way to acknowledge the good in the people we live near!



### 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 a "family."



MARCH 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>RED: ALGONQUIN COMMUNITY ROOM            PURPLE: L.F. COMMUNITY ROOM            GREEN: L.F. BOARD ROOM</p>					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	11	12 8-3 WIC Clinic	13	14	15	16
17 	18	19	 HHA Board Meeting 4pm	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 Good Friday Office Closing @ 11:30	30



**Spring**  
COLOR BY NUMBER

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4



**Spring**  
COLOR BY NUMBER

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7



**Spring**  
COLOR BY NUMBER

- 1
- 2
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- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7

## RESIDENT NEWS AND ISSUES...By Tammy Burdt

It looks like we might have an early Spring!! Temperatures go up then they go down. Life in the Adirondacks. So unpredictable. Start looking for those little flower buds coming up out of the ground and buds on the trees starting to form. Remember that on March 10, 2024, you need to set your clocks one hour ahead for Daylight Savings Time.

The office will be closing at 11:30 am on Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> in observance of Good Friday.

The following are observances for the month of March: Employee Appreciation Day 1<sup>st</sup>, Read Across America Day 2<sup>nd</sup>, **National Day of Unplugging 6<sup>th</sup>**, Daylight Savings Time and Ramadan Begins 10<sup>th</sup>, Pi Day 14<sup>th</sup>, Maple Weekend 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, **St. Patrick's Day 17<sup>th</sup>**, First Day of Spring & International Day of Happiness 20<sup>th</sup>, World Water Day 22<sup>nd</sup>, Purim & Maple Weekend 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>, Palm Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>, Full Moon (Worm) 25<sup>th</sup>, Holy Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>, Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup>, and Easter 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Lake Flower News:** Annual recertifications are complete. New rents went into effect on February 1, 2024. Tenants seem anxious to get out and enjoy the warmer temperatures. Be careful out there, there are still some icy spots. The Lake Flower Apartments had no tenants move-out, no tenants move-in, and one transfer during the month of February.

**Algonquin News:** Reminder: please keep walkways into the apartments clear of snow, ice, garbage, toys, bikes, etc. In addition, if you have a pet, the backyard needs to be routinely cleaned of pet feces. This is a provision of the Pet Policy. The Algonquin Apartments had no tenant move-out, and one tenant moved-in during the month of February.

**Reminder:** Lake Flower Apartments and the Algonquin Apartments are non-smoking facilities. Smoking **of any kind** is prohibited in apartments, in yards, or anywhere on the property. This is a violation of the terms of the lease agreement.

**Reminder:** Please make sure your rent is paid. If you are having difficulties, please call the office to set up a repayment agreement.

Happy Spring!!

## 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.

**If a tenant declines any regularly scheduled inspections and/or preventive treatments, the tenant is responsible for the full cost of any treatment of any subsequent infestation that occurs in the next six calendar months.**

## 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

Tammy Burdt

### HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER SPECIALIST

### RESIDENT SERVICES COORDINATOR

Irene Snyder

### FACILITIES MANAGER

David Siegrist

### MAINTENANCE STAFF

John Burns

Patrick Giblin

### ACCOUNT CLERK

Kathy Scriver



## Harrietstown Housing Authority

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Fax: 518-891-3630  
[www.harrietstownha.org](http://www.harrietstownha.org)

### HHA Office Hours

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

**NEW PHONE NUMBER**

### 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](mailto:kscriver@harrietstownha.org).

The newsletter is also available on the website:  
[www.harrietstownha.org](http://www.harrietstownha.org)

**After Hours  
Emergency Call Number  
(518) 619-0720**