



# Harrietstown Housing Authority

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

*Happy Healthy Attitudes*

October  
Volume 20, Issue 10

## SARAH'S NEWS

The mission of the Harrietstown Housing Authority, in part, 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.

I am very proud of the Housing Authority staff and the work they do to advance this mission. Each and every person here has a lot on their plate. The federal requirements and reporting deadlines are many and constant. Both the Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher programs are challenging to administer. With the constant inflow and outflow of residents, it never ends. At the Lake Flower and Algonquin apartments, when residents move out, units need to be prepared for incoming residents. Depending on how units are left, the removal of items left behind and the repair of unreported damages need to be addressed. After that, everything from the kitchen cabinets to the shower need to be cleaned. Our aging facilities require more in the way of time and materials to maintain than newly constructed buildings. Of course, problems arise at the worst possible times. Resident-reported work orders are reviewed and prioritized. Trash and recycling need to be brought outside. Lawns need to be mowed; snow needs to be plowed; ice needs to be managed. The pandemic has added multiple layers of additional work on staff's shoulders – everyone is doing their part to minimize exposure. When we are short staffed, as we are now, the challenges are that much greater.

Yes; days here do not always, if ever, go as planned. Yes; some things do not happen as quickly as hoped. Everything done here is done to ensure clean, safe, and affordable housing for you, the residents.

One thing is constant: Housing Authority staff come to work every morning (most at 7:30AM) committed to the mission and to the residents. In their efforts, they strive to treat all residents with respect. Conversely, residents should strive to treat staff with respect. Most residents do. A reminder to those who do not — yelling and using profanity are unproductive and unacceptable. Yes; we want to know if you have a question or a complaint. Ask the question, state the complaint, and staff will respond. It may not be the answer you want; but, it will be the truth. If staff can help, they will.

And, as I end this month's piece, I remind everyone to wear a mask!

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### HHA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Jim Connolly (Chair)  
Allen Dunham (Vice Chair)  
Emily Fogarty  
Emma MacPherson  
Dan Ruchkin  
Rhonda Couwenhoven  
Eugene O'Dell





## TID BITS FROM DAVID SIEGRIST

**You may ask why isn't work being done?** Well it is!

Workorders are still being handled on a priority basis. Orders received and deemed emergency get the first crack. Others may take awhile to complete. Current staffing is also playing into the mix as we only have one full-time maintenance person. Ok, one-and-a-half but the half person has other duties to contend with and likes to sleep in his office. We are putting together some pandemic-related guidelines for entering apartments with everyone's safety in mind. Unfortunately it looks like it will be with us for awhile. We understand that times are tough and inconvenient between the pandemic and building projects but we as staff are dealing with the same pressures.



**Together we will get thru these trying times.** Let's dwell on the bright side of things like the fact that people don't have to see my ugly mug because I am wearing a mask. My coworker of 15 plus years, who shall remain nameless (Irene), loves my battle cry on most days as we enter the building. "6 feet, 6 feet" She may want to punch me! **Soldier On.**

## 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

I remember watching Bugs Bunny and having the cartoon being interrupted by the sad commercials about how we need to stop throwing trash all around and be more respectful of the world around us. We need those back.

It's easy to do your part- put on gloves, grab a bag (big or small), fill it up and throw it in the receptacles. It shouldn't matter who put the trash there, it matters that we get back to cleaning up and respecting where we live, play and learn.



### HALLOWEEN JOKES

- What do birds say on Halloween? "Trick or tweet!"
- Why don't skeletons ever go trick or treating? Because they have no-body to go with.
- Where do ghosts buy their Halloween candy? At the ghost-ery store!
- What do owls say when they go trick or treating? "Happy Owl-ween!"
- What do ghosts give out to trick or treaters? Booberries!.



## Apartments For Rent

The Harrietstown Housing Authority has apartments for rent in the Lake Flower High-rise.

Additionally, we have a Housing Choice Voucher program that may assist you with your monthly rent in the community.

For additional information and to obtain an application, please contact us at 518-891-3050 or stop by the office at 14 Kiwassa Road, Saranac Lake.

You may also go online at [www.harrietstownha.org](http://www.harrietstownha.org).

### ARE YOU A VICTIM OF UNWANTED TELEMARKETING CALLS?

CALL THE NATIONAL DO NOT CALL  
REGISTRY



**1-888-382-1222**

REMEMBER, YOU MUST CALL FROM  
YOUR PHONE IN ORDER TO BE  
PLACED ON THE DO NOT CALL REGIS-  
TRY LIST



# October 2020



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

RED: ALGONQUIN COMMUNITY ROOM

PURPLE: L.F. COMMUNITY ROOM

GREEN: L.F. BOARD ROOM

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Office Closed	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 HHA Meeting via Zoom	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



*Have you had your Cancer Screenings this year?*

Free Cancer Screenings Available:

Clinical Breast Exam

Pap Test

Mammogram

Colorectal (FIT) Test or Colonoscopy  
(depending on risk status)

Eligibility:

Women who are 40–64 years old without health insurance.

Men who are 50–64 years old without health insurance.

If positive results are found, coverage for cancer treatment is available to individuals who qualify.

*It's easy to enroll. Just give us a call.*

**518-354-7621**

Northeastern NY

**Cancer Services Program**

Your partner for cancer screening, support and information



## HALLOWEEN WORD SCRAMBLE

YCRAS \_\_\_\_\_

SOHGT \_\_\_\_\_

PNPIMKU \_\_\_\_\_

RIEDPS \_\_\_\_\_

DEUTAHN \_\_\_\_\_

TIGHN \_\_\_\_\_

RYPECE \_\_\_\_\_

NETISENRAKFN \_\_\_\_\_

WHTIC \_\_\_\_\_

OMESCUT \_\_\_\_\_

OBORM \_\_\_\_\_

TRSATE \_\_\_\_\_

CNYAD \_\_\_\_\_



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

Welcome to Fall everyone! What a beautiful start! The leaves are spectacular right now with the chilly nights and the warm days! Hope everyone is getting a chance to get outdoors and enjoy the colors and the views. Before you know it, they will be gone.

School is now back in session and it appears as if things are going okay. Some parents have decided to keep their children home and participate in remote learning. Good luck to everyone, whatever your choice.

I want to personally thank Kathy Scriver, our new Account Clerk, for taking some of the load off my plate. It is nice having things running a little more smoothly and normally now. She is doing a fantastic job! All we need now is the Housing Authority's vacant maintenance position to be filled. If you know of anyone, please let us know. It is a full-time position, with benefits.

**Lake Flower News:** The façade project continues, much to the dismay of many of our tenants. Just hang in there, it will be over soon, and the building will look nice and be a little warmer come this winter. We look forward to a new couple moving in at the end of this month.

**Algonquin News:** A new family has moved into a four-bedroom unit. The Fall colors are beautiful up there. **Reminder:** there is no parking in the fire lanes in front of the apartments. This is becoming quite an issue. The only time a car should be parked in front of a unit is for an immediate pick-up or drop-off of items or people. Tenants risk having their cars towed away, at their expense, because of violating the parking policy. There is also an issue of cars being left in the parking lot with no plates. These, too, risk being towed at the owner's expense if not taken care of. The trash continues to be an issue as well. Please make sure your trash is in the dumpsters and not all over the ground. On a lighter note, take a moment to be thankful we live in this community and have the fantastic scenery it offers.

There is a full moon on Halloween this year! Be sure to be careful out there with all the ghosts and goblins. Although, due to COVID, we are not sure what Halloween is going to look like. Please be careful, continue to wear your masks, and keep your distance. Thank you!



## 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

Tammy Burdt

### HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER SPECIALIST RESIDENT SERVICES COORDINATOR

Irene Snyder

### FACILITIES MANAGER

David Siegrist

### MAINTENANCE STAFF

John Burns

Vacant

### ACCOUNT CLERK

Kathy Scriver



## Harrietstown Housing Authority

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Suite 1  
Saranac Lake, NY 12983

Phone: 518-891-3050  
Fax: 518-891-3630  
[www.harrietstownha.org](http://www.harrietstownha.org)

### HHA Office Hours

9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.  
& 1:00-3:30 pm

### 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)