

Downtown Spotlight

Lincoln Heights • Schonowee Village • Ten Eyck Apts.

September 2012

Schonowee & Lincoln Heights Residents - Fire Alarms

If you hear a fire alarm in one of your neighbor's apartments - Call 911 right away. Remember, the alarms at Schonowee and Lincoln Heights are not linked directly to the fire department. The Smoke Alarms are to warn you, and your neighbors, and it is up to each resident, or your neighbors to call 911.

This item is just one part of the Fire Emergency Procedure, which we have sent out to all residents in recent months. If you need another copy, feel free to call Tom Bellick.

Thanks to a helpful Schonowee resident for pointing this out, and suggesting a Newsletter article. We encourage your calls for input on the newsletter. Call Tom Bellick at 386-7003 with any ideas!

Leaving Doors Ajar @ Schonowee Village

Residents at Schonowee Village have been propping entrance doors, or leaving them ajar. By doing this, you are risking the safety of yourself, and your neighbors. Some of the doors have been damaged in the process. Anyone caught leaving the doors open, will be referred to our Security Department for investigation and lease termination - and you will be charged for repairs to the doors! The cost for repair of the door or the doorframes can be in the hundreds of dollars.

Regular Garbage Disposal Rules

- Use the Compactor Chutes on a Daily Basis: Use small bags - like Price Chopper plastic bags. DO NOT USE LARGE BAGS.
- Before placing in compactor chute, raw garbage must be in properly sealed bags.
- If you have garbage that is too big for chute - CALL the HOTLINE.
- DO NOT place garbage anywhere else than the garbage chutes. Disposing of trash in the Ten Eyck Basement, or in trash cans in front of Ten Eyck, near the Lincoln Heights Community Room, or on Hamilton Street sidewalks at Schonowee Village is prohibited.
- Anyone caught violating these rules is in violation of your lease - and SMHA may pursue eviction against anyone we know to be violating the trash rules.
- Dumping trash on any sidewalks is against SMHA rules and City of Schenectady Code, and the City has agreed to work with SMHA to fine violators for littering.

The Battle against Bedbugs

How can I keep bed bugs out of my home?

NO Used Furniture!!!!

- Most bedbug infestations come in with used furniture.
- Never bring used or discarded bed frames, mattresses, box springs, or upholstered (fabric, leather, etc.) furniture into your home.
- Wash clothing and bedding immediately after returning from a trip.

Get Your Flu Shot!



Call Beverly Nichols at 386-7027 to schedule an appointment for your flu shot. The Shots will be given in the Ten Eyck Golub Room in September.

Resident Association Events

Bingo

Saturday Bingo Sep 1 @ 7pm; Sep. 29 @ 7:00pm

Tuesday Bingo Sep. 4 @ 7pm Sep 18 @ 6:45

Resident Association Meeting Mon. Sep 24 @ 7:00pm

Maintenance HOTLINE **372-5896**

Manager Tom Bellick: 386-7003

Occ. Specialist Cindy Brennan 386-7008

Senior Independence-Kelly Horton 387-7026

Security Coordinator: 386-7042

Service Coordinator - Beverly Nichols 386-7027

Tenant Investigator 386-7015

Rent Office 386-7009

September Rent Court is on Fri. Sep 7, 9am @ City Hall Council Chambers

Extermination Days

Schonowee 112-214 Wed. Sep 12

Lincoln Heights Bldgs A-D Wed. Sep 26

Ten Eyck Apartments Floors 2, 3 & 4 Wed. Sep 26

THE EASTSIDE BEE

SEPTEMBER 2012

NEW LEASES MUST BE SIGNED ON OCT 2,3,4 AND 5

YOUR NEW LEASE IS READY FOR YOUR SIGNATURE! A NEW LEASE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED BY SMHA STAFF, RESIDENTS AND THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS. The U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT HAS APPROVED THIS NEW LEASE FOR EVERY RESIDENT OF THIS HOUSING AUTHORITY. SIGNING THE LEASE WILL BE EASY AND CONVENIENT! JUST COME TO ONE OF THE TIME AND DATES LISTED BELOW.

EASTSIDE LEASE SIGNING DATES AND TIMES

MACGATHAN TOWNHOUSES AND MARYVALE APARTMENTS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2012 AT THE MACGATHAN COMMUNITY ROOM FROM 9AM -3 PM

STEINMETZ HOMES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, IN THE FAMILY INVESTMENT CENTER (FIC) FROM 9AM-3PM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, IN THE FAMILY INVESTMENT CENTER (FIC) FROM 9AM-3PM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, ANYONE WHO HAS NOT SIGNED THEIR LEASE, WILL MEET WITH

PAULA IN HER OFFICE AT THE FIC.

SIGNING A NEW LEASE WITH SMHA IS MANDATORY FOR THE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD AND ALL ADULTS MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD! ANYONE OVER THE AGE OF 18 IS CONSIDERED AN ADULT. PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING A PHOTO ID WITH YOU WHEN YOU COME TO SIGN THE LEASE.

FAILURE TO SHOW UP AND SIGN YOUR LEASE IS A LEASE VIOLATION AND YOU WILL FACE LEASE TERMINATION

***ACTIONS.* IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THE LEASE IN ADVANCE, PLEASE CALL MELISSA AT 386-7004.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!**

THE ACCIDENT THAT OCCURRED ON AUGUST 21, 2012 AT STEINMETZ



Most of you remember the car accident that happened on the above date when a vehicle hit a gas main leading into one of our buildings. I just want to say, what a wonderful job all the residents did on that day to help, not only us, but other residents get out of their apartments, getting the children a safe distance away and to those who helped one resident who passed out in the middle of the road on Berg. I saw a community really pull it together that day. As staff members of Eastside, we are all very proud of you!!!

SMHA IS CLOSED SEPTEMBER 3, 2012 TO OBSERVE LABOR DAY
SCHOOL STARTS SEPTEMBER 6, 2012. PLEASE WATCH OUT FOR CHILDREN
WHEN DRIVING!

2012 RENT AND COURT SCHEDULE
RENT OFFICE PHONE NUMBER IS 386-7009 OR 386-7036

| <u>RENT WINDOWS OPENED</u> | <u>COURT DATES AND INFORMATION</u> |
|--|---|
| Sept-4-Opened-8:15am-11:45am & 1pm-3pm Sept-5- Opened-1pm-3pm Sept 12-Opened-1pm-3pm Sept 19-Opened-1pm – 3pm Sept 26-Opened-1pm – 3pm Rent is due on the 1 st of each month for the current month. You must save during the current month to have the next month's rent money on the 1 st of the month. Once you fall behind it is difficult to catch up. You and your family need a place to live. You must make your rent payment a <u>PRIORITY</u> item in your budget. | <u>August Rent Non-Payment-Friday, Sept 7, 2012</u> <u>* Please Note: Non-Payment Court at City Hall Begins at 9:00am</u> There is a drop box in the SMHA Administration Lobby Bldg. at 375 Broadway. Please drop only money orders and checks in the drop box. Please indicate clearly on the money order, check and envelope the following: your name, your address and your apartment number. Please do not drop cash in the drop box. |


ATTENTION ALL DOG OWNERS


There is a new city ordinance for dog owners that you need to be aware of. Chapter 144 of the code of the city which regulates the ownership of dogs and other animals in the City of Schenectady has been amended. Here something's you need to know. Section 144-7, Unlawful behavior. It is unlawful in the city of Schenectady for an owner or person in possession of a dog:

1. To allow the dog to run at large on the streets and sidewalks of the city without being:
 - a. Properly restrained by an adequate collar and leash not to exceed 8 feet in length and
 - b. Accompanied by a responsible person over the age of 12.
2. To keep, harbor or maintain a dog that creates a nuisance by:
 - a. Loud barking.
 - b. Chasing vehicles, bicycles or pedestrians.
 - c. Defecating, digging or urinating on or otherwise causing damage to or destruction of property.

If an individual is convicted of 2 offenses within 1 year, stemming from different dates, of violating section 144-7 of this code, all their dog licenses will be deemed void. In order to be issued another dog license the additional condition of providing a liability insurance policy, with minimum coverage of at least \$50,000.

Section 144-7.1. Dangerous Dogs. Upon finding that a dog is a dangerous dog, the owner must obtain general liability insurance in the amount of \$100,000 for any injury which the dog may cause.

The above are just a few items in the city ordinance. If you would like a copy of the full ordinance on dogs, you may get a copy from your Project Manager or Occupancy Specialist.

Also a reminder to all residents who have a pet, you must register your pet with the housing authority and pay a \$100 security deposit. All dogs who are 4 months and older must have a dog license and these licenses must be renewed every year you own your dog!

Interested in the Family Self-Sufficiency Program?
You must be 18, currently living in Public Housing and be motivated to set and accomplish goals during a 5 year contract. Referrals for classes, career counseling, job placement, and more, can help you get a job or a better job so that you may earn money at the end of the contract. You must be willing to obtain and maintain full-time employment by the end of the contact. Call 386-7054 to determine if you are a potential candidate.

AIR CONDITIONERS
If you must have an A/C on during the winter months due to a health condition, you must provide a doctor's note. Otherwise, please remove them from your windows. If you do not remove your A/C from your window, we will assume you are using it and you will be charged. There will still be a \$20.00 charge per A/C per month your A/C is in your window. This charge is for ALL residents!

NUMBERS TO REMEMBER
 MAINTENANCE HOTLINE-372-5896
 MELISSA ELWERTOWSKI (PROJECT MANAGER)-386-7004
 PAULA MATARAZZO (OCCUPANCY SPECIALIST)-386-7035
 ART ZAMPELLA (SECURITY COORDINATOR)-386-7042
 STEVE PROKRYM (TENANT INVESTIGATOR)-386-7015

Spotlight on Yates Village

September 2012

New Leases - Must be signed September 11, 12 or 14

Your new lease is ready for your signature! A new lease has been developed by SMHA staff, residents, and the board of Commissioners. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has approved this new lease for every resident of this housing authority.

Signing the lease will be easy and convenient! Just come on down to the Community Room in E Building! We look forward to seeing you!

Yates Village Lease Signing Dates and times

Tues., September 11: A & B Buildings @ 9am - 3pm

Wed., September 12: C, D & E Buildings @ 9am - 3pm

Fri., September 14: F G & H Buildings @ 9am - 3pm

Signing a new lease with SMHA is mandatory for the **Head of Household**, and **ALL adult members of the household**. **Anyone over the age of 18 must sign this new lease**. Remember to bring **photo ID** with you when you come to sign the lease.

Failure to sign is considered a lease violation and you will face lease termination actions if you or your adult household members do not sign the lease. If you have any questions, or would like a copy of the lease in advance, please contact Deborah at 386-7007

Pets and Our Community

The Animal Protective Foundation (APF) located at 53 Maple Avenue, Scotia, New York 12302 is currently, offering low income clients who are Schenectady County residents and are in a New York State benefits program, discounts for spay and neuter fees. Full price for this procedure is normally \$80.00 the

discounted price is \$40.00. The contact phone number for the foundation is: **518-374-3944**

We require our residents to follow the Schenectady Municipal Housing Authority Pet Policy. Our Policy requires that all pets are registered with SMHA. A pet deposit of \$100.00 is required at the time of registering a pet. Pets must be kept in the owner's apartment or on a leash at all times when outside the unit. No outdoor cages may be constructed. Pets will be allowed only in designated areas on the grounds of the property if SMHA designates a pet area for the particular site. **Pet owners must clean up after their pets and are responsible for disposing of pet waste. Thank you**

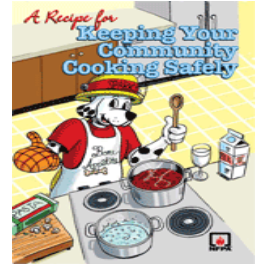


KEEP YOUR COMMUNITY COOKING SAFELY

People in the United States are most likely to experience a fire in their home than anywhere else. According to the latest National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) research, cooking is the leading cause of home fires. One out of three home fires begins in the kitchen - more than any other place in the home. This is not an issue to take lightly. Changing people's behaviors in the kitchen can help prevent these fires. NFPA is providing tools to help you launch a cooking safely campaign in your home. The resources can be found by viewing the NFPA web site: www.nfpa.org

Some guidelines and safety steps to follow include:

- Steps to safe cooking
 - Watch what you heat.
 - Stay alert.
 - Keep things that can catch fire away from heat.
 - Know what to do if you have a cooking fire.
 - Keep kids away from cooking area.
 - Prevent scalds and burns.
 - Install and use cooking appliances safely.
 - Have working smoke alarms.



For more information, contact your local fire department or log onto the U.S. Fire Administration website at www.usfa.dhs.gov

Construction Update: Yates Village Step Replacement is continuing and our expected completion Date is September 5, 2012. The lawns will be restored by the contractors and we would appreciate resident cooperation in this effort. While the lawns are being restored, please stay off the areas that the contractors will be reseeding for grass. Please do not park or allow guess to park in open courts while construction is taking place. All illegally parked vehicles will be towed at owner's expense. If you have any questions, please call your project manager at 386-7007



**SCHENECTADY
MUNICIPAL HOUSING
AUTHORITY**
375 Broadway
Schenectady, New York
12305
518-386-7000
518-372-0812 Fax

Maintenance
HOTLINE - 372-5896

Project Manager:
386- 7007

Rent Office, 386-7009

Occupancy Specialist:
386-7024

Senior Citizens
Referrals/help:
386-7027

Tenant Investigator:
386-7015

Interested in the Family Self-Sufficiency Program?

You must be 18, currently living in Public Housing and be motivated to set and accomplish goals during a 5 year contract.

Referrals for classes, career counseling, job placement, and more can help you get a job or a better job so that you may earn money at the end of the contract. You must be willing to obtain and maintain full-time employment by the end of the contract.

Call Jeanne at 386-7054 to determine if you are a potential candidate.

Important Dates

RENT WINDOWS OPENED AND COURT DATE

September 4 - 8:15am-11:45am & 1pm-3pm

September 5, 12, 19 & 26 - 1pm-3pm

September 7, - Court @ 9am

October 1, 2 & 3 - 8:15am-11:45am & 1pm-3pm

October 5 - Court @ 9 am

Please save money by paying your rent on time.

Thank you.