



JULY, 2008
VOLUME 7,
ISSUE 7

SPOTLIGHT

Schenectady Municipal Housing Authority
375 Broadway, Schenectady, New York 12305
518-386-7000
Website: www.smha1.org

Richard E. Homenick, Executive Director
Board of Commissioners: Chairperson, Marion Porterfield
Board Members: Alberta Madonna,
Diane Herrmann, Alfred Goldberger,
Edward J. Kosiur, Denise Clark, Joan Johnson

Reminder: Fire Dangers

As the summer is upon us, I must remind everyone about the serious danger of using fireworks, and using candles in apartments. Please be sure children do not have access to matches and/or lighters. SMHA has experienced serious fires where life has been put at risk, and extensive property damage has occurred. It is incumbent upon me as Executive Director to advise that each and every tenant cease from lighting candles in our Public Housing Authority apartments and common areas; and cease all use of fireworks on SMHA property.

Richard E. Homenick
Executive Director



CONSTRUCTION NEWS

Ten Eyck - As you have noticed, the Ten Eyck Administration Roof Project is underway. Thank you for being considerate of the contractor, Weather Guard, and for following the signs on the parking lot when the crane has obstructed the parking. We expect this project to be completed in July.

Also at the Ten Eyck, AMZ Construction Services has started a project to update the hallways on the 2nd and 5th floors. Again, this work includes a new ceiling, wall finish, painting, lighting and handrails. The Ten Eyck Resident Lobby will also be upgraded. The work here will include new mailboxes, painting, flooring and lighting. Thank you for being considerate of the contractor. This project is expected to be completed by the beginning of September.

Schonowee Village - The contractor, Ganem Contracting, has started a project to do brick sealing and cleaning. Again, your cooperation in working with the contractors is appreciated. This project is expected to be completed in early August.

If you have any concerns regarding these projects, please call Steve at 386-7022.

ALL SMHA RESIDENTS

In order to keep your developments a clean, safe environment your assistance is needed with the following:

- ⇒ Please do not throw your junk mail on the ground or leave it on top of the mailboxes. Please bring it to your apartment and dispose of it properly.
- ⇒ The outside faucets are for everyone to use. No one can claim an outside faucet to be theirs. Share with your neighbors.
- ⇒ At the family developments and Lincoln Heights, all trash should be placed in your trash cans (in proper bags). All recyclables should be placed in the proper container. Yard waste should go into a large brown paper yard waste bag. Trash should be put outside no earlier than 7:00 p.m. the night before pickup or no later than 8:00 a.m. on the day of pickup.
- ⇒ At Ten Eyck and Schonowee Village, all trash should be placed in small bags and put down the compactor chute. Recyclables should be put outside your door in the blue basket no earlier than 7:00 p.m. the night before pickup or no later than 8:00 a.m. on the day of pickup.

The trash pickup schedule is as follows:

Steinmetz Homes	Wednesday
MacGathan	Monday
TenEyck	Thursday (recyclables)
Lincoln Heights	Thursday
Schonowee Village	Thursday (recyclables)
Yates Village	Tuesday

SECURITY NEWS



- ⇒ YATES VILLAGE RESIDENTS: It is a lease violation to park in the chain court yard areas. I will begin towing all vehicles parking inside the court yards.
- ⇒ LITTER is still a main concern of all projects. Please use garbage cans. If you see a problem, please call me at 386-7050 and I will follow-up with the project manager. Remember this is your community.
- ⇒ In order to make a better community you must be pro-active. It is imperative to call the police for all crimes and suspected illegal activity.
- ⇒ Several more tenants are in the process of being evicted for the one strike policy and other lease violations.
- ⇒ It should be noted that the possession of marijuana or any other drug is considered a serious offense in federal housing. All reports of drug activity will be investigated thoroughly.
- ⇒ Three cars were towed for parking violations.
- ⇒ Remember, SMHA uses H & K Towing. It is the responsibility of the tenant to pay for the tow, NOT SMHA.
- ⇒ Music must be kept at a reasonable level.

If you have an emergency, call 911.
Tips Phone Line: 386-7042.
Tenant Investigator: 386-7015

SAFETY BULLETIN

NOTICE TO ALL RESIDENTS BARBECUE SAFETY RULES



The Bar-B-Q season is in full swing. We can all appreciate the taste of food cooked over an open fire, but we need to make sure that certain guidelines and rules are followed so that we are sure that cooking is done safely.

1. The use of grills on porches, patios or under overhangs is prohibited by Fire Code. Fires in approved containers shall be permitted, provided that such fires are not less than 15 feet from any structure. An “approved container,” in this case is a grill.
2. The storage of propane bottles in dwellings, such as those used to fuel gas grills, is strictly prohibited. A leaking bottle or one exposed to an outside heat source could cause a serious explosion.
3. Using self-starting charcoal is preferable. The use of other flammable liquids, such as gasoline, present a serious fire hazard as flammable vapors spread quickly. Never add starting fluid to a grill once it has been lit. The result could be a dangerous flare-up.
4. Don’t leave a hot grill unattended, especially around small children. Make sure that coals are extinguished and cool before disposing them.

By following these simple rules, the chance of an injury or fire damage is greatly reduced. Proper attention to hot grills, common courtesy, and a safe clean-up are all part of an enjoyable cook out.

WADING POOL POLICY



This policy is for the protection and benefit of all Schenectady Municipal Housing Authority residents to ensure the safe and sanitary use of wading pools on SMHA property.

- ◆ Permanent swimming pools are not allowed.
- ◆ Wading pools shall not extend beyond six (6) feet in diameter and beyond fifteen (15) inches in height.
- ◆ Wading pools must not be used prior to June 1 OR after September 15 of each year and must be stored at the end of each season. Pools may not be stored outside during the off-season.
- ◆ Wading pools in use OR with any water in them, must be under the constant supervision and observation of an adult 18 years or older, pool owner of his/her adult designee. The supervising adult must, at all times, be in a clear line of sight and sound of the wading pool and not more than six (6) feet away. The pool must be emptied after each use, removed and securely stored before dark.
- ◆ Resident/owner is responsible for any damage and/or injury caused by the pool. The cost of any damage to SMHA property, such as damage to grass, may be charged to the resident/owner of the pool.

The Schenectady Municipal Housing Authority reserves the right to remove from its property, without immediate notice to the resident/owner, any pool that is not in compliance with this policy.



FREE SUMMER LUNCH



(for children 18 and younger)

LOCATIONS	DATES	TIMES
Bethel BME, 540 Mumford	7/7-8/22	11:30-1
Central Park	6/30-8/29	12-1:15
Christ Family Fellowship, 930 Albany St	6/30-8/29	11:15-12:30
Faith United Methodist, 811 Brandywine Ave.	6/30-8/22	12:15-1:30
Friendship House, 955 State St.	6/30-8/22	11:30-12:45
Graceway Ministries, Chrisler Ave.	7/7-8/22	12-1
Jerry Burrell Park, Hamilton & Schdy St.	6/30-8/29	11:50-1:05
MacGathan Family Center, Jerry St.	6/30-8/29	11:40-12:55
Mt. Olivet, 809 Strong St.	6/30-8/29	12:05-1:20
New Creation in Christ, 1073 Howard St	6/30-8/29	12:30-1:45
Quackenbush Park, (near Pleasant Valley)	6/30-8/22	12:20-1:35
St. George's Episcopal, 30 N. Ferry Street	7/7-8/1	12:40-1:55
Steinmetz Family Center, Emmons St.	6/30-8/29	11:25-12:40
Trinity Luthern, 35 Furman St.	6/30-8/29	11:45-1:00
Yates Community Center, Van Vranken Ave.	6/30-8/29	12:30-1:45

- all sites closed on July 4th

For more information call Catholic Charities of Schenectady at 374-2427 or Schenectady Inner City Ministries at 374-2683.

Prepared by a project of the Nutrition Consortium of New York State, Inc. Funding provided by the New York State Department of Health.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is



OTHER PROGRAM NEWS:

YWCA Children's Center at Yates Village - The center currently has openings in our Toddler Room (18 months-2 years old) and our Preschool/Pre-K room (3-5 years old). We are also accepting applications for our Summer Fun Days Program for children -6-12 years old. The children will go on field trips, take swim lessons and do a variety of games and art projects. Please call 372-4895 or 372-5794 for more information and to set up an appointment for a tour.

YWCA Children's Center at Steinmetz Homes - Our Pre-K graduation was a success. Children were excited to perform their favorite songs and dances before loved ones. Each graduate received a diploma, individual awards, a yearbook, and school supplies.

Our center will re-open in September when the Universal Pre-K Program resumes. The program is FREE for children residing in the City of Schenectady who are four or will be four years of age by December 1, 2008. All children receive a nutritious breakfast, enjoy field trips throughout the year, and learn the necessary social, motor, and letter recognition skills to help prepare them for kindergarten. If you would like to enroll your child please call Kim at 374-3394 extension 147 and let her know you are interested in the Pre-K Program at Steinmetz Homes.

You are invited to leave a message on our center's voice mail during the summer and we will return your call. Our number is 372-3288. We look forward to hearing from you and hope to work with your little one this fall.

Boys and Girls Club of Schenectady-

Beginning Adult Programs: June 30, Monday, Wednesday and Friday 5:00-9:00pm. Focus will be on computer basics, job readiness, resume creation and much more!!!. For information call Jillian O'Niel at 372-3620.

Camp Techno-Sun: Opening June 30. The camp is a eight week program Monday-Friday, from 9:00am-5:00pm. It includes introduction to digital photograph, swimming, fun Friday and MUCH, MUCH MORE!!!. FREE to all children 6-16 who reside in Schenectady Municipal Housing. SIGN UP TODAY at either MacGathan Townhouses or Steinmetz Homes Boys & Girls Club. For more information call Jillian O'Niel at 372-3620.

FOOD STAMPS-Don't know if you qualify? Call the Nutrition Outreach and Education Program of Catholic Charities at 374-2427 for more information.

This is an equal opportunity provider. Prepared by a program of the Nutrition Consortium of NYS,USDA/FNS,NYDOH and NYSOTDA.

AIR CONDITIONER POLICY



Air conditioners will be charged at the rate of \$20.00 per month per air conditioning unit for the months of July and August. If you have any questions, please call Maureen at 386-7009 or Mary Anne at 386-7036.

All air conditioners are subject to the following rules:

1. An air conditioner may not be installed in the only window in a room; this pertains to any 3rd story building or less. This is a HUD requirement.
2. Residents may not install an air conditioner in any manner that will impair emergency exit or violate safety codes. It is the responsibility of the resident to insure that the air conditioner is installed properly by a competent individual.
3. The air conditioner unit must be operable, in good condition and free of rust and sharp edges.
4. The air conditioner must meet safety requirements; it must be grounded and equipped with a three wire power cord and three prong plug.
5. The air conditioner must plug directly into an electric wall outlet, or utilize a heavy duty three wire extension cord that is manufacturer approved for air conditioner units.
6. The casing must be tight to control condensation and prevent water droplets from forming on the side of the building.
7. If the air conditioner leaks to the inside or outside of the apartment, it must be disconnected and serviced immediately to prevent damage to the apartment walls and floor, and to prevent damage and discoloration to the exterior wall of a building.
8. Air conditioner parts must be replaced in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications. Residents may not use boards, cardboard or any materials to cover window openings.
9. Air conditioner units will be inspected by the Maintenance Department for safety, proper installation, appearance and general compliance with this policy. If necessary, the Housing Authority will assess charges to the resident for any non-compliance, including repair of any damages caused by improper installation, operation or maintenance of the air conditioner.
10. The resident is responsible for the maintenance of the air conditioner. If the unit is found to be in non-compliance with this policy, or if it presents a safety hazard, the Housing Authority will require the unit to be removed or repaired at the resident's expense. If a resident refuses to remove an air conditioner that does not comply with this policy, SMHA may, at its option, remove it and charge the resident.
11. Failure to remove an air conditioner that has failed SMHA's inspection after SMHA's request to do so, is a serious lease violation which may result in lease cancellation.
12. SMHA will not install, maintain or remove personal air conditioners for residents. Management will not be liable for any damage or injury resulting from resident installation or use of air conditioners.

SHARON A. JORDAN SCHOLARSHIP

The Sharon A. Jordan Scholarship was established in 1997, and continues to offer SMHA residents attending SCCC assistance in financing their education.

Any SMHA resident attending SCCC can apply for the scholarship. Interested residents should contact the Financial Aide Office at Schenectady Community College for an application at 381-1200.



RESIDENT ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Steinmetz Homes-July 14, 2008, 7:00 pm. in the Community Room, FIC Center.

Yates Village - Thursday, July 24, 2008 6:00 pm in the Community Room at Yates Village.

MacGathan Townhouses - Thursday, July 10, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room.

Ten Eyck, Schonowee Village, Lincoln Heights - July 28, 2008, 7:00 pm in the Golub Community Room in the Ten Eyck.

Senior Independence Program



Improving Quality of Life
While Maintaining Independence
Assistance with Daily Living Activities
Case Management, Housekeeping/Laundry
Transportation, Errands and Weekend Meals

\$70.00 Month Fee

Available to Residents of Ten Eyck,
Schonowee Village and Lincoln Heights
Kelly Horton, Program Coordinator
Phone 386-7026

SENIORS-FARMERS MARKET COUPONS

Farmers Market Coupons - If you are a senior citizen and low income, you may be eligible to receive farmers market coupons. Coupon books should be available during the second week of July. For more information, please call Marge Hunter at 386-7027.



ADULT TRAINING
SMHA's Training Voucher Program

Virginia Santiago, Family Self-Sufficiency Director

Call 372-1414

With career counseling assistance you select from the

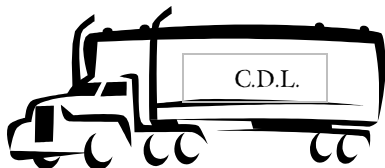
Capital Region's most in demand job trainings list. Funding is available for educational expenses such as tuition, books, uniforms and fees. Additional funding for supportive services such as childcare, transportation and job placement is also available..

Eligibility:

SMHA Public Housing Resident


HEALTH CAREERS

Medical Assistant, LPN, And More!!!



WELDING

Computer Training

JULY 2008 Rent Office Hours and Important Dates						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	30 Rent Windows Open 8-11:45am 1:00-3:00pm	1 Rent Windows Open 8-11:45am 1:00-3:00pm	2 Rent Windows Open 1:00-3:00pm	3 Rent Windows Open 8-11:45am 1:00-3:00pm	4 HOLIDAY AGENCY CLOSED 	5
6	7 Federal 14-Day Notices	8	9 Rent Windows Open 1:00-3:00pm	10	13	12
13	14	15	16 Rent Window Open 1:00-3:00pm	17 NYS 3Day Notice Indexing 2pm	18 P&P's to Process Server Late fee assessed	19
20	21	22	23 Rent Window Open 1:00-3:00pm P & P's Prepared 8 am	24 P&P' Indexing P&P's to Process Server Late Charge Assessed	25	26
27	28	29	30 Rent Win30ow Open 1:00P-3:00pm	31 Rent Windows Closed NO BUSINESS TRANSACTION August Rent Run	1 July Non-Payment Court 9:00 a.m. Windows Open 8:15-11:45am 1:-00-3:00pm	2



- ◆ Non-Payment Court at City Hall begins at 9:00 am. Persons who have been summoned to Court MUST appear.
- ◆ There is a drop box in the SMHA Administrative Lobby at 375 Broadway for dropping off your rent, please only drop money orders or checks in the drop box. Please indicate clearly on the money order, check and envelope the following information: your name, development, address, and apartment number. DO NOT DROP CASH IN THE BOX.

Rent is due on the 1st of each month for the current month. You must save during the current month to have the next month's rent money on the 1st 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 PRIORITY item in your budget.

SCHENECTADY HOUSING AUTHORITY
375 Broadway
Schenectady, New York 12305

TO: