

#### IN THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER:

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# **CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE**

#### **INSPECTIONS**

Apartments are inspected for cleanliness, repairs that may be needed, and for any possible improvements. If you have any questions or problems, they can be discussed during the inspection. We need access to ALL of your windows. Please make sure ALL items are removed from the window area. Please remove all items off the top of your stove and on the burners as well. Call in any work orders before the inspection at 273-4717. Poor housekeeping, missing fire detectors, and any damage beyond ordinary wear and tear are grounds for a failed inspection.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
			1	2	3	4	
5	6	LAST DAY Rent is due	8	9	10		
EASTER SUNDAY	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	EARTH DAY	23	24	25	
26	WHA BOARD MEETING	28	29	30			

#### **EMAIL LIST**

If you don't already receive our emails and want to, please email Rmeyer@watervliethousing.org with your name and apartment number to be added to our list. We will be able to send you important information about work being done around the sites, community events, and any policy changes being made at the Watervliet Housing Authority. Please be sure the office has all of your contact information up to date in our system including a working phone number, email address, and current license plate number. We need to be able to contact you efficiently. Call the office at 273-4717 to update your information with a staff member.



#### **IMPORTANT**

Please note that all events in this newsletter are subject to change or may be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. You will be notified of any changes!

# COMMUNITY GARDEN MEETING CANCELLED

Unfortunatley, the WHA has to cancel the community garden interest meeting that was originally scheduled for April 2nd. We plan on rescheduling the meeting in the future. You will be notified when we decide on a date

#### **CHILDREN AT PLAY**

Your children are your responsibility. We offer limited playground equipment because of the lack of space and the close proximity of the many well-equipped city playgrounds. All children should be supervised by a parent or older member of the family at all times. Parents are held responsible for the actions of their children and will be charged for any destruction of property. Parking lots are not playgrounds! Your children should not be riding bikes or playing ball in any designated parking areas.

# ST. PATRICK'S DAY PRIZE PACKAGE

Congratulations to our winner, Patricia! The total number of candies was 1,636 and she guessed 1,580! Be on the look out for more prize packages like this in the future!

# GREEN ISLAND SENIOR HOUSING ANNUAL INSPECTIONS CANCELLED

GISH inspections that were originally scheduled for April 24th have been cancelled and will be rescheduled. You will be notified when the date is set. Thank you for understanding.

#### **HANDICAPPED PARKING**

Please remember that we do not regulate street parking. No tenant has a reserved space. Unless you are permitted to do so, DO NOT park in a handicapped spot or block the spot. Leaving your car idle in the handicap accessible spot is not allowed under any circumstance. Also, please remember that you are not permitted to park your car on the WHA lawns.

### **REMINDER**

Please remember that the WHA office cannot accept cash for any payments. All additional charges (maintenance, late charges, legal fees, etc.) can be included in the next billing cycle with your rent payment. Thank you for your cooperation!

# **ATTENTION ALL TENANTS**

You **MUST** report all income changes! Failure to provide timely and accurate information regarding new jobs, pay rate changes, and increased hours may result in an eviction process.

# **OUINN LAUNDRY COINS**

In the event that you need laundry coins and the WHA Office is closed, please call Kylea at 518-273-4717 x202 and she will set up a time to drop off coins to your mailbox.

#### **BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY**

Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World is a book and a 12-session curriculum that helps individuals in poverty build their resources for a more prosperous life for themselves, their families, and their communities. The curriculum involves rigorous work done in a safe learning environment with the support of an experienced facilitator and co-facilitator. It enables participants, called "investigators," to examine their own experience of poverty as well as explore issues in the community that impact poverty - banking, housing, jobs, transportation – providing critical information the community can use to take action to end poverty. It also guides investigators through an assessment of their own resources and how to build those resources as part of their move to self- sufficiency. Finally, the curriculum puts the concepts, tools, and relationships in the hands of people in poverty to make a difference in their own lives and in the life of their community. If you are interested in participating in this program, contact Mary at 518-273-4717 x203 or via email at mclinton@watervliethousing.org

# **LICENSE PLATES**

Please update your license plate number(s) with the WHA office! To avoid being towed, it is very important that we have your updated car information in the event we need to contact you.

# **SPRING ELECTRONIC RECYCLING DAY**

Spring Electronic Recycling Day is Wednesday, April 22, 2020 from 12:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. at the city garage.

#### **APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS**

With rain comes the growth of grass, gardens, and trees. If you are planning on planting flowers, now is a good time to be purchasing them in anticipation of Spring! Please remember that if you plant flowers, they must be taken care of. We would love to see them but it is vital that they are properly cared for.

## **SANDRA J. BESTON SCHOLARSHIP**

For the first time, the WHA will be awarding \$500 scholarships to two WHS graduating Seniors. One of which will be a resident of Van-Rensselaer Village or receive Section 8 assistance, and the other will be a resident of Edwin Joslin, Michael J. Day, or Abram Hilton. In order to qualify, you must be a WHS Senior, in good standing, and eligible for graduation. You must be planning to attend a 2 or 4 year college, trade school, or formal certification program after graduation. You can find the application in the office, on our website, or in the guidance office at WHS. All applications must be submitted on or before May 22nd, 2020. All seniors eligible are encouraged to apply! If you have any questions, call 518-273-4717.

#### **MARY'S CORNER**

Mary's Corner is a part of The Ministry of Association of Ladies of Charity Diocese of Albany, serving families with children ages 0-4. Some of the items Mary's Corner provides include wipes, bottles, blankets, diapers/pull ups, food & more. Mary's Corner is located at 169 Mohawk Street, Cohoes, NY 12047 (lower level of the Cohoes Library). Contact them for more information at 518-273-2373.

#### **TAX DAY**

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the date of Tax Day has been changed from April 15th to July 15th.

#### **MENTAL HEALTH HOTLINE**

A mental health hotline is available to New Yorkers who need it. We can't underestimate the impact this pandemic is having on mental health. For free emotional support, consultation and referral to a provider, call 1-844-863-9314.

# NYS UNEMPLOYMENT PROCEDURE

If you are filing a new unemployment insurance claim, the day you should file is based on the first letter of your last name. If your last name starts with A - F, file your claim on Monday. For last names starting with G - N, file your claim on Tuesday. For last names starting with O - Z, file your claim on Wednesday. If you missed your filing day, file your claim on Thursday, Friday or Saturday. Filing later in the week will not delay your payments or affect the date of your claim, since all claims are effective on the Monday of the week in which they are filed. Here is the website for further instruction and information <a href="https://labor.ny.gov/unemploymentassistance.shtm">https://labor.ny.gov/unemploymentassistance.shtm</a>

### **PAY IT FORWARD PROM CLOSET**

WHERE: Bethany Presbyterian Church

21 Lyons Ave- Menands, NY

WHEN: Saturdays 9am-10:30am

Wednesdays 6pm-7:30pm until May 30th

(not open Memorial Day weekend)

Established in 2015, the prom closet was set up to provide every girl the opportunity to go to their prom. With the high cost of attending prom, it can create a financial burden on families. Pay it Forward has a large selection of dresses, shoes and accesories that are generously donated by girls who want to pay it forward. The dresses and accessories are free of charge, however, they ask that they are returned after use so that other girls will have the opportunity to attend the prom of their dreams! For more information, contact Carol Darmetko at 518-396-7580 or via email *payitforwardtogether1@gmail.com*.

# **SPRING CLEANING**

Now, more than ever, it is vital to keep your apartment clean. Some suggested cleaning products include Lysol spray, water and bleach solution (10:1), Clorox wet wipes (for hard surfaces), hand sanitizer, and anti-bacterial hand soap. Staying clean plays a huge role in staying healthy, Please consider increasing your cleaning time.



# LETTERS AND DONATIONS FOR SOLDIERS 2020

For the second year, to celebrate Memorial Day, the Watervliet Housing Authority will be collaborating with our community partners by sending letters and nonperishable items to soldiers thanking them for their service and sending them our well wishes.

Your donations can include the following items: Deodorant, body wash, body lotion, shampoo, baby powder, pens, pencils, notebooks, envelopes, hand sanitizer gel, toothpaste, nail clippers, tuna and chicken in pouches, small individually packaged cookies, nuts, trail mix, granola bars, candy, and gum/breath mints. We encourage you and your family to write letters and/or bring in donations. Drop-off locations are to be determined.

# **30 DAY SOCIAL DISTANCING CHALLENGE**

We cannot stress how important it is to stay home during this coronavirus pandemic and practice social distancing. One person socially distancing could save countless lives. In an effort to encourage our tenants to stay home, we are launching a 30 Days of Distancing Challenge! We will be posting a list of activities each week, set to be completed every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for the next 30 days! At the end of each week, e-mail your completed activities to Rachel at remeyer@watervliethousing.org and you will receive a \$10 gift card! The activities in this challenge are designed to be completed either alone or with your family, so be sure to follow all social distancing rules and regulations stated by the NYS government! Follow our Instagram @watervliethousingauthority and continue to follow our Facebook Page for bonus activities!

#### **SPRING 2020 BULK ITEM PICK UP**

\*(Please read carefully - as the scheduling procedures have changed. Please note that Eugene Hanratta tenants and VanRensselaer Village tenants are excluded from this schedule.)\* Instead of dedicating a full week to bulk pick up, your bulk day will be on your garbage day stretched over four weeks. Please note – you will put your regular garbage out on your bulk day as well. The schedule is as follows:

If Monday is your regular garbage day – your bulk day is Monday, April 20 **(Abram Hilton)** 

If Tuesday is your regular garbage day – your bulk day is Tuesday, April 28 (Michael J. Day, Edwin Joslin, Daniel P. Quinn)

#### **2020 CENSUS**

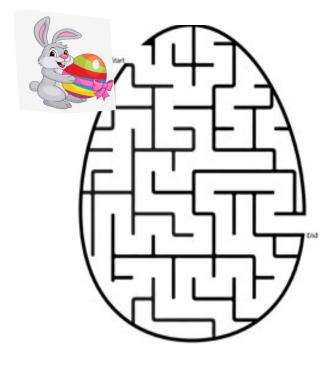
2020 is a census year, and it is extremely important that Watervliet gets as accurate a census count as possible. Census data is used to allocate funds in a number of areas including grants for school districts, public transportation, road rehabilitation and construction & programs for the elderly and youth. The majority of these programs have positively impacted Watervliet and the goal is to continue that government support. By April 1, 2020, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the census. You will have three options for responding: by mail, by phone, and online! Please make a firm commitment to complete your census! Also, remember that all personal information you provide is strictly confidential.

	E	Н	U	0	G	G	E	Н	U	T	Υ	В
WORD SEARCH	С	Α	N	D	Υ	В	U	N	Υ	G	I	S
Egg	Α	J	Р	0	L	Н	V	U	В	0	Р	Υ
Candy	В	V	Α	S	Р	Υ	T	Α	U	Χ	Α	N
Easter	U	Α	F	U	V	G	Q	Р	N	I	M	N
Bunny	0	R	Α	N	Υ	В	0	В	N	U	Q	I
Basket	R	Α	J	0	Н	Α	W	U	Υ	F	Υ	Р
Spring	N	1	Q	Р	Α	S	Н	Р	Е	Е	Р	S
Нор	Р	0	S	W	F	K	D	U	V	Χ	Н	U
Peeps	R	Е	Т	S	Α	Е	В	Z	Υ	V	0	В
	0	Υ	С	Е	D	Т	J	I	Р	0	Н	J
	Α	U	N	S	U	N	G	N	I	R	Р	S



**FUN FOR KIDS** 

#### **EASTER EGG MAZE**





#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The WHA wants to remind you about how important it is for EVERYONE to exercise the idea of social distancing and ultimately avoiding social contact as much as possible. There is no doubt that it is extremely hard to do. The World Health Organization and the CDC has been reiterating to us that keeping a 6 foot distance from others while in a public place is recommended. This does not mean that you can do this all day every day.

Social distancing is very important for slowing or stopping the spread of infections, especially for those who are at higher risk of catching coronavirus. By distancing themselves from the public, these high-risk individuals are able to protect themselves from being exposed to the virus, which can be deadly for them. Remember that often, those with coronavirus can be asymptotic – showing no symptoms. So, even if you are feeling fine and are not experiencing any of the symptoms of coronavirus, you could still be a carrier of COVID-19 and be a potential threat to others. Even if you're not considered at higher-risk of catching coronavirus, it's still very important to practice social distancing. By distancing yourself from others, especially those in high-risk categories, you're doing your part by minimizing the likelihood of spreading the virus to others. EVERYONE IS SUSCEPTIBLE TO CONTRACTING THE CORONAVIRUS! Just because you, or your children, are young and healthy does NOT mean that you should ignore these precautions. In fact, 50% of the cases in New York State are between the ages of 18-45. Please remember that groups of outdoor play with several children from different households has the potential of being extremely dangerous to the health and well-being of others.

# A MESSAGE FROM THE WCSD

In an effort to better meet the needs of our families, free meals will be available for pick up at several new locations in the City of Watervliet. Starting Wednesday, March 25, Watervliet school bus drivers will deliver meals to 12 regular bus stops in the community for students and families to pick up. The buses will be at the locations beginning at 9 a.m., and will remain at each stop for 15 minutes to allow time for students to pick up their meals and also practice social distancing by remaining 6 feet from each other. Free meals will be distributed at the following times and bus stop locations.

# **Bus 1A**

- 9:00-9:15 <u>Joslin Apartments</u> (24th Street & Whitehall)
- 9:15-9:30 M.J.D. Apartment (21st Street & Whitehall)
- 9:35-9:50 <u>Hilton Apartments</u> (Parking lot on 5th Street)
- 9:55-10:10 <u>Wicked Smart</u> (Corner of 7th Street and 5th Avenue)

# **Bus 2A**

- 9:00-9:15 Brotherhood Park (24th Street side)
- 9:20-9:35 Corner of 16th Street & 6th Avenue
- 9:40-9:55 <u>Pershing Green</u> (Corner of 4th Street & 2nd Avenue)
- 10:00-10:15 Corner of 4th Street & 8th Avenue

# Bus 3A

- 9:00-9:15 <u>Highland Club</u> (Regular stop)
- 9:20-9:35 <u>VRV Apartments</u> (Flagpole)
- 9:35-9:50 <u>The Dome</u> (Parking Lot)
- 9:55-10:10 <u>Douglas Industrial</u> (10th Street & 8th Avenue)





#### **CDTA BUS SCHEDULES**

The WHA Office now has bus schedules and maps available for the following routes: 22, 80, 85, 87, 182, 224, 286, 289, 370, 905.

### **CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**

This month's City Council meetings will be held on Thursday, April 2nd and Thursday, April 16th at 7pm.

# **LAST DAY TO PAY RENT**

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNT CLERK

MYANPATTEN@WATERVLIETHOUSING.ORG

The last day to pay your rent without being charged a late fee is Friday April, 6th. If you pay your rent after this date, you will be charged a late fee (5% of your rent).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

METHIER @WATERVLIETHOUSING.ORG

# **CONTACT US**

THIS NUMBER IS USED FOR

WHA OFFICE 273-4717

ENANT RELATIONS EXAMINER EXT. 202

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TENANT RELATIONS EXAMINER EXT. 202

TENANT RELATIONS EXAMINER EXT. 203

TENANT RELATIONS OFFICE WATER VLIETHOUSING.ORG

MARY CLINTON EXT. 203

TENANT RELATIONS OFFICE WATER VLIETHOUSING.ORG

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MARY CLINTON EXT. 203

SECTION 8 PROGRAM COORDINATOR

EMERGENCIES OCCURBING AFTER HOURS DLEIBACH @WATER VLIETHOUSING, ORG