



Daniel P. Crawley, Executive Secretary

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# Post Script

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Troyhousing.org

December 2015

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## COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

High School Seniors currently residing in THA public housing or Section 8 housing who are preparing to enter higher level learning (2-4 year college, trade school or formal certification program) may be eligible for a scholarship from the New York State Public Housing Authority Directors Association.

One scholarship of **\$2,500** will be awarded and one runner-up will receive a laptop.

Applications are due by **Feb. 8, 2016**. More information and the application can be found at [troyhousing.org](http://troyhousing.org) or by calling 273-3600 ext. 239.

### Trying to Quit?

The NYS Smokers Quitline offers many resources and can be accessed anytime at [www.nysmokefree.com](http://www.nysmokefree.com) or by calling 1-866-NY-QUITS (1-866-697-8487).

## Imagine the possibilities

### Slots available for the Family Self Sufficiency Program

A program to help tenants set goals and achieve them has limited slots available.

The Family Self Sufficiency program can help individuals accomplish goals like getting a better job or owning a home all while earning escrow.

In the program, when rent increases due to an increase in earned income, the difference in your new tenant payment is placed into an interest bearing escrow account. Tenants will receive those monies when they reach goals or

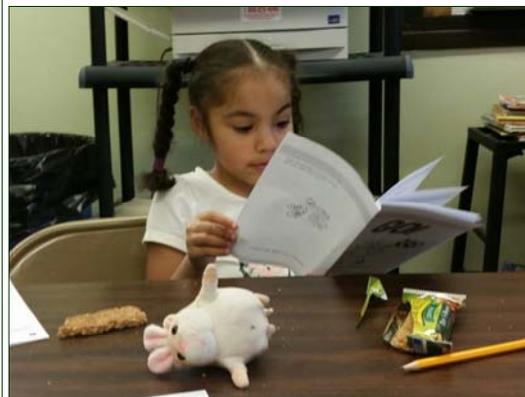
successfully complete the program's contract.

Through the program, individuals can work toward things like improving credit, continuing education or purchasing a vehicle.

Those interested will meet with an FFS Coordinator to establish and work on goals.

For more information, contact Barbara McGivern, PH-FSS Coordinator by phone at (518) 720-3050, by fax at (518) 720-3051 or by email at [barb.mcgivern@troyhousing.org](mailto:barb.mcgivern@troyhousing.org).

## Students shine at Homework Clubs



At several THA sites, Homework Clubs are free and open to resident children. Here, they can receive help on school work, learn to cook, make crafts and play with their peers.

Active clubs exist at Griswold Heights, Corliss Park, Phelan Court, MLK, Fallon and Taylor Apartments.

At some sites, teens volunteer to help younger kids at Homework Club. Some sites offer teen programming. Hours vary by site. Adult volunteers are also needed to supervise children and help with homework.

For more info, contact your site's main office.



### Get involved with your tenant association

Call your local office to see if there is an active tenant association at your site.

And if not, why not start one? Contact your site manager.

## From the desk of the Executive Secretary

*Daniel P. Crawley*



As we head into the new year, Troy Housing Authority is taking steps to update the tools we use to serve our tenants.

Online, we're updating our website, Facebook and Twitter accounts with helpful information — from highlighting community events within THA and opportunities for residents, to notices of public hearings and updates on ongoing projects. But we need the help of our tenants to spread those posts and news to friends and neighbors.

You can connect with us on our Troy Housing Authority Facebook page, on Twitter @Troy\_Housing and on our web-

site at [troyhousing.org](http://troyhousing.org). We hope these tools can help us better connect and communicate with tenants and the public.

On our website, we have an existing Landlord Portal but plan to soon have a Tenant Portal as well.

The landlord portal allows vendors and landlords to access items like HAP registers by resident and status of inspections, and also allows prospective landlords to enter their properties as potential units for rent. Applicants who are voucher holders search the system for possible units.

We are also digitizing the way we do inspections. You may see inspectors tap-

ping iPads in place of regular paper forms. This will make inspections quicker and more efficient.

In addition to these new technologies, we plan to more frequently publish this newsletter — now on a monthly basis. If you have ideas or suggestions for content of the newsletter — helpful reminders or notification important dates or community events — please feel free to send those to [info@troyhousing.org](mailto:info@troyhousing.org) or call 274-3600 ext. 239.

## Free nutrition classes

The Eat Smart New York program is bringing free nutritious cooking classes to THA sites.

The classes will begin will begin **Thursday, Dec. 10 at Phelan Court** and already began at **Kennedy Towers on Monday, Dec. 7** and at **Taylor Apartments on Tuesday, Dec. 8**.

The goal is to help participants cook healthier, make healthier choices and eat healthier on a budget. There will even be samples of healthy, tasty recipes. You'll also learn to cook healthy meals and snacks that children will love, plan meals and use less salt, sugar and fat in cooking.

The program is a partnership of Cornell University Cooperative Extension and the

USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

At Phelan Court, classes at held at 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursdays. At Taylor, classes are Tuesdays 11 a.m. to noon for adults. There is also a special **youth nutrition program** at 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesdays at Taylor. Classes at Kennedy at are at 1 p.m. Mondays.

The classes will include food demonstrations and tastings as well as giveaways of items such as water bottles and cutting boards.

**Those interested can sign up in the housing offices at Phelan Apartments, Taylor Apartments or Kennedy Towers.**

## REACT food pantry available

The Resident Empowered Action Council of Troy (REACT), a non-profit, city-wide resident council for THA public housing residents, offers a food pantry to all legal THA residents.

The pantry and REACT offices are located at 501A Grand Street (rear) and can be reached at **272-8974**. Their office hours are 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Monday through Friday.

All residents can request an emergency food package every 30 days. REACT requires a photo ID and proof of residency and household composition.

Appointments are required to pick up food and can be made by calling the office or visiting during office hours.

During September and October, REACT provided 5,832 to 243 THA families.

## Watch out for phone scams

Troy Police are warning the public of phone scams in which callers claim to be from the National Grid or IRS.

In some cases, callers warn that National Grid will shut off power if money is not immediately sent, usually using a prepaid money card like Green Dot MoneyPak.

National Grid never asks for MoneyPak or wire transfer for payment, according to a statement from the company. To confirm a caller is from National Grid, customers can ask the caller to provide the last five digits of their account number. If you have doubts that the caller is a National Grid representative, call National Grid's customer service center at 1-800-642-4272.

If you believe you have fallen victim to a phone scam, call Troy Police Department at 270-4411.

### Next Board of Commissioners meeting:

**Jan. 7, 2016  
Conway Court  
4 p.m.**

See [troyhousing.org](http://troyhousing.org) for full tentative schedule, minutes, agendas and more.

# Pick of free fruits and veggies for Kane seniors



Residents of Kane Apartments can collect free produce once a week thanks to the Salvation Army and volunteers from the Fifth Avenue A.M.E. Zion Church.

Volunteers bring produce from the Salvation Army's food pantry, supplied by

the Regional Foodbank of Northeastern New York, to the community room at Kane each Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon.

The church hopes to gradually expand the initiative to all THA sites in the coming months. Rev. Oscar McLaughlin, pastor of the church, serves as a commissioner on the THA Board.

The Salvation Army also has free produce available to the public on Wednesdays between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at their location at 410 River Street.

The program began Nov. 11. On Nov. 18, approximately 20 residents collected free veggies. Kane houses just over 60 individuals. Residents say the free veggies help them save money, time and travel.

One resident said they probably eat healthier because of the initiative.

"Through the winter you don't have to go out in the cold," said Audrey Roberts, a resident at Kane. "There are so many people that are in need of this."

The produce included sweet potatoes, apples, mushrooms, tomatoes, turnips, lemons, limes, cucumbers, onions, bananas, carrots and more.

Be careful with candles!



As winter approaches and the days get shorter, please don't forget to blow out any lit candles

## Troy Housing Authority Directory

Department / Site	Office Hours / Contact	Department / Site	Office Hours / Contact
<b>Administration</b> One Eddy's Lane Troy, NY 12180	Monday – Friday 8AM – 4PM Phone: 273-3600 Fax: 274-6633	<b>Kane Apartments</b> 5 115 <sup>th</sup> Street Troy, NY 12182	Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri 8AM – 4PM Thursday 1PM-4PM Phone: 235-3685 / Fax: 235-0959
<b>Corliss Park</b> 1450 Corliss Park Troy, NY 12182	Monday – Friday 8AM – 4PM Phone: 874-1005 or 326-0949 Fax: 235-6568	<b>Grand Street Apts.</b> 521 Grand Street Troy, NY 12180	Thursday 9AM – 4PM Phone: 235-3685 Fax: 235-0959
<b>Taylor Apartments</b> 125 River Street Troy, NY 12180	Monday – Friday 9AM – 4PM Phone: 273-8611 Ex. 12 or 13 Fax: 271-8445	<b>Conway Court</b> 12 Conway Court Troy, NY 12180	Tuesday 9AM – 4PM, Thursday 8AM – 12: NOON Phone: 235-3685 / Fax: 235-0959
<b>Fallon Apartments</b> 847 River Street Troy, NY 12180	Tuesday 8AM - 4PM Phone: 720-3050 or 720-3052 Fax: 720-3051	<b>Martin Luther King</b> One Eddy's Lane Troy, NY 12180	Monday – Friday 8AM – 4PM Phone: 273-3600 Ext. 212 Fax: 274-6633
<b>Sweeney Apartments</b> 100 Sweeney Apts. Troy, NY 12180	Tuesday 9AM – 11AM Thursday 1PM – 3PM Phone: 272-2211 Fax: 326-1457	<b>Kennedy Towers</b> 2100 6 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Troy, NY 12180	Monday – Friday 9AM – 4PM Phone: 274-7141 Fax: 274-7172
<b>Griswold Heights</b> 100 Griswold Heights Troy, NY 12180	Monday – Friday 9AM – 4PM Phone: 279-7880, 279-7881, 279-7882 Fax: 274-1837	<b>Phelan Apartments</b> 17 Hopkins Street Troy, NY 12180	Monday - Friday 9AM – 4PM Phone: 272 2211 Fax: 326-1457
<b>Section 8 Program</b> 125 River Street Troy, NY 12180	Monday – Friday 9AM – 4PM Phone: 273-8611 Ext. 4 Fax: 720-0038	<b>Public Housing Family Self Sufficiency</b> One Eddy's Lane Troy, NY 12180	Monday – Friday 9AM – 4PM Phone: 273-3600 Ext. 223 Fax: 274-6633
<b>Section 8 Home Ownership Program &amp; Family Self Sufficiency</b> 100 Griswold Heights Troy, NY 12180	Monday – Friday 9AM – 4PM Phone: 279-7881, Ext. 220 Fax: 274-1837		

Please note changes in Fallon  
Apartments phone numbers

**Individual appointments available as needed.**  
**Maintenance After Hours: 274-7887      All Emergencies (Fire, Medical and Police): 9-1-1**



One Eddy's Lane  
Troy, New York 12180  
troyhousing.org

# Post Script

**TROY HOUSING  
AUTHORITY  
COMMISSIONERS** Daniel P. Crawley  
**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**  
Darren Scott, Chair  
Agnes Zink, Vice-Chair  
Robert Linder  
Oscar McLaughlin  
Susan Steele  
Daryl Freedman  
James Brust

## Connect with THA



THA has been actively updating our website, Facebook page and Twitter account with helpful info for tenants and the public. "Like" Troy Housing Authority on Facebook, follow us @Troy\_Housing on Twitter and visit our website at [troyhousing.org](http://troyhousing.org) for the latest events and news.

## In this issue of *Post Script*

### Healthy eating

- Free nutrition & cooking classes
- Free vegetables brought to THA sites
- REACT food pantry available

### For youth

- Scholarship opportunity
- Homework Clubs
- Cooking class



## Happy Holidays!



However you and your family celebrate, have a safe and warm holiday season.

Some sites will be holding holiday parties for children or residents. Find your site's events below or ask your site manager.

Taylor Apartments Adult and Youth Resident  
Association Holiday Party  
Friday, December 18 at 5 p.m.

Kane Apartments Tenant Association  
Christmas Party  
Wednesday, December 16

Griswold Heights Homework Club  
Holiday Party  
Monday, December 21 at 2 p.m.

Conway Apartments Tenant Association  
Christmas Party  
Wednesday, December 16