



## Housing Authority, City of Danbury

**Chairman,  
Domenico Chieffalo.**

**Vice Chairman,  
Raymond Yamin**

**Commissioner,  
Stanley Watkins**

**Commissioner,  
Paul Estefan**

**Resident Commissioner  
Rose Morrison**

**Executive Director,  
M. Carolyn Sistrunk**

### Inside:

Saturdays With The **2**  
Mayor

Community Service **2**  
Requirement

Housing Authority **2**  
and Resident  
Council Meeting  
Dates

Spring Reminders **3**

Renter's Insurance **3**  
Reminder

Police Officer Of **4**  
The Year

## Spring 2016

### City Enacts New Noise Ordinance

Residents of Danbury's public housing communities have been coping for years with excessive noise—especially from vehicles equipped with large speaker systems.

The problem has not been confined to HACD properties only. Residents throughout the city have long complained about excessively loud music and the noise emanating from neighborhood parties and sporting events.

City officials have taken notice.

At its April meeting, the City Council adopted Sec.12-14, Regulation of Noise.

The new ordinance empowers members of the Danbury Police Department—and a newly created position of Noise Control Officer (not necessarily a police officer) to enforce the new city law.

It addresses such things as motor vehicle noise, noise from lawn equipment, commercial noise and others.

The ordinance also addresses what time certain noise is permitted and when it is not.

For example: Commercial activity, such as building construction or demolition is not allowed before 7 a.m. Monday through Friday; before 8 a.m. on Saturday and before 10 a.m. on Sundays. It must cease by 8 p.m. every day.



It does not allow portable, hand-held music or sound amplification or reproduction

equipment in or on public space or public right-of-way in such a manner that it can be heard at a distance of more than 50 feet.

It prohibits "Loud or raucous noise" from devices or equipment and "specifically including plainly audible sounds emanating from motor vehicles, other vehicles, whether stationary or moving."

This last example has been the one of greatest concern to Housing Authority residents.

Complaints—mostly during the summer months when windows are open—have been a yearly event with vehicles parked in driveways or on the streets of public housing communities.

Now residents can call and make a complaint to the police department about such activity.

### Towing Approved Under HACD Parking Rules

The Housing Authority of the City of Danbury's Board of Commissioners approved a resolution at their April meeting allowing for the towing of vehicles violating the agency's parking rules.

In particular, it revised its earlier regulation, adding for the towing of vehicles not parked in their assigned parking spot or in a spot assigned to another resident. The parking of visitor's vehicles in spaces assigned to a resi-

dent is also a towable offense.



As times changed and residents who previously had only one vehicle eventually added a second car to the family, parking became limited because it was designed with the one-car resident in mind.

Recently HACD determined that assignment of parking spaces was a necessity thus the

amendment to its parking rules was necessitated to include assigned spaces.

Vehicles are also subject to towing if they are parked illegally in a handicapped space, are unregistered or are parking on sidewalks or lawns.

Parking in a fire zone may also result in your vehicle being towed.

All towing is at owner's expense.

## Citywide Public Housing Resident Council Meetings

The remaining tenant council meetings are:

May 16-Glen Apartments

June 20-Crosby Manor

July –no meeting

Aug. 15-Eden Dr.

Sept. 19-Wooster Manor

Oct. 17-Crosby Manor

Nov. 21-Annual Meeting TBD

Dec. 12-Board Holiday Meeting

Meetings begin at 5:30 p.m. Annual meeting at 6 p.m. and Holiday Meeting at 1 p.m.

## Community Service Requirement Reminder

Each non-exempt adult household member 18 years and older participating in a Federal Public Housing Program is required to contribute 8 hours of community service per month, or participate in an economic self-sufficiency program for 8 hours per month (24 CFR 960).

Community Service is "The performance of voluntary work or duties that are a public benefit, and that serve to improve the quality of life, enhance resident self-sufficiency, or increase resi-

dent self-responsibility in the community. Community service is not employment and may not include political activities."

Documentation of compliance is required and must be obtained by the site office prior to the family's annual

recertification. **Failure to comply may lead to lease termination.**

You may speak to your Property Coordinator for a full list of exemptions and eligible community service activities.



## Have A Question-Get An Answer. Saturday With The Mayor

Have a question about an issue in your neighborhood or a concern about a city issue? Here is your opportunity to discuss these or anything else you would like to talk to Mayor Mark Boughton about.

Mayor Boughton announced the resumption of Saturdays with the Mayor on May 21st.

The mayor will host these sessions in his office at City Hall from 10 am till noon.

Appointments are not taken for these meetings. Residents can speak in a roundtable discussion setting. Residents may also ask to speak to the mayor privately on a first-come-first-seen basis

Additional 2016 sessions will be held on June 18th.

There will be a summer break during July and August.



Sessions will resume on September 17th, October 15th and November 19th.

They will break for the winter month of December and January.

The mayor's office noted that inclement weather or schedule conflicts can be an issue, so they ask that individuals who plan on attending a session, check the city's website at [www.danbury-ct.gov](http://www.danbury-ct.gov) for potential cancelations.

### Housing Authority of the City of Danbury Board of Commissioners meetings

HACD commissioners' remaining meetings are:

May 19th-Glen Apartments

June 16th-Crosby Manor

July 21st-Laurel Gardens

August 18th-Eden Drive

Sept. 16th-Wooster Manor

The October 20th, November 17th and the December 15th meetings are at 2 Mill Ridge.

## Spring Brings Reminders

Spring arrived March 20th and was welcomed after a winter of record, or near record, temperatures but not too much snowfall.

Also ushered in was the need to remove all the yard debris covered over by winter's snow.

Housing Authority lease provisions require residents in moderate rental, and some other sites, to maintain their property. This means renters must clean up branches, leaves and other yard debris left over

from last Fall and Winter.

Residents who have swings and other playground equipment must provide a resilient surface beneath the equipment. Residents must also seek approval for all such equipment from their property coordinator.

Residents in moderate rental are also responsible to maintain their lawns from Spring until Fall. This means mowing, raking and keeping their assigned property in a safe and presentable condition.

As residents move from the winter confines of their units they are also reminded that trampolines are prohibited on all HACD property.

Also prohibited is any size swimming or wading pool. Both prohibitions are for safety reasons.

Once every five Summer days, a child dies of drowning in a soft sided swimming pool in the United States.

Most commonly, in their own yard.

## Renter's Insurance—A GREAT idea

For several years articles in The Hat City Housing Herald has pointed out the advantage of renter's insurance.

HACD insures all its property. However, this insurance does not cover of the property or valuables of its tenants.

If a fire or other incident—such as water damage from flooding caused by busted pipes, activated fire suppression equipment (sprinklers) or just plain natural flooding—occurs, tenant losses are not covered unless they have their own coverage.

A good example of the need for obtaining your own coverage occurred Sunday, April 10th of this year.

Shortly after 11 am the Danbury Fire Department was notified of a fire at Putnam Towers, 25 Beaver Street, a senior high-rise owner by HACD.

Fortunately, Danbury Fire Headquarters is only a few blocks away.

Upon arrival, firefighters determined that water flow was



present as it was dripping into the main lobby.

They determined that the incident was on the second floor and forced open the door to the apartment that was identified on the fire panel.

They encountered heavy smoke and two activated sprinkler heads that were pouring out gallons of water a minute.

Firefighters evacuated the unit's occupant who was then transported to Danbury Hospital.

The fire was determined to have started in a lounge chair and the probable cause was identified as a discarded cigarette.

Water damage was reported in several tenant units on the second floor as well as HACD property extending from the second floor to the basement.

A total of ten fire units responded to this alarm and did a tremendous job rescuing the victim and reducing property damage.

Much of the damage to HACD property is covered by insurance (after deductible).

The Housing Authority does not mandate that clients purchase tenant's insurance. However Kevin Barry, HACD's public safety officer believes it is a great idea.

Most people cannot afford the replacement costs of furniture, electronics, clothing or other items, he notes.

Renter's insurance, usually low-cost, can cover these items.

**"Believe you can and you're halfway there."**  
~ Theodore Roosevelt

## Spring 2016

Housing Authority, City of Danbury  
2 Mill Ridge Rd.  
Danbury, CT 06811

Phone: 203 744-2500  
Fax: 203 797-1864

The Authority's mission, in support of the City of Danbury, is to provide safe, affordable and decent housing within the City of Danbury

**Hat City Housing Herald**  
**Kevin N. Barry, Editor**  
**203 744-2500 X115**



Danbury Police Officer Michael Reo, The Exchange Club of Danbury's Police Officer of the Year receives congratulations from HACD Chairman Domenico Chieffalo. Rooney Photo

Over one hundred people gathered at Anthony's Lake Club on April 14th to honor Danbury Police Officer Michael Reo as Police Officer of the Year.

The annual event is one of the Exchange Club of Danbury's programs of service and is sponsored by the Housing Authority of the City of Danbury

P.O. Reo joined the Danbury Police Department in February 2006. He has served as a member of the Patrol Division, as well as taking on extra responsibilities, including serving as a Field Training Officer (FTO), ultimately being appointed Assistant FTO Coordi-

nator in June 2015. He is a dedicated, proactive officer, who especially serves as a solid role model for both newer and seasoned officers.

Officer Reo has a genuine concern for the public and his fellow officers, shown through his conscientiousness and character, according to Danbury Police Chief Alan Baker.

He has received many awards during his career, including the Lifesaving Award for rendering medical care to a person with mental health issues that was trying to end her life.

Most recently, P.O. Reo was on the scene with an emotionally disturbed male and spent a long amount of time speaking with him

resulting in a peaceful resolution to the stand-off.

Officer Reo demonstrates a consistent work ethic, drive and consistently steps forward to assist others with whatever help is needed in any way he possibly can.

His dedication to the Danbury Police Department and community, professionalism, integrity and respect that he has for his job is highly commendable.

He will again be honored on May 19th at the Aqua Turf in Plantsville, CT., as part of the Connecticut District Exchange Clubs' salute to Connecticut's Finest.