

NEIGHBOR NOTES
at the
PITTSFIELD HOUSING AUTHORITY

JULY/AUGUST 2025

Executive Director's Desk:

Who are We? The PHA is larger than one specific site where you are a tenant. We have a portfolio over 10 large property sites, housing 750+ individuals and families. Our housing authority also includes a dozen scattered "program specific" housing sites throughout Pittsfield, and we administer subsidies to over 500 local Section 8 voucher holders. I am asking you to imagine how broad the scope of our operations is on a day to day basis.

I want to assure you, all concerns you bring to our attention are taken seriously. As part of our PHA family, I am asking for you cooperation and patience in being a cooperative resident and understanding neighbor. Priorities are necessary for us to complete as many work orders or tenant concerns in a regular work day. Please let us help you. (Contact numbers are listed in this Neighbor Notes for your convenience).

What's Next? A few changes to note: Pete Marino is now our Maintenance Director, Sean Eckert is now the lead foreman. Assignment of site-specific maintenance staff will be managing the clean-up in-and-around the properties.

We have developed a priority list for all our properties. ***Site by Site & One by One***, we will be landscaping all sites as well as making significant improvements.

Families: Summer is all about outdoor fun – for example, if you are using backyard bbq's, please keep outdoor grills at least 10 feet from any

buildings. Exercise caution when bike riding. **Outdoor pools, fire pits, trampolines, or bouncy houses are not allowed.**

Seniors: If you are in need of cooling off in the extreme heat of summer, our community rooms are equipped with A/C. Please keep your outdoor grills away from all buildings.

Sincerely,
Tina Danzy,
Executive Director, PHA

JULY 2025 CALENDAR:

Together Tuesday in July: @ Wahconah Heights community room. PHA's Veronica Warren facilitates "Together Tuesdays" each week at our sites 5-6:30 p.m.

- **Wahconah Heights: Biennial State Recertifications begin**
- **Francis Plaza full recertification documentation begins for Oct. 1, 2025 deadline**
- **Wahconah Heights Annual inspections begin**
- **Tuesday July 15th PHA Board Meeting: Noon, Rose Manor community room**

AUGUST 2025 CALENDAR:

Together Tuesday @ Francis Plaza community room

PHA's Veronica Warren facilitates Together Tuesdays each week at our sites 5-6:30 p.m. It has been a very successful program. Have fun with the games, music, arts and crafts.

- **Columbia Arms: Annual inspections begin**

- **Tuesday, August 19th PHA Board Meeting: Noon, Location to be announced: Check in with PHA office for latest update**
- **Friday, August 29, 2025 Office Closed for employee event**

TENANT RESOURCES:

PHA Resident Services Coordinator **(RSC) Christie Amlaw**: email: christieA@upside413.org or by phone: 413-358-5616. Christie will help with tenant paperwork, filing for rental assistance. All meetings are confidential.

Onsite hours: Monday: 9-11a.m. Columbia Arms & 1-3p.m.
Providence Court Friday: 9-11 a.m. Rose Manor, 11:30-2:30 Wahconah Heights & 3-4 Francis Plaza.

HANDY CONTACT INFORMATION:

Maintenance hotline: 617-591-1068 or 413-443-7100

Please call one of these numbers so your service call can be added to the call log. As a reminder, emergencies receive first priority from maintenance. Non-emergency repairs may take as long as two weeks to complete. We ask you to have patience and understanding if something you consider a "few minutes" repair or replace takes longer.

State Property Manager: Gwen Cariddi 413-344-9022
gwencariddi@pittsfieldhousing.org

State Program Specialist:
Lisa Houghtlin: 413-344-9014
Lisa.houghtlin@pittsfieldhousing.org

Federal program specialist:
Veronica Warren: 413-344-9011
veronicawarren@pittsfieldhousing.org

Summer Silence

e. e. cummings 1894 –1962

**Eruptive lightnings flutter to and fro
Above the heights of immemorial hills;
Thirst-stricken air, dumb-throated, in its woe
Limply down-sagging, its limp body spills
Upon the earth. A panting silence fills
The empty vault of Night with shimmering bars
Of sullen silver, where the lake distils
Its misered bounty.—Hark! No whisper mars
The utter silence of the untranslated stars.**

Poem 133: The Summer Day

**Who made the world?
Who made the swan, and the black bear?
Who made the grasshopper?
This grasshopper, I mean—
the one who has flung herself out of the grass,
the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down—
who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.
Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.
I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,
which is what I have been doing all day.
Tell me, what else should I have done?
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
Tell me, what is it you plan to do
with your one wild and precious life?
—Mary Oliver**