



**CUMBERLAND HOUSING  
GROUP**

# Tower Gazette

Monthly Newsletter for September 2019



**All Housing Authority Offices  
Will Be Closed  
Monday, Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>, in  
Observance of Labor Day**

### **From the Manager at QCT and JFK**

All tenants need to remember that it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to turn in your income changes, especially for your annual re-certs. If your income is not turned in, we cannot renew your lease and you will be evicted.

Furthermore, all income changes need to be submitted to your property manager within ten (10) days of the change.

### **Phone Numbers**

If your phone number has been changed or you have a new phone, please provide your current phone number to the office. Thank you!

### **No Smoking on Properties**

**John F. Kennedy** – Guests coming into the building have been seen getting out of their cars with cigarettes in their hands. They have also been seen walking to the entrance with cigarettes in their hands. You are responsible for your guests. Please make sure you inform your guests coming on our property that we are “A Smoke Free Property.”

**Queen City Tower** – Residents are not permitted to smoke on the wall behind the Bus Shelter. Many residents and guests have been seen sitting on the wall behind the Bus Shelter smoking. This is a violation of your lease!

### **Exterminator Schedule**

- September 5<sup>th</sup> Queen City Towers – Morning  
John F. Kennedy – Afternoon
- September 18<sup>th</sup> Grande View – Apts. 101 – 217
- September 23<sup>rd</sup> Willow Valley – Apts. 218 – 335
- September 17<sup>th</sup> Old Mt. Savage Road &  
National Highway

### **Preventive Maintenance Inspections**

- September 12<sup>th</sup> John F. Kennedy – 7th Floor  
Queen City Towers –6th Floor
- September 18<sup>th</sup> Willow Valley  
102, 105, 110, 112, 216, 329 and 332
- September 18<sup>th</sup> Old Mt. Savage Road A & B

*As a reminder, a copy of the Inspection will be left in your unit for your information. If any repairs need to be done, maintenance will be returning within 20 days to complete the repairs.*

### **Allegany County Fall Fling Senior Expo**

Friday, September 27, 2019  
10:00 am to 2:00 pm  
Live Music, Raffles, Lunch, Door Prizes,  
Bingo and Farmers Market

You can report **suspected drug activity** by leaving an anonymous tip at 301-759-4660, or by visiting the Crime Solvers website, [www.allegany-mineralcrimesolvers.com](http://www.allegany-mineralcrimesolvers.com).



## **# 1 Priority - PAYING RENT!**

Your lease tells you that:

**Rent is due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month.** We provide a Grace Period until the 7<sup>th</sup> of the month. After the 7<sup>th</sup>, rent is considered late and a penalty amount of 5% of the contract rent is charged. After the 7<sup>th</sup>, a notice of non-payment of rent is delivered to the tenant which advises the tenant that their Lease will be terminated 14 days from the date of the Notice to Vacate. During the 14-day period, the HACC will file, in the District Court, an action for Non-Payment of Rent and seek a Judgment for Possession. During any 12-month period, if the tenant has 3 Judgments of Possession entered against the tenant, the HACC, as part of the fourth action for Non-Payment of Rent filed during the same twelve-month period, will request the Foreclosure of the Right of Redemption. If granted, the tenant will be evicted regardless of whether the tenant pays the rent prior to the scheduled set out.

### **Ways to Pay Rent**

**ACH** – Bank generated monthly account withdrawal. You can get an ACH form in the office. Take it to your bank, have them fill their part out, you fill out the rest, take it to management and they will set it up. Leave your rent money in your account until the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month. The ACH automatically withdraws the rent owed each month from your designated account with no action needed by you.

**Pay at 1<sup>st</sup> United Bank** – take your rent bill to the branch on Centre and Harrison Streets or the branch in White Oaks on Oldtown Road. Note: You can pay with cash at the bank.

**Put Check or Money Order in the Drop Off Box** – located next to the Main Office at 635 East First Street, Cumberland, Maryland 21502. (Make sure we can read your name and address!)

**Pay at the Central Office with Check or Money Order** – 635 East First Street, Cumberland, Maryland 21502. (Make sure we can read your name and address!)

**Willow Valley and Grande View Residents** can pay at the 701 Furnace Street office location during regular business hours.

**Send Payment (check or money order) to:** Cumberland Housing Group, 635 East First Street, Cumberland, Maryland 21502.

## **The Benefits of ACH for Paying Rent**

I asked residents “What are the benefits of using ACH to pay your rent?” Here are some of the responses:

“Since I don’t drive, it is much easier for me now that my rent comes out of my checking account. I don’t have to worry about my rent not being paid on time.” Rick Rader, Queen City Tower

“I was tickled pink when I set up my ACH at Potomac Credit Union. One time, I mailed a check to the Housing Authority and they never received it. I never have to worry now. My rent automatically comes out of my account on the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month. I would recommend ACH to anyone.” Amy Riggelman, Queen City Tower

“When I went into the Nursing Home, my rent automatically came out of my Chessie checking account on the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month. It took a worry off of me.....a big relief of stress. It is very convenient.” Jonathan Schmoyer, John F Kennedy

“I love the fact that I don’t have to go out in the cold or heat to pay my rent. I don’t drive and it is a hardship for me to find someone to take me to pay it. This way of paying my rent is GREAT!” Louise Duguid, John F. Kennedy.

“Before I had ACH, I was stressed every month. I had to try to find someone to take me to the 1<sup>st</sup> United Bank before the 7<sup>th</sup> of each month. It was a lot of stress. Now that I have my rent automatically paid out of my account, it is a load off of my mind. I would recommend this to anyone. I have never had a problem with it.” Margaret Petruccy, John F. Kennedy.

If you want to be on ACH, please pick up the form in the office. If you need help, we will be glad to assist you.

### **Are You a Victim of Domestic Violence?**

If you or someone you know is in a Domestic Violence situation and needs help, please call the Family Crisis Resource Center Hotline 301-759-9244 for assistance.

### **Need Help to Quit Smoking?**

Are you or someone you know trying to quit smoking? Did you know there are 2 FREE ways to quit? Just call the Allegany County Health Department at 301-759-5050 or Maryland’s Quit line at 1-800-784-8669.



**September Guest Speaker**  
**Lori Lewis, Executive Director**  
**Allegany Law**

Queen City Tower – Thursday, September 12, 2019  
John F Kennedy – Wednesday, September 18,  
2019

**Time: 2 pm**

**Place: Community Room**

Lori will be speaking about the different programs Allegany Law Foundation offers. Her main focus will be on the services we offer to Seniors in Allegany County including assisting individuals in completing advance directives and powers of attorney. Allegany Law works through Human Resource Development Commission (HRDC) to provide free services to people over the age of 60 without regard to income and assets in priority areas of law. The areas of law include income maintenance, health care, housing, employment, age discrimination/civil rights, protective services, landlord/tenant relations and custody/visitation.

**Cintex Wireless**  
**To Be at the Hi-rises**  
**September 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**Community Rooms**

**Queen City Tower 10 am to noon**

(Volunteers will be Jackie Dively & Deborah Murray)

**John F Kennedy 1 pm to 3 pm**

(Volunteers will be Roy Bible & Rhonda Roy)

Those qualifying residents who do not have a Free Government cell phone can come to the community room on the dates and times above. You will need a photo identification card. You will also need to show them a food stamp card or a medical assistance card. If approved, you will leave with a free cell phone loaded with 1000 free minutes, 1 GB of internet service, and unlimited texting. Each month, 1000 free minutes, 1 GB of internet, and unlimited texting will be reloaded in your phone by Cintex. If you have questions about the cell phones you can call Mandy Gordon at 240-727-4717.

***Quote for Today...***

Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go; they merely determine where you start.  
– Nido Qubein

***Quote for every Second....***

No one can take away my freedom to choose how I will react. – Victor Frankl

**Resident Council Meetings**

**Queen City Tower – September 12 at 3 pm**

**John F. Kennedy – September 18 at 3 pm**

Resident Councils serve as the voice of the residents at each public housing development. As a resident, you are automatically a member of your Resident Council. Your Resident Council needs your participation. The most important person in the Resident Council is you!

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**Partnership for Affordable Foods (PAF)**

*(A lot of food for a small price!)*

John F. Kennedy will be collecting for the PAF program on **Friday, September 6, 2019, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and on Monday, September 9, 2019, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.** in the community room. There is a \$7 donation in order to receive the food and it must be paid on the dates above. Distribution will be on Thursday, **September 12, 2019**, at approximately 11:15 a.m. Residents who donate the \$7 must be in the community room by **11:45 a.m. on Thursday, September 12, 2019**, to pick up the PAF order or the items will be forfeited.

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**TEFAP – Free Government Foods**

The food will be available for pick up on Wednesday, September 4 after 12 pm. The sooner you pick the food up after 12 pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> the better chance you have of being able to get the food. This food is need based. You can pick up the TEFAP at the sites listed below. Call first before going to make sure they still have food available

Hope Station - Dan Snyder  
632 N. Centre Street - Phone 240-362-7168  
Monday through Friday, Noon - 5 pm

Interfaith Food Pantry  
(HRDC Head Start Building)  
301 Cumberland Street – Phone 301-777-7882  
Monday through Friday, 10 am to 3 pm

Salvation Army - Karen Wells  
701 East First Street – Phone 301-777-7600  
Monday through Thursday, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm,  
and on Fridays, 9:00 am to noon

You need to take your photo identification card or driver's license with you. Please note you will be asked to sign a self-declaration verifying your income and stating you will only get the food once a month from one agency. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact, Pama Wilson, Resident Service Coordinator.



## **Queen City Tower Activities**

### **Blood Pressure Check**

Thursday, September 12 and Thursday, September 26 @ 2:30 pm.

### **Game Night – Every Monday at 6 pm**

All residents are welcome to participate in game night that will be held every Monday at 6 pm in the community room. We look forward to an evening of fun, so please join us.

### **Bible Study provided by Cumberland Community Church**

Saturday, September 14, 2019 and Saturday, September 28, 2019 @ 6:00 pm.

### **Prayer Group**

Every Tuesday at 2 pm

The prayer group, which is open to all residents, is an opportunity for people to share concerns, encourage each other, and to lift our needs to a higher power. We invite all residents to attend this group every Tuesday at 2 pm for fellowship and light refreshments. Bonnie Stott will facilitate the group. We hope to see you there.

### **Attention My Groceries to Go Participants Delivery: Thursday, September 5, 2019**

Time 2:00 pm

Linda Conner and Pamela Sulser will be giving out the food boxes in the community room to those that are already on the program. Participating residents will need to be in the community room on the time posted above unless you receive a notice telling you different. Those receiving the box will sign for the box and take their own food box to their own apartments. Those who do not show up to receive the box will forfeit receiving the box.

## **John F. Kennedy Activities**

### **Blood Pressure Check**

Wednesday, September 4 and Wednesday, September 18 @ 2:30 pm.

### **Bible Study provided by Cumberland Community Church**

Friday, September 13, 2019 and Friday, September 27, 2019 @ 6:30 pm.



### **Every Monday at 6 pm**

All residents are welcome to join us for Bingo every Monday @ 6 pm in the community room. We are growing in participants and hope that you join us too. The Bingo Caller is John Evans and he is in charge of Bingo. Looking forward to a night of fun every Monday! Bring your pennies.

### **Game Night – Every Saturday at 6 pm**

Community Room

All residents are welcome to participate in game night. We look forward to an evening of fun, so please join us! Bonnie Hoban or Rhonda Roy – Game Leaders.

### **Attention My Groceries to Go Participants Delivery: Thursday, September 5, 2019**

Time: 9:15 am

Margaret Petruccy and Bonnie Hoban will be giving out the food boxes in the community room to those that are already on the program. Participating residents will need to be in the community room on the time posted above unless you receive a notice telling you different. Those receiving the box will sign for the box and take their own food box to their own apartments. Those who do not show up to receive the box will forfeit receiving the box.

## **Salvation Army – 2019 Christmas Assistance**

The Salvation Army is accepting applications for 2019 “Christmas Assistance for Adults”. If you would like to apply for a gift card for food you must go to the Salvation Army, 701 E. First Street, Cumberland, Maryland on the following dates and times:

September 17 – 19 & September 24 - 26

Time: 9 am to 11:30 am

You must take with you your photo ID, proof of your address, proof of household income, proof of expenses (bills), food stamp award letter listing all household members. Any handwritten verifications of income or expenses must be notarized.

