



**CUMBERLAND HOUSING
GROUP**



Tower Gazette

Monthly Newsletter for November 2020

Exterminator Schedule

November 5th Queen City Towers – Morning
John F. Kennedy – Afternoon
November 18th Grande View – Apts. 218-335

Preventive Maintenance Inspections

Tenants **must wear a mask** when a housing staff member is in your unit, or you may choose to step outside.

November 3rd John F. Kennedy –9th floor
November 10th Grande View – 102, 325, 327,
329, 330, 333

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.



Daylight Savings Time Ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, **November 1st**. Turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday.

All Housing Authority Offices will be **closed** on **Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th** for the Thanksgiving Holiday!



November 11th

The Cumberland Housing Group and Staff would like to thank all the Veterans who previously and are currently serving our Country! God Bless You and God Bless America! The Cumberland Housing Offices will be closed on Veteran's Day.

Grande View Tenant – Emergency Pull Cord

If you happen to pull the Emergency Pull Cord by accident, you need to call 911 to let them know so that they can cancel the call.

RISK CONTROL POLICY

The Housing Authority of the City of Cumberland and the Cumberland Housing Alliance, Inc. (collectively referred to as Cumberland Housing) considers the safety of its residents, its staffers, and other members of the public who come in contact with its facilities or services to be of utmost importance. Cumberland Housing will not tolerate unsafe acts or conditions created by its staffers or tenants. It is a positive responsibility of Cumberland Housing staffers and tenants to bring any and all unsafe conditions promptly to the attention of Cumberland Housing management. All concerned are expected to adhere to the safety rules and procedures relevant to their employment or residency responsibilities, including such matters as safe driving, proper use of equipment and appliances, and adequate supervision of and concern for small children. Fulfillment of safety responsibilities should be considered in the performance evaluation of each Cumberland Housing staffer. Cumberland Housing commits to make every effort to comply with all local, state and federal safety and health regulations and to enforce the policies and procedures set forth in its own Risk Control Guide and related health and safety plans.





LOCAL TEXT 911 NOW AVAILABLE

Local text 911 is now operational in Allegany County, so folks can text 911 if they have an emergency. Residents are still encouraged to call 911 as your first option, but in situations where you are unable to do so, you now have the option to text 911.

Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) Information for 2021

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for approximately 70 million Americans will increase 1.3 percent in 2021.

The 1.3 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will begin with benefits payable to more than 64 million Social Security beneficiaries in January 2021. Increased payments to more than 8 million SSI beneficiaries will begin on December 31, 2020. (Note: some people receive both Social Security and SSI benefits)

Great American Smoke Out

Sponsored by the American Cancer Society, the "Great American Smoke Out" day will be November 19th. This event encourages smokers to use this day to make a plan to quit or to plan in advance and quit that day.



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.

No Smoking on Housing Authority Property!

Just a reminder that smoking of any kind is prohibited on our property (which includes the outside areas, the parking lot, as well as the inside.) If you or your visitors are caught smoking on our property, you will be given a notice stating that you are in violation of your lease. This could lead to eviction!

Face Masks

Face masks **still need to be worn** over your mouth and nose in all common areas!

COVID19

There is a phone line that anyone is free to call to talk to a nurse and understand what they should do if they have concerns about the virus. That number is 301-759-5000. They can help evaluate if someone needs testing, where to go for that testing, give information about the virus, and give guidelines for what to do at home to stay safe/healthy. Feel free to refer folks to this phone line. COVID19 is still active in our community, so continue to take all precautions.

Visiting the Housing Office

Please call before coming to the offices. You must have an appointment! Most matters can be handled via phone, mail or email. Paperwork can be dropped in the drop boxes at the developments. This is for the protection of everyone. (If paying at the offices, rent must still be put in the drop boxes.)

My Groceries to Go

Those who participate in the "My Groceries to Go" program need to be home on Thursday, November 5, 2020. John F. Kennedy's food box will arrive to your door around 9 AM and Queen City Tower's food box will arrive to your door around 2 pm. You must sign for your food box. If you have any questions you can call 301-783-1752.

FOOD GIVEAWAY!

Third Wednesday of every month
(Next one will be on
November 18, 2020).
Time: 2 pm to 4 pm.

St. John's Lutheran Church.

Located in the church parking lot.

400 Arch Street, Cumberland

Questions: call 301-724-7250

stjohnscumberland@gmail.com

www.stjohnscumberland.com

All Maryland Residents Eligible!

Medicare Open Enrollment

Medicare Open Enrollment begins on October 15, 2020, and ends on December 7, 2020. During this time, Medicare beneficiaries can compare coverage options like Original Medicare and Medicare Advantage and choose health and drug plans for 2021. Medicare health and drug plan costs and covered benefits can change from year to year, so people with Medicare should look at their coverage choices and decide on the options that best meet their health needs. They can visit [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) (<https://www.medicare.gov>), call 1-800-MEDICARE, or contact their [State Health Insurance Assistance Program](#). People who want to keep their current Medicare coverage do not need to re-enroll.



Extermination

Extermination service is provided on a regular basis at no cost to the Tenant. This is performed in all units and **cannot be refused**. Tenants are required to keep all living areas clean at all times. Bedrooms must be accessible and not locked. Tenants will be advised of the date that the exterminator will be visiting their unit through the monthly newsletter. Tenants will be advised of any special visits and what advance preparations to make, if any, through a notice that will be mailed or hand delivered. Failure to make preparations as may be requested by HACC or to allow entry to the exterminating company will be deemed to be a material breach of the lease that is signed by each tenant. If it is found that within 45 days of leasing the apartment that a tenant has an infestation of any kind, he/she will be responsible for any and all costs that arise in eliminating the infestation.

Window Air Conditioners

John F. Kennedy and Queen City Tower – Window air conditioners are supplied for each apartment, maintained and owned by HACC. Additional window air conditioners are not permitted. If the air conditioner is used during the winter due to medical reasons, it is not to be run constantly and not during below freezing outside temperatures to prevent the unit from freezing up and being destroyed. If the HACC owned window air conditioner and/or surrounding panels is missing upon a tenant moving out or inoperable due to freezing up, the current charge to replace the air conditioner will be imposed upon the tenant.

Queen City Tower Residents

The Handicapped door is only for people who are Handicapped! Using it to bring in groceries, or laundry, or as a short cut to go to the smoking area **is not allowed**.



TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 3, 2020

ACH - Bank Generated Monthly Account Withdrawal

This is a reminder to all the residents who recently signed up for ACH. Please remember to leave the rent money that you owe to the Housing Authority (HACC) in your bank account until after the 5th of the month. The rent comes out on the 5th – unless the 5th is on a Saturday or Sunday or holiday. If the 5th is on a Saturday or Sunday or holiday, the rent will come out on the following Monday or day that is not a holiday.

Anyone at Queen City Tower or John F Kennedy who is interested in signing up for ACH, please call Pama Wilson, Resident Service Coordinator. I can be reached by calling 301-722-7977 or by calling 301-724-1544.

Food Delivery Programs at QCT and JFK

Ten USDA Government Food boxes were delivered to John F. Kennedy and Queen City Tower by Gateway West Church on Tuesday, October 20th. Signs were posted on each floor to let residents know that 10 boxes would be available for the first 10 residents who picked them up. We are hoping this service will continue in the two hi-rises. Signs will be posted in November to let you know if the Gateway West Church will be continuing to bring 10 USDA Government Food Boxes to these two hi-rises. This is a first come, first serve program. (JFK's will be on the first-floor lobby with Roy Bible overseeing. Queen City Tower's will be on the table in the Community Room with Deborah Murray overseeing.) Once we know if we will be getting the food in November, we will post it on the first-floor bulletin board.

Sorry.... No Thanksgiving Meals

Due to the COVID19 pandemic, the Thanksgiving Meals that are normally delivered to QCT and JFK from the UPMC Western Maryland will not be available.

Do you need help in your apartment?

Chanda, a resident at Queen City Tower, will do Laundry and Housekeeping Services. Reasonable prices. Call 1-470-257-2548 to discuss.

Crime Solvers Tip Line

301-722-4300

www.allegany-mineralcountycrimesolvers.com



FALL WORD SEARCH

Fall Word Search

C U W V B F K S Q S W H A R V E S T H G
O Y S M A N T A T O U U O G K R P M L E
A C F D F O O T B A L L W B T Q W O Z B
S E E Z Z A G E R Y N T U E N I B E X R
W J P N X T B U W A A P P L E C I D E R
E A U O A H U D C N U T U U U N C T A Q
A P R V S A U U R K K P P Z M H R B C T
T P L E A N N O J Y S R P C U P A G I C
E L E M J K C A D B E F W K E U K Y M K
R E A B U S K F Y O P L I O H Z E I Y B
P S V E L G P H L N T Z H P S J S Q N O
Q Q E R S I Q A W F E Y E M U W E Q J O
J N S O M V V C N I M C O Q N R M W K T
T B M E K I F Z B R B R Y C F K N L J S
V Y A P N N Q K G E E A V G L U T A A O
V N R R D G H N A B R U Q T O O N I G V
C Y A O O P I Q O N H T X F W J Z Y P E
L C X F E A L T K O E U W Z E S U P P B
R D E F I D C W K O Q M Z Q R B F Z U S
D R Q R J O V Z O Y W N C J G R K N E U



CORN
AUTUMN
BONFIRE
BOOTS
OCTOBER
RAKE

THANKSGIVING
HARVEST
LEAVES
CARNIVAL
APPLES
APPLE CIDER

PUMPKIN
FOOTBALL
SWEATER
NOVEMBER
SEPTEMBER
SUNFLOWER

