



Monthly Newsletter for December 2020

**CUMBERLAND HOUSING
GROUP**



Exterminator Schedule

Dec. 10 th	Jane Frazier Village, Buildings 7 – 17
Dec. 11 th	Jane Frazier Village, Buildings 1 – 6 & Banneker Gardens
Dec. 17 th	River Bend Court

Allegany College Scholarship

If you are attending Allegany College, live in one of our communities AND qualify for financial aid, the Housing Authority scholarship may be just for you.

The scholarship picks up transportation, lunches and any expenses not covered by your Pell Grant.

Applications can be picked up at the Housing Authority Office. Deadline to apply for the Spring Semester is Friday, December 11, 2020.

*Merry Christmas from the
Cumberland Housing Group Board,
Administration, Property Management,
Maintenance & Security*



*The Cumberland Housing Group Offices
Will be Closed December 17th after
12:00 PM and December 25th for the
Christmas Holiday.*

Staff Changes

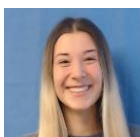
Dakota Vaughn – A lot of you at **River Bend Court** got to know Dakota as she was working with you thru the transition of moving from a Public Housing Program to a RAD Conversion Multi-Family Tax Credit program. Ms. Vaughn has left the agency to take care of some family members that live out of the area. Ms. Vaughn will be missed by our staff.

However, a lot of you have gotten to know **Krys Avers**, who was hired as the Property Manager for RBC and was assisting Dakota on the relocation process. Ms. Avers will still be your Property Manager and will be moving forward with the relocation process. Ms. Avers will be training two new employees.



Tabitha Bender

Tabitha comes to us from WMHS. Tabitha was hired as a Property Manager and Relocation Coordinator. She initially will be working on the relocation of tenants at River Bend Court and relocation activities at JFV.



Haley Dent

Haley comes to us from Archway. Haley was hired as a Property Manager and Relocation Coordinator. She initially will be working on the startup of River Bend Court and assisting with relocation activities at JFV and RBC.



Joanna Ervin

Joanna comes to us from Conduent. Joanna was hired as an Accounting Associate. She will begin to learn the support functions of the Finance Department, Human Resources as well as functions as a back up to Dan Hartman in the Maintenance Office.



FREE COVID TESTING

The Allegany County Health Department and Maryland Department of Health partnered to offer ongoing COVID-19 testing at the **Allegany County Fairgrounds**. The hours for this free drive-thru testing are 2 to 7 p.m. on Mondays and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays.

There is also 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 very active in our community, so continue to take all precautions.

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. Please report any changes in your income to your property manager. They will need proof of your increase.

FOOD GIVEAWAY!

Third Wednesday of every month in the church parking lot. (Next one will be on Dec. 16, 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

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.

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.

Crime Solvers Tip Line

301-722-4300

www.allegany-mineralcountycrimesolvers.com

2 Safe and Convenient ways to pay!

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. See next page...

SNOW REMOVAL

A major concern during winter is the **clearing of ice and snow**. Residents of Jane Frazier Village, River Bend Court & Banneker Gardens are responsible for clearing ice and snow from the front and rear sidewalks leading to their units within 24 hours of the end of precipitation as per City of Cumberland ordinance. Residents who fail to promptly clear their walks within that time will be charged when the Maintenance Department has to perform the work. Residents should exercise good judgment in placing snow that they remove from the walks. Never throw it out into the streets or other areas where your neighbors or the Maintenance Department will have to move it again. Do not place shoveled snow against the building or foundation. Please do not use salt or other chemicals on your walks as they damage the concrete, grass and plants.

River Bend Court Tenants

Please be advised, that when you move into your permanent apartment, the contractors will still be doing outside renovations. Your cooperation in staying out of their way is appreciated.



*Kids... Call Santa and tell him what you want for Christmas.
(951) 262-3062*



You Can Now Pay Your RENT with a Credit Card/Debit Card Online

Tenants, you now have the flexibility to pay rent online with a Credit Card/Debit Card from the comfort of your home. Go to our website: www.cumberlandhousing.org and simply click on the "PAY HERE" button. You must have your account number which is found on your rent statement. (See samples below)

****Please note: For this online service your card will be charged a 3% fee****

This is a sample of what the Screen looks like when Paying online.


*First Name:
*Last Name:
*Address:
*City:
*State:
*Zip Code:
*Phone Number:
Email Address (Receipt):

Payment Information

*Card Number:
*Expiration Date: (MMYY format)
* CVV2: [What is this?](#)

Billing Information

*Amount: \$
*Account #:

I'm not a robot 
reCAPTCHA
Privacy - Terms

Process Payment

Sample Statement Here

Housing Authority of the City of Cumberland
635 East First Street
Cumberland MD 21502

635 East First Street
Cumberland, MD 21502
301-724-6606

Customer ID: 3619
Unit Number: 003-0601
Payment Due Date: 08/01/2020
Statement Date: 07/31/2020
Closing Date: 08/31/2020

CUMBERLAND, MD 21502


003-0601 - Tenants Accounts Receivable Account Number A000004860

Date	Description	Amount
	Previous Balance	\$155.00
08/01/2020	Transfer from Security Deposit, Acct #A000004042	-155.27
08/01/2020	Rent	119.00

Total Amount Due: \$119.00

Comments

Detach here

 **CUMBERLAND HOUSING**
Unlocking the Doors for Your Future

Please Return This Portion
With Your Payment

Rental Statement - Payment Copy
DO NOT MAIL CASH

DATE DUE	TOTAL AMOUNT DUE
08/01/2020	\$119.00

Thank You!

CUMBERLAND, MD 21502

Account Number 0001270

Account Number →

**** You may schedule an appointment at the main office to pay with a credit/debit card. We do not surcharge Visa Debit Card payments if payment is made in the office, when you use a PIN Number. We impose a surcharge of 3% on the transaction amount on Visa Credit Card products, which is not greater than our cost of acceptance. ****

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.



Notice to Cumberland Housing Residents

Public Awareness Program Message Natural Gas Safety Instructions

Natural gas for your appliances is delivered through a jurisdictional natural gas pipeline system. The system is a safe, reliable and efficient way to deliver natural gas for your heating, water heating, cooking, and clothes drying needs. Although safe, tested and regulated, the system's most common hazard is from 3rd party damage from excavation. Before digging or excavations are done, contact Miss Utility at 1-800-257-7777 or 811 and call Cumberland Housing at 301-724-2055. Please read the following safety information:

*Natural gas, like all forms of energy and like many other products found in the home, is capable of doing damage and **MUST** be used properly. Here are some facts everyone should know about gas and gas operated equipment:*

Gas Accidents can be avoided when you follow these safety rules:

1. Teach children that they are not to turn on or light appliances
2. Keep combustibles (curtains, paper, and fluids) away from any open flames.
3. If lighting is required - always light match first and hold it at point of lighting before you turn on gas.
4. Keep burning surface clean of dirt, match ends, grease, etc.
5. Repair and installation is a job for experts. Never attempt to do it yourself.
6. Use equipment for the job it was intended to do - for example, an oven should NOT be used to heat a room.

Your senses can help you to discover a gas leak.....

- >SMELL: A distinctive odor has been added to natural gas so that less than 1% of gas in the air can be detected.
- >SIGHT: In some appliances you can see the flame so you know it is working.
- >TOUCH: With some appliances you can feel overheating or cold in the burner area which would indicate trouble.
- > HEARING: If the flame sounds unusually noisy, it may not be burning properly.

If you smell gas:

1. NO FLAMES OR SPARKS! – Immediately put out all smoking materials and pre-existing open flames. Do not operate lights, appliances, telephones or cell phones. Flames or sparks from these sources can trigger an explosion or fire.
2. LEAVE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY – Get everyone out of the building or area where you suspect gas is leaking.
3. REPORT THE LEAK – From a neighbor's home or other nearby building away from the gas leak, call your natural gas supplier right away. If you are unable to reach your natural gas supplier, call 911 or your local fire department.
4. DO NOT RETURN TO THE BUILDING OR AREA - Until your natural gas supplier determines that it is safe to do so.
5. GET YOUR SYSTEM CHECKED - Before you attempt to use any of your natural gas appliances, your natural gas supplier or a qualified service technician must check your entire system to ensure that it is leak free.

