



**CUMBERLAND HOUSING
GROUP**

Tower Gazette

Monthly Newsletter for December 2020



Exterminator Schedule

December 3rd Queen City Towers – Morning
John F. Kennedy – Afternoon
December 15th Grande View – Apts. 101 - 217

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.

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.

All Residents – JFK, QCT & GV

Due to the recent rise in COVID cases in our county, the mask mandate is **STILL IN EFFECT**. This means you must wear a mask when in any common areas; such as: laundry room, elevators, hallways, trash rooms, balconies, stairwells or visiting the mailboxes. Masks must **cover your mouth and nose**. Anyone not wearing a mask will receive a lease violation. Also, remember to stay six feet apart from others in all common areas. Community rooms and TV rooms remain closed. The main offices at QCT and JFK are not to be entered by any residents or outsiders. Please call the office for any business concerns you may have. Queen City Tower can be reached by calling 301-722-7977 and John F Kennedy can be reached by calling 301-724-1544. Grande View can be reached at 301-759-2880.

Grande View Apartments

Please use caution when walking on the floors if they are still wet after maintenance mops them.

*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.*

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.

Crime Solvers Tip Line

301-722-4300

www.allegany-mineralcountycrimeslovers.com



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 a copy of your increase.

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>), 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.

Queen City Tower and John F Kennedy Residents

Please remember that all trash and garbage must be put down the trash chute on your floor. Do not put bags of garbage outside by the dumpsters, or leave them on the floor in trash rooms. You will be charged \$5 per bag for each bag found to be yours.

Also, the maintenance staff are not your personal maids! If you make a mess or spill something, clean it up. Do not wait till the next day when maintenance comes in.

Attention Queen City Tower Residents

Remember that smoking is prohibited in the parking lot. This means sitting on the retaining wall and smoking, or smoking in your vehicle is also prohibited. Anyone seen smoking in the parking lot or on the retaining wall will receive a lease violation.

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.

Visiting the 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, December 3, 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 in the church parking lot.

(Next one will be on December 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!

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.



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.





Merry Little Christmas



ANGEL
BELLS
BLESSED
CAROLS
CHILDREN
COMFORT
DING DONG
FAMILY

FESTIVE
GLAD
GREETINGS
HOPE
JINGLE
JOLLY
JOYFUL
LIGHTS

MIRACLE
MUSIC
PEACE
REJOICE
SHINING
SINGING
THANKFUL



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