



# Tower Gazette

## Monthly Newsletter for June 2021

**CUMBERLAND HOUSING  
GROUP**



### Exterminator Schedule

June 3<sup>rd</sup>      Queen City Towers – Morning  
                   John F. Kennedy – Afternoon

June 16<sup>th</sup>     Grande View – Apts. 101 - 217

*Happy  
Father's  
Day!*

### Preventive Maintenance “UNIT” Inspections

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

June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	John F. Kennedy	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor
June 10 <sup>th</sup>	Queen City Tower	3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor

*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.*

### John F. Kennedy Apartments

The Cumberland Housing Group is moving forward with the RAD program for this facility. We have been notified that we can officially close the waiting list. Therefore, no further applications will be taken for John F. Kennedy Apartments. No one new will be moving in until the Rehab is completed. Construction is anticipated to start Spring of 2022.

### **COVID Vaccines**

To get the latest information on the COVID-19 Vaccine, call the COVID-19 CALL CENTER, @ (240) 650-3999 or checkout the Allegany County Health Department’s website. Free drive thru COVID 19 testing is available Mondays 2 PM-7 PM, Wednesdays & Fridays 8 AM-2 PM at the Allegany County Fairgrounds, 11400 Moss Ave., Cumberland, Maryland.

### **COVID – 19 Questions**

Tenants are reminded if you have any questions about the COVID-19 virus, please feel free to call the Allegany County Health Department at the COVID call center 240-650-3999.

### Use of Laundry Machines

The use of **scented beads** in washers and dryers is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED!** They melt and stick to the inside of the machines.

Any tenant found to be using the beads will be charged for repairs and cleaning of the machines.

### Revised Schedule of Charges

A revised Schedule of Resident Charges, Addendum D to the Residential Lease Agreement, has been approved by the Board of Commissioners on May 19, 2021 and will be effective for all residents as of July 1, 2021. The physical schedule is posted on the bulletin board in your developments common area, office and/or tenant conference room and can also be viewed on our website at <https://www.cumberlandhousing.org/news-releases/>.



## 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.



## **Queen City Tower Residents**

The new controlled access Key Card System for Queen City Tower is now operational. No handicap door access will be granted unless you qualify for handicap/disability entry under the HUD Section 504/ADA Guidelines. The access key card has wires within the card and cannot be punched to hang on lanyards, wrist bands, etc. If the key card is damaged in any way, it will not operate the door. A maximum of **one key card per resident** has/will be provided to each apartment. If an additional key card is desired for a special circumstance, a written request form must be completed in the office to include the designation of who needs the card and for what reason. Requests will be evaluated based on need. Additional cards cost \$20.00 each and must be paid prior to the card being distributed. When you receive your access key cards, it would be helpful if you wrote down the numbers of the cards that are given to you in case one is lost or stolen. This number can be found on the front bottom of the key card and on the back of the card – the last set of numbers following the comma on the back of your key card. Any key card that is damaged and needs replaced must be returned to the office and will be deactivated within the access system. If you lose a key card and need it replaced, the number of the key card must be provided to the office in order for that lost card to be deactivated within the access system. The number is located on the back of the card. These new access key cards cannot be programmed at the building. These cards are stored at the main office and must be programmed using special computer software. It may not be possible to receive a key card the same day that you request a replacement or new card. The cost to replace the lost or damaged replacement access card will be \$20 and billed to the tenant account. Second and successive replacements will not be issued until payment has been made for previous replacements.

### **It's the Law!**

With the warmer weather and longer days, please remember that Cumberland has an open container law, which means no open alcoholic beverages can be consumed outdoors, on our properties or in the common areas of our buildings.

### **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.

## **My Groceries to Go**

Those who participate in the "My Groceries to Go" program need to be home on Thursday, June 3, 2021. 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 parking lot.  
(Next one will be on June 16, 2021).  
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  
*All Maryland Residents are Eligible!*

### **Attention JFK and QCT Tenants**

A reminder to JFK and QCT tenants regarding Bulk Trash pick-up on Monday mornings - **Large items such as furniture can ONLY be placed outside for pick-up on Sunday evenings after 6:00pm.** If items are placed outside prior to Sunday, YOU WILL BE CHARGED! This applies to small garbage bags as well. Each floor has a trash chute, USE IT!!! Do Not leave any unwanted food, clothing or household items in any common area, or table. This is how pests like bugs spread, and is NOT ALLOWED!

### **Paying your rent online is EASY!**

Go to [cumberlandhousing.org](http://cumberlandhousing.org) and click on the "Click here to make an online payment" tab. No need to leave home, go to the bank or get a ride to one of our offices. And no need for the hassle of buying money orders, envelopes or stamps.

### **Crime Solvers Tip Line**

301-722-4300

[www.allegany-mineralcountycrimeslovers.com](http://www.allegany-mineralcountycrimeslovers.com)

To report **suspected Drug Activity**, leave an anonymous tip at 301-759-4660.

