



**CUMBERLAND HOUSING
GROUP**

Monthly Newsletter For February 2024



River Bend Court Tenants – This will be the last newsletter that will be hand delivered to you. You can review the newsletter on your Tenant Portal or our website at: www.cumberlandhousing.org

Exterminator Schedule

2 nd Thursday of each month	Jane Frazier Rows 7 through 17 and Central Office
2 nd Friday of each month	Jane Frazier Rows 1 through 6 and Banneker Gardens
3 rd Thursday of each month	River Bend Court
3 rd Thursday – Every other Month	1034 Frederick Street Feb., April, June, August, October, December



February 14th

Preventive Maintenance Inspections

February 6 th	Jane Frazier Village – Buildings 1 & 2
February 7 th	Jane Frazier Village – Building 13
February 9 th	River Bend Court – Building 4

*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. Entry is **Mandatory** in order to do Inspections as well as repairs. Please continue to call the Maintenance Department **(301)724-2055** with any deficiencies even if your inspection is scheduled in the near future.*

**Our offices will be closed Monday,
February 19th
in observance of President's Day**

ATTENTION

Pet and Assistance

Animal Owners



Please mark your calendars for the date you permits expire. You will receive notices **at least 30 days** out from the time your permit expires as a reminder. However, you are responsible for turning in all the required documentation within those 30 days before your current permit expires

If you have any questions, you can call the mail office and ask for:

For Pets: Jennifer Ensor

For Assistance Animals: Shayla Yaeger

CHA Scholarship

Congratulations to Leslie Stubbs, our most recent scholarship recipient! Leslie is attending Allegany College of Maryland for Medical Billing and Coding and Pre Human Services/Addictions. She started in August 2023 and will be finished with her Billing and Coding class in December. She hopes to start a career while finishing her Associates Degree in Pre Human Services.



Her own personal experiences are the main inspiration for her career path to make a better life for her future. Her ultimate goal is to be an advocate for others in similar situations.



[Facebook.com/cumberlandhousing](https://www.facebook.com/cumberlandhousing)



Boys and Girls Club After School Program

**Banneker Gardens
Community Room**

Monday thru Friday 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm

**Help with homework, games, crafts
and snacks are provided.**

FOOD GIVEAWAY!

February 21, 2024 Time: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

St. John's Lutheran Church.
Located in the church parking lot.
400 Arch Street, Cumberland

Hope Station Wellness & Recovery

Fresh Produce

February 16, 2024 at 10:00 am
until supplies last

Located at 632 N. Centre Street
For more information call
240-362-7168

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 301-759-5093 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

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

YMCA Play Group

River Bend Court Community Room

February 13th at 10:30 am

Ages 5 and under!

Come have some fun.

Judy Center Activities at Jane Frazier Village

Toddler Playgroup
Ages 3 – 4 years old

10 – 11 am
Every Tuesday

Infant Playgroup
Age 0 – 18 months

10 – 11 am
Every Thursday

Call to Register at 301-876-9022



Virtual GGEAR Conference

**"Aging Well: Approaches to Ensure a Healthy, Happy
and Engaged Older Age"**

**Presented by: Linda Shumaker, RN-BC, MA, Optimizing
Aging**

Friday, February 16, 2024
8:30am - 1:00pm
Using Zoom technology

Join us for this interactive, conversational virtual conference that will help participants learn more about how to support patients and clients with understanding:

"What It Means to Grow Old"
and
"Aging, Mental Health and Chronic Illness"

Four (4) CEUs are available for certain professions: Click below for more information or to register.

[For More Information](#)

[To register](#)



River Bend Court Office Hours

12:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Paperwork can be left in the drop box.

You can e-mail Shauna at

Shauna.Rabideau@cumberlandhousing.org

If you need to meet with Shauna for a morning appointment, you can call the office to schedule an appointment, **240-362-9225** or e-mail her.

Parking at River Bend Court

Parking is first come, first served. There is no assigned parking whether it is a handicap spot or regular parking space.



Facebook.com/cumberlandhousing

Free Community Transportation



For
Marketing, Hair Salons
appointments,
& Laundry

Call 301-783-1725
or email us at
mobility@alleganyhrdc.org
to get started!

Available Feb 1, 2024-March 31, 2024
or until funds have been exhausted

Offered Monday-Friday from 10am-3pm

A 48 hour notice is required

You must secure all items purchased while in the vehicle and be able to independently carry, load and unload all items.

For more information and to see if you qualify, please call!

301-783-1725

Put your Tax Refund to Good Use

Join many other residents and pay your rent ahead by one month to avoid late charges and court costs and pay off any repayment agreements for maintenance charges or back rent that you owe to the Cumberland Housing Group. This will save you money in the future.

Tax Time

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. You can use kitty litter. The Maintenance crews get to the public walks and drive areas as soon as possible. Residents may be required to move their vehicles to allow for clearing of snow.

Happy Groundhog Day!

Let's hope he predicts that Spring is on the way.



Join City Hall in downtown Cumberland on February 2nd @ 7:00 AM as the mascot Queen City Charlie determines if we will have an early spring or six more weeks of winter! Free coffee, hot chocolate, & goodies

Extreme Temperatures

With the recent extreme temperatures, here are some important reminders in case of another arctic blast:

- In the family developments, leave kitchen cabinet doors open so that the pipes have some heat exposure to keep from freezing.
- Do not block heaters with furniture, curtains, boxes or clothes. Keep several feet of distance from the heater so heat can flow freely.
- Especially in negative temperatures with wind chill factors, if there is heat coming into your apartment, but it is not as much as you prefer, understand that the boilers are doing what they can to keep up. If the heaters are still warm/hot to the touch, there is no need to call Maintenance. Most of our properties operate on a boiler system, which makes both heat and hot water. At some parts of the day, it may seem cooler as the system makes hot water and then switches back to heat.
- If you live at Banneker Gardens, your heating system could run constantly to keep up. The temperature on the thermostat versus what you set it on, may never get to the temperature you desire. Again, the system will do what it can to supply the demand. If the air is warm coming from the vents, the system is working.
- NEVER HEAT YOUR APARTMENT WITH AN OVEN! This can cause severe injury and possible death.
- If you feel you need some added warmth on extremely cold days, you may want to consider purchasing an approved space heater. Your lease addresses the correct type of heater that you can purchase. Make sure there is enough clearance around a space heater when in use, and do not leave it unattended.



FREE TAX PREPARATION and E-FILING beginning January 27, 2024

Let HRDC's IRS trained staff prepare and e-file your taxes for **FREE!**
Income limits do apply; however, they are different from last tax season.

CALL 301-783-1800

TO SET UP YOUR APPOINTMENT at one of the following locations:

Cumberland: 125 Virginia Avenue	Tuesdays & Thursdays: 6-9 pm	Saturdays: 10am-2pm
Lonaconing: Georges Creek Senior Center, 11 Hanekamp St	Tuesdays: 6-9pm	1 st & 3 rd Saturday of the month: 10am-2pm
Westernport: Westernport Senior Center, 33 Main St	Thursdays: 6-9pm	2 nd & 4 th Saturday of the month: 10am-2pm
Oldtown: Schoolhouse Kitchen, 19210 Opessa St	n/a	Saturdays: 10am-2pm
Frostburg: Frostburg Senior Center, 27 S Water St	Tuesdays: 10am-3pm	n/a

ALL of our tax sites are operating on an **APPOINTMENT** basis. However, walk-ins will be accepted on a limited basis at the CUMBERLAND site **ONLY**, but you must have all required documents with you (list available on HRDC's website or by calling the tax line at 301-783-1800).

If an in-person appointment is not for you, call the tax line for drop off options.

EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT (EITC)

If you worked in 2023 and your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) is not greater than the amount listed for your household type in the chart below, you may be eligible for an *EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT (EITC)*

Children or Relatives claimed:	HoH, Widowed or Single Filers:	Married Filing Jointly:	Maximum EITC:
0	\$17,640	\$24,210	\$600
1	\$46,560	\$53,120	\$3,995
2	\$52,918	\$59,478	\$6,604
3 or more	\$56,838	\$63,398	\$7,430

Workers who are not claiming children/relatives must be between the ages of 25 and 64, not be the dependent or qualifying child of another person and must have lived in the United States more than half of the year to be eligible for the EITC.

To be a qualifying child for the EITC:

- The child can be your son, daughter, adopted child, stepchild, foster child or grandchild; your brother, sister, half-brother or half-sister, stepbrother or stepsister; or grandchild, niece or nephew.
- The child must be under 19 at the end of the year and younger than you or your spouse if you're filing jointly, **OR** the child must be under 24 **and** a full-time student for at least 5 months of the year and younger than you or your spouse if you're filing jointly **OR** any age **and** permanently and totally disabled at any time during the year.
- The child must have lived with you or your spouse in the United States for more than half the year. If the child can file a joint return with another person (for example, their husband or wife), you may not be able to claim them. Investment income for the year: \$11,000 or less

HRDC trained tax staff will also ensure you receive all credits you may be eligible for.

Save your money and let HRDC prepare your taxes for FREE.

