



CUMBERLAND HOUSING GROUP

Tower Gazette

Monthly Newsletter for February 2024



Exterminator Schedule

1st Thursday of each month
Queen City Tower (a.m.) JFK (p.m.)

3rd Wednesday of each month
Grande View
101 – 217 Feb., April, June, Aug., Oct. and Dec.
218 – 335 Jan., March, May, July, Sept, Nov

Preventive Maintenance Inspections

No Maintenance Inspections for QCT
No Maintenance Inspections for JFK

February 9th GV Apt. 103, 215, 216, 221
322, 324, 332, 334, 335

*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.*

ATTENTION

Pet and Assistance

Animal Owners



Please mark your calendars for the date your 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 main office and ask for:

For Pets: Jennifer Ensor

For Assistance Animals: Shayla Yaeger

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, and goodies!

JFK RESIDENTS

As you know, the trash chutes are not usable. The garbage is being removed at least once per day during normal business hours by staff and construction crews. It has been brought to our attention that tenants are not properly bagging their garbage before putting it in the designated area. No loose trash should be deposited into the bin or in the area. All trash must be bagged properly, tied to prevent items from spilling out, any bags with holes in them should be double bagged. Do not put items with liquid that can spill out in the bags. Rinsing containers will help keep smells limited.

It has also been noticed that bulk items are being deposited in the trash collection area. **THIS PROCESS HAS NOT CHANGED!** Bulk items need to be placed by the dumpster on Sunday evenings only.

Everyone needs to do their part while this construction progresses.

When it snows, please wait for maintenance to clear sidewalks and walkways before going out. Compacted snow can turn to ice, and cause injuries.

PLEASE DO NOT GO OUT UNTIL MAINTENANCE HAS CLEARED & PLOWED!



FOOD GIVEAWAY!
The 3rd Wednesday every Month

February 21, 2024-Time: 2 pm to 4 pm.
St. John's Lutheran Church.
Located in the church parking lot.
400 Arch Street, Cumberland

Hope Station Wellness & Recovery
The 3rd Friday every Month

Fresh Produce
February 16, 2024 10:00 am until supplies last
Located at 632 N. Centre Street
For more information call
240-362-7168

Adult Daycare Program

HRDC is taking applications for adult daycare.
Please contact Rhonda Lowery at 301-783-1817
for information about their program.

COVID-19 Testing

PCR Testing is held on Tuesdays and Thursday
@ the Allegany County Health Department
from 9:00 am-12:00 pm-Drive up Only.
To Request testing please call
301-759-5015

COVID-19 Vaccines

Vaccines are held on Wednesdays @
the Allegany County Health Department
from 9:00 am-12:00 pm-Walk In.

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.

Game Night

Due to popular demand, Game Night at **QCT** will be held
every Sunday from 6 pm to 8 pm in the community room. All
residents are invited. Jeff Steele is in charge of Game Night.

Queen City Tower Prayer Group

The **QCT** Prayer Group will be held every Tuesday from
2 pm to 3 pm in the community room. All residents are
invited to attend. Jeff Steele is in charge of the group.

Resident Council Meetings

QCT-Thursday February 8th @ 3:00pm
JFK-Next meeting will be held in March
JFK meetings will be held every other month.

Resident Councils serve as the voice of the residents at
each public housing development. As a resident, you are
automatically a member of your Resident Council. Your
Resident Council needs your participation. The most
important person in the Resident Council is **YOU!**

Bible Study

Roy Bible will be conducting the Bible Studies.

QCT – Saturday, February 3rd & February 17th
2 pm to 3 pm in the Community Room
All Residents Welcome!

JFK – No Bible Study due to lack of participation.

Allegany County Health Department
Outpatient Addiction Services

Services Provided:

- Individual, Family, and Group Therapy
- Intensive Outpatient Program
- Continuing Care (Assists patients after traditional treatment has ended)
- Peer Support
- Jail Substance Abuse program (JSAP)
- Adolescent Program
- Overdose Response Program (Naloxone training)
- 12-Hour DWI Education
- Gambling Services
- Buprenorphine Services
- Walk-In Services (Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.)

For more information, call 301-759-5050.

Please Stop "Bumming"

All of us are feeling the impact of all the price
increases. However, that does not give us the
right to harass our fellow neighbors and ask for
money, cigarettes, sodas, food, etc. We have
had verbal complaints in the office about
particular tenants who have a habit of doing this.
We are asking for everyone to stop doing this.
If you need food, see us in the office. We will
try to connect you with an agency who can
assist you.



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.





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](#)



Free Community Transportation



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

For

Marketing, Hair Salons
appointments,
& Laundry

*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

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

My Groceries to Go

Those who participate in the "My Groceries to Go" program need to be home on Thursday, February 6, 2024. John F. Kennedy's food box will arrive at your door around 10 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 301-783-1755.

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.
- 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.

