



# CUMBERLAND HOUSING GROUP

# Monthly Newsletter For December 2025



### Exterminator Schedule

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

### 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 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 12, 2025.

### Jane Frazier Village Residents

As we approach Christmas, please refrain from putting cardboard in the dumpsters. We do have a cardboard recycling container located at the dumpster at Building 17. Garbage accumulates quickly over the holiday season. If you would break down cardboard and use the correct container, it will allow for more room for other types of garbage. This is also true for move in and move outs. Putting full cardboard boxes in the dumpsters make regular garbage disposal difficult. Please do your part in keeping trash from spilling over.

### 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.



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

*The Cumberland Housing Group Offices Will be Closing at Noon on December 17<sup>th</sup> for training, December 24<sup>th</sup> at Noon on Christmas Eve and will be closed December 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> in celebration of Christmas! The Office will also close at Noon on New Year's Eve.*

### COLA Increase 2024

#### **Award Letters Must Be Given to Managers**

Please **report your increase** to your property managers **as soon as you get your statement of**

#### Added to the Barring List

Tammy Iliff

If you see any person on the property that is barred, you can contact the Cumberland Police Dept. at 301-777-1600.



## 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.



**River Bend Court  
Office Hours  
Monday - Friday  
12:30 pm – 4:00 pm**

**Judy Center Activities at  
Jane Frazier Village**

Toddler Playgroup  
December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>  
10:00 am – 11:00 am

Infant Playgroup  
December 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>  
10:00 am – 11:00 am

Call to Register at 301-876-9022 or stop  
in the Center on day of activity.



**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.**

**Hope Station Wellness &  
Recovery  
The 4<sup>th</sup> Friday every Month**  
Fresh Produce  
10:00 am until supplies last  
Located at 632 N. Centre Street  
For more information call  
240-362-7168

**FOOD GIVEAWAY!  
The 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday every  
Month**

Time: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.  
**St. John's Lutheran  
Church.**  
Located in the church  
parking lot.  
400 Arch Street, Cumberland

**All Offices will be  
closed every  
Tuesday until  
10:30 am for  
Staff Meetings**

**Free Children's  
Clothing Closet**



**First Thursday of every month  
6:00pm – 7:30pm**

**Mountain City Church**  
19 Beall Street, Frostburg MD

**Free Meal!** There will also be a  
free meal at the Clothing Closet.  
**Donations are accepted** by  
calling 301-689-6332 or you can  
bring them the day of the  
event. Donations must be gently  
used children's clothes free from  
stains and tears.



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



This month, the AHEC West Health Insurance Program team is preparing for Open Enrollment, which begins on Nov. 1 and continues until Jan. 15, 2026. We encourage everyone in the community to take advantage of this opportunity, as it's the only time of year when individuals can sign up for a private health plan without meeting specific requirements. Our navigators are in high demand and completed more than 5,400 appointments in FY25. Don't wait — book your appointment with a navigator by calling 888-202-0212! We are excited about the upcoming year and are eager to help community members access services through the Health Insurance Program.

AHEC West | 39 Baltimore Street Suite 201 | Cumberland, MD 21502 US

301.777.9150



Facebook.com/cumberlandhousing

### Friendly Reminder for Animal Owners

Tenants of public housing or multi-family that own animals must complete their renewal applications on an annual basis. All tenants are sent notification at least 30 days before that updated documentation is needed in order to keep their permit up to date. Permits that are expired could result in the removal of the animal from the unit. Any tenant that does not submit the proper documentation by the renewal deadline could be at risk for lease violations and/or a Notice to Vacate. If you have any questions regarding your animal renewal, please contact the designated staff member below:

#### Jennifer Ensor, Pet Coordinator

301-724-6606 ext. 106

[Jennifer.ensor@cumberlandhousing.org](mailto:Jennifer.ensor@cumberlandhousing.org)

#### Shayla Davis, Assistance Animal Coordinator

301-724-6606 ext. 111

[Shayla.davis@cumberlandhousing.org](mailto:Shayla.davis@cumberlandhousing.org)

### Need help finding a JOB?

Stop in and see Jennifer Ensor for a list of companies that are hiring. Jennifer can also help you out completing a job application and writing a resume. To make an appointment call Jennifer at 301-724-6606, ext. 100.



## 988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE



988 has been designated as the new three-digit dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. When people call, text, or chat 988, they will be connected to trained counselors that are part of the existing Lifeline network. These trained counselors will listen, understand how their problems are affecting them, provide support, and connect them to resources if necessary.

### Holiday Safety Tips

- Keep tree away from heating vents.
- Use only lights that have been tested for safety.
- Don't use more than 3 sets of lights per extension cord.
- Never run cords under rugs or carpet.

### Holiday Decorations

1. No live Christmas trees on any CHG properties.
2. Holiday lights and decorations are permitted indoors provided that no damage is done to the unit. Taping lights and decorations to the walls and woodwork is not permitted as it leaves a sticky residue and can remove the finish.
3. Nothing is to be placed on the outside of the doors. This includes no door hangers for wreaths too.
4. No lights or holiday decorations are allowed on the outside of rental units. Due to health and safety violations, electrical cords are not permitted to be run through the windows and doors at any time.
5. No lights should be left burning during the daylight hours and should be turned off by 11:00 p.m.
6. Tenants of buildings with interior halls, elevators, railings, stair towers, etc. are not permitted to place any decorations in or on any of these areas except for the main entrance/lobby and community room areas of the building WITH prior



### 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.

### 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.

**Crime Solvers Tip Line** 301-722-4300  
[www.allegany-mineralcountycrimesolvers.com](http://www.allegany-mineralcountycrimesolvers.com)  
To report **suspected Drug Activity**, leave an anonymous tip at 301-759-4660.

# DECEMBER 2025

**Get better work search results with skills learned from the Job Center's no-cost, virtual one-hour sessions!**

**Register at least two days in advance by emailing the facilitator your name, the workshop title, and workshop date. Facilitators may request additional identification. Advanced registration in the Maryland Workforce Exchange (MWEjobs.Maryland.gov) is required.**

### **F.R.E.S.H. (Facing Reentry with Excellence Supports Health)**

**December 1 (1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.)**

Discuss conflict resolution and the "musts" of interviews  
Register online at <https://tinyurl.com/3twdesab>

### **A-I Today (Artificial Intelligence)**

**December 3 (10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)**

 Learn about how artificial intelligence impacts the workplace and our world. Register by emailing [David.Levesque@maryland.gov](mailto:David.Levesque@maryland.gov)

### **Job Searching Using Social Media**

**December 4 (10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)**

 Learn how to use and find open jobs on social media. Register by emailing [Katie.Marvin@maryland.gov](mailto:Katie.Marvin@maryland.gov)

### **Basic Interviewing Skills**

**December 5 (1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.)**

 Learn interview styles and tips about effective interviewing. Register by emailing [BenjaminJ.Russell@maryland.gov](mailto:BenjaminJ.Russell@maryland.gov)

### **The Gig Economy**

**December 10 (10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)**

 Learn about how to define the gig economy, how it has evolved, and how you might be able to take advantage of the gig economy.

Register by emailing [David.Levesque@maryland.gov](mailto:David.Levesque@maryland.gov)

### **A-I Today (Artificial Intelligence)**

**December 17 (10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)**

 Learn about how artificial intelligence impacts the workplace and our world. Register by emailing [David.Levesque@maryland.gov](mailto:David.Levesque@maryland.gov)

### **Job Searching Using Social Media**

**December 18 (10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)**

 Learn how to use and find open jobs on social media. Register by emailing [Katie.Marvin@maryland.gov](mailto:Katie.Marvin@maryland.gov)

### **LinkedIn for Job Seekers**

**December 19 (10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)**

 Learn to build a successful LinkedIn profile for job seeking. Register by emailing [Karl.Kohler@maryland.gov](mailto:Karl.Kohler@maryland.gov)

### **Basic Interviewing Skills**

**December 23 (1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.)**

 Learn interview styles and tips about effective interviewing. Register by emailing [BenjaminJ.Russell@maryland.gov](mailto:BenjaminJ.Russell@maryland.gov)



Equal Opportunity Employer/Program: American Job Centers are committed to diversity in the workplace and do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, gender, age, orientation, national origin or disability. Auxiliary aids and reasonable accommodations are available upon request, with advanced notification.

WES MOORE, GOVERNOR • ARUNA MILLER, LT. GOVERNOR • PORTIA WU, SECRETARY

