



**CUMBERLAND HOUSING  
GROUP**

# Tower Gazette

## Monthly Newsletter for December 2025



### Exterminator Schedule

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

### **Grande View**

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

### 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.

### Attention JFK Tenants

We are no longer allowing tenants to sit where the elevators are or in the area around the doors. The final stages of the construction work is being done in this area. Furthermore, this area is smaller and the noise from you talking can be heard in the office and is distracting to staff.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated. Thank you.

### Attention JFK Tenants Please Respect the Office Hours

Monday-Friday  
8:00 am -12:00 pm

(Closed 12:30 pm - 4:00 pm)

**Do Not Disturb office staff during closed hours.**

If you need an appointment during the time the office is closed, please call to make an appointment.

*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 increase.**

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



### 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.



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

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 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of every Month**

Fresh Produce  
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.

**JFK**

Monthly meal provided by Christ Lutheran Church will be delivered on Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup> between 3 & 3:30 pm. Thank you to all the volunteers! It is greatly appreciated!



**QCT**

Monthly meal provided by Christ Lutheran Church will be delivered on Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup> between 3 & 3:30 pm. Thank you to all the volunteers! It is greatly appreciated! The sign-up sheet is in the lobby by the elevators.

**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.

**Resident Council Meetings**

**JFK Residents** – Resident Council is on break due to construction. If you have any concerns please see Rhonda Roy, President. Watch for memos regarding voting and session start up.

Resident Councils serve as the voice of the residents at each Multi-Family and 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!**

**MEETINGS WILL RESUME IN EARLY 2026-JFK**

**Queen City Tower Prayer Group**

**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 oversees the group.

**Gospel Music**

The second Tuesday of each month there is Gospel music with Paul Powers and Buster Jackson from 2pm to 3pm in the Community Room. Jeff Steele is in charge for **QCT**.

**Game Night**

Game Night at **QCT** will be held every Sunday now, from 5 pm to 8 pm in the community room. All residents are invited. Jeff Steele oversees Game Night. Join us for a game of corn hole beginning at 5 pm.

**HOPE STATION**

Come and join Hope Station for a **Craft Day** to be held every Thursday beginning at 11am.  
For more information call: 240-362-7168.

**Bible Study**

Roy Bible will be conducting the Bible Studies.

**QCT – Dates to be announced.**

2 pm to 3 pm in the Community Room  
All Residents Welcome!

**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.





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



### 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 approval of the Property Manager and adhering to all other rules contained herein.

### **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)

### **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.



## 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.



# 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

