



Monthly Newsletter for December 2017



Merry Christmas from the Housing Authority Commissioners, Administration, Property Management, Maintenance & Security Staff.

The Cumberland Housing Group Offices Will be Closed December 21st after 12:00 PM and December 25th for the Christmas Holiday.

Exterminator Schedule

Dec. 7 th	Queen City Towers – Morning John F. Kennedy – Afternoon
Dec. 8 th	Jane Frazier Village, Buildings 1 – 6 & Banneker Gardens
Dec. 14 th	Jane Frazier Village, Buildings 7 – 17
Dec. 21 st	Fort Cumberland Homes

New Parking Policy - Effective December 1, 2017

The Board of Commissioners at their Board Meeting on November 15th approved a revised Parking Policy. This policy was updated, due to a lot of vehicles being parked illegally. All tenants who have a vehicle to drive and are parked on HACC property are required to register your vehicle with the HACC by Dec. 31, 2017. Tenants residing in Jane Frazier Village, Fort Cumberland Homes and Banneker Gardens shall be eligible to register two (2) vehicles per rental unit. Tenants residing at John F. Kennedy or Queen City Tower will be eligible to register one (1) vehicle per rental unit. You can register your vehicle at the main office or at John F. Kennedy or Queen City Tower. You will need to submit proof of registration of the vehicle and a description of the vehicle. Any vehicle that is not registered will be towed at owner's expense! Furthermore, each time you get another vehicle, you have five (5) days to register the vehicle.

Some highlights of the policy:

Citations may be issued by HACC for violation of any of the following:

1. Performance of any form of automotive repair or the washing of any vehicle that is performed on the premises in parking spaces provided by HACC or on city streets designated for HACC parking. Automotive repairs include but are not limited to: oil changes; brake work; engine repairs; exhaust repairs; body work; etc.
2. Vehicle found to be leaking fluids of any kind. The leak must be immediately repaired, or the vehicle removed from the premises. The Tenant will be responsible to clean the area of any leak or pay for its cleaning.
3. Violation of any of the requirements of this policy, any requirements of the HACC Lease, and any applicable motor vehicle laws.

Towing of Vehicles:

1. The following violations will result in the vehicle being **immediately** towed:
 - a. Parking in Fire Lanes designated by a curb painted red
 - b. Blocking the garbage and recycling dumpsters
 - c. Unauthorized use of a designated handicapped space by a vehicle not displaying State issued disabled license plates or issued parking placard
 - d. Parking in No Parking area (or area not marked as permitting parking)
 - e. Vehicle sitting on jacks or with one or more tires not on the ground
 - f. Unregistered vehicles found on HACC property that are banned from parking on HACC



~ Parking Policy continued ~

1. The following violations **must be corrected** and/or vehicle removed **within 24 hours** of being notified of the violation or the vehicle will be towed:
 - a. Abandoned vehicles
 - b. Vehicles displaying expired or otherwise illegal state-issued tags (license plates, inspection stickers, etc.)
 - c. Disabled and/or inoperable vehicles
 - d. Vehicles parked in a reserved area
 - e. Double-parked vehicles
 - f. Vehicles leaking fluids (area must be cleaned up by tenant)
 - g. Vehicles with one or more flat tires
 - h. Vehicles parked in an area not designated for parking
 - i. Registered vehicles parked in a visitor parking area
 - j. Unregistered vehicles parked on HACC property and not in a visitor parking area

Once the towing company has arrived on site, HACC is no longer authorized to cancel the tow. If you show up at your vehicle to move it, the tenant will then need to comply with the towing company's policies. The towing company shall also remove any parts or equipment (body or engine parts, jacks, tools, etc.) directly connected to the vehicle to be towed. In all cases, the tenant or visitor will be responsible for all towing and storage costs.

For more information on Tenant and Visitor Parking, Handicapped Parking and the Loss of Parking Privileges, refer to the complete Parking Policy available in any office or on our website.

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 any 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 8, 2017.



REMOVAL

A major concern during winter is the **clearing of ice and snow**. Residents of Jane Frazier Village, Fort Cumberland Homes & 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.



Guest Speaker for December

The guest speaker this month is Melissa Savage, community health worker from Health Right. She will provide the group with a free presentation focusing on oral health education. She will communicate ways to improve oral hygiene and access treatment. In addition, she will provide resources to receive free and reduced cost dental treatment, as well as some opportunities to gain eyeglass assistance.

Queen City Tower

December 14th – 2:00 to 2:30 p.m.

John F. Kennedy

December 20th – 2:15 p.m.- 2:45 p.m.

Bible Study

John F. Kennedy

December 8th & December 22nd – 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Queen City Tower

December 9th and December 23rd – 6 pm to 7 pm

Blood Pressure Check

John F. Kennedy

December 6th and December 20th – 2:30 p.m.

Queen City Tower

December 14th and December 28th – 2:30 p.m.

Queen City Tower Prayer Group

Tuesday, December 5th and Tuesday, December 26th at 2:00 P.M.

The Resident Council voted to have a Prayer Group at Queen City Tower as a means of bringing our community together in a positive way. The group, which is open to all residents, is an opportunity for people to share concerns, encourage each other, and to lift our needs to a higher power. We invite all residents to attend this group every Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. for fellowship and light refreshments. Jennifer Lewis will facilitate the group. We hope to see you there.

JFK Movie Night

Thursday, December 7, 2017

6 p.m. Community Room

The featured movie for December will be:

“Angel Doll”

All residents and their guests are welcome to attend.

Note: The kitchen will be open at 5 p.m. to purchase snacks.

Resident Council Meetings

Queen City Tower – Thursday, December 14th at 3 pm
John F. Kennedy – Wednesday, December 20th at 3 pm

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!

Partnership For Affordable Foods (PAF)

(A lot of food for a small price!)

Queen City Tower will be collecting for the PAF program on **Friday, December 1, 2017, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and on Monday, December 4, 2017, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** in the community room. There is a \$7 donation in order to receive the food and it must be paid on the dates above. Distribution will be on Thursday, **December 14, 2017**, at approximately 11:15 a.m. Residents who donate the \$7 must be in the community room by **11:45 A.M. on Thursday, December 14, 2017**, to pick up the PAF order or the items will be forfeited.

TEFAP – Free Government Foods

The food will arrive on Tuesday, December 5, 2017. It will be best to try to pick it up on December 6, 2017. The sooner you pick the food up after the 6th, the better chances you have of being able to get the food. You can pick up the TEFAP at the sites listed below. Call first before going to make sure they still have food available

Dan Snyder, Hope Station, 632 N. Centre Street ...
240-362-7168 ... Monday through Friday, noon - 5 pm

Interfaith Food Pantry (HRDC Head Start Building),
301 Cumberland Street ...
301-707-4445 ... Monday through Friday,
10 am to 3 pm

Karen Wells, Salvation Army, 701 East First Street...
301-777-7600 ... Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 12
noon and 1pm to 3:30 pm

You need to take your photo identification card or driver's license with you. Please note you will be asked to sign a self declaration verifying your income and stating you will only get the food once a month from one agency. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact, Pama Wilson, Resident Service Coordinator.

JFK New Year's Eve Party

The JFK Resident Council voted to have a New Year's Eve party on Saturday, December 30th, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the community room. Pork, kraut and iced tea will be provided. Residents are asked to bring a covered dish and sign up on the sheet posted on the first floor bulletin board.



**West Side Children – Christmas Caroling at
Queen City Tower
Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 2 p.m.**

Once again the 5th graders from West Side School will be coming to Queen City Tower for Christmas Caroling. They will go to each floor to sing carols and hand out homemade Christmas cards. Please open your door when the children arrive on your floor. The Resident Council voted to provide cookies and punch to the children after the caroling. Cookie donations are requested. Please give cookies to Jackie in apartment 305.

**John F. Kennedy and Queen City Tower
Catered Christmas Dinner from Oscar's**

Queen City Tower – December 19th at 1 p.m.
John F. Kennedy – December 20th at 1 p.m.

The Resident Councils from each hi rise is offering a free Christmas Dinner to anyone who signs up to receive one. Signup sheets will be on the first floor bulletin board. You must sign up by Monday, December 5th in order to receive the meal. Signs will be taken down at 4 pm on the 5th.

The meal will be as follows:

Turkey or Honey Glazed Ham
Mashed Potatoes or Sweet Potato Casserole
Dressing Corn/Green Beans
Bread and Butter Various Desserts
Iced Tea or Lemonade

Stretching To Empower Coming in January

Queen City Tower Class to Start – January 24, 2018
Women Only

~This is an opportunity for women to engage with one another, learn from each other, and strengthen their mind, body, and spirit.

~Two 10 week educational sessions per year which include 1-hour of YOGA.

~Education will address opioid prevention; alternative pain management; healthy eating, mind-body skills, Good Samaritan laws, personal wellness, and more.

~Yoga will be provided by a certified instructor to build your mental, spiritual, and physical strength. (Even if you are in a wheelchair you can do yoga – she will work with you at your levels.)

There is no cost to participate. Classes will start on Wednesday, January 24, 2018 from 2 pm to 3:30 pm and will run for 10 weeks. There is a signup sheet on the first floor bulletin board at Queen City Tower. Please sign up today!

Banneker Gardens Activities

- Dec. 5th STEM Class 5:00 - 6:30 pm
- Dec. 7th Resident Council Meeting 1:30 pm
- Dec. 11th Craft Night 5:00 pm
- Dec. 18th CENA 7:00 pm
(Cumberland Eastside Neighborhood Association Meeting)
- Dec. 21st Literacy Night 6 - 7:30 pm
- Dec. 23rd Christmas Party 2 - 5:00 pm



Jane Frazier Village Activities

STEM Class

Dec. 4th 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

KIDS NIGHT Christmas Party

Sponsored by: Hope Against Heroin

Dec. 13th 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Snacks, drinks, crafts, singing & fun!

Family Literacy Night

Dec. 14th 6 - 7 pm

Everyone is welcome for dinner, craft, story time and free books!

Growing Girls (ages 12-19)

Dec. 28th from 5 - 6 pm

The purpose of the Growing Girls is to help shape young women into who they were called to be. Giving each young lady a voice to discuss topics concerning them and their community in a safe place. For more information, please call 203-893-2478.

**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.

Upcoming Events in the City

Saturdays with Santa at the [The Book Center](#)

Visit with Santa Claus every Saturday afternoon from November 25 through December 16th between 1 - 3 PM at The Book Center (15 N. Centre Street) in Downtown Cumberland. Bring a camera for photos.



Breakfast with Santa [The Culinaire Cafe' of Allegany College of Maryland](#) December 2nd

Enjoy a Breakfast Buffet with Santa on December 2 at The Culinaire Cafe, 110-114 Baltimore Street, Cumberland, MD. You must call to make reservations: Call (301) 784-5406 today to reserve your seats. Choose between two seating's: 9:00 AM or 10:30 AM. Tickets: Children under 12 - \$6, Adults - \$12. Menu: Crème Brule French Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Creamed Chipped Beef over Biscuits, Breakfast Potatoes, Bacon, Sausage Patties, Fresh Fruit Medley, Assorted Muffins, Coffee, Tea, Milk, and Juice.

Kids Saturday at the Museum [Allegany Museum](#) December 9th 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Spend the day at Allegany Museum! Learn the history of Santa/Saint Nicholas, enjoy book readings, cookie decorating, activities and crafts.


Kids Winter Art Camp [Allegany Arts Council](#) December 26th - December 29th

Join the Allegany Arts Council for this year's Kids Winter Arts Camp! Camp will take place from December 26 until December 29 from 9am - 3pm each day. Instructor Emily Hendershot will introduce kids to dance, ceramics, sculpture, and other aspects of art. Jazz, ballet, and hip hop dance techniques will keep kids moving and having fun while introducing them to the broad world of dance. Emily will provide a coil/pinch pot lesson in ceramics, which will lead up to throwing on the wheel. Participants will use clay for sculptural ceramics, and objects like popsicle sticks and construction paper for assemblage ceramics. Kids will be able to take everything they make home. Registration Cost is \$130 per session for Arts Council members / \$145 for non-members with a 15% discount for siblings. Please contact the Allegany Arts Council directly to register siblings. A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required at registration, but the option for advance payment in full is available. To register, contact the Allegany Arts Council at (301) 777-2787. Arts Council family memberships are available for \$45 and are good for 365 days of family programming discounts.

Stretching to EmPower (STEP)

All Ladies are welcome to participate in this activity. There is NO COST to participate! Stretching to Empower is an opportunity for women to engage with one another, learn from each other and strengthen their mind, body, and spirit. Two 10-week educational sessions per year which includes 1-hour of YOGA. Education will address opioid prevention; alternative pain management; healthy eating, mind-body skills, Good Samaritan laws, personal wellness and more. Yoga will be provided by a certified instructor to build your mental, spiritual, and physical strength.

Contact Jen Thomas, Program Coordinator
AHEC West 301-777-9150 ext. 109 OR
jthomas@ahecwest.org



GETTING AHEAD

In a

Just-Getting-By World

SHARE

Your experiences

BUILD

Your resources

CREATE

A new future

Looking for 17-24 year olds who are not working and not in school....but want to make a change!

You think there is nobody out there that cares. You feel down on your luck. You go to this class and you get the knowledge and it changes your life. I didn't feel like I was in a class and it was something I wasn't stressed about going to. I thought I was going to sit in a room and be taught by a teacher and instead I felt like I was the voice and they listened. It was something to have fun at and also get the know-how of going from poverty to where you want to be. "

Getting Ahead Graduate

- Join a small group of people once a week for 20 weeks.
- Transportation and childcare are available if needed.
- Incentive will be provided to active participants

Day/Time: Wednesdays, 3:30-6pm
Dates: January 3, 2018- May 16, 2018
Location: Allegany College of Maryland

Day/Time: Tuesday, 9-11:30am
Dates: February 6, 2018-June 19, 2018
Location: Downtown YMCA

To register, call 240-964-8422.

Notice to Residents

Natural Gas Safety Rules

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 from a safety point of view.

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, 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.

Gas appliances, equipment and transmission lines are safe and are constantly being tested and improved. However, it is possible through misuse or accident to have a GAS LEAK. 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 DISCOVER A GAS LEAK...

OPEN WINDOWS and doors to dilute the gas to safe levels.

AVOID FLAME and operating of electrical equipment

NEVER LIGHT a gas appliance if an odor of gas is present.

If odor is extremely strong, EVACUATE BUILDING! Call for help from a neighbor's home.

CONTACT qualified person to turn gas back on and relight appliances.

THE PLACE TO CALL:
HACC MAINTENANCE
301-724-2055

Holiday Safety Tips

- Remember, you are only allowed to use Artificial Trees.
- No live trees.
- 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.
- No lights or decorations are allowed on the outside of homes or units unless they are solar or battery powered.



Cumberland Housing Event and Activity Schedule

December 2017

					1 QCT PAF Collection 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.	2
3	4 QCT PAF Collection 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.	5 TEFAP - Free Govt. Food Arrives at Sites QCT Prayer Group 2 p.m.	6 JFK Blood Pressure 2:30 p.m.	7 RENT DUE Exterminator QCT (AM) - JFK (PM) JFK Movie Night 6 pm	8 Exterminator JFV 1-6 & BG JFK Bible Study 6:30 p.m.	9 QCT Bible Study 6 p.m.
10	11 BG Craft 5-6	12 QCT - West Side Carolers 2 p.m.	13 Hope Against Heroin Christmas Party 6-8 at JFV	14 QCT PAF Dist. 11:15 Exterminator JFV - Bldgs 7-17 QCT Guest Speaker 2 p.m. QCT Blood Pressure 2:30 p.m. QCT Residents Mtg 3 p.m.	15 Exterminator JFV 1-6 & BG	16
17	18 CENA @ BG 7-8	19 QCT Christmas Dinner 1 p.m.	20 JFK Dinner 1 p.m. JFK Guest Speaker 2:15 p.m. JFK Blood Pressure 2:45p.m. JFK Resident Mtg 3 p.m. Unpaid RENTS will be Filed in District Court	21 Exterminator - FCH Cumberland Housing Offices Close at Noon	22 JFK Bible Study 6:30 p.m.	23 QCT Bible Study 6 p.m.
24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day Housing Office Closed	26 QCT Prayer Group 2 p.m.	27	28 QCT Blood Pressure 2:30 p.m. Girls Group @ JFV 5-6	29	30 JFK New Year's Party 5 pm to 7 pm
31 New Year's Eve		Notes BG Resident Council Meeting 12/7/17 at 1:30 JFV Literay Night 12/14/17 from 6-7 BG Literacy Night 12/21/17 from 6-7 CENA-Cumberland Eastside Neighborhood Associaton				

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<http://www.vertex42.com/calendars/>

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.

JFV - Jane Frazier Village FCH - Fort Cumberland Homes JFK - John F. Kennedy QCT - Queen City Towers Inspect - Preventive Maintenance Insp