

Seniors

The Hagerstown Housing Authority is committed to providing quality, affordable housing in a safe environment. Through partnership with our residents and other groups we will provide opportunities for those we serve to become self-sufficient.



# Neighbors

To associate on neighborly terms ♦ To be friendly ♦ Persons who live near others



September 2019

## Congratulations to Lisa Bryd, Family Self Sufficiency Graduate

Hagerstown Housing Authority congratulates Lisa Byrd for her successful completion of the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program! Lisa joined the program to receive support while working on her goals to become independent of public assistance. While with the program, Lisa attended driver's education classes, obtained her MD driver's license and purchased a car. She found p/t employment and was quickly promoted to a f/t supervisor position. Lisa also attended financial literacy workshops and focused on improving her credit. Her dream is to own a home someday.

Lisa stated, "My self-esteem is the highest it has ever been in my life. The FSS Program took a chance with me to help me better my life for myself and my children." If you see Lisa, please be sure to congratulate her!



### FREE CLASSES!

#### FINANCIAL

#### EDUCATION SERIES

Hagerstown Housing Authority & Financial Education Partnership-Washington County want to help you reach your financial goals!

Classes – Monday & Wednesdays

#### Topics include:

- Sept. 9: Daily Money Management - Monday
- Sept. 11: Earn It, Plan It, Keep It - Wednesday
- Sept. 16: Your Credit Matters - Monday
- Sept. 18: Taxes and Beyond - Wednesday
- Sept. 23: Pump Up Your Piggy Bank - Wednesday

For more information & transportation assistance, contact [Tacy at tmyers@hagerstownha.com](mailto:tmyers@hagerstownha.com) or 301.733.6911 ext. 157

Financial Education Partnership-Washington County is a collaboration of...



Location:  
C. W. Brooks  
45 W. Baltimore St  
Hagerstown, MD

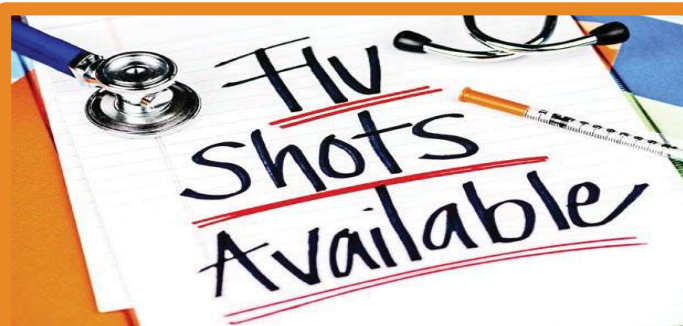
11am - 12pm

*Plan your finances*

*Improve your credit score*

*Save more  
Spend less*

After taking the 5-lesson series we can help you open a bank account with a \$50 deposit from us!



## Flu Shot Clinic at Potomac & Walnut Towers

Thursday, September 12th

Potomac Towers Clinic begins at 10:00 AM  
Walnut Towers Clinic begins at 1:30 PM

Please RSVP by to Samantha Cohen by Friday, September 6th  
301-733-6911 ext 171

2019 Washington County **Healthy Families Festival**

Thursday, September 19th, 4:30pm-7pm  
201 S. Cleveland Avenue in Hagerstown

**FREE and FUN for ALL!**

- ☑ Prizes and Giveaways!
- ☑ Food and Food Demonstrations!
- ☑ Health Screenings and Information!
- ☑ Activities for All Ages!

Co-sponsored by Family Healthcare of Hagerstown and United Way of Washington County. Held on the Day of Caring.

## NUMBERS TO KNOW

### Hagerstown Housing Authority Central Office: (301) 733-6911

**Maintenance**

301-733-6916

**Pest Control Coordinator**

301-733-6911 ext 132

**Non-Emergency Police**

240-313-4345

**Non-Emergency Ambulance**

301-733-1112

**Resident Service Staff**

Dianne Rudisill 301-733-6911 ext. 125

Deena Holder 301-733-6911 ext. 163

Samantha Cohen 301-733-6911 ext. 171

**Family Self-Sufficiency Program**

Kelly Mills-Thompson 301-733-6911 ext. 158

Jill Moore 301-733-6911 ext. 167

Tacy Myers 301-733-6911 ext. 157

**Security**

301-730-2096

**Office of Fair Housing** 1-800-669-9777

Join us for a presentation on  
**Financial Exploitation**



**September 24th**  
**10:30 AM - Potomac Towers**  
**1:00 PM - Walnut Towers**

Each year, hundreds of cases of financial exploitation of older and vulnerable adults are reported in Maryland. The results can be devastating—emotionally and financially. This, however, is estimated to be only a fraction of the thousands of cases that go unreported in our state.

*Come learn how to avoid falling  
victim to common scams!*

*Jay Kelsh, elder-abuse victim advocate,  
will lead the program*

Please RSVP to Samantha Cohen  
301-733-6911 ext 171

## Social Security Scam Alert!

**The Social Security Administration (SSA) estimates that scammers call thousands of Americans every day**, looking to gather personal information, steal benefits or both. It's a common form of government impostor scam, in which fraudsters pose as government officials to get you to send money or give up personal and financial data for use in identity theft.

### Warning Signs Of A Scam

- You get an unsolicited call from someone claiming to work for SSA. (Except in rare circumstances, you will not get a call from Social Security unless you have already been in contact with the agency.)
- The caller asks for your Social Security number — again, something an actual SSA employee wouldn't do.
- A call or email threatens consequences, such as arrest, loss of benefits or suspension of your Social Security number, if you do not provide a payment or personal information.



#### Do's

- Do hang up if someone calls you out of the blue and claims to be from SSA.
- Do be skeptical if a caller claims to be an "officer with the Inspector General of Social Security." Scammers appropriate official-sounding and often actual government titles to make a ruse seem authentic.
- Do set up a My Social Security account online and check it on a monthly basis for signs of anything unusual, even if you have not yet started collecting benefits.
- Do install a robocall-blocking app on your smart-phone, or sign up for a robocall-blocking service from your mobile network provider.



#### Don'ts

- Don't call a phone number left on your voice mail by a robocaller. If you want to contact SSA, call the customer-service line at 800-772-1213.
- Don't assume a call is legitimate because it appears to come from 800-772-1213. Scammers use "spoofing" technology to trick caller ID.
- Don't give your Social Security number or other personal information to someone who contacts you by email. SSA never requests information that way.

## Potomac Towers Activities

Date	Daily Activities	Time
Mon./Wed.	Stamps and Quarter Sales	8:00-10:00 AM
Tuesdays	Exercise with Lisa	3:45 PM
Wednesdays	Blood Pressure Checks	12:00 PM
Wednesdays	BINGO ( <i>Food will be served at 4:00 PM- 5:45 PM</i> )	6:00 PM
September 7	Tenant Association Breakfast	8:00 AM - ?
September 9	Tenant Association Meeting	5:30 PM
September 13	Social Night	7:00-10:00 PM

## Walnut Towers Activities

Date	Daily Activities	Time
Mondays	Stamp and Quarter Sales	8:00-10:00 AM
Tuesdays	Stamps and Quarter Sales	4:00-5:00 PM
Tuesdays	BINGO ( <i>Kitchen is open from 4:00-5:10 PM</i> )	5:30-8:00 PM
Wednesdays	Blood Pressure Checks	1:15 PM
Daily	Coffee & Conversation	7:30-8:45 AM
September 2	Tenant Association Meeting	5:00 PM

## C.W. Brooks Activities

Date	Daily Activities	Time
Daily	Computer Lab	8:00 AM- 11:00 PM
Daily	Community Room Open	8:00 AM -11:00 PM
Mondays	BINGO (Bring 3-4 prizes)	6:30 PM
Wednesdays	Blood Pressure Checks	2:45-4:00 PM
Mon./Wed.	Stamp and Quarter Sales	11:00- 1:00 PM
Fridays	Coloring Group	2:00-4:00 PM
September 12	Tenant Association Meeting	5:00 PM
September 13 & 27	Ice Cream Social (\$1.00 a bowl)	6:30 PM

In observance of Labor Day the Housing Authority will be closed Monday, September 2nd.

The main Housing office will close at 1:00 PM on September 18th.







**Cable Trippers**

If you have TV or telephone cable crossing stairs or walkways, please remove them immediately. Per your lease agreement, cables are not permitted to be run in a manner that may cause a tripping hazard. Cables are to be fastened to the baseboard and door frames by use of cable tacks (“U” shaped tacks). Cables are to be run up and around door frames and NOT across walkways. If you could trip over it, then it is improperly installed.

Improperly installed cable will be removed by maintenance and the cost charged to the tenant. New or existing cable will not be re-installed causing you the loss of use of the TV or telephone served by the cable. Avoid this major inconvenience by properly installing your cable now.

**Heat Start Up High Rises**

The Maintenance Department will be turning the heat on in Walnut and Potomac Towers early October, depending upon the weather. Before you call Maintenance for service this heating season, make sure the room temperature is below 66 degrees. If the temperature is 66 degrees or above and you call for service, you will be charged for the call. Overtime callouts are very expensive and you can avoid these charges (\$92.85) by checking the temperature before you call. Do not force the thermostat knob beyond the limit on the thermostat.

Remember, using your oven or stove as a source of heat is a lease violation. It poses a serious health risk to you. This misuse may also result in damage to your stove (melted knobs) for which you will be charged.

**Inspection Corner**

All tenant owned Appliances, Refrigerators, Freezers, AC units must be inspected and deficiencies recorded as if they are owned by the Housing Authority. Any repairs will need to be completed in a timely manner or removal will be needed.

Health and Safety items will also need to be inspected. For example, broken/cracked glass, mirrors, missing fan covers, fire extinguishers and play equipment. Furniture blocking Call-for-Aid buttons and windows need to be moved away from these areas. Flammable/combustible items must be properly stored, not inside your unit.

**Protecting Your Home Against Bedbugs Brought in by Visitors**

How do you minimize the risks of human visitors accidentally bringing in tiny and very unwelcome visitors? It takes a fair amount of tact, since some people will be offended by an open suggestion that you are worried about them carrying bedbugs. You need not ban your friends from your home forever, but you are wise to not be visiting until the infestation is completely eliminated from their home and possessions. If you have invited friends to your home and find out soon after that they have a bed bug infestation in theirs, you should take precautions and inspect for any sign of bed bugs. Bed bugs can be in a home long before they are found, so the friends could have brought them into your home on their possessions without even realizing there was a problem.

Temporarily declining invitations to visit in any home – or other building – that has a bed bug problem is simply smart. Although bed bugs are called that because they are most frequently found on bed mattresses, they are also commonly found on sofas and other upholstered furniture. If belongings have been brought in from an infested site and set on or near that furniture, or the item has been picked up second-hand and not thoroughly inspected or treated for possible bed bugs. If you then sit, lie, or have your own possessions on or near an infested item, the bed bugs can – and often will – move from that item to your own, then travel home with you when you leave. If you find out while you are visiting, or afterward that the home has a problem, do not bring your purse, backpack or other bag or suitcase back into your home. Empty the bags; thoroughly check all items for any signs of bed bugs, and immediately wash clothing in hot water.

Pest Control Schedule for	
9/4/2019	PT:401-424, 528-531 WTA: 505-516
9/11/2019	PT: 501-527 WTA: 601-616
9/18/2019	PT: 605-632 WTA: 701-710
9/25/2019	PT: 601-604, 709-731 WTA: 711-716, 810-816