

April 2021

## Employee of the Quarter Recognized

The Housing Authority has been celebrating the hard work our employees take in making a difference in our team and community, by acknowledging an Employee of the Quarter program. The Authority is happy to announce **The Employee of the Quarter Award** for February - April 2021 is awarded to **Jose Lopez**.

Jose has been recognized by the maintenance manager team, for his forward-thinking aspirations to expand his knowledge and his willingness to assist where he can, with a smile on his face. This has been evident by stepping into his new role as Frederick Manor site mechanic, making sure the community is clean and presentable and has been providing appliance delivery within the communities. He has participated several times during the weekends with the food delivery to our communities.

Prior recipients of this award include:

Cathy Nichols, Housing Compliance Officer Nicole Repp, Business Information Systems Specialist Damon Albert, Maintenance Manager W Suipi Gordon, Housing Choice Voucher Office Associate Helen Distefano, Security Administrative Assistant Audra Albert, Accountant Linda Mitchell, Public Housing Administrator



### Please Join us in Congratulating Recent Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Graduate, Kenneth Raynor!



Ken completed the FSS program earlier this month after working very hard to accomplish all his goals. His main goals included obtaining a driver's license and full-time employment with the City of Hagerstown, however, he also gained much knowledge by completing 8 financial literacy workshops and 5 Certificate programs! Ken has a passion for volunteering and spreading his experiences as a mentor at his church and the REACH community! He routinely recommends to fellow neighbors the values of the FSS program. If you see Ken, please join

us in congratulating him for a job very well completed! We cannot be prouder of him and his accomplishments!

If you would like more information on the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program, please contact us at 301-733-6911 and speak with Kelly Mills (ext. 158) or Pam Schnebly (ext. 167).

ELGIN'S BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

FRIDAY, APRIL 16TH MOVIE STARTS AT 5:30

FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL AGED STUDENTS SNACKS WILL BE SERVED. BRING A FRIEND FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A PRIZE. MASKS REQUIRED AND EXPECTED TO BE WORN WHEN NOT EATING.

ANY QUESTIONS? SEE MR. MATT AT ELGIN FOR DETAILS.

SUBMIT YOUR MOVIE SUGGESTIONS AT THE ELGIN BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB.



## FREE Preschool for Eligible Children! Serving children age birth-5 and expectant mothers

#### Sites:

MLK (131 W. North Ave.) \*Half day classes for 3-5yr olds \*Full day classes for Infants and 2 yr olds!

Sargent Shriver (837 Spruce St.) \*Full day classes for 3-5yr olds! \*Full day classes for Infants and 2 yr olds!

Elgin Station (40 Elgin Blvd.) \*Full day classes for Infants-5 yr olds. (Child Care subsidy vouchers required.)

Noland Village Comm. Center \*4 yr old Pre-K class \*Younger children in the Noland community will attend at the Shriver location

Contact person: Enrollment Coordinator (301) 733-4640 Ext. 110 or <u>miones@headstartwashco.org</u> OR download an application at www.headstartwashco.org

Home based option still available also!

- MSDE accredited/OCC licensed
   MD EXCELS Level 5
- Must meet federal eligibility guidelines. Families receiving SSI or TCA benefits are considered income eligible.
- Children must have updated physicals and immunizations.
- Transportation provided (to many areas)
   Children do NOT need to be potty
- trained.

 Office of Child Care License numbers: MLK #33651 Noland #99613 Elgin #125881 Shriver #159397



#### FREE CLASSES! FINANCIAL EDUCATION SERIES

Financial Education Partnership-Washington County offers FREE monthly on-line classes to help members in our community to take charge of their finances Topics include:

March 17, 2021:	Your Credit Matters!
April 21, 2021:	Creating Savings
May 19, 2021:	Identity Theft & Scams
June 16, 2021:	Conquering Debt
To register or for more information, contact	

o register or for more information, conta Kelli at 301-733-2371 ext. 107 kelli@reachofwc.org

Inancial Education Partnership-Washington County is a collaboration of:

CASH

### Register Today!

6:00 - 7:00 pm

Improve Your Credit

Create or Build Savings

Identity Theft & Scams

Location: Classes will be held via Zoom To register, email kelli@reachofwc.org



"My words can't express how I feel toward the Hagerstown Housing Authority. Putting a roof over someone's head, after they've lost everything, is probably the greatest gift I've ever received in my life. Being able to overlook Hagerstown, and hit the reset button, has been absolutely priceless."

-Quote From Family Self Sufficiency Program Participant

If you are interested in learning more about the program, please contact an FSS Case Manager at 301-733-6911, Tacy Myers ext. 157; Kelly Mills ext. 158; or Pam Schnebly ext. 122.



#### Numbers to Know

Key Holders

Noland Village Pam Felton

1064H Noland Dr. 240-310-8446

Frederick Manor

Jennifer Colvin 624 Adams Ave. 240-452-6155

#### Parkside/Douglass/Scattered Sites

Monique Broadus 406 Suman Ave.

240-291-4684

\*Please remember Community Buildings are

still closed at this time\*

Hagerstown Housing Central 301.733.6911

Maintenance Department 301.733.6916

Security Supervisor 301.730.2096

Resident Services Department USDA Hotline

Dianne Rudisill ext. 125 Deena Holder ext. 163 Heather Nutter ext. 170 Tacy Myers ext. 157 Kelly Mills-Thompson ext. 158 Pam Schnebly ext. 167

Trey King ext. 171

Resources Child Protective Services 240.420.2100 Narcotic Task Force 301.791.3205 Non-Emergency Police 240.313.4345 Poison Control Center 800.222.1222 USDA Hotline 888.674.6854 Adult Protective Services 240.420.2155

**HUD: Fair Housing** 

1.800.669.9777

The Hagerstown Housing Authority will be closed Friday April 2, 2021 in observance of Good Friday as well as Monday April 5, 2021.

#### Don't Let the Bed Bugs Bite

A question frequently asked by tenants is "Can the Pest Control or Maintenance Technicians carry bedbugs from one unit to another?? " The answer: it is possible, but not necessarily likely. Bed bugs are nocturnal, preferring to spend the daytime, hiding in cracks and crevices. The chances of transferring a pregnant female bedbug between units, her giving birth, and the babies finding a blood meal in time to grow into adults is very unlikely. Bed bugs are not usually out and about in the middle of nowhere. They do not go after a moving target and they lack the speed to catch up to a moving person.

Our Pest Control Contractor is experienced in providing pest control service for bed bugs and they have been professionally trained to avoid spreading of bed bugs to other areas. Our Maintenance staff is always informed of "Active Bed bug treatments" taking place in our units and continue to be trained on how to prevent from spreading them to other units. If you have any questions, please call our Pest Control Coordinator, Wendy Leggett at 301-733-6911 Ext 132

#### Maintenance Inspections April – May 2021 Frederick Manor

Monday, April 12 Hayes Ave 601- 611(odd) Tuesday, April 13 Hayes Ave 615 - 627(odd) Friday, April 16 Hayes Ave 629 - 645(odd) Monday, April 19 Hayes Ave 647 - 659(odd) Tuesday, April 20 Hayes Ave 661 - 673(odd) Friday, April 23 Hayes Ave 675 - 689(odd) Monday, April 26 Hayes Ave 600 - 612(even) Tuesday, April 27 Hayes Ave

Please Join Us for Our New Informational Zoom Series: Creating Community Connections Thursday April 8, 2021 at 2 PM We will introduce you to The Resident Services Team to learn about how our department is here for YOU! We hope that you can join us for some FUN and receive some useful information about our department! These events will be provided through Facebook Live on HHA Facebook Page!

# **FROM MAINTENANCE**

#### **Trash Containers**

Effective April 1, 2021, all trash cans and toters must be placed and kept in the rear of your unit. Containers must be moved after they are emptied on the day of pick up to avoid a charge. You will be charged a minimum of \$32.36 if maintenance has to move your container to the rear of your unit. As always, we appreciate your help in keeping our communities beautiful.

Trash containers are not to be placed out before 4:00pm on trash pick- up night at your community.

#### **Attention Residents of Noland Village**

The recycling bin located in front of the community building is accessible during business hours (Monday-Friday) and should be used for recyclable items only. Please continue to use your unit toter for all other disposable trash. Should maintenance find bags of trash or other items placed on the ground and can identify where it came from that resident will be charged.

#### **Mowing Season**

The mowing season is upon us again. Please be aware of the contractors as they mow the grass in your community. The contractor is responsible for performing his work in a safe manner. He has a difficult task to accomplish and needs your help to keep track of the small children. Please, for the safety of your children; help keep them away from the workers doing the mowing. All communities will be mowed on THURSDAY unless it's raining. FRIDAY WILL BE USED AS A RAIN DAY.

#### **Bulk Trash Pickup Schedule**

You may have your bulk items picked up on the following days of each month:

1st Thursday: Noland Village, Courts 1, 3, 5 & 7
2nd Thursday: Parkside Homes and Douglas Court
3rd Thursday: Noland Village, Courts 2, 4, 6 & 8
4th Thursday: Frederick Manor

Please set your items out after 8:00pm the night before your scheduled day and have them on the curb prior to 8:30am on your scheduled pickup day. This schedule will be strictly followed. Any bulk items set on the curb on days other than those listed for your community will result in a charge (\$60.00) to the resident.

Scattered Site locations will be expected to observe the bulk pickup days published by the City of Hagerstown. Check the newspaper or call the City for dates.

#### **Exterminator Schedule April 2021**

4/7/2021	Noland Village Ct 7 1060-1068 & Ct 8 1053-1061
4/14/2021	Frederick Manor- 600-635 Adams Ave, 633-657 Fred St, 600-612 Hayes Ave
4/21/2021	Frederick Manor 614-681 Hayes
4/28/2021	Frederick Manor 200-207 Hayes Ct, 201-203 Rowland Ave, 200-236 Taylor Ave

#### **Grass Seed**

You can pick up free grass seed at the Maintenance office to spot seed your yard. Seed and watering (from a watering can) will improve the appearance of your lawn.

#### Installing Window Air Conditioners

When installing window air conditioners, be sure to install them in a safe and secure manner. Air conditioner units should be tilted away from the unit. This allows the condensate to run away from the wall and will help to prevent mold/mildew on the walls. The window air conditioner needs to be installed properly to prevent outside air from entering the unit. If the extendable panels are missing or damaged, air coming in from the outside will cause the room temperature to rise, keeping the

air conditioner running. This can cause high electric bills. It is best to seal the openings with foam panels. Cardboard, pillows and blankets are inefficient as they can fall out leaving the window open.

#### **Clean Yard Program**

To help improve the appearance of our communities, the Authority began a **Clean Yard Program** in 1999 to encourage residents to actively participate in properly maintaining their yards and property. As part of the lease, each resident agreed to maintain a clean and uncluttered yard. Many residents have honored this agreement, some even going the extra mile to plant flowers and make other positive improvements.

**The Clean Yard Program** is working and the communities continue to improve in appearance. Unfortunately, some residents do not clean their yards of litter and debris, do not store trash in the proper containers, do not remove graffiti from walls and walks, or allow junk to accumulate. Residents failing to maintain clean yards face certain consequences.

#### Here's how the CLEAN YARD PROGRAM works:

- 1. A "Citation" will be written up by the inspector and hung on the door of any unit having an unacceptable yard.
- 2. If the cited trash has not been removed by the resident within two days, Maintenance will remove the trash and the resident will be charged. If the yard has been cleaned the citation will be destroyed and no charge made to the resident and no record of the citation will appear in the resident's file.
- 3. Residents who receive repeated charges for **failure to clean their yards** may be issued a **"Notice to Quit".**

**NOTE:** The Authority reserves the right to clean any yard without notice to the resident if such yard is extremely unsightly, or the contents of the yard present a health or safety hazard to others in the community. Bags not in trash cans will be picked up without notice and the resident charged.

#### Spring Clean Up

As we experience warmer weather and spend more time outdoors, we need to focus on cleaning up the yards for spring. Please check your yard for the following:

- 1. Rake up all leaves and seed pods.
- 2. Pick up all cigarette butts and disposes of them properly.
- 3. Remove all trash from your yard. This includes litter of any kind, bags, glass, cups, cans, rags, clothing, bottles, boxes etc.
- 4. Clean under and around your shrubs.
- 5. Organize toys & bikes.
- 6. Remove tape, tape residue and plastic hanging hooks etc. from the exterior of the unit.
- 7. Remove all chalk and writing from exterior brick.
- 8. For safety reasons: ALL gas cans, must be stored in storage shed.
- 9.
- 10. Keep throw rugs/mats off the grass. (It will kill the grass)
- 11. Large toys (slides, playhouses etc.) are to be kept in the rear of your unit.
- 12. Promptly remove pet waste.
- 13. Do not throw food in your yard. These scraps attract vermin and other pests. Also please do not dump cooking grease or oil on your lawn or patio. You will be charged for the power washing required to remove it and to replant grass.
- 14. Trash toters MUST be stored at the rear of your unit.
- 15. ANY trash bags or bags of cans must be in a trash tote/can. They are not allowed to be in the yard or on the porch, if so, it will be called in for a Direct Pick-Up and a minimum charge of \$32.36!

Please take the time to clean your yards prior to Thursday, April 1, 2021. Yards will be checked and thoroughly inspected. Citations will be issued for any corrections needed and failure for corrective action charges will be made as necessary (minimum \$32.36).



#### **TUTORING AVAILABLE**

Parkside Pals Homework Club Goes Virtual!!

Does your child need a virtual tutor for help with their homework? The Parkside Pals Homework Club helps children grades K-3<sup>rd</sup> with homework and provides them with other educational activities.

Online afterschool Monday through Thursday

through the end of the school year.

Estimated club hours are 4:30-6:30 PM.

Club Participants will be paired by their grade with a tutor. Each day the tutor will assist via zoom with

#### Homework Completion, Group Work and Tutoring. REGISTER!!

Interested parents or guardians can contact Deena Holder, Assistant Director of Resident Services at <u>dholder@hagerstownha.com</u> or via phone at 301-733-6911 x163. Or Monique Broadus at 301-790-0203.



Hagerstown Housing Authority 35 W. Baltimore Street Hagerstown, MD 21740



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