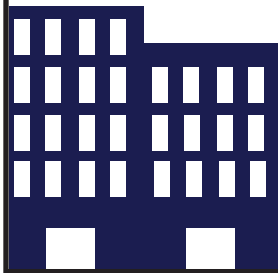


Seniors



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.



February 2021

Neighbors

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



Harriet Tubman was born around 1820 on a plantation in Dorchester County, Maryland. She had eight brothers and sisters; due to the realities of slavery they were eventually forced apart. At the age of 12 her desire for justice became apparent. She stepped between an enslaved person and the overseer who threw a weight that struck Harriet in the head. This good deed left her with headaches and narcolepsy for the rest of her life. In 1840 her father was set free by his previous owner. The new owner refused to recognize this and kept Harriet, her mother, and the rest of her siblings in bondage. In 1844, Harriet married John Tubman who was a free black man and changed her last name. This marriage was not good and with the knowledge of two of her brothers about to be sold provoked Harriet to plan an escape. September 17, 1849, Harriet and her two brothers escaped from the Maryland plantation. Although her brothers changed their minds and went back. With the help of the Underground Railroad Harriet persevered and traveled 90 miles north to Pennsylvania and freedom. Harriet was not satisfied living free on her own and she wanted freedom for her loved ones and friends, too. She returned to the south to lead her niece and her niece's children to Philadelphia via the Underground Railroad. The 1850 Fugitive Slave Act allowed fugitive and freed workers in the north to be captured and enslaved, which in turn made Harriet's job with the Underground Railroad much harder. Over the next ten years, Harriet befriended other abolitionists such as Frederick Douglass, Thomas Garrett, and Martha Coffin Wright, and was able to establish her own Underground Railroad Network. Harriet personally led at least 70 people to freedom including her elderly parents and instructed dozens of others how to escape on their own. She claimed, "I never ran my train off the track and I never lost a passenger". In 1863, Harriet became head of an espionage and scout network for the Union Army. She provided crucial intelligence to Union commanders about Confederate Army supply routes and troops and helped liberate enslaved people to form Black Union regiments. On March 10, 1913 Harriet lost her life to pneumonia, but her legacy lives on with schools and museums that bear her name and her story has been revisited in books, movies, and documentaries.

11 SOUTH WALNUT STREET, WALNUT TOWERS. A stop on the Underground Railroad in Hagerstown, MD

Former site of Cumberland Valley Railroad depot. In November 1851, the county sheriff arrested Otho Snyder for helping an enslaved man who had escaped from David and Hezekiah Clagett, in nearby Funkstown. Snyder had been trying to put a trunk onto a train to Chambersburg at the railroad depot (which stood on this corner, diagonally across from the Catholic church). The train did not leave that night, so Snyder took the trunk home. The authorities followed him home and searched the trunk, finding clothes that belonged to the escaped man. Born in Washington County as a free man of color, Snyder was described as having red or sandy hair, freckles, and a light complexion. Working as a carter, he had ready access to transport. His white neighbors suspected him of helping enslaved people escape. He was described as a "well known mulatto citizen" of Hagerstown and was a trustee of Ebenezer A.M.E. Church. (This story is continued at Stop #3.)



To learn more about the Underground Railroad in Hagerstown, Md visit: http://www.visit-hagerstown.com/files/FINAL%20UndergroundRailroad_Brochure_proof.pdf



FREE CLASSES! FINANCIAL EDUCATION SERIES

Financial Education Partnership-Washington County has partnered with Hagerstown Housing Authority to offer FREE on-line classes to help members in our community to take charge of their finances

Topics include:

January 20, 2021: Conquering Debt

February 17, 2021: Budgeting

March 17, 2021: Your Credit Matters!

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

Financial Education Partnership-Washington County is a collaboration of:



Register Today!

6:00 - 7:00 pm

Budgeting

Improve Your
Credit

Managing &
Paying Off
Debt

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

Washington County Health Department is offering Hagerstown Residents:

FREE COVID-19 TESTING



Washington County
Health Department
1302 Pennsylvania Ave,
Hagerstown, Md 21742
Washcohealth.org
Facebook.com/WashHealth
Email:
wash.health@maryland.gov



Hagerstown Housing
Authority
35 W. Baltimore Street
Hagerstown, Md 21740
hagerstownha.com
Phone: 301.733.6911

Washington County Health Department and the Hagerstown Housing Authority are working together to hold a FREE DRIVE-THRU & WALK-UP COVID-19 TESTING CLINIC for area residents. The tests used are the quick nasal swab that takes about 15 seconds to administer. You do not need to have a doctor's referral to be tested.

Testing Site: Potomac Towers
(Maintenance Lot-next to the CW Brooks Building)
35 W. Baltimore Street
Hagerstown, Md 21740

Date: Every Monday, Wednesday, & Friday

Time: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm (no appointment
needed)

Questions: wash.health@maryland.gov

**PLEASE FOLLOW SOCIAL
DISTANCING & MASK
GUIDELINES WHEN
PARTICIPATING AT THIS TESTING
SITE**



Please Pick Up After Your Pets!

The Resident Services Department is here to help you. For assistance with housing paperwork, applications for Food Stamps, SSI, Medicaid, etc., it is best to make an appointment to ensure your needs are taken care of timely. Resident Services staff can also be contacted at:

Deena Holder 301.733.6911 ext 163

Heather Nutter 301.733.6911 ext 170

Treyvon King 301.733.6911 ext 171

Which precautions do we still need to follow after COVID-19 vaccination?

We need to follow all of the same requirements regarding wearing face masks, socially distancing, and washing hands often. Receipt of a COVID-19 vaccine will not change this.

Why do we still need to follow those precautions?

Although you might not get sick from COVID-19 after vaccination, it still may be possible for you to be infected and spread the virus to others.

What if I have had COVID-19 and fully recovered?

You likely will not be excluded from vaccination if you have had COVID-19. We do not know how long natural immunity will last, so vaccination may still help keep you safe. In fact, some scientists think that vaccination may be more effective than natural immunity in preventing you from contracting COVID-19.

And even if you have had COVID-19, those same precautions—masking, social distancing, and handwashing—still are important.

Additionally, most of the general population will not receive the vaccine as soon as others. Health care workers and nursing home residents will receive the vaccine early, but that still leaves many in the community susceptible to infection. Given these factors, we must maintain our well-established precautions to protect the most vulnerable people until we can all be vaccinated.



**Are you trying to
quit smoking?**

**THE TOBACCO FREE
FOR LIFE PROGRAM
CAN HELP!**



DON'T DO IT ALONE!

FREE Nicotine Replacement Products (NRT)

Patches, Gum & Lozenges Available

While Supplies Last

240-537-9901





ZOOM CHEAT SHEET FOR BEGINNERS

If you've never used ZOOM before, here are a few easy steps to get you started.

If you don't have a hyperlink:

1. Open up your web browser and log into Zoom.com
2. Click on join a meeting
3. Type in the meeting ID and click join
4. You may need to click on [open.zoom.us], especially the first time
5. Click join with computer audio

If you were given a hyperlink:

1. Click on the link and it should take you directly to the meeting.
2. Follow steps 4 & 5 as stated above.

Helpful Tips:

1. Your microphone and video controls are in the bottom left corner. Please keep on mute unless you are speaking.
2. If you are accessing Zoom from a tablet or your cell phone, you will need to first download the Zoom app.
3. At the top of the page, you will see other participants.
4. Please be respectful of others speaking and wait your turn.

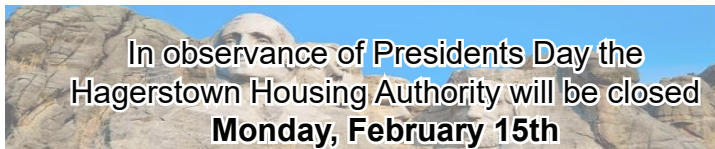
Please Join Us For Our New Informational Zoom Series: Creating Community Connections

Wednesday February 10, 2021 @ 1:30 pm
We welcome Terri Lancaster with the Mental Health Center. Terri will provide us with an overview of their programs and assistance opportunities.

Thursday February 25, 2021 @ 2:00 pm
We welcome Herman Davis Jr (resident of C.W.Brooks). He will be providing information about Black History Month.

Wednesday March 10, 2021 @ 2:00 pm
We welcome Lisa Moran with Priority Partners. Lisa will provide us with information regarding Dental Health.

We hope that you can join us for some **FUN** with the Resident Services Team and receive some useful **INFORMATION** from our community partners!



In observance of Presidents Day the Hagerstown Housing Authority will be closed **Monday, February 15th**

The Resident Services Department would like to thank the following Potomac Towers Lunch Program Volunteers: **Lyn Cunningham, Lori Gipe, Gary Hay, & Robert Stevens**

Your willingness to not only help prepare meals but to also distribute them to the residents is extremely appreciated!



Washington County Humane Society Meals for Paws food donation drop will be on Friday February 26, 2021 between 9:00 - 9:30 am at Potomac Towers, Walnut Towers, & CWB

Any residents of the C.W. Brooks Building are welcome to borrow the puzzles that have been donated to the library and then return them once you are done.



IMPORTANT Notice Regarding February Rent

Orrstown Bank will be closing at 2:30 PM on Tuesday, February 2nd. If you pay your rent at the bank please make note of the early closing.



FROM MAINTENANCE



Common Bedbug Questions

Can bed bugs survive in the washing machine?

If you wash or dry your clothes at the hottest temperature, your risk of catching bed bugs through shared machines is minimal. "Basically what goes into the dryer at high heat for half an hour comes out safe as long as it is not **OVERLOADED**. Note that some bugs or eggs could survive a cold water wash.

Can bed bugs survive washing and drying?

Drying will kill the bugs but not clean the clothes. If you want to only kill bed bugs and do not need to wash your clothes, simply putting infested items in the dryer for 30 plus minutes on high heat will kill all the bed bugs.

Do bed bugs drown in the washing machine?

Agitating the water, such as in a washing machine, also results in drowning which has the potential to kill the bed bugs. It can therefore be said that the survivability of bedbugs in cold water is inconclusive, but they will definitely die when placed in water at a temperature above 150 degrees Fahrenheit.

What kills bed bugs fast?

Double bag your bedding and wash in hot water and dry for at least 30 minutes (discard the inner bag after putting bedding into the washer, as it could have bed bugs). After vacuuming suspected bed bugs from the bed, take your vacuum cleaner outdoors and remove and discard the bag.

How do I store my cleaned clothing/bedding?

It is important to practice some care when you take your clothes and bedding out of the dryer. The best thing is to get a few new plastic bags and put your items in them. This is especially important if you are using a commercial laundry facility. Seal the bags again. Ensure that you do not put your cleaned clothes on any surface that you have not inspected for bed bug infestation. Take those bags home but only get them out once you have cleared bed bug infestation from your home. It is better to leave your cleaned clothes in the bags and remove clothes as needed. This will help prevent re-infestation of clothes.

Pest Control Schedule

- 2/3/21 CWB, PT G16-G29, 113-127
- 2/4/21 WTA 210-214
- 2/10/21 PT 101-112, 216-232
- 2/11/21 WTA 215-216, 301-311
- 2/16/21 PT 201-215, 320-331
- 2/17/21 WTA 312-316, 401-
- 2/24/21 PT 301-319, 425-432
- 2/25/21 WTA 409-417, 501-504
- 3/3/21 PT 401-424, 528-531
- 3/4/21 WTA 505-516



Heating Season

Before you call Maintenance for service on your heating season, make sure the room temperature is below 66 degrees. The room temperature must drop to 66 or below for the heat to come on. If the temperature in your unit 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 (minimum of \$95.58) by checking the temperature before you call. Do not force the thermostat beyond the limit on the dial. Broken thermostats are charged to the resident. Keep your windows locked. This provides a much better seal & reduces air leakage at windows. Remember, using your oven or stove as a heat source is dangerous and a lease violation. This not only poses a serious health risk to you but will also result in damage to your appliance (melted knobs) for which you will be charged.

Slippery When Wet

Please use caution when traveling outside of the building during the extreme cold days of winter. Periods of sun cause the snow/ice to melt and then refreeze later creating instant patches of ice. Take the extra time to avoid such areas for your safety.

MAINTENANCE INSPECTIONS FEBRUARY 2021 – MARCH 2021 WALNUT TOWERS

Tuesday, February 2	12 S. Walnut St	810 - 816
<u>BEGIN AMP 4 – POTOMAC TOWERS</u>		
Friday, February 5	11 W. Baltimore St	101 - 113
Monday, February 8	11 W. Baltimore St	201 - 217
Tuesday, February 9	11 W. Baltimore St	301 - 317
Tuesday, February 16	11 W. Baltimore St	401 - 417
Friday, February 19	11 W. Baltimore St	501 - 517
Monday, February 22	11 W. Baltimore St	601 - 617
Tuesday, February 23	11 W. Baltimore St	701 - 717
Friday, February 26	11 W. Baltimore St	801 - 817
Tuesday, March 2	11 W. Baltimore St	901 - 917
Friday, March 5	11 W. Baltimore St	1001 - 1017