

AROUND AND ABOUT GATEWAY CROSSING COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2022 VOLUME 19 ISSUE 1

Inside this issue:

- Employee of the Quarter
- Knowing your Lease
- Happenings
- Pest Control Schedule
- Maintenance
 Inspections
- Tidbits and Cleaning Hacks
- Important Numbers

Happy New Year from the staff at Gateway Crossing



Employee of the Quarter:

Dan Woodruff, Special Operations Officer



L to R: Dan Woodruff, Gerry Kendle, Sean Griffith

Dan is our Special Operations Officer for the Security Department and has been recognized and nominated by Gerry Kendle, Director of Security. Dan is always taking the extra steps to ensure the Security Department operates smoothly and is an asset to our department and residents. Recently while the Director was out of town, Dan responded to a fire of his own accord to be the conduit of information between the Authority, the fire department, and ATF investigators.

Dan has been employed with the Authority for 3-years and his diligence in his job duties reflects great pride in his job and his willingness to fulfill the commitment of his position. His dedication is evident, and the Authority relies on dedicated employees like Dan and appreciates everything he does for our residents and communities.

If you see Dan out and about, please take time to congratulate him on his most recent, well deserved award.



Knowing your Lease

Snow and Ice Removal

Residents, please remember that according to your lease and your Resident Handbook, residents are responsible for any snow and/or ice removal and/or treatment.

The Resident Handbook states:

Property Standards Section XIV – Snow and Ice Removal:

Residents are responsible to remove snow and ice from walks, steps and porches leading to the unit. Residents sharing a walk shall clear their half or share the responsibility. This means any and all sidewalks to your unit with the exception of the front public sidewalk. which is the sidewalk that runs parallel to the front streets, is the responsibility of each resident. The Hagerstown Housing Authority (Gateway Crossing) does NOT remove snow and/or ice or treat for snow or ice on any walkwaus in the rear of the units and we do NOT remove snow and/or ice or treat for snow and/or ice in the front of your unit except for the public sidewalk that runs parallel to the front streets.

Smoke Detectors

As many begin to decorate for the holiday, Gateway Crossing would like to remind you of some of the rules-of-thumb for keeping your family safe:

*NEVER overload your outlets with extension cords and plugs. The electrical system, if overloaded, can be a potential for creating a fire.

*NEVER unplug or remove your smoke detectors. Not only is disabling your smoke detector a risk to your family, but it is a serious lease infraction that will result in the termination of your lease.

Annual Recertifications

Once a year, on the anniversary date of your move to Gateway Crossing, you must re-certify your income, assets, and household status. The recertification procedure is due to government requirements and there are no exceptions to this rule. In order to have sufficient time to process the required verification forms, this procedure normally begins 90-120 days in advance of your lease expiration. At the appropriate time, you will be notified in writing by the Gateway Crossing Management Office and advised of the documentation that you are required to bring to the interview. Failure to appear or provide correct documents to the office could result in termination of your lease.

Holiday Decorations Reminder

All exterior holiday decorations must be removed by January 31, 2022. This includes any lights, command strips/tacks, spray snow, tape and tape residue. Failure to comply could result in a lease violation.

Christmas Tree Pickup-Tuesday, January 4th

Residents may place their tree at the curb in front of their residence as early as 4:00 PM the day before (Jan. 3 -Monday) their scheduled collection date and no later than 7:00 AM (Jan. 4) on their scheduled collection date. The Department of Public Works will be collecting Christmas trees only. ALL ornaments, tinsel, lights or other decorations must be removed from the tree. Otherwise, the tree will not be collected. .NO OTHER DEBRIS PLACED BY THE CURB WILL BE PICKED UP BY THIS DEPARTMENT AT THAT TIME. Any Questions call Public Works 301-739-8577 Ext 178.

**(Christmas tree p/u is on the regular trash day, the first week of Jan.)

Happenings

Filter Change Notice to Residents

The Gateway Crossing Maintenance Department will be performing HVAC Filter changes in all units during the first quarter of 2022.

You do not need to be home for the filter changes/replacements; however, we will need access to the filter area.

Thank you in advance, we appreciate your cooperation.

Family Self Sufficiency (FSS)

The Family Self Sufficiency Program is coming to Gateway Crossing, and you may be eligible to participate!

The FSS Program is a program designed to assist residents with identifying and reaching goals. While participating in the program residents also have the opportunity to meet regularly with an individual case manager. receive referrals to community support services, get connected to educational and financial workshops, focus on improving and/or repairing credit, explore the prospect of home ownership and much more. Residents may also have the possibility of developing a savings account based on increases in earned income. Any head of household who is a resident of public housing or receiving housing subsidy through Housing Choice Voucher and is currently in aood standing, is eligible to enroll in the FSS Program. Look for more detailed information on the FSS Program coming your way in the near future, including how you can get involved!

Pest Control Schedule

January

- Week 1 151 to 281 Ross, 902 to 947 Lanvale
- Week 2 953 to 1025 Lanvale, 201 to 250 Buena Vista
- Week 3 251 to 281 Buena Vista, 902 to 1002 Main
- Week 4 1006 to 1018 Main, 941 to 989 Main, 311 to 361 Chessie, 310 to 360 Buena Vista, 913 to 929 Ross

February

Week 1 931 to 990 Ross Week 2 1017 to 1037 Westport, 901 to 909 Ross, 801 to 827 Main

Week 3 829 to 845 Main, 265 to 273 South Burhans, 701 to 812 Lanvale

Week 4 103 to 181 Summer, 25 to 53 Elgin

March

Week 1 1030 to 1068 Ross Week 2 1070 to 1084 Ross, 348 to 368 Merrbaugh, 400 to 401 Gandy Dancer Week 3 121 to 182 Merrbaugh, 331 to 347 Merrbaugh Week 4 3 to 120 Merrbaugh and 1203 W Washington St

Maintenance Inspections

Week of	Units to be Inspected
January 3rd	913, 915, 921, 923, 929, 931, 937, 939, 945 & 947 Ross
January 10th	953, 955, 961, 963, 969, 971, 977, 979 Ross - 989 Main - 310, 350, & 360 Buena Vista
January 17th	940, 942, 950, 952, 960, 962, 970, 972, 980, 982, & 990 Ross
January 24th	941, 943, 949, 951, 957, 959, 965, 967 Main - 311, 331, 351, & 361 Chessie Lane
Week of	Units to be Inspected
Week of February 7th	Units to be Inspected 1003, 1005, 1009, 1011, 1015, 1017, 1019, 1021, 1023, 1025 Lanvale - 201 Buena Vista
February 7th	1003, 1005, 1009, 1011, 1015, 1017, 1019, 1021, 1023, 1025 Lanvale - 201 Buena Vista

February 28th 902, 908, 916, 924, 926, 932, 934, 940, 942, & 950 Main

Week of	Units to be Inspected
March 7th	151, 161, 181, 201, 231, 241, 251, 261, & 281 Ross - 902, 903, & 915 Lanvale
March 14th	909, 921, 923, 929, 931, 937, 939, 945, 947 Lanvale - 958 Main
March 21st	953, 955, 961, 963, 969, 971, 977, 985 & 991 Lanvale - 952 Main
March 28th	932, 934,936,938, & 942 Lanvale-210,230,240,250,260, & 280 Buena Vista



Tidbits And Cleaning Hacks From The Pros

Step 1: **Everything should have a home**-Keep your shoes all in one place. Organize your silverware neatly in separate compartments inside the drawer. The shirts for summer and winter should be on opposite sides of the closet. Go through your home and make sure everything has a place. Do a small task each day so you don't feel overwhelmed by the task's scale. Take joy in doing each task. Do so with an appreciation for each item that you are organizing. This will allow you to complete the task with ease.

Step 2: **Make Use of All Your Space**-In order to make use of all your space wisely. Get rid of anything you do not use! Donate clothes, shoes, any gently used items to local goodwill. Organize your drawers and closets neatly and categorize all the items in an arrangement that is within reach.

Step 3: **Keep Like Items Together** -Organize your short sleeve shirts neatly in their drawer, put away jean in a separate drawer from linens, and have a specific drawer for each item. Put all the spoons together in that silverware drawer from STEP 1. **Separate your items into categories**. Go through each room in your home and put your like items together.

Step 4: **Get rid of stuff you don't need**- I REPEAT, get rid of anything you do not use! Donate clothes, shoes, any gently used items to local goodwill.

Step 5: **15-minute daily cleanup routine**-Here is a sample list feel free to make it your own. I recommend placing your daily cleanup routine on the fridge and checking off the tasks as they are completed daily.

- Monday -take out the trash, recycle, scrub bathroom sink and toilet
- Tuesday- sweep and mop living room, deep clean kitchen sink
- Wednesday- sweep and mop hallways, wipe out the microwave
- Thursday- Bedrooms, dust surfaces, wipe baseboards
- Friday– empty dishwasher, wipe down kitchen surfaces
- Saturday-wipe out inside of fridge and dust windowsills
- Sunday- change linens

Natural Non-Toxic Homemade Oven Cleaner Recipe

- 4 tbsp of baking soda
- 3 to 4 drops of Dawn dish soap
- 3 tbsp of lemon juice
- 4 tbsp of vinegar

Start by combining all the ingredients in a small container, excluding the vinegar. Once they are thoroughly blended, gradually add the vinegar tablespoon by tablespoon to prevent an eruption of a bubbly mess that no one wants to add to their cleaning list.

This concoction creates a paste to layer over the oven surface. Let it sit and soak overnight for the best results. The following morning, wipe down with a damp cloth or paper towels, rinse and dry.

** Do not apply mixture to oven heat element

PHONE NUMBERS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Narcotic Task Force	301-791-3205
Non-Emergency Police	301-790-3700
Poison Control Center	800-222-1222
Child Protective Svcs.	240-420-2222
Adult Protective Svcs.	240-420-2155
Security Office	301-730-2096
Gateway Crossing Office	301-766-7968
Maintenance Dept.	301-733-6916
Office of Fair Housing	800-669-9777

For after hours maintenance calls, dial 301-733-6916, your call will be redirected to the answering service.

Report a Concern

We want to hear from you! Improving neighborhoods starts with communication. You can help by telling us what issues affect you. We regularly review the information gained from this form to address concerns.

If you have an emergency, call 911! If you have a situation that requires timely police assistance please call HPD's nonemergency phone number at 240.313.4345 If your concern or information is not within the Hagerstown Housing Authority's properties, please inform the law enforcement agency in that jurisdiction. Please visit www.hagerstownha.com to report your concern online.



Gateway Crossing Management Office will be closed:

Friday, December 31, 2021, New Year's Eve

Monday, January 17, 2022, Martin Luther King Day

Monday, February 21, 2022, President's Day

Email questions or concerns to Rebecca Counsellor at rcounsellor@hagerstownha.com

