



# Hagerstown Housing Authority NEWSLETTER

www.hagerstownha.com

February 2023

## *The Employee of the Quarter, Dawn Bragunier*



The Authority is happy to announce that The Employee of the Quarter Award for January - March 2023 is awarded to Dawn Bragunier, MOD Coordinator. Dawn is recognized for her dedication, professionalism, and thorough understanding of the Capital Funds Program and for managing its associated contracts, procurement, and budgeting. Her contribution and responsibility for the many facets of the position include a strong understanding of the structures of the Authority's finances, procurement policy, and procedures.

The Authority relies on dedicated employees like Dawn and appreciates all she does for the residents and our communities and her willingness to help when needed. She is an asset to the Properties Department and the Authority. As Employee of the Quarter, she is entitled to a complimentary lunch for one, a Star Award, and one paid day off from work.

Congratulations, Dawn, and Thank you for all you do!

## *Denijua Dotson graduates the FSS Program*



L to R: Sean Griffith, Dianne Rudisill,  
Denijua Dotson, Kelly Mills

Please join the Housing Authority in congratulating our most recent Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Program graduate, Denijua Dotson!

Denijua has participated in the FSS Program for the past five years and has worked diligently to accomplish all her goals. Throughout her participation in the program, Denijua has obtained and maintained full-time employment, which includes working as a phlebotomist for the past two years, following her training in that field, improved her credit, advanced her education in the medical field, and has researched homeownership opportunities.

Although she has successfully completed the FSS Program, Denijua has created additional goals for herself and her family.

With the savings she has earned from the FSS Escrow, Denijua plans to further her education in the medical field, and begin to seek a home that will meet the needs of her and her family. We here at the Hagerstown Housing Authority couldn't be more proud of Denijua and her accomplishments!

If you too are interested in participating in the Family Self Sufficiency Program please reach out to one of our FSS Coordinators at 301-733-6911, Tacy Myers (ext. 157), Kelly Mills (ext. 158) or Pam Schnebly (ext. 167).



## February is Black History Month.

This month-long observance in the US and Canada is a chance to celebrate Black achievement and provide a fresh reminder to take stock of where systemic racism persists and give visibility to the people and organizations creating change. Hagerstown is full of rich history, especially black history. From visits of celebrities to stops of the underground railroad. Learn more about our local heritage by going to:

- <https://www.visithagerstown.com/things-to-do/recreation/african-american-heritage>

Additional resources can be found at :

- <https://blackhistorymonth.gov/>
- <https://asalh.org/black-history-themes/>

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

## FINANCIAL AWARENESS



**LUNCH & LEARN**  
FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOP  
**WEDNESDAY,  
2/8/2023  
12PM**

## EARN IT, PLAN IT, KEEP IT

Creating and maintaining a budget



To Register for Lunch & Learn  
and Online Classes, Contact:

Ladetra Robinson

Financial Literacy Success Coach

[ladetra@reachofwc.org](mailto:ladetra@reachofwc.org)

301.733.2371 ext. 105

## FREE ONLINE CLASSES

Financial Education Partnership-Washington County offers  
FREE monthly online classes to help members in our  
community take charge of their finances.

Upcoming Coming Topics Include:

Thursday, February 23, 2023 6 pm Taxes and Beyond

Thursday, March 23, 2023 6 pm Daily Money Management



Financial Education Partnership-Washington County is a collaboration of:



Do your taxes online for free with an IRS Free File provider.

<https://apps.irs.gov/app/freeFile>

If your adjusted gross income (AGI) was \$73,000 or less, Some offers include a free state tax return.



# What's Happening In Your Community

The Hagerstown Housing Authority Will be closed:

**Monday, February 20, 2023**  
**In Observance President's Day**



**HELP US HELP YOU! JOIN US FOR YOUR NEXT RESIDENT MEETING TO PLAN COMMUNITY EVENTS!**

## C.W.Brooks

Mondays	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	Stamp and Quarter Sales - Community Room
Mondays	6:00 pm	Tenant Bingo
Mondays and Wednesdays	10:00 am-2:00 pm	Free Drive Thru Covid Testing offered behind building
Wednesday	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Craft Group (Bring your Own Craft)
Thursdays (every other)	2:00- 3:00 pm	Coloring in Library
Thursday, February 9	5:00 pm	RESIDENT MEETING (2nd Thursday every month)
Thursday, February 9	12:00 pm	Blood Pressure Checks in Community Room

## Frederick Manor

Weekly	Currently Zoom	Girl Scouts - Call 304.506.9941 for more information
Monday - Friday	After school	Visit the Community Building or call 301.733.5422 for info.
Thursday, February 23	11:00 am	RESIDENT MEETING (4th Thursday every month)

## Gateway Crossing

Monday - Friday	After school	Boys and Girls Club Visit Elgin Station or call 301.733.5422 for more information.
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## McCleary Hill



Friday, February 10	3:00 pm (early dismissal day for schools)	Valentine Craft for kids
Thursday, February 16	5:30 pm	RESIDENT MEETING (3rd Thursday every month)

## Noland Village

Monday - Friday	After school	Boys and Girls Club, visit Noland Site or call 301.733.5422
Wednesday, February 15	2:00 pm	RESIDENT MEETING (3rd Wednesday every month)

## Parkside & Douglass

Sundays	3:30 pm-4:30 pm	End of the Road N/A (Narcotic Anonymous)
Mon - Thurs.	4:30 pm-6:30 pm	After School Program, K-3rd grade
Tuesdays	7:00 pm-8:15 pm	(MEN) End of the Road N/A
Wednesdays	7:00 pm-8:15 pm	(WOMEN) End of the Road N/A
Thursdays	7:00 pm-8:30 pm	Girl Scouts (ages 13-18)
Fridays	5:00 pm-6:00 pm	Girl Scouts, all ages
Sunday, Jan 29	3:30 pm-6:00 pm	End of the Road N/A - Last Sunday of the month Special Mtg.
Monday, February 27	2:00 pm	Resident Meeting (3rd Monday every month)*Date change due to Holiday

## Potomac Towers

Tuesdays and Thursdays	10:00 am-11:30 am	Quarters/ Stamps
Thursdays	4:00 pm-5:00 pm	Exercise w/ Lisa Bennett (in Rooftop Sky Lounge)
Thursday, February 9	1:00 pm	Blood Pressure Checks in the Community Room
Monday, February 13	5:30 pm	Resident Meeting (2nd Monday every month)

## Walnut Towers

Tuesdays	4:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Tenant Bingo
Monday, February 6	5:00 pm	Resident Meeting (1st Monday every month)
Thursday, February 9	2:15 pm	Blood Pressure Checks in Community Room



## Planning Committee updates:

### Potomac Towers

**February 13, 2023, 4:30 pm**

Planning Committee to discuss upcoming Meet & Mingle Event & plan next event.

**February 13, 2023, 5:30 pm**

Come to the Tenant Meeting - Guests from Housing will help address your maintenance concerns.

**February 14, 2023, 6:00 pm**

**We hope you can join us for the Meet & Mingle; we have fun events planned for you to enjoy.**

**February 24, 2023, 7:00 pm**

It's Social Hour time!

### Resident Advisory Board Nominations

Nominations are now open for the Resident Advisory Board, please submit your interest to serve on the board at the following link:  
[www.hagerstownha.com/rab](http://www.hagerstownha.com/rab)

### McCleary Hill

**Saturday, February 4, 2023, 2:00 pm**

Join us for a review of drawing markups for visitor parking, further discussion of transportation.

Light refreshments will be served!

**Friday, February 10, 2023, 3:00 pm**

Early school dismissal, The McCleary Hill Planning Committee has a Valentine craft planned; bring the kids for a fun activity!

### Capital Funds Program (CFP) Meetings

Join the meeting scheduled for your community to provide suggestions and/or feedback on upcoming capital projects.

Walnut Towers February 9th at 10:30 am

Potomac Towers February 16th at 10:30 am

Family Communities held via zoom:

Wednesday, Feb 15 @ 2pm

join link at: [www.hagerstownha.com/cfp](http://www.hagerstownha.com/cfp)

Meeting ID: 848 3436 3003

Passcode: 889284



### NUMBERS TO KNOW

**Hagerstown Housing Main 301.733.6911**

Security..... 301.730.2096

Maintenance (24 hours)..... 301.733.6916

### Resident Services Department

Dianne Rudisill .....301.733.6911 ext. 125

Deena Holder.....301.733.6911 ext. 163

Heather Nutter.....301.733.6911 ext. 170

Tacy Myers ..... 301.733.6911 ext. 157

Kelly Mills.....301.733.6911 ext. 158

Pam Schnebly.....301.733.6911 ext. 167

Gateway Crossing

301.766.7968

Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)

301.733.6911



### Annual Recertifications

Recertifications must be conducted annually and begin 90-120 days in advance of lease expiration in order to have sufficient time to process completion.

Please be sure that you arrive to your scheduled appointment well in advance of the appointment time.

Also, any household member who is 18 years of age, or older, or will be turning 18 years of age by your recertification date, are required to appear at your recertification appointment with you.

All adult household members must be present at the recertification appointments. If you are unsure, please call the office to confirm prior to your appointment.

## Newsletter

**Sign up to receive the Newsletter via email:**

[www.hagerstownha.com/monthlynews](http://www.hagerstownha.com/monthlynews)



## Recreational use of Marijuana



The Hagerstown Housing Authority wants to remind all tenants that with upcoming Maryland legislation legalizing the recreational use of Marijuana, under the lease provisions, the use of Marijuana is a violation of the lease. The housing authority is federally subsidized and must adhere to federal law, which still classifies Marijuana as illegal. If the federal law changes to support recreational use, smoking will remain prohibited in the units. This includes medical Marijuana as well as recreational use. If you have any questions, please contact the Security Office at 301-733-6911 Ext 154.

## Motorized Scooters

Parking or driving of motorized vehicles is only allowed in designated parking areas and never on any grass areas or through any yards. Failure to comply will result in issuance of citations and/or lease violation. Any damages to grass or surrounding areas will result in a charge at tenants own expense.



HHA has partnered with the Health Department to provide COVID Testing. Open to public!

Walk up and drive-thru is available behind the C.W. Brooks Building,  
**Mondays & Wednesdays**  
**10 am-2 pm**

## Accepting Nominations for Resident Advisory Board

The Housing Authority meets with the Resident Advisory Board (RAB) four times a year. The RAB is comprised of a resident in each Housing community and two from the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Residents are elected every three years by peers within their community during the monthly Resident Meeting. HCV Elections are held at Elgin Station. The next full-board RAB Election is scheduled for April 2023.

During the quarterly meetings, RAB members are asked to provide feedback on the Housing Authority's Annual Plan and policy changes when applicable. Each RAB Member is also asked to provide their Peer RAB members with the upcoming events planned for their respective communities.

If you are interested in serving on the RAB, complete the nomination form at <https://www.hagerstownha.com/rab>

## Hairstylist needed



The Housing Authority maintains the shop license for a Hair Salon and provides opportunities for those wishing to pursue a career in this field. We currently have chairs available for either a licensed barber or a hairstylist.

If you are interested in learning more about entrepreneurship in our Salon, call or text Dianne Rudisill at 240.625.9066 or email at [drudisill@hagerstownha.com](mailto:drudisill@hagerstownha.com). To be considered, you must have a current cosmetology license.



## BULK TRASH PICKUP SCHEDULE

Please set your items out **after 8:00 pm the night before** your scheduled day and have them on the curb **prior to 8:30 am 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.***

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

**1st Thursday: McCleary Hill**

**2nd Thursday: Parkside Homes and Douglas Court**

**3rd Thursday: Noland Village**

**4th Thursday: Frederick Manor**

## PEST CONTROL SCHEDULE

### McCleary Hill

**February 22, 2023:** 12166-12172 Gypsum Ln,  
17604-17618 Calcite Dr

### Potomac Towers

**February 1, 2023:** G16-G29, 113-127, Resident  
Svcs Office, Security

**February 8, 2023:** 101-112, 216-232

**February 15, 2023:** 201-215, 320-331

**February 22, 2023:** 301-319, 425-432, Trash  
Rooms, Dumpsters

### Hagerstown Revitalization Corp

**February 22, 2023:** 212-214, 441-443 N. Johnathan St

### Gateway Crossing

**February 7, 2023:** 151-281 Ross St, 902-947 Lanvale St

**February 14, 2023:** 953-1025 Lanvale St, 201-250 Buena Vista Ave

**February 21, 2023:** 251-281 Buena Vista Ave, 902-1002 Main Ave

**February 28, 2023:** 941-989 Main Ave, 1006-1018 Main Ave, 311-361 Chessie Ln, 310/350/360 Buena Vista Ave, 913-929 Ross St

### Parkside Homes

**February 8, 2023:** All Units, Community Building

### Walnut Towers "A" Building

**February 2, 2023:** 201-214

**February 9, 2023:** 215-216, 301-311

**February 16, 2023:** 312-316, 401-408

**February 23, 2023:** 409-417, 501-504

### Douglas Court

**February 15, 2023:** All Units, Admin Building

### C.W. Brooks

**February 1, 2023:** All Units, Common Spaces

## ICE AND SNOW REMOVAL

A major concern during winter is the clearing of ice and snow. Residents in the family communities are responsible for promptly clearing ice and snow from the front and rear sidewalks leading to their units. Residents who fail to promptly clear their walks will be charged when the Maintenance Department must perform the work. The maintenance crews get to the public walks as soon as possible. Any help residents can provide is greatly appreciated.

Ice scrapers are a much cheaper method of removing ice from walks than are chemicals. In addition, the extensive use of chemicals such as salt may damage the concrete making repairs necessary. Salt will damage next spring's grass and flowers as the melting ice carries it to the root systems. If you must use salt, clean it up once it has done its' job.

Residents should exercise good judgment in placing the snow that they remove from the walks. Never throw it out into the streets or courts. Never place it where your neighbors or the Maintenance Department will have to move it again. Please do not allow your children to cover up cleared walks. The better you fulfill your responsibilities, the better we will be able to perform ours.



## HEATING SEASON

Before you call Maintenance for service for your heat this 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 \$97.08) 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 as this provides a much better seal and reduces air leakage at the 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 also will result in damage to your appliance (melted knobs) for which you will be charged.***

## DO NOT USE STOVE FOR HEAT

Do not use your stove as a heater! This is extremely dangerous and is also a lease violation. Violators will be reported to Housing. If the heat is not working in your unit, contact the Maintenance Department for repair.

## COMMON BED BUG 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.

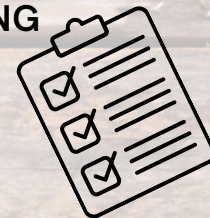


# Maintenance Inspections

## POTOMAC TOWERS

Wednesday, February 1:	11 W. Baltimore St 201-217
Thursday, February 2:	11 W. Baltimore St 301-317
Friday, February 2:	NO INSPECTIONS
Monday, February 6:	11 W. Baltimore St 401-417
Tuesday, February 7:	11 W. Baltimore St 501-517
Wednesday, February 8:	11 W. Baltimore St 601-617
Thursday, February 9:	NO INSPECTIONS
Friday, February 10:	NO INSPECTIONS
Monday, February 13:	11 W. Baltimore St 701-717
Tuesday, February 14:	11 W. Baltimore St 801-817
Wednesday, February 15:	11 W. Baltimore St 901-917
Thursday, February 16:	NO INSPECTIONS
Friday, February 17:	NO INSPECTIONS
Monday, February 20:	OFFICES CLOSED
Tuesday, February 21:	11 W. Baltimore St 1001-1017
Wednesday, February 22:	11 W. Baltimore St 1101-1117
Thursday, February 23:	NO INSPECTIONS
Friday, February 24:	NO INSPECTIONS
Monday, February 27:	11 W. Baltimore St 1201-1217
Tuesday, February 28:	11 W. Baltimore St G16-G29
Wednesday, March 1:	11 W. Baltimore St 114-127
Thursday, March 2:	NO INSPECTIONS
Friday, March 3:	NO INSPECTIONS
Monday, March 6:	11 W. Baltimore St 219-232
Tuesday, March 7:	11 W. Baltimore St 318-331
Wednesday, March 8:	NO INSPECTIONS
Thursday, March 9:	NO INSPECTIONS
Friday, March 10:	NO INSPECTIONS

## GATEWAY CROSSING



### Phase I

<u>Week of</u>	<u>Units to be inspected:</u>
February 6th	<b>Lanvale St -</b> 1003,1005,1009,1011,1015, 1017,1019,1021,1023,1025 <b>Buena Vista Ave - 201</b>
February 13th	<b>Buena Vista Ave -</b> 231,241,251,261,281 <b>Main Ave -</b> 1002,1006,1010,1012,1016, 1018
February 20th	<b>Main Ave -</b> 960,966,968,974,976,982, 988,992
February 27th	<b>Main Ave -</b> 902,908,916,924,926,932, 934,940,942,950
<u>Week of</u>	<u>Units to be inspected:</u>
March 6th	<b>Lanvale St - 902,903,915</b> <b>Ross St -</b> 151,161,181,201,231,241, 251,261,281



### SLIPPERY WHEN "COLD"

Please use caution when traveling outside of the building during the extremely cold days of winter. Periods of the 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.

## Report a Concern

Security's Report-A-Concern can now be accessed directly at  
[www.hagerstownha.com/reportaconcern](http://www.hagerstownha.com/reportaconcern)  
 or you can also scan the QR code

