



Hagerstown Housing Authority NEWSLETTER

www.hagerstownha.com

April 2023



Housing Authority welcomes Marcus Maddox

Marcus Maddox began as Security Officer on Tuesday, March 7, 2023. He offers experience as a Special Police Officer at federal properties in Washington DC and has numerous certifications in law and enforcement. When you see Officer Maddox, welcome him to the Housing Authority.



Resident Advisory Board (RAB) Elections scheduled for all communities

There's still time to participate in RAB elections for your community. This is a great opportunity to understand how the Housing Authority operates and know what changes or projects we are working on. 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, so come out and vote for your neighbor, or nominate yourself.

- Gateway Crossing.....Thursday, April 13th 2:00 pm
- McCleary Hill.....Thursday, April 20th 5:30 pm
- Noland Village.....Wednesday, April 19th 2:00 pm
- Frederick Manor.....Wednesday, April 27th 11:00 am
- Parkside Homes and Douglass Court.....Monday, April 17th 2:00 pm
- Potomac Towers.....Monday, April 10th 5:30 pm
- Walnut Towers.....Monday, April 3rd 5:00 pm
- C.W. Brooks.....Thursday, April 13th 5:00 pm
- Section 8 Program.....Tuesday, April 18th 4:30 pm (Elgin Station Conf. Room)

For more information, contact Deena Holder at 301.733.6911 ext. 163 or Dianne Rudisill at 301.733.6911 ext.125. We hope to see you at your meeting!

Sign up to receive the Newsletter via email:
www.hagerstownha.com/monthlynews





Reminder of Key Card Charge Changes (from 10/2022)

As a reminder, due to the rising cost of the key cards used for entry into the buildings, the charges for replacement key cards and guest key cards increased last October 1, 2022 for Potomac Towers, Walnut Towers, & C.W. Brooks.

- Replaced Lost or Broken Cards Fee-\$15/each
- Habitual Lost Cards Fee (After 3 lost/broken key cards)-\$30/each
- Guest Key Cards (up to 2 allowed)-\$15/each

IF A KEY CARD IS LOST OR STOLEN THAT CARD NUMBER WILL BE DEACTIVATED AND THE CARD WILL NO LONGER WORK

Food Pantries/Resources

Washington County residents who wish to receive food from CAC's pantry on a monthly basis must apply annually at the agency and meet the requirements. Clients will be required to provide their photo ID which must match the name on their approved application. When applying at CAC you will need to bring: photo ID's for everyone who is 18 years or older and social security cards for everyone in the household.

****As of 10/6/2021 CAC discontinued the use of the Washington County Food Bank Card to receive food from CAC's food pantry. The other pantries who participated in the Washington County Food Bank Card will have their own requirements for receiving food from their pantries.****

For a list of community food pantries, soup kitchens, and clothing banks visit:

<https://www.wccac.org/sites/default/files/Food%20and%20Clothing%20Resources.pdf>

*We are excited to announce our 2nd Annual Mother/Daughter Tea Party!
Saturday, May 20, 2023, 12 pm-2 pm!*

To join the Planning Committee, text or call: 240.625.9066 or see one of the Resident Services Team members.

To register for this event: **<http://www.hagerstownha.com/tea>**

FREE ONLINE CLASSES

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

Thursday, April 20th @ 6 pm: Earn It, Plan It, Keep It

Financial Education Partnership-Washington County is a collaboration of:



**To Register for Online Classes,
Contact:**

Ladetra Robinson

Financial Literacy Success Coach

ladetra@reachofwc.org

301.733.2371 ext. 105



What's Happening In Your Community

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



The Hagerstown Housing Authority
will be closed on Friday, April 7, 2023
in observance of Good Friday



C.W.Brooks

Mondays	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	Stamps 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, April 13th	5:00 pm	RESIDENT MEETING (2nd Thursday every month)
Thursday, April 6th	2:00 PM	Easter Egg Dying (Dye Materials Provided-Bring Own Hard Boiled Eggs)



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, April 27th	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 info
Thursday, April 13th	2:00 pm	RESIDENT MEETING (quarterly)

McCleary Hill

Thursday, April 6th	2:00 pm	Easter Celebration
Thursday, April 20th	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, April 19th	2:00 pm	RESIDENT MEETING (3rd Wednesday every month)

Parkside & Douglass & Scatterd Sites

Sundays	3:30 pm-4:30 pm	End of the Road N/A (Narcotics 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, April 17th	2:00 pm	RESIDENT MEETING (3rd Monday every month)



Potomac Towers

Tuesdays and Thursdays	10:00 am-11:30 am	Coffee/Quarters/ Stamps
Tuesdays and Wednesdays	10:30 am - 11:30 am	Narcotics Anonymous (Community Room)
Thursdays	10:00 am	Stop Smoking Program (3rd Thursday Every Month)
Thursdays	4:00 pm-5:00 pm	Exercise w/ Lisa Bennett (in Rooftop Sky Lounge)
Monday, April 10th	5:30 pm	RESIDENT MEETING (2nd Monday every month)
Thursday, April 6th	2:30 pm	Easter Craft (contact 301.733.6911 ext. 170 to sign up)

Walnut Towers

Tuesdays	4:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Tenant Bingo
Monday, April 3rd	5:00 pm	RESIDENT MEETING (1st Monday every month)
Thursday, April 6th	12:30 pm	Easter Craft (contact 301.733.6911 ext. 170 to sign up)

Shamrock Puzzle Wreath Activity in the Senior Communities



C.W. BROOKS SALON
WELCOMES

VALERIE HICKS
COSMETOLOGIST AND BARBER

45 W. BALTIMORE STREET
WALK IN HOURS
TUE & WED 12-6
THUR 10-6



Lunch & Learn During
Potomac Towers
Lunch Program in the
Community Room

Family Healthcare: **Thursday, April 13th, 10:30 am**

Priority Partners: **Thursday, April 27th, 10:30 am**

**Stop by to check out the valuable information
being provided!**

NUMBERS TO KNOW

Hagerstown Housing Main 301.733.6911

Security..... 301.730.2096

Maintenance (24 hours)..... 301.733.6916

Maintenance- Pest Control.....301.733-6911 ext. 124

Resident Services Department

Dianne Rudisill301.733.6911 ext. 125

Deena Holder.....301.733.6911 ext. 163

Heather Nutter.....301.733.6911 ext. 170

Dylan Rohrer.....301.733.6911 ext. 171

Tacy Myers 301.733.6911 ext. 157

Kelly Mills.....301.733.6911 ext. 158

Pam Schnebly.....301.733.6911 ext. 167

Gateway Crossing Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)
301.766.7968 301.733.6911

Resident Services Satellite Offices

Potomac Towers: 148 Walnut Towers: 196

C.W. Brooks: 191

Councilwoman Tiara Burnett visits Homework Club



On February 23, 2023, the Parkside Pals Homework Club, welcomed special guest Councilwoman Tiara Burnett. While the Councilwoman visited, she spent time reading to the club kids. The Hagerstown Housing Authority and the Club would like to thank her for taking time out of her busy schedule to visit the program which is funded through the City of Hagerstown.



Cash Advance

Orrstown bank is no longer taking credit/debit cards as cash advances for rent payments

Scan QR code for assistance with signing up for the Resident Portal (Rent Café)



Residents are responsible for keeping track of their Rent Café login information

Election of Officers to Be Held at Potomac Towers

New officers for the Potomac Towers Tenant Association will be held at the regular monthly meeting on Monday, April 10th @ 5:30 pm. The following tenants have been nominated.

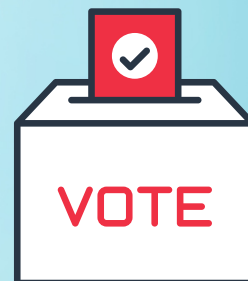
President: Priscilla McDonald, David Karr

Vice President: Sarah Lawson, Tony Showe Sr

Treasurer: Dora Wallace, Richard Young

Secretary: Katie Ragland, Kelly Bagley, Angela Bailey

Please join your neighbors and cast your vote at the meeting.



SNAP SCAM ALERTS

- **Keep your PIN secret:** Do not share your PIN with anyone outside of your household. Cover the keypad when you enter your PIN.
- **Check your EBT account regularly for unauthorized charges.** If you notice any, change your PIN immediately to stop the thief from making any new purchases.
- **Check card reading machines** to make sure there's nothing suspicious overlayed or attached to the card swiper or keypad. The overlays can be difficult to detect but are often bigger than the original machine and may hide parts of the machine.
- **Be aware** of phony text messages to obtain EBT card numbers and PINs to steal SNAP benefits.

RECOVER YOUR STOLEN EBT BENEFITS

File a claim to recover your benefits today

- <https://mymdthink.maryland.gov/home/#/report-fraud>
- Complete the form
- Type your name on the signature line and click the submit button
- For in-person assistance, visit your local DSS or contact 1.833.330.7328, or visit <https://dhs.maryland.gov.ebt-reimbursement>
- **Scan QR code to submit a claim**
- Stolen benefits are reimbursed in 15 business days or sooner!



Gateway Crossing Important Information

- **Physical Property Standards**
 - According to your lease, Exhibit G, Paragraph III, Clean Yard Program, Item F **No portable basketball nets are allowed.**
- **Rent Payments**
 - Please remember that when paying your rent, the payment will go to the oldest charges unless specified differently by you.
 - Water/Sewer charges are applied to your account quarterly. If these charges are applied to your account before the 1st of the month, your payment may pay the water/sewer charges first.
- **Pet Ownership Policy**
 - According to your lease, Exhibit F- Pet Ownership Policy, Tenants shall be responsible for removing pets from the Unit or containing the pet when Housing Staff or contractors are performing tasks inside or outside the Unit.
- **Registered Vehicles**
 - All vehicles on HHA or GWC property must be properly registered in the tenant's name in the state of MD. Vehicles registered in another state are not considered properly registered.
- **Trash Container Storage Reminder**
 - Trash/recycling containers must be kept on rear porches securely with tight lids.

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 Sites, Gateway Crossing, and Housing Choice Voucher 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

04/05/2023: 17506-17526 Calcite Dr, 11910-11946 Insurance Way (formerly Gneiss Dr), 17402-17449 Flourite Dr, 12123-12151 Gypsum Lane

Potomac Towers

04/05/2023: 801-832, Laundry Room, Trash Rooms, Compactor Rooms

04/12/2023: 901-917, 1001-1009, Trash Rooms

04/19/2023: 1010-1017, 1101-1117, Trash Rooms

04/26/2023: 1201-1217, Trash Rooms, Rooftop Laundry & Sky Deck, Security Offices, Kitchen, Community Room

Frederick Manor

04/12/2023: 600-635 Adams Ave, 633-657 Frederick St, 600-612 Hayes Ave

04/19/2023: 614-689 Hayes Ct, Gym

04/26/2023: 200-207 Hayes Ct, 201-203 Rowland Ave, 200-236 Taylor Ave, Community Building

Walnut Towers "B" Building

04/06/2023: 101-113

04/13/2023: 114-116, 201-210

04/20/2023: 211-216, 301-307

04/27/2023: 308-316, Trash Rooms, A& B Lobby, Laundry Rooms, Community Room, Kitchen, 8th Floor Offices

Gateway Crossing

04/04/2023: 1030-1068 Ross Street

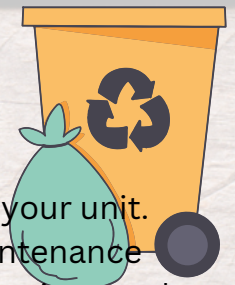
04/11/2023: 1070-1084 Ross Street, 348-368 Merrbaugh Drive, 400/401 Gandy Dancer Court

04/18/2023: 121-182 Merrbaugh Drive, 331-347 Merrbaugh Drive

04/25/2023: 3-120 Merrbaugh Drive, 1203 West Washington Street

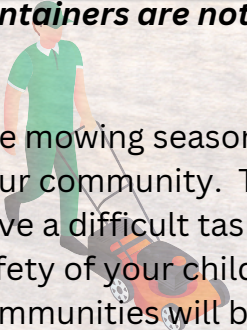
TRASH CONTAINERS

Effective April 3, 2023, 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 maintenance 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 4:00 pm on trash pick up night at your community.***



MOWING SEASON

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



CLEAN YARD PROGRAM

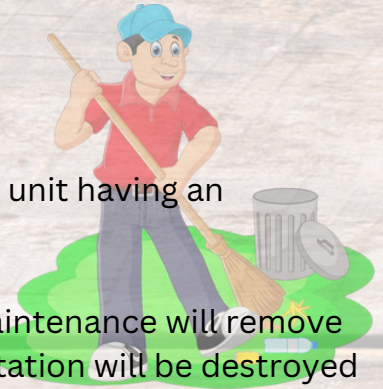
To help improve the appearance of our communities, the Authority began a Clean Yard Program in 1999 to encourage residents to actively participate in properly maintaining their yards and property. As part of the lease, each resident agreed to maintain a clean and uncluttered yard. Many residents have 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.



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.

A REMINDER TO ALL PET OWNERS



Being a pet owner has great rewards, however; it requires some work on your part. Please remember, it is your responsibility to clean up after your pet and dispose of the waste properly. If maintenance has to clean up your yard or common area as a result of your pet, you will be billed the minimum charge of \$32.36.

Maintenance Inspections

C.W. BROOKS

Monday, April 3:	45 W. Baltimore St	222 – 315
Tuesday, April 4:	45 W. Baltimore St	317 – 404
Tuesday, April 11:	45 W. Baltimore St	405 – 423

Please be advised that **Exhibit G** of your lease, entitled "**Physical Properties Standards**" states the following:

Pest Control Program

"Exterminator service is provided on a regular basis at no cost to the tenant. This service is provided to all units and cannot be refused. Schedules for treatment are posted in the monthly newsletter. Tenants must complete preparations prior to scheduled treatment."

Failure to fulfill these tenant obligations as listed in Exhibit G could be cause for termination of tenants lease.

GATEWAY CROSSING

<u>Week of</u>	<u>Units to be inspected:</u>
April 3rd	Elgin Blvd: 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43
April 10th	Main Ave: 824, 827, 829, 835, 837, 845 Ross St: 901, 903
April 17th	Lanvale St: 702, 708, 710, 716, 718 Elgin Blvd: 45, 47, 49, 51, 53
April 24th	Lanvale St: 730, 732, 736, 738, 802, 806, 808, 810, 812 Summer St: 181

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 dispose 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. Keep throw rugs/mats off the grass. (It will kill the grass)
10. Large toys (slides, playhouses etc.) are to be kept in the rear of your unit.
11. Promptly remove pet waste.
12. 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.
13. Trash totes MUST be stored at the rear of your unit.
14. 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!

