



Hagerstown Housing Authority NEWSLETTER

February 2024



Looking For A New Career To Start The New Year



The Hagerstown Housing Authority has partnered with Western MD Consortium to host a Hiring Event on Thursday, February 22, 2024 at the Elgin Station Community Center (**40 Elgin Blvd**) from 1pm-5pm. Employment opportunities will include manufacturing, health care, data entry and much more! Resources from the Western MD Consortium, American Job Center and Hagerstown Community College will also be there to answer questions and provide information. Stayed tuned for more information.



Employee of the Quarter Richard Pancerella

Maintenance Mechanic at McCleary Hill, has been selected as our first 2024 Employee of the Quarter! Richard is being recognized by the management team and co-workers for his dedicated work ethics and commitment to the Authority and to the residents we serve!

He has been a great asset to the department with his skills and ability to diagnose problems with appliances which has saved the Authority both time and money. He has recently taken the duties of site mechanic for McCleary Hill, where his dedication is evident in keeping the community clean.

The Authority relies on dedicated employees and we appreciate your hard work!

Congratulations Richard!

Family Self Sufficiency Program

Achieve Your Goals with the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program

If you're feeling unsure about your future and need a change in your life, the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program is the ideal solution. This program is designed to help you increase your income, enhance your skills, and gain self-sufficiency, all while receiving personalized support from our team of professionals. The FSS program is a life-changing experience that will guide you towards success. It's time to start taking control of your life and enroll in the FSS program today!

If you or someone you know would like to learn more about the Family Self-Sufficiency Program, please contact:

Kelly Mills, 301-733-6911,
ext. 158
kmills@hagerstownha.com

Tacy Myers, 301-733-6911,
ext. 157
tmyers@hagerstownha.com

Pamela Schnebly, 301-733-6911,
ext. 167
pschnebly@hagerstownha.com

Meals/Soup Kitchens

- **Saturdays:** Faith Step Ministries 451 Salem Ave
Breakfast 8-10 am
- **Second Saturdays:** Hagerstown Church of the Brethren Corner of E. Washington & S. Mulberry St
Breakfast 9-10:30 am
- **First & Third Sundays:** Harvest Breakthrough
25 Summit Ave (Rear of Mount Hope Prison Ministry)
Lunch 12:30-1:30 pm
- **Monday-Sunday:** The Hope Center 125 N Prospect St
Mon-Sat 12-12:30 pm, Sunday 12:45-1:15 pm,
Daily 7 pm (opens 6:30 pm)
- **Thursdays:** It's a Blessing to be a Blessing
141 N Potomac St Lunch 11:30 am-12:30 pm
- **Wednesdays:** Presbyterian Church
20 S Prospect St (enter from alley) 10am-noon
Carryouts available starting at 11 am
- **Monday-Friday:** Salvation Army 525 George St
Lunch 11:30 am-12:30 pm
- **Monday-Friday:** Soul Haven 119 E Antietam St
10 am-4 pm
- **Tuesdays:** Zion UCC 201 N Potomac St
Dinner 5-6:30 pm

ATTENTION PLEASE

Attention Potomac and Walnut Towers Residents

Effective February 1, 2024, the Hagerstown Housing Authority will no longer bill residents \$2.00 per month for televisions (TV's). These charges will automatically be removed from your account. Should you receive a charge in February, please contact Housing right away.

The Hagerstown Housing Authority Will be closed:

Monday, February 19, 2024
In Observance President's Day



Sign up to receive the Newsletter via email:

www.hagerstownha.com/monthlynews

What's Happening In Your Community

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

C.W.Brooks- Contact Dylan Rohrer Ext. 171

Mondays	1:00 - 3:00 pm	Stamps and Quarter Sales (Multi-Purpose Room)
Mondays	6:00 pm	Tenant Bingo
Wednesday	2:00 - 4:00 pm	Craft Group (Bring your Own Craft)
Thursdays (every other)	2:00 - 3:00 pm	Coloring in Library
Thursday, February 8th	5:00 pm	Tenant Association Meeting

Frederick Manor

Weekly	Currently Zoom	Girl Scouts - Call 304.506.9941 for more information
Thursday, February 22nd	11:00 am	Resident Meeting

Gateway Crossing

The next Resident Meeting will be in April 2024

McCleary Hill

Thursday, February 15th	5:30 pm	Tenant Association Meeting
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Noland Village

Wednesday, February 21st	10:00 am	Resident Meeting
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Parkside & Douglass & Scattered Sites

Sundays	3:30 - 4:30 pm	End of the Road N/A (Narcotics Anonymous)
Mon - Thurs.	4:30 - 6:30 pm	After School Program, K-3rd grade
Tuesdays	7:00 - 8:15 pm	(MEN) End of the Road N/A
Wednesdays	7:00 - 8:15 pm	(WOMEN) End of the Road N/A
Thursdays	7:00 - 8:30 pm	Girl Scouts (ages 13-18)
Fridays	5:00 - 7:00 pm	Girl Scouts, all ages
Sunday,	3:30 - 6:00 pm	End of the Road N/A - Last Sunday of the month Special Mtg.
Monday, February 19th	2:00 pm	Resident Meeting

Potomac Towers- Contact Dylan Rohrer Ext. 171

Tuesdays and Thursdays	10:00 -11:30 am	Coffee/Quarters/ Stamps
Tuesdays and Wednesdays	10:30 - 11:30 am	Narcotics Anonymous (Community Room)
Wednesdays	5:00 pm	BINGO Food/Cards for sale starting at 5 pm, Bingo starts at 6pm
Thursdays	10:00 am	Stop Smoking Program (3rd Thursday Every Month)
Thursdays	4:00 pm	Exercise w/ Lisa Bennett (in Rooftop Sky Lounge)
Thursday, February 22nd	10:30 am	Alison with Maryland Physicians Care (Community Room)
Monday, February 12th	5:30 pm	Tenant Association Meeting

Walnut Towers- Contact Heather Nutter Ext. 170

Tuesdays	4:00 pm	Tenant Bingo
Monday, February 5th	5:00 pm	Tenant Association Meeting

Senior Services Annual Visits

Our Resident Services team is preparing to preform Senior Services Annual Visits in our Senior and Family Communities. As part of our annual service, we will be visiting our seniors to ensure that they are receiving the best possible care and connected with all the incredible resources our community has to offer. This proactive approach reflects a commitment to the well-being of our senior residents. If there's anything specific you'd like assistance with or if you have any questions related to these visits, please contact Heather Nutter by phone at 301.733.6911 ext. 170 or by email at hnutter@hagerstownha.com or Dylan Rohrer by phone at 301.733.6911 ext. 171 or by email at drohrer@hagerstownha.com.

FREE ONLINE CLASSES

Wednesday, February 28, 2024: Daily Money Management at 6 pm

To Register for Online Classes, Contact:

Ladetra Robinson

Financial Literacy Success Coach

ladetra@reachofwc.org

301.733.2371 ext. 105

Financial Education Partnership-Washington County is a collaboration of:



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

RECERTIFICATION RENEWAL LETTERS

RENT

Upon receiving your renewal letter from Housing following recertification, please ensure that any additional fees, such as maintenance fees, key card fees, and A/C fees, are included when submitting your rent payment.



To ensure timely and accurate payment of your rent, please use the appropriate rent coupons when remitting payment either at Orrstown Bank or through the provided rent boxes. It's imperative to verify that the coupons you are using feature your correct name. This helps in ensuring that your payment is accurately credited to your account and that you don't receive any unwarranted late rent notices.

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.....301.733.6911ext. 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



Thursday, February 22nd at 10:30 am
Alison with Maryland Physicians Care in the Potomac Towers Community Room

MPC provides free, quality health care services to Maryland's HealthChoice enrollees by extending the full benefits of Medicaid. Our strong network of hospitals, doctors, clinics and pharmacies helps our Members live as healthy as possible through education, support, and quality programs.

Gateway Crossing Parking On City Owned Streets

The streets within Gateway Crossing are public streets where parking is available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Street parking in front of your unit is not reserved for any individuals, and conflicts should be resolved between residents. However, please be respectful of your neighbors when parking. Fighting with your neighbors over parking spots is unacceptable. If parking issues result in calling the HPD, that could result in you being charged for the call (known as a qualifying call).

HEATING SEASON

Heating levels that are maintained are from 66 degrees to 68 degrees. The room temperature must drop to 66 or below for the heat to come on. If the temperature in your home 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 \$98.73**) by checking the temperature before you call. Do not force the thermostats beyond the limit on the dial. Broken thermostats are charged to the resident. By keeping your windows locks this provides a much better seal and 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 also will result in damage to your appliance (melted knobs) for which you will be charged.**

SNOW & ICE REMOVAL

Residents of the Family Communities are responsible for removing snow and ice from walks, steps, and porches leading to their units. Residents who fail to clear their walks promptly will be charged when the Maintenance Department must perform the work. The Maintenance crews get to the public walks as soon as possible. Residents that share a walkway shall clear their half or share the responsibility. This means any sidewalks to your unit, except the front public sidewalk, which is the sidewalk that runs parallel to the front streets, are the responsibility of each resident.

The Hagerstown Housing Authority (Gateway Crossing) does NOT remove snow and ice or treat for snow and ice on any walkways in the rear of the units and does NOT remove snow or ice or treat for snow or ice in the front of your unit except for the public sidewalk that runs parallel to the front streets. Ice scrapers are a much cheaper way to remove ice from walks than 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 reaches the root systems. If you must use salt, please 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 put it where your neighbors or the Maintenance Department must move it again. Please do not allow your children to cover up cleared walkways. The better you fulfill your responsibilities, the better we can perform ours. Please take caution when traveling outside during the frigid days of winter. Periods of the sun cause the snow/ice to melt and then refreeze, creating instant patches of ice. Take extra time to avoid such areas for your safety.

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 please contact the Maintenance Department for repair.

SLIPPERY WHEN "COLD"

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. Please take the extra time to avoid such areas for your safety.

Please remember to clean out washers and dryers after use. This includes debris, trash, pet hair, etc.

Report a Concern

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



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 Douglass Court

3rd Thursday: Noland Village

4th Thursday: Frederick Manor



PEST CONTROL SCHEDULE

Hagerstown Revitalization Corporation

02/21/2024: 212-214 & 441-443 North Jonathan Street

Douglas Court

02/21/2024: All Units & Admin Building

Parkside Homes

02/14/2024: All Units & Community Building

Gateway Crossing

02/06/2024: 151-281 Ross Street, 902-947 Lanvale Street

02/13/2024: 953-1025 Lanvale Street, 201-250 Buena Vista Avenue

02/20/2024: 251-281 Buena Vista Avenue, 902-1002 Main Avenue

02/27/2024: 941-989 Main Avenue, 1006-1018 Main Avenue, 311-361 Chessie Lane, 913-929 Ross Street, 310/350/360 Buena Vista Avenue

Potomac Towers

02/07/2024: G16-G29, Laundry Room, Resident Services Office, Maintenance Department

02/14/2024: 101-127, Trash Rooms

02/21/2024: 201-232, Trash Rooms

02/28/2024: 301-331, Trash Rooms

Walnut Towers "A" Building

02/01/2024: 201-214

02/08/2024: 215/216, 301-311

02/15/2024: 312-316, 401-408

02/22/2024: 409-416, 501-504

C.W. Brooks Building

02/07/2024: All Units & Common Spaces

Scattered Sites

02/28/2024: All Units



Do you have suggestions for your Community?

The Hagerstown Housing Authority is organizing meetings in February, both in-person and via Zoom, to solicit input from residents regarding the utilization of capital funds in their community. Dawn Bragunier will be present to discuss the allocation and utilization of these funds in the previous year. We encourage you to attend these meetings in your community and share your ideas on how these funds should be utilized this year.

Walnut Towers: Monday, February 5, 2024 at 5:00 pm (during regular Tenant Association Meeting)

Potomac Towers: Monday, February 12, 2024 at 5:30 pm (during regular Tenant Association Meeting)

Family Communities Zoom: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 2:00 pm

Zoom Meeting Link: www.hagerstownha.com/cfp

Meeting ID: 812 7081 9373 **Passcode:** 145972 **One Tap Mobile:** +16469313860,,81270819373#,,, *145972#

If you are unable to attend the meeting for your Community please provide your suggestions in writing to the Resident Services Department by March 14, 2024.

Maintenance Inspections

Gateway Crossing

<u>Week of</u>	<u>Units to be inspected</u>
February 5th	Lanvale St: 1003, 1005, 1009, 1011, 1015, 1017, 1019, 1021, 1023, 1025 Buena Vista Ave: 201
February 12th	Buena Vista Ave: 231, 241, 251, 261, 281 Main Ave: 1002, 1006, 1010, 1012, 1016, 1018
February 19th	Main Ave: 960, 966, 968, 974, 976, 982, 988, 992
February 26th	Main Ave: 902, 908, 916, 924, 926, 932, 934, 940, 942, 950

Potomac Towers

Monday, February 5: 101-113
Tuesday, February 6: 201-217
Wednesday, February 7: 301-317
Monday, February 12: 401-417
Tuesday, February 13: 501-517
Wednesday, February 14: 601-617
Tuesday, February 20: 701-717
Wednesday, February 21: 801-817
Tuesday, February 27: 901-917
Wednesday, February 28: 1001-1017

Monday, March 4: G16-G29
Tuesday, March 5: 114-127
Wednesday, March 6: 219-232

Why It's Important To Be Prepared For An Inspection

To prevent the need for follow up housekeeping inspections, please ensure that your apartment is clean and tidy for your maintenance inspection. The inspector will report any resident with poor housekeeping for a follow-up inspection. Failure to keep your apartment in a decent, safe and sanitary condition could result in the termination of your lease. For any questions about how to get your apartment ready for inspection, please contact the Maintenance Department.

DID YOU KNOW?

We have a new text system to be able to reach you for emergencies, reminders, or after office hours for any important messages. The number for this text system is 240.799.1892. Please add the phone number to your phone so you don't miss notifications! Please do not respond to text messages or use this system to request services from Hagerstown Housing Authority Departments. You may have already received some test messages as we are learning the ins and outs of this new system. If you do not wish to receive these text messages please chose the Opt Out option that is provided.



Resident Advisory Board

- **Noland Village: Vacant Position**
- Frederick Manor: Jennifer Colvin
- Parkside/Douglas: Monique Broadus
- Potomac Towers: Karen Vankeuren Berry
- Walnut Towers: Tammy Swisher
- C.W. Brooks: Peggy Mason
- Gateway Crossing: Lakeisha Thrower
- McCleary Hill: Erica Dixon
- **HCV Position 1: Vacant Position**
- **HCV Position 2: Vacant Position**

If you are interested in any of the vacant positions in your community please contact:

Dianne Rudisill 301.733.6911 x125

Deena Holder 301.733.6911 x163



Horizon

Goodwill Industries



Second Tuesday Every Month 2-4 pm

Please join us on Tuesday, February 13, 2024 2-4 pm in the parking lot of McCleary Hill Community Building.

Horizon Goodwill Industries is able to assist with:

- Gaining Employment
- Finding Healthcare
- Recovery Assistance

Chrome Book Distribution

For Eligible Washington County Households



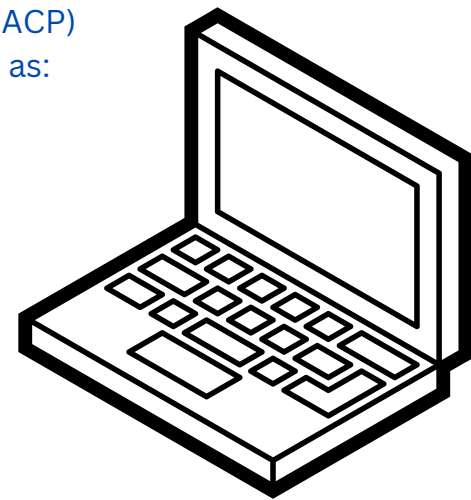
Washington County Free Library is the primary distributor of **no-cost** Chromebooks for eligible Washington County households. Distribution events with **scheduled appointments** to pick up a device will be held at each Washington County Free Library location during the first five months of 2024.

Eligibility

Only Washington County residents 18 years or older may participate. One device per household. Visit washcolibrary.org/chromebook for more information about proof of eligibility and qualification.

Qualifications

- Households with an income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines
- Households enrolled in the federal Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)
- Households that participate in government assistance programs such as:
 - Child receives free or reduced-price school lunch
 - Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
 - Medicaid
 - Pell Grant (current award year)
 - SNAP, formerly Food Stamps
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit
 - WIC



Make Your Appointment

Visit www.washcolibrary.org/chromebook and follow the link to make an appointment. Stop by your library or call 301.739.3250 for assistance making an appointment or to ask questions.