

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.



Neighbors

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



September 2021

Congratulations to Robin Kelley, Family Self Sufficiency Graduate

Hagerstown Housing Authority congratulates recent Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) graduate **Robin Kelley!** Robin was dedicated and worked very hard toward the accomplishment of her FSS goals which included, obtaining and maintaining employment, improving credit, researching Home Ownership, and furthering her education by attending numerous Financial Literacy workshops. Ms. Kelley worked hard to build an escrow savings account throughout her FSS contract with the Housing Authority and plans to use this toward a future goal of Home Ownership. Hagerstown Housing Authority commends Ms. Kelley on her achievements!



Hagerstown Housing Authority's Employee of the Quarter



Mr. John Davies, Occupancy Administrator, recently received Employee of the Quarter at the Hagerstown Housing Authority. John has been a valued employee of the Housing Authority for over 26 years. During his time of employment, he has helped thousands of families find housing within the properties owned and operated by Hagerstown Housing Authority. Most recently, a fellow employee wrote:

I'd like to recommend John Davies as our 'Employee of the Quarter'. During the past few months, I've worked much closer with this gentleman than I have in recent, largely due to our assistance with cold calls. Each time we meet prior to or after a move-in, he not only directs towards me quality assurance questions (state of the unit, resident satisfaction/concerns, etc.), but he always takes the time to answer questions that I have pertaining to the occupancy process. His thoroughness is uncanny, especially given his current workload. I have also appreciated his increased communication with our department and timeliness. Most importantly, which perhaps I admire most, is that John still, after many years here and of serving others, genuinely wants to do his very best to start our residents journey off on the right foot.

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

Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Do you need assistance paying your rent, utility bills, and more?

APPLY TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY!

Need Help Paying Your Rent Due to COVID?

In partnership with Community Action Council, The Hagerstown Housing Authority has streamlined an opportunity for residents who are behind on their rent due to being affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. If you are a resident in need of assistance from the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), **PLEASE CONTACT HHA FIRST for an application. This will simplify and quicken the process for you!**

Please Join Us For Our New Informational Zoom Series:

Creating Community Connections

Thursday September 16, 2021 @ 2:00 pm we welcome Carleah Summers, Executive Director of Nathan's Ridge. She will be providing us with an overview of the organization and the programs that they provide.

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

These events will be provided through Facebook Live on HHA Facebook Page!



Located inside of the C.W. Brooks Building
45 W. Baltimore Street

Horizon
CORNER STORE

Store Hours

Monday-Friday 8am-7pm Saturday 9am-2pm

	Horizon Corner Store	Competitor:
16oz Shredded Cheese	\$2.99	\$3.75
24 Single Slice cheese	\$1.49	\$4.99
16oz block cheese	\$1.99	\$4.99
10Z EGGS	\$1.58	\$2.29
½ Gallon Milk	\$1.29	\$2.39
Hot dogs	\$2.49	\$2.79
Bacon	\$4.99	\$6.59
16oz butter	\$3.99	\$5.99
8oz Cream cheese	\$2.99	\$3.76

Tenant Association Meetings

- CW Brooks Tenant Association will hold a meeting on September 9th @ 5pm**
 - Potomac Towers Tenant Association will hold a meeting on September 13th @ 5:30pm**
 - Walnut Towers Tenant Association will hold a meeting on September 13th @ 5pm**
- *Bingo has started again at Walnut Towers on Tuesday nights- Food will be served 4-5:10pm; Bingo @ 5:30pm***

Please join your neighbors to see what is going on in your community!

Wednesday September 29th from 9am-2:15pm will be the last day of the COVID-19 vaccine clinic held by the WCHD on 13 West Lee Street (behind the CW Brooks Building)

Resident Advisory Board

Open Positions on The Resident Advisory Board

A Resident Advisory Board (RAB) allows Section 8 and Public Housing residents to make recommendations for the Authority's plan. The RAB has a representative from each Housing Authority community and two representatives from Section 8. Each representative will hold a three-year term. The RAB meets quarterly with the Housing Authority. The purpose of the RAB is to advise their respective community and to provide input to the Housing Authority of:

- *Capital Improvements
- *Resident Functions
- *Housing Concerns
- *Changes to Policies and Procedures
- *Make recommendations to the Housing Authorities Annual & 5 Year Plan
- *Homeownership
- *Discuss & approve the use of Tenant Participation Funds
- *Conduct/Promote Activities to Promote Self-Sufficiency

We currently are accepting interest inquiries for representatives from Noland Village, McCleary Hill, Section 8, & Gateway Crossing. If you are interested in serving on the RAB or know someone you feel would be a good candidate, please contact: Dianne Rudisill, Director of Resident Services at 301-733-6911 ext. 125 (drudisill@hagerstownha.com) or Deena Holder, Assistant Director of Resident Services at 301-733-6911 ext. 163 (dholder@hagerstownha.com).

Potomac Towers Community Picnic

The Resident Services Department is hosting a picnic for residents at Potomac Towers. The picnic will be held on September 9th at 11:30 am. Please join us for this end of summer event!





CITY PARK FALL FEST 2021

Celebrate the fusion of arts, entertainment, & history on Saturday, September 18, 2021 from 11am-3pm at the annual City Park Fall Fest event. Enjoy free, fun family activities including pony rides, museum tours, art activities and recreation opportunities.

Partnered with Bester Community of Hope's Community Block Party we encourage everyone to come out and see what is going on! Visit the City Park Train Hub, the Jonathan Hager House Museum, Mansion House Valley Art Association, and the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts.



Help Us Help You!

Once you have contacted an HHA employee for assistance please give that employee 24-48 hours to contact you back before contacting another employee for assistance with the same issue. This helps to reduce confusion of multiple employees contacting the same resident and also overlapping of resources. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Congratulations Graduate!

The Hagerstown Housing Authority would like to congratulate our own Heather Nutter on her graduation. In May, Heather completed her Bachelor of Arts in Social Work, graduating Cum Laude, from Salisbury University. She was able to earn Dean's List honors each semester she attended. However, Heather's education is not ending there. She is currently enrolled in the Master of Social Work degree at Salisbury University. She hopes to graduate from there in May 2022 and work on her licensure exam to become a licensed social worker.

Heather began her employment at the Authority in 2019 as a Resident Services Case Manager in the Resident Services Department. Since then, she has been promoted to Senior Services Coordinator. Heather is putting her past work experience and education to good use in assisting our residents. Please make sure to congratulate Heather on her achievement and hard work when you see her.



**FREE CLASSES!
FINANCIAL
EDUCATION SERIES**

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

Topics include:

September 15, 2021: "Your Credit Matters!"

October 13, 2021: "Earn It, Plan It, Keep It" (Creating a budget.)

November 10, 2021: "Daily Money Management"

To register or for more information, contact Ladeira at 301-733-2371 ext. 105
ladeira@reachofwc.org



Register Today!

6:00 - 7:00 pm

Build/Rebuild
Your Credit

Planning Your
Finances

Opening a Bank
Account

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

Meals for Paws food distribution will be on Friday September 24, 2021 between 9am-930am at Potomac Towers, Walnut Towers, & CWB

FROM MAINTENANCE

Cable Trippers

If you have TV or telephone cable crossing stairs or walkways, please remove them immediately. Per your lease agreement, cables are not permitted to be run in a manner that may cause a tripping hazard. Cables are to be fastened to the baseboard and door frames by use of cable tacks (“U” shaped tacks). Cables are to be run up and around door frames and NOT across walkways. If you could trip over it, then it is improperly installed.

Improperly installed cable will be removed by maintenance and the cost charged to the tenant. New or existing cable will not be re-installed causing you the loss of use of the TV or telephone served by the cable. Avoid this major inconvenience by properly installing your cable now.

Heat Start Up-High Rises

The Maintenance Department will be turning the heat on in Walnut and Potomac Towers early October, depending upon the weather. Before you call Maintenance for service this heating season, make sure the room temperature is below 66 degrees. If the temperature 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 (\$95.58) by checking the temperature before you call. Do not force the thermostat knob beyond the limit on the thermostat.

Remember, using your oven or stove as a source of heat is a lease violation. It poses a serious health risk to you. This misuse may also result in damage to your stove (melted knobs) for which you will be charged.

Inspection Corner

Attention Residents:

All tenant owned Appliances, Refrigerators, Freezers, AC units must be inspected and deficiencies recorded as if they are owned by the Housing Authority. Any repairs will need to be completed in a timely manner or removal will be needed.

Health and Safety items will also need to be inspected. For example, broken/cracked glass, mirrors, missing fan covers, fire extinguishers and play equipment. Furniture blocking Call-for-Aid buttons and windows need to be moved away from these areas. Flammable/combustible items must be properly stored, not inside your unit.

Pest Control Schedule for September	
09/02/2021	WTA: 505-516
09/08/2021	PT: 401-424, 528-531
09/09/2021	WTA: 601-616
09/15/2021	PT: 605-632
09/16/2021	WTA: 701-710
09/22/2021	PT: 605-632
09/23/2021	WTA: 711-716, 810-816
09/29/2021	PT: 601-604, 709-731, Trash Rooms & Dumpsters



DON'T LET THE BEDBUGS BITE!

Is it normal to see bedbugs after treatment?

Yes, it is normal to see bedbugs after your unit is treated by a pest control professional. The good news is that their number should be reduced after each treatment. Realistically, a bed bug infestation in your home should be eliminated successfully and entirely by the 3rd treatment. The reason a single treatment is almost never enough is that bedbugs are able to get into many spots that are inaccessible. Bedbugs typically feed once every week and could be hiding between meals when treatments are applied. Be aware that boxes filled with belongings, items underneath beds, packed closets or stacks of papers prevent proper inspections and treatments. They also offer additional hiding places for bedbugs and allow them to survive for extended periods of time. It is common to notice increased bedbug activity a few days after the treatment, mainly because at this point, you are well aware of the infestation and you are actively looking for them. In reality, their numbers usually decrease. Follow up treatments with a variety of products will be necessary to achieve complete elimination of the bedbug infestation.

