Tower Times

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Volume 13, Issue 3 March 2024

Court Tower Apartments 100 Court St., Oshkosh, WI 54901

Please welcome Shanna Prieto to Court

Tower!

Shanna comes to Court Tower with ten years of affordable housing experience. A mother of two, Shanna is looking forward to working with everyone at Court Tower. As stated in the Tower Times Express, Shanna started with the Oshkosh Housing Authority on February 19th, 2024. She is currently working her way through a number of trainings and webinars to get her up to speed on project-specific details of both Court Tower and Waite Rug. So please understand if she does not answer the door right away, some of the trainings are *not* pre-recorded and so she cannot stop them to answer the door. But she will try to connect with tenants whenever she is able to.

Thank you to everyone who came and spent some time with Shanna and the rest of the staff. It was great to be able to meet and spend some time outside of strict housing-based discussions.



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Court Tower Tenant Meeting In the Theatre Room March 19th @ 1:30PM

I do not have a Speaker lined up for this month's Tenant Meeting, it will just be a time for addressing current topics related to the building.

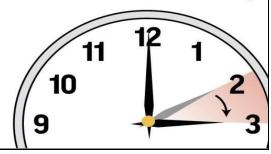
** If you have a known or suspected case of Bed Bugs, please do not come to the meeting, you will be turned away. **

** Upon request, we will provide a copy of the meeting minutes by the end of the week **

Sunday, March 10th, 2024

Spring forward

Daylight saving time starts Sunday at 2 a.m. local time. Set your clocks *ahead one hour* before bed Saturday.



Bed Bug Canine Inspections For March:

To stay on top of the Bed Bug issue, we will be continuing to have the dogs come in for 2 floors every 4th Wednesday of each month at 8:00am.

We will be having the 12th and 13th floors checked on March 27th, 2024 at 8:00 am

Please make sure that any pets are safely contained in the bathroom, or outside of the unit during the inspection. If you used **any** pesticides you <u>must</u> report it to the Inspector

Court Tower Snow Removal Policy

It is the time of year when it can begin to snow at any time. Please consider this reminder about our policy. Please have all vehicles removed from parking areas (East side of Court Tower and the back side of the first set of Otter Street garages) by 1:30 PM on weekdays when snow is greater than 2 inches.

Ultimately, if you have a garage, you are responsible to clear snow from the direct area in front of your garage. As a courtesy, and when we can, maintenance will remove snow 1-2 feet in front of every garage.



Social Security Announces 3.2 percent Benefit Increase for 2024

Again this year, To lessen the burden on our tenants, and to get a jump on recertifications this year, we are asking that **all tenants who receive SS or SSI letters for 2023 bring their letter to the fourth floor during Dylan's Office hours.** Dylan will make a copy and you will want to keep your original, so please try to catch him when he is in the office. However, if you drop it off in the drop box, or slide it under the fourth floor office door, Dylan will make a copy and return the original to your unit. This request will continue to be posted in the newsletter until the time comes where we have collected them all for 2024.

The Return of Some Long-Awaited Social Events

We are very excited to announce a few big changes that have been requested for a long time. The follow events that are returning may have a few alterations from before, but we are still trying to be conscious of the ongoing Bed Bug issues in the building while still supporting the reopening of our common spaces and events. Please note that the Craft Room and Game room are still closed, but we are looking at opening those up soon too!

BINGO is Back: Bingo is returning every second Thursday of the month at 1:00pm in the Dining Room. Cards are 50 cents each; income goes towards a BINGO Prize Fund. All participants must sign in.

<u>Crafting Night are returning on Wednesdays</u>: Anyone who would like to craft in the company of other crafters is welcome to do so every Wednesday Night starting at 6:00pm in the cafeteria. All crafts are welcome, but please make sure that you are bringing something to work on, it is *crafting* night after all! :) Nancy Schneske will have the Sign-in Sheet for Crafting Night.

<u>Theatre Room Reservations are open:</u> Anyone who would like to reserve the Theatre Room is welcome to do so. Please Contact Dylan to do so. If you are reserving it for an event you will need to let Dylan know in advance so he can provide you with a sign in sheet as well. All reservation holders are expected to clean up after themselves.

If you have a known or suspected case of Bed Bugs, please do not come to any group events, you are not permitted to attend.

Holiday Office Hours

The Housing Authority Offices will be closed on Friday 3-29-2024 for The Spring Holiday.

You will still be able to contact the After-Hours Emergency Number: <u>920-735-3707</u>

We hope that everyone has a very happy and safe Easter/Spring Holiday

Alternatives to ACP:

With ACP likely Ending, here are a few alternatives, let me know if you need help signing up for either and we will make an appointment to apply. Make sure that you have proof of whatever form of verification you plan to use to prove your eligibility for either program.

Spectrum Internet Assist is "an affordable, reliable Internet option for low-income households."

Limited bandwidth, 50 megabytes of download (Standard is 300), and 10 of upload

Prices are estimated at \$24.99 if you bring your own Router, or \$32.99 with a Router provided by Spectrum.

To qualify for Spectrum Internet Assist, you must be receiving at least one of the following programs:

- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
- Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) of the NSLP
- Supplemental Security Income (for applications age 65+ only)

Access from AT&T is "a low cost home internet service available to eligible limited income AT&T Internet and AT&T Fiber households"

Access from AT&T has a standard cost of \$30.00 per month, but based on the application you may be approved for a lower price. If you already have ACP, Access from AT&T may be free.

To qualify for Access from AT&T, you must be receiving at least one of the following programs*:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP),
- National School Lunch Program (NSLP),
- Have a household income below 200% of federal poverty guidelines.

^{*}All households that qualify for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) and apply the benefit to AT&T Internet or AT&T Fiber service are also eligible for Access from AT&T.

A Couple of Reminders from the Nurses:

- If you need a rapid test for COVID just call, we have some and can help you if you have questions about doing the test.
- If you need a surgical mask because you are sick or have been exposed to someone who was ill and do not want others to get sick just call us and we can get you some.
- The nurse hours are 8AM-4PM Monday through Friday. If you need something health related just call us and we will schedule an appointment with you. We do have open hour monthly at each of your buildings as well if you prefer that.
- If you have or suspect you have bed bugs respect your fellow residents and do not come to our nurse office. Instead, please call us and we will gladly schedule an appointment and come to you as soon as we are able.
- If you have old and or expired medication, we can assist with the disposal of that if you are unable to get to the Oshkosh Police station drug drop box just give us a call to schedule a time for one of us to get it.



Injuries are common

as you age.



Each year, older adults experience 36 million falls and 1.6 million car crashes. An injury from a fall or car crash can decrease your independence. But, getting older doesn't have to mean giving up your favorite hobbies and activities.

What steps can you take to prevent injury as your age?

• Tell your doctor if you have fallen, if you feel unsteady when standing or walking, or if you're afraid you might fall. Talk to your doctor about fall prevention and safe driving strategies.

• Ask your doctor or pharmacist to review the medicines you take—both prescription and over the counter. Some medicines might make you dizzy or sleepy or may reduce your reaction time.

- Have an eye doctor check your eyes at least once a year and update your eyeglasses as needed.
- Have your doctor check your feet at least once a year and discuss proper footwear to reduce your risk of falling.
- Do exercises that make your legs stronger and improve your balance, like Tai Chi.
- Make your home safer by removing throw rugs, using extra lighting or brighter light bulbs, installing grab bars in bathrooms and handrails on both sides of staircases.
- Only drive during daylight and in good weather, and **always** wear a seat belt—as a driver or passenger.
- Never drink and drive—alcohol reduces coordination, impairs judgement, and increases the risk of being in a crash.
- Plan your drive to find the safest route and leave a large following distance between your car and the car in front of you.
- Avoid distractions in your car, such as listening to a loud radio and talking or texting on your phone.
- Consider riding with a friend or family member, taking a ride share service, or using public transportation.

If you have fallen or are in a car crash, have your doctor check you for signs and symptoms of a brain injury.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control



Court Tower March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed		Thu	Fri	Sat
						1	2
3	4 AARP Tax Assistance @ 9:00am in Theatre room	5 Nurse's Open Hour on 4th Floor @ 1:00PM	6 Crafting @ 6:00PM		7	8 Laurie's Last Day at Court Tower	9
10 Daylights Savings Time	11	12	13 Crafting @ 6:00PM		14 BINGO @ 1:00PM	15	16
17	18	19 Tenant Meeting @ 1:30PM	20 Crafting @ 6:00PM		21	22	23 National Chips and Dip Day
24	25 OHA/WCHA Joint Board Meeting @ CT 3:30PM in the Theatre Room	26	27 K-9 Inspections for floors 12 & 13 @8:00am Crafting @ 6:00PM		28	29 OHA Office Closed for Spring Holiday	30
31 Easter							
Court Tower Staff Shanna Prieto: Property Manager 920-303-5400 shanna@ohawcha.org Dylan Palmer: Social Service Coordinator 920-642-3473 DPalmer@ohawcha.org Melanie Bloechl: Housing Specialist 920-292-4474 Melanieb@ohawcha.org Josh Wendt: Maintenance Sally Josephson: Custodian After Hours On-Call Emergencies: 920-735-3707 Advocap Meal Site: 920-420-1994 Nurses Erin Roberts & Lori Duclon: Call them at 920-424-1470 E. 124 to make an appointment. Nurse Open Hour: 1st Tuesday of the month 1 PM - 2 PM 4th floor offices				Court Tower Staff Hours (Subject to Change) The Court Tower Office Opens at 8:00 AM and closes at 4:00 PM (1:00PM on Fridays). Shanna (Property Manager): Monday: 11:30am – 4:00pm Tuesday: 8:00am – 4:00pm Wednesday: 11:30am – 4:00pm Thursday: 8:00am – 4:00pm Friday: 8:00am – 4:00pm Dylan (Social Service Coordinator): Monday: 8:00am – 4:30pm Tuesday: 12:00pm – 4:30pm Wednesday: 8:00am – 4:30pm Thursday: 12:00pm – 4:30pm Friday: 8:00am – 4:30pm			

