



The Official Newsletter of the Brookwood-Hollaway Civic Association, Inc.

October 2010

From The President's Desk

Dear Neighbors,

The Fall Season is quickly setting in. As we transition from hot and humid days and nights, we need to prepare ourselves for falling leaves and putting away the patio furniture. As with last year, we expect that leaves will need to be bagged rather than raked to the curb for vacuum pickup. I challenge you to take pride in the neighbor. Watch for the notices regarding leaf pick-up and other maintenance items.

In addition to bagging the leaves, we also need to prepare our homes for the approaching winter. It's time to schedule winterization for the yard sprinkler system. Do not forget to order a furnace or heat pump check-up before winter sets in to ensure it is ready to go at maximum efficiency.

Keep reading through the newsletter for opportunities to get involved. We need your assistance and that of your neighbors. If you are already involved, help us to recruit your neighbors.

Together we can make Brookwood and Hollaway Estates a great and safe place to live.

Carolyn Green-Fitzgerald, President

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

BROOKWOOD-HOLLAWAY COMMUNITY DAY

Saturday, October 9, 2010, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. at Rosaryville Elementary School (parking lot)

The first annual community day is expected to include a neighborhood yard sale, food, moon bounce, face painting, music DJ, talent show, basketball hoops contest, and a variety of business vendors. This event is FREE to attend.

Contact Nicole Austin-Hillery at 301-877-5971 (nauleo@aol.com) or any member of the board of directors for participation information.

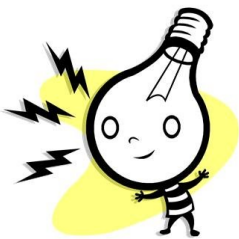
We are still accepting volunteers to assist with this event. Volunteers with EMS or other medical related training are also sought. If you would like to volunteer please contact Carolyn or Nicole Austin-Hillery.

Neighborhood Watch

Neighborhood Watch continues to supervisor block captain and patrol programs where volunteers only observe and report certain activities throughout the entire neighborhood. No one is asked to confront anyone else. However, the patrol program has been revised to recruit more volunteers, as the current number of patrollers has fallen in 2010. Specifically, volunteers:

- do not have to patrol by car; they can patrol by walking, running, or driving through the area during their normal activities;
- will have less area to observe, as the patrol area has been divided into five distinct sections;
- can make their own schedule; they can patrol as little or as much as they like; and
- do not have to use the strobe light or neighborhood watch signs on vehicle; patrols can be done in anonymity.

The revised program should offer greater flexibility and minimize time commitments for volunteers. During the summer months, there have been few reported incidents (such as stolen property, vandalism, etc.) to the neighborhood watch chairperson. However, police and newspaper reports suggest that these incidents continue to occur in the neighborhood. Anyone interested in working on the Neighborhood Watch Committee should contact chairperson Rick Brown or co-chair Ahmad Ridley as referenced above.



Neighborhood Watch TIP: The Police Department can provide assistance with selecting an appropriate theft deterrent device for your vehicle. Please contact District V police at 301-856-3130 for more information.

Community Relations

ATTENTION BOAT OWNERS

At a recent session of the County Council, sitting as the District Council, legislation was passed revising the regulations on parking in residential areas; specifically the parking of boats and boat trailers.

This Zoning Bill (CB-24-2010) added the following to current regulations:

Parking shall be provided as follows: The boat and boat trailer shall:

- A. be located at least eight (8) feet from a street line,
- B. be parked on a dust-free surface area such as concrete, asphalt, or gravel,
- C. be properly licensed and operable,
- D. not be in excess of twenty (20) feet unless located on a lot at least two (2) acres in size, and
- E. is covered to prevent the accumulation of water.

Full information on parking regulations may be found at Subtitle 27, Zoning; Part 5, Residential Zones, Division 3, Uses Permitted.

If any BHCA member knows of a resident boat owner who is not a member of BHCA, please let them know about this change. Also, keep in mind that parking regulation enforcement is conducted by the Revenue Authority and the County Police.

GANG TIP LINE

The County Police Dept. has announced that the gang tip line is now fully operational. This tip line will be monitored by the P.G. Police Dept.'s gang investigators. Callers have the option to remain anonymous, or they may leave their contact information for a gang investigator to contact them. **The nationwide toll-free phone number for the tip line is 1-877-629-4264 (GANG), and the local phone number is 301-985-5365.** Both numbers are bilingual (English and Spanish).

If you suspect gang activity in our community we urge you to call the tip line immediately. If you see what you think is gang graffiti, groups of men and/or women wearing "colors" – i.e. headbands, bandannas, handkerchiefs hanging out of pockets, groups gathering at vacant properties, or if you see weapons, please report it to the tip line or 911.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS REPORT

On September 8th, a BHCA representative attended the Department of Public Works and Transportation's (DPW&T) Community Partners meeting. The meeting focused on several topics including:

A reminder that vacuum leaf collection is no longer provided by the County. Instead, residents are asked to:

- rake leaves and bag, mulch or compost
- put bagged leaves out on their regularly scheduled Yard Waste pick up day and
- keep leaves out of storm drains, roads, etc.

Political signs must be removed within 10 days following the election. The winners' signs may remain up until after the general election.

Gorgeous Prince George's Community Clean-Up Day is October 16, 2010.

DPW&T will conduct its Annual Snow Dry Run on Friday, October 29, 2010.

Illegal dumping continues to be a problem, particularly in the southern part of the County. Citizens are asked to contact DPW&T if they observe such activity or dumping sites. Call 301-883-5600.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS



Schools Open: Schools are back in session. Please be mindful of children walking and crossing the roads. Pay careful attention when driving in school zones and near bus stops.



Overgrown Lawns: If you have a concern about an overgrown lawn, please contact the Dept. of Environmental Services, Property Standards Division at 301-883-6100. Your call is confidential.



Pets: Pet owners are required to comply with the Leash Law when walking their dog(s). We want to ensure the safety of all residents and the safety of ALL pets from passing cars. Pet owners may be subject to a fine for non-compliance with this law.

If you have a concern about a stray animal, an animal in distress, or non-compliance with the leash law, please contact the Animal Management Division at 301-499-8300. Your call is confidential.

Pot Holes: To report a pot hole for repair, please contact the Dept. of Public Works at 301-499-8520.

Bulk Trash: To schedule a bulk trash pick up, please call 301-952-7600. Bulk items **must be scheduled** for pick up, as they will not be removed with regular trash pick up.

Home Ownership & Financial Literacy Programs

United Communities Against Poverty, Inc. (UCAP), www.ucappgc.org works with Prince George's County residents to prevent foreclosure, and has programs to educate the community and homeowners on how to maintain their homes and how to improve their financial status. Most of the programs are free or moderately priced. **UCAP will host the following workshops from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 pm.:**

FINANCIAL LITERACY WEEK (2010 SCHEDULE)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
October 4	Goal Setting/Debt Management	Mary Dade
October 5	Credit	James Diggs
October 6	Credit Cards	Mary Dade
October 11	Fraud & Identity Theft	Mary Dade
October 12	Wealth Building	Mary Dade
October 13	Predatory Practices	James Diggs

POST PURCHASE PROGRAM (2010 SCHEDULE SESSIONS 1 and 2)

Session 1

September 22, 2010	Insurance	Mary Dade
September 29, 2010	Record Keeping	James Diggs
October 6, 2010	Protecting Your Investment	Nathaniel McDonald
October 13, 2010	Foreclosure Prevention	Carolyn Green-Fitzgerald

Session 2

October 20, 2010	Home Maintenance & Repairs	Nathaniel McDonald
November 3, 2010	Financial Management	Mary Dade
November 10, 2010	Insurance	Mary Dade
November 17, 2010	Record Keeping	James Diggs
November 24, 2010	Protecting Your Investment	Nathaniel McDonald
December 1, 2010	Foreclosure Prevention	Carolyn Green-Fitzgerald

Participants are required to attend the complete series of 6 workshops to receive a certificate. This program is designed to:

- *Increase the homeowner's level of financial education to the intermediate and advance levels*
- *Strategically move the homeowner to conserve energy and save the environment with emphasis on green behaviors*
- *Teach the homeowner how to perform many home maintenance tasks inexpensively and avoid the pitfalls of expensive deferred maintenance costs*
- *Avoid mortgage default and foreclosure*
- *Promote community involvement which impacts quality of life issues, such as the reduction of crime*

Contact Information:

Nathaniel McDonald
Manager, Homeownership Center
1400 Doewood Lane
Capitol Heights, MD 20743
301-322-5700 extension 107
www.ucappgc.org

Reminder for Small Tax-Exempt Organizations

The IRS also encourages representatives of small tax-exempt charitable community organizations, many of which serve people with disabilities and veterans, to file [Form 990-N before the Oct. 15 deadline](#). Community organizations that fail to file a Form 990-N by this date risk losing their tax exempt status. As of June 30, more than 320,000 organizations were at risk of losing their exempt status.

PAST EVENTS

In March of this year we welcomed the community to an Easter Egg Hunt held at Mt. Airy Mansion. The event was well attended. Below are some photos from the event.



BHCA Website Update

You now have the option to use [PayPal](#), a secure online payment tool, to pay annual dues and to donate to the scholarship fund! You don't need a PayPal account to participate. With just a few clicks you can pay your dues up to three years in advance. You will receive an electronic receipt and an updated membership card in the mail from BHCA.

The payment and donate options are available on the BHCA website, www.neighborhoodlink.com/Brookwood-Hollaway/home.

In December 2010, you will receive an e-mail from BHCA regarding our 2011 membership drive. This email will provide you with the option to pay your 2011 dues using PayPal.

2010 Board of Directors

Carolyn Green-Fitzgerald, President

301-535-1290

cgreenfitz@verizon.net

Nicole Austin-Hillery, Vice President

301-877-5971

nauleo@aol.com

Nicole Ridley, Secretary

301-868-2595

nlbconsulting@yahoo.com

E. Delores Monroe, Treasurer

301-877-1346

emonroey@aol.com

2010 Committee Chairpersons

Community Relations

Barry Schlossberg

301-868-9083

bjschloss@yahoo.com

Nominations

LaSharon Fulmer

301-856-8945

lcfulmer@msn.com

Neighborhood Watch

Richard "Rick" Brown

301-877-1242

crb9904@verizon.net

Communications

Vacant

Membership

Vacant

Ahmad Ridley (Co-chair)

301-868-2595

adrer@yahoo.com

Programs

Vacant

If you wish to serve as a committee chairperson for any vacant position, please contact a member of the Board.

BHCA Contact Information:

Brookwood-Hollaway Civic Association, Inc.

PO Box 280 - Cheltenham, MD 20623

Email – bhca-membership@comcast.net

Website: <http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/Brookwood-Hollaway/home>