



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

September 16, 2008

Community Networking

It's great when our community works together to resolve a common problem. Such was the case with our recent "nuisance dogs" issue. Information on the location of the dogs was provided by BHCA's Neighborhood Watch Block Captains and Watchers, other members including one member who even conducted a stakeout and another member who provided pictures of the dogs to Neighborhood Watch. Thanks to concerned residents alerting the community and the appropriate agency, Prince George's Animal Management officers ultimately caught the dogs.

Hopefully we will not have a repetition of this situation but if we should, please call the County's Animal Management Division at 301-499-8300 and notify BHCA's Neighborhood Watch. Please be informed that Animal Management comes under the jurisdiction of the County's Department of Environmental Resources, not the County Police Department.

We were also informed by one of the Animal Management officers that they are not normally sent out unless the animal(s) are "contained" or secured. They have informed us that they will however set up live traps as necessary, which was how these dogs were caught.

Security Alert

We have received information that thieves are now breaking into vehicles to take remote garage door openers then using them to enter the garage and break into the property. Although no incidents of this type have been reported in our community we recommend you not leave the remote in your vehicle but keep it with you at all times.

If you are aware of any such incidents or become a victim of any security incident, we urge you to call the police and then advise our Neighborhood Watch Chair, Rick Brown at 301-877-1242 or crb9904@verizon.net. This is the only way to be sure that our members receive correct security and safety information. An important part of any successful Neighborhood Watch Program is that the community be aware at all times of any and all safety and security issues.

Neighborhood Watch Report

We would like to welcome several new volunteers to our Neighborhood Watch patrollers group. Joining the patrol are Todd Arbin and James & LaSharon Fulmer. Additionally there are six new Block Captains on our N.W. Program. They are Tawana Wilkins (Toucan Drive), Monika Jackson (Toucan Drive), Andre Collins (Rhodenda Ave), Dave Kallemyn (Sudan Pl), Don Beck (Sudan Place) and Norman Davis (Devlin Dr).

We continuously seek volunteers to join the Neighborhood Watch Program as Patrollers as our goal would be to have a team out every day. Block Captains and Block Watchers are also needed. Anyone interested in helping to improve safety and security on your block through volunteering time to this program is encouraged to contact Rick Brown, N.W. Chair at 301-877-1242 or crb9904@verizon.net.

While most of our patrols are during evening hours we would like to add patrols during the day, particularly in the afternoon when the school buses are dropping off the children. In order to accomplish this we need your help. If you can volunteer a couple of hours a month, please call Rick.

If you happen to be out and about in the evening and you see that car with the flashing yellow light and the Neighborhood Watch Patrol sign on it, give them a wave and let them know you appreciate their efforts. We know they'd appreciate it.

School Board to Host Community Dialogues

Monday, October 20, 2008 at 7 PM at Largo High School is the scheduled date for the District 5 and At-Large meeting set by the Prince George's County School Board to discuss public school issues. The series of meetings, titled "Taking Your Board of Education to the Community", are open to all county residents. "Each board member has made community involvement in public school education a priority and we want to engage our constituents in conversations that help accelerate the improvements being made in Prince George's County Public Schools," school board chairwoman Verjeana M. Jacobs said in a Sept. 2 statement.

County Council Delays Vote

At the September 9th County Council meeting, attended by a representative of BHCA, the Council decided not to vote on the proposed location for the new Waste Transfer Station. The site under consideration is called the Western Branch Transfer Station and is located at 6550 SE Crain Highway in Upper Marlboro. The bill, CB-74-2008, is to be reviewed further by the Transportation, Housing and Environmental Committee. Our representative believed the delay was due in part to the large number of residents living in near proximity to the site who spoke against this location.

Why are we interested? Initially nineteen sites were under consideration. These were narrowed to four, including the Crain Highway site. One of the other sites is situated within a couple miles of our community and would substantially increase trash truck traffic on Woodyard, Rosaryville and Frank Tippet Roads. Although this site was not recommended by the environmental company employed by the County to assess the various sites, this site has not been eliminated from consideration.

BHCA will continue to follow the Council's action and update you through this newsletter.

Voter Registration Deadline

Residents who wish to vote in the November 4, 2008 Presidential General Election are reminded that the deadline for voter registration is 9 PM on Tuesday, October 14, 2008.

In order to register to vote in Prince George's County, individuals must be a U.S. citizen and live in the County. Seventeen year olds can register and vote in the Presidential General Election if they will be 18 years old on or before November 4, 2008.

The P.G. County Board of Election will open its office located at 16201 Trade Zone Avenue, Suite 108, Upper Marlboro, MD every Saturday leading up to the voter registration deadline, from 9 AM to 2 PM

Voter Registration Applications may be obtained by calling the Board of Elections at 301-430-8020. They are also available in county libraries, the Motor Vehicle Administration, and all U.S. Post Offices. Applications can also be downloaded at <http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/Elections>. For more information on voter registration or absentee ballots, please call their office or visit their website. You may also contact Carolyn Green-Fitzgerald at (301) 535-1290 or cgreenfitz@verizon.net. Carolyn is an authorized voter register and she can assist you with registration.

County to Host the "Amistad"

Prince George's County will host the Freedom Schooner AMISTAD's arrival to National Harbor from September 16-22, 2008 for its National Homecoming.

The AMISTAD is a recreation of the original vessel called La Amistad that was an integral part of the Amistad Incident of 1839, the first civil rights case heard by the US Supreme Court. The Port Visit to the National Harbor is commemorating the 1808 signing of the United States law abolishing the African slave trade. The American law enacted March 1807, with the law coming into force on January 1, 1808.

While docked at National Harbor, the AMISTAD will be available to the general public for tours. In addition, an exhibit with the vessel will be on display in the County Administration Building first floor lobby area located at 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro through Monday, Sept.22 from 8:30 am-5:00 pm. The exhibit and vessels tours are both free to the public.

Bulky Trash Pickup

Need to schedule a pick-up of bulk trash? This service is provided by the County's Department of Environmental Resources (DER). You may contact the Bulky Trash Office at (301) 952-7600, Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to schedule an appointment or online at <http://bulkytrash.princegeorgescountymd.gov/>

Acceptable items include furniture and refrigerators (remove doors from all appliances for safety reasons), washing machines & dryers, hot water heaters and push lawn mowers (remove the gas tank and drain the oil from mowers), and other large materials generated in the household that are not picked up by refuse collection.

BHCA Contact Information

Brookwood-Hollaway Civic Association, Inc.

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