



# UNIVERSITY HILLS AREA CIVIC ASSOCIATION

## OCTOBER 2009 NEWSLETTER

**Meeting: SATURDAY October 24, 2009, 12:00-2:00 pm**

**Duck Pond Pavilion**

Rain or shine, bring lawn chair/umbrella

Special Guest: County Councilman Will Campos

### **NEW OFFICERS ASSUME LEADERSHIP OF UHACA FOR 2009-2010 CIVIC YEAR**

After enjoying a delightful year end picnic at the UHACA general association meeting held on May 23, 2009, at Hitching Post Hill, association members unanimously elected new officers for the 2009-2010 civic year.

Congratulations are in order to our newly elected association officers:

Tim Scanlon, President

Jim Menasian, Vice President,

Tim Hunt, Treasurer

Veda Gaston, Secretary

### **DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR BELCREST ROAD/TOLEDO TERRACE AREA ANNOUNCED**

The Contee Corporation, owners of multiple 4 story garden apartments located behind PG Plaza on Toledo Terrace have made application to MNCPPC to demolish their existing apartments and replace them with a mixed use development project designed to include condominiums, apartments, town homes, office and commercial space totaling 289,000 square feet. Plans call for the construction of a towering, 33 story signature apartment building to be constructed at the intersection of Belcrest Road and Toledo Terrace. Concerns have been expressed by some area residents about the planned storm water management system, traffic impact on Adelphi Road and height issues with some of the buildings. A representative of the Contee Corporation, will present detailed development plans to residents at our October meeting and will also address any questions about the project( i.e. Belcrest Plaza Development).

### **IS YOUR PROPERTY ASSESSMENT TOO HIGH?**

When your home was assessed in 2007, the real estate market was booming. Since then, as we all know, property values have declined dramatically. The State of Maryland, by law, will provide you with a notice of assessment sometime between December 26<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> 2009, effective January 1, 2010. If you disagree with the new proposed value, you will have 45 days from the notice date (that final appeal date will be printed on the notice) to file a timely protest. The postmark date is the determinant regarding timeliness. This assessment immediately impacts your property taxes due effective July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011, and for the following two tax years. If the market continues to decline in 2011 or 2012, you may file a Petition for Review of Real Property for those years. You can download the form at <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/petitrnv.pdf> or receive it by mail by requesting it from the PG County Assessment Office. The form must be filed by January 1 of the year you are appealing to be considered timely.

The December notice will also include a Homestead Application which **MUST BE COMPLETED** and returned to the SDAT address by the dates specified to retain the Homestead Assessment Credit. This application, which should be a one time requirement, asks that you

provide detailed information and affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the property you are residing in is your primary residence. Additionally, if your total household annual income is below \$60,000, you may also be eligible for the Homeowners Tax Credit which is income, not age based. Any inquiries regarding the application and important dates for this credit should be addressed to the Homeowners Tax Credit section at 1-800-944-7403.

Any questions or concerns you have about appealing your assessed value should be addressed to Mr. Dan Puma, Assessment Manager for Prince Georges County (301-972-2184) or [Dpuma@dat.state.md.us](mailto:Dpuma@dat.state.md.us).

### **MULTIPLE AREA HALLOWEEN EVENTS FOR KIDS**

On Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 4pm and ending at approximately 8pm, the City of Hyattsville's Department of Recreation and the Arts is sponsoring a Fall Spooky Festival and Hobo Dinner(hot dogs/chips). Events include an appearance by Count "Trickula", a trick or treat trail and costume contest. The evening will conclude with a movie for the kids.

On Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, from 3:00-4:30 pm, Randy and Rose Fletcher, owners of Hitching Post Hill, have graciously offered to make their estate available for a UHACA sponsored Halloween party for all little ghosts and goblins up to age 10 who are accompanied by their parents. A parade of our young halloweeners will be held and awards will be presented. Treats and soft drinks will be served. ( See Attached Flyer).

On Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, from 7-9pm, the College Park Aviation Museum (1985 Corporal Fred Scott Drive, 301-864-6029, [www.collegeparkaviationmuseum.com](http://www.collegeparkaviationmuseum.com)) will be sponsoring a FLIGHT AND FRIGHT NIGHT! Costumed youngsters will gather for an evening of arts and crafts, spooky fun ,and hay rides. Tickets are \$4 each. Call for details.

### **FOR ADULTS**

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 7:30 pm, in Dekelboun Concert Hall, the University of Maryland's Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center is presenting "BIG BAND PRE HALLOWEEN SCREAM". Chris Vadala will conduct a bewitching night of jazz featuring all three of the School of Music's spirited big bands. Howling winds, wailing brass, and things that go bump in the night- will all be offered for your scary pleasure. Call 301-405-2707 for details. FREE

### **CONSIDERING A PET ADOPTION?**

The Greenbelt Animal Shelter, 550-A Crescent Road , is now open regularly for visitation and adoptions on Wednesdays from 9am-12pm. For further information call 240-508-7533.

### **WELCOME UM STUDENTS!**

By now, you should be settled in and we hope that you enjoy your residency here in UH. Please note that there is a noise ordinance in the City which restricts loud noise/music . If the city police are called to your

residence more than once, your landlord is subject to losing his/her rental license. Please be a good neighbor. Our civic association meets quarterly and all of you are cordially invited to attend any and all of our meetings. Finally, may each of you "Ace" all of your examinations.

**MORE AREA FARMER'S MARKETS**

The College Park Farmer's Market is located in the Linson Pool parking lot and will be open Saturdays from 7am to Noon through November 21<sup>st</sup>. Choose from fresh fruits, veggies, baking items, and plants. Contact Donna Almquist at 301-345-2583 for additional information.

The Greenbelt Farmer's Market is held in the Greenbelt Aquatic Center parking lot (behind the Greenbelt commercial plaza) and is open each Sunday from 10am to 2pm through November 21<sup>st</sup>. Visit [www.greenbeltfarmersmarket.org](http://www.greenbeltfarmersmarket.org) for additional details.

The Hyattsville Farmers Market is located behind Queens Chapel Town Center at the intersection of Queens Chapel Road and Hamilton Street and is open from 2-6 pm every Tuesday through October 27<sup>th</sup>. Fresh fruits and vegetables are available. Contact person is Peggy Campanella at 301-627-2583.

**AREA THEATRE PERFORMANCES OF NOTE**

The F.Scott Fitzgerald Theatre (603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville), has posted its November/December Calendar of Events. Some of the future scheduled performances of note are: West Side Story, Washington Balalaika Society Orchestra (Russian Revelry), and The Nutcracker. For tickets and a brochure of all performances with specific dates and times, call 240-314-8690.

**LEDO'S MOVING TO COLLEGE PARK**

Tommy Marcos' original Ledo's pizza restaurant is officially moving from its long time Adelphi location to a new 5800 square foot facility in College Park on Knox Road. It is anticipated that the move will occur in June or July of 2010.

**BLUE BIRDS FAIL TO NEST AT DUCK POND**

Last spring, Rangers from Park and Planning constructed six blue bird nesting houses and installed them near the duck pond/park area in hopes of luring blue birds to nest as they did years ago. The Rangers then coordinated with members of the UHACA Park Committee to establish a monitoring system for the bird houses. Monitoring for the entire breeding season revealed disappointing results: no blue birds.. One house did, however, serve as the home for a family of Carolina wrens.. Many thanks to Alice Eichman and Jim and Sue Thompson for their diligent monitoring efforts.

**LOOKING FOR EMPLOYMENT?**

The Federal Government will be hiring personnel for the upcoming 2010 Census count. If interested, go to [www.2010censusjobs.gov](http://www.2010censusjobs.gov) or call toll free: 1-866-861-2010.

**UH RESIDENT TIM HUNT SEEKS WARD 3 SEAT ON CITY COUNCIL**

Tim Hunt, 3407 Pennsylvania Street, and our current UHACA Treasurer, is seeking the vacant ward 3 seat on the Hyattsville City Council. One other candidate, Shirley Bender, 5827 35<sup>th</sup> Place, has also filed. Voting will occur at the University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, on Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>.

**AREA CRIME REPORT**

The Hyattsville City Police reported incidents of crime in the University Hills area for the period June 1 to October 3 as follows:

- 6-3 ATTEMPTED BURGLARY 3400 block Rutgers
- 6-3 ATTEMPTED BURGLARY 3400 block Gumwood
- 6-10 BURGLARY 7200 block Claymore
- 6-11 THEFT FROM AUTO 3400 block Notre Dame
- 6-11 THEFT FROM AUTO 3300 block Gumwood
- 6-13 THEFT 3400 block Stanford
- 6-18 GRAFFITI Wells /Adelphi
- 7-29 ATTEMPTED BURGLARY 3800 block Calverton
- 7-30 DRUG ARREST 7100 block Pony Trail
- 8-9 ASSAULT 7100 block Adelphi
- 8-12 VEHICLE THEFT 3300 block Stanford
- 8-12 VEHICLE THEFT 7100 block Adelphi
- 8-30 THEFT FROM AUTO 7500 block Wells
- 8-31 VEHICLE THEFT 6800 block Calverton
- 9-1 ATTEMPTED VEHICLE THEFT 3400 block Purdue
- 9-11 THEFT FROM AUTO 3400 block Stanford
- 9-13 THEFT FROM AUTO 7500 block Adelphi
- 9-18 THEFT FROM AUTO 7300 block Wells
- 9-18 THEFT FROM AUTO 3100 block Gumwood
- 9-18 ATTEMPTED AUTO THEFT 3200 block Gumwood
- 9-28 THEFT 7600 block Adelphi

**IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

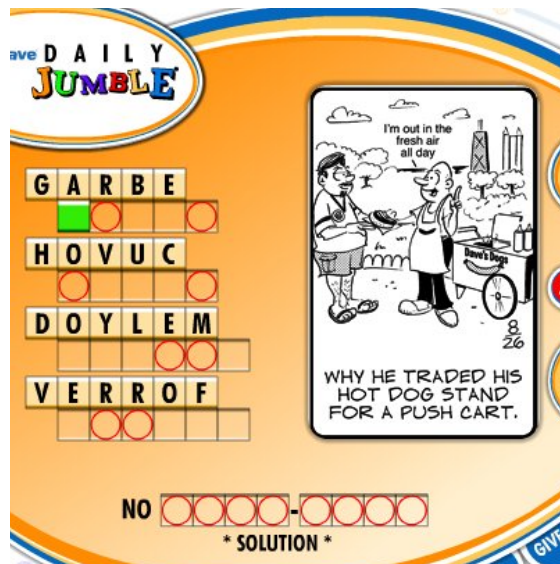
- Mayor Bill Gardiner 301-559-2283
- Ward Rep. Matt McKnight 301-277-2320
- Code Enforcement 301-985-5014
- Police Emergencies 301-985-5050
- Police Non Emergencies 301-985-5060
- Public Works 301-985-5032
- (Snow Removal, potholes, leaf collection)
- Power Outages 1-877-PEPCO-62

**UHACA OFFICERS**

- Pres Tim Scanlon 301-422-2960
- Vice Pres Jim Menasian 301-699-0566
- Treas. Tim Hunt 301-422-2047
- Secretary Veda Gaston 301-422-6855
- Ex Officio Tom Slezak 301-422-8563
- (newsletter editor)

**ARE YOU A GOOD SPELLER?**

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon. Contact newsletter editor ([tslezak34@yahoo.com](mailto:tslezak34@yahoo.com)) for the answers or wait to read answers in January 2010 newsletter and attempt to solve the next Daily Jumble!!