

MH-CK Association News



Volume 3, Issue 2

www.mhckcivic.org

June 2010

Plans for New Elementary School Unveiled

Neighborhood parents know too well the growing pains at Oakland Terrace. Even trailers now can't accommodate the overflow of students at the school on Plyers Mill Road.

While there are a variety of reasons for that -- including what officials have acknowledged as a number of enrolled students who do not live within the school's boundaries -- the end result is the same -- overcrowding.

Starting this autumn, kindergarten students will be bused for two years to Sligo Middle School, under a plan already approved by the Montgomery County School Board. See <http://tinyurl.com/OTESbusing>

The neighborhood's other elementary school -- which for the last 5 years served as a "second chance" high school for troubled youth -- is set to be rebuilt by the start of the 2012 school year. That school, McKenney Hills Elementary or "Downcounty Consortium School #29" as it is known officially, has already been torn down and the site covered with turf until construction begins.

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300+ Pounds of Weeds Pulled

A little rain didn't stop the dozens of volunteers from yanking hundreds of pounds of invasive weeds from our local park.

Despite the drizzle, more than 30 neighbors yanked invasive Garlic Mustard (*alliaria petiolata*) and picked trash from McKenney Hills Park as part of the neighborhood's Annual Earth Day Park Clean Up on Saturday, April 24.

The event was part of the county-wide Garlic Mustard Challenge sponsored by the Montgomery County Weed Warriors program that aims to remove non-native, invasive plants such as Garlic Mustard, English Ivy and

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Group of volunteers shows off the tree planted during the Earth Day clean-up.

President's Corner

Our Association has gotten off to a good start this year.

At our recent monthly meetings, we have had very interesting speakers from community service providers such as the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) and PEPCO. Speakers from both utility companies provided good and useful information about wise use of our water and electricity, respectively.

In May, we heard from a traffic engineer from the Montgomery County Department of Transportation who discussed the various steps necessary to bring about sidewalk improvement and traffic calming issues.

On the long-standing issue of the Montgomery College Foundation-owned building on Evans Drive and Georgia Avenue, efforts are still being made to get the building demolished and the land turned into a public park. I attended a meeting recently, chaired by County Councilmember Valerie Ervin, to discuss what further efforts can be made to

accomplish the transformation of the property into a public park. It was suggested that we try to get either or both the state and the federal government to provide assistance, hopefully in the form of a financial grant.

Our Annual Spring Park Clean-Up was a huge success, thanks largely to the great efforts of Susan Heavey. Thanks, Susan!

At our June meeting, we plan to have another community-related speaker.

We are beginning to plan for a fun event probably in September, in the form of a spaghetti dinner on a weekend evening at the Homewood Recreation Center, with the food provided by a local restaurant. Stay tuned for further details.

--Dick Tingley, President

Please detach this portion of the form and return it along with a check for **\$10** suggested contribution made payable to **McKenney Hills-Carroll Knolls Civic Association** to:

McKenney Hills – Carroll Knolls Neighborhood Association
Post Office Box 2102
Silver Spring, MD 20915-2102

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (optional- for use on neighborhood list only): _____

Email: (optional- for use on neighborhood list only): _____

Paying your dues allows you to become a member of the Civic Association for the 2010 calendar year. All residents of the community (both renters and owners) are eligible for membership. These dues help pay for: neighborhood events such as the Community Earth Day Celebration and the Neighborhood Party, the newsletter, rental of meeting space and other items and activities that are vital to the Association. Thank you for becoming a member, or, if you are already a member then thank you for your continued support. We can not do it without you!

"Earth Day" continued from page 1

more from local parks and county land. Their removal makes room for native plants that provide seeds for birds and other wildlife.

Altogether, volunteers -- ranging from 3 year-olds to seniors -- removed more than 300 pounds of Garlic Mustard.

The event was organized by the McKenney Hills-Carroll Knolls Civic Association's Parks Committee, which is working to improve our neighborhood green gem by removing invasive plants and allowing native ones to thrive. Long-term plans include adding a rain garden, bat boxes, native plants and more. We also hope to work with county school officials in integrating the new McKenney Hills Elementary School with the surrounding parkland.

We need lots of green thumbs to make that happen, though! If you can volunteer just a few hours of there time. Opportunities include: helping to file for 501c3 tax status (to be eligible for grants), helping to plan our fall clean up, and working on other improvements.

You can also work on your own by becoming a certified county Weed Warrior. A quick online tutorial and a 3-hour class will get you up to speed to help pull noxious invasive plants. Visit www.weedwarrior.org for more information.

If you can help, please contact park committee chairwoman Susan Heavey at susanheavey@yahoo.com. We are looking for volunteers to plan our Fall Clean Up and other events. --Susan Heavey



Above: Invasive plant, Garlic Mustard, overtakes native species in McKenney Hills Park. Right: Association President, Dick Tingley and Park Committee Chairwoman, Susan Heavey, next to 300+ pounds of weeds pulled from the park.



Featured Neighbor: John Becker

A Playwright Among Us

Carroll Knolls resident, John Becker, lives a bit of a dual life. By day, he runs a daycare out of his home and home-schools his three young children along with his wife, Kitty. By night, he writes and produces plays. His work includes a first-place award-winning play entitled *Summit Meeting*, which played at the Kennedy Center Theater Festival.

Additionally, he has had a play performed Off-Broadway, had several plays performed at Source Theatre in D.C. and was awarded an Individual Artist's Grant by the Maryland State Arts Council for both playwriting and fiction.

He recently had his play, *Last Sacred Place*, read at the Amnesty International sponsored Human Rights Arts Festival.

In addition to writing plays, John has also taught a theater class to underprivileged children through a Federal Positive Youth Initiative Grant.

Upcoming this year, John will have a new full-length play premiered at the Essential Theatre in Washington, D.C. S. Robert Morgan, a cast member from the HBO television series *The Wire*, will serve as artistic director.

His latest work, which he both wrote and produced, is entitled ***The Playwright Zone*** and will be performed as a part of the **Capital Fringe Festival at The Point on Saturday July 10 @ 10:30pm, Sunday July 11 @ 3:45pm, Thursday July 22 @ 9:30pm, Saturday July 24 @ 4:15pm and Sunday July 25 @ 11am** The cast includes members from Shakespeare Theatre, Forum Theatre, Olney Theatre, 1st Stage and Keegan Theatre. To learn more about this performance visit www.theplaywrightzone.com and to learn more about John and his work visit www.john-becker.com –Ashley Del Sole

Get Connected!

Check out our website for activities and more at: www.mhckcivic.org
Join our listserv to get service recommendations and keep up with other neighbors at: www.mhckcivic.org

2010 Calendar

Meeting	Tuesday, June 22 (Officer Patil)	8 p.m.
No Meeting	July/Aug. - no meeting	No Meeting
Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser	September	T.B.D.
Meeting	Tuesday, Sept. 28	8 p.m.
Halloween Party	October	T.B.D.
Meeting	Tuesday, Oct. 26	8 p.m.
No Meeting	Nov./Dec. - no meeting	No Meeting

Have something to say or want to advertise in the newsletter or on the website? Contact mh-ck@hotmail.com

Treasurer's Report

As of May 25, 2010, the McKenney Hills-Carroll Knolls Neighborhood Association has \$3,034.78 in the bank. The Neighborhood Association has 67 paid addresses as follows:

Resident Members:

ARTHUR AVE	2307	HUTTING PL	10500
BRUNSWICK AVE	10306	INSLEY ST	
CANEY PL	2301, 2310	KIMBALL PL	
CHURCHILL DR		KOHLER CT	
CLARK PL		KOHLER RD	
CONOVER DR	10212, 10220, 10230	LEDER RD	10109
CROSBY PL		LESLIE ST	10203, 10211, 10222, 10233, 10311
DARROW ST	2301, 2306, 2407, 2417	LESLIE CT	10404, 10412, 10418
DENNIS AVE	2418	LILLIAN DR	2416
DEXTER AVE	2300, 2306, 2412, 2418, 2426, 2428	LOMA ST	2602, 2605, 2607, 2703
DOUGLAS AVE	10229	McKENNEY AVE	
DUVAWN PL	10200, 10203, 10210, 10211, 10230	PLYERS MILL RD	
ECCLESTON ST	2304, 2411, 2602, 2610		
EMMET RD	2711		
EVANS DR	2420, 2421		
FINCH ST	2602, 2705		
GARDINER AVE	9913, 10109		
GATES AVE	10100, 10105		
GEORGIA AVE			
GLADSTONE ST	10105		
GREELEY AVE	10113		
HARMON RD	2700, 2709		
HAYDEN DR	2507		
HAYWOOD CIR			
HAYWOOD DR			
HILDAROSE DR	2314, 2320		
HOMESTEAD DR	2301, 2315, 2417, 2418, 2419		

Non McKenney Hills – Carroll Knolls Resident Members:

PENNY DOG LN	10500
POTOMAC AVE	629
COMMODE CT, FL	1108

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To see architectural plans for the new school as well as a construction timeline, see: <http://tinyurl.com/mhck29plan>

Will your child attend Oakland or McKenney? It depends on how the boundaries are drawn, a process that will be based on the results of the 2010 Census findings.

If you are interested in how this situation develops, please consider joining the MHCK Schools Committee; contact mh-ck@hotmail.com.

At the same time, some area parents are seeking to establish the county's first public charter school right in our own neighborhood (well, close by anyway). Called Global Garden, the school is still awaiting county approval but aims to open September 2011. It would serve kindergarten-8th grade and be located in the Wheaton/Kensington area, although no specific location has been announced yet.

The group, which sponsored a table at the MHCK Civic Association's January Winter Blues event, says its school would offer an International Baccalaureate Primary Years curriculum; arts, physical education and technology; foreign languages and an emphasis on community service.

To learn more, visit their website at www.globalgardenpcs.org.

--Susan Heavey

SEEKING HELPING HANDS

The MHCK Civic Association is looking for a few volunteers to give just a couple hours a month to help with various upcoming events. We need a few volunteers to help with:

**Spaghetti Dinner (SEPTEMBER TBD)

**Halloween Party (OCTOBER TBD)

Please contact us if you can help make these events a reality! We really need a few neighbors to help pull these off, especially the Halloween party for our young residents. E-mail mh-ck@hotmail.com or come to our monthly meetings, always the 4th Tuesday night of the month, from 8-10 p.m. at the Capitol View/Homewood Rec Center behind Oakland Terrace Elementary School.

Area Farmers' Markets

(reprinted from www.mda.state.md.us)

Bethesda Central Farm Market

Bethesda Lane on Bethesda Row
Thursday: 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. year-round
Parking lot on Elm Street between Woodmont Ave. & Wisconsin Ave.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. May - November

Bethesda FRESHFARM Market (new management)

Norfolk Ave., at Veterans Park
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. June 19 - October 30
WIC and Senior FMNP Checks Accepted

Crossroads Farmers' Market

7676 New Hampshire Avenue
Wednesday: 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. June 2 - October 27
WIC and Senior FMNP Checks Accepted

Kensington Farmers' Market

Train Station Lot, Howard Avenue
Saturday: 8:00 am - Noon Open all year*

Montgomery Farm Women's Co-op Market

Bethesda: 7155 Wisconsin Avenue
Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Open all year*
Saturday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Open all year*
Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Open all year*

Silver Spring FRESHFARM Market

Ellsworth Drive between Fenton & Cedar
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. April 3 - December 18
WIC and Senior FMNP Checks Accepted

Takoma Park Farmers' Market

Old Town Takoma Park on Laurel Ave.
(between Carroll Ave. & Eastern Ave.)
Sunday: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Open all year*
Web: www.takomaparkmarket.com
WIC and Senior FMNP Checks Accepted

Wheaton Farmers' Market

Reedie Drive between Veirs Mill Rd. and Georgia Ave.
(Behind Dunkin' Donuts)
Sunday: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. June 6 - October 31
WIC and Senior FMNP Checks Accepted

Officer Joy Patil To Speak At June Meeting

Montgomery County Police Officer Joy Patil will speak to our Association at our June 22 meeting. No stranger to our Association, she is a sought-after speaker at our meetings because of her extensive knowledge of safety and other community-related issues of great interest to our citizens. Her emphasis is in community relations, and she will have much to share with us. At this meeting she will be speaking on traffic issues and traffic safety as specifically concerning the reported problem with high speed motorcycle riding on some of our streets recently.

So, we welcome everybody to come and hear Officer Patil at our upcoming June meeting, Tuesday the 22nd, at 8:00 PM at the Homewood Recreation Center.



Hughes United Methodist Church

10700 Georgia Avenue
Wheaton, MD 20902
Telephone: 301-949-8383

Sunday Services

9 a.m. Informal
10:30 a.m. Traditional
12:30 p.m. Spanish

All are welcome!

Fellowship time @ 9:45 a.m. between services
Come and enjoy light refreshments
While meeting our congregation

Join us at our Red Cross blood drive
Next Drive: Monday July 12 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.

www.HughesUMC.org

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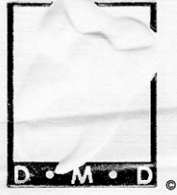
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