

MH-CK Association News



Volume 3, Issue 3

www.mhckcivic.org

September 2010

Traffic Issues and Committee Take-Off

You've seen it (ok, maybe you've done it on occasion) – cars whipping down your street, clearly going faster than the neighborhood's 25 mile per hour speed limit.

It's a persistent problem given the use of our streets to dodge traffic on Georgia, access the nearby Metro station, and the 24-hour staff of the nearby rehabilitation home.

That's the reality the MHCK Civic Association showed to top county planning officials on a recent Saturday "Walkabout" through the neighborhoods streets and parks.

On the morning of August 21, nearly 20 residents showed Montgomery County Planning Director Rollins Stanley and his staffer Sandy Tallent the hazards and pitfalls of living so close to great amenities but in an old neighborhood.

Traffic was a top issue, with neighbors pointing out the steep hills, lack of speed limit signs, few or ineffective speed humps and nearly nonexistent stop signs. Particular problems with Gardiner Ave, Brunswick Ave, and Leslie St, among others, were noted.

Sidewalks – or lack thereof -- were also a hot topic,

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National Night Out

National Night Out is a nationally affiliated program whose purpose is crime prevention in cooperation with local police departments and civic associations. It involves citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations, and local government officials, as cited by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW). Further, the NATW promotes the 1) heightening of crime and drug prevention awareness, 2) generating support for and participation in local anticrime programs, 3) generating neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and 4) sending a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

This year's program was the 27th annual NNO of

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Congressman Van Hollen talks to Association President Dick Tingley at National Night Out.

President's Corner

Our Association has had quite a lively series of events so far this year.

We started the year at our monthly meetings with various community-related speakers from PEPCO, Montgomery County Transportation (traffic issues), and community safety and policing. Planned for the September meeting is a speaker from the Montgomery County Public Schools School Construction Department to talk to us about the imminent construction of the replacement school for the McKenney Hills School off Hayden Drive.

Then we have had various special community events: the annual park clean-up (as I discussed in the previous issue of the Newsletter), a great National Night out program on Tuesday, August 3, and an extremely successful neighborhood walk-about on Saturday, August 21.

National Night Out

A meet and greet opportunity for neighbors in our Association, it more than exceeded our expectations for providing an ideal outdoor setting,

which is the national model for such an event. There were about 60 people in total who attended during the evening as we got to know each other better and to greet and chat with the many visiting dignitaries including Congressman Van Hollen from the 8th District, County Executive Leggett, the Chief of Police, State's Attorney representatives, our own County Police Community Relations Officer, Joy Patil, among other official visitors. They each offered short presentations on their respective services they could provide for assistance to citizens. We had light refreshments, which were subsidized by local grocery stores as a service to our civic association.

Neighborhood Walk Around

Approximately 15 of our neighbors walked around the neighborhood identifying many specific sidewalk and street improvements we see as needing improvement, very ably led by a representative from the County Planning

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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 2011 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!

"NNO" continued from page 1

NATW. Our own civic association, while not able to boast of 27 annual such programs, has had a number in the last several years. This year, our association celebrated NNO on Tuesday, August 3 - the official date for 2010. Our program fulfilled all of the objectives of the NATW. Thus, as a meet and greet opportunity for neighbors in our Association, it more than exceeded our expectations for providing an ideal outdoor setting, which is the national model for such an event.

There were about 60 people in total who attended during the evening as we got to know each other better and to greet and chat with the many visiting dignitaries including Congressman Chris Van Hollen from the 8th District, County Executive Isiah Leggett, J. Thomas ("J.T.") Manger, Chief of Police, State's Attorney representatives and our own County Police Community Relations Officer, Joy Patil, among other

official visitors. They each offered short presentations on their respective services they could provide for assistance to citizens. We had light refreshments, which were subsidized by local grocery stores as a service to our civic association.

Our NNO was an outstanding success, and we look forward to seeing its fruits in terms of continuing to build community cohesiveness and pride. Thanks to all who helped pull it off! □ Dick Tingley, President



County Executive Isiah ("Ike") Leggett at National Night Out

2010 Calendar

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser	T.B.D.	T.B.D.*
Meeting (McKenney Hills School Planning members presenting)	Tuesday, Sept. 28	8 p.m.
Halloween Party (Beginning and ending at McKenney Hills Park Playground)	October 23 (rain date October 30)	3 – 5 p.m.
Meeting	Tuesday, Oct. 26	8 p.m.
No Meeting	Nov./Dec. – no meeting	No Meeting
Winter Blues Fest	January T.B.D.	T.B.D.*

*Visit our website www.mhckcivic.org to learn how to join the list serve and keep current on the calendar

Local Expert on New Health Care Law

Featured Neighbor:
David Nather

Carroll Knolls resident David Nather is a former senior writer for Congressional Quarterly and spent time covering health care policy in Congress for The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc.

He decided to leave his job at Congressional Quarterly to work with Senator Tom Daschle on a book about the political story of the passage of health care reform. The book, entitled *Getting It Done: How Obama and Congress Finally Broke the Stalemate to Make Way for Health Care Reform*, is due out in October 2010. The job had the side benefit of allowing him to work from home, where he lives with his wife, Elissa Leif, and their two young children, Jessa and Gabe.

He also recently published a book entitled, *The New Health Care System: Everything you Need to Know*. This timely piece is said to be written in "an easy, conversational manner" and "makes a complicated system easier to figure out by answering all your questions."

His blog, found at www.newhealthcaresystembook.com, features updates on the implementation of the law, which may be useful to those of us trying to figure out how the new law will affect us.

David has kindly offered to answer questions for neighbors regarding how the law will affect them and can be reached at david@newhealthcaresystembook.com or on his home number at 301-649-5788. He advises that for those of us who have recently lost, or are changing jobs, there are some important things to know and he would be happy to lend some advice on the subject. □

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

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 (TBD)

**Halloween Party (OCTOBER 23)

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. Email tricia20902@yahoo.com if you would like to help with the Halloween party, or email mk-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 to learn more about the Spaghetti Dinner.

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 September 1, 2010, the McKenney Hills-Carroll Knolls Neighborhood Association has \$3,106.45 in the bank. The Neighborhood Association has over 100 paid addresses as follows. Expiration month and year are in parentheses and those who have been added since the last publication are in bold:

Resident Members:

ARTHUR AVE	2307 (4/11)	HAYWOOD DR	
BRUNSWICK AVE	10306 (4/11), 10123 (9/10)	HILDAROSE DR	2314 (4/11), 2320 (2/11)
CANEY PL		HOMESTEAD DR	2301 (2/11), 2315 (2/11), 2417 (2/11), 2417 (2/11), 2418 (4/11), 2419 (4/11)
CHURCHILL DR	2301 (2/11), 2310 (3/11)	HUTTING PL	
CLARK PL		INSLEY ST	10500 (12/10)
CONOVER DR	10212 (2/11), 10220 (2/11), 10230 (2/11)	KIMBALL PL	
CROSBY PL		KOHLER CT	
DARROW ST	2200 (9/10), 2203 (9/10), 2207 (9/10), 2209 (9/10), 2301 (2/11), 2303 (9/10), 2306 (2/11), 2406 (3/11), 2407 (4/11), 2417 (7/11)	KOHLER RD	
DENNIS AVE	2418 (3/11)	LEDER RD	10109 (2/11)
DEXTER AVE	2300 (1/11), 2306 (2/11), 2406 (9/10), 2412 (5/11) , 2418 (3/11), 2426 (12/10), 2428 (3/11)	LESLIE ST	10118 (7/11) , 10203 (1/11), 10206 (6/11) , 10211 (2/11), 10222 (2/11), 10233 (4/11), 10311 (2/11), 10422 (7/11)
DOUGLAS AVE	10229 (2/11), 10313 (6/11)	LESLIE CT	10404 (4/11), 10412 (5/11) , 10418 (2/11)
DUVAWN PL	10200 (5/11) , 10203 (2/11), 10204 (6/11) , 10210 (2/11), 10211 (4/11), 10230 (2/11), 10215 (2/11)	LILLIAN DR	2414 (8/11) , 2416 (5/11)
ECCLESTON ST	2209 (9/10), 2304 (2/11), 2411 (2/11), 2602 (2/11), 2610 (2/11)	LOMA ST	2602 (2/11), 2603 (9/10), 2605 (12/10), 2607 (2/11), 2608 (9/10), 2609 (7/11) , 2703 (2/11)
EMMET RD	2711 (9/10)	McKENNEY AVE	10004 (7/11) , 10104 (7/11) , 10110 (7/11)
EVANS DR	2420 (4/11), 2421 (4/11)	PLYERS MILL RD	
FINCH ST	2602 (4/11), 2705 (2/11)		
GARDINER AVE	9805 (10/10), 9807 (4/11), 9911 (6/11) , 9913 (4/11), 10109 (2/11), 10117 (7/11)	Non McKenney Hills – Carroll Knolls Resident Members:	
GATES AVE	10100 (3/11), 10105 (3/11)	PENNY DOG LN	10500 (11/10)
GEORGIA AVE		POTOMAC AVE	629 (2/11)
GLADSTONE ST	10105 (4/11)	COMMODE CT, FL	1108 (4/11)
GREELEY AVE	10113 (5/11)		
HARMON RD	2500 (7/11) , 2700 (5/11) , 2708 (6/11) , 2709 (3/11)		
HAYDEN DR	2401 (5/11) , 2500 (9/10), 2507 (2/11), 2511 (2/11)		
HAYWOOD CIR			

"Traffic" continued from page 1

especially amid plans to rebuild the new elementary school near McKenney Hills Park. Residents noted the lack of sidewalks on many streets, or streets where a sidewalk runs for one block but not the next. Issues with school bus stops were also raised.

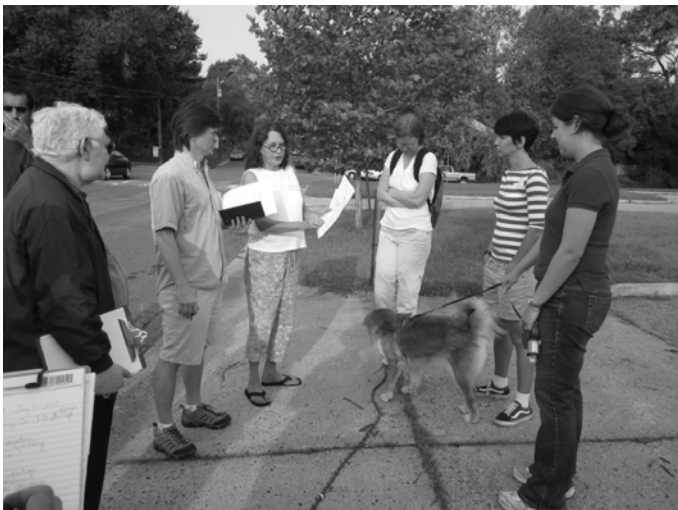
One other issue raised was about run-off, and Stanley suggested working to get grates on the street run-off drains and to push for permeable sidewalks such as those recently installed in Sandy Spring.

The Walkabout inspired the association to rev up its traffic and sidewalk committee, and recharge the related committee. The County's Stanley encouraged to group to put together a thorough map and multimedia presentation of the issues and pledged to work with the neighborhood to address some of the major issues.

Stanley said his office would help MHCK liaise with the county's transportation and schools department to move forward.

But we need your help. Compiling all the information about where we need to fix problems and working to submit the necessary paperwork for sidewalks, speed limit signs and traffic humps needs all hands on deck!

To help, please contact Brian Bhandari at bkbhandari@hotmail.com. For more about helping with the gutter drains, please contact Park Committee Chair Susan Heavey at susanheavey@yahoo.com □ Susan Heavey



Blues Fest Seeks Helpers

We are looking forward to rocking out with our third annual Winter Blues Festival in January.

This afternoon event brings warmth and merriment to the gray, cold days of winter. There's food, fun and a little bit of music. Fresh popcorn and potluck snacks.

But to ensure we can have this event again, the MHCK Social Committee is seeking a small team of enthusiastic neighbors to help make this year's event even bigger and better. We'll have a short meeting before the holiday crazies hit, then work mostly by phone and e-mail. It's a short-term, slight time commitment that can help create a great activity the whole family can enjoy.

Without a small committee of helpers, we can't bring you this festival so please sign up to help. Contact Susan Heavey at susanheavey@yahoo.com.

Kensington Farmers' Market and Art Fair

The Kensington Farmers Market is diversifying. The market is now open to a limited number of original-art local artists. Carroll Knolls resident, Geof Uyehara of Crest Design, is an architect and sculptural artist and has, with other local artists, displayed his work at the Market. Mr. Uyehara is a Carroll Knolls resident. The Market is in Old Towne Kensington at the MARC Train Station. The Farmers Market has fresh produce and seafood and other delectable food treats and is a big hit in Kensington. It is walk-able or bike-able from our neighborhood. The Farmers Market and Art Fair is open almost year round on Saturdays from 8-12 noon. Artists are there weather permitting. For more information contact Shirley Watson, Market Manager at shirley.watson@tok.md.gov or 301-949-2424.

Neighbors gather with MC Planning Director, Rollis Stanley and Susan Heavey were instrumental in organizing this effort. Thanks, Martha and Susan. Association member Brian Bhandari has agreed to serve as the chair of our Traffic Committee, and is doing an outstanding job in getting it off the ground. We all look forward to seeing many positive results coming from the work of this committee. One of the main concerns we have in this connection is the personal safety of pedestrians having to walk in neighborhood streets because of the lack of adequate sidewalks. So, the addition of more sidewalks would be a desirable outcome of our Committee's efforts. Thanks to Brian!

Future Events

Future event planning is currently in the works for such things as a Halloween Party being organized by former President, Tricia Steadman, and possibly, around the same time, a spaghetti dinner and then later a Winter Blues Festival.

So, as you can see, our Association is actively here and available and welcoming to any and all neighbors in our neighborhood for your active participation.


Welcome! □ Dick Tingley, President

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Nov. 8 --- Red Cross Blood Drive (2pm - 8pm)

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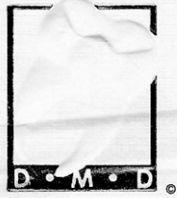
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