

Mount Hebron / Orchards Community Newsletter

Serving Mount Hebron, Patapsco Park Estates, Orchards Community & Everywhere in between!

March 2020

**** Association Meeting ****

March 11th, 2020 7:00 – 8:30 P.M.

Mt. Hebron Presbyterian Church

2330 Calvin Circle at Mt. Hebron Drive

Howard County Board of Education Candidates' Forum

Message from the president

The candidates running for our district for the Howard County Board of Education will participate in our Candidates' Forum at our meeting on Wednesday, March 11. We start at 7 p.m. in Mount Hebron Presbyterian Church on Calvin Circle in the neighborhood. This election is the first where voters will select one school board member for each of the councilmanic districts – in our case, the 5th District. Candidates are Cynthia Vaillancourt, Gene Ryan, Yun Lu, and Saif Rehman.

In other news, Safety Committee Chairman Mike McGinty is continuing to work on solutions to the student parking issues on the streets directly surrounding the high school. It is a very difficult issue, made less palatable by the students parking so cars block fire hydrants and mailboxes, and by some students ignoring, responding rudely, and even cursing at residents who have asked them to move their vehicles. Once again, we ask that residents who have the access to their driveways or mailboxes blocked call the county police at 410-313-2200 and make reports. The police have responded especially quickly to reports of blocked hydrants and issued tickets. Because these are public roads and not school property, the school does not have the authority to regulate or discipline students who park on the streets.

Association board members continue to monitor the state highways budget. We understand that projects to add a third lane in each direction on I-70 between Route 29 and the point where Route 40 joins to the west continue to move up the priority list for study, design, and funding. Adding those should relieve some of the rush hour congestion on Route 99.

Please check our community website and our Facebook page for updates on issues and events in and around our neighborhood, including zoning hearings and roads planning meetings. Carl Utt does a fantastic job, adding information on consumer topics, county history, and some school events. When you pay your \$15 annual dues, and provide an email address, you'll be added to the

association's email list for additional news, reminders, and general information as well.

Speaking of dues – they're due! Please use the coupon on this to send them to our post office box -- \$15 is a great deal compared to the dues of other community associations! The board is researching some possible rewards programs for those who pay.

During the June meeting we will hold the annual election of officers. Several candidates have come forward for officer positions that will become open due to resignations at the end of the current terms – notably president and treasurer – and there will be a board seat opening as well. Nominations will be open for all positions until the election. The date of that meeting will be announced after the March 11 general membership meeting.

Please do come to the March 11 general business meeting for additional updates on neighborhood issues, and our Candidates' Forum. Please remember that when candidates see many of us attend these, they know our issues and know to pay attention to us.

Nellie Arrington
President

Easter Egg Hunt - Plans are in motion for the neighborhood Easter Egg Roll, hosted by Mount Hebron Presbyterian Church on **Saturday, April 11th** at Mount Hebron Presbyterian Church. There will be a visit from the Easter Bunny. The event will be held rain or shine. We hope you can join us for this wonderful Community tradition! We thank all of the volunteers who help make this a fun event every year.

Community Yard Sale - Time to clean out those attics, basements, and garages to make some spare cash. Our Annual Community Yard Sale will take place on **Saturday, May 16th** starting at 8:00. The rain date will be Saturday, May 23rd. Please remember to retrieve your signs after the event. And good luck!

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Japanese Stilt Grass – During our November 2019 community meeting, we had Ellen Nibali from the University of Maryland Extension Service speak to us about Japanese Stilt Grass, a weed that invades lawns, gardens, and woods, and chokes out desirable plants by covering and smothering them. If you missed this meeting, she advised the best thing to do is to apply a pre-emergent crab grass preventer with Halts in mid-March and a second treatment approximately 4 weeks later. This lays down a barrier that is hard for the weeds (including Japanese Stilt Grass) to penetrate. Do not disturb the surface of your lawn by raking or dethatching as this breaks the barrier. Many lawn specialists say the best time to apply pre-emergent weed control is when you see the Forsythias blooming. This is an indication that the soil conditions are conducive to treatment.

Additional information can be found at the University of MD. Extension Service at www.extension.umd.edu/hgic. Enter “stilt grass” to find pictures and additional content.

Memory Lane by Carl Utt

Did you know that in the 1980's the State Highway Association planned to extend Route 29 into Baltimore County? Some people referred to that new road as the outer beltway. 25 years later the land was returned to the original owner and has been developed with new homes.

Did you know the neighborhood with the streets named after apple trees, was once an apple orchard?

Mount Hebron started out with one house in 1808; over the next 80 years only a hand full of structures were built in the neighborhood. These structures included 2 homes, smokehouse, and blacksmith shop.

A school was built in 1966. The most growth to our neighborhood took place in the sixties and seventies.

Before there were satellites and drones we had aerial photography, if you would like to see aerial photographs of the neighborhood spanning the last 80 years visit www.mthoca.org

Our current officers and board members are:

President, Nellie Arrington, nelliearrington44@gmail.com
Vice President, Roger Knight, rogerknight@verizon.net
Treasurer, Tom Holly, ponddweller@comcast.net
Corr. Secretary, Ken Mertz, kenm126@comcast.net
Recording Secretary, Carl Utt, carlutt@gmail.com
Safety Committee, Mike McGinty, magint@comcast.net
Board Member, Charles Reed, creed121016@gmail.com
Board Member, Shelly Mauck, shellyhmauck@gmail.com
Board Member, Paul Anderson, kathpaul51@gmail.com
Board Member, Jim Matsakis, djatsa@verizon.net
Community email, mthoca@comcast.net

All community events as well as news relative to our community are listed on the following sites:

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/mount.hebron.33>
Web site - www.mthoca.org
Nextdoor Mt. Hebron – www.nextdoor.com

And for information at the Howard County Council level, visit the web page for District 5 (our district) at <https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Districts/District-5>. Our current councilman is David Yungmann. His contact info is
Phone: 410-313-2001
Fax: 410-313-3297
Email: dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov

Please submit your 2020 annual dues of \$15 using this form. It helps support your Community.

(202003)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail address: (Print clearly) _____

I can help with: Newsletter Easter Egg Hunt Halloween Parade Association Board
 Yard Sale Other

Dues enclosed: _____

Mail this form and check (Payable to Mt. Hebron/Orchards Association) to:

Mount Hebron-Orchards Community Association, P.O. Box 6810, Ellicott City, MD 21042