

## Mount Hebron / Orchards Community Newsletter

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

**August 2018**

\*\*\*\* Association Meeting \*\*\*\*

September 12th, 2018, 7:00 – 8:30 P.M.

Mt. Hebron Presbyterian Church

2330 Calvin Circle at Mt. Hebron Drive

Guest Speaker – Howard County School Board Candidates Forum

### Message from the president

Dear Neighbors,

**School board candidates** running in November's election will be our speakers at our next general membership meeting, scheduled for 7 p.m. **Wednesday, September 12**, at Mount Hebron Presbyterian Church on Calvin Circle, off Mount Hebron Drive. We encourage you to attend and submit questions for these candidates. We'll follow the format that's been so successful in the past – introductory remarks, moderated questions, and closing statements – so that you have a chance to get as much information as possible about curriculum, school districts, staffing, and more.

Your board has had several questions about **covenants** and allowable uses this summer. As a reminder, we are a community association, NOT a homeowners' association -- which is why you have voluntary dues of \$15 each year rather than mandatory fees in the \$100s. If we receive complaints from neighbors about a covenant issue, we can write a letter to the resident asking for compliance with the covenants, and advising that the neighbors do have the right to take legal action to have the covenants enforced.

We obviously prefer that you chat with your neighbor first, before involving the association board. It's also important to read your covenants before embarking on a notable change to your property. Covenants are available at MDLandRec.net, and you will need to register on that website to access them. Please note that these differ from area to area, and sometimes even from one end of a street to the other, throughout the neighborhood. Some have expired but are still being followed, while others automatically renew.

Howard County Zoning also has requirements and limitations on condition of your property, including height of grass, vehicles, and the distance of structures from the boundaries of lots. Zoning also addresses allowable uses such as day care, animal boarding kennels, chicken coops, unregistered vehicles, and in-home businesses.

Please check with these regulations on the county website, because having the county zoning folks claim you are in violation can result in significant fines. Until you are faced with the prospect of digging up your new swimming pool or closing down your day care operation you have no idea how exciting this is.

**Route 99 traffic** – While we don't have new news, we continue to monitor county and state roads budgets and plans to deal with this, as well as to fund additional lanes each way on I-70 and improve the northern end of Route 29 – efforts we hope will alleviate the traffic jams that divert cars onto Route 99.

**Bethany Glen** – The developer has filed an amended plan which apparently increases the number of units in a section of the neighborhood. Right now, there is nothing on the county zoning website because – since the county council sits as the zoning board – no cases are scheduled until after the new council is installed in December. The map showing the boundaries for the recently-adopted development moratorium in the watershed affecting downtown Ellicott City does not seem to include this area.

**Election of Officers** – An election was conducted during the June 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. Carl Utt graciously volunteered to be our Recording Secretary. Carl has been a board member for the past two years and has been maintaining our web site. We welcome him to this position. We also give thanks to Cathy Melvin, our previous Recording Secretary for all of her help to the community. In addition to this change, we welcome Paul Anderson and Shelly Mauck as our newest board members.

Have a great end of summer, and we'll see you on the 12th!

Nellie Arrington  
President

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## August 2018

**Safety Committee – Note of caution** – if you are running or biking on the paths through the neighborhood, please be careful to stop and look both ways before crossing streets. We've had reports of a couple of near misses on Tiller at the path to the high school. These aren't intersections, and drivers have poor sight distance to anticipate people coming out unexpectedly.

The **first day of school** for Howard County Public Schools is Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to drive safely in our neighborhood and in all school zones.

### Our current officers and board members are:

President, Nellie Arrington, [nelliearrington44@gmail.com](mailto:nelliearrington44@gmail.com)  
Vice President, Roger Knight, [rogerknight@verizon.net](mailto:rogerknight@verizon.net)  
Treasurer, Tom Holly, [ponddweller@comcast.net](mailto:ponddweller@comcast.net)  
Corr. Secretary, Ken Mertz, [kenm126@comcast.net](mailto:kenm126@comcast.net)  
Recording Secretary, Carl Utt, [carlutt@gmail.com](mailto:carlutt@gmail.com)  
Safety Committee, Mike McGinty, [magint@comcast.net](mailto:magint@comcast.net)  
Board Member, Charles Reed, [creed121016@gmail.com](mailto:creed121016@gmail.com)  
Board Member, Shelly Mauck, [shellyhmauck@gmail.com](mailto:shellyhmauck@gmail.com)  
Board Member, Paul Anderson, [kathpaul51@gmail.com](mailto:kathpaul51@gmail.com)

**Membership Dues** – For those who paid the 2018 dues, we thank you. Your \$15 per year goes toward our community-wide events, maintaining the entry walls at Mount Hebron Drive, yard sale advertising, and the costs of our website. If by chance you missed a previous opportunity, please use the dues form below to send your check for just \$15.00.

**Mount Hebron Community Association website** [www.mthoca.org](http://www.mthoca.org). Did you know we post our newsletters on our website? If you didn't receive a copy or would like to get previous copies, just click on the Newsletters tab and download a copy.

**Nextdoor Mt. Hebron:** This is another social media site that many residents within our community are joining. It allows the user to share news and events as well as things for sale. Visit [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com) and search for Mt Hebron.

**Mt. Hebron Presbyterian Church** - Mount Hebron Presbyterian Church, which generously shares its space with our community and association, offers some programs for those with special needs. If interested, please check the website at <http://www.mthebronpc.org>.

The church is also having a Blessing of the Animals service on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 4:00 P.M. This service is outside near the amphitheater. For more information, call the church at 410-465-3993

**Mount Hebron Facebook Page** - Lots of your neighbors and friends are posting on this site. The association also posts events and news in-between newsletters at this site. <https://www.facebook.com/Mount-Hebron-Orchards-Community-Association-277464658936219/>

**Join our Email List** – If you would like to be added to our email database, please include your email address on the dues form below. You can also email us at [mthoca@comcast.net](mailto:mthoca@comcast.net). If you previously signed up for emails but have not yet received any, check your settings and make mthoca@comcast.net a trusted source. And remember to please print your email address clearly when using the dues form below.

Please submit your 2018 annual dues of \$15 using this form. It helps support your Community.

(201808)

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**