



Ashburton NEWS LETTER



Ashburton Area Association

Baltimore, MD

www.ashburtoncommunity.com

Winter 2008

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- * Ashburton Area Association meeting Tuesday, July 8th at 7pm at Dr. Nathan A. Pitts Ashburton Elementary/Middle School, 3935 Hilton Road
- * Congratulations to **Deidre and Dwaine Cherry** on the birth of their daughters, **Danielle and Gabrielle**
- * High School Sweethearts, **Mr. and Mrs. Milton E. Branch, Jr** celebrated 70 Years of Marriage on Feb 13th. Their family hosted a gala celebration in their honor.
- * Our deepest condolences goes out to the family of **Rebecca H. Davis, 77**, longtime resident of Ashburton
- * We also mourn the lost of **Raymond Jolley, Jr. , 43**, who was born and raised in Ashburton

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Neighbors,

I am so excited about the opportunity to serve as your President for 2008. I have been working closely with the members of our Ashburton Board to see that we exceed your expectations and actively work on behalf of the betterment of Ashburton.

Some of the initiatives that we are working on include placing speed bumps on streets where neighbors feel a need, street resurfacing, as well as placing new trees within Ashburton utilizing Mayor Sheila Dixon's program know as Cleaner Greener Baltimore.

We have many opportunities in this neighborhood to meet the elected folks that make decisions at the local and state level. If you attend association meetings on a regular basis, you will have plenty of chances to see your representatives in action and hear where they stand, their concerns and areas of focus. The Ashburton Board will continue to work on building relationships with our elected officials and thus far have been very successful in advocating on behalf of the residents of Ashburton.

The Board has helped to resuscitate committees including Citizen on Patrol, Roads and Sanitation and Beautification. As a result of these efforts I am proud that our Citizens on Patrol are daily patrolling the neighborhood. We are also making plans to built relationships with surrounding neighbors and doing whatever it takes to keep Ashburton safe and beautiful.

Finally, I want to reestablish Block Captains, who were once a very vital part of the success of the Association. These individuals helped to maintain effective communications with neighbors as well as increasing the safety and beauty of the community. If you are interested in becoming a Block Captain please come out and sign up.

I'm looking forward to see you all at our general body meeting on Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 7pm at Dr. Nathan A. Pitts Ashburton Elementary/Middle School, 3935 Hilton Road.

Kendra Watts Abaidoo
President

SEEKING TREE SPONSORS

The Ashburton Board is working to improve our neighborhood by requesting the city plant trees where we have empty tree pits. In order for this to be accomplished we have to identify a sponsor for each tree. This is someone who lives near the tree pit who will get permission, if needed, and will agree to water the new tree for 2 years. We still have a number of potential tree sites that need sponsors. Please contact Kendra Abaidoo, 410-664-7899 if you are interested in helping us add trees to Ashburton.

ASHBURTON'S ROADS & SANITATION UPDATES

by Art Brown

The Ashburton Board established a task force that has been working diligently with the Traffic Division at the Transportation Department for Baltimore City. Many of the roads on our smaller one-way streets are heavily traveled. These streets are cracked with many pothole patches and uneven pavement. The physical condition of these roads are our top priority. The streets that have seen progress were those that were identified by Ashburton residents. We have had success in the following areas:

- The Transportation Department conducted an investigation to determine the feasibility of installing speed humps along the 3400-3500-3600-3700-3800 blocks of Grantley Road. As a result, speed humps were installed.
- Denison Road between Sequoia and Dorchester is currently a priority location within Ashburton for resurfacing. Pending capital funding by the city, we are hopeful that Denison will be resurfaced.
- Edgewood Road is used as a primary artery for motorists turning off of Dolfield or Sequoia to access Liberty Heights. This one-way street has major excessive speed issues and the pavement is in real need of being repaired. The Transportation Department is still studying the possibility of installing speed humps on Edgewood, and depending on capital funding the city is looking into resurfacing stretches from Dolfield to Sequoia, and Sequoia to Dorchester, all on Edgewood Road.

Another concern for Ashburton residents has been excessive amounts of trash that accumulate either in the streets or on a neighbor's property. Neighbors have also reported issues of unkempt yards, abandoned vehicles, as well as non-working vehicles on homeowners' property that have become a visual hazard as well as a home for rodents and other animals. As a result of these concerns we are in direct contact with the Sanitation Enforcement Section of the Baltimore Housing Code Enforcement Division. For all of these issues, our recommendation is to first call 311 and report this non-emergency code infraction to the city. Success stories related to sanitation include:

- Recently we have worked with the Sanitation division to successfully remove a squatter out of a vacant home, and have the city work with the negligent home owners in the courts to address the sanitation issues of the property.
- We have also worked with code enforcement to discuss car removal of abandoned cars or cars in disrepair that become an eyesore on a street.

The city really needs for these issues to be reported through the 311 process and the responsibility is on each of us to be diligent to keep Ashburton as a community of distinction within Baltimore.

SENIOR MOBILITY

by Bea Scott

If you are a senior or are disabled in Baltimore City, there is no need for you to be housebound because you just don't have available transportation! You may well be eligible for the MTA Mobility/Paratransit Service. This is an advance-scheduled, curb-to-curb shared-ride transportation service for people with disabilities who are unable to use regular fix-route MTA bus, subway or light rail service most of the time.

How does it work? When you want to go somewhere in Baltimore City, you call to schedule a pick-up at your designated time and location also provide the time and location you want to be picked up for the return trip. The Mobility service operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

In order to receive this service, you must be certified by the MTA through their certification process. To apply for the Mobility/Paratransit Service or for more information, call 410-727-3535. Seniors, you may also want to ask for the Senior/Disability Transportation Guide. This pamphlet tell you about reduced fares and other special services for seniors on regular MTA bus, subway and light rail services.

Low Cost Teeth Cleaning at BCCC Dental Hygiene Clinic

by Bea Scott

Most Ashburton residents are completely unaware of a low cost dental program that is right down the street at the Baltimore City Community College – Liberty Heights campus. This modern, state-of-the-art Dental Hygiene Clinic is open to the public for the phenomenal low cost of \$20.00 to get your teeth cleaned! This cost even includes necessary x-rays. These services are operated by dental health care professionals, who will give you a thorough dental evaluation and cleaning. Each step in the process is reviewed by staff dentists. And seniors... guess what? You might even get your cleaning FREE if you schedule your appointment during their "senior week" once a year. The number to call for more information or to schedule an appointment is 410-462-7712.

ASHBURTON BLOCK PARTY/ HOMECOMING 2007

by Bea Scott

The 8th annual Ashburton Block Party/ Homecoming was held this past September 15th on Dorchester Road between Ellamont Rd and Hilton Rd. It was a beautiful sunny fall day and a good time was had by all. There was continuous music and entertainment, the food was plentiful and delicious, the children played games, jumped on the Moon Bounce and had an all around good time. Residents of Ashburton turned out in droves and the atmosphere was one of joy and neighborly camaraderie. They patronized the vendors, enjoyed the music, food and each other. Ashburton resident elders Harriet Jones and John H. Murphy were honored. The fantastic success of this "best ever" Ashburton Block Party was because of the hard work of the residents, donations of food, professional music, play equipment, money and lots of time. Thanks to all for a job well done!! The next block party will be held on September 13, 2008. See you there!

Dues and Support Contribution Invoice

Select your category and bring to the next community meeting or mail this invoice and your check, payable to:

Ashburton Area Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 67132

Baltimore, MD 21215

Individual Household Membership \$20.00

Non-Profit Supporter \$50.00- \$99.00

Business Supporter \$100.00 to \$150.00

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Committee Interest _____

Save the Dates for 2008

General Body Meetings

Tuesday, July 8 (held at Hanlon Park)

Tuesday, Sept 9

Tuesday, Nov 11

Special Events

Block Party - Saturday, September 13

Holiday Party - Tuesday, December 9

Ashburton Area Association
P.O. Box 67132
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

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