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Greater Coppin Heights/ Rosemont Community news

ISSUE 11 VOLUME 2 November 2008

SERVING THE FOLLOWING NEIGHBORHOODS OF WEST BALTIMORE

ASH-CO-EAST/COPPIN HEIGHTS • GREATER ROSEMONT • MATTHEW A. HENSON • EVERGREEN • PANWAY/BRADDISH • GREATER MONDAWMIN NORTHWEST • EASTERWOOD • BRIDGEVIEW • PINEHURST

Coppin Heights Community Development Corporation
(443)984-3766 or (410)951-3622 • chcdc@coppin.edu

Give of Yourself for Thanksgiving

For more, Thanksgiving has always been a time for food, fellowship, and getting up very early on Friday morning to run from store to store taking advantage of the "steals and deals" offered at the mall. But this year, things are different. Until I started writing this letter, I hadn't given any thought to what I will prepare. I have found myself grinding me teeth at the thought of making my dollars stretch in order to put smiles on my loved ones faces for Christmas. There are just so many forces pulling on my purse. This has made it hard for me to have my normally happy and high energy attitude about the upcoming holidays. You too may be feeling a little glum as you think about how you are going to work your magic this holiday.

Well, right here and now, I have decided that no matter what, I will enjoy my Thanksgiving Holiday. Although our economy is going through ups and downs and my turkey may be a little smaller this year, I have a lot for which to be thankful. I have my health, my family, and my friends.

We celebrate Thanksgiving to remember the things for which we have to be grateful. It's our special time to give thanks... not just for the obvious, like food, but for the thousands of fortunate moments, the multitude of blessings that we receive each year.

Each year, my family and I help with the "Bea Gaddy's Thanks for Giving" dinner. They are in much need of food and other resources for those that may go hungry. Won't you consider donating to Ms. Gaddy's cause? She may be gone, but her dream lives on. Contact information for the Bea Gaddy Family Center is as follows:

425 N. Chester Street
Baltimore, MD. 21231
(410)563-2749
Support@Bea-Gaddy.org

Michelle Nusum McEachern
Executive Director

HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS ALLOWS YOU TO BUY IN COPPIN HEIGHTS AT AN ALL TIME LOW!!

This is an ideal time to purchase in Coppin Heights! Through our Healthy Neighborhoods Loan Program, you can purchase a 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, brick home with covered front porch and rear yard with a 30-year, fix-rate loan at less than 5%.

Call Ms. Clark today for more information, 443-984-3766 or email dclark_chcdc@yahoo.com

MONTHLY BLOCK MEETINGS - 6PM

Your Healthy Neighborhoods Coordinator, Ms. Dominique Clark wants to see you!

3rd Wednesday
1500 – 1800 Blocks of Moreland Avenue
1600 – 1800 Blocks of Ruxton Avenue

3rd Thursday
900 – 1800 Blocks of North Bentalou Street

Meeting Location: Easterwood Park Recreation Center, 1530 N. Bentalou Street

Call to confirm your attendance at
443-984-3766 or 410-951-3622

HOLIDAY DECORATION BLOCK CONTEST

The Christmas Holiday is quickly approaching! We would like to show our holiday spirit through lights, garland, ribbons, wreaths and more! But unlike our last contest, we are not limiting this activity to individual residents. We want to show both our holiday and community spirit! So, we are asking that you work with your neighbors to decorate your block.

You can decorate individual homes and/or community spaces (i.e., trees, light posts). The winning block will receive a holiday party, and a special gift to help beautify your block!

You must register your block for this special activity. Registrations will be taken through noon on Friday, December 19, 2008. Start thinking now about how you would like to decorate your block. There are limited funds available to help cover the cost, so register early!

For more information and to register, call Ms. Clark at 443-984-3766 or 410-951-3622

Girl Scouts
Where Girls Grow Strong

COPPIN HEIGHTS GIRL SCOUTS TROOP
Serving girls in West Baltimore in grades K- 6

Weekly meetings will be held every Tuesday from 6PM – 7PM in the Community Room at Calverton Elementary/Middle School, 1100 Whitmore Avenue

COOKIES! COOKIES! COOKIES!
NOW ON SALE!!

For more information, call Ms. Clark at 443-984-3766 or visit our office in the Community Wing at Calverton Middle School

EVERY VOTE COUNTS!

Don't forget to vote on Tuesday, November 4! No matter what the weather, make sure your voice is heard!

Coppin Heights
Community Development Corporation's

ATLANTIC CITY BUS TRIP

Proceeds support community improvement activities.

THANK YOU TO ALL THAT JOINED US FOR THE
October 18th trip!
What a great time of fun and fellowship!

Per your request, the next trip will be an evening trip. Check out next month's issue for the date, time, and casino!

SENIOR CORNER

Project SAFE (Stop Adult Financial Exploitation)

Each year, hundreds of cases of financial exploitation of older and vulnerable adults are reported in Maryland. The results can be devastating — emotionally and financially. This, however, is estimated to be only a fraction of the thousands of cases that go unreported in our state.

These tips will help you protect your money:

♦Use direct deposit for your checks.
♦ Don't sign blank checks allowing another person to fill in the amount.
♦ Don't leave money or valuables in plain view.
♦ Don't sign anything you don't understand.
♦ Be aware of scams. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
♦ Cancel your ATM card if you don't use it.
♦ Don't give anyone your ATM PIN number.
♦ Check your financial statements promptly and carefully for unauthorized withdrawals.
♦ Be cautious of joint accounts. Consider a convenience account instead.
♦ Build good relationships with the professionals who handle your money.
♦ Don't give any account number to a stranger.

For more info, contact the Maryland Department of Aging, toll-free **1-800-AGE-DIAL.** To report suspected financial exploitation call the Maryland Department of Human Resources, toll-free **1-800-917-7383 TTY: 1-800-735-2258** Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

AFFORDABLE HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

BY COPPIN HEIGHTS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BRAND NEW HOMES

2777, 2779, & 2781 West North Avenue
(Walking Distance to Coppin State University)

Monthly Payment (including Principal, Interest, Taxes, and Insurance)**: $1,035.00***

FEATURES: 3BR/1.5BA, Porch front homes with Full walk-out basement and parking pad in rear. NEW furnace, hot water heater, plumbing, and more! Open floor plan, Master Bedroom Suite with oversized closet, Powder Room on first Floor! Optional finished lower level would make an excellent fourth bedroom, family room, or den. **Apply now and your home can be customized! Call 443-984-3766 or 410-951-3622 to schedule an appointment.**

***Monthly Payment is estimated based on current Interest Rate and is subject to change.**

Thinking of buying a home?

Attend one of our FREE HOMEBUYER Workshops

(Facilitated by a licensed Real Estate Agent)

When:
2nd Tuesday of the Month
Where:
Coppin Heights Community Office (inside Calverton Elementary/Middle School), 1100 Whitmore Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21216
Time:
6PM – 7PM

Find Out:

- What you need to purchase a home?
- How to prepare for the credit application?
- Grants & other resources to assist with closing costs.

Pre-register by calling 443-984-3766.

COMMUNITY STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Open To All Residents

Last Monday of Every Month from
5:30pm – 7:00pm
Calverton Elementary/Middle School,
Community Room, 1100 Whitmore Ave

Residents are invited to share issues, concerns, and offer solutions!! Your input in important to guiding our program and service development activities!

New Eden Technologies, LLC

- Operating System Tune-up
- Full Computer Assessment
- Operating System Update
- Software Repair Service
- Broadband Service Connection
- Memory Upgrade
- New PC Setup and Customize
- Move Data to a New Computer
- Wireless Network Setup
- Network Backup Device Setup
- CD/DVD Reader/Writer Installation
- Hard Drive Install/Upgrade

New Eden Technologies, LLC is an information technology (IT) consulting firm that provides expert level services ranging from Network Administration to computer repair and support to home-based businesses and personal users. Based from the (U.S.A.) Baltimore, Maryland metro region, we work with Fortune 500 companies as well as start-ups to develop, maintain and leverage IT infrastructures. Our management consultants have a minimum of ten years of experience in IT and can help manage technology risk as well as identify strategic technologies.

Computer Repair & Support Services

Our goal is to provide **On Site** service, support and training. Yes, we come to you! If speed is an issue, check out our Remote Service options, we can connect to your computer via the Internet, and carry out many functions on the spot support and repair.

- Small business computer repair and support services.
- Home computer repair and support services.
- Secure remote computer support services Broadband or Dial-up Internet.
- We can assist with computer virus removal and computer spyware removal.
- We can provide Preventative Maintenance services to keep your systems running in perfect condition.

Small Business Computer Repair

We will fix any problem with your business Windows PC **in your office** for an hourly charge of **$45 per hour*** or call us for a quote. These rates apply during our regular working hours only.

We have a **No Fix - No Fee** policy for all quoted price work. If we cannot solve the problem, there will be no charge for our visit.

Remember you can get faster service and save money by allowing us to fix the problem via **Remote Control** over the Internet.

*Note these are labor charges only

Home Support

We will fix any problem with your home Windows PC **in your home** for an hourly charge of **$45** per hour **or** call us for a quote. These rates apply during our regular working hours only.

We have a **No Fix - No Fee** policy. If we cannot solve the problem, there will be no charge for our visit

Remember you can get faster service and save money by allowing us to fix the problem via **Remote Control** over the Internet.

Computer Spyware Removal

If you suspect your computer is infected with Spyware:

DON'T PANIC

Do NOT use the computer for on-line banking or anything else that requires you to enter passwords, PINs or any other personal information.

Call New Eden Technologies immediately, and we will advise you how to proceed and arrange a site visit or a repair using remote computer support services.

For more information or to schedule service, call 443-629-3696

In Memoriam

MR. HOZIER TODD

BELOVED BOARD MEMBER AND COMMUNITY LEADER

On Wednesday, October 22nd, the Greater Coppin Heights/Rosemont Community Family suffered a great loss. Mr. Hozier Todd, Vice President of the Coppin Heights Community Development Corporation and Vice President of the Ash-Co-East/Coppin Heights Neighborhood Association passed away.

Mr. Todd was dedicated to the improvement of our community and will be sorely missed.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Electric Universal Service Program (EUSP)
Authorized through restructuring legislation, the EUSP includes current electric bill assistance, retirement of certain old bills, and weatherization services. Its funding of $34 million per year continues but is subject to annual review and approval by the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) and the legislature. Eligibility: electricity customers with incomes at or below 150% FPL. Eligible customers may receive both EUSP and LIHEAP.
1-800-352-1446
1-800-925-4434 (TTY)
www.dhr.state.md.us/how/energy/eusp.htm

Project Energy Assistance
A comprehensive state plan to help Maryland's working families with their energy costs. Project Energy Assistance extends the income eligibility requirements to include homes with annual income levels up to 200% of the poverty level, which is $40,000 for a family of four. Applications for the program were taken from January 15 to March 31, 2006. For more information, call 1-800-352-1446 or call the energy hotline 866-900-3637.
www.energy.state.md.us/energyassistance/projectea.htm

THANKSGIVING RECIPE
Sweet Potato Pie with marshmallow meringue

Crust:
1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs (made from about 7 1/2 ounces graham crackers, finely ground in processor)
3 tablespoons sugar
6 to 7 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted

Filling:
3 pounds medium red-skinned sweet potatoes (yams)
1 14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk
1/4 cup sugar
2 large eggs
2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1/4 teaspoon salt

Marshmallow Meringue:
1 7-ounce jar Kraft Jet-Puffed Marshmallow Creme
3 large egg whites
1/8 teaspoon salt
1/4 cup sugar

For crust:
Preheat oven to 350°F. Mix graham cracker crumbs and sugar in medium bowl. Add 6 tablespoons melted butter and stir until crumbs feel moist when pressed together with fingertips, adding 1 tablespoon melted butter if crumb mixture is dry. Press crumb mixture onto bottom and up sides of 9-inch-diameter glass pie dish, building up sides 1/4 inch above rim of dish. Bake crust until set and beginning to brown, about 10 minutes.
Cool on rack. DO AHEAD: *Pie crust can be made 2 days ahead. Cover pie crust and let stand at room (temperature.*

For filling:
Preheat oven to 350°F. Pierce sweet potatoes all over with fork; place potatoes on rimmed baking sheet. Bake until potatoes are very tender when pierced with fork, about 1 hour 15 minutes. Cool slightly. Cut potatoes open and scoop out pulp. Transfer pulp to processor and puree until smooth. Set aside 2 cups sweet potato puree for filling; cool completely (reserve any remaining puree for another use). DO AHEAD: *Can be made 1 day ahead. Cover and refrigerate.* (Continued on next page)

Preheat oven to 350°F. Combine 2 cups sweet potato puree, sweetened condensed milk, and all remaining ingredients in large bowl; whisk until well blended and smooth. Pour filling into crust. Bake pie until puffed around edges and set in center, about 50 minutes. Transfer pie to rack and cool. Refrigerate pie at least 4 hours or overnight.

For marshmallow meringue:
Position rack in top third of oven and preheat to 400°F. Using rubber spatula, scrape marshmallow creme into large bowl. Using electric mixer, beat egg whites and salt in another large bowl until foamy. Add sugar, 1 tablespoon at a time, and beat until stiff and glossy peaks form. Add 1/2 cup beaten egg whites to marshmallow creme and stir with rubber spatula or spoon just until incorporated to lighten (marshmallow creme is very sticky and will be difficult to blend at first, but blending will become easier as remaining whites are folded in). Fold in remaining whites in 2 additions just until incorporated. Spread meringue over top of cold pie, mounding slightly in center and swirling with knife to create peaks.

Bake pie just until peaks and ridges of marshmallow meringue are lightly browned, about 4 minutes. Let stand at room temperature until meringue is cool. DO AHEAD: *Can be made 1 day ahead. Cover with cake dome; chill. Let pie stand at room temperature 30 minutes.*

FEATURED PARTNER – Citizens Planning and Housing Association

For close to 65 years, Citizens Planning and Housing Association (CPHA) has been a place neighbors could turn to get answers and to get help.

The Community Equipment Bank & Resource Library- The Community Equipment Bank provides a "lending library" of key resources for community associations from digital cameras to bull-horns.

Resource Library - The Resource Center for Neighborhoods has an extensive library of key resources for community groups and computers available every day for neighborhood leaders to use.

Self-Help Handbook -_In 1982, CPHA created the Self Help Handbook to provide a useful tool to community groups for identifying potential neighborhood projects and resources. The updates are now available here.

Need Help with a Community Issue?
From how to start a new organization to working with difficult neighbors, we are able to provide one-on-one assistance with many community problems. If you feel like you want to change something in your neighborhood but you just don't know how, CPHA can help. To learn more just give us a call or email the Director of Leadership and Community Building 410.539.1369 ext. 102 or kenyaa@cphabaltimore.org

CPHA mobilizes informed citizen action by:

- Training and organizing citizens and neighborhood leaders to be advocates on issues consistent with the vision
- Advocating for policies and actions that prevent sprawl and improve the livability of existing neighborhoods
- Convening partners to address policy and planning issues of common interest to Baltimore City and its surrounding counties.

Citizens Planning & Housing Association
218 W. Saratoga Street 5th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21201
Phone: 410-539-1369

To advertise in the Greater Coppin Heights/Rosemont Community News, please 443-984-3766 or 410-951-3622

About Our Organization…

Greater Coppin Heights/Rosemont, a great place to live, work, and play!

We are seeking volunteers for our Events Planning Committee. To sign up, call 443-984-3766 or send an email to chcdc@coppin.edu

Coppin Heights Community Development Corporation (CHCDC) is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization established in 1995 by the Coppin State University Development Foundation to advance the broader community improvement/ neighborhood revitalization agenda of the Greater Coppin Heights/Rosemont Community. CHCDC is dedicated to promoting the health and stability of the Greater Coppin Heights/ Rosemont community.

Our Mission and Objectives

Our mission is to be a catalyst for suitable and affordable housing for low to moderate income residents and to stimulate economic development within neighborhoods immediately adjacent to Coppin State University through the establishment of social, economic, educational and affordable housing development initiatives that collectively increase the stability and sustainability of our community.

Our objectives are:
(1) To raise the socio-economic and educational levels of community residents,
(2) To expand economic development opportunities for community residents
(3) To develop safe, decent, and affordable housing.

1100 Whitmore Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21216

PHONE:
(443) 984-3766

VOICEMAIL:
410-951-3622

FAX:
(410) 545-7849

E-MAIL:
chcdc@coppin.edu

BECOME A MEMBER OF CHCHC

The Coppin Heights CDC is a membership organization which gives community residents a chance to become involved in the future of Greater Coppin Heights/Rosemont. Members are kept informed of CDC events and activities, are invited to attend our Steering Committee meetings and provide input and guidance on CDC outreach activities. CDC members can also volunteer to serve on a committee or to assist with a CDC project. If you would like to become a member, visit or office or request that a member form be mailed to your home. Membership is just $5 per year and open to anyone who lives or works in Greater Coppin Heights/Rosemont and is 18 years of age or older.

Coppin Heights Community Development Corporation

1100 Whitmore Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21216