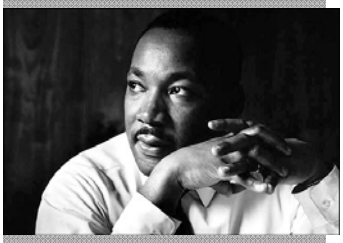
January 2008
Volume 2, Issue 1

Greater Coppin Heights/ Rosemont Community News

Coppin Heights Community Development Corporation (443)984-3766 or (410)951-3622



Special Interest Articles:

- Picture Perfect Porch Winners Announced
- Appointment Calls Are Now Being Accepted for Stoppin Lead in Coppin Home Assessments
- Contributions for the Greater Coppin Heights/ Rosemont Community Memoir Being Sought
- Youth Talent Showcase Looking for Talented Youth!
- DATE CHANGE/ SAVE THE DATE for Community Skating, Bowling, Line Dancing, Bingo BONANZA!
- January Brings New President at New Director of Public Safety to Coppin State University

I, TOO, HAVE A DREAM

January is a special month because we take time out celebrate a special man – Dr. Martin Luther Kin, Jr. Since I was a girl, I have always been touched by Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech. It speaks to the foundation of every success. Whether it is starting a business, graduating from school, or changing the world; every success starts with a dream – a vision. I, too, have a dream. I dream of a time when our community free of drugs, free of boarded houses, and free of school drop outs. I dream of a community where homeownership is the norm, where children graduate at record numbers, where residents are gainfully employed or own their own businesses.

I have a dream.

Like Dr. King, my dream cannot come true without support. Dr. King didn't march alone. Dr. King did not stand alone.

"We shall overcome" was just that—a "we" thing.

The number 8, biblically, is the number of new beginnings. I dream of a new Greater Coppin Heights/Rosemont in 2008.

Michelle McEachern,
Executive Director

We're Looking for a Few Good Residents…YOU!

As we close out 2007 and embark upon a new year, I would like to remind our residents that your participation is need for community events. Healthy Neighborhoods is not just a loan program. A big part of being a Healthy Neighborhood community is community organizing and resident involvement. I am looking for block representative for each block who will be willing to assist in beautification projects which will be taking place in the Spring. I encourage you to attend our monthly Steering Committee Meetings which are held the last Monday of every month at Calverton Elementary/ Middle School at 5:30pm. Please become an agent of positive change in the Coppin Heights Community!

Remember, "Team Work Makes the Dream Work"!

Happy New Year!

For more information about Healthy Neighborhoods, call Dominique at 443-984-3766

Making a New Year's Resolution? Lose the Weight of Debt

"***Out with the old; in with the new"!*** Many of us will begin the task of tackling a New Year's resolution. Choosing to lose weight is a very popular goal. This year why not lose the weight of debt? Carrying debt month to month even year to year can be just as hazardous to your health as carrying excess pounds. The first step to getting out of debt is creating a budget. A budget is a financial tool used to plan spending and saving. Start by writing your monthly income down then write down your monthly expenses. Fixed expenses are rent, insurance, day care, or loans. Flexible expenses include gas/ transportation, electricity, personal expenses. Subtract your total expenses form your total income. For more information on budgeting or budgeting tools our Budget Right class will be held on Thursday January 10 at 6:00 pm. Remember Taking Back My Financial Freedom also has one on one counseling.
For more info, call Ms. Igyor at 443-984-3766

Mentoring Children of Incarcerated Parents Program Kicks Off in January!

OUR YOUTH NEED YOU!!!

Our children need you!

Thousands of children suffer traumatic and extended separations from their parents on account of parental incarceration. Statistics from the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics state:

- 1 in every 142 U.S. residents was incarcerated
- Over 2 million U.S. children have had an incarcerated parent on any single day
- 1 in 32 adults in the U.S. is under some form of correctional supervision (probation, parole, jail or prison).
- Over 7 million children under the age of 18 have a parent under correctional supervision.

Through mentoring it is our hope that positive youth development will occur. All youth need support guidance and opportunities. With this support youth can develop self-confidence in four areas that are key to create a healthy, happy, successful life, and reduce the odds of being incarcerated themselves.

These areas are competence, usefulness, belonging, and power.

Won't you consider becoming a mentor?

What would be required of you?

- At least 21 years of age
- Pass a background check
- Attend mentor and family strengthening training
- Participate in weekly phone contact with mentee
- Participate in at least one individual contact per month with mentee

Who are the youth in our mentorship program?

- Age 4-17
- Live in the 21216 zip code area
- Has a parent incarcerated in state or federal prison

How will CHCDC assist you in your mentorship? We will:

- Schedule monthly group activities
- Facilitate individual meetings with mentors and mentees

For more information on becoming a mentor or to register a child, please call us at 443-984-3766 or email chcdc@coppin.edu

PICTURE PERFECT PORCH WINNERS ANNOUNCED!

Our first Picture Perfect Porch Contest was a great success! Although we found many residents with lovely porches, there were three that stood out among the rest!

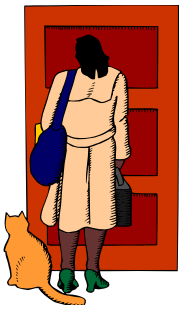
First Place Winner of a $100 Home Depot Gift Certificate was 1602 N. Bentalou Street.

Second Place Winner of a $50 Home Depot Gift Certificate was 1639 Ruxton Avenue

Third Place Winner of a $25 Home Depot Gift Certificate was 1627 Ruxton Avenue

If you didn't win this contest, don't fret. There will be another contest in the Spring.

So, get started now working on making your porch "Picture Perfect!"



Schedule Your Stoppin Lead in Coppin Home Assessments Today!

The Stoppin' Lead in Coppin project which provides FREE home assessments and other resources specifically for residents in the Greater Coppin Heights/Rosemont Community began on December 1st.

Coppin State University nursing and social work students are conducting FREE home health assessments. The students will provide useful information and resources you can use, such as:

- Lead Safe Cleaning Materials
- HEPA Vacuum Loans
- Window Replacement
- And more!

For more information or to schedule your FREE home assessment call Tiffany Davis or Jordan Horner at 443-984-3766 or send an email to chcdc@coppin.edu

Help Us Develop the Coppin Heights Community Memoir

What better way to attract new residents and keep those of us that have been around for a while than to develop a community memoir, right?

A memoir is a record of events written by a person or persons having intimate knowledge of the events and based on personal observation.

At Coppin Heights Community Development Corporation, we need your help from your personal experience to develop the ***Coppin Heights Community Memoir.***

If you can remember historical events, have photos, or other materials that should be included in the memoir, please let us know. We want to include as many special moments, both personal and public, as possible. These materials will be distributed to current residents and new residents. We expect the document will take at least six months to develop. But once finished, it will be an intimate look at the community we call home.

For an interview or to share photos (which will be returned), call 443-984-3766 or 410-95136222

Community Events and Activities

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday – January 15th

MLK Day Events January 21st

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade (12PM) - Steps off at Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and Eutaw Street, and travels south on Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day at the Walters (11am – 4pm) Dream big and use your imagination to create commemorative pieces of art celebrating the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Watch a film of his famous speech, I Have a Dream, and a music-filled cartoon about his life. Learn about other influential African-American heroes then share stories of your heroes. Explore our collection, go on a tour of The Image of the Black in Art and search the galleries for historical heroes and peacemakers. *ADMISSION IS FREE* (For more info, call 410-547-9000
- Skate & Bake Skating and Bowling Center's Gospel Praise Party from 7pm – 10pm. A family-friendly event; open to all ages. $ (group discounts are available) For more info, call Terry at 410-669-9100

The American Diabetes Association, Bon Secours Baltimore Health System, and the Baltimore City Health Department will host a **Type 2 Diabetes Screening and Info event** at 6:30pm on Tuesday, January 22nd at Zion Baptist Church, 1700 N. Caroline Street, Baltimore. The event include screening, information, and dinner! With Diabetes disproportionately striking Baltimoreans at an alarming rate of 56% higher than the national average, this is not an event to miss. For more information see the attached flyer or contact Tracy Newsome at 410-265-0075 ext. 4679 or tnewsome@diabetes.org.

If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude. Don't complain.

Maya Angelou

Search for words related to community improvement in the Greater Coppin Heights/Rosemont Community.

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- Advocacy
- AshCoEast
- Calverton
- Clean Up
- Community
- Coppin Heights
- Coppin State
- Counseling
- Easterwood
- Evergreen
- Financial Literacy
- Grant
- Healthy Neighborhoods
- Homebuying
- Homeownership
- Lead Poisoning
- Loan
- Nonprofit
- Northwest
- Rosemont
- Unity

Greater Coppin Heights/Rosemont Steering Committee Meeting

Have you attended a meeting of the Greater Coppin Heights/Rosemont Steering Committee? If not, you are missing out on an opportunity to work on projects and provide advisement on activities that affect our entire community. We hope you will join us at the next meeting. **Meetings are held the last Monday of each month at 5:30pm at Calverton Middle School, 1100 Whitmore Avenue.** The group includes residents, city agency reps, business owners, and community leaders meet to discuss and develop strategies to address our community's priority areas:

(1) Slum and Blight Removal

(2) Community Safety

(3) Health and Education Disparities.

The next Steering Community meeting is January 28, 2008.

Mark Your Calendar & Join Us for a Formal Introduction to Healthy Neighborhoods

Join Coppin Heights Community Development Corporation when we celebrate the kick off of Healthy Neighborhoods in Coppin Heights!

January 24, 2008
3:00pm-6:00pm
Coppin State University,
2500 W. North Avenue
Room 218A-Dining and Meeting Hall

You will...

- Learn how to reduce your monthly mortgage payment
- Meet our Preferred Realtors
- Meet Coppin Heights CDC Staff
- Learn about available homes for purchase in Coppin Heights
- Have a snack on us...

RSVP NOT REQUIRED BUT PREFERRED
CALL DOMINIQUE AT 443-984-3766

Mark Your Calendar for CHCDC 2008 Events!!

January Brings New President and New Director of Public Safety to Coppin State University

January 14, 2008 is the start date for **Dr. Reginald S. Avery** who will serve at the fifth President of Coppin State University (CSU). Avery is currently executive vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of South Carolina Upstate, part of the University of South Carolina system.

In service to the greater higher education community, Avery is a member of the Advisory Committee on Academic Programs for South Carolina's Commission on Higher Education and is an institutional representative of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Very active in his community, Avery serves on several boards, including those of the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce, Spartanburg Housing Authority, Urban League of the Upstate, and Community Advisory Board of BMW Automotive.

Avery holds a Ph.D. from the Florence Heller School of Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University, an M.S.W. from the George Williams College of Aurora University, and a B.S. in sociology from North Carolina A&T State University. He and his wife Esther have three adult children and two grandchildren.

On December 20, Coppin State University Interim President Dr. Sadie R. Gregory announced that former Baltimore City Police Commissioner **Leonard D. Hamm** will join Coppin State University as its new Director of Public Safety on January 2, 2008.

"Coppin State University is ecstatic to be bringing aboard Leonard Hamm," said Dr. Gregory. "His impressive credentials include over three decades of law enforcement experience in Baltimore City, which is the region that Coppin primarily serves. During his policing career, Mr. Hamm has also served in several leadership positions."

A native of Baltimore, Hamm grew up in Cherry Hill. He joined the city's police force in 1974. He is a graduate of City College High School, and graduated from the Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science. In addition to serving as Police Commissioner, Hamm also served as a patrol officer, held posts on the SWAT team, in criminal intelligence, and at the police academy while a member of the city's police force. Hamm, who has also served as a Deputy Commissioner, holds the distinction of being the first African-American Commander of the police department's Central District.

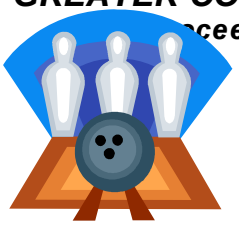
Hamm and his wife Rose, who is a graduate of Coppin and a city educator, reside in Baltimore.

DATE CHANGE! SAVE THE DATE!!

SKATING – BOWLING – LINE DANCING – BINGO BONANZA

GREATER COPPIN HEIGHTS/ROSEMONT COMMUNITY & FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Proceeds benefit community revitalization and youth development activities



Join us on Wednesday, **February 20, 2008** from 6pm to 9pm for a night of family and community fun and fellowship!

This special event, open to our entire community, will be held at the new and improved (you'll think you're at Jillian's) Shake and Bake Family Fun Center, featuring the brand new Strike Zone Glow Bowling Center, 1601 Pennsylvania Avenue.

There will be something for everyone!

- Skating
- Bowling
- Bingo
- Line Dancing

Bingo can be played by anyone 12 and older for $1 per card. Cash and other prizes!!!

Ticket prices include:

- skating or bowling
- a slice of pizza or hotdog
- a drink.

Pricing:

Family Four Pass: $32
Senior (55+): $7.50
Individual (13+): $10
CSU Students: $8.00
Youth (12 and under: $6.50

We encourage you to purchase your tickets early! All tickets purchased by January 4th will qualify for a special prize drawing!

Buy your tickets early and save! Call 443-984-3766 to purchase tickets.

Coppin Heights Community Development Corporation

1100 Whitmore Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21216

PHONE:
(443) 984-3766

VOICEMAIL:
410-951-3622

FAX:
(410) 545-7849

E-MAIL:
chcdc@coppin.edu

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.coppin.edu/chcdc

April 19, 2008
11am to 2pm
"Agent of Positive Change"
Community Awards Luncheon
Coppin State University
Dining & Meeting Hall

June 7, 2008
10am to 2pm
2nd Annual CHCDC Housing Fair
Coppin State University
Dinning & Meeting Hall

August 16, 2008
10am to 2pm
1st Annual CHCDC Financial Literacy & Education Fair
Location: TBD

CHCDC seeks volunteers to serve on its Events Planning Committee. To volunteer, call 410-951-3622

Join CHCDC!

Membership is about showing your support for the activities of CHCDC – continuing to make our community a great place to live. Many of us chose to live here because this community is special and it is up to us to take care of it. Your annual dues of only $5 (per person) makes a huge difference. Our goal is 200 members this year! Won't you join?!

Your dues help to cover operating costs, this newsletter, community events, Open Space maintenance, and more.

You do not have to be a member to receive this newsletter or participate in our events, but your support would be greatly appreciated. Call 410-951-3622 to request a membership form.

About Our Organization…

CHCDC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 1995 by the Coppin State University Development Foundation. The mission of CHCDC 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 CSU through the establishment of social, economic, educational and affordable housing development initiatives that collectively increase the stability and sustainability of our community.

CHCDC
1100 Whitmore Ave
Baltimore, MD 21216