



Camp Springs Civic Association Community Informer

P. O. Box 1071, Camp Springs, MD 20757

January 2013 Community Meeting

2013 CSCA Meetings

2nd Wednesday

- January 9
- March 13
- May 8

The next Community meeting will be held on Jan. 9 at Thurgood Marshall Middle School, 4909 Brinkley Rd., Camp Springs, MD, at 7 p.m. (note: If public schools are closed, the meeting will be rescheduled).

Feature Topics



You asked for the status of the old Pyles Lumber building and other abandoned buildings in our community? Your opportunity to get answers to those questions is at the CSCA January 9th Community Meeting.

The Maryland Department of Environmental Resources and representatives from the various divisions of that agency will speak at our Jan. 9 meeting. Acting Director, Adam Ortiz and others will discuss their roles and responsibilities and answer questions related to property maintenance, illegal dumping, animal management, housing code violations, illegal signs, commercial vehicles, waste management, bulky trash, and anti-litter and weed ordinance, among other concerns.

We will also hear from members of the Joint Base Andrews Naval Air Facility Washington Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) team. JLUS represents a partnership between the base, Prince George's County, and the local community. The JLUS deals with issues involving development, traffic, noise, pollution and impacts on environmental and cultural resources. It also identifies opportunities for economic and community revitalization among other issues.



Residents at Camp Springs Safety Meeting

Councilman Patterson Holds Safety Meeting for Camp Springs

Hearing the concerns of Camp Springs residents, County Councilman Obie Patterson responded with a Public Safety special meeting on Dec. 6 at Thurgood Marshall Middle School. The meeting was held in conjunction with the CSCA and Prince George's County Police Districts IV and V. Police addressed crime statistics for both police districts. Captain Garrett, District IV, said the good news is that burglaries are down 50 percent this year compared to last year. In 2011, there were 62 burglaries compared to 32 burglaries, in early December and eight were at vacant homes.

Lt. Mills, District V, reported that burglaries were

Public Safety Meeting

Continued from pg 1

down 30 percent in that area. He said that robberies and car thefts are down as well. "The key to keeping crime down is partnering with police and the community," said Mills.

Overall, crime in the area is down 6 percent. "While we are seeing progress, it's not good enough. We must remain vigilant and there is still work to be done," said Capt. Garrett. The officers suggested that residents report vacant homes because police are working with the County to ensure that the homes are safe and not vandalized. Criminals break into the homes to steal copper pipes.

Other suggestions were to keep serial numbers of electronic equipment and to keep valuables out of sight in your vehicles. Thieves continue to steal GPS units, money and tags from automobiles. Be sure to lock your doors when you stop for gas. Break down the boxes when you purchase new items so you're not advertising that you have a new television or computer. Think like a criminal, but don't act like one. Thanks to other officers who attended the meeting: Major Harper, Colonel Howard, Sgt. Badiru, Officer Pittman and others.

November Community Meeting Recap

Diann B. James of the Prince George's County Department of Family Services Aging Division was the featured guest at the November community meeting. James, who is the coordinator for the Maryland Senior Health Insurance Assistance Program, provided timely information on healthcare and prescription drug plans. She gave a thorough overview of Medicare services, explaining the differences between Medicare Parts A – D. Medicare Part A

covers 100% of hospital expenses; Part B covers doctor visits, xrays, blood tests, and medical equipment; Part D covers 70% of prescription drugs; and Part C is a combined umbrella of A, B, and D. Similar to an HMO, Part C was created to help lower costs.

Remember that you must enroll in the Medicare program three months before turning 65. If you don't enroll, you will be penalized for life. For more information, call 301-265-8471 or 1-800-735-2258.

Ms. James also said that senior citizens must be careful not to become victims of fraud and offered the following tips:

- Keep Medicare cards safe because your social security number is on that card
- Be Careful of solicitors selling healthcare and long-term care door-to-door because they may not be legitimate
- Never use your home as collateral
- Do your homework before getting into a reverse mortgage
- As a taxpayer you have a right to complain about your Medicare if you are not getting proper care or guidance.

Two representatives from the Prince George's Crisis Response System also attended the meeting to briefly share information about the Crisis Response System. Any county resident faced with a crisis may call the 24-hour hotline to ask for assistance – 301-429-2185.

A Community Affair

CenterPoint Church, Annie's Art Gallery, Atti2des 2 Hair & Nail Salon and the Concerned Black Men Prince George's Interest Group collected more than 500 coats to donate to families in need. "This winter our collective mission was to place coats in the hands of the homeless, poor and families in our

community who were in need of support. It's time that we come together for the betterment of families, youth and children. We are pastors and business owners, but most importantly, we are compassionate," said Orlando J. Bego, pastor of the CenterPoint Church in Camp Springs. The coat drive culminated with an event on Dec. 1 at Annie's Art Gallery on Allentown Way in Camp Springs. The coats were donated to Greater St. John Church in Upper Marlboro. Harriett Edmondson donated 37 coats.

Those who attended the coat drive event at Annie's got a special treat with performance by talented poets and singers: Dyone Mitchell, Munday Nite, Lamont Carey, Harriett Edmondson, Kavon Ward, and the Vision Performing Arts Co. of Largo, Md. Check out the Annie's website: www.anniesartgallery.net.



Lamont Carey performing at Annie's Art Gallery

Good to Know

- **Local business owners** – you have until January 20 to apply for participation in the Business Development Reserve Program. The program gives you an opportunity to secure contracts with Prince George's County, receive business and financial training and gain a mentor. For more information, call 301-883-6480 or email BDRP@co.pg.md.us.

- **Get free weatherization assistance**—The Prince George’s County Department of Housing & Community Development offers free weatherization assistance to income eligible households to help lower their energy costs. Winterization includes insulating attics, floors and walls, basements and crawl spaces; caulking/air sealing around windows, doors and crawl spaces; and wrapping hot water heaters and pipes. Call 301-883-5491 to see if you qualify.
- **Ways to dispose of your live undecorated Christmas trees**—Residents may place their trees at the curb before 6:30 a.m. on their regularly scheduled collection day, or take their trees to either the Prince George’s County Yard Waste Composting Facility at 6601 Southeast Crain Hwy in Upper Marlboro, Monday - Friday, 7:30 am to 3:30 p.m. Or, to the Brown Station Road Public Convenience Center at 3501 Brown Station Road in Upper Marlboro, Mon. – Sat., 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Every tree collected will be shredded and cured into mulch for the Department of Environmental Resource’s annual spring Mulch Giveaway. For more information, call the 311 Call Center.
- **Be careful** with your space heaters and fireplaces. Check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. For snow removal requests, go to www.egov.co.pg.md.us/snowtrack.
- **Support one of our locals**—Charles Berrin hosts an online radio show with International House Music every Saturday from 2 – 4 p.m. Check out Berrin on www.WDVMradio.com. The show is heard in 40 countries.
- **Are You College Bound?** Then it’s time to fill out the FAFSA – Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Go to www.fafsa.gov/studentaid. Be sure to use the FAFSA.Gov site

for the free application for financial aid. Some other sites charge a fee.

- **CSCA Membership Drive** –Join the CSCA. Our bi-monthly newsletter informs members of the town meetings and other pertinent information. The membership dues are \$10.00 a year. Also, if you would like to submit an article pertaining to Camp Springs, please email: Campspringsca@gmail.com or write to: Camp Springs Civic Association, Inc., P.O. Box 1071, Camp Springs, MD 20757.
- **CSCA needs volunteers** to help plan National Night Out 2013. If you are interested, call David Perry at 301-706-1790 or Email: CampSpringsCA@gmail.com.

Henderson Road Neighborhood Watch Update

By Peter Mtungwa

After a summer hiatus, the Henderson Road Neighborhood Watch (HRNW) resumed meeting on September 11, 2012 under the leadership of the newly elected president, Peter Mtungwa. The officers for the next session who were introduced were the vice president, James Gray, secretary, Kathryn Gray, treasurer, Bernard French, archivist, Annette Simpson, sgt.-at-arms, R Royster, and site permit chairperson, Monica Adams.

Tammy Jones, the Camp Springs Civic Association president, spoke during the first meeting and gave a summary of the organization’s goals and planned activities for the coming year. She also emphasized the need for continued collaborative efforts between the civic association and the HRNW to ensure that our community remains a safe, secure and clean environment for all residents.

Several other guest speakers have shared valuable information about events and plans for the Henderson Road community including Councilman Obie Patterson and Kevin Woolbright, the WSSC customer advocate. Recent crime

statistics and tips on home security have been shared by Corporal R. Miller, Officer Gonzalez and Officer Pittman.

The HRNW hosted a holiday party during the December meeting. Residents provided delectable desserts and feasted on a buffet dinner served by HRNW officers. After the state of the neighborhood address by the president, Peter Mtungwa, residents sang carols and played an interactive holiday game. The evening ended with line dancing.

Members of the Henderson Road Neighborhood Watch participated on October 20, 2012 in the Prince George’s County Clean Up Green Up Day. HRNW residents also supported the Boys Scouts community service project by bringing non-perishable items to be donated to the Capital Area Food Bank. The hospitality committee continues to present newcomers to the neighborhood with welcome baskets full of useful household items and information about the HRNW and county service agencies.

The plans for the January meeting include a presentation by Mr. Daursey McGraw, who will discuss the role of the Revenue Authority in maintaining “curb appeal” in Prince George’s neighborhoods. Vanessa Davis, the founder and CEO of DivaDefender, will also do a presentation about home safety and demonstrate and display her self-defense and home safety products.



Peter Mtungwa presents award to Renate Kube

CAMP SPRINGS CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Acting President: **Tammy Jones**
301-437-4551

Treasurer: **Arlene Wilson**
301-899-3903

Recording Secy: **Betty Kohut**
301-449-9479

Corresponding Secy: **Carolyn Fleming**
301-248-5112

Newsletter Editor: **Tammy Jones**



Graphic Designer: Ky Powell bykydesigns@gmail.com

IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO KNOW

Prince George's County	
Police Non-Emergency	301-352-1200
Bulky Items	301-952-7600
Community Standards	301-883-6100
Leaf Collection	301-499-8576
Refuse Collection	301-952-7630
Animal Control/Management	301-780-7200
Property Standards	301-883-6100
District IV Police Station (Non-Emergency # --Eastover)	301-749-4900
District V Police Station	301-856-3130
Potholes	301-499-8520



Board Members:

- Leon Turner, Past President
- Valerie Fitzgerald, Commercial Relations
- Joan Law, Community Relations
- Thomas Reed, County Services and Past
- Don de Castro, Economic Development, IT and Past Vice President
- Beverly Taylor, Senior Citizen Outreach and Past President
- David Perry, Public Safety, Claudia Poole, Education
- Wilmarie McKoy, Zoning

Cut Here

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION AND RENEWAL

Please complete the following membership form and send it along with your check payable to the Camp Springs Civic Association, Inc. Attention Membership Chair, P.O. Box 1071, Camp Springs, Maryland 20757.

Membership Period: September 1, 2012 – August 31, 2013

Membership Dues: \$10.00 (per residential household)

Name _____ **Date** _____

Address _____ **Camp Springs, MD** **Zip** _____

Phone: _____ **Email** _____

If you would prefer an electronic version of the newsletter (improving our eco-friendly efforts) please check the yes box.

Yes

No

I am already a member but would like to volunteer for one of the committees, check this box

I am interested in volunteering for one or more of the standing committees or activities listed below (check all that apply):

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Works/Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Svcs | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen Concerns | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt-A-Road | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter/Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Distribution of Flyers | <input type="checkbox"/> IT/Social Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Business/Economic | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch | |