

College Heights Estates Association
President's Letter
Winter 2015

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It was terrific to have so many of you come to our annual CHEAFest in October. Outgoing County Council Member Eric Olson stopped by, as did incoming Council Member Dannielle Glaros. (She has an invitation for you in this newsletter.) We have been blessed with two outstanding representatives who have been responsive to our concerns. We thank Eric as he moves on to a new position as a liaison between the City of College Park and the University of Maryland. And we wish Dannielle success as she takes the helm as Prince George's County Council Representative from District 3.

We have some information and pictures for you of ongoing developments in our immediate vicinity. There's quite the building boom with the Cafritz construction well under way on Route One, the Book Exchange further North and a new hotel planned for the corner of Route One and Paint Branch Parkway. If you've gone to the Giant on East West Highway recently you probably noticed that the buildings that housed Kiplinger Editors were knocked down. A rezoning application has been submitted to change the 11 acre property from commercial to mixed use with 870 apartments and 34,000 square feet of retail space. Further down East West Highway the new Safeway is going up. Hopefully, these changes will be good ones and provide more jobs and new opportunities for shopping and recreation.

You are probably wondering why you haven't received a notice about a CHEA annual meeting yet. The CHEA Board voted to hold the meeting in the Spring rather than the Winter since during the past several years bad weather has forced us to postpone our meetings. And your safety is our priority. If you are interested in becoming a board member, please let me or any board member know.

Speaking of safety and security, we have been blessed with excellent support from the Prince George's County Police whenever there have been any incidents in our community. They have been working with University Park Police to assure that our homes are secure and our streets patrolled regularly.

I end my letter by asking you to please pay your dues, still only \$25. And I apologize to those who paid your dues and received a request to pay them. The electronic notice erroneously went out to the entire mailing list. I apologize for this. If you paid at CHEAFest in October, your dues are paid through 2015.

Regards,

Beverly Silverberg

Beverly Silverberg
President, CHEA

Signage Posted Along Path to University of Maryland



As a result of CHEA board discussions in summer 2014 with then County Councilman Eric Olson, his then chief-of-staff, Dannielle Glaros, the Prince George's County Police, the University Park Police, the University of Maryland Police, and the Department of Public Works, signs were placed at the entrance to the path, and along the path, leading to the University of Maryland from College Heights Estates. The signs were installed in September 2014. We are pleased that the Prince George's County Police and the University Park Police have been patrolling this area periodically. It is anticipated that there will be more limited student parking in the future on campus. We will be watching to make sure that illegal parking does not resume with the start of the spring semester at the University.

County Services

When Snow Falls !

Darrell B. Mobley, Director, Prince George's County Dept. of Public Works and Transportation, pointed out at a December 9, 2014 meeting with community leaders that his agency is responsible for maintaining the 1,900+ miles of county roadways, communicating known road conditions to the traveling public, and treating county maintained roads to mitigate hazards. For handling snow emergencies, the county is divided into five districts. CHE is in District 1, with headquarters in Glenn Dale. County policy states that primary and major collector roadways will be plowed first before moving into residential areas. When a snow occurs, the county encourages residents to attempt to move cars off the street so that plowing can occur, and to clear driveways after the plow has come through. And, finally, the county asks that residents wait twelve (12) hours after the snow stops before calling to



request snow and ice removal in residential areas. This time interval should permit the county to clear all major roads. Residents can report adverse road conditions using County Click311, or calling DPW&T Snow Information Center at 301-350-0500.

Discarding Bulky Items

The County's Department of the Environment will pick up large bulky items. However, you must call the Department's Bulky Trash Collection Unit at 301-952-7600 to make an appointment for pickup. Bulky items should only be placed at the curb **the night before the scheduled pickup**.

Electronic Waste

Did you know that over 1.8 billion new cell phones were bought in 2014, and within just a few years 44% of them will be "hibernating" in someone's kitchen drawer? Or, that each cell phone contains 40 chemical elements, including silver, gold and hazardous elements such as lead and mercury.¹ Cell phones are just one example of E-waste, the most rapidly growing waste in the municipal waste stream.

The County operates the Electronics Recycling Acceptance Site on White House Road, Upper Marlboro, MD. Acceptable items include: CPUs; circuit boards; mice; keyboards; computer speakers; laptop computers; printers and fax machines; telephone systems; copiers and scanners; main frames; pagers and cell phones; PC CPU component parts; ink jet and toner cartridges; CD players; radios and stereos; VCRs; wire, cable and surge protectors. Unacceptable items include: software; stereo speakers; and appliances such as toasters and microwave ovens. Special collection options are available for Senior Citizens and the Disabled. Call 311 for more information. You can search online at sites such as www:greenergadgets.org to view lists of businesses that accept electronic waste at no cost. You can also take electronics to retail stores such as Staples to be recycled.

¹ *Chemical & Engineering News, September 1, 2014.*

Recycling Glass

A glass bottle takes more than 4,000 years to decompose. Glass is made from natural materials and, as such, it can be safely recycled. Recycled glass serves as the primary material in new glass containers and for other commercial uses such as creating decorative tiles and landscaping materials to rebuilding eroded beaches. **BE SURE TO RECYCLE YOUR GLASS!**



GLASS CAN BE
RECYCLED
ENDLESSLY
WITH NO LOSS IN QUALITY OR PURITY

Use CountyClick311

County residents can get answers to questions and receive assistance with resolving non-emergency issues by using the county website: www:CountyClick311.com. Should you wish to use your phone to contact a county representative to answer questions or resolve issues, call 311 between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. For emergency situations call 911.

Non-Traditional Woman's Scholarship Opportunity

The University Park Woman's Club has announced a new scholarship for \$750, available for 2015, to a woman, 35 and older, who is in career transition, re-entering the job market, and/or updating her skills. She must be a US citizen, resident of University Park, College Heights, or Calvert Hills, and/or be an adult child or grandchild of a University Park Woman's Club Member. For additional information, email: upmdwc@gmail.com.

History of the Cafritz Property



We know that this will soon be a Whole Foods Grocery Store, multiple housing units, and many square feet of retail space. The photograph left (taken January 17, 2015) shows the side view of the future Whole Foods Store, expected to open fall 2015.

The “Cafritz Property” comprises approximately 36 acres, bordered on the west by Baltimore Avenue and on the east by the CSX Railroad tracks and located north of Tuckerman Street and south of Albion Street

in Calvert Hills. The Cafritz Property was once part of Charles Benedict Calvert’s Riversdale plantation. Charles Calvert donated the land and was the founder of the Maryland Agricultural College, now our University of Maryland, 1856. After Charles Calvert’s death in 1864, his estate was divided among his wife and children. His son, Charles Baltimore Calvert, built a residence, MacAlpine, and developed a farm on the property around 1868. Historic photographs (right, *MacAlpine 1943, Library of Congress, Gottscho-Schleisner Collection*) of MacAlpine show a Georgian-style brick residence. During this period, Charles Baltimore Calvert conveyed a right-of-way through his property to the Columbia and Maryland Railway in 1895; the Railway Company established a streetcar line that ran parallel to the B&O tracks and reached Hyattsville and Riverdale in 1899 and Berwyn in 1900. The last trolley ran on this Maryland line in 1958. The B&O rail line (now CSX) was completed along the eastern edge of the large property in 1835.



Charles Baltimore Calvert died in 1906; his family continued to live at MacAlpine until 1910. Various Calvert family members then used MacAlpine until 1934 when the family eventually rented the MacAlpine estate to the Longfellow School for Boys (grades one through eight) in 1934. In 1936, nearly three-fourths of the original estate east of the B&O Railroad was sold to John D. Smoot for construction of the Engineering Research Corporation’s (ERCO) aviation plant. This property was later acquired by the federal government in 1942 and a residential development, known as Calvert Homes, was built for defense workers at the nearby ERCO plant. The Calvert Homes development was closed in 1954 and subsequently demolished.



Calvert Homes -1943, Library of Congress, Gottscho-Schleisner Collection.

In 1948, the Prince George’s County Board of Education purchased a 1.4 acre tract adjacent to MacAlpine house for use as a school for residents of Calvert Homes. After Calvert Homes was demolished, the school was used as a school for physically handicapped children.

In 1960, Morris Cafritz acquired this property.

(Acknowledgement: Dr. Jennifer Stabler, Planner Coordinator, Historic Preservation Commission Prince George’s County.

Development Updates

Cafritz Property

You may have noticed that several lanes of north-bound Route 1 traffic have been closed on weekends as a result of this construction project. The Maryland State Highway Administration has approved the development's request to conduct weekend work along Route 1 for the installation of a storm drainage pipe. Three lanes of Route 1 (two north bound and the turning lane) will be closed periodically between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. while work takes place every weekend through the end of February. For an update on this project, see www.cafritzpop.com.

Safeway Construction at University Town Center

Work is continuing on the construction of the new Safeway planned for East West Highway and America Boulevard, part of the continued University Town Center development. (Photo left taken



January 17, 2015) This 55,000 square foot Safeway will have a pharmacy, bank, and a Starbucks inside. A parking garage will be built immediately east of the Safeway. Construction is by Echo Realty. <http://www.hyattsville.org/199/university-town-center>.

Current University Town Center tenants include the National Center for Health Statistics, Kaiser Permanente, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Department of Labor. Another UTC building along Belcrest Road is a 16-story building housing students from the University of Maryland and 11 other area universities. Another UTC building, also along Belcrest Road, has classrooms,

laboratories, and offices for Prince George's Community College. Over 3,000 PGCC students take classes at this UTC site annually.

Kiplinger's Editors Press

The sign for Editors Park on East West Highway next to Home Depot still remains, but the buildings have been demolished to make ready for development of luxury apartments and single family town houses. Original discussions on this project went before the Hyattsville City Council on January 5, 2015 (see Business, *Hyattsville News*, January 23, 2015). Demolition took place in November and December 2014. (see photo below).



Photos: P. Cunniff

Knox Village

The first stage of the demolition of Knox Boxes at Knox Road and Guilford Drive is complete. Toll Brothers have purchased 22 of the 29 Knox Box Buildings. Construction is underway to develop the first phase of this new housing project. Jack hammers can be heard from homes in College Heights Estates. When complete, Knox Village will have over 400 units with approximately 1,500 beds. Occupancy is slated for fall 2016.



Above. Completed Knox Village Rendering, Courtesy, WDG Architecture.

Left. Knox Box Construction. Looking toward Guilford Road. Photo: P. Cunniff, January 17, 2015.

The Hotel at the University of Maryland

Land is now being cleared for The Hotel at the University of Maryland, Route 1 and Paint Branch Parkway. The four-star hotel and conference center is anticipated to open in fall 2016. The hotel will have 292 rooms, five restaurants, conference facilities, an Elizabeth Arden Red Door Salon, additional retail space, and a parking garage.



Construction site, January 2015.
Photo: P. Cunniff



The Hotel at The University of Maryland.

Maryland Book Exchange



The Maryland Book Exchange is a 276-unit mixed use student housing complex which will have 855 beds and retail space that will include the relocated Maryland Book Exchange. Occupancy is slated for fall 2015.

Welcome New Neighbors

7015 Partridge Place – 10/17. We welcome our new neighbors, Brett and Deborah Moore.

7011 Wells Parkway 10/23. We welcome our new neighbor, William A. Siegal.

Submitted by Dixie Meadows.

UPDATE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

CHEA maintains a protected email list, available only for CHEA business. If you would like to receive CHEA Alerts (time-critical safety notifications), and the CHEA Newsletter by email, please send your current email address to cheamd@cheamd.org. CHEA retains your information in complete privacy and does not share it.

CHEA WEB SITE

The CHEA Website is www.cheamd.org, with news about our community. We will post newsworthy items on the website as well as minutes of all CHEA meetings. CHEA Board members can be reached through our CHEAMD@CHEAMD.org address. You are welcome to attend any CHEA Board meeting and to self nominate for board membership.



Upcoming Events

Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center

Sunday, February 15, 2014 , 3 p.m., the Faure Piano Quartett. For tickets, contact the Clarice Performing Arts Center, 301-405-2787.

Saturday, February 21, 8 p.m., Faculty artists, David Salness, violin, Evelyn Elsing, cello, and Mayron Tsong, piano, perform Beethoven's Archduke Trio and Brahms' Piano Trio No. 2 in C Major. FREE.

Saturday, February 28, 8 p.m., the University of Maryland Symphony Orchestra performs Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 3 and Mahler's 5th Symphony, featuring pianist Christopher Wong, the 2013 Concerto Competition Winner. For tickets, contact the Clarice Performing Arts Center, 301-405-2787.

Riversdale Mansion

Sunday, February 22, 2015, 12 noon. The Plummers' Kitchen. Using the open hearth in the dependency kitchen, the Riversdale Kitchen Guild cooks up food typical of the Plummer family and other 19th Century African Americans. Fee. For reservations, contact 301-864-0420.

Sunday, March 8, 2015, 2:30 p.m. Concert by the Riversdale Chamber Music Society, FREE.

College Park Aviation Museum

Tuesday, February 10, 2015, 7:30 p.m. Monarch Butterfly Conservation. Join naturalist Richard Dolesh as he describes how the Monarch's habitat is being threatened and what steps are being taken to protect and restore the population.

CHEA Dues Invoice

2015 Dues: Still \$25.00 per household. If you have not paid your 2015 CHEA dues, now is a good time to write your check. Thank you to those who have already paid. Proceeds are used to maintain the distinctive street signs around our community, the flowers at our entrance, pay for mailings and other communications, and fund our annual CHEAFest. Send your payment to Don Hein at the address below. If you paid your dues at our 2014 CHEAFest in October, you are paid up through 2015. Thank you!

**College Heights Estates Association
Don Hein, Treasurer
4109 Clagett Road
College Heights Estates, MD 20782**

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Many thanks to our talented volunteers!

CHEA Newsletter Editor and photographer: Pat Cunniff and CHEA Webmaster: Joel Scheraga

From Prince George's County Council Member Dannielle M. Glaros:

It is an honor to write to you today as the Prince George's County Council Member representing District 3. My first event, Experience District 3, will be on Thursday, February 19, from 5pm-7pm at the Riverdale Park Farmers Market, 6204 Rhode Island Ave., Riverdale Park. Representatives from the Dept. of the Environment will be there. Please attend and invite your friends!

The contact information for our office remains the same: 301-952-3060. You can receive useful information and regular updates from me by signing up to receive my eNewsletter. Just send an email to TSMayah@co.pg.md.us and request to be added to the list. Do not hesitate to contact me directly by phone at 301-952-3060 or at DMGlaros@co.pg.md.us if my staff and I can help you in any way.

I've included all our staff contact information below.

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