

West Lanham Hills Citizen

October 2016 | Monthly Meeting Wednesday, October 5, 2016 - 8:00 pm



Honoring Officer Hammond

At the August monthly meeting, Officer Hammond was honored for his service as our Community Police Officer as he has been transferred to being assistant to the Chief Hank Stawinski of the PG County Police. Officer Hammond reported about the shooting that happened on Emerson Road and 77th Place, explaining that it was a neighbor shooting their BB gun, and that no one was injured.

He expressed the commitment of our PG County police to protect and serve, and to quickly communicate about issues, up front. He referred to the shootings which occurred in Baltimore, and the unrest, but explained that our police officers are very involved in the community and won't let those things happen here.

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Residents receive OSHA training

Some 15 residents attended the three evening sessions of the 10-hour OSHA training course on Construction Safety provided by CASA. Mr. Fernando Garavito of CASA coordinated the presentations which were taught by Luis Aleman at the West Lanham Hills Park Building on Sept. 15, 20, and 22. We learned about safety and guidelines for Excavation, Tools, Electrical, Scaffolds, Stairs and Ladders, Personal Protection Gear, Cranes, Lockout/Tagout, Material Handling, and Employer and Employee responsibilities. Luis Aleman, the instructor, provided the OSHA Construction Safety Handbook, and utilized slideshow presentations and certain video or photo-

graphic information to help us understand the unique topics. He did a great job of making the information realistic and explaining the importance of each rule or guideline. He interacted with the listeners, responding to our questions and injecting humor into the presentations.

All 15 students will be receiving their OSHA Certification cards. OSHA certification is required for many job sites, and helps with advancement in one's career.

"Tonight's class was definitely informative for many of us!" said LaShanda Kirkland. "I'm delighted to have the opportunity to even be able to take the course."



West Lanham Day is almost here!

Excitement is building for the 75th Anniversary celebration of West Lanham Hills.

"The parade will take place from 11 to 12," explains Lan Tsubata, who is coordinating the many groups who are planning to march. "We not only have all our elected officials (State Sen. Victor Ramirez, Delegates Jim Tarlau and Diana Fennell, County Councilwoman Dannielle Glaros), but we will have the Police, Fire, Sheriff, and other agencies participating. Neigh-

bors have helped arrange horses, classic vintage cars, the "blue bus", and a marching band from Parkdale High School."

"We are welcoming residents to walk in the parade with the flag from their country of origin," Tsubata continues, "And we are thrilled to have cars from East-West Lincoln Mercury to carry some of our longtime residents as honored guests of the events."

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The parade will end at the park, where a short ceremony will be held to open the event there. "We are so glad to have neighbors taking a lead role this year," remarked Mie Smith, who with her husband, SunJae, is coordinating the park events. "Thanks to Mr. Arturo Pedroza, we will have a professional DJ. Mr. Oscar Romero is organizing soccer-based activities. Ms. Wanda Brooks has brought a wide array of county agencies to exhibit and give information, and she is also coordinating the food. Other neighbors have arranged a Zumba session, basketball activities, tons of games and contests."

"Of course, the centerpiece of the day is our history. Kay Rager, Janice Brock,

Charlotte and Walter Harris, Sarah Tsubata and Carolyn Sullivan have been working to collect historical items and create displays. We will have a "Passport" for the day, to collect stamps from each exhibit, and the completed book will earn a prize."

"This year, we have a lot of support from area businesses," says SunJae Smith.

"The Family Pancake House, Cricket Wireless, Giant Foods, Solar City, East West Lincoln Mercury, Hampton Nurseries, Starbucks, Chipotle, CVS, and several other business partners have really been great. They have been outstanding in helping us mark this important day in our history."

"This year, the membership drive has been a big part of the preparation. We are preparing a special edition of our directo-

ry with the history of the community, ads and acknowledgements of all the support we have received" explains Sarah Tsubata, secretary of the West Lanham Hills Citizens' Association. The board members are each playing a key role in the event: Greg McNair, President, will be presiding over the grill, and Deanna Echanique, treasurer, will help design the directory.

"We do need to ask neighbors to help out," remarked Mie. "We still need some tents or canopies; we need help with the balloons and decorations on Friday and Saturday Morning, and we need many helpers at the various games and tables. Please, anyone who can offer help, contact us at 301-442-3517, or email us at westlanhamnews@gmail.com." See you there!

Important announcements for West Lanham Hills Day:

Volunteer Service!

October 22nd is West Lanham Hills Day! If you need volunteer service, we need volunteers to participate in the parade, and to help run activities. Come and enjoy the many activities and festivities of the day!

Parade

The Parade will begin at the intersection of Garrison Road and 78th Avenue, through West Lanham Drive and Decatur, and end at the park building to kick off the West Lanham Hills Day.

No Parking on Decatur Rd and West Lanham Drive

All residents living on Decatur Road and West Lanham Drive must relocate their vehicles from 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM on October 22, 2016 to make space for the parade, starting at 11AM.

Questions

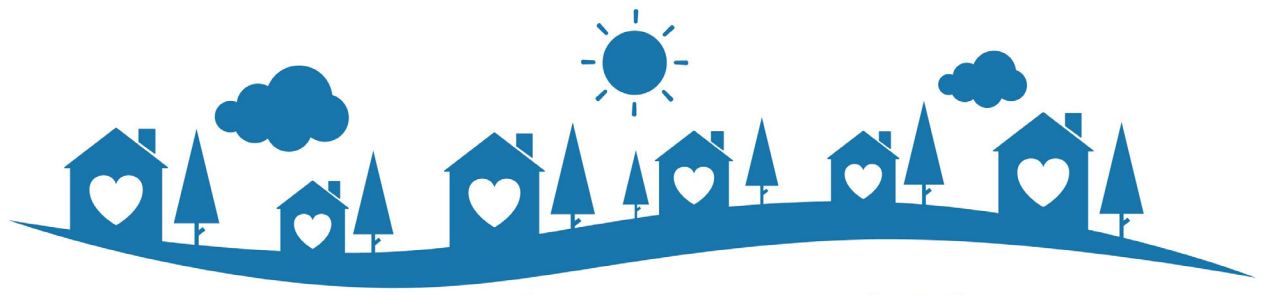
If you'd like to help, or have questions, please call Lan Tsubata, Parade Coordinator- 301-442-3517 or Mie Smith, 240-353-8234 for the Park events.

Membership DUE!

Membership Drive is wrapping up! If you haven't signed membership, you can sign up online at westlanhamhills.com or call 301-577-1094. Sign up TODAY!

Schedule of Events

10:30 AM	Parade Line Up (Garrison Rd & W. Lanham)
11:00 AM to 12:00 PM	West Lanham Hills Parade
12:00 PM	Opening Ceremony
12:15 PM - 4:00 PM	Family Fun Events
12:30 PM	Games begin (Tennis court)
12:45 PM	Get passports, visit exhibits (Look for Marker balloons)
1:00 PM	Food Served
1:30 PM	Soccer events begin (Small field)
2:00 PM	Basketball events begin (Basketball court)
2:30 PM	Zumba session (Park Building)
3:30 PM	Hand out prizes, redeem passports
4:00 PM	Close and Clean up



West Lanham Hills Day

Established 1941

Saturday, October 22, 2016

Come join us in celebrating the 75th anniversary of our neighborhood!

**Parade!
Food!
Prizes!
Dancing!
Music!
Zumba!
Basketball
Games!
Carnival
Games!
Soccer
Games!
Learn about
our history!**



New Laws That Take Effect this Month

Delegate Jimmy Tarlau

There were hundreds of bills that passed the MD legislature this year. Here are some of the more significant laws that take effect this month.

Minimum Wage – It goes up to \$8.75 throughout Maryland this month and increases to \$9.25 in July 2017. The minimum wage in Prince George's County is \$9.55 and increases to \$10.75 in October (in DC it is \$11.50).

Retirement Plans – A state sponsored retirement savings plan goes into effect. IRAs will be created for private sector employees without access to a workplace savings program with their employer. Employees would need to make the contribution and can opt out of the program. The law applies to employers using an automated payroll system who don't already offer a retirement program.

Birth and Death Certificates - Cost is reduced from \$24 to \$10.

College Students in Debt – Students who owe less than \$250 or less to the school cannot be barred from registering for a class.

Fracking (Prince George's County Law) is banned in Prince George's County.

Styrofoam Ban (Prince George's County Law) - Effective July 1 polystyrene (commonly referred to as Styrofoam), polystyrene loose fill packaging (also known as "packing peanuts") and other foam articles are not permitted for sale or use in Prince George's County. The reasoning behind the ban is to reduce the amount of polystyrene waste entering the landfill and local waterways, the County is requiring the use of non-foam food packaging products that are environmentally-friendly.



Report on the Urban-Atlantic Project

Sept. 8, 2016-- About 25 residents of West Lanham Hills, Hansen Oaks and Carrollan Gardens, along with New Carrollton Mayor Andy Hanko and Councilwoman Danielle Glaros, attended an informational presentation about a planned development project on the East side of the New Carrollton Metro Station (the "Landover" side, near Pennsy Drive, Corporate Drive, Garden City Drive.)

Urban Atlantic President Vicki Davis shared the artists' renderings of the planned project, currently called New Carrollton METRO. It would include some 250 luxury apartments, a commercial building for a single company, some 150,000 square feet of retail space and a parking facility of 6 or 7 levels. This "phase one" would be followed by other construction in that area.

Construction on the project is planned to begin in 2017. Employment opportunities for local residents are intended, with some 20 percent of hiring intended to be of local residents. Exact types of skills/professions are not yet clear, but Ms. Davis said they will keep us informed.

This project is on the other side of the Amtrak/Metro rail from our community, and will not be directly connected to us. The luxury apartments will probably range from \$1,600 to \$2,200 per month in rent. No affordable housing plans are currently in place for the development.

The only amenity that the project may offer for the surrounding community is a possible bike trail.

In terms of the vision for the project, Ms. Davis said "The selling point starts with a great location, ease of access, and excellent transit. The development then will focus on creating a sense of place. This site is the core for much greater redevelopment of the surrounding area, much of which is already in place with local and regional employment. Our goal is to create a community with a daytime and evening presence that is in fact a work, live, play – quality, authentic community, that connects with and enhances surrounding communities."

For more information, check their website: www.urban-atlantic.com

THURSDAY EVENING POWER SESSIONS:

(All sessions start at 7 PM)

Free educational sessions for all WLH residents.

October 6:

West Lanham Hills Day Preparation Meeting

October 13:

Capital One Bank: Managing your money, Part 2

October 20:

Ashante Abubakar, MBA, "Workforce Development and Continuing Education opportunity at Prince George's Community College.

October 27:

Capital One Bank: Managing your money, Part 3

University of Maryland Extension Prince George's County 4-H Science Adventure

Spread the word! Help get your 11-13 years old children interested in college and careers in the sciences through 4-H Science Adventures, starting October 22 on campus @UMD. Registration is limited! Contact the Prince George's County 4-H Educator Alex Chan at alexchan@umd.edu for more information.

Neighbor of the Month: Mr Jesus "Jesse" Morales Nominated by Sarah Tsubata

I would like to nominate Mr. Morales as Great Neighbor of the Month. He is so kind and thoughtful. He often cuts our lawn when cutting his own, or pulls our trash bins up to our house. When we had our water main leak he came over and helped us with the heavy digging, with no hesitation. He is a very hard worker. No matter what the problem, he is willing to help. We are very grateful to have such a great neighbor right next to us!