



November 2010

Volume VII, Issue VIII

Special Edition  
HIGHLAND DAY, A SUCCESS!!!

## President's Message

Last month I said: "See you at Highland Day," and I bet I did! **Charlotte Williams** will report, but please join me in thanking Charlotte for 6 years of dedication to the success of this day.

In September, members of the Executive Committee had follow-up meetings with County Executive **Ken Ulman**, his staff, **Ian Kennedy**, and members of his administration, **Marsha McLaughlin**, Director of DPZ and **Bert Nixon**, Director of Environmental Health for the Health Department. They agreed that review of the subjects raised by **GHCA** was appropriate; especially since the **General Plan** will be on the agenda in 2011 and **Comprehensive Zoning** in 2012. In this second series of meetings it was agreed that the conditional use process and specific conditional uses in the RR Zone (our area) need to be re-examined and updated as appropriate. **GHCA** will join with **DPZ**, other citizens groups and other interests in western Howard County to form a study group. This group will propose changes to zoning in general. Among the issues to be discussed will be additional informational requirements in the conditional use process, including more detail to enable the Health Dept. to make a more comprehensive public health analysis of a proposal and an improved mechanism for citizen input to the DPZ report/analysis. These are vital parts of the process and we welcome the opportunity to actively participate. We will keep you informed.

## GHCA Website

Thanks again to **Eric Kirksey** for all his past efforts on the site. Longtime member, **Vernon Pursel**, has taken over. Changes are made frequently, and he is working on establishing a posting site for the hundreds of photos taken on various Highland Days. Go to: <http://www.highlandmd.org/> Comments: [vpursel@comcast.net](mailto:vpursel@comcast.net).

**Highland Day by Charlotte Williams:** October 2 was another beautiful day in Highland. The sun shown -- the sky was clear! The temperature was comfortable and the attendance at Highland Day the best ever. At least one merchant has reported their volume for the day was the highest they have ever experienced in the history of their business. Wow! Promoting the success of Heart of Highland merchants is only part of the reason GHCA produces this annual festival. Just as importantly, we want to create an event, which draws the community together. This year we estimate we drew about 3,000 to the Crossroads. Thanks for coming! We hope you met your neighbors and made new friends too.

The event has grown to the point where you may have missed a few of the highlights; apologies to those not mentioned. **Wanda Mayhew** of the **Highland Groomery** once again hosted a **Little Shoppe of Horrors**. She was also honored by **County Executive Ken Ulman**, who officially proclaimed October 2, Wanda Mayhew Day for all she has contributed to making Highland Day a success. She exemplifies what the Heart of Highland truly means. **Hilda Mathieu** set up the Haunted Hayride and teamed-up with **Carole Glynn** to manage the popular Kids' Zone. **Angie Cash**, owner of **5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Parties and Rentals**, coordinated the main stage entertainment, which was highlighted by the return of the amazing **Kangaroo Kids Precision Jump Roping Team** and the **Hopkins Methodist Church Choir**. Fire trucks, both old and new, bracketed the crossroads. Alnutt grandson, **Scott Shearer**, displayed 2 of his antique beauties, while the **5<sup>th</sup> District Volunteer Fire Company**, out of Clarksville, spent much of the day giving youngsters an up-close experience with their modern equipment. Another hit was the pumpkin and trick-or-treat bag decorating presented by **Living Dolls** owner, **Jane Caswell**, and her family. Across the street, in **Doc Cunningham's (Highland Veterinary Hospital)** backyard, **JJ's Party Pony** made its first appearance at Highland Day, providing a fitting introduction to our equine-oriented community. Another first was a mounted drill team demo by the **Spur & Stirrup 4H Club** in the field adjacent to **Millie Gallis'** home. Special thanks to **Steve Gallis**, not only for prepping the field for the performance, but also for lending his Genie lift to display the large promotional banner which migrates around the 4-corners in the weeks prior to Highland Day. We are eternally grateful for the **Gallis family** community spirit. One of the "secrets" of the day is the annual Halloween display Millie's daughter presents in their garage, next to **Mark Brew Plumbing and Heating**. Did you see the enormous lintel **Nelson Tree Specialists** constructed at the entrance to their driveway? How many tons must it have weighed? **Pro-Built Construction** again provided the stage and **Christina Speiden** persuaded her dad, **Ed Pacylowski**, to give away an **Apple iPad!** Another first-time participant was **AlpacaJoy of Maryland**, the Highland farm operated by

**Joyce Miscovic.** We hope you discovered her gentle, friendly herd behind **Highland Feed & Seed.** Two of her critters dressed as Batman and Robin and marched in the Halloween costume parade, organized by **Kelly Reichardt** and **Georgianna Meagher** and led by the **Monumental City Ancient Fife & Drum Corps** from Baltimore. The band lent a note of history to our final celebration of Highland's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. **Geoff and Michelle Jackson**, proprietors of **OakLawn Landscaping**, outdid themselves, creating a Hawaiian paradise on the lawn of Rannie House. Truly inspired! Special appreciation must go to several unsung heroes of the day. **Mike Fennesy, Eric Kirksey** and **Boy Scout Troup 702** met the challenge of managing parking for Highland Day. This may be the single biggest obstacle we face each year and they do a highly commendable job. Bravo! **Hawkins Electric Service** has provided power for the stage and exhibitors the past few years. This year they rode to the rescue when we discovered our food vendor, **Soretti's Ethiopian Cuisine**, needed power at their booth. **Hawkins** quickly and efficiently found a solution to this problem and saved the day for hungry Highlanders!

If you came by the GHCA exhibit, you saw the highly successful book sale we conducted to help raise funds in support of community projects. Portrait photographer **Mark Gregory** spearheaded the book collection drive, an overwhelming task. To see **Mark's** high-def. photos of the day's events, go to: <http://www.facebook.com/gregoryfineportraits>. **Mack McCollum** merits a huge note of thanks for delivering the unsold editions to a donations collection point near Annapolis. If you missed receiving your 2010-2011 edition of the **Highland History and Directory**, be sure to pick one up from a Crossroad's merchant. This is a keepsake edition in honor of Highland's 250 years on the map. It contains a fascinating history of the community, which was written in the 1960's by former Highland resident, Kendall Gambrill. We wish to thank **Esther Brian** for giving GHCA access to this document. We also wish to tip our hat to **Karen Pitsley**, proprietor of **Transforming Architecture**, who put in countless hours assembling the Directory. Speaking of architects, we would be remiss not to mention our own Mink Hollow resident, **John Lehman, Lehman Associates, PC**, who creates all our event diagrams and maps.

Thank you one and all for attending Highland Day and for making it another enormous success!

**!!! The Scoop -- Sightings – Rumors -- the buzz!!!**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Stinkbugs</b> rate bold type because they are everywhere and more numerous this year. <b>Liz Davis</b> has discovered that <b>Ortho Home Defense Max</b> contains an active ingredient that is lethal.</li> <li>• <b>Spotted on 9/15:</b> a white van parked in front of <b>Windy Knolls</b> on <b>108</b>; a <b>HC Police officer</b> was behind it with a radar gun. Was he doing an off-duty speed study for the proposed funeral home or running a trap? Anyone know?</li> <li>• <b>Cable issues?</b> Please see the <b>attachments</b> to this email that Lori Sherwood (Office of Cable Administration) developed in response to the concerns of residents who are affected by cable issues.</li> <li>• <b>“Preppy Burglar” caught:</b> Jeremy M. Hall was picked up by police at his home in September. He is charged with burglary, theft and destruction of property. A Browns Bridge Rd resident caught him on surveillance cameras in shirt, tie and dress slacks as he first knocked, and then broke a rear window to gain access to carry away electronic items. He was recognized and a tip was passed to the HCP.</li> </ul> |
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**It's membership renewal time again.** Please rejoin/join GHCA. Membership is **\$50** for the calendar year and your dues support the continued efforts of GHCA to represent your interests before Maryland/Howard County government, development interests, and community events. Only members may vote on important issues and in elections - and this year membership also includes a free copy of the “Highland Directory” for your use and enjoyment! Pick one up at a Highland merchant or at the Post Office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Make Your Check Payable to GHCA and Mail to: GHCA, PO Box 235, Highland, Maryland 20777

**These Sponsors Make  
 Highland Day Possible!**

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