



September 2011

Volume VIII, Issue VI

**SEE YOU AT
HIGHLAND DAY, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1!!!**

Highland Day: Please be aware that the newly formed **Highland Business Association, HBA** has taken the lead for Highland Day, and GHCA is in a supportive role. If you have a business in the Highland area you should seriously consider membership. For more details contact HBA president, Kevin Bell: KBell@winkelly.com or 410.984.1654

Make sure you scroll down to see the poster below for Highland Day details, and let us know if you did not receive the orange mailer sent out this week.

President's Message:

GHCA continues to work with **The Department of Planning and Zoning, (DPZ)** on the task of developing the **General Plan** to deal with the population growth projected for the next 10 years in Howard County. **DPZ**, at the direction of **County Executive Ulman**, formed the **Rural West Ad Hoc Committee** to advise and assist DPZ on the particular issues in the West in order to assist the larger **Task Force** in shaping the General Plan. **Kevin Bell, John Cunningham, and Dan O'Leary**, GHCA members are members of the **Ad Hoc Committee**. In a series of meetings ending this Tuesday the committee has discussed measures to support the farming community, a new zoning category which might be called "**Business Rural**" to distinguish and recognize the areas dependent on well water and utilizing septic. In our view all of these discussions must be carried out with the key concept of "sustainability" in mind. In keeping with that is our effort to sustain the rural character of our crossroads and community, which is dependent upon maintaining the lower level of density in the Rural Residential (RR) zone. This density level is not only preferable, but also

necessary to maintain the environmentally sound system of well and septic. The sustainability and revitalization of our rural commercial crossroads and centers is also a priority that the committee discussed extensively.

We are planning a future meeting on this topic to promote a general discussion among all groups and interests in the greater Highland area.

To read the draft guidelines for the General Plan, which is before the County Council, go to: planhoward.org.

GHCA Website

With the unfortunate passing of Vernon Pursel, Eric Kirksey has returned to help with the preparations for Highland Day. But Eric and we desperately need a replacement. **HELP!** There must be someone out there who can manage a website. We need a volunteer ASAP. Contact Dan at: danielol@aol.com

!!! THE SCOOP -- SIGHTINGS - RUMORS - BARGAINS

- **Stink Bugs: They are coming in!** John Lehman found this link, which show you how to make your own trap: <http://www.wpxi.com/news/27939762/detail.html> Let us know your results.
- **The Clarksville Controversy** regarding access to the old school site next to **Kendall's** has generated support for a Council resolution by **Greg Fox** to prohibit the use of eminent domain to support or promote economic development.
- **Commissions**, two separate ones are reviewing redistricting the council areas, and expansion from 5 to 7 members. Our area would be affected by both proposals. For more details see the latest editions of the **HC Times** or go to <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/displayprimary.aspx?ID=6442458922> or <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/displayprimary.aspx?ID=6442458924>
- **The 2010 Highland Directory LAST CHANCE:** to get the previously unpublished *History of Highland*. It's available at many of the merchants and at the Highland Post Office until the end of September.

It's membership renewal time again. Please join or rejoin GHCA. Membership is **\$50 for the calendar year**. **Now more than ever your participation and membership is needed to support the continued efforts of GHCA to represent your interests before Maryland/Howard County government, development interests, and community events.**

Name: _____

Email: _____

Make Your Check Payable to GHCA
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**THE GHCA CANNOT SUCCEED WITHOUT MEMBERS AND WITHOUT THE
GHCA WE'RE ALL ON OUR OWN!!!!**

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