



February 2014

Volume XI, Issue II

**Membership Meeting  
February 27 at 7:00 PM  
St. Marks Church**

**Allnutt Farm: To Be Sustained?**

**President's Message**

Many of you will remember the turmoil some seven years ago when the landscape contractor disturbed the quietude of the Hi-Land Farm community with his invasive and illegal use of the historic Allnutt Dairy farm. GHCA joined with the residents to oppose granting a conditional use to such a disruptive use affecting 50-60 homes. Our persistence resulted in the operation closing and the 14-acre farm being sold to an Allnutt granddaughter and her husband, **Scott Shearer**. Many of you and your children have met Scott standing beside one of his restored fire trucks at Highland Day. He and the Fire Department have put a fireman's hat on hundred of kids' heads on these Days.

Scott has restored and renovated all the buildings on the property, providing a home for his young family and a place for a small collection of antique fire-fighting and farm equipment. Recent changes in the zoning laws and a strict, if not over-zealous, enforcement of that law have forced him to apply for a conditional use for a museum, the buildings of which will not be open to the public. The equipment will be displayed outside on **Highland Day** or at off-site public events.

GHCA's Executive Committee supports this limited and unobtrusive use in order to maintain and sustain this valuable community asset. It provides open space and a buffer between the 40 or so homes that border directly on the **Farm**. If this use is not granted the future of the parcel is uncertain.

Please come to hear Scott's plans so you will be prepared to support him in the upcoming official meeting and hearings. **Allnutt Farm Residents: Please inform your neighbors who may not get this newsletter.** As always we ask you to come around 6:45 to check in so we may begin at 7:00.

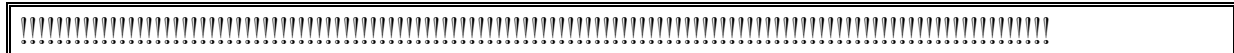
**The Petition for Referendum: IT IS NOT DEAD.** We will also provide an update on the various proceedings in **Howard County Circuit Court** concerning the challenges to the **referendum petition** that gathered over 6000 signatures.

**It's membership renewal time. So, please bring your dues.**

**GHCA Website**

**Chuck Gait**, whose column appears in the **Howard County Times**, loyally continues as **GHCA Webmaster**. Visit the site, <http://www.highlandmd.org/> and send your comments or suggestions to **Chuck** at: [Chuck.Gait@gmail.com](mailto:Chuck.Gait@gmail.com)

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



- The **Highland Inn** is now open for lunch and Sunday brunch. Weekend reservations are a must: (443) 276-3202. To learn more about Chef Mark Davis and Owner Brian Boston, read this **Patch** piece: [Highland Inn Opens](#)
- **Highland Bald Eagles:** We wrote about them a couple years ago. All OK? Any recent sightings of fledglings?
- **Boarman Solar: George Boarman** recently reiterated they will proceed with the more intense landscape buffer and berm on Highland Rd. as soon as his budget allows.
- **Collision Avoidance Training: HCPD** will conduct the Collision Avoidance Training (C.A.T.) program (advanced defensive driving and vehicle control) for licensed teenage driver's ages 16-20 years old. The program cost is \$ 95.00 per student for the two-day class. The program will be on various dates, beginning March 14-15: **Ms. Carolyn Bennett - C.A.T. Coordinator 410-313-3758**

**Membership Special Appeal:** I ask every current member to bring at least one neighbor to our next meeting and to join; we need double our numbers and clout in 2014. Please join or rejoin GHCA. The 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: \_\_\_\_\_ (very important! Save postage, and keep informed)

Address (only if not on your check)

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

**THE GHCA CANNOT SUCCEED WITHOUT MEMBERS AND WITHOUT THE  
GHCA WE'RE ALL ON OUR OWN!**

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