

Officers:

President- Michael McAuliffe

Vice President- vacant

Treasurer- Sandy Cullen

Secretary- vacant

Board of Directors:

Janice Hendeman

Kris Koelbel

Steve Mangano

Maria McAuliffe

Michelle Sanders

Jack Schaefer

Presidents Message

Happy new year to all and I hope you had a Merry Christmas with your near and your dear ones. Along with the new year comes some leadership changes within HIA. After loyally serving as president for 5 consecutive years, Carol Mox has decided to pass the baton., and I have accepted the position. Carol enjoyed performing the work of this position, but other life obligations beckon at this time.

Carol did an excellent job of not only keeping our organization viable and relevant, but she expanded it to new heights too. Her administrative and organizational skills coupled with her computer skills led to the most beautiful and informative newsletters HIA has ever had.

To fill the newsletters full of useful community news important to you it takes many hours of keeping in touch with other HIA members, our elected officials and government agencies, and gleaning news articles pertinent or interesting to Halethorpe. And to keep it credible, and reliable is a daunting task. Carol's professional experience as a school teacher and executive brokerage assistant in commercial real estate has certainly given her a preface and an edge that HIA benefited from.

I have not hit the ground running, so please be patient with me while I get over the transitional hump. In the meantime, I will publish the newsletter the best I know how.

Carol's accomplishments include getting our professional looking website up and running within her first year, joining the UMBC Neighborhood Relations Group as Halethorpe's representative, sitting on the board of Wilkens Police Community Organization (WPCRO). She headed HIA's spring clean-up day each year. She captured the respect of our State Delegates, U.S. and State Senators, County Executive, and Councilman, and was invited by the County Executive and Councilman to sit in on input discussions about the County's new online Code Enforcement reporting system, the County's 10 yr. outlook on a solid waste plan, and Lansdowne High School Renovation plan, etc. She received multiple awards of recognition and citations from dignitaries for her work.

I have been an HIA member for over 15 years, and held various positions for a dozen of those. For me, front and foremost is to create a visibly cared for neighborhood.

From of this comes a contagious spirit of community pride that spreads to caring homeowners. It fosters the retention of good families looking for a good school and environment for their children, and the retention of our seniors. It is noticed by potential homeowners surveying the neighborhood after just touring the home of their dreams, and to business owners wanting to remain here or new businesses owners looking to start up or relocate here.

Our greatest asset in HIA is our human resources, with all the selfless people willing to hop on a mower, grab a rake, shovel or trowel, plant trees and flowers, pull weeds, clean up litter, and decorate our public landmarks, or prepare food and refreshments for our meetings without fail. Our monetary donors are considered amongst our human resources too.

My fingers are much more accustomed to dirt than tapping on a keyboard, so please offer me some of your patience while I try to get better at the administrative end of things. I thank you for your continued support of HIA.



TOM DAY DEDICATION

The dedication for the Tom Day memorabilia took place on the afternoon of Sunday, December 3, 2017, at the Arbutus Library. About 30 people attended the event which was hosted by The Friends of the Arbutus Library and the Arbutus Library. **Ruth Rogers Day**

Trescott, age 97, who was married to **First Lieutenant Tom Day** at the time he was killed in action while serving our country during WWII, attended with her son **Bob Trescott** and other family members by her side. A beautiful wall case, purchased through a donation by the HIA, was uncovered displaying artifacts which tell the history of how Tom Day Boulevard came to be in our community. Other attendees included **Robert Maranto**, manager of the Baltimore County Arbutus Library, **Neil Ames**, **Jim Klima** and **Harry Robertson** from Friends of the Arbutus Library, and HIA members **Carol Mox**, **Sandy Cullen**, and **Lorraine Doucette**. **Delegate Terri Hill** and **Legislative Aide Pete Kriscumas** were in attendance as well. When you visit the library, please stop and take a look at the display case which is located by the front entrance.



Display Case



(L to R) Bob Trescott, Ruth Trescott, Sandy Cullen, Carol Mox



(L to R) Bob Trescott, Ruth Trescott

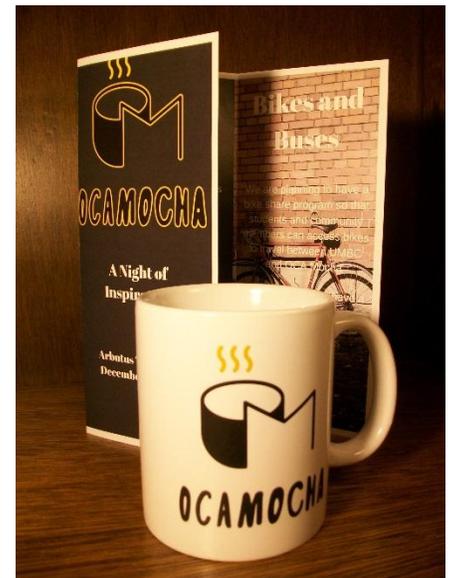
UMBC News

OCA Mocha

UMBC students invited some locals to Arbutus Town Hall to present their final rendition a project they have been working on for almost 2 years. They have finally completed their plans and are ready to bring it to fruition. You may have heard of this project, as it was featured in the Arbutus Times in May. At the Town Hall presentation, the student group took turns speaking in front of the audience while a slide show flipped images of the project before us. We enjoyed snacks, and of course coffee, while listening and viewing. As you probably figured out already, “Mocha” will be serving coffee. But more importantly “OCA” stands for ‘Office of Community Affairs’. The goal of OCA Mocha is to unite UMBC and the neighboring communities. Of the attendees were local leadership from Arbutus Community Assoc. (ACA), Greater Arbutus Business

Assoc. (GABA), and Halethorpe Improvement Assoc., which **Carol Mox**, **Michael McAuliffe**, and **Maria McAuliffe** represented. There will be more information distributed about this project as it develops. Here is a link to an Arbutus Times article about the project.

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/baltimore-county/arbutus-lansdowne/ph-at-arbutus-umbc-0524-20170524-story.html>



Land Purchase

UMBC recently purchased a two-acre parcel on Shelbourne Road from the Arbutus United Methodist Church. The property, across the road from the Church, adjoins UMBC’s campus. UMBC and Church leaders agreed that the purchase was in the mutual best interest of the two organizations and of the surrounding community in order to avoid the possibility of a developer purchasing the property and building up to seven residential units at an entrance to the campus. UMBC has no immediate plans for the property.



Although HIA had not taken a position on hopeful outcomes of this property, we have no doubt that Halethorpe residents as well as Arbutus residents are glad to hear this news. A group of neighbors in "The Palladi Homes" feared the loss of that open grass field to housing developers, and before knowing of UMBC's interest in the property, one of the neighbors had begun a petition urging Councilman Quirk to advocate for Balto. County to purchase it, but it just didn't seem to be in the cards.

This open field has been maintained to almost park standards, and the neighborhood children and dog walkers had come accustomed to using it as such. Thank you, Arbutus Methodist Church, for allowing the community to use it for all these years. We have confidence that UMBC will be a very responsible owner and a good steward to the property.

Event Center



Another exciting project taking place at UMBC is their soon-to-be-open **Event Center**. You have probably seen the construction entrance to this structure from Shelbourne Rd. This is going to be an amazing building and an asset to not only UMBC, but to the local community and greater Baltimore area.

It's an \$85million investment in a state-of-the-art facility, it's 4 stories consisting of 172,000 sq. ft. of space with 6,000 seats for concerts, events and sports with 17 UMBC athletic programs.

The center will host all Retriever NCAA Division I men's and women's basketball games, women's volleyball games, as well as an exciting array of major concerts, internationally renowned speakers, University Commencement, and much more.

"The addition of this state-of-the-art facility will help us become a national model for how an athletic program can remain focused on educating the whole student, while showcasing great athletic talent. The event center will rival the best arenas in the America East Conference, enhancing the experiences of our scholar-athletes and those who come out to support them." –President Freeman A. Hrabowski III.

HIA invited General Manager of the Event Center, Tiffany Sun, to speak in detail about it at our January meeting. She will be putting on a slide show to give you the complete visuals

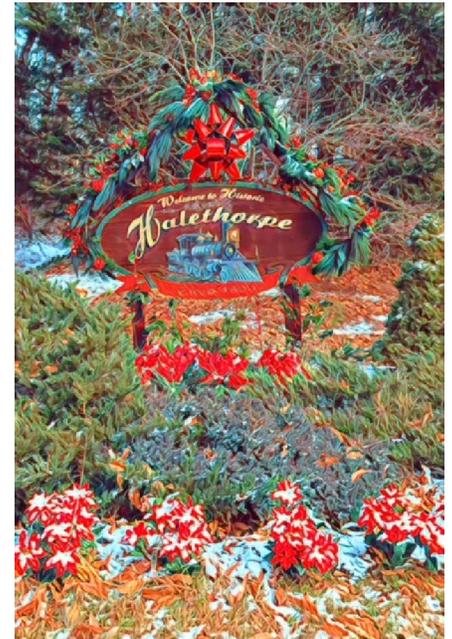
Good Shepherd Property

The sale of the Good Shepherd property is the item drawing most of HIA's attention right now. There is a lot of uncertainty about this property at this point. Sister Mary Carol has been updating us at each HIA meeting as the process develops, and she will be at January's meeting to give further updates. During November's meeting sister reported to the members that a winning bidder had not been chosen yet, but she

reported to the HIA president since that time that one has been chosen, and that she hopes she can reveal this bidder at our January meeting. Good Shepherd has been a terrific neighbor for over 45 yrs. They will be missed.

Christmas in the Neighborhood

We're not going to tell you about the magic **Chris and Diane Koelbel** performed decorating Halethorpe for the holidays. We're simply going to show you instead. Diane has this crazy cool feature on her camera that makes her photos look like paintings. Enjoy.



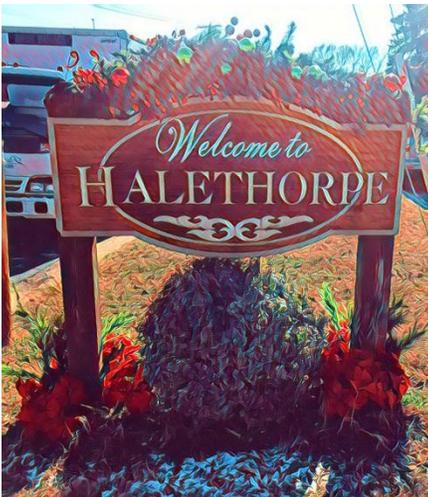
I am sure Diane is willing to share these photos with you in full size.



Jack Schaefer again did a nice job stringing up Halethorpe's Christmas tree. Without fail Jack erects our tree around our flagpole right after Dec. 7, when he lowers the flag to half-staff for Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.



Our good neighbors Arbutus Community Assoc. and **Jeff Utzinger** really did up the Santa House again.



GABA decorations in Arbutus Several Halethorpe and Arbutus residents joined together the Saturday after Thanksgiving to decorate the Arbutus business area. Christmas Banners, and real Fur wreaths, and colored balls were hung from the old-time street lamp posts. Thanks **Carl Boyer, Mark Nettleship, Art Vail, Betina Tebo, Brandon Kostinsky, Mike McAuliffe,** and others.



Bernice Newmen is Ms. Claus, Mark Nettleship is Santa Claus, Mike Cary is Hermey, and Carl Boyer is Yukon Cornelius.

Sider note: HIA and GABA worked with BGE in getting all the street lights working in the district again. Underground cable faults and faulty parts were the cause of half of them to be dark. They even got 2 StreetScape posts reinstalled after they were knocked down last year.



Fixin' things

We don't like broken infrastructure in our neighborhood, so we work with government agencies to get things fixed. Here are a few of the latest fixes.

A large pot hole was forming at a storm drain on Potomac Ave. near Arbutus Ave, and we reported it to Balto. Co. Utilities. They filled it.



The lid of a storm drain under the sidewalk at the corner of Potomac Ave. and Maple Ave. had started cracking and crumbling over the past year, and after reporting it in the summer, Balto. Co. crews came out and replaced the concrete 'lid'. They did a good job, and it looks good, but it has begun to wobble, giving a very uneasy surprise to pedestrians. We are currently working with the county to get it stabilized.



The guard rail at Potomac and Winans was replaced after an errant speeder destroyed it.



The lighted UMBC information board at the MARC Kiss & Ride on Potomac Ave. went dark, so we reported it. It was a collaboration of UMBC and MARC Facility electricians that got it back on after locating the underground cable fault. There is no such thing as too much light in public places, especially in the winter time when it's already dark during the return home from work.



Collection Bin Law

'Councilman Quirk, after fielding complaints from some constituents in HIA and throughout District 1 about the proliferation of out-of-place and unkept clothing donation bins, introduced legislation intended to get them cleaned up and place responsibility on the bin owner and property owner. The meat of the law is that the bins must obtain a permit

from the county to be placed on private property, and certain criteria must be met, with one being bin owners must provide written permission from the property owner to drop a box. It had been discovered that many of the boxes were dropped on parking lots in the middle of the night unbeknownst to the property owner or manager. These bins are not allowed on public property. The law considers options that the county can take if these criteria are not maintained. The Council passed Bill 43-17 unanimously. Unfortunately, **Planet Aide** filed a lawsuit against Balto. Co. over it, and Code Enforcement has put a stay on any action against the bins until litigation settles out. But we have noticed they have cleaned up their act a bit since the law's passage. Maybe they got the message.



Lansdowne Blvd.



MARC Station

Illegal Roadside Signs

A representative with HIA was among a group of neighborhood activists from other parts of Balto. Co. who met with the Director of Code Enforcement in October to figure out a way to curb the proliferation of roadside signs like the ones in these photos.

Of course, a spattering of local sports league recruitment signs, or church or school function signs are not the big problem nor the subject of the group's intent. The junk house buyers, and the like, are the big problem. They place dozens of their signs at a single intersection sometimes, blocking motorists' views. Washington Blvd. in Halethorpe and Southwestern Blvd. can get barraged with as many as 50 at a time from 'Jim Buys Houses'. They leave them to blow in the wind and into our storm drains and streams. They hide in the tall grass, and get ripped to shreds under road crew mowers, and the wire stakes tear up mower blades. They are often nailed to wooden utility poles and strapped to traffic road signs. It is illegal to post signs on State and County roads' right-of-way, and punishable by fine. But it's not illegal for road crews or citizens to remove them. The most egregious offenders are very elusive, using nearly untraceable phone numbers and 'burner' phones, and Code Enforcement officers have a very difficult time trying to track them. The Director came up with a plan on attacking these signs, and with a continued collaboration between the agency and the citizen group it has been effective in the past several months. Since then several big offenders have been warned for first offenses and then fined after repeated occurrences. BTW, these plastic signs make great school project material for the kids too. They are better than cardboard, and usually have one blank side. And

they hold paint great. Have fun kids ☺.



A homeowner on **Claridge Ave.** took the floor at November's meeting representing several other neighbors seeking our help in resolving an ongoing parking problem in the cul-de-sac. Commercial box trucks have been parking in the street and in a couple of the driveways on a regular basis overnight and over weekends. Ofc. Warehime was not in attendance, so questions of legality were unable to be answered, so we contacted him and put them in touch with him to help resolve the matter. He is now looking into the matter, and we hope to find out more details as to the outcome. It is our understanding that

commercial trucks over 10,000 lbs. are not permitted to regularly park on Balto. Co. streets.

Mike spotted a **fake deliveryman** 10 o'clock at night in mid-December on First Ave. trying to ruin everyone's Christmas. The man was walking down the sidewalk and strayed into the street when spotted. He had on dark clothes, (not a uniform), hoodie and a construction safety vest overtop to throw people off. Mike questioned the suspicious man, who had no package in his hand and claimed to be lost. A deliveryman with no package or GPS, hmm ? Becoming nervous upon being questioned by Mike, the man ran down the street, and sped away in his car. Mike got his tag no., and called the police. Detectives investigated, but no crime could be proven at the time.

Thank You

Sandy Cullen for preparing all the delicious Tex-Mex themed food at the Nov. meeting. Her chili was of Cook-off quality.

John Merson for bringing your trash truck down Potomac Ave. and hauling away the bags of litter collected by our Adopt-A-Road volunteers in December, **Mike and Maria McAuliffe**.

Rosemarie McAuliffe for editing, formatting and stuffing this newsletter.

Reminders:

HIA's next meeting will be held at the Good Shepherd Center at 7:30 pm. 4100 Maple Ave.

LOOKING FOR A CAREER IN LAW ENFORCEMENT?

Join us at our

CAREER FAIR



Saturday, February 3, 2018

10:00 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Bykota Senior Center Gymnasium
611 Central Avenue
Towson, MD 21204

The Baltimore County Police Department is seeking
qualified applicants for the positions of
Police Officer, Cadet, Police Explorer

An orientation/information session will be held at 10 a.m.

Be sure to arrive on time! Apply on site.

Any questions, contact our Recruiters at **410-887-5542**, or
by e-mail at recruiter@baltimorecountymd.gov.

