



# Halethorpe Improvement Association

## Officers:

President- Michael McAuliffe

Vice President- vacant

Treasurer- Sandy Cullen

Secretary- vacant

## Board of Directors:

Janice Hendeman

Kris Koelbel

Steve Mangano

Maria McAuliffe

Michele Sanders

Jack Schaefer

## Presidents Message

My new position has been keeping me very busy, and I find myself getting the newsletter out even later than last time. Lots of emailing and phone calls take place behind the scenes too. Our January meeting brought 4 informative guest speakers, **Tiffany Wiseman** from UMBC, who gave a slide show presentation on their new Event Center, **Pete Kriscumas**, Aide to Councilman Quirk, and **Ofc. Warehime** from the Wilkens Police. The UMBC Event Center looks spectacular and Tiffany gave us the complete breakdown of scheduled events. She explained that UMBC really wants to make this a place for all the communities - not just for students of the school. Pete gave us lots of good community

information while infusing it with some of his personal entertainment. Of concern at the time was the amount of water main breaks and the time folks were without water, and he reminded us of the water system's age and vulnerability to freeze and thaw effects. Some of his other updates were: The Oregon / Carville Ave. gas line replacements, the hold-up on the **Arbutus Station** project. The recent property survey for the **House of Glory Church** property at Sulphur Spring Rd. & Benson Ave., their recent permit and installation of a fence bordering the nearby residential properties, and the **Clark Blvd./ Washington Blvd. railroad bridge replacement**. SHA is projecting a start date of late April or early May. And with a gleam in his eye he broke the wonderful news he and his wife will be pulling the baby crib out of the attic soon. **Officer Warehime** reported on crime news and said Halethorpe numbers look good compared to other areas. Some cars were egged, and he has gone to area convenience stores and grocery stores notifying them of the problem, and most told him they don't sell eggs to mischievous kids. We all chuckled. There wasn't much crime to report and most questions from the floor came in the order of controlling speeders, speed humps and sidewalk inquiries. He explained that even though such traffic calming measures can be spurred from traffic incident data, the most successful way to acquire speed humps is through the process laid out in the Balto. Co. Bureau of Traffic Eng. This takes lots of cooperation and coordination among the residents of a street desiring speed humps. He explained that the county has eased up on some of the criteria to get these humps. He pointed out the successful implementation of Selma Ave.

speed humps after the request and diligent effort from Selma Ave. residents. Several hybrid speed humps that allow fire engines to pass rather smoothly were installed. Testament to their effectiveness to slow motorists has been measured by a decrease in the number of oil pans found on the stretch☺. They learn eventually. **Treasurer Sandy Cullen** reported that **Carol Mox** and **Steve Mangano** audited the HIA books for the year and everything added up just fine. They did have a bit of financial advice, though... to cut back on the 6 figure salaries being doled out to the Board members☺  
I am very apprehensive about the future of the Good Shepherd Center property. It stands at a wait-and-see status. I have a hard time seeing such a drastic change come to our little nook. We don't know what the change will be, but I, like most, will consider any development pejorative to the wooded space presently there. But on the lighter note, we have some good changes in store. I, like all lovers of malt, hops, and fine ales, lagers, and stouts, am very excited about the future plans of the Guinness tap house. Equally as exciting is our new HIA meeting digs at the Halethorpe- Relay United Methodist church.

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## Talking trash

We had one HIA member take the floor and start talking trash to the rest of us, and we couldn't hold him back. Yup, that's what **John Merson** does☺ John is a local trash hauling contractor for Balto. Co., and gave us a deeper understanding into the Solid Waste operations of Balto. Co., along with some good advice for residents. He gave us some really good 'best practices' to help increase the efficiency of his

job, and ultimately create the best service possible for the residents. He explained some of the county's guidelines for you, as citizens, are asked to follow. Lids are required to be on trashcans, whereas recycling should not have lids. There is no forced or required recycling in Balto. Co. He said that recycling and general garbage are absolutely not combined at the landfill or RESCO. They really do stay separated in their afterlife.



**Don't** be this guy

John has lots of good refuge advice & lots of tales from the street, but if you don't have time to hear some, we summed them all up in a few photos.



**Don't** be this guy



**Be** this guy

**Be** this guy



## Thank you

go out to... **Michael and Maria McAuliffe** for cleaning up Potomac Ave. in both Jan. and Feb....**to Joe and Mike McAuliffe** for cleaning up dumped debris along Potomac Ave. and emptying trash cans...



...to **John Merson, Frank Simmonds, Mike McAuliffe, and Joe** for cleaning up litter on Sulphur Spring Rd. and cutting down the vines on Sulphur Spring Rd. that were blocking motorists from making a safe right hand turn from Waelchli Ave. to Sulphur Spring Rd.



*Before Photo*



*After Photo*

**Frank Simmonds** acquired an outdoor trash receptacle and placed it on Benson Ave. to hopefully stem some of the pedestrian litter that accumulates under the 695 overpass. Frank is volunteering his time to maintain this can. Balto. Co Hwys. has since straightened up that adjacent street sign at HIA's request.

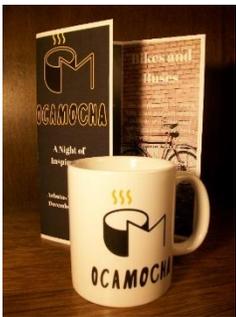


## UMBC CONNECTION (by Carol Mox)

UMBC celebrated the grand opening of their new Event Center on Saturday, February 3, by having the UMBC Retrievers men's basketball team play their first game in the new location against the Vermont Catamounts. They had a ribbon cutting ceremony on center court with **UMBC President Freeman Hrabowski, Senator Kasemeyer, Delegate Ebersole, Delegate Lam**, and many other dignitaries present to kick off the opening of the new sports facility. The Retrievers didn't win their game, but they got theirs in the end. Just last week they beat Vermont and for the American East championship. They earned their

first NCAA tournament berth since 2008, and second American East title. Everyone has been impressed with the entertainment and shows thus far and the look of the new building. In addition to serving as the home for men's and women's NCAA Division I basketball and women's volleyball, this major new UMBC facility will also be host to cultural events, concerts, and popular guest speakers. The new center has approximately 6,000 seats and is now large enough for the 2018 graduation class to hold their commencement exercises there. On Thursday, February 1, guided tours were given by UMBC students to show off the interior of the new complex. The 172,000 square foot, \$85 million, building includes new visitor team and home team locker rooms, state-of-the-art strength and conditioning and academic support centers, a green roof, a sports medicine suite, multimedia spaces, meeting facilities and a practice gymnasium.

### OCA Mocha



At the last UMBC Neighborhood Relations Group meeting held in February, and attended by **Carol Mox**, it was announced that UMBC is in the final stages of hopefully being able to sign off on leasing their location on East Drive. OCA Mocha will be a student-run coffee shop, but it is being strategically designed to connect the residents of Halethorpe and Arbutus and the students of UMBC. OCA stands for the Office of Community Affairs and the creation of this enterprise would be a first for UMBC. It is the desire of the college and the Greater Arbutus Business Association to

promote OCA Mocha as a community meet-up spot. To have students patronize the business establishments in Arbutus & Halethorpe area as well as have residents attend events at UMBC is a win for all. OCA Mocha would be the location to find out what's happening between the two destinations.

*So now you've read about OCA Mocha, but now you get to see it. Well, not the finished product, but rather the conceptual plans. A few integral students from UMBC will be presenting a slide show at our March meeting to show and tell you all about it.*



### **Halethorpe Improvement Association facebook page**

HIA wants to connect with its members, and we want members to connect to each other. At our Jan. meeting several members discussed the possibility of utilizing social media to better connect Halethorpe residents, in particular HIA members, in between meeting. Facebook has several different formats for which to connect its users. Seeing how an 'open' or 'public' forum could get out of hand and unbridled, we decided on a 'closed group' style of connecting. To join the discussion one must be a member of the HIA organization. This restriction will ensure that the group is made up of only those invested in the neighborhood and those who care about Halethorpe's well-being. This is not a platform for HIA to disseminate information per se, but it's the people's platform to let other members of your community know of something you think is important or pertinent to them, and in a hurry. Maybe your doggy got loose, and you want your neighbors to look out for him. Did a scammer just approach you while sitting on your

front porch? Call the police and then post it on facebook to alert your Halethorpe neighbors and friends. Did you just see a scrungy dude in a hoody and baggy ripped jeans pulling on car handles on Maple Ave.? Call the police, and then post what you saw, or maybe even a photo, on our facebook page. All this news will spread faster than the story ole Mrs. Magillicutty told her friends at the bingo hall about the milkman's extended visits at Ms. Cavatinni's house. So far, in our first 3 weeks, we have joined 20 members.

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### **Southwestern Blvd. Finale**

After a couple of years of ever changing lane patterns and shifting traffic cones and barrels, this project is finally done. **Kelly Kosino**, from SHA, let HIA know that the project has come to its final stages and the temporary traffic signs have been removed, and the much anticipated lighting under the new Beltway bridge is finally on. And very brightly at that. There seems to be a lot less car parts and shattered glass at the ramp now. The stormwater collecting medians certainly are an ecological boon for Herbert Run and our precious Chesapeake Bay.



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### **Good Shepherd Center**

Sister Mary Carol got stuck in Ohio in the snow so was unable to update us on the sale of their property, but she did call the next week to phone in an update. She said 6 to 8 sisters are still residing at the Center but will relocate soon. GSC is not

allowed to disclose the winning bidder of the 70+ acre property yet, but if minor details of the contact can be ironed out between them, a May closing is anticipated. She went on to say that bids ranged between 6 and 12 million dollars, and that the highest bidder was not chosen. She wants to remind locals that though people are welcome to walk dogs or exercise, etc. on their property while they still own it, she would like to remind people that they should stay away from the building. A recent incident where a candidate for political office brought a video crew of 5 to the property without permission or prior notice was unwelcome and the security guards escorted them off the property. Sister explained much of the same that was explained in in and article recently published in the Arbutus Times. So as to not explain it incorrectly we are supplying the link to the article.

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/health/bs-hs-good-shepherd-residential-center-20180206-story.html>

The looming sale of this property produces only speculation as to the outcome of it. The members discussed extensively at the January meeting to what the future of this property may become and how to approach the changes we may see. We decided our best move forward would be to connect with the new owners and let them know who we are as soon as we know who they are.

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## In Memoriam

Epilogue to the December dedication of the Thomas B. Day memorabilia at the Arbutus Library - It is with sadness that we learned of the passing of **Ruth Kathryn Rodgers Day Trescott**. She was a vibrant presence at the December dedication of this extraordinary collection. Most residents today,

however, are likely unfamiliar with the person or the reason the short road between Southwestern Blvd. and Oregon Avenue is so named. Thomas Day lived at 5622 Carville Avenue and became a Lieutenant during World War II. As a member of the U.S. Army Infantry, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 163 Regiment, 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, he served in the Philippine Islands and was promoted to Captain. He had been stationed there for nine months and during that time, Captain Day participated in two major battles. Unfortunately on December 21, 1944 he was killed in action. For Day's gallantry his family later received his Silver Star.

Widowed, Ruth rebuild her life and ultimately married William H. Trescott Jr. Mr. Trescott was another local icon, growing up on Summit Avenue he went on to establish the Little Brown Jug, a successful beer and spirits emporium whose final location was on Wilkens Avenue where unfortunately he was shot and killed in an attempted robbery. Ruth continued to raise their four children three of whom predeceased her. Ruth is survived by her son, Robert R. Trescott. A life filled with great highs and amazing lows Ruth reached the age of 97 with unsinkable tenacity. If you haven't had the opportunity to visit the Tom Day display at the Arbutus Library, please take a few minutes on our next visit to acquaint yourself with this fascinating and educational display.

We are saddened by the news of **Jeff Sanders** passing. Jeff and his wife Michele, who sits on the HIA Board, have been loyal supporters of HIA for many years. A quiet and gentle man he was. He and Michele had their favorite seats toward the back of the meetings. If you were at the meetings you probably didn't hear much from Jeff, but you surely will remember eating his seafood

buffet he and Michele prepared every May meeting. Jeff was partners in CJ's Crab House and Grill where his specialties were fresh seafood and hot steamed crabs. Jeff fought a long courageous battle with Diabetes and recently underwent a kidney transplant that had given him long-awaited hope. He will be missed.



If you haven't stopped in for a pint at the Guinness brewery and tap house, you should. The tasting room is only temporary until their final one is complete. The conceptual drawings of the final interior and exterior portray a very classy place. Don't confuse tap houses with the smoky old grog houses of your Uncle Earl's day. Their open doors do not go into the wee hours, and they draw a classy beer crowd.



Get your Irish on



Speaking of Suds, have you seen the Center Court's extensive renovation inside and out. It looks great and has great curb appeal. We understand a seafood carryout will be coming soon to the rear portions of the building.



Center Court

Balto. Co. Hwys, our good buddies, helped us out with these matters.

### **Ridge Ave.**



Before Photo



After Photo



Oregon Ave.



An environmentally conscience friend of Halethorpe and the Patapsco River spent a few hours collecting this trash on Halethorpe Farms Rd., before Hwys. hauled it away.

After hearing a concern at the Jan. meeting from the floor about the absence of a stop sign where Linden Ave. runs into Fairview Ave, we inquired with Balto. Co. Bureau of Traffic Engineering and they determined a stop sign at this particular intersection is not required. This intersection which is a low volume T-intersection is covered under Section 21-401.1 of the Maryland Vehicle Law which states: "at a 'T' intersection with no traffic control device, any person driving a vehicle on a highway that intersects but does not cross the other highway shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle travelling on the other highway". In accordance with current policy, Baltimore County no longer uses stop signs on

minor, low volume, residential intersections.



### **Street lights**

HIA monitors the local street lights and reports them to BGE, because we know thieves of the night really hate when they work. We called in 8 lights in early February, but 4 of them remain dark, even after several follow up calls. A slightly more terse tone in our last call this week just may do the trick. They are on Tom Day Blvd., Oregon Ave. Carville Ave. and Sulphur Spring Rd.

### **New meeting place**

With the looming sale of Good Shepherd Center, the writing was on the wall that we needed to find a new place to meet. Several possibilities were discussed at the Jan. meeting, and **Halethorpe-Relay United Methodist Church (HRUMC)** was on the top of our favorites list. HIA member **Marissa Henn** raised her hand and offered to introduce our wishes to **Rev. Lyzbeth Cockrell of HRUMC**. Their council discussed it, gave the idea their blessing, and so we will be conducting our next meeting in the lower level meeting room. We took a look at it, and it is PERFECT for our needs. We talked with Rev. Lys, and her welcoming down-south Louisiana accent sealed the deal. I think we found a new home. It's smack dap in the heart of our community and many of us can easy walk to the meetings.

## HRUMC is located at 4513 Ridge Ave.



HRUMC

## Flagpoles



**Bob Trescot** has a 16ft. wooden flagpole from the **Fair of the Iron House** show that he is looking to find a new home for. He would like to see it displayed or used in the public in this community. If you have any ideas let us know. It does need some work to become usable again.

Halethorpe's own flag is illuminated brightly now with LED lights installed by our loyal flag tender **Jack Schaefer**.

**Arbutus Community Association** found a very large brand new U.S.A. flag during a recent spring cleaning and offered it to GABA or HIA. It turns out the flag was too large for our pole, but GABA was more than happy to fly it on their much larger pole.

## Spring Clean-up Day



Carol Mox was shocked when she received a letter from the county Department of Solid Waste Management notifying her that they had NO funds for HIA's Clean-up Day, so she quickly turned to Councilman Quirk and Pete Kriscumas for help, and they pulled it off again. Carol received the approval letter in the mail from the county that the funds were found 1 week later. Some people suspect these 2 guys have an "easy button" in their office to pull off tough assignments like this. Well, they do. Here's a sneak-peak at it.



*Pete's Easy Button*

**Clean up day** is scheduled for Saturday, June 2, 2018 / 6:00 AM – 1:00 PM. at the Halethorpe Elementary School parking lot.

## Even in the dead of winter Diane and Kris don't miss a holiday



It was disheartening to them when they discovered that someone had taken down (or stole) their Christmas decorations on the Waelchli Wall and were nowhere to be found.

## New members

We welcome new members Tracy Leeser & John Bisser. John is a hometown boy that moved back to the *Thorpe* after living away for many years.



*courtesy of Arbutus Patch*

Zipcar and MTA announced a new partnership to add 15 Zipcars to eight rail stations with Halethorpe MARC station included. Follow the Arbutus Patch link below for more info.

<https://patch.com/maryland/arbutus/s/gc8bq/zipcar-adds-presence-at-transit-hubs>

## Tattoo Parlor Legislation

Councilman Quirk asked how HIA would feel about legislation he was about to introduce to the Council that changes the tattoo parlor restrictions slightly. Bill 7-18 would allow a tattoo parlor to locate at 4809 Leeds Ave. After mulling over the Bill's details and meeting with the tattoo artist & prospective business owner and the property owner of the affected building, HIA was in approval of Bill 7-18 and wrote a letter to Councilman Quirk stating such. The Bill passed in the County Council unanimous.