

Mount Hebron / Orchards Community Association Newsletter
Serving Mount Hebron, Patapsco Park Estates, Orchards Community & Everywhere in between!
October, 2023

**Mount Hebron/Orchards Community Association
Message from the Board:**

The Board welcomes our newest member, Karen Mitchell, who volunteered at our July meeting. She is serving as an at-large member, and was a helpful presence at her first board meeting a few weeks ago.

We unfortunately will be losing a very valued member, Cindy Riedy, who has done an OUSTANDING job as Treasurer since 2020. We are now looking for someone to step up and volunteer to be our new Treasurer.

Mount Hebron Orchards Community Association collaborated with Mount Hebron Presbyterian Church and held their first family movie night. It was a big success with over 90 people attending, the weather was perfect! "Encanto" was shown at the Mount Hebron Presbyterian Church Amphitheater. Free glow sticks, popcorn, juice boxes and water were provided. The Kona Ice truck provided snowballs. We look forward to additional events in the future. Many thanks to all that planned and supported the event.

Upcoming events

2023 Holiday Decorating Contest - Our annual Holiday Decorations Contest is coming up in December. Winners from the previous year judge for the 3 best houses and one best door, and award the plaques. The dates for this year's contest will run from **Wednesday, December 20th to Saturday, December 23rd** with the awards to be given by Sunday, December 24th. Happy decorating and good luck!

2023 Santa Ride – For those new to the neighborhood, the Ellicott City Volunteer Fire Department sends the fire engine with Santa and Mrs. Claus around the community to spread cheer during the holiday season. The department has not posted their schedule as of this newsletter. Please check their website for their latest messages and schedules for our neighborhood.

<https://www.ellicottcityvfa.com/content/santa/>.

2023 Halloween Parade Event

We are excited to host the 2nd **Annual MtHMU Trunk or Treat** event. This event is designed to celebrate the diverse Mt. Hebron community through a fun and entertaining gathering for our Future Vikings and their families. See below for details...

TIMELINE

5:45pm - West Parking Lot opens for trunk or treat participants

- If you plan to trunk or treat, please join us in the West (Student) Parking Lot. Decorate your car / parking space and come with plenty of candy to share.
- Trunk or treaters **MUST** be dressed in costume to participate!

6:30pm - West Parking Lot closes (additional parking in the East (Faculty) Parking Lot)

- Visit with other members of the Mt. Hebron community, including your local Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue and Howard County Police.

6:45pm - Mt. Hebron Marching Unit Parade / Concert - Costume Parade

- Join in behind the marching unit to show off your costumes as we parade around the parking lot. The band will end at the top of the parking lot and perform a short concert. Those in costume will be invited to participate in a special costume parade along with our dancers and guard members.

7:00pm - Trunk or Treat begins

- Enjoy some Hot Cocoa served courtesy of Mt. Hebron Presbyterian Church

7:45pm - event ends... begin safely clearing parking lot!

8:00pm - All Clear

Mount Hebron / Orchards Community Association Newsletter
Serving Mount Hebron, Patapsco Park Estates, Orchards Community & Everywhere in between!
October, 2023

Memory Lane, by Carl Utt

Our Public Library - It's Not Just for Books

I was getting prepared for my mulch job and my first task was to pick up a wheelbarrow at the library. While making my selection, I got to thinking how libraries have changed over the years. Back to the wheelbarrow in a minute.

If you don't mind, I am going to reminisce. As a young boy I remember going to the library. The first thing I remember was the aroma as I walked in the door. It wasn't a bad smell, but definitely unique to my library. I would scan the library to look for any friends, I would notice mostly well-dressed men sitting in the soft chairs reading out of town newspapers on a long stick.

Next, I would often head to the encyclopedia area, the internet in paper form. Sorry for getting away from myself. Let me get back to my wheelbarrow.

Did you know that the Howard County Library offers more than books? The Elkridge branch has a DIY center, you are able to check out tools, sewing machines, baking items and so much more. Your vehicle's dash light on, borrow a code reader from the library. Deck dirty, borrow a pressure washer. Want to bake an Elmo cake, they have the pan.

Need Art for Your Home or Office? The Art Education Collection includes more than 400 items in a variety of sizes and diverse visual styles and themes. All packaged in protective, easy to transport bags. This collection is available at HCLS Central Branch and HCLS Glenwood Branch.

Download dozens of magazines for free to your reader. How about a T Mobile hotspot? They have so much more.

Visit our website at www.mthoca.org for additional information on the newspaper stick, the library before barcodes and all the great things available at Howard County Library.

Fallen Trees Due to Storm Damage by Tina Owens

Do you know what to do if your house or car is hit by a tree during a storm? Who is responsible for clean-up and repairing damages if a tree from my yard falls on my neighbor's yard?

“Under Maryland Law, for fallen trees or similar accidents that may be qualified as an "act of God," the affected owners are responsible for damages to their property, including cleanup, removal and related expenses. These expenses may be covered under the homeowner's insurance policy.” Baltimore County Government <https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/> Search for Fallen Trees and Branches.

According to AAA Northeast “Structural damage caused by branches and trees falling in a storm is one of the most common homeowner's insurance claims during hurricane season, as well as in the winter”. They recommend the following:

- Prevention - Trim or prune dead branches and have dead trees removed before they become deadly.
- Take Action - If a tree falls on your home, evacuate immediately, make sure everyone is safe and call 911. If you can do so safely, cover up any openings caused by the fallen tree with a tarp or something similar.
- Be Careful – Call your utility (BGE) if you suspect a downed power line or have a power outage. Branches or tree limbs touching power lines are dangerous!
- Call Your Insurance Company – Your insurance company will give you advice and resources concerning damage to your home and car.

For more information visit : Visit [AAA Insurance](#).

In Howard County call the Bureau of Highways Tree Division at 410-313-7450 for tree related emergencies if a tree falls across a public roadway. After hours contact 911.