

Mount Hebron / Orchards Community Association Newsletter
Serving Mount Hebron, Patapsco Park Estates, Orchards Community & Everywhere in between!
March 2025

**** Association Meeting ****

April 8th, 2024 7:00 – 8:30 P.M.

Mt. Hebron Presbyterian Church
2330 Calvin Circle at Mt. Hebron Drive

Next Community Association Meeting

We are planning to have our next community meeting **April 8, 2025, starting at 7:00 pm at the Mount Hebron Presbyterian Church.** Our guest speaker will be Paul Beares with Howard County Master Gardeners. Paul will speak on sustainable gardening best practices for the Spring season for a full range of garden types, including vegetable, perennial, and native plant gardens.

2025 Upcoming Community Events:

Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, April 19th starting at 11: am. Plans are in motion for the neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt, co-hosted by the Mount Hebron Presbyterian Church. There will be a visit from the Easter Bunny. The event will be held rain or shine. We hope you can join us for this wonderful Community tradition!

Egg Stuffers Needed - Be part of the tradition, volunteers needed on **Saturday, April 12 at 10AM for egg stuffing.** Come into the main entrance of the Mount Hebron Presbyterian Church. Egg stuffing is in the Fellowship Hall. No need to sign up in advance.

Community Yard Sale - The Mount Hebron/Orchards Community Yard sale will be held on **Saturday, June 7th from 8 am to 1 pm.** The rain date will be Sunday, June 8th. As in the past, the Association will post advertisements on the yardsales.com site, Facebook Marketplace, and the Next-Door Mount Hebron site. You are encouraged to do the same. We will also post signs at the main entrances to the community. Please remember to retrieve your signs after the event. And good luck!

Mount Hebron/Orchards Community Association Neighborhood Block Party – June 29th 5pm to 8:30pm

Co-hosted by the Mt. Hebron Presbyterian Church, MTHOCA will hold a neighborhood block party featuring music and karaoke from DJ Percy Wood on **Sunday, June 29th from 5 pm to 8:30 pm.** Mike's Gelato Truck will be on site selling its tasty Italian ice cream! Community Association neighbors are encouraged to bring their own chairs, blankets, outdoor games and a picnic. The party will be at the Mount Hebron Presbyterian Church amphitheater.

Memory Lane - Potholes to the Past - According to the late trivia expert and syndicated columnist. M. Boyd, pottery makers in 15th and 16th century England would take advantage of the ruts that wagon and coach wheels gouged into roads. Anxious for a cheap source of raw materials for making clay pots, the potters would dig into the deep ruts to reach clay deposits underneath. Teamsters driving wagons and coaches over those roads knew who and what caused these holes and referred to them as "potholes."

Before there were any roads, there were deer trails, which eventually became the paths used by the Native Americans in our county. These paths widened to wagon trails as the settlers moved westward into the county. This **Native American Trail** is known as Old Frederick Road aka Route 99. Most of these farms along this route were self-contained with blacksmith shops, gardens, cattle and stock and grain crops for income.

As you sit in traffic, look around and catch a glimpse of the past.

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Our current officers and board members are:

President:	Roger Knight
Vice President:	Carl Utt
Treasurer:	Donna Liston
Recording Secretary:	Eric Ulanowicz
Corresponding Secretary:	Ken Mertz
Board Member / Social Media:	Christina Owens

You can reach any of these board members by emailing us at the community email address mthoca@comcast.net. And visit our website at <https://mthoca.org/> and our Mount Hebron/Orchards Community Association Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/p/Mount-Hebron-Orchards-Community-Association-100064603813033/> for neighborhood announcements and information on community events.

Community Safety Advisory - Our community has recently experienced break-ins and attempted burglaries. While Mount Hebron, Orchards, and Patapsco Park Estates is generally a very safe community, we do recommend you keep all entry doors locked and your garage doors closed at all times. One attempted break-in near Mount Hebron Drive and Calvin Circle on February 25th and one break-in (stealing jewelry) at the 2600 block of Toby Lane on February 21st. If you notice parked cars with no clear purpose or individuals driving or walking slowly through the area, these could be signs of potential activity. The police are aware and said we should call 911.

Annual Dues reminder - Please submit your 2025 Annual dues to help us continue funding our community events.

Opportunities to volunteer - Are you looking for a way to connect with your community? The Mount Hebron/Orchards Community Association is looking for Board members and volunteers to help plan fun activities and events for our community! Our Association includes Patapsco Park Estates, the Mount Hebron loop, The Orchards, homes off Tiller and all the way to Thornbrook, Ashbrook, McKenzie and beyond! There are typically 4 board meetings and 4 community association meetings per year. Our events are discussed and planned during the board meetings. Additional planning can occur between board meetings by volunteers who have offered assistance. Email us at MTHOCA@comcast.net if you want to volunteer.

Mulch: Saucer vs Volcano

It is that time of year and we all love our mulch. Many of us honor this longtime tradition of more mulch the better and pile it high. Piling mulch high on a tree like a volcano can damage your tree. If mulch is used it should be used around the tree like a saucer.

According to Maryland Master Gardeners, piling heaps of mulch around the base of tree trunks can harm trees, leading to their gradual decline and demise. When done correctly, mulches help control weeds, reduce erosion, conserve moisture, and keep roots cool. Place a ring of mulch around the base of your trees, no deeper than 3 inches. Avoid putting mulch directly against the trunk. You want the root system to stay moist and the trunk to stay uncovered and dry.

Please submit your \$15 per household/ per year dues using this form. It helps support your Community. (202503)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail address: **(Print clearly)** _____

I can help with: Newsletter Easter Egg Hunt Halloween Parade Association Board
 Yard Sale Other

Dues enclosed: _____

Mail this form and check (Payable to Mt. Hebron/Orchards Association) to:

Mount Hebron-Orchards Community Association, P.O. Box 6810, Ellicott City, MD 21042