**HAMPDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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hcprettinest@gmail.com

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hcctreasure@gmail.com

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**HCC CONTACT INFO**

Matthew Stegman, President
HCC, PO Box 19957
Hampden, Maryland 21211
hcprettinest@gmail.com

www.hampdenhappenings.org

**March Hcc Meeting**

The next HCC meeting is on March 25th, 2019.

Plan to join us at 7:00 pm at the Roosevelt Park Recreation Center on West 36th Street.

The agenda will include committee updates and discussions of the most important issues of the day for business owners and residents of Hampden.

7:00 - 7:05 pm: Welcome
7:05 - 7:20 pm: Committee updates
7:30 - 8:00 pm: New business

**President’s Message**

Your ACCE Questions Answered
By Matt Stegman / HCC President / hccprettinest@gmail.com

What a Parade! The Mayor’s Christmas Parade may have had a couple months ago, but the accolades keep rolling in. Mr. Tom Kerr – who has organized the parade for 46 years – reports that it was recently named one of the top 10 Christmas parades in the entire country according to the readers of USA Today. Congratulations to Tom and his crew on a well-earned recognition.

Reminder: Dues Increase April 1st. Pay Today! It’s been many years since HCC has changed our membership dues. We are dedicated to serving the Hampden community and want to ensure that membership is accessible to everyone in the community, regardless of income. At the same time, expenses like insurance, event permits, and printing the Hampden Happenings newsletter increase every year.

After much deliberation, the HCC Board of Directors have determined that an increase in membership dues is necessary for us to remain sustainable. Beginning April 1st, the rate for a single membership will increase to $20 and a family membership will run $30. We will also be bringing back our Student and Senior rate, which will remain $10.

Facts and Myths About ACCE
Principal Nick D’Ambrosio joined the HCC at our January meeting and I was surprised that there are plenty of misinformation about the students and the program offered at ACCE, even among well-meaning neighbors. Here are some questions and answers to set the record straight.

The Maryland Zoo Comes to the HCC
By Mary Rose Cook

Kerrie Kovaleski, Director of Volunteer Programs, visited the HCC General Meeting on January 28th to announce that the Maryland Zoo is currently selecting new volunteers for spring training. This coming year will be bigger than ever at the Zoo as the newly-renovated elephant, giraffe, and lion exhibits will be opening. Volunteers are needed to give directional support, teach families about the animals, and keep the grounds beautiful. In 2018, over 1,000 Marylanders donated their time to support the Zoo, and we want to smash that record this year. For more information about volunteering, you can call (443) 554-5266. Visit marylandzoo.org/volunteer to apply.

**Hampden Homeeookin’: Jook Recipe**

By Jon Emets

Born of frugality, rice, corn, or jook in Cantonese & Korean, is a comforting staple, and a way of putting leftovers to good use. Cooked rice simmered with liquid turns into a creamy canvas on which an infinite palette of flavors can play. In China, shredded cooked chicken, and some other savory tidbits make a warming breakfast. Add chopped kimchi for a Korean twist. Throw that leftover crab meat you picked in the jook with some scallions and Old Bay. Your imagination is the only limit. Jook is one of those dishes prepared more by eye than strict recipe. Typically, the consistency is a matter of personal choice. Keep an eye on your jook and be ready to add more water as needed. Chicken and turkey stocks are favored, while beef and other stocks are avoided as too bold. If you need a more neutral flavor, use water. Happy Homeeookin’!

**St. Mary’s Roland View Towers**

AFFORDABLE SENIOR HOUSING IN THE HEART OF HAMPDEN

3838 and 3939 Roland Avenue offers efficiency, 1-bedroom and 2-bedroom apartments. Call 410-889-8255 for information.

www.rolandviewtowers.com

**Get in Touch With the HCC**

President’s Email
hcctreasure@gmail.com

Crime and Safety Committee
hampdencrimeandsafety@gmail.com

Zoning and Land Use Committee
hampdencouncil@gmail.com

Funding Committee
hampdencouncilfunds@gmail.com

Education Committee
hcceducationcommittee@gmail.com

Clean and Green Committee
sustainsustainability@gmail.com

Treasurer
hcctreasure@gmail.com

Submissions & Advertising
hampdennewsletter@gmail.com

**Historic Hampden Happenings**

Historic Hampden Happenings is distributed to residents, organizations and businesses throughout Greater Hampden.

Circulation: 2,200. Readers: 10,000+

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www.hampdenhappenings.org | Since 1972

Cover photo by Michael Levine-Clark
Zoning & Land Use Committee Updates

By Martin Burian / Zoning and Land Use Committee Chair / hcczoning@gmail.com

Zoning & Land Use Committee Updates

By Abby Baldwin

A Taste of ACCE

By Chas Eby, Daniel Ewald, and Thomas Akras

Public Safety and Clean and Green Events

By Chas Eby, Daniel Ewald, and Thomas Akras

What’s New at St. Mary’s Outreach Center

By Tasha Cornish / 3750 Roland Avenue / Baltimore, MD 21211 / 410-366-3106 / www.smocenter.org

Spread the Word—Senior Citizen Water Discount

Thank you for helping us spread the word about the changes in the water bill affordability programs. We have not received confirmation from BGE, but in our understanding that if you are younger than 65, and are enrolled in the Hardship Exemption program, you will automatically receive the extended benefits after July 1. As a reminder, changes in the program will primarily affect adults 65+ who are not already enrolled in the program and they live alone or with one other person. Many people qualify for this benefit but do not receive it. If you would like to sign up or learn more, please call 410-366-3106.

Third Party Energy Suppliers

After almost two decades of little scrutiny, the electricity market was reformed. Today, third party energy suppliers can bid for the energy you purchase. They can also offer other services like energy efficiency programs. Many people qualify for this benefit but do not receive it. If you would like to sign up or learn more, please call 410-366-3106.

UPCOMING AT SMOC

Sign up for My Groceries to Go: Thursday, March 14, 10 AM – 11:30 AM

If you are age 60 or greater, you may be eligible to receive a monthly 40-lb box of nutritious pantry foods through My Groceries to Go, a federal program run by the Maryland Food Bank and distributed through St. Mary’s Outreach Center. The next sign-up is March 14. Call 410-366-3106 for more details.

Free Clothing Giveaway and... Second Saturday of the Month 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Woodberry Church of the Brethren W. 38th and Poole Streets (Please use basement door entrance.)

The proprietor of Golden West, Samantha Claassen, presented to the January HCC general meeting on plans for expansion of the restaurant and accompanying proposed changes to the liquor license. Golden West acquired the connected building on the corner of W 36th Street and Hickory Avenue (1105 W 36th St and 3542-6 Hickory Ave). The record store and Philly’s Best will move out, and Sowlaki (a different building) will remain in place. The plans are to connect the spaces and renovate the corner buildings. The new space will be a separate restaurant concept with a small bar and intimate seating areas, yet will share food preparation and baking facilities with Golden West.

The proprietor is requesting several changes to the restaurant’s liquor license and will have an upcoming hearing before the Board of License License Commissioners (BLLC) for Baltimore City. The changes include adding a business partner and the new buildings to the license, and adding alcohol delivery and outdoor table service on Hickory Ave. A hearing has not yet been scheduled. The HCC is working with the proprietor on negotiating a memorandum of understanding to document agreements with the community on the liquor license.

Clipped Mill Updates (Woodberry)

Valentine Partners and its development and architectural team held a community meeting on January 22 about its latest plans for Clipped Mill. Two parcels were discussed: a lot between the Poole & Hunt Building and Druid Park Drive and the Tractor Building on Clipped Park Road.

Draft plans for the Poole & Hunt lot now call for 48 three- and four-story townhomes along a new street accessed from Druid Park Dr. The homes would be built on top of a parking structure for residents. The initial concept for the Tractor Building is to renovate and use the existing exterior and construct within it 99 apartments on five floors, with two levels of parking with about 150 spaces at ground level. At 46 feet tall, the proposal is taller overall than the current building, but not as tall as the neighboring Assembly Building (which currently is apartments).

The developers are beginning to meet with City offices to conduct reviews and solicit feedback on these proposals. The HCC will continue to monitor developments.

1235 Union Ave

The owners of this rowhouse presented to the ZLUC on plans for a first- and second-floor rear addition. They are requesting variances from the Board of Municipal Zoning Allocations (BMZA) in a hearing scheduled for March 12. The owners are working to confirm neighbor support for their plans.

176 Puritan St

The owners of this Stone Hill residence have requested permission to construct a one-story side and rear addition to the home. The proposal will call for a variance of the rear yard setback requirement from the BMZA. The hearing is scheduled for March 12. The HCC is reaching out to the owners to ensure neighbor input is obtained.

A Taste of ACCE

By Abby Baldwin

ACCE’s student body is made up of students from across the world including the US, South America, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. To celebrate what makes our school unique and embrace our diverse cultures, ACCE hosted a Taste of ACCE on January 31st!

Students learned to speak Arabic, learned about the history of the Barbata Dance, Congolese Dancing, and Spoken Word and poetry; and heard about post-graduation Corso. Over 60 families joined in the celebration and shared a meal from around cultures, ACCE hosted a Taste of ACCE on January 31st!

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Our spring event is right around the corner, so gather your friends, neighbors and colleagues! The 9th Annual Hats Off to Hampden Gala will be held on Saturday, March 30th, 5:30 pm in celebration of the Center’s 25th year of work in Hampden and in support of the coming year’s programs and services.

Hats Off will return to Preston Hall (25 W. Preston St.) and feature music by Sons of Pirates, and food and beverage by Chef Chad Gauss of The Food Market and Hoppa! Catering. The Wine Source and SweetSide Café. Free parking will be available across the street from the Maryland Ave. entrance of Preston Hall (2125 Maryland Ave.).

Prizes will be awarded for the most imaginative, meaningful and outrageous hats, so get yours ready! Don’t have the perfect hat? You can create one at the event. Be sure to also check our Facebook page for updates on the live and silent auctions.

Tickets, tables and sponsorship opportunities are available at www.hampdenfamilycenter.org.

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**Valentine’s Day was very festive at the Center!** The After-School Enrichment Program (ASEP) created valentines for their generosity throughout the year. The Hampden merchants in appreciation of the Hampden Family Center! The After-School Enrichment Program (ASEP) created valentines for their generosity throughout the year.

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**Adult Book Conversation Group**

*The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man* by James Weldon Johnson, a novel, 1922. This story tells of a young biracial man, referred to only as the “Ex-Colored Man,” living in post-Reconstruction era America in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. He lives through a variety of experiences, including witnessing a lynching, that convince him to “pass” as white to secure his safety and advancement, but he feels as if he has given up his dream—that of contributing to the black race through his passion of composing ragtime music (Wikipedia). All are welcome to participate in the book conversation group, even if you haven’t read the book!

Social Worker in the Library

*The Enoch Pratt Free Library,* in partnership with the University of Maryland School of Social Work, is currently presenting a program that places social work interns in seven Branch Libraries to help people with issues such as SNAP Benefits, Shelter, Addiction, Immigration, Learning Differences, Health Concerns, and Safety. A licensed social worker will be available at the Hampden Library on Wednesday afternoons from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm, beginning February 6 and continuing through April 10.

**How will the Orioles do this year?**

Spring training is in full swing! See the Hampden Library’s book display on spring training and the Baltimore Orioles, from Friday, March 1 – Saturday, March 16. Go Orioles!

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**HCC Happy Hour Was Fun For All**

*By Mary Rose Griek*

On January 14th, Hampden residents gathered at Blue Pit BBQ and Whiskey Bar (at 6616 Union Avenue) from 6 pm til 9 pm to enjoy a Happy Hour. There were two specialty drinks for that night, both honoring our Hampden roots. Our friendly bartenders were serving up a Rowhouse and a Berchie, one with bourbon and the other with vodka. The HCC received the proceeds from the sale of the drinks and raised $650 to help fund community projects. In addition to the drinks, most in attendance ordered dinner and platter after platter of yummy barbecue was served, with coleslaw and macaroni and cheese on the side. Despite the cold and snow still on the ground from the weekend, it was great to visit with neighbors and fellow members of the HCC, both past and present. The 50/50 for the evening was won by Jeff Griest who was there with friends enjoying the evening. Thanks again for everyone at Blue Pit hosting the Happy Hour. Lots of fun activities are on the HCC’s upcoming schedule. Hope to see you all there.

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**Announcements from St Thomas Aquinas Church**

*Bingo & Luncheon to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day; prizes and baked goods sale*

**Where:** St Thomas Aquinas Church Parish Hall

**When:** Saturday, March 16, 2019 / Doors Open 10:30 AM. Lunch at 11:00 AM / BINGO starts at 12:15 PM

**Reservations:** Reservations taken for 4 or more / Only 112 tickets available

**Cost:** $24.95 of BINGO plus Lunch: $22 / Seniors: $21

Call: 410-955-3169 for tickets and questions

*Presentation about human sex trafficking in the US and here in Maryland by the Araminta Freedom Initiative to teach practical steps for individuals and the Church in Baltimore to respond to this injustice*

*Where:** St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1001 West 37th Street, Baltimore, MD 21211 (Church Parking Lot can be accessed via Roland Avenue; driveway is located between 3700 & 3750 Roland Ave)

**When:** Thursday, March 7, 2019 / 7:00 – 8:30 pm

**Cost:** Free

For more info: Martha Taylor, mwbbtaylor@gmail.com
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Bryan Harrison
Branch Manager, NMLS # 115385
Cell: 443-244-3153
1190 Winterson Road, Ste 130
Linthicum, MD 21090
bharrison@nfmlending.com
www.nfmlending.com/bharrison

Christina Dudley
Realtor
Team Leader
Cell: 443-803-3876
Office: 410-464-5500
christina.dudley@penfedrealty.com

Our New March Classes Taught by Hampden Residents!

Improv Comedy Class with Keswick’s Pamela Hugi!
Take a break from the grind of the scripted life and unleash your creativity with us!

Date: March 13
Time: 2:00pm - 3:00pm
Fee: Free
Instructor: Pam Hugi

Cooking with Dr. Richard Bruno!
Join Dr. Bruno to explore topics such as nutrition, exercise and brain food.

Learn more about Dr. Richard Bruno at:

Date: March 14
Time: 11:30am - 1:30pm
Member Fee: $20
Non-Member Fee: $50

Become a Wise & Well Member today!
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Interested? Contact us at:
CommunityHealth@ChooseKeswick.org
or call us at 410.662.4363

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Baltimore, MD 21211