



The Westfield Times

A Publication of the Westfield Neighborhood Improvement Association

July 2003

Westfield says “Yes” to NOGLI

At our June meeting, our membership voted its approval for joining the Neighborhoods of Greater Lauraville, Inc. (NOGLI). NOGLI has been in existence for five years and is dedicated to promoting and preserving their neighborhoods. NOGLI currently consists of 6 neighborhoods in the northeast part of the city. They are looking to expand their catchment area to include all of the North East. NOGLI is in the discovery stage, trying to gauge community interest in their expansion. Hamilton Hills, Christopher, Westfield and North Harford have all expressed interest in joining. NOGLI will present their expansion proposal to their board of directors on July 1st.

Joining NOGLI would not change the structure of our neighborhood association. We would still function independently, raise our own funds and elect our own officers. We would be required to elect one board member to represent us on the NOGLI board and also make a nominal financial contribution.

Our neighborhood would benefit from inclusion under an Urban Renewal Plan, qualification for low interest home improvement loans and have greater representation for zoning issues. We would also benefit from NOGLI’s marketing of houses for sale in our area. They have advertised our homes in the D.C. market and also conduct tours of homes for sale.

Block Party September 14th

Our annual block party will be held Sunday, September 14, 2003 in the 6400 block of Sefton Avenue. Food, fun, and games will be part of the excitement. Come on out and meet your neighbors.

Everyone is encouraged to bring a dish and a donation. If you are interested in helping with the block party, or if you would like to provide entertainment, please contact our hotline, or email us.

Harbel’s Mission

Mike Hilliard, new director of community relations for Harbel addressed our June meeting and spelled out the role of Harbel.

Harbel’s services include:

- Drug Treatment and counseling center for people referred to them by the court. They deal mainly with youths and offer tutoring and other programs.
- Housing Partnership – 1st Time Homebuyer Program & Single-Mother Program
- Community Relations Program – zoning, monitor liquor board, planning, etc.
- NECOP (WNIA was one of the founding groups)

Harbel receives funding from the Enterprise Institute and other charitable foundations. If anyone is interested in volunteering or donating to Harbel, please contact them at 410-444-2100.

Membership Drive and Contest Continues with our first “Greet and Eat”

Lui Hernandez will demonstrate how you can sign up members with a “Greet and Eat” at our next meeting.

Every time you sign up a new member, you will be automatically entered in our grand prize drawing. Get a gold form at the meeting, or go online to our website and download the form there.

We are looking to increase our membership to 300 members this year and we still have a long way to go. If you haven’t paid your dues for this year, please use the attached coupon at the end of the newsletter.

Garden Tour Postponed

The weather has not cooperated and many of our back yards have now turned into swamps. Because of this, we are postponing our Garden Tour until next year, provided we are not visited by a swarm of locusts.

Our Next Meeting will be Tuesday July 1 at 7:30 p.m.

We meet at the Holiday House 6427 Harford Road. Please use the Pinewood Road Entrance

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Harford Road

After being delayed for four weekends, Lui Hernandez, Kevin Duval, and Phill Cross braved the elements on Saturday, June 7 and toured the Harford Road Business corridor. Besides a few empty businesses, we noted overflowing trash cans, faded and missing signs, potholes and poor sidewalk conditions. These notes were converted into letters sent to Councilman Curran. He will forward these letters to the appropriate city agencies for follow up. We will conduct another tour in August to check up on progress.

Crime Report

The latest crime statistics for our neighborhood show several stolen vehicles and several reports of items stolen from vehicles. The old chestnut still rings true, "Lock your doors, take your keys". The "Club" or other high visibility locking devices work well to deter thieves. Hide or remove any valuables you may have in your car.

Hamilton Street Festival July 19th

Classic cars, music, food and fun mark this celebration. 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. in the 5400 -5500 blocks of Harford Rd.

Volunteers Needed

Summer is here and what better time to get out and meet your neighbors. We are pleased to offer several interesting and exciting ways to do that:

- Take a NECOP patrol. Thursday, Friday or Saturday night from 7:30 to 10:00.
- Deliver the newsletter. It takes less than an hour each month
- Our block party is in need of volunteers for setup and clean up

We've got Magnets!

We have new WNIA refrigerator magnets, free to all dues paying members. Stop by one of the meetings and pick yours up, or call the hotline and we'll get one to you.

Contact Us:
Hotline: (410)254-WNIA(9642)
Web: www.wnia.com
Mail: PO Box 28244
Balto MD 21234

Good Neighbor Tips:

July 4th is coming and that means parades, cook outs, and of course, fireworks. Remember, most fireworks are not legal in the state of Maryland. If you do want to have your own pyrotechnics display, please respect your neighbor's property and their right to live in a peaceful community. Discharging firearms for the purposes of celebration is illegal and extremely dangerous. Please report anyone shooting a gun to 911.

Recycling Schedule

July
10th Paper
14th Bottles and Cans
24th Paper
28th Bottles and Cans
August
11th Bottles and Cans
14th Paper
25th Bottles and Cans
28th Paper

Westfield Neighborhood Improvement Association 2003 Annual Membership Dues

Name(s) _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

Please mail this coupon along with a \$10 check or money order payable to:
WNIA Membership Dues
PO Box 28244
Baltimore, MD 21234