



Join Your Community As A Member of  
The Westgate Community Association

# Westgate

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Founded 1913

WESTGATE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
*Serving the Community Since 1931*

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## Introducing the new president of the Westgate Community Association, Linda Smith

Linda Smith was elected President at the General Meeting on May 14th. Linda lives on Mallow Hill and has been a 61 year long resident of West Baltimore. Linda and her husband graduated from

Edmondson High School as members of its first four year class. Linda's Dad worked as a salesman at the Hecht Company (now the Westside skill center) when it first opened and her mother

taught at Public School #71 located on Old Frederick Avenue. Linda and her husband have lived in this community for their entire 42 years of marriage. They have raised their two children on Mallow Hill.

### *National Night Out*

## Mayor Sheila Dixon to Visit Westgate Community Block Party!

*Join us for free food and fun!*

**When:**

**August 7th**

**5:00 pm – 8:00pm**

**Where:**

**Westgate Park at North Bend**

**Who:**

**All Westgate residents young and old!**

**For additional information about NNO please visit: <http://www.natw.org/nno>.**

This year the association chose to utilize the grant funds to host a community block party on August 7, 2007, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the Westgate Park at North Bend. We will have plenty of food, games, entertainment, and information for residents of all ages. In addition, we are scheduled to have Mayor Sheila Dixon, Councilwoman Helen Holton, and a representative from the City and County police departments in attendance. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the celebration.

We are also seeking volunteers to serve on the planning committee. If you are interested please send an email to: [cnmercerc@comcast.net](mailto:cnmercerc@comcast.net) or call Charmaine at: (410) 945-4248.

Although she is new to her role as President, Linda is not new to the Board. More than twenty years ago, Linda served as a Board member. While on the Board, Linda worked on many projects including: the Parks at Braeside, Charing Cross, Cromarty and North Bend, speed bumps on Mallow Hill, the four-way stop at Mallow Hill and North Bend, the metal guard rail at the end of Mardrew, the Westgate Community Signs at Route 40 and at Edmondson, and the initiation of the "NW-COP" (Neighborhood Watch Citizens on Patrol) program. Now that she has retired from teaching, Linda is anxious to get working on making this community a close, friendly place to live so that every resident can feel safe and proud of our unique neighborhood.

In a continuing effort to keep the residents informed of what the Association is working on, Linda will provide her notes in every newsletter.

### **BOARD MEETING**

**Monday, Sept. 10, 2007, at 7:30 p.m.**

West Baltimore United Methodist Church  
Greenwich and Charing Cross Streets

### **Megan's Law**

Maryland law requires the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to create and maintain a central registry of individuals convicted of certain crimes against children and other sexual offenses. The registry can be found at: [www.dpscs.state.md.us/onlineservs/sor/](http://www.dpscs.state.md.us/onlineservs/sor/). Members of the community should visit the website to educate themselves regarding offenders living in or near the community. Anyone who uses information to threaten, intimidate, or harass registered sex offenders is subject to criminal prosecution.

WESTGATE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

We Represent You!

Feel free to bring any concerns, ideas or kudos to any one of us. We're always looking for input!

OFFICERS

- President: Linda Smith (410) 646-3959
Vice President: Al Jourdon (410) 233-8825
Treasurer: Mark Puzdrak (410) 719-8963
Secretary: Suzanne De Haan (410) 869-1760

BOARD MEMBERS

- Patrick Burns (410) 644-5522
Mike Williams (410) 947-9471
Melvin Mercer (410) 945-4248
Karen Hull
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P.O. Box 25331
Baltimore, MD 21229

Notes from the President:

First, I'm excited to be working for the community again.

At our Board meeting on June 4, 2007, we discussed the two recent armed robberies on Old Frederick and Orpington that were reported in the May 30 Catonsville Times. We are getting in touch with the Wilkens precinct for more information and for increased protection. We will contact the City's SW Police for updates and for their increased presence in our neighborhood.

The Board is concerned about the status of our surrounding schools and wants to meet with the principal of the SW Middle school, especially, to discuss our concerns.

The Board noticed the slow deterioration of some neighborhood properties, especially, the car sales on the vacant lot beside St. Agnes Church. We will

be notifying zoning about this concern.

I will contact the City representative for an update on the Uplands situation.

Now for the positives, we are planning a great event for National Night Out on August 7. We have collected many interesting things and look forward to meeting and greeting all of you at our North Bend Park.

To make our community healthy we need people interested in working on making it happen. We have some openings on the Board. Please forward your willingness to help. Contact me at 410-646-3959 or visit our website: www.westgatemd.org. The Board looks forward to working with positive, eager individuals. Don't hesitate, respond soon.

Yours for a better neighborhood, Linda Smith, President

Have you joined the Westgate Community Association?

The membership terms run from July 1st through June 30th. Dues are \$20 per household, \$13 per household of a senior (over 55) per (fiscal) year. Dues and form (below) should be sent to P.O. Box 25331, Baltimore, Maryland 21229.

Your dues support the activities and operations of the association, which include: four newsletters per year along with its' distribution to every home in the association, maintenance of the Westgate Park at North Bend, administrative costs (P.O. Box, meeting space, etc), Citizens On Patrol, Santa's visit, Neighborhood Yard Sale, 2 general meetings, Board meetings, and more! Unrestricted donations beyond dues are also solicited and enable funding of improved use of electronic communications and financially support of our Citizens On Patrol program.

WESTGATE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

We have been fortunate to gain some vital volunteers over the past few years to strengthen the work of our association veterans. But as we grow, we continue to need able bodies and minds... we know that this neighborhood is full of them!!! So, on this form you will find areas to check off if you would like to get involved... speak your mind... give a little time for a great cause...

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Donation Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

- [] Citizens on Patrol (2 hours a month for a patrol) [] Citizens on Patrol (Steering Committee Member)
[] Social Activities (Santa's Visit, Garden Club, Block Party) [] Newsletter (Write articles, Distribution, etc.)
[] Advertising Sales [] Board Member [] Other \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Westgate Community Association. Your canceled check serves as your receipt.

Get Involved!

Support Your Community!

How?

- Help keep our park & streets clean
Report suspicious activity
Keep property clean, trimmed and free of junk & debris
Don't let pets run loose (for their safety and others)
Keep lids on trash cans and bring them in after pick-up

JOIN YOUR

WESTGATE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION WHERE YOUR VOICE CAN BE HEARD.

## General Meeting Recap

The Spring general meeting of the Westgate Community Association was held on Monday, 5/14/07 in the parlor of the West Baltimore United Methodist Church. Fourteen members of the community and six WCA Board members were present.

Kacie Levy and Lorenzo Bryant were guest presenters from the MTA's Red-Line Project. The proposed "Red-Line" would run 10.5 miles between the SSA building in Woodlawn through Baltimore and end in the Canton area. Workshops for the public will be held in the Fall and public hearings are scheduled for Spring 2008 to address the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Final design is expected to be complete by the Summer of 2012 with construction to begin in the Fall of 2012. The cost of this project is expected to be 50% federal and 50% local. For more information a website is available, [www.Baltimoreredline.com](http://www.Baltimoreredline.com), questions or concerns can be submitted through the site.

Regular Board and Association projects and business was also addressed at this meeting. Treasurer, David Robison provided a summary financial report. A current surplus of about \$1,100 was noted and will be spent in upcoming months on park maintenance and newsletter costs. The financial statements were unanimously approved.

Al Jourdan, Vice-President, reported that the NW-COP (Neighborhood Watch-Citizens on Patrol) program is in need of a coordinator and volunteers. The NW-COP coordinator tasks include making a patrol schedule and arranging training for new volunteers.

In regards to the current efforts to gain non-profit status for the community association, Al reported that the Community Law Center and the University of Baltimore Community Development Clinic, both consulting pro bono, are reviewing the community association charter as part of the submission process. Revisions and final application are planned in time for voting at the October 2007 general meeting.

The National Night Out Event scheduled for August 7th at Westgate Park at North Bend was also discussed. Activities, food and community association information will be available at the event, the community is invited to participate. Local police and political representatives, including Mayor Sheila Dixon will attend. (See story on page 1 for more details).

An update on two community developments was presented at the meeting. It was reported that the Bristol Green Project on Old Frederick Road, under development by Marenberg Enterprises, was approved as PUD (planned unit development) project by Baltimore County on April 2 and the developer is currently in the

process of creating engineering planning documents. The developer is invested in garnering input from the surrounding communities, including a plan to meet with a task force of local representatives to discuss the project. The Board continues to follow this development and will pursue contact with the developer.

The redevelopment of Uplands was also highlighted at the meeting. Although details were not available, Board members and participants reported there is a pending lawsuit stalling the planned demolition and redevelopment. The new development will include both low income and market-priced properties.

An update on the newsletter was provided, noting that Kelly Franks will now edit the WCA newsletter.

Finally, the annual election of Officers and Board members was held at this meeting. After nominations were requested the following Officers were approved: Linda Smith, President; Al Jourdan, Vice President; Mark Puzdrak, Treasurer; Suzanne DeHaan, Secretary. In addition, the following Board Members were approved: Melvin Mercer, Goldia Wright, and Mike Williams.

The October 2006 meeting minutes were approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15 p.m.

## E-Recycling

Baltimore County residents can drop off their unwanted household electronics for recycling at the Baltimore County Resource Recovery Facility (BCRRF), Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is for household electronics only; material from businesses or institutions will not be accepted. Acceptable electronics include TVs, computer monitors, CPUs, mice, keyboards, cell phones, printers, power supplies, laptops, scanners, computer cables and cords, miscellaneous circuit boards, chips, and cards, other computer or electronic related accessories, VCRs, DVDs, stereo equipment, digital telephones, and other home electronics. Appliances will not be accepted.

Visit **YOUR Community Website** at  
[www.westgatemd.org](http://www.westgatemd.org)  
 eMail: [info@westgatemd.org](mailto:info@westgatemd.org)



## 4th of July Fun!

### Inner Harbor

- 11am-4pm – Street Performers
- 4pm - A Cappella band, "Almost Recess" at the Amphitheater (Light & Pratt)
- 7pm – Jazz Musician David Back
- 9:30pm – Fireworks choreographed to music simulcast on MIX 106.5.

**For More Info:**  
**1-877-BALTIMORE**

### Catonsville

- 9am - Games & Races for kids ages 2-13
- 3pm - 61st Annual Fourth of July Parade
- 9pm – Fireworks (at Catonsville High School)  
 Rain Date: 7/7/07

**For More Info:**  
**410-744-9655**



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[www.musictogetherwithann.com](http://www.musictogetherwithann.com)

## MENTOR Maryland

Bringing Caring Closer

MENTOR Maryland is a treatment foster care company seeking caring, committed families to provide a home for infants and children with medical complexities. We offer a competitive tax-free stipend (\$23,100-\$27,475) and 24-hour on-call support. Families who join the medically complex program of MENTOR are interested in fostering or adopting children with medical needs and disabilities. A stay-at-home parent, spare bedroom, and own vehicle are required. Wheelchair accessible homes are a plus. Currently we have needs for:



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Please call a Foster Parent Recruiter at 443-543-2170 to learn more about a rewarding opportunity to help a hospitalized child come "home."

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