

Founded 1913
Westgate COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

WESTGATE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
www.westgatemd.org

October 2007

Westgate Block Party: A Fun Time was had by all!

The heat was on, but it didn't stop people from coming out to Westgate Park to spend time with their neighbors. In addition to the many community residents, Baltimore City Councilwoman Helen Holton, Baltimore County Councilman Samuel Moxley, the Southwestern Liaison for the Mayor's Office, Cliff Sawyer, and many officers from the Southwestern Police District were in attendance. Even the media attended! Westgate Community Association President Linda Smith was interviewed by

Channel 13's Dennis Edwards and appeared on the evening news.

In addition to games and prizes for the kids and free food for all, two lucky Westgate residents won gift cards for Lowes and Home Depot. Sherri the Entertainer was also on hand doing very creative face-painting and balloon animals.

This event could not have been possible without a "Believe in Your Neighborhood" grant received from Comcast, a donation from Family Dollar, a



Baltimore City Councilwoman Helen Holton and Baltimore County Councilman Samuel Moxley.

From the President's Corner . . .

We really had a great turn out for our National Night Out celebration on August 7th. Thanks again to all who made this event a success.

The Neighborhood Association has been busy this summer! Several neighborhood representatives attended hearings for the Bristol Green Project (Old Frederick Rd.). Additionally, Frederick Villa and St. Agnes Church had two different hearings and the Mayor had an event to announce the projects at Uplands. Improvements are all around us. Next summer we should see much activity.

School is back in session and despite our new trash cans on North Bend Road, many students still need to learn how to respect our neighborhood as they travel through it. Please help monitor the area to keep litter under control. No one wants to live with the eyesore of litter.

In the coming month, a group of board members will meet with West Baltimore schools to work on the quality of the education these students receive and on their behavior in the community. Councilwoman Helen Holton has suggested residents volunteer in the schools. It takes a whole neighborhood to help educate students. Officers attending the National Night Out event suggested calling them at 410-362-8226 if we notice malicious behavior from students passing through the neighborhood.

Residents of the odd side of Mallow Hill Road and the even side of Mardrew are reminded that it is their responsibility to mow and remove debris from the green space outside their back fences. Utility trucks and fire emergency vehicles may need to use this space for your protection. The City will take this debris at your normal trash pick up site on the first Friday of the month provided you have called 311 a week ahead to make the arrangement. Do it while it is still free! Vegetation can be taken to the Hawkins Point facility for disposal if you would rather do it yourself.

Continued on page 2 . . .

generous donation from a family in the community, and the hard work of many of our Board members. Thank you to all these contributors.

We plan to make this an annual event. If you are interested in being a part of the planning for next years event, please contact a Boardmember (contact info is

Fall General Meeting

October 15th at 7:30 pm

West Baltimore United Methodist Church
(Greenwich and Charing Cross)

Join your neighbors at the next general meeting of the Westgate Community Association. All residents are welcome! Come on out and let your voice be heard.

Refreshments and door prizes will be provided!

Next Board Meeting

November 5th at 7:30 pm

West Baltimore United Methodist Church
(Greenwich and Charing Cross)

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/. 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

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Westgate Community Association

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Trick or Treat Safety Tips!



- Children should only go out during daylight hours, unless accompanied by a responsible adult.
•Plan a safe route so parents know where older kids will be at all times. Set a time for their return home.
•Make sure children know not to cut through back alleys or fields. Children should stay in well populated and well lit areas.
•Children should not eat any treats until they get home and parents have a chance to inspect them.
•Instruct your child never to go into the home of a stranger or get into a stranger's car.
•Make sure your child has a flashlight, glow stick or reflective tape on their costume to make them visible to cars.
•When children go out without an adult, they should stay together as

Meet Your Neighbors!

It's amazing how many interesting people live in our Westgate community. John Blount, a resident of Mallow Hill is one of those interesting people! John is a trumpet virtuoso and was a former member of the Navy Commodores, the elite Navy Jazz Ensemble. John has also played lead trumpet in the Washington and Baltimore productions of Hairspray and The Producers. Most recently, John completed production on his first CD, "Better Days Ahead," featuring Dave Tucker and the New Big

Band.

Know someone interesting on your block that you would like to see featured in our newsletter? Contact Kelly at kellyjfranks@msn.com.

We're Looking for an Eagle Scout in Need of a Project!

The Westgate Community Association is looking for an Eagle Scout who is interested in doing a project to help improve the Westgate Park at North Bend.

If you are interested, please contact Linda Smith at 410-646-3959.

From the President, continued . . .

On Monday September 17, I attended a very important meeting hosted by the West Hills Community Association about gangs coming to our neighborhoods. The Southwestern Police, Dr. Bundley, representatives from the City School system and other community representatives also came to the meeting including ex-gang members. The focus was developing ways to help our young people improve their self-esteem so they won't need the gangs to feel important. There will be a special meeting on Oct. 13th presented by Debonair Productions at the Sheraton Hotel in Columbia to empower families through education. I plan to go and will report back to you at the General Meeting.

Membership dues are very important. The money is used to produce the newsletters, to rent the facility for our meetings, to keep the grass mowed at our parks and to fund community events. Don't wait, join today!

Hope to see you at our General Meeting, October 15th at 7:30pm.

Remember when we work together we can make a difference!

LSmith, President of Westgate Community Association.

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MONDAY - FRIDAY 7:30 am to 5:00 pm



S.G. Samuel Moxley

Councilman, First District Chairman, County Council

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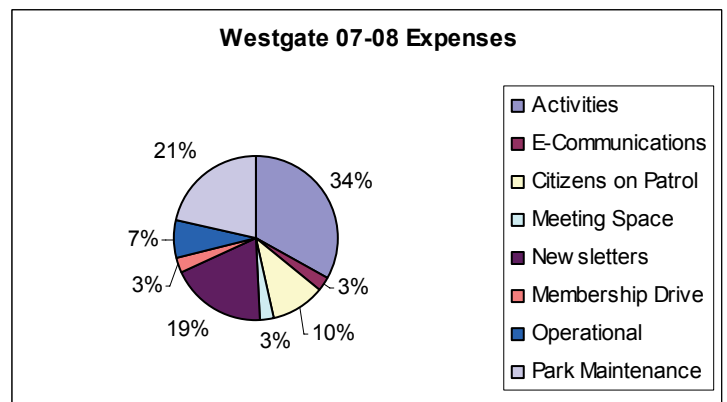
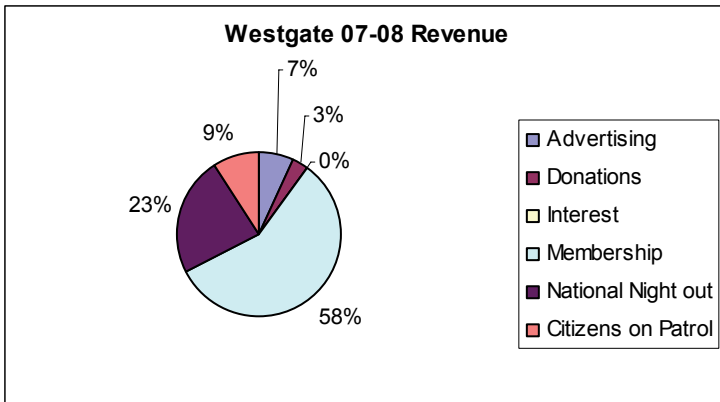


Have you joined the Westgate Community Association?

Our Community Association was incorporated in September of 1931. By joining the Westgate Community Association, you become part of a tradition of neighbors coming together to take great pride and care in our neighborhood. The Westgate Community Association holds two general meetings per year, one in May and one in October. The Community Association Newsletter is distributed to all homes in the community four times per year.

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, 2 general meetings, board meetings, and more! Unrestricted donations beyond dues are also solicited and enable funding of improved use of electronic communications, support of our Citizens On Patrol program and special events like the National Night Out Block Party.

The membership term runs 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.



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.

Please support our advertisers as they help support us !

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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:



infants with issues related to premature birth
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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."

STAY AT HOME AND HELP A SPECIAL CHILD!

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410-747-4957

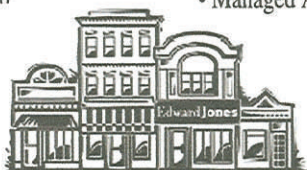
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Jason Tawney, AAMS
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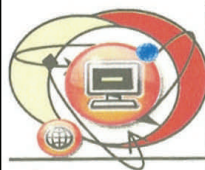
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Santa is coming to Westgate! Look for him in the Westgate Park in December! More details to come ..