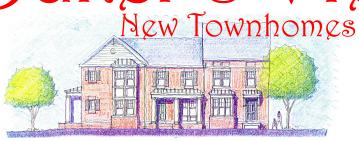
# Baker's View

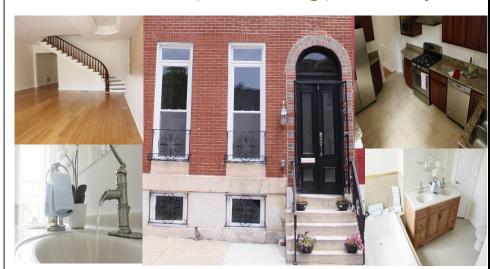


New Homes!
Centrally Located!

GATEWAY

Luxury Brownstones

Historic Charm | Green Living | Modern Style



Come Live the Excitement!



Franklin Entrepreneurial and Apprenticeship Center



www.druidheights.com

Druid Heights Community Development Corporation • 2140 McCulloh Street • Baltimore, MD 21217 • 410.523.1350

Our Mission is to cause, encourage and promote community self-empowerment through the development of economic, educational, employment and affordable housing opportunities.



# DRUID HEIGHTS NEWSLETTER

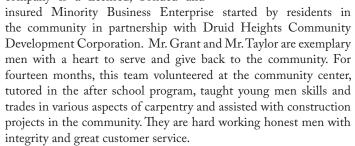


Druid Heights Community Development Corporation / 2140 McCulloh Street / Baltimore, Maryland 21217

Edition 2

## Spotlight

In our continued efforts to acknowledge residents and merchants in the community who are making significant contributions, *The Trumpet* salutes Edward Grant and Allen Taylor, Proprietors of The New Baltimore Contractors, LLC. This construction company is a licensed, bonded and





Most impressively, both men served on a committee to build a playground in the community. Their hard work and dedication demonstrated leadership ability and sparked their desire to establish a construction and contracting company designed to bring employment opportunities to the community. On April 30, 2009, they launched New Baltimore Contractors LLC and officially started rehabbing their first property that is a part of the Gateway Development. This company, Druid Heights CDC and State Farm Bank have taken a bold step of investing in a development that will bring revenue and new jobs to the community. To date, NBC has completed one moderate rehab, one total rehab and are currently completing another total rehab to a residential property.

We salute Mr. Grant and Mr. Taylor for their steadfast ability to get things done in a timely and professional manner. New Baltimore Contractors' ability to provide hands on assistance and expert project management is paramount to the organization's mission. In the past year, NBC has provided employment for as many as ten men from the community. The Druid Heights Community Development Corporation is proud to be partners with NBC and extends congratulations to Mr. Grant and Mr. Taylor for the mammoth job they are performing.



We entered the second quarter with lots of enthusiasm as the return of the Historic Pennsylvania Avenue Easter Parade was successful where over 3,000 people attended from as far as New York, Virginia and Washington, D.C. I know I speak for all of the residents when I say how proud I was to see the Avenue so alive and vibrant. Over the past thirty six years, Druid Heights CDC has grown from an organization with ten employees and limited programs to a

corporation with forty five employees and a myriad of services to benefit the community and Baltimore City at large. Druid Heights CDC is the only authorized agency in Baltimore City to assist in the process of reverse mortgage counseling. Our re-entry program for ex-offenders, a program funded in spite of the dismantling resources, is still striving. We are expanding our youth programs, housing development, commercial investments and general services to the community. Now is the time for us to extend our hands to you to join us.

As residents of this community, your contribution whether monetary or in-kind, has been invaluable to the success and growth of Druid Heights CDC. I know we can count on your continued support as we work to keep these vital programs operational. Recently, several residents in the community donated equipment to the center to be used in the beautification and sanitation program. We appreciate knowing there are residents willing to help us make a difference. You may make a financial contribution on our website at www.druidheights.com and most importantly, we count on your input at our monthly community meetings.

# Druid Heights Community CLEAN-UP DATES

Sat., Sept. 25th
Roll-Off will be placed
@ Laurens & Druid Hill Ave

Tues., Nov. 16th
Roll-Off will be placed
@ McCulloh & Gold Sts

## Monthly Community Meetings

Sat., Sept., 25th Sat., Oct. 23rd Sat., Nov. 20th Sat., Dec. 18th

All meetings begin at 1:00 p.m. in the community room.

#### WHAT'S NEWS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD!

#### Gifts In Kind Program

Druid Heights CDC is a member of the Gifts-In-Kind program extended by our partners at the Home Depot Foundation. As members, we receive gifts from area Home Depots, Office Depots, Bed Bath and Beyond and other warehouses offering goods to be distributed in the community. All of the donated gifts are dispersed at no cost and do not bring a profit to the organization. The gifts include lawn mowers, weed-whackers, construction material, tools which are used in our environmental stewards program and household items for residents in the community. Many of the gifts are given out at our monthly community meetings to residents who volunteer their support to improve the neighborhood.

#### **Boy Scouts Troop #157 Update**



Under the great leadership of Mr. Leo Burroughs, Scout Master for Troop #157 and Founder of the Roots Of Scouting Inc., boys from the community spent a week at the Broad Creek Memorial Scout Reservation in Harford County, Maryland. The boys camped outdoors and learned survival skills which qualified them for merit badges. We are proud of the boys and men who are involved with Troop #157.

#### **DRUID HEIGHTS Clean-Up Day**



On Tuesday, June 29, 2010 the entire staff of Druid Heights CDC joined sixty volunteers from the Garden Community Church to clean the streets and alleys in the community. A roll off was placed on the corner of Gold and Division Streets. Residents joined in the efforts to make the community clean and beautiful. Thirty Youth Works employees and twelve students in the Quantum Opportunities for Youth program created a clean team of 120 volunteers. This "Love Baltimore" Day was organized by Joel Kurz, Pastor of the Garden Community Church and members of the Freeland Baptist Church in South Carolina. The Garden Community church does excellent community outreach and meets on Sundays at the Eutaw Marshburn Elementary School.

## Tree Planting In the Neighborhood

Anne Draddy of Tree Baltimore accompanied Ms. Nemi Trent, Executive Director of OYO Traditions Cultural Arts Institute and members of the Druid Heights Environmental Stewards Crew to plant eleven trees in the community. Anthony Pressley, Director of Community Resources and Marshall Cullens, Community Advocate, assisted in the tree planting.



## **DRUID HEIGHTS Environmental Stewards Crew**

The community is grateful for a team of dedicated environmental stewards. Each morning the crew takes to the streets to clean, cut grass, maintain community owned properties and beautify the neighborhood. Our Environmental Crew members are Betty Alston, Reginald Brewer, Michael Cornish, Tony Griffin, Melvin Taylor and Anthony Tires. This team has made a tremendous difference in Druid Heights and have received many letters of appreciation from the residents.

#### The Return of The Easter Parade



Sunday, April 4, 2010 was a beautiful day in Baltimore as the Easter Parade returned to the historic Pennsylvania Avenue. Residents joined clergy, church congregations, neighbors and community leaders. Linda C. Richardson, Main Street Manager for Pennsylvania Avenue is to be congratulated for gathering the resources and people needed to make this day extraordinary.

## **Director of Housing Counseling** *Receives Award*



Mrs. Chloe Williams is the Director of Housing Counseling and Homeownership Opportunities for Druid Heights CDC. On Thursday, April 22, 2010 she received the "Service Above Self Award" presented by the Rotary Club in Woodlawn-Westview. Mrs. Williams moved to Baltimore in February of 2000 and joined the agency in February of 2006. Since joining the Druid Heights team, Chloe has educated numerous persons in preparing for sustainable homeownership and has helped an even greater number to retain homeownership through foreclosure prevention counseling. Chloe currently chairs the Best Practices Committee for the Maryland Housing Counselors



Network Inc. Ms. Williams is professional, polite and a pleasure to know. Druid Heights CDC congratulates Ms. Williams for the great work she performs daily.

Druid Heights CDC
Receives Recognition
for
Foreclosure Mitigation



### **Youth Program Expansion**

Druid Heights CDC introduces the Argus Program. According to data from the Baltimore City Police Department, Baltimore City deals with about 10,000 juvenile arrests per year. Juvenile crimes range from possession and distribution of drugs to assault and attempted murder. The goal of the Argus Program is to provide a researched based program focusing on a variety of social, cognitive and behavioral issues that will help youth make better decisions.

The Argus Program will increase public safety, reduce recidivism, impact youth dysfunctional thinking, impact problem solving, help youth into career internships and apprenticeships and produce productive citizens.



Pictured above are members of the staff of the Druid Heights Argus Program Lewis Hudnell, *Program Director*; Carl Long, *Senior Project Specialist*; Travian Taylor, *Project Specialist/Intern*; and Adrian Muldrow, *Asst. Director*.

### What Is Community Organizing?

Community Organizing is bringing the talents, resources, knowledge and skills of people in the community together to increase our collective power to transform ourselves, make improvements in our community and work for progressive social change. Organizing involves building relationships and consolidating perspectives, thoughts and ideas into an organizational structure. Druid Heights CDC needs your support. Please register to volunteer at the monthly community meeting. What would you like to do to help improve Druid Heights? Please feel free to contact Anthony Pressley at apressley@druidheights.com

## **DRUID HEIGHTS Re-Entry Program** *Makes A Difference*



Druid Heights CDC continues to be a beacon of light for men formerly incarcerated as we provide assistance with employment, housing, identification, substance abuse treatment, health insurance, child support and adult literacy. This makes the transition back into society less challenging. To assist the men in dealing with these issues socially and mentally, a

support group is held twice a month for the men at the community center. The Re-Entry program currently serves as many as forty men city-wide. Andre Fisher and David Williams are Program Case Managers. These men are two of the original staff persons who have been involved since the program's conception.

## **Outstanding Young Adult Grows** with **Organization**



Ms. Jessica Frazier started as a volunteer at Druid Heights CDC in May of 2009. Because of her dedication and hard work, she was hired in September 2009 as Housing Intake Specialist. Jessica received certification to become a Certified Housing Counselor in March 2010 at the Neighbor Works Training Institute in New Orleans, Louisiana. She recently received additional

certification for Foreclosure Intervention and Default Counseling. She is a mother of two sons, Nicholas and Christian. Jessica is involved in many church and civic activities and works hard each day to meet the needs of people. Druid Heights CDC is proud to have Jessica Frazier on staff because she proves that volunteering with the right spirit can open doors.

Druid Heights Community Development Corporation Frances

Second Quarter 2010 Photography by Kyle Pompey