



The Porch Light

Be a good neighbor, keep the porch light on at night!

Coldstream Homestead
Montebello Community
Corporation (CHMCC)

Volume I Issue 7

November 2008

***Next Community Meeting 7:00pm, Thurs. Nov. 13 *
@ CHMCC Building, 3220 The Alameda**

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Yes We Did

On a cool, wet and dreary autumn day the world changed. History was made and the way that we and the world views us will never be the same. This story is told in the indomitable spirit of those who never thought this day



would come. It is told in their faces, their hearts, their struggles and their lives. It is the story of 81 year old Naomi Bennett, who rose shortly before dawn on November 4th and made her way to her Montebello polling place where she stood, along with hundreds of others, for over an hour in the cool damp

morning air, for her chance to participate in history. The frailness of this woman was matched only by the determination of her spirit that this dream would no longer be deferred. I watched as Ms. Bennett spoke with others, a somber expression of purpose etched upon

her face, her joy not premature but carefully guarded as if to protect herself from the false optimism of hope which far too often in her life was just a little out of reach. I waited as Ms. Bennett cast her vote; then later as we headed to my car we spoke not a word, for you see, there was work still to be done and this

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National Memory Screening Day

**Tuesday, November 18th
1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

Coldstream Homestead
Montebello Community
Center
3220-A The Alameda,
Baltimore MD 21218

Come join us for a **free**, confidential memory screening for anyone concerned about memory problems. A screening takes 5-10 minutes.

For more information contact Christy Bullman at (410) 235-6715.

**Don't forget
to get your
flu shot!**

Community Cleanup A Big Success

Joined by (15) residents and volunteers, CHMCC continued its fight against blight by cleaning parks, alleys, vacant lots and houses and clearing illegally dumped debris from Kirk Avenue to Kennedy, and from Briscoe Park to Gorsuch Avenue.

This early morning November 8th cleanup delivered much needed support to an area in CHM that has been struggling with sanitation issues for

sometime. Many thanks to the residents that came out and participated in the effort. The CHMCC fall cleanup campaign will continue with a December 13th cleanup in the Garrett Ave area of the community.



CHMCC Presents Open Mic Night

Calling all youth and young adults...



Come out and speak your mind!!!

December 5th, 2008

7-10pm

Doors open @ 6:30pm

D.J. - 92Q

Come out and enjoy music, food and spoken word!



Get Ready For Flu Season

Flu season is among us and that means it's time for your yearly flu shot. Why is this important and who is most at risk?

The Centers for Disease Control have calculated that every winter season, up to 20% of the U.S. population gets the flu. Influenza kills an average of 36,000 Americans and puts more than 200,000 people in the hospital. Flu symptoms usually include fever, headache, extreme tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle aches, chills, nausea and sometimes even vomiting, and diarrhea. Complications of the flu can include bacterial pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections, dehydration, and worsening of chronic medical conditions. Most healthy adults may be able to infect others beginning 1 day before symptoms develop and up to 5 days after becoming sick.

In general, anyone who wants to reduce their chances of getting the flu should get vaccinated. However, there are populations at particular risk. All persons aged 6 months up to 19 years old and 50 years and older should receive a flu shot. In addition, any persons in nursing homes, those who are immune-compromised, and anyone with heart, lung or kidney disease, diabetes or other chronic disease are advised to receive a shot as well. If you live or work with anyone who fits in those categories, you too should consider receiving a shot.

There are some people who should not be vaccinated without first consulting a physician. These include people who have a severe allergy to chicken eggs, are 6 months of age or younger, and anyone who has a moderate-to-severe illness with a fever.

Some people worry that flu shots cause the flu, but rest assured that the vaccines are made with killed virus. Two weeks after vaccination, the antibodies that provide protection develop will have developed in your body.

November is still early in the season and that means it's the best time to be vaccinated. Check out one of free or affordable flu shot sites below or visit your physician.

List of Upcoming Local Flu Shots:

Waxter Center for Senior Citizens
1000 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
(410)396-1324
-Friday, November 14th from 9am-1pm

Hispanic Apostolate
430 S. Broadway Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21231
(410)534-8015
Monday, November 17th
from 10am-1pm

Action in Maturity
3900 Roland Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21211
(410)889-7915
Tuesday, November 18th
from 10am-2pm

Enoch Pratt Library
400 Cathedral St.
Baltimore, MD 21201
(410)396-5430
Friday, December 12th from 10am-1pm

CVS Pharmacy #4129
2504 N. Charles St.
Baltimore, MD 21218
(410)662-7594
-ongoing
-\$30 or co-pay according to your insurance

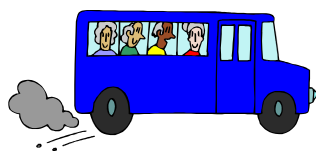
Neighborhoods for All Ages Programming

“6X Express”

We are continuing our free 6X Express shuttle rides during November. The next trip, on November 21st, will be to Food Depot on Belair Road. The following trip, on December 5th, will be to the Giant Supermarket on 33rd Avenue. The shuttle will begin picking up riders at 9:00 a.m., and can hold up to 12 riders. The shuttle can also accommodate wheel-

chairs.

Riders must sign up with Christy Bullman at 410-235-6715 at least 48 hours before departure.



“Lifelong Gathering”

Start the holiday season off right by joining others in your community for a great shopping trip to Towson Mall on Friday, November 28th from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. We will provide transportation for any who request it, however, all participants will need to sign up before November 15th.

the fourth Friday of the month, Lifelong Gathering aims to offer a range of engaging, entertaining, educational and fun events for those over sixty (although all are welcome to attend).

To RSVP or get more information, contact Christy Bullman at 410-235-6715.

What is Lifelong Gathering? Held

Visit us on the web at www.LiveInChum.org



Coldstream Homestead Montebello Helps Make History

TEAM CHM once again showed itself capable of turning out the vote. During this historic election the CHMCC “Get out the Vote” (GOTV) effort started early Election Day as Fauolay Umoja transported scores of residents in need of transportation to CHM polling locations. Christy Bullman handled the midday effort transporting seniors to the polls while Catherine Trotter,

Beth Myers-Edwards and CHMCC Executive Director Mark Washington knocked on doors a distributed the CHMCC “No Excuses” notice to hundreds of homes while Neil Abraham worked the CHMCC phone bank to drive residents out to vote. The evening rush was handled by Anthony Walters who continued transporting residents to the polls, while our marathon champions

Daisy Mclean, Mark Davis, Naomi Bennett, Leslie Adams, Claire Douglass and Leanna Wetmore braved the elements and worked the polls to keep residents upbeat and optimistic while waiting in long lines and angel of mercy Valencia James purchased snacks and drinks to make the wait more palatable for voters. It was a total TEAM effort.

Election Day

Continue from page 1

day of change was just beginning for Ms. Bennett. As we drove to the Gorsuch Ave polling precinct I asked but one question of Ms. Bennett, “are you ready?” Her answer was a short one word response that summed up her incredible strength.

“Yes!” was her answer.

We arrived at the Gorsuch Ave. polling place a little after 8:00 am, the line already stretching for two blocks; it was here that Ms. Bennett would make her stand. Despite the weather, long lines, her age and the sad disgrace of our history, Ms. Bennett would wage another battle for my future. I watched in awe as Ms Bennett handed out ballots, braved the elements and took no breaks. Her mission was clear; as she had done so many times in the past, she provided the shoulders upon which we stand.

For those like me where the word segregation is only something we study in the books of history; where civil rights and inequality are now just a footnote to the past whose success was supported on the shoulders of Ms Bennett and others like her, I owe you my life, and you are my hero. As Ms. Bennett braved the elements of that day long quest into history I realized that courage was more than audacity, that faith is only measured when challenged, that hope truly does spring eternal and the weight of our struggle was carried and delivered to us by an 81 year old woman who dared to dream.

Did you know you live in a Healthy Neighborhood? That makes you eligible for...

- a low interest/low payment home improvement loan
- a matching rehab loan program

With **HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS'** home improvement loans, between **\$5000** and **\$40,000** is available to homeowners in the **Coldstream Homestead Montebello** community with up to **\$10,000** in matching grant funds. Please note that our home improvement loans are facilitated through Bradford Bank. The rate will be one percentage point below prime, which is currently 5%.

Loan Amount	Free Matching \$\$\$	Total Amount	Avg. Monthly Payment**
\$5000	\$5000	\$10,000	\$50.62
\$6000	\$6000	\$12,000	\$60.75
\$7000	\$7000	\$14,000	\$70.87
\$8000	\$8000	\$16,000	\$81.00
\$9000	\$9000	\$18,000	\$91.12
\$10,000	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$101.25

**Average monthly payment shown based on rate of 4% fixed. Rates are subject to change.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 410-235-6715
Coldstream Homestead Montebello Community Corporation
3220-A The Alameda • Baltimore, MD 21218

Calendar of Events

Friday, November 14, 2008

10:00 am

Senior Meeting

Tuesday, November 18, 2008

1:00pm –6:00 pm

National Memory Screening

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

1:00pm –6:00 pm

NE District Police Meeting
Good Samaritan Hospital

Friday November 21, 2008

9:00 am

6X Express - Shuttle to Food Depot

(Free to adults over 60)

Call 410-235-6715 for information

Tuesday, November 25, 2008

7:00 pm

Community Thanksgiving Dinner
Call 410-235-6715 for information

Friday November 28, 2008

10:00 am

Lifelong Gathering

Towson Mall shopping trip

Wednesday December 3,

9:00 am—5:00 pm

Job Readiness Workshop

Friday December 5, 2008

7:00 pm—10:00 pm

Open Mic Night

This is a community event for youth and young adults to come and enjoy music, food and spoken word. If you would like to perform please call us.

***All events at**

3220 The Alameda unless otherwise noted.*

November 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

The Porch Light is the monthly newsletter for the Coldstream Homestead Montebello community. Neighbors are encouraged to submit articles, ideas, comments etc. to the Porch Light. Please submit your thoughts using one of the methods below:

Mail: 3220-A The Alameda, Baltimore MD 21218
Phone: 410-235-6715 Fax: 410-235-7456
E-mail: LivInChum@verizon.net

Volunteer Opportunities

For more information call 410.235.6715

**\$5000-\$10,000 Matching grant with
Healthy Neighborhood loan still available.
For information Call 410.235.6715**

Visit us on the web at www.LivInChum.org