



**Hamilton Festival 2017** - Saturday July 29th from Noon - 6:00pm. Come out and join your neighbors for summer music, food, and activity on the 5400 and 5500 blocks of Harford Rd. Celebrate Main Street's new clock, make a mosaic sunflower tile, or just hang out at our neighborhood's booth and catch up on local news. There's plenty to see and do.

And for all the artists and night owls out there, 2:30am that morning is when you can help paint this year's sunflowers across the intersection of Harford and Hamilton.

■ PHOTO: Sunflowers being painted the night before Hamilton Fest 2016

**Find more Hamilton online!**

*[www.HamiltonHillsMD.org](http://www.HamiltonHillsMD.org)*

*[www.Facebook.com/HamiltonHillsBaltimore](http://www.Facebook.com/HamiltonHillsBaltimore)*

*Twitter: @HamiltonHills*

## AUGUST EVENTS

**Tuesday 8/1 6:30 at Lake Montebello**

National Night Out against crime, hosted by Councilman Scott, provides free food, school backpacks give aways, a bounce house and more.

**Wednesday 8/16 7:30-8:30 at HARBEL**

Hamilton Hills' Monthly Meeting, with guest Joseph Chamberlin to answer your questions about community mediation and Guest Eliza Kurtz from the Chesapeake Climate Action Network, who is asking for HHNA's support for pollution and green jobs policy.

**Thursday 8/24 7:00 at Hamilton Elementary School**

3rd District Town Hall, hosted by Councilman Dorsey.

**Thursday 8/31 4:00-6:00 at (various locations)**

Baltimore City Schools' PreK/K open houses. Check with your local school for details. Don't know your local school? Check [BaltimoreCitySchools.org](http://BaltimoreCitySchools.org)

## SEPTEMBER EVENTS

**Monday 9/4**

Labor Day Holiday

**Tuesday 9/5**

Baltimore City Schools' first day for 2017-18 year.

**Wednesday 9/20 7:30-8:30 at HARBEL**

Hamilton Hills neighborhood association monthly meeting, with guest Regina Lansinger to talk about this year's Derby and planning for Halloween in Hamilton!

**Wednesday 9/27 at Baltimore's Convention Center**

The Mayor's Employment & Job Readiness Convention starts 30 days of Job Readiness activities in the city. Visit [WorkBaltimore.baltimorecity.gov](http://WorkBaltimore.baltimorecity.gov) or call 410-396-9897 for details

## YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER? by Gavin Schmitt

Every three months, a dozen volunteers get together to hand deliver 1,600 newsletters to their neighbors doorsteps. However, before that can happen, the newsletter has to be written and laid out for the printer. That responsibility has largely fallen on me since 2015. HHNA is a lot bigger than it was back then and, as president, everything from our troubled property management system to managing our weekly public safety walk demands my involvement. It is simply not possible for me to maintain the newsletter without support.

Hamilton Hills' newsletter is one of the last printed newsletters in the city. It is a valuable tool for keeping in touch with our neighbors who do not use email or social media and it also helps us connect with new residents who wouldn't otherwise know we are here to help. With your help, we can keep it going strong. If you are able to write articles, or even just collect information to use each month, please contact [SecretaryHHNA@gmail.com](mailto:SecretaryHHNA@gmail.com)

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## THE HAMILTON ROVERS

Each week, the Baltimore City Police put a patrol car in our neighborhood and we share that car's direct cell number across a list of dog walkers, joggers, and porch sitters. This gives each volunteer quick access to our police for the smaller suspicious activities that would otherwise wait hours for attention.

We are working to expand this program and plan to host a monthly (or quarterly) 'Coffee with a Cop' event at Mutt Mart, schedule safety walks in our high conflict areas, and integrate with the existing NECOP program.

If you are interested in joining this program, or want to be involved in our Public Safety Committee, email:

[PresidentHHNA@gmail.com](mailto:PresidentHHNA@gmail.com)

## HELP WITH PAYING WATER BILLS

Water bills will increase by 9.4 percent. This means an account with a 5/8 inch meter and using 7 units of water each month, would go from \$76.88 to \$84.03. Bay Restoration and Stormwater fees are not increasing.

If you or someone you know is having trouble paying your water bills, there are several programs in the city that you may qualify for. Don't wait — it is possible to lose your home to a tax sale if you can't pay your water bill!

The Hardship Exemption Program exempts eligible customers from paying the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fee and the Stormwater Remediation Fee. Homeowners and tenants must meet at least two of the following conditions:

- *Receives energy assistance subsidy*
- *Receives public assistance - Supplemental Security*
- *Receives Income (SSI) or food stamps, and medical assistance*
- *Receives veterans, social security or social security disability benefits.*

For more information, call 410-396-5398 or visit:

[publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/hardship-exemption-program](http://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/hardship-exemption-program)

The Senior Citizen Water Bill Assistance Program allows seniors who qualify to receive a 43% discount on their water and sewer rates. In addition, seniors who receive the discount will be automatically enrolled in the hardship program that waives the Bay Restoration and Stormwater fee. The senior must be at least 65 years of age and have annual income of \$30600 or less.

For more information, visit:

[publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/senior-citizen-water-bill-assistance-program](http://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/senior-citizen-water-bill-assistance-program)

If you have already received delinquent, turn-off, or tax sale notice due to your account being in arrears, do not wait. The Low Income Water Assistance Program may help. Contact the Department of Public Works to set up a payment plan. You may be eligible for a credit of \$216.

For more information, visit:

[publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/low-income-water-bill-assistance-program](http://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/low-income-water-bill-assistance-program)

This is just a summary of programs, not a detailed description of eligibility. Please check with the appropriate agencies to determine your eligibility!

## ATTENTION NEIGHBORS

If you receive an "Urgent Notice to speak with you about your property" Be alert! This may be a scam designed to pressure seniors into selling their homes. If you are serious about selling your home and need an agent, you can call the Maryland Real Estate Commission to get a licensed Real Estate Agent.

## RETURN OF THE "C" WORD

Many community associations rely on committees to get their important work done. In Hamilton Hills, public safety, zoning and licensing concerns, community greening, and nuisance property management are all juggled by the Block Captains. While the Captains do an excellent job, and five are also Board members, having so many responsibilities has started to form bottlenecks. Help ensure more people are keeping their eyes on specific responsibilities and consider joining one of our new committees:

**Communications Committee** - we are looking for ambassadors to welcome neighbors to join our social media platforms, email lists, and to welcome people to our monthly meetings when they join those platforms. We have one ambassador for Nextdoor.com but more are welcome and we could use your help maintaining our twitter and instagram presence.

**Docs & Policy Committee** - have you written or edited a process book? From the steps we take to draft a legislative proposal to the procedure we follow when a resident has a conflict with a city employee, HHNA's Board uses dozens of processes each month. Many of these processes are half written, or not formally recorded at all and we could use your help organizing!

Interested? Email [PresidentHHNA@gmail.com](mailto:PresidentHHNA@gmail.com)

## NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Please welcome John Fowler and Robin Redding to HHNA's Board of Directors. These neighbors were appointed to the Board during our summer Board meeting for their professional and volunteer experience. John was already our neighborhood's liaison to NECOP and will become chair of our new public safety committee. Robin was already our Baltimore RENEW representative and will be involved in our work to resolve housing concerns.



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[facebook.com/hamiltonemusic](https://facebook.com/hamiltonemusic)

# WELCOME Pastor Ronald Dodson, Sr.

*(previously serving at West Baltimore UMC)*

Faith Community is pleased to announce our new pastoral appointment as of July 2, 2017 – stop by for Sunday worship and meet him!



*Worship time remains  
10 AM on Sundays*

*Eastern UMC worships  
Sundays at 11:30 AM*



Eastern UMC & Faith Community UMC  
5315 Harford Road

All are welcome – see you there!

## LOOKING AHEAD



It's official! Hamilton-Lauraville is a Neighborhood Lights community in Light City Baltimore 2018!

Look for community meetings, volunteer opportunities, and more to come during the months leading up to the big launch in April 2018

## FIRST FRIDAYS IN HAMILTON

Rain or shine, Mutt Mart is hosting a free summer concert series on first Fridays at 2904 Hamilton Ave. Music runs from 5:00 - 8:00 pm and friendly leashed dogs are welcome to attend.



Renew your **2017 Membership!** Please pay your \$10 dues at your next meeting, on our website [HamiltonHillsMD.org](http://HamiltonHillsMD.org) or mail "attn HHNA" at **5807 Harford Rd, Baltimore, MD 21214**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer:  Block Captain  Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Community Resources

Rodent problems, clogged storm drains, open fire hydrants, flooding, housing violations, abandoned vehicles, traffic signals & signs, park maintenance, bulk trash collection, street & alley cleaning, graffiti removal and sanitation enforcement call: **311**

- Community affairs .....410-396-5819
- Homeless shelters .....410-361-4677
- Lead paint abatement ....410-396-5716
- Illegal drug activity .....410-666-DRUG
- Potholes .....443-324-6926
- Energy assistance .....410-396-5555
- Recycling schedule .....410-396-5916

## Contact Information

Mayor Catherine Pugh  
City Hall Room #250, 100 N Holiday st  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
mayor@baltimorecity.gov  
410-396-3835

City Council President "Jack" Young  
councilpresident@baltimorecity.gov

Tony Savage - *City Council President's  
Neighborhood Relations Liaison*  
410-396-4826 (o) 410-926-6938 (m)

3rd District Councilman Ryan Dorsey  
ryan.dorsey@baltimorecity.gov  
410-396-4812

NE Police Major Milton Snead  
milton.snead@baltimorepolice.org  
410-396-2440

NE Community Police Liaison Sgt Harty  
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410-3889-6499

45 District Delegate Cory McCray  
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## HHNA Board contacts

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