

August 2009

# UPCOUNTY Today



*Bringing the County Closer to You!*

Isiah Leggett, County Executive  
Timothy L. Firestine, Chief Administrative Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director  
Robert Thompson, UCAB Chair

## Upcounty Board Focuses for 2009-2010

The Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board (UCAB) will kick off their year on September 21, 2009 with an overview of the County's growth policy which is being reviewed now by the Planning Board for updating. The policy dictates how development is guided in the County in terms of traffic, school congestion, etc. Then Planning Board recommendations will go to the County Council for review and action. UCAB recently forwarded to County Executive Leggett their Upcounty priorities for the coming year which included keeping a variety of road projects on schedule, upgrading the County's traffic management system, an enhanced water and sewer maintenance and replacement program, the Corridor Cities Transitway, and a number of other projects. See the Board's letter at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/upcounty](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/upcounty). The Board plans to focus this year on economic development, coordination of master plans, traffic, and affordable housing.

This summer, the board welcomed new members Nick Alexander (Gaithersburg), Natalia Farrar (Shady Grove), James King (Montgomery Village), Andrew Einsmann (Germantown), and Cherian Eapen (Clarksburg). Former board chairs, Ms. Tobi Printz-Platnick and Dr. Kevin Schwartz retired this year after serving six years each. Former members James Schultz, Tim Warner and Loretta Schmitzer resigned during the past couple of years due to job obligations. For a complete listing of members and the meeting schedule, visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/upcounty](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/upcounty).

**CELEBRATE GERMANTOWN**

admission **FREE!**

When: August 15, 2009 (Saturday)  
Where: Germantown Town Center  
Time: 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm

- Retail Sidewalk Sale!
- Food Vendors!
- Face Painting!
- Giveaways!
- Moon Bounce!

**BlackRock Blast Off**  
4:30pm - 6:30pm  
Open House  
Sample Classes, Gallery Exhibit, Arts Activities and More!

7:00pm - 8:00pm  
Grammy award-winners  
Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer  
in concert

**BLACK ROCK CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

Sponsored By:

- Upcounty Regional Services Center
- BlackRock Center for the Arts
- Germantown Business Consortium
- Germantown Positive Youth Development Initiative

Businesses: For participation and information, call (240)-777-8042

See inside for more details!

### 2009-2010 UCAB Schedule

All meetings are held in Conference Room A of the Upcounty Regional Services Center from 7:00 p.m. ~ 9:00 p.m., unless noted otherwise. Meetings are open to the public.

<b>September 21</b>	<b>February 8</b>
<b>October 19</b>	<b>March 15</b>
<b>November 16</b>	<b>April 19</b>
<b>December 21</b>	<b>May 17</b>
<b>January 11</b>	<b>June 7</b>

### Inside This Issue

UCAB's 2009-2010 Focuses	1
Celebrate Germantown!	2
Buy Local Upcounty!	2
Germantown Flea Market	2
Hispanic Heritage Month	3
National Night Out	3
Oktoberfest	4

## Celebrate Germantown!

The Upcounty Regional Services Center invites you to join us on "Main Street" on Saturday, August 15 between 2:00pm and 8:00pm as town merchants, BlackRock Center for the Arts, and others take time out to celebrate Germantown Town Center! Grab some popcorn, cotton candy and other treats as you enjoy a sampling of music, classes, gallery exhibits and other arts activities showcased by the BlackRock Center for the Art. Visit the Germantown Community Library to check out that book to end the summer with. Take in a matinee at the Regal (Hoyts) Cinema Germantown Stadium 14. And most importantly, take a moment to visit some of the shops and tell them how much they're appreciated. Then finish the evening with the last performance of BlackRock's free summer concert series, Grammy-award winning folk duo

Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer! The concert begins at 7pm. Don't miss the fun! For more information, call the Center at 240-777-8000.



## Buy Local Upcounty!

Executive Ike Leggett kicked off the County's "Buy Local Challenge" by recognizing 13 area farmers who offer a variety of fresh produce, meats, wine, and other specialty foods to our residents and markets. An informal survey of 17 Upcounty restaurants and grocers found that 11 of them get some of their foods from the Agricultural Reserve. The Governor and Mr. Leggett have issued a challenge to residents to incorporate at least one locally-grown, produced, or harvested food into our meals each day which will help to preserve our farmland, protect the environment, keep money in our community, and provide fresh nutritious food for healthy living.



## Germantown Flea Market



Each month from April - November, the Boyds Historical Society, together with the Germantown Historical Society and the Menare Foundation, sponsor a flea market on the first Saturday of the month from 8:00 - 1:00 at the Germantown MARC station lot. Vendors are always welcome; no pre-registration is required, and spaces are available for \$15.00 on a first-come, first-served basis. Vendors should arrive by 7:00 to get a space. During the summer months, many of our regular volunteers are away and we need reinforcements to help keep this event going. If anyone is willing or able to volunteer, or knows of others who may be, please call 301-461-4646, for more information. **MCPS students may earn SSL hours for participating in this event!**

This event is a lot of fun and it helps BHS keep our local history projects funded each year. Donations of items for our flea market table also are always appreciated. Thank you for your support!

### Important Dates:

#### Germantown Sector Plan

(Please check the County Council's webpage at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council) for dates.)

#### Gaithersburg West Master Plan

September 15, 2009

#### Annual Growth Policy

(Please check the County Council's webpage at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council) for dates.)

## HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

### SAVE THE DATE

## Montgomery County's Hispanic Heritage Month Kick-Off

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

4PM-6PM

Executive Office Building, Auditorium

101 Monroe Street, Rockville, MD

Keynote: Dr. Mark Hugo Lopez, Pew Hispanic Center

### PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO YOUR NETWORKS

Hosted by the Montgomery County Government Hispanic Employees Association, MCPS Hispanic Employees Association, Montgomery College, various community-based organizations, and the County Executive's Office of Community Partnerships.



Sign up for Alert Montgomery (<https://alert.montgomerycountymd.gov/index.php>)

and register to receive emergency alerts about weather, roads, emergency situations or all three – from one or more of your devices: including computer, cell phone, Blackberry or other PDA.

## 26th Annual National Night Out (NNO), Tuesday, August 4, 2009

The City of Gaithersburg joined more than 15,000 communities across the country to participate in the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night (NNO) Against Crime campaign.

On Tuesday, August 4 from 6 to 9 p.m., participating neighborhoods held events to help increase drug prevention awareness, generate support for anti-crime programs, encourage residents to be involved within their communities, and send the message that neighborhoods are organized to fight back against crime. NNO programs help bring together residents, law enforcement agencies, local officials, civic group, and neighborhood organizations. Along with the traditional display of outdoor lights and front porch vigils, many communities celebrated with a variety of events to help neighbors get to know one another and build community spirit. Participating neighborhoods in Gaithersburg included East Deer Park, Olde Towne, Saybrooke, Brighton Village, Quince Orchard Park, and West Riding. The Gaithersburg Police Department distributed Child Identikit for home use and was on hand with other resources. McGruff the Crime Dog also made an appearance.



For information on National Night Out in general, visit [www.nationaltownwatch.org/nno/](http://www.nationaltownwatch.org/nno/).

## Oktoberfest--27 Years Young

The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Germantown Oktoberfest will again be located at Ridge Road Park in Germantown. Enthusiastic committee members have been working feverishly to solicit event sponsors and to obtain a wider variety of craft and food vendors. The all-day Saturday event, will kick-off on **Saturday, October 3rd at 11:00 a.m.** with music from the Alte Kameraden German Band which will warm up the crowd with rousing German music. Media sponsors, WJLA TV and News Channel 8 will emcee the traditional opening ceremonies which will include the presentation of colors by the Seneca Valley High School Junior ROTC Color Guard and the Pledge of Allegiance led by local Scouts, will begin at 11:30 am. Fifth District Police awards to outstanding officers will also be presented. German folk music and dancing will continue after the ceremonies. And at 3:00 pm the Montgomery Village Community Band will play an array of popular music and German umpa tunes. Through-out the day and evening, there will be traditional German entertainment and music, kids' games and crafts, pumpkin-painting, scarecrow-making, and scrumptious food. The Black Rock Center for the Arts will sponsor the community stage bringing local entertainers to the fest. The County Department of Recreation will host a "futsal" tournament featuring local high school teams who will be eligible for special prizes. The Gaithersburg-Germantown Jaycees will be in charge of the beer garden this year and will use the proceeds to finance their many community programs.



The U.S. Navy Cruisers will play a variety of rock 'n roll favorites during the evening entertainment and will offer dancing opportunities for those who want to rock their socks off on the dance floor! The grand finale of the evening will be a fantastic fire works display beginning shortly after dark.

Supporting Germantown HELP by bringing a non-perishable food items is a new opportunity for those attending Oktoberfest. JK Movers has offered the use of a truck that will be parked near the Oktoberfest bus stop at Ridge Road Park to accept donations.

Free shuttle buses will transport festival goers from a satellite lot at Seneca Meadows Parkway generously provided by Minkoff Group.

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## Gaithersburg West Master Plan Approved by Planning Board

The Planning Board approved the vision for the western part of Gaithersburg on July 16 setting the stage for review and approval by the County Executive and County Council in the near future. The Gaithersburg West Master Plan articulates a vision for the Shady Grove Life Sciences Center and the area surrounding it, building upon the county's largest concentration of advanced technology companies, Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, and the Johns Hopkins-Montgomery and University of Maryland Shady Grove campuses. The plan acknowledges the county commitment to this thriving employment area, as well as to the life sciences, and provides a blueprint for the institutions to expand with market demand. The present life sciences center is a sprawling, single-use, auto-oriented area which will be transformed into a more compact mixed-use community to include housing, rapid transit and supporting amenities. The plan envisions a more dynamic and walkable area with growth tied to the planned Corridor Cities Transitway. There will be a public hearing on September 15 at 7:00 pm at the County Council. The Planning, Housing, and Economic Development Committee of the County Council will be briefed on the land use and transportation overviews of the plan on September 29. For more information access the county website at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov).



## Damascus Community Museum Opens



"Celebrate Damascus" had even more reason for celebration when the new Damascus Community Museum opened its doors for the first time to coincide with that event on July 11. The last minute approval by the County gave museum board members only hours to put together their first exhibit with items mostly from the collection of Eloise and Tucky Woodfield. Volunteers from the greater Damascus community have been working for over three years to bring the dream of a museum to recognize the farming heritage of the area to fruition. From applying for and obtaining a state grant, obtaining a surplus portable classroom from Montgomery County Public Schools, fund-raisers, buying and bartering services and supplies to the final touches of painting and installing signs, this group has never lost site of their objective and managed to combine their endeavors with a good bit of community fun. Their next goals include obtaining land for a permanent location, soliciting donations of cash and historical items, cataloging collections, and designing rotating displays. New members are welcome! For more information, contact Ray or Linda Olsen, 301-253-1811, or write inquires to P.O. Box 218, Damascus, MD 20872.

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 Germantown, Beallsville, Barnesville, Poolesville, Comus  
 and Dickerson

Vacant— Program Specialist

### Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board

<b>Robert Thompson</b> Chair Darnestown	<b>Bradley Davis</b> North Potomac
<b>Joel M. Cockrell</b> First Vice Chair Damascus	<b>George Donovan</b> Shady Grove
<b>Robert Owolabi</b> Second Vice Chair Boys	<b>Cherian Eapen</b> Clarksburg
<b>Nick Alexander</b> Gaithersburg	<b>Andrew Einsmann</b> Germantown
<b>Joanne Atay</b> Germantown	<b>Natalia Farrar</b> Shady Grove
<b>Andres Aviles</b> Germantown	<b>James King</b> Montgomery Village
<b>Heinz Bachman</b> Dickerson	<b>Matthew Leakan</b> Germantown
<b>Terramika Bellamy</b> Clarksburg	<b>Doug Noble</b> Damascus
<b>Juan Cardenas</b> Gaithersburg	<b>Christopher Snead</b> Darnestown
	<b>Brenda Whitehurst</b> Potomac
	<b>Rebecca Walker</b> Germantown

## Did you know?



**Question:** What does the first letter of a radio station's call sign mean?

**Answer:** The location of the station

**Useless Fact:** Generally, in the United States, call signs begin with K west of the Mississippi River, and W to the east.

**Question:** Where was the first McDonald's located?

**Answer:** Arcada, California

**Useless Fact:** Brothers Dick and Mac McDonald opened a hot dog stand called the Airdome at the airport in Monrovia, California. In 1940, the brothers moved to San Bernardino, California, on Route 66. After noting that almost all of their profits came from hamburgers, the brothers close down the restaurant for several months in 1948 to implement their innovative "Speedee Service System", a streamlined assembly line for hamburgers.

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