

# UPCOUNTY

Bringing the County Closer to You!

## Today



Newsletter ~ November 2009

Isiah Leggett, County  
Timothy L. Firestone, Chief Administrative Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director  
Robert C. Thompson, UCAB Chair

## MontgomeryWorks One-Stop Career Center Relocates

The MontgomeryWorks One-Stop Career Center that was located in LakeForest Mall has relocated to the UpCounty Regional Services Center located at 12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown. The new One-Stop in Germantown will presently serve individuals who used the LakeForest facility, as well as other UpCounty residents.

Services available at the new Career Center include a variety of job-search tools and services, including access to electronic job listings, workshops on resume writing, interviewing and other job search skills, job fairs and career information.

"This move allows us to expand services to those individuals looking for employment and employers looking for qualified workers," said Barbara Kaufmann, Department of Economic Development's (DED) Division of Workforce Services Manager. "The new Center includes a resource room with computers to aid individuals in their job search, a computer training classroom and general training room. The new location also will provide easier access for UpCounty residents."

Montgomery County operates two One-Stop Career Centers through DED's Division of Workforce Services. In addition to the UpCounty site, there is a One-Stop Center located at 11002 Veirs Mill Road in Wheaton, which has served area job seekers and employers for nearly 10 years. The mission of MontgomeryWorks is to assist Montgomery County residents entering or re-entering the workforce and meet the current and future workforce needs of the County's local employers. Funded by federal and county workforce investment funds, the One-Stop Career Centers serve over 10,000 job seekers and employers annually.

The One-Stop Centers are fully staffed resource centers providing daily job listings and access to computers, printers, and fax and copy machines to aid job seekers. Labor market information, career development workshops, career counseling, and training referrals to eligible job seekers are also available. A large and diverse pool of skilled and qualified job seekers ready for hire is maintained and updated for County employers.

To reach the Upcounty MontgomeryWorks Center, you can call 240-777-2050; online at [www.mwejobs.com](http://www.mwejobs.com). The Center hours are Monday—Thursday, 8:30 am—5:00 pm and Friday, 8:30 am—3:00 pm.



## America Recycles Day

The Upcounty Regional Services Center will once again partner with the Division of Solid Waste Services in hosting an America Recycles Day (paper shredding and household good donation event) for the Up-county.

The event will be held at Upcounty Regional Services Center on **Saturday, November 14, from 10am to 2pm.**



..more details inside..

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## America Recycles Day

County residents will have the opportunity to shred and recycle their personal papers and donate clean, usable clothing and household goods on November 14 and 15 at various locations in the county. All types of paper such as financial and legal documents, receipts and tax and medical records will be accepted. No plastic or electronic items such as credit cards, cd's or computer disks should be included. The limit per car is five bags or small boxes. On **Saturday, November 14 the Upcounty** and Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Centers will offer free shredding services from **10:00 am to 2:00 pm**. They will also serve as collection centers for clothing and household items that will benefit the Viet-Nam Veterans of America. On Sunday, November 15, John F. Kennedy and Walt Whitman High Schools will provide the same services from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Services will be provided by Office Paper Systems, the Arc of Montgomery County Thrift Store, Lupus Foundation of America, Vietnam Veterans of America and the National Children's Center, Inc. For more information, contact Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling) or call **240-777-6410**.

## Community Meeting to Discuss the Design Plan for Casey 6 and 7

The Department of General Services' Office of Planning and Development and the Upcounty Regional Service Center met with the community on October 21 regarding the design plan for the Casey 6 and 7 properties which were purchased by the County earlier this year. The parcels are located at the intersection of Shady Grove Road and the extension of Crabbs Branch Way. Following a community meeting on July 20, county staff and a team from the Baker and Associates engineering firm began the site planning based on county needs for the site, its topography, and community input. The site will house the Equipment and Maintenance Operations Center (EMOC), Highway Maintenance and the day laborer center which are currently located at the county service park on Crabbs Branch Way. It is expected that the design will be completed by June 2010 and that construction will be completed by January 2012. Community concerns that are being addressed include heat generated by the amount of impervious service needed on the site, locations of fueling areas, noise mitigation, pedestrian access to The Grove Shopping Center and to Metro and the benefits to the adjoining communities, especially an area of the Town of Washington Grove that abuts the property. Many innovative and state-of-the-art solutions are being proposed by the engineers including green roofs on the EMOC and Highway Maintenance structures, berms, increased trees and other dense vegetation, and covered parking. Community benefits will include a wider buffer area between homes and the current Roberts Oxygen site, preservation of wetlands, improved noise mitigation, and more attractive vistas from Shady Grove Road. County staff and the engineers will continue to meet with the community to share developments. Future meetings will be on October 27 and November 10 at the Park and Planning training center located at 16641 Crabbs Branch Way at 7:30 pm. For information contact Nancy Hislop at [nancy.hislop@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:nancy.hislop@montgomerycountymd.gov)

## Community Service Day Project at URSC

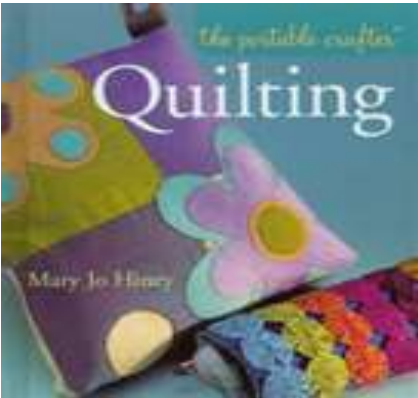
The URSC office staff organized a food drive for Saint Martin's Church food pantry as its annual Community Service Day project this year. The pantry distributes over two hundred bags of groceries to individuals every Monday and, as with other similar organizations, has experienced a marked increase in the demand for their program. Over sixty grocery bags of non-perishable food items were collected from agencies within the URSC as well as at the Germantown Town Center Giant Food store on Saturday, October 24. Program Managers Nona Watson and Nancy Hislop commented that "The generosity of donors was truly amazing. Many expressed their thankfulness that they had jobs and could afford to give in these hard times."



## Imaginative Approaches to Budget Constraints

County agencies are looking for ways to continue to serve residents of the county while operating under current budget constraints and Damascus is taking the lead in the upcounty area with some recent events. Damascus Library Agency Supervisor Karen Miller and her staff assisted the evening hosts, the Friends of the Library and the Library Advisory Board, who staged an interactive "Mystery in the Stacks" gathering inviting the public to join them in solving an unnamed crime and identifying its perpetrator. About 55 people joined in the fun for an evening of sleuthing and eating delicious appetizers. Guests milled through the stacks searching for clues, discussing their theories and questioning the seven costumed characters. At the end of the evening their conclusions were submitted. About eight of the guests guessed correctly with Les Cannon of Damascus winning the grand prize for the most complete solution and Amy Alapati receiving the consolation prize for the most creative wrong answer. The FOL and LAB hope to sponsor three additional events this year to supplement reduced library programming and are confident that they will attract even more residents as the word gets out that a merry time was had by all.

The Damascus Senior Center also sponsored a "sewless" comforter class. Attendees enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon, transforming two pieces of fleece into beautiful reversible throws. Sandra Whitaker, a craft instructor who resides in Damascus, volunteered to teach the class. She says, "If you have fun and love your comforter, than I have successfully done my job." Both teenagers and adults participated in the class using a variety of fabric designs including Redskin and autumn themes. One young lady made a camouflage comforter for her father who accompanied her and helped with the project.



Participants in both events said that they are looking forward to future programs which will include gardening workshops and craft classes.

## In Observance of....

Montgomery County government will observe the following holiday schedule for Veterans' Day on Wednesday, November 11:

**County Offices** -- closed

**Libraries** -- closed

**County liquor stores** – all stores open regular hours

**Ride On** – weekday schedule

**Metrobus** – weekday schedule

**Metrorail** – 5 a.m. to midnight

**Parking** at public garages, lots, curbside meters – free

**Refuse/recycling pick-up** – regular collection

**Transfer Station** – open

**MCPS Administrative Offices** – open

**State Offices & courts** – closed

**County Use of Public Facilities (CUPF)** - open

**MontgomeryWorks Career Center**—closed



## FYI~

### New at the Department of Police:

[Citizen Online Reporting](#) - Montgomery County Police are now offering an online citizen reporting service which will make filing police reports much easier and faster. Citizens can now file theft, lost property, vandalism, and identity theft reports wherever there is internet access.

### Foreclosure Prevention Educational Workshop

At the Upcounty Regional Services Center  
12900 Middlebrook Road, Room B  
Thursday, November 12, 2009  
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

**Upcounty Regional Services Center Team**  
12900 Middlebrook Road, Suite 1000  
Germantown, MD 20874  
240-777-8000  
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[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/upcounty](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/upcounty)

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Laytonsville, and North Potomac

Nona Watson — Community Development Specialist  
Germantown, Beallsville, Barnesville, Poolesville, Comus  
and Dickerson

Vacant— Program Specialist

#### Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board

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## Did you know?



Compost benefits the soil where it is used by improving drainage and moisture absorption, especially in soils that are otherwise poor quality. This makes growing in various types of soils easier and more productive. Compost also benefits the plant matter grown in the soil by providing nutrients to the plant's growing area.

Compost does not make an effective fertilizer for vegetable and ornamental plants, but it helps reduce runoff, making the use of fertilizer more productive and keeping it out of the water. Environmentally, the use of compost has been shown to remediate, or clean up, contaminated soils by reducing toxic runoffs, binding certain toxins that might otherwise escape, and it prevents erosion when used near roadways, lakes, rivers, and streams. In addition to the biological, chemical, and environmental benefits of compost, the use of compost creates economic benefits. Using compost reduces the amount of fertilizer, water, and pesticides needed to produce healthy plants, and it is cheaper than artificial soils.

Complimentary Compost Bins are available at the **Upcounty Regional Services Center**. Please call 240-777-8000, Monday thru Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm to pick one up!

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