

The Courier

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 5

MAY 2021



May President's Message

Greetings to our Greater Mondawmin friends, family and business members. As you are aware the Maryland Legislative session has ended. Happy Mother's Day to our members and residents of the Greater Mondawmin Community.



We want to thank our State representatives for the great work while in session this past year 967 Senate Bills and 1,380 house bills of those were:

HBCU for Life: Funding of Settlement of the Discrimination HBCU Lawsuit sponsored by the House. As you may know this has been a long time coming as a result of overriding the Governor's Veto our four HBCU institutions of higher learning has finally received their just do funding. Bowie State, \$16,790,700; Morgan State, \$24,003,200; Coppin State Univ. \$9,000,000; and University of Maryland Eastern Shore \$9,693,600 for UMES all well-deserved and long awaited. **Police Reform**

which was vetoed by the Governor in the previous session, but over ridden by both Chambers for a 2021 passage. **Juvenile Justice Reform:** Maryland will abolish life sentences without possibility of parole for juveniles. Also, previously vetoed by the Governor. **Pandemic Relief:** Passage of \$1 billion + in pandemic relief, which includes more than \$178 million in direct payments to more than 400,000 state residents. **Expansion of Voting Rights:** Maryland voters will have the option to have mail-in ballots automatically sent to them for all elections. The state will increase the number of early voting sites. These along with other Legislative bills that were passed in the 2021 session is available in the Maryland site. Also, your Senator Hayes, is available to inform you of these and others.

COVID -19 PANDEMIC: There has been an increase of vaccine locations and sign up locations available throughout Baltimore City. Please register for the Next Door Mondawmin site for some of these.

SMALL BUSINESS MEMBERS: Due to the current COVID 19 pandemic, a large number of our community small business members has encountered a financial impact. However, there has been an extension to the Pay Check Protection Plan through May 31st.

SICK & SHUT-IN AND DECEASED: Within the past three months COVID 19 pandemic, has taken the life of a number of our relatives and friends. GMCC would like to offer our condolences, for those passed and prayers for those whom are sick and you are unable to visit.

GMCC JUNE QUARTELY MEETING: Notice will be with coming for the date and time of the GMCC June quarterly meeting. We ask that the Affiliate organizations continue to meet and provide us with your updates for projects and programs. We want to spread the word for support of your events/activities. GMCC Free Plant, Health & Wellness Resource Day will be June 5th, 12 pm—4pm.

Trust in him at all times...pour out your heart before him.

Psalm 62:8

Peace & Blessings,

Hutchinson, President



We are all in this together, Stay Safe

Earth Day At The Urban Oasis



Earth Day with Urban Oasis April 22nd was a chilly Earth Day but there was enough warmth in the Panway for The Urban Oasis. They broke ground in their reclaimed lot, at Dukeland and Windsor, to plant flowers.



Johnathon Kreese from BGE generously volunteered the use of a backhoe and dump truck to make the work easier. Digging by hand would have extended the dig from 15 minutes to potentially hours and days! Their simple contribution exemplifies the type of partnerships and involvement and work that represent The Urban Oasis.



Herbert St. Park Opened after Six Years



After nearly seven years of work and dedication Herbert St. Park was officially dedicated and opened on April 27, 2021. Nearly 38 derelict and abandoned homes were knocked down in the community to make way for a clean community space. The new park includes two full sized horseshoe pits, bench seating, verdant grass and is blocked off from through traffic on either end.



Wisdom Wall in Robert W. Coleman



In 2016 Robert W. Coleman and the Episcopal Housing Corporation partnered to develop an art project to beautify the area along West North Ave at the St. Stephens Apartment complex.



After consulting with members of the neighborhood, Coppin State University and other nearby local schools, six historical figures were chosen to be featured in the mural. Each was chosen for their contributions to Baltimore and history.



William S. Baer, Robert W. Coleman, Fanny Jackson Coppin, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Matthew A. Henson and Fredrick Douglass. Since the original murals were completed in 2017, an additional three figures were added to the wall. **Harriet Tubman, Thurgood Marshall and Enola McMillan.**

Local artist and MICA graduate **landry Randriamandroso** was chosen to bring the project to life. He is an accomplished muralist and known for his project Baltimore Birds. The depictions of these great people are not just decoration, they prompt passers to learn more about their lives and involvement in Baltimore City.





HEALTH AND WELLNESS DAY

JUNE 5TH, 12PM - 4PM

Free Plant Giveaway
with Presentations
from:



Located at the
2100 block of
Herbert St. &
Smallwood





Christian Liberty Church

Jesus said [He] "...did not come to be served but to serve" - Matthew 20:28



***Join Christian Liberty Church for Worship EACH SUNDAY!
Facebook LIVE @ 10:00 AM!**

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/christianlibertychurch/> Website: <https://www.christianlibertychurch.org/>



****You Are Invited to Bible Study EACH WEDNESDAY****



New ways we're keeping you safe

Meet KJ, the newest member of the Mondawmin Mall community. He's here to help keep you safe! KJ has a special talent, he's specifically trained to detect firearms and is very excited to start his new job.

Please remember, while he's cute to look at, stopping or petting him may distract him from his patrol duties. KJ joining the Mondawmin Mall family represents our ongoing commitment to provide a safe, peaceful and inclusive environment for everyone.

[Visit today](#)



Mall Hours:
Mon—Thurs
11am – 7pm
Fri. & Sat
11am – 8pm
Sun.
12pm – 6pm

Shoppers who are 17 or younger must be accompanied by an adult age 21 or older on public city school days before 6:00 PM.

From additional hand sanitizer to increased cleaning and social distancing practices, we're making it easier for you to feel comfortable. When you're ready, welcome back and make yourself at home

Romaine Smallwood-Faison, CSM
Telephone : 410.523.1535 opt 3
General Manger/Mondawmin Mall Retail

LOOKING FOR A BOOST?

BALTIMORE BOOST PROVIDES ➔

SUPPORT SERVICES AND JOB TRAINING

CERTIFICATIONS AND COLLEGE DEGREES

INTERNSHIPS AND EMPLOYMENT PLACEMENT

BC CC

CONTACT
KATE WOLFSON
KWOLFSON@CFUF.ORG
410-367-5691

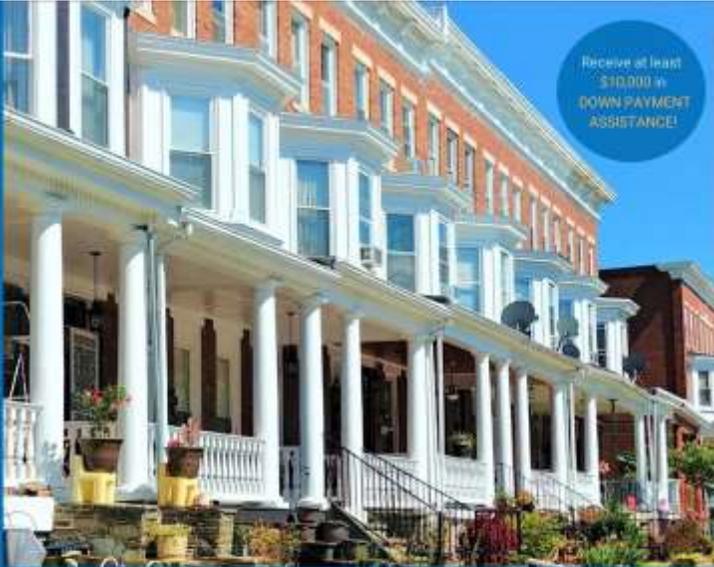
cfuf **CENTER FOR URBAN FAMILIES**
HELPING FATHERS AND FAMILIES WORK

The deadline for submission to our

May 2021 issue is the 22nd of each month.

Absolutely no submissions will be accepted after the deadline . Please submit articles, pictures, announcements, notices, etc., via email to:

office@greatermondawmin.org

Receive at least
\$10,000 in
DOWN PAYMENT
ASSISTANCE!

Explore Our Neighborhoods!

- Panway-Broadish
- Robert W. Coleman
- Auchentoroly Terrace (Parkview-Woodbrook)
- Parkway (Burlleith-Laighton)
- Liberty Square
- Whittier-Monroe
- Fulton Heights
- Coppin Heights (Ash-Co East)

Questions? Contact Us!

Maria Smaldone
Senior Neighborhood Resource Coordinator
410-327-1200 ext. 111
msmaldone@nhsbaltimore.com

Welcome to
**Greater Mondawmin
& Coppin Heights**

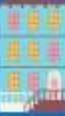


Neighborhood Housing
Services of Baltimore
www.nhsbaltimore.org

Why Greater Mondawmin & Coppin Heights?



TRANSPORTATION HUB
Easy access to Downtown areas, Johns Hopkins Hospital, and the University of Maryland Baltimore via the Metro and bus lines.



HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOODS & ARCHITECTURE
Explore this rich neighborhood, which is home to a Black middle-class enclave, and take in landmark sites.



GOOD SCHOOLS & UNIVERSITIES
Just steps away from Coppin State University and Baltimore City Community College, these neighborhoods also tout some of the best public schools in the city.



PARKS & RECREATION
Easy access to recreation and sports at Druid Hill Park and Easterwood Park.



DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE

\$10,000 loan, 0% due at sale!

Borrowers must:

- Purchase in our service area:
Greater Mondawmin & Coppin Heights
- Be working with one of our lender partners (see below)
- Have an income that is below 100% AMI (Area Median Income)
- Property must be owner-occupied

We have other DPA options that you can use along with this \$10,000 loan.
ASK US ABOUT AVAILABILITY!

Financial Coaching

The Financial Coaching program at NHS is designed to help you get ready for homeownership. Your Homeownership Coach can help you:

- Develop skills to manage money
- Fix your credit
- Qualify for a loan
- Purchase a home, and gain financial stability

SIGN UP TODAY at
www.nhsbaltimore.com/financial-coaching

Our Lender Partners

- Bank of America
- M&T Bank
- First Home Mortgage Corporation
- PNC Bank
- Fulton Mortgage
- Wells Fargo Bank
- George Mason Mortgage
- NHS of Baltimore
- Mendian Mortgage
- Primary Residential Mortgage
- Prime Lending
- Trust (formerly BB&T and Sun Trust)



GREATER MONDAWMIN AREA



HOME IMPROVEMENT LOAN

For homes located within a "Healthy Neighborhood."

- Minimum loan amount is \$5000. Maximum loan amount is \$20,000. Maximum aggregate loan amount secured by the property shall not exceed 105% of after-renovation value, as established by an appraisal.
- Homeowners will make improvements to the property, including visible exterior improvements
- The free services of an architect are available to help homeowners plan improvements and to review contractors' proposals.
- No owner financial investment is required. **All recipients of a HN Loan maybe eligible to receive a \$10,000 matching rehab grant (income limits apply)**
- Construction terms will be six or 12 months. The maximum permanent term will be 10 years.
- The loan interest rate during rehab will be fixed on the date of application until home renovations and the construction term are complete, at which time the loan must be refinanced to permanent status at the current program loan rate.
- Borrowers will be underwritten and approved by M&T Bank. Borrowers' must meet Fannie Mae/Freddie Mac standard underwriting guidelines.
- Permanent interest rate will be Prime minus 1%, but in no event less than 4% .



Eligibility Requirements:

The borrower must be the owner-occupant of the property.

The borrower may not own any other properties, including investment properties, at time of settlement

Housing expenses should not exceed 30% of the buyer's income and total debit should not exceed 40% of buyer's income

Borrower must have a minimum 700 credit score

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Maria Smaldone

Neighborhood Resource

Coordinator for GMCC

2401 Liberty Heights Avenue

Suite 1110

Baltimore, MD 21215

Phone: 3016395417

Fax: 410 523-4527

Email: msmaldone@nhsbaltimore.com

Website: healthyneighborhoods.org

Baltimore City Community College



Baltimore City Community College Joins

National Community College Awareness Month Campaign

Baltimore City Community College joins national community college awareness, a monthlong grassroots education campaign, occurring each year in April. The campaign coordinated by the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT), has primary goals of improving awareness of the economic, academic and equity advantages of attending community colleges, and to end longtime stigmas wrongly associated with public two-year colleges. #CCMonth. #BCCCStrong



BCCC Ranked #50 as Best Community Colleges of 2021

AcademicInfluence.com, an Internet site that helps prospective students and their families review and explore community colleges has ranked BCCC as part of its top 50 best community colleges. Out of 839 community colleges nationwide, the BCCC was selected as part of the top 50 best community colleges.



AcademicInfluence.com determines the best community colleges based on what they term as "concentrated influence" where the

combined influence score is based on the college's top academic influencers (including faculty and alums) and divides it by the school's total number of students.

Read the full story at the [AcademicInfluence.com](https://academicinfluence.com) site.

BCCC Alumna Moses Ingram appears in the highly acclaimed Netflix mini-series The Queen's Gambit

Read and watch Ms. Ingram share her story of perseverance and talk about how BCCC played a pivotal role in



helping her reach her acting goals.

[Washington Post Article Link](#)

Parkway Community

Message from Association President Mel Brooks

I want to thank neighbors who came out for our first Spring activity on Saturday, April 17, 2021. A roll-off dumpster will also be at Fairview and Tioga Parkway on June 12th from 9 - 1:00 PM. Thank you Ms. Dee for your beautiful garden (pictured above). We look forward to seeing more gardens throughout the community. GMCC will be hosting a free flower and vegetable plant giveaway on June 5th from 11 - 3:00 PM, at 2100 Herbert Street. We encourage Parkway neighbors to come out and participate.



Neighbors who are having problems getting the vaccine should call Ms. Carrey on 443-622-7103. A life is a terrible thing to waste. Protect yourself and your families from Covid. Please con-

tinue to wear your mask and practice social distancing. Many of you are waiting to hear the outcome of the proposed "conditional use" drive thru for the commercial property at the corner of Tioga Parkway and Gwynns Falls. The jury is still out so-to-speak. The Municipal Zoning Board has not made a final decision. The case was referred to the Site Plan Review Committee and Dept of Transportation. A number of other city agencies will be part of the process. The Parkway Community Association will inform the community of Zoning's final decision.

We are looking forward to resuming our meetings. In the meanwhile if you have questions or concern, please contact Mel.

Officers:

- Cathy White, Vice President
- Karen Stevenson, Treasurer

Bon Secours

Bon Secours Community Works would like to make the Greater Mondawmin Community aware of the following activities:

- ◆ We are recruiting for participants in our CNA/GNA and Medical Front Office Trainings. These are available to community members free of charge.
- ◆ We are recruiting for our Clean & Green Job Training Program. This is a 3-month job training program with the goal of placing community members in jobs at the end of the training program.
- ◆ We are providing low-cost tax preparation through our Our Money Place Service. • We are offering eviction prevention assistance on an ongoing basis.
- ◆ We are hiring Early Head Start teachers for interested community members.

For more information on any of these services, please call 410-801-5100!

Auchentoroly Terrace



These are the abridged notes from the New Auchentoroly Terrace Association Meeting on April 8th, 2021. Full minutes can be found on auchentorolyterrace.org.

- **Carlos Sanchez Gonzalez**, high school sophomore, and **Meleny Thomas** visited from the **CVCLT Free Your Voice / Zero Waste Coalition**. Mr. Sanchez Gonzalez discussed what zero waste is, why we need it, and how residents can get involved with zero waste initiatives. Mr. Gonzalez invited residents participate in a virtual event Event Link: Please email to be added to the mailing list MYSBCLT@gmail.com
- **Roan Bennet, Director of Office of Customer & Community Relation, Maryland Transit Authority**- reported after he met with NATA last fall his department did a walk around the Mondawmin area, especially focused on busses and metro. If you have any transit issues please get in touch with Mr Bennet by emailing RBennett4@mdot.maryland.gov
- **Reginald Williams**, community liaison from the **State's Attorney Office** ... Mr. Williams addressed the State's Attorney's decision to make COVID Criminal Justice policies permanent- the following offenses are no longer being prosecuted - CDS drug possession, attempted distribution of CDS, minor traffic offenses, trespassing, urinating/defecating in public, and sex work. He was clear that this does not apply to distribution and sale of CDS. *The city set up a partnership with the Baltimore Crisis Response Center Inc because offenders often benefit more from a crisis center worker providing options instead of BPD intervening. Please reach out to Mr. Williams rwilliams@stattorney.org and/or 443-984-6162*
- **Will Ethridge** the Baltimore City **DOT Project Manager** and **Tammy Leigh DeMent, Senior Community Engagement Specialist, Druid Park Lake Drive Complete Streets Design Effort**- Druid Park Lake Drive Complete Streets Study study to redesign Druid Park Lake Drive using Complete Streets principals to increase safety, accessibility, and connectivity from local neighborhoods to the park. The team discussed the boundaries of the project, the 2-3 concept outcome, and defined Druid Park Lake Drive project goals thus far: to calm car traffic, and to make it safer and easier for walkers, cyclists and our community. **Wes Mitchell** shared ways to get connected and make your voice heard in this important project. To access an electronic version of the comment card please go to <http://bit.ly/druidparklakedrive>
- **Susanna Hindman**, resident & organizer of **The Growing Kindness Project** is a 5 year resident who is doing a personal gardening project. When Susanna was helping her sister in law develop a cut flower business she realized she wanted flowers to be more available for everyone, so she joined **The Growing Kindness Project**, a collaborative of people gardening with the specific purpose to give away the flowers. She will be giving the flowers away to people in our neighborhood and would love it if we would email her to let her know of people in our neighborhood who should get a bouquet for whatever reason this summer. Email Susanna with suggestions: susannahindman@gmail.com Check out the flower farm in VA: [@handsownposy](https://www.instagram.com/handsownposy) on Instagram. Learn more about the project: growingkindnessproject.com
- Eric James, the Baltimore City DOT Liaison** for Districts 5,6,7 shared his contact info so that residents who have transportation issues can reach out: 410-218-6588 ejames@baltimorecity.gov
- A new Land Use Committee was suggested by Graham Coreil-Allen in order to create a contiguous effort to revitalize and utilize vacant and unused properties and spaces. Please reach out to Graham if interested in joining this committee.

GMCC Neighborhood Associations

Fulton Heights Community Association

Rev. Keith Bailey, President 443-500-2149

Liberty Square Community Organization

Selwyn Shields, President, 410-728-5446

Mondawmin Neighborhood Improvement Association (MNIA)

Sandra Almond - Cooper, President, 410-383-0096

New Auchentoroly Terrace Association (NATA)

Graham Coreil-Allen. President, (443) 827-8806

Panway Neighborhood Improvement Association

Wanda Freeland, President, 443-801-8312

Parkway Community

James "Mel" Brooks, President, 443-858-8359

Robert W. Coleman Community Organization (RWCCO)

Adeline Hutchinson, President, 410-669-0063

Whittier-Monroe Community Neighborhood Association

Jacqueline Caldwell, President, 410-728-2046

Churches

Greater New Hope Baptist Church

Reverend Keith Bailey – Vice President

Dr. Linwood Robinson, Pastor, 410-225-0003

Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church

Dr. Franklin Lance, Pastor, 410-669-1800

New Shiloh Baptist Church

Dr. Harold A. Carter, Jr., Pastor, 410-523-5306

Businesses, Institutions, and Non-Profits

Baltimore City Community College

Dawn Kirstaetter, Vice President, 410-462-7432

Bon Secours Health Systems

Colin Smith Chief Executive Officer, 410-801-5120

Center for Urban Families

Joseph T. Jones, Jr., Founder, President & CEO
410-367-5691

Coppin State University

Anthony L. Jenkins, Ph.D., President, 410-951-3838

Parks & People Foundation

Dr. Frank Lance, President & CEO, 410-448-5663

Mondawmin Mall

Romaine Smallwood-Faison,
General Manager 410-523-1534

Neighborhood Resource Coordinator

Maria Smaldone

Community At Large Members

Mario Chang

Daniel Hindman, 443-915-2370

OFFICERS OF GMCC & STAFF

President --Adeline Wheless-Hutchinson

Treasurer--Tyrone M. McNeill

Office Coordinator– John Kwamya



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Greater Mondawmin Community.

Greater Mondawmin Coordinating Council

www.greatermondawmin.org

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