

- Great News -

News and Information About Activities in and Around the
Great Mills Road Corridor

Published by: **Community Development Corp., Inc.**

240-725-5786

Issue No. 2



Congressman Hoyer to Attend Ceremonial Groundbreaking for MD 246 Streetscape Project

The public is invited to attend a ceremonial ground breaking for the Great Mills Road Streetscape Project on **Friday, August 28** at 3:00 p.m. at the corner of MD Rte. 246 and S. Coral Drive. State, local and Navy dignitaries will join the Congressman to hand a "golden shovel" to representatives of Rustler Construction Company, the contractor for the project.

The project will be under construction this September and includes the construction of brick-edged sidewalks, a median strip from Coral Drive to FDR Boulevard, the replacement of all sewer and water lines, landscaping and numerous other improvements within a 1.4 mile section of Great Mills Road. This project is intended to make Rte. 246 safer and more attractive for businesses, pedestrians and motorists.

To view the Great Mills Road Streetscape Plan, contact the Community Development Corporation at **240-725-5786**.



Did You Notice...

Two new restaurants are opening along Great Mills Road! The **Lexington Restaurant and Lounge**, scheduled to open this September, will feature American fare and all-day breakfast service. **Sake**, opening this month, will feature Susi and other Asian inspired recipes. Both restaurants will offer eat-in and carry-out service seven-days per week adding to the rich variety of highly popular local restaurants including **Linda's Café**, the **Mixing Bowl**, **Nikko's** and **Bon Buffet** just to name a few along with the many well-established fast-food enterprises.

It's Time to Form a "Great" Council...

Business and property owners are invited to participate in the formation of a business association for the Great Mills Road area. A community meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 26th** at 6:30 p.m. in Room B of the Lexington Park Library.

Representatives of the County's Sheriff's Office along with the Department of Economic and Community Development and the Community Development Corporation will be on hand to support this initiative. For more information, contact the Community Development Corporation at **240-725-5786**.

St. Mary's Square Merchants Association Demonstrates Early Success

Merchants have organized a business association in St. Mary's Square to share advertising costs and organize marketing events to attract increased numbers of shoppers to the Square. Their recent craft and flea market resulted in increased traffic for many businesses in the Square with one company reporting a 25% increase in sales on the day of the event!

Improvements to St. Mary's Square are underway and will include landscaping, new lighting and entry-way signage, a resurfaced parking lot and newly painted buildings. The opening of McDonald's in St. Mary's Square was greeted with welcoming crowds and Auto Zone will soon be under construction. For more information about the St. Mary's Square Business Association, contact **Tina Garrison**, owner/operator of **Hair on the Square**, at **240-577-0955**.



Saturday, August 22 Antique and Hot Rod Car Show in St. Mary's Square

Free family fun from 11:00 till 4:00. Trophies, sponsored by **McDonald's**, will be awarded for the Best Corvette, Best Classic and Best Hot Rod on display. No entry fee will be charged for exhibiting a car in this juried show.

UPDATE: Patuxent Park Roadway Reconstruction

Work continues on the reconstruction of roads, sidewalks and sewer and water lines in the Patuxent Park neighborhood. This month, construction will largely focus on Midway Dr. and Gambier Place with the following work to be completed:

Midway Drive (from MD 246 to Bunker Hill Drive) - Sanitary sewer main installation and house service line connections will be performed with one lane of traffic open during the daytime. Steel plates may be placed over sewer trenches for overnight cover, please be alert at all times.

Gambier Place (from Midway Drive to the end of Cul-de-sac) - CCTV (Video) of the existing sanitary sewer lines, from the sewer cleanout to the building foundations, will be performed. Sanitary Sewer installation may occur near the end of month, depending upon the completion of work on Midway Drive above.

For more information, contact the DPW&T Project Manager, Allen Settle, at 301-863-8400, ext. 3525 or the METCOM Project Manager, Steve Engleson, at 301-373-4733, ext. 307.

New Hotel in the Works

A concept site plan has been approved for a 5-story, 52 room hotel to be constructed on the vacant property located between **Lexington Park Family Dentistry** and **Capt. Pat's Seafood Restaurant**.



A Comfort Inn is proposed for the site and will include an indoor pool and meeting rooms. The property owner, P. C. Patel, has several hotel enterprises in Georgia but this will be his first project in Maryland. Mr. Patel is well known as the successful owner/operator of the **Donut Connection** located in Millison Plaza. A grand opening of the hotel is anticipated in 2010.

How Clever is That....

Two local businesses are receiving high praise for innovative marketing approaches that attracted media attention and hundreds upon hundreds of potential shoppers. **Raley's Home Furnishing**, located on Great Mills Road, offered a \$1,000 gift certificate to the winner of the "Ugliest Couch" contest. As reported on The BayNet, Raley's received hundreds of submissions. The winning photograph came from the Van Ryswick family whose 30+ year old hand-me-down couch was patched and frayed.



XH Sports and Giftware sought a new name to compliment their expanding business in St. Mary's Square. They hosted a "Renaming" contest and received over 600 entries to The BayNet which featured the contest. The

winning entry, selected from among hundreds of good suggestions, was that of Donnika McKinney whose suggestion - **Sports Paradise** -- will now be the new name of the store.