



WEST END NEWS

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Fall 1999

Heritage Resource Group, Inc.

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Consultations and Assistance with Historic District Permit Applications and Historic Property Renovations

Old Fashion Grocery Store With
Friendly Folks for 62 Years

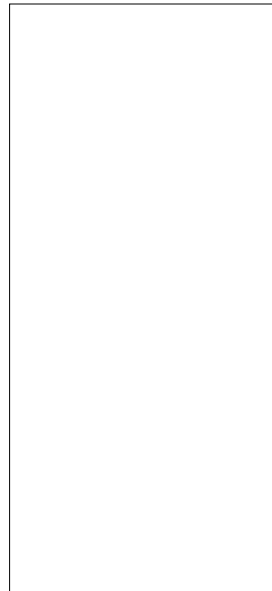
Simmons

Center Market

Fresh Cut Meats • Fresh Produce
Grocery
Fruit and Speciality Baskets

Stop By and See Our Country Store Antiques

600 Race Street • Cambridge, MD 21613
410-228-4313 410-228-8583 Fax



Citizens Association
organizatio nd

Membership

West End Citizens Association Family – \$10.00
P.O. Box 13 Individual - \$5.00
Cambridge, MD 21613 Due Date _____

Name(s) 1. _____
 2. _____

Address _____

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Amount Paid _____ Date Paid _____

Return this portion with payment to above address.

If you would like to sponsor an issue of the West End News, we would love to hear from you.

weca@usa.net

410 228-5257

410 228-7927

Stamp

WEST END CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 13
Cambridge, MD. 21613

It's Official!

WECA is Officially a Non-Profit Organization.

President Marge Hull informs us that WECA has received a letter of determination from the Internal Revenue Service informing us that we are now officially recognized as a 501(C)(3) non-profit corporation. Many thanks to all those who worked so hard to bring this to fruition. WECA has always operated as a non-profit organization, but now it is official. Non-profit status means, of course, that all contributions to WECA are tax deductible contributions. So, WECA welcomes this new status and hopes that it will lead to a broader financial support base.

Historic Guidelines

Historic District Design Guidelines In Place

At the end of June, the Cambridge City Commissioners approved the bylaws and procedures necessary to implement the Design Guidelines, which govern renovations and construction within the Historic District of Cambridge. This action completes the approval process. The final vote was unanimous, Commissioners Saunders, Vickers, Watkins and Swafford voted in favor. Commissioner Rice was not present for the vote.

The Cambridge Historic Preservation Commission will meet 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month in the City Council chambers, 305 Gay Street. The Commission will review applications for a Certificate of Appropriateness for renovations and construction on historic properties. The hearing dates will be posted at City Hall and are open to the public. Anyone wishing to testify will have to take a testimony oath.

Owners of property in the Historic District must contact the Department of Public Works, 705 Leonards Lane, and phone 410-228-1955 when making changes to the exterior of their property. The Certificate of Appropriateness must be filed 30 days in advance of the Commission's meeting.

David Pritchett, Director of the City Department of Public Works and Dale Price are working with the Historic Preservation Commission to implement the Certificate process. The Maryland Association of Historic District Commissions has been working closely with the Cambridge Historic Preservation Commission to establish local procedures. Maryland Association Board members Jean Petofsky of the Annapolis Planning and Zoning Department, and Bernie Callan of the Frederick Historic Preservation Commission have met with the Cambridge HPC several times in an advisory capacity.

Membership Meeting

Fall Membership meeting September 21, 1999

The Fall WECA Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, September 21, 7:00 PM at Pleasant Day Adult Day Care Center on Route 16 across from Cambridge-South Dorchester High School.

Speaker for the evening will be Historic Preservation Commission Chairman, Armond Hayward, II. All West Enders are encouraged to attend. Mr. Hayward will discuss the Design Guidelines, which are now effective for all historic properties located in the Cambridge Historic District as defined by City Council in November 1996. He will outline the process property owners must follow when making changes to the exterior of an historic property or new construction on properties within the district. There are properties within the Historic District that are termed non-contributing and therefore not subject to the application process. Attend on September 21 to learn how the Historic District regulations effect your property.

Check your address label

Please check your address label for important information on your membership status and to verify that we have accurate information about you in our database. Please call Doug Kyle if you have any questions or comments. 410 228-5257



In the picture above we find Joan Travers of Simmons Center Market putting the finishing touches on one of the baskets that "Welcomers of the West End", (WOWE), deliver to newcomers in the West End. To date, over 50 baskets have been delivered. The baskets are loaded with gifts and discount coupons donated by local businesses and with informational brochures about the city, county and the West End.

Tourism

Third Largest Industry in Maryland

Cambridge and Dorchester County are putting great effort into developing tourism as an industry in the area. As the following information demonstrates, the effort is in the right place at the right time. A survey conducted by the Tourism agencies on the Eastern Shore includes the following information.

In 1995: \$17,000,000 was spent in Dorchester County by tourists. This represents approximately \$3,500,000 received in Dorchester. Businesses serving the tourist increased payrolls in Dorchester by \$740,000. Dorchester County received \$1,100,800 from local taxes generated by tourism.

In 1997: \$20,300,000 was spent in Dorchester County by tourists. This accounted for \$4,500,000 in county payroll. Dorchester County received approximately \$4,500,000 in sales taxes from tourism. Tourism generated over \$1,300,000 in local tax revenue.

Congratulations to the City and County governments, businesses, entrepreneurs, organizations, agencies and volunteers

who are making the Tourism Industry grow in Dorchester. The hard work and welcoming smile work for all of us.

Fall Yard Sale

Saturday, October 9

Get ready to sign up for the West End Fall Yard Sale which will be held on Saturday, October 9 from 7:00 AM ----- until. The rain-date is scheduled for the following Saturday, October 16. In response to a survey sent to the 26 participants in the WECA Spring Yard Sale, we are reinstating the event on a semi-annual basis. The surveys returned to WECA unanimously agreed that buyers were plentiful and all were pleased with the amount of sales generated by the event. Over half of the respondents asked that the WECA Yard Sale again be scheduled in the Fall as well as Spring.

To register for the October 9th Yard Sale, **call Marge Hull at 410-228-7927 or Fiona MacDonald at 410-221-7989. Leave your name address and phone number.** Set up sale items in your front yard, porch or garage. WECA will advertise your location in the local and regional newspapers and on local radio stations. Join the fun while making extra money from your unused items still in good condition! In demand are tools, yard equipment, toys, household furnishings and decorations, small and large appliances, kitchen utensils, dinnerware and most anything that is in good working order. It helps if electrical items are demonstrated to work.

Fall Social

Get to Know Your Neighbors!

This Fall, on Saturday, October 2, WECA encourages you to organize a block party on your street to meet your neighbors. It will be a great opportunity for West Enders to become familiar with the people we see every day, and enjoy food, fun and fellowship right in our own back, or front yards.

We'd like to see as many WECA members as possible sign up to host a party on your street. It can be as simple or as elaborate as you like. Invite your neighbors to help you organize, prepare food, and arrange for entertainment. WECA will provide membership information for you to share with your neighbors while you enjoy the afternoon seeing off the summer and making new friends.

Neighbors interested in having a party should meet to select a house on your block to serve as host, and send invitations to everyone on the block to come over and bring a covered dish. You can have your party at any time that is convenient for you,

but we would encourage you to keep it in the afternoon, perhaps 2-4 p.m.

Feel free to combine blocks for a bigger bash! We have not asked the City Commissioners for any special permission, so if your group would like to request a street closure or a noise variance, you will need to do so individually. WECA will not take responsibility for these issues.

We ask that you let us know if you plan to participate by contacting Lee Weldon, Project Chairman, at 410-228-3092. We plan to publicize the event as the biggest block party ever held! Let us know as soon as possible and we're looking forward to a great WECA event!

Property Transfers:

May 25, 1999 through August 3, 1999

HOLLIDAY, Linda R.	410 Talbot Av	\$75,000
REID, Ethel L.	214 West End Av	\$54,000
CANNALITO, Deborah	1008 Locust St	\$70,000
WINGATE, Pamela A.	401 Edlon park Dr	\$100,000
FIELDS, Robert O. & Brenda C.	436 Leonards La	\$76,000
SHELOR, Theodora P. S.	111 Glenburn Av	\$158,500
TUBMAN, Constance B.	1 Somerset Av	\$120,000
MILLS, John C.	218 West End Av	\$45,000
LEVY, Herbert W.	205 Willis St	\$52,500
WINGATE pamelA.	602 Locust St	\$57,000
ROLSTON ENTERPRISES, LLC	321 High St & 605 Locust St	\$160,000
WEST END LLC	400-406 Linden Av	\$160,000
HICKMAN, Edwina B.	100 Glenburn Av	\$104,500
SHORTER, Jason H., Sr. & Kimberly S.	409 Talbot AV	\$96,000

Thanks to all of the contributors of this issue of the West End News!

It is our intention to bring you a quality newsletter. If you have any comments or suggestions, feel free to join WECA and let us know.

Treasurers Report

5-18-99 to 7-20-99

Balance Forward:	\$542.13
Credit – Dues	\$310
Debit – Yard Sale Advertising	\$59.90
Christmas Parade	\$25
Yard Sale	\$15.25
Balance on Hand	\$751.98

Neighborhood Oversight

During the middle of August some of you may have received one or more bills from the city's Housing Department. These bills are for a \$20.00 registration fee for non homeowner-occupied residences.

To determine who got billed, the Housing Department used the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation real property database. All owners of residential property in Cambridge, other than their principal residences, got billed if the database indicated "improvements" on those properties.

There are many lots in the residentially-zoned portion of the West End that have no residences on them but do have garages, storage sheds, swimming pools or other structures on them. These structures are "improvements" and triggered the bills from the Housing Department. Additionally, the database lists more than one principal residence for some owners of multiple properties. The end result is that some people who shouldn't have gotten bills did and some that should have gotten them may not have.

So don't just grumble and pay these bills, you may not owe the fee. If you own a lot with a garage, shed, greenhouse, Swimming pool or other non-residential structure on it and you got a bill for this property, call the Housing Department at 410 228-6466 or visit them at 705 Leonards Lane and describe your property to them. If you convince them your property doesn't contain a residence, you won't have to pay the fee. If you have already paid a fee on a property that doesn't contain a residence, you should seek a refund.

The housing department was asked why bills were sent to "residences" with no water or sewer connections. The response was that computer system incompatibility with the Municipal Utilities Commission meant it was not cost effective to check water billing records. Also the Department of Public Works had informed them that sewer connection records for older Cambridge residences were incomplete. So limitations of the tools available for the billing effort are responsible for less than perfect results.