

# Town of Bladensburg



Fall 2006



## CODE ENFORCEMENT AND COUNTY TEAM FOR ACTION

### ARTICLES

*The Office of Code Enforcement and Prince George's County Use Effective Approach in Combating Code Violations.*

*Upshur Street Under Water.*

*Funding and other Improvements for The Bostwick.*

*Gorgeous Prince Georges = Beautiful Bladensburg.*

*"Be a Friend & Pitch-In" Campaign.*

*Community Updates:*

*Bladensburg Local Development Corporation....Working For You.*

*Port Towns Community Development Corporation.....Developing Community, one step at a time.*



During the FY-06 budget deliberations the Town Council voted to enhance the Office of Code Enforcement. Mr. Shaun Rinehart was reassigned from the Police Department to join Director Tim McNamara and Officer Danny Needham in an effort to enforce code and other quality of life community standards. "Officer Rinehart is a welcome addition to the Office of Code Enforcement and most certainly will allow the Office to more efficiently and effectively attack community

code issues, supporting the overall reduction of crime and enhancement of quality of life for Town residents" stated Director McNamara. Recently, the Office, in collaboration with the Prince George's County Department of Environmental Resources/Property Standards Division, was able to close down a house that was not meeting occupancy standards, as well as being an eyesore. Be on the lookout for more enforcement initiatives in the near future.

### Water, Water Everywhere.....



The Town of Bladensburg’s Department of Public Works and the Prince George’s County Department of Public Works took on storm drain and flooding in the industrial park after a serious “gully washer”. Over three feet of water greeted the workers when they arrived on the scene. Immediate coordination with Prince George’s County resources led to a quick resolution to the flooding.

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### Be a Friend & Pitch In!

“Be a Friend and Pitch In” is the slogan that you will soon see posted on trashcans in the Route 450 corridor area. The project emphasizes clean communities and is sponsored by the Port Towns’ Youth Council and the Prince George’s County Livable Communities program.

### Coming Events:

**Town Hall Meetings** are held on the second Monday of each month starting at 7:00 p.m.

**Mayor’s Breakfast Meeting** starts at 8:30 a.m. Check with Town Hall at (301) 927-7048 for date and location.

**Recreation Council** meets the third Wednesday of each month. Check with Town Hall at (301) 927-7048 for location.

**Neighborhood Watch Meetings and community safety walk** are held each Friday and Saturday 7:00 p.m. The gathering point is the E-Z Mart. Contact Sergeant Scott Davis, Community Resources Unit at (301) 864-6080 for more information.

**Openings are available for Conflict Resolution Workshops.** Contact Sergeant Scott Davis, Community Services Unit at (301) 864-6080 for more information.

## Economic & Community Report Card

### Progress and Success



### **Bladensburg Local Development Corporation....Working For You.**

At its summer Board of Director's Meeting The Bladensburg Local Development Corporation (BLDC) voted to elect new officers. Brendan Quinn, CEO, Ernest Maier Block Inc. was elected President, Dick Charlton, Charlton Associates was elected as Treasurer and Mary Donaldson was elected as the Secretary. Mr. Quinn has wasted no time in pledging his support to the Town of Bladensburg. In early June, Mr. Quinn and the Maier Corporation donated \$30,000 in building materials to be used over a three-year period for the restoration of Historic Bostwick.

The BLDC has pledged its support to partner with the Town to adopt a Town Gateway Sign. Its Goal is to have the sign installed shortly.

- ❑ **Town Center Project** is in phase two of the development process. Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission will complete the Sector Plan Amendment for required zoning and the development team works to assemble land. A draft copy of the Sector Plan amendment should be completed and available on or before December 31, 2006. The State of Maryland, through the Community Legacy Program, awarded the Town \$25,000 to fund the technical cost for the Town Center Project for the year 2007.
- ❑ **CSX Railroad Overpass Project** is nearing its 48% completion mark. The deadline for completion is set for March 2008. By mid-March 2007, the walls for the elevated tracks will be emerging from the ground.
- ❑ **Bostwick** continues to receive funding for restoration through County, State and private donations and grants; the Town has received nearly \$500,000 in funding. On October 6, 2006, the Town was notified that the State of Maryland through, the Community Legacy Program, awarded the Town an additional \$20,000.
- ❑ The Town initiates discussions with investors to refurbish **Park Place Towers**. Investors and Partners on this project are seeking to pour in millions of dollars to enhance the property.

### **Bladensburg High School**

### **Home Coming 2006**

Marching bands, floats, a great football game....the Bladensburg High School Homecoming was held on Saturday November 11, 2006. The parade began at 11:00 a.m. at the school. The route followed 57<sup>th</sup> to Emerson Street, Emerson Street to 56<sup>th</sup> Place, 56<sup>th</sup> Place to 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue into the school football field. Though we lost to Crossland, a great time, with a lot of community spirit, was had by all!!



# Gorgeous Prince George's = Beautiful Bladensburg

- Together We Are Making A Beautiful Difference -

County Executive Jack Johnson invited citizens all across Prince George's County to participate in the fourth annual celebration of Gorgeous Prince George's Day held on Saturday Oct. 14. The Town of Bladensburg crafted an intensive effort that included all gateways as well as the creation of a park at 54<sup>th</sup> Place and Tilden Road. The effort was lead by Mr. Joe Carmena, Foreman of the Department of Public Works, who was joined by Mayor Walter James, Council Members Walter George, Walter Ficklin, Cris Mendoza, Town Administrator Ms. Doris Sarumi, Town Clerk Ms. Patricia McAuley, and a host of community volunteers and supporters. Mayor James comments on the outpouring of effort as "more than a collection of beautification projects; it is the essence of community building and the demonstration of resident and business vitality for a better, more beautiful Bladensburg." After the hard work was completed, the volunteers gathered at the Bladensburg waterfront for a picnic and fellowship.



### Elected Officials:

**Walter L. James, Jr.**  
Mayor  
(301) 927-7048

**Walter Ficklin**  
Council Member, Ward II  
(301) 927-7048

**Walter George**  
Council Member, Ward II  
(301) 927-7048

**Cris Mendoza**  
Council Member, Ward I  
(301) 927-7048

**Charlina Watson**  
Council Member, Ward I  
(301) 927-7048

**"More than a collection of beautification projects; it is the essence of community building and the demonstration of resident and business vitality for a better, more beautiful Bladensburg."**

Mayor Walter James



## Have You Seen.....

### **The 9/11 Memorial**



Dedicated to the 25 fallen Prince George's County Residents who were victims of 9/11, the Memorial stands as a tribute to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. The notable landmark is located at the entrance to the Bladensburg Waterfront Park. Take a moment to stop at this peaceful place and give remembrance.

### **The Visitor's Center**



Renovations recently occurred at the Town of Bladensburg Visitors' Center. New paint, curtains, and a dash of color symbolize the creative efforts of the Port Towns Community Development Corporation (CDC) working together with the Neighborhood Design Center. The building, which houses the Port Towns CDC as well as the of Town of Bladensburg Office of Code Enforcement, serves as an alternate meeting and gathering site for numerous Town events and ongoing projects. The new "facelift" most certainly

will enhance the greater Town of Bladensburg beautification efforts as well as make the building a landmark "must see" location.

### **Bostwick**

Historic Bostwick, located at 48<sup>th</sup> street, Bladensburg, continues to receive funding for restoration through County, State and private donations and grants; the Town has received nearly \$500,000 in funding. On October 6, 2006, the Town was notified that the State of Maryland through the Community Legacy Program awarded the Town an additional \$20,000.



## Congratulations To:

- New **Police Officer Dante Arnold** graduated from the Municipal Police Academy at Prince George's Community College in February 2006 with a 90.4 GPA allowing for MPTC certification. He has four years of prior security experience, four years of military experience (U.S. Marine Corps), attended Coppin State University and has credits towards the completion of a B.S degree in the area of Computer Network Technology (IT). Welcome to Officer Arnold, who is joining our family, the Town of Bladensburg.
- Spot Award Winners for this quarter **Ms. Jennifer Dodson** (Dept of Public Works), **Ms. Dana Duncan** (Finance), **Ms. Diane Griffin** (Administration), **Sgt James Flynn** (Police Department), & **Detective Tracy Stone** (Police Department) for the outstanding dedication they have shown the Town of Bladensburg in the performance of their duties.

*A past to remember, A future to embrace.*

### Important Telephone Numbers:

Mrs. Doris Sarumi  
**Town Administrator**  
(301) 927-7048 ext130

Mr. Ray Rawlins  
**Treasurer**  
(301) 927-7048 ext 131

Ms. Pat McAuley  
**Town Clerk**  
(301) 927-7048 ext 136

Mr. Ron Goff  
**Public Works**  
(301) 927-1452

Chief John Moss  
**Police Department**  
(301) 864-0400  
(Emergency)

(301) 864-6080  
(Non-emergency)

Mr. Tim McNamara  
**Code Enforcement**  
(301) 927-0330

Sergeant Scott Davis  
**Community Resources Unit**  
(301) 864-6080

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Bladensburg, Maryland 20710

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