



Welcome to the St. John's Community Association.

As an Association we are committed to improving our neighborhood and your day to day lives through community interaction, community communication and community involvement.

What you think is not only important, but the very foundation of this Association. If you are new to Dunloggin, welcome to the neighborhood. If you are a long-time resident, but a recent member we welcome your experience and institutional knowledge.

What you think matters. Whether the issue is School Redistricting, which impacts thousands, or a sidewalk to the library, which impacts a fewer number, our ability to think critically and solve problems collectively cannot be emphasized enough.

Please be active and join us to continue to make Dunloggin a great community to work, recreate and raise our children in a loving, nurturing atmosphere.

Your feedback is important. Welcome Aboard... 😊

Board of Governors

Dave Crawford
President
dmc0942@gmail.com

Sara Siemers
Vice President

Recording Secretary
Beth Connor

Corresponding Secretary
Tony Scuto

Treasurer
Tom Broderick

District Representatives
Sameer Ahirrao
Billy Arias
Tanya Lopez
Sara Siemers

President's Corner.....

Welcome to the 2020 Inaugural Issue of the St. John's Community Association's Digital Newsletter. This newsletter format was discussed a few years ago, but it always got delayed. Sadly, urgent matters like Redistricting, take away from our time and efforts to address the day-to-day, but it's time to move on.

One of a few "tweaks" I would like to input during this tenure is to focus on feedback from our members, identifying what concerns you have and "getting things done."

In the spirit of keeping our members informed you will notice relevant sidebars. The first sidebar is the SJCA Board of Governors. You may reach me at this email address anytime.

We are interested in what you think and how to improve the Association in general and Dunloggin in particular. During my time in government I have discovered the best solutions are derived from the ones closest to the problem and arrived at collectively. In that vein if you see a neighborhood problem please report what your research has discovered and how you think we can help. Please send your feedback via the contact form on our website.

<http://mysjca.org/contact/>

The second sidebar is entitled "Important Links." And no, we are not golfers.....:-) We gathered what we felt were the most popular and needed web sites which may prove helpful in our day to day lives. And sadly, COVID-19 updates are now day to day necessary.

In that regard, we have included in our third sidebar dedicated to covid-19 links to multiple jurisdictions and organizations to help keep you better informed.

We have also included a fourth sidebar entitled, "Elected Officials." No matter where you sit on the partisan divide, we always felt it would be convenient if you had easy access to their contact information.

It is a pleasure to serve and I look forward to working with each of you.

Cheers,
Dave Crawford

Important Links.....

Howard County Government

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/>

Howard County Alpha Ridge Landfill And Yard/Trash Collections

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Bureau-Of-Environmental-Services>

Howard County Schools

<https://www.hcps.org/>

Howard County Library

<http://hclibrary.org/>

Howard County Click Fixit

<https://gov.seeclickfix.com/solutions/howard-county-md/>

State of Maryland Government

<https://www.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Motor Vehicle Administration

<http://www.mva.maryland.gov/>

Maryland Comptroller

<https://www.marylandtaxes.gov/>

My vision of this newsletter is for it to efficiently and effectively serve its membership and to be dynamic. It should constantly evolve to meet your needs.

Neighborhood History and Updates....

Dunloggin History & Maps

<http://mysjca.org/dunloggin-history-maps/>

Library Footpath Update

Earlier this year, pre covid 19, I met with Mr. Kris Singleton of the County's Department of Public Works. The purpose of the visit was to explore

the feasibility of creating a sidewalk or footpath that would extend pedestrian access east of the Miller Library to Underoak Road or beyond. To enhance your understanding of this project you may want to read the background document first and then view the pictures and video.

Here are the notes and pictures of that meeting.

<http://mysjca.org/miller-library-footpath/>

Redistricting Update.....

I was honored to orally testify on behalf of our Association in front of the Board of Education and report our concerns about dividing neighborhoods while bussing kids so far from their neighborhood schools, friends and established relationships.

This school system is so much more than academics. The HCPSS proudly focuses on relationships with teachers, staff and neighborhood activities and the children that participate. Unfortunately, and sadly, that is lost on some politicians.

COVID-19 Updates and Information

Maryland Government

<https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/>

Howard County

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Health/MM-Alerts-and-Recalls>

World Health Organization

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

Center for Disease Control

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Practical Guide

<https://medium.com/@dr.junkinmd/a-practical-guide-to-staying-safe-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic-52a7f5abd38a>

As you know the SJCA conducted a Special Meeting last year to address Redistricting and distributed questionnaires to determine your preferences. Overwhelmingly keeping our children in their neighborhood schools was a critical priority.

For those of you that submitted your written testimonies to the BOE we thank you very much. We are sure your efforts made a difference.

Presently, the latest information available is the Board of Education has every intention to move the Redistricting efforts forward notwithstanding the Health Pandemic that is sweeping our community, state and globe.

We have heard from many of you wondering why we would add a layer of confusion, dread and unnecessary stress to an already existing layer of medical horror impacting so many in our community called Howard.

We will continue to probe this and many other questions with our Board of Education. Keep you posted.

Member's Update.....

We currently have 300+ members of the SJCA. We had a significant outlay to oppose the Superintendent's proposal to split Dunloggin literally in half and bus our kids to non-neighborhood schools.

Routinely, and unfortunately, there is a cost affiliated with every movement, but at the end of the day the SJCA "movement" called "Keep Neighborhoods Together," was successful in maintaining our neighborhood character and continuity.

Approximately one third of our members are current on their dues. If you are able, please renew/contribute (\$20 annually.)

SJCA offers the following methods to pay your annual dues:

1. Mail a check payable to SJCA to:
*P.O. Box 1865
Ellicott City, MD 21041-1865*
2. *Paypal: "MYSJCA@gmail.com"*
3. *VENMO: "@SJCA-EC"*

If you are so inclined you may also donate toward the following entities which we also advocate and support:

- WHIPPS GARDEN
<https://www.whippsgardencemetery.org/about.htm>
- NORTHFIELD ES PTA

<http://www.northfieldpta.org/>

- DUNLOGGIN MS PTA
<https://www.dunlogginmspta.org/>

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you are struggling financially, like so many---no worries. We understand these are difficult times and appreciate your other contributions to the community. TRULY!!

How To Follow SJCA and Neighborhood Happenings:

FaceBook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/mysjca/>

Nextdoor: <https://nextdoor.com/neighborhood/dunloggin--ellicott-city--md/>

Contact us via email at: correspondingsec@mysjca.org

Closing Thoughts....

This President and your Board of Governors want to convey how important your thoughts and concerns are in moving this association and its community members forward. What is important to you? This is what we ask, though: with every concern or challenge posed, please attach a number of proposed solutions and your recommendation. The world is filled with problems. Lets be an Association that works collectively towards their solutions.

Thanks for following along.

Cheers,

Your Board of Governors!

ELECTED OFFICIALS.....

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Committee Assignment(s)
Economic Matters Committee

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