

GUM SPRINGS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 1

JANUARY 2013

Guests for January 8th meeting

The Civic Association plans to sponsor a Boy Scouts Pack and/or Troop at the Gum Springs Community Center. Officials from the Boys Scouts of America (BSA) will provide information about the start-up and support provided by the BSA. If you're interested in being a part of this viable community service project in developing young males, please plan to attend the meeting and bring your potential boy/cub scout. See page 2 for more information about the BSA.

Candlelight Vigil in Honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s, birth date is January 15th. However, his holiday is celebrated on the third Monday in January of each year since signed into law by President Bill Clinton on August 23, 1994. For 2013, his holiday falls on January 21st, which is also the public inauguration day for President Obama.

The Civic Association will be hosting its annual candlelight vigil with a special dance performance by the Unity Cultural Group in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on January 15th at 6:00 p.m. at the entrance of the Martin Luther King Park, which is the community park in Gum Springs at the end of Fordson Road across from the Gum Springs Community Center. To keep you warm, hot apple cider will be served!

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Gum Springs Community Center

8100 Fordson Road

703-360-6088

Community Meetings

The Civic Association is the voice for the Gum Springs community. You should support your community organization if you live, work or worship in the Gum Springs community. Community meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Gum Springs Community Center. No meetings are held during July and August. The next Civic Association **meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 8, 2013.** Dues are \$5 per person. Your dues are used solely for community purposes to a community newsletter, flyers, membership dues in the MVCCA, fees to maintain our 501(c)(4) tax exempt status with the IRS and registration fees with the Commonwealth of Virginia State Corporation.

We also use the funds to support special programs and activities for community residents.

If you would like to support the Civic Association by making a monetary, make your check or money order payable to NGSCA and mail to: NGSCA; P.O. Box 6112; Alexandria, VA 22306 or bring to a meeting.

The Civic Association is here for the community it serves!

MLK Pool no longer on the chopping block

The Fairfax County Park Authority (PA) voted on December 5th to remove the MLK pool from any future cuts permanently. The Gum Springs community will no longer be faced with this annual dilemma of using the MLK pool as a sacrificial lamb. All nature centers were included in the decision package as well.

Boy Scouts of America

Officials from the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) will be guest speakers at the January 8th community meeting. The BSA will outline what is required for the Civic Association to sponsor a pack and/or troop along with the types of support provided by the BSA.

BSA is one of the nation's largest and most prominent values-based youth development organizations. The BSA provides a program for young people that builds character, trains them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develops personal fitness.

To hear more about being a boy or cub scout, attend the January 8th community meeting and bring a potential boy or cub scout to learn more.

Farewell to HomeGoods

HomeGoods will be closing its store in the Mt. Vernon Crossroads Shopping Center on January 19th after not reaching a fair equitable lease agreement with its landlord. According to HomeGoods management, this store drew 95% of its customers from the Kingstowne store, has been very profitable and regrets leaving an area that has been extremely supportive of the store.

Costco Mural

Instead of trees and a burm between Costco and Richmond Highway facing the Spring Garden Apartments, the property will be surrounded with a mural depicting the historical area to include an airport. Hopefully, it will depict the Gum Springs community as well since Gum Springs is directly across the street and was in existence before the airport, drive-in theater, multiplex theater and now a box store—Costco.

MVCCA Student of the Year Civic Award for 2013

The Mount Vernon Student of the Year Civic Award is sponsored by the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA). The purpose of the award is to recognize a high school senior from Mount Vernon HS, South County SS and/or West Potomac HS, who demonstrates personal achievement through community involvement, volunteer work, and/or exceptional civic duties. The award will be made during the MVCCA Annual Gala on April 27th. The amount of the 2013 award is \$300 per qualified student for no more than one student from each of the above-mentioned high schools. The deadline to submit an application to the student's high school career specialist is January 18th.

The MVCCA Student of the Year Civic Award is not based on financial need and may be used for any purpose by the awardee(s). For more information and to download the application, please visit the Civic Association's website:

www.newgumspingscivicassociation.com.

Save-the-Date(s)

January 8, 2013 – Civic Association meeting – Guest: Boy Scouts of America

January 15, 2013 – Annual Candlelight Vigil in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

February 12, 2013 – Civic Association meeting – Guest: Barbara Doyle, CEO, INOVA Mount Vernon

March 12, 2013 – Civic Association meeting

Support the Gum Springs Community and its Newsletter!

Attend monthly community meetings!

Pay your dues!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!