



This increasingly popular event takes place **Sunday, October 26.** The parade begins at noon. Families should gather at Rock Creek Hills Park (aka, Circle Park, Saul Road Park, Soccer Park, etc....) at 11:45 am. The Kensington Volunteer Fire Department will lead a parade through the neighborhood (assuming they're not busy), ending at the corner of Saul and East Bexhill around 12:30.

Contact Eden Fisher Durbin for details or to volunteer (edendurbin@comcast.net).

For purposes of the pot-luck, families are asked to bring the following:  
**A-L: desserts**    **M-Z: sides or salads**

**RchCA**

Rock Creek Hills Citizens' Association  
 9711 E. Bexhill Drive  
 Kensington, MD 20895

**Fall General Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 19th**  
**7:30-9:00pm**

Grace Episcopal Day School • 9411 Connecticut Avenue,  
 Kensington, MD

**RchCA**  
 Rock Creek Hills Citizens' Association  
 rchca.org

Neighborhood News  
 and Information

Fall 2005

**Message From The Board**

We hope that everyone enjoyed their summer vacations and is back in the swing of things.

After following recent events related to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, it helps put the inconvenience that many of us experienced from Isabelle last fall in greater perspective. The Board urges our members to be among the many donating to relief agencies to help them do their job assisting victims.

Since Fall is considered the beginning of the fiscal and academic years, it is a good time to raise thoughts and issues about why we exist as an organization.

Most of us believe our community is a great place to live. Being part of a voluntary citizens association is a good way for Rock Creek Hills residents to: (a) stay informed about local issues; (b) get to know more neighbors at meetings and special events ; and (c) provide a vehicle for expressing our community interests and concerns in a public way that gets more attention from elected officials than we can obtain as individuals.

To this end, the Board is urging more Rock Creek Hills residents to become active Association participants. We invite you to contribute your energy and imagination within the Association as a volunteer on a committee of interest to you.

We have 6 standing committees to choose from. Please explore joining one of interest to you in whatever capacity that you wish:

- BUILDING AND COVENANTS
- COMMUNICATIONS
- LEGISLATIVE, PLANNING & ZONING
- HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
- SPECIAL EVENTS
- TRANSPORTATION

And please come to the October 19 meeting, and begin your participation! (Note: Meeting date was just changed from prior week). Babysitting will be provided.

- President*        Joe Rosenberg
- Vice President*   Shannon Hamm
- Treasurer*        Bob MacDowall
- Secretary*        Mike Baker
- Past President*    David Hall



### Stay informed by joining RCHANET

Did you know that by becoming a member of our electronic bulletin board, RCHANET, you can receive regular updates by e-mail? It's free, and takes a few minutes to sign up. You'll be able to access a forum for posting and viewing general information and planned events.

To join rchanet, you can go to [rchca.org](http://rchca.org), click on the link and register from there, or contact Sam Hoxie via email at [samhoxie@comcast.net](mailto:samhoxie@comcast.net). Be sure to include your name and address if you would like to join so that we may verify your connection to the neighborhood.

RCHCA Communications Chair  
[jdinger9@comcast.net](mailto:jdinger9@comcast.net)

## Next RCHCA Meeting

The next RCHCA meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 19. The meeting will be held at Grace Episcopal Day School, 9411 Connecticut Ave. The meeting will run from 7:30 – 9:00 pm. Babysitting will be provided.

We welcome volunteers to help in planning, set-up, and clean up of the event. Please contact Joe Rosenberg at 301-495-9821 or [jrosenberg@comcast.net](mailto:jrosenberg@comcast.net) if you are interested in helping.

Agenda Items:

Treasurer's Report

Speaker Jim Fustero from Montgomery County Recycling on program objectives

Traffic Survey Request Update

Covenants Update

Train Noise Update

## Train Noise Update

For several months now, a consultant to the County's DPWT has been studying the technical issues that must be addressed to have a Quiet Zone at Forest Glen crossing. Since the County had no prior experience with Quiet Zones, it initially did not anticipate the length of time required for a full Diagnostic Field Review (DFR), which must obtain the involvement of all affected participants, with final concurrence from Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) before formally applying for a Quiet Zone.

Other DFR participants include CSX, MARC, AMTRAK, and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). Its purpose is to ensure coordination of all parties to be affected, and to have full consideration of all aspects of safety, especially the range of potential supplemental safety measures that can replace the mandatory sounding of train horns whenever a rail-grade crossing is approached. At present, the DFR is expected to be completed around the end of October. If the result is positive, it will take several weeks for the County and its consultant to prepare a formal application for a Quiet Zone for submittal to the FRA.

Councilmember Steve Silverman's Office remains actively involved, and has been instrumental in moving this process forward.

## Covenant Issues

Rock Creek Hills Covenants Board has modified the Neighbor Notification Form (<http://www.rchca.org/checklist.htm>) to ask residents to include their email addresses. We are notifying residents of approvals via email, as well as posting those approvals immediately on the RCHCA website (<http://www.rchca.org/checklist.htm>).



Once approved, you can obtain your approval sign from Shannon Hamm by e-mail at [shannonhamm@comcast.net](mailto:shannonhamm@comcast.net)

We will also be asking residents that are approved if they will post the RCHCA Approved Projects sign near the permit sign. That will be added to the Neighbor Notification Form shortly. Any residents with approved projects, that want a sign need to email Shannon Hamm at [Shannonhamm@comcast.net](mailto:Shannonhamm@comcast.net).

We encourage residents to inquire about projects near their residences, if they have not been notified about the activity. Please contact the neighbor first, but if you have no luck in receiving information, as they may have vacated the residence, please let the Board know of your concerns.

## Do You Have Recycling Questions?

If you want to know more how recycling works in Montgomery County, we have asked the Project Manager for our area to speak at the October 19 meeting on important issues, as well as answer questions. Jim Fustero is the Project Manager for our area on addressing issues regarding the big blue bins, how to recycle hazardous wastes and all the services offered.

## New to the Neighborhood?

Please be sure to contact our welcoming committee chairperson, Shannon Hamm 301-933-5264 or [shannonhamm@comcast.net](mailto:shannonhamm@comcast.net), so that she may provide you with information about the neighborhood, a community directory, a dues form and more.