

The Beltsville News

An All Volunteer Newspaper

Vol. 70, Number 12

Beltsville, Maryland

December 2022

The Beltsville News
11722 Emack Rd.
Beltsville, Md. 20705

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Cub Pack's Doing Service and Campfire Cooking!!

By Regina Halper

Cub Pack 1031 did their Scouting for Food collection and sorting at St. Joseph's Food Pantry and then we gathered and cooked hot dogs and s'mores over a campfire! Many thanks to everyone in Beltsville who donated to our food drive!! We collected over 2700 lbs. of food!!

A couple of our meetings this month we couldn't meet at the school because of the election, but hopefully most of the parents



Above and at left: Scouts making hot dogs after the SFF drive

voted because we like to do our civic duty! We are getting ready to have a pack meeting with a skit by the younger scouts and have a fitness course to help the Webelos complete their Stronger, Higher Faster requirement. The Arrow den is working on Into the Wild and Outdoorsman.

It is not too late to join just contact Regina Halper at Pack-1031cubscouting@gmail.com for information. We are a family

scouting unit. We learn outdoor skills, citizenship, STEM, nature and do service. We look forward to having another fantastic year!! We are back in Beltsville Academy for our den meetings. And happy to be meeting in our usual place and learning about nature, doing service and hiking in the outdoors. We are mask optional and still cautiously progressing toward regular meetings.

NEXT ISSUE:

Submissions Due

No Later Than:

December 14

Paper Out:

December 27

On the Agenda



Karen Coakley

By President Karen M. Coakley

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Can you believe the year is almost over!

MD ROUTE 212/ Powder Mill Road Update

We are coming in the home stretch with construction. They are working on storm water management/drainage issues, utility (gas and WSSC) issues, and sidewalks between Garrett and Rhode Island Avenue. These tasks are running behind schedule due to weather issues in November. The target completion of this construction phase is realistically the middle of January. The milling and repaving for this stretch is likely to be moved to the spring of 2023. Paving cannot be done once temperatures drop below 50 degrees. As we go to press the nighttime temperatures are going to be in the 30's or below at night. The last phases are all very sensitive to weather conditions.

ON THE AGENDA
continues on page 1

Beltsville Briefs

Pizza With Santa!

On Saturday, December 17 the Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department (4911 Prince George's Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705) will host Pizza With Santa! The cost is \$5.00 for children and \$7.00 for adults. There will be pizza, Christmas Crafts, and Writing Letters to Santa (that will be mailed from the Fire House). And of course, Santa will be there too to take pictures and hand out treats!

The Beltsville Young at Heart

by Lois Hamilton

Our September meeting brought us 5 new members to join the club. We were afraid that after not meeting in July and August, we would be too few to meet. But along with our new members, we've lost two of our older members. Richard Moore was our secretary for the last 11 years, and Lois Knabel was a sweet and lovely lady who was a

joy to know. We will miss both of them greatly.

We are looking forward to our November 17 Thanksgiving Gala in Laurel at the United Methodist Church on Main Street. With a delicious menu (no turkey), entertainment by "Having Fun", drawings for 50/50 and 7 raffle items, among all the fellowship we have together, it should be a blessed gathering. Anyone who would like information about the luncheon, or our club should call me at 301-498-9736, so I can provide you with what you would like to know. Remember, Good friends leave footprints on our hearts.

Upcoming Events at First Baptist Church Of Beltsville

On Sunday, December 18, at 11 am there will be a Christmas Cantata Music Celebration. The First Baptist Church of Beltsville

BELTSVILLE BRIEFS
continues on page 7

Super Fun Holiday Gift Ideas That Get Kids Excited to Learn

(StatePoint) Shopping for kids this holiday season and looking for gifts that offer some educational value? The good news is that you don't need to sacrifice fun! Here are five awesome gift ideas that will get school-age kids excited about learning outside the classroom.



1. With the Magic Adventures Microscope, young biologists can explore tiny worlds full of huge discoveries, zooming in on flowers, animals, food, minerals and more using eight double-sided smart slides that activate amazing BBC videos and images. Inquiring minds can discover answers to curious questions like: How do leaves change colors? What do plant cells look like? What

is sand made of anyway? They can also make their own discoveries by finding things around the house and getting a closer look using the reusable slides or large sample tray. With up to 200x magnification on this real microscope, kids will be amazed by what they see. A capture-and-save feature allows for documenting findings, and included games and quizzes add to the fun and let kids put their knowledge to the test.

2. Reading enthusiasts will love a subscription to a book of the month club offering selections for their reading level and interests. This is not only a great way to promote a lifelong

GIFT IDEAS
continues on page 6



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Beltsville News: Blast from the Past

(From the Beltsville News issue of December 2021)

By Ted Ladd

Congratulations Kathy Rodeffer

Katherine (Kathy) Rodeffer of Beltsville was honored on Friday, Nov. 9, 2012, in ceremonies naming a wing of the Thomas G. Pullen Creative and Performing Arts Academy in Landover the Katherine A.

Rodeffer Music Wing.

Ms. Rodeffer's family and friends were among the many people present to share this momentous occasion. Students from the Arts Academy, her former students, colleagues and county officials enjoyed musical selections by the Thomas G. Pullen Band and Orchestra.

A Letter from the News Director

By Rick Bergmann

Hello everyone, as we close out 2022 and move onto 2023, it occurred to me that next year will be my 10th year as News Director for the Beltsville News. Time has flown for sure. A lot has changed in 10 years. We have lost some wonderful writers and colleagues such as Baker Bill Raulins (Baker Bill's Column), Evelyn Adkins (our longtime treasurer), Ingeborg Carsten-Miller (one of Beltsville's many wonderful poets), Gary Bauchan (Scoutmaster and author of many stories about the scouts) and Barbara Schofield (The Beltsville Young at Heart Club column). We have seen many changes such as the closing of Behnke's Nursery, the closure of Old-Line Bistro (and subsequent reopening as Lax Wine and Spirits) and TJ's of Calverton, and the repaving

of Powder Mill Road. We have also seen the formation of new community groups that such as Resident's for a Better Beltsville, Beltsville Community Cats, and UpStage Artists.

The Beltsville News itself has changed a lot in the last 10 years as well. We have gone online with a website, social media outreach, and (perhaps the biggest change) we stopped home delivery. We have managed to come into the 21st century in many ways. We survived a pandemic, something most of us never thought we would see. We have added several reoccurring columns such as Tech Sense, The Kitty Post, and Jason's Jive.

I look back on these past 10 years with great fondness. My first article that I edited was titled *Kingdom United International Church in Beltsville to Hold Community Outreach Event*. It was

short, just 377 words, but it was the first. I look forward to what the future brings to Beltsville and its residents. I want to thank all of our readers and supporters who have contributed to our success over the last 10 year. Have a wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely,
Rick Bergmann
News Director,
he Beltsville News

ON THE AGENDA

continued from page 1

Holiday Safety Tips

Lock your doors to your home and car. Get an "RFID" wallet or envelope for your driver's license, passport, credit and debit cards. Thieves have found an easier way to pick your pocket and your identity at the same time. Do not leave gifts visible from your windows. If you are going out of town for the holidays have timers on your lights and stop your mail and newspaper. Thefts from cars is still a problem in our community. Do not leave valuables in your car.

Safe Shopper Tips

If you are shopping online have your packages delivered to a safe place, or make sure you will be home to take packages in immediately. Carry cash or credit and debit cards deep in your pocket or in zipper pockets and your wallets in your front pocket as opposed to the back pocket. Be aware of your surroundings when shopping in stores. Do not leave your purse unattended in the shopping cart. When in use, cover the account number on your credit/debit card with your hand and block the view when typing in your PIN. Look around the parking area before exiting the vehicle and make sure you lock your car. Ensure your keys are accessible before exiting the store and lock the doors as soon as you enter the vehicle. Do not stop and talk to strangers in a parking lot/deck. Shop with a friend or family member, there is safety in numbers. Be aware of your surroundings.

If you have a community concern, I can be reached at 301-741-7672 or karenmcoakley@gmail.com.

The Beltsville News

An All Volunteer Newspaper

PUBLISHED BY THE BELTSVILLE-VANVILLE DISTRICT CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION INC.

News: Rick Bergmann, editorbvnews@gmail.com, 8 Center Street, Laurel, MD 20723. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope if photo is to be returned. Accepted material may be edited. Letters to the Editor on local topics are encouraged. Names may be withheld upon request.

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Circulation

Hard copies may be picked up at more than 50 locations in greater Beltsville, including the Beltsville Library, Wawa, Beltsville Community Center, Spicknall's Farm Market, schools, churches, restaurants and more. Many receive a monthly pdf of the paper via e-mail at no charge. To receive copies by email, go to www.beltsvillenewstoday.com, and enter your e-mail address.

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

I have called the county several times already in the last 6 months, since I have witnessed that on many occasions, the SAME truck picks up the Regular Trash and the Recycling Trash. On all the occasions, I quickly called 311 and reported the issue. Every time, they tell me they will investigate.

On 08/10/2022 I called them again about the same issue around 12:04 noon, and they wrote my complaint and sent me an email with a ticket number. The same day I got an email saying the ticket was closed, "Evidence of issue not found."

I called 311 again the same day, another person took my complaint and gave me a new ticked ID. I explained that they closed the ticket and probably they did not bother to reach out to me if they

needed more information. I saw when the truck picked up both containers on several houses on my street.

When I called the last time, I explained that this has been happening way too often and I can see it with my own eyes when this happens. The vendor needs to be held accountable. Otherwise, what is the point of keeping two separate containers if when they pick it up it all goes to the same truck?

If someone else sees this happening, please call 311 and report it. This should not be happening. Also, if you have photos or doorbell ringer video footage showing a crew actually mixing the two into the same truck, please send that information to Mrs. Marilyn Naumann, her email is MENaumann@co.pg.md.us

Thanks, Rosana C

Kitty Post



Abandoned House Cats, A Disturbing Trend

By Sallie Rhodes

Beltsville Community Cats (BCC) is sad to report on an unfortunate and disturbing trend. People all over Prince George's County are abandoning their pet cats, releasing them outside to fend for themselves for food, water and shelter. Many of these cats are unaltered. Some are pregnant. Some are sick. Many, if not most, of these cats will not survive through the winter. Unfortunately, some will suffer long, drawn-out deaths, some will be hit by cars, and some will be killed by wild animals.

The reasons for the increased frequency of abandoned cats are many. First, the cost of everything has increased significantly, placing an economic burden on many households. In addition, stores are often out of reasonably priced cat food. Second, it is getting more and more difficult to secure vet appointments in a timely manner to get cats sterilized, vaccinated, and treated for illnesses and injuries. For example, low-cost options for spay/neuter surgeries are often booked out for 2 to 3



months.

Third, many people living in this area are transient residents (college students, contract workers, military personnel, etc.). When moving, some people simply release their cats outside. Those that actively try to rehome their cats often wait until the last minute to ask for help. It is important for pet owners to be aware that almost every cat group in PG County reports that their options for fostering kitties are very limited. Local shelters also have limited space and require you to set up a "surrender appointment" which is often booked out a month or

ABANDONED
continues on page 15



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- Food Supplement (FS)
- Medical Assistance for Families & Children (FAC)
- Maryland Children's Health Program (MCHP)
- Recertify—(Redetermination) -Dropoff documents
- Other DSS Emergency Assistance

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Holiday Cheer

With holiday music in the air and the festivities beginning, family and friends will be arriving before long. Now is the time to get your home looking its best for holiday entertaining. There are several things that you can do to quickly update your interiors that is sure to evoke a "WOW" from your guests. Wallpapering with a neutral tone on tone pattern or with a simple geometric design above the chair rail in the dining room will create warmth and interest. A large novelty mirror with an unusual shape will accentuate the wallpaper while brightening the room. There is still time to order new drapery panels, sheers and blinds for the windows that will give a finished look to any room. Will's Decorating (www.decoratmaryland.com) in Hyattsville has a great selection of inexpensive in-stock wallpapers, special order wallpapers, draperies and Hunter Douglas blinds and novelty mirrors and lamps. Will's also does reupholstery and has lots of beautiful fabrics to choose from.



Michael Richards and
Valerie Kabelac

Michael Richards, the owner of Will's Decorating, recommends taking a good look at your dining room, kitchen and family room chairs. You don't want your guests taking notice of stained or tattered chairs. Freshen it up with a new fabric. Six dining room chair seats only takes three to four yards of fabric. If the seat is caving in you probably just need new padding. Your chairs can look like new in no time. Will's does expert upholstery work and can do the makeover quickly. For more expert advice on what you can do to spruce up your home this holiday season call for your FREE design consultation at Will's Decorating with Michael.

Happy Holidays

From Michael & Valerie

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From the Office of Council Member Tom Dernoga

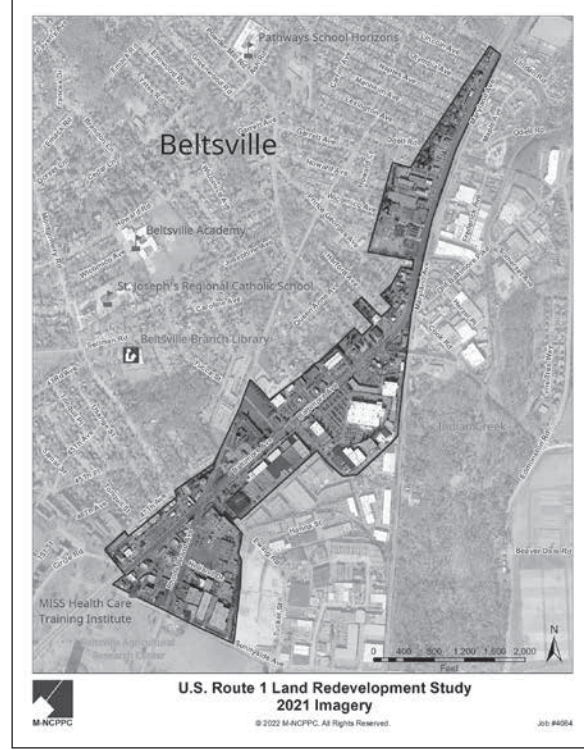
Route 1 Land Redevelopment Study

The Prince George's County Planning Department recently awarded a consultant contract for the Route 1 Land Development Study in Beltsville to Smart Growth America and the Neighborhood Design Center. This study looks at the Subregion 1 Plan area along the Route 1 Corridor boundary from Quimby Avenue to Sunnyside Avenue, adjacent to the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and the immediate surrounding neighborhoods, to develop a strategy that brings in various partners to formulate and consider how to develop sustaining relationships that realize the vision set forth in the Subregion I Plan for this area, with the focus of bringing about coordination among the commercial and industrial uses with the surrounding neighborhoods. This coordinated effort ultimately focuses on improving the visual appearance of the area and ensuring a pedestrian-friendly environment that is a safe and enjoyable place to walk.

The Study will bring together experts across various disciplines to focus on: Neighborhood Revitalization, Real Estate Development, Complete Streets,



The District 1 Team at the T-Day event in 2021. From left to right: Councilmember Tom Dernoga; Chief of Staff, Michelle García; Office Manager, Carolyn Brosch; Constituent Services Aides, Jerri Jones, Mary Cook; and Paige Goldscher.



Route 1 Land Redevelopment Study Map

Design Guidelines. It will also engage local stakeholders to create recommendations for future development that align with the Approved Masterplan and Sectional Map Amendment for Subregion 1. There is a project webpage that has more information about the project including a map of the study area, upcoming meetings and events, and a link to a community survey.

Commercial Stakeholder meeting December 1st, 2022 https://bit.ly/Route1Study_Dec1

Community Stakeholder meeting December 7th, 2022 https://bit.ly/Route1Study_Dec7

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BELTS22

Senior Holiday Concert

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Join M-NCPPC and the Department of Parks and Recreation on Thursday, December 15, 2022, from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM; doors open at 10:15 AM. There is a fee of \$15 for residents and \$20 for non-residents. Seniors ages 60 & better are welcome. The event will be held at Laurel-Beltsville Senior Activity Center at 7120 Contee Road, Laurel 20707.

Register today at <https://bit.ly/SeniorHolidayConcert22>. Ticket Code: SPD-SPEC-GA-20221215

Contact Us

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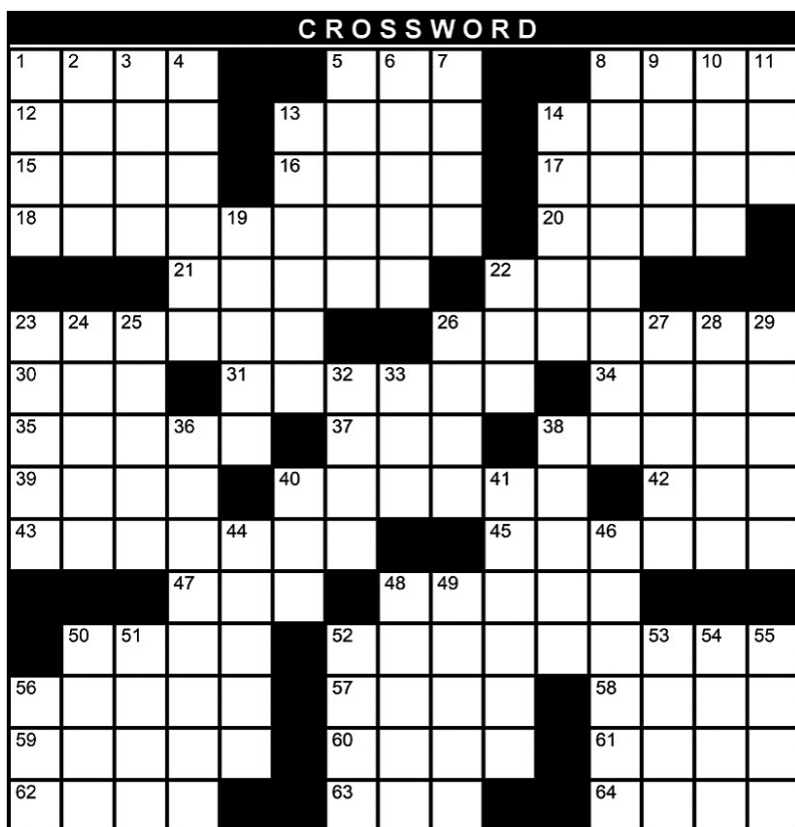
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Statepoint Crossword: Holiday Movies



ACROSS

1. Concert units
5. *Kevin to Buzz in "Home Alone"
8. Emphatic no
12. Phyllo, alt. sp.
13. Chicken of the sea?
14. a.k.a. papaya
15. Biblical firstborn
16. Aquarium show star
17. Type of squash
18. *Like George Bailey's life
20. Struggle for air
21. Aggregate
22. Gangster's gun
23. *Mount Crumpit's misanthrope
26. They refuse to believe
30. *____ Howard, directed a movie about #23 Across
31. High regard
34. Like dental exam
35. Bullying, e.g.
37. Popular deciduous tree
38. Kaa of "The Jungle Book"
39. Cleopatra's necklace
40. *Like characters in Will Ferrell's famous Christmas movie
42. Use a Singer
43. Continuing forever
45. Wonder Woman's ability to fly, e.g.

47. Galley propeller
48. Type of consonant
50. Corner chess piece
52. *Nicolas Cage's character gets a glimpse of a different life (2 words)
56. Like famous Moulin
57. Computer image
58. French money
59. Alleviated
60. Target of a joke
61. Iditarod ride
62. *Nick Claus' brother, a repossession agent
63. Famous frat house
64. Black and green brews

DOWN

1. Not many (2 words)
2. Japanese soup
3. Architectural drawing
4. Sudan, in French
5. Rides the wave
6. Ear bone, a.k.a. anvil
7. Jezebel's idol
8. *Griswold family's pastime
9. Epic poem
10. Waterproof canvas
11. Part of B.Y.O.
13. Synagogue scrolls
14. Like a Druid

19. Master of ceremonies
22. Engagement symbol
23. Prepare carrots, sometimes
24. R2-D2, e.g.
25. Accustom
26. Bruce Willis' ex
27. Use the blunt pencil tip
28. Autumn laborer
29. Lots and lots
32. Regale with a tale, e.g.
33. *Human from North Pole comes to NYC
36. *Bill Murray movie, inspired by Charles Dickens
38. Water-covered sandbank
40. Corncob
41. Orthopedic device
44. In the buff
46. Driest, as in humor
48. Vacuum, pl.
49. Be theatrical
50. Katy Perry's 2013 hit
51. Yorkshire river
52. Trivial lies
53. Drug smuggler
54. Pi times square of radius
55. Show of agreement, pl.
56. Game official, for short

See Solution on page 6



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Crossword Solution from page 5

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F	I	L	O			T	U	N	A		P	A	P	A
E	S	A	U			O	R	C	A		A	C	O	R
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A	B	U	S	E			E	L	M			S	N	A
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			O	A	R					V	E	L	A	R
	R	O	O	K						F	A	M	I	L
R	O	U	G	E						I	C	O	N	
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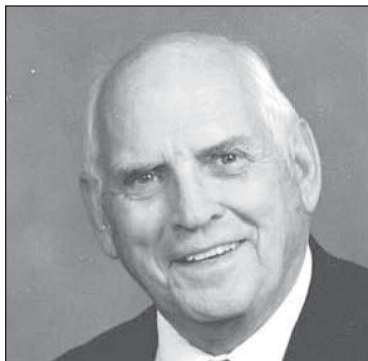
Obituaries



Gary Wayne Scaggs

Scaggs, Gary Wayne

Gary Wayne Scaggs, DDS, died at his home in Crownsville, MD, on September 21, 2022, at age 76. He is survived by his loving wife Nancy C. Scaggs, sons Andrew (Kate Walker) and Adam and grandson Malcolm. Also surviving are his sisters Nancy Scaggs (Dennis Clark) and Chris Byers (Keith Gohsler), many relatives and friends. He was predeceased by his parents Joseph and Julia Scaggs and brother Richard, all of Beltsville. His funeral service was held at the Severna Park United Methodist Church, 731 Benfield Road, on Saturday, October 8. In lieu of flowers, please support Garrett's Garden. Donations may be made to the Friends of Quiet Waters Park, writing Gary Scaggs in the memo line <http://www.fqwp.org/>. Please go to www.LastingTributesFuneralCare.com for additional information on Gary's life.



George W. Thomassen

Thomassen, George W.

George W. Thomassen passed away at his home on October 27, 2022, at the age of 103. He

was born on the family farm in Creighton, Nebraska on April 8, 1919, the eighth of eleven children. His parents were Wilhelm Thomassen and Thekla Neppel Thomassen. George is preceded in death by Betty, his wife of 68 years; his son Robert Thomassen and his brothers; Frank, Pete, Leo, Elmer and Paul and his sisters; Josephine, Sofie, Irene and Adelaide. His dear sister Dolores sadly passed away four days after George on October 31, 2022; his children; Mary Jane (William Nehoda), George W. Jr. (Christine), Elizabeth Matthews (Pete) and Paul; grandchildren Claire, Jim (Sofia), Jill, and Eric Matthews, Jay and Eli Thomassen; His great-grandchildren; Logan, Haley and Timothy Thomassen, and Evelyn, Grace and Hazel Matthews, and many nieces and nephews.

When America entered World War II George joined the Navy and served as Chief Petty Officer aboard the USS Saturn. He and Betty met when his ship was docked in the Baltimore Harbor and she was a volunteer serving food at a USO dance that he attended. They were married at St. Jerome's Church in Hyattsville, MD on October 21, 1944. After the war they moved to Greenbelt, MD, and George attended Georgetown University where he earned a degree in Accounting, graduating in 1948. As the family grew they made several moves between Fredericksburg, VA, Bronxville, NY, Yonkers, NY and finally he moved his family from Hamden, CT to Beltsville in 1964 to become General Manager at Academy Ford in Laurel, MD. From there he went on to become General Manager at Guy Stewart Motors in Silver Spring, MD. In 1970 he acquired his own Dealership, Thomassen Lincoln Mercury in Rockville, MD. Then in 1977 he obtained a second dealership, Thomassen Ford in Charlestown, WV.

Known for his sense of humor, devotion to family, and his strong Catholic faith supported by his

unfailing attendance to daily Mass. His quick and often dry wit always had those around him laughing and put at ease. George always stayed close with his 10 siblings even though he was the only one on the east coast, most of his siblings having moved to California. They were always in touch with each other and tried to visit whenever they could. Even though working 10-to-12-hour days he always made sure he came home for dinner with the family and then went back to work. Everything he did he did with his wife and children in mind.

He may have left the farm, but the farm never left George. He always had a garden, growing a variety of vegetables including corn, cucumber, radish, tomato, squash and string beans. Fortunately, his Beltsville house backed up to a plot of unused USDA property which he was allowed to use for his garden. He delighted in sharing his harvest with friends and neighbors.

He was handy, fixing anything in the house that needed repair. He was good at building things as well; he built a 12-foot-long picnic table to accommodate big family gatherings. That picnic table saw many of both George and Betty's brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews and grandchildren for Sunday dinners, birthdays, graduations, and First Communions, all were celebrated with Betty's wonderful cooking.

He believed it was important to give his time and talents to his community. Even though he worked 60 to 70 hours a week he was involved in many activities including: President of Toastmasters international Club of Beltsville, Chair of Finance Committee St. Joseph Church, Member of Knights of Columbus Council 2809, he was a Third Degree Knight. He would also often pick up parish members who needed a ride to church. His strength and leadership in our family will be dearly missed and the joy he brought to our lives will be forever in our hearts.

GIFT IDEAS

continued from page 1

love of literature, it can help a young reader build their home library.

3. Fledgling explorers can travel the world and see everything in it with the Magic Adventures Globe from LeapFrog. Using the stylus, children can tap on the interactive learning globe and experience new places, languages, cultures, animals, geography, habitats and more through high-quality BBC videos. Featuring an integrated video screen, anima-

tions and live-action videos fully immerse kids in the curriculum to provide a better understanding of the world through more than five hours of videos. They can also play interactive games to explore the globe, challenge a friend and solve mysteries. With its focus on curriculum-based content and important foundational skills, LeapFrog toys offer experiences that make learning fun.

4. Encourage kids to become informed citizens of the world with a subscription to a news magazine designed just for them, such as "The Week Junior." This is an

excellent way to build vocabulary, while engaging kids on a wide range of subjects -- from culture and arts to science and government -- in a way that's appropriate for their age.

5. Foster a love of fine arts by gifting kids an all-in-one sketching, painting and coloring set complete with everything they need to unleash their inner Picasso. Pencils, markers, acrylic and watercolor paints, along with brushes, paper pads and canvas boards, will give artists of all ages the foundational tools they need to try their hand in various mediums.

Rosapepe's Report to Beltsville

Reminder: Health insurance deadline: January 15

Delegates Peña-Melnik, Barnes, Lehman, and I want to be sure all working families are able to sign up for affordable health insurance. Despite all the proposals in Congress to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA), it's still in effect. Now -- through January 15 -- is the time to learn about coverage -- and other ways to save money on health insurance. Open enrollment runs until January 15. Be sure to enroll or change plans by visiting www.marylandhealthconnection.gov or call toll-free 1-855-642-8572.

Federal Student Loan Forgiveness - November Deadline

President Biden has announced \$10,000 (and \$20,000 for recipients of Pell Grants) in student loan debt forgiveness for all borrowers making less than \$125,000 a year. A simple application will become available in October which will need to be completed by November 15th. Visit StudentAid.gov



Senator Jim Rosapepe

DebtRelief to be notified when the application becomes available.

COVID-19 emergency relief measures pausing payments on student loans were extended on ED-owned federal student loans through December 31, 2022.

Thank you!

Thank you for voting, regardless of who you voted for. America -- and Beltsville -- have many strengths, but, among the most important are democracy and the

involvement of ordinary citizens. Delegates Joseline Peña-Melnik, Ben Barnes, Mary Lehman, and I are honored to have been re-elected and to represent Beltsville for the next four years. Please let us know any way we can be of help to you.

2022 Winter Brunch

I hope you can join my wife Sheilah and me for our Welcome 2022 Celebration in January. The details are not finalized yet but check back to SenatorJimRosapepe.com for details and to RSVP. Families are welcome. We look forward to seeing you!

Merry Christmas!

My wife Sheilah joins me in wishing you and your family a Merry Christmas and a great New Year!

Contact us

Please let me know if there are other issues you have questions or thoughts about. And, of course, feel free to be in touch if I can be of help to you. Just email 21stDistrictDelegation@gmail.com.

BELTSVILLE BRIEFS

continued from page 1

Choir will present *Glorious Impossible!*

You are invited to celebrate the reason for the season with us on Saturday, December 24 at 6:00 pm at the Christmas Eve Service. Come worship the coming of the Savior through music, the Lord's Supper and ending with a candlelight singing of Silent Night. We look forward to having you worship with us! 4700 Odell Road Beltsville, MD

Food Distribution at Beltsville Seventh Day Adventist Church

By Pastor Sifa Potauaine

A drive-through food distribution event was held at the Beltsville Seventh Day Adventist Church in conjunction with Prince George's County on 28 October. About 230 food boxes were given out, thanks to the Capital Area Food Bank. The event started at 11 am. Free food is available behind the church at the church's community center every Tuesday and Wednesday, 10:30 am to 1:30 pm. The community center runs in coordination with Prince George's County and offers many services. Food distribution was not scheduled for November, and the next drive-through will be on 3 December.



Annual Fall Beautification Projects: Adopt A Road along Montgomery Road. & Planting Spring Blooming Bulbs at Beltsville Community Center

Women's Community Club of Beltsville Holiday Open House

Would you like to learn more about the Women's Club of Beltsville? Please join us for our Open House on Thursday, December 8th from 6:30-8:00 p.m. We meet at the Beltsville-Adelphi Boys and Girls Club, 11705 Roby Avenue, Beltsville, Maryland. Light Refreshments will be served.

It is not too late to help out with our Holiday Food, Gift & Fund-Raising Program 2022. At Christmas, we provide presents for children. We accept new toys and new clothes for children. Monetary contributions & store gift cards are also appreciated. You or your organizations are wel-

come to sponsor a child or a family. Contact Karen Coakley at Womensclubbeltsville@gmail.com or 301-741-7672 with questions and /or to schedule a pickup or delivery time of your donation.

As a certified 501(c)(3) organization, all contributions are tax deductible. Donations can be made thru PayPal by using our email address Womensclubbeltsville@gmail.com. Monetary contributions and gift cards can be mailed to: Women's Community Club of Beltsville P. O. Box 1607 Beltsville, Maryland 20704-1607. To see a list of activities, visit our Facebook page: Women's Community Club of Beltsville

Residents For A Better Beltsville Blood Drive

Residents For A Better Beltsville will host a blood drive on Friday, December 16 from 10 am to 3 pm at the MDTA Konterra Detachment Break Room (13201 Konterra Drive, Laurel, MD 20707). If you would like to schedule an appointment, call 1-800-Red Cross or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter "RBB." You can streamline your donation experience and save approximately 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



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Join in the holiday fun and make the season shine bright for everyone during our **Holiday Lights Decorating Contest!** Submit your holiday decorated home and enter for your chance to win a **\$500 Gift Card** plus neighborhood bragging rights.

..... **CONTEST DETAILS**

This contest is open to members and non-members of Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union. Entries will be collected from now until **December 15, 2022**, 5pm. The voting period will run from December 17th-28th. Contestants must own or rent the submitted property in Prince George's County, Maryland.

TOP PRIZE	SECOND PLACE	HONORABLE MENTION
\$500 Gift Card	\$100 Gift Card	\$25 Gift Card



HOW TO ENTER

- 1.** Visit PrinceGeorgesCFCU.org/HolidayLights
- 2.** Upload a 10-second video and one image.
- 3.** Place contest sign in the front yard of entry with instructions on how to vote.



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The Browser Part 2

This month we will continue our “Using our Tools” series and the discussion on the browser. In part 1 we covered some web browser choices including Chrome, Edge, Firefox, and Safari which covers the majority of the browsers commonly found on the Internet. We also discussed the Tab Bar and the Tool Bar. This month we will cover important browser settings, private browsing, bookmarking, and history.

Browser Settings

These instructions are for a Chrome or Firefox browser running under windows. On the far-right hand side of the browsers toolbar you should find a menu represented by either three lines or three dots stacked one on top of another. The three lines are often called a hamburger menu. Selecting the menu should pull-down a menu and near the bottom should be a choice of settings. Selecting settings will open a new browser tab with a menu on the left side where you will find “Privacy & Security”. Selecting this will allow configuration of the privacy options supported by the browser.

There are a lot of setting here, but we will look at just a few. Cookies are used to track information between your browser and

each web site you visit. Cookies are sometimes sent from external or “third party” web sites so you can be tracked between sites across the web. In general, this is a violation of your privacy. Whenever you see the Facebook F in a blue circle icon for example Facebook is tracking you and collecting information about which websites you have visited to share with other companies. This tracking occurs even if you do not have a Facebook account.

In Firefox use Enhanced Tracking Protection set to Strict to reduce the number of tacking tools that can be used to follow you across the web. You can also have all cookies deleted whenever you close the browser. A separate “History” tool allows all of your Internet history to be erase to a previous point in time.

Chrome also provides several similar tools, but these are grouped separately. For example, disabling third-party trackers is enabled separately for normal mode and “incognito” mode. Chrome is written by Google and Google make their money by selling targeted ads. So, Google tends to be less friendly to technology that makes it harder to target you as an individual. Currently offers a tool called “Privacy sandbox”



Google Chrome



Firefox

that allows Google to run experiments on new ways of tracking customers without revealing specific identifying information about the user. I normally leave this disabled because they do not have a history of success.

Incognito Mode and Private Windows

All of the browsers seem to offer a Private Mode which take steps to reduce the amount of information that can be used to track your browser as you crawl the web. This good when you want to research your cousin’s rare disease without getting followed by a million ads about potential cures. In this case the browser doesn’t save your cookies, history, site data, or data entered into forms. This makes it harder for the sites to track you across other

site and across multiple sessions but be aware it does not totally protect you. Firefox has all of this which is further enhance by Advanced Tracking Protection, but the warning still applies.

If you need more privacy than Privacy or Incognito modes can give, I recommend using a good Virtual Private Network (VPN). Firefox offers the Mozilla VPN solution for a \$4.99 per month.

Bookmarks and History

So, I have been browsing the web for several hours researching let’s say “Mantle Lanterns” and I have found several interesting sites that I want to come back to later and read in detail. The URLs are 80 characters long so I don’t want to write then down, and my search result list is several pages long and I will never remember

how I found them. What do I do? I use a bookmark. The bookmark icon looks like a star (for favorites) found on the right side of the address bar in both Firefox and Chrome. Selecting the icon asks if you want to bookmark the page. Once a page has been bookmarked it can be found by looking it up in the bookmarks collection.

But what if I found something and I forgot to bookmark it? The browser tracks the history of where you have been on the web. This is sort of like Google Maps tracking where you have been on the map. The browser keeps a record of each page you have visited in chronological order and grouped by the domain (top level web site). If you remember the time, you last visited the website it can be pretty easy to look it up using the history. History is not kept if you are using a private window so is not useful in that case.

Next Time

Again, I have run out of time and space (where is a Tardis when I need one?). Next visit to “Using our Tools” I should be able to wrap up our discussion of the browser when I cover search engines, Home Pages, add-ons, and extensions.

Preventing Scams and Fraud this Holiday Season

(Statepoint) Scams and fraud are more deceiving these days, reaching you in more ways than ever before. The FTC reported 2.8 million fraud reports from consumers in 2021 alone, with reported fraud losses increasing 70% from 2020 and more than \$5.8 million.

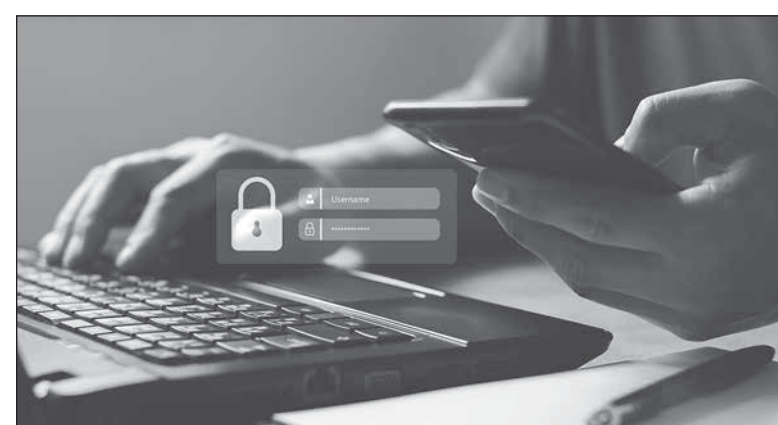
Scammers begin their traditional uptick at the start of the holiday

season, and identity theft protection expert Carrie Kerskie says being aware of what new cyber and phone fraud trends to look out for is your biggest defense against unwanted fraud.

“The more that we can get this information out there the better,” Kerskie recently told T-Mobile Stories, “Unfortunately when it comes to technology, privacy and

identity theft, the same old advice that was given 10, 15 years ago is still the gospel of what you’re supposed to do. And that is outdated. None of it works. It’s not true, it’s not relevant anymore.”

Scammers have expanded from targeting consumers with only traditional email and phone calls. The most recent trending scams are occurring using person-to-



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person payment platforms or P2P, remote access software and even public Wi-Fi.

Kerskie says the most desirable accounts to criminals include bank accounts, mobile phone accounts, credit card accounts and Amazon accounts. Now, with P2P payment platforms, criminals can get access to your bank account and use it to transfer money within moments.

The latest tactic that concerns Kerskie is using remote access software to gain access to everything on your computer without having to directly ask you for things like your social security number, bank account or credit

card number. While many workers use remote access software safely from their companies’ IT departments, criminals are also using this software in their scams.

Criminals also try to access your information in settings like coffee shops or libraries using public Wi-Fi. A laptop or smartphone using public Wi-Fi can easily fall victim to scams. An easy fix is to use your smartphone’s wireless data and hotspot to help keep your personal information secure.

Kerskie says there are ways to

FRAUD

continues on page 14

Riderwood Residents Find the Key to a Healthy, Happy Life

Silver Spring, MD - Staying on the go is nothing new for Anita Dunn, a resident of Riderwood, an Erickson Senior Living community in Silver Spring, Md.

“Before coming to Riderwood, I lived a very active life in Florida,” she says. “I spent my time enjoying three or four activities a day, including a variety of clubs, tennis, and travel. It was important to me to move to a community where I could enjoy the same active lifestyle, and Riderwood has exceeded all my expectations.”

Taking advantage of Riderwood’s amenities and resources, which are designed to support all facets of well-being, Anita says she is happier - and healthier - than she would have been had she stayed in her former home.

Jumping in

It’s easy to explore your interests and make friends at Riderwood, thanks to the wide range of clubs and activities, which reflect the community’s diversity.

“When I moved in, I made the decision to jump in with two feet,” says Anita. “I made a list of activities that interested me. I joined the pickleball group, played mah-jongg and canasta, and joined the 1940s Club. I meet new people at each activity I attend!”

Anita also enjoys taking classes at Riderwood’s new state-of-the-art fitness and aquatics center several times a week. The two-story, 25,000 square-foot center boasts a large studio for personal and group training, a pool, a pickleball court, and a flex space for dancing and other activities.

A holistic approach

Riderwood’s pastoral ministries staff helps residents foster spiritual wellness by creating opportunities for worship within 20 different faith and spiritual traditions. Each week, a variety of faith-based groups provides services for residents, as well as their family and friends.

As an active member of Riderwood’s Jewish community, Ani-



ta attends Friday night services, study groups, and special holiday events. “The Jewish community at Riderwood is very active and inclusive,” she says.

Riderwood residents - including Anita - enjoy access to the on-site medical center, staffed with full-time, certified professionals that specialize in senior health care. “I appreciate the convenience of the medical center,” says Anita.

Further supporting the wellness of the Riderwood community, this year, Erickson Senior Living provided a multimillion-dollar investment, through its Well-Being Fund, to support the addition of enhanced health and well-being programs and services to residents.

Incorporating findings from the company’s research partnership with Harvard University and the Benson Henry Institute (BHI) for Mind Body Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital, these additions are designed to enhance the physical, emotional, and social well-being of residents.

“Through the Well-Being Fund, we are able to apply evidence-based research to further enhance the programs, amenities, and services available to better enable residents to achieve optimal health outcomes,” notes Dr. Margaret Kimbell, vice president of community living for Erickson Senior Living.

Seeing the investment

Thanks to this investment, residents at all Erickson Senior Living communities now have greater access to tools and strategies that support resilience and overall health and well-being. Examples include Wellbeats, a new fitness app which allows residents to participate in on-demand and live exercise, yoga, and meditation classes from any location.

At Riderwood, the fitness centers recently received new, state-of-the-art equipment, including a smart mirror and Echelon fitness bikes.

“The Well-Being Fund also helped us certify two of our fitness staff members in Rock Steady Climbing, a boxing program specifically for people with Parkinson’s disease, as well as the corresponding equipment such as gloves, wraps, and punching bags,” says Fitness Manager Paula Butler.

The Well-Being Fund is also supporting renovations to a number of Riderwood’s indoor and outdoor amenities, including meditation spaces, the dog park, and the outdoor recreation center that will feature a new putting green and driving range.

Looking ahead

As she looks forward to the New Year, Anita feels energized

by the amenities and activities that are designed to help her reach her personal wellness goals.

“I am unbelievably happy with my decision,” Anita says. “I live a very social life that includes as many people and activities as I can fit into my day. Everything I

need is right here - from friendly neighbors and delicious restaurants to the wonderful medical center and staff. And my children are all happy that they no longer have to worry about me, should I become ill. They know I’m well cared for here at Riderwood.”

No Infant Anymore

Two thousand and some years ago
This world beheld a birth;
A baby boy, the Son of God,
Was given to this earth.

“Come contemplate this mystery.”
No infant anymore,
Each Christmas we’re reminded He
Fulfilled prophetic lore.

Announced by angel majesty,
Poor shepherds were the first
Who witnessed Heaven’s miracle,
Rejoicing with great mirth.

He is the Word of God made flesh,
Part of the Trinity,
His Holy Spirit calls to you,
“Put all your hope in Me.”

Today, there’re many people who
Dismiss this history,
Denying He was ever born,
But His own know that He

“There’s evil days ahead, Dear One,
Within My heart you’ll find:
Forgiveness, love, eternal life,
Abiding peace of mind.”

Not only was a perfect Son,
Who lived a blameless life
In order to provide for us
The needed sacrifice,
Christ Jesus died and rose to reign
Defeating sin and death.
His intercession speaks each day
Inviting men afresh,

With trumpet sound and shouts of joy
Skies once again will grace
Our planet with His promise kept
To greet us face to face!

Beckie Hutchings
11/01/2022

Merry Christmas

Sunday, December 11th



**Annual Ronnie Dove/
Camron Robertson
Christmas party
2-6 PM
with the fabulous
Doug Lester Band
\$25 for great music and fun!**

Happy New Year

Saturday, December 31st

**Johnny Seaton and his
Bad Behavior Band
7PM-12:30AM
\$45 including food, fun stuff and
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Club News

Residents for a Better Beltsville (RBB)

Join Residents for a Better Beltsville (RBB), a civic group advocating for the best in Beltsville, Maryland. We are focused on working with our Beltsville neighbors within the 20704, 20705, 20740, and 20783 neighborhoods. The aim of RBB is to foster a neighborly spirit and to promote civic pride.

Whether you are looking for a local advocacy group to join or

are a member of our various civic groups and homeowner associations - we look forward to meeting you. We are excited to partner with other advocacy groups throughout the greater Beltsville area.

Please join our meetings where we will discuss and monitor matters ranging from: beautifying our community, traffic concerns, potholes and road infrastructure, education and future school construc-

tion, new and changing development, smart growth, geographical environmental impact, neighborhood safety, nearby resources, and much more.

Please go to our website, BetterBeltsville.org, for more information and when we next meet. You may also connect by emailing betterbeltsville@gmail.com or by following us on Facebook and Twitter @BetterBeltsville

Calendar of Events

Remember that all venues may change or cancel events based on the current health situation in Maryland. It's always a good idea to call ahead before going to an event.

AREA EVENTS

COLLEGE PARK AVIATION MUSEUM

Address: 1985 Corporal Frank Scott Dr., College Park, MD 20740. Phone: 301.864.6029. Fax: 301.927.6472. Regular hours of operation: Open Tuesday – Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Mondays and major holidays. Cost: Adults/\$5; Seniors/\$4; Children/\$2 (1-year-old and under, free). The museum exhibit area highlights 10 unique aircraft and objects relating the history of early aviation at the College Park Airport. Please contact the museum regarding additional activities and updates to COVID-19 protocols.

TRAINS AND PLANES

Fri., Dec. 16 through Sun., Dec. 18. **On Fri., Dec. 16, the Museum will be open until 6 p.m. for extended viewing of the model trains and displays.** The National Capital Trackers are back this year with their fleet of model trains just in time for the holiday season! Watch the models trundle around their tracks and hear their whistles echo through the gallery. Learn about the connection between trains and College Park Airport. Free with museum admission.

LAUREL-BELTSVILLE SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

Masks are optional. Contact the center for updates. Membership is free for Beltsville residents who are 60 years old or older. Closed on Sundays and most major holidays. Contact the center for updates to hours of operation and current COVID-19 protocols. Address: 7120 Contee Rd., Laurel, MD 20707, around the corner from the University of Maryland Medical Center. Phone: 301.206.3350. Fax: 301.206.3387. TTY: 301.446.3402.

FREE MEMORY SCREENING

Wed., Dec. 7. Free memory screening to members / patrons on the first Wednesday of the month.

day of the Month. Contact the Center to sign up for a specific 10-minute time slot for your private screening.

LAUREL SENIOR FRIENDSHIP CLUB (LSFC)

We will have our next meeting on Wed., Dec. 14 at 10:30 a.m. The meeting room doors open at 9:30 a.m. We will have a short business meeting and special entertainment by the ladies' barbershop quartet **Now or Never**.

- Every Tuesday Bingo: 12 noon each Tuesday (doors open at 11 a.m.); fee for cards, NO admission fee.
- Contact the LSFC office for more details on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at 301.206.3380.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE VISITOR CENTER

Main phone: 301.497.5772. Address: 10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop, Laurel, MD 20708. The entrance is accessed from Powder Mill Rd. between the Baltimore–Washington Pkwy. and Rt. 197. Free admission and free parking. Current social distancing and face covering requirements match those of Prince George's County. All dogs must be kept on a leash (no longer than 6 feet) for their own safety as well as that of other visitors and wildlife. Regular hours of operation for the trails and grounds are: Open daily from sunrise to sunset, **except for federal holidays**. See the Friends of Patuxent website for more information at <https://friendsofpatuxent.org/>.

THE BUILDING, ART GALLERY, & BOOKSTORE

Contact the Visitor Center for updates. Main phone: 301.497.5772. Join our e-mail list by contacting timothy_parker@fws.gov. More information can be found at www.fws.gov/refuge/patuxent. The Visitor Center and the art gallery are open Tuesday – Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; closed on Sunday, Monday,

and federal holidays. The art gallery is adjacent to the bookstore. **The featured artist for December is photographer Steve McDaniel.** The bookstore is open Tuesday – Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

KID'S DISCOVERY CENTER

Tuesday through Saturday: **Pre-registered parent/child teams** are invited into the Center on the hour, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon for a 35-minute, fun-filled session. Activities are age-appropriate for children ages 3 – 8 (no children under the age of 3 years old). Call our front desk at 301.497.5760 to make your reservation.

BELTSVILLE EVENTS

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY (NAL)

Address: 10301 Baltimore Ave. in Beltsville. Main phone number: 301.504.5755. NAL is on Twitter at http://twitter.com/#!/National_Ag_Lib. We continue to serve our customers remotely during regular business hours. Online information products are always available at NAL.usda.gov and Nutrition.gov. Get MyPlate nutrition information for babies and toddlers via the free Amazon Alexa app. To learn more, visit www.myplate.gov/myplateassistant.

BELTSVILLE LIBRARY

Address: 4319 Sellman Rd., Beltsville, next to the police station. The main phone number is 301.937.0294. TTY: 301.808.2061. Ask a Librarian telephone reference: 240.455.5451. Regular hours of operation are Mon., Thur., and Fri. from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tue. and Wed. from 12 noon to 8 p.m.; Sat. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sun. 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.; closed on most major holidays. Contact the library for updates and late changes. See www.pgcmis.info/location/Beltsville.

6 Safety Tips During Darker Nights This Season

(StatePoint) During the long dark nights of fall and winter, concerns about personal safety may increase. Whether commuting for work or class, getting in an evening run or walking the dog, you likely need to carry out daily activities long after the sun goes down.

To help keep you safe, David Nance, founder of the SABRE Personal Safety Academy, shares six essential tips, along with safety product recommendations:

1. Make a plan before going out. Tell someone you trust your plans and be sure to keep them posted of your whereabouts.
2. Plan for darkness. When it matters most, you don't want to be fumbling around in your bag or on your bedside table for a way to

protect yourself. A first-of-its-kind tool, the SABRE Glow in the Dark Pepper Spray with Quick Release Key Ring is easy to find. Charged for as little as five minutes by any light source, the neon green illuminance can shine for as long as two hours, helping you stay prepared.

3. Use night walking safety rules. Don't walk in the street. Use well-lit sidewalks, avoiding dark areas with lots of shrubbery. Go in the opposite direction of traffic so you can see what's coming and whenever possible, walk with a friend. In a dark parking garage? Be extra alert.

4. Get tech support. Though looking at a smartphone while walking isn't safe, your tech devices can actually help protect

you from dangerous situations when used wisely. For example, the free SABRE Personal Safety App sends help alerts to selected contacts with your location when the in-app alert button is pressed or when SABRE SMART Pepper Spray is deployed.

5. Light your way. Practically speaking, you may not always be able to stick exclusively to well-lit areas, but a multifunctional tool can keep you prepared to protect yourself against threats while also helping you stay aware of your surroundings. Serving double-duty, the SABRE PepperLight includes a maximum strength pepper spray while illuminating any dark area with 750 lumens, visible up to 540

SAFETY

continues on page 14



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Let me start off with a recent situation that I just encountered on November 14 in Dallas. I had literally finished my day on road, picking up freight for the company I work for, and decided to go to Kentucky Fried Chicken to grab what would be my dinner for the evening. I went inside, placed my order, and paid by debit card. A patron had entered after me, and so he placed his order totaling \$11.90. HE gave the young male cashier \$20. Apparently, the cashier made a mistake and forgot to enter the cash amount tendered, so the register did not display how much change he should give back. I realized what had happened and was going to tell the cashier how much the change should be but decided to keep my mouth shut. He fumbled around for a bit, looked behind him but his coworkers were busy preparing orders, so he got his phone from his pocket and struggled with the calculator on his phone to get the amount of change he would have to present. Male customer looked on at him the whole time and said nothing. It then dawned on me that they both may have had difficulty with what should have been a very simple math situation.

I posted this experience on my social media account, and it has generated a lot of buzz. Other people commented on how sometimes, the cashiers would not get the amount of change right and would give too much change. The register tells them how much change is due but does not show the breakdown of the amount, so there is a need for mental math to see how many of the bills and

coins bring up the total due. Many people have said that there were instances where too much change was given, and they had to be honest and kind enough to return the excess.

This is the manifestation of a problem coming out of the schools and the attitude of young people toward math. I believe there needs to be a module of math that teaches them the use of a cash register and how to go about adding and subtracting or multiplying, in different scenarios. I believe an approach like this would make them a lot more receptive to some aspects of math.

When I taught the English Language at a Senior High School, in the Caribbean (St. Kitts) although it was not on the curriculum, I spent a two-week segment, teaching the children public speaking skills. I told them that at some point in life, they would have to stand up in front of an audience to speak, and at least they will have an idea of how to go about it. We did impromptu speeches and prepared speeches, and they loved it. Fast forward many years later, and some of these same students I taught are now politicians. Some are Ministers of Government or have been, and some have held appointments where they have to make presentations to global audiences. For example, The St. Kitts-Nevis Ambassador to the UN is a former student --- I remember mentoring her and a few others when they were 15 years old. I used to coordinate a monthly teen publication, Teen Times, which was a news and fashion publication for teenagers. The entire

editorial staff comprised teenagers and they learned how to conduct interviews and write brief as well as lengthy articles based on the interviews. They had to negotiate to get advertisements, as well as talk to the sports shops about modeling the latest sportswear -- I functioned as their photographer for them. Teen Times was very popular back then in the mid-1990s and we used to dread the end of the month when the publication came out as the school children would mob me to get a copy. Some would stand guard around my car in the parking lot, just to get a copy.

My childhood friend, classmate and neighbor, Branwen Okpako has just released a film, Return to Chibok. It is a sequel to a documentary that was done on the situation in Nigeria where 276 school-girls were kidnapped by Boko Haram. Branwen is working with me to get an article done, so look forward to it once we complete the article. The film was featured at an international film festival in London, earlier this month. The film is in Hausa, but with English subtitles.

Hope you had a nice Thanksgiving. Remember we have a lot to be thankful for. If you have the resources, please bring some cheer to a child around the world for Christmas. Many of the schools in Beltsville have the annual shoebox donations going on, where one puts a little gift package together, that fits into a shoe box. Contact local schools for this. I know Beltsville SDA School used to do this. Make a difference to somebody else.

Beltsville News

CHURCH DIRECTORY



St. Gregory of Nyssa Byzantine Catholic Church

(Alternating) 9, 11 am Sunday Liturgy. Schedule, Bulletin, Facebook:
www.stgregoryofnyssa.net

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St. Joseph Catholic Church

www.stjosephbeltsville.org

Pastor: Father Robert Maro
Masses: Please contact
parish office for schedule

Adult, Youth and Children Faith Formation
reled@stjosephbeltsville.org

Director: Mrs. Helene H. Stever

St. Joseph's Regional Catholic School

www.stjosrcs.org

Principal: Mrs. Erin Meunier

11007 Montgomery Road
Beltsville, MD 20705
301-937-7183

Masses: Sat Vigil 5:00pm, Sun's 8:30am*, 11:00am;
Mon, Wed-Friday 8:00am; Wed 2:15pm**, and 1st Sat's 8:00am

*The Mass on Sunday 8:30am is also live streamed, connect with us on Flocknote for the link. ** The Mass on Wednesday at 2:15pm is only when School is open.

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Beltsville News CHURCH DIRECTORY

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To view services online:

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsZionParish/Live/>

Other services online via Zoom: Wednesday Noonday;
Thursday Bible Study and Compline 7 PM via Zoom

Contact the Church office if you
are interested in any of these
resources

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All In-Person Attendees are encouraged to wear a mask

Both in-person and virtual worship are closed captioned

Zoom details can be found on our website

You can also watch the live stream on our Facebook page.

For where 2 or 3 gather in my name, I am there.

What's Happening

† Worship Sundays at 10 am (in-person & virtual)

† Bible Study Wednesdays at 7 pm (virtual)

† Food Distribution Saturday, December 17: 8:00 -

9:30 am for seniors and 9:30 to 11:00 am for the

general public.

CHECK US OUT

Join us on Saturday December 24, 2022

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Eve Service for the entire family! (Live

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The Beltsville News

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Keith Holland, Pastor

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Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

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Morning Worship	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.
Adult Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.

Wednesdays:

Adult Bible Study & Prayer	7:00 p.m.
Youth Fellowship	7:00 p.m.

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FRAUD

continued from page 10

keep scammers and fraud at bay ahead of the holiday shopping season.

Prioritize Privacy: Kerskie says, if it's easy for you, it's easy for a criminal. Privacy means having strong and unique passwords with a minimum of 12 characters, and for pins using random numbers and taking advantage of extra security. Enabling multi-factor authentication on your various apps and accounts will also protect yourself from potential threats.

Use Available Resources: Take advantage of the free anti-fraud safeguards offered by your mobile carrier. In the case of T-Mobile's Scam Shield, services include enhanced caller ID, scam ID and blocking, which flags suspicious calls and gives customers the option of blocking those numbers. Additionally, customers can get a free second number to keep their personal number personal, or even change their primary number completely.

Validate or Eliminate: Whatever potential threat you come across via email, text message, letter or even a phone call, try to validate the information. If you cannot confirm the information is true or confirm the senders' validity, throw it away, block the phone number or email address and report it as spam or junk mail.

Understanding how potential cyber threats and fraud work will help protect you this holiday season and beyond.

SAFETY

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feet. Another illuminating tool is the brand's Personal Alarm With LED Light And Snap Hook, which also features an alarm audible up to 1,250 feet, giving users an additional level of protection.

6. Wear reflective gear. Make yourself visible to cars and cyclists whenever you're running or walking in the dark with reflective apparel and gear, such as the SABRE Pepper Gel Runner Series with UV Marking Dye. Its adjustable hand strap and reflective logo offer protection and visibility. It's also a good choice as winter winds howl. Unlike pepper spray, pepper gel resists wind blowback.

Products from SABRE are available nationwide at Walmart, Target, Amazon, Dick's Sporting Goods, Lowe's, Menards, Academy and Bass Pro Shops, among other national retailers. While it's legal to carry these safety products in all 50 states, check local laws. For more information and safety tips, visit www.sabrered.com.

"While cold dark nights can create a sense of unease, the right tools and safety strategies can give you confidence and peace of mind this season," says Nance.

Classifieds • Call 301-257-3408

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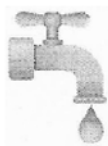
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ABANDONED

continued from page 3

more. Furthermore, some pet owners are elderly people who must give up their pets due to illness, injury, or moving in with family members or into a facility.

If you have a pet cat (or dog) that you are looking to rehome, BCC recommends going through the following steps as soon as you know you will not be able to keep your pet.

- **Network:** Approach family members, friends and neighbors to see if they are willing to take your cat.
- **Advertise:** Post your cat on Nextdoor, Facebook and Craigslist to see if anyone is interested in taking your pet. Make sure you carefully screen anyone who responds to make sure your pet is going to a good home.
- **Plan Ahead:** Immediately contact your local animal control agency and the cat group serving your area. Local shelters, which are stretched to the limit, require an appointment to surrender your pet. The sooner you contact them the better chance you have of finding somewhere that can take your cat. To find the local cat group serving your area, visit www.pgcatalliance.org, click on "Get Help", and scroll down to "Contact your local group."

- **Be Mindful:** Local cat groups are mostly staffed by volunteers and funded by grants, donations, and fundraising. Calls about cats needing to be rehomed have increased significantly. Most local cat groups don't have "facilities." Foster-based rescue programs are stretched to the limit. The more lead time you give a local group, the more likely they will be able to help you. Unfortunately, Beltsville Community Cats does not have the capacity to foster or rehome pet cats.

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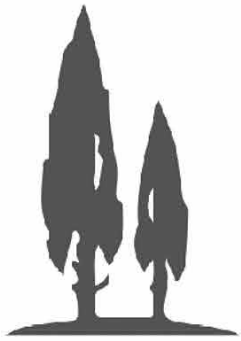
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