

# The Beltsville News

An All Volunteer Newspaper

Vol. 71, Number 11

Beltsville, Maryland

November 2023

## UpStage Artists Presents “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!”

By Rick Bergmann

UpStage Artists, Beltsville’s premiere community theater, is gearing up for its final show for the 2023 season, Barbara Robinson’s “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!” The play is based on her novel of the same name. In this hilarious Christmas classic, a couple struggling to put on a church Christmas pageant is faced with casting the Herdman kids – probably the most inventively awful kids in history. You won’t believe the mayhem – and the fun – when the Herdmans collide head-on with the story of Christmas! This delightful show is adapted from the bestselling Young Adult book and has become a holiday staple for groups across the United States.

UpStage Artists’ production



Come see this hysterical cast of characters in “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!” this December. Tickets available at [www.upstageartists.com/tickets](http://www.upstageartists.com/tickets)

features 17 children and 7 adults from Beltsville and the surrounding areas. This is a fantastic production for you and your family. The running time is just a little over an hour, so it isn’t too long for the little ones, it’s funny and silly and will keep everyone entertained, there is Christmas music, and of course a feel-good message at the end. “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” is a show that is perfect to introduce younger children to the joys of live theater.

Show dates for “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” are December 1, 2, 8, 9 at 7:30 pm and December 3 and 10 at 2 pm at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705. Tickets are on

**PAGEANT**  
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### NEXT ISSUE:

**Submissions Due**

**No Later Than:**

**November 15**

**Paper Out:**

**November 25**

### News You Can Use



Karen Coakley

By Karen Coakley

There is a proposed Multi-family Project next to the Fire Station on Powder Mill Road across from Calverton Shopping Center. The entrance to the property is at the traffic light at Powder Mill Road and Beltsville Drive.

### PRE-APPLICATION NEIGHBORHOOD

Prince George’s County Planning Department MEETING  
Proposed Development Preliminary Plan of Subdivision and Detailed Site Plan for the development multifamily dwellings

Application: PPS-2023-025 & DET-2023-010

Applicant Contact Name: Tom Haller

Phone: (301) 306-0033

Email: [gibbshtaller.com](mailto:gibbshtaller.com)

Neighborhood Meeting Information

11/6/2023 6:30:00 pm Zoom.com

(Date) (Time) (Location)

Meeting ID: 838 2661 4781

passcode: 098617

Dial In: 1-301-715-8592

### NEWS YOU CAN USE

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New Bear Leader Peter G and his daughter Susie, join Tiger Scout Adam F and his mom to gather lots of beer bottles and cans from the basketball court area at Beltsville Neighborhood Park.

## Cub Pack 1031 Is Getting Ready for Scouting for Food!

By Rick Bergmann

Cub Pack 1031 along with Troop 1033 is getting ready for our Scouting for Food Drive which will be a week early this year! Scouts will begin putting stickers on doors the weekend of **October 28<sup>th</sup>** and we will be collecting cans and boxed food with unexpired dates on **November 4<sup>th</sup>**. This is due to Veterans Day falling on a Saturday this year. Please put your sticker on your bag or box.

The donations will go to the

food pantries at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church and Emmanuel United Methodist Church. If you do not get a sticker just let me know your address and we will be sure to pick up your donation.

The pack also did a fall cleanup at Little Paint Branch Trail Park on Monday October 9<sup>th</sup>. We collected 7 bags of trash and 3 bags of recycling. Many thanks to all the families who participated, especially

**CUB PACK 1031**  
continues on page 6

## Beltsville Lions Club Activities

By Ted Ladd

Four new members of the Beltsville Lions Club were inducted on 4 October by Lions Clubs International Director (ID) John Lawrence. The Club is pleased to welcome new members Suzie Mendelsohn, Vicky Malengo, Paul Malengo and Nancy Abernethy. In addition to the regular induction script, ID Lawrence asked new members to read aloud the Lions code of ethics. The code emphasizes honest and ethical conduct. Special thanks to ID

Lawrence who drove some 150 miles round trip to meet with the club.

On Saturday, 14 October, Beltsville Lions Rev. Dr. Andrea King, Ann & Ted Ladd participated in vision and hearing screenings at National Harbor. The Lions Community Outreach Foundation’s mobile health unit contained the screening equipment, and visitors to National Harbor were offered complimentary screenings. The unit was parked not far from National Harbor’s Ferris wheel.



ABOVE: ID John Lawrence (left) instructing new members (left to right) Suzie Mendelsohn, her sponsor Ted Ladd, Rick Zerbe, sponsor of Nancy Abernethy, Vicky Malengo, Paul Malengo

RIGHT: Rev. Dr. Andrea King from Emmanuel United Methodist Church, Ann & Ted Ladd at National Harbor





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Struggling with job loss, to pay rent, to get food, or need emergency help? The Beltsville Adventist Community Center (BACC) exists to help those in the Beltsville Community and beyond take the next step toward financial independence.

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## Beltsville News: Blast from the Past

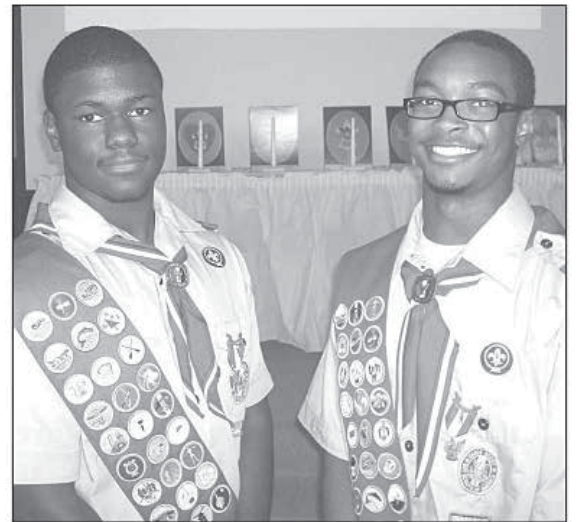
By Ted Ladd

(From the Beltsville News issue of November 2008)

### Two New Eagle Scouts for Troop 1033

By Eagle Scouts Kris Smith and David Outland

In a double ceremony both Kristopher Ryan Smith and David Curtis Outland from Beltsville Boy Scout Troop 1033 were awarded their Eagle medals at a Court of Honor ceremony held on Saturday, October 18, 2008 at Emmanuel United Methodist Church. Their parents, Ms. Vanessa Smith and Mr. and Mrs. David & Frances Outland, grandparents and a host of other relatives, friends and fellow scouts witnessed this great event in the scouts' lives. Kristopher and David started the same time as Cub Scouts and it was befitting that they celebrated their Eagle Scout ceremony together.



New Eagle Scouts from Troop 1033 (L-R) Kris Smith and David Outland.

### 4 Ways You Can Observe National Veterans and Military Family Month

(StatePoint) When was the last time you thanked a military member or veteran for their service? November is National Veterans and Military Family Appreciation Month and an excellent time to celebrate, support and honor service members.

That's why Points of Light, a global nonprofit organization dedicated to mobilizing people to take action that changes the world, is sharing ways you can get



c) monkeybusinessimages / iStock via Getty Images Plus

involved, along with the stories of former military members already doing so. From volunteering to donating and beyond, these ideas are based on the Points of Light Civic Circle®, a framework that highlights nine pathways to boosting social impact.

**1. Listen and learn.** Being informed about an issue can help you think more critically, make better decisions and lend stronger support. Check out two podcasts created by Military OneSource. Covering topics like deployment, casualty assistance, money management and parenting, they are designed to help military members and families thrive.

**2. Volunteer.** Hands-on support is some of the most impactful work you can do in the nonprofit sector. The American Red Cross is currently recruiting caseworkers for military members, veterans and families. This volunteer role requires some training, but can be carried out from anywhere, and shifts are flexible. Whether you're looking for remote or in-person volunteer opportunities, search Points of Light Engage, the world's most comprehensive database of volunteer opportunities.

**3. Donate.** Nonprofits and NGOs are dependent on donations to pay their staff, recruit volunteers and execute their high-impact work. This year marks Wounded Warrior Project's 20th anniversary. You can support its mission of providing career and VA benefits counseling, mental health support, adaptive sports initiatives and more, by making a donation for National Veterans and Military Family Appreciation Month.

**4. Celebrate, thank and honor veterans.** Veterans and their family members are everywhere – from working alongside you to doing everyday things like grocery shop-

## The Beltsville News

An All Volunteer Newspaper

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

News: Rick Bergmann, editor@beltsvillenewstoday.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.

#### Advertising:

301-257-3408 Ted Ladd, 11722 Emack Rd., Beltsville 20705 • tedladd02@aol.com

#### Subscriptions:

One year is \$15. Send check to Beltsville News, 11722 Emack Road, Beltsville MD 20705

Editor Emeritas: Sally Ehrle

#### Staff Listings

Managing Editor/News Director: Rick Bergmann  
Advertising Manager: Ted Ladd Business Manager: Ted Ladd

Supporting Staff Members: Karen Coakley, Rebecca Hutchings, Jason Inanga, Elizabeth Olson, and Nancy Thrush.

#### 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](http://www.beltsvillenewstoday.com), and enter your e-mail address.

Please join our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/300944563420364/>) and follow us at beltsville news on Instagram. Check out our website: [www.beltsvillenewstoday.com](http://www.beltsvillenewstoday.com)

**VETERANS**  
continues on page 11





**Life with FELINE LEUKEMIA**

By Sallie Rhodes

The September 2023 Kitty Post provided information on Feline Leukemia (FeLV), a condition which has no definitive cure. While evidence of benefits of homeopathic treatments and lifestyle changes are anecdotal in nature, one recent adopter of a cat with FeLV has made changes to her kitty's diet and routine that seem to be improving her cat's quality of life. It should be noted that it is important to consult with your veterinarian before making broad changes to your pet's care and nutrition.



Again, anecdotal evidence indicates that a caregiver can ease the immune challenges associated with FeLV by following a holistic approach. Key components of one holistic therapy approach are providing: 1) a balanced diet that boosts the immune system; 2) a stress-free home environment; and 3) consistent access to clean drinking water. One supplement that may help FeLV positive cats is Sodium Ascorbate (the powder form of vitamin C). Mixing 1/4 to 1/16 teaspoon in your cat's food at each meal makes a difference for some cats. Providing a balanced diet of energetic wet food, either prepared at home (recipes are available online) or as commercial canned food that provides a blend of prebiotics, probiotics and digestive enzymes is another example of a therapy that may improve the gut or intestinal health of a cat.

The woman who adopted a FeLV positive cat from BCC was happy to report that her cat has become a beautiful pet with an excellent demeanor after the therapy she provided. She stressed the importance of basic cleanliness. She wipes the cat down with natural aloe wipes a few times a month. She is extra diligent about maintaining the cleanliness of the cat's litter box. The feeding and water bowls are cleaned carefully every day. Filtered water is used rather than tap water, and she adds trace minerals back into the

filtered water. Be sure to consult a vet for the types of minerals and how much is safe for cats. Some minerals given in excess (such as calcium, iron, phosphorus) can cause other health issues (source: www.petmd.com; www.aspcapro.org).

This adopter also gives the cat supplements such as Cat's Claw, Lomatium, colloidal silver, seaweed extracts, hemp seeds, olive oil, prebiotic, etc. on a regular basis. Again, it is important to check with your vet before introducing any supplements into your cat's diet. It is important with cats, just as it is with humans, to do no harm when working to improve health.

This adopter also uses toys and laser pens to encourage regular exercise, especially after meals. The time spent in play is good for all cats' physical and social/emotional health.

The bottom line is that FeLV cats can be adopted into homes where there are no other cats or where any other cats are also FeLV positive. With proper care at home and veterinary care when needed, these cats may live for years.

Beltsville Community Cats applauds all families who provide quality care for their pets. We would like to acknowledge all of those people who knowingly take on the responsibilities associated with pets that have special social, emotional or health concerns. As Sigmund Freud put it, "Time spent with cats is never wasted."




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## Rosapepe's Report to Beltsville

### Order Free At-Home Covid Tests

Have you heard? You can get four more free COVID-19 testing kits mailed directly to your home. Order them at [covidtests.gov](http://covidtests.gov)

### COVID info and help

MDGOVAX Call Center Services are transitioning to 2-1-1 Maryland. Marylanders can still receive information and referrals regarding COVID-19 resources by calling 2-1-1 or texting your zip code to 898 211.

### COVID-19 Financial Assistance for Homeowners

Are you struggling to keep up with your mortgage payments or other housing costs due to COVID-19 related financial hardships? The Maryland Homeowner Assistance Fund may be able to help. Visit the State of Maryland's Department of Housing and Community Development website at <https://dhcd.maryland.gov/> or call the department at 301-429-7400 to check eligibility and get assistance with navigating the application portal.

### Medicare Open Enrollment October 15 - December 7

Is it really that time again? Yes, it is. Open enrollment begins October 15 until December 7 so start researching those Medicare plans. Researching Medicare plans is worse than going to the dentist for sure, and maybe worse than doing taxes. In any case, take the time to do your homework. If this is your first time or your 10th time, check out [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

A change for 2023 is the cost of insulin. A one-month supply of insulin will be capped at \$35 for those on Medicare Part B, and there is no deductible.

### Volunteers are Needed

As the holiday season and winter draws near, consider being a volunteer. The following organizations and churches are always in need of your help.

#### Elizabeth House - FISH ([www.fishoflaurel.org](http://www.fishoflaurel.org))

Host a goods or diaper drive; homemade and store-bought casseroles are needed for dinner each evening. More information is available on the website.

#### Laurel Advocacy and Referral Services ([www.laureladvocacy.org](http://www.laureladvocacy.org))

Volunteers are needed to accept donations, perform clerical duties, and prepare and distribute food bags to clients.

#### Food Bank ([www.collegeparkfoodbank.com](http://www.collegeparkfoodbank.com))

Serving College Park and surrounding communities, volunteers can host a food drive, or serve as photographer, CPA, or fundraiser.

### Fit & Strong Program! is Free

Seniors, are you ready to increase your strength, balance, and stamina? Join Fit & Strong! Class will be held at the Beltsville Community Center, 3900 Sellman Road, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 AM - 11 AM. Class will run from October 17 to January 9. Ages 18 & up are eligible to enroll. You must register via

[pgparksdirect.com](http://pgparksdirect.com); Activity Code: 17488-579. For more information call customer service at: 301-699-2255.

### Borrow Technology from the Library

You can borrow more than books from our public libraries. Reserve a Chromebook, Wi-Fi hotspot, electricity usage monitor or a thermal camera. An electricity usage monitor indicates how many kilowatts are being used by a device. Thermal cameras can help you detect problems in your home such as lack of insulation, electrical problems and water damage. For more information, please go to the Beltsville Library at 4319 Sellman Road. Helpful videos are available on the library system's website at <https://www.pgcmils.info/borrow-technology>.

### Activities with the Laurel Beltsville Senior Activity Center

The Laurel Beltsville Senior Activity Center released its fall schedule recently. The schedules can be found at the center. Registration is also available online at [pgparksdirect.com](http://pgparksdirect.com) or in-person at any M-NCPPC facility in Prince George's County.

#### Masquerade Party Thursday, November 9, 2023 \$15 (Resident); \$ 20 (Non Resident) 11 am - 3 pm

Join the Center for a mysterious night in your best mask and in your dress to impress outfits to match! Enjoy music from a live DJ, a photo booth, and a light catered lunch. Deadline to register is November 2.

#### Thanksgiving Fellowship Luncheon Friday, November 17, 2023, FREE 11 am - 2 pm

Join fellow seniors for the Center's annual Thanksgiving Luncheon! Enjoy a catered meal and live entertainment. Deadline to register is November 10. This event is FREE for those who register in advance and bring in an unexpired canned good for a local food shelter.

### How to report potholes in Beltsville

Maintenance of State roads (identified by number - Rt 1, Rt 212, etc) is the responsibility of the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA). Call 301-952-0555 to report a pothole on a State road. Other local roads are maintained by the County. To report potholes on them, call 311 (3-1-1) or 301-883-4748 or report it online at [PGC311.com](http://PGC311.com).

### Contact me

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](mailto:21stDistrictDelegation@gmail.com) or call 410-841-3141.

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**CROSSWORD**

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10			
11					12				13	14				
15					16				17					
	18			19					20					
				21					22					
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55									56			57		58
59									60			61		
62									63			64		

**ACROSS**

1. Brainchild
5. Gravestone wish
8. Paleozoic one
11. Pressing tool
12. Senegal's neighbor
13. Literary theme
15. Scissors sound
16. Final notice
17. \*Notre Dame's Fighting \_\_\_\_
18. \*Home of the first Super Bowl winners
20. National League Pennant series, acr.
21. Steer clear
22. "Glee" actress \_\_\_\_ Michele
23. Befuddled
26. \*One of 4 NFL teams sharing a home field
29. Fish story
30. Stockings
33. "Doggone it!"
35. Rand McNally book
37. Mozart's "L' \_\_\_\_ del Cairo"
38. Whiskey drinks?
39. Comedy act
40. Be more of a fox
42. Dead or Black, e.g.
43. Obliquely
45. Roof supporter

47. High or low card
48. Employer's good news
50. Hyperbolic tangent
52. \*College player not using eligibility
55. Beastly person
56. Double-reed instrument
57. \*Nike Pegasus 39
59. Smidgeons
60. Paddleboarding acronym, pl.
61. Seaside bird
62. \*Thirty-\_\_\_\_ teams in NFL
63. \*Ravens' or Lions' time, acr.
64. \*Rushing unit

**DOWN**

1. " \_\_\_\_ Now or Never"
2. "Shoot!"
3. Arabian bigwig
4. Fund-raising letter
5. Torah teacher
6. Homer's famous poem
7. Feel for
8. Larger-than-life
9. A Supreme singer
10. Emerald \_\_\_\_ borer
12. Poet's death lament
13. Fungal skin infection
14. \*Home of the Citrus Bowl in Florida

19. Not odds
22. Lily, in French
23. Unfortunately, exclamation
24. \*a.k.a. Iron Mike
25. Charcuterie stores
26. Nibble away
27. Have faith
28. Ranees' wrap
31. LummoX
32. Calendar abbr.
34. Russian autocrat
36. \*Home to College Football Hall of Fame
38. Secret supply
40. \*Extra point
41. Van Gogh flowers
44. Partners of pains
46. Spirited
48. Puzzle with pictures and letters
49. Take as one's own
50. Think, archaic
51. Grand theft target
52. \*The oldest college football Bowl
53. Actress Perlman
54. Millimeter of mercury
55. Took the bait
58. \*Defensive one

**See Solution on page 10**

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# From the Office of Council Chair Tom Dernoga

## District 1 Community Conversation: Superintendent Millard House II

Beltsville residents are invited to join the District 1 Virtual Community Conversation on Thursday, **November 30**, at **7:00 PM**. You're invited to meet the new Superintendent of Prince George's County Public Schools, Mr. Millard L. House II. Questions may be submitted with your registration. Request ASL or Spanish translation assistance by November 20. Advance registration is required online at <https://bit.ly/d1house1130>

## High Point High School Replacement

The Prince George's County Public Schools' Department of Capita; Programs will host a virtual Project Information Town Hall meeting via Zoom on **Monday, November 6**, at **5:30 PM**. Register online at <https://bit.ly/HighPoint-Nov6>



Our recent secure paper shredding event with District 1 Team members Katherine Fuentes, Michelle García, and Jerri Jones who are all residents of Beltsville.

Residents can learn updates and share views on the replacement project for High Point High School.

## Update: Proposed Vansville Townhouse Development

A developer is seeking to develop 7.75 acres of land at

the southeast intersection of Old Baltimore Pike and Ammendale Way (11701 Old Baltimore Pike, Vansville) into a Harmony Garden townhouse community with a maximum of 67 units. To view the plans, visit here: <https://bit.ly/11701OldBmorePikeDev>

In February of this year, a neighborhood meeting was held with the developer to discuss this project in greater detail, per Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCP-PC) guidelines. In September, our office hosted another community meeting with the developer about the proposed townhouse project for anyone who missed the earlier informational meeting.

The project is on the M-NCP-PC Planning Board agenda for Thursday, November 30 at 10:00 AM. To sign up to speak or submit written comment, speaker registration and all materials for Planning Board consideration must be submitted by **12:00 NOON on Tuesday, November 28**, two days prior to the Planning Board meeting. The registration link will be available at <https://bit.ly/planning-boardtestify>

All interested people are encouraged to become a "person of record" for this application. As a person of record in a zoning case, you are notified of upcoming meetings, actions, and decisions made at certain stages of the zoning application process and relevant appeals procedures. Requests to become a person of record may be made online at <http://bit.ly/MNCPPCpor> or call 301-952-3530 for additional information.

Please reference the subject application number: PPS-2022-043

## Proposed Centerpark Development in Beltsville

A development has been proposed for multifamily dwellings located at the south side of MD 212 & Beltsville Drive intersection. By Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCP-PC) guidelines, a virtual neighborhood meeting will be held on **Monday, November 6** at **6:30 PM** at via Zoom to discuss this project in greater detail with the community. The Zoom access link is: <https://bit.ly/centerparknov6>; Passcode: 098617; Dial in by your location: 301-715-8592. If you would like more information, please visit: <https://bit.ly/centerparkbeltsville>

All interested persons are encouraged to become a "person of record" for this application. As a person of record in a zoning case, you are given notice of upcoming meetings, actions, and decisions made at certain stages of the zoning application process, as well as relevant appeals procedures. Requests to become a person of record may be made online at <http://bit.ly/MNCPPCpor> or call 301-952-3530 for additional information. Please reference the subject application numbers: PPS-2023-025 & DET-2023-010

## It's Time for Development to Work for Us

For 60 years, County leaders and planners have promised forward-looking development focused on Metro stations and inner Beltway revitalization. But most Metro stations have little development, and townhouses pop up all over the County leading to some of the worst congestion in the U.S., overcrowded schools in the north, and old, crumbling schools throughout the County. The police department is understaffed and overstretched, and crime is rising. The backlog for new and renovated fire stations is overwhelming. The debt service that the County pays on capital projects has increased dramatically, approaching our 8% limit, which will threaten our AAA bond rating.

My new resolution, Council Resolution 83-2023, attacks this

problem head-on, targeting development to go where we want it. For 20 years, the County has averaged 2,800 dwelling units built each year, but almost 80% of these units have been outside the Beltway. In addition, where 20 years ago, over 70% of these units were single-family detached, recent years have seen almost two-thirds of housing outside the Beltway become townhouses and multifamily. The County needs denser development, but it should follow our designated County plans to build where we have invested in infrastructure.

## What does CR-83-2023 do?

- Targets 75% of new development to Regional and Local Transit Centers
- Allows 25% of new development to continue to go to suburban and rural areas
- Provides a 6-year window to address deficiencies in school, road, fire and police facilities
- Creates an annual review process to target public facility deficiencies

Plan 2035, our latest County development plan from 2014, sets a goal of 75% of new development to be built in Regional and Local Transit Centers. The County Climate Action Plan has the same goal. Eight years after Plan 2035, we are still failing to achieve these goals because Plan 2035 has no teeth.

Is 60 years of not following growth plans acceptable? We need to take control of our futures. CR-83-2023 will control sprawl and refocus new development to priority areas, allowing the County to address infrastructure deficiencies.

## Join our District 1 Senior Living Newsletter List

Don't miss out on resources, local activities, and events for seniors. Sign up for our monthly senior email newsletter: [bit.ly/D1SeniorNewsletterOptIn](http://bit.ly/D1SeniorNewsletterOptIn)

## Contact Us

Please keep in touch. Email us at [councildistrict1@co.pg.md.us](mailto:councildistrict1@co.pg.md.us) or call 301-952-3887. Se habla español. On parle français. نحن نتكلم العربية. Follow us on Facebook, X, Threads, and Instagram: @Tom-DernogaD1

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## CUB PACK 1031

continued from page 1

the three new families who joined us to do service!

We had to cancel our fall camping trip due to rain which has been coming up every time we try to do an outdoor event. We look forward to camping in the spring. We enjoy our hiking, community service, and learning about duty to God and country, helping others and how to take care of ourselves.

If you are interested in joining Cub Scouts, please contact Regina Halper at [Pack1031cubscouting@gmail.com](mailto:Pack1031cubscouting@gmail.com) for information. We are a family scouting unit. We learn outdoor skills, citizenship, STEM, nature, plan to camp two times a year and do service. We meet during the school year at Beltsville Academy for our den meetings. In the summer we are out in the parks learning about nature, STEM, doing service, and hiking outdoors.

## PAGEANT

continued from page 1

sale at [www.upstageartists.com/tickets](http://www.upstageartists.com/tickets) for just \$10. We will also be collecting monetary donations for Beltsville Community Cats at each show. If you have a local business and would like to advertise in our program, you can go to [www.upstageartists.com/ads](http://www.upstageartists.com/ads) for more information. Remember, UpStage Artists is community theater for everyone!



## UpStage Artists Announces Its 2024 Season!

As they get ready to wrap up 2023 with the hilarious family comedy “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever,” UpStage Artists is already looking forward to 2024 and another year of quality theater for the entire community. In 2024 they will be having a few firsts, their first Shakespearean performance and their first musical! They have chosen Lorraine Hansberry’s Award Winning “A Raisin in the Sun” to kick off their season in February. That will be followed by one of the world’s first romantic comedies, William Shakespeare’s *Much Ado About Nothing* in June. Then during the summer months, they will be working on the children’s show, a musical version of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves* which will be performed in August. Finally, they will close out their season in early November with Agatha Christie’s *The Mousetrap*, the longest running show, of any kind, in the world.

“A Raisin In The Sun” is set on Chicago’s South Side, Lorraine Hansberry’s celebrated play concerns the divergent dreams and conflicts in three generations of the Younger family: son Walter Lee, his wife Ruth, his sister Beneatha, his son Travis, and matriarch Lena. When her deceased husband’s insurance money comes through, Mama Lena dreams of moving to a new home and a better neighborhood in Chicago. Walter Lee, a chauffeur, has other plans: buying a liquor store and being his own man. Beneatha dreams of medical school. Hansberry’s portrait of one family’s struggle to retain dignity in a harsh and changing world is a searing and timeless document of hope and inspiration.

“*Much Ado About Nothing*” is one of Shakespeare’s best loved comedies that has something for everyone. It is one of the earliest examples of the modern romantic comedy. Everyone can see that confirmed bachelor Benedick and headstrong



UpStage Artists 2024 Season

Beatrice are meant for each other—except for Benedick and Beatrice themselves! While their friends try to trick the bickering pair into admitting they’re in love, their young sidekicks Hero and Claudio start a romance of their own. But will false accusations, broken promises, and even a nutty and bumbling police force prevent a happy ending?

“*Snow White and the Seven Dwarves*” has all of your old friends, plus a few new ones, in this classic, marvelous musical adaptation. You’ll meet the captivating Princess Snow White, the prince, the evil queen, and, of course, the seven mischievous dwarfs — Sarge, Gabby, Gloomy Gus, Ticklish, Spritely, Snore, and Slowpoke. There’s also a hilarious palace cat and an enchanted vixen — a fox, you could say! Following the traditional storyline, the fairy tale is brought to life with an eclectic score of toe-tapping tunes.

Agatha Christie’s “*The Mousetrap*” is The world’s longest-running play! After a local woman is murdered, the guests and staff at Monkswell Manor find themselves stranded during

a snowstorm. It soon becomes clear that the killer is among them, and the seven strangers grow increasingly suspicious of one another. A police detective, arriving on skis, interrogates the suspects: the newlyweds running the house; a spinster with a curious background; an architect who seems better equipped to be a chef; a retired Army major; a strange little man who claims his car has overturned in a drift; and a jurist who makes life miserable for everyone. When a second murder takes place, tensions and fears escalate. This record-breaking murder mystery features a brilliant surprise finish from Dame Agatha Christie, the foremost mystery writer of her time.

Keep up with all the latest news from UpStage Artists by following them on social media or signing up for updates at their website [www.upstageartists.com](http://www.upstageartists.com) today. And come out and enjoy high quality theater in your own back yard. All performances are held at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705.

## UpStage Artists Announces Auditions For “A Raisin In The Sun”

By Rick Bergmann

UpStage Artists is excited to announce auditions for their first show of the upcoming 2024 season, Lorraine Hansberry’s Award Winning *A Raisin In The Sun*! Auditions will take place on December 4 and 6, 2023 at 7 pm at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705.

Hansberry’s play explores the themes of family and dreams as

the characters struggle to deal with the oppressive circumstances in their lives. Set in the late 1950’s the play is about the Youngers, an African American family living on the south side of Chicago. Every member of the family has a dream. They all struggle to attain those dreams and the dreams are explored in this powerful show. There is a role for an African American Boy, ages 10-14. If you are interested in auditioning, go to [www.upstageartists.com/auditions](http://www.upstageartists.com/auditions)

today!

Rehearsals begin on Monday, January 8 and take place 3 times a week on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Tech Week begins February 18 and show dates are February 23, 24, 25, March 1, 2, 3. There is a role for an African American Boy, ages 10-14. All roles are unpaid. If you have any questions, contact the director, Rick Bergmann at [rick.bergmann@upstageartists.com](mailto:rick.bergmann@upstageartists.com).

## Laurel Churches Participate in Joint Venture to Publicize Bazaars

Some local Laurel Churches have joined together to publicize their church Bazaars by using a Holiday Bazaar Passport. The bazaar dates/times, participating churches and addresses are:

- October 21, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Laurel Presbyterian Church, 7610 Sandy Spring Road, Laurel, 20707
- November 3, 2-8 p.m. and November 4, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., St. Nicholas Catholic Church, 8603 Contee Road, Laurel, 20708
- November 4, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., St. Mary of the Mills Catholic Church, 114 Saint Mary’s Place, Laurel, 20707
- November 11, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Resurrection of Our Lord Catholic Church, 8402 Brock Bridge Road, Laurel, 20724

• November 18, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., St. Philip’s Episcopal Church, 522 Main St., Laurel, 20707

Since the Laurel Presbyterian Church Bazaar is now in the past, attendees can pick up a Holiday Bazaar Passport at St. Nicholas Holiday Market or St. Mary of the Mills Church Bazaar, so they can attend the rest of the bazaars on the Passport list. The Passport will have a place for each church to stamp your Passport to verify your attendance. Turn your completed Passport in at the last bazaar at St. Philip’s Holly Days Bazaar.

Individuals who attend the greatest number of bazaars will be eligible to win a \$100 gift card. Questions, contact Pat Farmer, 240-762-3895.



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# University of Maryland School of Nursing Names DeVance-Wilson Director of Maryland Nursing Workforce Center

**Baltimore, Md.** – The University of Maryland School of Nursing (UMSON) has named Crystal DeVance-Wilson, PhD '19, MS '06, MBA, BSN '00, PHCNS-BC, assistant professor and vice chair of the UMSON program at the Universities of Shady Grove (USG), the new director of the Maryland Nursing Workforce Center (MNWC).



She succeeds Rebecca Wiseman, PhD '93, RN, who retired at the end of the 2022 - 23 academic year. The MNWC, launched by Wiseman in 2018 through Nurse Support Program (NSP) II grant funding, was created to collect data, analyze findings, and report on the state's nursing workforce. To plan for future workforce needs and to measure the success of related programs and initiatives, an accurate and comprehensive data set is essential. Creation of the center also responded to a national recommendation in the Institute of Medicine's 2011 report *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health* for improved collection of workforce data.

"It is an exciting time for the Maryland Nursing Workforce

The University of Maryland School of Nursing (UMSON) has named Crystal DeVance-Wilson, PhD '19, MS '06, MBA, BSN '00, PHCNS-BC, assistant professor and vice chair of the UMSON program at the Universities of Shady Grove (USG), the new director of the Maryland Nursing Workforce Center (MNWC).

Center. Building on Dr. Wiseman's legacy we will continue to address matters that are important to the nursing profession across the state of Maryland and nationally," DeVance-Wilson said. "We have a great team who is looking forward

to the work and is humbled by the opportunity to serve the Maryland nursing community."

DeVance-Wilson has served as the center's assistant director since 2021. She is the MNWC lead facilitator on the Universal Onboarding of Pre-licensure Students project, designed to standardize hospital orientation education for nursing students when onboarding for clinical and practicum opportunities, in conjunction with the Maryland Organization of Nurse Leaders Inc. Nurse Residency Collaborative. She was also a member of the research team that developed, implemented, and analyzed the 2021 Maryland statewide survey, "Analysis of COVID-19 Impact on the Maryland Nursing Workforce."

Over its five-year existence, the MNWC has been at the forefront of efforts to assist nursing faculty members throughout Maryland to prepare for the introduction of the NextGen NCLEX, a revised nurse licensing examination paralleling national changes in nursing school curriculum. A highly collaborative and inclusive advisory committee made up of faculty from public,

private, community, and historically black colleges and universities schools of nursing held a statewide summit in September 2021 on the changes to the exam and followed this with a series of in-depth workshops to assist nursing faculty in incorporating techniques to enhance students' clinical judgment and decision-making abilities into classroom, clinical, and simulation instructional strategies. MNWC's statewide collaborative efforts in developing such resources for nursing faculty has served as a model for other states.

The MNWC also serves as the official Maryland state representative to the National Nursing Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers, a national network of state-based workforce centers that aims to ensure a robust, diverse, and well-prepared nursing workforce. The MNWC is a recognized leader within the national forum.

DeVance-Wilson joined the UMSON faculty in 2009 as a clinical instructor, having served for more than a decade as a labor and delivery and critical care nurse; she was promoted to assistant profes-

sor in 2019. She is the immediate past chair of UMSON's Faculty Council and has served on multiple UMSON committees. DeVance-Wilson is also the immediate past chair of the Montgomery County Commission on Health; is a project director for a more than quarter-million-dollar Nurse Support Program II grant, "Academic Practice Pilot Dedication Education Unit Model"; and is an advisory board member of the Pennsylvania Action Coalition's Clinical Faculty and Preceptor Academy, which aims to increase nursing workforce retention by leveraging staff nurses to participate as skilled preceptors and clinical instructors. She is also a volunteer for the Maryland Responds Medical Reserve Corps.

She earned her PhD, Master of Science in Community/Public Health Nursing, and Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees from UMSON; she also holds an MBA from the University of Baltimore. She is certified as a Clinical Nurse Specialist-Public/Community Health Nursing.



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# Ghosts of Christmas Past

So, it is October and I find myself writing the annual Christmas column so it will be published before Black Friday in November, and everyone can get gift ideas for the holidays. I have been doing this column for 10 years now, but I didn't start writing a Holiday column until 7 years ago. I thought it might be interesting to revisit the gift suggestions that I have made over the years and, because Halloween is so close, I thought of these as "Ghosts of Christmas Past".

Often many of my gift suggestions were updated repeats of previous years. I like to think that this was helpful for those that didn't get their gift wishes the first time. I would like to start with one of my favorites.

## Raspberry Pi

The Raspberry Pi first appeared in this list in 2016. The Pi is a small computer that initially sold for 35 dollars. It was a sort-of

build-it-yourself learning opportunity. The Pi family has grown over the years with the Pi 5 releasing for sale this October with promises that they will be in stock for consumers and not for businesses that use the Pi for their inventions. This new computer is the first one that doesn't start with a \$35 price, instead it sells for \$54. Over the years I have collected about 20 of them.

## 3D Printers

3D printers first appeared in this list in 2016. At the time, a very basic 3D printer was buyable for as little as \$180. Now I see prices for very basic printers under \$120. I would still look in the \$250 range. I think there is less interest in 3D printing because many models are still difficult to use. It takes practice to make a good print. I have never gotten a 3D printer and I have lost interest because I do not have the time to learn to print well.

## Phones

They keep coming out with new phones and phones still make a practical gift. In 2016, I suggested the new Google Pixel phones and had nice things to say about the affordable Motorola phones. As usual, I still have little to say about Apple phones. The newest Google phone is the Pixel 8, and it gets rave reviews. In my house, we have a Pixel 5a and a Pixel 6a and we are happy with them. The Motorola phones are still good values, but many do not include near field communications (NFC) meaning they can't be used for paying when shopping or with Free Style Libre continuous glucose meters (CGM). We do have a Moto One 5G Ace, but we have had some issues with it dropping signal on occasion. I do hear good things about other 5G Motorola phones.

## TV's and Video Streamers

The final gift item for 2016 was a TV. For a small to midsize screen, I still suggest a 1920 by 1080p HD TV until at least 42 inches. For anything larger, consider a UHD screen with 3,840 by 2,160 pixels. Content for the UHD TV is a lot more available now than it was in 2016.

Video Streaming first appeared in the 2017 column. 4K and UHD had just started to become widely available. Now, Comcast's Xfinity service offers a number of 4K stations. Most, newer Roku, Google's Chromecast, AppleTV, and Amazon's FireTV offer 4K UHD channels. The biggest streaming services now offer 4K streams for the newest movies and programming.

## Something New

Last year I got something that I have wanted for years, a set of surround sound speakers for my TV. These were on sale at Costco for about \$150 and it has greatly improved my enjoyment of watching movies and quality television.



## Voice Assistants

In 2017, we also added Voice Assistants. This gift category may not have much life left in it. Apple, Google, and Amazon are all having difficulty figuring out how to make money from these devices. Still, I love turning off all the controlled lights in my house by simply saying "Alexa Goodnight".

## IoT Controls

If you don't want to gift a voice assistant, consider Internet of Things controls and devices. These IoT devices showed up on the gift list for the first time in 2019. Last year Costco had Feit brand smart color light bulbs at a bargain price of two for \$10. I believe we will see these again this year. Even if you don't have a voice assistant IoT device can still be controlled with your mobile phone. Consider smart switches, light bulbs, and smart thermostats. Pepco often has discounts on smart thermostats.

## Smart Cameras and Doorbells

By the holiday season of 2020, we were deeply into COVID, and I commented that doorbell cameras were all the rage, and this seemed odd to me because we were all stuck at home anyway. Smart cameras and doorbells are still popular, but these devices often have fees associated with services to copy the video to the

cloud. Several companies have been caught invading privacy by allowing employees access to view your "private" videos and it has become common to raise the prices or reduce the services for storing the videos.

Try to find cameras that allow you to store the videos in your choice of cloud service providers if you can.

## Tablets and Readers

In 2018 I suggested that Tablets seem to be the forgotten technology. Yet last year, that is exactly what I requested for the holidays. My tablet was out of support, and I could no longer run the applications I needed to watch movies on the airplane. These are still great little devices. There are still only three major brands: Amazon, Apple, and Samsung and one or two smaller offerings. Amazon with its Fire Tablets and Kindle readers seems to be the least expensive and make decent media devices. What Amazon really does well is providing content, books to read, music to listen to, games to play, and movies to watch. Samsung and Apple do this too. Tablets are starting to come back. Maybe next year there will be some new good devices.

Readers are primarily for books, but the batteries on a reader will typically last for weeks instead of hours.

## Games and Gaming

I first covered game machines and games in 2018. The popular game machines today are the Nintendo Switch, the Sony PlayStation 5, and the Microsoft Xbox series X and series S. All of these games are very popular and games for the devices run between \$50 and \$80.

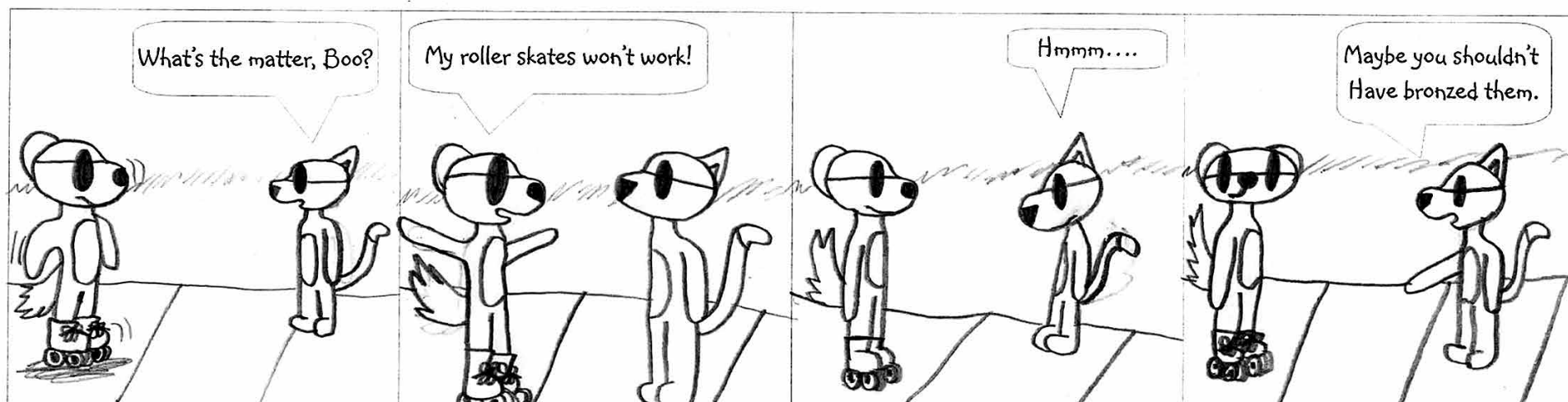
## Happy Holidays

I am out of space again, but I hope you enjoyed our walk down memory lane. I even managed to slip in a new gift that appeared this year for the first time. Happy Holidays from Tech Sense.

## Crossword Solution from page 5

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Boosipherous Boonipherous Bojangles Barnaby III,  
a.k.a. BOO





**Beltsville Young at Heart Club**

by Lois Hamilton

Our Sept. 21 meeting surprised me. Thank you to all the volunteers who took the place of needed meeting officers for the meeting. It would have been a lot more difficult if no one had "pitched in."

Our October 19 meeting will be a regular one with Frances Moyer entertainment, our 50/50 drawing, and a chance to pay your 2024 dues of \$15.00. Maybe Shirley D. will have some trips for 2024 that we can consider signing up for. I will also need to confirm the elections of officers needed for the next 2 years. We do need a Vice-president and Asst. Treasurer to sign on. So, members,

think about adding a leadership post to your resume.

Our November 16 meeting will be our anniversary potluck. We've been here since 1966-same place but not same time or people. Those joining us are asked to bring either a main dish or entree, side or salad, or a dessert. We always have more than enough food, so no one goes home hungry. Be at the meeting at 10:00 am, instead of 10:30, so we can set everything up. We will also decide what to do with the December 21 meeting since it will be so close to Christmas.

And remember. "A garden is always a series of losses set against a few triumphs, just like life itself." M. Sarton

**What's Happening At The College Park American Legion?**

December will be a very busy month for The American Legion in College Park. A Christmas Bazaar will take place on Dec 2 from 8-2 inside in our big hall. Come on out and find some gifts for your family and friends.

One of our most requested performers will be back on Sunday December 10, Moses Snow, winner of many huge awards. He will be joined by the incredible Doug Lester Band, Camron Robertson and the

Legendary Ronnie Dove.

Finally, you will be able to ring in the new year with us on December 31st our 2nd annual "Rockin' New Year's Eve" with Beltsville's own Johnny Seaton and his Bad Behavior Band playing from 8:30 pm-12:30 am. Please call Tina at 301-935-5308 to reserve tickets for \$50. Your \$50 includes the show, a buffet, a champagne toast at midnight, and many goodies!

**The Women's Club of Beltsville**

By Karen Coakley

The Women's Club of Beltsville is celebrating our 101<sup>st</sup> year! Would you like to learn more about us? Then join us for our next meeting on Monday, November 13th at 7:00 pm at the Beltsville-Adelphi Boys and Girls Club, 11705 Roby Avenue. Light Refreshments will be served.

**Holiday Food, Gift & Fund-Raising Program 2023**

It is that time of year again for our Annual Food and Gift Program, as well as fundraising for our other important projects. We are asking Beltsville businesses, schools, service organizations, social clubs, churches, and individuals to help us provide food and gifts for needy families in the Beltsville Community during

the holidays. We would like to be in a position to provide assistance. The funds may also go towards some of our other projects and partners such as Scholarship/Leadership programs for teens, Beltsville Beautification, Adopt A Road, Partnership programs with Schools, the Police Department, the Fire Department and MNCP-PC Beltsville Boys & Girls Club, to name a few. There are times during the year when families are in crisis, and they reach out to us for help. We hope that you can assist us in these worthy endeavors.

We provide Gift Cards from Aldi's at Thanksgiving. During the Christmas season, we provide presents by accepting new toys and new clothes for children. Monetary contributions and store gift cards (suggestions: TJMAXX, Marshall's, Amazon, Kohls, Ross,

Wal-Mart, Target, Aldi, Lidl, Safeway, Shoppers, Giant Visa or Mastercard) are also appreciated. You or your organizations are welcome to sponsor a child or a family. Contact Karen Coakley (Womensclubbeltsville@gmail.com or 301-741-7672) with questions or to schedule a pickup or delivery time of your donation.

As a certified 501©3 organization, all contributions are tax deductible. Donations can be made through 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, search Women's Community Club of Beltsville.

**VETERANS**

continued from page 2

ping, eating at a restaurant and more. Consider ways you can celebrate and honor military members or veterans in your community. It might be as simple as thanking a coworker for their service, writing a thank you note and dropping it off at your local VA or sending one virtually through Soldiers' Angels. You might also attend a Veterans Day parade or event in your community or simply ask a veteran about their service. These gestures can go a long way in helping veterans and service members feel seen and appreciated.

Retired fireman, Army veteran and Daily Point of Light Honoree Tom Schneider is a great example of someone who integrates his work with causes he cares about. Since 2017, he's extended a helping hand to those devastated by floods, fires, tornadoes, hurricanes and even plane crashes as an American Red Cross volunteer.

From volunteering your time and talent, to contributing your resources, there are many ways to honor former and current military members and their families this month.

**M-NCPPG Prince George's County Planning Department**

**PRE-APPLICATION NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

**Proposed Development**  
Preliminary Plan of Subdivision and Detailed Site Plan for the development multifamily dwellings

**Application:** PPS-2023-025 & DET-2023-010

**Applicant Contact:** Name: Tom Haller  
Phone: (301) 306-0033  
Email: qibshaller.com

include neighborhood Meeting information (checkbox if not needed)

**Neighborhood Meeting Information**  
11/6/2023 6:30:00 pm Zoom.com

**For more information about this project or to share comments:** Meeting ID: 838 2661 4781  
Passcode: 099617  
Dial In: 1-301-715-8592

**301-699-CALL**  
or email [Hearing.Request@ppd.mncppc.org](mailto:Hearing.Request@ppd.mncppc.org)

**NEWS YOU CAN USE**

continued from page 1

For more information about this project or to share comments: 301-699-CALL or email [Hearing.Request@ppd.mncppc.org](mailto:Hearing.Request@ppd.mncppc.org) Become a Party of Record

To become a party of record, submit your request online at <https://bit.ly/2M2DV2h> or by mail.

Prince George's County Planning Department Development Review Division

14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

The pre-application neighborhood meeting is intended to inform residents of nearby lands about a proposed development application, and to provide the applicant an opportunity to hear comments and concerns about the development proposal in order to resolve conflicts and outstanding issues, where possible. No government agency has reviewed this application.

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**\$525, 000**  
**OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023 1-4 PM**



**There is so much to be thankful for, remember our veterans.**



# Calendar of Events

## SAVE THE DATE: WINTERFEST & CRAFT FAIR

Fri., Dec. 1 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Sat., Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Address: Resurrection Catholic Church, 3315 Greencastle Rd., Burtonsville, MD 20866. Over 75 crafters and vendors, food, treasure chest, Santa, raffles, entertainment, and more.

## 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. Some events may have special hours of operation. 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.

## NATIONAL WILDLIFE VISITOR CENTER

Please note The Visitor Center will be affected if there is a government shutdown.

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. 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/>.

major holidays. 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. Maryland Relay 7-1-1 for customers who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability.

## LAUREL SENIOR FRIENDSHIP CLUB (LSFC)

Our next meeting will be Wed., Nov. 8 at 10:30 a.m. The meeting room doors open at 9:30 a.m. We will have a short business meeting, and Kevin Leonard of the Laurel History Boys will speak on military history.

- Save the Date: Our Dec. 13 meeting will be our Holiday Party and will feature holiday tunes by the Sara Jones Duo.
- Every Tuesday Bingo: 12 noon each Tuesday (doors open at 11 a.m.); fee for cards, NO admission fee. Interested people can contact the LSFC office for more details on Mon., Tue., Wed., and Fri. from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at 301.206.3380.

## HOLIDAY MARKET

Fri., Nov. 3 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Sat., Nov. 4 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the parish hall at St. Nicholas Church, 8603 Contee Rd., Laurel, MD 20708. Join us for holiday shopping, food, fun, and fellowship. The Food Concession will feature German dinner with Beer Garden at 6 p.m. on Friday. On Saturday it will feature breakfast at 9 a.m., lunch at 12 noon, afternoon tea from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., and Italian dinner at 6 p.m. There will be children's activities on Saturday. Browse and buy from our market stalls: Treasure Trove, Pages from the Past, Country Market, Crafts Shoppe, Wine Plinko, and raffle ticket sales. *Note: The market will be closed during 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday and reopens for dinner and more shopping at 6 p.m.* For more information, call Pat Farmer at 240.762.3895.

## BELTSVILLE EVENTS

### NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY (NAL)

*please note the library will be affected if there is a government shutdown*  
Address: 10301 Baltimore Ave. in Beltsville. Main phone number: 301.504.5755. NAL is on Twitter at [http://twitter.com/#!/National\\_Ag\\_Lib](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](http://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](http://www.myplate.gov/myplateassistant).

### YOUNG AT HEART CLUB

The Beltsville Young at Heart Club is for residents who are 55 years of age and older. The next meeting is November 16 at 10:00 am. This will be the anniversary potluck. It meets at the Beltsville Community Center, 3900 Sellman Rd., Beltsville. The club's meetings feature entertainment, refreshments, trips, 50/50, and a friendly atmosphere. Contact Lois at 301.498.9736 for more information.

## BELTSVILLE LIBRARY EVENTS

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 available when the library is open; call 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.pgcmlls.info/location/Beltsville](http://www.pgcmlls.info/location/Beltsville) for online services.

## PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

### COSMIC ADVENTURES!

Sat., Nov. 4 at 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Exploring the Wonders of the Universe! Presented by The Science Guys of Baltimore. Immerse yourself in an interactive journey through space, with experiments on life in a vacuum, spacewalks, electromagnetic rocket propulsion, and centrifugal force. Discover the solar system with the beloved Hoberman Sphere as your guide. Get ready for an unforgettable and thrilling cosmic experience.

### KIDS ACHIEVE CLUB

Meets from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday through Dec. 12. Volunteers provide homework help for 1<sup>st</sup> graders through 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Please register online at <https://www1.pgcmlls.info/events>.

### STEM-TASTIC!

Thur., Nov. 16 at 4 PM. Become a scientist by conducting hands-on, fun science activities using basic scientific principles. Acompañenos a explorar la ciencia, la tecnología, la ingeniería y las matemáticas. Ages 8-12.

## PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

### OPERATION WARM: FREE COATS FOR KIDS

Sat., Nov. 18 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. A free coat for kids who need one this winter. Limit 2 coats per family, while supplies last. First come, first served. Children must be present to receive a coat. Sizes 2T to size 18. Special thanks to the PGCMLS Foundation for funding and supporting this event. SPANISH READY-2-READ STORYTIME Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. for ages 3 – 5 years old.

## PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

### NEEDLEWORK SOCIAL

Mon., Nov. 13 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Are you interested in getting to know more people in your community with similar interests? Join us for Needlework Social where you can bring in any needlecraft you are working on while getting to know those around you.

### BEGINNER'S ENGLISH CLASS

Meets every Wednesday through Nov. 29, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. each session. Are you learning English and would like to practice the language? This class is for Beginner Level English-language-learners who are ready to learn in person. Please register online at <https://www1.pgcmlls.info/events>.

## THE BUILDING & BOOKSTORE

Contact the Visitor Center for updates. Main phone: 301.497.5772. Join our e-mail list by contacting [timothy\\_parker@fws.gov](mailto:timothy_parker@fws.gov). More information can be found at [www.fws.gov/refuge/patuxent](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/patuxent). The Visitor Center is open Tuesday – Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; closed on Sunday, Monday, and federal holidays. The bookstore is open Tuesday – Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## ART GALLERY

The featured artist for November is David Terrar. He is a regional artist who specializes in oil paintings. The regular hours of operation for the art gallery are the same as those for the Visitor Center. The gallery is adjacent to the bookstore.

## KIDS DISCOVERY CENTER

Tue. – Sat. at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., and 12 noon. Duration: 35 minutes, each session. **Ages 3 – 10\***; *Parents are required to work with their child at each of the parent-led activities. Registration is strongly recommended; call 301.497.5760.* Children will explore and learn about nature and the environment through engaging, age-appropriate activities, crafts, and games. Older siblings are welcome to join with parents and work with younger siblings to help them understand and complete the activities. **\*NOTE:** The Kid's Discovery Center is neither baby-proofed nor appropriate for children younger than 3-years-old, due to small items featured in the exhibits and activities.

## HOLIDAY BAZAAR FUNDRAISER

Sat., Nov. 4 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This Friends of Patuxent Wildlife Holiday Bazaar is a fundraiser to benefit the Eastern Ecological Science Center and the Patuxent Research Refuge. More than 30 vendors will be offering one-of-a-kind gifts to complete your holiday shopping. Baldy's Bargains will offer wild and not-so-wild gently used treasures. Treats and lunch will be for sale in the Crane Café. Meet live animals and enjoy wildlife holiday story time. Door prizes will be awarded every hour. Free admission. **For more information, visit [www.friendsofpatuxent.org](http://www.friendsofpatuxent.org), or call 301.497.5772, or e-mail [friendspr@friendsofpatuxent.org](mailto:friendspr@friendsofpatuxent.org).**

## 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



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## RECENT SALES IN THE BELTSVILLE COMMUNITY INFORMATION PROVIDED FROM BRIGHTMLS

### CONDOMINIUMS:

11352 Cherry Hill Road **\$175,000**  
11204 Cherry Hill Road **\$193,000**  
4409 Romlon Street **\$200,000**

### TOWNHOMES:

11402 Running Bear **\$277,000**  
3830 Evans Trail **\$390,000**

### DETACHED HOMES:

3201 Fullerton **\$500,000**  
4210 Howard Road **\$650,000**  
4920 Daisy Creek **\$760,000**

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# Fall Maintenance Checklist to Keep Your Home in Tip Top Shape

(StatePoint) Fall is in the air, which means there is a lot to get done around the house before the cold weather comes. From landscaping to insulation, read on for a homeowner's guide to prepping for the upcoming season.



**Fall Furnace Check.** Before winter arrives, ensure your heating system is in working condition and safe to use. Turn off the furnace first and then clean the vents, check for cracks or rust and swap out the dirty filter for a clean one. If it's been a while since your furnace has been maintained, it may be time to schedule a professional visit.

**Gutter Clean Out.** While the fall foliage is beautiful, it can quickly clog gutters and cause water backups and flooding. Put on heavy-duty work gloves and remove debris near the downspout and work your way to the other end. As you clear away the leaves, easily repair broken or cracked pipes with strong T-Rex Tape. Unlike ordinary duct tapes, this strong tape is built with intense holding power for long-lasting repairs, and its aggressive double-thick adhesive ensures it sticks to rough, dirty surfaces through all weather types and temperatures.

and trees hanging over the driveway or roof to prevent limbs from falling during snowstorms this winter. Focus on trimming any dead or drooping branches, as these are the ones that are most likely to cause damage.

**Stop the Drafts.** Insulating the home helps you stay warm and save money on energy bills. Identify trouble spots where drafts occur and use weather strip seals, like those from Duck brand, to effectively seal these gaps.

**Secure the Perimeter.** Slips and falls can occur when steps and walkways are covered with ice and snow. Install proper outdoor

lighting to illuminate these areas and to help prevent accidents. If you have steep or uneven wood or concrete steps, apply T-Rex Extreme Tread Tape to improve traction on the surface. This quality tape is made with a multi-layer grit embedding process for long-lasting wear and features a stronger adhesive bond than standard anti-slip tapes.

While fall maintenance can feel daunting, following these tips will simplify the process, so you can feel confident that your house is prepared for changing temperatures.

# Holiday Hazard Prevention: Steps to a Safe and Accident-Free Season

(StatePoint) As the holidays approach, you might be hosting guests, shopping for gifts and decorating your home. While all these activities can bring a lot of joy into the season, they can also bring an increase in risks. Prepare by following these six tips to prevent damage.

**1. Install a smart doorbell.**

Whether you want to see who just arrived or help keep packages secure, a smart doorbell will keep you updated on all activities in front of your home. From trick-or-treaters to carolers, you can easily view (and communicate) with your visitors, even if you aren't home.

**2. Decorate carefully.**

As pretty as those lights might be, they can be a tripping hazard. What's more, overheating lights can trigger a fire in seconds, especially in a dry environment, such as near a parched tree. On Erie Insurance's YouTube channel, they show how fast a Christmas tree goes up in flames and have tips



(c) ronstik / iStock via Getty Images Plus

on how to avoid fires, including to check string lights for any frayed wires and to always turn off lights when you aren't home.

**3. Prepare for the unexpected.**

As temperatures drop, prepare your home for potential damage. Bad weather can trigger a weak tree to fall, potentially on your house, while cold temperatures can cause frozen pipes, which could cost thousands of

dollars in water damage if the pipes burst. Be sure to keep your homeowner's insurance up to date so you are prepared should any seasonal damage occur. To prevent that damage and a costly claim, survey your property and even call-in experts to check trees, pipes and other possible hazards.

**PREVENTION**  
continues on page 14

# Beltsville News CHURCH DIRECTORY

Fri, Dec 1st 3:00pm-8:00pm  
Sat, Dec 2nd 9:00am-3:00pm

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2023 Winterfest & Craft Show

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301-572-5738  
[www.holyapostlesorthodoxchurch.org](http://www.holyapostlesorthodoxchurch.org)  
 \*\*\*\*\*

  
*St. Gregory of Nyssa  
Byzantine Catholic Church*  
 (Alternating) 9, 11 am Sunday Liturgy. Schedule, Bulletin, Facebook:  
[www.stgregoryofnyssa.net](http://www.stgregoryofnyssa.net)  
 12420 Old Gunpowder Spur Road, Beltsville  
 (301) 953-9323 - Come and See

  
**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
[www.stjosephbeltsville.org](http://www.stjosephbeltsville.org)  
 Pastor: Father Robert Maro  
 Masses: Please contact parish office for schedule  
 Adult, Youth and Children Faith Formation  
[reled@stjosephbeltsville.org](mailto:reled@stjosephbeltsville.org)  
 Director: Mrs. Helene H. Stever  
 St. Joseph's Regional Catholic School  
[www.stjosrcs.org](http://www.stjosrcs.org)  
 Principal: Mrs. Erin Meunier  
 Masses: Sat Vigil 5:00pm, Sun's 8:30am\*, 11:00am;  
 Monday-Friday 8:00am; Wed 9:30am; 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 is only when School is open.



# Beltsville News CHURCH DIRECTORY

## MOONRISE

How striking is the brilliance of the moon's reflected light, Illuminating crashing waves upon the shores at night. Bright serpentine foams race along the edges of the land, While Heaven sends its rays to etch their glow upon the sand. A sparkling diamond is this orb set in black velvet sky, And yet its beauty's just a mirror of another's fire. Aligning of our character to Gods' will in our lives, Allows the holy image of His splendor to arise.

Beckie Hutchings  
10/01/2023

## PREVENTION

continued from page 13



### 4. Stay safe on the road.

The winter season carries driving risks. Not only may roads be slick and icy, but holiday shoppers are often stressed and frazzled. On roads, and particularly in shopping centers and mall parking lots, slow down and stay alert to avoid a fender-bender. As an added precaution, be sure to keep your auto insurance up to date in case of damage. Your insurance company might offer options to help you tighten your wallet during an expensive season. For example, Erie Insurance offers convenient bundling of car and home insurance to potentially save you money.

### 5. Mingle merry—and safely.

Holiday parties can be fun, but make sure you have a plan for getting home safely. And if you're hosting the party, be aware that in most states party hosts can be held liable for their guests' actions behind the wheel. So be sure your guests have a safe ride home.

### 6. Be smart online.

If you'd rather keep your comfy pants on and do your holiday shopping online, be aware of where your data might be susceptible and only shop on reputable sites. An ERIE's homeowner policy includes identity recovery coverage that can help you if you are the unfortunate victim of identity fraud.

Whether you are having a party or going on a shopping spree, being safe and prepared for the holidays is key to avoiding any accidents, injuries and incidents.

**Abiding Presence Lutheran Church**  
10774 Rhode Island Avenue  
301-937-7646



Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.  
Rev. Jongkil Na  
[www.APLChurch.org](http://www.APLChurch.org)

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301-937-4292 • [www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org](http://www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org)  
The Reverend Joseph M. Constant, Rector

Join us for In Person Worship every Sunday at 10 AM  
Youth Sunday School 11:15 AM

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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Sunday Morning Hybrid Worship 10 AM  
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.

Come see "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" beginning December 1. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at [www.upstageartists.com/tickets](http://www.upstageartists.com/tickets)

HAVE A BLESSED Thanksgiving



**First Baptist Church of Beltsville (SBC)**  
4700 Odell Road  
Beltsville, MD 20705  
301-937-7771  
[www.fbcbeltsville.org](http://www.fbcbeltsville.org)  
Keith Holland, Pastor

---

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**Sundays:**

Sunday School for all ages	9:45 a.m.
*Morning Worship	11:00 a.m.
Children's Church (3yr-3rd grade)	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.

**Wednesdays:**

Adult Bible Study & Prayer	7:00 p.m.
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College Park, MD 20740



Contact Gary Kingery



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Cremation  
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The Beltsville News

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## How to Prepare Physically and Financially for Severe Weather

(StatePoint) Severe weather can have a sizable impact on your home and your savings. Taking steps to prepare can help you maintain peace of mind should a hazard impact you. Freddie Mac offers the following preparation tips for homeowners:



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### Protect Your Investment

A home insurance policy is an important layer of protection, generally providing you with the funds needed to repair a damaged property to its condition prior to an incident. Here, coverage can vary greatly depending on the company and plan you choose. To avoid surprises, it's important to review your policy carefully and make sure you understand what is and is not covered. For example, flooding is not generally covered by homeowner's insurance, so if you live in an area at risk of flooding, consider a separate flood insurance policy.

Keep in mind that after a disaster strikes, you will need to list your possessions and verify any losses for an insurance claim. Taking a home inventory beforehand will make the process much easier.

### Establish a Saving Strategy

Create an emergency fund with a goal of saving enough money for three to six months of regu-

lar expenses. It's best to keep your emergency fund separate from your regular savings account unless there's an extreme need. Any resources you can put away will help you be more resilient if the time comes.

### Secure Your Home

Regular home maintenance can help protect against the dangers of natural disasters, such as flooding and hurricane-force winds. Cleaning gutters and drains, for example, can prevent water from collecting around your home. You should also be sure you have a sump pump in good working order, and that your foundation and roof are in good condition. If a storm is in the forecast, clear your lawn of items that may be damaged, destroyed, lost, or cause damage to your home. You should also cover windows and shut off utilities. Many of these precautions can also protect against tornadoes, which can develop quickly and

often arrive without warning.

### Make Safety Upgrades

Before buying a particular house, you may want to consider the area's history of natural disasters, and take stock of the home to ensure it's up to code and has the safety features needed to protect you and your family.

Whether you're a current or prospective homebuyer, you can reference information provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (known as FEMA) to help you assess which hazards could impact your home, and identify relevant safety upgrades that can strengthen its defenses.

Depending on the scope of renovations, you may consider taking out a loan to cover the costs. There are a variety of refinance products available that allow you to leverage your home's value to fund renovations. Talk to your lender to find the right financing option for you.

For additional emergency preparation tips, check out Freddie Mac's collection of homeownership resources found at myhome.freddie.com.

Natural disasters are hard to predict. But being prepared can help you weather the storm, both physically and financially.

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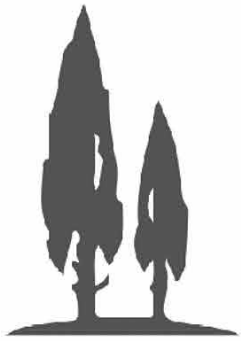
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