

The Beltsville News

An All Volunteer Newspaper

Vol. 74, Number 6

Beltsville, Maryland

June 2026

Kitty Post

Desperately Seeking Fosters – And Adopters!



By Sallie Rhodes

We have reached that point in Kitten Season where almost all of our foster homes are full – but the kittens keep on coming! Beltsville residents, business owners, and employees continue to call Beltsville Community Cats (BCC) with reports of “kit-



tens in distress”. We also continue to receive calls regarding friendly adult cats who appear

to be abandoned pets. Calls have been coming in from all over Beltsville and beyond, includ-

ing Chestnut Hills, Calverton, Home Acres, North Creek, Barclay Square Apartments, Maryland Farms Condos, industrial areas along Old Baltimore Pike, and more.

Would you consider helping us to help these adorable furry little creatures? Without new foster homes, we will soon be forced to leave adoptable kittens and abandoned pet cats out on the street, where they face an uncertain fate. Disease, cars, foxes, hawks and owls, and other hazards all take their toll. Frankly, many die. Baby kittens are especially vulnerable – stud-

FOSTERS
continues on page 4

NEXT ISSUE:

Submissions Due

No Later Than:

June 17

Paper Out:

June 26

News You Can Use



Karen Coakley

By Karen M. Coakley

Election Year in Maryland 2026. As former Speaker of the House Tip O’Neill famously said, “All politics is local.” With that in mind, I am focusing on our local elections. I sent two questions to the candidates running for the Prince George’s County Council District 1 seat and the two At-Large County Council seats. District 1 includes Beltsville, Calverton, and Vansville Heights. There are three candidates running for District 1 and eight candidates seeking the two At-Large seats. Unfortunately, only four of the At-Large candidates and two District 1 candidates responded.

For the record, all eight At-Large candidates did respond to the Greenbelt News Review. Apparently, some candidates did not feel the need to respond to my email request, which was sent in mid-April. Clearly, some candidates may not view Beltsville, Calverton, and Vansville Heights as priorities. All candidates who

NEWS YOU CAN USE
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The Beltsville News Welcome’s Jillian Schweitzer to its Staff

By Rick Bergmann

The Beltsville News is pleased to welcome Beltsville resident Jillian Schweitzer as the newspaper’s newest community correspondent.

As an active member of the local community, Schweitzer brings a passion for Beltsville and an interest in sharing the stories, events, and people that help make the area unique. In her new role, she will contribute community-focused coverage and help highlight the voices and experiences of local residents.

We are excited to have Jillian join our team. Having community members involved in local journalism helps strengthen connections throughout Beltsville and ensures that important local stories continue to be told.

Jillian’s work has already appeared in several editions of The Beltsville News, covering local happenings, community events, and stories of interest to Beltsville residents. She is also a star contributor to our sister Facebook Group, Beltsville Matters.

The Beltsville News welcomes Jillian Schweitzer to the team and looks forward to her contributions to the community newspaper.

Moving to Summertime Activities with Cub Pack 1031

By Regina Halper

It has been a busy month for Cub Pack 1031! Our active scouts have completed their rank and now we move to summertime activities. For the Bear scouts they ended the regular indoor meetings completing Marble Madness!!

We have a full month planned with a Scout Night at the Baysox, two fishing days including one led by BSA scouts from Troop 214G at Cash Lake. We have plans to do hikes, biking, stomp rockets launch, National Night Out and ending with a



Bear Scouts making a Marble Maze using recycled materials!

Rain Gutter Regatta! Interested in joining us – contact me at the email below!

Check out our new website: <https://pack1031.org/> There you can find information on how to join our Pack. If you are interested in Cub Scouts at P1031, contact Regina Halper at Pack-1031cubscouting@gmail.com or BeAScout.org for information. We are a family scouting unit. During the school year we meet at Beltsville Academy for our den meetings and in the summer, we meet at least twice a month mostly in the parks.

UpStage Artists Announces Auditions for *The Maltese Falcon*

By Rick Bergmann

UpStage Artists will hold auditions this June for its upcoming production of *The Maltese Falcon*, adapted for the stage by John Cusumano and based on the classic novel by Dashiell Hammett.

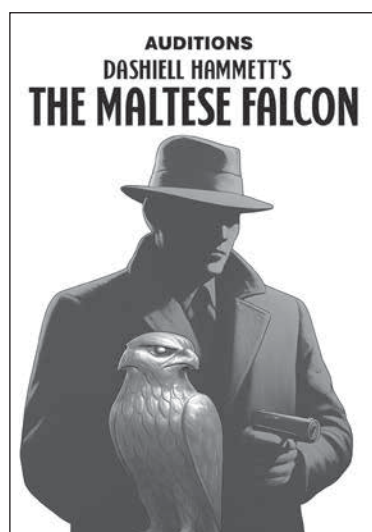
Auditions will take place Monday, June 22, and Tuesday, June 23, at 7 p.m. at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane Beltsville, MD 20705. Performances are scheduled for September 18 through September 27, including two performances on Saturday, September 19, at 2 p.m.

and 7:30 p.m.

The Maltese Falcon is a classic mystery filled with timeless intrigue; the production brings the legendary noir detective story to life on stage. The play follows private investigator Sam Spade as he becomes entangled in a dangerous search for a priceless black statuette, encountering a cast of mysterious and morally complex characters along the way.

The production is seeking six male actors and three female actors for a variety of roles, including

AUDITIONS
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Beltsville News: Blast from the Past

By Ted Ladd

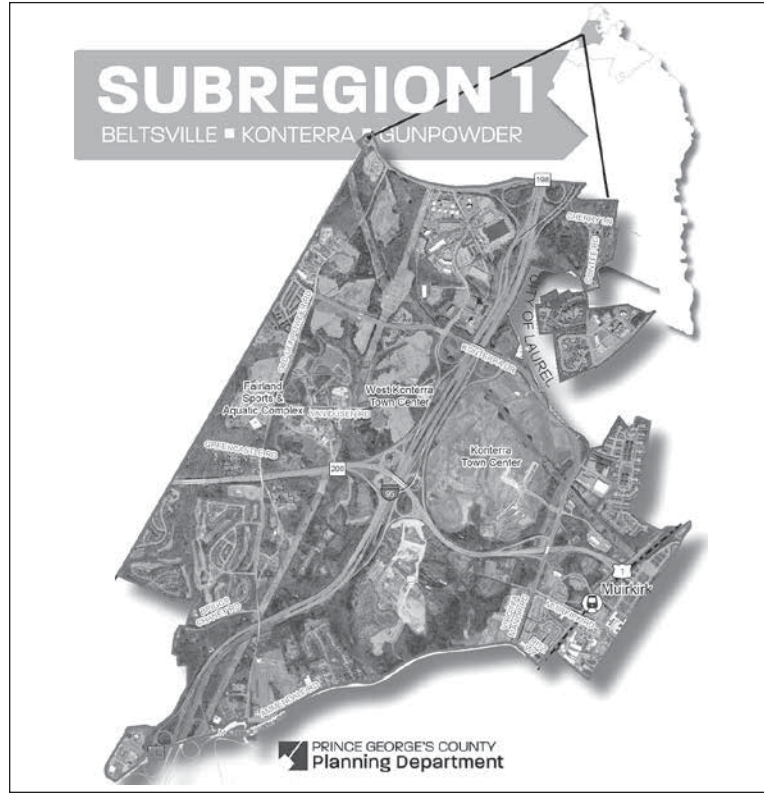
(From the Beltsville News issue of June 2001)

Beltsville Art Student Wins First Place in Show

Fran Whitman of Beltsville won first place in computer graphics at Prince George's Community College's "Student Art Exhibition" which ended

March 14 (2001) at Marlboro Hall. Fran's award was for the outstanding presentation of his seven digital images. Some selections from the show will be on display at the office of Wayne Curry, Executive of Prince George's County.

Joint Public Hearing Scheduled for the Proposed Minor Amendment to the 2010 Approved Subregion 1 Master Plan and SMA (Planning Areas 60, 61, 62, and 64)



The Prince George's County Council, sitting as the District Council, and the Prince George's County Planning Board of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission will hold an in-person Joint Public Hearings to receive public testimony on the proposed minor amendment to the 2010 Approved Master Plan and Sectional Map Amendment for Subregion 1 (Planning Areas 60, 61, 62, and 64). The joint public hearing will take place at the Wayne K. Curry Administration Building, 1st Floor Council Hearing Room, 1301 McCormick Drive, Largo, MD 20774 on Monday, June 8, 2026, at 6 p.m. The meeting may be viewed via live streaming video at <https://pgccouncil.us/LIVE>. To register to speak or submit comments or written testimony, please use the Council's eComment portal at: <https://pgccouncil.us/Speak>. For those unable to use the portal, comments/written correspondence may be emailed to: onlinesignup@co.pg.md.us or faxed to (301) 952-5178. For additional details, visit the M-NCPPC Prince George's County Planning Department's website at <https://pgplan.org/subregion1>.

The Beltsville News

An All Volunteer Newspaper

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

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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, 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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(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/300944563420364/>)
and follow us at beltsville news on Instagram.
Check out our website: www.beltsvillenewstoday.com

AUDITIONS

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Sam Spade, Miss Wonderly, The Fatman, Detective Polhaus, Effie, and others. Some roles include expanded material written specifically for this adaptation.

Auditions will consist of readings from the script, and those interested in auditioning are encouraged to complete an audition form online at www.upstageartists.com.

For additional information about auditions, performances, or the organization's upcoming season, visit www.upstageartists.com.



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your work in keeping Beltsville residents informed of the local news, advertisements, services available in our community and other related official decisions that affect all of us. It is free of charge and I do hope the advertisements keep the expenses sustainable. I was aware of a recent article by Deborah Baggett about the proposed addition of a crematorium to the Borgwardt Funeral Home at 4400 Powder Mill Road. I am thankful for her personal effort to make us all aware of this project by Borgwardt's and its ill effects on the community. Thank you for publishing all related articles.

And Dear Ms. Deborah Baggett,

Also thank you for your article in the April issue of the Beltsville News on the ill effects on health, safety and not to mention the property value of homes in Beltsville due to the proposed addition of a crematorium to the Borgwardt Funeral Home on Powder Mill Road. We are either too busy to read the local newspaper or unaware of the ill effects on our health for generations of children in the area, the traffic and all other related issues of such facilities. Usually these facilities are away from the local community, but with a diligent effort business can achieve their goal

easily. However, if our local representatives allow this to go on with a fast speed on such a project without enough time for more of local approval, it shows their own negligence to community opinion and more adherence to business or personal interest. I thank you for taking time to write, represents us all in this important issue and appreciate your goodwill sincerely. A few of my own neighbors are now aware of this problem and they may call or write to the delegates on this issue. I hope so! May your good work be blessed with success and may you and your family be blessed always.

Sincerely, Pranoti Mohanty

Why More Credit Union Members Are Choosing Premium Checking Accounts

As shifts in the economy continue to impact household budgets, consumers are looking for bank accounts that do more than simply hold money. Today's checking accounts are evolving into financial wellness tools—offering protection, convenience, savings, and lifestyle benefits all in one place. That's one reason premium checking accounts at credit unions are gaining attention from members who want more value from the accounts they already use every day.

More Value Through Credit Union Banking

Unlike many large banks, credit unions are member-focused and designed to return value to their members through better service, lower fees, and meaningful benefits. Premium checking accounts build on that mission by combining mainstream banking convenience with added protection and perks that can help members save money and reduce stress.

At Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union, the new Royal Checking account was created with that idea in mind—bringing together identity protection, cell phone coverage, telehealth access, travel discounts, and modern digital banking tools into one account.

Protection, Savings, and Peace of Mind

One of the biggest advantages of premium checking is personal identity protection. With online shopping, digital payments, and social media activity increasing every year, identity theft has become a growing concern for many families. Royal Checking includes IDProtect® identity theft monitoring and resolution



services, which provide credit file monitoring, dark web monitoring, credit score access, fraud resolution support, and identity theft expense reimbursement coverage.

Another increasingly valuable feature is cell phone protection. Smartphones have become essential for work, school, banking, and communication—but replacing a damaged or stolen device can be expensive. Royal Checking offers up to \$600 in cell phone repair or replacement coverage when the wireless bill is paid through the account.

Healthcare convenience is another benefit many consumers appreciate. Through 24/7 telehealth access, eligible Royal Checking members can connect with U.S.-based licensed doctors for physical and mental health support without copays. In a busy world where scheduling appointments can be difficult, having access to virtual care can save both time and money.

Premium checking accounts can also help members stretch their budgets through travel and leisure discounts. Whether planning a vacation, dining out, or shopping locally, discounts tied to a checking account can create savings throughout the year.

Convenience Meets Financial Value

Of course, convenience still matters. Royal Checking also includes mobile banking, mobile check deposit, online banking, Zelle®, digital wallet compatibility, bill payment tools, and higher debit card spending limits—features many consumers now expect from modern banking.

For many members, the true value of a premium checking account is not just one feature, it's the combination of protection, convenience, and lifestyle benefits bundled together. When those benefits replace services people may already pay for separately, the value can add up quickly.

As financial needs continue to change, credit unions are finding new ways to help members manage both their money and their everyday lives. Premium checking accounts like Royal Checking reflect that shift—offering more than a place to deposit a paycheck, but a tool designed to support financial wellness, security, and peace of mind.



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Rainy Season Tips!

Basement leaks are a homeowner's nightmare, especially when heavy rain puts your home's foundation to the test. Water seepage can damage dry-wall, flooring, and insulation, and in severe cases, compromise structural integrity or lead to persistent mold growth. The good news is that with proactive maintenance and a few key safeguards, you can keep your basement dry even during the wettest months.

1. Inspect and Maintain Gutters and Downspouts

The first defense against basement leaks is a properly functioning gutter system. Gutters that are clogged with leaves or debris can overflow, allowing water to pool against the foundation. Clean them out at least twice a year, and after major storms if your home is surrounded by trees. Downspouts should extend at least 6 feet away from your home's foundation—ideally with extensions or splash blocks to direct runoff downhill rather than toward the structure.

2. Grade Your Landscape Away from the House

The soil around your home should slope away from the foundation at a minimum of six

inches over the first ten feet. This prevents rainwater from collecting around the base of your house and seeping through underground walls. Over time, soil can settle and flatten, especially after harsh winters, so check your grading each spring. Add topsoil or re-level areas that allow water to pool near the foundation.

3. Seal Foundation Cracks and Gaps

Tiny cracks in concrete walls or floors may not seem threatening at first, but under hydrostatic pressure from heavy rainfall, they become perfect pathways for water intrusion. Regularly inspect your basement walls and foundation for signs of cracks, efflorescence (white mineral deposits), or moisture lines. Seal small cracks using epoxy or polyurethane injections—both expand and create waterproof barriers. For persistent or widening cracks, call a professional foundation contractor for assessment and repair.

4. Install a Reliable Sump Pump System

Sump pumps are designed to channel groundwater away from your basement and discharge it safely outside. Make sure your sump pump is in good working order before the rainy season



begins. Test it by pouring water into the sump pit—if it doesn't activate automatically, you may need repairs or a replacement. Consider adding a battery backup or a secondary pump in case of power outages, which are common during storms.

5. Waterproof Basement Walls and Floors

Interior waterproofing compounds—such as waterproof paints or sealants—can add an extra layer of defense against moisture seepage through porous concrete. On the exterior, applying a waterproof membrane or drainage board along the foundation walls during construction or major renovations offers the most robust protection. In homes where water accumulation remains an issue, installing a French drain system around the perimeter can help redirect groundwater away.

6. Manage Indoor Humidity and Ventilation

Even without visible leaks, basements can feel damp due to high humidity and condensation. Use a dehumidifier to maintain humidity levels below 50%, and ensure the area is well-ventilated. Proper insulation around cold-water pipes will prevent condensation puddles that can mimic leaks or foster mold growth.

Preventing basement leaks requires consistent attention to both exterior and interior maintenance. By combining smart water management, structural upkeep, and modern waterproofing solutions, homeowners can keep moisture at bay and protect their investment from costly water damage. A little preparation before the rain arrives is far less expensive—and far less stressful—than dealing with a flooded basement after the fact.

FOSTERS

continued from page 1

ies have found that only 25% of those born in the wild actually survive to adulthood. In contrast, nearly all kittens that BCC takes into foster care not only survive – they get adopted!

Fostering kittens and cats is just not that hard, and BCC provides our foster families with a lot of support. First, we take responsibility for whatever medical care is needed, including spay-neuter surgeries, vaccinations, and treating any illnesses that may come along. Although foster families typically buy cat food and litter, BCC can provide a variety of supplies such as litter boxes, cat beds, and toys. BCC also has experienced cat fosters who can provide advice to our foster newbies on whatever questions you may have.

Some people say, I could never foster because I wouldn't be able to give them up. But think about it. This means that lovable, adoptable cats may not have a pathway to finding a safe and secure forever home. The only way that these kittens and cats can get to an adoptive home is through caring people who give them a temporary place to stay. Just a few weeks or months of your time can have a huge and lasting impact on the lives of these deserving kitties.

Of course, if you ARE thinking about adopting a new feline family member, one of our sweet foster kitties could be your perfect match. You can find our adult adoptable kitties on PetFinder – but if you are interested in adopting a pair of young kittens, please reach out to us directly as most of the kittens in our “pipeline” are not yet showing on PetFinder.

If you are interested in serving as a short-term foster home, or in adopting, please contact us at hello@beltsvillecats.net or 240-444-8353.

BCC's Spring Yard Sale will be part of the June 13th Community Yard Sale sponsored by the Women in Faith at Emmanuel United Methodist Church. As in the past, BCC will be offering items for sale, showcasing adoptable kitties, and sharing information about BCC's lifesaving work in the community. We will also be demonstrating humane trapping and recruiting volunteers to trap, transport, overnight kitties before and after surgery, and foster adult cats and kittens (long-term, short-term, and vacation fostering). Drop by to take advantage of great deals and explore ways to get involved with a great group of animal lovers who are providing an important service to our local community.



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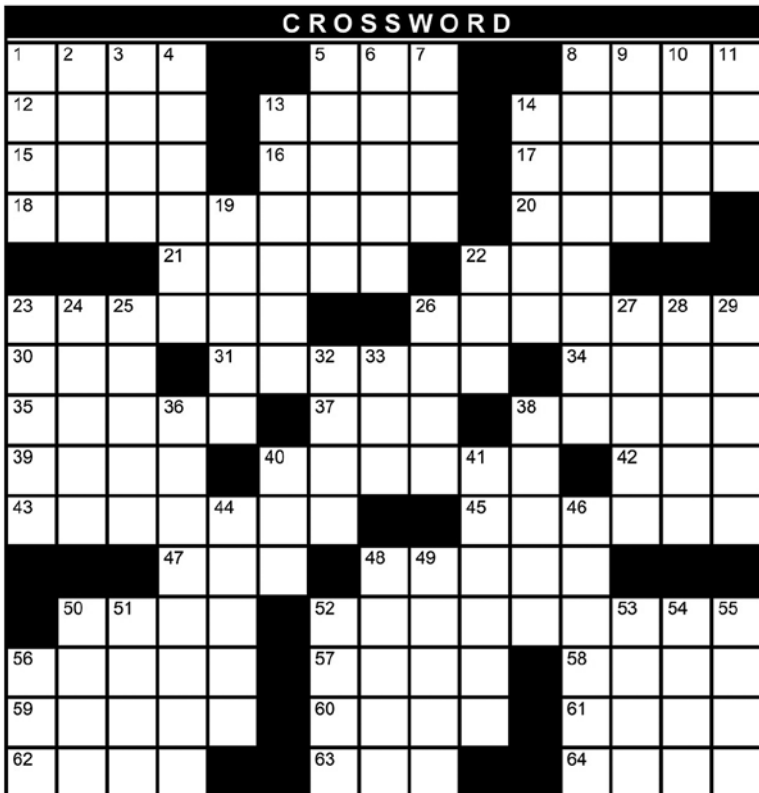
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Statepoint Crossword: Mountains



ACROSS

- 1. Ill-considered
5. Mate
8. "I didn't get the ____"
12. Biblical preposition
13. Down in the dumps
14. Rodgers of NFL fame
15. Proofreader's mark
16. Get bacon?
17. *Any mountain over 3,000 feet, in Scotland
18. *Mount Everest mountain range
20. Research facil.
21. Itsy-bitsy bits
22. Forensic evidence, acr.
23. Relating to sacrum
26. What Cupid did (2 words)
30. Amazement interjection
31. Not victory
34. Eurozone money
35. Whisky measure, pl.
37. Dot-com address
38. Birth-related
39. Auricular
40. Volcanic ash, e.g.
42. Pro baseball's "Master Melvin"
43. Borat's swimsuit
45. Cruel treatments
47. It would

- 48. Munchausen's title
50. Supernatural life force
52. *Mountain inspiration for a pen name (2 words)
56. You will
57. Icelandic epic
58. Double reed woodwind instrument
59. Like a good singer (2 words)
60. Not quite an adult
61. *Matterhorn site
62. Like a busybody
63. Commercial break contents
64. Coloring substances

DOWN

- 1. *Mount ____ more, South Dakota
2. A in ABS
3. Opposite of stern
4. Balloon filler (2 words)
5. "Vamos a la ____"
6. Sainly glows
7. Carl Zeiss' product
8. *Tallest mountain from base to peak (2 words)
9. European sea eagles
10. Dead, in France
11. Yoko of music fame
13. #11 Down's late husband, e.g.
14. Kind of acid

- 19. Dump truck quantities
22. Email period
23. Bible's wicked city
24. Blood circulation artery
25. ____ gang
26. Baby powder ingredient
27. Sting Rays and Mustangs
28. Angry
29. Sheds skin, as in snake
32. *World's most climbed mountain
33. Before, poetically
36. *Denali, 1917-2015
38. British East India Company millionaire
40. Fairy tale's last word
41. Scottish clan identity
44. *Vesuvius location
46. Take care of cargo
48. Foreshadowed
49. *World's longest mountain range
50. As opposed to stereo
51. Puffins and guillemots
52. Facebook's parent company
53. Competently
54. Uh-uh
55. British tax
56. Old-fashioned "far"

See Solution on page 6

Consumer Cellular advertisement: SWITCH & GET \$25 OFF First Month of New Service! USE PROMO CODE: GZ590. CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

Is It Time For Beltsville To Be Incorporated?

By Jillian Schweitzer

Beltsville is one of the last unincorporated towns in Prince George's County. We do have, of course, the County Council and our District representative and our state folks (whom we deeply appreciate for all of their work!), but we don't have anyone who is boots on the ground, specifically for Beltsville. Laurel does, College Park does and Greenbelt does.

With encroachment from both College Park and Greenbelt and the threat of BARC being seized by the federal government, I believe the time has come for Beltsville to stand on our own two feet, with a city council and a mayor.

Beltsville used to have a civics society and then more recently Residents for a Better Beltsville. I believe we need a full-time organization to advocate for our town and (hopefully) eventual incorporation.

I realize everyone has at least 22,567 items on their plates



(me included!) but this matters. We deserve to live in a town where we are respected and not where local sister cities council members joke about annexing us into their town. Beltsville is one of the oldest towns (the B & O Railroad actually named our town!) in the area and our history matters.

Our people matter.

I am working with a few people about forming just such a group and if you are interested in being a part of advocating and incorporation, please reach out to me either via the FB group or via email (jillian.schweitzer@gmail.com). We will also ask our registered voters to sign a petition to incorporate Beltsville. We welcome any residents and organizations to join.

Rosapepe's Report to Beltsville

June 23 is the 2026 primary election — with mail-in and early voting before then.

Beltsville has lots of needs, from keeping the Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department open and fixing local streets to improving public safety, services for seniors, and good schools.

Your most important opportunity to express your priorities and concerns is in the elections — first in the June 23 primary and then in the November election.

Whether you're a Democrat or Republican, I urge you to vote in the primary. Unfortunately, if you're an independent, you can't vote in the primaries. That's something I've worked to fix, but so far unsuccessfully. But everyone can vote in the general election in November.

Delegates Joseline Peña-Melnyk, Ben Barnes, Mary Lehman, several other candidates, and I have no competition in the Democratic primary. But there are several important local and county-wide races which I hope you will focus on:

- Beltsville's local county council member
- two at-large county council seats
- Prince George's States Attorney
- Prince George's clerk of the court
- Prince George's sheriff
- Prince George's register of wills

Whoever you decide to support, I hope you'll vote. That's the best way to make your voice heard and to help keep Beltsville a good place to live and make it even better.



Can You Still Register to Vote?

Maryland offers same-day voter registration during Early Voting and on Election Day. Be sure to bring proof of residence and identification.

How Do You Vote by Mail?

Any registered Maryland voter can vote by mail. Mail-in ballots are not automatically mailed to all voters, so you must request one. You can request a ballot online through the Maryland State Board of Elections.

Deadlines to request a mail-in ballot for the 2026 Primary Election:

- By mail or fax: Tuesday, June 16, 2026
- Online: Friday, June 19, 2026

Completed mail-in ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day, Tuesday, June 23, 2026, or returned to a ballot drop box by 8 pm that day.

How Do You Vote in Person?

Maryland offers both Early Voting and Election Day voting.

Early Voting for the 2026 Primary Election will take place from

Thursday, June 11 through Thursday, June 18, 2026, from 7 am to 8 pm daily. Voters may cast their ballot at any Early Voting Center in the county where they live.

Primary Election Day is Tuesday, June 23, 2026. Polls will be open from 7 am to 8 pm. On Election Day, voters must vote at their assigned polling place.

To find your polling location, Early Voting Center, or additional election information, visit the Maryland State Board of Elections website (<https://bit.ly/4wFpC8V>).

Our fight to keep Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department open

We need more public safety services in Beltsville, not less. That's why the Delegates, Councilman Tom Dernoga, and I have fought efforts by some in Prince George's County government to close the firehouse and have secured state money to improve it. In May, Tom, his chief of staff Michelle Garcia, and I visited the firehouse with County Fire Department officials, County Executive's Office officials, and BVFD leaders to see what improvements need to be made to keep it safe for both volunteer and professional firefighters and to protect local residents. We asked them to develop a plan which we can review.

Contact me

Please let me know if there are other issues you have questions or thoughts about. Of course, feel free to be in touch if I can be of help to you. Just email me at jrosapepe@yahoo.com or call 202-580-9435.

ROLEN
HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING
LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED



Crossword Solution from page 5

R	A	S	H		P	A	L		M	E	M	O						
U	N	T	O		B	L	U	E		A	A	R	O	N				
S	T	E	T		E	A	R	N		M	U	N	R	O				
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St. John's to Host Free "Trust vs. Wills" Seminar

Residents of Beltsville and the surrounding area are invited to attend an upcoming educational seminar focused on estate planning and the important differences between trusts and wills. Hosted by St. John's Episcopal Church in partnership with DK Law Group, the seminar will take place on Saturday, June 27, 2026, from 10 to 11 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, located at 11040 Baltimore Avenue in Beltsville.

Presented by Diana Khan of DK Law Group, the seminar is designed to help individuals and families better understand how to protect their assets, plan for the future, and make informed decisions about their legacy. Attendees will learn key differences between trusts and wills and gain insight into which options may best fit their personal needs and goals.

Organizers say the event aims to provide clear, practical information

in an accessible setting, empowering community members to plan with confidence.

Registration is required to attend. Those interested can register through Eventbrite or visit the registration link at <https://tinyurl.com/4wrrxnjk>. Additional information is available by calling (301) 937-4292 or emailing events@saintjohnsbeltsville.org.

Thanks Dad!

Early, when I was a child
Deep in my soul I knew
Safety in Your vibrant voice
When I heard it was you.

Taking strong hold of my hand
You led me through the dark
Scattering the shadows which
Were threatening my heart.

Eagerly you greeted me
T'ward e'en when work was done
Making time to play and laugh
In games. We had such fun!

Many times you taught me facts
About this great wide world
Showing me how to enjoy
Creation's wondrous pearls .

Disobedience was not
Acceptable for sure;
Learning there was right and wrong
Helped me discern the pure.

You loved Mom so tenderly,
It set my mind at ease;
Knowing I could count on you
Emotions were at ease.

Through your humble servanthood,
Behind your deeds I saw
Demonstrated reverence
For God was most of all.

Speaking through you Christ told me
To put aside my sin
Since that day the best of life
Has come to me in Him.

Certainly, much more could be
Expressed which makes me glad
Gratitude fills up my cup
Because you are my Dad.

Beckie Hutchings

From the Office of Council Member Tom Dernoga

Subregion 1 Minor Plan Amendment: Upcoming Hearing

On Monday, June 8, at 6 PM, the County Council is holding a Joint Public Hearing regarding the Minor Amendment to the 2010 Approved Master Plan and Sectional Map Amendment for Konterra and the surrounding area. This will be held at the Wayne K. Curry Building, 1301 McCormick Drive, Largo, MD 20774. You can also watch the hearing live at pgccouncil.us/303/County-Council-Video. If you would like to register to speak at this hearing or provide written comments, please do so by 3 PM on June 8 at pgccouncil.us/458/Public-Hearing-Notices-Sign-Up-to-Speak.

The County Council recently adopted Council Resolution CR-27-2026, which initiates the minor amendments to the 2010 Approved Master Plan, particularly to ensure alignment with Plan Prince George's 2035, the primary policy document guiding the County's physical development. CR-27-2026 contains all of the proposed amendments to the 2010 Approved Master Plan. Review CR-27-2026 at tinyurl.com/CR-27-2026. Review the 2010 Approved Master Plan at tinyurl.com/2010AMP. Review Plan 2035 at tinyurl.com/Plan-2035.

Council Passes Law Targeting Street Takeovers

I was pleased to support Council Member Wanika Fisher's Council Bill CB-12-2026, which is a significant step to address illegal street racing and street takeovers. CB-12-2026 is another effort to improve public safety and quality of life for residents.

County officials report that at least 25 illegal racing or takeover events have already occurred this year, many of which were organized and promoted through social media. The County Council has been working for several years with State-elected officials and County, State, and municipal law enforcement to bring these illegal events under control. While there have been many arrests, the problem persists. Thus, we are taking this additional action to support our law enforcement partners.

This bill will hold not only drivers, but also spectators, accountable. Under the new law, it is illegal to knowingly attend or participate as a spectator at these events. Penalties include a \$1,000 fine for a first offense, a \$2,000 fine for a second offense, and up to \$3,000 in fines and possible jail time for repeat violations.

Clean Communities Legislative Package Proposed

Council Chair Krystal Oriadha held a press conference on Tuesday, May 12, to present her Clean Communities Legislative Pack-



(From left to right) Michelle Garcia, Chief of Staff, Caleb Gould, and Council Member Dernoga at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Konterra Town Center.

age, which includes six proposed bills and one proposed resolution. The suite of proposed legislation aims to incentivize faster cleanup of blight and litter, and deter future community cleanliness violations.

Council Bill CB-45-2026, the *See It, Snap It, Get Paid Act*, establishes a Countywide resident reporting program leveraging Maryland law. This bill proposes that residents who submit photo or video evidence of illegal dumping, littering, or illegal signage be eligible to receive up to 50% of the collected fines.

Council Bill CB-41-2026, the *Clean Corridors & Rapid Response Act*, designates dumping hot spots as priority "clean corridors", which would require removal of dumping within 48 hours.

Read the press release for details about all seven legislative proposals at pgccouncil.us/newsflash/home/detail/2043.

Cherry Hill Road Resurfacing

I have been corresponding with leadership at the County's Department of Public Works & Transportation (DPW&T) regarding the much-needed road repairs on Cherry Hill Road. The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC Water) has an active project along Cherry Hill Road, from the Montgomery County line to Powder Mill Road. This portion of the roadway cannot be resurfaced until utility work is complete, and DPW&T has confirmed that WSSC will be responsible for milling and overlaying the road.

My team was initially informed of WSSC's White Oak Water Main Replacement Project in December 2025, at which point the projected completion was June 2026. I am awaiting confirmation of the current projected completion of the sewer work.

Summer Street Sweeping in Beltsville

The Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPW&T) Street Sweeper Operations for 2026 began in April and are scheduled throughout the Summer. On scheduled days, street sweeping can occur between 9 AM and 3 PM. Please park vehicles away from curbs. DPW&T will only sweep curbed roadways that are owned and maintained by the County. Both sides of the street will be swept, provided there are no vehicles obstructing the operators.

The schedule depends on which Zone you are in, and portions of Beltsville overlap across Zones 1, 22, 23, and 24. You can confirm your Zone and schedule via the interactive map at tinyurl.com/D1StreetSweep.

Fireworks are Illegal in Prince George's County

As we approach the Fourth of July, please continue to remind your neighbors that all types of fireworks are illegal in Prince George's County. Penalties for violations may include a fine of up to \$1000 and up to six months in jail. Falling sparks from fireworks set off by non-professional entities within the County increase the risk of fire hazards, while excessively loud explosions abruptly awaken sleeping neighbors and terrify their pets. Injuries also often occur from improperly handled fireworks. As a safer alternative, please encourage your friends and neighbors to enjoy a public fireworks display at appropriate designated locations within the Cities of Laurel and College Park. To report firework use, go to 911. mypygc.us or call 301-352-1200.

Contact Us

Please keep in touch by emailing us at councildistrict1@co.pg.md.us or calling 301-952-3887.

RJ Berra Inc. / Services Unlimited

Tree and Stump Removal Experts

Our team is fully equipped to handle all your tree removal needs. Services offered are from a basic pruning to a full tree removal by crane.

Call Bob, your community tree service expert since the 1980's

301-384-4746 LTE#782

A licensed tree expert with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources



New Patients Welcome

Beltsville Dental Care

John J. Moynihan, DDS, PA

10760 Rhode Island Ave.

301-937-4448

Visit us at beltsvilledentalcare.com

SUDOKU

Call today and receive a **FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF**

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB 1-855-576-5653

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

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© StatePoint Media

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Sudoku Solution on page 8

DEMOCRATIC SAMPLE BALLOT




GOVERNOR/ LT. GOVERNOR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wes Moore/Aruna Miller	COUNTY EXECUTIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aisha Braveboy	CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mahasin El Amin	DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrew Fellows <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dennis Grant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> JESSY MEJIA TERRY
COMPTROLLER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brooke Elizabeth Lierman	COUNTY COUNCIL AT LARGE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jolene Ivey <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeana Jacobs	REGISTER OF WILLS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jocelyn Route	CENTRAL COMMITTEE AT-LARGE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Danielle Delgado-District 21 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nathaniel Morgan-District 22 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sylvia Johnson-District 23 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Dickens-District 24 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rasheim Wright-District 25 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lamont Bunyon-District 27 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarahita Wyatt-Pasige -District 47
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Glenn F. Ivey	JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LaKeecia Allen <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott M. Carrington <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ada Elizabeth Clark-Edwards <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stacey Cobb Smith <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Althea Stewart Jones <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donnaka Varner Lewis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Ray Pearson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joseph C. Ruddy, III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Todd Stuart	JUDGE OF THE ORPHANS' COURT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wendy A. Cartwright <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason A. DeLoach <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Athena Malloy Groves	
STATE SENATOR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Rosapepe		COUNTY COUNCIL District 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MICHELLE GARCÍA	
HOUSE OF DELEGATES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Lehman <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joseline Peña-Melnyk <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ben Barnes			

FYI: Circled red names are the key competitive races

Drop Box Location: Laurel Beltsville Senior Center and College Park Community Center


Vote Early: June 11 - 18, 2026 • 7:00am - 8:00pm



Michelle Garcia
DEMOCRAT FOR COUNTY COUNCIL

Michelle Garcia has worked for the families of this community for many years, first as Delegate Joseline Peña-Melnyk's chief of staff, then as Community Liaison for the whole 21st District Democratic Team, and in recent years as County Councilman Tom Dernoga's chief of staff.

She refuses to accept corporate money for her campaign.



Jessy Mejia Terry
DEMOCRAT FOR CENTRAL COMMITTEE

A 26-year resident of the 21st District, Jessy Mejia Terry worked in Democratic politics and for progressive causes for years. She is running for the Democratic Central Committee to ensure our Party **prioritizes affordability and community building** — and does everything it can to win the 2026 and 2028 elections.

Why we're supporting them.

They know Beltsville — and they have worked with us to **stand up to Trump's attacks** on our community and our democracy. We need them now more than ever.



Rosapepe
Joseline Peña-Melnyk
Ben Barnes
Mary Lehman

If you want to help us, e-mail us at contact@michellejgarcia.com, call us at (301) 642-0410, or visit our websites, 21stdistrictdelegation.com or michellejgarcia.com or scan the QR code.



Why are so many unions for Michelle García for County Council?

AUTHORIZED BY FRIENDS OF MICHELLE GARCÍA: MARITZA GARCÍA, TREASURER



Because *she's* fighting for union families—on the job and at home.

Michelle grew up in a union family. Her sister is a union member, and her father and daughter were union members, as well. She's seen up close what labor unions mean to everyone in the family — **job security, good pay, pensions, and dignity.**

With Trump and his billionaire buddies raising gas prices, DOING federal employees, and attacking Social Security, we need strong unions to stand up for us. That's why Michelle stands with labor. From protecting collective bargaining rights and pensions, to fighting wage theft and union busting, she's with us.



Delegate Mary Lehman

"I've worked with Michelle for many years, fighting for working families. With Trump's attacks on us, her values, grit, and courage are more important than ever.

I'm voting for her and hope you will too."



BY AUTHORITY, TEAM 21 SLATE

Rosapepe
Joseline Peña-Melnyk
Ben Barnes
Mary Lehman

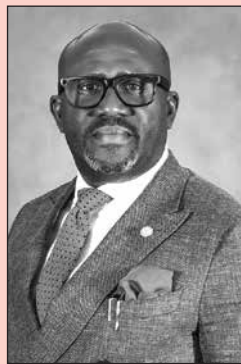
If you want to help us, e-mail us at contact@michellejgarcia.com, call us at (301) 642-0410, or visit our websites, 21stdistrictdelegation.com or michellejgarcia.com or scan the QR code.



**Commissioner Dr. Billy Okoye, GRI
Named Vice Chair of the M-NCPPC
Prince George's County Planning Board**

*Darryl Barnes Resigns from M-NCPPC
Prince George's County Planning Board*

LARGO, MD – On May 14, 2026, the Prince George's County Planning Board of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) elected Member Billy Okoye as Vice Chair with a 3-2 vote. Vice Chair Okoye succeeds Planning Board Member Manuel Geraldo in this position who served as Vice Chair since November 2025. Geraldo will remain on the Board with Members Brittany Jenkins and Lori Matthews. In the Chair's absence, Vice Chair Okoye assumes duties of the Chair in overseeing Planning Board meetings and completing other Board business.



New Vice Chair of the M-NCPPC Prince George's County Planning Board, Dr. Billy Okoye

ryl Barnes resigned as Chair of the M-NCPPC Prince George's County Planning Board. In Prince George's County, members of the Planning Board are appointed by the County Executive, subject to approval of the County Council. The County Executive will appoint the next Planning Board Chair to fill the vacant position, with a four-year term set to expire in June 2029.

The Prince George's County Planning Board meets weekly to review subdivisions, site plans, and other development applications and develop and make recommendations to the County Council on land use policies to guide the growth and development of the County. In addition, the Planning Board provides managerial oversight of the M-NCPPC Prince George's County Planning Department and the Department of Parks and Recreation. Together, with fellow colleagues from the Montgomery County Planning Board, they guide M-NCPPC's bi-county mission to manage physical growth and plan communities; protect and steward natural, cultural, and historic resources; and provide leisure and recreational experiences.

"I look forward to the continued collaboration with my Planning Board colleagues on development review, planning and policy recommendations, and supporting the Commission's mission in long-range planning, preservation, and encouraging healthy lifestyles," said Okoye. "We will continue our work to elevate Prince George's County through equitable approaches that address housing, neighborhood revitalization, sustainability, transportation, and economic vitality." Effective May 16, 2026, Dar-

**Emmanuel UMC Yard Sale Just Weeks Away:
Vendors Still Welcome for June 13 Event**

By Rick Bergmann

The countdown is on for Emmanuel United Methodist Church's Community Yard Sale, returning to Beltsville on Saturday, June 13, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, located at 11416 Cedar Lane.

Hosted by the church's United Women in Faith, the event promises a wide variety of bargains, unique treasures, household items, clothing, collectibles, and more. Community members are invited to stop by, browse the different vendor tables, and enjoy a day of shopping and fellowship with neighbors.

With just a few weeks remaining before the sale, organizers are also continuing to welcome additional vendors. Anyone interested in selling items can reserve



The Emmanuel UMC Ladies of the United Women in Faith are hard at work planning their upcoming yard!

a space for \$10 if bringing their own table or \$20 for a space with a table included.

Those interested in participating can register online at tinyurl.com/eumcyardsale2026 or request additional information by emailing the office at office@eumc-beltsville.com.

beltsville.com.

Whether you are looking to clean out your attic, find a hidden treasure, or simply enjoy a fun Saturday in the community, Emmanuel UMC's Community Yard Sale offers something for everyone.

Obituaries

Christine Byers

June 14, 1954 —
April 20, 2026

Chris Byers (nee Ellen Christine Scaggs), age 71, passed away suddenly on April 20, 2026. She was born on June 14, 1954, in Washington, D.C., to Julia and Joseph Scaggs.

A long-time resident of Manitou Springs, CO, Chris grew up in Beltsville, Maryland, graduating from High Point High School in 1972 before pursuing her Occupational Therapy degree at the University of Maryland and the University of Wisconsin.

She is survived by her loving partner/husband, Keith Gohsler; her daughters, Brittany Ahlgrim (Christopher) of Yampa, CO,



Christine "Chris" Byers

and sister-in-law, Nancy Scaggs. She remains a guiding light for her five cherished grandchildren: Gavin (13), twins Ethan and Allie Ahlgrim (11) and Brynn (5), and Rylee Katzen (3). She will be greatly missed by many relatives and friends. Chris was preceded in death by her parents and her brothers, Richard and Gary Wayne Scaggs.

A Celebration of Life will be held in Manitou Springs, CO, on July 11, 2026. In keeping with Chris's spirit of generosity and her desire to see others happy, the family requests that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to any charity that brings you personal joy.

and Michelle Katzen (Jason) of Manhattan Beach, CA; her sister, Nancy Scaggs (Dennis Clark)

Sudoku Solution from page 7

7	4	2	6	8	1	5	9	3
9	8	3	2	7	5	4	1	6
5	6	1	4	3	9	8	7	2
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2	9	7	1	6	8	3	4	5
3	1	8	7	5	4	2	6	9

Club News

The Beltsville Young At Heart Club

By Lois Hamilton

Our May meeting had a speaker on "How to fool the scammers." It was a very interesting subject.

The Beltsville Community Center is having problems with some plumbing, so the bathrooms are being remodeled. They have "jiffy-johns" set up to take care of any needs for the next couple of months.

Our June meeting, Thursday, June 18, will be a "Bingo for prizes" event. Members who wish to play need to bring a wrapped prize (value of \$5-\$15), so that the winners will have an incentive

to stay and play. The business part of the meeting will start at 10:30 a.m. as usual.

We have two-day trips and one five-day/four-night trip to interest you. In September we go on the Dorothy-Megan paddleboat for a crab feast. In November, we'll go to Lancaster, PA to see *Winter Wonderland* at the American Music Theater. It includes a buffet lunch before the show. But, in September, we go on a five-day/four-night trip to Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Zion Union Heritage Museum, among other stops. We leave for all trips from the Beltsville Community Center,

3900 Sellman Road.

Come and visit us and see what else we do. We are a small group, but very friendly. You only have to be 55 years old. You do NOT have to live in Beltsville to join us. For more information, come to the meeting, or call Lois at 301-498-9736.

"The perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawnmower is broken." J. Dent

Calendar of Events

COLLEGE PARK AVIATION MUSEUM

Address: 1985 Corporal Frank Scott Dr., College Park, MD 20740. Phone: 301.864.6029. Fax: 301.927.6472. E-mail: collegeparkaviation@pgparks.com. Regular hours of operation: Open Tuesday – Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Mondays and some holidays (double-check with the museum regarding the specific holidays). Special events may have different costs and hours of operation. General admission: Adults/\$5; Seniors/\$4; Children and Students with ID/\$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. For special events see www.pgparks.com/facilities/college-park-aviation-museum.

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM ROCK CONCERT

June 13, 2026 from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Close out Trolley Trail Day with an epic museum concert featuring high energy performances and a special one-night collaboration between Laundry World and the College Park Chorale. Sara B & the Backline will kick off the evening with an energetic performance of various genres of music. Enjoy food and drinks for purchase or bring a picnic. Presented in partnership with Maryland Milestones. FREE!

STEAM HOUR

Two dates: June 27 and June 28 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. each day. Join our educators at this hands-on activity table where creativity takes flight! Perfect for budding engineers and aviation enthusiasts, this interactive program allows visitors to design and build their own creations. Whether you're constructing airplanes, airports, or inventing something entirely new, the STEAM Hour encourages you to dream big and bring your ideas to life. Drop in anytime during the hour for an opportunity to explore the wonders of aviation through play. This program is ideal for learners ages 6 – 12 and is FREE with museum admission. No registration required.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE VISITOR CENTER

Main phone: 301.497.5772. Website: <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/patuxent-research/events>. Address: 10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop, Laurel, MD 20708. The entrance is accessed from Powder Mill Rd. between the Baltimore–Washington Pkwy. and Rt. 197. The grounds are open from sunrise to sunset daily, except Tuesdays when they close at 4 p.m. Regular business hours for the building are Wed. – Sat. from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., except for Federal holidays.

- Free admission, parking, exhibits, and programs.
- Miles of walking trails.
- Great for birdwatching and photography.
- 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.
- Weather closures: Hours of access may be altered as needed to clear roads and grounds.

STORY TRAIL

Daily, from sunrise to sunset (except Tuesdays, only until 4 p.m.). All Ages. Explore a seasonal children's book, displayed page-by-page in weather-protected, child-height boxes outdoors along the paved Loop Trail that are near the outdoor bathrooms.

- The book for June is *Bugs for Lunch/Insectos Para El Almuerzo* by Margery Facklam.

SCHOOLS AND YOUTH GROUPS

Invitation to enjoy educational species exhibits, the grounds and trails, bird blind, and pollinator gardens. There is a patio for picnics. Send your questions to Jason at michael_cangelosi@fws.gov.

AGENTS OF DISCOVERY

Sunrise to sunset daily, except only until 4 p.m. on Tuesdays. All ages. This is an outdoor self-guided nature-challenge game on the grounds. Download the free phone app at home first. Complete challenges and earn a patch. Play: <https://fws.gov/media/agents-discovery-patuxent-research-refuge>.

KIDS DISCOVERY CENTER

10 a.m. to 12 noon (35-minute time slots, on the hour). Ages 3 – 10, with an adult. Crafts, puzzles, games, nature exploration.

June: Reptiles/Snakes - Some climb, some swim; they eat whatever their mouths can fit in. But what else can they do? Come discover! Large groups: Register 2 weeks ahead: Email Jason, michael_cangelosi@fws.gov. Others register: 301-497-5772, 10 am-4 pm Wed.-Sat.

MONARCH MAGIC CENTER

10 am-4 pm, Wed.-Sat. [S]. Full-color video: monarch butterfly life cycle. All ages. 2025 season's monarch-release data available. Interested volunteers: Call; sign up for "Butterfly Team Overview Presentation."

HOLLINGSWORTH WILDLIFE ART GALLERY

Free. All ages. Open when the building is open. The art gallery is next to the bookstore.

Eleven members of the Bowie-Crofton Camera Club will exhibit their inspiring and beautiful wildlife and nature photographs, exploring landscapes, animal denizens and the lives of their local wildlife "neighbors." Gallery Reception and a Meet & Greet with the Camera Club Photographers, June 20: 1:30-3:30 pm.

BIKE RIDE, NORTH TRACT, CELEBRATING 90 YEARS, PATUXENT RESEARCH REFUGE

8:30-10:30 am, June 7. [N]. Ages 8+. Scenic, paved-road bike ride. Meet Friends of Patuxent volunteers at North Tract's Visitor Center (230 Bald Eagle Dr.; Laurel) for this family-friendly, relaxed-pace ride. Observe wildlife, ask questions, learn about this refuge's 90 years of wildlife conservation history! Bring your bike (in good working condition), helmet, water, any appropriate outdoor apparel/gear.

WINGSPAN GAME DAY

June 12 and 27 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Ages 12+. No experience needed. Play the award-winning board game and learn more about birds! Use our game or bring yours and sign in at the Front Desk to play.

FAMILY FUN

This educational exhibit is staffed on June 12/13 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. both days. It is open to individual study from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wed. – Sat. All ages.

June theme: Colors in Nature - Did you know that colors in nature are for far more than just décor? Explore Nature's colors and more! Drop-in: come & go as you wish.

WILD BIRD MEET & GREET

Sat., June 27 from 2 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Join us in the Visitor Center lobby for a drop-in Meet & Greet with a live bird of prey. Bring your camera and your questions. All ages.

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. Regular hours of operation are Mon. – Thur. from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Fri. from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sat. from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Closed on Sundays and most major holidays. Address: 7120 Contee Rd., Laurel, MD 20707, next to the University of Maryland Laurel 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)

The May meeting will be Wed., June 3 at 10:30 a.m. The club meets on the first Wednesday of each month. For more information about the meeting, contact Ms. Pary Harris at 240.893.6738.

- The LSFC office is open Mon. – Fri. from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Call 301.206.3380.
- Please make lunch reservations two weeks in advance of each meeting. Call the office for details.
- Trips planned for 2026: *Be sure to register early since many trips sell out in advance!*
- Every Tuesday Bingo starts at 12 noon (doors open at 11 a.m.); fee for cards, NO admission fee. If any doubt about Bingo being held, call 240.788.2290.

AMERICAN ROSIE THE RIVETER ASSOCIATION

The Laurel Chapter of the American Rosie the Riveter Association invites you to a meeting Saturday, June 27 at 11 a.m. at the Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church, 424 Main St., Laurel. Speaker is Lorie Smallets, a USO volunteer at BWI Airport and member of Laurel American Legion Post 60. Her presentation will include USO history and her experiences as a USO volunteer. Lorie and her

husband Walter recently worked long hours, day and night, with the families of military families coming in from overseas during the war evacuations. Refreshments at our USO Canteen. Info, Pat, 240-762-3895.

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Chapter 422 Laurel of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees will host a luncheon, Wed., June 10 at 11:30 a.m. at the Laurel-Beltsville Senior Activity Center, 7120 Contee Road, Laurel. Invited speakers are the Maryland Senators and Delegates from Districts 21 and 23, speaking on the results of the recent session in Annapolis. To date, Maryland Senator Jim Rosapepe, Maryland House Speaker and District 21 Delegate Joseline Pena-Melnyk and District 21 Delegate Mary Lehman have responded affirmatively. Catered by Mission BBQ, the menu includes Sliced Brisket, Pulled Pork, Sauces, Mac-N-Cheese, Baked Beans, Peach Cobbler, Ice Cream and Beverages. Cost is \$22 per person. To make a reservation, send a check payable to NARFE Chapter 422 Laurel, to arrive by June 3, to Stewart Saphier, 2901 Friendlywood Way, Burtonsville, MD 20866-1856. Information, Pat Farmer, 240-762-3895.

BELTSVILLE EVENTS

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY (NAL)

Address: 10301 Baltimore Ave. in Beltsville. Main phone number: 301.504.5755. We continue to serve our customers remotely during regular business hours. Website: <https://www.nal.usda.gov/>; online information products are always available. NAL is on X at https://x.com/National_Ag_Lib. The National Agricultural Library (NAL) is one of five national libraries of the United States. It houses one of the world's largest collections devoted to agriculture and its related sciences. See nutrition information for every stage of life at <https://www.nutrition.gov/>. Get *MyPlate* nutrition information for babies and toddlers via the free Amazon Alexa app. To learn more, visit www.myplate.gov/myplateassistant.

AMERICAN SON PRESENTED BY UPSTAGE ARTISTS

UpStage Artists will present Christopher Demos-Brown's powerful drama *American Son* at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville. Evening performances will take place June 5, 6, 12, and 13 at 7:30 p.m., with matinees June 6, 7, and 14 at 2 p.m. A talkback with the cast will follow the June 6 matinee. Tickets are \$15 and available at www.upstageartists.com. The play explores issues of race, privilege, and family through the story of a mother searching for answers after her teenage son goes missing.

COMMUNITY YARSALE AT EMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, will host a community yard sale on Saturday, June 13, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sponsored by the United Women in Faith, the event will feature bargains, household items, unique finds, a bake sale, and hot lunch. Vendor spaces are available for \$10 without a table or \$20 with a table. To reserve a spot, email office@eumcbeltsville.com. Everyone is welcome.

YOUNG AT HEART CLUB

Thur., June 18 at 10:30 a.m. Address: the Beltsville Community Center, 3900 Sellman Rd., Beltsville. The Beltsville Young at Heart Club meets on the third Thursday of each month (weather permitting) and is for residents who are 55 years of age and older. Contact Lois at 301.498.9736 for more information.

BELTSVILLE LIBRARY EVENTS

Closed Friday, June 19 in observance of Juneteenth Day. Address: 4319 Sellman Rd., Beltsville, next door to the police station. The main phone number is 301.937.0294. TTY: 301.808.2061. Ask a Librarian telephone reference is 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. See www.pgcmils.info/location/Beltsville for online services and information about other county library branches and programs.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

READY 2 READ STORYTIME
Mondays at 10:30 a.m. Ages 2 – 3.

LEGOS: BRICKS AND BEYOND
Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. Freestyle building. Legos will be provided, and kids can let their imaginations run wild!

SPANISH-ENGLISH READY 2 READ STORYTIME
Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Ages 3 – 5.

READY 2 READ ART: RAINBOW ANIMALS

Thursday, June 4 at 4:30 pm. Dive into the colorful world of art with an interactive story that sparks imagination! After the tale, unleash creativity by crafting a themed masterpiece. It's a delightful way for little ones to appreciate art while having a blast!

KIDS CREATE: SCARAB BEETLE
Monday, June 29 at 3 pm. Have fun making art and crafts while learning new skills. Kids will learn about the significance of scarab beetles in ancient Egyptian culture and create their own scarab beetle artifact.

KIDS CREATE: FOSSIL FUN!
Tuesday, June 30 at 4 pm. Have fun making art and crafts while learning new skills. With easy-to-follow steps, kids will create their own fossil impressions using air dry clay!

NEWS YOU CAN USE
continued from page 1

responded are listed below, along with their contact information and websites.

District 1 candidate Martin Mitchell missed the deadline for the May edition of The Beltsville News but has since submitted his comments. I am reprinting the original questions from May and encourage readers to consider which candidates took the time to address issues affecting Beltsville, Calverton, and Vansville Heights. If a candidate could not take the time to answer two questions, voters may reasonably ask: Do they truly care about our communities?

Early Voting (In Person):
June 11–18, 7:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.

Election Day (In Person):
June 23, 7:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.

Voting Drop Box:
Beltsville Community Center,
3900 Sellman Road

The questions submitted to candidates were:

1. What do you believe is the top concern for Beltsville, Calverton, and Vansville Heights?
2. What would you do to improve the situation?

Below is are the responses I received. All except Martin Mitchell were posted in last month's edition of the Beltsville News.

Candidates for County Council District 1

Martin Mitchell

MeetMartin.org;
info.meetmartin@gmail.com

1) What do you believe is the top concern for Beltsville, Calverton, and Vansville Heights?

“As I speak to our residents daily, I’m primarily hearing about the need to replace the aging High Point High School while opposing the new crematorium approved for Beltsville.”

2) What would you do to improve the situation?

“As someone who attended public schools in Laurel and is now raising my children in those same public schools, I am very focused on ensuring that High Point High School — one of the oldest and largest high schools in the county — is replaced as quickly as possible. I will work to ensure that planned funding is allocated and spent on schedule to make this happen.

At the same time, we need to demand that the current County Council place an indefinite moratorium on permits for new crematoriums in the county, similar to the pause placed on data center development. The planned crematorium in Beltsville is too close to residential communities and presents potential environmental concerns.”

— Revolutionary regards,
Martin

Michelle Garcia

www.michellejgarcia.com;
contact@michellejgarcia.com

“The top concerns vary across

Beltsville, Calverton, and Vansville Heights, but each reflects consistent feedback I have heard in my work with residents. In Beltsville, concerns center on private property issues (e.g., illegal businesses, overcrowding, etc.), which are overseen by the Department of Permitting, Inspection, and Enforcement, as well as inconsistent waste collection in certain areas, which falls under the Department of the Environment. In Calverton, residents have consistently raised concerns about speeding along Calverton Boulevard. In Vansville Heights, the primary issue is the high volume of traffic on Edmonston Road, particularly during rush hour.

While there are additional concerns, such as development pressures, exhibition driving, support for the Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department, and preserving the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, the issues highlighted above are the ones that have most consistently emerged in my engagement with the community.

What would you do to improve the situation? Private Property Concerns: I am currently working on a bill with Councilmember Dernoga to strengthen the rules against business use of residential property. Inconsistent Waste Collection: I am currently working with the Department of the Environment to impose fines on the contractor or to rescind the contract. I will hold all contractors accountable. Speeding: I will advocate for a speed camera on Calverton Boulevard as I did on Briggs Chaney Road. Traffic on Edmonston Road: I will work with our state delegation to resuscitate the longstanding road project extending Virginia Manor Road to Kenilworth Avenue.”

Candidates for Councilmember At Large listed in alphabetical order.

Sydney J. Harrison, Councilmember

www.Vote4SydneyHarrison.com;
vote4sydneyharrison@gmail.com

1) I believe the top concern for Beltsville, Calverton, and Vansville Heights communities is the impact of inflation (cost of consumer goods and services), on personal expenditures and government services. Raising costs and reduced personal wealth has been caused by several key factors (interest rates increase, federal government layoffs, state government budget cuts, and the middle eastern war). Raising inflation has placed additional financial pressures on working families.

2) What would you do to improve the situation? To improve the situation, I will continue my efforts towards attracting new business investments into Prince George’s County, updating out-dated zoning master plans to encourage increased commercial tax growth, incentivize job creation, and creating more affordable housing opportunities.

Jolene Ivey At Large Councilmember

www.joleneivey.com;
jolene@joleneivey.com

In Beltsville, Calverton, and Vansville Heights, residents share concerns about development, public safety, the environment, and the impact of actions by the federal government in the past year. Beyond that, the communities along the U.S. 1 corridor continue to experience heavy traffic, aging commercial corridors, and uneven property conditions.

Locally, the fate of the local fire station remains a concern. Career staff were relocated from Station 831 in early November, and the ongoing concern is when they will return. Because of that, there remains concern about reduced fire and EMS services in the area. I will continue to work with the Fire Chief and the fire department to see that the department is transparent with the community regarding the timelines and the future of the firehouse.

Another local concern, as well as one for the entire county, is the proposed closure of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). The USDA’s reorganization plan would close BARC after more than 100 years of operation, harming American farmers and risking billions in prior investment. The center supports many hundreds of jobs and irreplaceable agricultural research partnerships. The entire Maryland Democratic Congressional delegation has pushed back against the Trump administration’s plan, arguing it

may even be illegal without Congressional approval. The County Council, with my support, has officially expressed opposition to the proposed closure. Additionally, families in the Beltsville area, as throughout the county and region, are struggling with the actions of this federal administration. In addition to BARC, the decision on the FBI headquarters, and the effects of the federal government layoffs and shutdowns, the increased ICE activity has created instability and fear in our communities. I have cosponsored a package of legislation that has passed in the County Council to protect our neighbors.

The way to address and work to make changes in these federal issues is for the Democrats to win the midterm elections. In the meantime, I will continue to work with the impressively active and involved residents in the Beltsville area.

Dr. Jennifer Rios

www.DrJenniferrios.com;
drjenniferrios@gmail.com

1) The biggest concern I hear from residents is how growth is outpacing infrastructure. Traffic is getting worse, roads need attention, and people don’t always feel safe walking in their own neighborhoods. There’s also a real concern about whether new development is actually helping the people who already live here, especially when it comes to small businesses and rising costs.

2) First, I would push for practical improvements people can see, like fixing roads, making intersections safer, and improving side-

walks and crossings. I would also work with state and regional partners to improve transit options, so people aren’t stuck relying only on cars.

Second, I would make sure new development is planned responsibly. That means not approving projects unless the infrastructure can handle them and making sure developers contribute to things the community actually needs.

I would also focus on supporting local businesses and job opportunities so that growth benefits current residents, not just outside investors.

Most importantly, I would stay in regular contact with residents and civic groups, so decisions are based on what the community is actually experiencing, not just what looks good on paper.

Keith Washington

kwash85td@gmail.com

A little bit about myself is that I spent 20 years in the US Army and 17 years as a Prince George’s County Police Officer, mostly at the same time. I started and ran a foundation for kids to be awarded scholarships while I was a police officer, so I believe in service to my community and county. I am also a small business owner in Prince George’s County and employ many county citizens.

1) The top concern is a lack of results after decades of the same leadership. Beltsville, Calverton, and Vansville Heights have been underrepresented for years. Residents are still dealing with wors-

NEWS YOU CAN USE
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APRIL 2026 HOUSING MARKET REPORT

Local Markets	Active Listings		Months of Supply	
	Apr '26	vs. Apr '25	Apr '26	vs. Apr '25
Montgomery County, MD	1,831	+12.7%	2.25	+0.23 months
Prince George's County, MD	1,872	+29.8%	2.91	+0.93 months

Local Markets	Closed Sales		Median Sales Price		Median Days on Market	
	Apr '26	vs. Apr '25	Apr '26	vs. Apr '25	Apr '26	vs. Apr '25
Montgomery County, MD	903	+3.7%	\$660,000	-1.5%	8 days	+1 day
Prince George's County, MD	638	-4.8%	\$450,000	-1.0%	21 days	+7 days

Local Markets	New Pending Sales		New Listings		Showings	
	Apr '26	vs. Apr '25	Apr '26	vs. Apr '25	Apr '26	vs. Apr '25
Montgomery County, MD	1,050	+7.4%	1,200	+4.2%	22,612	+14.1%
Prince George's County, MD	866	+6.3%	963	+11.8%	20,138	+10.9%

REAL ESTATE MARKET IS STRONG IN PRINCE GEORGE and MONTGOMERY COUNTIES !!!

Beltsville News CHURCH DIRECTORY

NEWS YOU CAN USE

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ening traffic, unchecked overdevelopment, strained infrastructure, and limited economic opportunity. At some point, we have to be honest: these aren't new problems, they are the result of long-term inaction. Families are sitting in traffic longer, small businesses are struggling to stay open, and development decisions continue to prioritize outside interests over the people who actually live here. Residents don't feel heard—and after decades of the same leadership, they're right to ask: when does it get better?

2) First, I will bring immediate accountability. Thirty-five years is more than enough time to fix these issues. If they're still not solved, it's time for new leadership focused on results, not maintaining the status quo. I will push for a pause on overdevelopment until infrastructure—roads, schools, and public services—catches up. No more approving projects that increase congestion and strain our communities without clear, measurable benefits to residents. Second, I will fight to bring real economic investment into this corridor. That means supporting small and minority-owned businesses, ensuring local hiring, and making sure county resources are reinvested in the communities that have been overlooked for far too long. Third, I will take a smarter approach to public safety—focusing on prevention through youth programs, job training, and community partnerships so we reduce crime before it starts like I did as a police officer with a foundation for youth to pursue their life's dreams and goals. Most importantly, I will be present, accessible, and responsive. These communities deserve leadership that shows up consistently and fights for them every day—not leadership that has grown comfortable over decades.

This election is about a choice: continue with the same leadership and minimal results—or choose a new direction focused on accountability, opportunity, and putting residents first.


TECH SENSE

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Notepad++ is the most common free alternative to Notepad on Windows. Microsoft now has VS Code (Visual Studio Code) which evolved from their IDE. The code for VS Code claims to be open source, but the product seems to be under a non-open-source license from Microsoft. Vim is still one of the most popular editors as is Emacs and both are available on Unix, Linux, Windows, and Apple.

In the Future

I suspect that text editors will be around for a long time but in the future, I should be able to speak to them and tell them what they are doing wrong. Have a great intro to summer. My next story will come in July.



ALL ARE WELCOME HERE!
Emmanuel United Methodist Church
 Sunday Morning Worship 10 AM
 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705

Join us for meaningful worship, inspiring music, and a warm, welcoming community.


Can't attend in person? Watch our live broadcast at www.eumcbeltsville.com

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them"

Upcoming Events

June 5-14: UpStage Artists Presents *American Son*
 June 13: 9am-11am Community Yard Sale
 May 19: Juneteenth Church Office Closed
 June 27: 8am-11am Free Food Distribution - all are welcome

Rev. Dr. Andrea Middleton King, Pastor
 (301) 937-7114 † office@eumcbeltsville.com
www.eumcbeltsville.com
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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/EUMCBeltsville>
 Follow us on Instagram @eumc_beltsville





Holy Apostles Orthodox Church
Come and see.

A Mission Parish of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia
 Located in Twin Chimneys Office Park
 10760 Baltimore Ave, Beltsville, MD

Evening Vigil: Sat. 5:00 PM
 Hours & Divine Liturgy: Sun. 9:40 AM

All Services in English


Fr. George Johnson, Rector
 301-572-5738
www.holyapostlesorthodoxchurch.org

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



Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.
 Rev. Jongkil Na
www.APLChurch.org

Come and Join Us
 Located in the Beltsville Professional Center



St. Joseph Catholic Church
www.stjosephbeltsville.org

Pastor: Rev. Shaun T. Foggo
 Deacon: Rev. Mr. Armando Jimenez

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*, 10:30am, and 12:15pm (Spanish)
 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.

St. John's Episcopal/Anglican Church

11040 Baltimore Avenue Beltsville, MD 20704
 301-937-4292 • 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

Our Mission: To Share God's love with everyone to bring hope and change lives.



IF YOU NEED HELP WE ARE HERE!
 Si necesitas ayuda, estamos aqui!
 301-937-8119
www.baccmd.org



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.

FIND US at 4220 Ammendale Road, Beltsville MD 20705, located in the house behind the Beltsville SDA Church

BACC Services

- Job Counseling Assistance
- Rental & Utility Assistance (on a case by case basis)
- Food Supplement
- Professional Counseling

On Site Agent of Dept of Social Services (DSS)

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

Food and financial assistance HOURS:
 Tues and Wed 9 am to 2 pm.
Office calling HOURS:
 Mon through Thurs
 9 am to 4:30 pm

We are celebrating our tenth year of operation



Check us out on Facebook! The Beltsville News

Few things in life are more fulfilling than creating something from scratch. If you read this column regularly, you will know I love gardening. Getting straight into things, a few years ago, I bought a blackberry plant from Walmart in the fall for about \$1.32 on sale. It was literally a piece of the stem that they did not want to throw away. Actually, bought two of these and one raspberry plant, all on discount. I gave the raspberry and one blackberry tree to a friend's mother, but she was unable to get them to grow.

Meanwhile, I planted mine in the front garden and watered daily. Fall slipped away and the cold Texas winter months crept in. Still, I watered this dry plant, sometimes doubting if it will ever be revived. (Lesson learnt is sometimes you just have to stay the course, even if it looks like you cannot see what is happening on the inside. The result is what counts).

Back to the story. I continued watering regularly and then it happened! One day I saw a piece of growth start to emerge. I was very excited and realized at that point that my perseverance had paid off. Long and short of it, the plant grew and eventually I got six blackberries from the tree. That first one tasted great. In the second year, one tree spread to two and the yield was a few more blackberries. Now in year four, I have four or five plants, and they are laden with blackberries. Thankfully the rabbits have spared them, and I look forward to being able to make a fresh fruit salad with my own blackberries.

Pity I cannot post photos.

Meanwhile, that same garden has a rosemary tree I planted from a slip a friend gave to me. I also got parsley that appears to be rabbit proof and is doing very well. There is nothing better than cooking and then going into my garden to pick fresh herbs to season my food.

Dear reader, I want to encourage you to plant something... all you need is some dirt and a few seeds. In my backyard, I have started a garden using plastic containers and cardboard boxes. I have them elevated and out of the reach of the rabbits. I went to Dollar Tree and got three packets of seeds for \$1.50. Now I have Sage, Oregano, Kale, Thyme, Swiss Chard (I think that is the name), Sweet Pepper and Carrots – yes, Carrots. First time I am ever planting these. I am going to add a few more seeds to plant, on the weekend. IN another two weeks, I will begin transplanting and in two to three months, I will reap a bumper harvest.

So, the relevance of this to you. Please make an effort to plant something, no matter how simple. Cost is minimal – you can use an empty box or two, turned upside down. Get a bag of potting soil and for less than \$8, you can start a little backyard garden. Go to the dollar store and buy a little pot or two and give the kids or grandkids a little garden project to do. They can plant flowers or veggies. Let them learn to nurture the plant till it matures. Take photos for them and potentially get them to do a journal of some sort. Take a photo of the dirt in the pot and then a picture

afterwards when the plant matures.

It is a fun joint project to do, but in reality, they are also able to learn a life lesson. Things take time to develop and have to be nurtured. The process cannot be rushed. This can be applied in many spheres of daily activity. A red traffic light is exactly that. Honking your horn at the driver in front of you is not going to make the light change any faster than it should.

Cutting off the other vehicle in traffic is not going to make your destination any closer than it geographically is. We have got to learn patience in life. You drink a bottle of juice; you can only swallow a certain amount at a time. Your throat is not going to adjust to accommodate your thirst.

As the schools get ready to close for the summer break, give the children a garden project to do until schools reopen in August.

Meanwhile, last month I wrote about the Lagos to Ghana drive that my friend, Erik is embarking on, to raise cancer awareness among everyday people. (Please read last month's Jason's Jive for details). This endeavor kicks off on May 31, from the residence of the former President of Nigeria, General Olusegun Obasanjo, who has thrown his support behind the project. A corporate partner, Kenya-based Zuri Health has come onboard and will be conducting a lot of the medical screening in Accra, Ghana. (www.zuri.health).

Follow the journey at <https://lagostotheworld.africa>. That's the Jive!

Classifieds • Call 301-257-3408

SERVICES

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VOLUNTEERING

CALLING ALL CAT LOVERS!

Do you enjoy cats and can spare one hour a week? Beltsville Community Cats would love for you to join our awesome Colony Support Team to help feed kitties and experience their gratitude firsthand! Contact 240-444-8353 or email hello@beltsvillecats.net 01/27

HELP WANTED

PERSON TO DO YARD WORK. Call 301-937-0476

HELP WANTED

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS Accounting, Bookkeeping, Payroll, Tax Planning, Preparation & Representation Budgets, Analyses, Support Services, NPOs & Govt. Contract Compliance, Indirect Rates, DCAA, Incurred Costs, Submission, DCAA & More. 30Yrs+, Incorporations & Entity Choice Selection Audits, Reviews, Compilations Plus Sarbanes-Oxley Compliance Services. inforequest@bai-tech.com When CPA Experience & Results Matter. Call 301-608-2248. <https://bai-tech.com>. Creating Powerful Business Affordable Solutions For America & Beyond. 01/27



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The Beltsville News

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20 Years Experience*

Water Heaters - Sump Pumps - Toilets
Disposals - Faucets - Leaking Pipes

CALENDAR

continued from page 12

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

NEEDLEWORK SOCIAL

Monday, June 8 at 4 pm. Are you interested in getting to know more people in your community with similar interests? Bring in any needlecraft you are working on while getting to know those around you.

LEARN AND EARN: CAREER TRAINING & CERTIFICATIONS FOR TODAY'S WORKFORCE - PRESENTED BY

ED BY PRINCE GEORGE'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Wednesday, June 10 at 6 pm. Explore a world of new skills for the workplace and beyond. Learn about continuing education programs at Prince George's Community College, including non-credit courses, career training, and certifications. Discover the Workforce Development Sequence Scholarship for eligible students pursuing employment, licensure, or skill advancement.

EXPUNGEMENT & KNOW YOUR RIGHTS CLINIC - PRESENTED BY

MARTIN ANTHONY MITCHELL, COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES OF PGC, AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Saturday, June 20 at 11 am. Whether you're looking to clear your record, understand your rights, or connect with local resources, this event has something for you. Community Legal Services will be on site to speak with residents interested in expungement and other legal support, and community resource partners will also be tabling to share helpful information and services.

HALL RENTALS

(CATERING)

Luncheons—B'Day Parties—Anniversaries—Weddings

College Park American Legion—Post 217

9218 Baltimore Blvd.

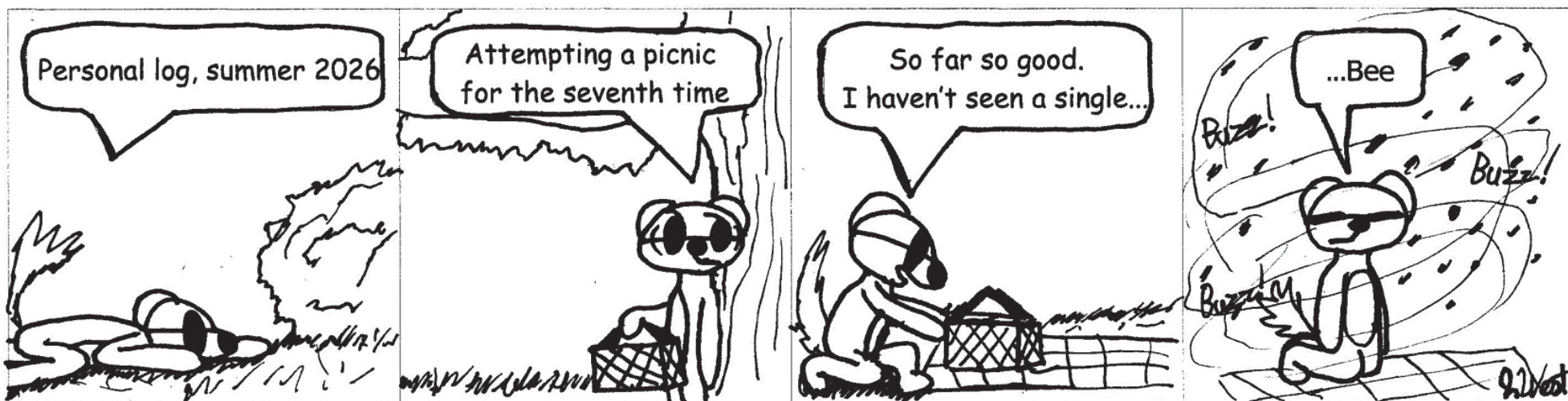
(301) 441-2783

College Park, MD 20740



Contact Gary Kingery

Boospherous Boonipherous Bojangles Barnaby III, a.k.a. BOO By Joseph West



Past Text

In May we discussed World Change your Password Day. While changing my passwords, I remembered that I use some tricks to make the job a little easier for me. Instead of typing the new password into the website or app, I type it into a text editor, like notepad. Then, I copy the new password and paste it into the website (or app). Once I have created the new password, I logout and login again with the new password. When I know the new password works, I add the new password to my password manager (and I usually delete the old one to avoid confusion). When everything is good, I delete the contents of the text editor without saving it.

Text Editors

This got me thinking about the many text editors I have used over the years. I didn't actually use notepad, when changing my passwords, I used Vim (the Vi improved editor). I used notepad as example because most people using Windows computers use notepad, an application that has been included with Windows from the very beginning. However, my experience using text editors goes back 50 years when I became an electrical engineering student at the University of Maryland.

Past Text Editors

In those early days we didn't have access to a text editor, we had to punch holes in cards to create lines of code. Then we stacked them into a deck and submitted them to the "priests" behind the window at the computer science center. Then we waited a few hours to see if the program ran. If it didn't run, we had to hand scan the cards, find and correct the errors, and then resubmit to wait another few hours. Editing was finding the incorrect cards, retyping them with corrections and replacing the bad cards with the corrected cards.

I hated this process. However, I did learn to make very few mistakes. Working in the engineering building late one evening, I discovered the operations books for the computers. I learned how to enter my code using a teletype and the computer included a primitive editor allowing me to edit code on the teletype. I could even submit my code for execution, skipping the window of "priests". Even better, I could print out the required deck of cards I needed to turn in my assignments.

Eventually, I started to have access to Unix computers. Unix included the "ed" text editor from the beginning. The Ex-editor was added and then the visual mode

was added to Ex. To start the Ex-editor in visual mode on Unix you simply entered "vi" (pronounced "vee-aye") at the command prompt.

(Side note: Unix and Linux are case sensitive for commands like vi and ex, hence the commands are normally all lowercase.)

CRT Terminals and WordStar

In the late 70s' to the early 80's the microcomputer boom was deeply underway, and many computers and operating systems were including primitive editors. While Teletype terminals encouraged the development of line-oriented editors, the advent of the CRT terminals pushed for the screen or visual editors like "vi". Not only did Unix include the Ex/Vi editor but it also spawned the very powerful Emacs editor (Thank you Richard Stallman).

The CP/M operating system, which drove many of the business computers of the era, included its own very basic ED editor. Many developers working on these computers were not happy with it but they all liked the WordStar work processor. Turns out many people found this to be a good code editor as well. This inspired a number of development tools to include a WordStar style editor with their development tools. These included products like Dbase II and Turbo

Pascal. I purchased my first copy of Turbo Pascal not to write Pascal code but because it gave me a good WordStar code editor without the cost of buying WordStar. So why did "WordStar" editors become so popular during this time? WordStar was a very popular word processor at this time and different CRT terminals had different keyboard layouts. WordStar worked with most of them. This was unlike today's computers, which mostly use common keyboard layouts. This allowed the WordStar layout to dominate until Graphical User Interfaces like Apple and Windows began to dominate.

Home computer displays typically provided built-in keyboards, and used TV sets for displays or separately plugged in monitors. Think of the Apple II, Commodore Vic 20 and 64, Atari, Timex Sinclair, and others of that era. These computers had built-in Basic interpreters with a minimal Basic editor. Plain text editors were not included.

The GUI PC Era and the IDE

WordStar began with the Micro-computer era and ended with the success of Microsoft Office in the Windows world. During this period, we saw several editors created to support software development and we started to see Integrated

Development Environments often called IDE's. An IDE includes an editor (typically built-in), and compiler and often a debugger. While some of these began before Windows, the Windows era and the arrival of Java really set the IDE tools on fire. The Open-Source Java Tools, Eclipse, NetBeans, and others created IDE's that could handle multiple languages including Java, JavaScript, C++, PHP, Rust, Perl, Python, and Ruby.

From my perspective, these tools are great development tools, but they have become slow and complex making them a less suitable text editor.

Text Editors Today

Vi, Vim, Emacs, and even "ed" are still around. I have been using Vim for Windows since Windows 3.1 and I also use it on my GUI based Linux computers. Even when using an IDE I will keep Vim handy to write short snippets and paste it into code I am working on. For me Vim makes certain operations easier. Vim is also great when I need to write a batch file or other short script.

I have never really used Windows Notepad myself, but it works for many others. I believe

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