UpStage Artists Presents Driving Miss Daisy

By Rick Bergmann

UpStage Artists is proud to present its next production, Alfred Uhry’s Pulitzer prize winning play Driving Miss Daisy, this February. Driving Miss Daisy is a play about the growing respect and friendship between an elderly Jewish widow and her African American chauffeur. This heartwarming story is set in Atlanta and spans twenty-five years, 1948 to 1973.

Driving Miss Daisy was inspired by playwright Alfred Uhry’s grandmother, Lena Fox, her chauffeur, Will Coleman, and his father. His grandmother, a Jewish woman who lived in Atlanta during the 1960s, had to give up driving after a car accident, and hired Coleman, who drove her for 25 years. In 2013, Uhry stated in an interview “They’re so vivid because I grew up with them in Atlanta. Lena Fox, my grandmother, was 72 when she smashed her car and the family hired her a chauffeur. His name was Will Coleman, and he drove her around for 25 years. His grandson and I still meet now and then to talk.”

In 1989, Uhry transformed his stage show into an Academy Award winning screenplay. The movie starring Jessica Tandy, Morgan Freeman, and Dan Ackroyd was a huge success. It was nominated for 9 academy awards including all three main performances, best director, best adapted screenplay and best picture. It won 4 including best picture.

UpStage Artists production will feature Anne Hull from Laurel as Daisy Werthan, Carlos Jordan from Clinton as Hoke Coleburn

Driving Miss Daisy continues on page 12

Cub Pack 1031 Working Hard on Our Advancements!

By Regina Halper

Scouts in Cub Pack 1031 are working hard on their advancements. We have completed most of our outdoor requirements in November and are now finishing our Duty to God and Citizenship requirements. We had to go virtual with the variant and the cold making meeting in person hard. To keep it fun we are also working on fun electives.

The Bear den is learning about Beltsville history and completing a fun Roaring Laughter elective. The Wolf den is looking at Germs Alive and Hometown Heroes.

The Webelos are working on Game Design elective.

If you are interested in discovering the fun of Cub Scouts, please contact Regina Halper at Pack1031cubscouting@gmail.com for more information. We are a family scouting unit. We hike, bike, go interesting places and learn about nature and do service. 95% of our scouts earned their rank this year! We are still being cautious, we meet weekly (either virtually or in person in the outdoors), stay arm’s length apart and wear our masks and we keep it fun! Our active den leaders are 100% vaccinated and most of our scouts too!

Webelos leader Jennifer K. talking about nature on their three-mile hike in November.
Neighbors in the News

Virtual ESL Classes at Emmanuel United Methodist Church/ Clases virtuales de ESL en la Iglesia Metodista Unida Emmanuel

By Dela Martin

The ESL Ministry at Emmanuel United Methodist Church is a community of language learners from many different countries. We come together to learn, improve, and practice English. We are offering an 8 week online English course. These are group classes with an online curriculum that meets once a week.

The “beginner class” meets on Mondays at 7 pm. In this class, we cover English basics, vocabulary, grammar, and useful phrases. The “advanced class” meets on Fridays at 7 pm. In this class, we cover conversation and difficult grammar topics. You will need access to the Internet and a computer/mobile device in order to participate in the class.

Please sign up for our mailing list to get more information about joining the free English classes. We are also looking for people to volunteer and teach in the ministry using the online curriculum. Please contact Dela Martin at dela.martin@eumc-beltsville.com or (202) 417-7303 if this is something that interests you.

El ministerio de Ingles Como Segundo Idioma de la iglesia Unit-ed Methodist es una comunidad de estudiantes de diferentes países del mundo. Nos juntamos una vez a la semana para aprender, mejorar, y practicar el Ingles. La Iglesia de United Methodist de Beltsville le ofrecen a la comunidad de estudiantes internacionales este curso de Ingles Como Segundo Idioma en línea para los que pueden uti-lizar una computadora. Nos reunimos en línea cada semana por ocho semanas usando un plan de aprendimiento en línea.

El curso básico para los estudiantes principiantes se encuentran cada lunes a las siete de la noche en línea. En este curso, cubrimos lo básico de Ingles; vocabulario y gramática basica y frases utiles. El curso avanzado se encuentra cada viernes a las siete. En esta clase practicamos mas en conversacion y estudiamos la gramatica y vocabulario mas avanzado. Necesitan acceso a una computadora o un telefono movil con inter-net para poder participar.

Por favor, entre su nombre en nuestra lista de correo para que les mandemos mas informacion sobre como pueden participar en nuestras clases de Ingles que seran gratis. Tambien estamos solicitando voluntarios con conocimiento en la enseñanza en linea que quieran asistir en este minis-terio usando el plan de estudios en linea. Contactarse con Dra. Dela Martin at dela.martin@eumc-beltsville.com o (202) 417-7303 para mas informacion o si quieren asistir como maestros voluntarios con la enseñanza en linea.

Virtual ESL classes at EUMC begin Feb. 4. Scan the QR code or go to https://www.subscribepage.com/l6o1x4 to get updates. Las clases virtuales de ESL en EUMC comienzan el 4 de febrero. Escanee el código QR o vaya a https://www.subscribepage.com/l6o1x4 para obtener actualizaciones.

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

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Please join our Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/groups/300944563420364/) and follow us at beltsville news on Instagram.
Check our website: www.beltsvillenewstoday.com
Welcome Captain Tyson

Captain Calvin L. Tyson has served as a police officer for the Prince George’s County Police Department since May of 2004. His career began as a patrol officer in Landover, Division III. Through his nearly 18 years of service, Captain Tyson has held several positions in all four bureaus of the department, including detective, police academy instructor, police department spokesperson, and commander of the Evidence Unit. He previously served at Patrol Divisions III, IV and II, Training and Education Division, Domestic Violence Unit, Robbery Suppression Team, Media Relations Division, and Crime Scene Investigation Division.

Captain Tyson also served as an Advisor to Law Enforcement Explorer Post 301. Many of his former Explorers are now serving as police officers and sheriff’s deputies throughout Prince George’s County. Captain Tyson is also an active in Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 89.

Captain Tyson is a life-long Prince George’s County resident, educated in the Prince George’s County Public Schools system. He graduated from Frederick Douglass High School in Upper Marlboro in 1998. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland College Park and a Master of Public Administration from Bowie State University. Captain Tyson is a 2020 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fellow. He is also a member of Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated.

By Sallie Rhodes

Kitty Post

Cats: From Mills to Media

By Lyla Ashburn

For 12,000 years, domestic cats have been a part of human society. They rose as figures of worship with the Egyptians and fell as symbols of witchcraft and superstition during the Salem Witch trials. But through it all, cats have always been an important symbol for humanity.

When humans first began settling and farming, stored grains attracted rodents. Small, local wild cats quickly associated human towns with plenty of prey. This migration into towns resulted in what we now call Felix, the domestic cat.

The image of the cat has been embraced in the last century, especially in the area of entertainment! In 1919, Felix the Cat made his debut in the early days of animation and became an instant sensation! Shortly after that, Felix appeared in his own comic strip, printed in 250 newspapers around the world. The image of a cat was recognizable and relatable, and brought people together with the magic of humor.

Through the 20th century, many other cartoon cats gained their own fame. One would be hard-pressed to find someone who had not heard of at least one! Garfield, Hello Kitty, Cat in the Hat, and Puss in Boots are just a few names that can be recognized by people of all ages.

As the internet began to take off, one of the most popular forms of entertainment that emerged was sharing pictures of funny cats. This produced such feline celebrities as Grumpy Cat, Maru, and Colonel Meow. If you haven’t heard of them, no worries, a quick search online will have you laughing in no time!

Sharing cat pictures and cartoons on the internet has become a national pastime that has helped shelters and rescue organizations advertise cats and kittens available for adoption. The Garfield and Felix comic strips encourage people to adopt their own kitties, though hopefully with less trouble than these two felines cause!

Our furry feline companions have become an important symbol not just in our lives, but for the world as a whole. Cats have inspired people all around the world to love them. Hopefully, popular images of cats will remind us that we do not live alone in this world, and that we can and should strive to make the world a better place for cats and other animals as well.

By Lyla Ashburn

Burned Out from Lingering Pandemic, Some on Frontlines Find Faith an Antidote

Damon and Irene Stone, a married couple who are registered nurses, remember being reassigned to the frontlines of the COVID pandemic to test, screen, triage, and care for patients. They describe the angst from the sheer volume of COVID positive patients, the scarcity of supplies and personal protective equipment, the fear of contracting the virus, as well as the emotional toll of having to console, not just patients, but colleagues.

Many medical workers like them are exhausted from working through the pandemic. With variants, like the recent omicron, straining short-staffed facilities across the country, some on the frontlines are experiencing added physical, mental and emotional stress.

ANTIDOTE continues on page 14

At left: Damon and Irene Stone, front line workers, have found faith has helped them through this difficult time.
Female pioneers to remember during Black History Month

By Dr. Kandis Boyd

Black History Month is celebrated in February to commemorate and celebrate the achievements of African Americans throughout American history. During this month, I am often reminded of the African American pioneers who led the way and made it possible for so many that followed. There are so many notable accomplishments of African Americans that need to be commended not just during Black History Month, but all year long. African American achievements have helped advance to society and span various areas, including science, activism, and literature.

African American Females Also Deserve Tribute During Black History Month

During Black History Month, equal tribute should be paid not only to African American men, but also African American women as well. Here are some little-known facts about some female African Americans and their contributions to society (in alphabetical order):

- Stacey Abrams is a political activist and was the first Black woman to become the gubernatorial nominee for a major party in the United States. In addition, she was the first Black woman and the first Georgian to deliver a Response to the State of the Union.
- Tyra Banks became a global supermodel. She was the first African American woman to appear on the cover of GQ, Sports Illustrated (swimsuit edition) and the Victoria’s Secret catalog.
- Ludmaya “Mia” Bourdeau Love won her race in Utah in the 2014 midterm elections. She was the first African American Republican to serve in the House of Representatives.
- Gwendolyn Brooks was the first African American female to win the Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 1950.
- Alexia Canady was the first black female neurosurgeon in the U.S. and specializes in pediatric neurosurgery.
- Shirley Chisholm became the first black female U.S. Representative and served as the Congresswoman from New York from 1969-1983.
- Bessie Coleman became the first African American pilot in 1921.
- Kamala Harris, elected with President Joe Biden, became the first woman, the first African American to hold the office of Vice President.
- Dorothy I. Height was the co-organizer of the March on Washington in 1963. She was also the first leader in the civil rights movement to recognize inequality for women and African Americans as problems. Height was the president of the National Council of Negro Women for 40 years.
- Shirley Ann Jackson is the first African American woman to earn a Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1964. She also served as the first African American female chair of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
- Mae Jemison became the first black woman to travel into space in 1992. She served as a mission specialist astronaut aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavor.
- Marie Maynard Daly became the first woman and first African American female to receive a Nobel Prize for literature in 1993.

This list represents passionate women who made society better in their own way. In summary, it’s important during Black History Month to provide accolades to notable African American women who are pioneers in their own right. However, accolades are just the beginning. We need to do more than just recognize the contributions of women and especially African American women. We need to make it easier for others to follow in their footsteps to enable the next generation of pioneers.

- Phillis Wheatley was the first African American poet who published “Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral” in 1773. She is considered the founder of African American literature.
- Michelle Obama became the nation’s first Black First Lady when her husband, Barack Obama, defeated Sen. John McCain in the general election on November 4, 2008.
- Charlotte Ray graduated from Howard University School of Law in 1872 and became the first African American lawyer.
- Condoleezza Rice became the first Black female Secretary of State from 2005-2009.
- Patricia Roberts Harris became the first Black female ambassador to Luxembourg in 1965 and the first Black female cabinet minister in 1977. She served as the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development under Jimmy Carter.
- Madame C. J. Walker became America’s first African American millionaire by creating a complete range of haircare products for Black women.
- Maxine Waters has served for 15 terms as the House of Representatives member from California. Congresswoman Waters made history as the first woman and first African American female Chair of the House Financial Services Committee.
- Oprah Winfrey became the first African American female billionaire and the first woman to own her own cable TV network.
- Phillis Wheatley was the first African American poet who published “Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral” in 1773. She is considered the founder of African American literature.

One thing is unforgettable – this list represents passionate African American women who made society better in their own way. In summary, it’s important during Black History Month to provide accolades to notable African American women who are pioneers in their own right. However, accolades are just the beginning. We need to do more than just recognize the contributions of women and especially African American women. We need to make it easier for others to follow in their footsteps to enable the next generation of pioneers.
**Statepoint Crossword: Winter Olympics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACROSS</th>
<th>DOWN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Sleeps in a tent</td>
<td>1. Cape ____, MA</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Horror movie franchise</td>
<td>2. Copycat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Road crew supply</td>
<td>5. Delilah’s lover</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. Moron</td>
<td>6. Hit-or-miss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Workman’s cotton, once</td>
<td>30. Hit-or-miss</td>
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<tr>
<td>17. Exclamation of surprise</td>
<td>35. It will</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Monte Cristo’s title, in French</td>
<td>37. <em>Triple one in figure skating</em> (2 words)</td>
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<tr>
<td>19. <em>Olympic Athletes from ____, 2018 hockey winners</em></td>
<td>23. Capone’s ilk, e.g.</td>
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<td>38. For fear that</td>
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<td>42. Respond</td>
<td>43. Circular</td>
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<td>44. Jargon</td>
<td>45. Cicling</td>
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<td>45. Workbench holding device</td>
<td>49. Far, old-fashioned</td>
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<tr>
<td>46. Health club offering</td>
<td>51. Capital of Punjab</td>
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<tr>
<td>47. Workbench holding device</td>
<td>54. Early Irish alphabet</td>
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<tr>
<td>48. Diner, e.g.</td>
<td>56. Sort of warm</td>
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<tr>
<td>50. Latin for “and others”</td>
<td>57. Vomit</td>
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<tr>
<td>52. Avi</td>
<td>58. Twelfth month of Jewish year</td>
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<tr>
<td>53. Ill-mannered one</td>
<td>59. Pelvic bones</td>
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<tr>
<td>55. Curiosity’s victim?</td>
<td>60. Put a hex on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57. <em>2022 Winter Olympics location</em></td>
<td>61. Concert units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62. <em>2022 Winter Olympics number</em></td>
<td>63. Edible fat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63. <em>Miracle on Ice winner</em></td>
<td>64. <em>Natalia</em> Marvel character</td>
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<tr>
<td>65. Refrigerator sound</td>
<td>65. Far, old-fashioned</td>
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<tr>
<td>66. Not Miss or Ms.</td>
<td>67. Poppy seed derivative</td>
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<tr>
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<td>68. Not Miss or Ms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68. Not Miss or Ms.</td>
<td>69. Bitterly regretting</td>
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<td>70. Egyptian cobra</td>
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<td>70. Egyptian cobra</td>
<td>71. Part of a stair</td>
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<td>71. Part of a stair</td>
<td>72. Seedy source of Omega-3s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72. Seedy source of Omega-3s</td>
<td>73. More, in Madrid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73. More, in Madrid</td>
<td>74. Changes to a manuscript</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See Solution on page 10

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**Laundry Management**

**Respite Care**

---

**24/7 Live-In Care**

**24/7 Live-Out Care**

**Walking Exercise & Continuous Safety Monitoring**

**Running Errands (e.g. Picking up Medication from Pharmacy)**

**Mother-Baby: Care for Pregnant or New Mother**

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**SPOT COLOR**

**Statepoint Crossword: Winter Olympics**

**ACROSS**

1. Sleeps in a tent

6. Horror movie franchise

9. Varieties

13. Mozart’s “Die Zauberflöte”

14. Road crew supply

15. Moron

16. Workman’s cotton, once

17. Exclamation of surprise

18. Monte Cristo’s title, in French

19. *Olympic Athletes from______, 2018 hockey winners*

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41. A mile racer

42. Respond

43. Circular

45. Cicling

49. Far, old-fashioned

51. Capital of Punjab

52. Avi

53. Ill-mannered one

55. Curiosity’s victim?

57. *2022 Winter Olympics location*

61. *Torch Relay starting point*

64. *____ ____ the Family* TV series

65. Refrigerator sound

66. Not Miss or Ms.

---

**DOWN**

1. Cape ____, MA

2. Copycat

3. Carte du jour

4. Spectrum maker

5. Delilah’s lover

6. Roofed colonnade

7. Expression of satisfaction

8. Angry

9. Revered one

10. Fancy ride

11. Japanese zither

12. Pas in ballet

15. “Freezing” Marvel character

16. Workbench holding device

17. Expression of surprise

18. Angry

19. Revered one

20. Letter-shaped girder

22. *_____ the land of the free...*

24. Designer’s studio

25. *Biathlon gear*

26. Skylit lobbies

27. Manufacturing site

29. *2022 Winter Olympics number*

31. Like Curious George

32. Monocot’s alternative

33. “Killers of the Flower Moon” Oklahoma location

34. *Olympic award*

36. *Olympic sled*

38. For fear that

42. Respond

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54. Early Irish alphabet

56. Sort of warm

57. Vomit

58. Twelfth month of Jewish year

59. Pelvic bones

60. Put a hex on

61. Concert units

62. Not yet final

63. Edible fat

66. *Miracle on Ice winner*

68. Not Miss or Ms.

---

See Solution on page 10
Beltsville began the new year with significant snow on January 3. Here are some snow pics our readers sent in!
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At-home tests for Beltsville

Thanks to the Biden administration’s new at-home test initiative, you can order 4 at-home COVID tests delivered straight to your home – for free. Visit special.usps.com/testkits to order yours.

Booster shots for Beltsville residents

Eligible Beltsville residents can sign up to get the COVID-19 Booster shot today. Locations include the CVS and Walgreens Pharmacy on Route 1 in Beltsville. To sign up for an appointment, visit mypgc.us/COVIDVaccine.

Scholarships to College

Each Senator and Delegate is allocated funds for scholarships to students in our district who attend Maryland colleges. With college tuition a struggle for many families, we need to do everything we can to help hardworking students get a good education. To apply online for a 2020-2021 Senate scholarship, students should visit www.21stDistrictDelegation.com/college-scholarships, and the deadline to apply is Friday, July 9.

A separate Delegate scholarship application from Delegates Ben Barnes, Joseline Peña-Melnyk, and Mary Lehman is on that page as well.

More help paying for college

Saving for college is a challenge for many families. That’s why the State of Maryland and Maryland 529 want to help Maryland families through the Save4College State Contribution Program. The program is designed to help lower to middle-income families in Maryland save money for higher education. Individuals may receive a $250 or $500 contribution by the State. Applications must be submitted by 11:59 pm on May 31, 2022. Learn more at maryland529.com/MDMatch250, or call 888-4MD.GRAD (888.463.4723) and select option 1, or email info@marylandcollegeinvestmentplan.org.

Do you need health insurance?

This tax season, get connected with free or low-cost health insurance! The Easy Enrollment program for uninsured Marylanders is part of the Maryland income tax form. Answer the new questions on your Maryland state tax return by April 15 to find out your health insurance options at the Maryland Health Connection. Learn more at www.MarylandHealthConnection.gov/EasyEnrollment.

Contact us

Please let us know if there are other issues you have questions or thoughts about. And, of course, feel free to be in touch if we can be of help to you. Just email 21stDistrictDelegation@gmail.com or call 301-858-3141.

COAKLEY continued from page 1

ize our neighborhood park. This will be a virtual Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89019689595?pwd=bj91TMpవVVNуcFEzdDZCNUJINEJOUT09 Meeting ID: 890 196 89595 Passcode: 997581 Dial by your location 301 715 8592 Changes in Bulky Trash Collection

Starting February 14th, Prince George’s County curbside bulky trash collection will change. This change allows residents to set out two bulky items or two trash bags with smaller items each week with their regular trash. All items need to be too large to fit in a County-issued or regular trash cart and need to be placed next to the trash cart for collection. Bulky items placed in other areas at the curb will not be collected. To better prepare for the change, the County will stop scheduling its current bulky trash collection process on Friday, January 21st. For more information PGC311: https://www.princegeorgescounty.md.gov/592/Acceptable-Unacceptable-Materials.

Final Thoughts

I know I must sound like a broken record but please remove valuables from your cars! Lock your Cars! Park in well lighted areas! Turn your front porch lights on! Do not leave your car running while you run back in the house or a store! When you are getting gas take your keys out of the car with you and lock you car! If you have a community concern I can be reached at 301-741-7672 or karenmcoakley@gmail.com
of relatives and friends. Due to the pandemic, a private celebration of life for close family and friends was held on January 10, 2022 at 1:00pm and can be viewed virtually through the link provided below. Donations in Stan’s memory may be made to the Riderwood Benevolent Care Fund, 3110 Gracefield Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904, https://sites.google.com/view/stanley-marshall-jr-funeral/home

From the Office of Councilmember Tom Dernoga

Snow Plan: One Plan - Five Operations

Blizzard Operation
Snow accumulation must be cleared from the roadways with heavy equipment

Full Operation
Multi-day operation if over 1 inch of snow

Modified Operation
Plowing or clearing out the areas of 2-4 inches of snow

Partner Operation
Salting operations, less than twice the inches of snow

Snowflake Operation
Salting operation of snowflakes, snow with ice or snow in areas and bridges

New Beltsville Sports Facility Development
The Sports Performance and Recovery Center (SPARC) team has recently purchased the vacant 3.3-acre lot at 10801 Rhode Island Avenue. They are working on plans to build an approximately 16,000 sq. ft. facility, which will consist of 2 basketball courts (~11,000 sq. ft.) along with speed, strength, and agility areas (~5,000 sq. ft.). The remaining space will be used for locker rooms, a recovery room, and a classroom. They are also examining the prospect of including turf for indoor sports.

SPARC was founded by Ethan Leder, a Maryland native, businessman and philanthropist. Ethan has a passion for improving outcomes through education and athletics. SPARC will be home to multiple high-level trainers to help athletes of all skill levels reach peak performance. SPARC will also use the opportunity to mentor and provide guidance on the careers available to mentees beyond playing professionally. Their goal is to open the SPARC facility by mid-2023. For more information on this project, please contact info@spاردmv.com.

Contact Us
Please keep in touch. Email us at councildistrict1@co.pg.md.us or call 301-952-3887. Se habla Español. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram: @TomDernogaD1

COVID-19 Updates
The County continues its weekly distribution of COVID-19 at-home rapid tests through community centers and libraries. Distributions will generally take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays; however, sometimes and locations may change. For the most current information, visit the Health Department’s testing webpage: health.myppc.us/COVIDTesting.

The webpage also includes a link for a Test Kit Distribution Tracker to get real-time updates on the supply of test kits at each distribution site before you leave home.

Have you signed up to get your free at-home COVID-19 tests? With help from the White House, have you signed up to get your free at-home COVID-19 tests? With help from the White House, the County continues its weekly distribution of COVID-19 at-home rapid tests through community centers and libraries. Distributions will generally take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays; however, sometimes and locations may change. For the most current information, visit the Health Department’s testing webpage: health.myppc.us/COVIDTesting.

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The webpage also includes a link for a Test Kit Distribution Tracker to get real-time updates on the supply of test kits at each distribution site before you leave home.
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LAUREL–BELTSVILLE SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER
Tentatively scheduled for reopening sometime in February. Masks are required. Contact the center for updates. Membership is free for Beltsville residents who are 60 years old or older. Address: 7102 Contee Rd., Laurel, MD 20707, around the corner from the University of Maryland Medical Center. Phone: 301.206.3387. Fax: 301.206.3387. TYO: 301.446.3402.

LAUREL FRIENDSHIP CLUB (LSFC)
Tentatively scheduled: The LSFC will meet on Wed., Feb. 9 at 10:30 a.m. The meeting room doors open at 9:30 a.m. We will have a business meeting, installation of the officers for 2022, and musical entertainment. After Feb. 1, interested people can contact the LSFC office for more details on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at 301.206.5380.

COLLEGE PARK AVIATION MUSEUM
Contact the museum or check its website for current status. Address: 8615 Cpl. Frank Scott Dr., College Park, MD 20740. Phone: 301.864.6029. TTY: 301.699.2544. See CollegeParkAviationMuseum.com for more information.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE VISITOR CENTER
Address: 10001 Scarlet Tanagers Loop, Laurel, MD 20708. The entrance is accessed from Powder Mill Rd. between the Baltimore–Washington Parkway and Rt. 197. Free admission and parking. Current social distancing and face covering requirements match those of Prince George’s County. All dogs must be kept on a leash (no longer than 6 feet) for their own safety as well as that of other visitors and wildlife. Regular hours of operation for the trails and grounds are: Open daily from sunrise to sunset, except for federal holidays.

THE BUILDING AND BOOKSTORE
The Visitor Center building is open Tuesday – Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; closed on Sunday, Monday, and federal holidays. The bookstore is located inside; it is open Wednesday – Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. when the building is open. Main phone: 301.497.5772. Join our e-mail list by contacting timothy.parker@fws.gov. For future volunteer training (ages 18 and up), contact Diana Ogilvie at Diana_Ogilvie@fws.gov.

LIKE A LICHER
Sat., Feb. 12 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. You know the fauna, you know many of the plants, but do you know the lichen? These symbiotic fungi and algae live on trees and rocks in our forest. Learn to identify some of their species on this short nature walk.

OWL & KESTREL
Sat., Feb. 12 from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. All ages. Registration required; call 301.497.5887. Meet two of North America’s smallest birds of prey: the American Kestrel and Eastern Screech Owl. Both are expert hunters: The American Kestrel uses its acrobatic prowess, while the Eastern Screech Owl is a stealthy hunter. The program will be inside the Visitor Center.

BELTSVILLE EVENTS

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY (NAL)
Address: 10301 Baltimore Ave., Beltsville, Main phone number: 301.504.5755. NAL is on Twitter @NAL facility/Beltsville for more information and updates.

The main part of the library is open at 50% capacity for full browsing and computer use. 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. Due to health and safety concerns regarding the ongoing prevalence of COVID-19 cases, the meeting rooms are closed until Mar. 1.

CURBSIDE SERVICE @ PGCMS / SERVICIO EN LA ACERA @ PGCMS
Curbside service remains available during our Phase 3! Customers who have reserved materials (www.pgcMLS.info/courtesy-booking) and have been notified that their holds are available for pickup can make an appointment. Please note: Masks must be worn by everyone picking up materials, whether in a vehicle or on foot. Materials will be held for seven (7) days from the time the notification is received. If service in the acera seguirá disponible durante la fase 3! Los clientes que hayan reservado materiales (www.pgcmls.info/courtesy-booking) y han sido notificados de que sus reservas están disponibles para recoger pueden hacer una cita. Por favor note: Todas las personas que recogen materiales deben usar máscaras, ya sea en un vehículo o a pie. Los materiales se guardarán durante siete (7) días a partir del momento en que se reciba la notificación de retención.

Friday, February 12, 2022
UpStage Artists Announces Auditions for its Spring Show, One and Dunne!

By Rick Bergmann

UpStage Artists is happy to announce auditions for its spring show, “One and Dunne: An Evening of One Act Comedies” by local, award-winning playwright Jeff Dunne. Auditions will be held at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane Beltsville, MD 20705 on Friday, March 11 from 7-9 pm and Saturday, March 12 from 3-5 pm. Rehearsals begin March 21 and are held on Monday, Thursday, and Friday evenings. You will not have to be at every rehearsal. There will be 4 mandatory rehearsals from May 2 to May 5. There are 6 show dates, May 6-8, and May 13-15. If you are interested go to www.upstageartists.com/auditions and fill out the online audition form.

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Beltsville News

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Youth Fellowship 7:00 p.m.

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www.emmanuelbeltsville.com
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for virtual worship by clicking on the link on our home page.

God will give you the strength you need at this most difficult time.

Damon and Irene worked in a healthcare facility in Largo, Maryland. “It was rough,” said Damon,
referring to patients’ pleas to not let them die. Irene sadly recalls the heartbreaking stories of couples
who had COVID where one sur-

vived but the other spouse did not. Adding to their emotional trauma, both Damon and Irene
contracted COVID-19 and became
sick. They both recovered without
the need for hospitalization.

What pulled them out of
despair in the early phases of the
pandemic continues to keep them
afloat. They credit their faith as
Jehovah’s Witnesses for helping
them endure the ongoing toll of
the pandemic.

“Keeping a good spiritual rou-
tine, prayer, and a sense of humor
is important,” Damon said. “It is
what helps us push through.”

They lean on fellow Witness-
es’ for support, regularly meet-
ting together for spiritual activities
via Zoom. This interchange of
couragement energizes them.

“It’s refreshing,” Irene said. “It
really helps to rejuvenate you to
face the next week.”

American psychological and
psychiatric associations, while not
advocating or endorsing any spe-
cific religion, acknowledge the
role spirituality and religious faith
can play in coping with distress
and trauma.

Lawrence Onoda, Ph.D., a clin-
ical psychologist in Mission Hills,
California, noted some ways spiri-
tuality can help, including giving
people “a positive hope and mean-
ing toward life, comfort by look-
ing for answers and strength from
a higher power, and a collective
shared experience of support and
community.”

Damon and Irene find joy
in sharing with others what has
helped them. They join friends
online to write or call people in
the community with a message of
hope from the Scriptures. “That
keeps me balanced and it keeps
the anxiety at bay,” Irene said.

One favorite resource for them
is jw.org, the official website of
Jehovah’s Witnesses, with its col-
lection of practical articles like
“How to Beat Pandemic Fatigue”
and short comforting videos such
as “The Resurrection – Soon a
Reality.”

“The website proved itself to
be beneficial, encouraging, and
faith strengthening,” Damon said.

“It’s been right on time with what
we needed.”

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For further info, please email resume to Emmanuel United Methodist Church at office@eumcheltsville.com

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VOLUNTEERING

continued from page 13

• One’s Cup of Tea: When a pair of friends try out a new restaurant, they learn a little something about the value of frivolity from an eccentric waiter.

• The Present: Jesse is attempting to give a present to James, who seems unable or unwilling to accept it. But, for some strange reason he won’t.

• A Lively Outfit: Theo gets hired by Frank, who believes he has discovered the secret of bestowing life upon inanimate clothing.

• Zero Hour: What’s it like for the Turkey’s in the coop right before Thanksgiving? Are they prepared for the inevitable?

• Sudden Death: Cheese has finished interviewing for the job of Death, but now it turns out that there’s a competitor for the position, and they are tied for first place. How will Brunhilde decide who gets the job?
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