Dear Editor,

On the morning of December 3rd, while on my morning walk, I came across a dog that had been hit by a car and badly injured. While I was trying to assess the situation, Ms. Debbie Berger of Beltsville, whom I had never met before, pulled over to ask if I needed help. While we were trying to figure out how to handle the situation, we were lucky enough to have Officer Harris of the Prince Georges County Police Department pull over to help us. Within minutes, Officer Harris called for help, and we had a total of five Prince Georges Country finest helping us with the poor animal in distress.

They immediately jumped into action and tried to put the dog in their patrol car to transport him to an emergency vet. When we found this was not possible, Ms. Berger immediately volunteered her SUV to transport the dog. The officers gave us a police escort to Rocky Gorge Animal Hospital and called ahead to ensure the animal would receive priority attention. The staff at Rocky Gorge jumped into action as soon as we arrived. I would like to thank Ms. Berger, the officers of Prince Georges County, and the staff at Rocky Gorge for trying to save this poor dog. The commitment of the officers, the outreach of a stranger, and staff of Rocky Gorge all pulled together is the most amazing way.

A special thank you to the officers who assisted Ms. Berger and I, their outreach to the community, compassion, and actions will not be forgotten. May all the police officers stay safe in these unprecedented times.

By Ivy Christoffers

The world is hurling challenges after challenge at us, but our members are still dedicated and resourceful. The units and posts held Christmas drive-bys for their community children in December. Greenbelt Unit 136 and College Park Unit 217 provided wish list items for the Silver Spring Veterans Center to assist in its curbside holiday giveaways, and Glenarden 275 packed 56 care boxes for a command in Kuwait. There were 40 men and 18 women who all received a personal care package containing personal hygiene items, snacks, an oatmeal package, powdered drinks, magazines, puzzle books, and much more. Pastor Cameron Wilks penned a personal letter to each soldier. This was a true legion family event as the unit members, post members, and Sons of the American Legion all participated. Such events took place throughout the state of Maryland. I’m sure all across the United States, but I can only speak for Maryland. Many posted their events on Facebook, Twitter, and other social pages. It was great reading all about them.

Our children were not forgotten as Mr. and Mrs. Claude made appearances across the state, distributing gifts and well wishes wherever their travels took them. We hope your holidays were enjoyable although I’m sure they were a little strange this year due to the social distancing. I, for one, miss my hugs, my friends, and my family. Please, Lord, let us find a vaccine, if not a cure, for COVID 19, soon. It is especially hard for the elderly and those who live alone who have no one to talk to or interact with. Stay as safe as possible.

I don’t know about you, but I’m going to stay up on New Year’s Eve to see this year out, not to see the new year in. I want to be sure 2020 is over and done with. Welcome to 2021.

Keep our troops in your thoughts and prayers as we continue to seek God’s blessing on America.

By Regina Halper

As the holidays approach, Cub Pack 1031 met on Zoom to have our holiday party. We made ornaments, did skits, and had a visit from Santa who played Christmas songs! Little did you know Santa had such talents! We have been hard at work earning achievements and collecting cans to donate to the St. Joseph’s Food Pantry. The Lions completed Fun on the Run and are working on Animal Kingdom. Tigers completed Games Tigers Play and have been biking a lot!! Wolves have finished Fun on the Run and are working on Food pantry. The Lions completed had such talents!

Providing Christmas for Our Troops and Communities

Pictured above are several dedicated American Legion Auxiliary volunteers packing Christmas care packages to send to our soldiers in Kuwait.

The Beltsville News

An All Volunteer Newspaper

Vol. 69, Number 1

Beltsville, Maryland

January 2021

NEXT ISSUE:

Submissions Due

No Later Than:

January 20

Paper Out:

January 30

On the Agenda

By President Karen M. Coakley

GOOD-BYE 2020! HAPPY NEW YEAR! WELCOME 2021! I want to thank everyone who decorated the homes this year for the holidays! You made the “Season Bright.” While we are limited on where we can go and who we can be with, we could drive around Beltsville for some holiday cheer and enjoy your decorations.

A detailed site plan for a portion of the Behnkes property will be presented at our January virtual/call-in meeting. We will have our virtual/call-in meeting Wednesday, January 20, at 7 p.m. Rossi, a planner/coordinator with the Urban Design Section of MNCPPC, and the owner will discuss the proposed 7-11/gas station. The owners of the 7-11 currently located in the Garrett Cove Shopping Center would move a couple blocks south on Route 1. The 7-11 would be at the corner of Howard Avenue and Route 1, the former site of the Behnkes Florist shop. The Behnkes property is in the CM (commercial miscellaneous) zone. Just an FYI: the townhomes that were previously proposed are not moving forward. The detailed site plan is scheduled to go before the MNCPPC Planning Board on February 4.

Winter Car Safety Tip: car thieves are watching, so those cold winter mornings DO NOT leave your car unoccupied while it warms up.

Please send me your email address to receive the login information for our January Citizens Association Virtual Meeting. Details will be posted on The Beltsville News Facebook page and nextdoor. I can be reached at 301.937.3490 or karenmcoakley@msn.com.
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Neighbors in the News
Dancing in the Streets
By Rev. Dr. Jalene Chase

Dancing in the Street reached number 2 on the Billboard Charts in 1964. Released on July 31st, the song was sung by my Martha and the Vandellas, and written by Marvin Gaye, William "Mickey" Stevenson, and Ivy Jo Hunter. This energetic song was covered by many artists in different genres including: The Mamas and the Papas, Grateful Dead, Van Halen, David Bowie and Mick Jagger and it crossed the waters to The Kinks in London. Stevenson drafted the song after watching people cooling off on a hot summer day when a water hydrant was opened on the street. The jubilant movement of the people looked like dancing. Here are some of the lyrics:

Oh, it doesn’t matter what you wear, Just as long as you are there. So, come on every guy grab a girl, Everywhere around the world. They’ll be dancing. They’re dancing in the street. It’s just an invitation across the nation, A chance for folks to meet. There’ll be laughing, singing, music swinging. Dancing in the street. Philadelphia, PA, Baltimore, and D.C. now. Can’t forget the Motor City. All we need is music, sweet music. There’ll be music everywhere. There’ll be swinging, swaying, records playing. Dancing in the street.

If you have ever watched people dancing to it, cooling off would be the logical next step. It makes the listener move with abandon. No fancy choreographed steps for this lively beat. It is a fun song. My favorite lyrics say, “All you need is music, sweet music.” There is something about music that unites people. We may not agree on the type of music, but if we listen, eventually there will be a song that the words or the beat will move you. We don’t have to know the language, just enjoy.

After the year we just had, we need something that will allow us to shake off the unrealistic, un-imaginable, and unprecedented things we survived. Instead of the violence in the streets, let’s dance.

Can anyone be angry and dance? Really dance. The music taking over your body kind of dancing. No. We need that feeling as we embark on this new year. We need the feeling that comes along with operating infaith that our nation will heal and turn towards liberty and justice for all. That’s what I want and pray you do too. Our church has members of the three major political parties, and several cultures. We know that it is possible to work together when we put the welfare of all people over politics. If you feel the same, join us. We meet virtually for worship on Sunday mornings at 10 am Meeting ID: 851 2578 5976 Passcode: 850888 One tap mobile 1.301.715.8592. Bible Study on Wednesdays, and Check-in to chat on Thursdays. More information can be found on our webpage www.eumcbeltsville.com or our Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/EUMCBeltsville/.

Until next time:
Democracy

Advances when Neighbors and Communities are Equitable

Remember Righteousness
Remember righteousness;
Remember good and high ideals;
Remember faithfulness;
Remember truth and what is real.

Do not neglect God’s awe;
Do not neglect His sage advice;
Do not forget His law;
Do not forget Christ’s sacrifice.

Love builds and faith anoints;
Love humbly learns to recognize
Hope will not disappoint;
The best is yet to come;
The best is yet to be unfurled;
The best rests with the Son;
The best is not found in this world

Soon God will come and fetch His own.

Soon clouds will part reveal Heav’n’s

throne;

Beckie Hutchings
12/7/2020

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

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12/7/2020

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• DUI • Court order • Substance abuse • Dementia etc
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14,000 copies published monthly; 10,000 mailed in the 20705 zip code (total circulation) and 4,000 picked-up copies available at the Beltvilles library, community center, selected stores, and churches.

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Check out our website: www.beltsvillenewstoday.com
Dear Friends,

We are happy to announce our new home at 5122 Baltimore Ave. Hyattsville, MD. We will have all the products we carried for the last 55 years. Wallpapers, instock and special order, borders, flooring of all types, window-coverings, fabrics, blinds and Benjamin Moore Paint. Our friendly advice is available 7 days a week in person, via phone or by email. We offer free delivery on orders of $100 or more. Our shop at home service is available on window coverings and we offer decorating advice for a fee.

On behalf of my family we want to Thank you for the incredible support. There are no words to express how grateful we are. We hope you will continue to visit with us and let us help with your home projects.

Michael, Valerie & Bob

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Cold Weather and Free-Roaming Cats

Winter, while beautiful, is a dangerous time for outdoor cats. Extreme cold, brutal winds, snow, and ice can injure and even kill.

One solution is to build winter shelters by converting large plastic tubs into warm, dry shelters. Use non-absorbent bedding such as straw or wood shavings to help keep the kittens warm. For a video on building “Cat Condos,” visit www.beltsvillecats.net/resources.

If you have a raised porch, you can cover three sides with tarps. This provides animals with shelter from wind, snow, and ice.

If you feed outdoor animals, choose foods that have a higher fat content, and try to double the amount you feed them. Extra fat helps insulate against the cold. Routinely check to make sure they have clean drinking water that is not frozen.

If you are able, let outdoor cats inside when temps drop below freezing. Hypothermia affects cats much like humans, and they can become disoriented, leading them to freeze to death.

Before starting your car on cold mornings, bang the hood of your car several times. Cats and other small animals crawl inside engine compartments to get out of bad weather.

These tips apply to all animals that live or spend time outside in the winter. If you know of feral cats that are not being cared for, contact Beltsville Community Cats (BCC) at 240.444.8353 or hello@beltsvillecats.net. If you see a dog that has been left outside in very cold weather without shelter, contact PG County Animal Services at 301.780.7200. It is against the law to be cruel to feral cats and to neglect pet dogs in PG County.

BCC encourages everyone to keep an eye out for our four-legged friends.

Kitty Post  By Sallie Rhodes

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Obituaries

Boone, Ruth Margaret
Ruth Margaret Boone, 75, of New Tampa, FL, (formerly a long-time resident of Beltsville, MD), born September 25, 1945, entered eternal rest November 29, 2020. Ruth was a dedicated wife to William Robert “Bob” Boone for over 56 years; a loving mother to Stacy Marie Boone and Julie Boone Roth; a grandmother to Riley Tyeyar and Maxwell Tyeyar; a baby sister to seven siblings; and a fabulous friend to all she met. She had a zest for life like no other and a smile that was big as her heart. She fought hard for over 20 years, determined to enjoy life and her time with loved ones. In lieu of flowers, please donate memorial contributions to Moffitt Cancer Foundation in support of the cancer thoracic department. Donations can be made online at give.moffitt.org/memorial or by calling 1.800.456.3434 ext.1403. A celebration of her life will take place in MD at a later date.

Croson Jr., Emmett S.
Emmett S. Croson, Jr., age 90, died peacefully at his home, on Thursday, November 26, 2020. Emmett was born on February 14, 1930, to Emmett and Eva Croson. He is preceded in death by first wife, Frances Ruth (Joyce) Croson. He is survived by his wife, Lois Croson; brother, Curtis (Mary-Ann) Croson; and sister, MaryAnn (Donald) Roberts; 5 children; 7 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two grandchildren.

Funeral service was held at Borgwardt Funeral Home Beltsville, MD, on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 12:30 p.m. with interment following at Fort Lincoln Cemetery, Brentwood, MD. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department where he served as a long-time chief for 3 years. He was an avid hunter, fisherman, and traveler. He traveled to every state in the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii. Emmett is survived by his wife, Lois Croson; brother, Curtis (Mary-Ann) Croson; and sister, MaryAnn (Donald) Roberts; 5 children; 7 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two grandchildren.

Tech Sense
By John Bell

Free Gifts for the Privacy Minded

You know that guy who writes “Tech Sense” for The Beltsville News keeps telling you that you need long passwords that are hard to crack and must be different for each site and must be changed regularly? Yeah, you ask, but how am I supposed to remember all of those passwords? Try KeePass (https://keypass.info). KeePass is a free and open-source password manager that securely stores all of your passwords in one place where they are locked and protected in a secure database behind a primary key. Now you only need to remember one strong password. Because KeePass is open source; anybody can examine the code to make certain it is secure. KeePass will even make up secure passwords for you.

Gnu Privacy Guard (GPG)
Gnu Privacy Guard is best known for helping to secure email messages. It can integrate with Outlook and other email clients allowing you to securely sign messages so the recipient can prove they are locked and protected in a secure database behind a primary key. Now you only need to remember one strong password. Because KeePass is open source; anybody can examine the code to make certain it is secure. KeePass will even make up secure passwords for you.

KeePass is open source; anybody can examine the code to make certain it is secure. KeePass will even make up secure passwords for you.
Statepoint Crossword: Year in Review

ACROSS
1. *New wardrobe accessory  
5. *RIB _____
8. Flock’s echo
12. Reply from a tunnel?
13. Feline noise
14. Edward Teller’s “baby”
15. Beat
16. Competently
17. Savory jelly
18. *Blue vs. red competition
20. One third of a three-piece suit
21. Mailed greetings
22. Long time
23. ____ biloba
26. Anointing oil
28. What bees did
30. Nurses’ org.
31. Leafy vegetable
34. “Cogito, _____ sum”
35. Moore’s spots
37. Bring into play
38. Old Brazilian coins
39. Prefix with ‘graph’
40. *Joe’s running mate
42. PGA peg
43. What bees did
45. Fixes firmly
47. Summer mo.
48. R in NPR
50. Widespread
52. *WHO’s March announcement
55. Cliffside dwelling
56. Drop-off spot
57. Sonic sound
59. Sports figures, e.g.
60. Persian backgammon
61. Water carrier
62. *Lightning, cause of California wildfires
64. X-ray units

DOWN
1. Copy cats
2. Flu symptom
3. Synagogue
4. 1/100th of a ruble
5. Bid again
6. Western neckwear, pl.
7. Gwyneth, to friends
8. *Like a vote during lockdown
9. What Joy Mangano does on TV
10. Do like exhaust pipe
11. "Transplant" network
13. ____ of honor
14. It’s often wreaked
15. “Transplant” network
16. ___ of honor
17. ___ of honor
18. ___ of honor
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See Solution on page 11
Rosapepe’s Report to Beltville

Join us January 20 for Virtual Inaugural Ball!

Like so much else this winter, the Presidential Inaugural will be primarily virtual. To celebrate the peaceful transition of leadership in our democracy, Delegates Petka-Melnyk, Barnes, Lehman, and I are hosting a virtual inaugural ball. All Beltville residents are invited. Joe Biden and Kamala Harris will be sworn in at the US Capitol at noon on Wednesday, January 2. Our “Ball” will be on ZOOM that evening. We’ll be joined by local performers, some special guests—and more!

To get details and RSVP, email 21stdistrictinauguralball.com or call 240.712.4646.

Energy Assistance Grant Funds Available to Low-income Households

The state of Maryland is taking steps to ensure Marylanders will no longer have to choose between keeping warm and their other expenses. Depending on your household income, you could be eligible for a grant of more than $1,000 per year to assist in paying heating and electric bills. Annually, more than 100,000 households across the state enroll in the program.

Households can qualify regardless of participation in other state benefits programs. Residents can apply for benefits on an annual basis, with each grant year starting July 1 and concluding on June 30 of the following year. Households may apply at any time and reapply once per year as needed. Applicants do not need to be behind on their bills in order to apply for help.

Interested residents should submit a completed paper application and the required supporting documents to their local energy office. To apply for assistance or get further information, customers can contact their nearest energy office by visiting dhr.maryland.gov/OHEP/Local or by calling DHR’s helpline at 800.332.6347. Households can also apply online at dhr.maryland.gov/benefits.

Do You or Friends Need Help Getting Unemployment Benefits?

If you have still not gotten your unemployment insurance, please let us know. Email us at 21stdistrictdelegation@gmail.com. We will contact the right people in the Department of Labor and do everything we can to get your money ASAP.

State Legislative Session Starts on January 13

The delegates and I will be back at the 2021 Maryland legislative session starting January 13. Most of our functions will be moving to Zoom to protect the health and safety of folks in Annapolis. Your input is still critically important, so we will be available via Zoom, phone, or email. And you can follow the action at mgaleg.maryland.gov.

Please let us know your opinions on issues of concern and contact us with any questions. And, of course, feel free to be in touch if the Delegates or I can help to you. Just email 21stDistrictDelegation@gmail.com or call 301.858.3141.
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www.osroofing.com
The Beltsville Lions send warm New Year’s greetings to all their Beltsville neighbors and friends, and wish you a joyous and prosperous New Year in 2021.

The Beltsville Lions Club was chartered in April 1958 by nine men committed to helping others. Today’s Club is made up of 34 men and women similarly dedicated to community service. The basic motivation is to help others.

One of the Club’s activities is performing free vision, hearing and eye-pressure screenings at Beltsville Day, National Night Out and local health fairs. Club members derive real pleasure from volunteering together. There is genuine team spirit in pulling together to help others.

Beltsville is one of 44 Lions Clubs in the area encompassed by Washington, D.C. and the five Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince George’s, Charles, Calvert and St. Mary’s. This area of Lions Clubs is known as Lions Clubs International District 22-C. There is a lot of interaction and cooperation among the 44 Clubs.

You may want to look into joining the Beltsville Lions Club. For information, contact membership chair Mae Whitehead at maemediates2@gmail.com.

Shooter Darker Days Are Ahead: Make Your Home a Haven

(StatePoint) As more of life is centered around home, good design can help you augment and replace natural light, while creating a beautiful, productive, safe haven during the darker, shorter days of fall and winter.

“As the home continues to serve as our collective sanctuary during the COVID pandemic, it’s critical to consider how lighting can keep a family thriving during this fall and winter season,” says Michael McCullough, director of PR at Progress Lighting.

Long winter nights and colder temperatures mean more time inside working, learning and just plain living in our homes. The stress of the COVID-19 crisis has emphasized the impact our environment plays on our wellbeing. There’s never been a more important time for interior design,” says Doris Pearlman, founder of Possibilities for Design of Denver. “Our goal is to create spaces that uplift and embrace, providing respite from daily pressures.” Pearlman’s team offers three design suggestions:

• Add lighting above work areas to create functional, operational spaces.
• Complement ambient lighting with pendant lighting around kitchen islands to facilitate collaboration.
• Create inspiration by clustering pendants for a fun, unique centerpiece.
• Hang pendants over nightstands to turn the bedroom into a retreat. Individual switches allow for customized lighting for easy bedtime reading.

Jayme and Nolan Fridley, of Fridley Homes in Oregon, who balance a busy custom home building business with their active family, are observing new trends. “The open-concept floor plan is not as charming when everyone’s working from home,” says Jayme Fridley. “Instead of a ‘great room,’ many families now think that having many areas designated for specific tasks is ‘great.’”

Fridley’s strategies include:

• Create specific learning areas for each child.
• Let kids customize spaces, keeping clutter minimized to avoid distractions.
• Encourage concentration with good (if possible natural) lighting.
• Encourage with concentration with good (if possible natural) lighting.

Design pros suggest homeowners incorporate light layering to maximize light throughout the day. Supplement daylight with overhead lighting from chandeliers, recessed and close-to-ceiling fixtures. Place task lighting such as pendants or desk lamps over work areas. Use accent lighting like wall sconces or turn it into a business, this is an excellent way for your child to home instruction tools. When it comes to materials, local resources can help them dial into their own grasp of the material and get started tutoring. Check out Casio’s education resource page, which features lesson plans and webinars -- useful tools for students and educators of all ages. To access these resources, visit casioeduction.com. Today’s students are tomorrow’s teachers. By instilling a love of learning in your child, you may spark their interest in the field of education.

How to Spark Your Child’s Interest in the Field of Education

(StatePoint) If your child is an effective communicator and a natural born leader, they may have what it takes to be an amazing teacher. However, a love of learning is fundamental to a career in education. Here are a few ways to cultivate a passion for learning and put this rewarding career path on your child’s radar:

Be a good role model: Whether it’s checking out library books and watching documentaries or pursuing an advanced degree, you can serve as role model by demonstrating the ways that learning can and should be a lifelong pursuit.

Be unpretentious: School is not always going to be easy. Avoid punishments and other negative consequences for less than stellar grades. Such an approach is unlikely going to motivate your child to work harder and may only backfire. Instead, start a conversation and find out what’s going on. There could be a larger issue causing the setback.

Make learning fun: You can help make sure that learning never feels like a chore by giving your child the space and tools to explore topics of interest to them. For example, if your child wants to learn to play a musical instrument, check out new tools that make the process fun and easy. For example, the range of keyboards available from Casio have built-in learning tools and also connect to the Chordana Play app, which can help budding musicians quickly take their skills to the next level. With the option to add any MIDI file into the app, your child can select the exact songs they want to learn.

Encourage peer-to-peer tutoring: Is your child excelling in a particular subject? Encourage them to help out classmates who may be struggling in the same area. Whether they volunteer their time to help peers or bring friends up to speed or turn it into a business, this is an excellent way for your child to home instruction tools. When it comes to materials, local resources can help them dial into their own grasp of the material and get started tutoring.

Check out Casio’s education resource page, which features lesson plans and webinars -- useful tools for students and educators of all ages. To access these resources, visit casioeduction.com.

Today’s students are tomorrow’s teachers. By instilling a love of learning in your child, you may spark their interest in the field of education.

Riderwood Residents Making Desks for Local Students Learning Remotely

Group Building Desks in Riderwood Woodshop for Local Students Learning Remotely

Neighbors in the News

A group of residents living at Riderwood, an Erickson Living managed senior living community in Silver Spring, MD, called the Association of Woodcrafters love woodworking and were looking for ways to give back to the community. They reached out to local schools and asked if any students learning remotely would need a desk. In just a couple of months, the group has already built in the Riderwood Woodshop and delivered 10 desks with 4 more being delivered this week. Currently, there are 16 more in production.

Riderwood resident Tom Mertz discussed how the project came together:

Q. How did the project begin at Riderwood?

A. In September, my wife saw a piece on the internet about “dads building desks” for kids at home. She thought it would be a great project for the woodcrafters so I polled our members and received several positive responses. We found some plans for a fairly simple desk and off we went.

Q. Who are receiving the desks made by the Riderwood residents?

A. The desks we are making are intended for students working at home so we reached out to local elementary schools. Teachers are in the best position to be able to discreetly identify families in need of a desk.

Q. How many residents are working on the desks and how many have you all made?

A. There are currently ten of us on the desk team. We actually started working on the first (prototype) in mid-October. So far we have made and delivered 10 desks with four more going out this week. We have 16 more in progress in the Riderwood Woodshop. We are trying to maintain a pace of about 4 desks per week. The materials for each desk cost about $50. We are buying from a local supplier and the money, so far, has come from generous folks here at Riderwood through word of mouth. Our plan is to continue building as long as necessary.

The Riderwood Woodshop members are enjoying being able to give back to the community by making these desks for local students learning at home.

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DIY Weatherization Tips to Keep Your Home Cozy All Season Long

(StatePoint) As temperatures fall outside, it’s time to get ready for the chillier months ahead. Most homeowners want to keep their home cozy and their heating bills low during the winter, but struggle to keep the warmth in and the cold air out. Weatherizing can seem daunting, but there are many benefits -- from reducing drafts to lowering energy use. Follow these low-cost tips to protect your home and your wallet.

Give Windows a Makeover
Windows add charm to any residence and provide protection from the outdoors, but also account for a significant amount of heat loss in the winter. Heat gain and loss through windows account for 25% to 30% of residential heating and cooling energy use, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. Even if your windows are in good condition, window insulation kits are easy, do-it-yourself solutions that will save you from sky-high heating bills, keep you comfortable and help with energy efficiency all winter long.

Try Duck Brand Max Strength Rolled Window Insulation Kits, which add a barrier and create an airtight seal between the outdoor air and your home’s inside. The film comes with a pre-taped edge for quick and easy roll-on installation.

Want to check and see if you have a problem with insulation? Hold an incense stick near windows, doors and electrical outlets. If smoke blows sideways, you have an air leak.

Deal with Drafts
Doors are one of the largest sources of drafts in any home and should be a top priority for homeowners this winter. From draft seals to door sweeps, there are many DIY weatherization solutions to choose from that are easy to install and don’t require measuring or tools. Draft seals slide under doors, are removable, machine washable, pet-friendly and don’t damage door frames. For example, Duck Brand’s Double Draft Seal insulates your door from both sides and blocks winter weather from both sides and blocks winter

WEATHERIZATION continues on page 11

Resolve to Learn to Play an Instrument in the New Year

(StatePoint) Have you been wanting to learn to play an instrument for a long time? Let the New Year be your motivation to finally take the plunge. Here are some top tips for getting started and for sticking with it:

• Schedule practice sessions: Learning to play an instrument requires a time commitment, so actually schedule a daily practice session -- at least 30 minutes -- in your planner or calendar. Whether it’s first thing in the morning or just before bed, identify a time of day when you are best able to turn off distractions and focus on the task at hand.

• Check out online resources: While in-person lessons may not be available at the current moment, you might try taking a remote class or working with an online music teacher. Free tutorials are also available online and have the added benefit of being paused or replayed again and again.

• Stay motivated: When learning a new skill, fast progress can be one of the greatest motivators. Thankfully, some of the latest tools make playing up the basics easier than ever. For example, with the Casio/tone Keyboards from Casio, which feature a built-in learning system, you can go from being a novice to an intermediate player in a matter of weeks. By connecting the

INSTRUMENT continues on page 11

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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 Annandale Road, Beltsville, MD 20705, located in the house behind the Beltsville

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 (MCHIP)
• Recertify—(Redetermination) - DropOff documents
• Other DSS Emergency Assistance

HOURS: Monday-Thursday 9 AM-4:30 PM

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Jason’s Jive
By Jason Inanga
Dear Reader, how are you doing? It’s been a very interesting year -- so much has happened around us and we must be thankful that we are alive and in relatively good health. I know we make resolutions every year and then struggle to keep up with them. I have already started with my resolution: to eat healthier. I have fallen in love with avocados. I will not touch the guacamole; give me the avocado in its purest form. I just cannot believe, but how low can one get as a human being to steal a leg? I am hopeful that the robber was found and the leg returned to the rightful owner.

Reminds me of a ridiculous situation when I was growing up as a teenager. This happened in Nigeria in the mid-80’s. Back then, sodas were sold in glass bottles and would have firm metal caps that could only be removed with a can opener. There was a local eatery that got robbed at night, and the robbers decided to use an opener to open every single bottle of soda that was within reach in the crates. Ridiculous but it happened.

In 2021, I hope the pandemic eases up so I can visit Beltsville. I am amazed at the amount of development that has gone on. I miss my favorite eating places: Wawa—the gas station on Route 1, Sardis—located right before Wawa—and of course Campanero on Powder Mill Road, just next to the 7-11 and Shell Gas Station. Living in Dallas, there is a heavy Hispanic presence, but sadly I have not been able to find any food facility like those listed above. So, when you see Santa Claus, tell him to put a meal from each of those places on his sleigh and head down South to Texas with it. I have been good all year, and I have even cleaned the chimney so his outfit does not get messed up. I also have a treat for the reindeer—so they can have a snack while Santa brings in my unique gifts. So, do I believe in Santa Claus? Yes—when it comes to getting my favorite meals. (just me being silly).

As I wrap up this “Jive,” I am going to wish you a Merry Christmas. Be safe. Eat and drink RESPONSIBLY. If you must drink and drive, drink a Sprite Zero—the best drink out there right now. On a more serious note, have a great New Year and see you in 2021. That’s the “Jive” for the year.

(B) The beltsville News website is www.baccmd.org
Cherry Hill Exxon
11417 Cherry Hill Rd Beltsville, MD 20705
(301) 937-2908

Share Your News!
Send your article submissions to News Director
Rick Bergmann at editorbvnews@gmail.com

Karen M. Coakley
You know me . . .
I know Real Estate!

CHECK OUT THE 3D VIRTUAL TOURS
OF MY HOMES LISTED BELOW:

Beltsville: Solid Brick Rambler with Updated Electric! Kitchen & Baths! Roof 5 years old! Still needs some TLC.
$318,000

SOLD
for your Dream Home! 
Residential Lot $99,500

SOLD
Beltsville:
2.9 Acres plus a 5 Bedroom Cape Cod with 3 Full Baths! Fireplace! MARC Train just around the corner!
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Beltsville: Brick Cape Cod Plus
2 Car Garage and a Carport Plus whole house Generator! No worries when the Power goes out.
$390,000

Historic Hyattsville: 5 Bedrooms 3 Full Baths! Walk to restaurants, shops, and parks!
$585,000

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240-295-6000 (office)

TECH SENSE
continued from page 4
that the message come from you
and was not changed after the mes-
 sage was signed. It is a free and
open-source implementation of the
OpenPGP (Open Pretty Good Privacy) standard as captured in the
IETF RFC-4880. OK, I know
that this was good for you, suffice it to say it has its
Place. If you are a Windows user, you
will want to get GPG4Win from
https://www.gpg4win.org but for
other platforms use https://gnupg.org/download/. GPG is very good at
what it does, but let me warn
you, understanding the tools used
to protect your privacy and security
can be very difficult. Even if you
never install the software, reading
the manuals will be an education.
AESCrypt
Sometimes all we want to do
is to protect a single file from pry-
ing eyes. We don’t want to know
about public and private keys,
digital signatures, and asymmetric
encryption. AESCrypt is one of the
solutions that does a single thing: it
takes a password and encrypts the
file using that password. The new
encrypted file gets aes added to the
file name. You can create this
file from the command line.

WATER, HYDRATION, AND HEALTH
Learn what foods and beverages
can help you stay hydrated and get
the facts on how much water to
drink each day. See
https://www.nutrition.gov/topics/basic-
nutrition/water-hydration-and-
health?utm_medium=email&utm_
source=govdelivery. Topics include
10 Tips: Make Better Beverage Choices, Rethink Your Drink, Water and Nutrition,
Spilling the Beans: How Much Caffeine is Too Much?, Energy Drinks, Alcohol
Calorie Calculator, What Is A Standard
Drink?, Dehydration, Why Try Flavor-
Infused Water?, and Water—Drink Up!

BELTSVILLE EVENTS
Check the library’s current status at
www.pgcmls.info/branch/location/
Beltsville. Inquire about curbside pick-
up. Address: 4319 Sellman Rd., Belts-
vile, next to the police station. Main
phone number: 301.937.0294.

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Great potential is this newer home in upscale neighbor-
hood. Front porch, entrance foyer, formal living room
and dining room, washer and dryer on main level, full
unfinished basement to design for your needs, large
dock off kitchen. Make it yours!

$425,000

NEW LISTING!
Wonderful home with 4 BR/3MS on upper level, 2 1/2
BA, hardwood flooring, FAM RM with fireplace, double
garage, fenced yard!

$412,000

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COVID-19 Updates
As you are aware, the rates for COVID-19 have spiked in MD and Prince George’s County over the past several weeks. In December, Prince George’s County has gone from 700 cases per week in July to over 3,100 cases per week. Specifically, in Beltsville (zip code 20705) there have been 1,774 cases since the start of the pandemic. For the last week in November, 18 new cases were reported in Beltsville.
Testing is again be available in District 1 at the Roseau Medical Center at 14402 Baltimore Avenue, Laurel, MD 20707. Tests are by appointment only Monday through Friday from 8am to noon. Call 301.609.8000 to schedule appointments. For other locations, call Prince George’s 311 for COVID testing sites. No doctor’s note is required.

Vaccines were to begin in MD in late December with the initial 155,000 doses scheduled to be delivered. Category 1A starts with hospital health care workers, 1A responders, and nursing home residents. The next group (Category 1B) continues inoculations of healthcare workers, residents in congregate living facilities, and high-risk individuals with pulmonary disease. Category 2 includes workers in critical infrastructure workers in education, transit, and utilities. Category 3 is the final group to receive the vaccine. This will happen over a number of months. As information becomes available, I will provide it here and in my weekly emails.

In the meantime, continue to wear your mask, wash your hands frequently, and do not meet in groups larger than 10 inside your homes. With Christmas quickly approaching, our county health department asks that we follow the rules regarding contact and travel.

Development on the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center
Thank you for those who reached out to my office with your comments or who partici-

From the Office of Councilmember Tom Dernoga

WEATHERIZATION
continued from page 9

drips, dust, insects and pollen for year-round protection.

Don’t Let Air Sneak Through Cracks
While you’re at it, it’s a good idea to check for any cracks and gaps around doors and windows that can lead to heat loss. Weatherstripping doors and windows can save homeowners money. In fact, air sealing an old or drafty house can save up to 20% on your heating bill, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. While there are a variety of gap seals to choose from, rubber gap seals can stand up to extreme temperatures that cause other seals to freeze or crack. Duck Brand Heavy-Duty Weatherstrip Seals work well for sealing large gaps or sprucing up old or damaged door and window seals.

For a project selector, articles, how-to-guides and instructional videos for DIY weatherization inspiration, check out Duck Brand’s Weatherize page at duckbrand.com/weatherize.

Don’t wait for the cold weather to set in. Weatherizing your home can be an affordable and easy do-it-yourself project that anyone can tackle. Ready to get organized?

BELTSVILLE NEWS
CHURCH DIRECTORY

St. Joseph Catholic Church
11007 Montgomery Road Beltsville, MD 20705
301-937-7183
www.stjosephbeltsville.org
Pastor: Father Andrew Wakefield
Masses: Please contact parish office for schedule
St. Joseph’s Regional Catholic School
www.stjosecrs.org
Principal: Dr. Janine Bertolotti

Haven
continued from page 8

tant...oh, and a good backdrop for Zoom calls sure won’t hurt,” says Julie Wynałda, owner of True Vine Creations in HUDSONVILLE, Mich.

Instagram influencer Heather, of Operation Tudor Revival, who’s DIYing her home renovation says, “Office lighting can be both functional and fabulous! I went with an overhead chandelier with a drum shade for an updated look. The shade also helps diffuse light to avoid glare on my computer screen.”

Technology can help spaces function and times to your day through lighting at home. Delineating start and stop

Smart controls can also facilitate distance-learning. “With a voice assistant built inside the Instinct smart light switch, you can control products from iDevices work with the three most

With smart light fixtures, you can change lighting tone, brightness and color with a device or your voice. Control products from

INSTRUMENT
continued from page 9

instrument to the free Chordana Play app, you can learn to play your favorite songs from down-

goals and dates by which you’d like to achieve them. This could be mastering a particular song or performing a live stream concert for your friends over social media. Always having a new goal to reach toward can keep things fresh, helping you stick with your New Year’s resolution.

Be compassionate with yourself. Learning to play an instrument is not easy, and some

practice sessions will go more smoothly than others. Have patience with your own progress and try not to compare yourself to others, especially those who have been playing a lot longer than you.

Building your music skills is not only fun, it’s good for your mental and physical wellness, making it the perfect New Year’s resolution. Learning to play an instrument is not easy, and some

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A New Beginning with God in 2021!

In the body of Christ, a new beginning is often referred to as a “revival.” The essence of a revival is to revamp our walk with God. As believers, it’s crucial to put God first in every situation. A new year often provides new opportunities and beginnings. Spiritual revival establishes the believer’s highest priority which is building his/her relationship with God. The beginning of a new year is therefore a great opportunity to re-dedicate your commitment to Christ. Psalm 65:11-12 reads: “You crown the year with thy bounty; even the hard pathways overflow with abundance.”

Three things that can help you secure a fresh start with God are; 1. Build a bountiful harvest; even the hard pathways overflow with abundance.”

The essence of a revival is to revamp our walk with God. As believers, it’s crucial to put God first in every situation. A new year often provides new opportunities to grow in faith and to walk in God’s divine purpose. Please feel free to join us for any of our scheduled services listed below!

SUNDAYS:
- 1st Service 9 am
- 2nd Service 10 am
- 3rd Service 11 am
- 4th Service 12 pm

MONDAYS – FRIDAYS
- 911 Miracle Morning Prayer: 6 am-7 am

TUESDAYS
- Word Encourager and Communion Service: 7 pm-9 pm

FRIDAYS:
- Prophetic and Miracle Service: 7 pm - 9 pm

LAST FRIDAYS OF EVERY MONTH:
- Night of Dunamis: 8 pm-12 Midnight

4715 Sellman Road Unit G Beltsville MD 20705
301-937-1101 • www.dunamischapel.com

St. John’s Episcopal/Anglican Church
11940 Baltimore Avenue Beltsville, MD 20704
301-937-4292 • www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org
The Reverend Joseph M. Constant, Rector
We are Physically Separated, but Spiritually Connected.
Join us for Online Worship every Sunday at 10 AM
Go to https://www.facebook.com/stJohnsZionParish/Live/
Other services online via Zoom: Wednesday Noonday;
Thursday Bible Study and Compline 7 PM via Zoom
Youth Sunday School Online via Zoom
Contact the Church office if you are interested in any of these resources.

We are a beacon of Christ’s love offering Hospitality and sustenance to all on their Spiritual way.

Emmanuel United Methodist Church
Engaging Our Community
Rev. Dr. Jalene C. Chase
11416 Cedar Lane Beltsville, MD 20705
301-937-7114 • Office@EUMLBeltsville.com
www.EUMLBeltsville.com

Zoom Virtual Worship Service on Sundays
9:30 am - 10 am Fellowship and 10 am - 11 am Worship Time
Sign Language Interpretation Available During Worship
Wednesday Bible Study 7 pm
Due to COVID-19 we are not meeting in person. You can join us for digital worship by clicking on the link on our homepage.

Our doors may be closed but our work in the community isn’t done! If you need food, come to our DRIVE UP FOOD DISTRIBUTION on Jan. 23 from 8:30 am to 11:00 am. This is for anyone in need, no questions asked!

New Bible Study begins Wednesday, January 6th at 7pm. The focus will be the book of Genesis! Join us on google meet! More info at www.EUMLBeltsville.com/sundayschool

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SERVICES

TAX RETURNS - For businesses/individuals. Payrolls. Gerald Neumaier CPA. 301-953-1341; 301-776-6545. gncpa@verizon.net. 01/22

R & G CLEANING SERVICE - Small family owned business catering to you and your household needs. Friendly, reliable and trustworthy. Reasonable rates and flexible hours. Licensed and insured. Free estimate with appointment. Call Dolores at 301-442-5032 or 240-280-1451. 01/21

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R & G CLEANING SERVICE - Small family owned business catering to you and your household needs. Friendly, reliable and trustworthy. Reasonable rates and flexible hours. Licensed and insured. Free estimate with appointment. Call Dolores at 301-442-5032 or 240-280-1451. 01/21

HAULING AND JUNK REMOVAL. Complete Clean Out - Garages, Homes, Construction Debris, etc. Licensed, insured, free estimates. Mike Smith 301-346-0840. 07/21

TECH SUPPORT
Is your phone acting up? Do you need help with backups, protecting your pictures and documents? Setting up printers, networking computers, setting up apps, removing malware and unknown apps and other mobile devices and other computer help. Call Maria 240-643-0302 - No Soliciting.

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