Beltville Community Makes a Child’s Birthday Extra Special

By Rick Bergmann

May 30, 2020, will be a day that I will never forget. It was a day that reminded me that in times of crisis that the support of community is one of the most important things in this world. What was so special about that day? It was the day that members of the Beltville community came together to make a 10-year-old boy’s birthday extra special.

On May 20, a parent posted to The Beltville News Facebook page “My Son is turning 10 on May 30, 2020. Every other year we’ve thrown an event and inviting the community support for a child. When we arrived, there were several members of Vladimir’s family as well as a few neighbors standing in the driveway watching as the parade went by. The parade stopped several times as people quickly ran out (wearing masks of course) to give Vladimir birthday gifts, cards, and well wishes.

It was an amazing thing to see so much community support for a child. When we arrived, Vladimir was overjoyed. Spider-Man, Vladimir’s favorite superhero. Many people, including the fire department and The Beltville News, also brought gifts for young Vladimir. A little after 3, we all left and headed to our destination, Vladimir’s home. It was an amazing thing to see so much community support for a child. When we arrived, there were several members of Vladimir’s family as well as a few neighbors standing in the driveway watching as the parade went by. The parade stopped several times as people quickly ran out (wearing masks of course) to give Vladimir birthday gifts, cards, and well wishes.

The First Methodist Episcopal Church in Beltville*

By Ted Ladd

You may have noticed a historic marker in Beltville commemorating Ebenezer Meeting House, the first Methodist Episcopal church in Beltville. The marker is located near the intersection of Powder Mill and Gunpowder Roads.

In June 1836, Evan and Verlinda Beall Shaw sold one acre of land to five trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church for the purpose of building a structure for worship. This land was part of the Shaw plantation, located in Beltville. Most of the former Shaw plantation is now occupied by Spicknall’s Farm.

The late Miss Susie Beal, a former member of Emmanuel United Methodist Church and an historian, described Ebenezer Meeting House as follows. “The church building was a small log structure with a gallery across the rear of the church. Plantation slaves sat in the gallery which was reached by an outside ladder.

The Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department’s Deputy Fire Chief, Mike Montefith, to see if they would be willing to bring a fire truck to participate in the parade. There didn’t seem to be a moment’s hesitation; he agreed right away.

On the day of the parade, I arrived at Beltville Academy early to greet people. By 3 there were about 40 cars full of people and families with signs wishing Vladimir a happy birthday as well as three fire trucks and a special guest, Spider-Man, Vladimir’s favorite superhero. Many people, including the fire department and The Beltville News, also brought gifts for young Vladimir. A little after 3, we all left and headed to our destination, Vladimir’s home. It was an amazing thing to see so much community support for a child. When we arrived, there were several members of Vladimir’s family as well as a few neighbors standing in the driveway watching as the parade went by. The parade stopped several times as people quickly ran out (wearing masks of course) to give Vladimir birthday gifts, cards, and well wishes.
Kitty Post

In this article, Beltsville Community Cats (BCC) is going to suggest some easy, safe, and relatively inexpensive ways to keep unwanted animals out of your garden and flowerbeds and off your porches.

1. Use plants that cats/foxes don’t like (lavender, penny royal, lemon grass, and marigolds). Whether in the ground or in pots, these plants dissuade cats from using the areas.

2. Cats, foxes and raccoons have sensitive, sensitive feet! Mulch and pinecones are natural items that bother these toes. You can also lay chicken wire flat down over beds to keep strong, bed bugs from using your areas. This overloads their senses and keeps the animals away from the area.

3. Cat Scat Repellent Spray: Use with caution as this is pretty powerful. Mix 1 tsp. each of cinnamon, cayenne, and dried mustard. Add 1 clove crushed fresh garlic and 3 drops of lemon oil. Pour mixture into a 2-ounce spray bottle and fill with water. Shake well and spray the area you wish to protect. Reapply every couple of weeks and after it rains.

4. Cats DESPISE the smell of coffee! Place used coffee grounds in areas you want critter free. Reapply every couple of weeks and after it rains.

5. The yard Enforcer is a motion-activated cat control sprinkler. Position the sprinkler in the direction where cats enter your yard. It includes both day and night detection options. Protects up to 1,600 square feet. Both the duration of the spray and the sensitivity of the sensor can be adjusted.

6. The Ultrasonic Cat Repellent emits a powerful burst of ultrasonic sound that startles cats, causing them to avoid the area in the future. BCC’s goal is to reduce the feral cat population in Beltsville while ensuring their health and safety. For those who don’t care for feral cats, please be reminded that cruelty to animals is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine or imprisonment in Prince George’s County.

CHURCH

Kitty Post was continued from page 1.

was led by Circuit Riders and later by the father of Marcellus Roby.

Today this land belongs to the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and about a dozen graves are marked only by field stones.

From 1842 to 1848, Ebenezer was part of the Bladensburg Circuit. Ebenezer and more than a dozen other churches were probably part of the Bladensburg Circuit before 1842.

Evan Shaw’s will, dated January 1857, stated that his slaves were to be freed and were to inherit his plantation at his and his wife’s death. Mr. Shaw died in 1858 and his wife died in 1862. Land records from 1866 show that the former slaves sold 100 acres of the plantation, and in 1877 they sold the remaining acres. This included the one acre of land occupied by Ebenezer Meeting House and the surrounding cemetery. No record has been found showing that the Baltimore Conference has ever claimed the one-acre purchased by the trustees in 1836.

* Most of this article was extracted from the History of Emmanuel United Methodist Church.

ON THE AGENDA

continued from page 1.

Benehkes Property Update

Plans have been submitted to Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning and will be presented at a future meeting. They are proposing to build a 7-11 on one of the parcels. Currently the 7-11 is located in the Garrett Cove Center. This is a permitted use in the CM zone. If you would like a copy of the plans, please be reminded that cruelty to animals is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine or imprisonment in Prince George’s County.

Other News

Let’s have a parade to celebrate our 2020 high school and college graduates. The Beltsville, Calverton, and Vansville Heights citizens associations along with North Creek Homeowners Association are planning a parade. Please have Beltsville student residents who are graduating this spring email me their contact information. Details will be sent out once the Prince George’s County “stay at home” order has been lifted. We are still planning our parade. I can be reached at karenmcoakley@msn.com.

I will share community updates on The Beltsville News website and Facebook page plus nextdoor.com. Don’t forget to support our local restaurants and businesses.

If you have a community concern, I can be reached at 301.937.3490 or karenmcoakley@msn.com if you would like to be added to the Beltsville Citizens’ Association email list.
JSMW Covid-19 Food Drive: Neighbor Helping Neighbors

The coronavirus pandemic has caused devastating impact in the world, including our neighborhoods and communities. It has disrupted the daily lives of several families in the neighborhoods surrounding the new Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington (JSMW) temple site in Beltsville, MD. In these trying times, JSMW has stepped up to help struggling families in a small but meaningful way. As responsible neighbors, JSMW organized and executed food donation drives for the needy families.

Under the leadership of President Sharad Doshi, the JSMW team ran three food drives in Beltsville—the first in April and the second in May. The community members donated funds to support this noble cause with open hearts and collected the targeted amount in a matter of days. Several members volunteered to pack roughly 2400 Jain meals (vegetarian) and 1,000 face-masks for 250 families. Each meal consisted of non-perishable food items (5lb rice, pasta, beans, peanut butter, vegan sauce, and pretzels). About 25 members volunteered to distribute the packages to drive-by vehicles. JSMW members who are doctors or financial experts were available to offer medical or financial advice to the visiting families.

Police officers from Prince George’s County Police Department and county officials dropped by to thank JSMW for generous donations and to show support for the local community. The visiting families were grateful for these contributions and felt that somebody in their neighborhood looked out for them. JSMW will continue to serve the local community in the spirit of brotherhood.

What’s Going On
By Rev. Dr. Jalene Chase

I remember hearing “What’s Going On” almost everywhere I went in my community. It was a popular greeting, which made it a catchy song title. The song, sung by Marvin Gaye, was released in 1971 and continues to speak to the concern we are seeing on the news today. The lyrics were reportedly written by Renaldo Benson after witnessing an incident of police brutality. The words say what so many are feeling as people of diverse ages, cultures, and political and religious beliefs come together:

Mother, mother. There’s too many of you crying. Brother, brother, brother. There’s far too many of you dying. You know we’ve got to find a way; To bring some lovin’ here today, oh oh oh

Picket lines and picket signs; Don’t punish me with brutality; Talk to me, so you can see; Oh, what’s going on; What’s going on; Yeah, what’s going on; Ah, what’s going on

The lyrics also say, “you know we have to find a way to bring some understanding here today.” Yes, we do need understanding and compassion to see positive change. I joined one of the protests in Washington, DC, with my four teen girls. Two of them presented a convincing argument about getting involved. What impressed me the most was them stating that “we don’t want to go just to take pictures; we want to do something.” They suggested passing out water bottles and snacks to people waiting in line. The weather was hot, and it was a labor of love to give back to the community.

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JULY 2020 • The BELTSVILLE NEWS • Page 3
Alderman, Jerry R. (81)

On Thursday, June 4, 2020, Jerry R. Alderman, a resident of Beltville, MD, passed away. Jerry was born on July 27, 1939, the son of Reginald and Haines Alderman. He was an accomplished man who served his community in various capacities. Jerry attended and graduated from Calvert County Junior High School. He was a member of the Calvert County sheriff’s department and served as a police officer for many years.

Jerry was a long-time member of the Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Education, and the Elks Lodge. He was a dedicated member of the American Legion and a proud U.S. Army veteran. Jerry was a devoted husband and father who loved his family dearly.

Jerry is survived by his wife of 59 years, Barbara Alderman; his son, Jerry Alderman Jr.; and his daughter, Lisa Marie Alderman. He is also survived by his grandchildren, whom he adored: Jordan, Kenedi, and Kendra. Jerry will be deeply missed by those who knew him.

Please consider donating to the American Legion or a charity of your choice in Jerry’s memory.

Karl James “KC” Christoffers

Karl James “KC” Christoffers, 82, of College Park, MD, died on October 24, 2020.

Karl was born on July 14, 1938, to Karl and Lillian Christoffers. He graduated from Calvert County High School and then went on to attend the University of Maryland, where he received a degree in engineering. He was a dedicated member of the American Legion and enjoyed playing golf, tennis, and bowling.

Karl’s family includes his wife of 60 years, Joanne; his son, Karl Jr.; and his daughter, Deborah. He is also survived by his grandchildren: Mark, Asia, and Zachary. Karl will be remembered for his kind heart and his love for family.

Daramy, Nancy

Mrs. Nancy Kanu Daramy, 72, of Silver Spring, Maryland, passed away on April 29, 2020.

Mrs. Daramy was a devoted wife, mother, and community member. She was a member of the Women’s Club of Prince George’s County and was involved in many local charities, including Habitat for Humanity. She enjoyed volunteering at local hospitals and was a regular at the local senior center.

Mrs. Daramy is survived by her husband, Alhaji Daramy; her daughter, Fatimah Daramy; and her son, Karama Daramy. She is also survived by her grandchildren: Yasmin, Yassine, and Yama. Mrs. Daramy will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Daramy (son in Sierra Leone), Alhaji Daramy (son in Sierra Leone), and Mohamed Daramy (son in U.S.A.)

Daramy (son in Sierra Leone), Alhaji Daramy (son in Sierra Leone), and Mohamed Daramy (son in U.S.A.) served in the Sierra Leone Army. Mrs. Daramy is survived by her family from Sierra Leone, West Africa: Thomas Family, Taylor Family, Mans Family, Halff Family, Kamara Family, Bangura Family, Kambia Family, Fofanah Family, Koroma Family, Turay Family, Sesay Family, Jango Family, Karbge Family, Fofana Family, her church family at the Bridge to Life Ministry; and 30 grandchild-

dren and 32 great-grandchildren.

Daramy (son in Sierra Leone), Alhaji Daramy (son in Sierra Leone), and Mohamed Daramy (son in U.S.A.) are members of the Daramy Family, Fofanah Family, Koroma Family, Turay Family, Sesay Family, Jango Family, Karbge Family, Fofana Family, her church family at the Bridge to Life Ministry; and 30 grandchild-

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# Statepoint Crossword: Outdoor Fun

**ACROSS**
1. Sacred song
6. Chowed down
9. Acoustic repetition
13. Capital of Vietnam
14. 4 qts.
15. Teamsters' group
16. Affair, in Paris
17. Bit of binary code
18. Part of TNT
19. *Sleeping under the stars
21. *Horticulturist's hangout
23. Articulate
24. Combustible pile
25. Joe Louis move
28. Epiphany guests
30. Forgo
35. WWII side
37. *Bonfire fodder
39. Royal topper
40. Tiny river
41. Pond buildup
43. Miners’ passage
44. Best not mentioned
46. *What seekers do
47. Fairytale beginning
48. Same as “slow down”
50. Upper hand
52. Toni Morrison’s “___ Baby"
53. Threads
55. Pie ____ ____ mode
57. *a.k.a. shuttlecock
58. ____ of March
59. Make someone angry
60. Jack London’s “White ____”
61. *Fisherman’s supply
62. Marine eagle
63. Augments
64. Pastrami partner
65. State of agitation
66. *“You’re it!” game
67. Fire starter
68. Triangular road sign
69. ____ Luis Obispo
70. “Die Lorelei” poet
71. Other than what is
72. One laid
73. Poker stakes
74. *Flying saucer
75. *a.k.a toes

**DOWN**
1. First-rate, slangily
2. Ditto
3. Soon, to a bard
4. They are usually drunken
5. Biblical prophetess
6. Full of excitement
7. *Sun kiss
8. Funereal lament
9. “National Velvet” author ____ Bagnold
10. Give a ticket
11. Sound warning
12. Lennon’s wife
15. State of agitation
20. African antelope
22. “Who ____ we kidding?”
24. a.k.a toes
25. *Banned lawn darts
26. Type of rotation
27. “The Hobbit” hobbit
29. *Played with a driver
31. Bye in Palermo
32. Lacked, for short
33. The oldest Goldberg sibling
34. *Skier’s turf
36. Snail-like
38. *Volleyball turf
42. Painter Degas
45. Beat the Jorjueses
49. Interesting person, acronym
51. Eli Manning’s first name
54. Gander’s companions
56. *Famous ski town
57. Get-out-of-jail money
58. ____ of March
59. Make someone angry
60. Jack London’s “White ____”
61. *Fisherman’s supply
62. Marine eagle
63. Augments
64. Pastrami partner
66. *“You’re it!” game

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**See Solution on page 6**
Where Can I Get Tested for COVID-19?

First, if you are experiencing symptoms of an illness or feel unwell, please contact your medical care provider. If you are experiencing a medical emergency, please call 911. Now here is where you can get tested:

Laurel Beltsville Senior Activity Center (7120 Concorde Rd, Laurel, MD 20707) is a free testing site for all Maryland residents.

- Time: 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.
- Call 301-883-6627 for an appointment.
- Walk-ins welcome.
- You do not need to show symptoms to get tested.

CVS at 11100 Baltimore Ave, Beltsville MD 20705

- To make an appointment, go to https://www.cvs.com/minute-clinic/covid-19-testing
- You must qualify for testing through a self-reporting of symptoms or demonstration of being in an at-risk population.

Do You or Friends Need Help Getting Unemployment Benefits?

As we all know, the Maryland Department of Labor was not prepared for the current economic crisis. As a result, hundreds of thousands of working people have lost their jobs but not received the benefits they’ve earned. Many have not even had their applications approved yet.

The department is now solving more and more cases, so if you have still not gotten your unemployment insurance, please let us know. Email us at 21stdistrict-delegation@gmail.com. Or call 301.858.3141. We will contact the right people in the Department of Labor and do everything we can to get your money ASAP.

Reminder: Senate Scholarship Application Deadline—Friday, July 10

To apply online for a 2019-2020 senate scholarship, students should visit www.senatorjimrosapepe.com/scholarships. The application period has ended for a separate delegate scholarship from Delegates Joseline Pelta-Melnyk, Ben Barnes, and Mary Lehman, but look to apply early next year.

Information on other financial aid for Maryland college students can be found at www.mhec.state.md.us.

Contact Us

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Encryption

One way of protecting your data involves a technology known as encryption. When you were a child, you may have owned a toy known as a “secret encoder ring” sometimes found in cereal boxes. These rings provide a very simple form of encryption by scrambling the alphabet substituting each letter for another. A message written using the code would appear as a jumbled mess. To read the message, decrypt it by using the ring in reverse to restore the original text.

Today’s encryption technologies are more sophisticated. The current standard is the Advances Encryption Standard, better known as AES. Today, there is no known way of decrypting a message that has been properly encrypted with AES without knowledge of the key used to encrypt the data.

Most current encryption algorithms use keys as the material to initialize the encryption process. The longer the key, the more secure the message. The strongest form of AES uses a 256 bit key. AES is a symmetric encryption algorithm. This means the same key is used to encrypt and to decrypt the data. An asymmetric encryption algorithm has two keys, one for encryption and another for decryption. Often one key is designated as the public key, which can be shared with anyone, and the other is the private key, which must be protected.

Tech Sense

By John Bell

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Rosapepe’s Report to Beltsville

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Tech Sense

By John Bell
From the Office of Councilmember Tom Dernoga

**4th Coronavirus Edition**

**District 1 Office Update**

Feeding families and individuals challenged with food insecurities related to COVID-19 is a priority for my office. To date, the District 1 Team distributed around 50,000 hot meals, over the past 9 weeks to residents in need. Currently we have a partnership with Kingdom Fellowship AME to provide produce on specific weekends, with the hope to take this effort through July. Email CouncilDistrict1@co.pg.md.us for more information about other additional and ongoing meal and food opportunities.

We are also still in need of face masks. We will continue collecting at our three drop off locations and deliver them directly to the UM Laurel hospital in bulk. To help, simply send an email to councildistrict1@co.pg.md.us. We ask you package the materials in a resalable plastic bag and drop off at one of our three districtwide locations, or place the bag outside your door, for a prearranged pick up.

**Teatime with Tom**

Join me bi-weekly for a late afternoon virtual conversation from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. via Zoom. We discuss a wide range of topics and answer questions you submit. You must RSVP to join. You can RSVP and submit questions at bit.ly/Tea-Time-With-Dernoga. The July dates will be Friday, July 3rd, July 17th, and July 31st.

**Coronavirus Update**

As your Council Member, my number one priority is keeping you informed, especially now, during the current public health emergency involving the coronavirus outbreak. Prince George’s County opened a new COVID-19 testing site located at the Laurel Beltsville Senior Activity Center at 7120 Contee Road in Laurel. The site will be open Monday - Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Prince George’s County Health Department operates the site which offers free Covid-19 tests by appointment only for individuals with or without symptoms.

**To schedule an appointment, please call 301.883.6627**

The County’s site can accommodate those in vehicles or on foot, and you do not need health insurance to get tested. For more information about Covid-19 testing in Prince George’s County, visit their website www.health.my_pg.us/COVIDtesting.

For the latest updates, County residents can visit the County Health Department’s dedicated coronavirus web page: https://tinyurl.com/PGCoronavirus. If you have any questions or concerns, you may also call the Prince George’s County Health Department coronavirus hotline at (301) 883-6627 to receive updated information about the coronavirus disease. Information will be updated as it becomes available.

**Food Assistance Program**

The Prince George’s County Food Equity Council is maintaining a list of food assistance resources available across the County, updated regularly. To view this list, please visit: http://pgfec.org/resources/covid-19-resources.html

**Parks and Rec Update: Summer**

Our Department of Parks and Recreation announced all traditional summer camps are canceled and will be replaced...
Dr. Ronald John Seibel, of Beltsville, Doris (Dot) Shirey, a Beltsville resident since 1946, passed away on May 30 at the age of 99. Doris was born in Mt. Laffee, PA, grew up in Port Carbon, and moved to Beltsville in 1946 after marrying Clayton (Bud) Shirey, also from Port Carbon. Doris graduated high school early and took training in bookkeeping, initially working as a bookkeeper with Sears. She and Clayton lived for periods of time in Massachusetts, England, Panama, Greece, and Germany while Clayton worked for the CIA and took up permanent residence in Beltsville in 1967.

Once they were finally situated in Beltsville, Doris began working with ARB (American Research Bureau) and went on to work at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. She also spent many years volunteering as a proofreader for The Beltsville News. She left The Beltsville News staff when she was 93 but continued to be a stickler for grammar and spelling. She was an expert quilter and seamstress, enjoyed playing bridge and bingo, and was always up for a trip to the casino (any casino). She and Clayton enjoyed traveling and spending time with family. They were members of Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Beltsville.

Doris’ husband predeceased her in 1980. She is survived by a daughter, Gail of Dunkirk, MD; and three sons, Robert of Conway, SC; Kenneth of Schnecksville, PA; and William of Lewes, DE; her grandchildren, Kirstyn, Brian, Bethany, and Rachel; and great-grandchildren, Aubrey, Darcey, Tobin, and Bennett. She is also survived by a sister, Mary Lou Goodrich of Raleigh, NC.

In 2015, Doris moved to assisted living in Adelphi. In 2018 she was diagnosed with dementia which eventually took her life. A private interment will take place in Schuykill Haven, PA.
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My first tornado experience in October 2019 in Dallas was scary. I had just left the vicinity of the Dallas Love Field Airport, headed home. The time was after 8 pm on a Saturday. It took an hour to get home, and apparently not too long after I departed the area, a tornado touched down and hit that area really bad. I was blessed to have escaped narrowly. Seeing the destruction the next day made me realize that life can change in a matter of seconds. Some buildings realize that life can change in a matter of seconds. Some buildings

I was blessed to realize that life can change in a matter of seconds. Some buildings

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Jason’s Jive
By Jason Inanga

A friend whom I met in Beltsville after. They live in Mitchellville. Due to COVID-19, all the activities planned for the graduating class got cancelled. Her mother, Doctor Yermis, decided to do something special. The family contacted a saxophonist (https://bodegaworld-
music.com/connell-thompson) to serenade her. Video clips were posted online to share with family and friends, and the whole thing went viral in days, making it as far as The Shade Room, a popular social media outlet. Look him up on social media https://bodegaworld-
music.com/connell-thompson) to serenade her. Video clips were posted online to share with family and friends, and the whole thing went viral in days, making it as far as The Shade Room, a popular social media outlet. Look him up

The story. He is now in demand, so if you see him playing at an event in the DMV, you can tell him you read about him in The Beltsville News.

I am looking forward to this weekend. The daughter of another childhood friend, who lives not too far from me in Dallas, turns 10 years old this weekend. Apart from baking and making fresh lemonade (20 limes for $1 at the International Store), I will be on the grill. This is exciting! I get first takes on the barbeque. I will try to leave some food for the others. It is a small gathering, so social distancing will be in effect.

I am hoping I can visit Belts-
ville before the end of the year. Still trying to decide if I want to drive 1,330 miles in 20 hours one way or fly. I cannot wait to see familiar faces at church and work, but also, I will get to eat at Sardis and Chicken Camponero (located near the new Washington Adventist Hospital) and of course Wawa. Will also do The Jerk Pit on Route 1 for Caribbean food. Beltsville has some great eating places.

Time to wrap up. I must remind you to stay safe, stay healthy, and be nice to someone today. By the way, my garden is great. Been harvesting my tomatoes, got a pepper to pick, and hopefully my neigh-
bor can get control of their cat that has been digging and destroying my plants.

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TECH SENSE
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TECH SENSE
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use Alice and Bob as two typical users that want to securely exchange a message protecting the message from a third party known as Eve. To show the value of asymmetric encryption, let’s assume that Alice and Bob have no secure means of exchanging a symmetric key but both have their own public key and matching pri-

tivate key. Bob and Alice share the public keys with each other and everyone else including Eve. Bob then encrypts a message using his private key to send to Alice. He then encrypts the encrypted message again but this time using Alice’s public key. He now sends the twice encrypted message, and it is received by both Alice and Eve. Alice uses her private key to decrypt the message Bob encrypt-
ed with her public key. This gives her the message Bob encrypted with his private key. Alice then uses Bob’s public key to decrypt the message giving her the origi-

nal message Bob sent (also called the plain text message). Eve is not able to access any information because she does not have Alice’s private key.

Frequently, the first message sent between Bob and Alice is a shared key that can be used for symmetric encryption using a shared secret (key) between the two of them. This is important because symmetric encryption is faster than the asymmetric encryption.

The infrastructure that supports this for the web is called Public Key Infrastructure or PKI. The HTTPS protocol uses encryption
Kids are Online More These Days, Here is How to Keep Them Safe

(StatePoint) Children are spending more time online due to social distancing measures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. And while the internet can be an amazing gateway to knowledge and a tool to connect with family and friends, if parents and caregivers don’t follow certain precautions, it can also pose safety hazards.

Indeed, the United Nations has warned that the increased unstructured time online has put millions of children at greater risk of both cyberbullying and of being exposed to harmful content. Experts note that in the same way financial scammers have been working in overdrive to exploit the current crisis, the internet has also seen a surge of online predators targeting children.

Fortunately, there are effective actions parents can take to help keep kids safe online so that they can continue to reap the educational and social benefits of online use.

• Have a Dialogue: While you may be working remotely or otherwise occupied, if possible, try to spend time in the same room as your kids during the day so you can keep tabs on them. An open dialogue can go a long way toward establishing mutual trust between generations. Parents should have a respectful discussion with children about what kinds of activities they are engaging in online and who they are communicating with. This discussion should include what constitutes inappropriate content. Let kids know they can come to you if they are being sent images or messages that fall into this category.

• Steer Children to Quality Content: From free educational apps to the online educational resources offered by museums and your local library, actively encourage your kids to explore the wealth of positive content designed for students and young people.

• Update Devices: Be sure to keep your family’s devices safeguarded from hackers and malware by installing the latest updates.

• Use New Tools: New tools can help parents effectively keep screen time in check. For example, by using OurPact, a screen time management solution, parents can limit app access automatically for recurring activities like school or bedtime, and can block or grant internet access on a child’s device any time. With the app, parents can even view screen-shots of kids’ digital activity on Apple devices (this feature will be available on Android soon.)

“There these abilities allow families to create and maintain a well-balanced schedule, while also offering parents a valuable tool for protecting their kids from unsafe content and people,” says Michele Havner, director of marketing for Eturi Corp., makers of OurPact. To learn more or download, visit OurPact.com. While the current crisis has created new online hazards that families should be aware of, parents can be proactive about keepings kids safe.
Area Events

Please check with individual facilities for current updates. Admission requirements may be instituted and regular hours of operation are subject to change.

SPECIAL NOTICE: LAUREL–BELTSVILLE SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

This Activity Center is currently being used as a COVID-19 testing center. No social activities are planned at this time.

National Wildlife Visitor Center

TRAILS AND GROUNDS ARE OPEN!

Social distancing is required. Be sure to take plenty of water with you. Great for walks and photographic opportunities. 10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop, Laurel, MD 20708. The entrance is accessed from Powder Mill Rd. between the Baltimore–Washington Pkwy. and Rt. 197. Trails are open daily from sunrise to sunset, except for federal holidays. Free admission.

Visitor Center

The building is closed, but staff members are at work. Contact the Visitor Center for information about updated hours of operation at 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 301.497.5565 or Diana_Ogilvie@fws.gov.

National Agricultural Library (NAL)

The library is located at 10301 Baltimore Ave., near Sunnyvale Ave. Main phone number: 301.504.5755. NAL is on Twitter at http://twitter.com/#!/National_Ag_Lib. See NAL.USDA.gov/visit-library for more information.

BELTSVILLE EVENTS

Please contact the individual facilities regarding late changes or updates to hours of operations, especially during holidays and inclement weather.

National Agricultural Library (NAL)

The library is located at 10301 Baltimore Ave., near Sunnyvale Ave. Main phone number: 301.504.5755. NAL is on Twitter at http://twitter.com/#!/National_Ag_Lib. See NAL.USDA.gov/visit-library for more information.

NOW ONLINE: SMALL GARDENS EXHIBIT

Publications on different types of small gardens—such as victory gardens, school gardens, and the historical Subsistence Homestead program—are featured in the National Agricultural Library’s digital exhibit, Small Agriculture. See www.NAL.USDA.gov/exhibits/ipd/small/about.

NOW ONLINE: SUMMER AT YOUR LIBRARY

The Nationals baseball team and PGCMLS are partnering to present Imagine Your Story, a virtual Summer @ Your Library program for all ages that will run through Aug. 21. Imagine Your Story is the first online-only summer reading and engagement program in the history of the Prince George’s County Memorial Library System, ensuring that all Prince Georgians can safely engage with the Library and our beloved hometown baseball team as the community recovers from the public health emergency. More than a traditional summer reading program, Summer @ Your Library encourages children, teens, and adults to read 30 minutes each day, attend virtual programs (from yoga and puppet shows to musical performances and read-alouds), explore the wide range of streaming movies and music in the 85+ online library resources, and participate in interactive social media challenges.

Calendar of Events

At press time, there was optimism that some sites that have been closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic might be able to open during the month of July. Please check with individual facilities for current updates. Admission requirements may be instituted, and regular hours of operation are subject to change.

BELTSVILLE LIBRARY

4319 Sellman Rd., Beltsville, 20705. Phone: 301.937.0294. Website: www.pgcmls.info

Birthday

continued from page 1

I have never been prouder of the Beltsville community than I was that day. Vladimir’s mom wrote: “Thank you everyone. Vladimir loved his birthday celebration. This was definitely the best birthday EVER! I’m forever thankful. I can’t even begin to explain what it meant to Vladimir, to his little sister & to his dad who was in tears. The presents, the signs, just showing up and screaming his name meant the world to Vladimir.” For those of us who participated, it was an awesome and heartwarming day.
Students Emerge as Leaders During COVID-19 Through Service Learning

(StatePoint) As learning has gone virtual to curb the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, educators and parents have been left with a pressing concern: how will this experience impact social and emotional development? "The pandemic is having profound effects on children’s mental well-being, their social development, their safety, their privacy, their economic security and beyond," a policy brief by the United Nations stated. "While children are not the face of this pandemic, its broader impacts on children risk being catastrophic and amongst the most lasting consequences for societies as a whole."

While maintaining progress in core subject areas is imperative, a curriculum that develops leadership skills is equally essential to ensure that emotional development continues virtually.

An independent research study commissioned by Lead4Change found that students who completed the Lead4Change Student Leadership Program experienced tangible emotional growth. The program involves lessons in leadership, as well as creating and implementing team projects to meet a need in the community. Those that completed the program experienced significant changes in leadership skills (60 percent of students improved), respect for others (54 percent) and ambition and innovation (53 percent). Programs of this nature can be completed virtually by adapting projects to address current concerns, and they can not only succeed without physical contact, but offer unique challenges that help students to grow as leaders.

Students at Mohave High School in Bullhead City, Ariz. reconsidered their project when quarantine began, creating a read-aloud library of developmentally appropriate books for preschoolers. With high schoolers reading preschoolers books and teaching them literacy and social development skills, this resource allowed an early childhood program to continue virtually.

“The students developed a ‘can do attitude’ while working collaboratively to adapt to their new normal,” said teacher, Michele Leyendecker. “With so much uncertainty, this project truly gave them purpose.” The “T-Bird Readers” team was awarded Lead4Change’s grand prize, a $10,000 grant for a nonprofit of their choice.

In Garner, N.C., students participated in service learning and emerged as community leaders by directly addressing the local impact of the pandemic. The “Corona Relief Crew” collaborated with volunteers and vendors to create and distribute kits with essential food and supplies for the homeless and those in nursing homes who have been severely impacted by the pandemic.

“Being an adult leader for the Corona Relief Crew has caused a paradigm shift in how I view youth strength and their ability to lead,” educator Dr. Cleopatra Lacewell shared. “This experience has taught me when students have well-organized plans, identified goals and established team structures, they can then perform as stellar leaders with minimum support.”

The Corona Relief Crew was also honored with Lead4Change’s $10,000 grand prize for their initiative. For more information about the Lead4Change Student Leadership Program, visit lead4change.org.

While distance learning’s impact on students’ education has been unprecedented, this disruption also has presented a unique opportunity for students to overcome obstacles and grow as leaders. With a service-learning project, students can gain a sense of purpose, lead real change in their local community and maintain a sense of unity that is integral during challenging times.
**St. John’s Episcopal/Anglican Church**

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The Reverend Joseph M. Constant, Rector

**Come and Join Us**  
**Sunday Worship Schedule**  
7:45 a.m. – Quiet Service/Holy Eucharist  
9:15 a.m. - Family Service/Holy Eucharist  
10:30 a.m. – Sunday School  
11:15 a.m. Full Service/Holy Eucharist  
Sunday Nursery Care 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Wednesday Worship Schedule**  
12:00 Noon – Healing Service/Holy Eucharist

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9:30 am - 10 am Fellowship and 10 am - 11 am Worship Time  
Sign Language Interpretation Available During Worship  
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Due to COVID-19 we are not meeting in person. You can join us for digital worship by clicking on the link on our home page.

**First Baptist Church of Beltsville (SBC)**

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Beltsville, MD 20705  
301-937-7771  
www.fbcbeltsville.org  
Keith Holland, Pastor

**Recorded Services are Available by Searching for FBC Beltsville**

**Sundays:**  
*Sunday School for all ages* 9:45 a.m.  
*Morning Worship* 11:00 a.m.  
*Evening Worship* 6:00 p.m.  
*Adult Choir Practice* 7:00 p.m.  

**Wednesdays:**  
*Adult Bible Study & Prayer* 7:00 p.m.  
*RA’s, GA’s, Mission Friends* 7:00 p.m.  
*Youth Fellowship* 7:00 p.m.  

*Nursery provided for infants to 2 years old.*

**WHAT’S GOING ON**

and snacks. But I didn’t want them to create a reason for people to get too close—we still have a pandemic. They settled for being a part of a march. As I walked behind them watching one holding a sign she made and all of them joining the chants, I felt hope for our future, for their future.  

Being encouraged to stay home presented an opportunity to reflect on many things: family, race relations, cultural bias, religion, education, the economy, politics, government, healthcare, food scarcity, and housing, to name a few. As part of the community, our church members wrestle with those subjects too. We are planning a safe “re-entry” into our building knowing that as a society, we will not be the same. We must address “What’s Going On” around us so that we can build a strong foundation from what we have learned. If you are looking for a place to join in this dialogue, join us. Currently, we meet virtually. The information can be found on our webpage www.eumcbeltsville.com or our Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/EUMCBeltsville/.  

Until next time:  
**Wisdom Helps Achieve Transformed Societies**

**DERNOGA**

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by virtual programming. Classes and events are also canceled. Golf courses and tennis courts are open. Full details: https://bit.ly/3dtMKha

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

**ARROW SCOUTS**

continued from page 1

rent scout year is extended to the end of July. We now can process new scouts and hope to meet and welcome new scouts to the pack. If you are interested in discovering the fun of Cub Scouts, please contact Regina Halper at Pack-1031cubscouting@gmail.com for more information.  

A reminder: if you have Cub Scout uniforms that you do not need, please contact Regina Halper at the email above. The cost of Cub Scouting is going up, and sharing your uniforms will help cover the cost of participating for our families.
SERVICES

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