Cub Pack 1031 Duty to God and Service

By Regina Halper

We are moving into the new year with enthusiasm! All the scouts in the pack have been working to finish their Duty to God achievements and service in the community.

On January 18, 9 scouts, 8 parents, and 2 BSA scouts collected over 12 bags of trash and did 28 hours of service along the Little Paint Branch Trail. It was at the suggestion of a Lion Scout, Mateo R., who pointed out that there was a lot of trash along the creek. If you regularly walk outside along the path or in your neighborhood, please bring a bag and pick up the trash you see. Even if you just clean in front of your house it will help make Beltsville cleaner.

For the coming year, our families will be working on achievements on Zoom with our den along with monthly meetings in the outdoors, and we keep it fun! We are out in the parks and on the trail when we can, wearing our masks, cleaning our hands, and staying 6 feet apart.

If you are interested in discovering the fun of Cub Scouts, please contact Regina Halper at Pack1031cubscouting@gmail.com for more information.

A Letter to the Editor

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 County 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.

Duty to God and Service

By Rev. Dr. Jalene Chase

In 1918, Irving Berlin, born Israel Baline, arrived in the US from Russia at the age of five. I know the time frame is outside of my usual 1960’s to 1990’s music, but I felt led to share this song. Many speeches and performances end with the words “God Bless America,” and we can really use that blessing now. My source for most of this writing is Wikipedia. It notes that Berlin wrote this song while serving in the US Army but sat it aside. Like many of his songs, it had remnants of his Jewish heritage. In 1938, with the rise of Adolf Hitler, Irving Berlin, who was Jewish, felt it was time to revive it as a “peace song,” and it was introduced on an Armistice Day broadcast in 1938, sung by Kate Smith on her radio show. The original lyrics were changed to reflect the following, from America.

While the storm clouds gather far across the sea, let us swear allegiance to a land that’s free. Let us all be grateful for a land so fair, as we raise our voices in a solemn prayer: to God bless America, land that I love, Stand beside her and guide her, Through the night with a light from above. From the mountains, to the prairies, To the oceans white with foam, God bless America, My home sweet home.

This is a song of patriotism that reflects cultural, religious, and political tolerance among all groups that call America home. The request for God to stand with us and guide us paints a picture of unity among people journeying together. Regardless of the faith we practice or the many names we call God the following, from America.

God Bless America continues on page 10
By Camylle Fleming

I’ve been in touch with two lifelong friends, folks I’ve known since childhood. Chosen family. Over the course of a week, they both happened to message me, informing me that they are in the midst of an untellable crisis on the home front. In one instance, a family member’s life was lost. In another, a loved one went missing and had been unreachable for 48 hours. And when I inquired about the state of their faith amidst it all, they both separately claimed that it was not only present, but more robust than before. It is like the crisis had augmented their capacity for belief in hope, like seeds with the capacity for drought-resistance faring better without water.

I grew up in Beltsville, but prior to COVID-19, I was living with my fiancé in Lagos, Nigeria. I love it there. Lagos translates to “lakes” in Portuguese. The mega city of 20+ million people on the coast of West Africa boasts a bevy of beaches, sands that my partner and I spend a lot of time on. Part of my love of Lagos is the year round warmth. Often, it’s in the 90s. And I’ve always been the type of person who flourishes in womb-like conditions. Now, I’m home in Beltsville during the winter, in the middle of a global pandemic, awaiting my fiancé who will soon fly over. It’s all quite humbling.

I’ve never liked the winter. But I’m realizing it’s because I never had the right clothes on. These days I wake up and check the weather, finding a forecast ranging between 30s and upper 40s, if I’m lucky. Based on those degrees and a cursory glance out my bedroom window, I get dressed in the number of layers that seem most appropriate for what’s to come. Long johns are a godsend. This deserves stating. Perhaps, I never wore them when I was younger because I was invested in “fashion” and feeling cool. Now, I’m much more invested in feeling warm. So, I put on my long johns, the tops and bottoms. I drift between sweatpants or spandex to wear over top of them. One pair of socks. Polka-dotted or plain? Fur-lined boots or rain-proof wellies? Mitten gloves or the ones that separate out your fingers? A scarf or none at all? A windbreakin’ zip-up or a full-on coat? The options delight me.

And once I’m outside and a few steps into my morning walk, I find out whether I did it right. Do I feel warm enough? Will my body survive this season of life? This whole ritual of matching my insides with what’s outside resounds in my ears when I reflect on a text exchange with my best friend of 18 years, when she tells me she lost her brother suddenly and relatedly that her “faith is strong”: “You can be a thermomet- er or a thermostat.” She writes. One tells the temperature, and one sets it — I quickly do the math in my head.

“The whole point of faith is having peace thru it all... we gotta choose to receive that peace because it’s not like it automatically kicks in. We gotta set the thermostat for it.”

My other beloved friend tells me that she’s juggling the emotional turmoil of waiting to hear back from or news of her missing family member, that alongside watching the preparations for a change of government in the USA. Strange times.

A lesson I learned in my plant biology class in Lagos included the following: there is this concept of peristalsis. It is what our organs do to move food + nutrients + waste through our digestive system. Google it and find this incredibly poetic and apt description, that “Peristalsis is a radially symmetrical contraction and relaxation of muscles that propaga- gates in a wave down a tube...”

“Meaning our bodies are literally made for holding conflicting “radically symmetrical” movements. Could one ever mistake

---

News: Rick Bergmann, editor@beltsvillenews@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.

Advertising: 937-6796 Ted Ladd, 11722 Emack Rd., Beltsville 20705 • tedladd82@aol.com

Subscriptions: Send $15.00 to Carolyn Scarcia, 11007 Emack Rd., Beltsville 20705

Distribution: 937-7765 (other) Carolyn Scarcia

Editor Emeritus: Sally Ehle

Manager/News Director: Rick Bergmann
Advertising Manager: Ted Ladd
Business Manager: Ted Ladd
Senior Copy Editor: Bryant Davis
Circulation: Carolyn Scarcia

Supporting Staff: Jim Butcher, Ivy Christoffers, Karen Coakley, Bryant Davis, Rebecca Hutchings, Jason Inanga, Mariah McKenzie, Lynne Miller, Elizabeth Olson, and Nancy Thrush.

Circulation: 14,000 copies published monthly; 10,000 mailed in the 20705 zip code (total saturation) and 4,000 pick-ups available at the Beltsville library, community center, selected stores, and churches.

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

NEW PATIENTS WELCOME

The Beltville Nursery and Summer Program
Est. 1959
Children 2-6 Years
and Before/After School Program
Qualified staff. A caring environment. Specially planned programs. Snacks provided
OPEN ALL YEAR. ALL DAY

*ATTENTION PARENTS*
Now offering distant learning spaces for the upcoming year
CALL FOR INFORMATION
11723 Chilcoate Lane, Beltsville, MD (301) 937-3133

CALL JOHN THE PLUMBER
Drain cleaning & sewer line inspections, expert plumbing, gas line repair, water heater repair or replacement, sump pump replacement and faucet repair or replacement.

John the Plumber
301-678-9998
800-344-8584

Plenty Good Room: Community Salon Sessions

To Be Fearfully and Wonderfully Made

By Camylle Fleming

I’ve been in touch with two lifelong friends, folks I’ve known since childhood. Chosen family. Over the course of a week, they both happened to message me, informing me that they are in the midst of an untellable crisis on the home front. In one instance, a family member’s life was lost. In another, a loved one went missing and had been unreachable for 48 hours. And when I inquired about the state of their faith amidst it all, they both separately claimed that it was not only present, but more robust than before. It is like the crisis had augmented their capacity for belief in hope, like seeds with the capacity for drought-resistance faring better without water.

I grew up in Beltsville, but prior to COVID-19, I was living with my fiancé in Lagos, Nigeria. I love it there. Lagos translates to “lakes” in Portuguese. The mega city of 20+ million people on the coast of West Africa boasts a bevy of beaches, sands that my partner and I spend a lot of time on. Part of my love of Lagos is the year round warmth. Often, it’s in the 90s. And I’ve always been the type of person who flourishes in womb-like conditions. Now, I’m home in Beltsville during the winter, in the middle of a global pandemic, awaiting my fiancé who will soon fly over. It’s all quite humbling.

I’ve never liked the winter. But I’m realizing it’s because I never had the right clothes on. These days I wake up and check the weather, finding a forecast ranging between 30s and upper 40s, if I’m lucky. Based on those degrees and a cursory glance out my bedroom window, I get dressed in the number of layers that seem most appropriate for what’s to come. Long johns are a godsend. This deserves stating. Perhaps, I never wore them when I was younger because I was invested in “fashion” and feeling cool. Now, I’m much more invested in feeling warm. So, I put on my long johns, the tops and bottoms. I drift between sweatpants or spandex to wear over top of them. One pair of socks. Polka-dotted or plain? Fur-lined boots or rain-proof wellies? Mitten gloves or the ones that separate out your fingers? A scarf or none at all? A windbreakin’ zip-up or a full-on coat? The options delight me.

And once I’m outside and a few steps into my morning walk, I find out whether I did it right. Do I feel warm enough? Will my body survive this season of life? This whole ritual of matching my insides with what’s outside resounds in my ears when I reflect on a text exchange with my best friend of 18 years, when she tells me she lost her brother suddenly and relatedly that her “faith is strong”: “You can be a thermomet- er or a thermostat.” She writes. One tells the temperature, and one sets it — I quickly do the math in my head.

“The whole point of faith is having peace thru it all... we gotta choose to receive that peace because it’s not like it automatically kicks in. We gotta set the thermostat for it.”

My other beloved friend tells me that she’s juggling the emotional turmoil of waiting to hear back from or news of her missing family member, that alongside watching the preparations for a change of government in the USA. Strange times.

A lesson I learned in my plant biology class in Lagos included the following: there is this concept of peristalsis. It is what our organs do to move food + nutrients + waste through our digestive system. Google it and find this incredibly poetic and apt description, that “Peristalsis is a radially symmetrical contraction and relaxation of muscles that propaga- gates in a wave down a tube...”

“Meaning our bodies are literally made for holding conflicting “radically symmetrical” movements. Could one ever mistake
Feral Cats at Industrial/Commercials Sites

Who would have thought that hundreds of community cats live in Beltsville’s industrial areas? Beltsville Community Cats (BCC) volunteers care for about 175 cats in 15 industrial and commercial sites every day, 365 days a year.

When BCC started, volunteers trapped feral cats, transported them to local vets to be sterilized and vaccinated, and then returned them where they were trapped. As volunteers continuously encountered young kittens when trapping, BCC established a rescue program—placing young kittens in foster care, socializing them to people, and adopting them into forever homes. BCC’s colony support program naturally evolved as caretakers who had been trapping and feeding at industrial/commercial sites in Beltsville for years began volunteering for BCC. The number of cat colonies managed by our volunteers increased as local businesses contacted BCC.

These colonies range from 2 to 40 cats. Today, BCC’s colony support team visits these industrial/commercial colonies, ensuring that feral colonies have healthy food and clean water every day and adequate shelter in the winter. Volunteers continuously monitor these colonies for unaltered cats, injured/sick cats, and dumped house cats (a growing problem with the COVID pandemic). BCC’s colony support program is financed primarily out of our volunteers’ pockets. BCC does receive some donated dry and canned cat food. This food is distributed to student volunteers and to volunteers who lost their jobs due to COVID.

How can you help?

Consider volunteering to feed an industrial/commercial colony one day a week, donating cat food to help defray the costs volunteers incur in feeding industrial/commercial colonies, or donating money to pay for spay/neuter surgeries and/or care for sick cats. Learn more about volunteering at www.beltsvillecats.net/volunteer. To donate to BCC, visit: www.beltsvillecats.net/donate. Call 240.444.8355 to report community cat colonies.

Bonnie Bartel
301-343-8887
Call, Text or Email for an appointment
Bonsnbob@aol.com
Hair Design
10800 Rhode Island Ave.
Beltsville, MD 20705

Need Repair Work? 301-277-7200

FREE IN-HOME OR VIRTUAL ROOF ESTIMATES

Champion
Home Improvements, LLC
ROOFS • DECKS • GUTTERS • SIDING • WINDOWS
ROOF INSPECTIONS WITH GUTTER CLEANING
Low Monthly Payments FREE Estimates*

50% OFF GUTTER COVER INSTALLATION
BONDED • INSURED MBE # 44848
www.mychampionhome.com

Nimel Mental Health
“path to a brighter future”
6215 Greenbelt Rd #107
Beverly Hills MD 20740
Office: 301-272-1558

Has the pandemic impacted your emotional health? We are here for support Call today for an appointment!!!

• Medication management * Trauma * PTSD * Anxiety
• Counseling/Therapy * Depression * mood disorders
• Medical Marijuana *Suboxone *ADHD *Postpartum depression
• DUI * Court order * Substance abuse * Dementia etc

We accept (United healthcare, Cigna, Aetna, Carefirst Bluecross BlueShield, Medicaid)

We are here for support Will’s Decorating

5122 Baltimore Ave
Hyattsville, Md 20781
301-937-6100
www.decoratormaryland.com
Free Parking in the lot in the rear
Happy New Year! Welcome to 2021, hopefully a better year. Last week I was asked how search engines like Google or Bing work. This led me to believe that others may wonder about this as well, so this month that is what we will cover.

The Web Crawler

A search engine is composed of several major parts, the first of which is the web crawler. The web crawler tries to visit every webpage on the World Wide Web. It loads (or reads) each webpage and examines every word it finds. Common words, sometimes called noise words, are discarded or ignored. These noise words include pronouns, articles, prepositions, and conjunctions. So, words like “and,” “but,” “or,” “to,” “the,” and “from” are typically ignored. Important words are noted and sent to be stored in an index file. When the crawler has completed indexing the words on the page, it will look at the links to other pages and other websites. If a link points to another page on the same website, the crawler moves to the linked page and processes it. This is repeated until all of the links have been followed and the pages on the site have been indexed.

If a link is found that points to a different site, a new crawler will be sent to create or update the index for that new site. When this happens, an entry is added to the index showing that the two sites are connected via the link.

The Search Index

The Search Index is the second major part of a search engine. The Search Index is built and kept up to date by the web crawlers. The index pairs the address of the page with the words found on the page, the number of times each word was found, and the importance of each word on the page.

Importance of a word may be determined by where the word is used on the page. A word found in normal text may be less important than the same word found in a header, or title. Words in a bold style might indicate more importance than words in the normal style. Each page in a website can also configure keywords for the page. The keywords are supposed to show the words that are most important for the topics of the website or a page within the website. The links to other pages on the website and to pages on other websites are also stored. These links will be used by the Search Engine to help determine the relevance of a match.

The Search Engine

The Search Engine is expected to use the Search Index to find and return the most relevant web pages matching the query. The query, typically called the “search term,” is the input to the Search Engine. The Search Engine looks in the index for matches with the search term and orders or sorts the results based on relevance. Relevance is a
match. This relevance calculation is what distinguishes one search engine from another. In general, the algorithms use the importance of the words on a page and the number of linked pages on the same site with the same important words and the number of sites that link back to the page.

Other factors may also be applied based on your own search history. This is search personalization. So, if you typically search for nuts as in the food you can eat then a search for nuts might return grocery-related nuts before returning hardware nuts. This is because based on your personal search history grocery nuts are likely to be more relevant. You may also add terms to a search to impact relevance like “near-by,” which would rank results higher if they were located geographically closer to your location. The ranking or ordering of the search results is typically called the relevance order with the most relevant results showing at the top of the results.

**Search Expressions**

In most search engines, the search term is actually an expression that if used properly can enhance your search. In Google, for example, if you enter multiple words, Google will normally rank pages containing all of the words over pages with just a few of the words. If you use quotes around words in a search, Google will try to match the exact phrase with the quotes. Putting a minus sign (dash -) in front of a word Google will not return matches that have the subtracted word. These advanced search capabilities can be examined here: [https://www.google.com/advanced_search](https://www.google.com/advanced_search), and for Bing they can be found here: [https://help.bing.microsoft.com/en/10002/-1](https://help.bing.microsoft.com/en/10002/-1). Go ahead and try them out.

**And in the End**

I am hoping this serves as a gentle introduction to how search engines work. There is a lot more that goes on behind the scenes, but I think this covers most of the basics. For example, Search Engine Optimization (SEO) is a specialty area that helps websites improve their relevance, so they show up higher in the rankings.

Most search companies make their income by selling advertising and use relevance calculations to determine the best people to show specific ads based on their search histories. Most search companies want to remember what you have searched for so they can present you with targeted ads. This is why when you search for something online you will often start to see ads about related products and services. You can reduce this by using a search engine like DuckDuckGo or by regularly clearing your cookies and search history for sites like Google and Bing. Until next time, search wisely.

---

**Tech Sense**

continued from page 4

measure of the goodness of the match. This relevance calculation is what distinguishes one search engine from another. In general, the algorithms use the importance of the words on a page and the number of linked pages on the same site with the same important words and the number of sites that link back to the page.

Other factors may also be applied based on your own search history. This is search personalization. So, if you typically search for nuts as in the food you can eat then a search for nuts might return grocery-related nuts before returning hardware nuts. This is because based on your personal search history grocery nuts are likely to be more relevant. You may also add terms to a search to impact relevance like “near-by,” which would rank results higher if they were located geographically closer to your location. The ranking or ordering of the search results is typically called the relevance order with the most relevant results showing at the top of the results.

**Search Expressions**

In most search engines, the search term is actually an expression that if used properly can enhance your search. In Google, for example, if you enter multiple words, Google will normally rank pages containing all of the words over pages with just a few of the words. If you use quotes around words in a search, Google will try to match the exact phrase with the quotes. Putting a minus sign (dash -) in front of a word Google will not return matches that have the subtracted word. These advanced search capabilities can be examined here: [https://www.google.com/advanced_search](https://www.google.com/advanced_search), and for Bing they can be found here: [https://help.bing.microsoft.com/en/10002/-1](https://help.bing.microsoft.com/en/10002/-1). Go ahead and try them out.

**And in the End**

I am hoping this serves as a gentle introduction to how search engines work. There is a lot more that goes on behind the scenes, but I think this covers most of the basics. For example, Search Engine Optimization (SEO) is a specialty area that helps websites improve their relevance, so they show up higher in the rankings.

Most search companies make their income by selling advertising and use relevance calculations to determine the best people to show specific ads based on their search histories. Most search companies want to remember what you have searched for so they can present you with targeted ads. This is why when you search for something online you will often start to see ads about related products and services. You can reduce this by using a search engine like DuckDuckGo or by regularly clearing your cookies and search history for sites like Google and Bing. Until next time, search wisely.

---

**Tech Sense**

continued from page 4
COVID Vaccinations for Beltsville Residents

As you know, COVID-19 vaccines are just becoming available, with the first ones going to healthcare workers and nursing home residents. As production ramps up, more and more people will get vaccines, but the timing remains unclear. The Maryland Health Department sets priorities as long as supply is limited. And we have asked them to keep us and the public up to date on access. Prince George’s County has now entered Phase 1b, meaning vaccines are becoming available for adults ages 75 and up, assisted living (including staff and residents of homeless shelters), and educators (teachers and support staff, child care workers). To learn more, visit www.21stDistrictDelegation.com or call 301.883.6627.

Reminder: Scholarships to College

Each Senator and Delegate is allocated funds for scholarships to students in our district who attend Maryland colleges. There are so many deserving students in Beltsville. With college tuition a struggle for many families, we need to do everything we can to help hardworking students get a good education. We can’t help everyone with Senatorial Scholarships, but we can certainly help some.

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

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 who do the following: 1) open or have opened a new Maryland College Investment Plan (MCIP) after December 31, 2016, 2) file an application by 11:59 pm on May 31, 2019, and 3) make at least the minimum contribution ($25-$250 based on taxable income) to the account. Applications must be submitted by 11:59 pm on May 31, 2021. Learn more at maryland529.com/MDMatch250 or call 888.4MD.GRAD (888.463.4723) and select option 1 or email info@maryland-collegeinvestmentplan.org.

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 help you. Just email 21stDistrictDelegation@gmail.com or call 301.858.3141.
MAKE ROOFING the career for you...

JOIN OUR TEAM of experts who are respected as one of the top commercial roofing contractors for the last 65 years.

✓ Want to learn a skilled Profession?
   Become a skilled roofing applicator in the field of built-up, single ply or sheet metal.

✓ Prefer working outdoors?
   Avoid the hassles of a cramped office and having to wear a suit and tie.

✓ Looking for a career that offers both challenge and variety?
   Work all over the metropolitan area on many different types of office buildings, schools & shopping centers.

✓ Like to take pride in your work?
   Nothing beats driving by a local landmark knowing that you worked on that job.

✓ Excellent benefits.
   Health insurance
   Life insurance
   Long/short term disability
   Retirement Plan
   Vacation Package

✓ One of the nation’s top installers of commercial roofing & sheet metal.
   We are proud of our quality work throughout the metropolitan area.
   We have worked on some of the area's most prestigious projects.

✓ Family Owned Business.
   Were in our second generation and have the philosophy that our business will continue for many more generations to come.

✓ Stop by or call us when you're ready to start your career.

Roofing and Sheet Metal Co.
11722 Old Baltimore Pike,
Beltsville, MD 20705

www.osroofing.com

301-937-5911
Karen M. Coakley GRI
You know me . . .
I know Real Estate!

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
FEBRUARY 2021

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

AREA EVENTS
LAUREL-BELTSVILLE SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER
The building is still closed. Any updates to the social calendar will be posted when they are available.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE VISITOR CENTER
WALKING YOUR DOG ON THE TRAILS
All dogs must be kept on a leash for their own safety as well as that of other visitors and wildlife. Free admission and free parking. Social distancing and face coverings are required. Address: 10001 Scarlet Tanager Loop, Laurel, MD 20708. The entrance is accessed from Powder Mill Rd. between the Baltimore-Washington Pkwy. and Rt. 197. Regular hours of operation for the trails and grounds are: Open daily from sunrise to sunset, except for federal holidays.

VISITOR CENTER
The building is still closed, but staff members are at work. Contact the Visitor Center for information regarding plans for reopening in the future. 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 301.497.5565 or Diana_Ogilvie@fws.gov.

BELTSVILLE EVENTS
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY (NAL)
How do you know if you’re getting enough fluids? Find out what signs to look for, and get tips on increasing your water intake. The librarians have provided links for information regarding water, hydration, and health. The building is closed until further notice. Address: 10301 Baltimore Ave., near Sunnyside Ave. Main phone number: 301.504.5755. NAL is on Twitter at http://twitter.com/#!/National_Ag_Lib. See NALUSDA.gov for links to digital exhibits and for more information.

FOOD & NUTRITION UPDATES
Do you want to improve your nutrition and your health in 2021? The National Agricultural Library’s Food and Nutrition Information Center (FNIC) and Nutrition.gov websites have tools and resources that can help you get started and be successful! Browse resources from credible sources selected by registered dietitians to plan, track, and reach your goal of a healthier you! DRI Calculator for Healthcare Professionals: Get a personalized report of your Body Mass Index (BMI), estimated daily calorie needs, and recommended intakes of macronutrients, vitamins, and minerals based on Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs). General Nutrition and Health Information: Discover guidance on water and alcohol intake, Healthy Mediterranean and Healthy Vegetarian diet patterns, and much more. Guidelines for Staying Fit and Active: Explore U.S. physical activity guidelines and tips for incorporating fitness into your healthy lifestyle plan. Healthy Living and Weight: Find resources to help you evaluate popular diets, achieve successful weight management, and build a positive body image.

Nutrition by Age: View information on healthy eating for people of all ages. Visit our Kids’ Corner page to teach kids about healthy eating with games, coloring books, and MyPlate materials. Once you have all the information, create a plan and set your goals. Remember that small changes can add up to big health benefits over time. Follow Nutrition.gov on Twitter for more tips on building healthy habits throughout the new year.

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

IF IT’S REAL ESTATE, IT’S ROBERTA!!

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

SOLD
BELTSVILLE: Brick Cape Cod Plus 2 Car Garage and a Carport Plus whole house Generator! No worries when the Power goes out. $425,000

SOLD
BELTSVILLE: 2.9 Acres plus a 5 Bedroom Cape Cod with 3 Full Baths! Fireplace! MARC Train just around the corner! $480,000

SOLD
BELTSVILLE: Brick Cape Cod Plus 2 Car Garage and a Carport Plus whole house Generator! No worries when the Power goes out. $425,000

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

GREAT BUY!
Great potential is this newer home in upscale neighborhood. 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 deck off kitchen. Make it yours! $412,000
COVID-19 Updates

As you all are aware, the rates for COVID-19 have spiked in Maryland and Prince George’s County over the past several weeks. Here in Prince George’s County, in January, we have gone from 700 cases per week in July to over 3,170 cases the first week of January.

Vaccination in Maryland began in December. On January 18, citizens over 65 became eligible for the vaccine, and on January 25 citizens over 65 became eligible. There is no single sign-up sheet for various locations. Here are the best we have located as of mid-January:

• State of Maryland Health Department, https://maryland.vax.org/search allows you to schedule your own appointments currently available at the Prince Georges Sports & Learning Center in Landover
• University of Maryland Medical System, https://www.umms.org/coronavirus/covid-vaccine/get-vaccine, allows you to fill out a request form.
• Giant Food has a site in Beltsville on Martin Luther King, Jr.’s, Day of Service.

Development on or Near the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)

My last article highlighted the proposal of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing’s desire to relocate from Washington, DC, to the BARC. Since then, two additional proposals have moved forward that would further impact BARC. They are outlined below.

Development Federal Drug Administration (FDA) Site at BARC

For those who have not followed this issue, the FDA is proposing to add an additional 458,000 square feet of office space and increase its employees at this site from 300 to 700 upon completion of initial work and ultimately up to 1,800 employees on site. This project is in the scoping stage, which precedes a full Environmental Impact Statement. I am interested in hearing your comments and concerns so I may include them in my formal response—send an email to CouncilDistrict1@co.pg.md.us. You may also submit your comments directly to the MAGLEV project office at its online site listed above. The comment period ends April 22, 2021.

Updates on District 1 Development

To keep up with what development has been requested in District 1, my office keeps an active spreadsheet which you may access at https://bit.ly/D1development.

Council Member Tom Dernoga delivering groceries in Beltsville on Martin Luther King, Jr.’s, Day of Service.

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

Abiding Presence Lutheran Church
10774 Rhode Island Avenue
301-937-7846
Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.
Rev. Jongkil Na
www.APLChurch.org
Come and Join Us
Located in the Beltsville Professional Center

“Make Deller Your Seller”
Bette Deller, CRS, GRI, SRES
Long & Foster Real Estate, Inc.
bette.deller@longandfoster.com
www.bettedeller.LNF.com
301-384-8700 (Office)
301-257-5552 (Cell)

Downsizing or Relocating? CALL ME TO LIST YOUR HOME.
Interest Rates are Still Low! CALL ME TO HELP YOU BUY.
Interested in Renting? I HANDLE THOSE, TOO.
Experienced, Credentialed, and Local
Wondering What Your Home is Worth?
Go to www.homesandprices.com
LONG & FOSTER

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 Ammadale 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) - DropoffDocument
• Other DSS Emergency Assistance

Jeff’s Service Inc.
301-937-6003
SERVING BELTSVILLE OVER 20 YEARS
301-937-6003

Abiding Presence Lutheran Church
10774 Rhode Island Avenue
301-937-7846
Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.
Rev. Jongkil Na
www.APLChurch.org
Come and Join Us
Located in the Beltsville Professional Center

FEBRUARY 2021 • The BELTSVILLE NEWS • Page 9
**St. John's Episcopal/Anglican Church**
11040 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/stjohnszonparish/live/

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

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 Feb 27 from 8:30 am to 11:00 am. This is for anyone in need, no questions asked!

Kick off Lent at our Virtual Ash Wednesday Reflection Service!
Wednesday, February 17th at 7 pm
On Zoom at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85125785976?
pwd=eRXodV1h2SE5ncksGYjSjS34h2z2eCT09
Meeting ID: 851 2578 976
The Password is 850888
You can call in on any telephone (cell or landline) at 1-301-773-8592

**On the Agenda**
continued from page 1
ment for a second dose of the vaccine after February 9 will not have their appointment changed.
When the county has more vaccines available and/or moves to future phases of vaccine distribution, individuals who have pre-registered will be notified when they are eligible, and the Health Department will follow up with links to schedule appointments as they become available, based on vaccine supply. Prince George’s County COVID-19 Vaccine Pre-Registration information can be found on https://covid-19vaccination.princegeorgescountymd.gov/

I am aware of numerous complaints about fireworks and flash bombs over the past few months. In order for the Police or Fire Department to respond, you must give an address. The dispatch system is not set up to work without and address. Another problem is the county can only issue a $25.00 fine. ...Clearly this is not a deterrent.
If you have a community concern or a topic that you would like to discuss at a future meeting, please contact me at 301.937.3400 or karenmcoakley@msn.com.

**America**
continued from page 1
creator, the journey to freedom must be inclusive. The song was sung during the early Civil Rights movement, at labor rallies, and sports games. Several noted people, and the Klan, objected to the song because of its Jewish origin and wrote other patriotic songs. But this inspiring song, written by an immigrant, calls us all to swell allegiance to a land that is free. This is a land of immigrants. The only original people are the Indigenous people, and we must do better by them. Unfortunately, we get lost on our journey to liberty and justice for all. We must raise our voice in solemn prayer to seek freedom from bondage, hatred, bigotry, poverty, injustice, exclusion, violence, gender identity intolerance, and political polarization. It causes an inequity in our nation that hinders our ability to recognize that all deserve the blessing that this American home can provide. Then one day we can truly be grateful for a land that is FAIR.
Our church has members of several cultures. We know that it is possible to work together for the welfare of all people and we welcome the guidance of God to make all free. If you feel the same, join us. We meet virtually for worship on Sunday mornings at 10 am Meeting ID: 851 2578 976 Passcode: 850888. One tap mobile: +13017158592. Bible study on Wednesdays, and Check-in 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:
Freedom in America
Empires
Revitalization
CLASSIFIEDS • Call 301-937-6796

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. 02/21

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

HELP WANTED

DELIVERY DRIVER - PART TIME - for a growing Beltsville wholesale company to deliver products to our grocery store customers. $16.00 hr. Hours fluctuate within Tuesday-Thursday, daytime hours only. This allows for 4-day weekends! Deliveries in the Washington metropolitan area. No CDL license required for our 17’ box truck, the size of a small U-Haul truck. Good driving record is a must. Please do not apply if you need or want full time. MUST be dependable. 301-937-4330

FOR SALE

MULCH - Mulch Dyed $25 a cubic yard in brown or black playground chips $20 a cubic yard. Natural woodchip mulch $15 a cubic yard Bob 301-674-3770. 12/22


TOPSOIL - Topsoil Screened $25 a cubic yard. Bob 301-674-3770. 12/22

MOTORIZED SCOOTER AND TRAILER - One year old. Excellent condition. Also various pool supplies from discarded pool for sale. Call 301-937-0828 for further information. 02/21

Classifieds • Call 301-937-6796

Reach your Beltsville neighbors with a low-cost classified ad in The Beltsville News

Call 301-937-6796

Share Your News!

Send your neighborhood news items to editorbvnews@gmail.com

Check us out on Facebook! The Beltsville News
NO FRILLS.
NO GIMMICKS.
NO FILTERS.

AUTO LOANS AS LOW AS

2.74% APR
1.99% APR*

NEW LOW RATE

NO PAYMENTS FOR 60 DAYS!

APPLY TODAY!
OFFER ENDS MARCH 31st

For a limited time switch your car loan over to us to save hundreds over the life of the loan with our new rates as low as 1.99% APR!*

It’s just that simple.

Call. Switch. Save.

WWW.PRINCEGEORGESCFCU.ORG/AUTO
800.952.PGCU | 301.627.2666

Beltsville Branch
6985 Muirkirk Meadows Dr.
Beltsville, MD 20705

Bowie Branch
15201 Hall Rd.
Bowie, MD 20721

Largo Branch & Upper Marlboro Branch
Temporarily closed due to COVID-19
*Please call to schedule an in-branch appointment

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rates, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Promotional rate valid from February 1 – March 31, 2021. Loan rates are tier-based and priced according to member’s individual credit ratings. No payments for 60 days; however, interest will accrue. Offer does not include currently financed auto loans with credit union. Estimated monthly payment on 36-month loan at 1.99% APR = $157.00 per $5,000.00 borrowed with payment protection. Certain restrictions apply. Contact us for details.

Federally insured by NCUA