

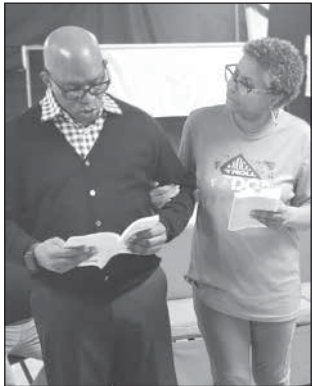
The Beltsville News

An All Volunteer Newspaper

Vol. 73, Number 4

Beltsville, Maryland

April 2025



Edward V. Crews as John Prentice Senior and Pat Bullock as Mary Prentice rehearsing a scene for UpStage Artists Guess Who's Coming To Dinner, opening April 25.

UpStage Artists Brings Classic Film 'Guess Who's Coming To Dinner' To Life On Stage!

Movies of the 1960s captured a decade of cultural transformation, from rock 'n' roll to shifting social values. In 1967, a seminal film was released that reflected the transition of cultural values that were happening. One film that embodied this transition was *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* (1967), starring Sidney Poitier, Katharine Hepburn, and Spencer Tracy in his final role. The story should be a simple one, daughter brings home man she intends to marry to meet her parents. But this story was much more complicated. When Joanna Drayton, a free-thinking white woman, and black doctor John Prentice become engaged, they travel to San Francisco to meet her parents. Matt Drayton and his wife Christina are wealthy liberals who must confront the latent racism the coming marriage arouses. Also attending the Draytons' dinner are Prentice's parents, who vehemently disapprove of the relationship. The central message

UPSTAGE ARTISTS
continues on page 2

Beltsville Community Cats and Emmanuel United Women In Faith Join Together for Annual Indoor Yard Sale

It's that time of year again! Spring has sprung, the sun is shining and The Beltsville Community Cats and Emmanuel United Methodist Church's Women In Faith are hosting their annual spring indoor yard sale. There will be bargains galore! Everyone should be able to find something at a great price. There will also be a hot lunch cooked and sold by the women of Emmanuel. UpStage Artists, Beltsville's Premiere Community Theater troupe will also be there to talk to you about their program. But don't just come for the food, conversations, and bargains, come out to meet the stars of this event, the kittens and cats looking for their forever homes! Beltsville Community Cats will have volunteers there to introduce you to these wonderful and sweet animals! So come on out and join them for this annual event on Saturday, April 19 from 10 am - 2 pm at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705.



Come out and find a bargain at The Annual Beltsville Community Cats/Emmanuel United Women In Faith Spring Yard Sale at Emmanuel United Methodist Church on Saturday, April 19 from 10 am - 2 pm.



Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS) Earth Day Cleanup April 26, 2025, at Little Paint Branch Park

By Regina Halper

The Annual Earth Day cleanup organized by Anacostia Watershed Society will take place on Saturday, April 26, 2025, from 11 AM to 1 PM. Regina Halper of Cub Pack 1031 will oversee the Little Paint Branch Trail Cleanup. Sign in, registration and brief training will be at the head of the trail at the Beltsville Community Center.

Online registration is preferred and if you sign up by April 4th you can receive a T-shirt, but limited walk-in registration will be accepted. This is a family friendly event and kids are wel-

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2025 EARTH DAY CLEANUP
SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH

CLEANUP
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION
1:30 PM

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come! However, all participants under 18 must have a parent/guardian to consent to their participation during registration.

Under 18: This event counts for Student Service-Learning Hours (SSL)! If you bring your forms, the site leader will sign off on your hard work.

Anacostia Watershed will provide gloves, bags, and all the supplies needed for the cleanup. We just need volunteers. Wear sturdy closed toe shoes and long pants and expect to get dirty. Also bring a reusable water bottle and a small snack for everyone in your family.

NEXT ISSUE:
Submissions Due
No Later Than:
April 16
Paper Out:
April 26

News You Can Use



Karen Coakley

By Karen Coakley

Don't be fooled on April 1st or any other day because scams are coming at us from multiple directions... phone calls, text messages, emails and more. Here are some safety tips:

1. Never give anyone who contacts you any account numbers, social security numbers, driver's license numbers, car registration number or home addresses.
2. Do not open attachments or links in email unless you are sure of the sender. Go the extra step and contact the sender before opening any attachments.
3. E-Z Pass does not suspend your driver's license if you do not have enough money on your account.
4. E-Z pass does not send text messages regarding your account.
5. Last but not least, law Enforcement from a city, town, county, state or federal (secret service, FBI, U.S. Marshall, Homeland Security, ICE, Border Patrol) does not call, send texts, or email you. If they do call, get their name, badge number, and office phone number and tell them you will call them back. Criminals are spoofing legiti-

NEWS YOU CAN USE
continues on page 14

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Beltsville News: Blast from the Past

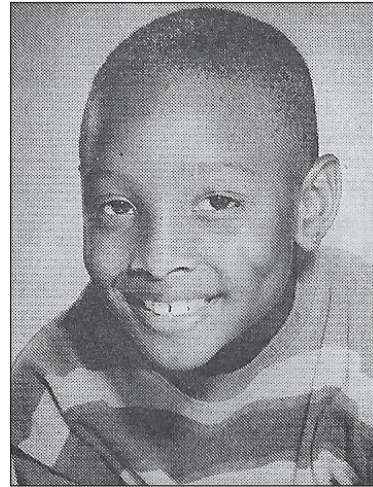
By Ted Ladd

(From the Beltsville News issue of April 2000)

Local Boy Makes Movie

Nine-year-old Sylvester I. Kirk, II, also known as Sylk, will appear in "The Corner" on Sunday, April 16 (2000) at 11 p.m. This HBO featured movie is located in Baltimore and tells the story of a mother and her family's struggle against the prevailing drug culture.

The movie appearance is a first for Sylk. He has, however, been featured in commercials over the past three years. You may have



seen him in a commercial for Wendy's or MCI.

Sylk is a 4th grader at Calverton Elementary School who is well liked and works well with his peers according to Principal Mary Tchudy. He and his parents Faye and Sylvester and brother William (age 5) are residents of Calverton.

Sylvester I. Kirk appeared in the movie "The Corner" when he was 9 year's old in April of 2000.

City Of Greenbelt Statement On The Future Of The FBI Headquarters

GREENBELT, MD — *The City of Greenbelt City Council and City Manager released the following statement on the future of the FBI headquarters:*

"The City of Greenbelt fully supports the decision to relocate the FBI headquarters to our community. As emphasized by Governor Moore, Senator Van Hollen, and the entire Congressional delegation, Greenbelt offers the most secure, ready, and cost-effective site to meet the FBI's mission and operational needs. Changing

the GSA's thoroughly vetted decision again will further compromise national security and delay vital progress. We are committed to keeping Greenbelt and Prince George's County as the site for this essential facility and will continue working with our Team Maryland colleagues to ensure the FBI has the best location and the best use of taxpayer resources."

The Beltsville News

An All Volunteer Newspaper

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

News: Rick Bergmann, editor@beltsvillenewstoday.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:
301-257-3408 Ted Ladd, 11722 Emack Rd., Beltsville 20705 • tedladd02@aol.com

Subscriptions:
One year is \$20. Send check to Beltsville News, 11722 Emack Road, Beltsville MD 20705

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Managing Editor/News Director: Rick Bergmann
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Supporting Staff Members: Karen Coakley, Rebecca Hutchings, Jason Inanga, Elizabeth Olson, and Nancy Thrush.

Circulation

Hard copies may be picked up at more than 50 locations in greater Beltsville, including the Beltsville Library, Wawa, Beltsville Community Center, schools, churches, restaurants and more. Many receive a monthly pdf of the paper via e-mail at no charge. To receive copies by email, go to www.beltsvillenewstoday.com, and enter your e-mail address.

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Check out our website: www.beltsvillenewstoday.com

UPSTAGE ARTISTS

continued from page 1

of love crosses most boundaries is still as relevant today as it was in 1967, which is why UpStage Artists is bringing this powerful story to the stage.

Director John Cusumano and the cast are working to ensure the play resonates with today's audience just as it did in 1967. The cast is a wonderfully diverse group of performers, featuring both seasoned performers and newcomers to the UpStage Artists stage. They are hard at work making this a performance you won't forget.

Guess Who's Coming To Dinner will have 6 performances: April 25, 26, and May 2 at 7:30 pm and April 27, May 3 and 4 at 2 pm. Tickets are just \$10 and can be purchased online at www.upstageartists.com/current-show. You may also walk in and purchase tickets at the ticket counter but you risk being sold out, so it is better to get them early. All performances are held at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705. Don't miss this unforgettable performance—filled with laughter, heartfelt moments, and timeless themes.

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Letter from the Editor

We have gotten a lot of emails about the temporary trailers that have appeared on the Chestnut Hills Playground Property. This is Chief Green's response to the refusal of the Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department's refusal to sign a Memorandum of Understanding that was outrageous in its demands (which we have documented in previous articles). Any lawyer would have advised that their client should not sign it. It is our belief that this was done on purpose and that Chief Green, and her staff, did not negotiate in good faith with the volunteers.

Here is what we know about the temporary trailers thanks to a citizen who sent in the info. PGFD installed 3 trailer units in mid-March at Chestnut Hills Park. The manager predicted occupancy



The temporary trailers at the corner of Sellman Road and Montgomery Road on Chestnut Hills Park Property. Photo by Karen Mackey.

will occur within one month. The next stage will be construction of a "Butler Building" to house vehicles. They insist the existing access road will be used. We know that Montgomery Road backs up bumper to bumper several times a day. The contractor has a two-year deal to install and dismantle the temporary site. So, this eyesore will be at Chestnut Hills for at least two years.

The big question is where is all this money coming from? We know PG County has the same budget issues everyone else has. Where did we find these excess funds to put up these totally unnecessary trailers and buildings? Call your representatives and find out what's going on!

Rick Bergmann,
Editor

Kitty Post By Kathy Rodeffer

Preparing for Flea Season

The topic this month makes my skin crawl, literally, that is how I feel about FLEAS! If you have ever had fleas in your house, you know that getting rid of them takes a long time and a lot of effort on your part, unless you can go the route of a costly treatment by a licensed pest control company.



Fleas are most active during warm weather which, for us, means late March/April into late November. Fleas not only bite animals, they can be rather persistent in biting people. Flea bites can cause skin infections, hair loss, anemia (in very young kittens or puppies), and itching. There are treatments for your home and pets to eliminate fleas, but, as they say, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure".

How can fleas get into your home? You could move into a new home, take a routine trip to a groomer or veterinarian office, have a pet dog or cat that is not receiving regular flea prevention treatments/medication, or even have people bring them into your home. There are steps you can take to reduce the risk of bring-

ing fleas in from outside. Keep your yard free of leaves and other debris where fleas can hide. Cut your grass regularly. Long grass encourages fleas. If necessary, you may decide to use pet and environmentally friendly insecticides such as diatomaceous earth.

There are many flea/tick preventative medications on the market that will keep your cat or dog from getting fleas. Consult your vet to see which they recommend for your pet. While some are available at a pet store, others must be obtained from your vet. If you have a cat, the safest and healthiest place for it is in the house. Indoor cats have fewer health problems and live longer than indoor/outdoor cats or cats that live outside all their lives.

Dog owners, make sure that you are giving heartworm preven-

tion medication every month. I give my dogs their pills on the first of each month so I can remember it more easily. While easily preventable, heartworms are fatal for dogs if they are left untreated.

April is an exciting month for Beltsville Community Cats. Please mark your calendar for our Spring Yard Sale and Adoption Event. On Saturday, April 19th, BCC is partnering with the Women in Faith (WIF) at Emmanuel United Methodist Church (EUMC) to host our Spring Yard Sale and Adoption Event. We will be at the church (11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville 20705) from 10 am to 2 pm. Take advantage of great deals on household items, toys, pet supplies, books, and more. Lunch will be available for purchase from the WIF. Hope to see you there!



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Improving Your Home on a tight budget: Smart and Affordable Upgrades

Many of us are tightening our belts and adjusting our financial priorities. While economic uncertainty often leads to reduced spending, it doesn't necessarily mean you have to put your dreams of a better home on hold. With a bit of creativity and resourcefulness, you can still improve your living space without breaking the bank. In fact, some home improvements can even increase the value of your property, making them worthwhile investments that could pay off in the long run.

Here's how to improve your home with a focus on cost-effective and meaningful changes:

1. Prioritize Essential Repairs

The first step in improving your home is to address any necessary repairs. A leaky roof, broken plumbing, or damaged electrical systems should be dealt with promptly. While these repairs may require an upfront cost, fixing problems early can prevent more expensive damage down the road.

If you're handy, consider taking on smaller repairs yourself—many DIY tutorials are available online for common household issues. If you're not comfortable tackling certain tasks, hiring a professional for essential repairs can be more cost-effective than letting things



worsen over time.

2. Paint It Yourself

One of the simplest and most affordable ways to refresh your home is by painting. A fresh coat of paint can completely transform a room and make it look cleaner and more modern. Whether you're painting a single wall, an entire room, or the exterior of your house, paint offers a significant visual upgrade for a relatively low cost.

Choose neutral or classic tones to appeal to future buyers if you're planning to sell your home.

3. Update Landscaping on a Budget

Curb appeal matters, especially if you're hoping to increase your home's value or attract poten-

tial buyers in the future. Updating your landscaping doesn't have to be expensive. Start with simple tasks like mowing the lawn, trimming bushes, or adding a few inexpensive plants.

If you have more room in your budget, consider installing low-maintenance plants. Landscaping can be a long-term investment that provides ongoing value, and a few strategic updates can make a big difference in how your home is perceived from the outside.

4. Upgrade Your Lighting

Lighting plays a huge role in how your home feels. Replacing outdated light fixtures with more modern, energy-efficient options can make your space feel brighter and more inviting without a hefty price tag. Additionally, switching to LED bulbs is an excellent way to cut down on electricity costs, making your home more energy-efficient in the long run.

Look for sales or clearance items at home improvement stores or even online marketplaces to snag stylish lighting fixtures at a discount.

5. Reorganize and Declutter

Sometimes, the best way to improve your home is by simply making better use of the space you already have. Reorganizing and

decluttering can make your home feel more spacious and functional, and it costs nothing. Take time to go through each room and donate, sell, or discard items that are no longer needed.

By simplifying your belongings, you not only create a cleaner environment but also enhance your home's flow. Adding inexpensive organizational tools such as shelving units, baskets, and drawer organizers can help maximize storage in a way that enhances both form and function.

6. DIY Decor Projects

If you're looking for a way to personalize your home without spending a fortune, DIY decor projects are an excellent option. You can create unique and stylish items, like custom wall art, throw pillows, or upcycled furniture. The beauty of DIY is that you can use materials you already have or find inexpensive supplies at thrift stores or discount retailers.

Additionally, there are countless free or low-cost online tutorials for almost any home decor project you can imagine. Whether it's creating your own curtains, refurbishing old furniture, or making decorative accents, DIY projects allow you to express your creativity while improving your home on a budget.

7. Invest in Energy Efficiency

In times of financial uncertainty,

saving money on utilities can make a big difference. If you haven't already, now is a good time to invest in energy-efficient appliances, such as a high-efficiency washing machine, energy-saving refrigerator, or programmable thermostat. These small upgrades may have an upfront cost, but they'll help you save on energy bills in the long run, making them a smart recession-proof investment.

Additionally, consider caulking windows and doors to prevent drafts or adding insulation to attics and basements. Many of these improvements are relatively low-cost but can significantly reduce your home's energy consumption.

8. Refresh Your Flooring

While replacing floors can be a major expense, there are budget-friendly alternatives that can breathe new life into your space. Consider options like peel-and-stick vinyl tiles, laminate flooring, or area rugs to update your floors without the hefty price tag of hardwood or stone.

If your existing floors are in decent condition, refinishing or cleaning them can also provide a noticeable improvement. For example, refinishing wood floors or steam-cleaning carpets can make a big difference in the look and feel of your home.

9. Focus on Small Upgrades

You don't need to make major renovations to see a difference in your home. Focus on small, budget-friendly upgrades that still make a big impact. Updating cabinet hardware, replacing old faucets, or swapping out outdated doorknobs can all bring new life to your home without requiring a significant investment.

These small changes are often quick and easy to do yourself, saving you both time and money.

10. Stay Patient and Plan for the Future

Finally, improving your home requires patience and long-term planning. While it may not be the right time for major projects, keep an eye on opportunities to save and plan for larger renovations down the road. By focusing on cost-effective improvements now, you can continue to make incremental upgrades without overstretching your budget.

By taking a thoughtful, resourceful approach, you can make your home a more comfortable and functional space without feeling financially overwhelmed. With the right mindset and planning, even during hard times, your home can still be a place of beauty, comfort, and value.



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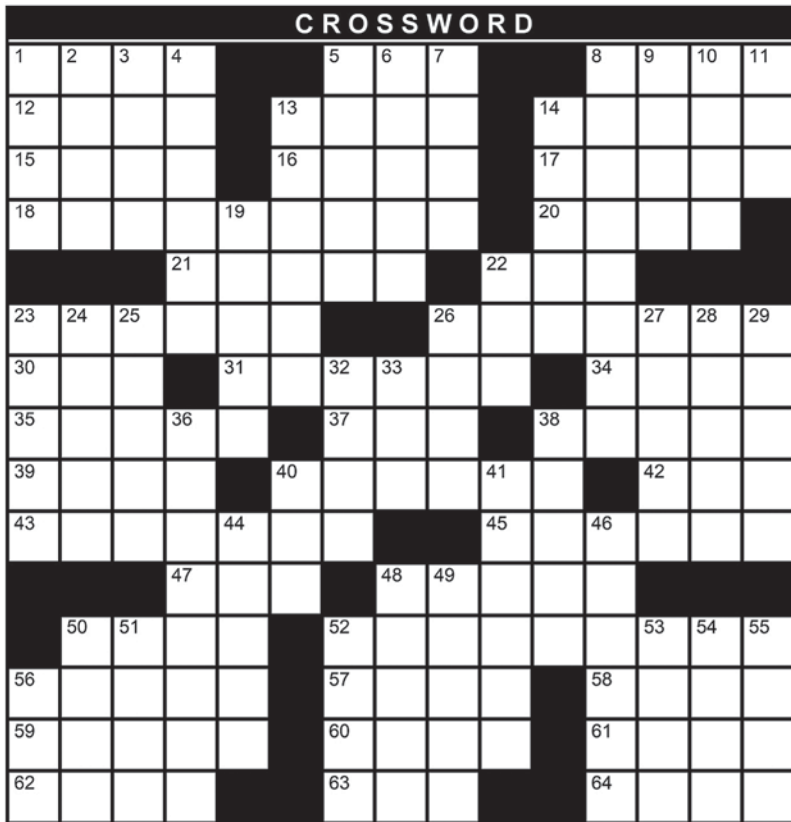
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BELTS25

Statepoint Crossword: Vacation Destinations



ACROSS

1. Aladdin's find
5. Reggae precursor
8. "Lights out" signal
12. Not good
13. Flock's echo
14. ___ diet, a.k.a. caveman diet
15. Kind of jerk
16. *Southern and Southwestern U.S. region: Sun ___
17. Financial backer
18. *Switzerland's skiing destination (2 words)
20. Ivan the Terrible, e.g.
21. Clint Eastwood's "Play ___ for Me"
22. One in a pod
23. Wear out
26. Masculine
30. *Princess' turf
31. Makes a sum (2 words)
34. "He's Just Not That ___ You"
35. Dionysus' pipe-playing companion
37. Choose
38. Provide food
39. Answer from a tunnel
40. Virtual you
42. ___ Scare
43. Prickly plant
45. *Second "National Lampoon's Vacation" destination

47. Biblical Adam's partner
48. Cause and effect cycle?
50. Goals
52. *Jamaica and Cayman Islands location
56. Bert's sidekick
57. Poet Pound
58. Hay bundle
59. "The Great Gatsby" author
60. Billiards relative
61. Theories
62. ___-deaf
63. Boar's mate
64. Reason to cram

DOWN

1. Not more
2. Swear, not curse
3. Between mini and maxi
4. Bodily fluid
5. Small silvery fish
6. ___ G. of "SpongeBob SquarePants"
7. Aardvark's repast
8. *Serengeti National Park location
9. Aquatic plant
10. Pressure inducer
11. *Costa del ___, Spain
13. Humiliated
14. Eucharistic plate
19. Fretted instrument

22. OB-GYN test
23. Balance sheet item
24. *Coastal destination
25. Policeman's club in India
26. Cockapoo or Puggle, e.g.
27. Foreword
28. Make tea
29. Vast multitude
32. Peace symbol
33. *Rest and relaxation destination
36. *El Capitan and Half Dome location
38. Pigeon food?
40. Brewery order
41. Acrobatic move
44. Living room centerpiece?
46. Velveteen creature
48. Type of membranophone
49. Cupid's ammo
50. Gas station brand
51. Aware of a secret (2 words)
52. Porcinos
53. "At ___, soldier"
54. Charitable contribution
55. Hawk's aerie, e.g.
56. Time in NYC

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View of a Retired Federal Manager

By Pat Farmer

In my view, the “Deep State” is a hoax about the federal government and its workforce, perpetrated by Donald Trump and his MAGA followers. Their only meaning for the term is “fraud, waste and abuse.” No specific definition or details of what it means are provided.

Now that Donald Trump is President, he has his mega-donor Elon Musk and his cronies attacking the “Deep State” by hacking

away at the federal workforce, federal programs and whole federal departments and agencies. In my opinion, as a retired, experienced federal manager, they are going about the process in the wrong way. Not even bothering to learn each agency’s mission and what work its people do, they are blindly accessing databases and cutting people and programs without any background about who and what they are. That’s why they are making many, many mistakes and are having to backtrack

and correct them by rehiring the people because they have a vital mission to perform for the country, such as safeguarding our nuclear systems and codes. I won’t go into all the mistakes Musk and his young techies have made. You are probably aware of them.

Just because you believe something is fraud, waste and abuse, doesn’t mean it is. Right at the start, President Trump fired the Inspectors General whose vital position was to find fraud, waste and abuse in their respective agencies and how much money was saved through their investigations. Musk should have talked to each one of them. Even after their firing, the Inspectors General reports were available for Musk and friends to gain some background on what the Inspectors General had found and what they were currently looking at in the areas of fraud, waste and abuse. That step was not taken.

Just going on what Musk and his cronies thought existed in the government has led to illegal cutting of programs, in some cases, life-saving programs, and the money associated with those programs, which had been allocated by Congress. The Power of the Purse belongs to Congress, but they seem to have abdicated this authority.

The actions of Musk are also unethical and a conflict of interest. Musk is cutting departments that oversee regulations and complaints, which impact his businesses.

At a press conference, Trump and Musk said Musk would recuse himself if there were a conflict of interest. Not happening. How dumb do they think the American people are?

A prime example of this is Musk’s insertion of himself at the Federal Aviation Administration, urging that his Starlink take over

FAA communications. This would bring a lot of money to his business. Verizon had already been vetted through the federal contracting process and had won the contract for FAA communications. Musk already has many federal contracts.

Government employees provide daily services that benefit the American people. These services will be sorely missed when the fallout of deep cuts in the federal workforce is realized: when we don’t have warnings of bad weather; there will be no FEMA to help with disaster response and relief; taxpayers can’t get help from IRS during tax season; scientific trials and advancements won’t be made in cancer and Alzheimer’s research; our food will not get inspected; veterans will not get the services they deserve, and this is just the tip of the iceberg. The salaries of federal employees are only a small percentage of the budget, so how much is DOGE really saving by cutting so many workers. Another serious impact is the closing or near closing of whole government agencies. For example, the shuttering of the US Agency for International Development, is already affecting American farmers and causing deaths throughout the world and will continue to cause deaths because of the lack of vital medical and nutritional aid to many countries.

As a retired federal manager, I know from experience that you need to know the mission before you make any changes or cuts to an organization. I went through many reorganizations and contingency plans at the threat of a government shutdown during my 37-year federal career. These processes were always thoughtful, detailed actions that were planned and implemented by subject matter experts/leaders. This isn’t happening with Musk’s DOGE

approach.

Before I close, there is one other thing that grates on me. It is Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene’s statement that federal employees don’t deserve their jobs, that they don’t deserve a paycheck. Who does she think she is? She is a federal employee who is paid by American taxpayers. She probably doesn’t even know that federal employees are among her constituents. Oops!

And then, there is the budget with its drastic cuts to Medicaid. This will have a major negative effect on the American people, including MAGA supporters throughout the country. The money from the Medicaid cuts will go for tax breaks for the rich. Trump and Musk are only thinking of themselves and their tax breaks. That to me is fraud, waste and abuse. They have no empathy for or care about the effects of their actions on the American people.

If you want to get involved in pushing back on these drastic changes to our country, its democratic way of life, and the challenges to the rule of law, here are some suggestions. You can contact your members of Congress and express your views and offer ideas on how they might fight on your behalf. You can join Indivisible Rt. 1 Corridor, Indivisible Prince George’s County and/or the Laurel Resist. Indivisible Rt. 1 Corridor covers the distance of Route 1 in Prince George’s County, from Mount Ranier to Beltsville. Other local groups of concerned citizens are Indivisible Prince George’s County, which is taking progressive action to protect our people and our planet, and Laurel Resist, which meets regularly at Saint Philip’s Episcopal Church, 522 Main St., Laurel 20707. Google these groups and check them out on Facebook.

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<p>BACC Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job Counseling Assistance • Rental & Utility Assistance (on a case by case basis) • Food Supplement • Professional Counseling 	<p>On Site Agent of Dept of Social Services (DSS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAIL: Apply for services on-line • Food Supplement (FS) • Medical Assistance for Families & Children (FAC) • Maryland Children’s Health Program (MCHP) • Recertify—(Redetermination) -Dropoff documents • Other DSS Emergency Assistance
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Food and financial assistance HOURS:
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We are celebrating our tenth year of operation

Crossword Solution from page 5

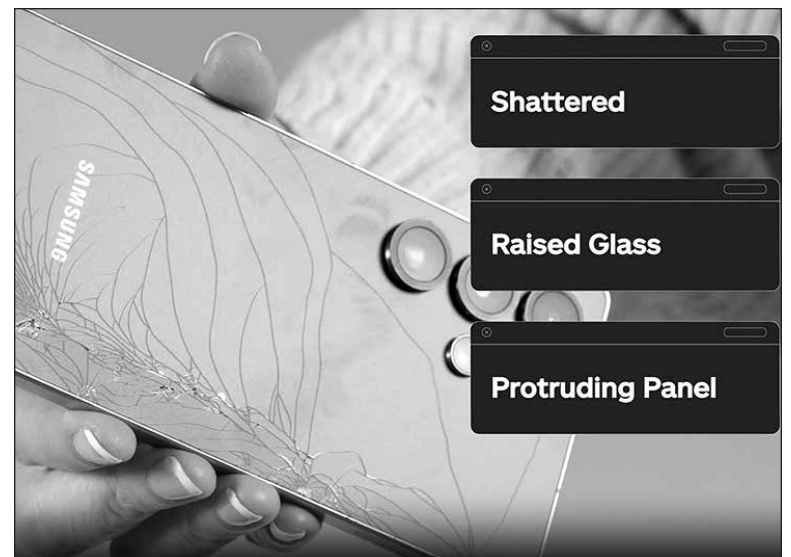
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Brains vs. Brawn: Putting the Latest Tech to the Test

(StatePoint) Before making a big tech purchase, it’s a good idea to compare product claims with third-party research.

That’s where Allstate Protection Plans comes in. Since 2013, the protection plan provider has offered consumers an independent assessment of the durability of the latest and greatest tech against the rigors of everyday life. And now, its researchers have turned attention on the new Galaxy S25 Ultra, which, according to Samsung, is the “slimmest, lightest and most durable Galaxy Ultra device ever.”

Sporting Galaxy AI, Samsung’s most advanced artificial intelli-



BRAINS VS BRAWN
continues on page 7

Allstate Protection Plans

Rosapepe's Report to Beltsville

Help for our federal employees

The Maryland Department of Labor (MD Labor) has prepared resources to support Maryland workers impacted by the federal government transition, including federal government employees and federal contractors. Their resource web page provides information about unemployment insurance benefits and reemployment support, linking to our FAQs, application portals, and most-requested flyers for rapid access to key information and can be found at <https://labor.maryland.gov/federalworkers/>

Every Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., the Labor Department will host a virtual workshop specifically for former federal employees, federal contractors, and other workers impacted by federal government transition. Expert-led virtual workshops are designed to equip you with the knowledge, strategies, and confidence to transition into the next stage of your career. Please email FedWorker.Transition@maryland.gov to sign up. Workshop details at <https://labor.maryland.gov/federalworkers/fedworkerworkshop.pdf>.

Additionally, MD Labor offers résumé workshops, individualized career guidance, mock interviews, career and skills assessment, effective job search strategies, coping with job loss and transition, networking support, reemployment workshops, and more. These resources are provided through 33 American Job Centers (AJCs) <https://labor.maryland.gov/county/> and our specialized Professional Outplacement Assistance Center (POAC) <https://labor.maryland.gov/poac/>.

Help with high utility bills

If you missed the Districts 21, 23, and 1 Community Conversation regarding utility bills, you can watch it on Councilmember Tom Dernoga's Facebook page: @TomDernogaD1. The conversa-



Senator Jim Rosapepe

tion featured representatives of BGE, Pepco, and the Office of the People's Counsel.

Immediate help with your bill is available. If you are a BGE customer, visit bge.com/heretohelp for ways to manage your bill, use energy more efficiently, or access energy assistance. This includes an Assistance Finder, state programs, budget billing, and payment arrangements.

Pepco customer service can be reached at 1-800-424-8028, 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM, Monday through Friday. For even more information, click on <https://www.pepco.com/billsupport>. You will find an Assistance Finder, energy-saving tips, and an opportunity to have an energy consultation.

Help with your taxes

Now through April 15, the AARP Foundation provides free in-person tax assistance and preparation through its Tax-Aide program. IRS-certified volunteers provide this service to anyone of any age. To find an AARP Foundation Tax-Aide site or more information, including which documents to bring to the tax site, visit aarpfoundation.org/taxhelp or call 1-888-AARPNOW (1-888-227-7669).

Solar Energy Grant Program in Prince George's County

These grant awards and state

energy incentives assist residents in accessing the benefits of solar photovoltaic (PV) technologies upon successfully implementing energy-efficiency measures. Grant applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through July 25, 2025, or until all awards have been allocated. Grant awards will be available for a limited amount of time. Interested applicants can review the requirements for participating in this program at www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/departments-offices/environment/sustainability/sustainable-energy

Senate and House college scholarships for Beltsville students

Delegates Joseline Peña-Melnyk, Ben Barnes, Mary Lehman, and I award college scholarships to Beltsville students each summer. Applications for the scholarships for the school year 2025-26 are posted on the 21st District Delegation website. The Delegates' application will automatically go to Delegates Peña-Melnyk, Barnes, and Lehman. You will need to fill out a separate application for the Senatorial Scholarship.

In the meantime, please ensure you have a Maryland College Aid Processing System (MDCAPS) account at <https://mhcc.maryland.gov/> and fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <https://studentaid.gov/>.

21st District Delegation Website: <https://www.21stdistrictdelegation.com/college-scholarships>

If you have questions, email my office at jim.rosapepe@senate.state.md.us or call at 410-841-3141.

Contact me

Please let me know if there are other issues you have questions or thoughts about. And, of course, feel free to be in touch if I can be of help to you. Just email 21stDistrictDelegation@gmail.com or call 410-841-3141.

BRAINS VS BRAWN

continued from page 6
gence yet, the S25 Ultra features a sleek titanium frame, a Corning Gorilla Glass Armor 2 display, and new AI-powered tools, including photo editing, improved Circle to Search, and personalized daily summaries powered by Google Gemini. While these innovations are impressive, Allstate Protection Plans wanted to see if the advanced design and technology could help protect the flagship phone from the unexpected.

Breakability Meets Intelligence

In its signature Breakabil-

ity Drop Test, Allstate Protection Plans dropped the Galaxy S25 Ultra on its front, side and back from six feet onto concrete. Here were the results:

Front-Down Drop: The screen malfunctioned, rendering the device unusable. The front display went black except for two horizontal rows of white pixels across the top. The screen shattered, including raised glass across much of its surface, and a large ink blot was visible across the bottom of the display. The device also stopped producing audio. Though the S25 Ultra was not usable, its buttons were still functional, and haptics could be felt by pressing the Gemini Live button. There-

fore, it's possible the device could be saved with repair.

Back-Down Drop: The rear panel shattered, including raised glass across the right side where the device impacted the ground. The rear panel also bent outward along the same area. Two of the larger camera housings suffered minor scuffing. The device was fully functional, including all cameras. However, the raised glass across the back display meant that a case would be required for safe handling.

Side-Down Drop: The titanium frame had only minor damage.

BRAINS VS BRAWN
continues on page 14

Community Easter Egg Hunt At First Baptist Church of Beltsville

There will be a community Easter Egg Hunt at the First Baptist Church of Beltsville (4700 Odell Road, Beltsville, MD 20705) on Saturday, April 12, 2025, from 10:00 am – 11:30 am for children ages 2-12. Join us for games, refreshments and lots of fun as we celebrate the real reason for Easter: Jesus! Bring a basket for the eggs and we hope to see you there!

Community Easter Egg Hunt At St. John's Episcopal Church

There will be a community Easter Egg Hunt at St. John's Episcopal Church (11040 Baltimore, Beltsville, MD 20705) on Saturday, April 19, 2025, from 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm.

JOIN US FOR A COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

DATE: SATURDAY, APRIL 19TH
TIME: 12:00PM - 2:00PM
AGES: 4YRS TO 9YRS OLD

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Obituaries



John F Chiusano

Chiusano, John F

Devoted husband and loving father John F Chiusano passed on February 19, 2025, the best husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather that anyone could ask for, and will be greatly missed. He was born in 1929 as the third of six children of Carmine (aka Happy) and Anna Mae in Brooklyn. He graduated from Textile High School, a magnet school in Manhattan.

He served in the Army and then as a civil servant for over 40 years. He was a Brooklyn Dodgers fan, a Boy Scout troop leader, who loved fishing, as well as helping kin and others. John was preceded in death by Joan, his wife of 68 years, parents, siblings Angela, Winnifred, Gertrude, Carmen, Angelo, and their spouses. He is survived by his sons Christopher, Stephen (Irina), and Paul; grandchildren Aaron (Imani), Paul, and Margarita (Mike); great-grandchild Xavier, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Visitation was held at Borgwardt Funeral Home, Beltsville, MD on Friday, February 28, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Interment Crest Lawn Memorial Gardens, Marriottsville, MD.



Virginia "Ginger" Braun Hand

Hand, Virginia

Virginia "Ginger" Braun Hand (formerly Buchheister), 81, of Beltsville, Maryland, transitioned peacefully on February 19, 2025, surrounded by her loving family. Born on April 5, 1943, in New Jersey to Fred Joseph Braun and Esther Claire Braun (Leypoldt), Ginger was a woman of deep Catholic faith, a devoted mother,

a doting grandmother, and a passionate real estate professional.

Ginger moved to Milwaukee as a young girl and later to Roland Park, Baltimore, where she graduated from Notre Dame Preparatory School in 1961. She pursued higher education at the University of Maryland, College Park. She put her education on hold to become an Army wife and mother but later earned her associate's degree from Panama Canal College in 1988.

While attending UMCP, Ginger met James (Jim or Schmoo) Joseph Buchheister Jr., and they married in 1965. As a devoted Army wife, she embraced a life of adventure, moving with Jim to Texas, Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, Germany, and Maryland. Ginger was an accomplished homemaker with extraordinary seamstress skills, a green thumb for gardening, and an impressive ability to can anything her garden produced.

Following her divorce, Ginger was determined to build an independent career, fast-tracking a paralegal degree before discovering her passion for real estate. She launched her successful career with Shannon & Luchs in 1986 and later continued with Weichert and then Long & Foster, earning multiple President's Club awards and recognition as a top producer.

In 1987, she remarried and relocated to the Republic of Panama as a Foreign Service spouse, bringing her three children along for an unforgettable adventure. There, she put her real estate career on hold to embrace new experiences, becoming scuba certified and fostering a love for travel. It was in Panama that she developed an enduring affection for Amazon parrots, bringing home two cherished companions, Okra and Sheena, who remained with her for over 30 years.

Returning to Beltsville in 1990, Ginger reignited her real estate career, achieving remarkable success until her retirement. Even now, more than fifteen years after her retirement, one can find her recipe cards in kitchens throughout Beltsville. Her happy place was her beloved beach home in Topsail Island, NC, where she built lifelong friendships and treasured every visit until she could no longer manage the drive.

In 2008, Ginger met the love of her life, Al Lipka, with whom she shared two blissful years before his untimely passing in 2010. Her steadfast Catholic faith provided comfort and strength throughout her life. She was a faithful member of Saint Joseph's Church in Beltsville, serving as a lector and on the Bereavement Committee. Ginger had a lovely voice and was a member of many Church choirs. She was also an active member of the Institute of Catholic Culture, immersing herself in deep theological studies, as well as a dedi-

cated participant in the Beltsville Lions Club. Her favorite nights out were at Sierra's for Margaritas and at Knights of Columbus for Taco Tuesday.

Ginger found joy in both fitness and fine wine, becoming a familiar face in her neighborhood thanks to her daily walks through the community and park. She loved dogs, and had several in her life, and always had a pocketful of biscuits to share with the neighborhood pups she encountered on her walks. She was an avid collector of beautiful things, be it beach glass, sharks' teeth, exquisite Christmas ornaments, nativities, shells, animal statuettes and more. She was also known as "The Orchid Whisperer" and took great pleasure in her thriving collection of orchids. Above all, she was a loving mother and adoring "Baubau" to her five grandchildren, cherishing every moment spent with them.

She is survived by her beloved children, Nancy Buchheister Corazzi, Lauren Buchheister Sibila (Troy), and James Joseph Buchheister III; her treasured grandchildren, Vincent James Corazzi, Jenna Claire Corazzi, Amy Elizabeth Corazzi, Daniel Nello Corazzi, and Aiden Michael Sibila. She was predeceased by her parents, Fred and Esther Braun, and her former husband, James Joseph Buchheister Jr. She is also survived by her sister, Kathleen Braun Dollenberg (Douglas); seven nieces and nephews; and many loving in-laws, great-nieces and nephews, and cousins.

Visitation was held at Borgwardt Funeral Home on Thursday, March 6 from 4-7 pm. Funeral Mass was held at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Beltsville on Friday, March 7, 2025. A private interment will be held at Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens at a later date, where she will rest with her beloved parents. Memorial donations may be made in Ginger's memory to Bethlehem Monastery of Poor Clares, a religious order dear to her heart.



Wilford Lee "Babe" Johnson

Johnson, Wilford Lee "Babe"

Wilford Lee "Babe" Johnson of Beltsville, MD went home to the

Lord and his Patsy on March 9th, 2025, at his home at the age of 93 with his family by his side

Wilford, affectionately nicknamed Babe, was born in Goodwill, WV in July 1931 to Ina and Colin Johnson. He grew up on Sinai Mountain with his two brothers Colin Junior and Thurman "Vester", and sister, Sue.

He attended Bramwell High School and loved to play football, basketball, and baseball. After graduation, he enlisted in the Air Force with his brother Vester and was stationed in Presque Isle, ME. That is where he met the love of his life, Patsy, at a dance at the Northeastland Hotel. He returned to West Virginia after four years in the Air Force and Patsy went with him. They were married in December 1954 and had two daughters, Cathy and Sandra. They spent 66 wonderful years together until her passing in 2020. Wilford started working for the National Security Agency in 1956 and retired in 1994.

He loved watching the Washington Redskins and was an avid golfer up until the age of 90. Wilford is survived by his two daughters, Cathy Slaybaugh (Chris) and Sandra Matia (Bob), two grandchildren, Jessica Daves (Stephen) and Jason Slaybaugh (Sofie), his great granddaughter Avery Daves, and brother Vester (Dona), along with many nieces and nephews. Wilford is predeceased by his wife Patsy, brother, Colin Junior, and his sister, Sue. A graveside service will be held on Thursday, March, 13th at 1:00 pm at George Washington Cemetery, Adelphi, Md.

Donations may be sent in his memory to the Parkinson's Foundation at www.Parkinson.org. Arrangements by Donald V. Borgwardt Funeral Home, PA



Mary Susan Koch

Koch, Mary Susan

Mary Susan Koch (nee Piper) was born in Monrovia, California, on March 24, 1926, to Alexander Abbey Piper and Mary Elizabeth Piper (nee Bounds). She and her parents left California by train soon after to move to her mother's hometown of Mardela Springs, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Growing up, she moved with her family several times between

Maryland, Tennessee, and North Carolina.

At the age of 17, she started college, first at High Point College, and Greensboro College, before receiving her degree, in French, at Wake Forest University. Following graduation, she spent a year at the Peabody Music Conservatory in Baltimore, including a semester in Quebec City, at the Music Conservatory there. She was thus a member of the early post-war generation of women who felt they could travel, work, be creative, and raise a family. Once her children had grown, she trained as a nurse, working at Leland Hospital in Hyattsville, MD, for several years. As she put it, it never entered her head to think she had less to offer the world than the men around her. This independent spirit was part of who she was.

While teaching in an elementary school in Chillum, Maryland, she met Ellery James (Jim) Koch at a church dance, and they married in 1953. The newlyweds lived in an apartment off Sligo Creek, before moving to a 2-acre, non-working farm in Olney, Maryland, where they had three children, Richard, Linda (Liesl), and Diane. During that time Susan also gained a half-sister, Martha, after her widowed father remarried. In 1964 the family moved to Adelphi, Maryland.

Susan raised her children with a strong sense of independent fun and creativity, teaching them to love reading, the outdoors, nature and animals (including their many pets!), the arts and culture, to be curious, and to love travel. She adored the ocean and the beach; the family visited Topsail, North Carolina every summer for many years. They also travelled the country extensively -- she spoke with real pleasure of the many cross-country trips they made in their family station wagon, and of all the state and national parks they visited together.

Central to Susan's life was her love of music. She played the piano from an early age and was enthusiastic about sharing music with her family and friends. There was a baby grand in the corner of her living room, where she taught piano to her pupils, to her children, and to her grandchildren, instilling in them all a love of music.

Susan and Jim were married for 42 years, with Susan nursing Jim steadfastly through his final illness. After Jim passed away in 1996, Susan remained active: she volunteered for 22 years for Meals on Wheels; she regularly drove to Pennsylvania to visit family; she tended her garden; she liked to knit and sew; she made scrapbooks; she mowed her own lawn till she was eighty-five; and she kept up with the news and stayed

OBITUARIES
continues on page 15

Neighbors in the News

Cub Pack 1031- Pinewood Derby 2025

By Regina Halper

Most of our scouts have almost completed their ranks and now we look forward to doing electives and having fun outside! The scouts have been working hard to complete their requirements. Great job- Scouts!!

On Saturday, March 15th the pack held our Pinewood Derby at Beltsville Community Center. The Pack 1031 winners were Rowan M, 1st Place, Greyson L, 2nd Place and Quincy S, 3rd Place. All the scouts did a great job on their cars.

In the end of April, we will be helping clean the Little Paint Branch Trail as part of the Anacostia Watershed Society Earth Day cleanup.

We have a new website: <https://pack1031.org/> There you can find information on how to join our Pack.

I do recommend that families



Tigers and Lions watching the races at the Pack 1031 2025 Pinewood Derby races.

contact me and come by to a prearranged pack event to see if your child is interested in joining our Pack. We do have scouts from several area schools and are happy to welcome new scouts especially in the summertime and in the fall when we start our annual program.

If you are interested in Cub

Scouts, contact Regina Halper at Pack1031cubscouting@gmail.com for information. We are a family scouting unit. During the school year we meet at Beltsville Academy for our den meetings and in the summer, we meet twice a month in the parks.



Calverton Grocery Outlet held their Customer Appreciation Weekend March 7-9. They had a DJ, face painting, prizes, and more to show their appreciation for their customers. Owners Thomas and Sharon Procida have done an amazing job in building a family owned, local grocery store. Check them out at 11705 Beltsville Dr, Calverton, MD 20705 (where Giant used to be). Photos courtesy of Calverton Grocery Outlet.

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Windows Power Toys

Microsoft Power Toys started as a collection of small utilities distributed freely to Windows 95 users. It provided 15 tools initially. The ones I personally found the most useful included:

- **“Command prompt here”** a tool that opens the DOS command prompt in the current folder
- **“CabView”** opens Microsoft Cabinet files like a file folder. Cabinet files were used to distribute and install files onto Windows.
- **“TweakUP”** a tool to easily make changes to the user interface

In 2009 Microsoft released a new version of Power Toys for Windows XP. This provided a different set of utilities and retired others. TweakUI was still there and the most useful new tool for me was the new **SyncToy utility**. SyncToy allows synchronization of the files between two folders, even across networks. It was very useful to backup photos and music between computers to move your working files between laptop and desktop machines.

Power Toys for Windows 11

After many years of neglect, a new version of Power Toys is available for Windows 10 & 11. This new version is now free and open source from Microsoft and provides a different set of tools. It can be downloaded and installed via the Microsoft Store, or GitHub, or using the relatively new Windows Package Manager.

The New Toys

The following list provides an overview of the Power Toys available currently:

- **Advanced Paste** – Takes the content in the paste buffer and transforms it into the appropriate format for the destination. For example, a photographic clip of the text from a newspaper can be pasted, as text into a Word document. Advanced Paste can be a complex command with many options to choose from.
- **Always on Top** – Makes a window always appear on top (in front of) of the other windows.
- **Awake** – Keeps the computer from going to sleep and turning off the screen. This is useful when you have a long running process, and you do not want interruptions.
- **Color Picker** – Allows selection of a color for use editing. It is useful when you want to determine a specific for use somewhere else.
- **Command not Found** – a useful tool for PowerShell users when missing commands hinder writing a script. Allows



download and installation of the missing command.

- **Environment Variables** – Environment Variables are little bits of information stored in the context and used by scripts and programs. This tool provides a mechanism to manage these variables to make it easier to change the context based on what the user is doing. Software developers often need environment management tools when using multiple programming languages and development tools.
- **File Explorer Additions** – These tools allow previewing files directly in the file explorer based on the type of file. For example, seeing a preview of a PDF file without opening the file. This is similar to viewing image files in the explorer.
- **File Locksmith Utility** – If you have ever not been able to restart the computer because a file is in use, this tool will find which file and allow you to kill it. Very useful, but this can also be done using the Process Explorer from SysInternals, another set of useful tools from Microsoft that we will explore in the future.
- **Host File Editor** – The Hosts file is a file that maps the names of each computer with its IP Address. The IP address is sort of like the phone number for the computer on the network. This tool allows easy editing of the hosts file on the windows computer.
- **Image Resizer** – This tool makes it easy to resize an image to specific sizes. It is useful for adding your face to your Zoom application.
- **Keyboard Manager** – This allows you to reprogram a key to send a different output. We mostly use this to create special key combinations. For example, if I want to use the “?” to send the word “Question” I could program the “?” key to send “Question” when I hold the CTRL key with the “?”.
- **Mouse Utilities** – These are several simple mouse aids to help find the mouse pointer. Great for us older folks.
- **Mouse without Borders** – Supports using the mouse and keyboard on multiple machines at the same time. You can also

cut and paste across screens and do file transfers between the machines.

- **Peek** – Another file preview tool.
- **Power Rename** – It is about time for this one. It makes it easy to rename large groups of files using wild cards and regular expressions. This is why I keep Linux utilities on my Windows computers.
- **Power Toys Run Utility** – This is a set of tools to aid in scripting Power Toys to make new Power Toys.
- **Registry Preview** – A tool to ease viewing and editing the Windows Registry.
- **Screen Ruler** – used to measure things on the screen. Typically, in pixels.
- **Shortcut Guide** – Pops up a little guide showing all of the Windows shortcut keys. Useful if you need them but don’t know them.
- **Text Extractor** – Use this to copy text from an image and then paste it as text into a document.
- **Video Conference Mute** – This useful app may be going away soon. It simply lets you mute and unmute your video conferencing camera and microphone.
- **Workspaces** – This allows you to arrange several applications on the screen and remember their arrangement so the arrangement can be automatically setup again. Helpful if you use the same application arrangement every day.
- **ZoomIt** – ZoomIt is sort of a magnifying glass for your screen. This came out with the original Power Toys so many years ago. The new version records, snaps screen shots, and allows drawing. It is no longer just a magnifier. But all I ever needed what the magnifier.

Next Month

I hope you find these tools useful. I tried to list most of them, but I left a few off that I haven’t found much use for myself. Power Toys are free and over the years, I have found them useful.

Next month my column will be about World Change your Password Day and we will cover more ways to create good secure passwords. Some other topics coming in the future will include an article covering the Windows technical toolkit known as SysInternals. I am also getting ready to make changes in my systems at home and will share what I am doing and why, as it happens. I am also thinking about a series on how to create your own website. Have a great month!

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Clubs

Women's Community Club of Beltsville

By Karen Coakley

Spring is finally here after an extremely cold winter. The Women's Club will be busy with Adopt a Road and Adopt a Stream this month. We will pick up trash along Montgomery Road between Route 1 and Sellman Road and removing trash from the Little

Paint Branch Creek by Beltsville Community Center. Please join us for our April meeting on Monday, March 10th at 7:00 p.m. We meet at the Beltsville Boys and Girls Club, 11705 Roby Avenue, Beltsville. We can be reached at womensclubbeltsville@gmail.com.

The Beltsville Young At Heart Club

By Lois Hamilton, President, Beltsville Young at Heart

By the time you read this, I will know how to stay in my home and not a Nursing Home or Assistant Living community. That is what our speaker in March talked to us about.

We will have music in April and May. April will be Steve Flynn, and May will be the Motown sound from Frances Moyer's

group.

We still have trips that you can sign up for, a 50/50 chance, light refreshments, and a "raffle" starting this month. Bring a little extra money and see if you want to take a chance on winning an item. The meeting starts at 10:30 am till about noon or 12:30 at the Beltsville Community Center-3900 Sellman Road.

We would love to meet more senior citizens as the group is

smaller than some, and very friendly. If you have any questions or need directions, please call me at 301-498-9736. If you leave a message, I will call you back.

Enjoy the warm spring weather. And remember, "A flower is an educated weed."-L. Burbank

School News

James E. Duckworth to Celebrate 31st Annual Challenge Day!

James E. Duckworth Regional School is gearing up to celebrate our 31st Annual Challenge Day on May 9th! Challenge Day is a special event, sanctioned by the Special Olympics, where our students have the opportunity to demonstrate the skills, they've practiced all year long as we celebrate their personal bests!

We would love to invite the Beltsville community to come and cheer for our athletes and celebrate their work! Opening Ceremonies begin at 9:30 a.m., and we will have Spanish interpreters on site. If you are interested in volunteering during the activities that day, please complete the vol-

unteer form at <https://bit.ly/challengedayvolunteers25> by April 25, 2025. We could use support with setup and tear-down before and after the event, as well as during the event itself.

If you're interested in supporting our big day, we have an Amazon Wish List at <https://bit.ly/challengeday2025>. We would love to have your support in filling it. We are also accepting donations of cases of water, individually packaged snacks, etc. You can call us at (301) 572-0620 if you have any questions.

We look forward to sharing more of our Challenge Day story in the May Newspaper!

THE SEED

Before a seed can reproduce
One thing needs to be done,
Its' burial within the ground
'Ere it may see the sun.

Unless it dies there is no life,
Alone it will remain,
But deep within the dark it sleeps
'Till raised from soils' domain.

Back on Day Three Creation spoke
Love's miracle of growth,
And from that time it has occurred
Prophetic'ly to show.

There would be One Who was to come
Who'd give His perfect life
As offering to satisfy
The debt our sin devised.

When He arose on Easter's morn
His power was released,
Displaying death had been destroyed
Establishing true peace.

Christ's resurrection multiplied
Faith over all the earth,
Deliv'ring for eternity
Salvation through new birth.

Beckie Hutchings
3/10/2025

"Truly, truly, I say to you,
unless a grain of wheat
falls into the earth and dies,
it remains by itself alone;
but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
He who loves his life loses it;
and he who hates his life in this world
shall keep it to eternal life." (Jesus)
John 12: 24,24

Beltsville Day Is Coming!

The Beltsville Lions Club Foundation is sponsoring Beltsville Day with Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission of Prince George's County, and the Beltsville Community Center. Mark your calendars for Beltsville Day on Sunday, May 18th, 2025, from noon to 4 pm at the Beltsville Community Center, 3900 Sellman Road.

Beltsville Day will open with the National Anthem, and a presentation of the Flags by Beltsville Police Explorer Post 600 Color Guard. Beltsville Lions Club will offer free vision, hearing, and eye pressure screen-

ings in the air-conditioned Lions Mobile Health Unit. There will be a variety of free games and activities for children of all ages. Roving entertainers include a magician, balloon twister, and mime. Beltsville's theatrical group "Upstage Artists" will perform. A DJ will be onsite to spin your favorite tunes. Exhibitions from the scouts and local karate are also planned.

Community Groups and Businesses it's not too late to get involved. To find out how you can participate or support Beltsville Day. Please send an email to BeltsvilleLionsfestival@gmail.com or call 301-741-7672.

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FEBRUARY 2025 STATISTICS FOR HOMES IN MARYLAND



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Beltsville News CHURCH DIRECTORY

EMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
BELTSVILLE, MD
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11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705
(301)937-7114 † office@eumcbeltsville.com
www.eumcbeltsville.com
Find us on Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/groups/EUMCBeltsville
Follow us on Instagram @eumc_beltsville

Sunday Morning Hybrid Worship 10 AM
Both in-person and virtual worship are closed captioned
Zoom details can be found on our website
You can also watch the live stream on our Facebook page.
"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them"

Upcoming Events


- ♦ April 13 following service: Monthly Potluck
- ♦ April 19 10 am - 2 pm: Indoor Yard Sale Sponsored By Beltsville Community Cats and United Women In Faith
- ♦ April 26 8 am — 11 am: Monthly Food Distribution
- ♦ April 25 7:30 pm: UpStage Artists Guess Who's Coming To Dinner Opening Night

Sunday, April 20 10am: Easter Service


LENT


Holy Apostles Orthodox Church
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A Mission Parish of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia
Located in Twin Chimneys Office Park
10760 Baltimore Ave, Beltsville, MD
Evening Vigil: Sat. 5:00 PM
Hours & Divine Liturgy: Sun. 9:40 AM
All Services in English
Fr. George Johnson, Rector
301-572-5738
www.holyapostlesorthodoxchurch.org


St. Joseph Catholic Church
www.stjosephbeltsville.org

Pastor: Rev. Shaun T. Foggo
Deacon: Rev. Mr. Armando Jimenez
Adult, Youth and Children Faith Formation
reled@stjosephbeltsville.org
Director: Mrs. Helene H. Stever
St. Joseph's Regional Catholic School
www.stjosrcs.org
Principal: Mrs. Erin Meunier

11007 Montgomery Road
Beltsville, MD 20705
301-937-7183

Masses: Sat Vigil 5:00pm, Sun's 8:30am*, 10:30am, and 12:15pm (Spanish)
Monday-Friday 8:00am; Wed 9:30am; and 1st Sat's 8:00am
*The Mass on Sunday 8:30am is also live streamed, connect with us on Flocknote for the link. ** The Mass on Wednesday is only when School is open.

First Baptist Church of Beltsville (SBC)
4700 Odell Road Beltsville, MD 20705
301-937-7771
www.fbcbeltsville.org
Keith Holland, Pastor

You are welcome to join us for
Easter Activities & Worship Services


Community Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 12
10:00-11:30 a.m.
For children ages 2 - 12 years

Maudy Thursday Worship/Lord's Supper Service
April 17, 7:00 p.m.



Easter Sunday, April 20
6:30 a.m. • Sunrise Service
*9:45 a.m. • Bible Study (for all ages)
*11:00 a.m. • Worship Service
*Childcare available for children up to 3 years old

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


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

Come and Join Us
Located in the Beltsville Professional Center

St. John's Episcopal/Anglican Church
11040 Baltimore Avenue Beltsville, MD 20704
301-937-4292 • www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org
The Reverend Joseph M. Constant, Rector

Join us for In Person Worship every Sunday at 10 AM
Youth Sunday School 11:15 AM

To view services online:
Go to https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsZionParish/Live/
Other services online via Zoom: Wednesday Noonday;
Thursday Bible Study and Compline 7 PM via Zoom

Contact the Church office if you are interested in any of these resources


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

BRAINS VS BRAWN

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Where the frame impacted the ground, it suffered small dents and chips but was otherwise intact. The phone was fully functional, including the volume and Gemini Live buttons, which were on the impact-side of the drop.

The tests also assessed whether Galaxy S25 Ultra's AI features were still functional after sustaining damage from a drop. Pro-Visual Engine, Gemini Live and Circle to Search were not affected after back-down and side-down drops. However, no AI capabilities were usable on the device that was dropped front-down.

Can AI Save the Day?

Curious whether the Galaxy S25 Ultra's AI could protect itself from further damage, Allstate Protection Plans asked Google Gemini: "What's the best way to protect a Galaxy S25 Ultra against damage from accidental drops?" The phone's own AI suggested practical strategies, such as using a durable case, adding a screen protector and phone grip, and developing better handling habits. It also recommended considering phone insurance—wise advice, given the phone's \$1,299 price tag. For more information on protection plans that offer peace of mind, visit AllstateProtectionPlans.com.

"Ultimately, no phone is indestructible," says Jason Siciliano, vice president of marketing and global creative director at Allstate Protection Plans. "Our tests show that even the smartest technology can benefit from some extra protection."

NEWS YOU CAN USE

continued from page 1

mate law enforcement phone numbers. The bottom line is if law enforcement wants you, they will come and get you. Legitimate law enforcement does not ask you to get money. Legitimate law enforcement does not tell you to take cash from your account and deposit it in a machine similar to an ATM. There have been several reports of criminals and scammers impersonating law enforcement officers attempting to collect money.

Remember what they say about "fools"...A Fool and his money are soon departed..." play it safe Don't be Fooled by Con Artist Criminal Scammers!!!

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Check us out on Facebook! The Beltsville News

Welcome again my dear readers. Let's get straight into things. In 2023, Bola Aduwo, a course mate from University days, was on the phone with me. We had connected via phone --- I was in Dallas, and she was in Houston. She talked me into helping with some media work for the inaugural film festival, Africuff – an effort to promote films from Nigeria and beyond, in the diaspora. (The Nigerian film industry is a multi-million-dollar industry that is still growing). After some persuasion, she got me to agree to help out. It was a nice opportunity to meet and network. I was more involved, in 2024, working with popular film producer, writer and director, Emem Isong Misodi.

In February this year, I finally launched the maiden issue of my newsmagazine, THE NAIJA BRIDGE, to provide a platform for players in the industry to promote their work --- film, music and literature. The second issue was released in the middle of March, and I am working on the April issue. It has been a challenge, as always with a new product, pushing hard to get a foot hold and eventually make a mark.

This Jive however is not about me or my work. Rather, it is about the success of a movie this month. As I said earlier, the Nigerian movie industry (Nollywood) has grown and is the next big thing after Hollywood.

History was created on March 7 by Omoni Oboli, a Nigerian Canadian actress, film producer, director and more – she is talented. She has her own channel on You

Tube where one can subscribe for free and watch her movies as they are released, and she has some very good quality movies there. Back to the story though. On Friday March 7, she released "Love In Every Word," and the movie took off like a fighter plane. In its first 48 hours, the movie had reached 3.9 million views. I stayed up to watch the movie and saw the metrics changing. The algorithm bumped it to the #1 trending movie at that time. As the day progressed, the numbers continued to rise. I made contact with Omoni about a feature for my publication I was working on. At that time on Sunday/Monday, it had reached 5 million views. Long and short of it, in less than a week, it was at 12 million views. In 12 days, it topped off at 15 million views.

It is a movie you must watch. It features a businessman (Odogwu) expressing his love for a young corporate professional (Chioma). He immediately declares to her his intention to marry her. Through twists and turns, the movie progresses, drawing you the viewer, deeper into the story, which predictably ends on a nice note. What this movie does is to show the reality of the resilience of the Igbo man (from the eastern part of Nigeria). He sees something (a person) he wants, and nothing will stop him from getting it (in this case, her heart).

I do not know Omoni Oboli personally. We have a few mutual acquaintances in the industry, but I am hopeful that one day, our schedules will connect long enough for me to get her to answer

a few questions that I can feature here.

Please, go on You Tube, (Omoni Oboli TV) to watch the movie and kindly leave a comment on her page, and let her know that you first heard about her in Jason's Jive. She has worked hard and combined this dedication to her craft with being a wife and a mother. March is International Women's month, and she rightly showed that women can be strong, resilient and successful.

As we get ready to wrap up International Women's month, let us continue to celebrate and appreciate our women and all that they have done and continue to do for us.

April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month --- the cell phone has changed the way we drive. But it is not the only element of distraction. We are sometimes distracted by the dynamics around us, music playing on our cars, eating or drinking, thinking about something going on in the life of a person or just good ol' daydreaming. However, the cell phone is the main culprit, so I will leave you with some information -- simple and to the point : Sending messages while stopped at a red light, must be avoided; *Parents can shut their phones while driving their children, which will enhance their safety*; Avoid texting, even when you have brought your vehicle to a complete stop at an intersection; Texting and using the phone for any purpose should be done when you are safely parked. Help keep the roads safe!

OBITUARIES

continued from page 8

engaged in politics, never hesitating to praise those who she felt acted with honor and integrity.- or hold to account those who didn't. Throughout it all, she maintained her curiosity and interest in others.

Susan loved her family - her

husband, her children and their partners (Julie, Jean-Marc, and Adam), her six grandchildren (Jackson, Austin, Camilla, Maddie, Fitz, and Sophie), and her half-sister, Martha. She will be deeply missed

A memorial service was held at 2 pm on Saturday, March 22nd,

at University United Methodist Church, 3621 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20740.

**In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to honor Susan can be directed to your favorite charity for animals, wildlife, nature preservation, or national parks

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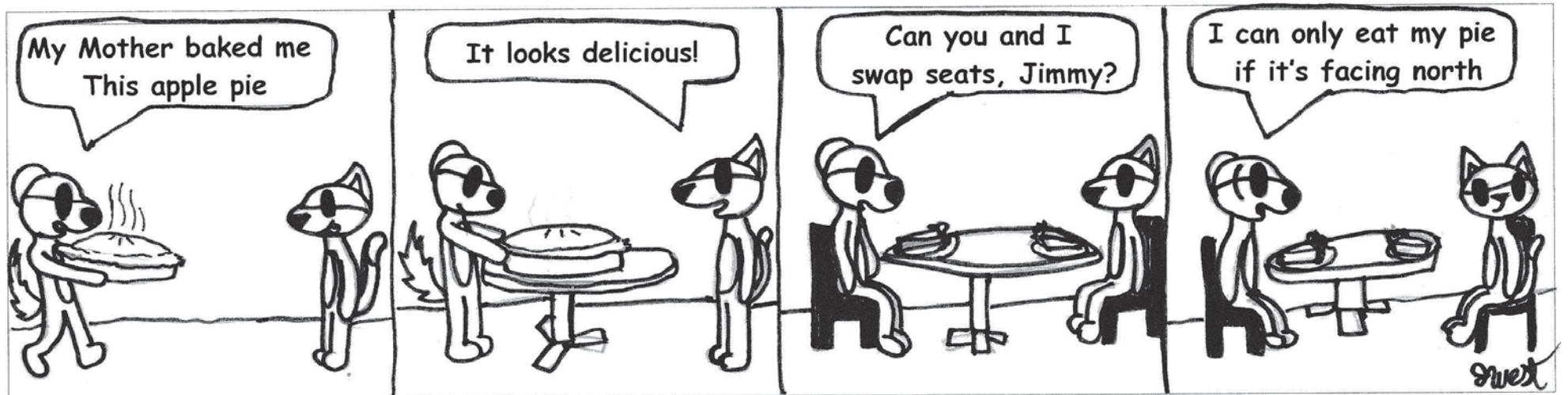
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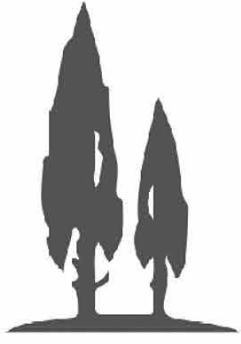
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