

Calverton Current



Newsletter of the Calverton Citizens Association • Silver Spring - Beltsville, MD • July 2013
www.calvertoncitizens.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....Bernie Karns

Hello, Calverton,

We are saying hello to summer, but we are saying good-bye to Corporal Gerald Knight, our C.O.P.S. officer. Corporal Knight is an outstanding role model of Community Oriented Policing Services officers. He will no longer be with Calverton and our neighboring communities. Corporal Knight has been reassigned to the Beltsville-Laurel area to answer service calls. We wish him a successful and safe journey in his new job assignment. We will miss him. If you want to express your thanks for all that Corporal Knight has done for us, please write a letter to Chief Mark Magaw at the address below. I have included the following letter that we sent to Chief Magaw stating how much Corporal Knight has done for us.

June 19, 2013

Mark A. Magaw
Chief of Police
7600 Barlowe Road
Palmer Park, MD 20785

Dear Chief Magaw:

The Calverton Citizens Association (CCA) Board of Directors is writing this letter to express our deep respect and disappointment regarding the transfer of Corporal Gerald Knight. At our June 6 monthly Board Meeting, we were informed by Corporal James Beasock that Corporal Knight was being transferred from District VI, C.O.P.S. unit to another District VI assignment for community response actions in the Beltsville-Laurel area.

Needless to say, the Board was surprised and disappointed to hear this news. We were under the impression from comments made at the Citizens Advisory Council meeting in mid-May that no transfers were then planned from District VI, C.O.P.S. unit. However, we understand that staff changes are made in response to changes in crime prevention-enforcement priorities in both District VI and the County.

We sincerely thank Corporal Knight for his many, highly professional and effective programs/actions to Calverton and all the neighboring communities. He has provided training, oversight, and countless individual actions that have benefitted Calverton. Corporal Beasock and other Team officers have also been of great benefit in this and related prevention-enforcement areas. In addition, Corporal Knight's efforts and commitment to the C.O.P.S. program have enhanced our way of life by addressing our needs and improving communication between communities. We have seen many programs come back to life or introduced to our community, such as Neighborhood Watch, Safe Shopper, Identity Theft, Anti-Bullying, Anti-Cyber Bullying, and Gun Safety.

The Calverton community has appreciated and benefitted from Corporal Knight's ongoing service and tireless hours that he has given our community. Although Corporal Knight is leaving us, we look forward to welcoming and working with Officer Haynes. We want you to know that we expect great things from Officer Haynes. We hope that he is successful in achieving similar goals and is equally effective in our C.O.P.S. program as Corporal Knight was. Corporal Knight was the role model when it came to Community Oriented Policing Services.

Thanks to you and all your dedicated and courageous line-of-duty officers, our neighborhoods are safer because our residents and neighbors are more responsive to what goes on in our communities. Corporal Knight has taught us to watch what goes on in our neighborhoods and call 911 if we think there is something suspicious happening. We know he will give his all to his new job just as he gave us his all as our friend and community cop. We wish him much future success.

Most sincerely,
/signed /
Bernie Karns, CCA President

cc: Major Daniel J. Weishaar
Captain Kara Lloyd
Sgt. Rick Davis
Cpl. James Beasock
Officer Haynes
William Steen, Carrollton Enterprises
Barbara Frush, 21st District Delegation
Mary Lehman, District 1 Council Member

Lastly, the Calverton July 4th Celebration needs your help. Volunteers are needed to set up at 7:30 a.m. and take down at 1 p.m. Call me (301-572-8018) to give your time to help make this event a success this year. Thank you in advance.

HIGHLIGHTS OF JUNE 2013 CCA BOARD MEETING

Highlights. The minutes from the March meeting were approved. The CCA will look into buying a tape recorder to help with transcribing the minutes of Board meetings. The Highlights are based on the more detailed minutes.

Treasurer's Report. The Board voted to approve the treasurer's report presented by Treasurer Tom Hickey. Expenses last month were very few; they included newsletter reproduction and associated expenses with starting the Calverton website.

Guests. Three guests attended:

1) Dr. Mukherjee, Montgomery County Executive's Advisory Board. He updated the Board on Lyme disease, what we need to look for and how to prevent it.

2) Corporal Gerald Knight and Corporal James Beasock, Prince George's County Police, District VI. There was an incident on Forest View Drive in which a stolen car from Montgomery County caught fire. The car fire and resulting exploding tires alarmed the neighbors, who thought it might be gunfire. There was no gunfire, and the incident was reported as an auto theft. There have been several vehicle break-ins, one in which the window was broken and two others that were unlocked. Lock your car doors!

Calverton Website. The Website Committee will look into purchasing a scanner for getting articles onto the website. Further discussion indicated there may also be a software solution - CutePDF - that would work. The website is now on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/Calverton>

To protect the privacy of Calverton residents, only the third person (he, she, they) or the person's first name will be used in the newsletter. The monthly newsletters in pdf format are now being put on the Calverton website, so everyone in the world with Internet can access and see the newsletter. Only public officials' full names will be listed.

Bylaws Committee. There are still some issues that need to be resolved. A couple Bylaws Committee meetings will be needed over the summer. The final draft will be ready for Board review at the September meeting and approval at the October Board meeting. Then it can be distributed for general membership notification at the November General Membership meeting and for approval at the April 2014 General Membership meeting (per the current CCA Bylaws).

CCA Clean Sweeps for Covenant and Code Violations.

- The CCA's sweep of Prince George's County is going well. An illegal shed has a stop work order and may have to be torn down. Citations have been issued for tall grass, trash, and illegal vehicles.
- The CCA's Montgomery County sweep is a little slower getting started but hopes to have it up and running soon. The CCA Zoning Committee will be reactivated to look at code violations. A systematic way to handle violations of codes and covenants will be set up. First, the CCA will send a letter in writing to inform the resident of the violation, then it will call, and then it may have to contact an attorney.

Signs. Frank C is working with the counties' Departments of Public Works to obtain signs. Some Neighborhood Watch signs are missing, and the CCA is working to get those replaced.

The CCA will send a letter to Montgomery County to

request that the stone Calverton sign on Shanandale Drive be torn down. It is deteriorating and hazardous and is on County property.

School Donations. Both Calverton and Galway Elementary Schools have provided the CCA, at its request, projects for which they need financial help. The CCA will wait until fall to decide because there are a few zoning issues, and the CCA may need the funds for legal advice.

Testimony. The CCA presented testimony at the hearing for the White Oak Science Gateway on May 23. The big concern was traffic congestion.

Facebook Page. There is now a Facebook page for Fairland Communities to keep communities informed about issues and events.

National Night Out. It is Tuesday, August 6, this year all around the country. The Prince George's County Police will hold a big event at District VI station in Beltsville. Montgomery County Police has events in the community and not at the stations.

Farewell.

- Prince George's County CCA Board Member Luiz C is vacating the Board. He and his family are leaving the country for a couple of years. The CCA wishes him well and hope he rejoins the Board when he returns.
- Corporal Gerald Knight, our COPS officer, has been reassigned to the Beltsville-Laurel unit to answer calls for service. The Board members honored him for his dedicated service to Calverton at an appreciation dinner at TJ's. Officer Haynes has been assigned to Calverton.

DATES TO REMEMBER

☞ **July 1, Monday - 7:30 p.m.** Calverton Recreation Council Board Meeting. Location to be determined. Volunteers always needed and appreciated. All are welcome. <www.calvertonrec.org>

☞ **July 4, Thursday - Independence Day Celebration.** Fullerton Field near Calverton Elementary School. Fun for all ages. Magician (at 12:45 p.m.), refreshments, clown, moonbounce, and much more! Fun for all ages. Volunteers are needed. See back page for more info.

☞ **July 10, Wednesday - Deadline for next Calverton Current.**

☞ **August 6, Tuesday - National Night Out.** See August Current for more details.

☞ **Sept 5, Thursday - 7 p.m.** Next CCA Board Meeting. Calverton Elementary, Media Center. All CCA members are invited and encouraged to attend.

ANNUAL CALVERTON INDEPENDENCE DAY PICNIC

THURSDAY, JULY 4TH, RAIN OR SHINE

IF THERE IS THUNDER AND LIGHTNING, THERE WILL BE NO PICNIC

CALVERTON PARK

ADJACENT TO CALVERTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

CALVERTON YOUTH BALL GAMES - 10:30 TO 11:30 - FULLERTON FIELD

Come cheer for our youth players and enjoy an American tradition!!

BARNYARD IN A BACKYARD - 10:30 TO 12:30 - WALK AND PET ANIMALS

Squeals on Wheels will bring goats, alpaca, mini horse, chickens, ducks, and more

MUSIC - 10:30 TO 12:45 - PATRIOTIC MUSIC FOR OUR CELEBRATION

MOON BOUNCE - 10:45 TO 12:45 - COME JUMP WITH SCOOBY DOO!!!

Backyard Inflatables will provide Scooby

FACE PAINTING - 10:45 TO 12:45

Once you pick your design, Face Paint by Vicki will do the rest!

BALLOON ARTIST AND CLOWN - 10:45 TO 12:45

Petunia the Clown will make you that special balloon art

HOT DOGS AND SODAS - 11:00 TO 1:00 - UNDER TREES NEAR PLAYGROUND

Volunteers always welcome to help cook, serve, and clean up

CALVERTON BATON AND POMS - 11:20 TO 12:00 - FULLERTON FIELD

Marvel at the award-winning baton and poms routines

MAGICIAN - START 12:45 - NEAR FULLERTON FIELD

**Turley the Magician - plenty of real magic, music, and good old-fashioned family fun -
Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy the show**

A PROUD TRADITION FOR OVER 45 YEARS

**SPONSORED BY THE CALVERTON CITIZENS ASSOCIATION AND CALVERTON
RECREATION COUNCIL**

***ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES PERMITTED ON
MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING PROPERTY***

After reporting to police, please also report all
CRIME INCIDENTS to:

Winnie Scrom, 301-572-4066 (PG) or
Fernando Lopez, 301-572-5830 (MoCo)

CRIME REPORT

- May 6, 2800 block of Calverton Boulevard (Montgomery County), 9:46 p.m. While walking, an adult male was the victim of a strong arm robbery. Suspects approached victim, snatched his back pack, and attempted to steal his phone before fleeing on foot. Police responded and stopped three suspects, and after a brief pursuit, were able to detain two who were positively identified by victim.
- May 23, 1300 block of Ingleside Drive, 12:30 a.m. to 5:45 a.m. Wheels and tires were stolen from vehicle in driveway.
- May 23, 3300 block of Kilkenny Street, 10:30 p.m. Car break-in in which three teenage males were involved. This was the third incident the resident has experienced in the last 5 months.
- May 25, 1200 block of Forest View Drive, 2 a.m. strange vehicle (not the homeowner's) was found burned on the street.
- May 25, 3100 block of Fallston, 8:35 a.m. Theft from vehicle.
- May 25, 12300 block of La Plata Street, 10 p.m to 11:30 p.m. An attempt was made to enter a residence by force.
- June 5, 3000 block of Ellicott Road, during the night. Unlocked vehicle was rifled through.
- June 12, 4300 block of Briggs Chaney Road, during the night. Shed was broken into and new tiller stolen.
- June, 3300 block of Dunnington Road, 1 p.m. Vehicle ransacked.