

Calverton Current



Newsletter of the Calverton Citizen's Association ♦ Silver Spring ♦ Beltsville, MD ♦ July 2014
www.calvertoncitizens.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGEBernie Karns

July 4th is almost here and so is the Calverton 50th birthday celebration! The big party will begin on Friday, July 4 at 10:45 at the Calverton Park next to Calverton Elementary and will end around 1:45. You will find a schedule for the events of the day elsewhere in this newsletter.

Attention: Any current resident of Calverton who has lived here for 50 years or more, please call me. We want all the original residents of Calverton present at the celebration. If you are a newer resident but you know someone on your block or anywhere in Calverton that has been here from the beginning, please call me with a name and phone number. We want to include the residents who have been here from the beginning in the Celebrate Calverton.

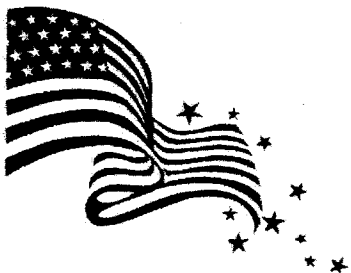
We need still need plenty of help with making the event a success. You can help anytime for any length of time. We are flexible. So, whatever time frame works for you will work for us. Come help in the morning and stay to enjoy the event. Or come to enjoy the event and stay to help take things down at the end. We will give any middle school or high school student volunteer hours for helping.

In addition to needing your time as a volunteer, we also need several people to volunteer the use of their pick-up truck, van or other large vehicle so that we can move tables, canopies, sodas and ice.

Please volunteer to make this celebration of Calverton a success. We need all the help that we can get. Take time and call me now or email now to let me know where and how you can help.

Thank you in advance.

301-572-8018 or jeff.karns@verizon.net



DON'T MISS THIS EVENT!

Friday, July 4th 10:45 a.m.
to 1:45 p.m. **Calverton
50th Birthday & July 4th
Celebrations.**

Calverton Park next to Calverton Elementary. Food, Festivities and Fun for all.

Minutes for CCA meeting 6/5/14

Called to order 7:05 pm

June meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: \$100 in membership dues was received. \$150 donation for Crime Solvers was mailed. \$200 deposit was paid to a vendor for July 4th.

Guest: Corporal Haynes announced that NNO (National Night Out) is August 5. Beltsville District VI is having their big event at the District VI police station. Everyone is invited. Corporal Haynes also talked about locking car doors when you get out of your car to pump gas. Things being grabbed out of the car are on the rise. Incidents in Calverton involving a dog bite have resulted in the dog going to pound. They are investigating the two incidents. Corporal Haynes has not heard from the code enforcement inspectors who were investigating a case here in Calverton. He will contact them Monday or Tuesday and get back with us. The board voted to send \$200.00 to District VI for NNO. Alfonso said that he would organize NNO in Montgomery County. The board voted to give up to \$200 for Montgomery County NNO.

Committee Reports

Newsletter: Karen M updated us that the June newsletter went to the printers and that it should be coming out any day. Nina H said that news-let-ter has been picked from the printers and should be to the block in a couple of days. The board will now send the newsletter directly to the printer via email as a pdf file.

Zoning: District 1 county council member Mary Lehman had a meeting in Laurel. Many CCA members were present and were able to tell Ms. Lehman about some of the problems and continuing problems that we are having in Calverton, road repairs, building code violations, PG Department of Permitting, Inspection and Enforcement not responding to emails and phone calls. Ms. Lehman took notes and said that she would get back with us.

Website: Tom H informed us that there things being posted on the CCA website. People are trying to keep it current.

CRC: We have received a letter from a lawyer representing a mother of one of the coaches. The mother was injured while walking to the gym. The CCA has contacted our insurance company and the company will be investigating the incident. Also, we are in the process of helping the CRC with their website and getting some information need-

ed to update the website. We also are trying to obtain some domain names for Calverton that the CRC president has assigned to him. We want them reassigned to the CCA.

Unfinished Business: July 4th is moving right along. The flags have arrived. The girl scouts are going to help put them out at every house two days before and then take them down two days after. We are going to order a Calverton birthday banner that will go by the walls in Calverton. We have gotten donations from two businesses – TJ's and the Calverton Pool. We will tracking down past presidents and original owner who has lived in Calverton.

Beautification Contest: Many applications have been coming to the CCA mailbox. Jerry said that it going well.

Little Paint Clean Up: It will take place in the fall when it is a little cooler.

Another letter was sent to owner of the small piece of property at Calverton Boulevard and Gracefield Road. It is a very small empty lot (not buildable) that has not been kept clean. The owner has not been maintaining the property and did not shovel the walks during the winter. Hometown Landscapers have been cutting the property to help us until we are able to get the landowner to cut it.

New Business

Trees and Pepco: Calverton residents brought it to the attention of Ms. Lehman. She actually had driven through Calverton. The Pepco representative at the meeting said that they are looking into what is going to be done next.

Mail Stolen: Lee informed the board that mail was stolen from her mailbox. Her account # was stolen and the thieves made checks and tried to cash them. The bank realized that they were not legal and called Lee to tell her that they did not cash the checks. Lee informed them that she had not written any checks. It is being investigated. Jim brought an incident to the board that involved a phone scam. He got a call asking him to call a certain phone number because he had won a Federal Reserve grant. He called MC police who called the number. They are investigating the incident.

Lighthouse Apartments: Several Calverton residents saw surveyors on the apartment property is in the woods and backs to Calverton. When they call the apartments they were told that the apartments are being sold.

Noise problems: When your neighbor has not responded to request to turn down the music call 911 to report the noise. You can also call the non-emergency police num-

ber. Whichever number you call you need to ask that an officer come see you after the neighbor has been informed by officer to turn down the music. Calls are logged whether you call 911 or the non-emergency police number. If the music does not get turned down, call again. You have to report it twice during the same loud music problem in order for the police to write a citation.

Procedure for code violations: Call or email 311. Get your neighbors to do it. But, the most important thing to remember is to get the case number so that the complaint can be tracked. When garbage cans are left at the street 24/7 call 311 and get your neighbors to call. If you see an empty house, keep your eye on it. If you notice the empty house is not being maintained call 311. If the empty house suddenly appears to have someone living in it, call 911. Again, get your neighbors to call so that they check it out to make sure something else is not happening. This is the only way that we can help keep our community safe and livable for all Calverton residents.

June is the last board meeting for the year. We will continue to meet at the police satellite office next year.

Sunnyside Road will be redesigned to prevent flooding. The work is to begin early 2015. The construction is to start on the side of the road in order to avoid a major road closure.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25

Good Neighbor Corner

The warm weather is here and there have been a number of calls about residents keeping the noise too loud when asked to turn it down, vehicles being parked illegally and residents not maintaining the yard.

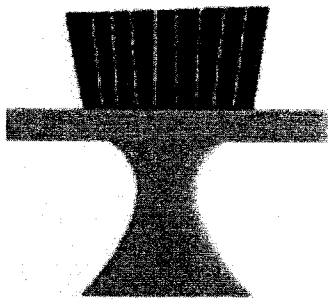
The term 'resident' and 'neighbor' applies to anyone who owns, rents or lives in the house. It is essential that we do our best to respect our neighbors' quality of life in Calverton by following all the county ordinances, all county codes, all laws and all covenants that pertain to Calverton. You, the owner, renter, or person living in the house,

are the person who has to make sure that everyone living in your home or visiting your home follows all county codes, ordinances and the Calverton covenants. Whether you are having that big bash with all your friends and family, whether you are going to build a new deck (Did you get your building permit?), whether you are going to cut your grass, or you whether you may be working on a car, consider your neighbors as well.

If your noise is outside of the county regulations and is offensive and obnoxious to your neighbors then be re-

**How old
are your
smoke
alarms?**

10



**All smoke alarms
need to be
replaced
when they are
10 years old.**

sponsible and courteous. Turn it down or off and don't do it again. If you continue to disregard county regulations, all of your surrounding neighbors have every right to call 911 to report you as a bad neighbor. If the police are called a second time you will get a citation up to \$500.00. Be respectful keep the music low and turn it off at 9 pm so that everyone in the community can enjoy their evening.

The same respect and courtesy should be given to parking. There are county regulations that must be obeyed. If your neighbors see any of these violations they have every right to call to file a complaint. If your neighbors feel that the violation is unsafe they are going to call 911 for the police to come. The police will issue a ticket immediately to the illegally parked vehicle. As they say, ignorance is no excuse.

Let us all be good neighbors so that we can all enjoy the wonderful weather and peaceful surroundings of Calverton.

PG County code violations: 311
Montgomery County code violations: 240-770-0311, if you have the 572 exchange. Otherwise, 311.

Regulations can be found at:
<http://montgomerycountymd.gov/goodneighbors/>

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/community/noise-ordinance.html>

<http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/sites/EnvironmentalResources/Resources/>

when the website opens you can click on:
DER (Department of Environment Resources) Publications or FAQ
(Frequently Asked Questions)

These links will be posted to the Calverton website:
www.calvertoncitizens.org

CRIME ALERT CALVERTON

A mailperson alerted a Calverton resident to an incident of mail theft. Please do not put any checks or payment forms with credit card information in your mailbox or mail slot for the mailperson to pick up and take to the postoffice. Please take your payment to the post office personally. Do not leave your payment in the mailbox for someone to steal it. This type of mail theft is on the rise and we need to stop it now by not giving the thief or thieves any opportunity to take our checks or information that could lead to identity theft. Also, some of the thefts have occurred on incoming mail. So be aware and be alert if you are expecting any type of monetary payment in the mail. If you think that something may have been stolen go to your nearest police station to file report. Once you have a police report # you can then file a report with post office. One police officer told the Calverton resident that this type of crime is rampant all over everywhere. We need to stop it now.

PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY PG PLASTIC BAG ALERT

PG residents need to remember that the county will not take your grass, tree cuttings or other yard wastes for recycling if it is in a plastic bag. PG has stopped taking plastic trash bags and will not pick up your plastic bag. They are going to start giving residents who use plastic bags a fine. You don't need give the county any more money in a penalty fee. You need to use a brown bag, like the ones you can find at any grocery store or hardware store. Stop using plastic and start using brown. Let's all be green, it is good for the environment.

FLASH FLOODING : SAFETY TIPS If a flash flood warning is issued, act immediately. Don't wait for high water to dictate your course of action.

- Know your location when you are driving. If you needed rescue, would you be able to direct emergency crews to your location? Be alert!
- Never drive through a flooded road or bridge. **TURN AROUND – DON'T DROWN** and try an alternate route! Do not underestimate the power of moving water.
- Watch for flooding at bridges and dips in the road. Never drive where water is over bridges or roads. **TURN AROUND – DON'T DROWN !** The bridges or the road could suddenly be washed out. If you're driving at night be especially careful. Often visibility is limited due to wind and rain.
- Often what you can't see below the surface of the water is far more dangerous than the high levels of that water. Remember that rocks, tree limbs and other debris can be caught in moving water and can be dangerous if you are forced to walk, wade or swim through flood waters.
- If you have to walk or wade through flood water, use a stick to poke the ground in front of you with each step. It can help you determine water levels.
- Remember that flash floods can come without warning, and sometimes without weather. Be alert and heed all warnings and recommendations from officials.

From FEMA's website, some further information about driving through flooded roadways:

- ◆ Six inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars causing loss of control and possible stalling.
- ◆ A foot of water will float many vehicles.
- ◆ Two feet of rushing water can carry away most vehicles including sport utility vehicles (SUV's) and pickups

MORE: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/50454109/Street-Flooding-Hazards> (submitted by Karen Mills)



**CELEBRATE CALVERTON
INDEPENDENCE DAY PICNIC
AND 50TH BIRTHDAY AT
THE CALVERTON PARK**



ADJACENT TO CALVERTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
A PROUD TRADITION FOR 50 YEARS

FRIDAY, JULY 4TH, RAIN OR SHINE
IF THERE IS THUNDER AND LIGHTNING THERE WILL BE NO PICNIC

BARNYARD IN A BACKYARD – 10:45 TO 1:45 – WALK AND PET ANIMALS
SQUEALS ON WHEELS WILL BRING GOATS, ALPACA, MINI HORSE, CHICKENS, DUCKS AND MORE

MOONBOUNCE – 10:45 TO 12:45 – COME JUMP WITH SCOOBY DOO!!!
BACKYARD INFLATABLES WILL PROVIDE THE SCOOBY MOON BOUNCE

BALLOON ARTIST AND CLOWN – 10:45 TO 12:45
PETUNIA THE CLOWN WILL GIVE YOU THAT SPECIAL BALLOON ART

FACE PAINTING – 10:45 TO 12:45
NICA OF KAPITOL KLOWNS, ABOUT FACE ENTERTAINMENT AND KIDS PARTY FACE WILL ALL BE HER TO GIVE YOU THAT SPECIAL LOOK

NATIONAL ANTHEM – 10:55
PERFORMED BY NOAH AND ELIZA-JANE FOGG

CELEBRATE CALVERTON – 11:00 TO 11:15
MR. ALBERT TURNER AND DIGNITARIES

POLICE AND FIRE FROM BOTH MONTGOMERY AND PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTIES
WILL BE HERE WHEN THEY ARE AVAILABLE BETWEEN 11:15 AND 1:45

HOT DOGS AND SODAS – 11:15 TO 1:00 – UNDER THE TREES NEAR PLAYGROUND
VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS WELCOME TO HELP COOK, SERVE, AND CLEAN UP.

YOUTH STEEL ORCHESTRA – 11:15 TO 12:00
ST. VERONICA'S CHURCH IN BALTIMORE WILL GET YOU MOVING TO THE BEAT

MARIACHI BAND – 12:00 TO 12:45
MARIACHI SOL DE AMERICA WILL GET YOU UP AND DANCING

MAGICIAN – 12:45 TO 1:30
NOLAND THE MAGICIAN – REAL MAGIC AND GOOD OLD-FASHIONED FAMILY FUN

JAZZ BAND – 1:30 TO 2:00
DANNY EPPS SWING JAZZ BAND – A LOCAL FAVORITE WILL CLOSE OUT OUR EVENT

BRING A LAWN CHAIR OR BRING A BLANKET AND ENJOY ALL THE SHOWS.

SPONSORED BY THE
CALVERTON CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, CARROLLTON ENTERPRISES AND THE CALVERTON RECREATION COUNCIL

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