

Calverton Current



Newsletter of the Calverton Citizen's Association ♦ Silver Spring ♦ Beltsville, MD ♦ November 2015
www.calvertoncitizens.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE....BERNIE KARNS

I want to update you about changes regarding Laurel Regional Hospital and the White Oak Science Gateway development.

Laurel Regional Hospital is scheduled to close by 2018. The Maternal and Child Health Department closed October 11 and more layoffs, which will affect the ICU, are to be announced on November 7th. A Laurel healthcare facility will reopen in 2018 as an ambulatory care facility with an emergency room. The Laurel facility will no longer have inpatient services; such as, chronic care, rehabilitation, behavioral health, or medical surgical beds. The ambulance will take you to the emergency room at Laurel Hospital and if you need further care an ambulance will take you to one of the closest hospitals. You may go to Prince George's Hospital Center in Cheverly (14 miles away), Doctor's Community Hospital in Lanham (11 miles away), Howard County General in Columbia (12 miles away), Holy Cross Hospital near the Beltway (12 miles away), Montgomery General in Olney (15.5 miles away), or Washington Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park (11 miles away).

Washington Adventist Hospital has been trying to relocate to Silver Spring on Plum Orchard Drive, behind the Target, but the State of Maryland, for now, has denied the move. The hospital is reapplying to the state but once approved the move might take several years. The new Largo Hospital Center (18 miles away) has been approved and is supposed to open 2018. All these hospitals already handle too many patients and cannot handle any more. Remember, that there are two huge living-working developments being built nearby.

The Konterra development is being built in Laurel and the White Oak Science Gateway development will be built off of Cherry Hill Road. Our local road traffic is only going to get worse over the years. So, trying to get to healthcare facility will only get worse when Laurel Regional Hospital closes. There will be no hospital close to us. All of us will be trying to get to these healthcare facilities on roads that are congested with traffic. This is not a good situation for the healthcare and the safety of the residents in the Laurel, Beltsville and East Montgomery County. The workers' union and some community members have filed a lawsuit for a temporary restraining order to stop the closure of Laurel Regional Hospital.

We need to support both Laurel Regional Hospital and Washington Adventist Hospital for our area because of the growth that is taking place in our area from Laurel to Beltsville and from White Oak to Howard County. This area needs these two hospital to meet our health needs. We need to stop the closing of Laurel Regional Hospital and we need to push for the relocation of Washington Adventist Hospital.

Call, write, or email Governor Larry Hogan, PG County Executive Rushern Baker and Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett to let them know that we pay taxes for services and that we deserve premier healthcare close to our community. Voice your concern about the lack of hospitals and healthcare in our community. Governor Hogan at 410-974-3901, 100 State Circle, Annapolis, MD, 21401 or email him at Governor.mail@maryland.gov. Prince George's County Executive Rushern Baker III at 301-952-4131, 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 or email him at countyexecutive@co.pg.md.us. Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett at 240-777-2500, 101 Mon-

roe Street, 2nd Floor, Rockville, MD 20850 or email him at ocemail@montgomerycountymd.gov. Let's all do our best to be well and safe so that we won't have to test the amount of time that it will take for us to get to a hospital until we get our own local hospital.

The White Oak Science Gateway has been renamed. A committee composed of Montgomery County officials and some citizens from the East County voted to rename the 300-acre mixed-use project off of FDA Boulevard and Cherry Hill Road.

No offense to the people who worked hard on coming up with the new name, "Viva White Oak," but this new name reminds me of "Viva Las Vegas." It is glitzy and it is not a practical name. This name does nothing to increase the value of this project and it does nothing to make the East County a place where people would want live. It really does not reflect a community or community life. Maybe a better name would be "White Oak Gateway" or "Gateway at White Oak" or "Bloom of White Oak" or "White Oak Grove" or the "Villages of White Oak" or "Viva Marilyn Praisner."

Marilyn Praisner had a vision of bringing good quality jobs to the East County when Site II closed way back in 1999. Her vision included a LifeSci Technology/Incubator complex on the old Site II property, the FDA coming to White Oak and Washington Adventist Hospital moving to the Calverton area. So, at the very least, the LifeSci Village should be called the "Praisner Life Sci Village" for the person who really cared for and represented the people and communities of the East County. The committee felt the new "Viva White Oak" "was an exciting step forward for the development to move beyond the planning phase and into the development phase for a community that will transform and bring thousands of high-quality jobs and tremendous amenities to the East County."

I can't wait for these tremendous amenities with all the extra traffic added to our local roads. This new development will have 5,300 residential units and 21,600 jobs. This means that there is the potential for an additional 32,200 cars on local roads with no improvements and no good transportation system. Yes, the naming committee is right, this project is definitely going to transform the East County. While they are taking this gamble on this huge mixed-use development, I wonder if Montgomery County and the developer are planning to bring slot machines or Ricky Martin to the beautiful hotel/convention center that is planned for this development. "Viva White Oak."

DATES TO REMEMBER

♦ **Now until early December – PG Police District VI Holiday Food Drive.** All can goods or non-perishable foods can be taken to the District VI Station on Sellman Road in Beltsville. You can also call Corporal Woody at 301-937-0910 to pick up your donation. Please bring your food donation to the CCA General Membership Meeting on Thursday, November 12. The food drive ends early December so that the baskets can be delivered by mid-December.

♦ **Thursday, November 5** - Senior Coffee with District VI Police, 1:00 pm, at the Laurel-Beltsville Senior Center, 7120 Contee Road, Laurel, MD. The guest speaker will be Mary Lehman, PG District 1 Council Member.

◆ **Thursday, November 5** – CCA Board Meeting, 7 pm at Calverton Elementary School. Please consider serving on the CCA Board for 2016.

◆ **Thursday, November 12** – CCA General Membership Meeting, 7:15 pm at Calverton Elementary School. There will be awards presented, voting for the new CCA Board of Directors, information resource tables. Please bring a can good or no-perishable food donation for the District VI Holiday Food Drive.

◆ **Friday & Saturday, November 13 & 14** – Fabulous Fall Fair. An arts and crafts bazaar and bake sale in the Maryland Hall at Riderwood. 3110 Gracefield Road, Silver Spring, MD. See flyer insert for details.

◆ **Thursday, November 19** – Safe Shoppers Tips, 7:00 pm at the PG Police Satellite Office in the Calverton Shopping Center. Learn how you can prepare for a safe holiday shopping season.

◆ **Thursday, December 3** – CCA Board Meeting, 7 pm at Calverton Elementary School.

◆ **Tuesday, December 8** – Deadline for Holiday Light Contest application. Get your application in to participate in the contest. You could win a cash prize for your light display.

◆ **Monday, December 14** – Sunday, December 20 – Holiday Light Contest Judging. Have your displays up for the judges.

◆ **Thursday, January 7, 2016** – CCA Board Meeting, 7 pm at Calverton Elementary School. Winners of the Holiday Light Contest will receive their awards.

CCA Board Meeting Minutes October 1, 2015

Called to order at 7:05 pm

Treasurer's Report: Block captains have been sending in their dues. Some dues has been sent to the CCA PO box and to the distributors since some blocks do not have block captains. Fiduciary insurance was paid for CCA board members who handle money.

Guests

William Steen: Carrollton Enterprises – asked CCA to do something for the Community Connect event on October 17. PG Police will do Child ID and Adult ID. Carrollton Enterprises will help sponsor the Holiday Light Contest. Carrollton Enterprises sponsored part of the air show at Andrews Air Base. Mr. Turner, who built Calverton, turns 99 on October 24. One board member thanked William Steen and Carrollton Enterprises for supporting MC National Night Out back in August.

Corporal Dean: New PG Community Police Officer for Calverton – 18 calls in the Calverton area, mostly to the apartments. Loud music and custody dispute in the apartments. There was one call on Beltsville Drive for theft from auto. A laptop was taken from an unlocked auto. Please lock your car doors. Do not leave anything in your car - no GPS, no laptop, no money, etc. If they see it, they will take it. Do not leave your car running while it is warming up during the cold months. It is too easy for someone to take your car while it is warming. Abandoned car on Bellevue is still there. Corporal Dean is working on getting the car removed. There have been many cars parking on Beltsville Road adjacent to the apartments. Some of the cars are parking where it says no parking. Corporal Dean will check this out for CCA. District VI and PG Police are seeking houses for Christmas in April. Elderly, disabled and disabled vets are great candidates for this fantastic project. CCA board members will ride around Calverton to see who needs help with their house. District VI is also sponsoring a Holiday Food Drive. All can goods or non-perishable foods can be taken to the District VI Station on Sellman Road in Beltsville. You can also call Corporal Woody at 301-937-0910 to pick up your donation. Please bring your food donation to the Neighborhood Watch Training on the October 26 and the general membership meeting on November 12. The food drive ends early December so

that the baskets can be delivered by mid-December.

Committee Reports

Membership: The drive should end at the end of October. Still have block captain vacancies.

Directory/Publications: Still need a couple of people to work on the directory ads and people to proof read and update phone numbers for state and local officials.

Website/Email list: Emails and posting items to website have been helpful to people. A great way to remind and to announce events, activities and safety tips.

Welcome Committee: The committee is gathering information and getting the packets together.

Nominating Committee: We are starting to call people to get volunteers for the CCA board.

New Business

One board member brought up the passing of one of the MC Community Police Officers, Christina Splaine. The board member had worked with Officer Splaine. Patil and Joseph from the MC District 3 worked with her on National Night Out. Everyone at District 3 is really devastated with the passing of Officer Splaine.

Neighborhood Watch Training: Monday, October 26, 7pm at Riderwood. District 3 MC Police will give the presentation.

General Membership Meeting: Thursday, November 12, 7:15 pm at Calverton Elementary. Election of CCA officers, Beautification Contest winners. Presentation of President's letter to our 100 year old resident. Community information will be provided at the meeting.

Closing of early voting location at Marilyn Praisner Library: The MC Board of Elections has voted to close this site to early voting. This will greatly impact the residents of the East County. Many people are trying to get early voting back to the Marilyn Praisner Library.

Chili Cook-Off: Saturday, October 3 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm at Behnke's. Sponsored by Beltsville Rotary Club. The PG District VI Explorers will be serving their famous chili.

Beltsville Fire Open House: Sunday, October 11 from 12-4 pm at the Fire Station #31 on Prince George's Avenue in Beltsville.

Safe Shoppers Tips: Thursday, November 19, 7pm at the District VI Police Satellite Office in the Calverton Shopping Center.

East County Village Seniors: Lists the services for seniors so that they can stay in their home. Please visit: montgomerycountymd.gov/village or call 240-777-1231

Silver Spring Time Bank: When you volunteer to help others you can earn time back to help yourself. For more information about it, visit their website at <http://www.silverspringtimebank.org> or email them at SilverSpringTimeBank@gmail.com

Beltsville News: Calverton has a couple of articles in the September Beltsville News.

Old Business

Laurel Hospital Closing: Forum on Tuesday, October 6, at 6 pm at Laurel's Partnership Hall, 811 5th Street.

PG Community Cleanup: Should be underway. It may be delayed due to all the rain.

MC Community Cleanup: Will work with Tom Hucker's office to see if MC has a community cleanup program. One board member volunteered to send an email to Tom Hucker to help with the Little Paint Branch. The CCA will also send a letter to all owners along the Little Paint Branch to tell them that their property runs to the middle of the Little Paint Branch and that they are responsible for any trash along and in the Little Paint Branch.

Park at the top of Shannandale: One board member is working with MC to come up with a plan.

Calverton Sign at Fairland: One board member presented two bids for

repair of the sign. The board went with one of the bids. The board approved up to \$1000.00 to repair the sign.

Maydale Nature Center: The Maydale committee, composed of local east county residents, is working with MC to get open Maydale. The opening is getting close. The committee hopes to get MC Park to provide programs at Maydale once it is open. Warrior Weeds will be at Maydale on Saturday, October 10 from 10-11:30 am pulling weeds.

Assault : A teacher at High Point High School was found guilty of assault and sexual abuse. Sentencing tentatively is set for October 16.

Musgrove/29 Interchange: A hearing was held. The Planning Board staff was asked the board deny the plan.

Speed Humps or speed cameras along Calverton Boulevard, Palermo and other streets: One board member volunteered to draft a letter to send to MC DOT for a meeting.

Parking: Commercial vehicles and multiple commercial vehicles on our Calverton streets is very dangerous. We need to report dangerous situations to the police. Call 911.

Apartments: Auxiliary apartment needs a permit. One Calverton resident reported an illegal apartment and has heard from MC. The resident will continue to follow up with MC.



ARE YOU PREPARED FOR A SAFE
HOLIDAY SHOPPING SEASON?
THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT'S
DISTRICT VI STATION
PRESENTS:

SAFE SHOPPER AWARENESS SEMINAR

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2015
7 PM – 8 PM

POLICE DISTRICT 6 SATELLITE OFFICE
11613 BELTSVILLE DRIVE
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND 20705
(NEXT TO SIERRA GRILL)

THE SEMINAR WILL DISCUSS HELPFUL TIPS FOR
CREDIT CARD SECURITY AND SHOPPER'S SAFETY

QUESTIONS?
CONTACT CPL. HAMILTON #3192
nmhamilton@co.pg.md.us
301-937-0910



GOOD NEIGHBOR

Hey Calverton,

Here are two special days in November. You can show that you are good neighbor or that you care about someone by what they are doing or what they have done for our children, our schools, our community, our county, our state or our country.

NOVEMBER 13TH: WORLD KINDNESS DAY

Founded in 1998 by an organization called the World Kindness Movement, this international holiday encourages everyone to look deep into their hearts past religion, race, and other differences to do something nice for their neighbors and/or humankind.

NOVEMBER 23RD: NATIONAL DAY OF LISTENING

Sponsored by oral history nonprofit StoryCorps, this year's National

Day of Listening honors teachers. The organization has asked everyone wanting to participate to take a few minutes to thank a teacher (or two). Other ways to commemorate National Day of Listening is by recording interviews in veteran's hospitals, senior centers, homeless shelters, and other community centers.

CRIME REPORT FOR NOVEMBER

THEFT FROM VEHICLE:

2900 Gracefield Road
4000 Powder Mill Road
13000 Bellevue Street
12100 Beltsville Drive

THEFT OF A VEHICLE:

12100 Lemar Court
11900 Twinlakes Drive

BREAKING & ENTERING:

3000 Fallston Avenue
3000 Fairland Road
12500 Galway Drive

THEFT:

2900 Red Lion Lane
11700 Beltsville Drive
Plum Orchard Shopping Center – several instances

Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service



It is that time of year again! Colder temps have us all looking to our home heating systems which, a good number of times, means wood stoves and fireplaces. Careful attention to safety can minimize fire hazards.

To use them safely:

- ◆ Be sure the fireplace or stove is installed properly. Wood stoves should have adequate clearance (36 inches) from combustible surfaces and proper floor support and protection.
- ◆ Wood stoves should be of good quality, solid construction and design, and should be UL listed.
- ◆ Have the chimney inspected annually and cleaned if necessary, especially if it has not been used for some time.
- ◆ Do not use flammable liquids to start or accelerate any fire.
- ◆ Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace opening, to prevent embers or sparks from escaping, unwanted material from going in, and to help prevent the possibility of burns to occupants.
- ◆ The stove should be burned hot twice a day for 15-30 minutes to reduce the amount of creosote buildup.
- ◆ Never burn charcoal indoors. Burning charcoal can give off lethal amounts of carbon monoxide.
- ◆ Keep flammable materials away from your fireplace mantel. A spark from the fireplace could easily ignite these materials. Before you go to sleep, be sure your fireplace fire is out.
- ◆ NEVER close your damper with hot ashes in the fireplace. A closed damper will help the fire to heat up again and will force toxic carbon monoxide into the house.
- ◆ If synthetic logs are used, follow the directions on the package. NEVER break a synthetic log apart to quicken the fire or use more than one log at a time. They often burn unevenly, releasing higher levels of carbon monoxide.
- ◆ Never discard hot ashes inside or near the home. Place them in a metal container outside and well away from the house.