

Calverton Current

Newsletter of the Calverton Citizen's Association ♦ Silver Spring ♦ Beltsville, MD ♦ October 2015

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

When you drive around Calverton you will see blue and white signs announcing that Calverton is a Neighborhood Watch Community. The CCA board is working on getting a few more signs throughout the community.

To make Calverton a safe community, all residents need to participate in the Neighborhood Watch Program. Residents need to get to know each other, need to get to know your community, need to work closely with police and fire, and need to call 911 when you see something strange or see something happening. SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING.

Calverton Neighborhood Walks, with the police and fire departments, are an important part of the Neighborhood Watch Program. The walks are great way to get to know neighbors and to get to know your community. We also get to know the police officers and fire firefighters who help keep Calverton safe. Neighborhood walks show everyone that we are all working closely together to make Calverton a safe community. Calverton had a Neighborhood Walk on August 17. We had a great turnout of Calverton residents, young and old. Police and fire from both counties walked with us and so did some elected officials and their office staff. They all helped to make the walk a lot of fun and make it a success. Calverton will have another walk in the spring so look for more details in January or February.

Another way that Calverton residents can work closely with the police is to join the Calverton email list and Nextdoor Calverton. The police will send us emails and alerts when something is happening in Calverton. To join the Announcement Email list Text Calverton to 22828 to get started or visit <http://CalvertonCitizens.org> and then click on "Join Our Email List." This is a great way for Calverton residents to be another set of eyes for the police.

Training and learning about the Neighborhood Watch Program is essential in making the community program successful. Police hold training meetings with the community that will give information on what might be suspicious activity and tips on how to safely gather information for the police regarding the suspicious activity. The training reinforces that we need to call 911 immediately when we have seen something and that we need to give the police any information about what we have seen. To learn more on what you can do to help make the Calverton Watch Program a success, please attend the Neighborhood Watch Training on Tuesday, September 29, 7 pm at the PG Fire Station, 4911 Prince George's Avenue near Route 1 in Beltsville.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- ♦ **Tuesday, September 29** – Calverton/Beltsville Neighborhood Watch Training, 7pm at Beltsville Fire Station #31, 4911 Prince George's Avenue, Beltsville, MD. District VI police will provide a training program on Neighborhood Watch. Everyone, of all ages, are invited. See you at the training.
- ♦ **Thursday, October 1** – Senior Coffee with District VI Police, 1:00 pm, at the the Laurel-Beltsville Senior Center, 7120 Contee Road, Laurel, MD. The guest speaker will be from the Department of Aging and will talk about open enrollment with Medicare/Medicaid.

- ♦ **Thursday, October 1** – CCA Board Meeting at 7 pm in Calverton Elementary School. MC Police Community Officers Joy Patil and Christina Splaine will give a crime update. Volunteers are needed to for several CCA positions. Please consider serving on the CCA Board for 2016.
- ♦ **Saturday, October 3** – Burtonsville Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) will hold an Open House. Save the Date! More details to come about the open house. Photo Shoot Fundraiser: The BVFD photo shoot fundraiser has started. Workers will be coming through the local neighborhoods asking for donations. With each donation you are invited to participate in a photo shoot on Sunday October 4 with one free picture. You can also just show up on Sunday and donate for a photo. For info call the station at (240) 773-4715 or go to <http://bvfd.com>
- ♦ **Thursday, October 8** – College Fair hosted by Mary Lehman from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at High Point High School, 3601 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, MD
- ♦ **Saturday, October 10** – Plan and Design your Holiday Light Display. Enter the Holiday Contest by submitting the form that will appear in the November Calverton Current.
- ♦ **Saturday, October 17** – Connect with the Community Event. Calverton Shopping Center from 2-6 pm Live music, moon bounce, clowns and police. Child and adult ID program. Sponsored by Carrollton Enterprises.
- ♦ **Monday, October 26** - Neighborhood Watch Training, 7pm. Montgomery County Police will present the training at Riderwood in the Celebrations Room. Email Bernie at jeff.karns@verizon.net to sign up or call 301-572-8018. I will send directions via email or call you as to where the room is located at Riderwood.
- ♦ **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 at 7 pm in **Calverton Elementary School**. Please consider serving on the CCA Board for 2016.

CCA Board Meeting Minutes September 3, 2015

Meeting called to order 7:10 pm

Treasurer's Report: Some CCA membership dues has been received. The donation for the Beautification Contest was received. Bill submitted for the supports to build for the shed and paid for the rental for the room at Martin Luther King Middle School for the District 21 Session Wrap-up. Liability insurance for the officers was paid.

Committee Reports: We will be setting up protocol sheets for all committees and activities where it states what the committee or activity does, how many people are needed, what forms are needed and what is the time frame and deadline.

Membership Committee: The 2016 CCA membership dues drive. The block captains will be coming to collect dues. The membership dues drive ends October 31.

Publications Committee: There will be a 2016-2017 CCA Directory. Volunteers are needed to confirm elected officials, county agencies and other information in the beginning of the directory. The Calverton Current volunteers have had their hands full with the information going into the newsletter.

Welcome Committee: The committee is getting information together for a new Welcome Packet.

Nominating Committee: Will be getting together to look for volunteers to serve on the CCA Board of Directors

Website/Email Committee: The committee has been busy uploading information to the website and sending out the emails to members of the Calverton email list.

Calverton Recreation Council (CRC): The president was transferred to another country with her job. The vice-president has taken over the duties. CRC participated in MC National Night Out and the Neighborhood Walk. They are going to have a table at Burtonsville Day and have been talking to several Giant stores about having a table in front of the store. Soccer registration is open now. Play begins in mid-September.

New Business: Police from both counties have been present in Calverton. There has been theft from autos, drug activity, mailboxes were open along one street, car stolen from in front of a house, trespassing, graffiti written on signs in and around Calverton. The police are also working on getting abandoned cars removed from our Calverton streets. For safety in Calverton, if you see any street lights out, please call PEPCO if it is a wood pole. If it is a metal pole call 311 for PG or 240-777-0311 for MC.

Neighborhood Watch Training for all Beltsville and Calverton residents is set for September 29 at 7pm. It will be held at the PG Fire station on Prince George's Avenue near Route 1.

Laurel Hospital closure: There have been meetings regarding the closing. Calverton volunteers have been going to the meetings in order to bring information back to the board. The future plan for Laurel Hospital is to build a new \$25 million dollar building for an ambulatory care facility, emergency care and a few overnight beds. The maternity and child care unit will close on October 11. The eventual plan is build a new hospital in Largo. CCA volunteers will attend the press conference on September 8 at 11:00 am.

Washington Adventist Hospital: There is no update on the status of the hospital's Certificate of Need.

Holiday Light Contest: There is a plan for a Holiday Light Contest again this year. A few more details have to be decided.

Prince George's Community Cleanup: The cleanup starts at the end of September. The flyer was in the September newsletter and has been posted to the website.

PG and MC Events: There were many events listed in the *Dates to Remember* in the September Calverton Current. The September newsletter has been posted to the website.

Traffic Meeting: Several Calverton volunteers attended a meeting where the MC Department of Transportation presented some information about the White Oak Science Gateway, the new "city" being built between Cherry Hill Road and New Hampshire Avenue. Information about activity centers where some of the jobs will be, it did not include the development of the Percontee property with retail jobs. Bus Rapid Transit information that is going to be studied was presented. Bikeways and trail information being studied was presented. The CCA will keep you posted on this development.

Line markings on the streets in Calverton: Yellow lines are gas and the blue lines are water. There will be repairs made to the pipes under the streets in the Calverton community. The roads will be repaired after

the work is done.

Shout out to two resident who volunteered to help deliver extra blocks where there are no block captains and also recruit block captains when there are vacancies.

Block captains: There are several vacancies. We need block captains to deliver the newsletter and to collect dues.

Old Business:

Beautification Contest: The judging is done. The committee will now meet to decide the winners. The winners will be recognized at the CCA General Membership Meeting on Thursday, November 12.

Park at the top Shanandale: We are working with MC to get information about what can be done at the park

Calverton sign at Fairland: We are still working with companies to get bid on a solution to get the sign fixed.

Maydale Nature Center: MC does not have money to repair the building. The county wants to build a raised yurt, it looks like a circular tee-pee (not conical) and totally enclosed with windows. There is a committee meeting scheduled for Friday, September 11.

Neighborhood Watch Walk: It was a great turnout. The walk was a big success. Rushern Baker, PG County Executive participated in our walk. Both PG and MC police and fire were there in force to participate in our walk. Reliable Limousine in the Westech Industrial Park donated a bus for people to ride. There is a plan for another walk in the spring.

BLOCK CAPTAIN VACANCY REPORT

Congratulations, we have three new Block Captains: Linda Nunley for Block B-37, J'vore Morris for Block B-38, and Carlos Ortiz for Block B-39A! We still need Block Captains for 7 blocks.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY. Block Captains are needed for Blocks 40a, 40b, 44, 50a, and 58. For more info, please call Donna Riley, Montgomery County Membership Chair, at 301-572-5186.

Block S-40a, on Summerwood Drive, 10 homes
Block S-40b, on Castleleigh Road, 10 homes
Block S-44, on Kilkenny Street, 20 homes
Block S-50a, on Kilkenny Street, 7 homes
Block S-58, on Pretoria Drive, 22 homes

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Block Captains are needed for Blocks 8 and 13. For more info, please call Nina Harley, Prince George's County Membership Chair, at 301-572-7455.

Block B-8, on Christine Drive, 15 homes
Block B-13, on Elkridge Street, has 25 homes

You do not have to live on the block to be the Block Captain, although this is always preferable. Maybe you could partner with a neighbor to be co-Block Captains and split the duties—one person deliver the newsletter, and the other collect dues, or you could alternate months of delivering the newsletter.

Please, please volunteer to serve your community as a Block Captain! The residents on these blocks are not receiving this newsletter, paying their CCA dues, or receiving the Calverton Directory this year.

SAY YES TO HELPING YOUR COMMUNITY !
Volunteers are needed for the CCA board and to help with activities and events for Calverton. Please call Bernie at 301-572-8018 or email jeff.karns@verizon.net. We need you.



CRIME REPORT

Here are few things that have happened over the last couple of months. The townhouses and the apartments have been included.

Theft from vehicles

3900 Beltsville Road
Calverton Boulevard and Gracefield Road
11800 Twinlakes Drive

Breaking and Entering

3900 Lakehouse Road

Trespassing (attempt to break in but did not get in)

12400 Galway Drive

Tire slashing

Galway Court

Police activity

Shanandale Drive suspected drug activity

Graffiti

"GIO" Markings on several items in and around Calverton

Remember that when you see something say something – Call 911. Do not leave anything in your car. Always lock your car. If you are in your backyard, make sure that you have locked the front door of your house – anyone can walk into your house.

CALVERTON NEIGHBORHOOD WALK ON AUGUST 17

All I can say is that this walk was just amazing. The weather cooperated by giving us a beautiful evening. There was a great turnout of participants. The Neighborhood Walk definitely impacted people coming into Calverton and let them know that we are all watching Calverton to make it a safe community. There are pictures from the walk elsewhere in this newsletter.

We need to say "Thank You" to everyone who participated in our walk. Our Neighborhood Walk was a big success because of all of the support from everyone mentioned below:

- Montgomery County Councilmember Tom Hucker's representative Brian Anleu and his son, Anthony.
- Major Kara Lloyd, the officers and the children of the officers from the Prince George's County District VI Station
- Commander Marcus Jones and the officers from the Montgomery County District 3 Station
- Deputy Fire Chief Dennis Wood and the Firefighters from the Calverton Fire Station
- Fire Chief Glenn Fitzpatrick and the Firefighters from the Burtonsville Volunteer Fire station
- Reliable Limousine donated a bus to accommodate everyone who wanted to participate in the walk
- PG District VI Citizens Advisory Committee Members: Karen Coakley, Judy McClain and Roger McClain
- Calverton Recreation Council – Dara Bramlett and Vickie Simmers with the Batons and Poms Squad – Tisa Horky, Marilyn Simmers and Leila Nolen.
- Many Calverton residents: Abdullah Sami, Alana Gaylen, Alberto Altamar, Alfonso Talavera, Amal Gomez, Anina Sami, Asiya Sami, Bill Claus, Bonnie Durant, Bruce Donaldson, Christina Sami, Claire Rupert, David Brown, David Rodriguez, Don Conway, Donald Gerson, Ed Banks, Elaine Cockrell, Emma Sue

Gerson, Frank Cockrell, Helen Kolt, Jasmine Claus, Jerry Rupert, Jim Spencer, Joda Johnson, Joseph Pakkianathan and his children, Joyce Conway, Mama Anina, Margaret Lloyd, Margaret Poore, Nina Harley, Rose Ridgway, Shaun Riche, Suzy Niedermaier, Terry Stephens, Tom Hickey, Vonetta Brown.

Please call me if you don't see your name listed and I will add it in the next newsletter.

Our Calverton walk showed everyone that when Calverton residents SEE SOMETHING, we SAY SOMETHING. Thank you again for being at the walk.

CALVERTON SWIM CLUB CLOSES SEASON IN STYLE ON LABOR DAY 2015

Bright sun, a few puffy clouds, and warm temperatures modified by a slight breeze combined to add to the exciting final day of the 2015 Season at the Calverton Swim Club. More than 700 members and guests filled the grounds to help mark the end of the Club's 50th year of operation on Labor Day, September 7.

The Club's Olympic size pool, baby pool, basketball court, 3 sand volleyball courts, horseshoe pits, bocce ball court and three picnic areas were all used to capacity. At the same time, the Club's annual Family Fun Day festivities added an inflatable water slide and obstacle course, while attendees relished the free popcorn and enjoyed the sounds of DeeJay Chris from Unique Dreams.

In recognition of the Club's 50th Anniversary, the Board of Directors hosted a luncheon to recognize those families who have been active Club members since the first year of operations. Of the total of seven Charter Member families, three were represented at the luncheon, and enjoyed a festive picnic spread. Duncan Munro, Club President, unveiled a plaque that will hang in the Club office recognizing the tenure of all seven Charter Member families.



Calverton Swim Club President Duncan Munro (right) unveils the plaque recognizing the Club's Charter Members, who have been with the Club for 50 years. Shown, front, are Glen and Joan Davis, and, rear, from left, Emil and Sandra Kovach, and Tom Landicho. All are residents of Calverton.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL APPS TO HELP PARENTS HELP THEIR KIDS

Schools are back in session, and parents are in frenzy of planning and adjustment after the long summer.

Luckily, there are apps for that. Here is one of them.

Class Dojo: Classroom management software and apps are a growing trend. The most popular is one called Class Dojo. It's used in more than half of the schools in America and it tracks good behavior and areas that need work. Those "positive points" are tallied daily for kids and teachers to see. Parents are invited by the teacher to download the Class Dojo app and monitor their child's performance. Through this secure app, photos and information can be shared with parents (accounts set up and verified by the teacher are inaccessible to those not on the service). Some privacy concerns have been raised about tracking of child behavior, but classrooms are set up only with the child's first name and no other identifiable information. Profiles only exist for 365 days then are erased so they don't travel with a child from grade to grade.