

Calverton Current April

Newsletter of the Calverton Citizen's Association ♦ Silver Spring ♦ Beltsville, MD ♦ April, 2016
www.calvertoncitizens.org

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD . . .

Have you ever wondered what you could do to meet some of your neighbors or what you can do to get neighbors together to meet one another?

A few months ago a Calverton resident came to the Calverton Citizens Association (CCA) Board Meeting. The resident posed a question to the board. Will the CCA do any block parties in the community?

The CCA sponsors one big block party for the entire Calverton community on July 4th. The CCA dues that the residents of Calverton give provide the food and entertainment for the July 4th Celebration and the best block party ever. The CCA board member and some other Calverton residents volunteer to do all the work to pull off this huge celebration. So, yes, the CCA does provide a block party for everyone in Calverton and for everyone in Calverton to get out to meet your neighbors. But, that does not mean that you can't have your own block party with your neighbors.

Spring is coming. This is the perfect time to plan and have a block party with your neighbors. People want to get out to enjoy the weather. A block party is a picnic or a pot luck dinner that you have with your friends or neighbors at a house or a church. It doesn't take much to have a block party.

Two of my neighbors have been planning block parties for years. There are 40 neighbors who live on the two courts. These two party planners get together and decide on a day (usually Sunday) and a time frame (usually 4-7 pm) so that children get home early because there is school the next day. Our block party is held in a back yard. We don't have to apply for special permit with the police to close roads.

What do you need? Who is going to provide the plates, napkins, etc.? Do you need neighbors to bring folding tables and chairs? Do you assign food or do people bring what they want to bring? The variety of food is amazing and the food is really great when people bring their favorite dishes. People usually bring their own drinks, but you can always make ice tea and lemonade very quickly. You can always get the plates, napkins, etc. as your contribution. Don't forget to have trash cans and recycling cans out for collection of the things used.

So, now you have decided the details and it is time to send out invites to your neighbors. My neighbors make an invite and hand deliver it to all the neighbors about 3-4 weeks before the party.

You need to state the date, time and location of the party (in the backyard behind....). On the invite you ask the neighbors to bring food to share (enough for 8-10 people), tables and chairs, paper goods, etc., and BYOD (bring your own drinks). You also need to include the most important request on the invite: Please come early to help set up or stay late to help take down things. Tell neighbors to bring folding tables and chairs either the day before or earlier in the day. You can also ask them to let you know what they will be bringing so that you can see what is not being provided. Include your phone number or email address and tell your neighbors to respond to you and let you know that they will be coming and what they are bringing to the party.

There are resources posted on the CCA website:
www.calvertoncitizens.org

<http://www.cozi.com/live-simply/throw-a-block-party-without-going-crazy>

<http://www.sdsynod.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Block-Party-Kit.pdf>

Get out and meet your neighbors. Have a great block party!!!

DATES TO REMEMBER

- ♦ **First Saturday of the month, April 2, 10:00-11:30AM** - Work by the ponds at Maydale Nature Center, 1638 Maydale Dr, Silver Spring, 20905. Find out more and RSVP to Ellen at mcp-eedwarriors@montgomeryparks.org.
- ♦ Thursday, April 7 – Senior Coffee, 1:00 pm, Topic to be determined, Laurel Senior Center, 7120 Contee Road.
- ♦ Thursday, April 7 – CCA Board Meeting, 7pm in the Media Center at Calverton Elementary School.
- ♦ Wednesday, April 13 – CCA General Membership Meeting, 7pm, All Purpose Room at Calverton Elementary School. Special guests: George Simms, Assistant State's Attorney for Montgomery County and Terry Bell, Assistant State's Attorney for Prince George's County.
- ♦ Monday, April 25 – Calverton Neighborhood Walk. We will meet at 3901 Calverton Boulevard at 6:45pm and the walk will begin at 7:00 pm. We will walk along Calverton Boulevard in both Prince George's and Montgomery Counties. Please join us.
- ♦ Tuesday, April 26 – Primary Election Day – please vote. See voting info elsewhere in this newsletter.
- ♦ Thursday, May 5 – CCA Board Meeting, 7pm in the Media Center at Calverton Elementary School.

◆ Sunday, May 15 – Beltsville Day, noon – 5pm. Beltsville Community Center, 3900 Sellman Road, Beltsville, MD. Lots of entertainment, food and fun for all. See schedule of entertainment elsewhere in this newsletter. Here is information regarding school closures for Spring Break.

Spring Break MCPS (Montgomery County Public Schools):

- ◆ **Thursday, March 24** – Professional Day, no school for students.
- ◆ **Friday, March 25 & Monday, March 28** – Spring Break, schools and offices closed.
- ◆ **Tuesday, March 29 – Friday, April 1** – Spring Break, no school for students and teachers, offices open.
- ◆ **Tuesday, April 26** – Primary Election Day – schools and offices closed.

SPRING BREAK PGPS (PRINCE GEORGE'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS):

- ◆ **Thursday, March 24** – Grading/Teacher Planning, schools closed for students.
- ◆ **Friday, March 25 & Monday, March 28** – Holiday – Easter, schools and offices closed.
- ◆ **Tuesday, March 29** – Thursday, March 31 – Spring Break, schools closed for students and teachers.
- ◆ **Friday, April 1 & Monday, April 4** – Spring Break, schools closed for students and teachers.
- ◆ **Tuesday, April 26** – Primary Election Day – schools and offices closed.

CCA Board Meeting Minutes March 3, 2016

Meeting called to order 7:10 pm

Guests:

Khurshed Bilgrami from Montgomery County Division of Traffic Engineering and Operations. The discussion was what can we do on Calverton Boulevard to slow down traffic from Greenmount to Cherry Hill Road, Palermo Street. The CCA can request speed cameras, maybe a traffic circle at Gracefield and Calverton Boulevard, some streets could have no right turn or no left turn during certain times of the day, or no parking near corners. The board also asked about signs for pedestrian crossing along the route that students walk to Galway. One board member will draft a letter to ask Montgomery County for help with slowing traffic on our roads. Mr. Bilgrami left information regarding guidelines and a request form that we can send to MC requesting them to address traffic issues in Calverton.

Whatever we do on Calverton Boulevard and other roads in Calverton we need to consider the Washington Adventist Hospital is coming and Viva White Oak is coming, too. We need to include Barbara Frush and Anne Kaiser in our letters. In April the Prince George's Department of Public Works and Transportation will come to our April CCA board meeting to discuss what can be done on Calverton Boulevard in PG county.

Treasure's Report:

Expenses include the newsletter, website and Calverton email alert, and bank charges for checks. Income includes money from ads and a little more money from dues.

New Business:

Rick Gatto, original Calverton owner and longtime CCA volunteer passed away. The service is at Forcey Church Saturday at 11. Rick will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Gertrude Rose, longtime Calverton resident and block captain for many years, passed away. Memorial service will be held at a later date at Episcopal Church of Our Savior, 1700 Powder Mill Road in Silver Spring.

PG Police Academy begins March 21 and runs until June 13. Deadline to participate is March 5.

National Night Out is August 2. Prince George's and Montgomery County Police need volunteers to help with the event.

Bed and Breakfasts (B&B) in our community. Montgomery County has started discussions regarding allowing B&B's into community. We are looking at regulations and licensing.

EEACB (East County Citizens Advisory Board) – MC procurement is looking more at "Made in USA" when buying things. Also, traffic along Route 29 is bad and will be working with Howard County. They are very closely looking at BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) and will work closely with Howard County again.

Fundraiser for the District VI Police Explorers and the Adrian Morris award. One PG Police Explorer will take place Friday, April 1, 6-11 pm at Martin's Crosswinds. A Flyer posted on the CCA website.

After Prom Events at our high schools. We will contact high schools to see if there is an After Prom event this year. We will discuss donations at the April board meeting.

Scam involving credit card. Employees at restaurants have been known to keep your credit card and give you an expired credit card of the same company. Also, some employees take pictures of credit cards and use other devices to capture your credit card number.

Old Business:

Summer Concert Series at Beltsville Community Center- Calverton Citizens Association and Calverton Recreation Council are looking into sponsoring one of the concerts. We will decide at the April board meeting.

Neighborhood Watch Walk will be Monday, April 25 at 7pm. More details to come.

Time capsule lid from 2000. The CCA Board paid \$25.00 to get it back from someone who bought it from a barn sale in Damascus.

Maydale Nature Center. Tom Hucker and a group of residents are still trying to bring back Maydale. Tom has requested that money be put into the MC parks budget for Maydale. Weekend Warriors meet at Maydale to pull weeds on the 1st Saturday of every month from 10- 11:30am.

Next CCA Board Meeting is April 7 at 7pm and the CCA General Membership Meeting is April 13 at 7Pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

CRIME REPORT

- February 20 – Vehicle Theft, 11300 Block Cherry Hill Road, near Maryland Farms Condos
- February 20 – Vehicle Theft, 12000 Block Beltsville Drive, Calverton Shopping Center
- February 22 – Theft from Auto, 11400 Block Cherry Hill Road, near Maryland Farms Shopping Center
- February 25 – Vehicle Theft, 3100 Chapel View Drive in Calverton
- February 25 – Arrest, 12100 Block Cherry Hill Road/2700 Block Calverton Boulevard
- February 27 – Theft, 3300 Block Kilkenny Street in Calverton
- March 1 – Theft, 3100 Gershwin Lane, Tanglewood
- March 8 – Vehicle Theft, 12200 Block Tech Road, Village Center where IHOP, Panera and Chick-Fila are located
- March 1 – Burglary, 3100 Block Cordoba Street in Calverton
- March 11 – Homicide, 3800 block of Castle Boulevard, off of Briggs Chaney Road
- March 13 – Shooting of PG Police Officer Jacai Colson at the District 3 Police Station

There have been many documented robberies and thefts at the shopping center with Kohl's and Target.

The temperature is getting warmer. More people are getting out. Be aware of your surroundings. Remember to keep your eyes open in case you see something. When you see something, you need to say something. Call 911.

Want something to do something fun in May? Look at what is happening on May 15, 2016

BELTSVILLE DAY FESTIVAL 2016

Beltsville Day is Sunday, May 15, 2016 from noon to 5pm. The activities and events take place at the Beltsville Community Center, 3900 Sellman Road, Beltsville, MD 20705. There is food, games, and plenty of entertainment for everyone to enjoy. Come on out and enjoy the day.

Here is the schedule of some of the performances that are taking place that day:

OUTDOOR ON THE STAGE:

- 12:15 - 12:45 Zumba Fitness Dance
- 1:00 - 1:45 Good Company Duo
- 2:00 - 2:45 High Point Steel Band
- 3:00 - 3:45 High Point Dance Troops
- 4:00 - 4:45 TBD

INDOOR ON THE STAGE:

- 12:00-12:45 Beltsville Academy Music Program
- 1:00 - 1:30 Eleanor Pernia Studio of Dance
- 1:45 - 2:15 Hui-O-Judo Beltsville

2:30 - 3:00 Making Moves Dance Collective

3:15 - 3:45 Calverton Poms and Batons

4:00 - 4:30 TBD

Do you have a group that wants to perform? Do you want to have a table for you and your group to put out information? Then you need to fill out the application by April 15th. Go to www.beltsvillereccouncil.homestead.com and download the forms. For questions you can email: leighAnn.Eckenrode@pgparks.com or 301-937-6613.

OBITUARIES

Richard (Rick) Gatto passed away February 25, 2016. He is survived by his loving wife Carolyn. Rick and Carolyn are original owners of Calverton and have volunteered for Calverton Citizens Association for 52 years. Rick volunteered in every aspect of Calverton. He was Mr. July 4th. Rick was also a veteran and will be buried at a later date at Arlington National Cemetery. We will miss Rick and everything he has done for Calverton. The CCA wants to thank Rick for all that he did for Calverton

Gertrude Rose passed away February 22, 2016. She is survived by her loving husband Lee. Rose was a longtime volunteer for the Calverton Citizens Association. She was a block captain for many years. Donations can be made to Episcopal Church of Our Saviour, 1700 Powder Mill Road, Silver Spring, MD. The CCA wants to thank Rose for all that she did for Calverton.

Detective Jacai David Colson #3693. It is with great sadness that I inform all of you of the tragic Line of Duty death of Detective Colson on March 11. He came to the aid of fellow officers at which time he was struck by gunfire. Detective Colson was transported to Prince George's Hospital Center where he was fought courageously but ultimately succumbed to his injuries. Detective Colson was a 4-year veteran of the Prince George's County Police Department and was assigned to the Narcotics Enforcement Division. Chief Henry P. Stawinski III, Chief of Police.

Please keep all of these families in your thoughts and prayers .

300 Leaders Break Ground on New Washington Adventist Hospital

More than 300 community members and elected officials gathered to break ground for a new \$331 million Washington Adventist Hospital in White Oak, Maryland. **The \$331 million hospital is expected to help rejuvenate the economy of the U.S. region.**

The hospital, scheduled to open in early 2019, will replace an aging facility built in 1907 just 6 miles (10 kilometers) away in Takoma Park.

“Today we break new ground, expanding our more than 100-year commitment to the community,” said Terry Forde, president and CEO of Adventist HealthCare, the hospital’s parent company.

“Our Takoma Park site has always been, and continues to be, a place of healing, renewal, discovery and compassionate care — a legacy we will continue in our future,” he said at the ground-breaking ceremony on March 7. “The new hospital expands on those key values.”

Washington Adventist Hospital will move its acute-care operations to the newly constructed 170-bed hospital while retaining its current location in Takoma Park to provide other healthcare services, including a 39-bed psychiatric unit, 40 inpatient behavioral health beds, and inpatient rehabilitation. Some of the vacated space is expected to be leased to Takoma Park-based Washington Adventist University.

The new hospital, located adjacent to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s headquarters and about half a mile (1 kilometer) east of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s world headquarters, is at the center of the White Oak Science Gateway, a developing life sciences community bringing together medical researchers, businesses, and retailers.

The Maryland Health Care Commission granted long-sought approval on Dec. 17 for the hospital to develop the facility on a 48-acre (19.5-hectare) wooded area at Plum Orchard Drive and Cherry Hill Road.

Local leaders praised the hospital project as a way to pump new life into the economy of Montgomery County, the region of Maryland where it is located.

“The groundbreaking for the hospital is another great milestone in the rejuvenation of the eastern part of our county. It will create thousands of jobs while the hospital is being built and after it begins operations,” said Ike Leggett, Montgomery County executive. “It will also inject more than \$800 million into the state’s economy in construction alone, with most of that going to our local jurisdictions.”

The hospital will create nearly 7,500 jobs between construction and hospital operations, according to an analysis by Stephen

Fuller, director for the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University in Virginia.

“By bringing federal, state, local, and private-sector resources together, we can expand access to high-quality healthcare in our community and bring more jobs and economic opportunities to Maryland,” said U.S. Representative John Sarbanes, a Democrat from Maryland, who attended the ground-breaking.

Community leaders and supporters donned hard hats and grabbed shovels to take part in the ceremonial groundbreaking.



“As we sink our shovels into new ground this morning, we are officially kicking off the construction for Adventist HealthCare Washington Adventist Hospital in White Oak,” said Erik Wangsness, president of Washington Adventist Hospital. “I would like to thank our employees and physicians who are enthusiastic about our future and committed to our mission. I also thank our elected officials and other community lead-

ers and supporters. This is a blessed time in our 108-year history.”

<http://www.adventistreview.org/church-news/story3784-300-leaders-break-ground-on-new-washington-adventist-hospital>

CONTRACTOR TIPS

Montgomery County put out a Best Picks Reports 2015. Here is the link. <http://www.bestpickreports.com/maryland/montgomery>.

Corporal Woody, PG District VI police, put out some suggestions on how to pick a contractor. Here are his tips. Hope this helps.

It’s that time of year again that we all start to think of all our spring cleanup projects. A couple of the items on my list every year is resealing my driveway, resealing my deck and power washing my house. Just remember if you choose to use someone to do these task for you, then please consider the following:

- Compile a list of possible contractors and conduct a phone interview
 - References
 - Insured/Bonded/Licensed
 - How long in business
 - Any pictures of past work
- Meet your contractor in person
- Investigate your contractor
 - Contact the references
 - See if any complaints with the Better Business Bureau
 - Google search the company

-If possible stop by a current work site to check out the work in progress

- Narrow your list down a get bids

-To compare bids, ask everyone to break down the cost of materials, labor, profit margins and other expenses. Generally, materials account for 40 percent of the total cost; the rest covers overhead and the typical profit margin, which is 15 to 20 percent

- Payment schedule

-Payment schedules can also speak to a contractor's financial status and work ethic. If they want half the bid up front, they may have financial problems or be worried that you won't pay the rest after you've seen the work. For smaller jobs, such a mentioned earlier, payment can usually be made in full at the completion of the job with a signed contract.

- Put everything in writing

-Draw up a contract that details every step of the project: payment schedule; proof of liability insurance and worker's compensation payments; a start date and projected completion date; specific materials and products to be used

SPOTTING A QUESTIONABLE CONTRACTOR

A warning signal should sound in your head if you encounter any of the following:

- A contractor who makes unsolicited phone calls or visits. Be especially wary of people who offer a bargain price, claiming that they're doing a job in the neighborhood and have leftover materials..... Door to Door solicitors need to be licensed.
- -Sec. 5-202. - License required.
- Any person who intends to act in the capacity of a solicitor shall, prior to entering into or upon any residential dwelling or commercial establishment within the County to act in such capacity, obtain a license
- A contractor whose address can't be verified, who uses only a post office box, or who has only an answering service and no separate listing in the telephone book.
- A contractor who isn't affiliated with any recognized trade association.
- License or insurance information you can't verify.
- A contractor who can't (or won't) provide references for similar jobs in your area.
- The promise of a hefty discount—but no mention of the total cost of the job.
- The promise of a deep discount if the contractor uses your home as a "demo."
- High-pressure sales tactics or threats to rescind a special price if you don't sign on the spot.
- A contractor who tries to scare you into signing a contract by claiming that your house puts you at peril (i.e., "Your electrical wiring could start a fire if it isn't replaced.")

Montgomery County Moves Forward with Route 29 BRT

Today County Executive Ike Leggett announced his plan to improve transit options in the County, which includes implementing Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) on US 29. The County Executive outlined his proposal to the County Council that MC will partner with the State to have BRT operating along US 29 in less than four years. The BRT will operate within the existing pavement by using roadway shoulders, managed lanes, and running in mixed traffic in the Four Corners area. The County Executive is recommending programming \$6.5 million in his Capital Budget, subject to Council approval, for project planning and design, which we anticipate will last approximately two years.

Costs for construction and the BRT vehicles will be determined during the design stage. Mr. Leggett is directing MCDOT to negotiate with the State to share in those costs and to partner with Howard County to leverage efforts for a bi-county BRT service. Having a bi-county BRT on US 29 will reduce traffic passing through Montgomery County that originates in Howard County there by reducing roadway congestion for our residents.

One of the County Executive's highest priorities is to establish a state-of-the-art BRT network to unlock Montgomery County's economic potential, meet our economic development goals, and provide transportation alternatives for those who live and work here.

BLOCK CAPTAIN VACANCY REPORT – 10 BLOCKS

Welcome to our new Block Captains: Tammy White Jackson in Montgomery County and Carol Saltin and Doris Moreno in Prince George's County. Block Captains are still needed for 10 blocks.

Montgomery County. Need 7 Block Captains. For more info, please call Donna Riley, MoCo Membership Chair, at 301-572-5186.

- Block S-40a, on Summerwood Drive, 10 homes
- Block S-40b, on Castleleigh Road, 10 homes
- Block S-42, on Castleleigh Place, 22 homes
- Block S-44, on Kilkenny Street, 20 homes
- Block S-50a, on Kilkenny Street, 7 homes
- Block S-68, on Red Lion Lane, 19 homes
- Block-74, on Lemar Court, 24 homes

Prince George's County. Need 3 Block Captains. For more info, please call Nina Harley, PG Membership Chair, at 301-572-7455.

- Block B-13, on Elkridge Street, 25 homes
- Block B-18, on Greenmount Avenue, 21 homes
- Block B-23, on Oriole Drive, 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.