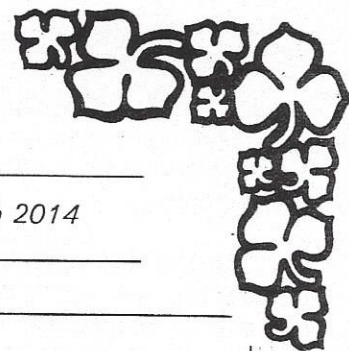


Calverton Current



Newsletter of the Calverton Citizens Association • Silver Spring - Beltsville, MD • March 2014
www.calvertoncitizens.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....Bernie Kams

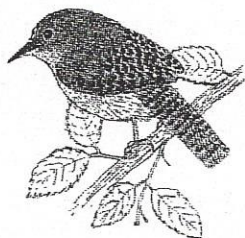
We had fun at the February Board meeting because we finally awarded the prize money to the winners of the first Calverton Holiday Light Contest. Jonathon and Ashley Derr received \$200 for first place. Todd and Donna Danielson, Donna Farnsworth, and Ron and Kathy Velky all received \$100 each as runners up. It was really fun to recognize neighbors for their hard work that went into their entries for the Holiday Light Contest. Will you be a winner next year?

Now we have to get to some serious business regarding the Calverton Citizens Association (CCA) and the Calverton Recreation Council (CRC). Most organizations survive and thrive because of the volunteers who help and support those organizations. The CCA and CRC are no different from other organizations that need the support of volunteers. Both organizations are seeking the help of volunteers.

The CCA would like your help and is in need of Block Captains in both Prince George's and Montgomery Counties. The CCA also needs a recording secretary and two people to be co-editors of the newsletter. This year is the 50th anniversary of the CCA, and we need many volunteers for the anniversary celebration on July 4th.

The CRC would like your help by volunteering as a coach or co-coach for a sports program. Your help is also needed as a sports commissioner or co-commissioner by setting up and running a sports program. This is your opportunity to help our youth participate in and learn a sport.

Many people are busy with work, school, and religious activities. So you can grab a partner, friend, neighbor, or relative to help you take on one of the volunteer positions that are vacant in the CCA or CRC. You can share or take turns doing what is needed to perform the duties of one of the positions. Please call Bernie Kams at 301-572-8018 to find out more about what you can do to help your community organizations, the CCA and the CRC.



DATES TO REMEMBER

☞ **March 3, Monday** - 7:30 p.m. Calverton Recreation Council Board Meeting. Go to www.calvertonrec.org for more information.

☞ **March 6, Thursday** - 7 p.m. CCA Board Meeting. Prince George's County Police Substation, Calverton Shopping Center. All CCA members are invited and encouraged to attend.

☞ **March 10, Monday** - Deadline for next Calverton Current.

HIGHLIGHTS OF FEBRUARY 2014 CCA BOARD MEETING

Holiday Light Contest. The winners were awarded their prizes.

Corporal Haynes. The Prince George's County Police will be cracking down on anyone who leaves a car idling and unattended. Cars that are running and are unattended are subject to being stolen or property being stolen from the car.

Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Tom H presented the treasurer's report. A little bit more membership dues are coming in, but most of it is done. Money from the ads collected for the 2014 Calverton Directory has been received.

Publications Committee. The Calverton Directory is almost ready to go to the printer. There were no inquiries in the past month about the vacancy of the newsletter editor. It was suggested to put a job description in the March newsletter.

Zoning and Legal Committee. Ben M drafted a letter for review to see if it can be used to inform Calverton residents of zoning and codes violations. The committee also stressed again that we need to do something regarding the oversized structures in Calverton. There has been no response from Prince Georges County. The committee was also concerned about a special exception sign for an accessory apartment. Frank K will contact neighbors.

Myth: You are safe in a crosswalk. **Fact:** Before crossing in a crosswalk, stop at the curb and look LEFT-RIGHT-LEFT. When it is clear, cross and keep looking left and right.

Social Committee. Margaret and Claire will take care of refreshments for the April general membership meeting. They will also help with the July 4th 50th anniversary celebration.

Calverton Recreation Council. Basketball is going on now and will end March 2. There will be no spring baseball season because there are no volunteers to support it. Fall soccer is a go at this time. The Poms are active at this time.

Corner of Calverton and Gracefield. The CCA sponsored a cleanup from the corner of Gracefield Road and Calverton Boulevard to part of the way along Gracefield Road toward Riderwood Village.

Several questions were raised: Who owns this property? Who should be maintaining the corner with the Calverton sign? Who is responsible for removing snow from the sidewalk? Contact Cherri Branson, the District 5 Montgomery County Council member.

Shed Update. Jerry went to the Calverton Pool Board Meeting to discuss the shed that the CCA is going to install there.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR WANTED

The editorship of the *Calverton Current* will be open starting with the June issue, which is prepared in May. Some of the duties include but are not limited to:

- Insert the President's letter, Board meeting minutes, and other articles into the newsletter.
- Throughout the month, look at library racks and newspapers for information relevant to Calverton.
- Check with the Local Living section of the Thursday *Washington Post* for crime incidents in Calverton.
- Go to Beltsville Post Office several times a month and pick up ads for the Classified Ads page. Karen Mills will pass on the key to the post office box. Turn the ads money in to the CCA treasurer.
- One person can do this, or the duties can be divided, say one person does pages 1-3, and another person takes care of the ads page. There are other ways to divide the duties.
- The current editor, Karen Mills, will help you get set up.



BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR CORNER

Here are some more informational facts regarding zoning code violations and parking restriction violations in Calverton.

Being a good neighbor means keeping your grass cut. Don't be surprised if your grass grows to 12 inches long that the county will come "visit" you. Your grass cannot get that long. If it does get that long and you refuse to cut it, the county will come and cut it for you. However, they will send you a bill for their grass cutting services.

Being a good neighbor means parking all the vehicles at your home legally so that they are not violating any restrictions that may lead to a police ticket. The CCA President has received several phone calls lately about the way people are parking their vehicles. She is now telling people to call the non-emergency police number because this is happening so many times. We should all know better because these are violations of the Maryland state driving and parking laws. Here are a few parking laws, and most were previously mentioned in another issue of the *Calverton Current*:

- Vehicles cannot be parked opposite the flow of traffic. Left wheels of your vehicle must not be against the curb. Park on the side of the street in the direction that you would be driving.
- This is a new one. Parking on the street is to be parallel to the curb, not perpendicular. The right side of your vehicle should be on the curb or parallel to the curb. The front end of your vehicle should not be facing the curb. Your vehicle should not be parked perpendicular to the curb. This is not a shopping center so you do not pull your car straight into the curb.
- Vehicles must be parked at least 35 feet from an intersection or an intersecting roadway.
- No parking within 5 feet of a driveway.
- Do not park directly across from your neighbor's driveway so that they cannot pull out of their own driveway without running into your vehicle.
- Parking your vehicle across the sidewalk so that it blocks the path of pedestrians is illegal. Do not block the sidewalk.

Think about where you are parking your vehicle so that you won't get a ticket. Let us all take a look at how our vehicles are parked at our houses or near our neighbors' houses. Let us all Be a Good Neighbor.

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BLOCK CAPTAIN VACANCY REPORT

Montgomery County. A Block Captain is needed for Block 40a. For more info, please call Donna Riley, Montgomery County Membership Chair, at 301-572-5186.

- Block S-40a, on Summerwood Drive, has 10 homes

Prince George's County. Block Captains are needed for Blocks 12 and 33. For more info, please call Nina Harley, Prince George's County Membership Chair, at 301-572-7455.

- Block B-12, on Greenmount Avenue, has 24 homes
- Block B-33, on Fullerton Street, has 27 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, the other collect dues, or you could alternate months of delivering the newsletter.

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 every two years.

PRINCE GEORGE'S CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

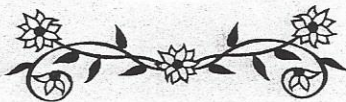
The Prince George's County Police Department is holding a training opportunity. Here are the details:

Citizens' Police Academy Session #34

Dates: March 31-June 17, 2014 (Mondays)
 Time: 6 - 9 p.m.
 Location: Training and Education Division
 4380 Forbes Boulevard
 Lanham, MD 20706
 301-794-1000

Space is limited to 7 nominees per District station. Submission of a nomination form does not guarantee acceptance. RSVP deadline is Friday, March 14.

Please contact Corporal Woody for more information. District VI, C.O.P.S. Unit, jmwoody@co.pg.md.us, 301-937-0910.



STAYING CONNECTED TO PG POLICE

Look at all the different ways to contact and follow the Prince George's County police.

Email	POLICE_MRD@co.pg.md.us
Facebook	facebook.com/PGPD1
Twitter	twitter.com/PGPDNews
Blog	pgpolice.blogspot.com
YouTube	youtube/pgdpdpolice

Also, if you have a crime tip, you could get some cash:

Prince George's County CRIME SOLVERS
 1-866-411-TIPS (8477)

You will not be asked any personal information.

ATTENTION, CALVERTON

If you have a question regarding seeing an abandoned car, grass too tall, abandoned house, fence or shed being built without a building permit, oversized vehicles parked on the driveway or street, you need to call the county.

If you live in Prince George's County, call 311. If you live in Montgomery County and have a 572 number, call 240-777-0311; otherwise, call 311. You can also go online with the county you live in and file the complaint online.



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