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Your voice in the community

JULY 2017

A free publication serving Owings Mills, Pikesville, Randallstown, Reisterstown, Windsor Mill, Woodlawn and Catonsville



: BALTIMORE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

In April, before the departures of Marisol Johnson (top left) and Romaine Williams, second from bottom right, the Board of Education had three minority members. Former Superintendent S. Dallas Dance is to the right of board chair Edward Gilliss. Now there is one minority board member, Charles McDaniels Jr. (not shown).

Dissipating Diversity on the Baltimore County School Board

Public school student population is 60 percent minority; school board is 9 percent minority.

The Baltimore County Board of Education, which develops and reviews policy for a 113,000-student population that is 60 percent minority, has just one minority board member. Those decisions board members help shape ranged from those involving technology and grading policies to whether schools should be closed for Muslim holidays to how to draw school boundaries and prioritize school construction and renovation needs.

For at least the past five years, there were two African-American and one Hispanic individual on the board for Baltimore County Public Schools. Since May, two of the three minority

board members resigned—Romaine Williams and Marisol Johnson.

The Governor, who has the authority to appoint their replacements—chose Roger Hayden, a former county executive and BCPS superintendent to fill the vacancy left by Williams, rejecting appeals from community leaders and elected officials to retain the diversity that reflects the student population. Johnson's replacement has not been appointed.

Leaders expressed dismay and disappointment that the 12-member school board is now comprised of 11 Caucasian members and one African-American member, Charles

McDaniels Jr. who represents the fourth councilmanic district.

The Baltimore County student population is made up of 40 percent white, 39 percent black and 21 percent other minority students. That compares with less than 9 percent minority and 91 percent white representation on the board.

Romaine Williams, an attorney who chaired the board's influential policy review committee, was appointed in 2013 to fill the term of another African-American female board member. Williams announced her retirement at the April 18 board meeting, indicating that she and her husband were moving to Harford



From the Publisher, Kenneth Brown

Are Developers the Good Guys or the Bad Guys?

As our county becomes more urbanized, new real estate ventures become more plentiful. With these proposals come opposition from individuals and groups who do not wish to see this growth—be it apartment buildings, affordable housing units, office and commercial space, or shopping venues, particularly near residential areas. Some people see progress; others see a black eye on the area.

Some of the reasons given as to why development may not be good for the community are varied: increased traffic and congestion, overcrowding of schools, destroying the small-town feel, incompatibility with the personality of the community, and even opening the door for people to come into an area with bad intentions (“the criminal element”). The list goes on and on and many times is predictable.

We even saw with Foundry Row and the Paragon Outlets that was to be built in White Marsh that competitive developers organized opposition to a project that they felt would negatively impact their nearby projects.

I wonder whether these people who do not want to see new retail and housing, are the same people living in communities that overcame opposition when they were built—“We don’t want those homes here” or “Don’t bring commercial development into our neighborhood.” Remember, I hear stories all about the time of when the county, particularly the northwest and southwest, was acres and acres of rural and undeveloped land where deer and foxes roamed.

So, are developers good or are they bad? I’m not naïve to believe that when developers propose a project, it does not come with a profit motive. They are business people. They see potential in certain land or existing construction and want to invest and make money.

That shouldn’t surprise any of us because we live in America. Many times, these developers improve communities with their projects and we shouldn’t always look for ways to keep them out. The 117 acres off Painters Mill and Reisterstown roads in Owings Mills that was recently sold to Stevenson University has great potential to become a site for Stevenson expansion. We also know that there is a development potential for the apartments leading up to the property. Will that be a good or bad situation if they are replaced?

Yes, there are unscrupulous developers selling all kinds of schemes. And, we certainly have seen situations where families have been displaced because of development and they either were not treated respectfully and fairly or compensated adequately.

As far as developers and their relationship with our elected officials, I don’t have a real problem so long as the elected officials remember that they’re representing the community. I see our elected officials as our negotiators (they should not be backroom dealers).

When a developer sees a piece of land that they want, it is up to our elected officials to make sure that they obtain the maximum amount of amenities, benefits and accommodations for our community. This might include green space or open space, funding for a recreation center or youth program. They should not lie down and be silent, or be bullied and intimidated. When the developer doesn’t follow through or agree to the deal, our lawmakers must make sure there is a penalty or commensurate consequences imposed.

If a project will, in fact, bring more traffic, congestion and overcrowding, a resolution should be part of a written deal to widen a road or fund an addition to a school, etc. If the developer doesn’t want to do those things, then let him move on.

As far as community input, the process is set up where the developer must hear from the community. It is up to us to take the time to show up in force at these hearings to express our support or opposition or raise our concerns and recommendations about a project. We also should contact our elected officials early in the process to get our questions answered and concerns addressed.

I would recommend that Baltimore County government would more proactively let people know when these hearings are being held, and with sufficient notice, and to hold them at times convenient for the general public.

It takes courage and fortitude for elected officials to stand up to the community—and it’s usually a small vocal group—and declare a project is going to be better for the community as a whole, even though we might not like it. If they are really for the community and have no alternate motives, they should be commended. It’s easy to fold or bend to the loudest voices.

Councilwoman Vicki Almond was up against intense opposition for Foundry Row in Owings Mills. I wonder how many people who were against that very popular shopping destination look at it in its completion and still consider it a negative. The developer, Greenberg Gibbons, has purchased nearby shopping centers to improve the Reisterstown Road area in Owings Mills and Reisterstown. They are even looking at finding another supermarket to replace the Mars that closed in Reisterstown.

In Randallstown and Owings Mills, after the community expressed its concerns about another Walmart coming to the former Owings Mills Mall site, Councilman Julian Jones made the issue part of his conversation with Kimco Realty to bring Costco and other stores to the mall.

That’s the kind of trading and negotiation that should be going on. What is bad is when elected

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Northwest
VOICE
Your voice in the community

The *Northwest Voice* is a privately-owned community newspaper founded in 2005 to inform, entertain and inspire, as well as share news of interest to the northwest Baltimore County communities of Owings Mills, Pikesville, Randallstown, Reisterstown, Woodlawn, Windsor Mill and Catonsville.

Readers are welcome to comment and respond to articles. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and length, as well as to publish them online, in print or not at all. Anonymous letters or those that cannot be verified will not be published. The opinions of readers and guest columnists are not necessarily the opinions of the *Northwest Voice*. Unsolicited material will not be returned.

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Council gives thumbs up to ethics, campaign solicitation bill; votes down bills about meeting times, budget and speeding signs

Did you know that the Baltimore County Council meetings are now recorded?

When you're not able to go to Historic Courthouse in Towson to see your council members in action, you can view the discussion, testimony and votes online.

Among the bills they considered at the July 3 meeting were those related to ethics training, campaign solicitations, speed warning displays, the start times for council meetings and the method of public input on the county budget.

At least five of seven council members are needed to pass legislation. Bills adopted include the following.

With **Bill 35-17**, the Baltimore County Ethics Commission will provide a mandatory public ethics training for registered lobbyists and certain county officials and staff heads and council members. Prior to the vote, a debate ensured about whether community leaders and organization would have to register as lobbyists.

Several questions were directed at the council secretary and legal counsel, to address citizen concerns and misinformation being spread by the conservative Campaign for Liberty. District 2 Councilwoman Vicki Almond, who introduced the bill, got clarification that no citizen would have to take ethics training before speaking with a public official and the bill does not infringe on freedom of speech. The bill is to ensure that key decision makers in county government operated in a responsible manner, Almond said.

Bill 36-17 prohibits council members from receiving or soliciting campaign contributions or holding fundraising events during the yearlong Comprehensive Zoning Map Process. Vicki Almond introduced this bill.

There were bills that failed—and failed along party lines.

Bill 39-17 would have required council meetings to convene at 6 p.m. or later. Currently, most legislative meetings begin at 6 and the work sessions, at which there is discussion, and testimony from the public and county agencies on the bills, begin at 2 p.m. Wade Kach introduced the bill.

Bill 40-17 would have required the county executive to hold at least two meetings to hear testimony and receive input from the public on the proposed county budget, prior to submitting it to the County Council. David Marks and Wade Kach submitted the bill.

Julian Jones, who represents District 4, opposed the bill. "People have plenty of opportunity to make their requests known. It's not wise to get into the habit of telling the county executive how to spend his time." Council Chairman Tom Quirk of District 1 questioned whether requiring the county executive to hold such meetings needed to be legislated. Cathy Bevins of District 6 said it is council members' job to bring issues to the county executive.

Bill 41-17 would have allowed additional speed warning displays. Under the bill, the Police would make two of the electronic signs available for each councilmanic district. Streets that are eligible are those who fail to meet the basic requirements for inclusion in the neighborhood traffic calming and management program. David Marks introduced the bill.

In other action, the council confirmed Kyrle Preis III as chief of the Fire Department. The 26-year veteran will oversee 1,000 career and 2,000 volunteer members of the county fire service. Preis takes over for John Hohman, who retired as chief on June 30 after 40 years of service to the county.

Council members unanimously passed a resolution in April to live-stream their legislative meetings and work sessions so the public can view them online. You can find out what issues are going before the council, how your council members are voting and the discussion around the issues at www.baltimorecountymd.gov/countycouncil/meetings/index.html.

SENIOR COMMUNITY LUNCHEON



Please join me and other community members at a luncheon for a report of my legislative work in the Maryland Assembly, and to get information about various programs and benefits made available for our senior citizens by the State of Maryland.

Date: Friday, July 14, 2017

Time: 11:00 am

Venue: Reisterstown Senior Center
12035 Reisterstown Road
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Date: Thursday, August 17, 2017

Time: 11:30 am

Venue: Woodlawn Senior Citizen Center
2120 Gwynn Oak Avenue
Gwynn Oak, MD 21207

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“A long time ago, I heard an old sage say, ‘Justice is the most sincere expression of love.’ I truly believed it; it made sense and was easy for me to believe because I love justice. However, after witnessing justice denied to victims of police brutality on so many occasions across this country, I’m starting to wonder like Tina Turner, ‘What’s love got to do with it.’ How can you protect something you’re afraid of?”

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New and returning officers of the Woodlawn Senior Center.

New Officers Elected for Woodlawn Senior Center

The Woodlawn Senior Center council installed officers for the 2017-2018 terms at the June meeting.

The new and returning officers are Charolene Oliver, president; Shirleen Adams, secretary; Ruth Daly, treasurer; and Diane Dockery, assistance treasurer.

New board members Patty Deloch, Leslie Hyman, Carol Johnson, Ann Ward and Sheila Wooten join returning board members Barbara Dennis, Linda Gray, Calvin Howell and Aaron Barnett.

Joanne Williams, director of the Baltimore County Department of Aging, administered the oath of office.

The council customarily emphasizes the importance of the duties of the elected

positions by inviting political and community leaders as witnesses to the installation. Responding to the request were Bart Kennedy, representing U.S. Sen. Chris Van Hollen; Kenny Brown, representing Maryland Sen. Shirley Nathan-Pulliam; Tony Baysmore, special assistant to County Executive Kevin Kamenetz; Delegates Adrienne Jones, Charles Sydnor III and Ben Brooks; Councilman Julian Jones, and Margaret Stokes representing Councilman Tom Quirk.

Outgoing board members Carolyn Barnett, Arlene Scott, Mary Distance, Kay Ferrell and Etta Petty were presented citations in recognition for their dedicated service during their terms of office.



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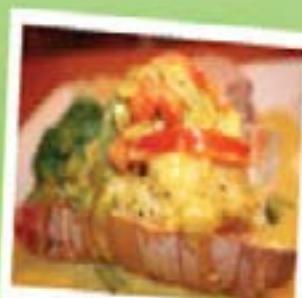
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WE ACCEPT





Meetings and Events

Mark your calendars for the following events and activities.

Khizr Khan to Speak at Call for Unity Rally

A Call To Unity Rally will be held on Wednesday, July 12, 5 to 7 p.m. in Patriot Plaza, 401 Bosley Ave. Towson, Md. 21204. The rally begins at 5 p.m.; the program and Khizr Khan (Gold Star Family), the featured guest, take place at 6 p.m. People of all religions, cultures and backgrounds are invited to join County Executive Kevin Kamenetz, Khan and community leaders and come together in solidarity, unity and strength. Contact Carmen Christiana at 410-887-2450 or cchristiana@baltimorecountymd.gov for more information.

Senior Community Luncheons

Del. Jay Jalisi of District 10 is hosting senior community luncheon on Friday, July 14, 11 a.m. at Reisterstown Senior Center, 12035 Reisterstown Rd., 21136. A luncheon will also be held on Thursday, Aug. 17, 11:30 a.m. at Woodlawn Senior Center, 2120 Gwynn Oak Ave., 21207. RSVP at jay.jalisi@house.state.md.us or 410-363-6000.

Shred Day at Emmarts U.M. Church

Emmarts United Methodist Church will be hosting a Shred Day for county residents to shred their confidential documents securely on Saturday, July 15, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the church, located at 7100 Dogwood Rd. in Windsor Mill, 21244. The event will occur rain or shine.

Community members are encouraged to bring their unwanted documents, including banking statements, old tax return files, medical records, etc., to be shredded on site. VHS tapes, CDs and binders will not be accepted. There is a cost for shredding each box of paper. Proceeds will go toward a Youth Girls Retreat and other church outreach activities. For more information, contact Katrina Leonard at kleon4117@aol.com.

Pikesville 5K Run-Walk

The Pikesville Chamber of Commerce is hosting the 5K Run-

Walk on Sunday, July 16, at 8 a.m. at Woodholme Center, 1829 Reisterstown Rd. For registration info, call 410-484-2337.

National Night Out in Reisterstown on Aug. 1

Chartley Homeowners and Reisterstown Improvement associations will host Reisterstown's National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 1, at the Chartley Park Shopping Center, in Reisterstown, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The evening of family fun will feature free chicken nuggets for the first 300 attendees, canned soft drinks, water and snow balls, as well as a free two youth bicycles and helmets and free gift card. Enjoy activities and games for all ages including story time, crafts and face painting, a moon bounce, and golf putting for teens and adults.

National Night Out was designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness and strengthen police-community partnerships. Over 40 groups, including the Baltimore County Police Mobile Command Center, will display and hand out information on their programs. For additional information contact ernie@reisterstown.com

Back to School Giveaway and Health Fair Extravaganza

Morning Star Baptist Church will hold this Fun Day on Saturday, Aug. 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the outreach center, 6665 Security Blvd. in Woodlawn, 21207. There will be food, fun, school supplies, health screenings, and of course MSBC's War Room.

Flea Market/Health Fair

Woodlawn Senior Center will host Flea Market/ Health Fair on Saturday, Sept. 16, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Stop by the center at 2120 Gwynn Oak Ave. to reserve your space and tables. The bring- your-own-table cost to rent space is \$15. To reserve space and a table is \$25. Set up begins at 7:15 a.m. Grill combo meals and desserts will be on sale. Vendors will be available to

offer screenings such as blood pressure, vision, cancer screenings, falls and risks, strength testing, BMI (body mass index) and other health services and information provided. Rain date is Saturday, Sept 23.

LRCC Meetings

The Liberty Road Community Council invites you to learn about, share, and find solutions to issues affecting your neighborhood. The LRCC meets at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month (except August) at the Randallstown Community Center, 3505 Resource Drive, Randallstown 21133.

County Council

Upcoming meetings of the County Council will be held 6 p.m. on Aug. 7 (work session is Aug. 1 at 2 p.m.) at the Historic Courthouse, 400 Washington Ave. in Towson. For more information and dates for the work sessions, visit www.baltimorecountymd.gov/county council.

Submit your notices for

free community events to nwvoicenews.com/contact-us/news/ for consideration on our Meetings and Events page. The event must take place in the county's Catonsville, Pikesville, Owings Mills, Randallstown, Reisterstown, Woodlawn area. Please send your information at least 60 days prior to the event.



Fun at the Park

The Security-Woodlawn Business Association hosted its second annual Fun Day on June 17 at Gwynn Oak Park in Woodlawn. The event featured vendors, a DJ, dance and exercise activities for the adults and craft and other activities for the children. SWBA officers include Marisol Johnson, president; Margaret Stokes, vice president; Shantel Mason, secretary; and Albert Kim, treasurer.

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Randallstown Library Branch Reopens After Extensive Renovation

Updated space features upgraded technology, new study rooms

After six months of extensive renovation and technology updates, the Randallstown Branch reopened after an extensive renovation.

Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz and Public Library Director Paula Miller celebrated the opening with community leaders, residents and elected officials on June 29. The library closed on Jan. 29.

Amenities and features of the Randallstown branch include a large meeting room that can be reserved and has a capacity for 221 people, newly enclosed spaces for children and teens, and four study rooms. There also is free WiFi, 33 public desktop computers, a children's computer, and a large collection of print and audio-visual library

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County Executive Kevin Kamenetz cuts the ribbon on June 29 for the renovated Randallstown Public Library at 8604 Liberty Rd. Right, teens perform as part of the ribbon cutting activities.



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Continued from page 8

materials. New shelving, comfortable seating, signage and updated public restrooms complement the modernized space.

The branch also features a Center of Excellence, the COLAB, which is a technology/maker cooperative space that includes items such as 20- plus laptop computers, an HTC Vive virtual reality system, Microsoft HoloLens holographic computer, PlayStation 4 console with VR Bundle and games, Sphero SPRK and Ollie robots, and snap circuits. On the horizon for the branch are a Kano build-it-yourself computer with coding kit and a 3D printer.

Miller said, "In addition to books and electronic resources, this update allows us



to provide transformative experiences and user-friendly spaces that make a positive difference in peoples' lives."

"This \$1.1 million project has transformed the popular Randallstown Branch into a state-of-the-art community hub for people to access technology and benefit from a larger collection of library materials, great children and teen spaces, an attractive meeting room and so much more," Kamenetz said.

The library began its weekday Lunch and Learn series on July 3, for children 18 and under to enjoy crafts or fun hands-on learning experiences along with free boxed lunches.

The Randallstown branch is one of 19 throughout the county. In addition to loaning books, library card holders may borrow DVDs, music, e-books and gain access to our research databases. Branches provide computer and Internet access, job search assistance and offer a multitude of daily learning programs for adults and children.

For more information about branches and services, visit bcpl.info or follow BCPL on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Are Developers the Good Guys or the Bad Guys? *continued from page 2*

officials let developers come in and take charge and fail to hold them accountable.

Elected officials have to make suggestions on what you want to see done, and negotiate a win-win for the community and government. We need community, elected officials and developer working together.

Certainly, there are development proposals that will disrupt a community and surrounding neighborhoods. They must be vehemently opposed.

We also have to be realistic. Take the Tractor Supply Store that's replacing the supermarket at Marriottsville Shopping Center in Randallstown. Apparently, the shopping center owner approached more than a dozen supermarkets and none were interested. Does he reject a willing tenant or should he leave the space empty?

Will a Royal Farms really be a terrible addition for the busy York Road in Towson? Was a new community of town homes off Johnnycake Road in Windsor Mill such a bad idea? Now, you see overgrown weeds and dumped furniture.

Developers aren't necessarily bad guys, but they must be checked. We need them. Government doesn't build communities. It's the private enterprise of developers. People who live in the Liberty Road district would love to have a developer take a look at that commercial district. Folks in the Woodlawn area were pleased to attend a meeting that District 1 Councilman Tom Quirk hosted so that developer David S. Brown Enterprises could share its vision for Security Square Mall.

Let's not say "no" for the sake of it saying no. Things don't stay the same forever. Change is progress. Progress is change.

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Diversity is Lacking on the County School Board *continued from cover page*

County to be closed to her daughter, son-in-law and grandson. “It is my hope that equity, excellence and joy remain at the forefront of the work of the board,” Williams stated.

Most recently, Williams advocated assertively to reverse the heat policy, giving the superintendent authority to close schools instead of using a heat index, and to close schools on Muslim holidays.

Marisol Johnson, a Hispanic board member for the past five years who represented councilmanic District 2, announced her resignation at the end of the June 13 board meeting.

Johnson, vice chair, said at her last meeting that “the timing to go is perfect for me and my family” and she looks forward to the future.

“I have learned that if you don’t grow, your knowledge base kind of stay stagnant. I want to make sure I don’t get lost in the minutia of things and things I don’t control,” Johnson during her remarks at the meeting. “I want to make sure that I move on beyond Baltimore County Public Schools and finish what I started here as vice chairwoman on this school system. Moving forward, I won’t stop fighting for all children.”

A group of legislators and community leaders led by Del Ben Brooks of District 10 submitted to the Governor the name of Cheryl Pasteur, a

retired teacher, department head and principal of Randallstown High School who continues to spearhead various education initiatives. Brooks said the nomination would have reflected and maintained the geographic, gender and racial diversity of our county.

Other submissions include Treopia Washington, a former educator who has held education positions in corporate and nonprofit organizations.

In a June 15 letter to the Governor, Aaron Plymouth, chair of the Combined Communities Advocacy Council of Greater Randallstown, expressed disappointment about the disproportionate representation on the board.

The CCACGR did not recommend a replacement, but asked that Hogan “please review your list of qualified female minority nominees and appoint one of them replace Marisol Johnson.”

District 4 Councilman Julian Jones wrote in May that Hayden’s appointment “represents a dangerous trend that is being set by your Administration that is not representative of the population being served.” Pointing out that all eight of Hogan’s appointees have been white, Jones asked that the Governor pursue equitable and inclusive numbers of appointees in the county and throughout the state.

Brooks said, “Some people might think that diversity doesn’t matter as long as you have what may appear to be individuals on the board with impressive credentials. But it is important that the diversity of our students’ and their parents’ perspectives and the communities from which they come are presented and taken into account.”

Clifford Collins, chair of the Northwest Advisory Education Council, said, “We have a school system that is 60 percent minority and we have one minority representative. The Governor has been petitioned to appoint a minority to the board, preferably a minority woman from District 2. That is important.”

The Board appointed Verletta White as the interim superintendent to replace S. Dallas Dance, who left his post in June. In that role, she will serve as the board’s secretary-treasurer.

Josie Shaffer, a senior at Pikesville High School and member of the National Honor Society, begins her one-year term on the school board this month. In addition to Hayden and McDaniels, other board members are: Edward Gilliss, chair; Kathleen Causey, June Eaton, Julie Henn, Ann Miller, Nicolas Stewart, David Uhlfelder and Stephen Verch.

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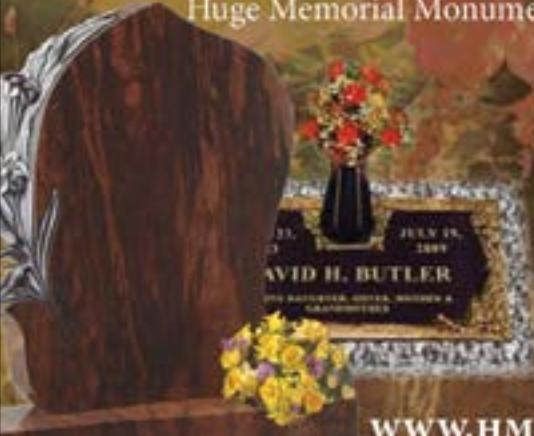
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PHOTOS BY
GEORGE WHITE AND
KENNY BROWN



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me: Area Music Festivals

Morning Star Baptist Town Meeting Tackles Tough Issues of Education, Policing and Community Justice

At the Morning Star Baptist Church's Community and Congregational Town Hall on June 10, the topics of policing and community justice, education, health, voting rights, mass incarceration of African Americans, and the rights of vulnerable persons attracted a strong turnout of residents, church and community leaders and elected officials.

With Bishop Dwayne Debnam leading the program, attendees included Apostle Karen Bethea, senior pastor of Set the Captives Free Outreach Center, U.S. Sen. Ben Cardin, County Executive Kevin Kamenetz, and Maryland Delegates Charles Sydnor, Keith Haynes and Terri Hill. Gubernatorial candidate and former NAACP president Ben Jealous also was there.

Diane Bell-McCoy, CEO of Associated Black Charities, moderated discussions on policing and community justice, and education. There also were activities and a talk for the young people.

Education

Bell asked each panelist to comment on what they believed to be the local priorities for providing access to a quality education.

Del. Charles Sydnor, an attorney and member of the House of Delegates Judiciary Committee,



Speaking on the policing and community justice panel were attorney Ivan Bates, Rev. Heber Brown III, Ganesha Martin of the Baltimore City Police Department and Lamont Martin of the Baltimore County Police Department. Diane Bell-McCoy of Associated Black Charities was the moderator.

encouraged people to pay attention to the Baltimore County Board of Education, which is moving to a hybrid board of appointed and elected representatives. The Governor is putting a number of people on the school board who don't have our best interests at heart in terms of policy at heart, Sydnor suggested. The school board is losing a lot of its diversity with recent departures of Latina and African-American female members, Marisol Johnson and Romaine Williams, he explained.

Lisa Williams, executive director for Baltimore County Public Schools Office of Equity and Cultural Proficiency and a former city classroom teacher, said people must look beyond literacy, suspension rates and test results. "When we have school boards that do not understand our community, and are unable to provide the kind of leadership that really helps school leaders to dig into some of issues," she said, "what you actually start to see are the real-life ramifications of the

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Maxine Clark's solo practice specializes in orthodontic and dentofacial orthopedic treatment. She received her D.D.S. degree from Howard University College of Dentistry and a general certificate from the U.S. Army where she earned an achievement medal. With over 25 years of orthodontic care, Dr. Clark has contributed to the awareness of the importance of good oral health, as well as serving on the delegation to the American Association of Orthodontists and mentoring high school students interested in the field of dentistry.

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Georgina Aye, principal of Woodlawn High School; Sean Conley, chief academic officer of Baltimore City Schools; Del. Charles Sydnor III, and Lisa Williams of Baltimore County Public Schools participated on the education justice panel.

Department of Justice that is more interested in incarcerating black and brown bodies than they are in employing them.”

Sean Conley, chief academic officer for Baltimore City Schools and a former teacher in the county and city, talked about the four new school buildings

that will open by January. He also explained City Schools’ move toward a concept of “student wholeness,” to make sure all students’ needs are met, whether they are academic enrichment, critical thinking or health services.

Georgina Aye, first-year principal of Woodlawn

High School, said that people must acknowledge that Woodlawn High and the feeder schools are a “different beast” in the county. “There is severe illiteracy,” she said. “I need people to be OK with growth” until we get to mastery. Students need mentoring services, social services and after-school tutoring” to address the needs for the whole child. “We don’t have the resources for them, so the 20 percent of the population that really needs [help] begins to define the whole program and entire school.”

Policing and Community Justice

Bell asked for the panelists’ thoughts on the “complicated” issue of police accountability and community justice. Heber Brown III, pastor of Pleasant Hope Baptist Church, shared a story about the lack of progress 17 police transparency and

continued on page 19

Faith and Worship

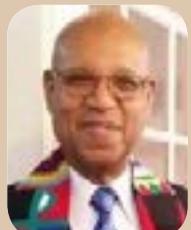
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PHOTOS: GEORGE WHITE



At the Iftar dinner program, Raees Kahn and Howard Libit share the podium, Muslim congregation members pray, and two young congregation members take a break before reciting the Quran.

Ramadan Program Draws Diverse Audience

In observance of end of Ramadan, a holiday month of fasting, introspection and prayer, the Greater Baltimore Muslim Council held its annual Iftar dinner program at the Islamic Society of Baltimore (ISB) mosque in Catonsville

After a recitation of the Quran, Ed Tori, president of the ISB, welcomed a large audience of congregation members, elected officials and community leaders. Religious leaders who spoke on fasting were Dick Tillman for Christianity, Howard Libit for Judaism and Mohsin Ansari for Islam. Attendees enjoyed dinner and could watch congregation members praying.

U.S. Senator Ben Cardin, County Executive Kevin Kamenetz and District 10 Del. Jay Jalisi were among those who gave remarks.

CCACGR Hosts Meetings Featuring Candidates for County Council

The Combined Communities Advocacy Council of Greater Randallstown (CCACGR) is getting a head start on educating members of its community associations about candidates running for office, and giving the candidates an opportunity to hear the community issues.

With the primary elections for local, state and federal office set for June 26, CCACGR President Aaron Plymouth held a series of meetings featuring three Democratic and one Republican candidate for Baltimore County Executive. In a structured question-and-answer format, each candidate had two minutes to answer the same eight questions given to them in advance.

State Del. Pat McDonough, who is seeking the Republican nomination, represents District 7 Baltimore and Harford counties. He said at the June 29 meeting that he would double the jobs for seniors programs, appoint a business ombudsman to assist small businesses and “get rid of every boarded house in the county in my first year.” McDonough also said he would add more quality upscale businesses to the Liberty Road area and promised to bring a supermarket to the area “one way or the other.”

Councilwoman Vicki Almond, who represents Owings Mills, Reisterstown and Pikesville, spoke at the May 25 CCACGR meeting. Recognizing that communities are the backbone of Baltimore County, Almond said, she would seek community input regarding good schools, economic development and public safety; look at creative use of open space to best benefit communities; pursue actions to increase workforce development; recruit a diverse administration and build relationship with businesses to encourage development in Randallstown.

Almond added that she would support stronger code enforcement and hold property owners accountable for vacant properties; market strong communities to attract supermarkets and other businesses to the area; and improve infrastructure, including recreation and parks.

State Sen. Jim Brochin, who represents Baltimore County District 42, presented his platform at the group’s April 27. His platform included

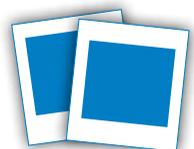


Vicki Almond and Pat McDonough spoke at the Combined Communities Advocacy Council of Greater Randallstown meetings.

improving infrastructure on Liberty Road; creating jobs and tax credit zones; and lowering the tax rate and tax credit for small businesses. Brochin also said he would use county funds to preserve open land for community recreation areas such as parks and ball fields; be a cheerleader for Liberty Road and advocate for food stores and restaurants; and prevent over-development.

At the March 30 meeting, John Olszewski Jr., a former state delegate who represented eastern Baltimore County’s District 6, said he would work to meet the needs of the county and community with jobs, improving schools, and building infrastructures, such as roads. Olszewski added that he would select a team that reflects the population, seek quality businesses to locate on Liberty Road, and use the county code to fight undesirable businesses.

Plymouth said the early knowledge gained from the meetings will give community members “time to give informed consent and choose the right candidate that we believe will benefit Baltimore County in general and Randallstown in particular.”



The Northwest Voice photographers made their rounds. View the Northwest Voice photo gallery at nwvoicenews.com.

John Olzewski Jr. Officially Announces Campaign for County Executive



PHOTO CREDIT: GEORGE WHITE

John Olzewski Jr. announced his candidacy for County Executive in Woodlawn on June 27.

As candidates for Baltimore County Executive make the rounds to connect with potential voters at community meetings, fundraisers and public events, John Olzewski Jr. was the first out of the gate—officially announcing on June 27 in Woodlawn and Randallstown that he is seeking the Democratic nomination for the post.

A crowd of supporters, including family members, union members, community representatives and elected officials turned out for the announcement in the downtown Woodlawn district. District 44 representatives Sen. Shirley Nathan-Pulliam and Del. Pat Young were among those on hand to show their support for the former state delegate. Olzewski represented eastern Baltimore County District 6 for two terms. A group also turned out at the Randallstown Community Center for his announcement there.

A resident of Dundalk, “Johnny O,” as he is called, talked about his background as a teacher and volunteer, leadership abilities and vision for the county.

County Executive Kevin Kamenetz is prohibited from running for a third term because of term limits. Others vying for the Democratic nomination for county executive include Councilwoman Vicki Almond of District 2 and Sen. James Brochin of District 42. Del. Pat McDonough of District 7 is running for the Republican nomination.



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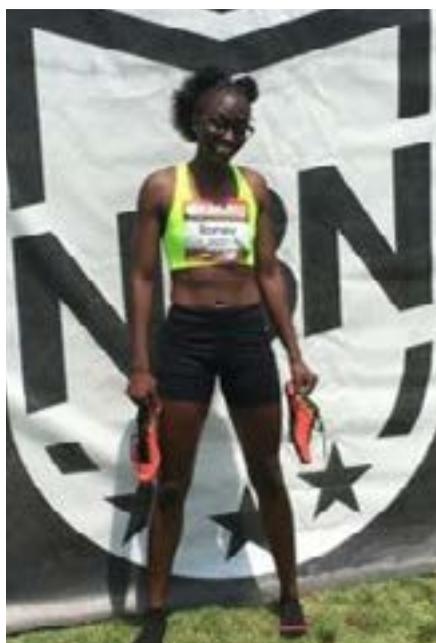
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Randallstown High Track Team Ranks Nationally

The Randallstown High School men's 4 x 200 meter was ranked 10th in the nation at the New Balance Nationals, held June 16 at North Carolina A and T University. Michael Akinleye, Tim Brice, Hanoi Brown, Marcus Newton had a time of 1:29.9.90.

In other track action, Jessica Roney ran the 400 hurdles and won her heat, becoming the 10th best in the nation results. Roney will be attending University of Maryland Eastern Shore in the fall on scholarship.

Middle School Teacher Honored with Fellowship

The National Education Association Foundation named Anuradha Bajpai, a science educator at Windsor Mill Middle School, as one of the 48 public school educators in this year's class of Global Learning Fellows. This class was selected from more than 400 applicants across the country.

Bajpai, a Catonsville-area resident, will spend a year building global competency skills (the capacity to understand and act on issues of global significance). As a result of the fellowship, Bajpai says he will be better equipped to prepare students for global citizenship. "In order to develop 21st century learners, I can promote problem solving skills and produce students who can think critically."



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Crime News in the Northwest: Woodlawn Motel Homicide Arrests

Read a roundup of Baltimore County Police Department reports on some of the incidences of crime affecting local residents so that you are aware of the crimes and the alleged suspects' methods of operation.



Left, Terica Evans, and right, Derrick Simmons.

Arrests for Motel 6, Woodlawn Slayings

Baltimore County Police have made two arrests in connection with three homicides committed during the months of May and June.

Terica Evans, 30, and Derrick Simmons, 24, both of the unit block of Glyndale Court in Reisterstown, 21136, have been charged with three counts of first-degree murder each and other related charges in connection with the June 17 murders of Angel Crespo, 27, and Edgardo Estremera, 30, at the Motel 6 in Woodlawn. Evans and Simmons also were charged in connection with the murder of Kyle Fulton, 24, who was gunned down near the intersection of Liberty Road at Liberty Place in Windsor Mill on May 24.

Detectives were able to link Evans and Simmons to both incidents based on similarities in the crimes captured by area surveillance videos. Both are held at the Baltimore County Detention Center on no bail status pending trial, offering a reward.

Bodies of Man, Woman Discovered After Hours Long Barricade in Catonsville

Baltimore County Police have identified the two people involved in the June 12 murder-suicide in Catonsville.

Jenna Lilly, 28, and Christopher Cleaver, 33, both of the 2100 block of Rockwell Court, were engaged to be married. Police discovered their bodies after an hours-long barricade in Catonsville. Police believe Cleaver killed his fiancé, as well as the family dog, before turning the gun on himself.

Police continue to investigate the circumstances surrounding this incident.

Pedestrian Struck on Walmart Parking Lot

A pedestrian was injured in front of an Owings Mills Walmart on June 5 after being struck by a car on the parking lot.

The preliminary investigation has revealed at around 6:15 p.m. a 2012 Chevrolet Cruze was driving in the parking lot of the Walmart located at 9750 Reisterstown Road. The driver of the struck a 2014 Nissan Sentra, causing only minor damage, then continued toward the Walmart building where it struck a female pedestrian, throwing her several feet from the vehicle. The Chevy Cruze continued forward, striking the front of the Walmart building.

The driver of the Chevrolet Cruze, who may have been experiencing a medical emergency, was transported by medic to a local hospital for treatment. The pedestrian was transported by air to a local hospital with serious injuries.

The Baltimore County Crash Investigation Team continues to investigate this incident.

MSBC Town Meeting

continued from cover page

accountability bills he and others were lobbying in the Maryland General Assembly the legislative session before Freddie Gray's 2015 death. "I went to the chair of the Legislative Black Caucus at the time and she told me that if the police union doesn't like a bill, we can't pass it." In addition to "organizing people and organizing money behind a unified agenda," Brown said, "we must do some things for ourselves. We are a more safe community when we decrease our dependability on systems not in our best interests."

Ganesha Martin is chief of the Department of Justice Compliance and Accountability/External Affairs at the Baltimore Police Department, doing work with the consent decree, created after the DOJ found that the city police department had a pattern and practice of violating citizens' constitutional rights. To make change, you have to come to the table and make it right, Martin said. She urged residents to get involved with the consent decree process, participate in working groups and engage in the conversation at consentdecree.baltimorecity.gov.

It is crucial for community and law enforcement to get to know each other and establish a working, trusting relationship, said Lamont Martin, commander of the Baltimore County Police Department's Internal Affairs section.

Martin also stated that the county Police Department has deployed 728 body worn cameras and will have 1400 on officers by September. Legislative changes that have taken place in response to community concerns include trial boards that are now open to the public, an extension from 90 days to one year after an incident to file a brutality complaint, and reduced from 10 to five days that a police officer has before he can speak to an investigation.

Attorney Ivan Bates of Bates and Gonzales LLC suggested that the attendees go down to court house, sit and watch an actual case. "You'll be able to see what's going on" and how the system works," he said. "Once you educate yourself about the system, that you then are able to make the changes."

Keep Your Community Within County Code

Are you keeping the beautification and tidiness of your neighborhood top of mind?

Does your community have an issue with neighbors whose grass grows a foot before they crank up the lawn mower, collects junked vehicles and appliances in the yard or keeps their trash curbside weeklong?

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Some 25 inspectors respond to roughly 18,000 complaints about code and zoning violations each year. Commonly reported violations include rodent or insect infestations, high grass, illegal structures, abandoned vehicles, improperly stored trash or garbage, and defective roofs, windows, doors or fences.

To file online, go to www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/permits/codeenforcement/codecomplaint.html. You must leave your name, address and phone number to file online. Or, you may call 410-887- 3351.



Bishop Dwayne Debnam welcomed more than 100 people to the Community and Congressional Town Hall held at Morning Star Baptist Church's outreach center in Woodlawn.

New State Laws Increase Minimum Wage, Require Opioid Education in Public Schools

If you're working in a minimum-wage job, your paycheck will be a little fatter effective July 1. Enacted legislation that increased the state minimum wage by 50 cents to \$9.25 per hour is among the new Maryland laws that take effect this month. At the time the law passed in 2014 to incrementally raise the minimum wage, the minimum rate was \$7.25 an hour. It will be \$10.10 by 2018.

The Start Talking Maryland Act mandates that public schools teach students, starting in third grade, about the dangers of opioids as part of a drug education program. Schools are now required to have the overdose-reversing

drug naloxone on hand, with school nurses and other staff trained to use it. (As of June 1, 2017, anyone can get naloxone at a Maryland pharmacy without a prescription.) Schools also are required to implement a policy to notify parents of the training. Additionally, most state-funded colleges and universities must establish opioid addiction awareness training for students. The law represents an effort to combat the growing opioid crisis in the state and nationwide.

With Planned Parenthood threatened with an elimination of federal funding, the Democrat-controlled legislature took action to fill the budget gap if that were to happen. They approved \$2.7 million in state funds to support Planned Parenthood. The nine centers, including two in Baltimore County and one in Baltimore City, offer abortion services, as well as provide preventive health services for women.

Under the Hometown Heroes Act, law enforcement, fire, rescue or emergency services personnel who are 55 or older will get a tax break. The law exempts the first \$15,000 of their retirement income from state taxes.

Other new laws:

- The State Comptroller's Office will have more authority to investigate tax fraud, hold fraudulent filers and tax preparers accountable and protect taxpayer information. The office can also seek injunctions against tax preparers suspected of fraudulent and criminal practices. In an ongoing effort to combat tax fraud and identify theft, Comptroller Peter Franchot blocked dozens of tax preparers this season from processing returns across the state including 14 in Baltimore County.
- Craft breweries will now be able to sell up to 2,000 barrels of beer annually, instead of 500 barrels. The change in the law was made to support construction of a Guinness brewery in the former Seagram's bottling plant in Relay, in southwest Baltimore County. The brewery is scheduled to open this fall.
- The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will change its name to the Maryland Health Department.
- The Public Integrity Act of 2017 revises the provisions governing ethics for State elected and public officials, and lobbyists by expanding the application of conflict of interest rules, disclosure rules, and reporting requirements. The bill also establishes a citizens' advisory board to periodically recommend changes in the Maryland Public Ethics Law.
- The Financial Aid - Reduction Restriction law states that a college or university can reduce scholarship money already awarded to a student only under specified circumstances. They include: when a student's total gift aid from all sources exceeds the student's financial need; when the organization that awarded private scholarship funds that triggered the initial reduction approves a reduction; and to comply with the National Collegiate Athletic Association's individual or team financial aid restrictions.

For details on these laws and other enacted legislation, visit the Maryland General Assembly at mgaleg.maryland.gov.

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GOT NEWS?



Submit your news item or press release for consideration. Deadline is the 20th of the preceding month of issue publication. Remember to include details on the 5 Ws (who, what where, why and when). Submit the details to nwvoicenews.com or email editor@nwvoicenews.com.

Delta Sorority Awards Scholarships at Juneteenth Event

Delta Sigma Theta's Baltimore County Alumnae Chapter awarded four scholarships at its 24th annual Juneteenth event held June 17 at Milford Mill Academy.

Jailyn Clark received the \$1,500 lead scholarship, which provides support for a student attending a historically black college or university. Yasmin Lewis, Quineshay Murphy and Cabria Perry each received \$1,000 for college expenses.

The event featured a performance by Milford Mill's marching band, voter registration, vendor displays, arts and crafts and other activities.

County Executive Kevin Kamenetz, District 10 Delegates Ben Brooks and Adrienne Jones, District 44 Del. Charles Sydnor III, and District 2 Councilwoman Vicki Almond were among the attendees who turned out to show their support.

Juneteenth, which some considered the Independence Day for African Americans, commemorates the announcement on June 19, 1865 in Texas that the Civil War had ended and slavery was abolished. That was two years after President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation freed enslaved people in the United States, most of them in the south.



Delta Sigma Theta Baltimore County Alumnae Chapter scholarship recipients Jailyn Clark, Quineshay Murphy, Cabria Perry and Yasmin Lewis with Stacey Mitchell-Brown, 1st vice president of Baltimore County Alumnae Chapter and the chair of the Scholarship Committee (center) at the organization's Juneteenth event. Milford Mill Academy's marching band performed.





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Diane Knight was named Baltimore County Public Schools Volunteer of the Year.

Campfield PTA Treasurer Honored for Volunteerism

When Diane Knight began volunteering at Campfield Early Learning Center, it was at the request of her niece and nephew, who attended the school.

“They asked me if I would start helping, and I've never left.”

Now, more than 20 years later, Knight was recognized for her support and dedication, being named the 2016-2017 BCPS Volunteer of the Year.

Announced during a gala breakfast held June 12 at Martin’s Valley Mansion in Cockeysville, Knight’s achievement focuses on her service to Campfield students, families, and staff. An active volunteer in preschool, pre-kindergarten, and kindergarten classrooms, Knight also regularly participates in the school’s “Food Pick-Up” events to distribute food to families in need.

In addition, as PTA treasurer Knight helps organize fundraisers, teacher appreciation luncheons, and other school activities. She also regularly volunteers in the main office, where she answers phones, makes copies, and collates the school’s monthly newsletter.

“I love the school,” Knight said. “I would do anything in the world for them.”

Knight’s commitment, however, also extends beyond Campfield. Last year, she was nominated for the Volunteer of the Year award by Powhatan Elementary School. There, she assisted in classrooms, contributed to a school-wide fashion show for bullying and drug prevention, and annually boiled hundreds of eggs for students to dye before spring break.

In total, the breakfast gala honored 62 BCPS volunteers. Entertainment featured performances by Sudbrook Magnet Middle School’s Jazz Ensemble and Sudbrook Swingers.

—Baltimore County Public Schools

Where to Stay Cool in Baltimore County

If you are looking for a cool environment with access to water and bathrooms, you can take advantage of these “cooling centers” to get relief from the heat.

- Community Centers
- Churches
- Public Libraries
- Malls
- Movie Theaters
- Museums
- Neighbor's home with air conditioning
- Restaurants
- Senior Center

—Baltimore County Health Department

Welcome Our New Neighbors

Welcome our new neighbor is a list of some residential sales in the coverage area of the Northwest Voice newspaper from the previous month. This will be a feature every monthly issue. This list is from the MRIS and is provided courtesy of Tammy Moore, Broker of Rollins & Associates Real Estate, 201 Milford Mill Rd., Pikesville. The list includes address, style, bedrooms, bathrooms, list price and closing price.



ADDRESS	STYLE	BEDROOM	BATH	LISTED	CLOSE SALE
WOODLAWN, 21207					
3415 Essex Rd	Cape Cod	3	2	\$140,000	\$136,000
1900 Thayer Terr	Rancher	4	2	\$194,000	\$194,000
5300 Dogwood Rd	Victorian	5	2 ½	\$234,999	\$250,000
6435 Kriel St	Cape Cod	4	2	\$215,000	\$215,000
1131 Baker Ave	Split Foyer	5	2	\$259,000	\$259,000
WINDSOR MILLS, 21244					
7806 Selgrave Rd	Split Level	3	1 ½	\$145,000	\$145,000
3503 Milford Mill Rd	Split Level	4	2	\$219,900	\$219,900
7 Deer Glen Ct	Colonial	4	3 ½	\$238,000	\$238,000
3204 Cresson Ave	Rancher	3	2	\$199,900	\$198,000
8911A Dogwood Rd	Colonial	4	3 ½	\$440,000	\$440,000
CATONSVILLE, 21228					
1508 Tochard Dr	Colonial	4	3 ½	\$526,073	\$573,073
4 Morerick Ave N	Split Level	3	2	\$385,500	\$373,000
504 Lee Dr	Cape Cod	3	1	\$274,900	\$260,000
125 Hillside Rd	Rancher	3	1	\$314,900	\$302,000
320 Stratford Rd	Colonial	3	1 ½	\$264,900	\$262,000
RANDALLSTOWN, 21133					
15 Ojibway Rd	Traditional	3	2 (2) ½	\$185,000	\$187,000
3725 Springdell Ave	Rambler	4	2	\$245,900	\$249,300
9078 Meadow Heights Rd	Split Level	3	2 ½	\$249,000	\$239,900
11 Vivian Vale Ct	Split Level	3	2	\$239,000	\$233,000
10701 Liberty Rd	Farm House	3	1 ½	\$277,000	\$277,000
PIKESVILLE, 21208					
7310 Wallis Ave	Colonial	5	3 ½	\$599,000	\$560,000
48 Wedge Way	Contemporary	3	3 ½	\$440,000	\$440,000
815 Templecliff Rd	Cape Cod	4	2	\$184,500	\$184,500
5 Peachtree Ct	Split Foyer	3	2 ½	\$369,900	\$365,000
3525 Barton Oaks Rd	Rancher	3	3 ½	\$150,000	\$240,000
OWINGS MILLS, 21117					
6 Rainbow Ct	Rancher	4	3	\$379,000	\$345,000
3219 Hunting Tweed Dr	Contemporary	3	3 (2) ½	\$849,900	\$767,000
3605 Gwynnbrook Ave	Colonial	4	3 ½	\$485,000	\$478,000
9378 Esplanade Ct	Traditional	3	2 ½	\$259,900	\$259,900
404 Academy Ave	Traditional	3	2	\$288,900	\$295,000
REISTERSTOWN, 21136					
28 Windflower Ct	Colonial	4	4 ½	\$649,900	\$640,000
534 Church Rd	Rancher	4	3	\$405,000	\$400,000
12833 Dover Rd	Transitional	5	4 ½	\$1,295,000	\$1,275,000
201 Teapot Ct	Villa	4	3 ½	\$429,000	\$410,000
5 Rolling Acres Way	Colonial	4	3 ½	\$599,000	\$585,000



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