

# n o r t h w e s t VOICE

Your voice in the community

MARCH 2018

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



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## The Field is Set for the 2018 Political Races

Now that the Feb. 27 deadline has passed for people to file for state, local and federal office in the 2018 Maryland Gubernatorial Election, an examination of those who have signed up reveal a broad spectrum of candidates. Many incumbents are running for re-election, several newcomers are testing the waters, and some who frequently run and have yet to win are taking another shot at elected office. More Republicans are entering the races hoping to ride Gov. Larry Hogan's wave of popularity. And, whether it was from indecision or strategy, several filed in the final days before the deadline.

In the race for Governor, Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz officially announced his bid for the Democratic nomination on Feb. 22 in Towson, with his choice for Lieutenant Governor at his side. The term-limited executive selected Valerie Ervin, a former member of the Montgomery County Council

and until recently a senior advisor for the Working Families Party, as his running mate. The ticket not only brings the diversity of an African-American female, but access to the Democratic-leaning voter-rich Washington suburbs.

"With my knowledge of the Baltimore region and Valerie's knowledge of the Washington region," Kamenetz said, "we're going to work together to make things happen in Maryland. We think we are the best team to defeat Larry Hogan in November."

Ervin, who also has served on Montgomery County's board of education, called herself a champion for public schools. She praised the county's rising graduation rates, for closing the gap on white and black student graduate rates, and constructing or renovating 90 schools. In their travels, Ervin said, "We'll tell the story of what good governance looks like."

Kamenetz pointed to job creation, noting the progress of Trade Atlantic, redevelopment of Sparrows Point steel mill.

The nine Democratic candidates running for Governor include Prince George's County Executive Rushern Baker with attorney running mate Elizabeth Embry, former NAACP President Ben Jealous with businesswoman Susan Turnbull, and Sen. Rich Madaleno with Luwanda Jenkins, a former Maryland director of the Office of Minority Affairs. Krishanti Vignarajah, an ex-policy director for Michelle Obama and retired Baltimore Teacher's Union president Sharon Blake are running together. Gov. Larry Hogan and Lt. Gov. Boyd Rutherford are uncontested.

**Baltimore County Executive** Councilwoman Vicki Almond, who represents Reisterstown, Pikesville

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From the Publisher, Kenneth Brown

# The Only Time We Are Equals is When We Step in the Voting Booth

The table is set. Dozens of candidates are off and running to compete in the 2018 Gubernatorial Election for the privilege to represent our state, county, communities, and us, the voter. Now, the real work begins for the candidates and for the voter.

We are experiencing on an almost-daily basis the result of what can happen when voters chose a candidate without fully vetting him or her, or when they choose not to vote at all.

We get what we get when we don't do our homework. While the shiny object may capture our attention, we can't just show up at the voting booth and vote for people we know nothing about or vote for them for superficial reasons. We must do our homework.

Democracy was never meant to be a spectator event. Whether candidates are motivated by frivolous reasons such as to satisfy our ego or boredom or by a true sense of duty and desire to help the community, they should work very hard to earn our vote. They should have a clear message about why they want to hold the position and what issues they intend to pursue and goals they hope to achieve.

There is work on the part of the voter to ensure we make the very important decision on who our representatives should be.

Voting gives us the power to decide how things should be in our country, state, county and community. It is an opportunity to choose the candidate most aligned with our views so that they will effectively represent us. Voting is not the only way to participate in the democracy, but it is the quickest and easiest way.

How do you find out what is motivating someone to run for office? Ask him or her. Evaluate their response. Is their answer pat and cliché, or is it thoughtful, authentic and compassionate? Have these people shown leadership and interest in our community, county or state? On the other hand, did they appear to come out of nowhere, or is the campaign something they have been preparing for, for some time? Do they have a bone to pick or are they genuinely interested in representing constituents? Ask others about the candidates. Share information. Then let the facts and your conscious be your guide.

The right person can move our community forward. Pick the wrong people, and the reputation of the community may suffer, stagnate or drift backwards.

The sad part is, with voter apathy, folks believe "my one vote won't make a difference." The political powers that be understand voter apathy. They

look at numbers, and they determine in which communities folks will come out and vote. Trust me, those communities will get their concerns addressed. Communities where residents have low voter turnout don't get the same attention. The only thing an elected individual person is afraid of is a consistent voter. It is you the voter, who decides whether the candidate will have a job.

If you recall, in his first election for County Council for District 4, Julian Jones lost by less than 100 votes. Aaron Barnett, who ran for the House of Delegates in District 44B in 2014, lost by 34 votes. Just a few hundred votes separated the top vote getter and fourth-place winner in District 10.

It is wonderful that candidates, especially the newcomers and perennial candidates, are talking about all the great things they're going to do to change the world. It's important to note that no one elected official changes anything by him or herself. Our representatives should be working as a team. The agenda should not be the individual candidate or elected official's agenda; it should be the constituents' agenda.

Effective candidates must possess the ability to persuade others to follow or go along with what they are advocating. If a candidate presents an idea, ask them: How do you plan to do that? Give me an example of what you have done so that I have confidence you have what it takes to do what you say you are going to do in Annapolis, or in Towson.

To the incumbents, why should you keep your job? There is a public record of what our elected officials have done. We can measure them. Did they commit to accomplishing things and their actions fall short? Why or why not? First-time candidates may be untested and some have great potential and great ideas. However, to point out what people are doing wrong, without offering valid solutions, is not the best approach.

I understand that voters consider other things. For example, some appreciate the fact that a candidate is personable, trustworthy, keeps the informed, or knocked on their door to introduce him or herself. Those things are certainly not to be discounted.

Attend the forums (and remember, some are organized to favor certain candidates), ask questions, do some research and Google them. Talk to people, find out who is backing them or endorsing them, e.g. a union, other organizations, liberals or conservatives? What is the supporters' platform or agenda?

Email the candidates and ask them discerning questions. Ask why you should vote for them, and don't accept the "I'm sick and tired of being

sick and tired" line. What will they do to improve the situation and how? If the candidate is an incumbent, ask what they might do differently.

Democracy is a great concept if you participate in it. Your voice matters. Your vote matters. It's your power. By not using it, you're giving up your voice.

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**N**orthwest  
**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.

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Q&amp;A WITH ATTORNEY J. WYNDAL GORDON

# Why Should the Community Care About the Korryn Gaines Trial and Verdict?

At the time a Baltimore County police officer shot and killed a young mother of two on Aug. 1, 2016, in her Randallstown apartment after a six-hour standoff, information was conflicting, incomplete and blurred. At a community meeting, Baltimore County State's Attorney Scott Shellenberger announced his Sept. 21 decision that the officer, Royce Ruby, was justified in the killing, and cleared him of any criminal wrongdoing. (Ruby later transferred to another unit and was given a promotion to corporal.)

Believing the fatal shooting was not justified, J. Wyndal Gordon and other attorneys representing Gaines' estate, children and parents, filed a wrongful death civil case, which made national news, as the police killing happened at a time when brutality cases taking place around the nation were becoming more highly publicized.

On Feb. 16, after a nearly three-week civil trial concluded, a jury of six—which happened to be all women, four of them white and two of them African-American—awarded Gaines' family a total of \$37 million. The lion's share, \$32 million, is to go to her son Kodi in a trust fund until he turns 22. Gaines' 3-year-old daughter, Karsyn Courtney, was awarded \$4.5 million—although it may be subject to a cap—and Gaines' mother, father and estate received about \$300,000 each.

The verdict made major media, including the New York Times, CNN and Washington Post. Gordon says, "I never thought for a minute that we would lose this case."

Within hours of the verdict, Baltimore County Attorney Mike Fields provided this statement: "A mother died, a child was unintentionally injured, and police officers were placed in mortal danger. By any account, this was a tragic situation. The County is disappointed with the verdict and is reviewing all of its options, including an appeal." To date, the county has not made a decision about an appeal.

Gordon is representing Gaines' estate, her daughter Karsyn and mother Rhanda Darneus. In an interview with the *Northwest Voice*, Gordon shares some of the facts that came to light during his legal team's investigation and in court. "I believe the public was sold a bill of goods on this case from the beginning," says Wyndal, a resident of Windsor Mill. "[The county attorney's] hope was that the information that we were able to produce in that courtroom would never come to light."

## Take me from time of the fatal shooting to your decision to take the case.

It was very disturbing that the Police could not think of any alternative than to kill Korryn in front of her child. I know that tactical officers are



**"I believe the public was sold a bill of goods from the beginning."**

J. Wyndal Gordon  
*Trial Attorney representing the family of Korryn Gaines*

trained to be in dangerous situations. They have weapons, sophisticated body armor, ballistic shields and everything they need to deal with a mother and child who is armed with a shotgun. They have assault rifles, she has a shotgun. They have on body armor and she has on a pink sundress. So, for them to use lethal force, it didn't feel right.

I started to look at the law and question how they ended up in the home in the first place. As I evaluated, there appeared that there was more wrong about the case than justification for the officers' conduct. So, it sparked my interest.

I was writing about it on my own Facebook page. I got a call from Korryn Gaines' mother.

I told her that don't believe a 23-year-old with no tactical training—who is very much afraid of police would go hunting police, or wait until they are 50 deep outside of her home with her child in the house—would take on police with firepower. She was outmanned, outgunned and outsmarted because they had all the training. Even in a state of psychosis, what would make that a good decision.

Several times throughout the day Korryn said she would put her weapons down if they put their weapons down and come out. But they never would

oblige.

The Police Department had a lot of opportunities to bring the standoff to a safe resolution and rejected them all. All kinds of family members were present. The Police had access to the crisis mobile team that could have offered some additional help. They could have waited her out.

## Was any one officer given the OK to shoot?

Ruby is the only one who fired his weapon that entire day. Nobody else felt threatened enough that their life was in danger. He said he knew that Kodi was beside Korryn. He aimed at a position in the drywall where he assumed her head was. He was trying to execute her. It was callous; it was reckless.

We felt we had the evidence to show all the officers in that area were safe. They had the cover of brick walls, body armor that is known to repel shotgun blasts and they had an assault rifle (the M16 is a modified version of the AR15 they used in the Parkland, Florida, school shooting).

## What surprised you most about the case?

The coverup. This whole allegation that Korryn Gaines had fired her weapons on these officers...I never believed that. You would expect to have gunpower residue. The medical examiner did check and they found none. According to [the Police], the rifle was discharged twice. The location of the shell casings was very concerning because it was inconsistent with where they said she fired the weapon.

They treated her like she was Osama Bin Lama. She's 5'6 and 125 pounds. This is crushing force that they were bearing down on his very young mother.

## So was this a situation where a rogue cop took action?

Police set the environment, climate and culture for a cop to be rouge. At the end of the day, this is "Ruby's body." Ruby testified that in the deposition he was no longer allowed to take the lead in any tactical commissions. He ended up transferring to another unit. But at that other unit, he was promoted to corporal. And this is his second body!

## Tell me about the jury.

The jury was there to listen, learn, they were taking notes, they were very conscientious.

## How did the family hold up during the trial?

It was painful for them, but also liberating. They had questions about how Korryn Gaines died. [In the testimony, you hear that Korryn should never have died that day.

**What do you want the community to takeaway?**

That an egregious wrong has been committed upon Korryn Gaines and her family. She was an individual going through an episode of psychosis. The police were aware of that when they arrived on the scene. They allowed Royce Ruby too much responsibility given his background, and he took a shot that was objectively unreasonable and killed her. He shot her in the back. Not only did he take a mortal shot, he waited 30 seconds, he went through her spine and her lungs and exited her body, rechocheted off the refrigerator, and hit her son.

She's drowning in her own blood. He storms the apartment. He sees her in the kitchen and he fires three more rounds into her. For what? She's already down. The bullet went through her spine. Why did you have to finish her?

Now you have her son who will grow up without a mother. A daughter who will grow up with a mother. They were innocent and they are collateral damage. There is a

possibility that [Karsyn] won't get the reward that the jury awarded them.

It is incumbent that the community to put their arms around her.

**What action is needed?**

The community should ask their elected officials to put in legislation so Karsyn can get her award. The county can put in a bill to pay her. Her award is in jeopardy to being reduced to something [around the cap]. The jury has spoken. The jury was fair and just. This isn't some arbitrary jury.

**Where do you go from here?**

My hope that is we will restore Korryn Gaines' name and reputation posthumously, so the world will understand—as she said, the world will know what they did to her. And I've taken on that charge to be her voice to let the world know what they did to her.

*Read the full interview at [nwvoicenews.com](http://nwvoicenews.com)*



**New Jobs Coming to Baltimore County**

Bank of America is planning to add about 600 new jobs at its Hunt Valley complex, significantly expanding its Baltimore County operations. The anticipated increase follows the addition of nearly 300 jobs in 2017.

County officials say Bank of America anticipates a total of about 1,500 jobs by 2020 in Hunt Valley, there the bank has upgraded a two-building 377,000-square-foot complex at McCormick and Shawan roads to accommodate its growing workforce.

The new jobs primarily will comprise call center and staff support positions.

“Bank of America chose to expand in Baltimore County because we provided what the company needed — a talented financial services workforce and responsive local government that expedited approvals to meet the expansion timeline,” said County Executive Kevin Kamenetz. He added

that the company is recruiting for the new jobs just as the county recently announced the launch of its job connector program.

The \$2.5 million program aims to help businesses recruit, train and match workers with jobs in high-demand fields such as corporate operations/customer service, health care and logistics/distribution, Kamenetz said.

Individuals interested in applying for currently open positions at Bank of America may visit [careers.bankofamerica.com](http://careers.bankofamerica.com). Job seekers can meet with a career counselor at a Baltimore County American Job Center in Randallstown, Hunt Valley or Eastpoint.

Stanley Black & Decker recently announced 400 new jobs coming to Greenleigh at Crossroads in White Marsh-Middle River.

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# Need to Report a Stray Dog or Pay a Fee? There's an App For That.

Baltimore County residents will be able to easily request services, report issues in their community, and pay property taxes and tickets, thanks to a new mobile app.

The free app, BaltCoGo, offers self-service functionality for constituents to get accurate information on county services and report their concerns. Users can report issues like potholes, missed trash or recycling pick-ups, abandoned vehicles, and building and development issues. They can also report neighborhood concerns like sidewalk problems or tall grass and weeds, problems with rental properties, and pet and animal issues like stray dogs.

Other examples of online services residents will be able to take advantage of through the app include:

- applying for housing assistance vouchers, rental housing licenses, animal licenses and residential parking permits;
- paying property taxes; parking, red light and speed camera violations; and fees for pet spay and neuter services;

- accessing county maps that show zoning, historic districts, voting locations, bicycle facilities, road closures, GIS data, and more.

People who submit a request or complaint will receive email responses and can monitor the status of their requests via the app. Residents can also sign up for push notifications, including reminders about their trash and recycling collection days.

Residents will be able to connect easily with our county agencies to get the information that they need, noted Julian Jones Jr., chair of the Baltimore County Council. "This is what is needed in today's times."

BaltCoGo can be downloaded from the Google Play and Apple App Store. The app requires people to establish a free online account with the county by providing their name, email address and phone number. The app is integrated with existing county agencies' systems and databases, enabling county employees to efficiently review and address constituent concerns and avoid duplicating efforts.



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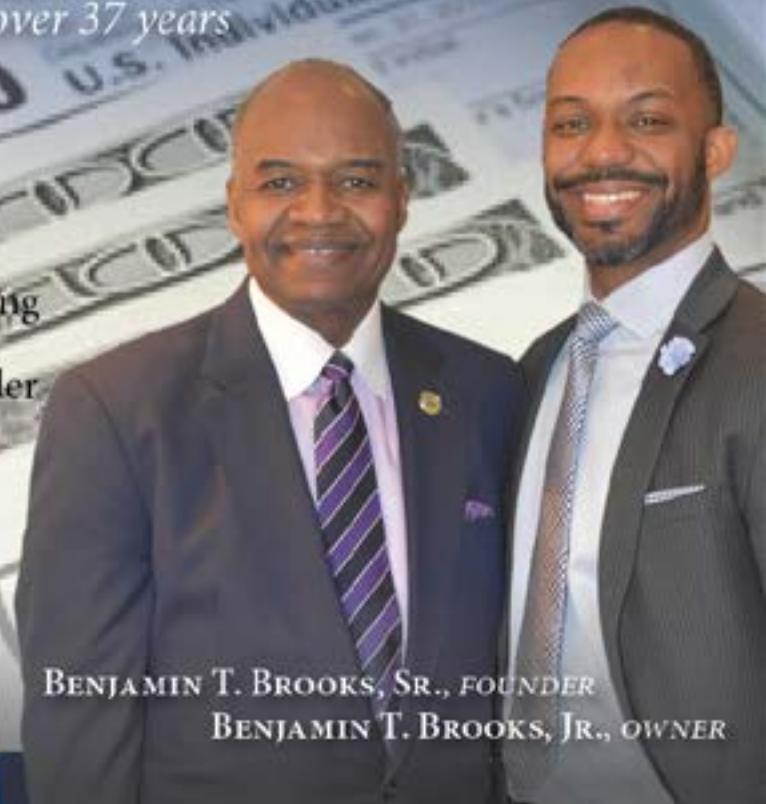
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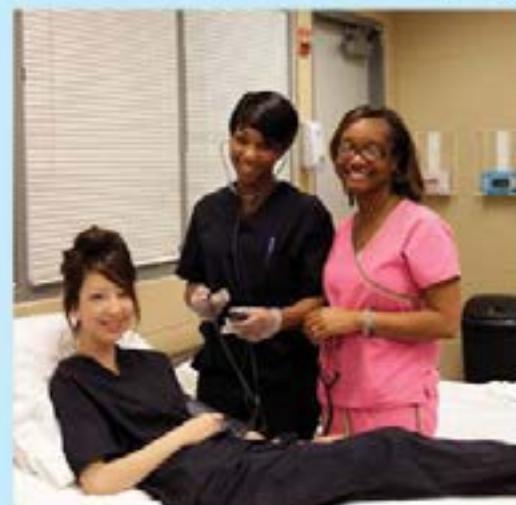
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"A long time ago, I heard an old sage say, 'Justice is the most sincere expression of love.' I truly believed it; it made sense and was easy for me to believe because I love justice. However, after witnessing justice denied to victims of police brutality 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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## Franklin Girls Track Team Wins State Finals, Catonsville Girls, Milford Boys Fall Short in Basketball Finals

Congratulations to the Franklin High School girls indoor track and field team for winning the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association 3A finals for the. The team placed first with 72.5 points to earn its third title on Feb. 20 at the Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex in Landover.

In basketball, three Baltimore County teams won their MPSSAA regional contests, but two of them — Milford Mill Academy and Catonsville High — eventually fell in the finals. The boys' games were held at the Xfinity Center at University of Maryland College Park and SECU Arena in Towson was the site of the girls' games.

Milford Mill's boys are the 3A north champs, defeating Gov. Thomas Johnson 68-59. They lost a

close battle to Poly in the state finals 49-47.

Catonsville High's girls won the 4A north regional championship, beating Bethesda Chevy Chase in the semi finals 63-51. They could not retain their 2017 championship title. In a final game where the score was tied 10 times and the lead changed nine times, Catonsville fell to Eleanor Roosevelt 60-56.

The Pikesville High girls defeated perennial powerhouse Dunbar 48-35 to reach the state 1A semi finals, where they lost to Southern Garrett 49-37.

The Perry Hall boys team repeated as state 4A champs. They beat Gaithersburg in the semi finals 85-62, and went on to defeat Bladensburg 56-52 for the championship.



The Woodlawn Warriors boys team and Catonsville Comets girls squad display their awards for capturing the Baltimore County basketball championships. The Comets advanced to the state finals, but lost 60-56.

# Free Tax Preparation for Qualifying Taxpayers

With the deadline to file 2017 tax season quickly approaching, the Internal Revenue Service wants to remind taxpayers of two resources.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free tax help to people who generally make \$54,000 or less, persons with disabilities, and limited English speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their own

tax returns. IRS-certified volunteers provide free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals.

In addition to VITA, the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) program offers free tax help for all taxpayers, particularly those who are 60 years of age and older, specializing in questions about pensions and retirement-related issues unique to

seniors. The IRS-certified volunteers who provide tax counseling are often retired individuals associated with non-profit organizations that receive grants from the IRS.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance and Tax Counseling for the Elderly sites are generally located at community and neighborhood centers, libraries, schools, shopping malls and other convenient locations

across the country. A majority of the TCE sites are operated by the AARP Foundation's Tax Aide program.

To locate the nearest VITA or TCE site near you, use the VITA Locator Tool at [irs.gov](http://irs.gov) or call 800-906-9887.

## What to bring

- Proof of identification (photo ID)
- Social Security cards for you, your spouse and dependents
- An Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) assignment letter may be substituted for you, your spouse and your dependents if you do not have a Social Security number
- Proof of foreign status, if applying for an ITIN
- Birth dates for you, your spouse and dependents on the tax return
- Wage and earning statements (Form W-2, W-2G, 1099-R, 1099-Misc) from all employers
- Interest and dividend statements from banks (Forms 1099)
- Health Insurance Exemption Certificate, if received
- A copy of last year's federal and state returns, if available
- Proof of bank account routing and account numbers for direct deposit such as a blank check
- To file taxes electronically on a married-filing-joint tax return, both spouses must be present to sign the required forms
- Total paid for daycare provider and the daycare provider's tax identifying number such as their Social Security number or business Employer Identification Number
- Forms 1095-A, B and C, Health Coverage Statements
- Copies of income transcripts from IRS and state, if applicable

## What they will prepare

- Wages, salaries, etc. (Form W-2)
- Interest Income (Form 1099-INT)
- Dividends Received (Form 1099-DIV)
- State Tax Refunds (Form 1099-G)
- Unemployment Benefits (Form 1099-G)
- IRA Distributions (Form 1099-R)

*continued on page 20*

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Delegate Benjamin Brooks at [Benjamin.brooks@house.state.md.us](mailto:Benjamin.brooks@house.state.md.us) or 410-841-3352

Delegate Jay Jalisi at [Jay.jalisi@house.state.md.us](mailto:Jay.jalisi@house.state.md.us) or 410-841-3358

Authority Friends of Benjamin Brooks, Theresa Brooks, Treasurer. Authority: Citizens for Adrienne Jones, Arnold Jablon, Treasurer. Authority: Friends of Jalisi, Keith Timmons, Treasurer

## School Safety and Discipline Take Center Stage For BCPS

If you have visited a school recently, you probably know that visitors have to be buzzed in and must go directly to the office to sign in with identification. You also may notice a school resource officer positioned near the front door, as well as surveillance cameras.

Over the years and in recent months, security has been enhanced to keep teachers, students and staff safe from criminal and violent acts. Recent incidences involving guns at local public schools and the Feb. 14 mass shooting that killed 17 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, have sparked more conversations about school safety.

In January, Baltimore

County Police charged an 18-year-old Perry Hall High student and a 14-year-old at Loch Raven High who brought pellet guns on school grounds. With the arrests and mass shooting, school safety became a hot topic at Parent Teacher and Student Association meetings, in classrooms and the Board of Education sessions.

To address concerns, Baltimore County Public Schools added school safety and discipline to the agendas of the five previously-scheduled education advisory council meetings held around the county.

At the Northwest Area Education Advisory Council meeting held Feb. 21 at Pikesville High, Aaron

*continued on page 14*



PHOTO: JANET ANDERSON

At the Feb. 21 Northwest Area Advisory Council meeting, parents and community members received presentations on school security and security, and then got an opportunity to meet in small groups and share their concerns and offer solutions.

# Councilman Tom Quirk

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Read more about your Councilman at  
[www.councilmantomquirk.com](http://www.councilmantomquirk.com)

## Benjamin Banneker Nonprofit Recognizes Sen. Kelley, Griot Green, Colonel Smith and Author Michelle

“Nevertheless, She Persisted,” was the theme of a women’s “herstory” celebration hosted by the Friends of Benjamin Banneker Historical Park and Museum, Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks, and Links Patapsco River Chapter.

In observance of March as Women’s History Month, the program, held at the Benjamin Banneker Museum in Oella, recognized the contributions of Senator Delores Kelley, Harriet Tubman (who was portrayed by master griot Janice Curtis Green), author Nathalie Michelle and Colonel Stephanie Smith for their contributions.

Cynthia DeJesus, president of Friends of Benjamin Banneker Historical Park and Museum, delivered the welcome, Cynthia Neverdon-Morton served as mistress of ceremonies, and Kelvin Moore, a U.S. Army veteran, gave the invocation. Attendees enjoyed music by Al Bracey and a history portrayal by Green. Councilwoman Vicki Almond presented the honorees with a citation.



PHOTO: GEORGE WHITE

Above, shown at the Women’s Herstory program are Cynthia Neverdon-Morton, Councilwoman Vicki Almond, honorees Sen. Delores Kelley, Janice Curtis Green, Col. Stephanie Smith and Nathalie Michelle, and Friends of Banneker president Cynthia DeJesus. At left, master griot Janice Curtis Green entertains the audience with a story about abolitionist Harriet Tubman.

## Recognizing Women’s History Month in Baltimore County

The United States has observed Women’s History Month annually throughout the month of March since 1987. Here are some facts about women who made history in Baltimore County.

- The first women to serve on the Baltimore County Council were Dorothy Boone (1958-1962), Barbara Bachur (1978-1990) and Berchie Manley (1990-1994). Bachur was the first female to serve as chair, in 1983.
- Councilwomen Vicki Almond and Cathy Bevins were elected in 2010 and became the first women to serve together on the council. Each has chaired the council.
- After serving one term in the Maryland House of Delegates, Senator Delores Kelley became the first African-American senator to represent Baltimore County (District 10) in 1995. Senator Shirley Nathan-Pulliam, elected in 2014 to represent District 44, is the county’s second African-American senator.
- Delegate Adrienne Jones is the first African-American woman to serve as speaker pro tem in the House of Delegates. Appointed in 1997 to the second highest-ranking leadership position, Jones, who represents District 10, is the longest serving speaker pro tem in the nation.
- Jennifer Aubert-Utz, assistant chief, is the highest-ranking female in the Baltimore County Fire Department.
- Verletta White, interim superintendent for Baltimore County Public Schools, is the first woman to head the 113,000-student school system.

No woman has been elected to the post of Baltimore County Executive. No woman has been elected Governor. No woman has served as Maryland Senate President or Speaker of the House. There has been no appointed chief of the Fire Department or Police Chief. No woman has served in the permanent role of BCPS Superintendent.

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# Progress is Made in Clearing the Woodmoor Junkyard, Eyesore Remains

Although tow trucks have hauled away many of the disabled cars, campers and trucks that filled a parking lot-turned junk yard situated in a residential neighborhood behind the Woodmoor Shopping Center, the unsightly mess remains.

Lochearn residents say they have been complaining about the eyesore for months to no avail. The situation came to a head at a Feb. 15 meeting held by Councilman Julian Jones, in whose district the property is located. Residents packed the Woodmoor Elementary School cafeteria and expressed anger that the property at Sedgemoor and Hillsmere loaded with abandoned vehicles, trash and debris was allowed to remain in the well-kept neighborhood of homeowners, as they dealt with the optics, smells and noise. Elected officials and candidates representing the area also attended.

Business owner Maimouna Bagayoko, who parked wrecked vehicles, disassembled them and shipped the parts to her native Mali, Africa, was also present at the meeting, along with the property owner.

The community was surprised to learn that Albert Kim, a well-liked accountant active in the Woodlawn-Security area, owned the shopping center and the lot. Kim apologized, as he told residents that Bagayoko told him she needed the lot to park vehicles. He has asked her to leave for nonpayment and violations of the lease, which prohibits storing vehicles.

Bagayoko told the *Northwest Voice* in February that she planned to clear the lot and move, but the deadline has come and gone.

Baltimore County Police said the department verified that the vehicles were not stolen.

The county's Department of Code Enforcement has fined Kim more than \$9,000 in violations. The department will hold a hearing on March 21. If the lot is not clear by that date, the county will clean the lot and charge the owner. The county will also conduct an analysis of the environmental impact.



PHOTOS: GEORGE WHITE

**Col. Alexander Jones speaks to residents upset by the lack of action taken against the owner and tenant of a junk yard packed a recent community meeting at Woodmoor Elementary School. Disabled vehicles, old car parts and debris remain in clear view from the lot at Sedgemoor and Hillsmere in Lochearn.**





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Authority: Friends of Shirley Nathan Pulliam, Albert Annan, Treasurer

# Addressing School Security

*continued from page 10*

Plymouth, the chair, facilitated presentations from BCPS staff regarding restorative practices and updates about what the system is doing. BCPS officials and board members also participated to hear concerns from parents and community members on safety practices.

While guns and violence were top of mind for attendees, there was no mention of fights, bullying and unrest from the school officials.

Melissa Lembo Whisted, executive director of academic services, talked about how the system uses conversation circles and other tactics to help students establish relationships, resolve conflicts and build trust.

Darrielle Sarnovsky, a Norwood Elementary School teacher, said she encourages parents to ask their child who may be a part or may experience conflict: Who do you think was harmed by the mistake and how can we fix it? “Kids will do amazing classwork if they feel they’re safe,” Sarnovsky said.

Principals Kalisha Miller from Pikesville Middle and Aubrey Brown from Randallstown High shared tactics that work at their respective schools. For Miller, “It’s all about our relationships with our students.” She added, “Rules minus relationships equals rebellion.”

Moving students through one-way hallways, separate entrances for each grade, meaningful mentoring and student incentives all help to keep the school orderly, Miller said.

Additionally, she employs community circles where the discussion may center around questions like “How was your weekend?” to “What is it like not to have a father?” She also uses restorative circles when harm has been done.

Aubrey Brown said he encourages students to tell their story and the story of Randallstown High. “With positive tools we lead our students to make positive decisions,” Brown said. For those who need direction, he holds up signs such as “Be proud. Wear that hair,” when a student needs to remove his hat, and “Keep our airways clean,” to curb bad language.

At the end of the meeting, Community Superintendent Kregg Cuellar solicited feedback. He asked parents and community members to write down their concerns around safety, security and discipline on large pads that were placed at each table, and come up with a solution for each concern. Cuellar collected the suggestions, which will go to the school board and superintendent to be explored and compiled into a report.

At the Feb. 20 board of education meeting, Josie Shaffer, the student representative from Pikesville High, asked the board to support a national walkout to protest gun violence that is set for March 24 in Washington.

The gun issues are not unique to BCPS, as an 18-year-old was arrested at Clarksburg High School in Howard County for bringing a loaded handgun to school.



PHOTO: JANET ANDERSON

**Darrielle Sarnovsky, a teacher at Norwood Elementary School, told parents that children must feel safe at school in order to do well.**

# Races for Governor, County Executive to be Hotly Contested

*continued from cover page*



**Kevin Kamenetz announced his bid for Governor, along with running mate Valerie Ervin, a former Montgomery County Council member. They greet Ray Banks, an ambassador for the Hubert V. Simmons Museum of Negro Leagues Baseball in Owings Mills.**



**Radio WMC hosted a candidate forum last month for candidates for County Executive, legislative District 44B and councilmanic District 4 at Woodlawn Public Library.**

PHOTO: KENNY BROWN

and Owings Mills in District 2; Senator Jim Brochin, who primarily represents Towson; and former state delegate Johnny Olszewski Jr. from Dundalk, are viewed as the frontrunners for the county's top spot. On the Republican side, longtime Delegate Pat McDonough will go up against Maryland Insurance Commissioner Al Redmer.

## Maryland General Assembly

In District 10, which encompasses Randallstown, Owings Mills and Reisterstown, Sen. Delores Kelly is being challenged by attorney and former House candidate Rob Johnson. Lawrence Williams, an educator, is also in the race for Senate. Republican Stephanie Boston, a state employee, also filed to run for Senate. Incumbent Delegates Ben Brooks, Jay Jalisi and Adrienne Jones go up against three other Democrats and four Republicans, including Michael Brown, interim executive director for Maryland Classified Employees Association.

With Dan Morhaim, elected in 1994, announcing his retirement, District 11 loses one of its veteran lawmakers. Running for a seat in the Pikesville area are six Democrats, one Republican and one Green Party candidate.

Observers believe that if incumbents Sen. Bobby Zirkin and Delegates Dana Stein and Shelly Hettleman decide add a candidate on their ticket, that individual will gain an advantage over other District 11 candidates. Looking to join the team is former Delegate Jon Cardin, who served three terms in the House and in 2015 lost a bid for Attorney General.

Also vying for the spot is Amy Blank, a longtime political activist who worked on congressional and presidential campaigns as a volunteer director. A former government relations director for the Baltimore Jewish Council, Blank officially launched

her campaign in January. "After the [presidential] election, I knew the only recourse we had to protect decades of progress we made was through our State Legislature. I have been a passionate advocate in Annapolis for children and families," she said. "I know how to pass legislation that addresses issues of importance to all of us and that is why I am running for public office."

Linda Dorsey-Walker is also running in the predominately Jewish district. Dorsey-Walker is a member of the District 11 Central Committee and was elected a presidential delegate in 2014.

After having no competition in years, Zirkin will be challenged this year by Sheldon Laskin.

In District 12, which includes Catonsville and parts of Howard County, Del. Clarence Lam has thrown his hat in the ring for Senate, after Sen. Edward Kasemeyer, chair of the influential Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, announced he would not seek re-election. Lam has one Democratic and one Republican opponent.

Delegates Eric Ebersole and Terri Hill, who currently serve in the House with Lam, are seeking re-election. There are nine others in the race for a House seat.

The hybrid Baltimore City-Baltimore County District 44 will also have a competitive race. Aletheia McCaskill, a daycare owner and SEIU union representative, is going up against first-time Sen. Shirley Nathan-Pulliam. For the House race in District 44B, which includes Catonsville and Windsor Mill, Aaron Barnett, a longshoreman and Aisha Kahn, a day care owner, are competing against freshmen Delegates Charles Sydnor III, an attorney, and Pat Young, a military veterans works as a coordinator of veterans services.

## Baltimore County Council

The County Council races in Districts 1, 2 and 4, will prove to be interesting. With Vicki Almond running for County Executive, there is no incumbent in the Council race for District 2. Former school board member Marisol Johnson, who filed early, withdrew her candidacy. Competing are one Republican and three Democrats, including Rick Yaffe, Izzy Patoka, director of community development for LifeBridge Health, and Harlan Zinn.

Two-term councilman Tom Quirk is being challenged by Sheilah Ruth. Insisting that the southwest county is not getting the attention it deserves, Ruth, a community activist and resident of Westview Park, says it is her time to run.

Derrick Burnett of Woodlawn filed to run against first-term Councilman Julian Jones Jr. two days before the deadline. Earlier this year, Jones became the county's first African American to chair the council.

## Baltimore County Board of Education

For the first time, voters will elect members to the Baltimore County Board of Education. After little activity, people began signing up to run. In the northwest area, there are five candidates in District 1, two in District 2, and six in District 4. Among them are Cheryl Pasteur, a Pikesville resident and retired principal who has the support of Sen. Bobby Zirkin. Her opponent is businessman Anthony Glasser. Makeda Scott, a former Central Committee member, is running in District 4.

## Baltimore County Central Committee

For years, elected officials have taken up

*continued on page 16*

# Baltimore County Political Races Take Shape

*continued from page 15*

seats on the Baltimore County Democratic Central Committee. After an editorial by Kenneth Brown questioning the practice of elected officials holding two offices, several decided not to run for the Central Committee.

For years, elected officials have taken up seats on the Baltimore County Democratic Central Committee. After an editorial by Kenneth Brown questioning the practice of elected officials holding two offices, several decided not to run for the Central Committee.

However, Sen. Delores Kelley and Del. Jay Jalisi filed to be on the ballot for District 10. However, there is a lot of new blood, some of them community leaders, such as Danny Blount,

president of Hernwood Heights Association, and newcomers such as Charlee Childs, a social activist and IT professional.

A total of 11 are running for Democratic Central Committee in District 10, nine in District 11, four in District 12 and 10 in District 44B.

Candidates include George White, a military veteran, a BARCS volunteer and photographer for the *Northwest Voice*. Del. Charles Sydnor III and Aisha Khan decided they would run for both the House of Delegates and Central Committee.

# Nonprofits Can Apply for Summer Food Service Program

The Maryland State Department of Education is seeking public and private nonprofit organizations to serve free, nutritious meals to children and teens through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

Over 396,000 Maryland children are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals and may not have access to safe and nutritious food during the summer when schools are closed. For these children, food insecurity increases during the summer months.

SFSP, a U. S. Department of

Agriculture

program, provides reimbursement to organizations for meals and snacks served to children

in areas where at least 50 percent of children

qualify for free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program, or when 50 percent of the children enrolled in a summer program qualify for free or reduced-price meals.

Most organizations may be reimbursed for up to two meals or snacks per child per day. Camps and migrant programs may be reimbursed for up to three meals per child each day. Meals and snacks must meet federal nutrition standards.

The program is open to children and teens age 18 and under and to individuals over 18 who are mentally or physically disabled.

Interested organizations should contact Ciara Lee, management associate, at 410-767-0199. The deadline for applications is May 31. For information about the Summer Food Service Program, visit [www.eatsmartmaryland.org](http://www.eatsmartmaryland.org).



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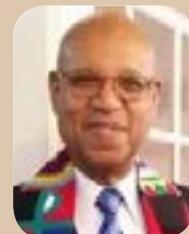
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# Crime in Northwest Area Include Robbery, Fraud

Read a roundup of Baltimore County Police and U.S. Attorney General Office reports on some of the incidences of crime taking place in the area. Be aware of the crimes and the alleged suspects' methods of operation.



## Police Seeking To Identify Armed Robbery Suspect

Baltimore County Police are seeking the public's help in identifying a man responsible for the Jan. 9 robbery of a Pizza Boli's located in the 3500 block of Brenbrook Drive in Randallstown.

The suspect, approximately 5'08" and 160 pounds with medium length black hair and beard, walked behind the counter and threatened the employee with a handgun. The employee gave him money from the cash register. The suspect then ran

from the store and was last seen on Brenbrook Drive, wearing a green coat with brown fur-like trim on the hood and an Adidas back.

If anyone has information, call the Baltimore County Police at 410-307-2020. Metro Crime Stoppers is offering a reward. Call 1-888-7LOCKUP; text MCS plus your message to "CRIMES" (274637), or visit [www.metrocrimestoppers.org](http://www.metrocrimestoppers.org)

## Catonsville Man Convicted For Food Stamp Fraud

A federal jury has convicted Mahmood Hussain Shah, age 58, of Catonsville, on charges of wire fraud in connection with a scheme to illegally redeem food stamp benefits in exchange for cash, according to United States Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland, FBI Baltimore Field Office and U.S. Department of Agriculture

Office of Inspector General.

Shah and his co-defendant Muhammad Rafiq, 33, of Reisterstown, operated Corner Groceries in Baltimore, and from October 2010 through August 2016 obtained more than \$1.6 million in payments for bogus food sales.

When a person uses Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly called the food stamp program, retailers must bill the government only in return for providing approved food items. As part of the scheme, when Shah exchanged electronic transfer benefits for cash, he typically paid the SNAP recipients half the value of the benefits and kept the other half for himself.

Shah faces a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison for the conspiracy. His sentencing date has been set for May 29.

## Owings Mills Man Sentenced To 30 Months In Federal Prison For Mail Fraud

Saleh Stevens, 45, of Owings Mills, has been sentenced to 30 months in prison, followed by three years of supervised release. U.S. District Court Judge Marvin Garbis also ordered that Stevens pay more than \$3.4 million in restitution.

In August 2014, Stevens pleaded guilty to stealing over \$3.1 million from his employer, Hanover Insurance. According to his plea agreement, Stevens was an attorney who worked as a senior claims adjuster in Hanover's regional office in Towson.

Beginning in December 2011, Stevens began to embezzle funds. Using his position as a bond claim attorney, he directed outside CPA

*continued on page 26*



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## Glyndon Elementary Recognized for Efforts in Building Character

Glyndon Elementary School is the only school in Maryland to be designated by a national organization as a State School of Character for 2018.

Glyndon, which is located in Reisterstown, is one of 64 schools and five districts in 17 states named to receive this honor to be named by character.org, which advocates for integrity, honesty, respect, and other core ethical values to be fused into education.

According to Principal Tracy Robinson, the school has focused on restorative practices and positive behavior the past several years to meet the needs of students. "This includes strengthening relationships among students and staff and increasing our use of virtuous language," she says.

"In recent years, especially, we have worked to empower students to take the lead in these efforts. We strive for our students to decipher, without direction from an adult, how to intrinsically demonstrate teamwork and gifts of character. Isn't that what we are preparing them for when they become adults?"

Schools and districts are named State Schools of Character because they demonstrate a dedicated focus on character development, which has a true positive impact on academic achievement, student behavior and school climate.

## Franklin High Senior Earns Spot in Prestigious Legislative Program

Jamie Roa, a senior at Franklin High School, has been selected to represent Maryland in the prestigious 56th Annual United States Senate Youth Program.

Through the program, two student leaders from each state, will spend March 3 through 10 in Washington, D.C., listening to major policy addresses by senators, cabinet members, and federal department heads, as well as participate in meetings with the president and a justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

In addition, each delegate will be awarded a \$10,000 college scholarship.

Roa participates in the Franklin High School Academy of Law. She is taking seven Advanced Placement classes, and serves as the captain of the varsity tennis team and president of the National Honor Society. In the fall, Roa plans to attend Tulane University to study public health and international relation.



PHOTO: BCPS

Jamie Roa was selected to be a delegate in the annual United States Senate Youth Program.

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Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz and the Baltimore County Council

## Free Tax Preparation for Qualifying Taxpayers

*continued from page 9*

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- Sale of Home (Form 1099-S) limited
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- Gambling Winnings (Form W-2G)
- Cancellation of Debt (Form 1099-C) limited
- Health Savings Accounts (Form 1099-SA) limited
- Itemized Deductions limited
- Education Credits (Form 1098-T)
- Child Tax Credit
- Earned Income Credit
- Prior Year and Amended Returns limited

See a professional tax preparer for more complicated returns.

—Internal Revenue Service

## Catonsville High Student is Women Commission's Young Woman of the Year

The Baltimore County Commission for Women named Gabriella McLean, a senior at Catonsville High School who advocates and supports the homeless, as its 2018 Young Woman of the Year.

McLean has been involved in the Night of Peace Family Shelter for many years, coordinating deliveries of donated backpacks, holiday gift bags and clothing to the Windsor Mill shelter. She has also served meals and planned special events for guests there.

The 12th-grader also regularly volunteers at The Children's Home in Catonsville, where some of her school's students live.

A member of the National Honor Society and the National English Honor Society, McLean is president of Catonsville High's graduating Class of 2018, and as team manager for the girls' lacrosse team. She

leaves school a half day to intern on St. Agnes Hospital's pediatric inpatient unit.

An academically gifted student, McLean hopes to major in biology or neuroscience and hopes to one day become a pediatric physician.

The commission also honored Laura Clary, a forensic nurse and clinical manager at Greater Baltimore Medical Center, as its Woman of the Year. Clary heads the hospital's Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) and domestic violence program.

Jennifer Aubert-Utz, assistant fire chief with the Baltimore County Fire Department, was recognized as the LaFrance Muldrow Woman Making



County Executive Kevin Kamenetz presents a certificate to Gabriella McLean, who was honored as the Commission for Women's 2018 Young Woman of the Year.

a Difference. She is the highest-ranking woman in the department.

County Executive Kevin Kamenetz, along with members of the Commission for Women, the County Council and Baltimore County state delegation, participated in the March 1 recognition ceremony.

PHOTO: BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS








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## Deadline to Apply for Arts and Science Project Grants is March 22

Does your organization have an arts or science focus and is in search of funding?

Baltimore County government will help community-based organizations produce and present arts, science, history and humanities programs and activities, such as performances, exhibits, lectures, classes and workshops. The grants are for fiscal year 2017 and the activities must take place July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. The application deadline is Thursday, March 22, at 4 p.m.

Community-based, not-for-profit organizations in Baltimore County, Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Howard and Harford counties are eligible to apply for funding for arts activities that serve Baltimore County residents and take place in the county. Applicants may request up to 15 percent of the cost of the proposed arts activities. Funding requests may not exceed \$7,500. The project grants do not cover operating expenses.

Eligible organizations include arts organizations, after-school programs, museums, and community-based groups that present arts, sciences and humanities programs and projects.

Last year's recipients included some of the perennial recipients of major colleges and universities and prominent art programs. Be sure your organization takes advantage of this creative funding opportunity.

For information on the eligibility criteria and application guidelines and funding, visit [baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/commarts/sciences/projectgrantguidelines.html](http://baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/commarts/sciences/projectgrantguidelines.html)

## County to Expand Rat Eradication Program

Baltimore County plans to expand a successful rat eradication pilot program to include 10 additional neighborhoods beginning this July.

The expansion will include homes across the county, including Edmondson Heights and West Edmondale on the west side.

"People shouldn't have to live among rats and the feedback we're getting is overwhelmingly positive that our enhanced comprehensive approach is working well in these targeted areas," said County Executive Kevin Kamenetz. "We are eager to move forward in these remaining communities and expect to have similar results."

The initial pilot program began last summer in 13 neighborhoods mostly on the east side, which included Riverview, North Point Village and Middlesex. These pilot areas received two, eight-week extermination

treatments, increased trash pick-up and educational outreach on rat control tips. County officials considered the pilot successful in controlling the rodent infestations.

Communities included in the initial and expanded pilot programs were selected based on an analysis by code enforcement officials in concert with discussions with County Council members and community leaders.

County Council Chair Julian Jones called the program "good government at work bringing effective solutions to communities." He said, "Our residents came to us with a problem and we have responded with a positive solution."

District 1 Councilman Tom Quirk also praised the program's success. "I am delighted that communities in my district will be part of the county's rat eradication program."

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# How Retailers Are Responding to Tax Reform

For years, the retail industry says it has called on Congress to pass comprehensive tax reform to jump-start the economy, grow wages and advance U.S. competitiveness on the global stage. With a new tax code the law of the land, retailers are beginning to assess what it means for their businesses and ways to incorporate savings, according to the National Retail Federation (NRF).

While many consumers,

particularly the middle class, are leery of the impact the tax law will have on their finances and believe it will benefit large corporations and the rich, many businesses are giving it a high five. Employers across the country are investing in their workforce because of tax reform, says the NRF, and more than 3 million American workers are receiving special bonuses, higher wages or expanded benefits as a

result. The organization provided this information:

- Walmart announced plans to give a one-time cash bonus of up to \$1,000 to eligible associates, increase its starting wage to \$11 an hour, expand its parental and maternity leave policy and provide adoption benefits.
- Starbucks is investing \$250 million in its employees through higher wages, bonuses of up to \$2,000, stock grants and paid leave benefits.
- The Home Depot's hourly associates will receive a one-time cash bonus of up to \$1,000.
- AT&T will invest an additional \$1 billion in the U.S. in 2018 and pay a special \$1,000 bonus to more than 200,000 U.S. employees.
- The Walt Disney Company is giving 125,000 employees a \$1,000 cash bonus and investing \$50 million in a new higher education tuition reimbursement program for hourly workers.
- Apple is investing \$350 billion over the next five years and adding over 20,000 new jobs.
- Olive Garden and LongHorn Steakhouse parent company Darden Restaurants pledged to spend an additional \$20 million on its workforce in 2018.
- Verizon employees will receive 50 shares of stock each, amounting to more than \$2,600 per worker for a total of \$380 million.
- Lowe's will offer a one-time bonus of up to \$1,000 for its more than 260,000 hourly employees and expand maternity and parental leave as well as adoption assistance.
- More than 100,000 Best Buy employees are receiving bonuses thanks to tax reform. A one-time bonus of \$1,000 will be paid to full-time workers and part-time workers will receive \$500. The retailer is also investing \$20 million in technology training for young people.
- Chipotle is using its tax savings to provide qualified employees cash and stock bonuses. The company is also investing in more employee training programs and enhanced parental leave, life insurance and short-term disability coverage.
- CVS Health will increase its starting pay for hourly employees to \$11 per hour, offer full-time employees as much as four weeks of paid parental leave and keep a lid on worker health-care premiums because of tax reform.

The federation's report did not mention how stockholders and executives will benefit from the tax reform. If you are one of those benefitting from the tax reform, please share your story at [nwvoicenews.com](http://nwvoicenews.com).



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## Publisher's Column

*continued from page 2*

Rich and powerful people, businesses and other entities understand how powerful the vote is. We have to look at our vote as currency. The wealthy would not pour the hundreds of millions that they do if they didn't recognize the power of the vote. Our country has a history of trying to keep the vote out of the hands of people—African Americans were denied. Women were denied. Voter suppression is alive and well in certain parts of the world, and most definitely right here in the United States.

You've heard me say it before and I'll say it again: The only time that we are equals is when we step in to the booth to vote. The millionaire's vote

has the same value as the unemployed. A white person's vote is no more valuable than a black person's. A man's vote is no more powerful than a woman's is. A 60-year-old vote is no more important than an 18-year-old's vote.

Let us lay the groundwork for a very effective election for our councilmanic and legislative districts that represent the Catonsville, Owings Mills, Pikesville, Randallstown, Reisterstown, Windsor Mill and Woodlawn areas. The deadline to register to vote in the Gubernatorial General Election is June 5. If you, a friend or loved one are not registered to vote, visit [http://elections.state.md.us/voter\\_registration/application](http://elections.state.md.us/voter_registration/application).

HEALTH

# Helping Children Avoid Asthma Attacks

Asthma is a serious disease causing wheezing, difficulty breathing, and coughing. About 6 million children 17 years old and under in the United States have asthma, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). About 16 percent of African-American children and 7 percent of white children have asthma.

While the causes of asthma are not known, there are ways to prevent asthma attacks or at least make them less severe. After all, over a lifetime, asthma can cause permanent lung damage.

Today, children with asthma and their caregivers report fewer attacks, missed school days, and hospital visits, according to a report by the CDC.

More children with asthma are learning to control their asthma using an asthma action plan. But still, more than half of children with asthma had one or more attacks in 2016.

Other key findings in the CDC report noted that:

- Asthma attacks occurred most frequently among children younger than age 5 in 2016.
- Some children are more likely to have asthma than others, including boys, children ages 5-17 years, non-Hispanic black children, children of

Puerto Rican descent, and children from low-income families.

- Every year, one in six children with asthma visits the Emergency Department, with about one in 20 children with asthma hospitalized for the condition.
- Emergency Department and urgent care center visits related to asthma attacks were highest among children ages four years and younger, and non-Hispanic black children.

Using medicine as prescribed, such as inhaled corticosteroids and other control medicines can prevent asthma attacks. Rescue inhalers or nebulizers can give quick relief of symptoms. But about half of children who are prescribed asthma control medicines do not use them regularly.

The CDC says it is an effective strategy for doctors, nurses and other health care providers to:

- Work with children and parents to determine the severity of each child's asthma, to develop an action plan for each child, and to share the plan with families, schools and others.
- Teach children and parents how to manage asthma by using control and rescue medicine



properly and avoiding asthma triggers such as tobacco smoke, mold, pet dander, and outdoor air pollution.

- Work with community health workers, pharmacists, and other community providers to help ensure that children with asthma receive the services they need.

Be sure to see a physician or health care provider about controlling asthma.



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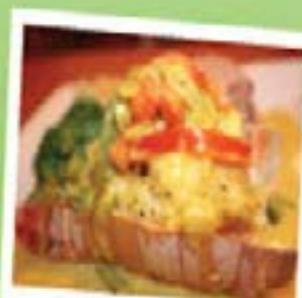
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# Meetings and Events

Mark your calendars for the following events and activities.

## Training to Prevent an Overdose Death

The Baltimore Department of Health, Security Woodlawn Business Association, and Office of Councilman Tom Quirk will hold a free training on Wednesday, March 21, from 6 to 8 p.m. at The Renaissance Center, 6665 Security Blvd., Woodlawn, 21207. Police Captain Wes Fisher of the Woodlawn precinct will be in attendance. Register at [baltimorecountymd.gov/odresponse](http://baltimorecountymd.gov/odresponse) or call 410-887-3828.

## District 10 Legislative Night

Delegates Ben Brooks, Jay Jalisi and Adrienne Jones will host a legislative reception on Thursday, April 4, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the House Office Building. Enjoy refreshments and an update on the legislative session.

## Candidates Forum

A forum sponsored by an online streaming radio service will be held Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m. at Randallstown Library, 8604 Liberty Rd. in Randallstown, 21133. The organization has invited candidates for County Executive, local Senate and House of Delegates, and Board of Education and County Council for District 4. For information contact 667-207-1378.

## Spring Craft Fair

Randallstown High School will host a Spring Craft Xplosion on Saturday, April 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There is availability for vendors to showcase unique crafts, artwork, jewelry, beauty products, clothing, and more. Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis, and certain vendor will not be duplicated to ensure variety. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. There will be activities for kids. Contact [Rhsevents12@gmail.com](mailto:Rhsevents12@gmail.com) or 443-376-7267 for an application or more information. Student volunteer hours are available.

## CCBC Job Fair

A job fair will be held Thursday,

April 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Catonsville Community College of Baltimore County's Catonsville campus, SSRV-004. The event is being sponsored by CCBC, Baltimore County Department of Workforce Development and Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce. Attendees are encouraged to dress for success. For more information contact 443-840-1732 or [careerservices@ccbcmd.edu](mailto:careerservices@ccbcmd.edu).

## Transitioning to Medicare

If you are ready to enroll in Medicare, the Baltimore County State Health Insurance Assistance Program is holding an informational workshop on Wednesday, May 9, from 6 to 8 p.m. for people who are turning 65 or are disabled. Register at 410-887-2059 and visit [medicareinformation@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:medicareinformation@baltimorecountymd.gov) for more information.

## Jam n' Slam

The Randallstown Community Center and Baltimore Jazz Alliance present a free weekly Jam n' Slam jazz and poetry workshop on Tuesdays from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call the center at 410-887-0698 for more information.

## Baltimore County Public Library

BCPL has several events planned throughout the county. In March and April, events planned include book club discussions, story times, family coding, workshops about gardening, starting a business and homebuying. For a schedule of events, visit [www.bcplonline.org/events](http://www.bcplonline.org/events).

## School Board

Upcoming meetings of the Board of Education will be held at the Greenwood Campus, 6901 N. Charles St. in Towson on Tuesday, March 20 and April 17 at 6:30 p.m. A public hearing for the FY2019 capital budget will be held on May 23 at 6:30 p.m. For more

information, visit [www.bcps.org/board](http://www.bcps.org/board).

### County Council

Upcoming meetings of the County Council will be held 6 p.m. on Monday, March 19 and April 2, and the work sessions are on March 13 and 27 and April 10 and 16 at 2 p.m. at the Historic Courthouse, 400 Washington Ave. in Towson. The executive budget message will be held April 12 at 10 a.m. in the council chambers. For more information, including on the agendas and instructions to watch the meeting online, visit [www.baltimorecountymd.gov/countycouncil](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/countycouncil).

### Police Community Relations Council

These councils consist of community leaders, interested citizens and representatives of the local business community, which meet to resolve issues of concern and provide an open forum. The forums begin at 7 p.m. Information is subject to change, so call to verify the date, location and time.

- **Woodlawn Precinct 2** meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at the Woodlawn Precinct, 6424 Windsor Mill Rd., 21207. Contact Malinda Taylor at [mrtaylor@verizon.net](mailto:mrtaylor@verizon.net) or 410-265-5926. The police precinct station number is 410-887-4714.
- **Franklin Precinct 3** meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at the Franklin Precinct, 606 Nicodemus Rd. in Reisterstown, 21136. Brad Sharpless is director and may be contacted at [bvsharpless@hotmail.com](mailto:bvsharpless@hotmail.com). The precinct station number is 410-887-6985. (March 20, 7-8:30 p.m.)
- **Pikesville Precinct 4** meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of each month at Baltimore Hebrew Congregation, 7401 Park Heights Ave. in Pikesville, 21208. Jerry Dantoni may be reached at [j.dantoni@verizon.net](mailto:j.dantoni@verizon.net). The precinct contact number is 410-887-6775.

## BCPS is Hiring Teachers

Individuals interested in teaching in Baltimore County Public Schools are invited to attend the BCPS Teacher Job Fair on Saturday, March 24, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at New Town High School, 4931 New Town Blvd. in Owings Mills, 21117.

The school system is recruiting all teachers, including, career and technology, ESOL, math, science, Spanish and special education, as

well as school nurses and social workers.

To be considered for a prescheduled interview, individuals interested in seeking employment will need to fill out an application at <https://a1-3.applitrack.com/bcps/onlineapp/> and select BCPS Teacher Job Fair, March 24, 2018, as the referral source.

## Don't Assume We Know



Submit your notices for free community events that are taking place in the Northwest Voice coverage area to [nwvoicenews.com/contact-us/news/](http://nwvoicenews.com/contact-us/news/). Send your information at least 60 days prior to the event.

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## Police Officers Promoted

Twenty Baltimore County police officers were recently promoted at a ceremony at Oregon Ridge.

Officers representing the northwest area and their new assignments include Lt. Brandon Rogers, who was promoted to captain and is assigned to Precinct 4 Pikesville, and Sgt. Cathleen Batton, who is now a lieutenant and assigned to Precinct 1 Wilkens.

Additionally, Cpl. John Dowell was promoted to Sergeant and assigned to Wilkens Precinct 1. Corporals James Gayles, Michael Scatton and John White are now sergeants and assigned to Pikesville Precinct 4. Cpl. Ean Stiger was promoted to sergeant with an assignment at Woodlawn Precinct 2.

County Executive Kevin Kamenetz and Police Chief Terrence Sheridan spoke at the ceremony and presented the certificates. Julie Ensor, clerk of the court, delivered the oath of office.

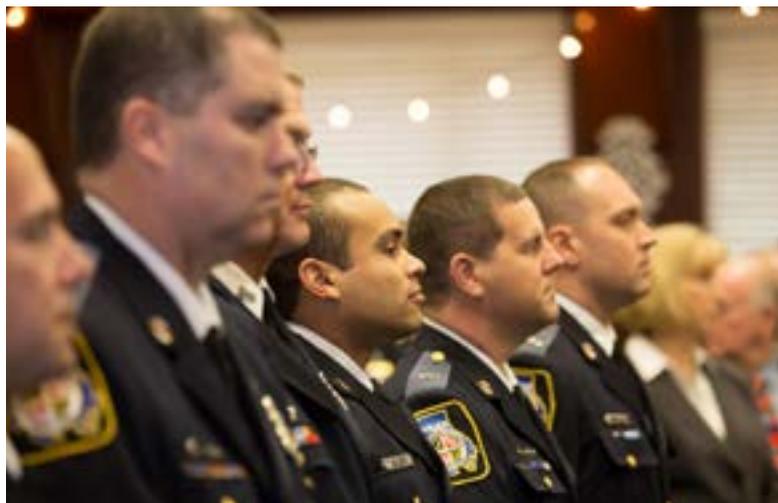


PHOTO: BALTIMORE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Twenty police officers were recognized in a promotion ceremony.

## Crime in Northwest Area

*continued from page 18*

firms to issue checks from Hanover's special reserve accounts to the bank accounts of third-party entities that either Stevens or his friends controlled.

For example, Stevens approached a high school friend and offered to pay him \$40,000 in exchange for opening a company with a bank account. His friend then opened Lundy Lighting Supply, LLC, a fictional corporate entity, that did not have a physical location, conduct any business or have any employees or customers. Stevens sent embezzled funds to this fictitious company and accounts.

Stevens used these funds to

purchase luxury automobiles, including a 2008 Maserati, 2009 Mercedes, and a 50-foot yacht. He also spent approximately \$1.9 million to fund for a NASCAR racing team.

His co-conspirator, Eric Myles Gordon, of Baltimore County, was previously convicted of conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud, conspiracy to commit money laundering, and falsification of records in bankruptcy. Gordon, 50, was sentenced to 36 months in prison.

The U.S. Attorney for Maryland, FBI and U.S. Trustee Program announced the sentence.

## 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 Rollins, 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
<b>WOODLAWN, 21207</b>					
5101 Wetheredsville Rd	Colonial	5	3	\$374,900	\$373,250
5516 Cadillac Ave	Cape Cod	4	2	\$189,900	\$188,000
1427 Ingleside Ave	Split Level	4	2	\$239,900	\$239,900
4002 Kathland Ave	Colonial	5	2 ½	\$299,900	\$292,000
5910 Queen Anne St	Split Foyer	4	3	\$299,900	\$299,000
<b>WINDSOR MILLS, 21244</b>					
3103 Homer Ct	Colonial	4	3 ½	\$387,500	\$381,000
7911 Cantwell Rd	Traditional	4	2	\$268,500	\$265,000
7119 Chamberlain Rd	Rancher	4	2	\$199,900	\$209,000
2037 Cross Trails Rd	Cape Cod	3	2	\$235,000	\$235,000
3419 Joann Dr	Split Level	4	2	\$275,000	\$275,000
<b>CATONSVILLE, 21228</b>					
707 White Oaks Ave	Colonial	4	2 ½	\$609,900	\$604,000
638 Marianne Ln	Colonial	3	2 ½	\$285,000	\$290,000
320 Crosby Rd	Rancher	3	2	\$240,000	\$230,000
1302 Gatefield Rd	BiLevel	4	3	\$280,000	\$282,000
609 Meyers Dr	Cape Cod	3	2	\$332,500	\$322,500
<b>RANDALLSTOWN, 21133</b>					
3560 Corn Stream Rd	Colonial	3	3 ½	\$160,000	\$160,000
3661 Brenbrook Dr	Colonial	4	3 ½	\$299,900	\$299,900
8406 Church Ln	Split Level	4	2	\$239,900	\$237,000
3918 Susanna Rd	Split Level	4	2	\$274,900	\$274,900
3721 Collier Rd	Cape Cod	4	2 ½	\$285,000	\$287,000
<b>PIKESVILLE, 21208</b>					
715 Milford Mill Rd	Colonial	3	2 ½	\$219,900	\$215,000
7433 Kathydale Rd	Rancher	3	2	\$229,875	\$229,875
23 Stone Pine Ct	Colonial	4	2 ½	\$379,900	\$360,000
8208 Cranwood Ct	Rancher	4	2 ½	\$485,000	\$475,000
8 Pineland Ct	Split Level	4	3	\$299,995	\$291,687
<b>OWINGS MILLS, 21117</b>					
4125 Brookside Oaks	Colonial	6	3 ½	\$440,000	\$420,000
9428 Paragon Ct	Colonial	4	3 ½	\$299,900	\$299,000
9312 Town Place Dr	Colonial	3	1 ½	\$218,500	\$218,500
45 Wengate Rd	Rancher	3	2	\$219,900	\$215,000
10815 Will Planter Dr	Townhouse	3	2 ½	\$247,500	\$247,500
<b>REISTERSTOWN, 21136</b>					
110 Chestnut Hill Ln E	Colonial	3	3 ½	\$285,700	\$285,000
6 Jill Ct, Reisterstown	Rancher	4	3 ½	\$395,000	\$373,000
10910 Baskerville Rd	Colonial	3	3 ½	\$249,900	\$245,000
5509 Weywood Dr	Colonial	4	3 ½	\$465,000	\$460,000
18 Chestnut Hill Ln W	Rancher	5	3	\$314,900	\$315,500



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