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Your *voice* in the community

APRIL 2018

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



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Manager Trey Stell who came from Colorado, which has had the first industry, said he came to use his expertise and passion to help patients in Maryland's burgeoning industry.

Medical Cannabis

Dispensaries Begin Opening in Area To Service Patient Demand

After a sluggish and controversial start, the medical cannabis industry is finally taking root in Maryland, including in Baltimore County. Patients looking for relief from a variety of conditions from multiple sclerosis to epilepsy to anxiety disorders are taking the required steps to purchase medical cannabis from dispensaries that are building up their inventory.

Demand is high for medical cannabis, as some 26,000 patients have registered online with the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission (MMHC), which is overseeing the state industry.

Up to two companies in each of the 47 legislative districts got preliminary approval to sell medical cannabis, and several have opened in the area. Others are expected to open in the upcoming weeks. Early community opposition has quieted, as education and awareness efforts dispel rampant notions that the businesses would bring crime and illegal drugs to neighborhoods.

As of this month, 14 growers, 13 processors and 46 dispensaries are operating in the state. In April, the Maryland General Assembly approved legislation, the Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission Reform Act, spearheaded by the Legislative Black Caucus, which saw similar legislation die in the final minutes of the session last year. The bill authorizes nine additional cannabis licenses aimed at encouraging more women and minority participation.

Baltimore County has one grower, two processors and five dispensaries operating, according to MMHC data. One of them is located in Pikesville and another in Reisterstown.

The Northwest Chamber of Commerce welcomed Reisterstown's dispensary, Curaleaf, with a ribboncutting on March 23. On one particular day, a steady flow of patients were buzzed into a the secure 3900-square-foot facility. They had to

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From the Publisher, Kenneth Brown

Don't Take Lightly the Influence of West Side Political Power

Up until 1990, Baltimore County's eastside Democratic clubs and political machine had extraordinary influence in determining who would be elected County Executive, County Council and to other Baltimore County elected offices. Their success is evident in the fact that since 1954, there have been 11 County Executives. Nine of them have been Democrats and two have been Republicans. Eight of the 11 were from east side communities.

In 1974, there was an anomaly. Ted Venetoulis was elected and he was out of the Pikesville/Randallstown area.

Changes within the Democratic landscape over the past quarter century have shifted the political power from the eastern end of the county, which I am defining as east of I-83, to the west and northwest sections. Here, we have experienced heavy and constant population growth.

The largest Democratic voting bloc in the county now sits in the western area. African-American voters, many of whom reside in the Randallstown, Woodlawn and the Liberty Road corridor, will have a lot of say about who will be the Democratic nominee for County Executive. Many times, the Randallstown Community Center has been the top early-voting location in the state. And candidates for office regularly make their way to many churches, community meetings and special events in the northwest to court voters.

Of the four Democrats running for County Executive, three are from communities east of 83: Johnny Olszewski hails from Dundalk, Kevin Marron comes from Parkville, and Sen. Jim Brochin is from the Towson area. Councilwoman Vicki Almond is from the west side, Reisterstown.

The candidates are working to cover the entire county, especially in communities where the constituents are vocal about issues important to them. However, all recognize that voters from the west side will be key in deciding who will compete against the Republican nominee.

Why has the power shifted out of the Dundalk-Middle River area? As they say, follow the money. When companies like General Motors, Bethlehem Steel and other major employers went out of business, the economic power went away. Hundreds of blue-collar jobs were lost, people became disillusioned and the Democratic stronghold began to dissipate. Democratic voter registration started going down and Republican registration increased. And when the economy tanks, residents flee for better opportunities. You began to see residents move to Perry Hall, White Marsh and Harford County.

As a result, the eastside's political power began weakening. With the population growth on the

west side, this boon gave African Americans increased numbers to establish influential bloc. The west side also includes a large number of other people of color, as well as Jewish voters and Muslims.

The impact of one of these early shifts came in 1994, with the election of Dutch Ruppertsberger as County Executive. Jim Smith, who came out of the Reisterstown area, followed in 2002, and then Kevin Kamenetz, who came from the Pikesville area, was elected in 2010.

Again, recognizing the value of the northwest, Brochin uses a Pikesville mailing address for his campaign. Olszewski announced his candidacy in Woodlawn and set up an office near Liberty Road and Rolling Road. Almond's campaign office is in Owings Mills.

This is why it is important that you plan to make it to the polls rain or shine and recognize the power that that westside voters wield. We should recognize that candidates are coming out to get our vote. They're all here now working, knocking on doors, attending community meetings, shaking hands. You should make sure you can trust that the person elected will give our communities the attention we deserve when elected.

We have a divided county, and the politics are divided. The eastside has become more Republican, and more than 60 percent of Baltimore County supported Gov. Larry Hogan. There are a number of polarizing issues that will motivate voters to choose who is best for Baltimore County. So, it is important that you stay informed and look at the issues based on what and who you think is best for your family, your community and the county.

Ask yourself: Who will give our communities the priority treatment that it needs? And most importantly, as candidates court your vote, I ask you: Are you just impressed that they are shaking your hand, visiting your church, or sending you a newsletter addressed with your first name? Or are you doing your research on the candidates' background, their motivations and positions on the issues?

Are you asking them questions when they attend your meetings? Community leaders, elected officials, residents: Are you looking out for your best interests or your constituents when you give a candidate your endorsement? What are you asking the candidates to deliver for your district? If you don't ask (or sometimes demand), you won't have a shot at getting anything, and you'll be taken for granted.

Voters: It is important that you use your power and make sure the candidates respond to your reasonable needs. I'm not talking about a request

for a job for you or a family member. I'm talking about things that will uplift the community and our quality of life.

The Primary Election is Tuesday, June 24, and early voting takes place Thursday, June 14, through June 21. It's time to focus and get serious. We hope to help with your decisionmaking on May 24 and May 31, when the *Northwest Voice* will host two political forums. See details on page 5.

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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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Deadline for Board of Education Nominations is May 1

Interested persons who wish to be nominated for the Baltimore County Board of Education have until the extended deadline of May 1 to submit their applications.

Aaron Plymouth, chair of the Baltimore County School Nominating Commission, said the deadline was extended to allow for more citizen participation. The commission will review applications and set up interviews in May and June at the Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) Greenwood campus. Additionally, public hearings have been held so community members can learn about the new hybrid-model board and provide input on the characteristics they desire in school board members.

Interested persons must be at least 21 years old and a Baltimore County resident for at least two years. They cannot be employed by BCPS, cannot have filed a certificate of candidacy

for election to the county school board, and cannot be a candidate for or hold elected or appointed office for a political party or the local, state or federal government.

The Nominating Commission will present at least two names for each at-large seat (total of eight nominees) to the Governor by Oct. 1. Board members' four-year terms begin on Dec. 3.

For an application, interested persons can visit www.bcps.org and under the What's Happening box, look for Baltimore County School Nominating Commission. Candidates can review a fact sheet at bcps.org/board/bcsb-nominating-commission.html.

Applications and resumes can be mailed to the Baltimore County School Board Nominating Commission, c/o Debi Decker, 6901 N. Charles Street, Towson, MD 21204.



Aaron Plymouth is chair of the Baltimore County School Nominating Commission.



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'Why Not Us?': UMBC Coach Relives Memories of Historic Win

It took days for Assistant Coach Eric Skeeters to come down from the euphoric victory, after the UMBC Retrievers sent No. 1 seed Virginia packing with a stunning 20-point blowout in the first round of the NCAA basketball championship in Charlotte. It was the first time any No. 16 men's seed upset a top-seeded team, and the Catonsville native was proud to be part of history.

A basketball standout and lacrosse midfielder at Woodlawn and Catonsville high schools in the 1980s, Skeeters is in his second year coaching the Retrievers. Head coach Ryan Odom called on him to join his staff to work with the guards after the two coached together for a season at Virginia Tech 2003-2004.


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Eric Skeeters, UMBC assistant coach and Woodlawn High School graduate, celebrates with players after the America East regional championship against Vermont, put the Retrievers in the NCAA tournament as a #16 seed.

COURTESY PHOTO

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UMBC Asst. Coach March Relives Madness Memories of Historic Win

continued from page 6

It was exciting but overwhelming, Skeeters said, that the NCAA bracket's first pick was UMBC against Virginia, which came into the tournament No. 1 overall with a 31-2 record. For observers to consider UMBC an underdog was an understatement. "We were not approaching the games as if we didn't have a shot," Skeeters said. "We felt we had prepared for the moment of playing a team of that caliber. We've been playing fast and been scoring points all year long."

To motivate the team, coaches showed film of No. 15 ranked teams knocking off No. 2 seeds. To size up the competition, the team also watched video of the Cavaliers and noticed a weakness. The Cavaliers were not applying much pressure to their opponents' guards. "It was like Tom Brady getting off passes without any pressure," Skeeters said.

Putting a strategy into action, the Retrievers pushed the pace, made early shots, and took Virginia out of their offense. Meanwhile, the words imprinted on the T-shirt of a player's dad caught his attention. "Why Not Us?" After leading at the half and with victory a real possibility, Skeeters says the team's mantra and mindset became "Finish them." "Our kids kept attacking. We were getting corner shots.

When the buzzer sounded and the scoreboard registered a spectacular 74-54 victory, it was pure elation, with the celebratory feel of a home game. The snippets aired on TV paled in comparison to the actual excitement, Skeeters says. Reporters packed the locker room to get footage and conduct interviews. "Words cannot describe the joy and amazement."

Also remarkable was how UMBC punched its ticket to the tournament. After losing 23 consecutive games to Vermont, including two blowouts this season, the Retrievers beat the Catamounts on a buzzer beater to capture the America East regional championship. That win automatically gave them a seed.

Cinderella stories are not new to Skeeters. At his first coaching job at Coppin State, he helped coach the No. 15 seeded Eagles team that beat No. 2 South Carolina in the opening round of the 1997 NCAA tournament. UMBC is the seventh school in his 23-year coaching career, which included George Mason and University of South Florida.

Neither Oprah nor Ellen called to congratulate the Retrievers, but Stephen Curry sent the players his not-yet-released Curry 5 tennis shoe (the coaches weren't so lucky). The team met the creator

of the popular Fortnite game.

Like all good things, the magic ended in the second round of the tournament. After hanging tough until the final minutes, the Retrievers couldn't get past Kansas State. "We picked a bad day to have a bad day," Skeeters says. "Kansas State made the shots they needed to make. We didn't, especially from the free throw line."

Skeeters said he appreciates the academic prowess of the team, as two of the Retrievers' starters – Jairus Lyles and AJ Maura—are academic standouts with a 4.0 GPA. Lyles is already taking graduate classes.

The Retrievers, which finished its second 20-plus win season after a string of losing seasons under coach Odom, will graduate three seniors. But the coaching staff looks forward to refreshing the talent with new recruits eager to join a team on the map and on the move.

Even as he plans for another season, the memory of UMBC's March Madness memory of the Virginia take-down is certainly one Skeeters will hold on to.



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Education, Public Safety and Arts Top Priorities in \$2 Billion County Budget

School safety, tuition-free community college education and quality of life priorities were among the focus of the \$2 billion budget County Executive Kevin Kamenetz presented to the County Council on April 12. The proposed operating budget represents a 3 percent increase.

In his State of the County address, Kamenetz outlined highlights of his eight years in office and his spending proposal for the 2019 fiscal year, which begins July 1. The total operating budget (which includes the general fund, gifts and grants fund, direct state aid to the Board of Education, Community College, etc.) is \$3.285 billion. Fifty-one percent, or more \$1.67 billion, is dedicated to Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS), and almost 20 percent is going to public safety, health, recreation and community services.

The County Council is scheduled to vote on the budget on May 24.



PHOTO: BALTIMORE COUNTY

County Executive Kevin Kamenetz presented a \$2 billion general operating budget to the County Council, which includes monies for 19 additional school resource officers and funding for the new College Promise program.

Baltimore County, including 30,000 children, do not have reliable access to affordable, nutritious food.

- There is a 5 percent increase for all shelter services, including the Westside Men’s Shelter in Catonsville and the Eastern Family Resource Center, which opened last fall with expanded health services and beds for men and women.
- \$1.3 million is allotted for a new stadium and artificial turf field at New Town High School and replacement artificial turf field at Franklin High School.
- Funding for volunteer fire companies increases by 7.4 percent, bringing county support to \$9.8 million next year.
- \$3.9 million will support arts, humanities and cultural organizations in the county and the region.
- Funding for a new animal cruelty investigation unit in the police department.

Kamenetz noted a decrease in homicides and the devastating impact of the opioid epidemic. Overdoses killed 543 county residents from 2016 through the first nine months of 2017, he said. As part of the county’s program to make the life-saving overdose reversal naloxone widely available, the Department of Health and Human Services has trained 3,200 residents on how to safely administer the drug.

Diversity in the county workforce has increased, Kamenetz reported. Women and minorities represent 40 percent of the most recent police academy class, 60 percent of the class of EMTs and paramedics that graduated in March, and 67 percent of the current fire recruit class.

Kamenetz also said that progress since he took office includes 15,821 new jobs, \$1.3 billion to build and renovate schools, \$1.8 billion to modernize and maintain the aging water and sewer infrastructure, and \$129 million for roads and bridges.

Budget highlights include:

- No increase in property tax or income tax rates.
- 3 percent cost-of-living adjustment for employees, effective in January.
- Additional BSPS professionals to help identify mental health issues that can lead to suicide and destructive behaviors. The staffing request includes 22 social workers, 23 counselors and 18 school psychologists, plus additional pupil personnel workers, health assistants and bus attendants. Nineteen more police school resource officers (SROs) would be funded, increasing the county’s total to 84 SROs.
- \$979,000 for the first year of the Baltimore County College Promise – funding that will allow more than 1,100 eligible students to attend Community College of Baltimore County tuition free.
- To help those in need, \$550,000 will go to support the Maryland Food Bank, as more than 98,000 people in

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Q&A With Don Bridges, Baltimore County's First School Resource Officer

SROs 'Must Love Kids,' as Well as be a Mentor, Instructor and Law Enforcer

In recent months, the deadly mass shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, and Great Mills High in St. Mary's County have prompted and renewed calls from school administrators, parents and elected officials across the country for armed police officers to be located in schools.

Long before the drumbeat for heightened school security, Baltimore County's School Resource Officer (SRO) program was well established, starting in the 1990s with Milford Mill Academy and Pikesville High School. The program is designated as an SRO model for the nation.

Don Bridges, a 27-year police officer is the county's first SRO and currently the SRO at Franklin High School in Reisterstown. He is also president of the National Association of School Resource Officers, which provides specialized training for SROs, and founded the Maryland Association for School Resource

Officers.

"I love coming in to work," Officer Bridges says. "These kids know firsthand what I stand for and that I am in their corner. I am firm but am very, very fair. On those days when I'm tired, all I have to do is walk down the hallway and those kids give me energy."

Here's what else Bridges had to say:

How did the Baltimore County School Resource Officer Program begin?

In the mid 90s, we started seeing a need for a police presence around some of our campuses with respect to issues such as unruly kids during dismissal and we were having problems with trespassing. We were able to start a pre-pilot program that put one officer at Milford Mill Academy, which is the school I started at, and a second officer in Pikesville High School. We saw that that both schools were in need of police services but in very different ways.



COURTESY PHOTO

Don Bridges, a school resource officer at Franklin High School, is also president of the National Association of School Resources Officers. The Baltimore County SRO program is a model for the nation, and specialized training is key to its effectiveness.

From that model, we learned that there was an organization out there called the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO). What we learned is that the best way to implement the program was to get those officers trained through NASRO and have them follow their triad model. The triad model gives officers a guide of three important roles they should play.

What is the role of school resource officers?

One of the roles is law related educator. Not only were we in the classrooms teaching kids about the law, but we were forging meaningful and positive relationships with young people. Along that Milford Mill corridor, during the mid to late '90s, we saw a significant decrease in police calls for service because the SRO established relationships with our kids. We saw the same thing at Pikesville High.

The second role is as a law related mentor/counselor. That means when a kid is in crisis, the SRO works with guidance counselors, administrators and school social workers so that the students feel they have a support network within the school.

The third is law enforcement. Having a marked police car parked out in front of the school so that anyone who is thinking about doing something that is not in the best interest of the students or the school knows that there is a professionally

trained police officer on campus.

How did the program launch?

I can tell you that the Baltimore County [Police Department] was one of the first agencies within the state to start this SRO program during the 1996-97 academic year, and our SRO program predated the tragedy at Columbine High School. One of the people most instrumental in getting this program started was Councilwoman Vicki Almond.

At the time, Vicki Almond was a community activist who was very involved with the community and she championed our cause to get this program implemented. Last year, we honored her at the NASRO national conference in Washington, D.C., and presented her with 2018 Safe Schools Leadership Award in D.C.

What was the atmosphere like at the time the SRO program started?

People were very, very leery about putting police officers in the schools. Community folks and school leaders thought that if there was a police officer in the schools people would think that the school had problems.

How many SROs are in Baltimore County public schools?

Currently, we have 64 SROs assigned to middle and high schools. We will be adding another 19 to fill the role within the elementary schools [as a result of 2018 legislation]. We have at least one SRO in every high

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School Construction Funds Will Be Awarded Under New Process

The “begathon” is gone. Local school superintendents will no longer have to go before the Board of Public Works in Annapolis for an annual activity described as demeaning to justify their requests for construction funds.

House Bill 1783, the 21st Century Schools Facilities Act introduced by Del. Adrienne Jones, who represents District 10, strips the authority of approval for school construction from the BPW and places it under the Maryland State Department of Education.

The act also expresses legislative intent that the state would provide at least \$345 million in public school construction in fiscal 2019, and at least \$400 million once practicable. It also creates the school safety grant program to provide monies for security improvements including surveillance technology and secure, lockable doors and an area of safe refuge in every classroom. The bill also addresses procurement, energy efficiency in schools, technical assistance.

The Governor, insisting that the bill removed public transparency and accountability, vetoed the bill. Legislators overturned the veto. The bill takes effective June 1.

Quite the contrary, says Jones,

who chairs the House’s capital budget subcommittee. “The bill is very important because it represents a way of taking politics out of the construction process.”

She pointed out that members of the independent body that will oversee the process, which has been renamed the Interagency Commission on School Construction, will consist of governor appointees, as well members appointed by the speaker of the house and senate president.

Recommendations for the bill came out of the 21st Century School Commission, Jones said. She serves on the commission.

Jones recalled when things came to a head in the infamous demeaning exchange at a Board of Public Works meeting in 2016, when members of the board summoned local officials to Annapolis. Comptroller Peter Franchot and Gov. Larry Hogan announced they would withhold \$10 million in construction funds for Baltimore County Public Schools and \$5 million from Baltimore City’s air conditioning requests until officials installed window units to alleviate complaints.

Hogan, Franchot and Treasurer Nancy Kopp make up the Board of Public Works.

Protecting Students With More SROs

continued from page 12

school; some have two. Every middle school has one SRO. One of the things I’m most proud of is that we have dealt with so many situations where when threats are made, our SROs, in partnership with our colleagues in education, do an outstanding job of investigating threats within our schools.

What makes a good SRO?

When you look at how NASRO defines a school resource officer, SROs are sworn law enforcement officers that are trained and fully equipped just like officers on the street. The biggest difference is that under our national model, we have our officers properly and carefully selected and vetted and specially trained. It’s a 40-hour training that every officer goes through from NASRO. There is

no other job in law enforcement that poses a greater challenge. You have to absolutely love kids.

How will the new school safety legislation work?

The law says there has to be a plan for the elementary schools. We are going to have an SRO liaison program, where one officer that will liaise between multiple elementary schools. That officer will establish a relationship with the students and staff, do staff development, and Officer Friendly Stranger Danger with the elementary kids. We will be training the 19 new SROs on May21 through 25 at a local university. We will be opening it up regionally because we should all be doing the same thing.

Read the full story at nwvoicenews.com, including one parent’s praise.

MARYLAND STATE SENATE



RE-ELECT

SENATOR

Shirley Nathan-Pulliam



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Maryland State Senate District 44

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

U.S. Seeks to Add Immigration Question to 2020 Census

Frosh, Other Attorneys General Files Lawsuit to Block Action

In 2020, Marylanders and other United States residents will be asked to take the U.S. Census, which surveys information such as age, sex and race.

This year, as it continues its aggressive push for immigration reform, the Trump administration decided to include a question about citizenship status. The administration says citizenship questions were used on prior censuses in some form or fashion between 1820 and 1950 and claims adding the question will help enforce the Voting Rights Act.

By law, the Census Bureau must deliver decennial census questions to Congress two years before Census

Day, with the next one occurring April 1, 2020.

Data from the census and American Community Survey—an annual survey that provides key socio-economic and housing statistics, such as veteran status, ancestry and home value—directly affect how more than \$675 billion per year in federal and state funding are allocated to local, state and tribal governments, according to the Census Bureau. The data are also vital to other planning decisions, such as emergency preparedness and disaster recovery.

In response, Maryland Attorney General Brian Frosh, part of a

coalition of 18 attorneys general, six cities, and the bipartisan U.S. Conference of Mayors, have filed a lawsuit to block that action.

Calling the decision an “attempt to intimidate voters and to suppress the vote,” Frosh stated, “It will undermine the accuracy of the Census, result in the loss of federal funds for Maryland, and deprive our state of fair representation in Congress. This maneuver will not withstand constitutional scrutiny.”

Under the Constitution, Frosh

stated, the Census Bureau has an obligation to determine, “the whole number of persons in each state.” However, he said, demanding citizenship information would depress Census turnout in states with large immigrant populations, directly threatening those states’ fair representation in Congress and the Electoral College, as well as billions of dollars in critical federal funds for education, infrastructure, Medicaid and more.

“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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Randallstown High Communications Teacher Earns Regional Award

Susan Ellerbee, the popular multi-media magnet teacher at Randallstown High School, has been named



Susan Ellerbee

Region 2 Teacher of the Year by Magnet Schools of America.

Before teaching, Ellerbee was an Emmy-nominated producer of television news, documentaries, and public affairs programs. Her previous positions include serving as an instructional designer and associate producer for Maryland Public Television, a producer at WBAL-TV,

and a senior producer/community liaison for GTV (Howard County government's TV station).

Under Ellerbee's direction, students at Randallstown High are producing television and radio shows, a school news magazine, and a school literary and arts magazine. Among her many awards are 2016-2017 Randallstown High School Teacher of Year and a Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce Excellence in Education award last year.

As the regional winner in her category, Ellerbee is a contender for the national Teacher of the Year award. Region 2 is comprised of Delaware, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, the District of Columbia, and international members.

Students Select Milford Mill Junior to Represent Them on School Board

Student representatives from across the county have selected Haleemat Adekoya, a junior at Milford Mill Academy, to be the next student member of the Board of Education.

Adekoya was chosen after a half-day forum involving 100 middle school and high school student leaders. The students gathered at Pikesville High School on April 6 to hear speeches by and ask questions of the two finalists, and then to cast ballots for either Adekoya or the other student, Yara Daraiseh of Patapsco High School and Center for the Arts.

The finalists were asked about their plans and priorities, how they would communicate with students, their positions on issues such as technology in the classroom, grading policies, bullying, and creating unity.

Adekoya, a Randallstown resident, serves as president of the Class of 2019 at Milford Mill. She is a member of the National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society and Principal's Advisory Board, and operates her own nonprofit, "Dare2Bee," a female empowerment organization. Adekoya is also president of the Baltimore County African Student Association and is involved in her church youth choir.

The forum was hosted by Josie Shaffer, current student member of the Board and a Pikesville High senior, and Jake Turner, president of Baltimore County Student Councils and a junior at Hereford High School.

Adekoya's name will now be forwarded to Gov. Larry Hogan for consideration and appointment to the one-year position.



Haleemat Adekoya

RE-ELECT

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Friends of Benjamin Brooks, Theresa Brooks, Treasurer

Sunscreen Use, Education Funding Among the New

Members of the Maryland General Assembly introduced more than 3,100 bills during the 2018 session, with about a third of them being adopted. The Governor has signed more than 100 bills, with more scheduled to be enacted. Legislation debated during the 90-day session that began Jan. 10 and ended April 9 ranged from bills to change gun laws, strengthen oversight of nursing homes and enhance the beer industry. Lawmakers established overwhelming bipartisan support for initiatives related to education, school safety, and attacking the heroin and opioid epidemic.

Most controversial were overrides of legislation the Governor vetoed. One such bill on which legislators took action during the first week of the session was House Bill 1, which was passed by the 2017 assembly and authorizes sick and safe leave for businesses with 15 or more employees, and House Bill 1783, sponsored this session by Del. Adrienne Jones of District 10. The bill changes the way school construction is funded. (See article elsewhere in this issue).

Some bills of interest that been enacted this session include the following.

Education lockbox. When Maryland voters approved gambling in 2008, elected officials said the casino revenue would go to education. That never happened. To keep the Governor and legislators from diverting the monies from that intended purpose, Senate Bill 1122 proposes an

amendment to the Maryland Constitution that will, if approved by voters at the 2018 General Election, requires the Governor to provide supplemental state funding for public education from casino revenue beginning in fiscal 2020.

Maryland Safe to Learn Act. Senate Bill 1265 makes comprehensive changes designed to improve the safety of the State's public schools. It enhances the presence of school resource officers (SROs) and/or local law enforcement in or near public schools and requires SROs to complete specialized training.

School year. House Bill 679/Senate Bill 729 authorizes that effective July 1, a local board of education can extend the school year for up to five days and beyond June 15 without approval from the State Board of Education.

Student sunscreen use. Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer and sun safety should begin at a young age. In Maryland, some school systems allow students to bring and apply sunscreen, some must have a parent's written permission and others treat sunscreen as a medication and require a doctor's note. House Bill 427 requires each county board of education to adopt a written policy authorizing a student to possess and use sunscreen on school property or at a school-sponsored activity without written permission from a health care provider. The bill also directs that students be educated about sunscreen and sun safety.

Automatic voter registration. Senate Bill 1048 will permit state agencies to automatically register residents to vote unless the applicant declines or is not eligible. This takes effect at most agencies in July 2019.

Parental rights. Senate Bill 2/House Bill 1 allows rape victims who get pregnant by their rapist to ask a judge to end the rapist's parental rights.

Obamacare. Maryland Health Business Exchange was created during the 2011 session to provide a marketplace for individuals and small businesses to purchase affordable health coverage. Currently, according to the Department of Legislative Services, there are two carriers whose rates increased between 22 and 52 percent for their most popular plans. Senate Bill 1267 requires the exchange to establish a State Reinsurance Program to provide reinsurance to carriers that offer individual health benefit plans in the state. Senate Bill 387 helps stabilize the individual health benefit plan market.

Caller ID Spoofing Ban of 2018. House Bill 1090 prohibits an individual from performing "caller ID spoofing" when contacting another individual or person in the state with the intent to defraud, harass, cause harm to or obtain anything of value. Caller ID spoofing is when telephone technology is used to block the caller's true location and instead show a false location that appears to be local to the individual receiving the call.



Left: Confetti is released as Senate President Mike Miller adjourns the General Assembly. Top: Del. Adrienne Jones is flanked by Joyce Smith and a visitor. Retiring District 11's Del. Dan Morhaim with staff; and Del. Shelly Hettleman with husband Jeff.

Laws Enacted This Legislative Session



Sine Die was on April 9. Del. Jay Jalisi (top left), Delegates Dana Stein and Ben Brooks, and Sen. Shirley Nathan-Pulliam celebrates the session adjournment with student pages.

Photos: Kenny Brown

Local School Projects Funded in Capital Budget

Lawmakers approved a \$44.6 budget for the 2019 fiscal year, which represents a 2.3 percent. The budget includes a 2 percent cost-of-living increase for 80,400 state employees, funds for transportation and construction projects, and monies for public school safety and security.

Also included are funds for a generous incentive package valued at more than \$5 billion in tax breaks and improvements to infrastructure to persuade Amazon to locate its second headquarters in Montgomery County. The county is on a list of 20 finalists.

The capital budget totals more than \$1 billion. Highlights include:

New Catonsville District Court	\$12 million
Aging Schools Program	\$6 million
Public School Construction	\$313 million
UMBC New Interdisciplinary Life Sciences Building.....	\$57.7 million
UMBC New Performing Arts and Humanities Facility	\$32.2 million
Towson University Science Facility	\$61.6 million
Stevenson University Rosewood Environmental Abatement.....	\$5 million
Randallstown High School Improvements	\$30,000
Franklin High School Improvements	\$750,000
Frederick Road Improvements	\$250,000
New Town High School Stadium	\$75,000
Morning Star Baptist Church Family Life Center.....	\$100,000
Windsor Mill Community Outreach Center.....	\$100,000

According to the Department of Legislative Services, while the State's fiscal position is positive in fiscal 2018 and 2019, the outlook is less favorable in the out-years. A cash shortfall in excess of \$900 million is forecast in fiscal 2020, and is expected to grow to \$1.9 billion by fiscal 2023.

Councilman Tom Quirk

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Bill Opens Door For More Cannabis Licenses for Minority Businesses

Almost two years after completing an application to get into Maryland's nascent medical cannabis industry, Windsor Mill businessman Kalpesh Shah believes he is just weeks away from opening a dispensary on Route 40 in Aberdeen.

His company, Blue Mountain Care, was one of the businesses awarded a license in December 2016 to sell medical cannabis, but was not among those awarded the more coveted license to grow or process the plant.

Legislation passed by the 2018 Maryland General Assembly requires the Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission, which oversees the process, to reach out to small, women and minority business interested in becoming a dispensary, processor or grower to help increase licenses for African-American and other minority-owned medical cannabis businesses.

That gives Shah, an Asian American, and his partners another shot at the more financially lucrative

grower and processor licenses.

"We are extremely excited to be part of this industry, to bring medicine to patients who badly need it," Shah says. His facility, True Wellness, will open in Harford County's District 34, and sell cannabis, as well as lotions and other products. "We are excited that other minorities, including Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanic Americans and females have the opportunity to participate in this industry through this bill."

The Legislative Black Caucus, led by chairwoman Del. Cheryl Glenn, spearheaded the bill after similar legislation died without a final vote minutes before midnight last year. Del. Ben Brooks, the caucus treasurer and District 10 representative, said, lawmakers were determined to ensure passage this year. "It's important that everyone, especially women, African Americans and other minorities, have an equitable opportunity to get into this industry," Brooks said. "I was



Kalpesh Shah, who owns businesses in Windsor Mill, will operate a medical cannabis dispensary on Route 40.

glad to be part of the battle."

Under the bill, a dispensary, grower or processor who applies for a license must attest to the number of minority and women employees and owners, and the ownership interest of any minority and women owners and

report it annually to the commission starting June 1, 2018.

The bill also establishes a "compassionate use fund" to provide veterans and residents enrolled in Maryland medical assistance program access to medical cannabis. In response to complaints about the commission's membership and controversial process used to award the licenses, the bill changes the composition of the commission and terms of its members, adds conditions under which the commission can rescind licenses, and spells out other responsibilities.

With the initial bill having taken effect in 2014 and dozens of dispensaries yet to open, Maryland is seen as a state that had one of the slowest and more controversial rollouts. Shah says he hopes this time around the process is more expedited, transparent and fair "so people understand people got their licenses based on merit and not other influences."

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Crime in Northwest Area Includes Robbery, Fraud

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

Man Charged in Randallstown Triple Shooting

Baltimore County Police charged Devron Goodwyn, 23, of Windsor Mill, with three counts of attempted first-degree murder for the triple shooting of a family in Randallstown. Police say that a prior business dispute between Goodwyn and the adult male victim led to the shooting on Easter Sunday.

Goodwyn drove up to the apartments where a couple was playing with children and began shooting from the vehicle. He then got out of the vehicle and continued shooting as the family took shelter in an apartment.

Officers responded to the scene in the unit block of Cinnamon Circle after neighbors called 911 with reports of shots fired. The man, his girlfriend and his 5-year-old son each suffered non-life threatening gunshot wounds.

Reisterstown Man Arrested for Foundry Row Shooting

Police have arrested a suspect in the April 3 shooting of a 21-year-old man on the parking lot of the Foundry Row shopping center.

Rashard Williams, 25, of Reisterstown, was charged with attempted first-degree murder, first-degree assault and armed robbery. Detectives say that Williams shot the victim and stole personal items after a confrontation on the mall's parking lot. The victim left the scene, going to Northwest Hospital for treatment, where he was later located by officers. He is expected to survive his injuries.



Williams is held at the Baltimore County Detention Center on denied bail status.

Murder-Suicide in Pikesville

Baltimore County Police are investigating the death of two women found in a Pikesville home on March 28 as a murder-suicide.

They are identified as Raechele Gross, 32, and Danielle Gross, 31, and both lived in the home.

Officers were dispatched to the 4600 block of Debilen Circle just after 11 p.m. for a check on welfare after friends of the couple were unable to make contact with them. Maintenance workers

let officers into the home where they forced entry into a locked bedroom and discovered the couple dead from gunshot wounds.

Police Seek Identify of Auto Theft Suspect

Detectives are seeking the public's help in identifying a man suspected of stealing a Dodge Caravan from the parking lot of Westowne Elementary School in Catonsville on Feb. 16 while the driver was inside at his son's school play.

The suspect was driving a Jeep Liberty stolen from the parking lot of Security Square Mall on Feb. 2, which he abandoned shortly after stealing the Caravan.

Police believe the car thieves may also be responsible for additional fourth-degree burglaries and area thefts of dirt bikes and ATVs.

Anyone with information on this suspect or vehicle thefts is asked to contact police at 410-307-2020. Metro Crime Stoppers is offering a reward for information. Anonymous tips can be sent by calling 1-866-7LOCKUP, texting "MCS" plus your message to "CRIMES" (274637), or visiting www.metrocrimestoppers.org



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County Executive To Include Request for Tuition Free College Education Program

When Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz presents his budget to the County Council on April 12, the spending plan will include a request for a need-based scholarship program that will offer recent high school graduates a tuition free education at the Community College of Baltimore (CCBC) beginning this fall.

Called Baltimore County College Promise, the program will cover tuition and mandatory fees at CCBC, after applying all financial awards, such as Pell grants and state aid (not including loans), to enable eligible county residents to complete an associate's degree or workplace and certification program, up to a maximum of three years. Students must cover the cost of their books and supplies.

Kamenetz, who made the announcement last month at the Community College of Baltimore County's Essex campus, called the program a "game changer for students from low or moderate income families for whom the benefits of a college education might otherwise be out of reach."

The program guarantees that CCBC college tuition will be free for eligible recent high school

graduates who live in the county. The scholarship goes beyond federal, state and private scholarships to provide full tuition for qualified students to pursue and complete their education at CCBC.

BCPS Interim Superintendent Verletta White said, "This is a tremendous opportunity for our recent graduates, especially those with financial constraints, to take full advantage of the tremendous education and career-advancing opportunities at CCBC."

College Promise also has widespread support among council members. Tom Quick, councilman for District 1, which includes Catonsville and Windsor Mill, said, "To give individuals who might not be able to afford to go to college the opportunity to do so is vital to our future as a county, and frankly, as a nation. This is about family stability and economic growth."

District 2 Councilwoman Vicki Almond, who represents Owings Mills, Pikesville and Reisterstown, said, "There is nothing more important to a person than a good job, and access to higher education is vital in opening up opportunities for individuals.

"Jobs. Jobs. Jobs. This announcement is about jobs pure and simple," said Council Chair Julian Jones Jr. of District 4. "Helping people get the education they need to succeed is exactly what government ought to do."



PHOTO: BALTIMORE COUNTY

CCBC President Sandra Kurtinitis speaks to the announcement that college- and career-ready Baltimore County high school students will be able to apply for tuition-free college education at CCBC. County Executive Kevin Kamenetz, Interim Superintendent Verletta White and County Council Chair Julian Jones Jr. look on.

Qualifications and Requirements

To be eligible, students must live in Baltimore County and have an adjusted household income of \$69,000, which is the median income for Baltimore County residents, or less. Students must have graduated from a public, parochial or home school within the past two years with a GPA of 2.5 or better and complete a federal financial aid form (FAFSA). Baltimore County College Promise students must enroll full-time and be college-ready. They must maintain full-time enrollment and a GPA of at least 2.5. The scholarship applies only to the student's first credential or degree.

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Tuition-Free Community College Education Program

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Program Cost

The current cost for full-time CCBC students taking 12 credits per semester is \$1,865 in tuition and fees. The Baltimore County College Promise scholarship is calculated as a “last dollar in” award. For example, students with \$1,000 in financial aid would receive \$865 from this new program to fill the gap.

CCBC estimates that approximately 1,100 students who graduated in the past two years are eligible for the first year of the program, and the projected cost for the first year is \$980,000. Costs for years two and three are estimated at \$1.8 million and \$2.3 million respectively.

County government will provide the funding for the College Promise scholarship from its operating budget that will be presented to the County Council on April 12 for approval. The Council will vote on the budget on May 24.

How to Apply

Students who wish to learn more about the Baltimore County College Promise may visit the College Promise page at www.ccbcmd.edu/collegepromise.

Catonsville, Randallstown Walmart Stores to be Remodeled

Walmart announced plans to invest an estimated \$28 million in upgrades over the next year in eight of its Maryland stores. The Catonsville store at 6205 Baltimore National Pike and Randallstown location at 8739 Liberty Rd. are on the list to get a facelift.

The spend is part of the company’s total \$11 billion capital expenditure for 2019 fiscal year. As part of the renovation, Walmart will roll out several in-store and online shopping improvements, such as online grocery pickup and a scan-and-go app that will allow customers to scan and bag items, including produce, while they shop and pay directly with their phones. The company says the innovative options are designed to help busy customers save time and money.

Walmart is also remodeling stores in Harford, Frederick and Anne Arundel.



Walmart’s Catonsville and Randallstown stores will be renovated to accommodate expanded shopping options, such as an online grocery drive-thru pickup service and a scan-and-go mobile app.



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2211 St. Lukes Lane, Baltimore, MD 21207 Reverend Emmett C. Burns, Jr., Ph.D., Pastor

Youth Encouraged to Apply for Youth Leadership Academy

Ever wonder what police work is all about? The Baltimore County Police Department asks teens, 14 through 18, to apply for this year's Youth Leadership Academy. The deadline for applicants is May 7.

In its twelfth year, the academy will run from Monday, June 18, through Saturday, June 23. Students will spend 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day learning various aspects of the Police Department. The academy offers teens the opportunity to develop leadership skills, while meeting and having fun with other local like-minded youth.

Students will visit the Police Training Academy on the Community College of Baltimore County's Dundalk campus and Martin State Airport.

Applicants must reside in the county and have good grades. Besides the application form, applicants must write an essay about themselves and state why they should be in the program.

A parent or guardian will need to sign a waiver and consent form, and a background check will also be done before a student can participate.

The application, waiver and consent forms are available online at www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/police/community/youthacademy.html. If you are unable to apply through the website, contact the Youth Initiatives Team at 410-887-2587 for the necessary forms.

If you know of a young person you feel will benefit from the academy, call 410-887-2587 or Officer George Mussini.

Randallstown Man Pleads Guilty To Conspiracy To Distribute Heroin And Fentanyl

Anthony Wynn, 47, of Randallstown, has pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute and possess with the intent to distribute heroin and fentanyl, the U.S. Attorney's office announced.

According to his plea agreement, in connection with an investigation into drug trafficking and the laundering of drug proceeds through Maryland-based casinos, Homeland Security Investigations investigators discovered that Wynn had placed into and cashed out in excess of \$1 million at casinos from 2016 to 2017, although he only earned \$30,000 in 2016.

HSI investigators were able to identify the places where Wynn received, transported, and stored drugs and other contraband. Specifically, Wynn received packages containing drugs from an animal hospital in Pikesville and transported the drugs to Washington, D.C. Wynn stored the drugs in a storage unit in Windsor Mill, his home in Randallstown, and in a Pikesville barbershop. He also shipped several packages to a co-conspirator

in California, one of which contained \$244,040 in drug proceeds.

Last June, an HSI investigator observed Wynn talking on a cell phone while driving and informed a Baltimore County patrol officer who conducted a traffic stop of Wynn's vehicle. During that stop, a Maryland Transportation Authority police officer conducted a canine scan of Wynn's vehicle and recovered a one-kilogram heroin brick and \$11,620 in cash. The search of Wynn's person revealed a digital scale and two \$500 casino chips.

HSI investigators obtained search warrants for Wynn's residence and storage unit and recovered approximately one kilogram of fentanyl, 3 kilograms of heroin, and an electronic money counter. They recovered numerous gift cards totaling \$5,575, \$16,602 in cash and an "owe sheet."

Wynn faces a maximum sentence of life in prison, with a minimum mandatory term of 10 years. His sentencing has been scheduled for July 16.



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Medical Cannabis

continued from cover page

show ID and sign a release form as an armed security officer stood by, and then settled into a waiting area before they were invited into a consultation room or the dispensary area. In the glass case were accessories and cannabis strains with names such as Blue Dream and Balance Gorilla that are sold in various forms, such as pre-rolled joints, vape pens, tablets and tinctures.

“These patients need a service. We’re helping them on their journey with a need for a type of medication,” says manager Trey Hughes, who came from Colorado, which boasts a \$1 billion industry. “We’re trying to end the black market.”

Hughes says he uses his expertise and passion to help patients—most of whom are looking for relief from opioid addiction and post-traumatic stress disorder, but also for chronic pain. “We never tell anybody this is the cure,” he says. “We tell them that medical cannabis will help and it’s an ongoing process. There is science. About eighty percent of our staff are medical patients. We have our own experiences and it gives us an idea of what to recommend to the patient.”

Justin Somers, president for Curaleaf Maryland and Pennsylvania, says his company recognizes from its experience as a multi-state operation that Maryland’s prices are higher than in other places. “We decided we needed to do what we can to help the patient,” Somers said of his lower prices.

Down Reisterstown Road in Pikesville, Temescal Wellness has been up and operating since January. Manager Steven Austin, who left his job as a registered pharmacist, says the dispensary sees up to 100 patients daily.

“We start low and slow,” Austin says, in reference to the product and dosage. “Medical cannabis is not for everyone. But we have 75- and 80-year-olds with cancer and debilitating pain, and a lot of people on opioid narcotics and sleep medicine who want to decrease or alleviate that.”

Temescal, which has a growing and processing facility in Baltimore, is doing community outreach and building partnerships with the Police



Department and local businesses. Located in the former Village Green, the dispensary looks like a retail shop “People thought we were going to be a morphine clinic where people line up and get their drugs,” Austin says. “The experience has been extremely rewarding.”

The Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission requires that once registered, patients must obtain a valid written certification from a provider registered with the commission. The patient is required by law to have a bona fide provider-patient relationship with the provider and the provider must approve medical cannabis as a treatment option for the patient for a qualifying medical condition. Those conditions include cachexia, anorexia, wasting syndrome, severe pain, severe nausea, seizures, severe or persistent muscle spasms, glaucoma, post-traumatic stress disorder and chronic pain.

When both the patient and provider are registered with the commission, the provider will need the patient’s MMCC-issued patient ID number to issue the certification for medical cannabis through the commission’s online application. Patient ID cards, which cost \$50, are not required to participate in the program. However, only the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission issues ID cards, so beware of scams. A patient must show a drivers license or other

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WE ACCEPT

Meetings and Events

Mark your calendars for the following events and activities.



African-American Military History Presentation

The Diggs-Johnson Museum will present an educational talk at the Diggs-Johnson Museum, 2426 Offutt Rd. in Granite on Saturday, April 28, from 10 a.m. to noon. Local historian and author Louis S. Diggs will speak on his 11th book, "African Americans From Baltimore County Who Served in World War II."

Because the state of Maryland did not retain the records of men and women drafted into or who volunteered for World War II and the Korean War, the records were turned over to the National Archives. According to Diggs, research indicates that the National Archives has not made the military records of these persons available to the public. In addition to the presentation, several veterans from both World War II and the Korean War have been invited to discuss their experiences and answer questions. If you would like to participate in this presentation, you must request a parking pass as well as a pass for the presentation to louisdiggs2@verizon.net. For more information, visit www.diggsjohnsonmuseum.com."

Coffee with Kevin

Residents and community and business leaders are invited to share their ideas, issues and concerns with Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz on Thursday, April 26, from 11:30 to 1 p.m. at Woodlawn Senior Center, 2120 Gwynn Oak Ave. in Woodlawn, 21207.

Town Hall Meeting-District 4

Councilman Julian Jones will host a town hall meeting on Thursday, April 26, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Randallstown Library, 8604 Liberty Rd. in Randallstown, 21133. Jones will present updates, solicit ideas and answer questions. Call 410-887-3389

with questions or to request special accommodations.

Baltimore County Public Library

BCPL has several events planned throughout the county. In May, events planned include book club discussions, story times, family coding, workshops about gardening, starting a business, homebuying and other events taking place at the local library branches at www.bcplonline.org/ events.

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. Contact 443-840-1732 or careerservices@ccbcmd.edu with questions.

Substance Use Resources and Education

Get educated about substance use, misuse and abuse of alcohol, cocaine, heroin, nicotine and marijuana on second Thursday of the month from 7 to 8 p.m. at Dreamlife Worship Center, 4111 Deer Park Rd. in Randallstown, 21133. Empowerment and Freedom Event Journey of Faith Church will host an Empowerment and Freedom for All event on Saturday, May 5, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 7902 Liberty Rd., Windsor Mill, 21244. The topics to be discussed include human trafficking, basic self defense, domestic, sexual and gender based violence. Lunch will be provided and there will be raffle prizes. RSVP by May 2 to 410-655-5250.

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 for more information.

Community Political Forum

The Villa Nova Community Association, Pahl's Crossing Homeowners Association and Willow Glen Improvement Association are sponsoring a Candidates Forum for Baltimore County District 2 candidates on Wednesday, May 16, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Augsburg Village, 6825 Campfield Rd. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the deadline to submit your questions is 7:15 p.m.

Southwest Area Education Advisory Council Meeting

The next meeting of this advisory council meeting will be held Monday, May 21, at 6:30 p.m., the meeting will be held in the library of Johnnycake Elementary School, 5910 Craigmont Rd., Catonsville, 21228. The topics are building use, enrollment patterns, overcrowding in schools, planned renovations, and plans for new schools.

Training to Prevent an Overdose Death

The Baltimore County Department of Health is offering a free, two-hour training on how to recognize, prevent and respond to an opioid overdose by using intranasal naloxone—a prescription medication that is used to reverse an overdose. Upcoming trainings will be held Tuesday, April 17, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Good Shepherd Church of God in Christ, 8301 Liberty Rd., Windsor Mill, 21244, and Wednesday, June 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Pikesville Library, 1301 Reisterstown Rd. in Pikesville, 21208. Due to limited seating, preregistration is required at baltimorecountymd.gov/odresponse or call 410-887-3828.

School Board

Upcoming meetings of the Board of Education will be held at the Greenwood Campus, 6901 N. Charles St. in Towson on Tuesday, April 17, May 3 and 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.

County Council

Upcoming meetings of the County Council will be held 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16, May 7 and May 24, and the work sessions are on April 10, May 1 and May 15 at 2 p.m. at the Historic Courthouse, 400 Washington Ave. in Towson. For more information, including on the agendas and instructions to watch the meeting online, visit 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 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. The precinct station number is 410-887-6985.
- **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. The precinct contact number is 410-887-6775.



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Residents such as Theodore and Geraldine Barham of Randallstown will be able to request fire fighters to evaluate their home for fire and carbon monoxide prevention measures.

Fire Prevention Program Launches in Randallstown

Theodore and Geraldine Barham of Randallstown is the first family to participate in a recently-announced Baltimore County fire prevention program that targets neighborhoods at higher risk for fire and carbon monoxide-related incidents.

A \$589,000 federal grant will help fire personnel provide education about preventing such incidents and related tragedies, county officials announced.

Fire Chief Kyrle Preis, a crew from Randallstown Engine 18, along with County Executive Kevin Kamenetz and Rep. C.A. Dutch Ruppberger, kicked off the program on April 6. Firefighters replaced the Barhams fire alarm in their Zurich Road home from the 1970s and installed a new smoke/CO alarm.

The grant includes the purchase of smoke/CO alarms for distribution to residents who participate in the educational program and meet the program criteria. The grant also includes smoke and CO alarms for the deaf and hard of hearing and printed educational materials in multiple languages. A key component of the program is for local firefighters to make house calls to ensure the alarms are properly installed and are operational, and that residents know how they work.

Fire crews from every career station have been identifying areas in their districts at risk of fire and CO-related incidents. Beginning April 14, fire personnel will begin canvassing targeted neighborhoods, providing educational information, evaluating properties for safety recommendations and performing walk-through evaluations for residents who request them. Specific locations will be announced via our social media platforms prior to the firefighters' visits.

Residents may request a visit from fire personnel to review home fire and CO safety prevention. A request form is available at www.baltimorecountymd.gov/preventhomefires

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
WOODLAWN, 21207					
1901 HILLSIDE DR	Colonial	3	3	\$199,500	\$190,000
3606 PATTERSON AVE	Bungalow	4	2	\$199,000	\$215,000
6739 KINCHELOE AVE	Split Level	5	1 ½	\$205,999	\$210,000
7508 MARSTON RD	Rancher	4	2	\$229,900	\$229,000
6802 REAL PRINCESS LN	Colonial	4	3 ½	\$399,900	\$399,900
WINDSOR MILLS, 21244					
3631 EITEMILLER RD	Colonial	4	2 ½	\$250,000	\$250,000
3400 WILD CHERRY RD	Rancher	4	2	\$269,100	\$269,000
3805 MILFORD MILL RD	Cottage	3	3	\$219,900	\$219,000
7155 FAIRBROOK RD	Rancher	3	2	\$229,000	\$220,000
3306 SOUTHGREEN RD	Split Level	4	2	\$249,900	\$249,900
CATONSVILLE, 21228					
8 RANDOLPH SPRINGS CT	Split Level	3	3	\$329,900	\$327,000
2121 FERNGLEN WAY	Rancher	3	2 ½	\$349,999	\$337,500
14 SPARROW HILL CT	Split Level	3	2	\$240,000	\$230,000
6643 FREDERICK RD	Colonial	3	2	\$234,900	\$240,000
313 NEWBURG AVE	Cape Cod	4	2	\$475,000	\$475,000
RANDALLSTOWN, 21133					
3601 BLAIR AVE	Rancher	6	3 ½	\$245,000	\$239,000
3612 RUSTY ROCK RD	Rancher	4	2 ½	\$249,900	\$240,000
3706 EASTMAN RD	Split Level	4	1 ½	\$249,000	\$250,000
3903 ROXANNE RD	Split Level	5	3	\$299,900	\$299,900
6 ENSENADA CT	Colonial	4	3 ½	\$325,000	\$320,000
PIKESVILLE, 21208					
11 GLENCLIFFE CIR	Colonial	4	3 ½	\$595,900	\$545,000
7047 CONCORD RD	Colonial	4	2 ½	\$249,000	\$247,000
8257 BRATTLE RD	Rancher	5	2 ½	\$252,000	\$245,000
12 DINADEN CIR #12	Rancher	3	3	\$424,900	\$422,450
8 OAK HOLLOW CT	Split Level	4	3 ½	\$493,900	
OWINGS MILLS, 21117					
2308B TIMBER GROVE RD	Colonial	4	2 ½	\$364,900	\$340,000
319 LANTANA DR	Colonial	4	2 (2) ½	\$319,000	\$319,000
6 COACH HOUSE DR #1F2	Colonial	3	2 (2) ½	\$285,000	\$285,000
9517 GEORGIAN WAY	Contemporary	3	2 ½	\$259,900	\$250,000
11821 GARRISON FOREST RD	Rancher	5	3 ½	\$569,995	\$572,000
REISTERSTOWN, 21136					
806 IVYDALE AVE	Rancher	4	1 ½	\$224,900	\$224,900
226 CANDYTUFT RD	Rancher	3	2	\$245,000	\$245,000
716 WILSON GREEN CT	Colonial	4	3 ½	\$570,000	\$550,000
12104 TARRAGON RD	Split Level	5	3	\$309,000	\$305,000
1905 CAPTAIN KETTLE RD	Rancher	3	3 ½	\$449,000	\$460,000

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