HOME Act

Housing Voucher Bill



Music festivals bring fun to community



12 Windsor Mill Road needs sidewalks



14 Body-worn police cameras are in county

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Thorthwest CE

Your *voice* in the community

JULY 2016

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



Developers want to replace the Golden Dragon Bar and Grill at Liberty Road and the 3500 block of Milford Road with a convenience store and gas station.

The Battle on Zoning Changes

County Council to make final decisions on requests affecting hundreds of properties

A request to rezone the 225-acre property at Woodholme Country Club in Pikesville to accommodate 40 acres of townhomes in addition to the single-family homes has drawn a lot of debate. There is community opposition for the plan, which was originally to build all single-family homes. Interestingly, there is research that suggests that a gravesite for African-American slaves lies nearby the property. However, the developers believe it is their right to build on as desired.

And therein lies the challenge, as Baltimore County goes through its every-four-years 2016 Comprehensive Zoning Map Process. The county's Planning Department Staff and Planning Board make recommendations on the hundreds of zoning requests. The County Council must ultimately decide to approve, reject or modify the request, delicately considering the interests of all parties. The public can weigh in at various stages of the process.

Most of these decisions on land use are made through two types of zoning processes. One way is the Comprehensive Zoning Map Process (CZMP), which takes place every four



From the Publisher, Kenneth Brown

Should We Consider Year-Round Schools?

I was talking to my daughter and two other parents with children and they seem to have the same struggle: What do we do with our kids for 10 weeks in the summer?

We live in a time where in most families the parents work outside the home. That got me thinking: Why are kids at home in the summertime?

School is not only a place of learning, it is a social outlet. Students enjoy a second family of friends and even some teachers there; it's a home away from home.

The question is: Has our traditional school calendar outlived its time? The original reason schools were closed in the summer was because the United States was an agricultural country and children were part of the labor pool necessary to work the fields and harvest crops. So I ask myself: Are we continuing this schedule because it's a habit and tradition?

When we talk about year-round school, we're not talking about kids being in the classroom 365 days a year. Currently, there are 180 days on instruction on the calendar for Maryland schools and we cram those days into a nine-month format. Under some year-round school models, children would attend classes for roughly 45 days, get two to three weeks off, go back to school for another 45 days, and so on.

I expect there might be some push back not necessarily from the kids, but from the adults (parents and teachers). How do parents keep their kids busy in the summer? Hopefully, young people are doing some summer reading and participating in other enriching activities. But the truth is, while parents are working, some unattended young people might be tempted to do things they are not supposed to. Too much idle time is not good thing.

A student who has parents with the means to send him or her to a fun or specialty camp or take extended vacations and getaways will find their summers relaxing and enjoyable. A child in a middle-class or low-income household whose parents may not have the extra income to do more activities may get bored with such everyday tasks as watching TV or babysitting their younger siblings. Fortunately, some young people will have summer jobs to go to.

Many teachers might like the idea of having 10 weeks off. At the end of the school year, they're ready for the summer. To be able to spread out their income to cover the time that school is out is a big help. But imagine the benefit of having extended

breaks every couple of months to refresh and rejuvenate.

As for students, most studies conclude that a continuous 10-week break is a huge brain drain. They recess with no studies and much of what they learned in the previous academic year slowly dissipates with video games, TV shows and idle time come into play.

It's been said that it takes 30 to 45 days after a student returns to school to relearn before starting on new information. Isn't that a waste? When kids take shorter breaks they retain the information better and it's a lot easier for the teacher to pick up where they left off.

IT'S BEEN SAID THAT IT TAKES 30 TO 45

DAYS AFTER A STUDENT RETURNS TO

SCHOOL TO RELEARN BEFORE

STARTING ON NEW INFORMATION.

ISN'T THAT A WASTE?

Approximately 97 percent of low-income students rely on schools for Internet access. Recognizing how essential the Internet is for education, is it a missed opportunity when kids don't have access during the summer months?

Food security is another reason year-round schools would be a benefit to many students. Because of breakfast and lunch programs, these kids were consistently getting meals. Can we be sure they eat nutritious meals in the summertime when they are home? Fortunately, certain libraries and schools are serving breakfast under a U.S. Department of Agriculture program. (See page 9).

Three million students and 86 percent of public schools still operate on this traditional schedule, but year-round schools are slowly beginning to catch on. After all, 30 years ago, 98 percent of the systems were traditional.

I get that some parents like to take long summer breaks and would like school to open after Labor Day so they can have a longer vacations. Chances are that's the way it was when they went to school.

There are some downsides to having year-round schools. Some parents will find it problematic about what to do with their students on a rotating two-week basis. Most parents don't have enough vacation time to take off from work every time the children will be on break under this model. What about sporting events? How will the fall, winter and

spring sport seasons be impacted? Those issues are something to think about and I am hopeful we can work around that.

For example, can we come up with enrichment programs at certain schools that would keep the

continued on page 17

northwest OICE 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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How Do I Improve My Autistic Child's Social Skills?

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD), which most of us refer to as autism, is characterized by a group of restricted and repetitive behaviors. communication that may be verbal or nonverbal and impaired social interaction.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that one in 68 children have ASD and significantly more boys develop autism than girls. Parents usually first notice signs of the disorder when their children are young, but the behaviors typically last through a person's life.

People with autism spectrum disorder face additional challenges as a result of their neurodevelopment disorder. Children may be delayed in saying their first words or have trouble walking; they may focus on playing with one part of a toy, such as watching the wheels of a truck spin, or they may have trouble playing with kids. As they grow older, teens and other people with autism spectrum disorder may show trouble understanding the appropriate clothes to wear, how to play sports or navigate a store.

Everybody is different and experience different challenges and difficulties. There are some estimates that indicate that 40 percent of people with ASD have average or above average intelligence while 60 percent may have intellectual difficulties that range from mild to severe.

Parents and teachers may focus more attention on teaching academic skills instead of daily life skills, such as cooking, cleaning,

hygiene and money management.

Many health professionals believe it is best to start treatment as early as possible. A person's chances to work successfully and live independently within a supportive environment improve with treatments and therapies. A treatment regimen might include: behavioral therapy, educational interventions and social skills therapy. Students may be enrolled in regular schools classes, special education classes or separate schools for students with disabilities, but will still need additional support from professionals who are used to working with ASD.

Health care professionals believe the cause is related to environmental, biological and genetic factors. There is no cure for autism. The ideal treatment plan coordinates therapies and interventions that meet the needs of the individual. Family counseling for the parents and siblings of the child with ASD can help families cope with the challenges, including feelings of helplessness, isolation and frustration.

According to Marina Sarris, Ph.D., a researcher with the Interactive Autism Network at Kennedy Krieger Institute, in the coming years an unprecedented number of students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) will leave high school and flood the U.S. adult disability system, where services are based on the availability of funding and waiting lists abound. An estimated 50,000 Americans with ASD will turn 18 each year, part of "a surge of

children" diagnosed in the 1990s.

The responsibility for obtaining services also shifts. Public schools are tasked with finding children with disabilities and providing them services. But in the adult system, you must apply for services and ask for what you need.

Once in college, students with disabilities will have to request the accommodations they need to be successful, and their schools need only provide the "reasonable" ones.

Most of the planning necessary to ensure a child has the smoothest transition possible into their teen, young adult and adult years falls on the parent. Establishing good independent living skills will go a long way.

Daily living skills - which include personal hygiene, housekeeping and handling money, even how to travel from one destination to another-can be taught beginning in early childhood. The payoff for learning these skills is high. A 2014 study of adults with ASD found that those with better daily living skills were more independent in their job and educational activities.

Schools may not always consider daily living skills when drafting transition goals for a diplomabound student.

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Housing Voucher Discrimination Bill Brings Out Opposing Attitudes

The Baltimore County Council has introduced a housing discrimination bill, referred to as the Home Act, which would prohibit landlords from considering a tenant's source of income.

Because Bill No. 46-16 primarily targets people with Section 8 housing vouchers, for which the governmental subsidizes the rent for eligible low-income, disabled or elderly tenants, reaction has ranged from positive to comments with racist and classism overtones.

In one corner are developers and landlords who believe that government is overstepping its authority and telling them who they can rent their properties to. Also opposed to the bill are people—both African American and white—with a "not in my neighborhood" attitude who believe the bill will bring down property values. Some perceive individuals and families with housing vouchers as people who don't work or take care of the properties.

Supporters of the issue include those who believe everyone deserves a right to fair housing. They want to break the clusters of concentrated poverty and subsidized housing and see all communities, including those in Catonsville, Cockeysville, Towson and Timonium, accept their share of lower-income tenants.

The average wait time for someone to reach the top of the housing voucher list is nine years, according to Baltimore County. Families with the earliest date and time of application are served first.

Of the more than 6,200 Baltimore County residents who hold vouchers, more than two thirds of them live on the west side in Randallstown and Woodlawn, and the east in Dundalk and Essex.

County Executive Kevin Kamenetz was required to introduce the legislation under terms of a housing discrimination settlement with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to address unfair housing practices. The purpose is to give people affordable housing in high-opportunity areas.

Express your opinions about the housing voucher bill.

Council Work Session – July 21, 2 p.m. Council Chambers, Courthouse, 400 Washington Ave. in Towson Final vote on Aug. 1, 6 p.m., Council Chambers

Tom Quirk, District 1

Catonsville, Woodlawn, Arbutus 410-887-0896 or 410-887-3386 council1@baltimorecountymd.gov

Chairwoman Vicki Almond, District 2

Reisterstown, Pikesville, Owings Mills 410-887-3385 council2@baltimorecountymd.gov

Julian Jones, District 4

Woodlawn, Windsor Mill, Randallstown 410-887-3389 or 410-887-0784 council4@baltimorecountymd.gov The bill was introduced at the County Council meeting on July 5 without debate. Advocates, some of them wearing lavender T-shirts that read "Home Act, Vote Yes," provided comment. Among them was Myesha Allender, a mother whose husband left her after she was paralyzed by a drunk driver, who expressed difficulty in finding a good community with good schools.

Yara Cheikh, a mother whose four children attend Baltimore County Public Schools who is also a landlord of properties in the 21204, 21234 and 21212 zip codes, advocated for the bill.

continued on page 5

Housing Voucher Bill Gets Vote on Aug 1. continued from page 4

"The HOME Act helps to prevent concentrations of poverty in our county," she told council members. "The values of my property are not threatened by the HOME Act. It does not impede my right to determine tenancy based on good credit and good past tenancy. Simply, it keeps landlords unable to discriminate on the basis of renters having the means to pay the rent."

No one opposed to the bill shared comments at the meeting.

District 4 Councilman Julian Jones says he favors the bill, particularly to give children the opportunity to live in more affluent neighborhoods. "We have to do what we can to help the children to break the cycle of poverty."

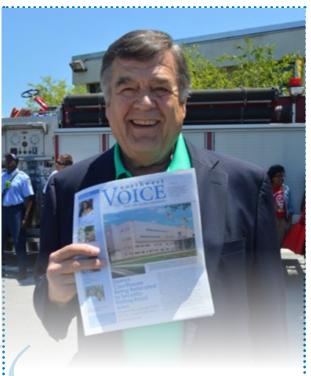
In a response to one community member, Jones described a common practice among some landlords. "Many landlords, especially large apartment complexes, will accept vouchers in Randallstown, Woodlawn, Dundalk and Essex, but will not accept vouchers in other communities, such as Towson, Timonium and White Marsh," he stated. "In some cases they are the same owners with different policies, based on location and communities."

It is unclear which council members support and which oppose the bill. Read the bill at

http://resources.baltimorecountymd.gov/Documents/ CountyCouncil/bills%202016/b04616.pdf. Then contact your council members to express your position on bill before it comes up for a vote on Aug. 1 at 6 p.m. in the council chambers of the historic Courthouse, 400 Washington Ave. in Towson. In a work session on Thursday, July 21, at 2 p.m., the council will discuss the bill and hear public testimony.



Yara
Cheikh, a
landlord
and
education
and
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supports
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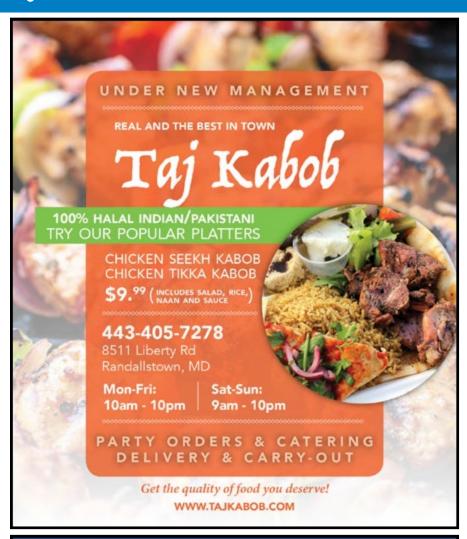


I read the *Northwest Voice!*

REP. C.A. "DUTCH" RUPPERSBERGER U.S. Congressman



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Blacks in the Military the Subject of History Talks

A special series on African Americans from Baltimore County who served in the highly segregated U.S. Military from the Civil War to the Korean War will be held starting this month on four Mondays, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Diggs-Johnson Museum, 2426 Offutt Rd. in Granite. The presentations are based on three of the latest books authored by local historian Louis S. Diggs.

The first talk, on July 11, will be about the more than 400 slaves and freed slaves who joined the Union Army. On July 18, the topic is on African Americans from the county who served in World War I.

The third talk, on July 25, will discuss those who served in World War II. Several veterans from that war may be on hand to speak on their experiences. On Monday, Aug. 1, the fourth talk and display on African Americans from Baltimore County who served in the Korean War will be presented. Again, veterans are expected to be on hand to share their experiences.

Because of the limited parking at the museum, please email your requests to Diggs at louisdiggs2@verizon.net or Frances Cockey at Robert.cockey111@gmail.com. You will be notified of the results of your request.

GOT NEWS?

Submit your news item or press release for consideration. Deadline is the 18th of the preceding month of issue publication. Remember to include details on the 5 Ws (who, what where, why and when). Submit the details to nwoicenews.com or email editor@nwvoicenews.com.

New Homeownership Program for LifeBridge Employees

Buying a home near Northwest Hospital in Randallstown just got a little easier for LifeBridge Health employees. A new Live Near Your Work program offers incentives ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 to help LifeBridge employees with down payment and closing costs when they buy a home near Northwest Hospital.

The program was announced on June 20 at an Edcrest Road home in the Stevenswood community of Randallstown, with local residents, elected officials and hospital representatives in attendance.

"Live Near Your Work is a Baltimore County partnership with LifeBridge Health, the largest employer in the Liberty Road area. By providing buyer incentives in communities near Northwest Hospital, we are encouraging LifeBridge employees to invest in the neighborhoods near their work place," said Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz.

Brian White, president of Northwest Hospital and senior vice president of LifeBridge Health, said the hospital embraces the community. "We believe this new partnership with Baltimore County will strengthen that connection by



County Executive Kevin Kamenetz speaks at the Live Near Your Work announcement on June 20 at a home in Randallstown. He is flanked by Stevenson Improvement Association President Aaron Plymouth, District 10 Del. Ben Brooks, Martha Nathanson, vice president of government relations and community development at Northwest Hospital, and business leaders.

increasing the number of employees living in our nearby neighborhoods, with the added benefit for employees of a shortened commute to work."

The highest incentives are available to homebuyers in the Stevenswood, Courtleigh, Green Lane, Fieldstone, Lochearn, Gwynn Oak and Colonial Village communities. These are considered stable, healthy communities within easy distance of Northwest Hospital that have seen a decline in homeownership since the recession.

To be eligible, homebuyers must work for LifeBridge Health, purchase a home in the designated area, contribute at least \$1,000 towards

the home purchase and use the property as their principal residence. Kamentz pointed out that the low mortgage rates also make now a good time to consider buying a home.

LifeBridge and the county are contributing program funding.

More information about the Live Near Your Work program for LifeBridge Health employees is available at www.baltimorecountymd.gov/ planning or call LifeBridge Employee Services at 410-601-8000.

-Baltimore County

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Upcoming Events and Activities

Flea Market

Woodlawn Volunteer Fire Company is sponsoring the Gwynndale flea market on Saturday, Aug. 6, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call Ed at 410-298-2548 with questions and vendor information.

National Night Out Event in Chadwick

Join the Chadwick community and over 38 million people in more than 16,000 communities across the nation to celebrate National Night Out, a community-building campaign that promotes policecommunity partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. The event will be held Tuesday, Aug. 2, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on the grounds of the Episcopal Church of Christ the King, 1930 Brookdale Rd. in Windsor Mill. Enjoy hot dogs, face painting, a book giveaway for kids, and a chance to talk with your neighbors.

Questions? Call 410-944-6683.

Cooking Classes

The American Heart Association is sponsoring Simple Cooking with Heart Kitchen. The program offers fun, hands-on, affordable cooking classes. Students will prepare a main course with side dishes and then

take home the food they prepare and the recipes they used, in order to replicate the meal in their own kitchens. Each class will include nutritional information, basic food safety and sanitation overviews, recipes and the preparation of a meal. Sign up for only \$5 a class at heart.org/baltimorekitchen. Classes are held at 210 \$. Central Ave. in Baltimore, 21202. Availability is limited. Contact baltimorekitchen@ heart.org or 410-246-6715.

Fabulous YOU Diabetes Education Program for Women

The American Diabetes Association is sponsoring a Fabulous You Evening Program for women with type 2 diabetes who want to improve their health through education and lifestyle changes. Take advantage of wellness education, a lifestyle coach, cooking demonstrations, fitness activities, medication management, a grocery tour and more. Enrollment is open and there is no cost to participate, but registration is required. Contact Tracy Newsome, director, American Diabetes Association, at 410-265-0075, ext. 4679.

Board of Education Meetings

The remaining Board of Education meetings will be held Aug. 9 at the Greenwood campus, 6901 N. Charles St., E Building, Room 114.

Restaurant Week Returns for the Summer

Baltimore County's 12th bi-annual Restaurant Week is back for the summer, and will run Friday, Aug. 5, through Saturday, Aug. 20. Participating restaurants in the county will feature special one- to three-course menus for lunch, brunch and dinner at discounted, fixed prices ranging from \$15 to \$35.

Whether you're a foodie or someone looking for a new place to try, Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz says, Restaurant Week presents a great opportunity for people to enjoy new eateries at big savings. "I encourage everyone to experience the many diverse cuisines in the county and support the local restaurant industry."

As restaurants register, you can view the updated list of participating restaurants at baltimorecountyrestaurantweek. com.

Baltimore County Office of Tourism and the Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce are organizing the event.

Free Lunch for Young People at **Local Libraries**

Yes, there is a such thing as free lunch.

Baltimore County Public Schools is participating in the Summer Food Service Program, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and provides meals to all children (ages 18 and under) free of charge and without applications or registration.

Through Aug.12, lunches are being provided Monday through Friday at area branches of the Baltimore County Public Library.

Library locations convenient to the northwest include:

- Randallstown Library, 8604 Liberty Rd., 21133 at 12 p.m.
- Reisterstown Library, 21 Cockeys Mill Rd., 21136 at 12:30 p.m.
- Woodlawn Library, 1811 Woodlawn Dr., 21207 at 12:30 p.m.

From July 5 to July 29, both breakfast and lunch will be served at many county schools. Breakfast will consist of cereal, a breakfast bar, or a pop tart served with fruit or juice and milk. For lunch, the program offers a cold sandwich, fruit or vegetable, juice or frozen treat, and milk. These schools include:

Bedford Elementary

7407 Dorman Dr. 9:15 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Campfield Learning Center

6834 Alter St. 8:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Chadwick Elementary

1918 Winder Rd. 8:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Church Lane Elementary

3820 Fernside Rd. 9:15 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Deer Park Elementary

9809 Lyons Mill Rd. 9:15 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Edmondson Heights Elementary

1600 Langford Rd. 9:15 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Elmwood Elementary

531 Dale Ave. 9:15 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Featherbed Lane Elementary

6700 Richardson Rd. 9:15 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Hebbville Elementary

3335 Washington Ave. 9:15 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Hernwood Elementary

9919 Marriottsville Rd. 8:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Johnnycake Elementary

5901 Craigmont Rd. 8:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Milbrook Elementary

4300 Crest Heights Rd. 9:15 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Owings Mills Elementary

10824 Reistertown Rd. 8:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Powhatan Elementary

3300 Kelox Rd. 8:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Randalistown Elementary

9013 Liberty Rd. 9:15 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Scotts Branch Elementary

8220 Tawnmoore Rd. 8:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Sussex Elementary

515 South Woodward Dr. 9:15 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Winfield Elementary

8300 Carlson Ln. 8:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Woodlawn Middle

3033 St. Luke Ln 7:45 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Woodmoor Elementary

3200 Elba Dr.

8:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Meals will be provided to all children without charge. Acceptance and participation requirements for the program and all activities are the same for all regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. There will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. For the complete list of libraries and schools, visit www.bcps.org/news/articles/ article8246.html.



RAFFLE DRAWING JULY 23

- MACKEREL RUNDOWN
- ROAST SNAPPER
- ROAST SALTFISH
- ESCOVILCHED SNAPPER
- BROWN STEWED PORK
- JERK PORK
- JERK BBO RIBS
- STEAMED SNAPPER WITH CRACKERS

SIDES

- TUN CORN MEAL
- YELLOW RICE
- FESTIVAL
- BAMMY
- AUNGO RICE & PEAS

RED STRIPE SIGNATURE ISLAND OUIZINE RUM PUNCH

STEEL BAND HUMPHREY & STRYKERS POSSE

Sidewalks to be Constructed on Windsor Mill Road

On any given day as you travel on the congested single-lane Windsor Mill Road, you might observe people carefully walking or bicycling in the street, as vehicles zoom by in both directions.

Amanda Lewis, who had gotten off the #44 bus on Woodlawn Drive from her job in Baltimore City, was walking up Windsor Mill Road to pick up her three- and six-year-old from the Emmanuel Church Day Care Center. "It's not safe," she said, "especially when you're going uphill and it's raining. Then you see people on the phone."

The community's safety is at risk, says former State Delegate Emmett Burns, who lives in Woodlawn and pastors Rising Sun First Baptist Church on St. Lukes Lane off Windsor Mill Road. And sidewalks are urgently needed.

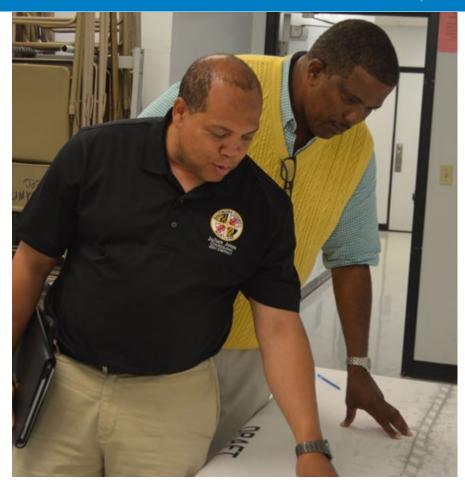
Burns recalled that a number of accidents have taken place on

Windsor Mill, which is lined with homes, as well as child care centers, restaurants, commercial businesses and churches. In February, a 30-yearold man was fatally struck by a vehicle in the 6700 block of Windsor Mill Road.

Aaron Barnett, president of the District 44B Democratic Club, called on District 4 Councilman Julian Jones for an update on the county's proposal to install sidewalks and how the county planned to solicit input from property owners.

Last year, Burns and Barnett spearheaded the collection of signatures from homeowners who were amenable to granting the county the right of way to acquire the portion of their property necessary to add sidewalks.

Jones praised the community's legwork and called the sidewalk construction one of his priority projects. At a recent District 44B



Councilman Julian Jones and Aaron Barnett, president of the District 44B Democratic Club, review a draft of the engineering plans for the project.

Democratic Club meeting, Jones explained that the county will install curbs and gutters in two phrases: from Woodlawn Drive to Featherbed Lane and Featherbed Lane to Corinthian Inn. He projected that the engineering plans would be complete in September and the total project might take three years.

In the meantime, attendees suggested, the county should consider installing reflective strips.

The most challenging part of the process would be the county's negotiations with homeowners for the right of way for an agreed-upon price. As a last resort, the county could condemn a property and offer the homeowner a fair price. Jones did not know how many homeowners' properties would be involved.

The cost of the project is \$8 million,

A bicyclist navigates Windsor Mill Road, the site of several accidents, including a fatal pedestrian accident.

Jones said. Funding will come out of future budgets, but "money is not a concern for this project."

It's important that people be proactive on issues, Barnett told attendees, urging them to be informed, be active in community and political club meetings, and contact elected officials. "We must let the county and Annapolis know that we support our elected officials," he said.





Comcast Offers Low-Income Families Low-Cost Internet Service

To prepare your child for academic success, make sure he or she has the right resources and tools. This includes Internet service to do homework, email teachers and go online for information. Your family may qualify for Internet Essentials, the low-cost, \$9.95 a month + tax, Internet service from Comcast.

Families eligible for the program include those with at least one child eligible to participate in the National School Lunch Program. Once in the Internet Essentials program, participants receive fast, affordable Internet service for \$9.95 a month + tax, the option to purchase a computer for just \$150 and access to free digital literacy training.

Comcast is also offering an amnesty program for certain low-income families who could qualify for Internet Essentials, but have a past due balance. Comcast customers who have an outstanding bill that is more than one year old are now eligible for the program. Comcast will offer amnesty for that debt for the purpose of connecting to Internet Essentials, so long as the customer meets all the other eligibility criteria.

Call 1-855-339-6124 or visit https://apply. internetessentials.com/ to see if you qualify and to apply.





Legislative ScholarshipsAmong the college funds available to Marylanders are the legislative scholarships. In preparation for the upcoming school year, Del. Ben Brooks of District 10 (top) and Sen. Shirley Nathan-Pulliam of District 44 (bottom) recently distributed scholarship awards to students attending local colleges and universities.

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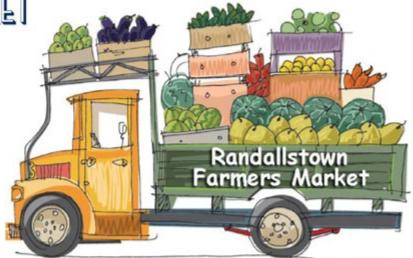
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Outdoor Concert Series Bring Hot Fun in the **Summertime**

Weekly music festivals are kicking off the weekend and bringing neighbors, local businesses and vendors together for relaxation, camaraderie and a good time. The concerts feature local bands. Bring your lawn chairs and some extra change for food, beverages and other purchases, but organizers ask that you leave your pets at home.

The Music on Main Street concert series is being hosted by the Reisterstown Improvement Association on Fridays from 7 to 10 p.m. through Sept. 16 at Franklin Middle School, 10 Cockeys Mill Rd.

The Liberty Live! Outdoor Concert series kicked off on Friday, June 24, and continues on Fridays through Aug. 12 from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Kings Point Square Shopping Center parking lot at 9900 Liberty Rd. in Randallstown. The Liberty Road Business Association is hosting that summer series.

In Catonsville, the Frederick Road Fridays concert series is held at 15 Mellor Ave. from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and continues through Aug. 26.

Liberty Live in Randallstown









National Cancer Moonshot Initiative

Summit to put cancer on a 5-year fast track held in Randallstown

In May 1961, President John F. Kennedy announced before a special session of Congress his ambitious and challenging goal to safely land an American on the moon before the end of the decade. Eight years later, that goal was achieved when astronaut Neil Armstrong made the legendary giant leap for mankind.

The way that government support, resources and funding came together to make the space project a success formed the basis for Vice President Joe Biden's "moonshot" approach to accomplish a decade worth of progress finding a cure for cancer in five years. Biden is head of the national Cancer Moonshot Initiative, which President Barack Obama announced in January after Biden's son, Beau, died from brain cancer last year at age 46.

Biden headlined a live 2016 Cancer Moonshot Summit on June 29 at Howard University in Washington, D.C. At the same time, more than 200 similar events were being held across the country, including in Randallstown.

The summits represented the first time that individuals and organization representing the entire cancer community and beyond — researchers, oncologists, care providers, philanthropists, data and tech experts, advocates, patients and survivors — would convene under the national charge to double the rate of progress towards a cure.

The Liberty Road Business Association and Jeri Lacks-Whye, granddaughter of Henrietta Lacks, an African-American mother of five from Baltimore who died in 1951 at age 31 from cervical cancer, hosted the summit at the March Life Tribute Center. Lacks' cells were used in research that led to treatments, such as a polio vaccine and invitro fertilization.

Community members and elected officials attended the summit, which included

remarks from Daniel Ford, director of Institute for Clinical and Transitional Research at Johns Hopkins, Del. Adrienne Jones, Speaker Pro Tem, and Don Graves, deputy assistant to President Barack Obama and advisor to Biden on the initiative. Kelly Carter, LRBA executive director who lost two loved ones to leukemia and lung cancer, welcomed the group, and Lacks talked about how the legacy of her grandmother creates a platform for the discussion on cancer.

In his remarks, Graves shared how he was relieved to have eventually sought medical attention for a pain in his back that turned out to be a malignant tumor. He noted from a show of hands that just about everyone in the room was affected by cancer either as a survivor of the disease or family member or friend who had the disease.

The initiative's goal, he explained, is to accelerate the progress of research and affordable treatments, ensure that database of genetic information and other data and accessible to researchers and clinicians, and improve the access and participation in clinical trials.

Graves stressed that each person's medical records belong to them, and not the hospital or physician. He urged people to engage in the initiative by sharing their genomic data. The research community must improve how they work together, and collaborate on the data, tissue samples other information.

In other video comments, Biden said that when he began the Moonshot effort, he was committed to bringing together all the human, financial and knowledge resources to double the rate of progress. "But I'm also committed to doing everything in my power to change the culture that too often stifles that progress," he said.





Henrietta Lacks' "HeLa" cells were used by Johns Hopkins Medicine for research without her and her family's knowledge or permission. Cancer cells taken from the Baltimore County mother of five were the first to live and multiply outside the human body, and did so for decades, where many people's cells die within days. This led to several medical breakthroughs and treatments, such as the polio vaccine, cancer therapies and in vitro vertilization.

hosts.

Don Graves, an advisor to Vice President Joe Biden on the National Cancer Moonshot Initiative, shared at the June 29 summit in Randallstown how the community can engage in the effort to accelerate a cure for the disease in five years.

"RIGHT NOW, THERE ARE 14 MILLION NEW CASES A YEAR IN THE WORLD AND 8.2 MILLION CANCER RELATED DEATHS WORLDWIDE EACH YEAR. THE PROJECTIONS ARE BY THAT BY 2025 IF WE STAY ON THE EXACT COURSE WE'RE ON NOW, MAKING THE PROGRESS WE'RE MAKING NOW, THERE WILL BE 20 MILLION NEW CASES A YEAR AND 11.4 MILLION DEATHS FROM CANCER ALONE. UNLIKE OTHER DISEASES, THERE ARE OVER 200 DISTINCT TYPES OF CANCERS THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED, WHICH MAKES CANCER A FAR MORE COMPLICATED DISEASE TO TREAT AND UNDERSTAND."

Police Aim for Transparency, Accountability and Trust With Body-Worn Camera Program

As more citizens pull out mobile devices to record interactions with police, the Baltimore County Police Department is rolling out a body-worn camera program beginning July 6. Implementation will take place over a 30-month period for roughly three-quarters of the county's 1,900 sworn police officers

One officer in each of the county's 10 precinct will be equipped with a camera on July 6. After that, the department will train 10 officers a week for 15 weeks, until 150 cameras are deployed.

By July 2017, as part of the second and final phase of the program, an additional 1,285 cameras will be distributed to officers, including patrol officers and vice and narcotics detectives. Another 150 officers will get cameras by December 2018, at which time the program will be fully phased in and complete.

Among those who will not be required to wear cameras, include officers assigned to duties in internal affairs and training.

The cameras can be mounted to an officer's uniform on the chest or shoulder area, or on eyewear. The footage is similar to footage from a cell phone video, and will be equipped with audio. The length of time footage will be retained depends on the type of incident.

County Executive Kevin Kamenetz and Chief Jim Johnson, along with Baltimore County State's Attorney Scott Shellenberger, provided details about the program, including about how the cameras will be used and how footage will be managed, at a June 30 press briefing in Towson.

Kamenetz said the decision to adopt the program was made after 18 months of research and debate on sometimes conflicting considerations about privacy, first amendment rights and the practical impact on officers and citizens.

Why Body-Worn Cameras?

"We're investing in this program for one simple reason," Kamenetz said. "It will improve public safety. Cameras will help in multiple ways by enhancing transparency, accountability and trust, by reducing complaints against officers, and by improving behavior of all parties involved in a police interaction. And most importantly, by making prosecutions more effective and efficient."

He stressed that the recordings are public records subject to release under the Maryland Public Information Act. Barring legal and policy exceptions, "we will release the footage," said Kamenetz.

Shellenberger stated that footage from citizenoperated and surveillance cameras already plays an important role in prosecutions; body-worn camera footage – which shows police activity from the officer's perspective – promises to be another



Police Chief Jim Johnson, County Executive Kevin Kamenetz and along with State's Attorney Scott Shellenberger provided details about the bodyworn camera program at a June 30 press briefing.



Officers demonstrate that the cameras can be worn as a headband, with eyewear and on their shoulder and collar.

valuable prosecutorial tool.

Johnson, who has been a law enforcement for nearly 40 years, stated, "It's the right time for Baltimore County Police to develop consistent policies, procedures and practices for the use of cameras as a tool to enhance public safety. "I'm confident our program will accomplish that."

There are specific guidelines for when the camera should be activated, such as for all traffic stops and when an officer could potentially be involved in a crisis, said Johnson. The department will work to make sure the public is educated on the policy, such as when officers can record an activity or interaction, he said.

Key points in the camera use policy:

- Officers assigned body cameras will activate them as soon as possible unless it is unsafe, impractical or impossible to do so.
- Officers have discretion to activate the camera during any legitimate law enforcement activity if they believe the recording may be appropriate (e.g., transports of people of the opposite sex, advising of Miranda rights, etc.).
- They have discretion to de-activate the camera in places or situations where there's a heightened expectation of privacy (e.g., locker rooms or rest rooms). They also have the discretion to de-activate in order to secure statements from witnesses and victims.
- Officers will notify people as soon as possible that they are being recorded unless it's unsafe, impractical or impossible to do so.
- Civilians cannot choose whether or not they are recorded.
- The length of time footage can be retained depends on the type of incident. For the least serious incidents, the retention period is 18 months. For the most serious felonies, the footage is kept permanently.
- Prohibited uses of footage include interactions with confidential informants and in-depth interviews with sexual assault victims.

The program does not come without concerns. The American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland has taken issue with a police officer's right to access their own recordings and those of their fellow officers for activities such as reviewing prosecution evidence, preparing for court and reviewing victim, witness and suspect statements. According to David Rocah, an ACLU senior staff attorney, the policy unfairly allows officers to review the footage before giving a statement during an internal investigation.

The county signed an eight-year, \$12.5 million contract with Taser International Inc. for the equipment, data storage and maintenance. When fully implemented in fiscal year 2019, the ongoing annual cost of operating the program will be an estimated \$1.6 million. The county's speed camera program will cover most of these annual costs. Make sure you are familiar with the camera use policy. Invite a community outreach officer to speak at your community meeting. Read about the details about the program and the policies for police and the public at www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/police/bodycameras/index.html.

Beware of Deception Burglaries and Home Improvement Scams

The Baltimore County Police Department reminds you of the following scams and deceptive activities.

Elderly Especially Warned to be Alert

Deception burglaries and home improvement scams occur throughout the year, but are known to increase when the weather gets warmer. Typically, these are criminals who are on the move. They begin working in the southern states and head north during the spring and summer months.

The elderly are the most likely targets since they tend to be trusting and very concerned about their property and their neighborhood. Adult relatives of senior citizens should remind them of this possible crime.

Deception Burglaries

Be mindful of certain ruses:

- Suspects generally work in pairs and approach homeowners at their residence with the intent of gaining entry under a seemingly benevolent role like posing as a legitimate worker from a local gas company, water department, cable company, or as a tree trimmer, paver, county inspector, or government official. One suspect will distract the homeowner while a second suspect will quietly enter the home and search for valuables and cash.
- A suspect may also pose as a family friend of a relative or friend of a neighbor. He or she will knock on the door and ask for a pen and paper to leave the victim's neighbor a note. The suspect may appear to have difficulty writing the note, and will ask to come inside the house. Once inside the victim's house, the suspect will ask the victim to help write the note. While that criminal distracts the victim, others enter the residence to remove money and valuables.

A variety of vehicles have been associated with these subjects including pickup trucks, vans, and sport utility vehicles. Often, the victim doesn't even know he or she has been victimized for hours or days later when they might go looking for a piece of jewelry or precious heirloom.

Be alert to anyone in your neighborhood asking to gain entry into your home. Always ask to see identification and let them know you are going to call and get authorization from their company before allowing them access. If they are legitimate, they won't mind the wait.

Investigators believe many deception burglaries don't get reported because the victim is too embarrassed or fears retribution. Neglecting to call may allow a criminal to go free and victimize someone else.

Remember, do not intervene, but call 911 immediately with a description of the suspect and vehicle used in the suspicious activity.

Home Improvement Scams

Bunco or scam artists drive through neighborhoods looking for people in their yards. Home improvement scams often involve someone posing as a repair person who offers a bargain price on a home repair. The National Association of Bunco Investigators (NABI) says to beware when a repair person knocks on your door. Look for these telltale signs:

- The repair person drives an unmarked truck or van with an out-ofstate license.
- Only rarely will legitimate home improvement companies solicit doorto-door. They usually distribute fliers or make phone calls since it's more cost effective for them.
- The worker has no business identification, local address or telephone number. Request identification so that you can call the company for verification.
- You are offered a "special price" if you sign that day. Contractors don't pressure customers to sign a contract or job order immediately.
- Beware of excuses such as "We just finished a job around the corner

- and had extra materials that we could offer you at a discounted price." Professional companies do not operate in that manner.
- The worker asks for upfront costs or fees, or accepts only cash.
 Reputable contractors do not ask for all the money up front. A customer pays one third of the bill first, then another third midway through the job, and the rest when the work is completed.
- Never pay in cash. Using a check keeps a record of the transaction and often provides identification of the person cashing the check.
- No written estimates or contracts are offered. If you have no contract, you have no recourse if the job is faulty or is never completed.
- The worker has no references. Ask for references and check around the neighborhood to see if anyone has contracted with this person to do work on their home.

These scam artists also like to intimidate their prey. After a job is finished, usually with inferior materials and shoddy work, the customer is informed that they owe more money. When the customer objects, he or she is told that the materials used were stolen and the police will be brought in if the higher price isn't paid.

Beyond the intimidation, the materials and workmanship used in a bunco scam are usually of poor quality. The roof coating, according to NABI, might be whitewash, the coating on the drive could be motor oil, and the fertilizer may consist of sawdust and oil.

Compare estimates with other licensed contractors when you decide to have work done on your home. Don't give your hard-earned money to some "fly by night" contractor.

If you suspect that the person at your door is a scam artist, contact the Baltimore County Police Department at 911. You could be helping other potential victims from being scammed.

—Baltimore County Police Department





County Executive Kevin Kamenetz officially opens the final extension of the Owings Mills Boulevard extension. He is flanked by Democratic Central Committee member Linda Walker-Dorsey and Del. Jay Jalisi on the right, Del. Ben Brooks and Kelly Carter, executive director of the Liberty Road Business Association on the left, as well as community leaders and county representatives.

Owings Mills Blvd. Extension Opens

Before last month, chances are if you were in Owings Mills and were looking to get to Liberty Road, you either traveled up Reisterstown Road to the beltway, took a back route using Painters Mill Road, or zigzagged through Brenbrook or another neighborhood shortcut.

Your travels just got easier now that the final extension of Owings Mills Boulevard is open for traffic. The new four-lane 1.2 mile roadway from Winands Road to Liberty Road (Route 26) joins the existing portions of the boulevard, forming a continuous 3.75 mile route from Reisterstown Road to Liberty Road and connecting two centers of development.

Community residents, county representatives and elected officials cheered the long-awaited opening of the link between the Randallstown and Owings Mills residential and business communities at an official ribbon-cutting on June 16 at the bridge over the Scotts Level Branch of the Gwynn Falls.

"Completing Owings Mills Boulevard not only promotes economic prosperity, but will ease local traffic congestion and diminish cutthrough traffic, said County Executive Kevin Kamenetz. "This is a major infrastructure investment for our community."

The landscaped roadway has a raised median and features sidewalks on both sides – one

designated for both pedestrians and bicycles. The retaining walls feature a faux-stone finish.

Construction for the \$13 million construction project began two-and-a-half years ago and has been part of the county's master plan since the county purchased the land for highway construction in the 1980s.

According to the county, the Department of Public Works worked closely with area residents and businesses to ensure that the construction would have the least impact possible. Construction was scheduled to take into account residential

and customer parking needs and the county accommodated businesses along Liberty Road, as well as businesses and residents of Kings Park Estates and Woodridge with landscaping, lights, signs and new paving.

"This final section of Owings Mills Boulevard opens up a major artery and will relieve traffic by keeping drivers from zig-zagging through side streets to get where they need to go," 4th District Councilman Julian Jones said in a statement.

The route is part of the county's \$30 million investment in the Randallstown growth area since 2008. In addition to this roadway extension, transportation infrastructure in this area has been enhanced with the previous extension of Owings Mills Boulevard from Lyons Mill Road to Winands Road and the widening of Lyons Mill Road between Owings Mills Boulevard and Marriottsville Road, both of which were completed in 2012.



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Ashley Rogers (center) is flanked by members of the Security Woodlawn Business Association, of which she was a board member.

Woodlawn Library Manager Leaving for New Post

Ashley Rogers is leaving her post as manager of the Woodlawn Public Library. In recognition for her service, she was honored at the Security Woodlawn Business Association meeting on June 24. District 1 Councilman Tom Quirk and Tony Basemore, special assistant to Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz, presented Rogers with citations for outstanding service. An employee of the library since 2007, Rogers became Woodlawn branch manager in 2014.

Publisher's Column: Year-Round Schools

continued from page 2

doors open to support students and parents? Or, instead of summer school, why not have a mini session during the breaks, again and take advantage of that learning throughout the year.

Something else to think about would be the students who work summer jobs. It would be nice to have statistics on how many jobs are really available for teenagers. Maybe they can work an after-school job. Also impacted would be teachers who take summer jobs to make extra money, and high school kids who take college courses over the summer.

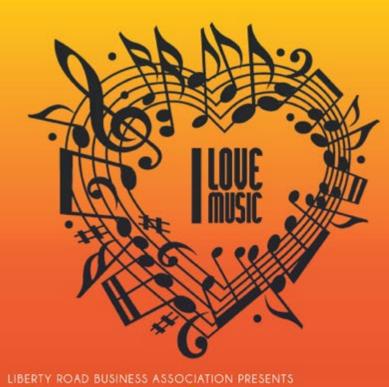
The economy is also a consideration. Many businesses, including amusement parks, beaches and hotels know that starting in June waves and waves of people will start spending money. We can see where they'd have a huge pushback because they're dependent on these summer breaks. That's why they want to keep the opening of school after Labor Day.

These are all good arguments. Still, I think that when it comes to educating our students, the positives outweigh the negatives in many ways. So, I think I'm sold on the idea that the time is now for year-round students. We know people will have to make adjustments and we know many people resist change. The question is what's best for students.

What do you think? Respond online at nwvoicenews.com.

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The Battle on Zoning Changes

continued from cover page

years. What is unique to the CZMP process is that any citizen may request a zoning change on any property in the county.

Whether it's a developer looking to build an office building or townhome community, or a resident looking to subdivide his or her rural property so family members can build homes, or the county desiring to designate an area for green space, a change in the zoning designation may be necessary before they can proceed.

Guiding that process is Scott Phillips, an attorney who chairs the Planning Board. The board must weigh the interests of the community against that of the property owner. "I guide the process. I don't vote unless there's a tie. I make sure voices are heard and make sure people come to a consensus."

The public input process began in March. County-wide, more than 500 petitions have been filed, and scores of people turned out to testify in favor or in opposition to an issue, to just show

their support with their presence.

In the seven meetings held before the Planning Board in each councilmanic district, board members considered everything from changing the zoning on 225-acre plots of land for homes to permitting a car wash station for a volunteer fire department. According to the county's log of issues, a total of 119 of them are in Districts 1, 2 and 4.

After those hearings, the board and Department of Planning staff made recommendations to the County Council. The council can accept or reject the recommendations. The council held hearings in June. In making the final decision on each zoning request, the council will adopt the official zoning map in a special session on Tuesday, Aug. 30, in their Historic Courthouse chambers at 400 Washington Ave. in Towson.

Phillips says community input in the zoning process is "extremely important." It's the only process in the county where anyone can raise a zoning issue that affects a neighbor, community organization, council member or member of the Planning Board. Once it is raised, the property is in play for potential changes in zoning that will last the next four years."

Among the zoning change requests that have attracted a lot of attention are proposals that would pave the way to demolish the Golden Dragon, which has gone from a Chinese restaurant to sports bar in recent years, and build a convenience store and gas station. Nearby residents say they don't need another such establishment on the alreadycongested Liberty Road corridor.

Once again, in District 1, Whalen Properties is requesting a zoning change to bring a Promenade to Catonsville on about 15 acres north of Wilkens Avenue and southwest of Interstate 695. This time out, the proposal is a scaled down version of what the developer sought in 2004. This plan features hotel, office and

WE ARE IN A RARE SITUATION IN BALTIMORE COUNTY, WHERE OUR RECOMMENDATIONS, AND ULTIMATELY THE COUNCIL'S DECISIONS, HAVE THE IMPACT OF SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING OR DECREASING PEOPLE'S PROPERTY VALUES.

> Scott Phillips, Planning Board Chairman

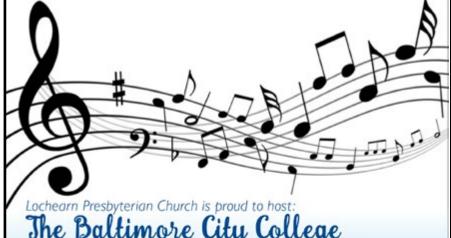
retail space on land the developer already owns. The Promenade would not depend on acquiring some of the Spring Grove Hospital land from the state of Maryland, as was the case 12 years ago, when the developer ran into intense opposition from community members who wanted Catonsville to maintain its quaint Main Street feel.

A proposal to expand Matthews 1600 on Frederick Road also got some attention. Owners have asked for a business local designation so they could add an outdoor deck. The Planning Board recommended a modified zoning designation that would allow some expansion of the restaurant's footprint but exclude other uses.

Phillips takes his role seriously. "We are in a rare situation in Baltimore County, where our recommendations, and ultimately the council's decisions, have the impact of significantly increasing or decreasing people's property values," says Phillps. "That should not be done ill advised. We should weigh the community as a whole and property owners. We must be careful about impacting someone's property rights."

To view the requests on an interactive map and recommendations, as well as full details on the Comprehensive Zoning Map Process, visit baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/ planning/zoning/czmp2016/index. html.

In the meantime, contact your council member. Get their contact information at www. baltimorecountymd.gov/ countycouncil/index.html.



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Zapping the Zika Virus

Along with the summer heat comes pesky insects, such as mosquitos. The Baltimore County Health Department is asking residents to take extra precautions to protect against mosquito bites.

What is Zika virus?

Zika virus is a Flavivirus that was first discovered in rhesus monkeys in 1947 in Africa, and first detected in humans in 1952. Since then outbreaks have been reported in tropical Africa, Southeast Asia, the Pacific Islands, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. The virus is carried by the Aedes species mosquito (A. aegypti and A. albopictus). These mosquitoes are aggressive daytime biters. They can also bite at night.

What are the symptoms of Zika virus?

Zika virus only causes illness in about 20 percent of people infected. The symptoms are typically mild and can include fever, rash, joint pain and conjunctivitis (red eyes). For these reasons, many people do not realize they were infected with the virus.

What are the complications from Zika virus?

- Birth defects. Health officials are investigating a link between Zika virus infection in pregnant women and an increased risk for birth defects such as microcephaly.
- Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) is an uncommon sickness of the nervous system that has

been linked to some Zika virus cases.

How is Zika virus spread?

Zika virus is primarily spread to people through mosquito bites. The virus is carried by the Aedes species mosquito (A. aegypti and A. albopictus). Zika virus can also be transmitted:

- From a man to his partner during sexual contact
- From a pregnant woman to her fetus
- From a blood transfusion
- Theoretically, from organ transplant

Where is Zika virus?

Zika virus has been found in countries in tropical Africa, Southeast Asia, the Pacific Islands, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. Learn more about areas with Zika virus.

Although no states in the continental US have identified any Zika virus cases that are the result of a bite from a local mosquito, there have been travel-associated cases in the United States. You can visit the Centers for Disease Control website at cdc.gov to view recommendations made by the CDC for women and their partners who are trying to get pregnant and may have been

exposed to Zika virus either from living abroad, travel or sexual exposure.

There have been no reports of Zika virus being transmitted through breast milk. According to the CDC, the benefits of breastfeeding outweigh the theoretical risks of Zika virus transmission through breast milk. Therefore, the CDC is encouraging mothers with Zika virus to breastfeed their infants.

Information for Travelers

Zika virus is primarily spread by mosquitoes so protect yourself from mosquito bites while in the affected country. It can also be spread through sexual contact so always use a condom. When you return to the US from the affected country, protect yourself from mosquito bites for three weeks to prevent local mosquitoes from catching the virus from you and spreading it to others.

Mosquito Prevention

Mosquito bite prevention in the United States includes the use of insect repellent, wearing clothing that covers the body, keeping mosquitoes outside of the home, and destroying pools of water that act as mosquito breeding sites. If you are traveling abroad, also keep mosquitoes outside of your hotel room or lodging.

Visit www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/health/resources/zikavirus.html for resources and more details about the Zika virus.

-Baltimore County government





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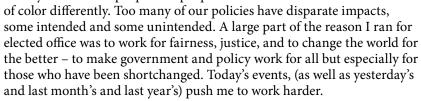
COMMENTARY

Pushing Back on the Manipulation of Fear

My most important job in the world is being a parent. And while I no longer have the day-to-day responsibility of protecting my children because they are young adults living on their own, I would do anything in the world to keep them safe. Which is why I sobbed as I listened to Philando Castile's mother describe how she had raised her son – to respect law enforcement – and still, how she could not protect him. The tragic reality is that there was nothing more she could have done to save her son.

I can imagine the talks she had with him and while they may have been similar to the ones I've had with my children, there can be no comparison. It's a fact: my children are less likely to be mistreated, arrested, imprisoned, or killed. Why? Because they are white.

There can be no denying that our society treats white people and people



My family and I try to work for justice, we try to listen, to be present and to be thoughtful in our relationships. But the reality is that I can't know what it's like to have a black son or a brown daughter. I don't know what it's like to fear sending children out into a world where routine activities can be life-threatening. I cannot fathom what it would be like to live with that type of fear. And my heart aches just imagining.

We are living in a time where fear and anger may be our most dominant cultural forces. It is a fear of the other. Whether it's fear of people of color, those crossing our borders, women, terrorism, or foreigners, too many people are using the pervasiveness of this fear to advance their own agendas.

It is our job as reasonable adults to push back against this manipulation of fear. It is our responsibility to listen, to teach our children, to work towards understanding, to struggle with our nation's structural racism, and to reform. It is our duty, as Americans, to use the angst and the rage to construct the kind of society where all parents, regardless of who they are, where they live, or what color their skin is, can expect that their children will be safe out in the world.

What keeps me hopeful is knowing that there are people who reach across their traditional comfort zones to make relationships with people who are different from themselves. They/we are building those bridges, not walls, to communities beyond their own. It's not happening enough, but it's the beginning. As responsible citizens, I believe that we are not obligated to complete the task, but we are obligated to engage in it.

I stand ready, willing, and able, to really listen and to continue pushing the system for accountability, for justice, and for peace because indifference is unacceptable. Let us do it together.



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NORTHWEST VOICES

Would You Consider Year-Round Schooling to be a Positive or Negative for Students, Parents and Teachers?



I FEEL IT WOULD BE A GOOD THING BUT SOME OF THE CHILDREN WOULD FORGET WHAT THEY LEARNED AND START PLAYING VIDEO GAMES. KIDS IN HIGHER-LEVEL CLASSES MIGHT WANT MORE OF A BREAK BECAUSE CLASSES ARE MORE DIFFICULT. THEY SHOULD HAVE MORE FREE ACTIVITIES AT THE SCHOOLS FOR THE KIDS.



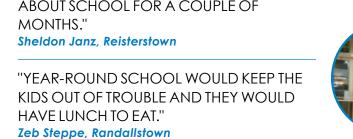
"IT WOULD BE A POSITIVE THING. IT WOULD REDUCE THE BRAIN DRAIN. IT KEEPS THE SCHEDULE CONSISTENT FOR THE PARENTS BECAUSE THEY'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR WHERE TO PLACE THE CHILDREN. FOR THE TEACHERS."

Ellis Barksdale, Randallstown



Barbara Glikin, Reisterstown

"THE SUMMER IS THE MOST ADVANTAGEOUS CLIMATE TO ENJOY VACATIONS AND SPEND THAT TIME TOGETHER A SET TIME OFF EVERY YEAR. IT'S A GREAT TO NOT THINK ABOUT SCHOOL FOR A COUPLE OF MONTHS."





"CHILDREN LEARN NATURALLY ALL YEAR WHETHER IT'S INSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM OR OUTSIDE. I BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD ACTUALLY BE NEGATIVE FOR THE CHILDREN BECAUSE THEY WOULD BE IN A CONFINED CLASSROOM FOR ADDITIONAL MONTHS."

Rosalyn Burns, Pikesville



"A DOUBLE POSITIVE. EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT AND IT ALSO HELPS KIDS THAT ARE BEING LOST. THERE ARE MORE KIDS IN THE STREETS BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO ACTIVITIES IN THE SUMMER." Germany Pride, Woodlawn



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A Delta Sigma Theta Celebration of Juneteenth

The Baltimore County Alumna Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority held its annual Juneteenth celebration at the Randallstown Public Library, which featured vendors, dance, music and the awarding of \$1,250 scholarships.

The program created awareness for the history of June 19, 1865, when slaves in Galveston, Texas, finally got word that President Abraham Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation freeing slaves. This date was 2 1/2 years after the proclamation took effect.









Welcome Our New Neighbors

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



ADDRESS	STYLE	BEDROOM	BATH	LISTED	CLOSE SALE
WOODLAWN, 21207					
3321 Kerry Rd	Rancher	4	2	\$214,000	\$214,900
3803 Oak Ave	Colonial	3	3	\$219,900	\$219,800
5425 North Ave	French	4	2	\$250,000	\$250,000
2102 Southland Rd	Cape Cod	4	3	\$239,000	\$242,000
6013 Baltimore Str	Split Foyer	4	2 ½	\$209,900	\$212,000
WINDSOR MILLS, 21244					
8013 Pink Azalea Ct	Colonial	5	4 1/2	\$490,000	\$480,000
3128 Buds Cir	Colonial	4	3 ½	\$374,000	\$359,990
3607 Bellmore Rd	Split Level	3	1 ½	\$179,000	\$219,000
3205 Green Knoll Rd	Split Foyer	4	2 ½	\$205,900	\$205,000
5605 NorthGreen Rd	Split Level	4	1 ½	\$199,000	\$200,000
CATONSVILLE, 21228	'	•	<u>'</u>		'
201 Hilltop Road	Colonial	4	2 ½	\$619,000	\$619,900
7822 Main Falls Cir	Colonial	4	2 ½	\$400,000	\$382,500
6039 Ivy League Dr	Townhouse	3	3 ½	\$395,000	\$395,900
21 Glennwood Ave	Victorian	4	3	\$280,000	\$282,000
504 Academy Rd	Townhouse	3	2	\$224,000	\$224,900
RANDALLSTOWN, 21133	'	•	<u>'</u>		'
4350 Chapeldale Rd	Colonial	5	5	\$550,000	\$535,000
22 Hobart Ct	Colonial	5	3	\$319,900	\$310,000
8511 Allenswood Rd	Split Level	3	2	\$242,000	\$235,000
3608 Blair Ave	Split Level	3	2 ½	\$225,000	\$220,000
9201 Allenswood Rd	Rancher	4	2 ½	\$170,000	\$170,000
PIKESVILLE, 21208	'		'		'
8580 Leisure Hill Rd	Colonial	5	4 1/2	\$999,999	\$967,500 *
6 Greenlea Dr	Rancher	4	3	\$309,000	\$30,000
4712 Mary Knoll Rd	Split Foyer	4	2	\$245,000	\$235,000
7510 Shelowood Rd	Split Foyer	4	2 ½	\$235,000	\$235,000
3419 Old Court Rd	Contemporary	3	3 ½	\$150,000	\$240,000
OWINGS MILLS, 21117	'	•	<u>'</u>		'
3111 Golf Course Rd	Traditional	5	5 ½	\$2,499,000	\$2,420,000
17 Foxcreek Ct	Traditional	4	4 1/2	\$795,000	\$775,000
4103 Brookside Oaks	Colonial	4	3 ½	\$415,000	\$415,000
10 Caves wood Ln	Rancher	3	3	\$350,000	\$350,000
6 Strand Ct	Traditional	3	3 ½	\$205,000	\$195,000
REISTERSTOWN, 21136	'	,	,	- 1	'
14123 Mantua Mill	Manor	5	5 ½	\$2,500,000	\$2,250,000
22 South Lake Ave	Colonial	4	4 1/2	\$589,000	\$575,000
717 Berryman Ln	Colonial	4	2 ½	\$342,000	\$328,500
10905 Baskerville Rd	Townhome	3	2 ½	\$229,000	\$221,000
22 Goldsborough Way	Victorian	3	2 ½	\$284,000	\$276,000



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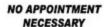
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