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Your *voice* in the community

SEPTEMBER 2018

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



Karen Bethea, pastor of Set the Captives Free, was on site of the Windsor Mill church's newly purchased property at Security Square Mall, which will house its sanctuary and outreach and education center.

Seoul Plaza at Security Square Mall Gets Unlikely New Owner

Set the Captives Free church to convert space to community outreach, worship and education center

As Security Square Mall awaits plans for a possible development overhaul, the space that formerly J.C. Penney, then Seoul Plaza, used to occupy, has been sold.

The new owner is not a prominent developer. It is Set the Captives Free Outreach Center, a local church that is converting Seoul Plaza into an Outreach, Worship and Education (OWE) Center it believes will enhance the quality of life for community members with muchneeded comprehensive resources and services.

The 18-year-old church in

Windsor Mill, shepherded by senior pastors Karen and Linwood Bethea, purchased the once vibrant 160,000-square-foot space on the south end of the mall that over the years had declined into a space where there were more vacant shops than tenants.

But Karen Bethea saw the potential. "Five years ago, I knew that was our new home," she says. "We were already in conversation with the owner about buying it. He got to a place where he said 'I'll sell to you,' "Bethea recalls. "Then, unfortunately, he went into the hospital and passed

away. We were waiting for the family to decide to sell it, and we look up and find out it was sold."

But all ended well. "God told me that was our home. So we went back again two years ago," Bethea says. The church purchased Seoul Plaza from Blue Ocean Realty, which had purchased it from the family. The Betheas received the keys on June 25.

Purchasing the property represents another milestone in a ministry that began from humble beginnings in a Comfort Inn conference room on Security Boulevard. Set the Captives Free relocated to its current 7111

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From the Publisher, Kenneth Brown

Calling All Young People Into the Political Process

In a recent conversation, I asked one young person whether she votes. She told me, very proudly, that she did. But as the dialogue continued, it was clear that she had not voted in the last gubernatorial Primary Election in June, nor did she know that the General Election is taking place on Nov. 6. She had received her voter card, but had not actually gone to the polls.

Another young voter assured me that she does indeed vote, but is not as an informed voter. It's basically eeney, meeney, miney, moe for her.

Those conversations brought home what I have been hearing for years—that young people will register to vote, primarily as Democrats, but are unreliable when it comes to going to the polls. Imagine where we would be if our young people consistently voted and voted based on their interests?

Why are they not voting? Do young people not understand the purpose of democracy and the vote? Have we failed as a generation in teaching them the importance of this hard-fought-for right? What inspires them or would drive them to make a commitment to vote for a representative?

In the 2014 midterms, when the Democrats lost the U.S. Senate, only 21 percent of young registered voters participated in the elections, according to the U.S. Census. The Census considers a youth voter as someone age 18 to 29.

Today, close to 50 percent of registered voters are now falling into this category of youth voters, or millennials. This makes millennials about equal to the number of registered baby boomers, who were the largest generation in the history of the country. Boomers are being replaced with the newest largest generation of voters—the millennials.

Millennials are positioned to be the most informed group in our history. Because of the Internet, they, and all of us now, have a huge amount of knowledge is at their fingertips. As a result, they more readily have access to information on the issues and candidates with the click or tap. So why are they not motivated? Most of the decisions and changes being considered, such as with Social Security, health care and education policies, will more greatly impact their future. Why aren't they exercising their right to have a say in these issues?

Millennials are smart and technology savvy. But like a lot of people, they just don't have the interest in politics, and are disillusioned with party politics. I would say that most of our elected officials are baby boomers and their platforms speak to baby boomers more than the younger generation. Since millennials don't believe these elected officials are

listening and speaking to them, they have chosen not to participate in the process. That has got to change.

In 2008, when Barack Obama came on the scene he tapped into young voters, and talked about issues that appealed to them in a way that they could understand and connect with. Observers credit his 2012 victory to the young vote.

The millennial generation is looking for platforms they can relate to. They have been hit by the recession, have the largest college debt and didn't have well-paying jobs waiting for them when they finished school. On the other hand, baby boomers were the most prosperous generation. We had lower-cost education, earned higher incomes after graduation, and were able to buy homes with not a lot of hassle.

Where did we go wrong as baby boomers in not teaching our children to vote? What do we have to do to get more of them more involved?

The solution has to be more than encouraging younger candidates to run for office. More new, creative solutions are needed. Solutions must involve the voice and perspective of millennials. To the millennials, you will be driving the train once you fully understand the power you have to affect and sustain real change. You must get involved in the process to build influence, and you must get your friends and peers involved.

To the politicians and political representatives: Let's invite younger people to the table for meaningful dialogue, not just to have them listen to you. Share your wisdom, train them, and give them opportunities—but don't lock them out.

I am seeing a lot of candidates with younger campaign managers, press secretaries and staff. There are many young people volunteering on campaigns, organizing get-out-the-vote activities and organizing fundraisers. That is refreshing! Hopefully they will be more engaged and work with candidates to create relevant legislative agendas, to mobilize constituents to take action, and monitor legislative actions for accountability. (And we must give back to these young people!) But all that starts with pulling the lever for the candidates of your choice.

In the end, a diversity of voters and volunteers will bring a much needed energy, fresh ideas and perspectives of this generation, and will create better communities, better government and a better way of life for all of us and for generations to come.

For anyone who is not registered to vote, be sure to do so, as a priority. You have until Oct. 16 to register to vote in this General Election, when we will vote for a Governor, County Executive, Board of Education members, representatives to the House of Delegates and Senate, County Council, as well as other state, federal and local offices. See the article on page 18 with details.

Most importantly, when you get your voter card, be ready to head to the polls—rain or shine. Early voting begins Oct. 25 through Nov. 1. Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 6.

Nor thwest VOICE Your voice in the community

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

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Mid-Year Statistics Show Crime Is Down In Baltimore County

Franklin, Pikesville Precincts Experience Rise in Crime

While local residents may feel the impact of robberies and break-ins in their neighborhoods, Baltimore County Police report that in comparison to the first six months of 2017, Part I violent crime is down 6.9 percent in the county between January and June, compared with the same six-month period last year.

Part I violent crime is defined as homicide, non-negligent manslaughter, robbery, aggravated assault, and human trafficking. The downward trend continues with an 8.5 percent reduction in these types of crimes and a 7.7 percent drop in total crime in the county for this time period. The only increase was in rape. There were 186 during this six-month period compared to 163 last year. The biggest decreases countywide were in homicide, seven fewer, human

trafficking, seven fewer, and arson, 57 fewer incidents.

The reductions took place in districts that represent the Catonsville, Randallstown, Pikesville and Woodlawn precinct areas.

Fewer Part I crime incidences were reported for Wilkens Precinct 1, Woodlawn Precinct 2 and Pikesville Precinct 4, but increased 4.7 percent in Reisterstown Precinct 3. Crime also increased 1.4 percent in Cockeysville Precinct 7.

Precinct 3 was the only out of the local four precincts to experience a drop in Part II crime, with a 9.2 percent drop. Part II crime categories include simple assault, loitering, disorderly content, drug offenses, etc.

Overall, in all categories, crime in Precincts 1 and 3 decreased and increased in Precincts 2 and 4



Overall, in all categories, crime in Precincts 1 and 3 decreased and increased in Precincts 2 and 4 compared with last year.

compared with last year.

Last year, Precincts 2, 3 and 4 experienced significant percentage increases in rape, homicide (except Precinct 3), aggravated assault and theft. Compared to the previous year, the three precincts experienced a more than 10 percent increase in overall crime. Statistically, Precinct 1 had no change.

Baltimore County Police Chief Terrence Sheridan stated, "The men and woman of this Department strive every day to do their best to keep Baltimore County safe. We have and will continue to work with Baltimore County State's Attorney's Office to ensure that we are not just closing cases, but assisting in successful prosecutions of these crimes."

Scott Shellenberger, Baltimore County State's Attorney, thanked the police department for its partnership. "The department brings my office quality cases, which allows us to seek lengthy sentences. Lengthy sentences mean that a criminal is off the streets and cannot re-offend."

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School is in Session with New Initiatives, Proposals

Air conditioning, length of school day remain issues

After what was a long summer break to some and short summer break to others, students headed back to class. Baltimore County Public Schools welcomed more than 900 new teachers and 114,000 students to the first day of classes on Sept. 4. Because of the excessive heat on the first scheduled days of the 2018-19 academic year, 10 schools did not open until three days later, on Friday, Sept. 7.

Woodlawn High School was among those schools. Woodlawn High is undergoing construction and will have central air conditioning once those renovations are completed in August 2019. Bedford Elementary is not scheduled to have central air installed until August 2021

Installation was completed last month at Franklin High School. Other schools in the northwest area have central air or window units, but some still have non-airconditioned spaces, such as gyms and cafeterias.

Other county schools without central air include Berkshire, Colgate and Dundalk elementary schools, and Patapsco Center for the Arts, Dulaney and Lansdowne high schools. Dulaney and Lansdowne are to get renovated or new buildings.

Verletta White, who begins her second year as interim superintendent, made Woodlawn High and Milford Mill Academy part of her first-day-of-school tour.

She and the Baltimore County Board of Education members are taking action on several initiatives this school years. Here's a roundup.

New School Climate and Safety Division

White's proposal to create a new Division of School Climate and Safety was approved by the school board and will take effect this school year. White says the division will bring together the system's Department of School Safety and Office of School Climate to provide better coordination and consistent services regarding the physical safety of students and their social-emotional well-being.

A chief of school climate and safety, whose position will be reclassified from a community superintendent position, will head the division. An executive director position will be created for the Department of Social-Emotional Support.

Free Meals For More BCPS Students

When families fill out the meal eligibility form this fall, all students who qualify will receive free meals, including those eligible for meals at a reduced-cost. BCPS is launching Baltimore County Cares for Kids, with the support of county government, to feed more eligible students at all schools and make communities aware of related benefits.

Those supplemental benefits include opportunities that might otherwise be out of reach for a family of four earning \$46,435 or less

annually, from priority admission to free prekindergarten and free school supplies at every grade level, to fee waivers for the SAT, ACT, advanced placement exams, Catonsville Community College of Baltimore County college applications, and college athletics. Discounted rates are available for field trips, Internet service and computers.

In addition to offering free meals for students eligible for reduced-price meals, through Baltimore County Cares for Kids school staff and leaders work closely with families to emphasize the continued and new benefits, and to encourage them to apply. The eligibility form will be translated into six languages.

Recommendation for an Extended School Day

A BCPS task force subcommittee is seeking public comment on a recommendation to extend the school day by 15 minutes, or 45 hours to the school year.

According to the subcommittee, the additional hours will make it possible to meet all Maryland State Department of Education day and hour requirements and comply with

continued on page 10





Woodlawn High School was among interim Superintendent Verletta White's first-day-of-school tour stops. Baltimore County Executive Don Mohler, elected officials, school board members and school representatives accompanied White to visit classrooms across the county.

PHOTO RCPS

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County Reopens Footbridge Near Woodlawn High School and Library

Elected officials, students and community and education leaders celebrated the ribbon cutting of a newly rebuilt pedestrian bridge that replaces the one used by generations of Woodlawn area residents.

The popular pedestrian bridge, located along a walking path that connects Dogwood Road to Woodlawn High School, reopened after four years of stalled discussions and then construction.

"This footbridge is an important community connection, giving people easy access to the high school, library and shopping, and we're committed to providing resources like this that enhance the quality of life for our residents," Baltima residents," Baltima The original brown Windsor Mill Road 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like this that 1973, served the content of the providing resources like the providing resources like the providing resources like the providing resources like

residents," Baltimore County Executive Don Mohler said.

The original bridge, built off of Windsor Mill Road over a stream in 1973, served the community for more than 40 years until it was closed and removed in 2014 for structural and safety reasons.

"This bridge means a lot to the Woodlawn community, especially the students who will use it to access



County officials and community leaders held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the reopening of a Woodlawn footbridge used to access the Woodlawn Library and Woodlawn High School.

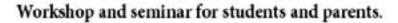
Photo: Baltimore County

Woodlawn High School and the library branch," said County Council Chair Julian E. Jones, Jr.

"I am very pleased about the replacement of this pedestrian bridge because walkability is important to the community," said 1st District Councilman Tom Quirk.

The \$400,000 bridge is designed to include a concrete deck and approach embankments which are compliant with ADA standards. (The original bridge was not compliant as it had steps.) The bridge is 60 feet in overall structural length and the deck is 6-feet 5-inches wide. It is an aluminum truss bridge with a reinforced concrete deck. The span sits on two concrete abutments and is covered with an attractive stained, brick-form, liner finish.

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Project to Focus on 6000 Block of Liberty Road for Development



Maria Day-Marshall of the Colvin Institute of Real Estate Development solicited community members' ideas for development of a block on Liberty Road in need of a refresh. Del. Charles Sydnor III organized the well-attended meeting held Sept. 11 at Powhatan Elementary School.

Developing the Liberty Road corridor with the right mix of commercial, community and residential projects continues to be an evasive goal for residents, elected officials and business owners. Efforts are now being initiated to tackle development one block at a time.

At the request of District 44B Del. Charles Sydnor III, the Colvin Institute, a real estate development organization based at University of Maryland College Park, will conduct a feasibility study to examine the

6000 block of Liberty Road, not far west of Northern Parkway between Venetian and Tulsa streets. The block, located at 5917 to 6035 Liberty Road, is between a McDonald's and the Gwynn Oak Post Office. It includes a strip shopping center with a liquor store, Velvetone dry cleaners and other independent businesses.

To get the community's input, Sydnor hosted a meeting on Sept. 11 at Powhatan Elementary School, inviting members of the Lochearn, Powhatan and Gwynn Oak area communities to meet the Colvin representatives to provide feedback about what they envision for the block.

Maria Day-Marshall, Colvin's director of real estate development program, explained that University of Maryland students will tour the area, do a study and propose uses regarding housing, restaurants, commercial space or resale for the block.

Residents shared that they are seeking options that will increase the value of their homes. Some offered suggestions for a senior center, recreation center with basketball courts, and office building.

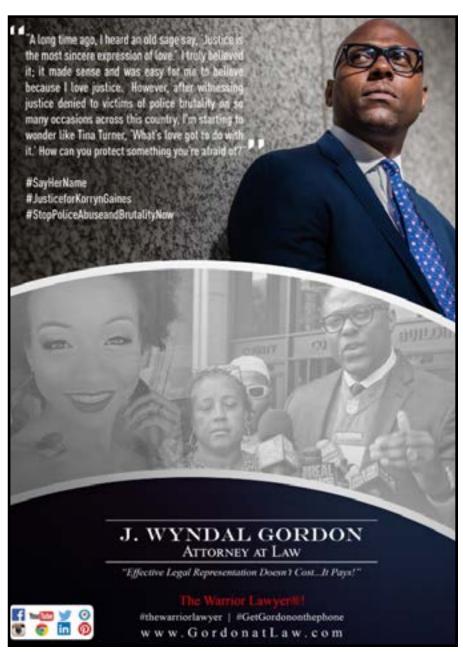
One business owner, Stan Anderson, proposed that the options address the need for services for children and seniors, such as a child care center, senior housing, pharmacy or gym. Another resident suggested after-school activities, such as karate. She noted that currently a bus takes kids from Powhatan to a Catonsville facility.

Community members also stated what they did not want. They gave a thumbs down to businesses that would attract more traffic, particularly in the evening and night-time hours, such as an urgent care facility, drug store, dollar store and fast-food or sit-down restaurants.

The students will complete their work in December, Day-Marshall said, and deliver a comprehensive report that will address zoning changes, construction schedules, financing and entitlements. Once they complete the study, they will deliver it to Sydnor, for consideration as part of the decision-making process.

"This is a first step," Sydnor told the attendees. "We heard from a number of you of what you wanted in your community within the beltway. This is a first step to determine what we can do with county government and state government."

The Department of Housing and Community Development is financing the project with a \$5,000 grant, he said.



Police Department Officers Promoted

Fifteen Baltimore County police officers were promoted in a ceremony on Aug. 31 at the Sollers Point Multi-Purpose Center in Dundalk.

Among the promoted officers were five from the northwest area. Kathryn Greenbeck was promoted from sergeant to the rank of lieutenant and is assigned to Woodlawn Precinct 2.

Promoted from corporal to sergeant were Kevin Cox and James McKnight, both of whom will work in Wilkens Precinct 1, and Anthony Johns, who is assigned to Pikesville Precinct 4. Daniel Healy was promoted from the rank of officer to corporal and is assigned to Franklin Precinct 3.

McDonogh School Retires Jordan McNair's Jersey

In a somber pregame ceremony on Sept. 14, hundreds of football fans and friends gathered in John McDonogh Stadium in Owings Mills to honor and remember alumnus Jordan McNair 'as his No. 70 jersey was officially retired. McNair passed away in June after suffering from heat stroke during a football practice at the University of Maryland.

With the varsity team lining the field behind her, co-athletic director Mickey Deegan described McNair, who graduated in 2017, using the eulogy shared at his funeral by Coach Hakeem Sule. "A great son, a loyal friend, a dependable teammate, a solid student, a hard-working kid, a Division 1 player, but most importantly—an excellent human being," Deegan said. "This is simply how most people will remember Jordan McNair. I will remember him for the positive influence he had on others."

As team captains D'Von Ellies and Jabriel Johnson presented McNair's orange jersey to his parents, Martin McNair and Tonya Wilson, Deegan said, "Jordan, you will always be in our hearts and our memories." His gray jersey will hang in the Rollins-

Luetkemeyer Athletic Center.

Filled with emotion, Marty McNair explained that the ceremony was the first time they had been on McDonogh's field since 2016. "The last time we were here on the field was senior day, Jordan's senior year, and we were full of expectations with a life full of potential," he said.

"Tonya and I are proud to be a part of the McDonogh family. And this was an excellent, excellent launch pad for success in Jordan's life." He continued, "It wasn't just us as a family. It was a whole village that raised Jordan. Jordan was everyone's son. Everyone's brother. Everyone's teammate. If you knew Jordan, if you came across him, his smile alone was everything."

The ceremony ended with the singing of the National Anthem and the game against Malvern Prep began. Throughout the evening, fans made their way to the concession stand for samples of banana pudding, a favorite of Jordan and his McDonogh teammates. Team mothers prepared the 300 samples of the comfort food using Jordan's mother's recipe.

—Published with permission of McDonogh School



Marty McNair and Tonya Wilson, parents of Jordan McNair, the McDonogh School football player who died of heat stroke while practicing as a member of the University of Maryland football team, hold up his retired jersey in a special ceremony as former teammates look on.

Photo: McDonogh School



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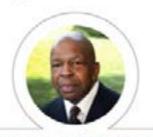
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New School Initiatives, Proposals

continued from page 6

the governor's school start and stop dates; build more than the required three inclement weather days into the calendar; and reinstate the traditional week of spring break.

This recommendation has an approximate cost of \$24 million and is being brought forth at this time so it may be considered in the upcoming budget request cycle.

The public may email comments to schooldaytaskforce@bcps.org.

Task force subcommittees on school start times and secondary schedules are continuing their research and will bring forth recommendations at a future date.

High School Capacity Study

Over the next decade, the Baltimore County Public Schools faces a shortage of seats for its high school students. A consultant is working with the school system to recommend strategies, which range from moving magnet programs, transferring students to other schools and building new schools. In June, the public was invited to public information sessions to learn about the recommendations, take an online survey and comment by email. You can take a high school capacity survey at surveymonkey.com/r/638GCKK. The survey is available online Sept. 18 through Oct. 7.

You can also email your comments to highschoolstudy@ bcps.org. Be aware that all email comments received are public record, and will be logged and posted to BCPS website, including your name but not your email address.

During the first survey, which was open in July, 3,350 people who identified themselves as parents and relatives of students and neighborhood residents took the survey. The majority of the respondents were from the central, northeast and southwest regions. Only 231, or 7 percent, were from the northwest.



Interim Superintendent Verletta White visits a class at Milford Mill Academy on their delayed first day of school on Sept. 7.



Members of the Baltimore County West Democratic Club with gubernatorial nominee Ben Jealous.

Baltimore County West Dem Club Elects New Officers

Del. Charles Sydnor III was elected president of the Baltimore County West Democratic Club at its annual meeting held Sept. 6 at the Randallstown Community Center. Sen. Delores Kelley, who has served as club's president since its inception, is vice president. Vonzella Perry was elected secretary and Ernest Eley will serve as treasurer.

Also elected as the four at-large board members were Del. Adrienne Jones, Larry Martin, Paulette Hammond and Matthew Celentano. The officers will serve two-year terms until starting this month through September 2020.

In preparation for the General Election on Nov. 6, Ben Jealous, the Democratic nominee for Governor, and John Olszewski, the party's candidate for Baltimore County Executive, shared remarks.

Olszewski reiterated his platform for a process where more citizens can participate in the decisions of county government and the budget, better quality schools and safer communities.

Jealous, a businessman and former national NAACP president, encouraged the group to volunteer to get out the vote. "Democrats win when they turn folks out to vote," he said. If the party can turn out 1 million voters in Maryland, as they did in 2010, he added, he will win. Jealous, who said health care is a right, supports Medicare for all. He also stated that he will stand up to Donald Trump, and do more to get the economy moving.

Other elected officials, including District 10 Delegates Ben Brooks and Adrienne Jones, and Sydnor, also spoke.



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You'll train for a career and gain the skills necessary for a successful future. Woodstock Job Corp Center offers career training programs in more than dozen fields.

If you're 16-24 years old and income eligible, Woodstock Job Corps Center may be the perfect place to complete your education and start your career.

TRAINING All of our training programs are hands-on, and you'll get to practice your skills on the job in real work environments. When you graduate, you'll have the skills and credentials you need to start your career. You can train in:

- Bricklaying
- Building Construction Technology
- Carpentry
- Certified Nurse Assistant
- · Clinical Medical Assistant
- Electrical
- Health Unit Coordinator
- Insurance Claims Processor

- Landscaping
- Medical Administrative
 Assistant
- Network Cable Installation
- Office Administration
- Security And Protective Services
- Stationary Engineering
- Welding

BENEFITS You'll have access to everything you need at Woodstock Job Corps Center, including housing, basic medical care, and food. Most students live at the woodstock center, but some students commute to campus each day.

EDUCATION Woodstock Job Corp Center helps you get the education you need at your own pace. Tutors and academic support for math, reading, science, social studies and writing.

Higher Education College Partners:

- Anne Arundel Community College
- Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC)

SOCIAL After the training and education day is over, you can relax, study or hang out with your frieinds on the Woodstock Job Corp Campus. There is plenty to do during your free time.













For more information about Woodstock Job Corps, your eligibility and to begin the application process call

1-800-733-JOBS

Woodstock Job Corps Center 10900 Old Court Road Woodstock, Maryland 410-461-1100



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Get Ready to Take Advantage of a Credit Freeze. What is That?

There have been countless data breaches from retailers, hospitals, and media companies, exposing millions of consumers to identity theft. The thieves then use the personal information to open new credit cards, borrow money for mortgages, and any number of schemes.

One of the most damning breaches was with Equifax, one of three major credit bureaus, where more than 145 million people had their Social Security numbers, birth dates and other personal information compromised.

In light of that breach, a new federal law requires that Equifax, and the other credit reporting bureaus, TransUnion and Experian, must now provide to consumers, under certain circumstances, fraud alerts and unlimited, free security freezes and freeze releases. The law, Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and

Consumer Protection Act, takes effect Sept. 21.

A credit freeze restricts access to your credit file, making it harder for identity thieves to open new accounts in your name. Usually you get a personal identification number to use each time you want to freeze and unfreeze your account to apply for new credit, according to the Consumer Protection Bureau.

Before the new law takes effect, credit freezes may involve fees, based on state law. Starting Sept. 21, it will be free to freeze and unfreeze your credit file throughout the country.

Since children are often targeted for identify theft. A child credit freeze allows you to freeze a child's credit file until the child is old enough to use credit. No matter where you live, you'll be able to get a free credit freeze for children under age 16.

A fraud alert will tell any business



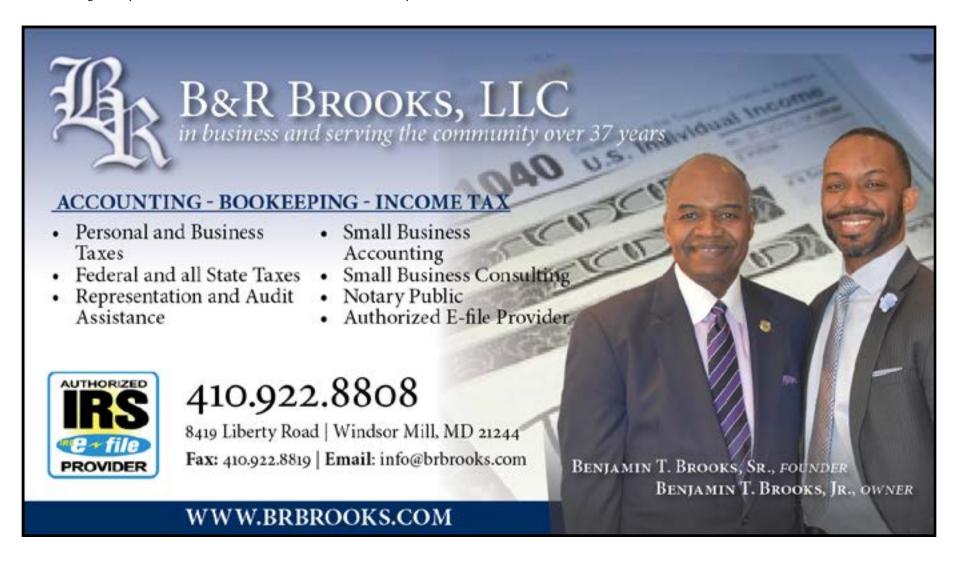
Starting Sept. 21, consumers can contact the major credit reporting bureaus and request a free credit free to make it harder for identity thieves to open fraudulent accounts in their name.

that runs your credit that they should check with you before opening a new account. Under the law, an initial fraud alert will last for one year. Before, it was 90 days. The fraud alert will still be free and identity theft victims can still get an extended fraud alert for seven years.

When the law takes effect, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion must each set up a webpage for requesting fraud alerts and credit freezes. The FTC will

also post links to those webpages on IdentityTheft.gov.

There are additional protections for those in the military. Within a year, credit reporting agencies must offer free electronic credit monitoring to all active duty military. They will also be protected from certain predatory lending practices when applying for a VA-financed mortgage loan.



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EAT, DINE & DRINK

good grub | where to eat | carry-out | dine-in | delivery | specials















Thoma subject to change





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State Assessment Test Scores Get Mixed Results

Maryland students participate in the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) and are tested in English Language Arts and mathematics (grades 3-8 and high school), science (grades 5, 8 and high school), and government (high school).

According to the Maryland State Department of Education, which released the data earlier this month, the exams, which utilize materials developed by the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC), are considerably more rigorous than the Maryland School Assessment tests they replaced in 2015. They are designed to provide students, parents, and teachers with a better idea regarding progress toward graduation and workforce readiness.

The Maryland assessments are scored on a 650- to 850-point scale, which has been translated and simplified into five performance

levels, with level 1 set as not meeting expectations and level 5 set as exceeding expectations. Performance level 4 or 5 is considered proficient on the assessment by the Maryland State Board of Education. The charts below indicate the percentage of students who passed the test, by adding those two levels.

Baltimore County Public Schools report that students showed improvement since 2016 in English Language Arts (ELA) in grades 3 through 5 and grade 7, according to 2018 data from PARCC. In addition, the percentage of students who met or exceeded expectations in mathematics increased since 2016 in Grades 4, 5, and 7.

Scores declined since 2016 for grade 3 students in math and at grades 6 and 8 in both subjects. Across the state and in BCPS, scores for assessments required for graduation (ELA 10 and algebra I) also declined, which the state found

Maryland Assessment Scores for Baltimore County

Elementary Schools

| Elementary schools | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| ENGL. | MATH | Chatsworth | | | | | |
| % Passed | % Passed | Gr. 3 | 28.8 | 38.5 | | | |
| | | Gr. 4 | 37.7 | 25 | | | |
| Bedford | | | 25.4 | 30 | | | |
| 25 | 34.8 | Church | Church Lane | | | | |
| 37.7 | 23.1 | Gr. 3 | 45.1 | 46.8 | | | |
| 48.5 | 39.4 | Gr. 4 | 47.5 | 25.7 | | | |
| | | Gr. 5 | 36 | 30.3 | | | |
| Catonsville | | | Deer Park | | | | |
| 52.0 | 44.8 | Gr. 3 | 24.1 | 46.8 | | | |
| 38.1 | 29.4 | Gr. 4 | 33.2 | 27.2 | | | |
| 48.4 | 45.4 | Gr. 5 | 28.8 | 13.6 | | | |
| Cedarmere | | | Dogwood | | | | |
| 38.2 | 40.8 | Gr. 3 | 16.9 | 14.8 | | | |
| 34.6 | 22.4 | Gr. 4 | 26 | 24.6 | | | |
| 36.5 | 22.9 | Gr. 5 | 21.6 | 16.3 | | | |
| Chadwick | | | Edmondson Heights | | | | |
| 49.6 | 51 | Gr. 3 | 17 | 12.4 | | | |
| 37.1 | 25 | Gr. 4 | 21.8 | 6.9 | | | |
| 44.4 | 33.0 | Gr. 5 | 30 | 27.1 | | | |
| | ENGL. % Passed d 25 37.7 48.5 ville 52.0 38.1 48.4 mere 38.2 34.6 36.5 ick 49.6 37.1 | ENGL. MATH % Passed % Passed d 25 34.8 37.7 23.1 48.5 39.4 ville 52.0 44.8 38.1 29.4 48.4 45.4 mere 38.2 40.8 34.6 22.4 36.5 22.9 ick 49.6 51 37.1 25 | ENGL. MATH % Passed % Passed Gr. 3 Gr. 4 d Gr. 5 25 34.8 Church 37.7 23.1 Gr. 3 48.5 39.4 Gr. 4 Gr. 5 ville Deer P 52.0 44.8 Gr. 3 38.1 29.4 Gr. 4 Gr. 5 Dogwo 38.2 40.8 Gr. 3 Gr. 4 36.5 22.9 Gr. 5 ick Edmor 49.6 51 Gr. 3 Gr. 4 Gr. 5 Gr. 3 | ENGL. MATH Chatsworth % Passed % Passed Gr. 3 28.8 Gr. 4 37.7 Gr. 5 25.4 Church Lane Gr. 3 45.1 Gr. 4 47.5 Gr. 5 36 ville Deer Park 52.0 44.8 Gr. 3 24.1 38.1 29.4 Gr. 4 33.2 48.4 45.4 Gr. 5 28.8 nere Dogwood 38.2 40.8 Gr. 3 16.9 Gr. 4 26 Gr. 5 21.6 Edmondson Heights Gr. 3 17 Gr. 4 21.8 | | | |

| Feather | Featherbed Lane Powhatan | | Woodholme | | | | | |
|---------|--------------------------|----------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|----------|----------|
| Gr. 3 | 23.2 | 16.8 | Gr. 3 | 53.3 | 44.5 | Gr. 3 | 26.19 | 36.2 |
| Gr. 4 | 18.4 | 14.9 | Gr. 4 | 13.2 | 18.4 | Gr. 4 | 21.6 | 25.6 |
| Gr. 5 | 23,7 | 16.2 | Gr. 5 | 47.2 | 44.4 | Gr. 5 | 25.5 | 25.3 |
| Fort Ga | | 1 | Randallstown | | Woodmoor | | | |
| Gr. 3 | 67.4 | 73.5 | Gr. 3 18.5 25.4 | | Gr. 3 14.4 13.2 | | | |
| Gr. 4 | 87.1 | 89.8 | Gr. 4 | 31.5 | 21.9 | Gr. 4 | 15.5 | 16.3 |
| Gr. 5 | 83.8 | 75.3 | Gr. 5 | 23 | 16.4 | Gr. 5 | 28.8 | 13.4 |
| Frankli | _ | ,,,, | Reisterstown | | | | | |
| Gr. 3 | 57.2 | 65.8 | Gr. 3 16.2 33.3 | | Middle Schools | | | |
| Gr. 4 | 72.5 | 56.5 | Gr. 4 | 33.3 | 25.4 | | ENGL. | MATH |
| Gr. 5 | 60.7 | 68.9 | Gr. 5 | 27.5 | 18,8 | | % Passed | % Passed |
| Glyndo | , | | Scotts Branch | | Catonsville | | | |
| Gr. 3 | 24 | 32.7 | Gr. 3 | 11.7 | 8.6 | Gr. 6 | 45.6 | 34.1 |
| Gr. 4 | 23.9 | 14.1 | Gr. 4 | 16.7 | 16.5 | Gr. 7 | 53.4 | 8.3 |
| Gr. 5 | 27.2 | 29.6 | Gr. 5 | 18.1 | 13 | Gr. 8 | 42.6 | 55.9 |
| Hebbyi | | | Summi | | | Deer Park | | |
| Gr. 3 | 22.6 | 19.8 | Gr. 3 | 59.5 | 77.3 | Gr. 6 | 19.2 | 15 |
| Gr. 4 | 33.9 | 34.8 | Gr. 4 | 80.9 | 84.1 | Gr. 7 | 20.2 | 8.1 |
| Gr. 5 | 31.3 | 20 | Gr. 5 | 60.7 | 59.4 | Gr. 8 | 16.9 | 10 |
| Hernw | <u> </u> | • | Timber | Grove | | Franklin | | |
| Gr. 3 | 11.8 | 12.7 | Gr. 3 | 29.9 | 25 | Gr. 6 | 19 | 14.3 |
| Gr. 4 | 18.8 | 15.6 | Gr. 4 | 30.4 | 23.1 | Gr. 7 | 23.2 | <5 |
| Gr. 5 | 21.2 | 21.2 | Gr. 5 | 24 | 29.9 | Gr. 8 | 24.1 | 20.6 |
| Hillcre | st | | Wellwo | ood Internation | nal | Old Court | | |
| Gr. 3 | 60.4 | 71.3 | Gr. 3 | 25.7 | 46 | Gr. 6 | 12.9 | 8.9 |
| Gr. 4 | 70.9 | 67.3 | Gr. 4 | 47.8 | 33.3 | Gr. 7 | 9.7 | <5 |
| Gr. 5 | 51.4 | 57.9 | Gr. 5 | 29.6 | 25.3 | Gr. 8 | 11.6 | 6.3 |
| Johnny | rcake | | Westch | ester | | Pikesville | | |
| Gr. 3 | 15.3 | 11.8 | Gr. 3 | 41.9 | 59.2 | Gr. 6 | 29.4 | 20.6 |
| Gr. 4 | 13.1 | 11.3 | Gr. 4 | 63.1 | 74.1 | Gr. 7 | 34 | 7 |
| Gr. 5 | 23.4 | 23.4 | Gr. 5 | 60.8 | 68.8 | Gr. 8 | 20.6 | 24 |
| Lyons I | ns Mills Westowne | | Southwest Academy | | | | | |
| Gr. 3 | 53 | 40.1 | Gr. 3 | 31.2 | 39.3 | Gr. 6 | 20.1 | 9 |
| Gr. 4 | 34.9 | 23.9 | Gr. 4 | 32.5 | 17.9 | Gr. 7 | 27.4 | <5 |
| Gr. 5 | 54.7 | 35.6 | Gr. 5 | 30.8 | 23.8 | Gr. 8 | 15.5 | 9.8 |
| Milbro | ok | | Winand | | Sudbrook | | | |
| Gr. 3 | 16.1 | 17.7 | Gr. 3 | 52.1 | 38.6 | Gr. 6 | 36.4 | 20.7 |
| Gr. 4 | 22.4 | 24.1 | Gr. 4 | 30.9 | 14.8 | Gr. 7 | 69.3 | 14.3 |
| Gr. 5 | 21.1 | 20.3 | Gr. 5 | 35.2 | 28.3 | Gr. 8 | 56.7 | 37-7 |
| New To | own | Winfield | | Windsor Mill | | | | |
| Gr. 3 | 40 | 38 | Gr. 3 | 37.9 | 43.9 | Gr. 6 | 14.6 | 9.9 |
| Gr. 4 | 44.8 | 41.4 | Gr. 4 | 30.9 | 14.8 | Gr. 7 | 22.2 | <5 |
| Gr. 5 | 38.2 | 42.3 | Gr. 5 | 35.2 | 28.3 | Gr. 8 | 14.4 | 8 |
| Owing | | | Woodbridge | | Woodlawn | | | |
| Gr. 3 | 34.7 | 33.6 | Gr. 3 | 37.9 | 43.9 | Gr. 6 | 11.2 | <5 |
| Gr. 4 | 15.7 | 32.4 | Gr. 4 | 43.4 | 39.5 | Gr. 7 | 18.6 | 10 |
| Gr. 5 | 53.3 | 33.6 | Gr. 5 | 60.3 | 47.5 | Gr. 8 | 16.1 | <5 |

| | ENGL. | ALG. II | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|--|--|--|--|
| | % Passed | % Passed | | | | |
| Catonsville | | | | | | |
| Gr. 10 | 44.2 | 62.3 | | | | |
| Franklin | | | | | | |
| Gr. 10 | 50.3 | 57.5 | | | | |
| Milford Mill | | | | | | |
| Gr. 10 | <5 | <5 | | | | |
| New Town | | | | | | |
| Gr. 10 | 19.8 | 10.5 | | | | |
| Owings Mills | | | | | | |
| Gr. 10 | 14.4 | 22.2 | | | | |
| Pikesville | | | | | | |
| Gr. 10 | 51 | 33.3 | | | | |
| Randallstown | | | | | | |
| Gr. 10 | 11.8 | 12.5 | | | | |
| Western Tech | | | | | | |
| Gr. 10 | 84.5 | 48.8 | | | | |
| Woodlawn | | | | | | |
| Gr. 10 | 6 | <5 | | | | |
| Maryland Department of Education | | | | | | |
| D 10 C 4 | | | | | | |

High Schools

Baltimore County Assessment Results

Continued from page 14

was likely due to repeat test takers.

BCPS Interim Superintendent
Verletta White stated, "As we deepen
our focus on literacy across the
disciplines, I am confident that we
will make even more progress to
help students meet these rigorous
standards."

"We know from national experts and best practices that we are on the right path with literacy- focused, high-quality instruction. Math literacy will continue to be a strong focus area. We also anticipate that our new organizational structure will serve as another effective strategy to enhance academic performance and accountability through increased instructional coaching and collaboration with parents, teachers, and administrators."

White continued, "We monitor multiple measures of student performance throughout the year, including PARCC, and we will continue analyzing root causes to better understand areas where performance improved and declined.

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County Advice to Prepare for Hurricanes and Severe Weather

In preparation for Hurricane Florence, the Baltimore County Department of Public Works checked their equipment and cleared storm drain inlets to help reduce flooding potential, according to Baltimore County officials.

Since the saturated ground from recent rainy weather made trees vulnerable to topple over in windy conditions, county crews and contractors were ready to clear trees that may fall into roadways and the public right of way.

Residents were asked to help by reporting any problems of blocked roads and downed trees to the Bureau of Highways using the BaltCoGo mobile app. The free app can be downloaded from Apple and Android app stores. Residents may also call the Bureau of Highways at 410-887-3560.

When a weather event is expected to flooding, flooded basement issues

can
be
reported
to 911, so
they can be
evaluated for fire
risks on a case-by-case
basis. The county asked
homeowners take steps
to prevent problems,

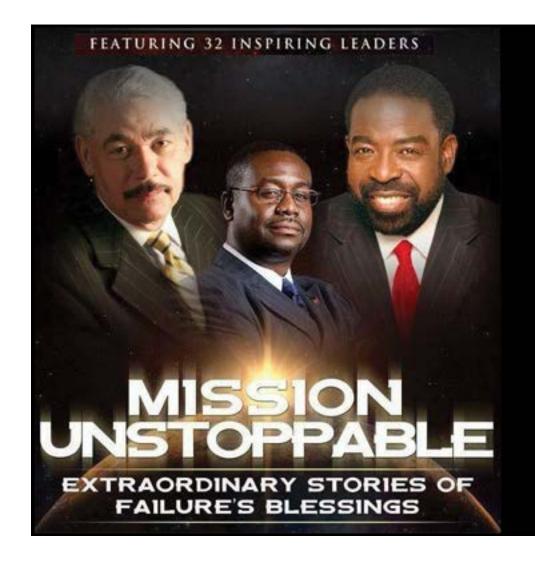
or reduce their impact, by clearing downspouts and basement stairwells. Hurricane

season began on June 1 and ends on Nov. 30. More severe weather is anticipated in the coming months. The county offered these tips for weather emergencies, considering how residents should manage if the

power goes out for an extended period. Steps to take in advance include:

• Locate and purchase supplies. You need non-perishable food, a manual can opener, medications, supplies for infants and vulnerable adults, pet supplies, flashlights/batteries and a battery-powered radio.

- Buy or store extra water—at least a gallon per person, per day, plus extra for pets.
- Fully charge all your electric devices. If power goes out, use them sparingly to make them last as long as possible.
- Get cash. ATMs will not work during a power outage.
- Secure boats and outdoor furniture.
- Plan where you will evacuate if you live in a flood-prone area and need to move to higher ground.
- Assist vulnerable family and neighbors with storm preparations. This is critical; many vulnerable people, including older people cannot prepare by themselves.
- Monitor local news reports and forecasts, and follow the county's social media posts.



#1 BESTSELLER GEORGE FRASER & LES BROWN WITH HAKLAMMI

Haki Ammi The Success Scholar, Best Selling Author of Mission Unstoppable Extraordinary Stories of Failures Blessings with Co Author International Motivational Speaker Les Brown and and Dr. George C. Fraser.

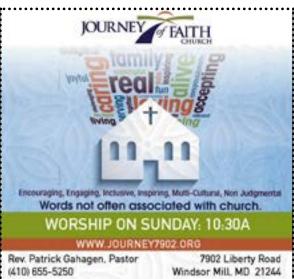
Read the story how Haki Ammi was raised in Baltimore
City and County and joined the U.S. Navy and currently
coming up on 14 years with the Baltimore City Fire
Department. Read the amazing story of how Haki has
read 100 books a year for 11 years and is available
to share his story and present, MC and Moderate at
Churches, Business Organizations, Schools, Community
events and Youth Organizations.

Get his book at www.successscholarhaki.com or call 410-209-9687. Follow on IG SuccessScholar and Twitter SuccessSCholar1.

Faith and Worship









Rev. Tanya Wade, Pastor 2604 Banister Road Baltimore, MD, 21215 410-466-4000 (o), 410-466-4001 (f) www.gracepresbymd.weebly.com



"One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple. —Psalm 27:4 Lochearn Presbyterian Church

Sunday Service

11:00 a.m.



John Brewington, Pastor

Bible Study Tuesday at 7p or Wednesday at 11a **Office Hours Staff:** Tues., Thurs., 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

By appointment, **office**: 410.944.4478 or **fax**: 410.594.1926

3800 Patterson Ave | Baltimore, MD 21207 www.lochearnchurch.com

New Horizon Baptist Church

"WITH GOD, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE"

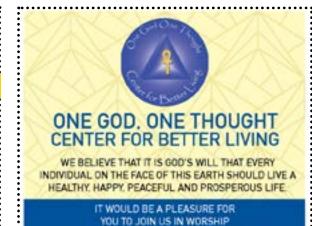


Rev. Steve C. Webster,
Pastor

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday School – 9:45a Morning Devotion – 10:45a Church at Worship – 11:00a Bible Study – 7:00pm Wed.

2200 Saint Lukes Lane, Baltimore, MD 21207
410-298-5161



SUNDAY SERVICE: 9:15-11:00

3605 Coronado Ave. Baltimore, MD 21244 410-496-5188 www.ooot.org Page 18 Northwest Voice September 2018

Magnet program application process to begin

Students and their families seeking additional information about magnet programs are invited to participate in the countywide Magnet EXPO!, regional application meetings, and school-based open house events. Applications for magnet programs, which are available in 11 languages, must be postmarked by Friday, Nov. 16, (certified mailing recommended), or submitted online by 1 p.m.

Be it for music, arts or technology, Baltimore County Public Schools magnet programs are theme-oriented courses of study that provide students with in-depth experiences in specialized areas of interest. BCPS has nearly 120 elementary, middle, and high school magnet programs in 32 schools across the county.

For more information, you can visit bcps.org or call 443-809-4127. Magnet Expo! will be held on Saturday, Sept. 29, at Red Lion North Baltimore Hotel, 2004 Greenspring

Drive, 21093. The application meeting starts at 9 a.m. and the expo is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Representatives from all schools with magnet programs will be in attendance, and 2019–2020 applications will be available.

There will be an application meeting at Milford Mill Academy, 3800 Washington Ave., 21244, on Thursday, Oct. 4, at 6:30 p.m.



Milford Mill's dance program is gaining in popularity.

Are You Registered to Vote in the Nov. 6 General Election?

One of your most important responsibilities as a U.S. citizen is to vote for your representatives. The deadline to vote in the General Election is Oct. 16.

According to the State Board of Elections, you can register to vote online using the Online Maryland Voter Registration System at voterservices.elections.maryland. gov. You can also register at the election board office, located at 11112 Gilroy Rd. in Hunt Valley, 21031. The phone number is 410-997-5700.

You may also print an application from the election board website at elections.maryland. gov. Or you can pick up a voter registration application from any of several government offices, such as Motor Vehicle Administration, Department of Social Services and Department of Aging, and state schools and universities.

To register to vote in Maryland, you must be a U.S. citizen and a Maryland resident. You may register if you are at least 16 years old but cannot vote unless you will be at least 18 years old by the next general election.

As a student, you may register at your school address only if you consider this address to be your "official" or "permanent" home—that is, if you do not consider your parent's home to be your home and do not intend to return there after school, your school address may be your residence.

If you have been convicted of a felony and have completed serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment, you are eligible to register to vote. However, if you have been convicted of buying or selling votes, you are not eligible to vote



New BCPS Staff Training Will Focus on a Protocol to Alert, Lock Down, Inform, Counter and Evacuate

While school shootings are statistically rare, recent incidents have heightened awareness of the possibility and led communities and school officials to seek measures to prevent them and mitigate their impact.

Baltimore County Public Schools, in partnership with the Baltimore

County Police Department, has taken a comprehensive approach to school safety including an enhanced protocol for responding to the unlikely event of an active assailant.

Over the summer, 332 administrators, law enforcement officers, central office staff, and teachers participated in a two-day instructor certification course provided by the ALICE Institute. These instructors will provide face-to-face training to all staff beginning with school-based staff. With a protocol that uses the acronym ALICE for alert, lockdown, inform, counter, and evacuate, the training will enhance the active assailant response currently identified for staff and students.

"We know that it is unlikely that we will have to face an active shooter situation," Interim Superintendent Verletta White said, "but the stakes are so high that we must take advantage of the latest best practices and be prepared. The safety of our students and staff is our utmost responsibility, our highest priority."

Some 17,500 employees received an e-mail link to take the online version of the course as a prerequisite to the face-to-face training. School staff will introduce students to the new protocol upon their return to school and engage them in tabletop exercises and drills throughout the school year.

Other recent enhancements to safety in BCPS include additional school resource officers for all levels including elementary schools, buzz-in visitor entrances, visitor management systems involving background checks, digital cameras, and additional psychologists and counselors. The school system has also released a new multi-volume Comprehensive Safety Plan that addresses general operations as well as planned responses to natural disasters, extended utility outages, active shooters and more.

The Friends of Benjamin Banneker Historical Park and Museum, Inc. and the Baltimore County Recreation and Parks proudly sponsor

A Living History Bus Tour to the Eastern Shore of Maryland Saturday, September 29, 2018

~Living History Bus Tour~

Join us as we depart from the Benjamin Banneker Historical Park and Museum and travel to the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park and Visitor Center. We will visit over twenty (20) stops along the Underground Railroad Byway. Listen to Master Griots Janice Curtis Greene and Bob Smith portraying Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass as they unweave stories and songs as we take a 20th Century ride on the Underground Railroad Byway.

Departs: 7:30 a.m. - September 29, 2018
Benjamin Banneker Historical Park and Museum
300 Oella Avenue
Catonsville, MD 21228

Returns: 6:00 p.m.

Not responsible for lateness on either end—
We will offer a limited number of scholarships to students age 14 and up who wish to take the full day tour.

- Please submit full name, email address and telephone number to the Benjamin Banneker Historical Park and Museum at 410-887-1081
- Using a Lottery System student names will be entered to win. Once chosen, the student agrees to make a presentation to the group or individual about his/her trip experience to the Eastern Shore.

For additional information, please call 443-212-8026.

Living History Bus Tour

Trip includes admission to all designated sites on the Underground Railroad Byway.

Full Buffet Lunch - crab cakes, chicken (fried/baked), potato salad, collard greens, Vegetable medley, homemade rolls, cake, pie, iced tea, water.

Price: \$130.00 per person

Purchase Crabs/Market Items

Passengers on the bus ride will have an opportunity to purchase homemade jellies, jams, preserves and relishes. We will also pre-order fresh steamed crabs to be delivered to the bus before we leave the Eastern Shore.

> #1 Males \$160.00 Bushel #2 Males \$125.00 Bushel Females \$100.00 Bushel #1 Males \$30.00 per dozen



The Friends of Benjamin Banneker Historical Park and Museum, Inc. is a non-profit 501c3 organization dedicated to preserving the legacy and history of Benjamin Banneker. Thanks for your support. The proceeds from the Living History Bus Tour will go toward providing quality educational, historical, scientific, cultural, and nature study programs at the museum.

—Baltimore County Public Schools

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Together, We Can Do Better

Proven leadership you can trust. Fighting for our community.

JOIN

COUNCILMAN JULIAN JONES

AT HIS ANNUAL FREE COMMUNITY
PICNIC AND AWARDS CEREMONY

Saturday, Sept. 29 from 1 to 7 p.m.

in Northwest Regional Park 4515 Deer Park Rd. in Owings Mills, 21117.





Ruben Amaya, a Franklin High School student, and Haleemat Adekoya, a Milford Mill Academy senior, participated with Superintendent Verletta White at the swearing-in ceremony for the Baltimore County Student Councils.

Northwest Students Represented on Student Council Leadership

Middle and high school students were officially inducted into the ranks of student leadership during the Baltimore County Student Councils' executive board swearing-in ceremony.

The Sept. 6 ceremony, held at the Knights of Columbus in Parkville, honored students who will be holding posts within BCSC leadership for 2018-19 ranging from middle school liaisons and student training coordinators.

Several students from the northwest area were honored. The officers include Ruben Amaya, a Franklin High senior who is president; and Jenifer Fridman, also from Franklin High, is chief of staff.

Tegan Hakim, a Pikesville Middle student, is the middle school repre-

sentative; Zack Ziman of Franklin High is the northwest region representative; Sahib Maan of Western High is the southwest region representative. Haleemat Adekoya, a Milford Mill Academy senior, is the student member of the school board.

In his remarks, Amaya told students that despite the hard work and sacrifice involved, each should take time to listen to all student voices and strive to include everyone.

The Baltimore County Student Councils is a student-led organization that supports school administrators, the school board, and the Maryland Association of Student Councils by providing valuable input and feedback on issues that affect all students.

Got Good News About How Our Young People Are Making a Difference?

Submit it to nwvoicenews.com/contact-us

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Block a City Intersection and You May Be Hit With a \$125 Fine

If you travel through Baltimore City, you know how frustrating it is to not only experience lights that aren't in sync, but to have a vehicle block the intersection when you have the green light.

Baltimore City Department of Transportation recently announced the launch of the "Don't Block the Box" traffic safety campaign to curb gridlock. Drivers who block the intersections also endanger other travelers by obstructing crosswalks and bike lanes, putting at risk the safety of drivers, bicyclists and emergency vehicles. Pedestrians must often walk outside designated crossing areas to maneuver around gridlocked traffic.

Blocking the box is illegal, and the transportation department, along with the Police Department, will begin citing motorists who violate the law. To educate and remind motorists, "Do Not Block Intersection" signs have been posted at busy inter-

sections in the downtown area.

So, if you're one of those drivers who tries to beat the light and ends up blocking the intersection while motorists with the green light can't proceed, be prepared to pay a fine.

Since Sept. 11, warning notices are being handed out to motorists who violate this rule. Starting Oct. 15, enforcement initiatives begin and violators who block the box may receive a \$125 fine.

In order to avoid possible fines and help prevent gridlock, drivers should not enter an intersection unless they can drive all the way through the other side. Blocking an intersection is unsafe, illegal and contributes to traffic congestion.

Also in the news, one study found Baltimore to have the seventh longest commute in the country. The average commute time was 31.5 minutes.



Starting Oct. 15, drivers who block an intersection in Baltimore City may be fined \$125, as part of a public safety campaign.

Correction

In the August issue, the *Northwest Voice* incorrectly reported the address of the Rite-Aid that is closing in the Woodlawn area. The 7100 Security Boulevard location has closed. The RiteAid at 6622 Security Boulevard at Meadows Park Shopping Center is open. We apologize for the error.



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Meetings and Events
Mark your calendars for the following events and activities.

Personal and Small Business Credit Workshop

Learn how to establish and maintain personal and business credit. Understanding your credit report, not just your credit score, goes a long way to financial indepence. The workshop will be held Tuesday, Oct. 16, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Woodlawn Library, 1811 Woodlawn Drive., 21207.

Craft Night Out

A woodcraft workshop will be held Monday, Nov. 12, from 7 to 8 p.m. at Owings Mills Public Library, 10302 Grand Central Ave., 21117. Use vinyl stickers and stencils on blocks of wood to create fun and festive home decor. Registration is limited. Tickets available 30 minutes before the program.

Free Community Shred Day

Help guard against identity theft by properly disposing of personal documents. Bring up to three bags or boxes to the Community Shred Day on Saturday, Sept. 29, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Morning Star Baptist Church, 1512 Woodlawn Drive, 21207.

Expungement Clinic

Maryland Legal Aid will host an expungement clinic on Saturday, Oct. 6, from 9 a.m. to noon at Morning Star Baptist Church's Community Outreach and Education Center on 6665 Security Boulevard in Woodlawn. No appointments necessary. Attendees will be helped on a first-come, first-served basis. Please bring all relevant documents with you.

Toast Among Ghosts

The Foundation for Baltimore County Public Library will host its annual A Toast Among Ghosts, a spooky night of fun, food and beer in a historic cemetery on Saturday, Oct. 6, from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Reisterstown Library, 21 Cockeys Mill Rd. in Reisterstown, 21136. There will be live music, a cemetery tour, and food trucks. The Reisterstown Library was formerly the Franklin Academy (c. 1824), where in 1831 Edgar Allan Poe applied to be the headmaster. Poe, who died on Oct. 7, 1849, wasn't selected. But the foundation continues to honor the poet's life and legacy with the event. For ticket info, visit foundationforbcpl.org.

History Presentation on Baltimore County on Sept. 29 and Oct. 27

On Saturday, Sept. 29, the Friends of Historical Cherry Hill AUMP Inc., will have its president and local historian/author Louis S. Diggs present on the history of three of Baltimore County's designated 40 historic African-American communities: Chattolanee, Cowdensville, and the Oblate Sisters of Providence. The talk will take place on Saturday, Sept. 29, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Diggs-Johnson Museum, 2426 Offutt Rd. in Granite, 21163.

There will be another historic presentation at the museum on Saturday, Oct. 27, from 10 a.m. to noon. At this talk, Diggs will share information on the histories of East Towson, Lutherville, Sandy Bottom and Schwartz Avenue in Baltimore County. The presentation will include updated information received since Diggs published his

fourth book, "Since The Beginning." Persons interested in attending must send an e-mail request to louisdiggs2@verizon.net, indicating the number of tickets desired, and a parking permit.

Fall Flea Market

The Mount Olive United Methodist Church will host a fall flea market on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the church, 5115 Old Court Rd. in Randallstown 21133. There will be attic treasures, a bake sale table, jewelry, crafts, food, books and much more. For more information, call the church at 410-922-2853 or email office. mtoliveumc@gmail.com. Vendor space is \$20; contact 410-922-6696 for a table.

School Board

Upcoming meetings of the Board of Education will be held at the Greenwood Campus, 6901 N. Charles St. in Towson on Tuesday, Sept. 25, Oct. 9 and 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 Monday, Sept. 17, Oct. 1 and Oct. 15 and the work sessions, are on Tuesday, Sept. 25 and Oct. 9 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 bysharpless@ 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.

Got a free community event to promote? Please send at least 60 days in advance. Send it to the Northwest Voice at nwvoicenews.com/contact-us/ news.



Don't Assume We Know

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

For paid advertising, contact advertising@nwvoicenews.com or 410-508-1424.

Crime in Northwest Area Includes Shootings, Attempted Robbery, Police Arrest

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.

Catonsville Man Dies in Crash on Liberty Road

Baltimore County Police are investigating a fatal crash that took place Aug. 18 on Liberty Road near Florida Road.

The preliminary investigation indicates that the rider of a motorcycle, identified as Rudy Coles of Catonsville, was traveling eastbound on Liberty Road when a 2018 Toyota Corolla traveling westbound in the center turn lane attempted to turn left into a gas station in front of the motorcycle. The motorcycle skidded into the front corner of the Corolla, causing the rider to be thrown from the motorcycle.

Coles, 48, was taken to the hospital and later pronounced dead. The driver of the Corolla was not injured.

Police Investigate Second Shooting in Woodlawn

While detectives in the violent crimes unit continued to investigate a Sept. 11 shooting on Solar Circle where a man was shot in the leg, another call came out for a man shot iin Woodlawn.

Detectives responded to the 2600

block of Purnell Drive after a resident called 911 when the victim indicated he had been shot in the leg. He was taken to an area hospital for treatment and is expected to survive.

Preliminary information indicates that he was shot following a verbal altercation with the suspect near the corner of Purnell Drive and Royal Oak Avenue. The suspect fled the location prior to arrival of police. Anyone with information on this shooting is asked to contact police at 410-307-2020.

Multiple Businesses Robbed

In dozens of recent incidences, local residents were robbed while walking to their vehicles, in their driveways and even while changing a tire. Other victims had their homes and vehicles broken into.

Crimes also took place at several businesses. In Wilkens District 1, the Subway in the 5300 block of Baltimore National Pike in Catonsville was robbed. And, on Sept. 8 at 4:15 a.m., two suspects pried open the sliding door at Walgreens in the 6300 block of Baltimore National Pike in Catonsville and attempted to take the ATM, but failed.

Also in Catonsville, a woman was stabbed three times in the parking lot at Loafer's, located in the 6500 block of Baltimore National Pike.

In Woodlawn Precinct 2, someone broke into Dominican Beauty Salon through a side window. Money was taken from the cash drawer. In Woodlawn on Aug. 21, a suspect stole 100 copper and brass pipes from inside the old Bennigans restaurant in front of Security Square Mall.

Also, at Security Square Mall, two armed suspects entered Game Stop on Aug. 25 and demanded money from the cash register and safe. They forced the victims to the back of the store, where they were made to hand the suspects multiple Playstation 4s.

In Franklin Precinct 3, there were several commercial burglaries along a stretch of Reisterstown Road between Aug. 18 and 19. In the 11800 block of Reisterstown Road, unknown suspects entered J's Produce Market and took two safes and cash. In the same block, suspects gained entry to Wendy's by throwing a rock through a glass door. Nothing appeared to have been taken.

In the 11500 block of Reisterstown Road, two unknown suspects broke the main glass door to La Tolteca and forced open the manager's office. An employee's personal camera was taken. Flame Charbroiled Chicken and Little Caesars Pizza in the 11300 block were also broken into. Nothing appears to have been taken from either business.

In Pikesville
Precinct 4,
police are
seeking the
identity of a
man who stole
numerous
items from a
Walgreens



Pharmacy at 1510 Reisterstown Rd. Call 410-886-1279 if you recognize the suspect, who is pictured.

Three suspects entered a jewelry store in the 1500 block of Reisterstown Road, held the security guard at gunpoint and stole Rolex watches. Also, four suspects entered a business at 8100 block of Liberty Road, jumped over the counter and took cigarettes and money from register. Two were armed.



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Set the Captives Free Buys Seoul Plaza at Security Square Mall

continued from cover page

Windsor Blvd. building, which is now up for sale.

"We were growing and growing and ran out of space because of our different ministries," Bethea says. The church has been leasing a nearby location for its administrative offices and youth center, and has a day care center and food pantry—which will also move.

Bethea would not disclose the purchase price, but state bond bills, as well as support from the community and congregation are helping to finance the property.

A former Woodlawn resident and eighth grade teacher at Woodlawn Middle, Bethea says she saw first hand the community's needs. "I got to meet the children. I got to meet the parents. I saw the stressed-out single parent and the married couples struggling to get along. I saw the way people could be supported."

Results from a community needs assessment study that the church and county health department undertook last year for western Baltimore County confirmed what she knew: that local residents needed services to increase opportunities for home ownership, education, jobs and wealth, as well as comprehensive approaches to reduce violent crime and sexually transmitted diseases.

Without a doubt, the OWE Center will to brighten the property behind the mall, which backs up to a parking lot for trucks from a local school. Signs announcing that the OWE Center is coming soon have been posted on the entrance doors, and congregation members have been landscaping the perimeter and preparing to move their administrative offices next month. The center's grand opening is scheduled for next spring. The worship area will be located at the center, specifically in the space formerly occupied by the banquet hall. A spa remains open during the construction, but most of the other businesses have been long gone.

The larger space will help her expand her food pantry in size and double the times she feed people. An after-school program/summer camp will keep young people busy during the critical 3 to 6 p.m. hours, workforce development and job training, wealth creation, SAT preparation, drama and stage development, a computer lab and reading center. A first-floor day care center that will accommodate infants, as well as older children, is also in the project.

The OWE Center will also have three restaurants and a hair salon, as well as an adoption agency and

workforce development office — tenants that fit the mission for healthier families and communities, re-entry programs for incarcerated individuals, job creation and safe places for young people.

"Because it's been neglected and abandoned, people have no clue about what's there. Everything will fit just right," Bethea says.

There is high interest in the future of the mall, which currently is anchored by Macy's and Sears department stores. Business owners have been told that the mall is not closing, and some have extended their leases. Reportedly, David Brown Enterprises is still looking to purchase the mall from its multiple owners, and move forward with development plans.

At the time developer Howard Brown met with community members two years ago to talk about his vision to purchase the mall from its five owners and redevelop it into retail, office and community space, Bethea, who attended that meeting at Morning Star Baptist Church's outreach and education center, said she was under a confidentiality clause. However, she and Brown will be meeting in the near future, Bethea said, to determine how they can work together.



Morning Star Baptist Church to Open Family Life Center in Woodlawn

Morning Star Baptist Church continues its efforts to impact the Woodlawn community with the opening of the first phase of renovations at the Morning Star Family Life Center in Woodlawn.

Nearly 200 members and invited guests celebrated the milestone on Sept. 15 at the new center. The facility, located at 1600 Whitehead Court, includes classroom and meeting spaces for what will become a community hub of trainings, activities for youth and seniors, and workforce development programs.

The opening of its Family Life Center represents a third component in the Morning Star campus. Future phases will include a youth and adult recreational activities center, commercial kitchen and events hall.

Bishop Dwayne Debnam, senior pastor, says the church has a vision to change lives, and serve and empower the community.

Morning Star, a 122-year-old church that was founded in Catonsville, dedicated its newly constructed house of worship at 1512 Woodlawn Drive in December 2017. The church also operates its community outreach and educational center and Renaissance Christian Counseling Center from its 6665 Security Boulevard location.



Bishop Dwayne Debnam (center) cuts the ribbon for the first phase of renovations at a Family Life Center in Woodlawn. He is flanked on the left by Doug Moore, Doris Duren and Carla Debnam, and on the right by Corey Debnam, Del. Adrienne Jones, Sen. Delores Kelley, Eugene Clark, Sen. Shirley Nathan Pulliam, Del. Charles Sydnor and Marty Glaze.



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Do You Know This History?



Baltimore City and Baltimore County used to be one jurisdiction. A sign at the Baltimore County Courthouse in Towson shares the history of the separation, which took place July 4, 1851. "Towsontown was chosen as county seat by popular vote Feb. 13, 1854. The courthouse of local limestone and marble was completed in 1855 at a cost of \$30,000.



Hannah More Academy, founded in 1832, is the oldest episcopal boarding school for girls in the United States. Ann Van Bibber Neilson gave three acres of land at this location to found an academy for girls. The academy became the Didcesan School for the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland in 1873. The sign is located in front of the Hannah More School in Reisterstown.



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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 | | | | | | |
| 3115 THORNFIELD RD | Split Level | 3 Bedrm | 2 1/2 Bath | \$229,900 | \$224,000 | |
| 6823 HUNTINGTON DR | Split Level | 4 Bedrm | 2 Bath | \$246,000 | \$242,000 | |
| 2003 HILLSIDE DR | Rancher | 4 Bedrm | 2 Bath | \$239,000 | \$237,000 | |
| 5924 MONTGOMERY ST | Cape Cod | 4 Bedrm | 3 Bath | \$245,900 | \$240,000 | |
| 3671 FOREST HILL RD | Colonial | 4 Bedrm | 3 ½ Bath | \$279,000 | \$280,000 | |
| WINDSOR MILLS, 21244 | | <u>'</u> | <u>'</u> | , | | |
| 7114 NEVILLE CT | Colonial | 3 Bedrm | 3 ½ Bath | \$265,000 | \$265,000 | |
| 8414 DOGWOOD RD | Colonial | 3 Bedrm | 1 Bath | \$229,000 | \$230,000 | |
| 9803 OLD COURT RD | Farm House | 3 Bedrm | 2 Bath | \$355,000 | \$354,000 | |
| 1714 NEWCASTLE RD | Cape Cod | 4 Bedrm | 2½ Bath | \$229,000 | \$224,000 | |
| 7906 CANTWELL RD | Colonial | 4 Bedrm | 3 ½ Bath | \$349,900 | \$355,000 | |
| CATONSVILLE, 21228 | | <u>'</u> | <u>'</u> | , | | |
| 9434 PARAGON CT | Traditional | 3 Bedrm | 2 ½ Bath | \$299,000 | \$280,000 | |
| 23 MONTROSE AVE | Colonial | 4 Bedrm | 2 Bath | \$269,000 | \$269,000 | |
| 108 AMELIA WAY | Colonial | 3 Bedrm | 3 ½ Bath | \$319,950 | \$319,950 | |
| 3689 ASHLEY WAY | Colonial | 5 Bedrm | 3 ½ Bath | \$499,990 | \$475,000 | |
| 346 KEARNEY DR | Split Level | 3 Bedrm | 2½ Bath | \$279,900 | \$275,000 | |
| RANDALLSTOWN, 21133 | | <u>'</u> | <u>'</u> | , | | |
| 9068 MEADOW HEIGHTS RD | Colonial | 3 Bedrm | 2 Bath | \$224,900 | \$223,340 | |
| 3808 HENDON RD | Rancher | 5 Bedrm | 2 Bath | \$265,000 | \$265,000 | |
| 3840 TERKA CIR | Cape Cod | 5 Bedrm | 2 Bath | \$269,900 | \$269,900 | |
| 3719 ELKANAH PL | Split Level | 4 Bedrm | 2 Bath | \$249,900 | \$253,000 | |
| 3601 RUSTY ROCK RD | Cape Cod | 4 Bedrm | 3 Bath | \$299,900 | \$295,000 | |
| PIKESVILLE, 21208 | | · | | | | |
| 4603 TEMA RD | Split Level | 3 bedrm | 2½ bath | \$229,900 | \$229,900 | |
| 8209 BRATTLE RD | Rancher | 2 Bedrm | 2 Bath | \$279,900 | \$270,000 | |
| 301 CHALK HILL DR | Traditional | 3 Bedrm | 3 ½ Bath | \$385,000 | \$217,500 | |
| 9 WHISPERWOOD CT | Colonial | 3 Bedrm | 2 Bath | \$450,000 | \$525,000 | |
| 3409 KEYSER RD | Rancher | 4 Bedrm | 3½ Bath | \$615,000 | \$600,000 | |
| OWINGS MILLS, 21117 | | | | | | |
| 10 SHADOW CT | Contemporary | 4 Bedrm | 2 (2) ½ Bath | \$540,000 | \$535,000 | |
| 3689 ASHLEY WAY | Colonial | 5 Bedrm | 3½ Bath | \$499,900 | \$475,000 | |
| 109 EGYPT FARMS RD | Colonial | 4 Bedrm | 3 ½ Bath | \$349,900 | \$345,000 | |
| 346 KEARNEY DR | Split Foyer | 3 Bedrm | 2 ½ Bath | \$279,900 | \$275,000 | |
| 12307 TIMBER GROVE RD | Rancher | 3 Bedrm | 2 Bath | \$355,000 | \$355,000 | |
| REISTERSTOWN, 21136 | | | | | | |
| 15 BONDI WAY | Colonial | 5 Bedrm | 4½ Bath | \$709,500 | \$690,000 | |
| 203 JANET CT | Split Level | 4 Bedrm | 2 Bath | \$269,900 | \$265,000 | |
| 4 TRIGHTON CT | Colonial | 4 Bedrm | 3½ Bath | \$575,000 | \$565,000 | |
| 302 TOWNLEIGH RD | Bilevel | 4 Bedrm | 2 Bath | \$314,900 | \$300,000 | |
| 12102 LAMOTTES CT | Colonial | 4 Bedrm | 3 ½ Bath | \$419,900 | \$425,000 | |





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