



A quarterly publication from the Town of Bel Air, Maryland

www.belairmd.org



CALENDAR OF EVENTS
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Little Free Libraries spur reading, new friendships

Ever since 2009, when a Wisconsin man built a cabinet in his yard and filled it with books for neighbors to read and return, people around the country have been inspired to do the same. This movement soon evolved into the Little Free Library, a nonprofit that encourages book exchanges among neighbors and now counts more than 50,000 locations. In the past year, two Bel Air families have created Little Free Libraries of their own.

Little Free Libraries operate on a simple concept: build a small cupboard-like structure, place it in the yard, fill it with books and encourage passers-by to “Take a book. Return a book.” There are few rules and each Little Free Library has a personality as different from each other as its owner.

It seems only natural that one of Bel Air’s newest, on Gordon Street, is located at the former home of Frances Sedney, a longtime Harford County librarian who established groundbreaking children’s reading programs during her long career in the Bel Air branch. Mrs. Sedney died in 2015. Her son, Blaise and daughter-in-law, Rosemarie, moved from Forest Hill to her former home in June 2016. Even in the midst of extensive house renovations, they set up a Little Free Library that reflects the exterior of the 1960s-era residence and honors its long-time past owner.

(Cont. on p. 3)



Blaise and Rosemarie Sedney included a Little Free Library in their recent Gordon Street home renovation.

Dear Neighbors,

Autumn is a time of change and vibrant colors. As the breezes get cooler and the trees more colorful, here are three innovative and exciting events for you to enjoy in Bel Air involving time travel, supernatural hometown tales and dazzling colored lights.

Do you wish you could step into the pages of *Outlander* and travel through time? Stop by the Bel Air Library between Monday, October 2nd and Friday, December 1st to visit *The Artifacts of Outlander* exhibit. The widely-popular *Outlander* novels by Diana Gabaldon set the stage for this amazing exhibit! Be inspired by how real 18th-century, Colonial-era artifacts from Maryland compare to the *Outlander* television series. Visit www.hcplonline.org for exciting programs and events for all ages that are related to the *Artifacts of Outlander* exhibit. This exhibit is on loan from the Jefferson Patterson Park Museum in St. Leonard, Maryland.

Next, you won't want to miss this! Bel Air's first *Haunts and History Tour* will usher in the Halloween season this year on October 21st. Would you like to learn more about the hauntings and the famous Bel Air personalities that mark the history of our town? Meet us at the Historical Society of Harford County at 4:30 p.m. for food and refreshments to kick things off. The tour departs at 5:30, as we visit some of the town's most legendary and haunted sites. The cost is \$40.00 for the social hour and tour and \$10.00 for the tour only. For more details and information, contact www.eventbrite.com.

Finally, don't miss the dramatic and mesmerizing *Festival of Lights* at St. Matthew Church. This free "drive-through" display of 100,000 dazzling lights synchronized to holiday music includes *The Greatest Story Ever Told* and singing Christmas trees. It all begins on Friday, November 24th and continues through Sunday, December 31st. Hours are 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday evenings and 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings. The newly-expanded indoor train garden will delight young and old. Stay for cookies & cocoa in the narthex on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings until 9:30 p.m.

Check www.smlc.org to make sure the lights will be running before coming up to the church. There may be a few nights when hours will be adjusted to accommodate special events such as winter concerts.

See you around town!



Susan Burdette

On the cover:

Every summer for the past nine years, children enrolled in the LASOS, Inc. summer camp have taken a field trip to the Bel Air Police Department. LASOS, Inc. (Linking All So Others Succeed) is a nonprofit organization that provides adult literacy, financial literacy, youth mentoring and a network of service providers to non-native English speakers in Harford County.

Board of Town Commissioners



Susan U. Burdette



Philip L. Einhorn



Brendan P. Hopkins



Robert M. Preston



Patrick T. Richards

Little Free Libraries (cont. from p.1)

“The purpose of the Little Free Library is to inspire people to read. That’s what she did at the library. This was a perfect fit,” says Rosemarie of her mother-in-law. “She would have loved it.”

Over on Francis Avenue, eight-year-old Kamryn Plotts had outgrown many of her books and wanted to share them with younger children. Enthralled by the idea of a Little Free Library in the family’s yard, she sketched ideas and passed them onto her grandparents, Keith and Dawn Blake, who built and decorated the library. It includes faux windows with curtains, a flower box, birds and a weather vane.



The Sedney library on Gordon Street includes vintage books from Frances Sedney’s personal collection.

Kamryn and her brothers, Ryan and Logan, leave water and treats for dogs who pass by with their owners. The family decorates the library for holiday seasons throughout the year.

Amy Plotts, the children’s mother, says that the library has become a neighborhood gathering place: “We have lived here five years and I met more neighbors in the first three months of putting this up than we did in those five years.” She reports that her three children delight in looking out the living room window when people stop at their Little Free Library.

Plott’s advice to those who are considering building a library is both practical and sentimental. “Make sure it is waterproof. It can destroy the fun if you come out and it’s full of water and bugs. Just have fun with it and make it your own.” Both the Plotts and the Sedney families placed a bench next to their libraries to encourage people to linger.

The Little Free Library’s mission of welcoming neighbors is not lost on six-year-old Ryan Plotts. When asked what he likes about the library, he said, “Other people can visit and read books any time they want to. And dogs can eat treats, too.” **Learn more:**www.littlefreelibrary.org.



(L to r, front) Ryan, Logan and Kamryn Plotts delight when visitors stop at their Little Free Library on Francis Avenue. Their grandparents, Keith and Dawn Blake (rear) built the library and included a dedication to their grandchildren on the inside.

Soon things will look brighter in downtown Bel Air

The Town will soon retrofit new lamps for all Bel Air street lights.

Fixtures that use old and wasteful technology will be changed to new and efficient LED (Light Emitting Diode) fixtures. This is expected to save energy and provide cost savings to the Town. Some existing lights that currently emit a low dim glow will become brighter when switched to LED models.



BGE crews will perform the modifications in October and November.

Please be patient as we work to make sure the street lights provide needed safety and security without impacting neighborhoods.



Boy Scouts rally the troops in beautification projects around town

Two members of Scout Troop 238, Casey Mariani and Josh Stainbrook, recently completed several projects that benefited the Town of Bel Air, its residents and the environment. Both are pursuing their Eagle Scout ranks.

Casey planted 200 seedlings and 18 small trees in Rockfield Park, which will expand the Bel Air forest canopy. There were 25 scouts who worked a full Saturday to place various species of trees, along with their supporting tubes and stakes. Town of Bel Air staff, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service and the Forest Conservancy District Board to acquire the seedlings and materials helped identify locations that would most benefit nearby stream, existing forest, wildlife and storm water management.

Josh planted 80 shrubs, two trees and 200 ground cover plants in Shamrock Park and next to the mural near the Downtown Parking Lot, adjacent to the Harford County Sheriff's Office. Josh and Troop 238 also created more landscaping for the banners at Lee Way and Pennsylvania Avenue, provided a living green backdrop to the recently installed fountain next to the Humbert Amphitheater, and framed the downtown mural with more plantings.

Scouts pursuing Eagle Scout (the highest level of scouting) are required to coordinate and complete a project that benefits the community. This involves a great deal of time, planning, funding and leadership for the scout. The two latest projects highlight the high quality outcomes that Boy Scouts have brought to the Bel Air community.

Casey and Josh raised all funds; there were no monetary contributions from the Town. Other Troop 238 members will tackle future projects such as revitalizing the Flight 800 memorial in Rockfield Park, installing a bocce ball court in Shamrock Park, providing bird houses and benches in Rockfield Park, improving the Memorial Grove near Shamrock Park and enhancing the existing wooded trails in Rockfield Park. The Town has a limited number of other assignments available. To learn more, contact Planning Director Kevin L. Small, 410.638.4540.

Community Collection
FOR A CAUSE

9am to 1pm, Saturday, September 23
at the Bel Air High School Parking Lot

Find a new home for your unwanted things and do your part to help save resources for the next generation. Contributors are invited to bring a single car load consisting only of items outlined below for recycling, refurbishment or reuse.

Bicycles	Textiles	Sporting Gear
Books	Eye Glasses	Electronics
Shoes	Toys	Cell Phones

ALSO DOCUMENT SHREDDING!!!
Sponsored By:

50% REBATE

RAIN BARRELS & COMPOSTERS

Selected products:

- o Good Ideas, 50 gal. Rain Wizard
- o Good Ideas, 7 cu ft. Compost Wizard Jr.
- o Good Ideas, 50 gal. Compost/Rain Hybrid
- o Good Ideas, 65 gal. Rain Wizard Urn/Planter
- o Suncast, 6.5 cu ft. Tumbling Composter
- o Suncast, 50 gal. rain barrel

Participants must own property within the corporate limits of the Town and purchase the product through a local retailer or online with delivery through a local business. Once the item is purchased, present the receipt and proof of residency to the Finance Department at Town Hall to receive the rebate. Offer good until funds are exhausted. Call 410-638-4540 or visit www.belairmd.org for more information

For Bel Air Police Chief Charles Moore, state-of-the-art community policing practices are an essential piece of day-to-day life in the department. Here are some of his observations during a recent conversation.

Do you have a sense of how many nationalities might be represented among the people who live and work in Bel Air?

We meet many. When LASOS (a local nonprofit that serves non-English speaking residents – Linking All So Others Succeed) brought their summer campers to visit us at the Police Department, the group included children from Ethiopia, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, China, Japan, India, Latin America countries, Nigeria, Pakistan and Rwanda. They were all from families that live here in Town or in the immediate surrounding areas.

What is the Bel Air Police Department doing to make sure that these residents are served well?

We want people who move here from other places in the world to be comfortable with law enforcement in our community. Some of our citizens have come from areas where law enforcement is sometimes corrupt and abusive.

We frequently attend community events and educate others on what to do if they witness crimes or are a victim. We have developed a cohesive and trusting relationship with LASOS. We have a working relationship with the Harford County Branch of the NAACP and have attended events at AMES United Methodist church.

Our job is to enforce the law and ensure that justice is served and that everyone who encounters our police officers is treated fairly and justly. We tell crime victims that, if you are a victim, we need to find who did it before that person victimizes someone else.

By the way, we are fortunate to have two officers and a dispatcher who speak Spanish. Officer/employee diversity is a priority within the Bel Air Police Department.

You mentioned that your staff has undergone training this year related to diversity, de-escalation and fair and impartial policing.

Training throughout the year that our officers and dispatchers have attended included: Conflict and Dispute Resolution; Implicit Bias; Fair and Impartial Policing and De-escalation. Some of our members attended the very informative “Under our Skin” forum related to race and faith held at Mountain Christian Church. Training has helped to further refine the interaction ability of our officers when dealing with all nationalities and/or minority citizens. The training has also helped our officers to understand and recognize implicit biases, and ensure that biases don’t affect their behavior. Sensitivity, objectivity, compassion and discretion are all important traits for officers who are tasked with the awesome responsibility of enforcing and upholding the law.

When you train continually, it becomes a natural part of your job, which is the culture I want to promote at the Bel Air Police Department.

Talk a bit more about the goals of the new Citizens Advisory Committee.

We have a committee that is going to help with some of the more sensitive decision-making processes that we are going through. The committee was an idea of Sergeant Edward Smith (Community Policing Supervisor) and myself. It has five members and will meet four times a year. The best way to have a partnership is to include them in our decision-making.

Sometimes law enforcement get into certain trains of thought. It’s good to have a different mindset coming from a place that doesn’t originate totally from a law enforcement perspective. We follow the philosophy of “the more brains the better.” Brainstorming about problems that affect the quality of life in Bel Air from the perspective of citizens (residents and business owners) and from law enforcement will unquestionably create improvements.

Why is communication between the police and the community important these days?

It’s important for us to represent everybody in the community. My message is that whether you are the wealthiest person in the world or a homeless person, everybody’s treated equally and fairly within the Town of Bel Air.



For the ninth year in a row, children from the LASOS, Inc. summer camp visited the Bel Air Police Department.

Frequently visited venues

Bel Air Armory
37 N. Main St.

Harford County Public Library, Bel Air
100 E. Pennsylvania Ave.

Harford Artists Gallery at Armory
Marketplace
37 N. Main St. Suite #104

Humbert Amphitheater
Shamrock Park at Lee & Hickory Avenues

Hays House Museum
324 Kenmore Ave.

Historical Society of Harford County
143 N. Main St.

Liriodendron Gallery
502 W Gordon St.

Rockfield Manor
501 E. Churchville Rd.

SEPTEMBER

Sunday September 10 – Sunday
October 15

REALISTIC ART: WORK BY STUDENTS OF ARTIST CAROL LEE THOMPSON

The Liriodendron Gallery, Sundays 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. and Wednesdays 1:00 – 7:00 p.m.

A show of realistic art that features work by 30+ students of artist Carol Lee Thompson. Ranging from beginner to advanced, these students meet weekly at the Zoll Studio of Fine Art. 410-879-4424

Friday 22

LUNCHTIME CONCERT

Office Street near the Harford County Circuit Courthouse, Noon – 1:00 p.m. Lunchtime concert with food vendors. Tables/chairs provided. Entertainment: Bel Air High School Jazz Ensemble. Sponsor: Town of Bel Air. Free. www.belairmd.org. 410-638-4550

Saturday 23

MULTI-CONSULTANT LULAROE POP-UP SALE

Bel Air Armory, 10:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. Preview over 25,000 pieces of LuLaRoe clothing and meet 25+ consultants. 443-465-0295

Sunday 24

BEN FRANKLIN SPEAKS

Hays House Museum, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Visit with interpreter David Fisher who portrays Ben Franklin in the early days of our country. Adults \$5, Students & seniors \$3, Free to children under 4. 410-838-7691

Saturday 30

HARFORD WOMEN'S EXPO

Bel Air Armory, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Live entertainment, speakers, seminars, exercise classes as well as food and beverage sales. Free admission and parking. 410-688-4117

Saturday 30

12TH ANNUAL HARFORD COUNTY WINE FESTIVAL

Rockfield Manor, Noon – 6:00 p.m.

Enjoy wines from around the world, food, crafts and live entertainment. Hoist your stein in the Oktoberfest Beer Garden.

The VIP area will satisfy senses with samples of premium wines and gourmet food from Pairings Bistro. 410-638-4565 or www.harfordcountywinefest.com

OCTOBER

Sunday 1

PAINT THE TOWN PINK RECEPTION

Harford Artists Gallery, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

A kick off for the Gallery's "decorate a bra" project. Finished bras to be auctioned at Girls Night Out, October 19th. All proceeds to Upper Chesapeake Cancer Foundation. 410-420-9499

Wednesday 4

BYOB: BRING YOUR OWN BRA WORKSHOP

Harford Artists Gallery, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m., Workshop is free; donations accepted. Gallery provides snacks and tools. Bring your own embellishments for your design. 410-420-9499

Thursday 5, 12, 19 & 26

ROCKING CHAIR STORY TIME

Rockfield Manor, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

The Rocking Chair Story Hour features guests, stories and activities for children five and under in partnership with the Harford County Public Library. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Free. Registration: www.rockfieldmanor.com or 410-638-4565

Friday 6

LASOS MYSTERY BAG BINGO

Bel Air Armory, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

All prizes worth \$50.00 or more. Special bingos, raffles, food and more. Benefits LASOS, Inc. (Linking All So Others Succeed.) Admission: \$15 advance tickets; \$18 at the door. www.lasos.org

Friday 6

FIRST FRIDAY

Downtown Parking Lot, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Harford County's best block party is Bel Air Downtown Alliance's First Fridays with local live music, beer and wine, food vendors and more.

www.downtownbelair.com

Saturday 7

VETERANS INFORMATION FAIR

Bel Air Armory, 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Job opportunities, Veterans Benefits Assistance, survivor programs and general information. Complimentary refreshments. Sponsor: Harford County Commission on Veterans Affairs in partnership with the Town of Bel Air. vetcommission@harfordcountymd.gov

Saturday 7

BEGINNER POLYMER CLAY CANES AND BEADS

Harford Artists Gallery, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Workshop open to all, led by artist Jackie Swartz. Fee: \$20.00. Register: Harford Artist Gallery. www.artinharford.org

Sunday 8

THE BELLE AIRE MARKET

Office Street, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The Belle Aire Market is a seasonal open air market featuring antiques and finely crafted artisan items and evokes feelings of a Parisian bazaar in downtown Bel Air. www.downtownbelair.com

Sunday 8

THE ART OF HEARTH COOKING

Hays House Museum

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

A delectable meal prepared on the hearth. Adults \$5, Students & seniors \$3. Free for children under 4. 410-838-7691

Monday 9 -Thursday 14

HARFORD PLEIN AIR

Various locations throughout the county. A competition of creating art "in the open air." Artists from all many locations are juried into the competition. Paintings sold at a gallery sale, with a portion of sales benefitting the sponsor, Maryland Center for the Arts. 443-567-5216

Tuesday 10

BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES: CANNING INDUSTRY IN HARFORD

Historical Society of Harford County, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Harford County once boasted one of the most successful canning industries in the nation. Bring your lunch and learn what spurred its development and led to its demise. Free. 410-838-7691

Thursday 12 – Saturday 14
TOWN OF BEL AIR FILM FESTIVAL
 Bel Air Armory
 Films and special guests, Thursday through Saturday. Admission, \$5 per film, includes popcorn and a drink. Purchase a \$10 All Access Pass. Children under 10 free.
www.townofbelairfilmfestival.com or 410-838-0584

Friday 13 – Sunday 15
BOOK SALES
 Harford County Library, Bel Air branch, 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Paperback, hardback and children's books. Sponsor: Friends of the Bel Air Library. 410-638-3151

Thursday 19
GIRLS NIGHT OUT
 Downtown Bel Air from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. A night of shopping, discounts, food and drink specials. Music, light refreshments and art at the Harford Artists Gallery at Armory Marketplace, including a silent auction of decorated bras from the Paint the Town Pink celebration.
www.downtownbelair.com

Saturday 21
6TH ANNUAL HARVEST MOON DINNER & AUCTION
 Bel Air Armory, 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. Tickets include dinner, beer and wine. Live and silent auction items with live music. \$75. Sponsor: Harford Land Trust. www.harfordlandtrust.org

Sunday 22 - Sunday 29
LITERARY PAGES COME TO LIFE: BOOK AND PAPER SCULPTURES OF JODI HARVEY BROWN
 The Liriodendron Gallery, Sundays 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. and Wednesdays 1:00 – 7:00 p.m.
 Jodi Harvey Brown combines art and literature with unique paper sculptures in scenes from beloved stories.
 410-879-4424

Friday 27
LIONS CLUB & BEL AIR POLICE DEPARTMENT EXPLORERS BINGO
 Bel Air Armory, Doors open 6:00 p.m.; Bingo at 7:00 p.m. Proceeds support the Bel Air Explorers Unit. Tickets: \$15. Door prizes. Purchase food or bring your own. 410- 688-2392

Saturday 28
FALL FLING BIG BAND DANCE
 Bel Air Armory, 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. Live big band dance music by the Bel Air Community Band Jazz Ensemble.

Food, beer and wine available for sale. Free. Sponsor: Town of Bel Air and the Harford County Cultural Arts Board through the Maryland State Arts Council. 410-638-4550

NOVEMBER

Thursday 2 – Friday, December 2
YESTERDAY AND TODAY HOLIDAY ART SHOW
 Harford Artists Gallery at Armory Marketplace, Gallery Hours: Friday – Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Reception November 11th from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. www.artinharford.org. 410-420-9499

Saturday 4
ARCHER LECTURE & TEA
 The Historical Society of Harford County, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
 Presenting the story of the McCommons Diary. Enjoy tea and accompaniments while learning about WWI and WWII in the words of a Havre de Grace citizen who came back to tell his life's adventures. \$10. 410-838-7691

Tuesday 14
BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES: TALLY HO! THE HISTORY OF FOX HUNTING IN MARYLAND
 Historical Society of Harford County, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.
 Bring lunch and enjoy the story of the who, what, when and where of fox hunting in Maryland. Presented by Maryanna Skowronski, Executive Director of the Historical Society of Harford County. Free. 410-838-7691

Saturday 23
MULTI-CONSULTANT LULAROE POP-UP SALE
 Bel Air Armory, 10:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. Preview over 25,000 pieces of LuLaRoe and meet 25+ consultants. 443-465-0295

Friday 24 – Sunday 26
12TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TREES
 Bel Air Armory, Friday, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 A three-day event with sponsored holiday trees, wreaths and gingerbread houses on display and available through silent auction. All proceeds to Cancer LifeNet at the Kaufman Cancer Center. \$12 per person over 12 years of age. Sponsor: Chesapeake Cancer Alliance and Upper Chesapeake Hospital Foundation. 443-643-3460 or www.uchfoundation.org

Saturday 25
ANNUAL BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
 Main Street Tower Restaurant, 29 S. Main Street, 8:00 a.m. – Noon
 Enjoy a delicious buffet breakfast and have a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Proceeds to Cancer LifeNet at the Kaufman Cancer Center. Sponsor: Chesapeake Cancer Alliance and Upper Chesapeake Hospital Foundation. 443-643-3460 or www.uchfoundation.org

Saturday 25
SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY IN DOWNTOWN BEL AIR
 See all that downtown has to offer, including shopping and great food and drink at restaurants. www.downtownbelair.com

DECEMBER

Saturday 2
AUTHORS & ARTISTS HOLIDAY GIFT SALE
 Bel Air Armory, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Meet local authors and artists and find one-of-a-kind gifts for everyone. Live entertainment throughout the day. Free admission and gift wrapping. 410-638-4550

Saturday 2 – Sunday 3
HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE & SALE
 Harford Artists Gallery, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
 Paintings, photography, pottery and jewelry by local artists. www.artinharford.org, 410-420-9499

Sunday 3
CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE
 Hays House Museum, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Holiday decorations by the Country Garden Club; music by the Catherine Street Consort. Free. 410-838-7691

Sunday 3
28TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE & TREE LIGHTING
 Downtown Bel Air. Concert on Main Street in front of the Courthouse at 2:30 p.m. Parade at 3:30 p.m. Community bonfire and sing-along in Shamrock Park with free cookies and hot chocolate at 4:15 p.m. Tree Lighting at 5:00 p.m. The day concludes with The Living Christmas Tree and Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus.

In bad weather, the event will be cancelled and not rescheduled. www.belairmd.org/226/Christmas-Parade

Thursday 7

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING AND HOLIDAY HAPPY HOUR

Rockfield Manor, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Enjoy festive décor while sipping warm wassail, snacking on savory food and listening to Christmas carols. Admission free with a new unwrapped toy or \$10 per person. Toys donated to Toys for Tots. www.rockfieldmanor.com

Friday 8

THREE PIANO PLAYERS HOLIDAY CONCERT

Bel Air Armory, 7:00 p.m.
The Town of Bel Air and Maryland Conservatory of Music present the Three Piano Players, Chris Sengstacke, Andrew Lewis and Duke Thompson. Admission: \$10. 410-638-4506 or www.belairmd.org

Saturday 9

HOLIDAY HARMONY CONCERT

Featuring the Bay Country Gentlemen Bel Air Armory, 7:00 p.m.
Sponsor: Town of Bel Air and the Harford County Cultural Arts Board through the Maryland State Arts Council. Free. 410-638-4506 www.belairmd.org

Saturday 16

IRISHMAN'S CHORALE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Bel Air Armory, 7:00 p.m.
Amhranai Na Gaeilge is the only all-male Irish Chorale in the Mid-Atlantic region and performs traditional and contemporary music. Free. 410-838-4506

Saturday 16

HARFORD CHORAL SOCIETY WINTER CONCERT

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 1200 Churchville Road. 7:30 p.m.
Celebrate the holidays with classics including selections from Handel's Messiah. \$25 adult, \$20 senior, \$10 student, under 12 free. Advance tickets discounted by \$5.00. 443-299-6358

Sunday 17

MERRY TUBA CHRISTMAS

Bel Air High School Auditorium, Registration 2:00 p.m. Rehearsal 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. Doors open at 4:30 p.m.; Performance 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Bring tubas, euphoniums and baritone horns. Registration fee \$5; Music cost \$15 (unless you have music from a

previous Tuba Christmas event). Free to audience. 410-391-7832

Thursday 21

GIRLS NIGHT OUT

Downtown Bel Air from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
A night of shopping, discounts, food and drink specials in Bel Air. Free reception at Harford Artists Gallery at Armory Marketplace. www.downtownbelair.com

Saturday 23

HOLIDAY ARTS & CRAFT FESTIVAL

Bel Air Armory, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Local crafters and vendors with unique holiday gifts, free swag bags to the first 70 customers. Free. mathisevents1@gmail.com

JANUARY

Tuesday 9

BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES: THE HISTORY OF BEL AIR, CONTINUED

Historical Society of Harford County, Inc. 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
Guest speaker Carol Deibel traces the days following the Civil War, the introduction of the Ma & Pa Railroad and events through the early 20th century. Free. 410-838-7691

“We have been going to the Bel Air Film Festival for several years. They offer films I would not normally have an opportunity to experience.

The quality of the films, the friendly atmosphere, the speakers they present for each film – and the ridiculously low price – all add up to a tremendous event here in Harford County. We mark it on our calendar every year.”

Greg Pizzuto
Visit Harford!

Tickets include a soda and popcorn.



Comfortable table seating is provided.



October 12-14, 2017

Join us in celebrating the art of filmmaking. We are proud to present fascinating, high caliber films, followed by open discussion.

For more information and this year's lineup, visit our website or call

410-838-0584

Bel Air Armory

37 North Main Street - Bel Air

www.TownofBelAirFilmFestival.com

HAUNTS & HISTORY TOUR OF BEL AIR

Journey back in time to enjoy the tales of Bel Air's most curious and mysterious history! Walk the streets lit by lanterns and visit some of the town's most legendary and haunted sites.

Saturday, October 21st | 4:30pm
at the Historic Society

Social hour and refreshments - 4:30
provided by Sunny Day Cafe | Only 100 tickets available

Walking (or van) tour for those attending social hour - 5:30
Those taking part in the tour only - 6:15

TICKETS:
SOCIAL HOUR & TOUR - \$40
WALKING TOUR ONLY - \$10
KIDS UNDER 3 ARE FREE
FOR MORE INFO
EVENTBRITE.COM

Presented By:   



Authors & ARTISTS



Meet Local Authors & Artists | Book Signings & Sales | Local Artwork Sales

Holiday Gift Sale

Saturday, December 2, 2017 | 10am to 3pm

A free, fun and & informative event supporting arts and entertainment
in Bel Air with over 40 LOCAL artists and authors.






CELEBRATING
50 YEARS OF SERVICE
TO THE ARTS



at the Bel Air Armory - 37 N. Main Street, Bel Air, MD

Committees & Commissions	Contact Us www.belairmd.org	Town Government
<p>Board of Town Commissioners 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:30 p.m. Town Hall</p> <p>Appearance & Beautification Commission 2nd Monday, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p>Board of Appeals 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p>Commission on Elderly & Needy Citizens 4th Tuesday, 8:30 a.m., Town Hall</p> <p>Cultural Arts Commission Planning Department 3rd Wednesday, 4:00 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p>Economic & Community Development Commission 2nd Thursday, 5:00 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p>Historic Preservation Commission 4th Thursday, 6:00 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p>Planning Commission 1st Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p>Tree Committee 2nd Wednesday, 4:30 p.m., Planning Department</p>	<p>The offices of the Town Administrator, Human Resources, Police and Finance Departments are located in the Town Hall, 39 N. Hickory Ave. The Department of Public Works and the Planning Department are located at 705 E. Churchville Rd. The Department of Economic Development and Visitors Center are in the Bel Air Armory at 37 N. Main St. The Police Department is open 24/7. Other office hours are 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. weekdays.</p> <p>There are many free publications at the Visitors Center, Town Hall and online. Topics include business assistance, historic preservation, parking guides, a walking tour and an event calendar.</p> <p>In addition to the Board of Town Commissioners meetings at 7:30 p.m. on first and third Mondays, the public may attend Commissioners' work sessions, held at 5:15 p.m. on the preceding Tuesdays. Direct questions/concerns to the Commissioners c/o Town Hall in writing or by phone: 410.638.4550 or 410.879.2711.</p> <p>For sewer system, refuse collection, recycling, street light outages, call 410.638.4545. For sewer emergencies, call 410.638.4545 during business hours or 410.638.4500 at other times.</p>	<p>Town Administrator Jesse Bane 410.638.4550 or 410.879.2711</p> <p>Administration Department Michael L. Krantz, Director 410.638.4550 or 410.879.2711</p> <p>Finance Department Lisa M. Moody, Director 410.638.4555 or 410.879.2712</p> <p>Economic Development Department Trish Heidenreich, Director 410.838.0584</p> <p>Police Department Charles Moore, Chief of Police 410-638-4518 or 410.638.4500</p> <p>Planning Department Kevin Small, Director 410.638.4540 or 410.879.9500</p> <p>Public Works Department Stephen D. Kline, Director 410.638.4536 or 410.879.9507</p> <p>Bel Air Bond Editor Kathi Santora, The Writing Studio ksantora@gmail.com; 443.695.3345</p>

2017 ELECTION FOR BEL AIR BOARD OF TOWN COMMISSIONERS

Election Date: November 7, 2017

Voting Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Voting Location: Bel Air Town Hall, 39 N. Hickory Ave., Bel Air, MD 21014

Town Election Day: November 7, 2017

The Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners has two of its five seats up for election on November 7, 2017. The Town of Bel Air's website has information posted about the election and voter information at www.belairmd.org/492/Election-2017. Another good resource is the Harford County Board of Elections. They can help with voter registration and absentee voting questions. Contact Harford County Board of Elections, 133 Industry Lane, Forest Hill, MD 21050, 410-638-3565, or www.harfordvotes.info.

Important Bel Air Town Election Dates to Remember:

- Candidate Filing: October 6, 2017
- Voter Registration: October 17, 2017
- Absentee Voting: October 31, 2017
- Election Day: November 7, 2017, at Bel Air Town Hall, 39 N. Hickory Ave., from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Individuals interested in running for a seat on the Board of Town Commissioners must have resided in the Town for at least six (6) months immediately preceding the election and shall be a registered voter of the State of Maryland. Candidates must file in person at Bel Air Town Hall, 39 N. Hickory Avenue. They must complete a written certificate of candidacy and code of ethics financial disclosure statement with the Town Clerk indicating intention to run for the office of Commissioner on or before October 6, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

If you have questions and/or wish to run for a seat on the Board of Town Commissioners, contact Michael Krantz, Director of Administration and Town Clerk, for additional information. He can be reached at 410-638-4550.

Absentee Voting

Applications for absentee ballots are available at the Harford County Board of Elections, 133 Industry Lane, Forest Hill, MD 21050 or by calling 410-638-3565. The deadline for receipt of absentee ballot applications by the Harford County Board of Elections is October 31, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. by mail, or 11:59 p.m. by fax to 410-638-3310 or email to elections@harfordcountymd.gov. After this deadline applications and ballots must be picked up in person at the Harford County Board of Elections. Ballots must be received and stamped at the Town Hall, 39 N. Hickory Avenue, Bel Air on or before the close of the polls (8:00 p.m.) on Election Day.



Go or shelter in place? Be ready to make those decisions for your family and home

Town Administrator Jesse Bane

I have frequently spoken or written about disaster planning and preparedness. We now should address what to do in times of disaster.

First and foremost, we must understand that each of us has some responsibility for our own safety and well-being (Rule 1). Government cannot do it all and cannot do it alone.

Begin by thinking of any possible major hazards that could occur. Believe they could well occur and think of the impact any one of them would have on you, your family and your property (Rule 2). Then develop a plan for each hazard so you are not caught off guard (Rule 3).

There are two types of emergencies and disasters: those that give you time to prepare (approaching storms and chemical plumes, for example) and those that don't (tornadoes and earthquakes, to name a few). The emergency type determines whether you will evacuate or shelter in place. To prepare, build a kit ahead of time according to your needs (Rule 4).

Evacuate

Should you need to evacuate (1) turn off your appliances, (2) take your pets, (3) follow a designated evacuation route and (4) proceed at a safe speed. Your **GO KIT** should include medications, non-perishable foods and eating utensils, gallons of drinking liquids, bedding for small spaces, a portable battery-operated radio and flashlights (including extra batteries), infant and child necessities, personal hygiene items, pet necessities, changes of clothing, important papers, money and a first aid kit.

Shelter in place

If you decide or are advised to shelter in place (1) go inside and stay inside your home or a building, (2) close doors and windows, (3) turn off heating and air conditioning systems and (4) listen to instructions and updates on the Emergency Broadcast System (WXYC Radio). Your **HOME KIT** should include medications, non-perishable foods that require no cooking, plenty of fluids (gallons) for drinking (no alcohol, please), a portable battery-operated radio and flashlights (including extra batteries), infant and child necessities, personal hygiene items, pet necessities, clean storage containers for water, coolers with ice, a first aid kit, and a portable toilet (a five-gallon bucket, heavy trash bags, and chlorine bleach).




I strongly advise you to do two things if you have not done so already: (1) Sign up on BLACKBOARD CONNECT CTY (through Harford County's Emergency Operations Center, Department of Emergency Services at harfordcounty.bbcportal.com) to receive information directly and immediately through your phone; and (2) provide information to the Emergency Operations Center about family members with special needs (hearing impaired, medical conditions, transportation needs, etc.).

There is so much more I could say, but space here is limited. I encourage you to call the Department of Emergency Services at 410-638-4900 to learn more and/or visit www.harfordcountymd.gov/101/Public-Safety.

I close with some advice: "It's not if a major disaster will ever occur, it is a matter of when." And, to quote my friend Rick Ayers at the Harford County Department of Emergency Services, "Thank you, and be safe."

Summertime bloomed brightly downtown



Public art, festivals, concerts and special events make Bel Air a great place to spend the day.

Bel Air
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT

www.BelAirArtsAndEntertainment.org

HARFORD ARTISTS
Gallery
410-420-9499

TOWN OF BEL AIR
FILM FESTIVAL

Authors & ARTISTS
Holiday Gift Sale

Aug 31 thru Oct 29
"Pictures at an Exhibition"
Nov 2 thru Dec 23
"Yesterday and Today"
ArtinHarford.org

Oct 12-14
Visit our website
for film lineup!
townofbelairfilmfestival.org

Dec 2
10am - 3pm

37 N. Main Street – Bel Air, MD

Bel Air
ARMORY
Marketplace

Armory Marketplace has been renovated into business incubator spaces providing opportunities for start-up and emerging businesses.

For more information, call 410-838-0584 or email economicdevelopment@belairmd.org

SHOP • DINE • EXPLORE
For more information and a complete Calendar of Events, visit us online at www.belairartsandentertainment.org



Bel Air's hanging baskets and gardens bloomed spectacularly this summer, thanks to the work of the Appearance and Beautification Committee (ABC) and Ed Zaras from the Department of Public Works. The ABC plans, designs and oversees 27 public flower gardens around Town.

This past spring, over 8,200 flowers in 14 varieties were planted in the beds. In addition, 60 hanging flower baskets were hung along Main and Bond Streets.

Ed Zaras, Department of Public Works was a constant sight around town as he watered the baskets. (Above photo) Zaras (on left) is joined by Appearance and Beautification Committee members Robert Preston (Town Commissioner and liaison to the Appearance and Beautification Committee), Susan McCue, Sue Niewenhous, Elaine Millard and Jenny Dombeck. At right is Steve Kline, Director of Public Works.