

Municipal Education at Town Hall

Our Chair, Robert J. Reier, and Vice Chair, Susan U. Burdette, had a special visit with St. Margaret School's fourth grade students on March 6, 2014, as part of the Maryland Municipal League's initiative to encourage interest in local government.

The students arrived prepared with notebooks in hand as the Commissioners gave their interactive presentation on government, starting from the Federal level on down to municipal government. Recently awarded the National Blue Ribbon of Excellence Award by the U.S. Department of Education, St. Margaret's fourth-graders will be statewide contenders participating in Maryland Municipal League's annual essay contest. The students are asked to write about a different topic every year that opens with the line "If I Were Mayor, I Would...", and this year's theme involves community engagement. Only 11 essays will be selected from thousands of entries to win the grand prize of \$100.00 cash, a

Citation from the Governor's office and a boat cruise in Annapolis on the Harbor Queen. The winners will be honored at a special ceremony in Annapolis among family, teachers, Mayors and various local dignitaries.

We wish the best of luck to our neighbors at St. Margaret School, as well as to all of the fourth grade students in Bel Air who are participating in this worthwhile event. For more information regarding the contest, please visit [www.md-municipal.org/Mayor's Essay Contest](http://www.md-municipal.org/Mayor's-Essay-Contest).



Commissioner Rob Reier and Commissioner Susan Burdette address a group of St. Margaret School students during their recent visit to Bel Air Town Hall

Thank You Kathi Santora

Thank you for your many years of service to the Bel Air Bond Newsletter and to the Town of Bel Air. Your gifts of writing and photography have created a wonderful and lasting impression on the hearts and minds of our readers, as well as having established a deeply respectful appreciation of your skillful talents by our Board of Town Commissioners and staff. While your work for the Bond will be missed, we are happy that this isn't a complete farewell as you will still be reporting on all of the growing businesses in the Town with the Economic Development Electronic Newsletter. We wish you the best as you take on new challenges and look forward to our continuing relationship.



The Town of Bel Air Staff



The Bel Air Bond Newsletter

A quarterly newsletter published by the Town of Bel Air, Maryland

www.belairmd.org

Winter is Over ... Finally!?! Residents, businesses say farewell to winter.

After a very long, cold and snowy winter, the first signs of spring are all over Town. Trees starting to bud, longer days and the arrival of Daylight Savings Time all signal the end of winter and the beginning of spring.

This past winter was one of the coldest on record. Most residents in Harford County are used to the occasional cold snap or snowstorm followed by milder days in the forties and fifties. But this year, the cold weather seemed to hang around much longer than usual. The temperature stayed below freezing for numerous days in December, January,

February and March.

The cold weather and snow removal had Town Police and Public Works Department Crews on high alert during the numerous storms the area encountered.

School Schedule Revised

The County experienced numerous school cancellations and late openings. Harford County Public School System used eleven (11) inclement weather days, and therefore had to reduce the scheduled spring break by four (4) days, and also extend the school year by four (4) days. The last day of the school year (as of March 20, 2014) for the grades K - 11 is Friday June 13th. The last day of pre-school is Wednesday June 11. The county submitted a waiver to the Maryland State Department of Education to have several days waived. So there is still the possibility of the school schedule changing further.



Snow castles like this were a common sight around town this winter as the extreme cold and heavy snows provided plenty of 'the white stuff' for local children to play in.

WHAT'S NEW
Visit the all new Town of Bel Air website at www.belairmd.org

Fielder Named Town Administrator

Dr. James D. Fielder Jr., was appointed by The Bel Air Town Commissioners as the new Town Administrator.

Dr. Fielder replaced Chris Schlehr, who retired Dec. 31 after serving the town for 21 years.

Dr. Fielder is a Harford County native, with deep roots in the county. He graduated from Bel Air High School, and grew up on a family farm east of Bel Air.

Dr. Fielder's background in education, business, state and local government will be an "asset" to the Town, according to Michael Krantz, Town Director of Administration

"It's great to see what Bel Air is, where it has been, and where it is going in the future," Fielder said. "Bel Air has a tremendous history."

Dr. Fielder and Patti, his wife, enjoy a passion for restoring Sophia's Dairy, an 18th Century estate.



Letter from the Mayor

A Winter of Changes

Dear Neighbors and Friends:
It is said that change is inevitable and constant, and thus as we begin to emerge from one of the harshest winters in recent memory, and look forward to warm and sunny days, we should take a moment and reflect upon the recent changes around Town.

After 21 ½ years of dedicated service, Town Administrator and native son, Christopher G. Schlehr retired from civil service on December 31, 2013 to pursue new challenges and adventures. Chris' dedication and diligence resulted in progressive systems and initiatives which will continue to be utilized by the Town for years to come. Without missing a beat, the baton was passed to another Bel Air Bobcat, James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph.D., who has hit the ground running. Like Chris, Jim possesses a passion for Bel Air. In addition, Jim also brings his vast knowledge and experience of government, having served under two administrations in Annapolis. In November, we said farewell to David E. Carey, who served on the Town Board for 16 years as both commissioner and Mayor. Dave worked tirelessly for us all in helping the Town move forward. Dave continues to serve our community as a

newly appointed District Court Judge for Harford County. That same November, we welcomed our newly elected commissioner, Patrick T. Richards. Pat, who served on our Planning Commission for 10 years, grew up in Homestead Village, played football at John Carroll and is now a Corporate Real Estate executive.

With all the changes mentioned, the Town is looking forward to launching into spring with exciting improvements and upgrades to our parks. Residents can also hop on board the sustainability wagon and apply for rebates on items such as recycling containers, rain barrels and compost bins purchased at local retailers in Bel Air. And last, but not least, be sure to visit our revised website! Our goal was to create a more user-friendly site and one that opens more lines of communication between the Town government and residents.

So as we bid a not so fond farewell to the winter of 2013-14, it is my hope that everyone has the opportunity to get out and enjoy the new changes that life brings about.

Robert J. Reier, DC
Mayor of Bel Air

About Our New Commissioner

Patrick Richards is no stranger to the functions within Town government as he has faithfully served on the Town's Planning Commission for the past 10 years. He joins the Board of Town Commissioners with over 20 years of experience in the real estate industry, primarily focusing on corporate real estate, specializing in site acquisition, lease negotiation, facilities planning, construction and facilities management and acquisition due diligence.

Richards is a longtime Bel Air resident who grew up in Homestead Village and attended The John Carroll School. He holds a Bachelors of Arts in Economics from Salisbury State University and a Masters in Real Estate from Johns Hopkins University.

Patrick currently holds the position of Vice President of Corporate Real Estate for Laureate Education, Inc. based in Baltimore, MD. He is an active real estate investor and is a licensed real estate agent. He enjoys staying active and working with his wife on various renovation projects but mostly enjoys spending time at home with his wife, Deanna, and children, Benjamin and Grace.

Contact: Patrick T. Richards
E-Mail: prichards@belairmd.org

Have a story idea or a question for the town, send a request or information to: Bel Air Bond, 39 North Hickory Ave, Bel Air MD 21014 • e-mail lstafford@belairmd.org

Bel Air Town Commissioners



Dr. Robert J. Reier



Susan Burdette



Eddie Hopkins



Robert M. Preston



Patrick T. Richards

Bon Voyage, Chris Schlehr!

At a November, 2011 Veterans' Celebration held at the Bel Air Reckord Armory, Chris Schlehr made a contribution to the show, a blue Navy Seabees work shirt.



As a retired Commander of the United States Navy, he could have displayed his dress blues, or whites, and all that goes along with being a high ranking officer, but he chose this shirt to represent his military service. There are many ways to describe Chris, humble and hard-working, diligent, caring, faithful and smart. He also has a great sense of humor and probably holds enough stories in his memory bank to fill a library or two.

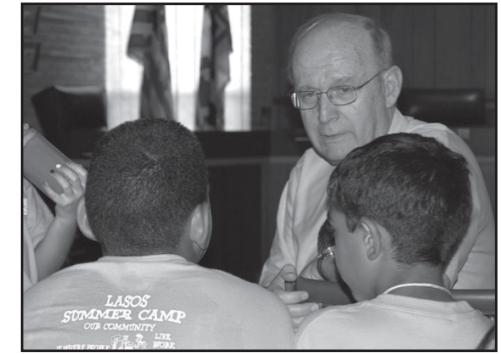
Chris grew up in Bel Air and was

affectionately known as "Snow" by his friends because of his bright blonde hair. He was a Bobcat through and through and competed in football, baseball and basketball. Even though his Naval career took him away from Bel Air, he eventually found his way back and has left a legacy.

Our new Town Administrator, Dr. James D. Fielder, Jr., knew Chris while growing up and had this to say about his predecessor: "My congratulations to Chris for his long term passion for Bel Air. Chris's personal and professional commitment to the citizens of Bel Air has made our Town a place where people want to live and work."

The Town of Bel Air was very blessed to have this man at the helm for twenty one and one half years; not only for his strong leadership, integrity and hard work ethic, but also because he had the gift of bringing out the best in those around him. He was (still is) a top-notch professional who cared about the Town and for everyone under his watch.

No matter who you were, how old you may have been, or what you may have or have not accomplished in your life, Chris made time for you. His door was always open and he was ready to listen and help in any way he could. A true public servant –



Former Town Administrator Chris Schlehr enjoyed interaction with town residents, business people and children. His humble demeanor made him easy to approach and talk with.

Well Done, Chris!

We wish you the best and look forward to seeing you around town!

The Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners & Staff.

An interview with our Town Administrator, Jim Fielder

What drew you to the job of Town Administrator?

Bel Air and its very nature. I grew up in Bel Air. I was attracted to come back simply because of its strong family values and family ties that helped me in so many different ways throughout everything I've done for education and work. In my career, I have worked at state, federal and international organizations. However, everything all starts at the local level. If you have a strong base, then you are able to build confidence, security and achieve great things.

The Town Administrator oversees so many facets of life in Bel Air - finance, public works, police to name just a few. What do you want the business community to know about you?

I've owned businesses, worked in the private sector and spent a lot

of years in business development. I understand what it takes to make a payroll personally. Businesses need consistency in order to plan. This means consistencies in workforce, water, sewer, roads, economic support. You don't need surprises.

What kinds of businesses would you like to see here?

When I first started as head of Harford County Economic Development 20 years ago, the first thing we did was to survey our workforce. We wanted to see who was commuting out of county. We also looked at the skills and specialties of workers who live here. We need to do the same thing for Bel Air.

Most of economic development is about workforce development with an educated and willing workforce. Bel Air has that. We need to find out who these workers are and what businesses would hire them.

Then you are encouraging people to work here. You are not creating more residences, not creating new burdens on the schools; you are creating an

opportunity to stay closer to home.

What else would you like people to know about you?

I've owned a small business and worked in large businesses. I understand the pressures associated from the business side. I also understand the pressures from the government side having run both economic development for the state as well as the labor licensing and regulation for the state. Business owners can expect me to be fair and consistent, so they can plan for their future.

Final thoughts?

My first week on the job, I received a complaint that the snow wasn't cleared well enough in front of someone's business. That is a wonderful thing because it means someone cares.

I also really believe in the passion that I see in the Town's employees, volunteers and commissioners. Everybody is committed to help Bel Air move into the future.

The future is here; it is always here.

Interview by Trish Heidenreich, Town of Bel Air

Free Street Trees Just Ask!

The Town Tree Committee is actively addressing the decline in the Town's urban tree canopy and looking for sites along residential streets to plant trees. If the planting area in front of your property between the curb and sidewalk is more than five (5) feet wide, we may be able to plant one of several selected species of trees chosen specifically for the location. We'll provide the choices – you decide! Contact the Planning Department at (410) 638-4540.

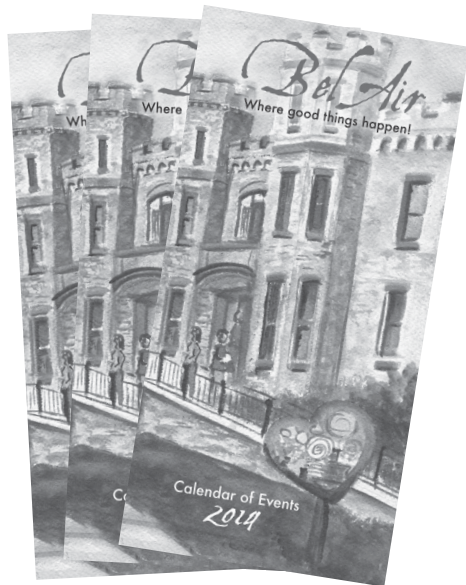
Just Walk to Your Next Business Meeting

Take a look at how the Bel Air Armory transforms to meet your business needs.

The Armory is the most local and convenient place in Town for business meetings, fundraisers, bull roasts, weddings and receptions, holiday parties, pageants, trade shows, music/theater/dance performances, reunions, retirement parties, bingo, auctions, festivals, lectures and more.

No meetings on the calendar? Just stop by for some peaceful moments in the adjacent Armory Park.

Call Dave Gigliotti at 410-638-5323.



2014 Calendar of Events Brochure

The new brochure has just been delivered to Town facilities and local businesses. The full color brochure includes listings of scheduled Town events throughout 2014. Get a copy to make sure you don't miss any of the happenings around the town!

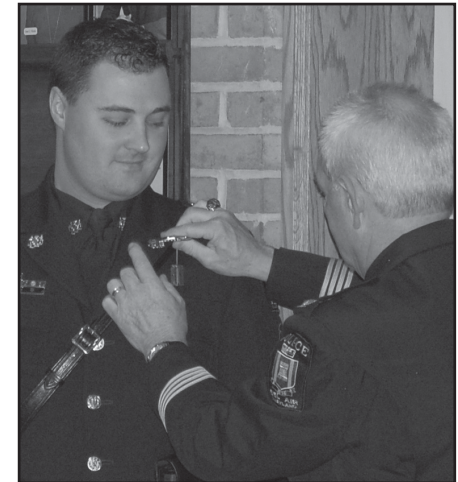
Promotion to Corporal



Corporal Ben Lay retires after 25 years of service to Bel Air.

Officer Lay Retires

Corporal Ben Lay, a Harford County native and graduate of the Bel Air High School, retired on November 13th after 25 years of service. Ben has served the Police Department as a member of the Honor Guard, K-9 Handler, an undercover Detective on the Harford County Drug Task Force, and a shift supervisor. He completed the Northeast Counterdrug Training Course "Top Gun" and has served as a "Top Gun" instructor. A retirement party honoring Corporal Lay's service will be held in May 2014.



Officer Gullion receives his promotion from Chief of Police Leo Matrangola.

Officer Matthew Gullion was promoted to Corporal on November 13, 2013. Matt has served with the BAPD for 11 years. He was first hired by the Town of Bel Air at age 19 on April 2, 2002 as Cadet and was assigned to the Parking Enforcement Unit. On May 26, 2004, he entered the Police Academy (Maryland Transportation Authority Police Academy) and graduated on December 3, 2004. On May 26, 2004, Matt was promoted to Officer First Class. Over the past 9 years as a sworn officer, Matt has distinguished himself as a professional law enforcement officer. He has been nominated and received recognition from the Harford County State's Attorney for his work in combatting

drunken driving. This year, Officer Gullion leads the Department in drunken driving arrests with 14. Upon receiving his promotion to the rank of Corporal, Matt will serve as an assistant squad supervisor on the midnight shift.

Archer-Bull and Business of the Year Award Winners

Bel Air Liquors and Tiny Toes receive Bel Air town honors

Bel Air and Harford County politicians, business leaders and community liaisons gathered at the Liriodendron Mansion on November 14th to recognize the Town's 2013 Archer-Bull and Business of the Year award winners.

Archer Bull Award

Larry Dean and his wife, Julie, owners of Bel Air Liquors, at 315 S. Main St., were presented the Archer-Bull Award by Deborah Haney, chair

of the Economic and Community Development Commission.

The Archer-Bull Award is presented annually to a business in recognition of excellence in its design, construction and environmental friendliness. It is named after prominent 19th century Bel Air architect George Archer and master builder Jacob Bull. Residential and commercial properties built within five years of the award year are eligible for nomination.

Bel Air Business of the Year

Karen Jacobs and Tina Lewis, principals of Tiny Toes, a children's boutique at 4 N. Main St., were presented the Business of the Year Award by Town Board Chair Robert J. Reier.

The award is presented annually to a business that contributes to the Town of Bel Air through community development and volunteer service.

Jacobs has served on the board and is a past president of the Bel Air Downtown Alliance.



Larry Dean, owner of Bel Air Liquors, is presented the Archer-Bull Award by Deborah Haney, of the Bel Air Economic and Community Development Commission.



Tina Lewis, holding the award, and Karen Jacobs, to her right, are surrounded by their employees at Tiny Toes, which received Bel Air's Business of the Year Award.

Committees & Commissions	Contact Us www.belairmd.org	Town Government
Board of Town Commissioners 1 st & 3 rd Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall	The offices of the Town Administrator, Human Resources, Police and Finance Departments are located in the Town Hall, 39 N. Hickory Ave. The Departments of Public Works and Planning are located at 705 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.	Town Administrator Dr. James D. Fielder, Jr. 410.638.4550 or 410.879.2711
Planning Commission 1 st Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall	There are many free publications at Town Hall, in the Visitors Center and online. Topics include business assistance, historic preservation, parking guides, a walking tour and event calendar, to name just a few.	Director of Administration Michael Krantz 410.638.4559 or 410.879.2711
Board of Appeals 4 th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall	In addition to the Board of Town Commissioners meeting at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Mondays, the public may attend Commissioners' work sessions, held at 5:15 p.m. on the preceding Tuesday. Direct questions/concerns to the Commissioners c/o Town Hall in writing or by phone: 410.638.4550 or 410.879.2711.	Finance Department Lisa Moody, Director 410.638.4555 or 410.879.2712
Economic & Community Development Commission 2 nd Thursday, 5:00 p.m., Armory	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.	Economic Development Department Trish Heidenreich, Director 410.838.0584
Historic Preservation Commission 4 th Thursday, 6:00 p.m., Town Hall		Police Department Leo Matrangola, Chief 410.638.4517 or 410.638.4500
Appearance & Beautification Commission 2 st Monday, 7:30 p.m., Armory		Planning Department Kevin Small, Director 410.638.4540 or 410.879.9500
Cultural Arts Commission 3 rd Wednesday, 4:00 p.m., Armory		Public Works Department Randolph C. Robertson, Director 410.638.4536 or 410.879.9507
Tree Commission 2 nd Wednesday, 4:30 p.m., Planning Department		Bel Air Bond Editor & Printer Full House Marketing 230B Gateway Dr. Bel Air 410.879.0118

Town Offers Green Product Rebates

Kevin Small, Planning Director

Have you wanted to buy something that will improve the environment and possibly save you money at the same time? The Town of Bel Air would like to help residents become more sustainable by providing a rebate on selected products at local stores. In an effort to enhance efforts to conserve resources and protect the waters of Harford County/ Chesapeake Bay, the Town will provide cash back for a portion of the purchase price for containers for recycling, rain barrels and compost bins. This initiative is part of the Sustainable Bel Air Plan recently approved by the Town Board and will begin on March 15 of 2014.

A resident or property owner of Bel Air need only purchase selected types of recycling bins, rain barrels and compost bins at designated retailers in Bel

Air. Once the item is purchased, the resident may present the receipt and proof of residency at the Town Hall for a rebate of a portion of the price.

- The Mill of Bel Air – will provide the following product types for purchase (compost bin & rain barrel)
- Courtland Hardware – will provide the following product types for purchase (recycling container, compost bin, & rain barrel)

As spring approaches, you should see advertisements from The Mill and Courtland. The Town will also promote the initiative through the new Town website, Harford's Heart and the Aegis. Funds are limited, so please keep an eye out as the winter snows melt away. The Town anticipates designating \$3,000.00 to the effort for the first year. If successful, this effort may expand to additional years. The rebates will be between 20% & 30% off before any additional promotions by the retailer.

For example, a \$100 rain barrel may receive a \$30 rebate from the Town.

Requirements

- Must be a resident of the Town of Bel Air or own property in the Town
- Applies to only the products designated by the retailer and the Town

Time Period

Initiative will start on March 15, 2014 accepting receipts dated after March 1, 2014 and will last until the current funds are exhausted.



Area businesses offer a wide variety of products to take advantage of the new green rebate program.



Generator Installed at The Bel Air Armory

A new generator system was installed at the Bel Air Armory located on Main Street. Construction began late October and was completed in January of this year. It was installed by Monacacy Valley Electric of Littlestown PA. The project was completed at a cost of \$110,800 for the generators and installation and another \$4,000 for security fencing.

There is one 154 kW diesel generator for three-phase power and one 125

kW diesel generator for single-phase power. Between both generators they will power the entire Armory. Each generator has a 583 gal fuel tank which will power the systems for approximately 48 hours of non-stop operation.

The generators provide the ability for the Town to operate the Armory in times of emergency as an alternative location for the Town Hall operations in accordance with our Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) or, as a marshalling location for response to any disaster occurrence which may befall the Town or surrounding area. The Armory

does not have the requisite facilities to be a full-fledged shelter but can be used for other important disaster response and recovery support.



Economic News

For the Downtown Bel Air area, the past few months have been very active on the economic front. A number of new businesses have opened, moved or expanded. The "For Lease" signs have been replaced with "Open" signs as local entrepreneurs have fulfilled lifelong dreams to own their own business. The Bel Air downtown community is a perfect place for aspiring entrepreneurs to start because of the improved parking, visibility and assistance from the Town and local organizations.

NEW BUSINESSES IN TOWN



La Bellezza Boutique 108 N. Main St.

A small boutique style hair salon offering customized color, highlights and hair cuts in an intimate, upscale setting. Owner Amanda Vaughn.



Collector's Corner 17 N. Main St.

A family friendly store offering comics, games, toys and playing cards. This is the second location with the original store in Parkville. Forest Hill residents Keith Gabel (l) and his son Steven pose with owner Randy Myers (r).



Razorback Horse Tack & Supply 411 N. Main St.

Packed with English and Western riding gear, including saddles, blankets, bridles, boots and bits as well as clothing & consignments. Owner Vicki Ryan.



Hair Bliss on Broadway 302 N. Main St.

Hair services, including cuts, color and highlights. They have natural and organic products. Stylists are all long-time friends and North Harford High School alumni. Owner Julie Warfield.



Divine Divas 107 S. Main St.

Upscale resale boutique with women's designer clothing, handbags, shoes, jewelry and accessories at 30 - 70% off original retail price. Owners Rebecca Rodgers & Ruth Stewart.

NEW LOCATION



StaleFish Board Company 100 N. Main St.

StaleFish Board Company has moved from their old Bond Street location to an expanded store on Main Street. Lots of new stuff! Owner Mel Machovec.



Alecraft Brewing Supply, LLC 6 Office St.

A home-brew supply shop offering beer and wine ingredients as well as equipment. They like to make original recipes with customers and make brew recipes for special occasions. Monthly classes offered. An online sales service is coming soon. Owners Eryn & Brad Streett.



All About Cookies 116 S. Main St.

A cookie boutique offering caramel popcorn, fudge and chocolates. They make gift baskets, cater events and design cookie trays for special occasions. Owners Kimberly & Dylan Foster

PLUMTREE PARK IMPROVEMENTS

The youth in Bel Air is active in volunteering to improve Plumtree Park as part of the Town's efforts in updating facilities and adding amenities. Bel Air United Methodist Church youth group cleaned up Plumtree Run between Thomas Street and Maryland Route 24 amassing countless trash bags filled with rubbish. The group of more than forty teenagers between the ages of 12 and 19 along with several adult volunteers picked up trash and cleaned debris from the stream on September 21, 2013. In addition, the kids planted approximately 30 trees and shrubs along the stream. Working as part of Governor O'Malley's

'Day to Serve' efforts throughout the State, the youth group spent most of their Saturday volunteering time to improve the environment and enhance the community. In addition, on November 9th of this year, Gavin Rupprecht and the boy scouts of troop 801 planted approximately 550 plants to help improve the water quality of the newly day lighted stream which runs through Plumtree Park. The effort was part of Rupprecht's Eagle Scout project designed to augment existing plantings and boost the effectiveness of the stream's ability to clean storm water runoff generated by the urban area surrounding the park. The funds for the planting were raised by Gavin and the scouts as part of his community volunteer effort.

Executive Director of the Downtown Alliance Moves On

After leading the Bel Air Downtown Alliance for over 4 years, Scott Walker, Executive Director of the Bel Air Downtown Alliance, has stepped down.

Walker, who replaced Elizabeth Cook as Executive Director, has helped to move the Alliance forward. Many of the high profile downtown events are actually run by the Alliance. These include First Fridays, Ladies Night Out, The Maryland Bar-B-Q Bash, The Chocolate Festival and others.

Since Walker has taken over, he has rebranded and developed a number of new events as well as improved and grown others. One of his biggest impacts has been the organization's use of social media to organize and promote events.

The Downtown Alliance is a non-profit organization running under the 'Main Street' programs. The organization is a volunteer organization with only two paid employees. It has an executive Board of Directors and a number of sub-committees, manned by local residents and business owners who enjoy being involved in activities in and around the town.

Many do not realize that the Downtown Alliance is not a Town Run organization and is managed by the Executive Director and funded by a variety of sources. The Town does contribute marketing funds to the organization and provides office space in the Bel Air Armory for administration and meeting space. A representative of the Town sits on the board, and due to the common goals of the Alliance and the Town, they work together in a variety of ways. We welcome the new Director, Erika Quesenbery Sturgill, who began on April 2, 2014.

For information on the Downtown Alliance visit www.BelAirAlliance.com

Unsung Heros

Police dispatchers are the first people you talk to when you call with a crisis. Even though dispatchers can't see what's happening, they must guide the police officers to the emergency. They endure the calls of anxious and panicked citizens, terrified victims, suicidal people, and grouchy police officers. They need to be the calming influence to all of them. They are expected to gather information from highly agitated people who can't remember where they live, what their name is, or what they just saw. And then, the dispatchers must calmly provide all that information to the officers without error - the first time and every time. They are the link to the safety of our officers on these calls.

On Tuesday January 21, 2014, the Town Administrator, Jim Fielder, and the members of the Board of Town Commissioners gave special recognition to two of the Town of Bel Air's police dispatchers, Janice Parrino and Karla Melchior. The recognition was for two purposes; first, to recognize the countless, every day ways that Officers Parrino and Melchior help to keep the town's officers, residents, and visitors safe; and secondly, to recognize their extra efforts of dedicated work they provided over the past 5 months.

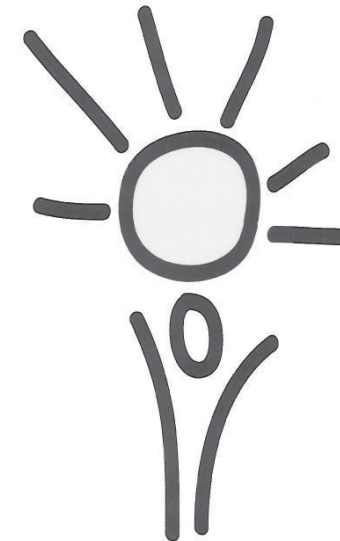
In just this year, the Bel Air Police Department's dispatch team dispatched over 20,000 calls for service with 3,000 of those calls being urgent. Adding to that, the communications center has been taxed with numerous unplanned personnel shortages over the past five months. During this time, Janice Parrino and Karla Melchior worked overtime to help cover those shortages. They were also both immensely helpful during the interviews, training and evaluations of three newly hired Police Communications Operators.

"The position of Police Communications Operator requires a dedicated and talented person who can handle the unique responsibilities of that position. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Janice and Karla for the great job that they do every day, and specifically for the extra help and crucial coverage they provided during the last 5 months of personnel shortages." commented Police Chief Leo Matrangola.



Unsung Heros - Chief Matrangola (left) and Town Administrator Jim Fielder (second to right) pose with Communications Officers Janice Parrino and Karla Melchior.

"Living Well ...Take Charge of Your Health"



Living Well is a self-management program developed by Stanford University that teaches skills and techniques to better manage chronic conditions including alzheimers, arthritis, high blood pressure, COPD, depression, asthma, chronic pain, diabetes, fibromyalgia, hypertension, osteoporosis, stroke, obesity and more.

Subjects covered include: nutrition, physical activity, communicating with health care professionals, how to manage your medications, and getting the most out of life!

Each participant will receive a *Living a Healthy Life* book and a *Time for Healing* relaxation CD. The 2½ hr class runs once a week for 6 weeks. The total charge is \$10 and includes all materials.

Cost: \$ 10

Where: *William McFaul Activities Center – Room 5*
525 W. MacPhail Road, Bel Air, MD 21014

Dates: Wednesdays from April 16 thru May 21

Meeting Time: 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm

To Register call Town of Bel Air Planning at 410-638-4540, email planning@belairmd.org or go to belairmd.org/planning



Second Annual
Spring Fling
A Night of Big Band Dancing
at the Bel Air Armory
Saturday, April 26th, 2014
7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

FREE!!!
Admission

Live Music by the
Bel Air Community
Band Jazz Ensemble

Food, beer & wine
will be available from
Sterling Caterers

Sponsored by the
Town of Bel Air, the
Maryland State Arts Council, & the
Harford County Cultural Arts Board

Coming Soon to the Bel Air Armory:

An Evening with Harford Ballet
Friday, May 9th, 7 - 9 p.m. FREE

International Music Institute & Festival
Saturday, July 26th, 7 p.m. FREE

APRIL

9 OPEN HOUSE

Harford Day School, 715 Moores Mill Road. 8:30 am - 11 am. Campus tours with an opportunity to speak with parents and teachers. 410-838-4848

10 -12 BEL AIR HIGH SCHOOL SPRING MUSICAL

TBA. 100 Heighe Street. 7 pm. Tickets are \$10 in advance at www.belairdrama.org or \$12 at the door.

11 SEUSSICAL

Harford Community College, 401 Thomas Run Road. 7 pm. “Oh, the thinks you can think” when Dr. Seuss’s best-loved stories collide and cavort in an unforgettable musical caper! Adapted from the Broadway version, this adaptation especially for young audiences will share the power of imagination to make the stage come alive. Order tickets online at tickets.harford.edu. Admission \$8 - \$16. 443-412-2211

12 DOKTOR KABOOM

Harford Community College, 401 Thomas Run Road. 7 pm. A hilarious and interactive one-man science show that’s delighted audiences across the nation. A fast paced mix of classroom and theatre arts, the Doktor involves audience members in safe and easy to grasp science experiments that electrify the young mind, inspire curiosity and generate waves of laughter. Nothing says science like KABOOM! Order tickets online at tickets.harford.edu. Admission TBD. 443-412-2211

12 GREATER BEL AIR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION’S

10TH ANNUAL “A NIGHT IN PARADISE”
Bel Air Armory, 37 N. Main Street. 7 pm - 11 pm. Enjoy live music, shrimp feast and bull roast. Entertainment by Appaloosa. The Foundation raises funds for capital improvement projects in the Bel Air community. All proceeds will benefit the community. For tickets and information on how to support the Foundation, please visit the website: gbacf.org or call 410-879-9292 or 410-836-6366

12 KITE FESTIVAL

Rockfield Park Ball Fields. 10 am - 4 pm. Kite flying for kids of all ages. Sponsored by the Town of Bel Air and APG Federal Credit Union. Free. Rain Date: April 13. 410-838-4781

12 EASTER EGG HUNT

Rockfield Manor, 501 E. Churchville Road. Grounds open at 10 am. Hunt begins promptly at 11 am. No reservations needed. For updates: www.rockfieldmanor.com or call 410-638-4565

13 HAYS HOUSE

Event information not yet available; check The Historical Society of Harford County website for details as they are finalized. www.harfordhistory.org

17 GIRLS NIGHT OUT

Downtown Bel Air. 5 pm - 8 pm. Grab your girlfriends for a night of shopping - wine tastings offered at certain retailers, as well as food and drink specials at the restaurants. Sponsored by the Bel Air Downtown Alliance. www.downtownbelair.com. 443-823-1797

18 MARYLAND – THE MOVIE

starring Walter Brennan. The Historical Society of Harford County, 143 N. Main Street. 7 pm. Scenes filmed in Harford County highlighting Maryland steeplechase industry; local speaker will discuss the movie and answer questions. Free popcorn and soda with purchase of ticket. 410-838-7691

25 COLIN MOCHRIE AND BRAD SHERWOOD: TWO MAN GROUP

Harford Community College, 401 Thomas Run Road. 8 pm. The popular stars of “Whose Line Is It Anyway?” present an evening of extraordinary improv comedy. Colin and Brad

will take contributions from the audience to create hilarious and original scenes...just like a live version of “Whose Line”! Don’t miss the fun! Admission TBD. Order tickets online at tickets.harford.edu. 443-412-2211

26 SPRING FLING

A night of big band dancing at the Bel Air Armory. 37 N. Main Street. 7 pm - 10 pm. Free Admission.

26 A GOLDEN GALA

John Carroll School. 6 pm -12 am. A black-tie gala to celebrate our school’s 50th Anniversary. Admission Fee \$150 (sponsorships available). 410-879-5053

26 4TH SATURDAY OPEN HOUSE

at The Historical Society of Harford County, 143 N. Main Street. 10 am - 2 pm. 410-838-7691

27 CHILDREN’S COLONIAL GAMES DAYS

Hays House Museum, 324 Kenmore Avenue. 1 pm - 4 pm. Cost TBA. 410-838-7691

27 BEL AIR COMMUNITY CHORUS SPRING CONCERT

Bel Air High School Auditorium, 100 Heighe Street. 7 pm. Choral music for the season. Free Admission. 410-638-4600

27 to THE BALTIMORE WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

May 18 Liriodendron Mansion, 502 W. Gordon Street. Sundays 1 pm - 4 pm. This exhibit will encompass many artists with varying designs. Sponsored by the Liriodendron Foundation. 410-879-4424

May

2 - 3 ROMEO AND JULIET

C. Milton Wright High School. 7 pm. Drama/Play. \$7 Admission. Sponsored by Stage Wright. 410-638-4110

2 LUNCHTIME CONCERT

Office Street near the Courthouse. Noon - 1 pm. Lunchtime concert with food vendors available and tables and chairs provided. Entertainment TBA. Sponsored by the Town of Bel Air. Admission is free. www.belairmd.org. 410-638-4550

2 FIRST FRIDAYS

Located at Office Street. 5 pm - 8 pm. Harford County’s BEST block party. Local, live music; beer and wine; delicious food vendors; face painting; and more! Band TBD. Sponsored by the Bel Air Downtown Alliance. www.downtownbelair.com. 443-823-1797

3 CELEBRATION OF CULTURES

Bel Air Armory, 37 N. Main Street. 8 am. Running of the Bulls (Adult 5K walk/run). 9 a.m. Running of the Bulls 2 (Youth walk/run); 11 am cultural performances, ethnic foods, artisans, etc.; 6 pm Latin Dance. This is a family oriented event to celebrate the various cultures/ethnicities that call Harford County home. It is an opportunity to share traditions through music, dance, youth/family activities and crafts. Sponsored by the Harford County Dept. of Community Services’ Human Relations Commission. Most of the activities of the day are free. However, there is a \$20 fee for the Latin Dance which begins at 6 pm and includes dance lessons. 410-836-0333

3 SUSQUEHANNA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Bel Air High School, 100 Heighe Street. 7:30 pm. Pre-concert lecture at 6:45 pm. The SSO finishes its 37th season with Maestro Favorites! Includes favorite pieces from Mozart, Barber, Shostakovich and Rimsky-Korsakov. Pianist Chungwon Chung will honor us with his rendition of Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 23 in A Major. \$20 Adult, \$15 Senior, \$10 Student. Sponsored by The Susquehanna

Symphony Orchestra. www.ssorchestra.org. 410-569-2602

4 BEL AIR ROTARY CROQUET TOURNAMENT

Rockfield Park. For updates: www.rockfieldmanor.com or call 410-638-4565

4 BEL AIR COMMUNITY BAND CONCERT

Bel Air High School, 100 Heighe Street. 3 pm. The band will play popular marches, seasonal music, Broadway hits, contemporary and classical selections. Sponsored by the Town of Bel Air. Free Admission. 410-638-4550

4 FAURE’S “REQUIEM”

St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Bel Air. 3 pm. The Harford Choral Society will perform Faure’s “Requiem”. The program includes professional orchestra and vocal soloist. For tickets visit us at www.harfordchoralsociety.org. \$0 - \$20. 443-299-6358

9 AN EVENING WITH HARFORD BALLET

Bel Air Armory, 37 N. Main Street. 7 pm - 9 pm. Free Admission

9 LUNCHTIME CONCERT

Office Street near the Courthouse. Noon - 1 pm. Lunchtime concert with food vendors available and tables and chairs provided. Entertainment TBA. Admission is free. Sponsored by the Town of Bel Air. www.belairmd.org. 410-638-4550

15 GIRLS NIGHT OUT

Downtown Bel Air. 5 pm - 8 pm. Grab your girlfriends for a night of shopping - wine tastings offered at certain retailers, as well as food and drink specials at the restaurants. Sponsored by the Bel Air Downtown Alliance. www.downtownbelair.com. 443-823-1797

16 LUNCHTIME CONCERT

Office Street near the Courthouse. Noon - 1 pm. Lunchtime concert with food vendors available and tables and chairs provided. Entertainment TBA. Admission is free. Sponsored by the Town of Bel Air. www.belairmd.org. 410-638-455

16-18 PINOCCHIO

Harford Community College, 401 Thomas Run Road. Friday at 5:30 pm and 8 pm; Saturday at 1 pm and 4 pm; and Sunday at 1 pm and 4 pm. The classic tale of a mischievous wooden puppet and a kind-hearted toymaker comes to life on stage in this dance production sure to entertain all ages. Order tickets online at tickets.harford.edu. Admission \$10 - \$15. 443-412-2211

17 SJOGREN’S SYNDROME SUPPORT GROUP

Bel Air United Methodist Church, 21 Linwood Avenue. 10 am. Support for people with Autoimmune Disease (Sjogren’s Syndrome). Guest speakers. Sponsored by Eva Plude, Group Leader. Free. 410-836-1040

17 SUMMER LECTURE & EATS

The History of Bata Shoe Company by Larry Carmichael. The Historical Society of Harford County, 143 N. Main Street. 2 pm - 4 pm. Cost TBA. 410-838-7691
20-23 C. MILTON WRIGHT SPRING CONCERT SEASON
CMW Auditorium, 1501 N. Fountain Green Road. 7 pm. Tuesday features the Band; Wednesday features the Orchestra; Thursday features the Band; Friday features the Chorus. Sponsored by the C. Milton Wright Music Department. 410-638-4110

23 LUNCHTIME CONCERT

Office Street near the Courthouse. Noon - 1 pm. Lunchtime concert with food vendors available and tables and chairs provided. Entertainment TBA. Admission is free. Sponsored by the Town of Bel Air. www.belairmd.org. 410-638-455

24 4TH SATURDAY OPEN HOUSE

The Historical Society of Harford County, 143 N. Main Street. 10 am - 2 pm. Pit Beef on the Lawn. Price TBA. 410-838-7691

26 MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Lee Way and Hickory Avenue. 10 am. Ceremony honoring American Veterans. Free. Sponsored by Town of Bel Air and American Legion Harford Post #39. Free. 410-303-8138

JUNE

1 BEL AIR TOWN RUN

Main Street. 8 am. Join Bel Air’s Annual Town Run, a 5K foot race with a 1 mile walk. Sponsored by Renaissance All Sports Athletic Club and the Town of Bel Air. Visit www.belairtownrun.com for more information, or call 410-652-9974. See website for registration fees.

1 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Humbert Amphitheater, Shamrock Park. 7 pm. Outdoor concerts in Shamrock Park, featuring outstanding local musicians. Bring a picnic dinner and chair or blanket. Sponsored by the Town of Bel Air and the Harford County Cultural Arts Board. In the event of rain or extreme heat, concert will be held at Bel Air High School. Entertainment TBA. Free Admission. 410-803-9784

1-29 JEFFREY MOORE, FOWL PLAY STUDIOS

Liriodendron Mansion, 502 W. Gordon Street. Sundays 1 pm - 4 pm. Exquisite wood carvings of birds and animals. His students’ work will be on display. Mr. Moore is also an author of instructional videos and books. Sponsored by the Liriodendron Foundation. 410-879-4424

6 FIRST FRIDAYS

Located at Office Street. 5 pm - 8 pm. Harford County’s BEST block party. Local, live music; beer and wine; delicious food vendors; face painting; and more! Band TBD. Sponsored by the Bel Air Downtown Alliance. www.downtownbelair.com. 443-823-1797

7 FLAG DAY

Shamrock Park (behind Town Hall). 8 am. Join us for our yearly tradition of remembering the meaning and sacrifice represented in our American Flag. Along with an inspiring keynote speaker and Color Guard presentation, we will enjoy a variety of patriotic songs and music to honor our defenders of freedom. Sponsored by the Town of Bel Air. 410-638-4550

7 BEACH BUM BOOK SALE

Harford County Public Library, Bel Air Branch, 100 E. Pennsylvania Avenue. 10 am - 4 pm. Sponsored by Friends of the Bel Air Library. 410-838-3151

8 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Humbert Amphitheater, Shamrock Park. 7 pm. Outdoor concerts in Shamrock Park, featuring outstanding local musicians. Bring a picnic dinner and chair or blanket. Sponsored by the Town of Bel Air and the Harford County Cultural Arts Board. In the event of rain or extreme heat, concert will be held at Bel Air High School. Entertainment TBA. Free Admission. 410-803-9784

8 SPINNING DEMONSTRATION

with Kathy Scholl. Hays House Museum, 324 Kenmore Avenue. 1 pm - 4 pm. Cost TBA. 410-838-769