



The Bel Air Bond Newsletter

A quarterly publication from the Town of Bel Air, Maryland

What's
Inside:
News,
Features &
Events



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AT ROCKFIELD MANOR
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Water matters: How tough decisions solve future problems

by Jesse Bane, Bel Air Town Administrator

Sooner or later, it was bound to happen: a reliable, clean and economical supply of water for Bel Air would become an issue. That time is now here. While it appears the problem has been solved, it did not occur without controversy.

Water worries

Upon reviewing documents and studies in my office that date as far back as 2004, it appears that a clean and dependable supply of water for a growing town was at risk. During times of drought or a decrease in the water flow from Winters Run, Maryland American Water (who supplies our water) was buying it from Harford County.

Harford County believed the time would come that it could no longer sell its water to Bel Air in order to meet the demands of its own constituents during times of severe drought. At one point in our recent past, the Town imposed a building moratorium until the problem was solved. *(Cont. on page 3)*

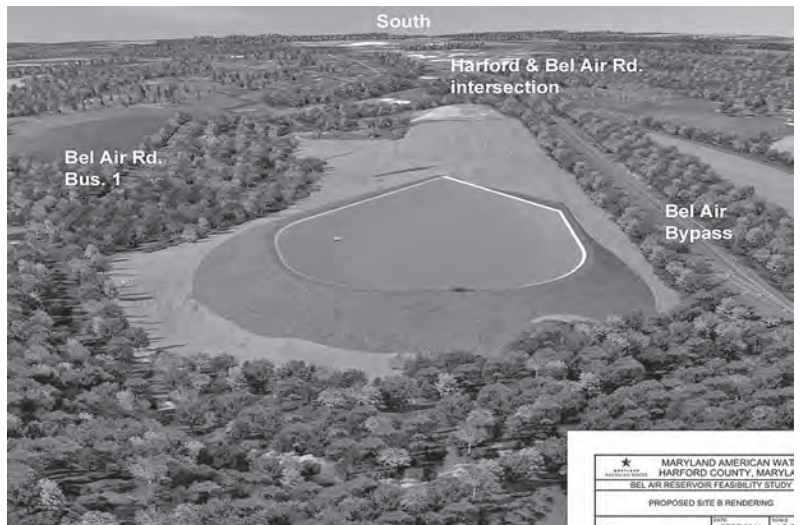


Image courtesy of Maryland American Water; text added by Bel Air Bond.

Dear neighbors:

By the time you receive this edition of the Bond, summer will officially be upon us. The Town is already bursting with color and bustling with activity. Once again the members of our Appearance and Beautification Committee (ABC) and the Department of Public Works staff have collaborated to create a very scenic and welcoming environment. Please take note of all the hanging flower baskets that adorn the light posts throughout town. This is an ever-expanding effort that the ABC has taken particular pride in.

In a continuing effort to live up to our certification as a sustainable Maryland community, the Town, as you will read, implemented a unique approach to weed management, with the deployment of goats on the invasive plant species at Rockfield Manor. These gormandizers of the greenery have been munching away for much of May on vines and weeds that were threatening the health and vitality of trees and shrubs. Early indications are that this has been extremely effective, saving the Town in man hours while also saving the trees of the park.

Of course it wouldn't be summertime in Bel Air if I didn't mention the many events that make Bel Air the very special place that we have all come to know and love. The Summer Concert Series and the Outdoor Movies will again enliven Shamrock Park. No other Town celebrates Independence Day like Bel Air, with a day full of family events, culminating with a patriotic parade on Main Street and a fireworks display that everyone anxiously awaits each and every year. There will be the BBQ Bash in August. We will close out the summer with the 50th anniversary of the Festival for the Arts.



Bel Air Police Explorer Post 9010 members helped with the Bel Air Town Run on June 7th.

So, as I have stated in previous columns, we are indeed fortunate to live in a community that has retained the essence of small town USA. Slip on your shades, turn up the radio, and kick back with a cold glass of iced tea as you enjoy the summer of 2015.

Until next time,
Robert J. Reier, DC

**Bel Air Town
Commissioners**



**Dr. Robert J. Reier
Mayor**



Susan Burdette



Eddie Hopkins



Robert M. Preston



Patrick T. Richards



ON THE COVER:

The Bel Air Farmers Market celebrates its 40th year as the Saturday go-to destination for local produce, meats, cheeses, plants, family entertainment and specialty food items.

“People want to put a face to their food,” says long-time vendor Sandy Magness from Hickory Chance Beef about the popularity of community markets these days.

(Water, Cont. from page 1)

Looking for solutions

Maryland American Water explored 19 alternative and long-term solutions to identify an adequate water source, as well as the means to deliver that water to the Town. None of them offered an economical means to do so. The company recently decided that construction of a raw water impoundment off Winters Run was the answer. The property adjoins the Maryland American Water plant just over the town's southern border. And this is where the controversy begins.

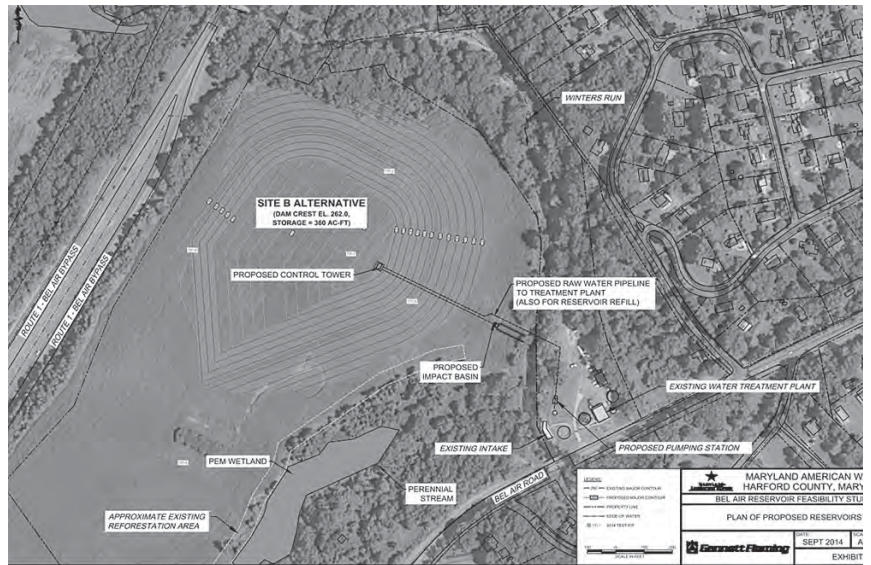


Image courtesy of Maryland American Water

Harford County owned a piece of land in that same area known as Mt. Soma that it was willing to sell to Maryland American Water for construction of the impoundment. No one really denied that Bel Air had an issue and needed more water, but many opposed the location of the site at Mt. Soma. Originally, the land was purchased by the Amos family, early settlers to Harford County before there was a Harford County and even before there was a United States of America. To use the land for anything other than preserved, open space was a major bone of contention with many.

Public input brings some compromise

The Harford County Council recently passed a resolution to sell the land to Maryland American Water but with restrictions that would guarantee that the portion of land that was not needed for the containment area would remain open space. In short, there was a compromise in an attempt to satisfy all parties concerned.



Moving forward

Please note that this is a rather simplified and shortened version of the sequence of events that brings us to where we are today. The bottom line is that, once the impoundment is built, Bel Air will have a dependable, clean and economical supply of water that meets its needs (at least for some time into the foreseeable future), and a greater portion of Mt. Soma will remain as intended by those who argued for its preservation.

Cost concerns

An issue that still remains is what this will cost the citizens and businesses of our Town. It stands to reason that increased costs to pursue this option will be passed on to us. I am certain this will bring more debates, discussions and controversy as the project unfolds. Please know that your elected officials and the leaders of our Town will be ever-vigilant to ensure that the final cost of our water is an affordable one.

Anyone requiring more information on this subject is invited to visit my office to discuss your concerns and share your ideas with me. I look forward to meeting with you as my door is always open. Banane@belairmd.org or 410-638-4550.

Bel Air's Farmers Market has been keeping it fresh for forty years

Chances are that you'll bypass that unusual-looking purple cauliflower in a grocery store.

At a **farmers market** however, the grower is often standing by ready to explain that this variety is milder, sweeter and often without the slight bitterness of white cauliflower.

The chance to see and talk with the man or woman behind the produce stacks is what draws between **500 – 800 people to the Bel Air Farmers Market**, rain or shine, every Saturday between April and November, says Andrea Kestner. She manages the market along with a seven-member Board of Directors.

“Our customers are totally comfortable in asking questions about the produce,” says Andrea. “They know they will get an honest answer because they are **face-to-face with the grower.**”

The Bel Air Farmers Market is a producer-only market, an important distinction for shoppers who look for freshness. All vendors are local and **must make or produce what they sell.** Tomatoes may not arrive until July, but when they do, you'll know that they were just picked from a Harford County vine.

It's a milestone birthday in 2015

This season, the Bel Air Farmers Market celebrates its **40th year.** As with most traditions, it began modestly. At first, local farmers returned to Bel Air from regional wholesale markets with excess inventory. Once in town, they dropped the truck tailgate and set up shop on the parking lot across from the Bel Air Library. It was a casual and largely unorganized sale.

Four decades later, the Bel Air Farmers Market, now located on the parking lot adjacent to the Mary E. W. Risteau Multi-Service Center (Bond & Thomas Streets), is the **Saturday morning destination** for local produce, meat, baked goods, spices, frozen yogurt, soaps and garden crafts from more than 50 vendors.

It is also, many say, **the week's best social event.** Strangers bond over dogs, recipes and gardening tips. Families arrive on bicycles. Runners and walkers stop on the way to or from the MA & PA Trail. Vendors explain how to cook, grill or preserve what's in season.

The Bel Air Farmers Market has grown to match its customers' priorities, says Andrea. “People worry about sustainability. **They want to eat clean.** They understand that buying local at a market can help them see what's in the food they prepare for themselves and their families.”

Top to bottom photos: Bob and Sandy Magness, from Hickory Chance Beef, are one of the long-time vendors; Yoga Fresh is one of the newest vendors; Andrea Kestner and Colleen Scarborough are also market veterans. Emem Moody/CEO, Infused Spreads is among a group of specialty vendors.



Bel Air police officers respond throughout county as needed



Two Bel Air Police Department officers took part in the Bel Air Moose Lodge's annual ceremony that honors Harford's men and women of valor. L photo: Officer First Class Rick Krause served as a member of a multi-jurisdictional honor guard and participated in opening ceremonies. R photo: Officer First Class Gordon Hunt received an award for his work in the Harford County Joint Narcotics Task Force.



Sergeant Frank Krick (l) and Corporal Sergio D'Alto received recognition from Harford County Sheriff Jeffrey Gahler for their participation in a hostage situation in May 2014. Both Sgt. Krick and Cpl. D'Alto are members of the Harford County Sheriff's Office Crisis Negotiation Team.

Key Title recently hosted a reception and gallery showing in their office for local artists Jonathan West and Sarah Northwood.

Key Title's CEO Bob Johnson and Marketing/Settlement Officer Carole Milan plan an ongoing series of alternating artists shows that will provide a new venue for those who are working and creating in the Bel Air Arts & Entertainment District. They want to provide this opportunity for established as well as emerging artists, including local students.



Photos: (L) Bob Johnson, Carol Milan, Mary Ellen Barry and Jonathan West. (R) Sarah Northwood, Bob Johnson and Carol Milan.

Key Title is located at 35 Fulford Avenue.



See page 8 for additional details about Bel Air's Sunday & Wednesday Summer Concert series.

JUNE

Sunday 21
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES:
Bel Air Community Chorus
 Humbert Amphitheater, Shamrock Park, 7:00 p.m. Free. 410-803-9784

Friday 26
FREE OUTDOOR SUMMER MOVIE
Paddington
 Shamrock Park, Pre-movie entertainment at 6:30: Up With Kids; movie at sunset. Pre-movie entertainment provided by the Bel Air Cultural Arts Commission. Sponsor: Bel Air Downtown Alliance and local sponsors. 443-823-1797

Saturday 27
4TH SATURDAY OPEN HOUSE
 The Historical Society of Harford County, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. 410-838-7691

Saturday 27
THREE PIANO PLAYERS
 Saturday, June 27th – The Three Duke Thompson, Chris Sengstacke and Andrew Lewis will perform at the Armory, 7-10 pm, Free.410.638.5323

Sunday 28
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
Baltimore Symphonic Band
 Humbert Amphitheater, Shamrock Park, 7:00 p.m. Free. 410-803-9784

JULY

Wednesday 1
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
U.S. Navy Commodores

Humbert Amphitheater, Shamrock Park, 7:00 p.m. Free. 410-803-9784

Thursday 2
CAMPFIRE STORIES AT ROCKFIELD MANOR
 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. A summer family story time series sponsored by Rockfield Manor in partnership with the Harford County Public Library. Bring the family and enjoy an outdoor evening with books and songs. \$5/family. Register: 410-638-4565.

Friday 3 through August 30
MOUNTAIN TO SEASHORE
 Harford Artists Gallery, 503 E. Churchville Rd. (in the cottage next to Rockfield Manor). Gallery hours: Friday – Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Reception: July 11th from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. www.artinharford.org 410-420-9499

Friday 3
FIRST FRIDAYS
Remains of Radio
 Main St. Parking Lot. 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Harford County's best block party is Bel Air Downtown Alliance's Sponsor: Bel Air Downtown Alliance. www.downtownbelair.com 443-823-1797

Saturday 4
FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION
 Flag raising, pancake breakfast, horseshoe pitching and more for all in various town locations from 6:45 a.m. – 10:00 p.m., including parade at 6:00 p.m. on Main St. Fireworks at 9:30 p.m. Sponsor: Bel Air Independence Day Committee, Inc. www.belairjuly4.org or 410-879-4245.

JULY 4 at HAYS HOUSE
 324 Kenmore Ave. 9:00 a.m. – Noon. Patriotic music by the *Catherine Street Consort* and tour of the 1788 Hays House. Free. 410-838-7691

Sunday 5
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
Bel Air Community Band & Ensemble

Humbert Amphitheater, 7:00 p.m. Free. 410-803-9784

Wednesday 8
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
Regents & Ensemble
 Humbert Amphitheater, 7:00 p.m. Free. 410-803-9784
 Friday 10

FREE OUTDOOR SUMMER MOVIE
The Book of Eli
 Pre-movie entertainment: Ryan-Kilcoyne School Irish Dancing Pre-movie fun at 6:30 p.m.; movie at sunset; Sponsor: Bel Air Downtown Alliance, Bel Air Cultural Arts Commission and local sponsors. 443-823-1797

Sunday 12
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
The Eastman String Band
 Humbert Amphitheater, 7:00 p.m. Free. 410-803-9784

Sundays, July 12 – August 9
ART EXHIBIT by REV. J. GORDON ANDERSON
 Liriodendron, 502 W. Gordon St. The Rev. J. Gordon Anderson's paintings comprise a wide range of subject matter. Sundays only 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday 15
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
Sounding Brass
 Humbert Amphitheater, 7:00 p.m. Free. 410-803-9784

Thursday 16
GIRLS NIGHT OUT
 Downtown Bel Air, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Sponsor: Bel Air Downtown Alliance. www.downtownbelair.com

Sunday 19
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
Upper Chesapeake Chorus
 Humbert Amphitheater, 7:00 p.m. Free. 410-803-9784

Wednesday 22
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
Chamber Orchestra
 Humbert Amphitheater, Shamrock Park, 7:00 p.m. Free. 410-803-9784

Friday 24
FREE OUTDOOR SUMMER MOVIE

Big Hero 6
Pre-movie entertainment: Extreme Family Entertainment (magician)
Shamrock Park, Pre-movie festivities at 6:30 pm; movie at sunset. Pre-movie entertainment provided by the Bel Air Cultural Arts Commission. Sponsor: Bel Air Downtown Alliance and local sponsors. 443-823-1797

Saturday 25
4TH SATURDAY OPEN HOUSE

Historical Society Headquarters, 143 N. Main St. 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. 410-838-7691

Sunday 26
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Maryland Defense Force Band
Humbert Amphitheater, 7:00 p.m. Free. 410-803-9784

Wednesday 29
INTERNATIONAL MUSIC INSTITUTE & FESTIVAL

Shamrock Park, Lee St. and Hickory Ave. 7:00 p.m. This free “must-see” concert features the American Virtuosi and young virtuosos from around the world, performing solo and chamber music. Sponsor: Town of Bel Air, Harford County Cultural Arts Board and the Maryland State Arts Council. 410-638-5323

AUGUST

Sunday 2
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Barbara Martin Trio
Humbert Amphitheater, 7:00 p.m. Free. 410-803-9784

Wednesday 5
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Annapolis Bluegrass
Humbert Amphitheater, 7:00 p.m. Free. 410-803-9784

Thursday 6
CAMPFIRE STORIES AT ROCKFIELD MANOR

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
A summer family story time series sponsored by Rockfield Manor in partnership with the Harford County Public Library. Every first Thursday of June, July and August. Bring the family and

enjoy an outdoor evening with books and songs. \$5/family. Register: 410-638-4565.

Friday 7
FIRST FRIDAYS

Route 66
Main St. Parking Lot from 5:00 p.m. – 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, face painting and more!
Sponsor: Bel Air Downtown Alliance. 443-823-1797

Sunday 9
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

U.S. Naval Academy Crabtowne Stompers
Humbert Amphitheater, 7:00 p.m. Free. 410-803-9784

Wednesday 12
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Retro-Rockets
Humbert Amphitheater, 7:00 p.m. Free. 410-803-9784

Friday 14 & Saturday 15
MARYLAND STATE BBQ BASH

Bond and Thomas Streets.
Friday 4:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Saturday Noon – 10:00 p.m. Live music, top-quality BBQ, sponsor displays, crafters, merchant vendors, farmers market, and children’s entertainment.
Harford’s biggest and best beer and wine garden! Sponsor: Bel Air Downtown Alliance. www.mdbbq.com. 443-823-1797

Sunday 16
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Bottle of Blues
Humbert Amphitheater, 7:00 p.m. Free. 410-803-9784

Wednesday 19
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

U.S. Army Field Band & Solders Chorus
Humbert Amphitheater, 7:00 p.m.. Free. 410-803-9784

Thursday 20
GIRLS NIGHT OUT

Downtown Bel Air from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Grab your best girlfriends for a night of discounts, specials and shopping in downtown stores, and restaurants. Sponsor: Bel Air

Downtown Alliance.
www.downtownbelair.com
443-823-1797

Friday 21
FREE OUTDOOR SUMMER MOVIE

The Incredibles
Pre-movie entertainment: Tae Kwon Do
Shamrock Park, Pre-movie fun at 6:30 pm; movie at sunset. Pre-movie entertainment provided by the Bel Air Cultural Arts Commission. Sponsor: Bel Air Downtown Alliance and local sponsors. 443-823-1797

Saturday 22
4TH SATURDAY OPEN HOUSE

Historical Society Headquarters, 143 N. Main St. 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. 410-838-7691

Friday 28
FREE OUTDOOR SUMMER MOVIE

Cinderella
Pre-movie entertainment: Becky Titleman (vocalist)
Shamrock Park, Pre-movie fun at 6:30 pm; movie at sunset. Pre-movie entertainment: Bel Air Cultural Arts Commission. Sponsor: Bel Air Downtown Alliance and local sponsors. 443-823-179

Sunday August 30 –
Sunday September 27
ART EXHIBIT – RICHARD HOFF GRAPHITE PENCIL DRAWINGS

Liriodendron, 502 W. Gordon St. Graphite pencil drawings provide a pictorial narrative of life in America during the 1940s and 1950s. Sundays only 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. 410-879-4424



SEPTEMBER

Friday 4 – Sunday October 25

PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION

Harford Artists Gallery at Rockfield Manor). Fri. – Sun. 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Paintings, photography, pottery and jewelry, all by local artists. Reception: September 12th 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. www.artinharford.org 410-420-9499

Friday 4

LUNCHTIME CONCERT

Matt Kineke

Free. www.belairmd.org 410-638-4550

Friday 4

FIRST FRIDAYS

Head Rush

Harford County's best block party is Bel Air Downtown Alliance's First Fridays with local live music, beer and wine, food vendors, face painting and more!
www.downtownbelair.com 443-823-1797

Friday 11

LUNCHTIME CONCERT

The Favorites

Free. www.belairmd.org 410-638-4550

Saturday 12

ANTIQUÉ & COLLECTIBLES APPRAISAL FAIR

Bel Air Armory, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. \$10/item, limit of 3 items. Sponsor: The Historical Society of Harford County. 410-838-7691

Thursday 17

GIRLS NIGHT OUT

Grab your best girlfriends for a night of discounts, specials and shopping in downtown stores and restaurants.
www.downtownbelair.com 443-823-1797

Friday 18

LUNCHTIME CONCERT

Regents of Jazz

Free. www.belairmd.org. 410-638-4550

Sunday 20

BEL AIR FESTIVAL FOR THE ARTS

Shamrock Park, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. 350+ artists, photographers and craftsmen. Continuous live entertainment. Great food available. Free shuttle from the Rt. 24 MVA lot. Rain or shine. Sponsor: Bel Air Parks and Recreation and Town of Bel Air. Free. 443-616-6708

Friday 25

LUNCHTIME CONCERT

Bel Air High School Jazz Ensemble & Chorus

Free. www.belairmd.org 410-638-4550

Saturday 26

HARFORD COUNTY WINE FESTIVAL

Rockfield Manor, Noon – 6:00 p.m.

Enjoy wines from around the world, food, crafts and live entertainment! Quench your thirst and hoist a stein in the new Oktoberfest Beer Garden. 410-638-4565 or www.harfordcountywinefest.com



**Humbert Amphitheater
@ Shamrock Park
7:00 - 8:15 PM
FREE ADMISSION**

The rain location is Bel Air High School Auditorium. Please call 410.803.9784 for rain/heat info 2 hours before concert.

Sunday 6/7 Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra
 Sunday 6/14 Bel Air Community Band
 Sunday 6/21 Bel Air Community Chorus
 Sunday 6/28 Baltimore Symphonic Band
 Wednesday 7/1 U.S. Navy Commodores
 Sunday 7/5 Bel Air Community Band Jazz Ensemble
 Wednesday 7/8 Regents of Jazz
 Sunday 7/12 The Eastman String Band
 Wednesday 7/15 Sounding Brass
 Sunday 7/19 Upper Chesapeake Chorus
 Wednesday 7/22 Chuck Baker Orchestra
 Sunday 7/26 MD Defense Force Band
 Wednesday 7/29 International Music Institute & Festival
 Sunday 8/2 Barbara Martin Trio
 Wednesday 8/5 Annapolis Bluegrass
 Sunday 8/9 U.S. Naval Academy Crabtowne Stompers
 Wednesday 8/12 Retro-Rockets
 Sunday 8/16 Bottle of Blues
 Wednesday 8/19 U.S. Army Field Band & Soldiers' Chorus

 Will be available on Wednesdays. (Except 7/29)  This concert series is sponsored by the Town of Bel Air through the Bel Air Recreation Committee.



Fall 2015 Lunchtime Concert Series
FREE 12 Noon on Office Street

September 4th - Matt Kineke
 September 11th - The Favorites
 September 18th - Regents of Jazz
 September 25th - BAHS Jazz Ensemble & Chorus

  Sponsored by the Town of Bel Air



The Little German Band



Barbara Martin & Mac Walter



US Army Field Band Soldiers Chorus



Summer concerts: 50 years of melodies & memories



Sounding Brass
c.1991



Upper Chesapeake Chorus

**RIP, John Beilfuss.
Thank you for the music.**



John Beilfuss kept Bel Air's summer and lunchtime concert series in momentum for over 15 years. It was a year-round volunteer gig that he performed with grace and enthusiasm. He booked groups, maintained and purchased equipment, oversaw publicity and set up sound systems for each concert.

A long-time flutist, John was also a member of the Bel Air Community Band. Not one to stray too far from music, he was also a member of the church and handbell choirs at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd.

"I like to be involved and do things that I can see make a difference," said John one day several years ago as he watched Shamrock Park fill with concertgoers.

Mayor Rob Reier said, "The passing of John Beilfuss is a tremendous loss for the Town. John worked tirelessly for years to make sure that Summer Concert Series, as well as many other events, went on without a hitch. He was a shining example of what it means to be a volunteer. His dedication to Bel Air will not soon be forgotten."



It's a goat's life at Rockfield Manor

Sometimes, the solution to a problem simply comes naturally.

Invasive plants such as bittersweet, honeysuckle and multi-floral rose wound their way around trees and bushes in Rockfield Manor's wooded areas. Unchecked, these species choke mature trees and kill them.

Removing this unwelcome growth is labor intensive, unpleasant and unending for human maintenance workers.

In one of nature's happy coincidences, however, goats thrive on these plants.

This year, the Town of Bel Air contracted with Ronnie Cassilly and Harmony Church Farm to bring eighteen goats onto Rockfield Manor grounds several times a week. Since spring, the team of goats has munched its way through several overgrown areas and brought sunlight back to native trees and ground plants.

Bel Air officers use Narcan to save lives, halt deadly drug use

In an effort to become more proactive in dealing with the growing heroin issue, the Bel Air Police Department will begin carrying **Naloxone**.

Naloxone, commonly known by its brand name **Narcan**, can be administered by officers to subjects experiencing, or believed to be experiencing, an opioid overdose. Narcan can help prevent a fatal overdose when emergency medical personnel are not readily available.

The **Harford County Drug Task Force**, which includes the **Bel Air Police Department**, responds to all heroin overdoses in the county, fatal and non-fatal. Responding members will interview the victims and witnesses that may have been present at the time of the overdose in an attempt to gain the knowledge of where and from whom they purchased the heroin. Police officers also hand out *Ready For Help??* information cards at each non-fatal overdose so that the victim has a number to call when they're ready to seek help for their addiction.



The Bel Air Police Department will be trained in the use of Narcan by the **Harford County Health Department**. They will continue to work closely with the Harford County Drug Task Force as well as the Harford County Office of Drug Control Policy as we in law enforcement work to help combat this deadly trend.

If you would like to report drug dealing in your area, please call the **anonymous tip line at 410-836-7788**. If you are an addict and **looking for help, please call 410-877-2347**.

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>Planning Commission 1st Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p>Board of Appeals 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p>Economic & Community Development Commission 2nd Thursday, 5:00 p.m., Armory</p> <p>Historic Preservation Commission 4th Thursday, 6:00 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p>Appearance & Beautification Commission 2nd Monday, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p>Cultural Arts Commission 3rd Wednesday, 4:00 p.m., Armory</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 Leo F. Matrangola, Chief Jack Meckley (Acting) 410.638.4517 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>

The 2015 Independence Day Celebration: An Olde-Fashioned Fourth of July!

☆☆☆ Saturday, July 4th, 2015 • Bel Air, Maryland ☆☆☆

All events are free to the public unless otherwise noted. For more information, please call (410) 893-4444 or visit our web site at www.BelAirJuly4.org. Please note various locations! Events are subject to change (we're all volunteers!).

At Bel Air High School

6:45 amFlag Raising Ceremony
7:00-11:30 amBlueberry Pancake and Sausage Breakfast
Admission: \$7 Adults; \$4 Children under 10. All you can eat!

At Rockfield Ball Park

7:45 amFlag Ceremony
8:30 amHorseshoe Pitching (Registration 8:00 am)

At the Hays House

8:45 amFlag Ceremony
9:00 am - noon Children's Patriotic Activities, Lawn Games,
In-Costume Tours plus Catherine Street Consort Concert

At Shamrock Park

8:45 amFlag Ceremony
9:00 am (until noon; free!)Face Painting
9:00 amTurtle Derby
10:00 amThe Great Bel Air Frog Jumping Contest
(See our web site for complete instructions for Turtles and Frogs)
11:00 amUncle Sam Says (Ages 5-7, 8-10, 11-13, 14+)

11:00 amBoys' and Girls' Bicycle Rodeo
(at **Bel Air Elementary School**: Ages 5 & under, 6-8, 9-10, 11-13)

11:30 amWatermelon Eating Contest
(at Shamrock Park: Ages 6 & under, 7-10, 11-16, 17+)

6:00 pm:

Bel Air INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE NEW ROUTE DIRECTION!

- Begins at Idlewild & South Main — Ends at North Main & Gordon!
- Reviewing Stand at the County Office Building!

9:30 pm (approx.):

Bel Air INDEPENDENCE DAY FIREWORKS DISPLAY Over Rockfield Ball Park



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