



The Bel Air Bond Newsletter

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

www.belairmd.org

**The Hays House
324 Kenmore Ave.
(Above)**

Check the calendar of events for several unique historical events at the Hays House, which commemorates family life in Harford County from 1788 to 1825.

Calendar Page 6 & 7

For Bel Air's police officers, it's a lifetime career, not a job.



See what four have accomplished in various stages of their careers.

Page 4 & 5

Ms. McIntyre goes to Annapolis



Bel Air High School senior Christina McIntyre is one of five county participants in Maryland's Student Program. Page 9



This is one lottery that you are guaranteed to win. See how \$50 will get you a relaxing afternoon and an original creation from a local artist. Page 11

Tutoring on Main



Christopher Chase or one of his tutors can help clear up the mysteries about a lot of subjects. Page 11



Habitat for Humanity expands mission with a repair program for homeowners in need

By springtime, Christie Dulaney's house on Kenmore Avenue will be warmer, safer and prettier, because she qualifies for the Repair Program at Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna.

Habitat for Humanity is traditionally known for building simple and decent housing in partnership with families and individuals in need. The Susquehanna chapter, which is located in the Historic Colored High School on Hays St., was one of the first chapters in the country to start a program that helps existing homeowners who cannot afford essential repairs.

"The Repair Program helps keep families in their homes," says Chad Hildebrandt, a civil engineer who has been the Repair Program

Manager for two years. "It expands what Habitat is all about."

The Repair Program served 68 households in Cecil and Harford counties last year, up from just two in 2008, the start-up year. These are critical repairs that are essential to health and safety for low-income homeowners. They include roof replacements, furnaces, hot water heaters and floor repairs. Last year, the program also helped four individuals with limited mobility obtain exterior ramps.

Eligibility

Families who take part in the program must have an income that falls below 60% of the area median income. (Cont. on page 3)



Christie Dulaney (r) and Chad Hildebrand in front of Ms. Dulaney's Town of Bel Air home of 25 years. Boy Scout Troop #973 from St. Mary's Church Abingdon has volunteered to help clean up and landscape the yard.

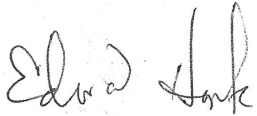
Dear neighbors:

For a small town, Bel Air has a huge cadre of business, community and government leaders. An extraordinary number of them are volunteers.

Leaders are people who seem to effortlessly inspire, organize and get things done. They bring us together to accomplish what we cannot do alone.

The results of their vision is everywhere: a vibrant downtown, free cultural events, twice-yearly parades that draw thousands of visitors, public gardens and trees, a responsive public works, year-round sports & recreation events, state-of-the-art emergency services and a careful balance of growth and historical preservation.

As Town Commissioners, we also have a responsibility to build and nurture our leaders of tomorrow. One way we do this is to regularly recognize outstanding local students (such as Erin Bourn, featured below.) They are already showing us the promise of what the future holds.



The Bel Air Board of Commissioners holds town meetings on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at Town Hall. They hold work sessions at 5:15 p.m. on the Tuesday preceding the week of those meetings. Send your comments to Town Hall, 39 N. Hickory Avenue, Bel Air, MD 21014. 410.638.4550 or 410.879.2711.



The Bel Air Town Commissioners recently honored Erin Bourn, a fifth grader at Homestead Wakefield Elementary School with a Student Achievement Award. (She is pictured above with Dr. Robert Reier.)

Erin has been involved in Student Council since the third grade and is currently the Student Council Secretary. She is a member of the TV Studio Team, chorus, and plays flute in the school band. She sings solos in school concerts and at other annual events.

In addition to all of her school activities, Erin volunteers her time and energy at the Humane Society, the Welcome One Shelter for the Homeless, and Anna's House. Since learning about the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina, Erin donates part of her allowance to the Red Cross and also participates in 5K runs that benefit cancer research. *Notwithstanding*, Erin has been on the Honor Roll every year. Congratulations, Erin!

Bel Air Town Commissioners



Eddie Hopkins



Susan Burdette



David E. Carey



Robert M. Preston



Dr. Robert J. Reier

Cont. from page 1

“Seventy-five to eighty percent of the people we serve are senior citizens on Social Security.” says Chad. “With regular bills, they would not be able to afford \$5,000 for a roof or \$4,000 for a furnace.”

In keeping with Habitat’s philosophy of “a hand up, not a hand out” the Repair Program requires that homeowners cover 15 percent of the costs. In dire circumstances, many participants obtain this portion from family or churches.

What to expect

If you are interested in participating, call the Habitat office and an administrative team will obtain information to see if you qualify. Habitat conducts a background check as well as a credit check.

Chad says that the credit check should not concern most applicants. “We are not looking for the best credit score. We just want to make sure we aren’t repairing a home for someone who is at risk of losing it.”

Once approved, Chad will perform a complete home inspection, to make sure that the requested repairs are indeed the most needed. Each project is usually limited to about \$5,000 to ensure that Habitat has the funds to serve as many people in Harford and Cecil counties as possible.

Funding

The Repair Program is mostly funded by Community Development Block Grants that are administered by the Harford County Department of Community Services. Funding for energy saving projects (such as the new windows that will be installed on Ms. Dulaney’s home) comes from Maryland Energy Administration funds. Several local corporations, churches and private donors also support the program and specific projects.

Outcomes

Habitat aims to provide 72 repairs in the coming year.

Chad, a civil engineer who came to Habitat two years ago after nearly a decade working for a large local new home builder, says that the best part of his job is the relief that he sees on people’s faces when they realize that they qualify for the repairs. Most had approached the application process with worry on their faces, especially those families with children living in the house.

What does he most want people to know about Habitat’s Repair Program? “We want people to know that we are helping good families, families who are working hard to keep their homes,” he says.

Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna is one of only 34 nationwide chapters who are working with Home Depot to assist veterans in need of home repairs. The program is continuing between now and May 2012. Contact Deb Ciresi for more information and to see if you qualify. dciresi@habitatsusq.org or 410-638-4434 X 2.



“Everyone would prefer to be in their own home as opposed to a nursing home,” says Chad Hildebrandt, Habitat’s Repair Program Manager. “For us to be able to do that is really awesome.”



Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna relies on volunteers to help with certain repairs and projects. However, in the Repair Program, professional contractors perform the most common work such as roof replacements, window installation and furnace upgrades.

Veteran police officers move up and move on



When **Deputy Police Chief Richard J. Peschek** moved into his office this past summer, he opted out of the traditional swearing in ceremony. Certificates and awards that he has garnered in 31 years of service remain boxed up at home and not on the office walls.

“I am just finishing up my friend’s tour,” he says, referring to his predecessor, the late Deputy Chief Armand Dupre.

Peschek may not have expected to become the second in charge at Bel Air’s police department, but he never doubted that he would become a police officer. “I don’t know where it comes from, but I knew what I wanted when I was 12 years old. It’s all I ever wanted to be.”

Is there a difference between policing in a small town and a larger jurisdiction? He doesn’t think so. “We deal with the same issues, just not as frequently,” he says. Each member

of Bel Air’s police force, he says, is trained in a wide variety of specialties, since the force is by nature smaller than many neighboring jurisdictions. Citizens can count on them. “A lot of people second guess whether they should call the police. We are here 24/7. Don’t be afraid to call us when you need us.”



Sgt. Richard Carter (center) retired from the Bel Air Police Department at the end of December with more than 38 years of service. Police Chief Leo Matrangola and Town Commissioner Eddie Hopkins congratulated him at a recent town meeting.

Carter, who was a 1966 Bel Air High School graduate, was on patrol duty for virtually his entire career. “I never had any interest in being anything other than a patrol Sergeant,” he said. I like what I do. I like being with young people, with old people. I like the challenge of figuring out problems – not just crimes – but whatever comes up. There is always something.”

Sgt. Carter had a special interest over the years in the area’s homeless citizens, who he believes are no different from anyone else: “Everyone’s just a step away from disaster.”

His plans include a move to Texas, a part-time job and plenty of hunting and fishing.

“For me, this career has been about ‘protect and serve.’ The biggest asset this town has is its employees – and not just the police. The people who work for this town really care.”

Police wives lend a hand at recent promotion ceremony



Janice and Sergeant Henry Marchesani



Jen and Corporal Donald Ravadge

The Town of Bel Air Police Department promoted Henry Marchesani to the Rank of Sergeant, effective January 3rd, 2012.

Henry is a native of Rosemont, Pennsylvania and was a 1989 graduate of Radnor High School.

He became a Bel Air police officer in June 2001. Henry served previously as a police officer for the Port Deposit Police Department. Henry is a graduate of the Montgomery County (PA) Community College's Municipal Police Academy and the Prince George's County Community College's Municipal Police Academy. He is now attending Harford Community College, majoring in Criminal Justice, with 3.52 GPA.

Henry was formerly a member of the United States Naval Reserves and served as an Airman with the CV Northeast Unit.

Henry was promoted to Officer First Class December 2nd, 2002 and then promoted to Corporal in April 2006.

Henry has obtained specialized training in the detection of impaired and intoxicated drivers as well as accident reconstruction. He is certified as a Motor Officer, a Police Mountain Bike Cyclist and is qualified with the M4 and M5 rifles. He is also a certified TASER operator.

In the past 11 years as a sworn officer, Henry has distinguished himself as a professional law enforcement officer. He has made 50 arrests for drunk driving and 423 criminal arrests. In addition, Henry has received the Chief's Exceptional Service award for the apprehension of the suspects involved in the Patrick J. Walker road rage homicide in May 26, 2006, as well as two Certificates of Merit and a Letter of Commendation.

Henry will serve as a Patrol Sergeant responsible for the daily supervision of a patrol squad.

The Town of Bel Air Police Department promoted Donald J. Ravadge to the Rank of Corporal effective January 3rd, 2012.

D. J. attended Salisbury State University, graduating in 2001 with a BA Degree in Communications and a GPA of 3.13. D.J. was a Baltimore County Police Officer from December 2001 to June 2006. The Town of Bel Air hired him in June 2006. His wife, Jennifer, is a Harford County Public School teacher. They reside in Bel Air with their two children.

D.J. was promoted to Officer First Class in June 2008 and served as a Detective in the Criminal Investigative Division until October 2010.

His self-initiated investigative skills were instrumental in the apprehension of a suspect and the recovery of numerous stolen vehicles. This case involved multiple jurisdictions in Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania. Detective Ravadge led the investigation of burglaries in the Country Village Apartments in 2009, arresting the suspect and obtaining a confession. Detective Ravadge also received the Chief's Exceptional Service Award on October 1st, 2010 for his participation in a complex child abuse case. D.J. Ravadge has made 156 arrests for criminal offenses.

D.J. Ravadge has attended and successfully completed professional training in the following disciplines: defensive tactics, crime scene security, gang awareness, sex crimes investigative techniques, conducting taped interviews, highway interdiction and accident investigation courses.

Corporal Ravadge will serve as assistant supervisor on the midnight shift patrol squad.

JANUARY**Through Sunday February 26****Starving Artist Sale**

Harford Artists Gallery, on the grounds of Rockfield Manor, 503 Churchville Rd. All original artwork – everything under \$100 (Jan./Feb.) Free wine & cheese reception when new exhibits open on March 3, May 5, July 7, September 1 and November 3. Free admission. Sponsored by the Harford Artists Association. 410-457-8787. www.artinharford.org

Saturday January 28**Star Wars Crafts**

Bel Air Public Library, 2:00 pm. For grades 2 & up. Registration begins two weeks prior to program. 410-638-3151

Sunday January 29**The Winter Doldrums: A Sunday Afternoon of Music & Fine Art**

Harford Community College, Chesapeake Center's Student Center, 3:00 – 5:00 pm. HCC faculty's annual concert and exhibit of paintings, sculpture, photographs, digital arts and ceramics. \$1 - \$15. 443-412-2211

Monday January 30**Winter Bingo**

Bel Air Public Library, 6:30 – 7:30 pm. All ages. Registration begins two weeks prior to program. 410-638-3151

Tuesday January 31**Home School Helper**

Bel Air Public Library, 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm. Whether you are new to home schooling or a seasoned pro, these informal discussions among home school parents will be helpful. 410-638-3151

FEBRUARY**Thursday February 2****It's Groundhog Day!**

Bel Air Public Library, during library hours Children's librarians will read stories in honor of Punxsutawney Phil each hour on the half hour. All ages. Registration begins two weeks prior to program. 410-638-3151

Friday February 3 – Sunday 5**Bel Air Gun Show**

Bel Air Armory, 37-41 N. Main St. Friday 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm; Saturday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Displays, sales, trades, antique and modern firearms, decoys, knives, coins, and books. Sponsored by the Izaak Walton League, Harford County Chapter. Tickets: \$5. 410-877-1785

Friday February 10**Teen Friday Afterhours**

Bel Air Public Library, 6:00 – 10:00 pm. Watch anime, surf the web, discuss new books, play Wii and board games. Bring a snack to share. Grades 6 – 12. 410-638-3151

Saturday February 11**Friends of the Library Book Sale**

Bel Air Public Library, 10:00 – 5:00 pm One-day sale in the library lobby. Books, CDs, DVDs, etc. 410-879-7887

Saturday February 11 – Sunday 12**12th Annual Valentine Dinner**

Rockfield Manor, 501 Churchville Rd., 5:00 pm – 11:00 pm.

Five-course meal in an intimate Victorian atmosphere, catered by Pairings Bistro. Entertainment by Troy Lawson of the Maryland Conservatory of Music. Tickets: \$75 per person. Reservations only. Sponsored by Rockfield Foundation, Inc., 410-569-5006, info@pairingsbistro.com

Wednesday February 15**Harford County's Attic**

Bel Air Public Library, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm. The Historical Society of Harford County presents a hodgepodge of surprising local facts and stories. Registration begins two weeks prior to program. 410-638-3151

Wednesday February 15**AMC Valentine Tea**

Tea By Two, 814 S. Main St., 2:30 pm. Enjoy high tea with friends and support cancer research at AMC-University of CO Cancer Center and Johns Hopkins Pediatric Oncology Center. Entertainment and prizes. Tickets: \$45. Snow date: February 22, 2012. Sponsored by AMC Cancer Fund. 410-734-4808

Wednesday February 15**Random Teen Madness**

Bel Air Public Library, 5:30 – 7:30 pm Watch anime, surf the web, discuss new books, play Wii and board games. Bring a snack to share. Grades 6 – 12. 410-638-3151

Thursday February 16**Girls Night Out**

Downtown Bel Air, 5:00 – 8:00 pm. Grab the gals and head to Downtown Bel Air. Our shops are open later and there are deals to be had. Local restaurants and pubs have great Happy Hour specials! Sponsored by the Bel Air Downtown Alliance. 443-823-1797, www.downtownbelair.com

Sunday February 19**Addicted To Art**

Rockfield Manor, 501 Churchville Rd. 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

An "Art Lottery" to benefit Harford Artists Association and Rockfield Foundation, Inc. Music by Troy Lawson, Maryland Conservatory of Music. Refreshments. Sponsored by Rockfield Foundation, Inc. Tickets: \$50 per person. 410-638-4565

Sunday February 19**Sunday Afternoon Concert Series**

Harford Community College, Joppa Hall, Recital Hall #1, 3:00 pm. Concert features Mana Duo with Daniel Espinoza, saxophone and Kristian Finch, harp. Tickets: \$1 - \$10. 443-412-2211

Saturday February 25**Reptile Roundup**

Bel Air Public Library, 2:00 pm. Discover the wonder of reptiles by examining many preserved specimens. Presented by the Snyder Foundation for Animals. Grades K & up. Registration begins two weeks prior to program. 410-638-3151

Saturday, February 25**Gerry Gray Memorial 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament**

The John Carroll School, 8:00 a.m. All proceeds benefit the Gerry Gray Scholarship Fund, which awards annual scholarships to scholar athletes. llang@johncarroll.org or 410 879-5053

Sunday February 26**Student Recital**

Bel Air Armory, 11:00 am. Talented students from across Harford County will perform a variety of music. Sponsored by the Maryland Conservatory of Music. Free. 443-243-7265

Tuesday February 28**Home School Helper**

Bel Air Public Library, 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm. Whether you are new to home schooling or a seasoned pro, these informal discussions among home school parents will be helpful. 410-638-3151

Friday March 2 – Sunday 4**Cinderella**

John Carroll School, Fri. 7:00 pm. Sat. 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Sun. 2:00 pm. Rodgers & Hammerstein's classic fairy tale comes to life on stage, supported by a full orchestra. Tickets: \$15. Sponsor: John Carroll Theatre Department. 410-879-5053

Friday March 2 – Sunday April 1**Springtime In The Woods**

Rockfield Manor, 501 Churchville Rd. Sun. 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Mon. thru Thurs. 10:00 am – 5:00 pm; Fri. 10:00 am – 8:00 pm; Sat. 10:00 am – 5:00 pm. Handcrafts, jewelry, florals, collectibles, specialty foods, accessories. Ravens wear. Free admission. 410-638-4565

Saturday March 3**Chocolate & Candy Festival**

Bel Air Armory, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Chocolate, chocolate, chocolate! Sponsored by the Bel Air Downtown Alliance. Admission fee \$5; kids under 6 are free. 443-823-1797; www.downtownbelair.com.

Saturday March 3**Irishman's Chorale**

Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 303 N. Main St. Doors open: 6:45 pm. Performance: 7:30 pm. Ambrantai Na Gaeilge, the only all-male Irish Chorale in the Mid-Atlantic region. will perform both traditional and contemporary music by Irish composers and lyricists. Sponsor: Bel Air Cultural Arts Commission. Free. 410-879-2012 or 410-838-0584

MARCH**Saturday March 3****Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss!**

Bel Air Public Library, 2:00 pm.

Enjoy crafts, stories and activities in honor of Dr. Seuss.

Sunday March 4 to Sunday April 22**The Kelly Family: Home at Liriodendron**

Liriodendron Mansion, 502 W. Gordon St. Sundays, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm (closed holiday weekends). Free. www.liriodendron.org. 410-879-4424

Thursday March 8**Marching Through Maryland: Lee's Campaign of 1862**

Bel Air Public Library, 6:30 – 8:00 pm.

Presented by Thomas Clemens, Ph.D., professor of History at Hagerstown Community College. *Let's Talk About It: Making Sense of the Civil War* is supported by a National Endowment for the Humanities grant and the American Library Association. Sponsor: The Maryland Humanities Council.

Saturday March 10**Lego Club**

Bel Air Public Library, 2:00 pm. We supply Legos; you supply imagination. K – 8.

Registration begins two weeks prior to program. 410-638-3151

Sunday, March 11**Once Upon a Dream, 5th Annual Fashion Show**

The John Carroll School, Noon – 4:00 pm Delectable menu, including beer and wine, from more than 15 restaurants. Proceeds benefit Prom and After Prom, faculty professional development & general school support. \$35.00/person; Tables of ten: \$300; Sponsor: Patriot Parent Association. jcfashionshow@gmail.com or 410 879-5053

Sunday March 11**Timeless Furniture at Home in the Museum**

Hays House, 324 Kenmore Ave.

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

Furniture restoration expert Arthur Benser examines major pieces of antique furniture from the Historical Society's collection. Presentation is part of the "Preserving Our Past" series. Adults \$5. Seniors/students \$3. 410-838-7691

Thursday March 15**Girls Night Out**

Downtown Bel Air, 5:00 – 8:00 pm

Grab the gals and head to Downtown Bel Air.

Our shops are open later and there are deals to be had. Happy Hour specials at restaurants and pubs. Sponsor: The Bel Air Downtown Alliance. www.downtownbelair.com 443-823-1797

Friday March 16**St. Patrick's Party**

Bel Air Armory, 37-41 N. Main St.

7:00 pm – 11:00 pm.

Food, beer, wine, corn beef & cabbage.

Sponsor: The Bel Air Rotary Club.

Tickets: \$50. 443-838-8385

Saturday March 17**Grow It! Eat It! Beyond the Basics in Vegetable Gardening**

Bel Air Public Library, 1:00 - 4:00 pm. Harford County Master Gardeners will present tips on growing vegetables, fertilizing, composting and more. Grade 4 & up w/ adult. Registration begins two weeks prior to program.

410-638-3151

Saturday March 17**Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra, Ghosts and Witches**

Bel Air High School, 7:30 pm.

Spooky favorites such as *Night on Bald Mountain* by Mussorgsky and *The Noon Witch* by Dvorak, as well as works by Beethoven, Wagner and Royer. Tickets: \$20 Adults; \$15 Seniors; \$10 Students. 410-569-2602

Wednesday March 21**Amphibian Adventures**

Bel Air Public Library, 6:30 – 7:30 pm. Meet varieties of frogs, toads, salamanders and other creatures living in Harford County. Presented by a Anita Leight Estuary Center park naturalist. Registration begins two weeks prior to program. All ages. 410-638-3151

Wednesday March 21**Random Teen Madness**

Bel Air Public Library, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm.

Watch anime, surf the web, discuss new books, play Wii and board games. Bring a snack to share. Grades 6 – 12. 410-638-3151

Friday March 23 – Sunday 25**Pottery In The Barn**

Rockfield Barn, 501 Churchville Rd. Friday 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm; Saturday 11:00 am – 5:00 pm; Sunday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Pottery sale by local artists. Great buys! Rain or shine. Sponsor: Rockfield Foundation, Inc. Free. 410-638-4565

Thursday March 29 – Saturday 31**Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale**

Bel Air Public Library, Thursday is Members night, 5:00 pm – 7:30 pm. Friday/Saturday during library hours. Books, CDs, DVDs, etc. 410-879-7887

Saturday March 31**Easter Egg Hunt**

Rockfield Manor, 501 Churchville Rd. Rain

Date: April 7. Grounds open: noon. Hunt begins promptly: 1:00 pm.

Please bring your own basket. Children eight and under. Sponsored by Rockfield Foundation, Inc. Tickets: \$5 per child.

410-638-4565

Saturday March 31**Back to Basics Series**

Bel Air Public Library, 2:00 -4:00 pm. *Green*

Cleaning: Homemade Household Cleaners.

Learn useful tips to repurpose household

items. Registration begins two weeks prior to program. 410-638-3151

APRIL**Monday April 2****Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale**

Bel Air Public Library, 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm.

Books, CDs, DVDs, etc. for sale at \$5 per bag. 410-879-7887

Thursday April 12 – Saturday 14**Titanic: the Musical**

Bel Air High School, show times at 7:00 pm; 2:00 matinee on 4/14

Music and lyrics by Maury Yeston; book by Peter Stone. Tickets: \$10 in Advance, \$12 at the door. (410) 638-4600.

Saturday April 14**Kite Day**

Rockfield Park, 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Celebrate National Kite Month with kids of all ages. Sponsored by the Town of Bel Air and APG Federal Credit Union. Rain date: April 15. Free. 410-838-4781

Saturday April 14**Lego Club**

Bel Air Public Library, 2:00 pm.

We supply Legos; you supply imagination. K – 8th grade. Registration begins two weeks prior to program. 410-638-3151

Saturday April 14**Harford Has Talent Gong Show**

Bel Air Armory, 37-41 N. Main St. 7:00 pm.

Anyone living, working or going to school in Harford County can apply to be in this show, which is a combination of America's Got Talent and The Gong Show. Sponsored by the Maryland Conservatory of Music. Tickets: \$10. 443-243-7265

Sunday April 15**Women & Children's Medical Care in the 18th Century Quaker Community**

Hays House, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Find out about the health issues and "cures" that plagued 18th Century women and children from Nancy Webster, a practicing Quaker and history interpreter who has studied 18th Century domestic life for more than 40 years. Tour the 1788 house. Program is part of the *Preserving Our Past* series. Tickets: Adults \$5; Seniors/ students \$3. 410-838-7691

For calendar events, feature suggestions and business news, contact Kathi Santora, The Writing Studio, at 443-695-3345 or ksantora@gmail.com.

The Bel Air Bond is distributed in January, April, July and October. Deadline for calendar events is the 20th of the month before publication.

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, 7:30 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, 4:30 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., Armory</p> <p>Cultural Arts Commission 3rd Wednesday, 5:00 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 Hickory Ave. The Department of Public Works and the Planning Department are located at 705 Churchville Rd. The Department of Economic Development and Visitor 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 Town Hall and online. Topics include business assistance, historic preservation, parking guides, a walking tour and 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 Christopher G. Schlehr 410.638.4550 or 410.879.2711</p> <p>Human Resources & Technical Support Joyce Oliver, 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 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 Randolph C. Robertson, 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>

Foundation's donation adds accessibility and elegance to Rockfield Manor



A \$15,000 donation by the Greater Bel Air Community Foundation, matched by the Rockfield Manor Foundation, supported improvements that will make events at Rockfield Manor even more elegant. According to Rockfield Manor's Executive Director Jane Passagno (pictured at right with her assistant Eileen Rice), the funding allowed them to replace flooring under the existing awning with concrete that matches the outside patio, to expand the outside patio and to add a fountain and bench. The additions vastly improved accessibility from inside to outside.

Those at the check presentation included: Front row (l to r): Donna Dickie, Jane Passagno, Bill Cox, Terry Troy, Fred Lane, Judy Sanders, Bill Vanden Eynden, Chris Schlehr; Back row (l to r): Jim Welch, Larry Dean, Bill Fisher, Mark Welsh, Bill Kelly, Terry Hanley, Joe Pfaff

Ms. McIntyre goes to Annapolis bringing a vision of possibilities

First impressions are that Bel Air High School senior Christina McIntyre is a youthful faculty member. Pencil skirt, crisp white ruffled blouse, black blazer and dress shoes on a school day. She enters the room briskly with a smile, handshake and a ready answer about her non-high-school-like attire.

Christina is on her way to make a presentation to the Harford County Board of Education, she says, in support of giving the student representative to the board partial voting rights. As a member of the executive board for the Regional Association of Student Councils, she has been meeting with politicians and local leaders for months. "We are working to make this happen," she says. "I think it is important and I'm taking a stand on that."

Perhaps her passion about local issues is just one reason that Harford County Public Schools selected Christina as one of five students in the Student Page Program. They each spend two, non-consecutive weeks serving in either the House of Delegates or the Maryland Senate, performing various tasks such as filing books, running errands and sitting in on meetings and hearings.

"I am so excited about the opportunity to witness first hand the process of our democracy working in Maryland. I am so excited about the opportunity to help make it work, even if it is just about organizing someone's bill book or getting a cup of coffee."

The selection process for the Student Page Program is an arduous one. After submitting an application and teacher approval, prospective students write an essay about why they want to participate. The finalists appear before a 12-person committee made up of students and educators from around the county. "It was intense," Christina recalls. "Questions came from different angles on many different topics." Five students and an alternate are selected to serve.

Christina sees the possibility of a future in politics. She offers her own vision of local policy: "As a representative of youth, I want my generation to be heard. But (public policy) should also be about caring for elderly people, for unemployed people as well as (for the concerns of) people who make lots of money. It should be ensuring that policy is conducive to the success of everyone in your community and not fragmenting your community. (Public policy) should bring people together."



Christina McIntyre is no stranger to leadership roles. She is President of the Bel Air High School Student Government, a youth representative to the Harford County Youth Commission, a student member of the League of Women Voters and participates in the Harford County Teen Court.



Bel Air Senior High School students volunteered to assist town officials during the recent Veterans Day parade in Bel Air. Christina McIntyre is second from left. "One thing I want people to know is that my generation is not apathetic. We have so much energy and so much passion," she says.



Call for Artists

Join the Journey @ the Library!

The Harford County Public Library invites professional and amateur photographers to “Join the Journey.” Take to the road and share your vision of Harford County’s car culture by submitting your photographs for *Cars: A Harford County Love Affair*. This event is a juried fine art photography exhibition that will explore Harford County’s love of the car. The exhibit, which will be on display in the Jarrettsville Library from April 12 through May 21, 2012, is supported by the Harford County Cultural Arts Board in conjunction with the Smithsonian Exhibition, *Journey Stories*, coming to the Harford County Public Library in May 2012.

Each photographer can submit up to 10 photographs. Submissions can be black and white, color, or computer manipulated; vertical or horizontal; and any size up to 16” x 20”. Cars or pick-up trucks must be the subject. To be considered for the exhibition, email submission photos (no larger than 500x500 dpi) to Bethany Hacker, hacker@hcplonline.org, by March 16, 2012. Selected photographs must be framed in a pre-selected black frame with matting of photographer’s choice from FastFrame of Bel Air. Photographers can frame the work with these materials themselves or have FastFrame complete the job.

All framed photographs will become the property of Harford County Public Library once submitted for exhibition. They will be sold during the course of the exhibit to benefit the Library. Monetary prizes will be awarded to photographers: \$500 for First Place, \$300 for Second Place, and \$100 for Third Place. There will be two \$50 honorable mention prizes. An Artist’s Reception is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 11.

The Smithsonian Exhibition, *Journey Stories*, coming to the Abingdon Library on May 19, is the story of how the United States was populated through immigration, migration and transportation. It examines the intersection between modes of travel and Americans’ desire to progress and flourish, travel and explore. The exhibit contains accounts of immigrants that came in search of a promise in a new country; people relocating in search of economic and emotional fortune; tales of harrowing journeys made by individuals in search of freedom; and explorations of the innovations which made it possible to populate vast territories and cultivate the wild.

Journey Stories, a Museum on Main Street exhibition, is a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and the Maryland Humanities Council and is presented in Harford County by Harford County Public Library and Harford County Department of Community Services.

The exhibit is free to the public and will be open through July 6. Hours: Mon & Wed 10:00 am – 3:00pm; Tues & Thurs 1:00 - 8:00 pm; Sat 10:00 am – 5:00 pm.

The Greater Bel Air Community Foundation's
7th Annual "A Night in Paradise"
Saturday April 21, 2012

Bel Air Record Armory
37-41 N. Main St., 7:00 pm – 11:00 pm

Live music by Appaloosa; Southern Shrimp Feast
by Laurapin Grill
Tropical Attire. Tickets: \$50
The Foundation raises funds for capital improvement
projects in Bel Air. All proceeds benefit the community.
For tickets and information: www.gbacf.org
or call 410-879-9292 or 410-836-6365

Habitat for Humanity International

Dream Builders' Ball

A RED CARPET EVENING

COCKTAILS | DINNER | ENTERTAINMENT
LIVE AND SILENT AUCTIONS


FEBRUARY 25, 2012

Be a Part of Their Dream
6:30 PM AT MOUNTAIN BRANCH
GOLF CLUB - JOPPA, MD

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
& TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH
OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.HABITATSUSQ.ORG

2ND ANNUAL

addicted



SUNDAY • FEBRUARY 19TH
ROCKFIELD MANOR
501 CHURCHVILLE RD. • BEL AIR, MD
HOUSE OPENS AT NOON • LOTTERY BEGINS AT 2PM

HOSTED BY THE ROCKFIELD FOUNDATION
& THE HARFORD ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION

Join us for this unique fundraising opportunity where everyone will take home an original piece of art by a local artist. Selections include paintings, photographs, sculptures, pottery, glassware & artisan jewelry

\$50 per ticket in advance • Every ticket will win a piece of art!
Wine • Refreshments • Piano by Troy Lawson from the MD Conservatory
Proceeds benefit the Rockfield Foundation and the Harford Artists' Association.

TICKETS CALL: 410.638.4565
EMAIL: INFO@ROCKFIELDMANOR.COM

Everyone wins this lottery

by Dave Gigliotti

Addicted to Art is a unique art lottery since every ticket holder leaves with a high-quality piece of art donated by a talented local artist.

Doors open at 1:00 p.m. allowing ticket holders to mingle in Rockfield Manor's intimate setting. Peruse the many fine works of art while having a glass of wine and sampling light fare provided by Pairings Bistro and other local establishments. Making the experience of searching for that perfect piece even more enjoyable, pianist Troy Lawson from the Maryland Conservatory of Music will perform.

Okay, so everyone's found some favorites among the great paintings, photographs, and pieces of sculpture, pottery and jewelry – what's next? The excitement of course! Here's where the lottery fun really kicks into high gear. Beginning at 2 p.m., we'll draw numbers from an old fashioned tumbler. When your number is called, you're free to pick something from the remaining treasures. Who'll get first pick? Only the numbers know.

One thing that is certain is that no one will go home empty-handed. The number of artworks and tickets will be perfectly matched to ensure that everyone wins! Addicted to Art is truly a winner for everyone: artists who benefit from the exposure, patrons who win unique and inspiring local pieces of art and sponsors who gain financial support to keep the Arts alive in Harford County.

Tickets are \$50 only in advance. The event is sponsored by the Rockfield Foundation and Harford Artists Gallery. Don't miss this opportunity for a fun-filled afternoon of great art, food, wine and company!

Harford teacher offers 1:1 tutoring



When Christopher Chase started an independent tutoring company on a teacher's salary, there was not much room for Madison Avenue-style advertising campaigns. Instead, he opted for an unadorned, two-word outdoor sign in front of his South Main Street location that pretty much sums up what he offers: Harford Tutoring. With that simple investment, he says his customer base began to grow.

Can he compete in a world where tutoring franchises seem to spring up in every strip mall?

"We are a boutique tutoring business," says Christopher. "Right now our teacher student ratio is 1:1." In addition, he does not require a contract. Students pay for the services they need at an hourly rate for only as long as they need them.

It's a good bet that Harford Tutoring Service offices, housed in a renovated mid-century flagstone house, are homier than most tutoring centers. The interior surroundings include a fireplace, hardwood floors and double pane windows.

Christopher is a certified grade 1 – 8 teacher. He currently employs a mathematics instructor who teaches high school and college math courses as well as a Spanish tutor. His student roster include adults needing preparation for job-related aptitude tests, high school and college students and adults interested in expanding their foreign language skills for travel.

Christopher hopes to grow his independent tutoring business into a long-lasting company that will be a fixture in the Town of Bel Air. For him, individualized tutoring is a special calling for teachers: "You have to be brave, intelligent and a problem solver to be able to sit down with someone and say 'I am going to help you.' We know that parents and students want results."

Help unlock the secrets of aging and aging well



The National Institute of Aging is attempting to shed light on the genetic, biological, behavioral factors that enable some people to live longer and age well.

IDEAL (Insight into the Determinants of Exceptional Aging and Longevity) is a study that will explore the factors of healthy aging.

Over the course of five years, IDEAL will enroll 500 healthy individuals age 80 or older in the study. Participants will come to Harbor Hospital in Baltimore every year to receive

a comprehensive assessment including a medical exam and tests of strength, stamina, mental sharpness, and coordination.

If you are interested in participating in the study and can walk a quarter of a mile unassisted without pain or shortness of breath, have no significant memory loss or cognitive impairment, and have no serious medical conditions, please email IDEAL@westat.com or call toll free 1-855-804-3325.