



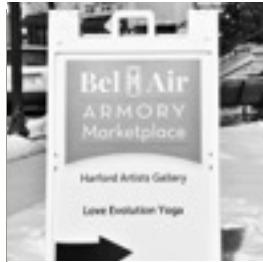
# The Bel Air Bond

A quarterly publication from the Town of Bel Air, Maryland

[www.belairmd.org](http://www.belairmd.org)



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## Bel Air's K-9 law enforcer "born and bred" to work

All of us have days when we just don't want to go to work.

Blitz, the Bel Air Police Department's K-9 dog, doesn't seem to have those days.

"He's geared to work and gets a bit down while we are at home," says Officer Jonathan Kaufmann, Blitz's law enforcement partner. "He'd rather go 24 hours a day than sit around. He was born and bred to work."

K-9 dogs have been part of the Bel Air Police Department's law enforcement strategy since the 1960s. Blitz, a 4½ year-old Belgian Malinois German Shepherd crossbreed, is on duty whenever Officer Kaufmann clocks into his evening shift. In the split second after he hears a command from his partner, he springs into action.

Many K-9 dogs are trained in several specialties, says Officer Kauffman. Together, he and Blitz attended Castle K-9 in Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania in narcotics detection and patrol duties. They return twice a month to ensure that their skills stay tack sharp.  
(Cont. P. 3)



**Blitz's speed and trained nose bring an added tactic to protect and serve Bel Air residents.**

*Where flowers bloom, so does hope. — Lady Bird Johnson*

Dear neighbors:

It's spring and we have a special town-wide event each month to entice you to get out of the house and enjoy the flowers, colors, restaurant smells, shops, and friendliness as you walk or run thru Bel Air.

On **April 23**, Bel Air will be the host site for the **2017 March of Dimes March for Babies**. Join people in your community to help more moms have healthy pregnancies, support families in the NICU and fund research to fight birth defects and premature birth.

Registration is at 8:00 a.m. The 2.5-mile walk starts at 9:00 a.m. at Black Eyed Suzie's. If you can't join the walk, please support our own Town of Bel Air Team at [www.marchforbabies.org/team/teambelair](http://www.marchforbabies.org/team/teambelair) and help us to reach our goal to raise \$2,500. Information at 410-638-4550.

On **May 6**, join us from 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. at **Celebration of Cultures**. The celebration includes family entertainment, cultural performances, ethnic foods, local artisans, crafts, street performers, kid's activities, music, dancing and demonstrations. A family movie at Shamrock Park starts at 8:00 p.m. For more information, call 410-638-3389.

Come **June**, you won't want to miss the **Bel Air Town Run** on Sunday, June 4 at 8:00 a.m. Whether you are a runner or a spectator, the sights, sounds and community spirit make it a glorious morning. The Bel Air Town Run 5K is a community event to promote health, fitness and running. The 5K race is also a part of the Maryland Road Runners Club of America Championship Series of races. There is also a one- mile fun walk option.

The race and the walk start on Main St. in front of The Tower restaurant. Race day activities are located at the finish area at Shamrock Park behind Town Hall. For more information visit [www.belairtownrun.com](http://www.belairtownrun.com)

**See you around Town!**



**Susan Burdette, Mayor of Bel Air**

**In Memory of Bel Air Police Chief James Monaghan**

Chief Monaghan was born in Ireland. His family later settled in Baltimore. He lied about his age to join the Army during World War II and was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division. He made the jump in Normandy during D-Day. Monaghan was taken prisoner, but was released by US soldiers. He fought in Bastogne and was injured. In May 1946, the Maryland State Police brought him on staff and he served until 1978. Then he retired and began a second career as Bel Air Police Chief. He retired again in 1985. We extend sympathies to his family.



**Board of Town Commissioners**



**Susan U. Burdette**



**Philip L. Einhorn**



**Brendan P. Hopkins**



**Robert M. Preston**



**Patrick T. Richards**

**Cont. from P. 1**

Blitz will stop and alert at odors from marijuana, cocaine, heroin and/or methamphetamine-based products.

Training a K9 dog to recognize illegal substances is a step-by-step experience, says Officer Kauffman: “We start by putting all four odors together. We call it a cocktail. We hide them in a box among some empty boxes. When he gets to the one with drugs, we teach him to sit. Then, we separate the smells in different boxes. Finally, we move on to real world scenarios by hiding drug smells in filing cabinets, cars and lockers.”



**Officer First Class Wes Salvas demonstrates Blitz's skills.**

He’s also trained as a patrol dog, and quickly takes off to apprehend fleeing or hiding law breakers.

“If a suspect is 100 yards away, a human officer can’t close that gap. The dog definitely can,” says Officer Kauffman.”

K-9 officers issue two warning commands to suspects before releasing a dog, who will bite upon reaching the suspect.

He does it for the chance to play with his favorite jute tug toy and praise from his partner.

“In the past, many K9 dogs were trained by compulsion,” says Officer Kauffman, referring to a training method that tends to rely on negative reinforcement. “We make it more of a game. You can always get a dog to do more when you are doing it out of fun.”

Blitz does have a softer side when not under command. Often people wonder how to act around a police dog.

Kauffman has practical advice: “Number one, I don’t want people to be scared of him. He’s gentle and my son plays with him at home. But I also want people to have a healthy respect for him.”

“When Blitz is on duty,” he adds, “he wears a police harness and I am always in uniform. Always ask if you can pet or approach him.” The duo often provide demonstrations at youth fairs and community events.

For Officer Kauffman, who has been a life-long dog owner, having a K-9 partner is a childhood goal-come-true: “This is the one thing I wanted to do in police work,” he says. “I like dogs, the work it involves and the time I spend in teaching and training him.”



**Blitz and Officer Kauffman: companions at home and partners on the job.**



## Celebrate those who came from Down Yonder and stayed to build a future

Was your family one of the hundreds who migrated from the hill country of North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia to Harford County between 1900-1950?

These families bought the fertile farmlands that dotted the county or went to work at Conowingo Dam, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Bata Shoe Company, Glenn L. Martin's new airplane factory or one of the other war manufacturing facilities in the region. These "Eastern Pioneers" changed the face of Harford County for generations to come. Thousands of their descendants live here today.

The Historical Society of Harford County is sponsoring a celebration of these families during "Down Yonder," a music and cultural event on June 10, 2017 at the Deer Creek Overlook 4H Camp. The outdoor venue can accommodate close to 1000 people, so the Society invites all Harford County families to take advantage of the live music, food trucks and open space and join in with their own family reunions.

French Poole, who has lived in the Town of Bel Air for over 40 years, is an event sponsor in honor of his late wife, Joan. His family moved to Harford County from Grayson County, Virginia before he was born. He grew up on the corner of Water and Erie streets in Havre de Grace.



**French Poole**

Poole's interest in history expanded when he took up family research while caring for his wife during her illness, often poring over records and family memorabilia in the early hours of the morning: "The genealogy helped take me away from the strain of being her sole caregiver," he says. Soon, the family history that he never knew took on new meaning.

"I realized how many older folks had already passed away, who I never got to talk to, who I should have talked to and I just didn't. I'll be 74 in June. The older you get, something happens inside and you see the importance of this."

People who moved to Harford during this era brought a unique culture that lives today, says Poole. He describes a work ethic and perseverance that came from mountain living.

"Both of my parents had a third-grade education. My father was one of the most amazing wood craftsmen there ever was. My mother worked

as a nurse's assistant for over 20 years. She owned her own home and was able to travel. They are the type of people who came and stayed in Harford County."

This is a family-friendly event that is open to all. There will be live bluegrass music, jam sessions for everyone to play, exhibits, quilting demonstrations, chair-caning demonstrations, raffles, oral history interview stations and family photo displays.

The campgrounds overlook Deer Creek and provide extensive walking trails, picnic pavilions, an air-conditioned lodge and open space.

Scheduled performers include Roger Cline with Stormy Deep as well as Foggy Hollow and Late for Supper. Scheduled food trucks include Crossroads Bistro and Rt. 40 BBQ. Bring a picnic or purchase food from vendors. Cost to attend: \$10 per-person. Proceeds will benefit the Historical Society of Harford County Building Restoration Fund.

## Armory Marketplace shaping up as it welcomes first incubator business

Armory Marketplace, located in the former garage spaces of the Bel Air Armory, welcomes Love Evolution Yoga as its first tenant and incubator business.

“Incubator businesses are the latest trend in business development,” said Trish Heidenreich, the Town’s Economic Development Director. “They arose from the need for municipalities to help businesses sustain their growth into the future.”

With this model, governments, universities and other entrepreneurial organizations help create and grow young businesses by providing them with business coaching, financial and technical supports.

The goal is for start-up businesses to create a strong enough foundation to then move into permanent locations and to create jobs.

Love Evolution Yoga provides an array of hot yoga classes and also hosts professional training for yoga instructors. Patti Sterling and Angela Robertson from Bel Air’s Department of Economic Development provided ongoing business supports and coaching to owners Meaghan Sanchez and Adrienne Rhine.

“They were involved from the beginning,” says Sanchez. They helped us with the intricacies of putting together every element. It was seamless for us.”



Patti Sterling (c) of Bel Air’s Department of Economic Development helped Meaghan Sanchez (l) and Adrienne Rhine (r) work through details of opening their first business in Armory Marketplace.

**Love Evolution will hold a grand opening on Friday evening April 28 and during the day on Saturday April 29 with activities and demonstrations.**

## Police Department invites applicants for new Citizen Advisory Board

The Bel Air Police Department (BAPD) is assembling a Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) so that residents and business owners can have input into BAPD’s community policing efforts. The goal of the CAB is reinforcing the partnership between the BAPD and the communities they serve, and to identify and resolve problems.

The Board will be comprised of members of our residential and business communities. CAB meetings will be held quarterly, and chaired by Sergeant Ed Smith, BAPD’s Community Policing Supervisor.

Appointments to the CAB will be open for Town residents and business owners 18 years of age or older. Residents include homeowners and residents of rental properties, apartments, etc. Potential members must be current residents of the Town, who have resided here for a period of not less than two years. Business owners/operators must have maintained a business within the Town of Bel Air for a minimum of one year. There is no residency requirement for business owners. Members may not be an employee of any department within the municipal government of the Town of Bel Air.

After a background check to determine suitability and eligibility for the CAB, potential candidates will be interviewed by the Bel Air Police Department Command Staff.

The chief of police will make the final selections. It is expected that the first meeting will be held in late Spring. For more information, and application instructions, please call the Bel Air Police Department at 410-638-4500.



**Frequently visited venues**

**Bel Air Armory**  
37 N. Main St.

**Harford County Public Library  
Bel Air Branch**  
100 E. Pennsylvania Ave.

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

**Humbert Amphitheater**  
Shamrock Park at Lee & Hickory Avenues

**Hays House Museum**  
324 Kenmore Ave.

**Historical Society of Harford County**  
143 N. Main St.

**Liriodendron Gallery**  
502 W Gordon St.

**Rockfield Manor**  
501 E. Churchville Rd.

**APRIL**

**Saturday 1**

**MOVIE: SHENANDOAH**  
Historical Society of Harford County  
7:00 p.m. Free popcorn and soda.  
Admission: \$7. 410-838-7691

**Tuesday 4**

**SNEAK PREVIEW of THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE: THE GREAT WAR (PBS)**  
Historical Society of Harford County,  
Panel and audience discussion of the immigrant experience during the War will follow the film. Admission: Free.  
410-838-7691

**Thursday 6 – Saturday 8**

**BEL AIR HIGH SCHOOL SPRING MUSICAL: LES MISERABLES**  
Show times at 7:00 p.m. with a 2:00 p.m. matinee on Saturday, April 8. Tickets: \$10 in advance at [www.belairdrama.org](http://www.belairdrama.org) or \$12 at door.

**Saturday 8  
KITE FESTIVAL**

Rockfield Park Ball Fields, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Kite flying for all ages. Sponsor: Town of Bel Air and APG Federal Credit Union. Rain Date: April 9. Free. 410-638-4550

**Sunday 9**

**OLD FURNITURE EXPOSED**  
Hays House Museum, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Furniture restoration expert Art Benser shares restoration tips and clues for dating vintage furniture. Adults: \$5, Students & Seniors: \$3, Children under 4: Free. Sponsor: Historical Society of Harford County. 410-838-7691

**Sunday 9**

**ROCKFIELD MANOR’S OPEN HOUSE**  
Rockfield Manor, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
Planning a wedding or a celebration? Learn about the Manor’s indoor and outdoor facilities. Open to the public. Free.

**Tuesday 11**

**BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES: DECOYS AND THE SPORTSMEN OF THE FLATS**  
Historical Society of Harford County  
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.  
Bring a lunch and learn about the decoy carvers and hunters who made Harford a famous hunting and carving mecca. Presented by John Sullivan. Free.  
410-838-7691

**Wednesday 12**

**MEET THE AUTHORS: CAROL DEIBEL & KATHI SANTORA**  
**Bel Air Library, 6:30 p.m.**  
The authors of *Legendary Locals of Bel Air* will introduce you to Bel Air’s famous and not-so-famous residents. Free. Book signing after presentation.

**Saturday 15**

**ROCKFIELD MANOR’S ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT, 11:00 a.m.**  
Grab a basket for this fun, family event behind the Manor. \$5 per family.

**Saturday 15**

**ANNUAL SPRING FLING BIG BAND DANCE**  
Bel Air Armory, 7:00 - 10 p.m.  
Live big band dance music by the Bel Air Community Band Jazz Ensemble. Food, beer and wine available for sale. Sponsor: Town of Bel Air and the Harford County Cultural Arts Board through the Maryland State Arts Council. Free. 410-638-4550

**Thursday 20**

**GIRLS NIGHT OUT**  
Downtown Bel Air, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
Grab your best girlfriends for a night of shopping, discounts, food and drink specials. [www.downtownbelair.com](http://www.downtownbelair.com)

**Friday 22**

**13th ANNUAL A NIGHT IN PARADISE.**  
Bel Air Armory, 6:30 – 10:30 p.m.  
Enjoy live music, southern shrimp feast and bull roast. Catered by Laurrapin Grill; live music by Appaloosa. Tickets: \$50. [www.gbacf.com](http://www.gbacf.com) or 410-879-9292.

**Sunday 23**

**YOUTH & FAMILY RESOURCE FESTIVAL**  
Harford Community College, APGFCU Arena, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Free event developed to connect youth of all abilities (prenatal – 21 years) and their families to vital community resources. Sponsor: Harford County Department of Community Services, Children, Youth & Family Division and the Office on Disabilities. 410-638-3389

**Sunday 23**

**SCENTS FROM THE GARDEN**  
Hays House Museum, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Learn why sweet-smelling herbs and flowers were an important part of life in the 18th century. Children can make a sachet to give as a Mother’s Day gift. Adults: \$5, Students & Seniors: \$3, Children under 4: Free. Sponsor: Historical Society of Harford County. 410-838-7691

**Sunday 23**

**BEL AIR COMMUNITY CHORUS SPRING CONCERT**  
St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 1200 Churchville Road, 3:00 p.m. Free. 443-910-2658

**Sunday 23 – Sunday May 28**

**PEOPLE, PLACES AND PORTIONS: IMAGES ON FOUR CONTINENTS**  
Liriodendron Gallery, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Opening day reception for photographer Jerry Taylor, who frames his international travels with an artistic lens. The Gallery is open to the public on Sundays from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. and on Wednesdays from 1:00 – 7:00 p.m. Free.

**Sunday 28**

**WYETH ON WYETH**

Bel Air Armory  
A look at the life and artwork of Andrew Wyeth including family stories told by his granddaughter. Wine and Chocolate reception 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Meet Victoria Wyeth 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Lecture on the artwork and life of Andrew Wyeth 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Tickets: \$45. Sponsor: Harford Artists Association & Gallery. [www.artinharford.org](http://www.artinharford.org), 410-420-9499

**Sunday 30**

**HARFORD CHORAL SOCIETY: EUROPEAN SPRING**

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 1200 Churchville Road, 3:00 p.m.  
European classical favorites with choral music by Handel, Haydn and Elgar performed with orchestra and soloists. Adults: \$25, Seniors: \$20, Students: \$10; Under 12: Free. \$5 discount for advance tickets. 443-299-6358.

**MAY**

**Thursdays 4, 11, 18 & 25**

**ROCKING CHAIR STORY HOUR**

Rockfield Manor, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.  
Come to the veranda or fireside each Thursday for interesting guests, stories and activities for children 5 and under. Free. The *Rocking Chair Story Hour* is a partnership with the Harford County Public Library. [www.rockfieldmanor.com](http://www.rockfieldmanor.com) or 410-638-4565.

**Thursday 4 – Sunday June 25**

**INSIDE OUT ART SHOW**

Harford Artists' Gallery at Armory Marketplace  
All work created by local artists. Reception May 13 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Gallery hours: Thursday – Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. [www.artinharford.org](http://www.artinharford.org), 410-420-9499

**Friday 5**

**GARDEN MART**

Bel Air Armory. 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Free. Sponsor: Town of Bel Air Appearance & Beatification Committee. Rain or shine. 410-638-4550

**Friday 5**

**FIRST FRIDAY**

Main Street Parking Lot, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Harford County's best block party is Bel Air Downtown Alliance's First Fridays with local live music, beer and wine, food vendors, and more. See [www.downtownbelair.com](http://www.downtownbelair.com) for scheduled bands.

**Saturday 6**

**CELEBRATION OF CULTURES**

Bel Air Armory, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
A free family day showcasing talents and traditions from many lands. Face painting, performances, storytelling and crafts in the children's garden outside. International food available for purchase. Sponsor: Harford County Cultural Arts Board, the Greater Bel Air Community Foundation and LASOS, Inc. 410-836-0333

**Tuesday 9**

**BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES: THE DOWN YONDERS AND EASTERN PIONEERS**

Historical Society of Harford County  
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.  
"Down Yonders" descendants tell family stories about the move from Virginia and North Carolina to Harford County in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Free. 410-838-7691

**Friday 12**

**LUNCHTIME CONCERT: REGENTS OF JAZZ**

Office Street near the Courthouse.  
Noon – 1:00 p.m.  
Lunchtime concert with food vendors available; tables and chairs provided. Admission: Free. Sponsor: Town of Bel Air. [www.belairmd.org](http://www.belairmd.org). 410-638-4550

**Saturday 13**

**LINCOLN'S LAST HOURS AND THE HUNT FOR JOHN WILKES BOOTH**

The Historical Society of Harford County,  
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Learn about President Lincoln's final hours and the search for John Wilkes Booth that led to Harford County. Presented by Kathy Canavan and John Howard. Sponsor: Historical Society of Harford County and Tudor Hall. Admission: \$25. 410-838-7691

**Sunday 14**

**THE BELLE AIRE MARKET**

Office Street, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The Belle Aire Market is a seasonal open air Parisian market featuring antiques and finely crafted artisan items. [www.downtownbelair.com](http://www.downtownbelair.com).

**Thursday 18**

**GIRLS NIGHT OUT**

Downtown Bel Air, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
A night of shopping, discounts, food and drink specials in downtown Bel Air. [www.downtownbelair.com](http://www.downtownbelair.com)

**Friday 19**

**LUNCHTIME CONCERT: DENNIS SCHOCKET**

Office Street near the Courthouse.  
Noon – 1:00 p.m.  
Lunchtime concert with food vendors available; tables and chairs provided. Free. Sponsor: Town of Bel Air. [www.belairmd.org](http://www.belairmd.org). 410-638-4550

**Saturday 20**

**A ROYAL RUBY SEASON FINALE**

Bel Air High School, 7:30 p.m.  
London composer David Osbon will join the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra for his Nelson Overture in honor of Admiral Lord Nelson. The concert continues with African-American composer William Grant Still's Symphony No. 1, the *Afro-American Symphony*. Sponsor: Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra. Admission \$20 adult; \$15 senior; \$10 child/student. 410-569-2602

**Saturday 20**

**SPRING LECTURE & TEA FEATURING AUTHOR LEE THOMAS OXFORD**

The Historical Society of Harford County,  
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
The author will tell the story of the Cockeysville travels of the Indiana 20<sup>th</sup> during the Civil War and provide insight into the importance of small archives for researchers and authors. Admission: \$10. 410-838-7691

**Friday 26**

**LUNCHTIME CONCERT**

Office Street near the Courthouse.  
Noon – 1:00 p.m. Lunchtime concert with food vendors available; tables and chairs provided. Admission: Free. Sponsor: Town of Bel Air. [www.belairmd.org](http://www.belairmd.org). 410-638-4550

**Monday 29**

**MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY**

Lee Way and Hickory Avenue, 10:30 a.m.  
Ceremony honoring deceased veterans. Sponsor: Town of Bel Air and American Legion Harford Post #39. Free. 410-303-8138



**JUNE**

**Friday 2  
FIRST FRIDAY**

Main Street Parking Lot, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
Harford County’s best block party with local live music, beer and wine, food vendors, and more. See [www.downtownbelair.com](http://www.downtownbelair.com) for scheduled bands.

**Saturday 3  
FLAG DAY**

Shamrock Park (behind Town Hall), 8:00 a.m.  
Join the annual tradition of commemorating the American flag. Along with an inspiring keynote speaker and Color Guard presentation, there will be a variety of patriotic music presentations. Sponsor: Town of Bel Air. 410-638-4550

**June 4  
37<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BEL AIR TOWN RUN**

Downtown Bel Air, 8:00 a.m.  
5K foot race and an untimed one-mile walk through Bel Air, part of the Maryland State RRCA Championship Series. Competitive awards and random prizes. Sponsor: Renaissance All Sports Athletic Club. [www.belairtownrun.com](http://www.belairtownrun.com). 410-652-9974

**Sunday June 4 – July 16  
BEYOND THE VISUAL: THE SPIRIT OF PLACE:  
A COLLECTION OF PAINTINGS AND  
DRAWINGS PAST AND PRESENT**

The Liriodendron Gallery, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Opening reception for John Sauers, who has painted his hometowns for decades. His oil and watercolor drawings reflect both Harford County and his original home in Whitetop, Virginia. The Gallery is open on Sundays 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. and Wednesdays 1:00 – 7:00 p.m. 410-879-4424

**Sunday 4  
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES: *SUSQUEHANNA  
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA***

Shamrock Park, 7:00 p.m.  
Bring a picnic dinner and chair or blanket. Sponsor: Town of Bel Air and the Harford County Cultural Arts Board. No rain date for this performance. Free. 410-638-4550

**Friday 9  
SUMMER MOVIE NIGHT**

Shamrock Park (Lee Street and Hickory Avenue) 7:15 p.m. (movie starts

immediately after sunset). Bring the family for a fun and free movie night under the stars at Shamrock Park with pre-movie entertainment provided by the Bel Air Cultural Arts Commission. All movies are family friendly. Visit [www.downtownbelair.com](http://www.downtownbelair.com) for a list of scheduled movies.

**Saturday 10  
DOWN YONDER REUNION AND BLUEGRASS  
CELEBRATION**

Deer Creek Overlook, Noon – 7:00 p.m.  
The Historical Society of Harford County Inc. invites everyone to come to a true family reunion with music and food. You’ll have a chance to share your family’s oral histories, pose for a family portrait, enjoy exhibits, demonstrations and a day at the park. Admission \$10; Children 5 and under: Free. 410-838-7691

**Saturday 10  
BEACH BUM BOOK SALE**

Harford County Library, Bel Air Branch  
Children’s and paperback books. Sponsor: Friends of the Bel Air Library. 410-838-3151

**Sunday 11  
THE BELLE AIRE MARKET**

Office Street, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The Belle Aire Market is a seasonal open air market featuring antiques and finely crafted artisan items. With the original spelling of the town, the Belle Aire Market evokes feelings of a Parisian bazaar. [www.downtownbelair.com](http://www.downtownbelair.com).

**Sunday 11  
CARE & DISPLAY OF HISTORIC CLOTHING**

Hays House Museum, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
A talk and demonstration of methods for care, storage and display of vintage clothing. Exhibit of vintage clothing from the WWI era. Adults: \$5, Students & Seniors: \$3, Children under 4: Free. Sponsor: Historical Society of Harford County. 410-838-7691

**Sunday 11  
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES: *BEL AIR  
COMMUNITY CHORUS***

Shamrock Park. 7:00 p.m.  
Bring a picnic dinner and chair or blanket. No rain date for performances. Sponsor: Town of Bel Air and the Harford County Cultural Arts Board. Free. 410-638-4550

**Tuesday 13  
BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES: *HISTORY OF  
PROHIBITION AND THE SPEAKEASIES OF  
HAVRE DE GRACE***

Historical Society of Harford County  
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.  
Bring your lunch and learn how Havre de Grace became known as “Little Chicago.” Presented by Annie McLhinney Cochran. Admission: Free. 410-838-7691

**Thursday 15  
GIRLS NIGHT OUT**

Downtown Bel Air, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
Grab your best girlfriends for a night of shopping, discounts, food and drink specials in downtown Bel Air. Visit [www.downtownbelair.com](http://www.downtownbelair.com) for more information.

**Sunday 18  
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES: *BEL AIR  
COMMUNITY BAND***

Humbert Amphitheater, Shamrock Park,  
7:00 p.m.  
Outdoor concert for all. Bring a picnic dinner and a chair or blanket. No rain date. Sponsor: Town of Bel Air and Harford County Cultural Arts Board. Free. 410-638-4550.

**Friday 23  
SUMMER MOVIE NIGHT**

Shamrock Park, 7:15 p.m. (movie at sunset).  
Bring the family for a fun and free movie night under the stars with pre-movie entertainment provided by the Bel Air Cultural Arts Commission. All movies are family friendly. Visit [www.downtownbelair.com](http://www.downtownbelair.com) for a list of scheduled movies.

**Saturday 24  
ANNUAL YARD SALE**

The Historical Society of Harford County,  
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Join the hunt for real bargains, from furniture to books, clothing, kitchen items, artwork and more! 410-838-7691

**Sunday 25  
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES: *BALTIMORE  
SYMPHONIC BAND***

Shamrock Park, 7:00 p.m.  
Outdoor concert for all. Bring a picnic dinner and a chair or blanket. No rain date. Sponsor: Town of Bel Air and Harford County Cultural Arts Board. Free. 410-638-4550



## Bel Air’s Department of Finance welcomes new staff member

Rachel Deaner has been appointed the Deputy Director of Finance.

“Rachel was formerly the Director of Finance for the Town of Perryville, so she brings direct experience in municipal finance to the Town of Bel Air,” says Lisa Moody, Director of Finance. “She will be an asset to the department with supervising, preparing monthly and quarterly financial reports, assisting in the preparation of the annual audit and the budget, and bringing a fresh set of ideas and suggestions on ways the department can be more effective and efficient.”



“I sensed that this job would be challenging,” says Rachel, who says that Bel Air provides an opportunity to work in a larger organization with more departments as well as in a town with so many community events for families.

Rachel holds a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Rowan University. She lives in Perryville with her husband, who returned to his hometown to work in the Perryville Casino. They have two school age children. She spends her free time gardening and as a volunteer with the Chesapeake Feline Association.

Committees & Commissions	Contact Us <a href="http://www.belairmd.org">www.belairmd.org</a>	Town Government
<p><b>Board of Town Commissioners</b> 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p><b>Planning Commission</b> 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p><b>Board of Appeals</b> 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p><b>Economic &amp; Community Development Commission</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 5:00 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p><b>Historic Preservation Commission</b> 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 6:00 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p><b>Appearance &amp; Beautification Commission</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall</p> <p><b>Cultural Arts Commission</b> 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 4:00 p.m., Armory Marketplace, Suite 105</p> <p><b>Tree Committee</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> 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><b>Town Administrator</b> Jesse Bane 410.638.4550 or 410.879.2711</p> <p><b>Administration Department</b> Michael L. Krantz, Director 410.638.4550 or 410.879.2711</p> <p><b>Finance Department</b> Lisa M. Moody, Director 410.638.4555 or 410.879.2712</p> <p><b>Economic Development Department</b> Trish Heidenreich, Director 410.838.0584</p> <p><b>Police Department</b> Charles Moore, Chief of Police 410-638-4518 or 410.638.4500</p> <p><b>Planning Department</b> Kevin Small, Director 410.638.4540 or 410.879.9500</p> <p><b>Public Works Department</b> Stephen D. Kline, Director 410.638.4536 or 410.879.9507</p> <p><b>Bel Air Bond Editor</b> Kathi Santora, The Writing Studio ksantora@gmail.com; 443.695.3345</p>

# Town of Bel Air Municipal Election Questions and Answers

Every two years, the Town of Bel Air holds a local election for the citizens to select who sits on the Board of Town Commissioners. This year, two seats are up for election, scheduled for November 7, 2017 at Bel Air Town Hall.

**Q: Who can run for election?**

**A:** According to Town Code, Commissioners shall have resided in the Town for at least six (6) months immediately preceding their election and shall be registered voters of the Town.

**Q: What type of government does the Town of Bel Air have?**

**A:** The Town of Bel Air operates on a non-partisan council-manager government model, which means that elected commissioners (some other municipalities may call them a council, board of aldermen or board of selectmen) oversee such issues as policy, public safety, finances and the overall vision of the Town. They often represent the Town at local public events.

The position of “mayor” is a ceremonial title. In Bel Air, the acting commissioners select this individual among themselves. Susan Burdette is the current mayor.

The Board of Commissioners act collectively, much like a Board of Directors in a private entity. They hire a Town Administrator who carries out all Town business and day-to-day operations. Jesse Bane has served in this role since January 2015.



**Q: How often do the Commissioners meet?**

**A:** Commissioners generally have public Town Hall meetings on the first and third Mondays of every month (except July and August). A work session is normally held on the Tuesday before every Town Hall meeting to discuss topics on the upcoming agenda.

**Q: How much are Commissioners paid?**

**A:** Commissioners receive \$4,800 per year in compensation and the Chair of the Board of Commissioners receives \$6,000 per year.

“Bel Air’s Board of Commissioners help the Town be a good custodian of the taxpayer’s dollar,” says Mr. Krantz. “The Town is always looking for people who wish to serve and support Bel Air as we move into the future.”

## Why mulch a tree?

- Insulates soil and provides a buffer to roots from temperature extremes
- Retains water and keeps roots moist
- Protects roots by decreasing weeds
- Prevents soil compaction
- Reduces lawnmower damage

## How to mulch

Surprisingly, even professional landscapers get it wrong sometimes. Avoid the “mulch volcano” that builds moisture around the root ball. This causes fungus, rot and decay and may kill the tree.

- Remove grass around the tree base
- Pour natural mulch such as wood chips or bark 2 to 4 inches deep within the circle around the tree.
- Keep mulch from touching the tree base.

From a bird’s eye view, the Town of Bel Air has a 37% Urban Tree Canopy, which is defined as the layer of woody material from trees (leaves, branches, stems) that cover the ground when viewed from above.

The all-volunteer **Bel Air Tree Committee**, coordinated by Town Planner Bob Syphard, meets monthly to provide long-term planning and oversight on how to keep trees in both community and residential areas thriving. The committee includes professional foresters, a plant pathologist, a nursery contractor and an arborist as well as several residents who are passionate about trees. The Bel Air Tree Committee will provide monthly tips in the Bel Air Bond about keeping your trees healthy and beautiful.

Mulch Volcano - BAD



Proper Mulching



## Preparing for disaster requires ongoing planning and practice

By Town Administrator Jesse Bane

When I first wrote this article, it was early February and the Town had escaped major snowstorms. Now I find myself making revisions because we did not dodge the bullet: we called her Winter Storm Stella. I should not have been surprised since my life's experiences usually included a major snow storm every March. Mother Nature did not let me down. This brings me to the crux of this article – disaster planning and preparedness.

Since my journey to Bel Air to serve as its Town Administrator just over two years ago, I began a review of our policies, protocol, and Memoranda of Understanding as they relate to the Town's ability to respond and address major disasters. This concern was the result of my tenure as a Deputy and as Sheriff when I witnessed many major incidents that placed populations at risk. I was involved in much planning and many exercises to deal with disasters that could or would affect Harford County. Ones that come to mind immediately, which I experienced first-hand, were the fire that destroyed a half block of businesses on Main Street in the late '60s; the H. Rap Brown trial in Bel Air, and the explosion that occurred at Baltimore Pike and Tollgate after subjects attempted to defuse a bomb intended to blow up our courthouse; Hurricane Agnes and the fear that authorities would have to blow the Conowingo Dam; and the development of plans and table top exercises to address the removal of buried chemical munitions at Lauderick Creek. I think you get the picture: events will occur. And we must be prepared.

First and foremost, planning is taking place to make certain we are prepared as best as we can to handle any disaster that threatens our Town, our citizens, our businesses, and those who frequent destinations within our borders.

On February 23, Town government leaders attended a training session, courtesy of the Harford County Department of Emergency Services, to prepare for a table top exercise that just took place on March 9. This table top was the first test of our recently revised and updated "COOP" plan (Continuity of Operations Plan), to see how well prepared we are to protect the population and property of Bel Air and its people in the event of a major disaster. The event was apocalyptic, but plausible, in nature and it tested our plan, our capacities and our leaders to the maximum. It postulated a tornado touching down on Main Street, destroying most of the downtown area. Planners from the Emergency Operations Center developed the exercise and were told to develop it as a worst-case scenario.

Following the exercise was a critique, noting what we did right and what did not go as well as we would have liked. It was a true measure of our ability to respond quickly; to determine the extent and adequacy of our resources; to determine the strength and cooperation of our partners; and to determine our ability to deal with the aftermath. We measured our strengths and weaknesses and, as a result, will improve upon our ability to respond to future incidents.

We are preparing a report for the commissioners to be presented at a future Town Hall Meeting. It will be an evaluation of the exercise and our preparedness, with proposed improvements we will make to our plan to make it even stronger. The date of this presentation will be announced on our web page ahead of time so that any member of the public can hear how well things went. I will clue you in ahead of time that you will be quite pleased with the results.

We want to thank our friends, John Richter, Rick Ayers and Susan Ayers at the Department of Emergency Services for lending us their time and talents during this exercise, and we want to thank Harford County Government for sharing its resources.

In closing, you must know that, in the event of a pending disaster, the Town will look to you, too, to play a role in protecting yourselves and your families. Know the major hazards that could occur and their impacts on you. And please know that the Town will continue to work with you and inform you how this is done. In the next issue of *The Bond*, part two of this article will discuss having a family emergency plan and instruct you on the preparation of a 7-Day Survival Kit. Special attention will also be paid to protecting children, those with special needs, and pets.

Until the next time, please remember, it's not "if" a major disaster will ever occur; it is a matter of "when."





The National Arbor Day Foundation recently recognized the Town of Bel Air on its 25th Anniversary as a Tree City USA town. The Bel Air Tree Committee has served for that entire time as well. Members bring a variety of expertise to the committee and meet regularly.

Pictured below are (Front, l to r) Town Commissioner Philip Einhorn. Tree Committee Chair Mike Simini, Vice-Chair Rowan Glidden, Frank Lopez, Marion McCarron, Wayne Merkel, Town of Bel Air Planner Robert Syphard and Mayor Susan Burdette. Rear: Town Commissioners Brendan Hopkins, Patrick Richards and Robert Preston. Above: Tod Ericson makes the presentation.





## Garden Mart

**Friday, May 5, 2017**  
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Rain or Shine!**

**New Location:**  
The Bel Air Armory  
37 N. Main Street

- > PLANTS & FLOWERS
- > BIRDHOUSES
- > BAKED GOODS
- > DECORATED TRAYS
- > CRAFTS
- > MIRRORS



The Bel Air Armory  
37 N. Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21034

*Music by:* **Matt Kineke, Singer & Acoustic Guitar**  
*Just Having Fun Singers*

*Lunches provided by Sunny Day Cafe \$5.00 (beverage supplies last)*



**WELCOME!** Country Garden Club Committee  
Evergreen Garden Club Committee  
Friendship Garden Club Committee  
Master Gardeners

**Special Guests:**  
Students from North Harford High School Natural Resources and Agricultural Science Magnet Program who will be selling annual plants, floral arrangements, and crafts made by the Art Department.



*Sponsored by: Town of Bel Air Appearance & Beautification Committee*