



Bladensburg Chronicle

TOWN OF BLADENSBURG NEWSLETTER

'TIS THE SEASON!



Winter Hay in Bladensburg, by Jules Dieudonné (1892)

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21st Annual Yule Log
Friday, December 2

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WINTER SAFETY TIPS

MAYOR'S MEMO

Dear Bladensburgers,

Time is flying by and the winter season is already here! We were just reminiscing our fall events and now New Year's is swiftly approaching. The month of October was a monumental one for us with the celebration of our 280th anniversary. Bladetober also included our very first Haunting of Town Hall and Bladensburg Police Department: Trunk-or-Treat events. A huge thanks to Town staff, public safety, volunteers, Elizabeth Seton High School, and the Bladensburg Waterfront Park for making these events possible.

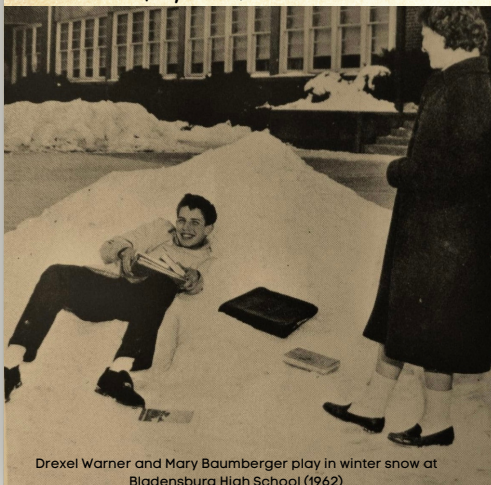
Another huge thanks to our Bladensburg residents for coming out and supporting these community events. I hope everyone had a safe, spooky, candy-driven Halloween!

The month of November was filled with gratitude, honor, and giving back. I visited longtime resident Julia Spencer's birthday party to celebrate 90 years of greatness. In collaboration with Victory Grace Center and No Opportunity Wasted Foundation, we were able to distribute 400 turkey and food baskets on Saturday, November 19 at Bladensburg High School. We had tremendous participation with over 20 community volunteers and 117 student volunteers that made the magic happen.

Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a wonderful holiday and a happy New Year! Stay tuned for more community events and news. May peace, love and prosperity follow you always.

Sincerely,

Mayor Takisha James



Drexel Warner and Mary Baumberger play in winter snow at Bladensburg High School (1962)

COUNCIL WING



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NOVEMBER 11, 2022

REDEDICATION PEACE CROSS MEMORIAL

A rededication for the newly restored Bladensburg Peace Cross Memorial was held on Veterans Day featuring local and state elected leaders. Huge thanks to all parties involved in restoring and saving this cross that is pivotal to our Bladensburg community.

The Peace Cross, first dedicated on July 12, 1925 by the American Legion, honors 49 residents of Prince George's County who lost their lives during World War I (1914-1918). In 2019, the Supreme Court ruled that the monument could remain on public land and does not violate the First Amendment's establishment clause. At Governor Hogan's direction, the State of Maryland filed an amicus brief in support of keeping the Peace Cross on public land.

This ceremony follows a comprehensive restoration after the monument's concrete structure and decorative facing materials began to degrade. Over the years, the 40-foot memorial has been struck by lightning, sustained damage from flooding from the nearby Anacostia River, and been hit by vehicle traffic. For the restoration, the M-NCPPC worked with Worcester Eisenbrandt, Inc. (WEI) of Baltimore, which also did work for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.



FALL EVENT RECAP

Haunting of Town Hall

Thanks for coming out to the inaugural Haunting of Town Hall. Special thanks to Staff, The Bladensburg Police Department Explorers, Elizabeth Seton High School, Capital Plaza Starbucks, and Bladensburg Branch Library for participating. We hope you had a spooktacular time to kick off Bladetober!

#WhatsInTheHall

280th Anniversary Celebration

What a day to celebrate 280 years of Bladensburg! Thanks to all who participated in this monumental moment. There were performances from the Elizabeth Seton High School Choir and We Lead By Example Inc. Tae Kwon Do Ramblers. We love you Bladensburg. Visit our YouTube channel for a special 280th Anniversary video.

#Blade280

Trunk-or-Treat

Bladensburg turned into Halloweentown! The Bladensburg Police Department, Fire Department, Elizabeth Seton, Boys and Girls Club, and more gave out tons of treats, with a few tricks. Hot cocoa, popcorn, cotton candy, and some real candy. Trunk or Treat 2022 was blast!

Thanksgiving Meal Distribution

The COMMUNITY came together to give back and we couldn't be more grateful for our partners and volunteers to make this Bladensburg

Thanksgiving Meal Distribution possible: No Opportunity Wasted Foundation, Victory Grace Center, Bladensburg High School, Elizabeth Seton High School, Bowie High School, Town Mayor/Council/Staff, Bladensburg Police Department, and of course, our residents.





TOWN EVENTS

21st Annual YULE LOG

Tis' the season, Bladensburg is coming, and the 21st annual Yule Log is here! Sweater weather is better together. Join us for holiday festivities here at Town Hall and David C. Harrington Park. A magical night with twinkling lights with a sky so enchanting and dark. A movie that will have you feeling festive and groovy. Food that puts you in a good mood. Bonfire with smores, and much much much more! Don't forget this event is free, should filled with joy and glee.

Friday, December 2

David C. Harrington Park/Bladensburg Town Hall
5:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.
4229 Edmonston Road, Bladensburg, MD 20710

SENIOR'S HOLIDAY GALA

A Winter Wonderland

Let's have a BALL! Join us for food, dancing, giveaways, and more. Come dressed in your Sunday's best!
Colors: BLACK, WHITE, & GOLD
Call Town Hall at (301) 927-7048 to register.

Thursday, December 8

Bladensburg Community Center
10:00a.m. to 2:00p.m.
4500 57th Avenue, Bladensburg, MD 20710

TOWN NEWS

New Bladensburg Mural

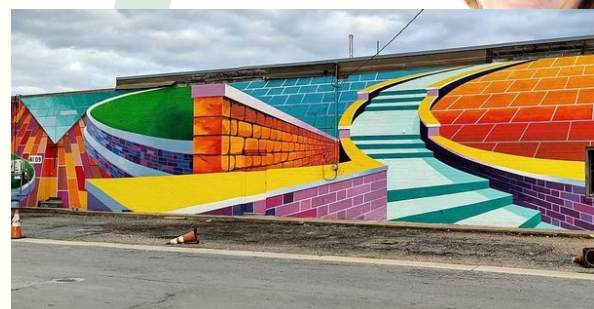
Annapolis artist Cindy-Fletcher-Holden has completed another beautiful Bladensburg mural, located at the Ernest Maier building material store. Be sure to stop by and check out her other artwork as well.

"This was all freehand, brushed and rolled paint. This was laid out using math, and winging it! I ventured away from the approved sketch and went with more vibrant colors. I treated this one more like fine art!"

Ernest Maier, Sr. who started his Bladensburg-based "Ernest Maier & Sons" block business in 1926, at the age of 26. The Ernest Maier business began operations at 4617 Annapolis Road and moved to its present location at 4700 Annapolis Road in the 1940's.

Tree Grant

The Town of Bladensburg has received a tree grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust to plant as many as 300 trees throughout the Town. Tree planting will begin Spring 2023.





CHIEF'S CORNER



A message from your Bladensburg Police Department Chief

I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to the men and women of the Bladensburg Police Department for their dedication and commitment to providing world-class police services to the residents of Bladensburg and the surrounding communities.

Thanks to the strong partnerships and friendships we continue to establish and strengthen to keep our communities safe and vibrant, I am immensely grateful.

Having the opportunity to serve as your Chief of Police makes me feel humble. The Town of Bladensburg is a wonderful place to live, work, and visit, and I have the opportunity to work closely with our Town Council on that endeavor.

As we enter into the holiday season I would like to take a moment to share some holiday safety tips with our community.

Remember, if you are planning to participate in holiday shopping, do not carry large sums of cash to prevent being the victim of a crime. If you are planning to carry cash, separate the cash into smaller amounts and place them in separate pockets. If you are using credit cards, pay close attention to the card reader to ensure that scammers/thieves have not placed credit card readers onto the legitimate card readers to steal your identity.

Lastly, if you are refueling your vehicles at gas stations, be sure to remove your keys from the ignition and take your valuables off the seats and lock your doors. From the men and women of the Bladensburg Police Department, we wish everyone a safe happy holiday and remember to celebrate responsibly.

-Chief Tyrone Collington

BLADENSBURG POLICE COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM

A NIGHT WITH SANTA TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Details coming soon!
check www.BladensburgMD.gov
or @bladensburgMD for updates.

WINTER SAFETY TIPS

Inside Your Home:

- Ensure you have emergency flashlights, water, and food supply in the event you lose power. Plan ahead, be sure to replace your open-flame candles with flameless/battery-powered candles and avoid going to the store in bad weather.
- Never use your oven to heat your home. Ovens can inefficiently burn, causing a buildup of Carbon Monoxide. Have all natural gas appliances checked by a licensed professional once a year.
- Along with checking your smoke detectors, place Carbon Monoxide detectors in areas where you have natural gas appliances. They save thousands of lives every year.
- Ensure any combustible materials are away from heat sources.
- If you have a real Christmas tree, ensure you water regularly and use bulbs that produce little to no heat. Do not overload power strips.

Outside Your Home

- Ensure the sidewalks and access to your home is clear of debris, snow, and leaves. This helps us have access to your home in an emergency situation.
- When shoveling snow, have good footwear, hydrate, and take breaks reduce the risk of cardiac arrest.
- If you have a fire hydrant near your home, ensure the fire hydrant is clear of snow and debris to ensure we can access it.
- Check on your neighbors from time to time to ensure they are safe and their basic needs are met.

BLAZIN' BELL



A message from your volunteer Bladensburg Fire Department Chief

Winter is upon us and with that comes some increased risks that can be found inside and outside your home.

Increased risk comes from slips, trips, and falls due to ice, holiday decorations or general clutter, but its also comes from often overlooked sources like flammable items left around heating materials and Carbon Monoxide (CO).

The Bladensburg Volunteer Fire Department along with the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department have some Safety Tips that will serve to make your Winter months safer.

The Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department Office of Community Relations offers a wide array of free Fire Prevention and Life Safety Education opportunities for school, business and community groups. For more information about how to keep you and your loved ones safe during the winter, call 301-883-5250. As always, the men and women of the Bladensburg Volunteer Fire Department remain ready to serve, no matter the season!

-Chief Dave Sumner



Santa Paws is coming to Town!
-Miles the Firehouse Dog

PUBLIC WORX

LEAF COLLECTION

- Leaf collections has begun and lasts until January 6: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
- Please rake leaves to the curb line, and away from cars and storm drains. The leaf vacuum cannot reach around cars.
- Remove tree limbs, rocks, trash, and other debris from leaves to be collected. They can damage the equipment and cause delays.
- No bagging is necessary during the leaf vacuum collection period.
- Your service will occur weekly according to the scheduled day for your area. There will be NO collections on holidays.
- Noise and dust may be noticeable. Dry conditions generate more dust.
- Do not block piles of leaves with your car.
- If you bag your leaves, please use paper yard waste bags. ONLY PLACE LEAF BAGS OUT ON MONDAYS.

WINTER TIPS FOR RESIDENTS

- Park all vehicles as close to the curb as possible, so plow trucks can operate safely.
- While cleaning off or around your vehicles, please don't shovel your snow back into the street. Best place to put the snow is in front or behind the vehicle that you're cleaning off or around.
- During snow events please treat plow truck operating in the Town like emergency vehicles.
- Please stay off the roads during heavy snow falls, over 50 percent of roads in town have minor inclines. Which will cause the vehicles to lose traction.
- Be cautious when driving late at night. Roads can be tricky and slick.



CODE 1742

SNOW SHOVELING TIPS

- Take it slow and stretch out before you begin
- Push the snow rather than lifting it.
- If you do lift it, use a small shovel or only partially fill the shovel
- Lift with your legs, not your back
- Do not work to the point of exhaustion

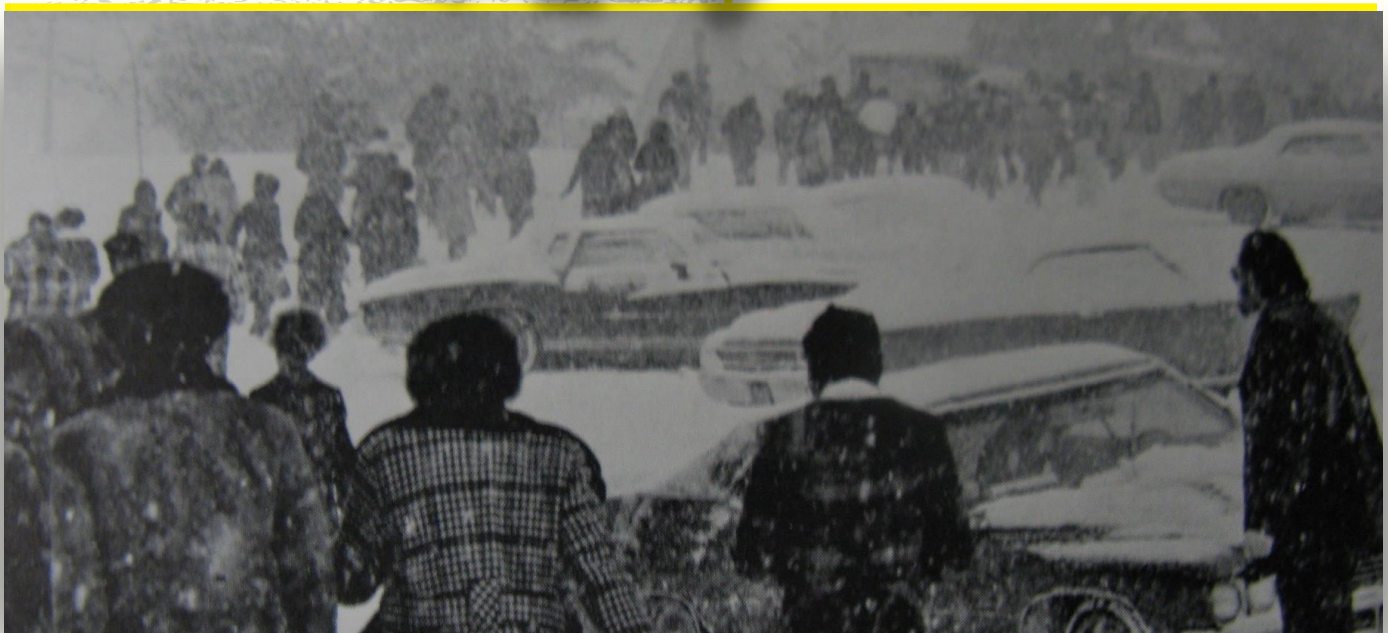
SNOW BLOWER TIPS

- If the blower jams, turn it off
- Keep your hands away from the moving parts
- Do not drink alcohol and use the snow blower
- Be aware of the carbon monoxide risk of running a snow blower in an enclosed space
- Refuel your snow blower when it is off, never when it is running

WINTER PREPERATION

- Please remember to winterize your outdoor water faucets. By shutting off the indoor water supply line that feeds to the outdoor faucet. Open outdoor faucet and allow dripping until it stops. Continue to leave open until the spring, the reverse the process.
- While grass and weeds are in hibernation we must deal with fallen leaves, clogged drains, gutters, and removing the snow and ice in front of your resident, and abutting property. We request that you disposed of your leaves in approved Leaf recycling bags.
- Plastic bags containing yard waste will not be accepted. Recycling must be placed in the marked recycling containers. If you have an abundance of household recycling please do not use colored plastic bags, only clear plastic bags will be accepted. You may use an extra container designated for recycling at your cost.
- If you have a Fire Hydrant by your home please sure that you dig a 3ft round the hydrant
- Placing cones and other barricades in the streets to reserve parking spaces is prohibited by Town ordinance.
- When the snow does come, remember to remove the snow and ice from your sidewalk, and abutting properties within 24 (twenty four) hours following a snow or freeze.
- Please check on your older neighbors and assist them with snow removal if needed.

American Rescue Plan Act Emergency Mortgage Assistance application available on www.BladensburgMD.gov!



Bladensburg High School closes early during snow storm (1974)

TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
4229 Edmonston Road
Bladensburg, MD 20710

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
FROM THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG



PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail



Local
Postal Customer

UPCOMING WORK SESSION & COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monday, December 12

(The second Monday of every month)

Work session: 5:30p.m.

Council meeting: 7:00pm
Residents may view the meetings via
Zoom, Facebook, and YouTube.

COMMUNICATIONS



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Town of Bladensburg

The Port: Weekly Update

Subscribe to receive
weekly email updates.
Thursdays at 7:00p.m.

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