



North Brentwood Newswire

A Heritage to Remember, a Future to Mold



February 2023

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

Why Black History Month is Still Relevant

In the wake of recent controversies, it may seem that history is repeating itself; maybe, Black History Month (BHM) doesn't change minds... Not so. Awareness erodes barriers and preconceived notions: a month-long tribute to African Americans' contributions to society is exactly the right thing, at the right time.

It's not an easy time. Horrific events such as the deaths of Tyre Nichols, Trayvon Martin, Breonna Taylor and George Floyd, to name a few, are stoking culture wars playing out across the country.

Also consider the controversy about critical race theory (stating people who are white have benefited from ingrained racism in American institutions). How students learn about race today echoes a time when Black history was ignored in an academic framework.

In the decades after the Civil War, including the racial violence across the country following World War I, there was a concerted effort to repress the teaching of Black history. In the South, especially, topics such as Reconstruction and slavery were omitted, distorting

curricula. It wasn't until 1951 that Black history was required for public schools in one state: California.

At the university level, Black studies programs were almost nonexistent. However, largely as a result of the 1960's Civil Rights and Black Consciousness movements, higher education institutions began offering Black history courses.

And, throughout the US, public schools created courses and mandates to teach Black history, paving the way for the modern Black History Month.

Why is Black History Month in February?

In 1926, it was Carter G. Woodson (a scholar referred to as the "Father of Black History") who established Negro History Week, to focus attention on Black contributions to civilization. Woodson — the son of former enslaved people and the second Black American to earn a Harvard doctorate — famously said: "If a race has no history, if it has no worthwhile tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world, and it stands in danger of being exterminated." *(Continued on page two)*

When it was still only a weeklong event, Woodson chose 7 days in February to honor Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. Douglass, who was born enslaved and didn't know his birth date, celebrated it on Feb. 14. Lincoln, whose birthday was Feb. 12, famously freed US slaves via 1863's Emancipation Proclamation. "Those two people were central to helping to afford Black people the experience of freedom that they have now," said W. Marvin Dulaney, president of Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), which Woodson founded in 1915; today, ASALH is the official promoter of Black History Month.

In 1976, President Gerald Ford expanded Negro History Week into a full month, stating the country needed to, "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area throughout our history." This statement still holds true. Black History Month is also celebrated in Canada in February and the United Kingdom in October.

This month enables us to challenge what we think we know, by: digging deeper to understand actual events of the past (and key figures of the present) not taught in schools or portrayed in the media. Many believe films, TV and the media showcase negatives of the Black community. Conversely, BHM celebrates leaders who contribute positive change to the world, helping to mitigate biased stereotypes.

Black History Month & Juneteenth 2023

This year's Black History Month theme is Resistance, a nod to Black Americans' historic resistance of ongoing oppression, in all forms. Learn more at asalh.org.

June 19 is known as Juneteenth: the oldest annual US holiday commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African Americans. Learn more at Juneteenth.com.

This month, let's take a pause and focus on a positive narrative of Black culture – honoring successful business leaders, scientists, poets, musicians, philanthropists, and artists... **Info about North Brentwood's BHM events, at NBCC, is on page 3 of this newsletter.**

Sources: npr.org and onecirclefoundation.org

Notice of Town Election

North Brentwood will hold an election May 1 to elect a Mayor and an At-large Council Member.

Qualified candidates wishing to become mayor must be 25 years-old, or older, and have resided in North Brentwood for the past two years. One year is required for the at-large council seat.

Candidates for the mayoral seat must submit a petition with 20 signatures, of North Brentwood citizens who are registered voters, to one of the three appointed election judges (to be announced).

Candidates running for at-large council must submit a petition with 10 signatures of registered North Brentwood voters to an election judge.

The election judges certify each petition, which permits the candidate's name to be placed on the ballot. Therefore, it is advisable to get more than the stated number of signatures, in case of a problem with one or two signatures.

You are eligible to vote in the Town election if you're: a US citizen, at least 18 years of age, a resident within the corporate limits of the Town for 30 days immediately preceding the election, and a qualified PG County voter.

Additional election info will be available in subsequent newsletters and on our website: northbrentwood.com.

Meanwhile, North Brentwood residents, especially new ones, should check with the Prince George's County Board of Elections to ensure they are registered. Go to: voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/votersearch



Election Resource





**NORTH BRENTWOOD
CELEBRATES
BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH
February 2023**

10 NIGHT OF JAZZ/COMEDY
Friday, February 10, 2023
Registration required, call in
301.864.0756
FREE; 7 PM - 10 PM
North Brentwood
Community Center

**11 INTERGENERATIONAL
POOL TOURNAMENT**
Saturday, February 11, 2023
North Brentwood
Community Center
12 PM

18 COMMUNITY BONDING
SPONSORED BY
NORTH BRENTWOOD
CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
Saturday, February 18, 2023
North Brentwood
Community Center
12 PM
arts/crafts/activities.
Door prizes / light refreshments

**25 BLACK HISTORY MONTH
CELEBRATION**
WITH
COUNTY COUNCILWOMAN
WANIKA FISHER
Saturday, February 25, 2023
North Brentwood
Community Center
12 PM
entertainment, door prizes,
refreshments

4012 Webster Street
for more information on registrations please call
301.864.0756

Cultural Attire Recommended!

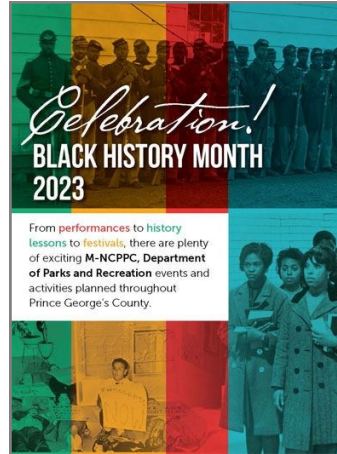
M-NCPPC Line Up of Events

Celebrate Black-American heritage this month! From performances to history lessons and tours, there are plenty of exciting in-person and virtual events planned throughout Prince George's County. Go to pgsuite.com/calendar.

Black History Month 2023 Exhibition

Black Resistance! Stories from Prince George's County

Saturday, February 4, 2023 – Sunday, March 26, 2023



The African American experience has included many forms of oppression, rooted in anti-blackness – which has *not* been met with acquiescence, but resistance! This year's exhibit highlights stories of Black resistance in PG County, from the era of enslavement to the Black Lives Matter movement of the present.

The exhibition is curated by the M-NCPPC Black History Program. Group tours are available for school/community groups. To schedule a group tour, call 240.264.3415 or email blackhistory@pgparks.com.

All ages, FREE

Montpelier Arts Center, 9652 Muirkirk Rd, Laurel, MD
Gallery Hours: Sunday through Saturday, 10 am – 5 pm

Understanding Afro-Caribbean/Afro-Latinx History

Explore the Afro-Latinx culture and history, and its influence on the Afro-Caribbean culture, through short documentaries videos, music, activities, and games. The Xtreme Teens night includes an Afro-Latinx panel sharing personal stories and leading an open, heartfelt discussion.

Ages 10 –17; FREE

Rollingcrest-Chillum Community Center
Friday, February 24, 2023 at 7-10 pm

Register at <https://bit.ly/3GfJshy>

For a complete list of M-NCPPC events:
pgparks.com.aspx or scan the QR code.



Honoring Thurgood Marshall

Legislation (S.3863), introduced by US Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen, in 2020, finally passed into law — the statue of Chief Justice Roger Brooke Taney (1777–1864), at the entrance of the US Capitol's Old Supreme Court Chamber, will be replaced with a bust of Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. Why? Taney authored the infamous Dred Scott decision ruling African-Americans were not US citizens and Congress could not prohibit slavery. Justice Marshall was the first African-American to serve on the nation's highest court.



Senator Cardin stated:

Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall is an inspiration, a person who propelled his rise from West Baltimore to the highest court in the country through hard work, intellectual evolution and unwavering morality. A civil rights icon, Thurgood Marshall argued cases that began to bring down the walls of segregation in his home state and nationwide. Among other landmark cases, his arguments in *Murray vs. Pearson* led to the desegregation of the University of Maryland School of Law and his arguments in *Brown vs. Board of Education* led this nation to recognize that the doctrine of 'separate but equal' was antithetical to our ideals of freedom and liberty. I can think of no better person for us to highlight and celebrate in the US Capitol.

Senator Van Hollen added:

As our country continues to grapple with the past and future of civil rights and systemic racism, we should highlight leaders in history that have propelled us towards justice and put an end to the glorification of those who stood in its way. From his neighborhood in Baltimore to the halls of the Supreme Court, Thurgood Marshall worked his entire life to help build civil rights in America from the ground up. Marshall's work is a crucial reminder that we must continue pressing

forward. His steadfast legacy should be memorialized in the Halls of Congress and never forgotten.

In 2017, a statue of Taney was removed from the grounds of the Maryland State House in Annapolis, per order of then-Governor Hogan.

Sources:

[cnn.com](https://www.cnn.com)

[balTIMOREsun.com](https://www.balTIMOREsun.com)

cardin.senate.gov



National Library Lover's Month

In addition to honoring Black History, February is for those who love that entire buildings are devoted to reading, housing, organizing, categorizing, finding, studying, and preserving books. A library is a place to discover great novels and nonfiction, while helping us ace research papers and offering a quiet study space.

But there's so much more... Libraries have educational entertainment for kids, e.g., theater, activities, music, art, and friendship. Many communities rely on library meeting spaces for public forums, socials, fundraisers, and classes. Libraries also: provide resources for researching family and community heritage, lend media like movies and music, offer digital resources, have preservation services, and house rotating exhibits giving local artists exposure to the community.

HOW TO OBSERVE #NationalLibraryLoversMonth

Enjoy your library; consider volunteering your time, too. If you don't have a library card, it's never too late!

Other ways to honor National Library Lover's Month:

- Making a list of libraries you would like to explore.
- Writing a story about being trapped in a library.
- Helping someone obtain their library card.
- Giving your favorite library a social media shout-out.
- Creating a list of books to check out in 2023.

Source: nationaldaycalendar.com

Mortgage and/or Utility Assistance

North Brentwood is accepting applications from residents for rental/mortgage and/or utility assistance. Our Residential Assistance program provides temporary relief to all eligible applicants who've experienced financial hardship during the pandemic.

Please complete the application included on pages 7-8 of this newsletter. It's also available in the Forms section of our website: northbrentwood.com/town-services.

Drop off a signed copy at the Town office, during normal operating hours; or email to Councilmember Wiley (cwiley@northbrentwood.com) or Councilmember Dame (edame@northbrentwood.com). Any questions may be directed to either councilmember.

Currently, North Brentwood pays a maximum of \$2,000 for rental/mortgage help and/or utility assistance. Approved households will be able to reapply for more assistance in the future, pending available funds.

Code Officer Cuffie's Corner

Winter Weather & Pet Safety

Exposure to extreme winter weather can harm our pets, if we leave or take them outside for a prolonged period.

Prince George's County law states: "All domestic animals, except livestock, are prohibited from being kept outdoors when the effective outdoor wind chill index is 32 degrees Fahrenheit."

For their safety, ensure four-legged family members are kept warm and their paws are clear of snow/ice.

When left unattended outdoors, pets can get frostbite, or become disoriented, and freeze to death. What is more, hypothermia, which is life-threatening, may result from extended exposure to cold.

If there are outdoor cats in your area, bang loudly on your car hood before starting the engine to give cats a



chance to escape. Cats like to seek shelter from the cold and may be under your car's hood.

Learn more tips to care for our animals during winter, and county laws, at bit.ly/coldtipsforpet.

Report animal cruelty incidents to 301.780.7200.

Stay Alert

Thefts of auto airbags are on the rise across the country and we're seeing thefts here at home, too. The steps you can take, to help protect your vehicle from airbag theft, are the same for preventing your car from being broken into or stolen:



- Use a steering wheel lock every time you park
- Park in well-lit areas in public
- Keep your porch light on when parking at home
- Use home surveillance video for parking areas
- Have an alarm system with glass-break sensors

Waste Collection

Warning: Properly discarding waste is important to our community safety. Remember, it's imperative bulk trash, recycling and/or yard waste doesn't sit outside before collection time; you may be fined \$100 if you fail to comply. In addition, all mattresses and box springs are to be wrapped in plastic.

Project Permits

If you are going to start a new home improvement project, please find out if you need a Town permit. Email me, at mcuffie@northbrentwood.com, or call my extension at North Brentwood Municipal office, during hours of operation, at 301.699.9699 x1223.



US 1 (Rhode Island Ave) Trolley Trail

Hyattsville Bicycle-Pedestrian Route Project



2023 Project Update No. 5

All work is performed as permitted barring emergencies and manpower shortages. (Construction equipment may be disruptive.)

- Reconstruction of full-depth asphalt for widening road, at the median of US-1, between Braxton Place and Charles Armentrout Drive.
- Installation of two manholes, near the intersection of 42nd Place and Charles Armentrout Drive.
- Placing concrete for five-foot sidewalk, ramps, curb and gutter at the intersection of 41st Place and US-1.

Looking ahead:

- Reinforced concrete pipe installation at the intersection of Charles Armentrout Drive and northbound of US-1.
- The concrete for signal foundation will be poured.
- Installation of standard ten-foot COG (Curb Opening Grate) inlets throughout trail road network.

Lane closures:

- MDOT SHA maintaining one through-lane traffic, and one northbound lane closure, on US 1 (Rhode Island Ave) for the duration of this accessibility project.
- MDOT SHA maintaining intermittent single southbound lane closures, weekdays, 9 am to 5 pm.

Questions? Email Mr. Dereje Gizaw, Project Engineer, at gizaw.consultant@mdot.maryland.gov or Mr. Ryan Doran, District 3 Area Engineer, at rdoran@mdot.maryland.gov.

To join the project email list, send an email to Ms. Carm Saimbre: csaimbre@mdot.maryland.gov.

For the latest project details, go to the online portal: mdot-sha-us1-trolley-trail-pg8675188-maryland.hub.arcgis.com/

Helpful Tips when Shoveling Snow

Warm up with gentle stretches before shoveling.

Out of shape or overweight?

- Tackle snow shoveling at a slow pace, to avoid the risk of a heart attack.
- Push snow out of your way instead of lifting it, whenever possible.
- Take small loads of snow on your shovel.
- Bend your knees, keep your back straight and lift with your legs. Keep your arms close to your body when lifting a load.



Take frequent breaks:

- Stand up and walk around to reduce strain on lower back.
- Extend/stretch your back muscles.
- Place your hands on the back of hips; slightly, gently bend backwards - do not bounce.

Be Prepared Even in Your Car

Before taking a winter trip, tell someone where you're going, intended route and expected arrival time. Keep your gas tank full to prevent gas line freeze-up. Have an emergency kit in the car with:

- * Jumper cables
- * Roadside flares
- * Window ice scraper
- * Blanket or sleeping bag
- * Extra pair of gloves
- * Fresh water and high-energy food
- * Heat pads made for hunting
- * Candles/matches in weather-tight container
- * Cellphone, CB, or emergency calling device
- * Flashlight with fresh batteries
- * Pencil and notepad for messages
- * Small shovel
- * Traction items (bag of sand, cat litter and mats)



Church Services: *Most are held virtually*

- ◇ **First Baptist Church of North Brentwood**
4000 Wallace Road / 301.277.4742
Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. Duane T. Kay
Sunday Service: 9:45 am
Facebook Live: First Baptist Church of North Brentwood, MD / YouTube Live: FBCNB Church
Teleconference: 712.770.5505, code 54327#
- ◇ **AME Zion Church**
4037 Webster Street / 301.927.7698
Rev. Samuel Whittaker
Sunday School: Live Facebook service 10 am
- ◇ **St James Pentecostal Church**
3925 Allison Street / 301.277.4376
Rev. Carolyn Dildy
Sunday Service: 11:30 am

Senior Call Check

Adults 65-plus years old may opt for a FREE Maryland Department of Aging service: receive an automated daily call at a time you choose. After three attempts and no answer, the agency will contact designated alternates to check on your safety. Registration may be completed by phone at 866.50.CHECK (1.866.502.0560) or online at aging.maryland.gov/Pages/senior-call-check.aspx

COVID-19 Updates

As of February 3, 483 Marylanders were recently hospitalized, and the positivity rate decreased to 9.80%. K-N95 masks are still available at the Town Office. For a PCR or Rapid Antigen test, call 240.832.6952.

GET YOUR VACCINE!



FREE COVID-19 vaccines & boosters available for ages 5+!

NO APPOINTMENT OR INSURANCE NEEDED!

First United Methodist Church, 6201 Belcrest Rd.

Tuesdays, 11 AM - 7 PM
11 AM - 7 PM: Vaccines & boosters for ages 12+
3 - 7 PM: Vaccines & boosters for ages 5+

Saturdays, 9 AM - 1 PM
Vaccines & boosters for ages 3+

Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult

HYATTSVILLE.ORG/COVIDVACCINE
(240) 832 6952

WMATA Senior Smart Trip Cards

Gwendolyn Britt Senior Activity Center sells WMATA Senior Smart Trip Cards at 4009 Wallace Rd. Must be at least 65 years of age with a government-issued photo ID. Cost of the card is \$2. See front desk staff to make your purchase during hours of operation: Monday through Friday, from 9 am to 3:30 pm. Have questions? Call 301.699.1238.

SAVE THE DATE

2.28.23

CAREER TAKEOVER

NEW YEAR! NEW ME! NEW BAG!

Youth & Young Adult Career Symposium (Ages 16-24)

February 28th 3pm - 7pm

Southern Regional Technology & Recreation Complex
7007 Bock Rd, Fort Washington, MD 20744

Dedicated to 16-24 year olds, in need of employment, training, and resources!

PRE-REGISTER FOR THE EVENT TODAY:
<https://bit.ly/NewYearNewMeNewBag>



SCAN ME



Please join Council Member **WANIKA FISHER** DISTRICT 2 for

D2 COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSIONS

ZOOM MEETINGS

<p>January 18, 2023 • 7 p.m. Adelphi Cool Springs Buck Lodge</p> <p>January 25, 2023 • 7 p.m. Langley Park</p> <p>February 01, 2023 • 7 p.m. Mount Rainier</p>	<p>February 08, 2023 • 7 p.m. City of Hyattsville</p> <p>February 15, 2023 • 7 p.m. Lewisdale Carol Highlands Chillum</p> <p>February 22, 2023 • 7 p.m. North Brentwood Brentwood</p>
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Register here:
bit.ly/District2CommunityListeningSession

For more information, contact
(301) 952-4436 or councildistrict2@co.pg.md.us.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

Raise Your Voice

Join County Council Member Wanika Fisher, on February 22, 2023 at 7 pm via Zoom.

This is a great opportunity to discuss your concerns, questions, or ideas about your vision for North Brentwood.



Application for Residential Assistance

APPLICANT NAME:

Current Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

Primary Phone:

Alternate Phone:

HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

(List the Head of Household and all other members who live in the residence. Give the relationship of each family member to the head.)

Member's Full Name	Relationship	Birthdate	Age	Sex	Social Security No.

Race of Head of Household (Check One) - Optional

(This information is being collected to assure compliance with fair housing and equal opportunity rules.)

- ☐ White ☐ Black ☐ Asian/Pacific Islander
☐ Native American/Alaskan Native ☐ Hispanic

You may qualify for a rental/mortgage assistance and/or utility assistance if any or all of the following circumstances can be verified for your household. Please check any that apply to you.

- ☐ Are you currently more than 30 days past due on rent and/or mortgage payments? If yes, please explain:
- ☐ Are you currently more than 30 days past due on any utility bills? If yes, please explain:

APPLICATION CERTIFICATION: I/we understand that the above information is being collected to determine if I/we are eligible to receive residential assistance. I/we authorize the Town of North Brentwood to verify all information provided on this application.

Head of Household Signature	Date	Spouse Signature	Date





Overdue Bills

What are the types and amounts of overdue bills (e.g. mortgage/rent or utility bill such as electric, gas, or water)?

Type of Bill	Amount Past Due	Days Past Due	Payment Basis (weekly, monthly, etc.)

Please attach any overdue utility bills or rent/mortgage payment to this application and e-mail the entire package to cwiley@northbrentwood.com or edame@northbrentwood.com. You may also drop off a hard copy of the application and any accompanying documents at the town office during normal operating hours.

If approved for financial assistance, any monies awarded will be paid directly to the mortgage/lease holder and/or utility company. No direct cash payments will be made to residents.

APPLICATION CERTIFICATION: I/we understand that the above information is being collected to determine if I/we are eligible to receive residential assistance. I/we authorize the Town of North Brentwood to verify all information provided on this application.

Head of Household Signature	Date	Spouse Signature	Date





Angela D. Alsobrooks
County Executive

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY SUMMER JOBS!

About Us

The Prince George's County Summer Youth Enrichment Program provides opportunities for young people, ages 14 to 22, across the County to receive career development, job readiness training and employment.

- Earn money
- Explore a career field
- Learn new skills
- Meet new people

Get Ready

Application Dates:

March 1 - March 31, 2023

Program Dates:

July 5 - August 11, 2023

Pay:

Hourly and stipend opportunities are available

@ PGCSYEP

✉ SYEP@co.pg.md.us

🌐 syep.mypgc.us

☎ (301) 883-6200



CALEB SMITH: YOUNGEST GLIDER PILOT IN THE NATION

February 18th, 2023

10:00am-1:00pm

Aviation Museum at College Park Airport

Come listen to Caleb Smith speak about his journey on becoming the youngest glider pilot in the nation on November 2021, and how his success is inspiring the next generation of pilots!



College Park Airport
1909 Corporal Frank Scott Dr.
College Park, MD 20740
301-864-6029



COVID-19 Test to Treat



Test to
Treat Resources

The sooner you act on COVID-19 symptoms, the better. If you test positive — and are more likely to get very sick — treatments are available to reduce your chance of severe illness.

Here's what you need to know: If you test positive, talk to your doctor/healthcare provider right away to find out if medication is right for you, even if your symptoms are mild. There are multiple options for treating COVID-19 at home or in an outpatient setting.

If you're symptomatic, you may also want to consider using the Test to Treat program. With thousands of locations nationwide, it can provide fast, easy access to lifesaving COVID-19 treatments. If you test positive, see a healthcare provider; and, if eligible, get a prescription for an oral COVID-19 medication and have that prescription filled — all at one location.



North Brentwood Newswire

A Heritage to Remember, a Future to Mold

Town Directory

Town Office: 301.699.9699

Mayor: Petrella Robinson x1225

Council Members:

Aaron Baynes x1227

Charles Wiley x1222

Evan Dame x1229

Town Manager:

Jacqueline Goodall x1226

Treasurer: Shelley Dorsey x1224

Code Enforcement Officer:

Martha Cuffie x1223

Town Clerk: Carl Jones x1221

Assistant Clerk:

Cristian Ortiz-Romero x1227

Maintenance: Greg Butler

Prince George's County Police: 911

Non-Emergency: 301.333.4000

Park Police:

Non-Emergency: 301.459.9088

Emergency 301.459.3232

Notaries:

D. Edmonds 240.581.0838

S. Jones 301.922.2259

C. Ortiz-Romero 240.351.6302

Community Channel:

Comcast 71 Verizon 1983

REMINDERS...

Upcoming Town Meetings:

February 21, 2023 | March 6, 2023 | March 20, 2023

Meetings are conducted via ZOOM @ 7:30 pm.

Meeting ID: 433 091 3800 / Passcode: 4009 / Call: 301.715.8592

All Town meetings begin at 7:30 pm. Join and share your ideas and concerns, and learn what's going on in North Brentwood and surrounding municipalities. We look forward to hearing from you!

North Brentwood Citizens Association: Next meeting will be on February 13. The call-in number is 774.267.2052.

North Brentwood Historical Society: TBD.

Dial-in number: 774.267.2052.

NEW SHARE Program: North Brentwood residents interested in receiving SHARE packages must call 301.699.9699 to be added to the list. Please leave your name, contact number and address.

If you have news to share, email asstclerk@northbrentwood.com, by the 3rd Monday of each month with subject line "Newsletter."

Boletín En Español



We're on the Web:

www.NorthBrentwood.com and



Town of North Brentwood-Prince George's

North Brentwood Resident

