



North Brentwood Newswire

A Heritage to Remember, a Future to Mold

November 2022



Wes Moore, with running mate Aruna Miller (Maryland's first Lieutenant Governor to be an immigrant and woman of color), will be sworn in on January 18, 2023.

Maryland Elects First Black Governor!

Wes Moore has won Maryland's governor race: the son of a single-mother Jamaican immigrant, became the third Black governor in American history (after Deval Patrick in MA and L. Douglas Wilder in VA) and the first Black person in this state to hold the title. Also making history is Moore's running mate, former state delegate Aruna Miller, the state's first immigrant and woman of color to serve as Lieutenant Governor.

Moore, a political newcomer, is a longtime businessman and philanthropist. His background prepares him for Governorship, including being: a Johns Hopkins graduate and football player, a Rhodes scholar, an Army officer and paratrooper in Afghanistan, a White House fellow, a former investment banker, and CEO of the Robinhood Foundation, the US's largest poverty-fighting nonprofit.

The Governor-Elect's nearly two-year campaign focused on his personal story facing adversity. His book, *The Other Wes Moore*, begins at age three seeing his father

die from a misdiagnosed illness. Moore vows to work with police and local communities to usher in an era of public safety; he also plans to champion abortion access and have appointees reflective of the people. "Our administration will look like the state of Maryland. I want for everyone around the state of Maryland, when you look at all of our [eventually] cabinet and agency heads... to know they are going to be respected and represented in the decision-making process," Moore said. To date, Moore's appointments are Marylanders: Fagan Harris, Chief of Staff; Tisha Edwards, Secretary of Appointments; Eric Luedtke, Chief Legislative Officer; Helene Grady, Secretary of Dept of Budget and Management; and Amanda La Forge, Chief Legal Counsel.

Moore hews closely to a message of inclusion and progress: "We leave no one behind. And that is not just a mantra, it is a value statement. And it is not just a value statement. Come January, that will be the new mission of this state."

*Town of North Brentwood
P.O. Box 196, 4009 Wallace Road
North Brentwood, Maryland 20722*

*Open: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9am-1pm
Office 301.699.9699 Fax 301.699.1824
Community Channels: Comcast 71, Verizon 1983*

Mayor's Robinson's Message



I greet North Brentwood's residents with great pleasure after a *trying* few years. While we are still confronted with COVID-19 and its restrictions, I can say we've come a long way. I encourage *all* to get up to

date with the boosters. The holidays are upon us again, and we're more relaxed than previous years; but, we still must be cautious and consider COVID is still here.

As Mayor, I have tried to bring to our community resources to help all residents. The Share food program has helped more than 90 people in North Brentwood with food each month. We have implemented the Housing and Utility Assistance program, to which some have applied. I urge our residents: if you need help with utilities and/or housing payments, and are 30-plus days past due, act now! The application is in this newsletter and on northbrentwood.com. Call the Town office, at 301.699.9699, if you have questions.

Exciting things are happening in North Brentwood! The Town is moving forward with multiple projects: Sis's Tavern completion, Windom Road construction and barrier, Allison Street improvement, enforcing the towing of illegally parked cars, and strategies to help North Brentwood Citizens Association and North Brentwood Historical Society. I would encourage our citizens to support these fine organizations by becoming members and attending the activities.

Remember, no matter how diverse the holiday traditions and celebrations are around the world, one thing for sure is things get more hectic, and folks get busier, at this time of the year. Be aware of your surroundings, be careful, and watch out for scams.

I wish everyone a safe, healthy, joyous holiday season.

Respectfully your Mayor,



Code Officer Cuffie's Corner



J&L Towing has posted towing signs around Town, to help mitigate illegal parking problems.

The fee is \$215, for vehicles less than 10,000 lbs., for the first 18 hours, plus a \$50 storage fee every additional 24 hours thereafter.



For vehicles heavier than 10,000 lbs., the fee is \$300 for the first 18 hours, after which a \$50 storage fee is charged every 24 hours.

Be aware... all cars and trucks with expired tags are subject to being towed.

Lastly, yard waste will continue to be picked up through mid-January, before a break until spring.

Municipal Government Works Month

Since 1993, Maryland's cities and towns have celebrated Municipal Government Works (MGW) Month each



November, to promote citizens' interest in and understanding of governments serving communities.

To elevate municipal government awareness, Mayor Robinson issued a proclamation on November 7, 2022 naming November as MGW Month. Participating in MGW Month enables municipalities to:

- Actively showcase their government/how it works.
- Foster goodwill by educating youth about the impact of local government.
- Fulfill two requirements for the MD Municipal League (MML) Banner City/Town program.
- Maximize MML membership by taking part in League programs and activities.

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.

Festival of Lights



Each winter, Watkins Regional Park, in Upper Marlboro, invites visitors for an amazing drive-through holiday light show of two million twinkling lights. New displays include a 54-foot LED musical tree. Sponsored by the Department of Parks and Recreation, this is one of the most affordable area light festivals. *Free on Christmas Day!* More park attractions: Chesapeake Carousel, Old Maryland Farm, mini-train, and Watkins Nature Trail.

Dates: Friday, Nov 25, 2022 through Sunday, Jan 1, 2023

Hours: 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Price: \$10 per car/\$15 at gate; \$20 per van/limo
Reserve tickets at pgparksdirect.com.

Remembering Charles Franklin

Sympathy is extended to Emma Franklin and family on the loss of husband, father and Town resident Charles Franklin, who passed on Saturday November 12, 2022. Let's keep the Franklin family in our prayers.

Notes: Mayor & Council Meetings



Ordinance 2022-05: Enacting a new Chapter 176 "Portable Storage Containers and Dumpsters" of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of North Brentwood, Maryland creating certain regulations, prohibitions, penalties and fines enforced as a municipal infraction regarding the Regulation of Portable Storage Containers and Dumpsters on Residential Property or Municipal Streets.

Holiday recess: Mayor Robinson and the North Brentwood Council will not meet in December.

COVID-19 Updates



As of November 15, 426 Marylanders were recently hospitalized, and the positivity rate fell to 6.72%. K-N95 masks are still available at the Town Office.

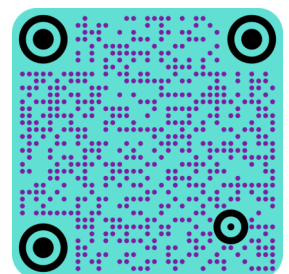
For PCR or Rapid Antigen tests, call Lotus Primary Care and Wellness Clinic in Hyattsville (6495 New Hampshire Ave #140) at 240.770.4177.

New Resident Welcome Package

Did you know... North Brentwoodians have access to a welcome package? It has essential info: Town history, our form of government, waste collection services, a phone directory, community channel details, and more. Even if you've lived in North Brentwood for years, pick up a copy at the Town office or check it out on our website's 'About' page.



Welcome Package Scan



Peace Cross Rededication



A rededication for the newly restored Bladensburg Peace Cross Memorial was held on Veterans Day 2022, featuring local and state elected leaders, e.g., current Governor Larry Hogan.

The Peace Cross, which was first dedicated on July 12, 1925 by the American Legion, honors 49 county residents who lost their lives during World War I (1914-1918).

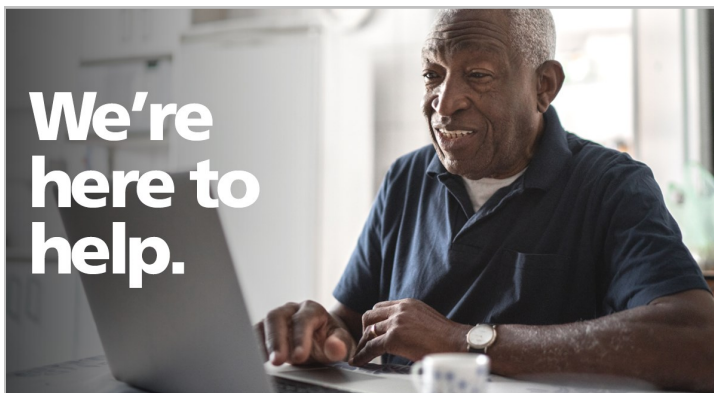
In 2019, the Supreme Court ruled the monument could remain on public land and does not violate the First Amendment's establishment clause. At Governor Hogan's direction, the State of Maryland filed an amicus brief in support of keeping the Peace Cross on public land.

Utility Scam Awareness Month

As the holidays approach, Pepco offers tips to help residents identify scammers attempting to steal money and personal information. Pepco generally sees increased reports of attempted scams during the holiday season, when targeted victims' stress and activity levels are high.

The ruse: trick customers into: providing personal and/or financial information, and making false payments under the pretense of keeping their service active.

Scammers are also attempting to swindle those still facing pandemic-related economic challenges, by pressuring families and businesses struggling with past-due balances.



Pepco has some tips to help identify scams:

Pepco will never come to customer's home or business to:

- Request immediate payment, especially with a prepaid cash card or cryptocurrency.
- Ask for a Pepco account number, or other personal info, such as a driver's license number.
- Disconnect service without previous written warning. If a person comes to your home/business to disconnect service, call Pepco to discuss your account status.

Pepco will never call a customer to ask for:

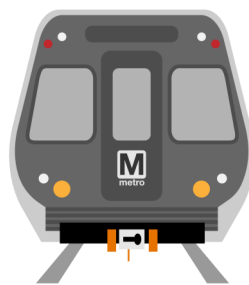
- An account number.
- Personal information, such a Social Security number or bank information.
- A direct payment with a prepaid cash card.

To identify an actual Pepco employee, know:

- All field employees wear a uniform with the Pepco logo, including shirt and safety vest.
- Pepco employees visibly display a company ID badge with the logo and employee's name.

METRO'S Silver Line Opens

November 15 is set as the opening day for the Silver Line Extension! The added 11.5 miles of track will connect Metrorail customers to Washington Dulles International Airport! The extension completes the 23 mile corridor's final phase that began in 2009. The line has five other stations and forms the spine for a burgeoning Northern VA tech corridor. The Silver Line extension is the largest expansion of the Metrorail system in eight years.



Waste Collection Services

- Yard waste – Monday only
- Regular/bulk trash (4 items only) – Tuesday only
- Regular trash/recycling – Friday only

American Indian Heritage Month



November is Native American Heritage Month or, as it is commonly referred to, American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month. It's a time to celebrate richly diverse cultures, traditions and histories, and to honor many important contributions of Native people: those descended from any of indigenous (original) people of North, South and Central America, and who maintain tribal affiliation or community attachment. Heritage Month is also an opportunity to educate the public about: indigenous tribes, the unique challenges Native Americans have faced, and continue to face, and the ways tribal citizens work to protect their cultures.

Historically, Native Americans and Alaskan Natives have a unique relationship with the federal government due to conflict and subsequent treaties. In 1986, US Congress passed a proclamation authorizing "American Indian Week;" and, in 1990, President Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 "National American Indian Heritage Month." Since then, presidential proclamations have been issued annually to celebrate Native Americans.

Today, 28 states and many cities, rivers and lakes have names derived from Native heritage. As well, there are 574 federally recognized US tribes and 324 Native American reservations. Per the Census Bureau, 5.2 million American Indians and Alaskan Natives lived in the US in 2010 and 7.1 million in 2020. Projections cite 10.1 million American Indians and Alaskan Natives will live in the US by July 2060.

National Native American Heritage Month is filled with community gatherings, festivals, and government and educational activities. We encourage you to learn about Native Americans/Alaskan Natives' traditions and contributions to education, art, literature, science, sports, government, and technology: past and present.

One-time Student Loan Debt Relief

President Biden, Vice President Harris, and the US Department of Education announced a three-part plan, to help working and middle-class federal student loan borrowers transition back to regular payments, as pandemic-related support expires. This plan includes loan forgiveness of up to \$20,000.

The Department of Education (ED) will provide up to \$20,000 in debt relief to Federal Pell Grant recipients and up to \$10,000 to non-Pell Grant recipients. Borrowers with loans held by ED are eligible for this debt cancellation, if their individual income is less than \$125,000 (or \$250,000 for households).

Step 1: Check if you're eligible

You're eligible for student loan debt relief if, your 2020 or 2021 annual federal income was below \$125,000 (individual or married, filing separately) or \$250,000 (married, filing jointly or head of household).

Step 2: Prepare

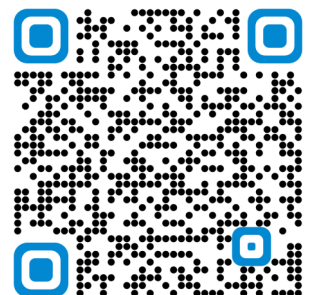
Log in to your StudentAid.gov account and make sure your contact info is up to date. Updates will be sent by both email and text message, so sign up to receive text alerts. If you don't have a StudentAid.gov account (FSA ID), create one to help manage your loans.

Step 3: Submit your application

The application is NOW AVAILABLE, on ed.gov, until December 31, 2023.

*** UPDATE:** Biden's student loan forgiveness plan is held up in litigation. File your application asap; but, make payment arrangements with your loan provider before January 1, 2023, when the current payments pause expires. Stay tuned for updates!

Student Debt
Relief Application



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
Virtual Service: 9 am Sunday
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

District 47—Food Giveaway

On Nov 12, Senator Malcolm Augustine, Delegate Julian Ivey, and Delegate Diana Fennell hosted a successful Food Giveaway. Delegate Fennell shared:

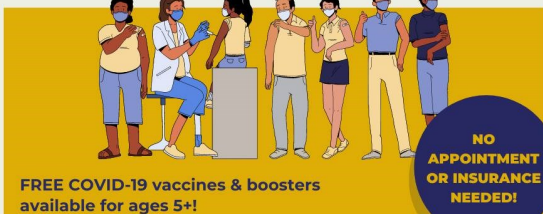
“It’s our honor to be able to give back to the community. Thank you to my dear friend Tanya, STAT DC, for helping us make this happen. The citizens of the 47 District were able to pick up groceries for their households. Thanks Antoinette, at Parks and Rec, for allowing us to use your facility at the North Brentwood Community Center. Thank you Mayor Robinson for hosting us. Thank you to everyone who contributes to our effort to give back. It takes a community to ensure the assistance and help that our neighbors need.”



**Saturday,
November 12, 2022**



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

Washington Metro Senior Smart Trip Cards

Gwendolyn Britt Senior Activity Center sells WMATA Senior Smart Trip Cards (\$2 each) at 4009 Wallace Rd. Must be at least 65 years of age with a government issued photo ID. See front desk staff during hours of operation: Monday to Friday, from 9 am to 3:30 pm. For questions, call 301.699.1238.



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







COALITION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING IN SCHOOLS, INC.

sponsoring

FREE

Scholarship Program

DRIVER EDUCATION

2022 - 2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Prince George's County Public
School Students who are Members
of the Junior or Senior Class
ages 16 to 18 years old.

REGISTER BEFORE

December 21, 2022

CLASS BEGINS

January 22, 2023

REGISTER NOW



<https://www.cpsts.org>



If there are questions, please contact Mr. Nelson of the Linnel Driving School, at 301-341-1700,
Mr. Taylor of The Coalition for Public Safety Training in Schools, Inc. at (240) 508-4203,

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD. FIRE / EMS DEPARTMENT



TIPsheet

HOLIDAY FIRE SAFETY

NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION? PLEASE CONTACT
PGFD COMMUNITY OUTREACH AT 301-883-5250



A Season for Sharing in Fire Safety

Each year fires occurring in the United States during the holiday season will claim the lives of over 400 people, injure 1,650 more, and cause over \$990 million in damage and will account for 40% of all fires during this time period of October thru January.

The Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department wishes to remind everyone that by following some of these simple life-saving steps you can ensure a safe and happy holiday season.

Holiday Decorations: All decorations should be nonflammable or flame-retardant and placed away from heat vents.

Wrapping Paper: Never Put Wrapping Paper in a Fireplace. It can result in a very large fire, throwing off dangerous sparks and embers and may result in a chimney fire.

Artificial Christmas Trees: If you are using a metallic or artificial tree, make sure it is flame retardant.

Candle Care: Avoid Using Lit Candles, If you do use them, make sure they are in stable holders and place them where they cannot be easily knocked down. Never leave the house with candles burning. Never Put Lit Candles on a Tree. Do not go near a Christmas tree with an open flame - candles, lighters or matches.

Holiday Lights: Maintain Your Holiday Lights. Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking or wear before putting them up. Use only lighting listed by an approved testing laboratory.

Do Not Overload Electrical Outlets: Do not link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate it is safe. Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet. Make sure to periodically check the wires - they should not be warm to the touch. ***Do Not Leave Holiday Lights on Unattended.***

Preventing Christmas Tree Fire Hazards: Special fire safety precautions need to be taken when keeping a live tree in the house. A burning tree can rapidly fill a room with fire and deadly gases.

Selecting a Tree for the Holiday: Needles on fresh trees should be green and hard to pull back from the branches, and the needle should not break if the tree has been freshly cut. The trunk should be sticky to the touch. Old trees can be identified by bouncing the tree trunk on the ground. If many needles fall off, the tree has been cut too long, has probably dried out, and is a fire hazard.

Caring for Your Tree: Do not place your tree close to a heat source, including a fireplace or heat vent. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame or sparks. Be careful not to drop or flick cigarette ashes near a tree. Do not put your live tree up too early or leave it up for longer than two weeks. We recommend that you water the tree 3 times a day and keep the tree stand filled with water.

Disposing of Your Tree: Never put tree branches or needles in a fireplace or wood burning stove. When the tree becomes dry, discard it promptly. The best way to dispose of your tree is by taking it to a recycling center or having it hauled away by a community pick-up service.

Remember in case of an EMERGENCY DIAL 911 – Get Out and Stay Out!



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

Asst Treasurer: Alana Hill 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 Meeting: Monday, November 21

No December Mayor & Council Meetings.

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 December 12. The call-in number is 774.267.2052.

North Brentwood Historical Society: Will meet on December 14 at 6:30 pm. 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 4th 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

