



# North Brentwood Newswire

## *A Heritage to Remember, a Future to Mold*

**January 2023**

# NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH

## Human Trafficking Awareness Month

There are nearly 30 million *adults and children* subjected to human trafficking domestically and around the world. A staggering number.



President Biden proclaimed January 2023 National Human Trafficking Prevention Month, reaffirming his administration's commitment to: protect and empower survivors of all forms of human trafficking, prosecute traffickers, and bring an end to human trafficking in the United States and internationally. He stated: *"Since human trafficking disproportionately impacts racial and ethnic minorities, women and girls, LGBTQI+ individuals, vulnerable migrants, and other historically marginalized and underserved communities, our mission to combat human trafficking must always be connected to our broader efforts to advance equity and justice across our society."*

Human trafficking (aka trafficking in persons), includes forced labor and sex trafficking. It represents a threat to global peace and security; and, it undermines the rule of law, robs millions of their dignity and freedom, enriches transnational criminals/terrorists, and threatens public safety and security everywhere.

How does this happen? According to UNICEF, mass displacement, extreme poverty, lack of access to job and education opportunities, violence, and harmful social norms (e.g., child marriages) are all factors that

push individuals into situations of trafficking. As well, traffickers often take advantage of instability caused by natural disasters, conflict, or other global crises, to exploit others. During the COVID-19 pandemic, traffickers continue to

perpetrate the crime, finding ways to innovate and capitalize on the chaos.

Like the US, many countries pledged to implement the "3P" paradigm (prevent the crime, protect the victims, and prosecute traffickers), through passage and enactment of anti-trafficking laws. Today, there are 178 parties to the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons. Of the 188 countries/territories, assessed by the Department of State in its 2021 Trafficking in Persons Report, only 14 have adhered to this universal standard of: ensuring laws criminalize all forms of human trafficking, taking concerted steps to prevent human trafficking, protecting all victims, and cooperating internationally.

The Presidential proclamation for January ends with a call to action for Americans to combat all forms of human trafficking. What can we do? Everyone has the power to make a difference: advocate for legislation increasing penalties for traffickers and enhancing victim protections; buy Fair Trade products (certified to not be made with slave labor); and donate to organizations working to educate and mobilize communities around the world.

## Mayor Robinson's 2023 Greetings

Happy New Year!

Another year... 2023, and we made it through 2022 even with the presence of COVID, FLU and RSV. I am grateful North Brentwood is a place where you can count on your neighbors for support in any situation.

As we start this year, let's remember we are *all* in this together. We need each other to survive.

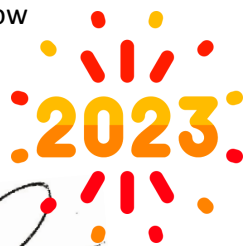
Now that we are together in 2023, let us start thinking about new ventures on which the Town needs to focus. For example, we're looking at software technology to pay bills, and to accept debit card payments for permits, parking violations, rental licenses and more.

This year is also the opening of Sis's Tavern for Town events, private parties and organizations' affairs. We will be working to make sure Town citizens are able to use the building on a private level.

I encourage citizens to join North Brentwood Citizens Association; there's a page about NBCA on our website, [northbrentwood.com/nbca](http://northbrentwood.com/nbca), which includes our CashApp account name for easy payment of memberships. By attending NBCA meetings, you can help to plan events such as Black History Month, and, of course, our 99th Anniversary in June. And, let us not forget North Brentwood Historical Society, which needs your participation as well.

This is also an election this year. The seat for Mayor and Council at Large, Ward II will be decided in May 2023. If you wish to run for either of these seats, please read the detailed information on this page of the newsletter.

Lastly, I urge you to join us for Town meetings on Zoom — every first Monday and third Wednesday of the month. We need your input and know you have ideas to keep moving North Brentwood in a positive direction. Looking forward to a productive year!



## 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 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 voter of Prince George's County.

Additional election information will be available in subsequent newsletters and on [northbrentwood.com](http://northbrentwood.com).

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



Election Resource



## 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](http://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](mailto:cwiley@northbrentwood.com)) or Councilmember Dame ([edame@northbrentwood.com](mailto: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.

## Annual Christmas Yard Decorating Contest

**The winners are:**

1st prize - 4501 40th Street

2nd prize - 4012 Allison Street

3rd prize - 4511 Banner Street



## Waste Collection Services

Yard waste – Monday only

Regular / bulk trash (4 items only) – Tuesday only

Regular trash / recycling – Friday only

For more details about waste removal, go to our website: [northbrentwood.com/town-services](http://northbrentwood.com/town-services).

## COVID-19 Updates

As of January 17, 747 Marylanders were recently hospitalized, and the positivity rate rose to 12.66%. K-N95 masks are still available at the Town Office. For PCR or Rapid Antigen Test call 240.832.6952.

## Code Officer Cuffie's Corner

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 stolen or broken into:

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

## 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](mailto:mcuffie@northbrentwood.com) or call my extension at the North Brentwood Municipal office, during hours of operation, at 301.699.9699 x1223.



## Electric Vehicle Tax Credit

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, one of the most ambitious pieces of climate legislation in US history, aims to make electric vehicles a little more attainable — or at least that's the hope in the long run.

The bill, signed into law by President Biden on August 16, allocated more than \$369 million dollars for climate action, with a portion of the budget dedicated to enhancing tax credits for electric vehicle purchases.

The Electric Vehicle Tax Credit, or the EV Credit, is a nonrefundable tax credit offered to taxpayers who purchase qualifying plug-in electric or “clean” vehicles. For tax year 2022 (taxes filed in 2023), the credit ranges from \$2,500 to \$7,500, and eligibility depends on the vehicle's weight, how many cars the manufacturer has sold and whether you own the car.

The Inflation Reduction Act, or IRA, also made several changes to the EV Credit that will, for the most part, begin taking effect in 2023 and last until 2032. Among these are new manufacturing requirements, income thresholds and expanded car type eligibility.

For the 2023 tax year, the maximum credit will be \$7,500 for new EVs and up to \$4,000 for used EVs, limited to 30% of the sales price. The Treasury Department is expected to issue further guidance on one of the new stipulations — the battery and critical mineral requirement — by March 2023.



Scan to see the whole list of qualifying cars

## 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 and 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 and 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)





## PGCPS CEO Announces Retirement

Chief Executive Officer Dr. Monica Goldson shared her plan to retire from Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) at the end of the 2022-2023



academic year, after 32-years in the school system.

Dr. Goldson began her career as a Suitland High mathematics teacher. She steadily moved up the administrative ranks, serving as Principal, Associate Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent and Chief Operating Officer prior to her appointment as CEO.

Some highlights of her leadership include:

- Restoring pay for employees impacted by the 2009 recession; and, recently giving the most significant pay increase to educators and staff in a generation.
- Instituting mental health services to students via school-based practitioners and a new telehealth program; she also enhanced PGPS's ability to communicate with parents and staff.
- Executing one of the most critical capital investments in US history, yielding a minimum of 10 new schools in four years (also saving maintenance costs for PGPS over the long term).
- Creating a nationally-recognized Climate Change Action Plan to reduce PGPS's carbon footprint, resulting in healthier buildings and transportation, cleaner air, more nutritious food, and less waste.
- Increasing early childhood opportunities, making all pre-kindergarten programs full-day.
- Extending an award-winning Language Immersion Program to middle schools, and high school Career and Tech Education (now offering 188 certifications supported by 208 business partners).

## Need Money to Go to College?

Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship is available for the 2023-2024 academic year. Students may get up to \$5,000 for tuition and fees, after federal or state financial aid has been applied.

A student may apply for the scholarship when enrolling at a community college to pursue a vocational or academic certificate, or an associates degree. It is also open to those in a registered apprenticeship, after MD high school graduation or after completing a GED.

To apply, submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) OR the Maryland State Financial Aid Application (MSFAA) by March 1 yearly. Deadlines:

March 1: FINAL day to submit the FAFSA or MSFAA

June 1: MHEC awards renewal recipients

July 15: Last day to submit all required documentation

August 1: MHEC awards initial applicants

Go to the MHEC website for eligibility requirements, and how to sign up for a MDCAPS account. If you have questions, call the Office of Student Financial Assistance at 410.767.3300 and press #1. You can also meet with a financial aid specialist online, to discuss options when applying for financial aid to achieve higher-ed goals.

## GRANTS FOR ARTISTS PROGRAM IS OPEN!

**MSAC's new Grants for Artists program supports working and living expenses for Maryland independent artists!**

The Grants for Artists program provides financial support accompanied by recommended, MSAC-supported professional development offerings tailored to meet the needs of artists working in various genres and media.


Apply now for \$6,000 at [marylandarts.smartsimple.com](https://marylandarts.smartsimple.com)!



## 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

## 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.

## 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](https://aging.maryland.gov/Pages/senior-call-check.aspx)



Joe's Movement Emporium Is Launching A New Tree Team Program & We Are Looking For Urban Tree Crew Members To Plant Trees Throughout PG County!

**Hourly Rate: \$16/hour With \$2.00  
Added On After A 4-Week Successful  
Initial Training**

**Part-Time: 10-16 Hours Per Week**

Qualifications	Interested?
<p>High School Degree or GED Equivalent</p> <p>An Interest In Native Plants and Trees</p> <p>Ability To Lift, Stand, and Work Outdoors</p>	<p>Contact Urban Tree Coordinator Dawson Pennypacker via email at <a href="mailto:joestreeteam@gmail.com">joestreeteam@gmail.com</a> with your resume</p>





## 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](mailto:cwiley@northbrentwood.com) or [edame@northbrentwood.com](mailto: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







North Brentwood  
Historical Society  
Luncheon held on  
December 14, 2022.



# The Town of North Brentwood and Employ Prince George's Presents a Workforce Open House



**January 28, 2023 | 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

Join Employ Prince George's and the town of North Brentwood for a Workforce Open House at North Brentwood Community Center. Learn about job opportunities, training, and services available in the community at no cost. Enjoy great food, good company, and hear from North Brentwood's own Mayor Robinson and Senator Malcolm L. Augustine. [Visit the link below or scan the QR code to register today!](#)

**Register Now**

North Brentwood Community Center  
1201 Webster Street  
North Brentwood, MD 20722



[tinyurl.com/NorthBrentwoodEPG](https://tinyurl.com/NorthBrentwoodEPG)

SCAN ME



Community Partners





## CALEB SMITH: YOUNGEST GLIDER PILOT IN THE NATION

February 18th, 2023

10:00am-1:00pm

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

**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 Meetings:

**Monday, February 6 | Tuesday, February 21 | Monday, March 6**

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, 2023. The call-in number is 774.267.2052.

**North Brentwood Historical Society:** Will meet on February 8, 2023 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](mailto: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](http://www.NorthBrentwood.com) and



Town of North Brentwood-Prince George's

North Brentwood Resident

