

Harbor News

Next Meeting: March 24th @ 7:30
in the Community Center

◆ Founded 1924 ◆

March 2025

This issue...

Community News

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Hey Neighbors,

Somehow we've already made it 1/4 of the way through 2025...no idea how that's happened. It's been an adventure so far, a few major snowstorms, and a lot of political intrigue that I think we're especially attuned to living this close to DC. Hopefully no one in our community has been negatively impacted by the government and private sector layoffs so far, but, I wouldn't be surprised if there were some. If there are questions about community/county/state resources for those affected, please don't hesitate to reach out! Recent speakers at our general meetings have spoken exactly to some of these. Look in the newsletter this month for details about our visit from the AA County Fire Chief, and Herald Harbor VFD in February.

Additionally, related to one of those meetings last year, the community is working with Senator Gile's office on securing finances for a new roof in our community center. Once granted, this would cover 75% of the building costs for replacement. So far, everything is looking good, but, with all of the political hijinks at the state and national level, nothing is assured yet. Please keep your fingers crossed!

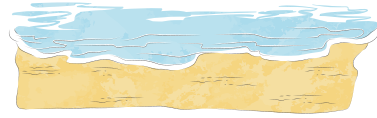
As lots of people are going through changes, both good and bad, please take the time to check in on your neighbors. I personally this month have been once again reminded how blessed I am to be in a community with great neighbors. A couple weeks ago, I had a bit of a mishap playing indoor soccer, and ended up breaking my ankle in three places. Leading to and following surgery to repair it, I have been nothing but impressed by my neighbors stepping up to help me in so many ways, getting groceries, helping with meals, and checking in to make sure I'm doing ok. In a house with a bunch of stairs, being non-weight-bearing for at least 6 weeks is an adventure...and I couldn't have done it without this community. So, keep up the great work everyone....and don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it.

Hope everyone has a great March!

-Matt

Community News

Community Beach Water Testing



Our community beach at Bonaparte Road will be tested for water quality again this summer. For more information, please see the [Recreational Water Quality](#) website through the county. You can sign up to get notifications and see which areas are safe for swimming.

Preemptive Rainfall Advisory

After rainfall, all Anne Arundel County beaches are under a no swimming/no direct water contact advisory for at least 48 hours due to predicted high bacterial levels.

Did You Know?

The Department of Health has a nationally award-winning Recreational Water Quality Notification Program.

from aahealth.org

Anne Arundel County Mosquito Control

Our neighborhood has requested another year of spraying for mosquito control. From the MD Department of Agriculture, the [Mosquito Control Section](#) provides a direct service to approximately 2,100 communities in 16 Maryland counties. The primary goal of this program is to prevent the occurrence of mosquito-borne disease in humans, pets and livestock. Mosquito control is an economic necessity in some parts of Maryland dependent on outdoor tourism during the summer. The program relies on surveys and monitoring of the larval and adult mosquito populations to coordinate control activities. Control techniques include breeding source reduction, public education, biological control and insecticide applications from aircraft or ground equipment.



Residents who wish their properties to be excluded from adult mosquito control services must notify the Maryland Department of Agriculture and the community association by submitting a completed exemption form. The Departments policy on objection to adult mosquito control services and the exemption form are enclosed and are available on our website at:

<https://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Documents/Request%20for%20Exemption.pdf>

Community News

Spring Used Book Sale



The Used Book Sale will be held on Friday, March 21, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 22, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Herald Harbor Community Center.

Bring a bag and fill it with your choice of books, games and/or puzzles. The price for a bag of books is going up to \$10, the first price hike ever and still a bargain. Generally, just one book would cost you more than \$10 if you bought it new. And often, many of the books we sell are in almost new condition. Looking for something special? Books are organized into categories for your convenience: Children, Young Adult, Adult Fiction (paperback and hardback), Cook Books, Gardening/Hobbies, History/Biography/Memoir, Travel, Self-Help, Religion, Politics, and more! Games and puzzles are now a popular item...both donations and purchases.

We are accepting donations through Wednesday, March 19. Contact Jan Spicknall if you have questions or need help getting your donations to the community center.

As always, all proceeds from the book sale go to the Herald Harbor Citizens' Association. We hope you will stop by! It's a great way to meet your neighbors, support the community and stock up for the warm days of lazing on the beach.

Thank you in advance for your generosity: for your donations and for your purchases!

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Firehouse Updates

For those who missed the last Community Meeting, Fire Chief Wolford and representatives from the Volunteer Fire Department provided an update on the new Crownsville Fire House and the plans for the building in our community.

New Building - April 2025 potential move in once the Certificate of Occupancy is issued. Watch for notices regarding their Grand Opening and Open House, including station tours. There will be community rooms available at no cost for events such as Civic Meetings, etc.. All of the assets from the current FD (apparatus, career firefighters, etc.) will be moved to the new building.

Current building - While no firm decision has been made, they are considering turning the building into a rental hall (up to 150 people - for parties, weddings, wakes, etc.) Some retired equipment will still be housed there for parades, etc. They also plan to have a place for the pits for their pit beef sale. They are in the early stages of decision making and problem solving (e.g., potential parking concerns). Tori Hagendorn, their Volunteer President, is willing to come to our meetings to let people know what is going on. Updates will be posted on their website: HHVFD.org. Although they stopped doing concerts on the green due to cost (\$1500 to \$2000 for a band), they are looking into maybe doing it again.

Tori's contact information: 443-618-5431/fd500374@AACOUNTY.ORG



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Kermit Comes Home

It might not be easy being green, but for one September evening at The Clarice, Kermit the Frog sure made it look fun.

The loveable Muppet and his puppeteer, Matt Vogel, chatted with College of Arts and Humanities Dean Stephanie Shonekan about individuality, Miss Piggy and what he learned from Jim Henson '60. The event honored the history between UMD and the Muppets' creator and his wife/collaborator Jane Henson '55. He was a home economics major when he created the frog out of his mother's coat and a halved ping-pong ball.

UMD President Darryll J. Pines asked Kermit to say, "I'm Kermit the Frog, and I have Maryland pride." Kermit happily obliged, then asked, "Is it contagious?"*

I don't know about you but the thing I found extra charming about this anecdote was that Jim Henson was a home ec major and that his mother owned a coat in "Kermit the Frog" green. Presumably this would've been before Henson graduated in 1960. What a cool mom!

So, here we are in March and we're beginning to get inklings that spring is coming; there have actually been some days where it was conceivable to get out on the water in some sort of boat.

Have you paid your dues yet?

Do you need to get this year's parking pass for the beach parking spots?

How about ramp access? Do you plan to launch a boat this year?

Do not wait until the last minute: sometimes volunteers take vacations so I recommend getting your permits and your ramp keys organized now before the balmy weather comes.

Membership, parking application and ramp contracts are all available for download on the community's website—there's a handy link in this issue. Do you have questions? Email me at membership@HeraldHarbor.org

*From the Winter 2025 issue of Terp Magazine, the alumni publication of the University of Maryland



Your Crownsville Community Area Specialist, how can I help you?

Brought to you by Kelly Kindig, Resident for 39 Years and Realtor serving the communities for 20 Years.

C: 410-533-9367, O: 410-255-3690 * Kellykindig4@gmail.com

Herald Harbor Real Estate Property Update Report

For Sale:

376 Hall Road * List Price \$362,900 * 3 Beds, 1 Bath * Bungalow, Rancher/Rambler
425 Mountain Road * List Price \$585, Now \$579,900 * 4 Beds, 2 Baths * Contemporary
355 Cedar Trail * List Price \$540,000, Now \$519,990 * 3 Beds, 2.5 Baths * Colonial
396 Laurel Trail * List Price \$369,900 * 3 Beds, 1 Bath * Ranch/Rambler
753 Eddy Road * List Price \$487,000 * 3 Beds, 2 Baths * Ranch/Rambler

Under Contract:

425 Mountain Road * List Price \$485,000, 4 Beds, 2 Baths * Contemporary
384 Chestnut Trail * List Price \$399,900, Now \$369,900 * 2 Beds, 1 Bath * Bungalow

Sold: Welcome, New Neighbors!

None

Rent:

829 Redwood Trail * \$3,500 Monthly Rent * 4 Beds 2.5 Baths, 1 Car Garage * Colonial

Lots:

Lots 1 & 2 Bk 36B SC E Elm Trail * Estimated 50 X 100 * List Price \$20,000

If the thought of selling or renting has crossed your mind, I would love to explore this together.

For all things Real Estate, please know you may contact me anytime.

Professional Property Management is available if needed (this service is not affiliated with [Douglas Realty, LLC.](#))

Source: 2025 Bright MLS Inc. Not all properties are LISTED/Sold by the advertising Agent or Broker. Information is deemed reliable but not guaranteed.



Looking For a Good Book?

janspicknall@gmail.com

Gather Me: A Memoir in Praise of the Books That Saved Me by Glory Edim: The author was raised by a single parent who had to work several jobs to support her family. Edim and her brothers spent afternoons at the local library where she discovered a love of books and black authors that weren't being taught at her school. Authors like Toni Morrison, Niki Giovanni, Maya Angelou and Andre Lorde to name a few. From them she learned how to manage the twists, turns and sometimes trouble she was confronted with throughout her life, growing up black in America. Glory Edim is also the founder of The Well Read Black Girl book club.

The Bookshop: A History of the American Bookstore by Evan Friss: Did you know that bookstores got their start in department stores like Woolworth's and Macy's or that New York city street vendors were sometimes arrested under the false pretense that they were selling stolen books just to get them off the streets? Do you remember when Amazon.com only sold books? Whether you get your reading at a large retail store like Barnes and Noble, at an online store, of which there are many, at a locally owned book store, at the library or at a used book sale, the book lover in you will enjoy Friss' accounting of American bookshops.

Call Your Daughter Home by Deb Spera: Set in 1924 South Carolina, the novel focuses on three strong women characters and is told from their perspectives. Gertrude Pardee is a poor, young mother of four girls dealing with an abusive husband. Annie Coles, the wife of a rich plantation owner hires Gertrude to work in the local garment factory. While Gertrude works, Oretta Bootles, Annie's housekeeper, is charged with watching over Gertrude's youngest daughter, Mary, a shy six-year-old. Although they have nothing in common these three women unite to right an unthinkable injustice.

The Mystery Guest: A Maid Novel by Nita Prose: This is the second book of the Molly the Maid series. Now the head maid at The Regency, Molly must solve the murder of author, J. D. Grimthorpe, to save the reputation of the hotel and its staff, especially trainee maid, Lilly. Grimthorpe keeled over during a pre-book signing event as he was about to share big news. The story bounces between Molly's life growing up with her now deceased grandmother, a maid in the Grimthorpe house, and the present. If you didn't read The Maid, go there first. Get to know Molly and understand the references found in this one. The third book in the series The Maid's Secret is due to be released in April.

Fun Picture Books:

My 6 and 8-year-old granddaughters and I just discovered Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen books, of which there are quite a few. During their most recent overnight stay we read Sam and Dave Dig A Hole and Extra Yarn. Both had surprising twists that kept us turning pages. Jon Klassen has three new board books out on his own: Your Farm, Your Island, Your Forest. They were recently promoted in the Washington Post's Book World. Looks like we aren't the only ones who discovered these amazing children's authors.

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POLLINATORS, PESTS and SOLUTIONS

By: Janet Clauson

Everyone knows by now that pollinators are enormously important for our ecosystem and for human survival. Many crops only bear fruit (and vegetables) after pollination by insects. Though honeybees are actually non-native, brought to the Americas by the colonists, Maryland has many native pollinators. These insects are overlooked because they do not produce edible food for humans. Butterflies, moths, flies, hornets, wasps and lots of kinds of native bees (such as mason bees) are all natives and we can help them in our own backyards.

Less than 15% of insects are “pests”, so, over 85% are beneficial insects, serving important roles in the ecosystem. And, even the pests are food for birds and beneficial insects. It is important to AVOID PESTICIDES. Pesticides kill all insects, both pests and beneficial bugs. And, if you kill all the insects in your garden – guess what? You won’t get any tomatoes, peppers, string beans, etc.

Just ignore a few holes in the leaves that you aren’t going to eat anyway. Or, find a non-chemical solution. For example, a spray of soapy water (dish soap, not dish detergent, by the way) will kill aphids. Or, better yet, find a ladybug and introduce her to your aphids. She will enjoy the lunch. Are slugs eating your hostas? Rid your garden of slugs by placing a shallow dish of beer nearby; though, yes, you do have to empty the slug carcasses.

The most important food source for honeybees and native pollinators are the black locust and tulip poplar trees. They bloom in late May to early June and provide vast quantities of pollen and nectar. After those trees are finished blooming, other sources of food are needed. Garden by garden, planter by planter, we can provide food for our native pollinators. So, this spring, PLANT FLOWERS!!!

Maryland-native plants are best for lots of reasons: they thrive in our climate; they are resistant to local pests and diseases, and they have evolved to provide food for our native species of insects, birds and critters. Native perennials have the added advantages of requiring less work since they return every year and the lovely quality of multiplying so you can spread and share the plants. Milkweed (the plant required by monarch butterflies for reproduction), asters, goldenrod, salvias, liatris, coneflowers (so many colors!), and Black-eyed Susan are all wonderful choices. The seed-heads of the coneflower and Black-eyed Susan are also a source of food for small songbirds. Once the petals are gone, leave the coneflower and BES seed-heads and you will see flocks of yellow finches – you will swear the flowers had come alive.

Plus, zinnias and sunflowers are annuals that are easy to grow from seeds. And, these are cheap seeds! Rough up the soil a bit and scratch in the zinnia seeds. They will deliver nectar to feed the pollinators and cut flowers for your kitchen table – the more you cut the zinnias, the more flowers they produce. Since sunflowers can grow 4 to 6 feet tall and more, depending on the variety, a bit more thought is needed as to where to plant – and the ripe seed-heads can be cut and hung to feed the birds in winter.

Warm weather is coming. Please help our pollinators and plant flowers, especially native varieties. Thank you!

For more seasonal information, check the Home and Garden Information Center website, www.hgic.umd.edu, a service of the University of Maryland Extension.



Sarah Elfreth

CONGRESSWOMAN FOR MARYLAND'S THIRD DISTRICT

Resources for Marylanders

From Sarah Elfreth, “as your representative in Congress, my job isn’t just to represent your voice on legislation, but to be your resource and your conduit to the federal government. My team and I are in constant communication with not only constituents, but leaders across the State of Maryland, local governments, community organizations and nonprofits, and my colleagues in the House of Representatives and Senate.” Please click the link above for the full letter and resources.

WHAT DO WE WANT OUR YARDS TO BE?

By: Janet Clauson

Late winter/early spring, depending how you view March, is a perfect time to take stock of your yard: your landscape beds and your lawn.

You can just as easily identify next month's tasks from the house as from the yard. Start with your window view, and critically evaluate what you see. Is there lawn or landscape beds? Do you like the balance? Look at the shapes, and layering, of the trees, shrubs, and other plants. Also, the walkways and other hardscape. And, "yard art". Literally art, and not the left-behind stuff. Of course, if there something that you would prefer hidden from sight, you can plant for privacy.

The loss of forests, meadows, wetlands, and the other unique, and necessary environments to development over the last 200 years has limited wildlife to degraded habitats, especially as we humans continue to plants lovely gardens that do not give our native insects, birds, and critters the food and shelter they need. But, we can change that, one garden at a time.

There is movement in the USA away from lawns and toward a more varied landscape, and especially inclusion of native plants. Naturally, Herald Harbor is on the forefront of the move away from lawns – we are blessed with a woodsy environment which attracted most folks here in the first place. Think about it – no one moves in, clear cuts all the trees, and plants grass. Beyond, limiting turf grass, there are excellent reasons to replace exotic ornamental plants with natives: native perennials, ground covers, shrubs and trees support far more insects, birds, and other creatures than plants native to other continents.

Sure, many homeowners want a patch of grass ("turf", otherwise known as a biological wasteland. First, because it consumes vast quantities of water and chemicals and time and money to maintain it, and, second, because it provides neither food nor shelter for insects, birds, and critters.) So, if you want one, have your grassy plot! But fill the rest of your yard with native plants; they are well-adapted to our climate, require less watering, are naturally resistant to local pests, diseases and funguses, AND attract beneficial insects which pollinate the flowers and feed on pests, which then attract birds which feed on seeds and the insects. Etc.

Most people think about nature as elsewhere – in preserves and parks – but, when you look out your window, and around Herald Harbor, it's easy to see that nature is really right here, literally in our backyards. Enjoy the view!

Next, two suggestions regarding spring tasks that are both time-efficient and much more cost-effective.

First, spring is NOT the time to fertilize tall or fine fescue or Kentucky bluegrass. Best to fertilize only in the fall, so roots have nutrients to grow and push new top growth in the spring. If you fertilize fescue/bluegrass in the spring, you are feeding the summer weeds. Remember to read the labels and don't over-fertilize. Nitrogen run-off feeds the algae blooms which result in dead zones in our river. Always read the labels, and keep fertilizer 10 to 15 feet away from waterways.

Second, mulch. There are 4 things to know about mulch:

- 1) Use shredded pine bark mulch, NOT hardwood mulch. Shredded pine bark sweetens the soil, which most plants prefer. It breaks down into soil during the year, and therefore does not have to be raked out and removed the next spring (aka less work). And! Pine bark mulch rarely gets the dog-vomit yellow fungus.
- 2) Keep all kinds of mulch away from tree trunks and all woody-stemmed shrubs. Mulch is a vector for insects and diseases and you will prevent problems by leaving open soil around woody stems.
- 3) Apply only 2 inches of mulch. Think about it – if you load up 6 inches of mulch (3 times as expensive and more work), that mulch has to get completely soaked before water from rains or irrigation systems ever get to the soil.
- 4) Please, **MULCH VOLCANOES KILL TREES**. Keep mulch away from tree trunks – you should be able to see the root collar of each tree.

For more seasonal information, check the Home and Garden Information Center website, www.hgic.umd.edu, a service of the University of Maryland Extension.



Click on the image above to learn more about events and activities around Anne Arundel County.

Trail Tips!

We promote a leave-no-trace lifestyle in our parks. Please come enjoy our scenic trails year-round & remember to take all trash upon leaving. Thanks for your help and we'll see you on the trails.

The Baltimore & Annapolis Trail was originally a railroad line connecting the two cities. Artifacts & history can be found all along this trail.

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Water Savers

TIPOF THE MONTH

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3/25

"WELCOME"

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Happy Anniversary

Ron & Thelma Furlong
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Lily Cancienne, Kerrie Davis, Carol Fitzgerald,
Paul Hilton, Stephanie Jacobs, Nolan Keller,
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Legaul, Heather MacDonagh, Graham Miller,
Robert Moore, Caylee Moretti, Megan Moretti,
Fiona O'Connor, Cole Roden, Ken Sampson, Bill
Shaw, Steve Terres and Travis Wells



Condolences

Condolences to the family and friends of Herald Harbor native Jonathan Rober on his recent passing.

Herald Harbor Community Forms

To access all community forms, click the link for the [Herald Harbor Community website](#).

- Membership Form
- Boat Ramp Form
- Beach Parking Pass
- Kayak Rack Application
- Community Center Rental Application
- Mosquito Control Information and Exemption

Community Contacts:

- Matt - president@heraldharbor.org
- Heather - vicepresident@heraldharbor.org
- Gail - treasurer@heraldharbor.org
- Angela - secretary@heraldharbor.org
- Maureen - membership@heraldharbor.org
- Michelle - newsletter@heraldharbor.org
- Kim - rentals@heraldharbor.org

Treasurer's Report

The HHCA financial data can be accessed on the [Herald Harbor Citizens' Association Website](#). After logging in, members can view the 2025 monthly receipts and expenses on the [Resources/Treasury](#) page.



Officers for 2024-2025

President: Matt Falzon

Vice President: Heather Schaefer

Secretary: Angela Mezzomo

Treasurer: Gail Bruss

Members at Large:

Melissa Huston

Bela Mariassy

Maggie Wilson

Kim Van Dyke

Newsletter Advertising Payment Information

Check: Herald Harbor Citizens Association

Mail to: P.O. Box 77

Crownsville, MD 21032

Paypal: membership@heraldharbor.org

Venmo: @HeraldHarbor



Size	Monthly Fee	Annual Fee
Business Card	\$10	\$70
Quarter Page	\$20	\$120
Half Page	\$40	\$240
Full Page	\$80	\$480

Thank you for reading!
