



North Brentwood Centennial Year

Mayor's Message



I greet all citizens of North Brentwood, and extend my heartfelt joy to you, as we approach a new season. A season of freshness and clarity. That's what the fall breezes and brisk air feel like to me.

We're entering a season of renewal, a new president, a new Congress and hopefully a new lease on life. I am hoping we, in North Brentwood, will embrace each other with respect and dignity, no matter what your cultural background, age, race, or gender.

The holidays are here!: Thanksgiving, a harvest celebration at which families gather for big meals and express gratitude for life, health and other blessings. I want to wish each family in North Brentwood a spectacular month of harvest and giving thanks.

If there are special needs for which the Town can be of assistance this season, call the Town Office. We will try to help or direct you to someone who can assist.

Happy Thanksgiving and Be Safe.

Commemorations In November

**Native American Heritage Month** is an event to honor and celebrate the culture, traditions, history, and contributions of American Indians and Alaskan Natives. Read about the history of the Piscataway in Maryland on page nine of this newsletter.

**Veterans Day (November 11)** is the anniversary of the signing of the armistice that ended World War I. In 1954, the holiday was changed from "Armistice Day" to "Veterans Day" to recognize veterans of all wars, for

their patriotism, love of country and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

**Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week (Nov 11-18)** draws attention to issues of hunger and homelessness. Participating groups spend the week holding a series of educational, service, fundraising, and advocacy events.

**World Kindness Day (November 13)** is an annual global celebration, promoting the importance of being kind to each other, to yourself, and to the world.

Business News Impacting North Brentwood

**Seafood Boss - 4514 Rhode Island Avenue**

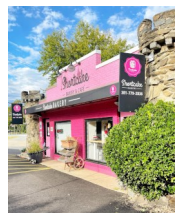
Open for \$5 breakfast, just waiting for you: 7:30-11 am.

**Brentwood Market - 4413 37<sup>th</sup> Street**

Owner, Nancy, retired and sold the store. Nancy has been a staple for Brentwood and North Brentwood's families for such a long time. Thank you, Nancy (never knew her last name), for the years she has supported North Brentwood. I went past there and she was gone. I did meet the new owner, and he says he will be during some upgrades. Go by and check it out.

**Shortcake Bakery – 4700 Rhode Island Avenue**

Owner Cheryl Harrington is closing her doors on October 31. Cheryl is the widow of David C. Harrington (previous Mayor of Bladensburg, Senator, and Chair of PGCO). I remember her sweet potato pies, crumpets and much more. On behalf of the Town, we wish her much success in future endeavors.



There's more info about Town businesses—and how to support our local shops, artisans and restaurants on Small Business Saturday—on page four.

## Get Involved!

### Why North Brentwood Residents should Participate in Town Hall Meetings and Community Events

As residents of North Brentwood, we take pride in our Town's rich history and vibrant community. But to keep our small town thriving, it's essential to come together, not just socially, but civically. Town Hall meetings and community events are opportunities for every one of us to make a real impact on our community's future. Yet, too often, we let these moments pass us by.

#### Have Your Voice Heard

Town Hall meetings aren't formalities—it's your chance to shape the direction of North Brentwood. Whether it's about zoning, development projects, or local policies, these meetings are your chance to propose ideas, ask questions and express concerns. By attending, your voice is part of the conversation, helping to make decisions that reflect the entire community, not a select few.

#### Build Stronger Community Bonds

We all know how much better life feels when we know our neighbors. Attending community events fosters relationships that strengthen the social fabric of North Brentwood. From holiday festivals, to clean-up days, these gatherings are where we connect, share stories, and work together. Strong bonds make us feel safer, supported, and more united in tackling challenges.

#### Stay Informed about Local Issues

Many people aren't aware of the decisions being made, by the Mayor and Town Council, that affect their daily lives. By regularly attending Town Meetings, you'll know what's coming regarding important local issues, such as infrastructure improvements, public safety initiatives, and budget decisions. Being informed empowers you to make educated decisions, whether it's voting on a local measure or advocating for a cause that matters to you.

#### Help Shape the Future

Do you have ideas about how to improve our Town? Whether it's upgrading the local park, supporting small businesses, or increasing community safety, Town Meetings are where these conversations happen.

Local government officials are there to listen: they rely on residents' feedback and potential solutions that can turn ideas into reality. By participating, you are actively shaping North Brentwood's future.

#### Civic Engagement is a Responsibility

Living in a small town like North Brentwood offers a unique opportunity: your voice truly matters. We're a close-knit community; every contribution counts. The more engaged we are, the stronger our Town is for all.

#### Upcoming Opportunities to Get Involved

- **Town Hall Meetings.** Join us on Nov 4 and 18 to discuss updates on local projects, events and more. Your input is needed! There are no Town Meetings in December. The first Meeting in the New Year will be on Monday, January 6, 2025.
- **Past, Present, Future event.** November 16, Sis's Tavern at 5pm—all are invited. Place an item in Town time capsule to be opened 50 years later. Dress in past, present or future attire. Music/food.
- **Annual Christmas Luncheon.** North Brentwood Historical Society invites all to attend December 11 at 12 pm at the Community Center. Enjoy good food, good people, good music and much more.
- **Winter Coat Drive.** Until December 20, bring clean, gently used coats, jackets, hats, gloves, and scarves to the GBSAC donation box. Items will be delivered to a local organization serving the homeless.

#### Let's Grow Together



North Brentwood has always been more than just a place to live—it's a place to belong. By participating in Town Hall meetings and community events, we ensure our Town continues to grow and prosper in ways that benefit everyone.



**TOWN OF NORTH BRENTWOOD**

**100TH ANNIVERSARY**

*Past, Present & Future*



**Sis's Tavern | 4516 41st Avenue**  
**Saturday, November 16, 2024 @ 5 PM**

**Free Entry | Light Refreshments Provided**



301-699-9699



[www.NorthBrentwood.com](http://www.NorthBrentwood.com)

## Shop Local: Small Business Saturday Nov 30



*Material Things (4531 Rhode Island Ave NE) has handmade wood, clay and metal works. Owners: Katie Aldworth, Francisco Rosario, Erin Lingle.*

As the holiday season kicks off, we're all on the lookout for special gifts, festive treats and a sense of togetherness. This November 30, North Brentwood invites you to celebrate Small Business Saturday, to support local businesses, in our Town and nearby areas.

### Why Shop Local?

Small businesses, are the backbone of North Brentwood: creating jobs, boosting the local economy, and providing unique products and services you can't find elsewhere. By shopping small, versus going to a big box store or a mall, you're not just making purchases—you're investing in our community.

When you shop "small," more of each dollar spent stays within the community, helping fund essential services, local programs and infrastructure. Every purchase at a neighborhood store means you're supporting friends, family and neighbors who work hard to serve our town.

Shopping locally is a way to get to know the faces behind North Brentwood's businesses. Small business owners pour their heart and soul into what they do, and they're excited to share their stories, products and passions with you. When you shop local, you're not just a customer—you're part of the community.

### How You Can Make a Difference

Beyond shopping, there are plenty of ways to support North Brentwood's small businesses:

- **Spread the Word.** Tell friends, family, and neighbors about your favorite local spots.
- **Buy a Gift Card.** The perfect gift any holiday.

- **Share on Social.** Use #ShopSmallNorthBrentwood to share finds on social media/get others to join in.
- **Leave a Positive Review:** Online reviews go a long way to help local businesses attract customers. If you had a great experience, take time to leave a positive review on Yelp, Google, or social media.

Small Business Saturday is more than just a shopping day—it's a way to build a stronger, more vibrant North Brentwood. By supporting small businesses, you're contributing to the heart and soul of our community, making it a place where unique businesses thrive, grow, and serve for generations to come. A few of our businesses open Saturday, November 30:

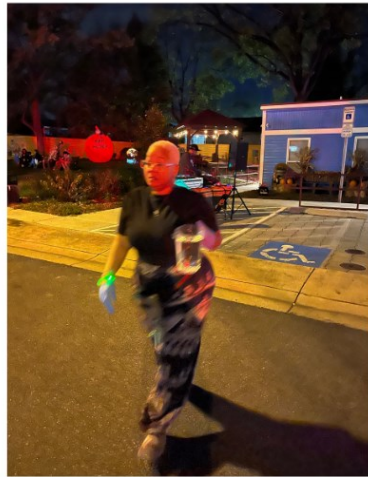
- Mitatio Sports Bar and Grill, 4400 Rhode Island Ave
- New Life Tires & Rims Shop, 4561 Rhode Island Ave
- Pro Colors Paint Shop, 4557 Rhode Island Ave
- Seafood Boss (food truck), 4514 Rhode Island Ave
- Shades by the Tint Techs, 4549 Rhode Island Ave



Every year on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, the Shop Small movement energizes small business owners of brick-and-mortar and online stores, to prepare for holiday customers. It's also a national event! So, spread the love to neighboring towns, too!



*Pick up crafts or artwork by local artisans at Brentwood Arts Exchange (3901 Rhode Island Ave). Open 10 am to 4 pm on Saturdays.*



## COVID-19 & RSV Safety Tips for Thanksgiving Gatherings

**Get Vaccinated & Boosted Now:** Vaccination is still a primary defense against COVID-19

and RSV. If eligible, get a booster to increase immunity levels. November is also a good time to get a Flu vaccine, to keep you protected throughout flu season.

- **Test before Gathering:** For reassurance, test for COVID-19 a day or two before guests arrive, especially if anyone is immunocompromised, elderly, or otherwise at high risk.
- **Know the Symptoms:** Stay informed about latest COVID-19 strain and RSV symptoms. If anyone feels unwell, it's best for them to skip the gathering to prevent any risk of spreading illness.
- **Mask Up If Needed:** If gathering in close, indoor spaces, or with high-risk individuals, wear a mask, especially if distancing isn't feasible.
- **Encourage Open-Air Gatherings:** If weather allows, consider hosting outdoors or ventilate indoor spaces (open windows/doors to improve airflow).
- **Wash Hands Regularly:** Remind family and friends to wash hands often, especially before eating. Hand sanitizers (60%-plus alcohol) are also effective.
- **Sanitize Surfaces:** Clean frequently-touched areas, such as door handles and countertops.

### **CDC: Get Covid-19 Vaccine Every 6 Months**

The CDC recommends (people 65 years and older and those moderately/severely immunocompromised) getting a second dose of 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine six months after your first dose. So, if you got your first vaccine or booster in September, you're likely eligible for second dose in March 2025, in time for the next COVID season/annual uptick in cases. These updated guidelines also allow for three-plus doses for the immunocompromised, in consultation with a doctor.

*Source: cdc.gov*

## Code Officer Cuffie's Corner Be Proud of North Brentwood!



This month, just a few notes...

- 1) If you have two recycling bins, call the Town Hall to learn your bin number. The Town purchased these bins; you must purchase your own trash bins.
- 2) Early Trash Collection: Starting Tuesday, November 5, Bruch Trash Services will begin collecting trash at 6 am. To ensure a smooth collection process, please have your trash placed at the curb prior to this time.
- 3) Again, these are the day for trash, bulk and recycling: Tuesdays are regular trash and bulk trash (4 items); Fridays are regular trash and recycling. Every Monday is yard waste day and it must be placed in leaf bags.

### **Peace and Good Order**

**Town Noise Ordinance: Chapter 208-1** states loud music needs to be turned down low at 10 pm. Please respect your neighbors and the Town. If loud music persists, call police non emergency: 301.352.1200.

#### **Article II Open Fires, Fireworks, Fireproofing, False Alarms and Fire Extinguishers**

[Adopted as Ch. VIII, Art. 2, Title 1, 1990 Code of Ordinances]

§ 142-3 Open fires.

A. No fuel, shaving, wastepaper, trash or other combustible matter shall be burned in the open within the Town unless in the daytime, and at a distance of at least 25 feet from any building or other structure, or at a distance of not less than 15 feet from any fence, except the same be burned in a wire cage. All such fire shall be extinguished before sundown, by the person or persons making the same who shall be held responsible for any damage resulting therefrom.

B. No such matter described herein shall be burned in the streets, avenues, or alleys of the Town at any time.

§ 142-8 Violations and penalties.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall upon conviction be fined not more than \$100 or in default thereof be imprisoned in the county jail not more than 25 days.

## Preparing for 2025: A Message for Seniors

As we approach a new year, it's a wonderful time to reflect on all we've achieved and prepare for a new year filled with promise and possibility. For many of us, this is a time to set fresh intentions, embrace new opportunities, and celebrate the richness of life that comes with experience. Here are a few thoughts to help our senior community welcome the coming year with purpose and positivity.

**1. Rediscover Your Passions.** Retirement and later years bring the gift of time to revisit passions that may've been set aside in earlier years. Have you thought about learning a new skill, reigniting an old hobby, or diving deeper into a subject that interests you? Use this time to nourish your spirit with pursuits that bring joy and fulfillment.

**2. Strengthen Connections.** As the saying goes, "It's not the years in your life, but the life in your years." Relationships bring richness to our lives, so make time to connect with family, friends and neighbors. Whether through a phone call, a shared meal, or a new club, nurturing these bonds helps keep us mentally and emotionally strong.

**3. Engage Your Mind.** There's no limit to lifelong learning! Books, online classes, and community lectures are fantastic ways to keep your mind active. Challenge yourself to learn something new each month, whether it's reading up on history, exploring new technology, or discovering creative arts.

**4. Prioritize Wellness.** Physical health remains important at every age, and 2025 is a perfect time to take small steps toward a healthier lifestyle. Gentle exercises like walking, yoga, or stretching keep you active and mobile. Also, consider meditation or mindfulness practices for mental well-being—they're beneficial for stress relief and help keep you grounded in the present moment.

**5. Give Back to the Community.** One of the most powerful ways to feel purpose is to give back. Many local organizations welcome volunteer support, and

your skills, knowledge, and time can make a real difference. From mentoring young people to helping at local events, there's always an opportunity to make a positive impact.

### 6. Stay Open to New Adventures

Finally, remember life is full of surprises, even as we grow older. Stay open to the unexpected, be curious, and welcome the unexpected. Every new experience can add color to your story and enrich your journey.

Let's step into 2025 together, celebrating our community, honoring our experiences, and looking forward to the bright days ahead. Here's to a fulfilling and memorable holiday season and upcoming new year!



## Qualified Disabled Working Individuals

### Eligibility for Buy-In Program for Part A Help with Medicare Part A Premiums

If you're under age 65, disabled, and no longer entitled to free Medicare Hospital Insurance Part A, because you successfully returned to work, you may be eligible for a program to help pay your Part A monthly premium.

To be eligible for this help, you must:

- Continue to have a disabling impairment.
- Sign up for Premium Hospital Insurance (Part A).
- Have limited income.
- Have resources worth less than \$4,000 (individual) and \$6,000 for a couple, not counting the home where you live, usually one car and certain insurance.
- Not already be eligible for Medicaid.

To find out more about the Qualified Disabled and Working Individuals (QDWI) program call PG County's Social Services office or visit [benefits.gov/benefit/6180](https://benefits.gov/benefit/6180).

## People & Places: Artworks by Pat Dillon

FREE Exhibition Nov 12, 2024—Jan 5, 2025

Montpelier Arts Center

(call 301.377.7800 for hours)

Public reception Sun, Dec 8, 2-4 pm

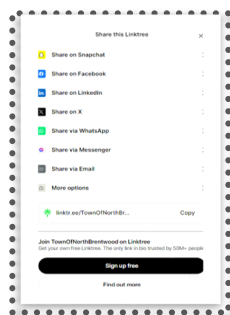
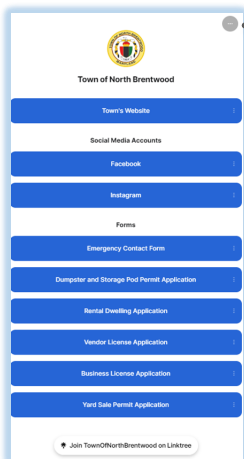
Artist Pat Dillon lives in Columbia, MD, and works predominantly in oils.



## North Brentwood's Linktree Hub

There's a new portal for the Town's website, social media accounts, and online forms/permits. (For forms requirement payment by check, bring the form and payment to the Town Office.)

You can share the Linktree via social media or email (select "..." in the grey circle on the top right of the main Linktree screen).



To get to the hub, scan



this QR Code, or simply type:

"<https://linktr.eeTownOfNorthBrentwood>" into a web browser.

## Homestead Property Tax Credit

To help homeowners deal with large assessment increases on principal residences, state law established the Homestead Property Tax Credit. The Credit limits the increase in taxable assessments each year to a fixed percentage, which, in North Brentwood, is 10 percent.

- ALL Maryland homeowners must submit a *one-time* application to establish eligibility for the credit: only *once* during your time in your property.
- The Homestead Credit does not limit the market value of a property determined by Department of Assessments and Taxation. Instead, it's a credit calculated on any assessment increase exceeding 10% from one year to the next.
- Before calling or emailing the Department, please check SDAT's Real Property search page to determine if you already have a Homestead Tax Credit on file. Find the status of your eligibility by looking up your property on: [sdat.dat.maryland.gov/RealProperty](https://sdat.dat.maryland.gov/RealProperty).

Once you've accessed your property's page, the status of your Homestead application is located at the bottom of the page. A status of "Approved" or "Application Received" means no further action is required.

- If the status of your property says "Homestead Application Status: No Application," you must file an application.
  - **File online.** For fast service, go to Maryland One Stop, a portal for state agencies with one simple login, and no need for an access code to fill out a one-time form. Go to: [onestop.md.gov](https://onestop.md.gov) and browse by State Agencies. Then, select Department of Assessments & Taxation and click on "Homestead Tax Credit Eligibility Application."
  - **Paper application.** Alternatively, you can complete and submit the paper application on pages 11 and 12 of this newsletter. Or, go to: [dat.maryland.gov/SDAT%20Forms/Homestead\\_application.pdf](https://dat.maryland.gov/SDAT%20Forms/Homestead_application.pdf) to download it. Fax completed paper applications to 410.225.9344, or mail to: Department of Assessments and Taxation, Homestead Tax Credit Division, 700 East Pratt Street, 2nd Floor, Suite 2700, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.

Questions? Call 866.650.8783, or email the Homestead unit at [sdat.homestead@maryland.gov](mailto:sdat.homestead@maryland.gov).



## **History of Thanksgiving on Piscataway Land: A Reflection on Gratitude and Indigenous Resilience**

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving this year, it's important to reflect on the holiday's deeper history, especially in regions once home to Indigenous peoples. In North Brentwood, and much of Maryland, we stand on historically Piscataway land. Thanksgiving carries complex layers of history—while it has evolved into a time for gathering with loved ones and sharing gratitude, it's also a moment to honor the people who lived on this land long before European settlers arrived.

### **The Piscataway People: Stewards of the Land**

The Piscataway people, of Algonquian-speaking nations, were the original inhabitants of what is now Maryland, including Prince George's County and the surrounding areas. The *Piscataway* was the largest, most powerful tribal nation in the lands between the Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River. For centuries, the Piscataway Nation thrived along the Potomac, cultivating the land, hunting, fishing, and developing deep-rooted cultural traditions that were intricately tied to their environment.

Their society was/is organized around communal stewardship. For the Piscataway, land was sacred; nature wasn't a resource to be exploited—it was the foundation of existence and spirituality. Through careful land management, they ensured the sustainability of their environment: the Piscataway were some of the earliest conservationists on the continent.

### **The Arrival of European Settlers**

Europeans settled in the Chesapeake Bay region, in the 17th century, forever altering the lives of the Piscataway people. The Piscataway tribes first made contact with Europeans in 1608, through encounters with John Smith and William Claiborne. In 1634, large numbers of European colonialists began to settle in earnest, when the ships the *Ark* and the *Dove* arrived in MD carrying Leonard Calvert and Jesuit priest Andrew White.

Colonization brought disease, displacement and conflict. As Europeans expanded their territories, Indigenous populations were often forced off ancestral lands,

leading to declines in population and cultural sovereignty. Despite these challenges, the Piscataway's resilience and ability to adapt over centuries kept their community alive, even through forced assimilation and the systematic erasure of their culture and history.

### **Thanksgiving and the Indigenous Perspective**

Thanksgiving, as it is celebrated today, is associated with the story of the Pilgrims in Massachusetts and their feast with the Wampanoag people in 1621. But, this narrative oversimplifies and romanticizes a much more complex history. For many, Thanksgiving is a reminder of the devastating effects of colonization.

### **Revitalization of Piscataway Culture**

In recent years, Indigenous identity and culture is being revitalized in Maryland. The Piscataway were officially recognized as

a Native American tribe by the State in 2012, a tribute of their historical



presence and cultural significance. The Piscataway Nation works to preserve their language, traditions, and connection to the land via community events, educational initiatives, and Indigenous-rights advocacy.

Organizations and local leaders also work to foster a more accurate understanding of MD's Piscataway history, including efforts to integrate Indigenous perspectives into school curricula and public awareness campaigns. Events such as Indigenous Peoples' Day, observed in many parts of the US in October, are part of the larger movement to honor Indigenous history.

### **Gratitude and Reflection**

This Thanksgiving, let's remember the full history of the land we inhabit, including the histories of the Piscataway and other Indigenous peoples who first called this land home. Thanksgiving is not just a story of peaceful collaboration, but also one of resilience.

*Sources: sierraclub.org, greenbeltnewsreview.com*



# PISCATAWAY CONOY INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

## *Festival*

HONORING OUR ELDERS,  
ANCESTORS AND VETERANS

**Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> 2024**

Charles County Fairgrounds  
8440 Fairground Road, La Plata, MD 20646

**Gates Open: 10am • Grand Entry: 12pm**

Admission | **\$8** Adult over 16 years old  
at the Gate: | **\$5** Children under 15 years old  
**FREE Parking, Bring Chairs**

Host Drum: Stoney Creek

Master of Ceremonies: Keith Colston  
Arena Director: Robert Blake

Head Male Dancer: Schirra Gray (*Piscataway*)

Head Female Dancer:

Dorothy Gray (*Rappahanock*)

- Indigenous Arts and Craft Vendors
- Indigenous Food Vendors

HOSTED BY:

The Official Piscataway Conoy Tribe of Maryland  
and The Piscataway Conoy Tribal Council  
Francis Gray, PCT Tribal Chairman

Sponsored By:



For more information and Camping  
availability, contact PCT Tribal Council at:  
[piscatawayconoycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:piscatawayconoycouncil@gmail.com)

**Absolutely NO Pets, Alcohol or Drugs**

# VETERANS

DAY

11 NOV

**ROLLINGCREST  
COMMONS**

6060 SARGENT RD, CHILLUM  
MD 20782

**STARTS AT**

**4 PM**

**REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED**

**COME AND JOIN US!**

**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:**

**ROLLINGCREST COMMONS  
ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE**

**1297TH CSSB ASSOCIATION**



Council Member  
**WANIKA FISHER**

DISTRICT 2  
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY





# 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

Jacqueline Morales x1222

Evan Dame x1229

**Town Manager:**

Jacqueline Goodall x1226

**Treasurer:** Shelley Dorsey x1224

**Code Enforcement Officer:**

Martha Cuffie x1223

**Town Clerk:** Patricia Page x1227

**Assistant Clerk:**

Cristian Ortiz-Romero x1227

**Maintenance:**

Greg Butler/Anthony Avents

**Prince George's County Police: 911**

Non-Emergency: 301.352.1200

**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: November 4 and November 18**

\* There are *no Town Meetings in December*. The first Meeting in the New Year, will be on **Monday, January 6, 2025**.

Meetings are conducted via ZOOM and at NBCC in person.

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:** Meetings are at 6:30 pm.

Next meeting: November 12. Call-in: 774.267.2052.

**North Brentwood Historical Society:** November 13 at 6:30 pm.

Dial-in: 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 3rd Monday of each month with subject line "Newsletter."

**Boletín En Español**



**HELPING ONE PERSON MIGHT NOT CHANGE THE WORLD..... BUT IT MIGHT CHANGE THE WORLD FOR ONE PERSON.**

We're on the Web:  
[www.NorthBrentwood.com](http://www.NorthBrentwood.com) and



Town of North Brentwood-Prince George's

North Brentwood Resident

