

# WESTGATE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Westgate, Where Baltimore Begins



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SPRING GENERAL MEETING

April 29 at 7 PM. Location: Christ Lutheran Nursery School, 5699 Meridale Road, Catonsville, Maryland 21228.

### SPRING FLING IN THE PARK

May 11 at 2 PM. Location: Westgate Park on North Bend Road

## CONTACTS

- **Website:** [westgatebaltimore.org](http://westgatebaltimore.org)
- **Email:** [westgatecommunitynews@gmail.com](mailto:westgatecommunitynews@gmail.com)
- **Mail:** P.O. Box 25331, Baltimore, MD 21229
- **Facebook:** [facebook.com/groups/westgatecommunity](https://facebook.com/groups/westgatecommunity)

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## Join the Westgate Citizens on Patrol

For everyone tired of the crime in our neighborhood, consider joining the new Westgate Citizens on Patrol group! Participation can be anything from looking out your window while you drink your morning coffee, being aware while you walk your dog, to driving a lap around the block on your way home from work. You can give ten minutes a few times a week, or as much as you want. Email [westgatecop@gmail.com](mailto:westgatecop@gmail.com) for a brief 15 minute training to start working toward a safer Westgate!

## Flood Prevention Efforts

Westgate Community Association President, Robin Kessler, and Board member, Amanda Leonard, sit on a committee of neighborhood association leaders who are working with the City to mitigate flooding in our area. The City has brought together representatives from many departments to address the flooding issue. We are pleased to report that the City has already made great strides in mitigating future flooding and is in the process of applying for federal grants to do even more flood prevention work. For a full report on the city's efforts, please go to the Westgate Community Association website at [westgatebaltimore.org](http://westgatebaltimore.org).



# Moving Forward with Calverton Middle School

On December 20, 2018, Principal Cooper, Assistant Principal Grant, and faculty from the Calverton School, met with Community members as well as City Councilman Kristerfer Burnett, County Council Quirk's legislative aide, Margaret Stokes, and representatives from the BCPS School Board, to discuss transportation and community concerns after one of our young neighbors was attacked by students from Calverton this past December. In addition, there will be a follow up meeting with the group mentioned in the first paragraph.

## Key Issues Raised:

- Why is the MTA not picking up the commuting students at the school?
- Faculty, on their own time, have been monitoring students at all bus stops.

## Update:

- Students involved in attack were expelled, charged and will not be returned to our location.
- Since these students are no longer here, there has been a positive drop in reported vandalism, and other untoward behaviors
- Our President, Robin Kessler, joined student leaders in a meeting conducted by Ms. Cooper and Mr. Grant. Robin was impressed by their concern about the conduct of their fellow students and their plan to working with us on community events.
- Robin and fellow Board Member Kenda Watson, will be working at Calverton each week in a group led by Mr. Grant, student leaders and some of the other students to build trust between us all.
- We will keep you updated on our collaboration. In addition, there will be a follow up meeting of the group mentioned in the first paragraph.

## LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

- Baltimore County: Councilman Tom Quirk,  
council1@baltimorecountymd.gov, 410-887-0896
- Baltimore City: Councilman Kristerfer Burnett,  
kristerfer.burnett@baltimorecity.gov, 410-396-4818

## STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

### Baltimore County Legislative District, 44B

- State Delegate Charles E. Sydnor III,  
Charles.Sydnor@house.state.md.us
- State Delegate Pat Young,  
pat.young@house.state.md.us

### Baltimore City Maryland Legislative District 44A

- State Delegate Keith E. Haynes,  
keith.haynes@house.state.md.us

### Baltimore City and County Maryland Legislative District 44

- State Senator Shirley Nathan-Pulliam,  
shirley.nathan.pulliam@senate.state.md.us

## Federal Government

- U.S. Congressperson Elijah E. Cummings  
www.cummings.house.gov  
410-719-8777

# WINTER PARK CLEAN-UP RECAP

A heartfelt "thank you" to all those who participated in the December 7 "2nd Saturday Clean-up." This year we not only collected a lot of trash but were also able to clear out all of the overgrowth of vines that were smothering the park trees. lamperis' Westway Liquors sponsored a woodchipper, that we were able to obtain at a discounted rate from ABC rentals! And Today's Pizza donated food and drinks.

These 2nd Saturday Clean-ups are important events to the Westgate community as they keep the trash cleaning at a much more manageable level. The Westgate Community Association is very grateful to the residents of Westgate for their participation—together, they made a tangible difference to protect the community environment.

**PLEASE JOIN US** every 2nd Saturday of the month (weather permitting), at Westgate Park on North Bend Road (behind the Shell station) starting at 8 AM. If you'd like to come out, meet some of your neighbors, and assist in the cleanups, we think you'll have a great time. We'll have all the needed supplies but dress appropriately and bring a pair of work gloves!



## Lights On!

### BE ECO-FRIENDLY WHILE DETERRING CRIME

Now that we've entered the darkest time of the year (daylight wise), please keep your porch lights on! The Baltimore Police Department's website states that increasing exterior lighting helps deter crime. The use of solar motion lights is an eco-friendly way to increase lighting on your property. And if you're worried about the cost (financial and environmental) of leaving your porch lights on all night, BGE offers a free home energy check-up that includes FREE energy saving LED light bulbs in addition to recommendations on how to make your home more energy efficient. So please help deter crime in Westgate by keeping your porch lights on!



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# Join the Westgate Community Association Today!



When you join the Westgate Community Association you are making a commitment to your neighborhood, showing that you care about it and want to help keep it a great place to live. It takes a united effort to keep Westgate great, and there are always ways to make it even better. THANK YOU to those who have already joined!

Yearly household dues: \$20

Yearly senior household dues: \$13

FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW AND MAIL A CHECK TO:

PO Box 25331, Baltimore, MD 21229

or

Pay through PayPal on our website  
[www.westgatebaltimore.org/membership](http://www.westgatebaltimore.org/membership)

Check to see if your dues have been paid at  
[www.westgatebaltimore.org/membership](http://www.westgatebaltimore.org/membership)

Westgate Community Association Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues Enclosed\*\*: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Enclosed\*\*: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Dues and Donations are tax deductible. We are a 501(c)3 organization. Your cancelled check is your receipt.

# Celebrate Westgate with a Spring Fling

Saturday, May 11th at 2 pm, we'll be celebrating Westgate with a Spring Fling in the park.

It's not official yet, but we could be receiving a grant to help us beautify the park. That morning, if all goes well, we'll be installing new benches as well as a "Little Free Library" donated by Westgate's own Kenda Watson and Jacob Pugh.

Then it's time to party, Westgate style. The details are still in the works, but we're hoping to make this a \*BIG\* event. If you would like to volunteer, donate, offer a unique service, or set up a table for your local business, please reach out to Rebecca Busbee at [re.rifkin@gmail.com](mailto:re.rifkin@gmail.com).

We'll be sharing updates on our website as well as on Facebook!



## Today's Pizza

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