# January/February/March 2012

Volume 21 Issue 1

North Beach MARYLAND "The Jewel of the Chesapeake Bay"

### MESSAGE FROM MAYOR MARK R. FRAZER

Dear North Beach Residents,

Following a very successful Polar Bear Plunge, the town and staff finally enter a four to five month period free of event planning. The residents deserve a break from the crowds which events bring and the staff deserve a break from the hours and days of planning that successful events require. My personal thanks to the events staff for a job well done in 2011!

At the Polar Bear Plunge, in front of a large crowd, I was fortunate to be able to recognize Tech Sergeant Kevin Archer, a North Beach resident, who recently returned from Afghanistan. Sergeant Archer has been deployed six times to the Middle East and it's great to have him back safe in his hometown!

The year 2012 will see a changing landscape in the small business community. Some of these changes have already occurred as the economy, over the past four years, took its toll on many communities. We hate to see any business close its doors in North Beach and we wish the owners well whether they relocate or seek other business opportunities. I continue to believe, however, that North Beach has a bright future for small businesses as the country's economy improves and the town's reputation as a great tourist destination expands.

Finally, I'd like to compliment all those who made their homes and businesses look so festive this holiday season. And thanks to those who, all year long, work to keep their properties attractive and an asset to the town. The willingness of residents to comply with town codes and to work with our code enforcement officer, Paul Goins, is greatly appreciated.

On behalf of the council members and town staff, I'd like to wish all North Beach residents a healthy, safe and prosperous 2012! Respectfully,

Mark R. Frazer, Mayor



### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- In an effort to increase communication between town staff and residents, we have placed information bins at the Post Office. The bins are located on the wall to the right of the bulletin board. We hope this helps in getting the word out to residents that may not be able to check our website or receive emails.
- On or shortly after Friday, January 27, 2012, the following changes will occur for Comcast customers: News Channel 8 HD will be on Channel 808 for Limited with HD customers. HSN HD will be on Channel 811 for Digital Economy and Expanded Basic customers. If you have any questions, please contact Comcast.
- Go to our website, www.northbeachmd.org and click on the Subscribe to News link to join our email list. When we post information on events, meetings, emergency information, street closures, etc. you will receive an email.

# THANKSGIVING FEAST

On Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 2011, a "Community" feast was held at the Abigail Francisco School of Ballet on 3rd Street. The North **Beach Spiritist Society** sponsored the first-ever dinner that was open to anyone who wanted to come. There was no charge and thanks to the donations of many, many sponsors, food was plentiful and the atmosphere was light, positive and exceptionally friendly! Forty-eight people attended.

With the holidays being a very personal and family time for some, the event was sponsored with the intention of encouraging people to get out, meet new friends, and just have a good time without all the preparation and/or expense. It is a time to be thankful for what you have and to share your enjoyment of those things. Hopefully, next year, more residents will participate and make this event an even bigger and better day of Giving Thanks!



### Stay tuned for our 2012 Calendar of Events.



### CHRISTMAS ON THE BEACH

On Friday, December 2nd, hundreds of spectators gathered on the boardwalk and pier to witness the official lighting of the town. The Fathers and Sons Quartet sang holiday music while folks enjoyed hot cocoa and cookies. After Reverend Engel from the Union Church gave the invocation, Mayor Frazer said a few words as everyone waited anxiously. Mayor Frazer flipped the switch and lit up the beautiful Christmas tree, arches and candy canes on the pier. What a beautiful display to have in our town!

The 5th Annual Holiday parade, sponsored by the Bay Business Group, was held on Saturday, December 3rd. Some of the parade entries included floats, antique cars, children, pets, marching band, singers and dancers, elected officials and businesses. The parade theme for this year was The Twelve Days of Christmas. The last and most important person to arrive was Santa Claus. He arrived on the back of a North Beach Volunteer Fire Department fire truck! It was very exciting for children of all ages!

After Santa and Mrs. Claus were settled in their chairs on the pavilion, they met with each child to hear their Christmas wishes. Everyone enjoyed hot cocoa and roasted marshmallows on the beach. Lots of pictures were taken and special treats were given out. All of this is made possible by the volunteers of the North Beach House and Garden Club. A great big thank you goes out to Mr. and Mrs. Claus and also to the very helpful elves!

As if the lighting of the town, the holiday parade and getting to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus weren't enough, there was another special event on December 3rd. For the first time ever, there was a celebration of the arts at town hall. The Abigail Francisco School of Classical Ballet Youth Performance Ensemble and students gracefully performed. Songs were sung by the Calvert High School Chorus and Windy Hill Elementary School Choir. And we heard beautiful music by local pianist, Wyatt Garrett.





We hope you enjoyed the new holiday decorations and look forward to seeing them in November!



### HOLIDAY DECORATIONS THROUGHOUT TOWN

As you may have noticed the Town of North Beach purchased some new holiday decorations from Mosca Company in 2011. The town employees and many volunteers decided to get started decorating the second week in November to determine how much labor would be involved (and working with the weather) to get the installation completed prior to the official lighting of the tree and the annual Santa on the Beach and parade.

The total weight of all the decorations is over 5,000 pounds. There is one mile of extension cords and 1,000 feet of those extension cords are on the pier. The Christmas tree is 22 feet tall, is adorned with over 800 ornaments and took two days to decorate. There is 1,875 feet of garland from 1st Street to 5th Street (4 tenths of a mile) dressed with 68 bows. The eight, 8-foot figurines from the Nutcracker Suite Ballet, on the t-section of the pier, were created by students and volunteers from Abigail Francisco School of Classical Ballet. Total installation took 27 days and over 500 hours to complete.

### ANNUAL POLAR BEAR PLUNGE

The 2011 Polar Bear Plunge was a tremendous success. There were 468 adventurous plungers and many more spectators. The temperature outside was 52 degrees and the water temperature was 44 degrees. Each plunger received a certificate of participation and a 2011 North Beach Polar Bear Plunge t-shirt. After the plunge, everyone enjoyed roasted marshmallows by the bonfire and hot cocoa and cider. Thanks to all who participated and helped to make this a success.





The Town of North Beach held the 12th Annual Holiday Highlights Contest on Sunday, December 18, 2011. Houses, townhouses and businesses that were decorated for the holidays were viewed by a panel of judges. The winners will be awarded prizes at the January 12, 2012 town council meeting. Congratulations to following winners:

#### Houses

1st place: 9135 Atlantic Avenue, John and Kathy Kallinikos

2nd place: 8930 Erie Avenue, Harry and Linda Klein

3rd place: 3901 7th Street, Theresa and Wayne Kelly

#### Townhouses

1st place: 8809 Buckingham Court, Craig and Katherine Reeves

2nd place: 3925 Sea Bass Court, Donald and Jennifer Brown

3rd place: 9100 Bay Avenue, Unit 301, Mathieson Residence

### Businesses

1st place: Sisters Corner2nd place: Sweet Sues3rd place: Habitat for Humanity

### HOLIDAY PARADE ON COMCAST CHANNEL 6

The Annual Holiday Parade that was held on December 3, 2011 was recorded by Northern High School students. The parade is currently being aired on Comcast Channel 6 at 3 and 7 pm daily. If you haven't seen it, take a look!

### **BLONDIE'S ON**

### TV

Our very own Cindy Selby from Blondie's Baking



Company was a contestant on Cupcake Wars! On the January 1st episode on the Food Network, four bakers competed to win the chance to cater cupcakes at the Los Angeles premier of the play "Wicked." Cindy made it through the first round, but in the second round she encountered a technical error. She was honored to be offered the opportunity to compete on Cupcake Wars and believes if she does it again, she will make it to the final round. Congratulations and best wishes to Cindy and Blondie's Baking Company! We are proud to have you in our town!

### HOMETOWN HERO

The Town of North Beach is proud to welcome Tech Sergeant Kevin Archer home! He returned to Joint Base Andrews on Friday, December 23rd after a two-month deployment in Afghanistan. Archer was escorted to his home, here in North Beach, by the NAM Knights Motorcycle Club and local law enforcement. Channel 7 news was in town to report on his homecoming. To watch the video, type this link in your internet browser: http:// wj.la/vWD9gR. Sergeant Archer served as the Honorary Polar Bear at the Annual Polar Bear Plunge on New Year's Day and will be recognized by Mayor Frazer at the January 12th council meeting.

# Do you have pictures of the town or events that you'd like to share? Email them to drichardson@northbeachmd.org.



Cindy Selby Blondie's Baking Company



Tech Sergeant Kevin Archer and Mayor Frazer

### CONSIDER GOING GREEN IN 2012

The North Beach Environmental Committee is taking a look at recycling efforts here in town and exploring ways to make it easier



and increase resident participation! A short survey is now available on our website under "Links for Residents." A hard copy of the survey is available at the post office in the new town information bin and at town hall. Examples of some questions on the survey are: "Do you recycle?" "Do you know what can be recycled?" Would recycling increase if residents had larger bins?" And, "Do you know that, in addition to helping the environment, recycling could help to save our town money?" Please take a few minutes to respond to the survey. The deadline for completing the survey is January 31, 2012. We need your feedback to continually make North Beach a wonderful place to live!

### **BEACH CLEANUP**

On Saturday, November 12th the North Beach House and Garden Club, with support from the Environmental Committee, sponsored a beach clean up. Volunteers joined together to pick up debris and trash from the wetlands along Rt. 261 and from the Walton Beach Nature Preserve. All the volunteers enjoyed refreshments and met new friends as they helped beautify the beach.



### **CHANNEL 6: BEACHES PROGRAMMING**

When you tune into Comcast Channel 6, as a resident of the Town of North Beach, you should receive the beaches programming.

comcast

The beaches programming includes information from the Town of North Beach and the Town of Chesapeake Beach. It also includes some Calvert County information, as well. If you tune into Comcast Channel 6 and do not see any information specific to the beaches, please take a moment and email Joe Miller at Comcast (joe\_miller2@cable.comcast.com) with your name and home address. If you do not have the capability to email, you may call Town Hall and leave your information with our receptionist, Marsha Stiner. She will pass the information along to Comcast. Once Comcast has your name and home address, they will ensure you receive the correct programming.

### IN MY OPINION . . .

HELLO, and HAPPY NEW YEAR! Having recently moved back to the Town of North Beach after nearly 29 years, I have some interesting comments to share and your response is certainly welcome!

First, the new Town Hall! What a long -awaited and well-deserved honor to have such a beauty in our town! Yes, I work in Town Hall and consider this to be a privilege. My position has afforded me the opportunity to meet many of the town's residents; either in person or by phone. I thank all of you for communicating with us. I believe each and every resident should take time to visit the Town Hall and see what they, as a town, have accomplished. It is truly something to be proud of and to be a part of; maybe even sit in on a Town Council meeting. It's your right, your privilege and your building! Come join us!

Next, we had Bay Harvestfest. Our first year and I believe a success! I'm sure we all remember and appreciate the 25 years of Bayfest; but it's time to try something different and a little later in the season. Let's keep exploring the possibilities and learn from the past. It's time for some fresh, new ventures! Let's have fun with Bay Harvestfest!

Oh! I almost forgot! The purchase of Walton's Beach or Sand Beach or Round Beach as it was called many years ago. What an accomplishment! And what a neat little piece of beach we've added to our town! Just think, we'll have our own "nature preserve" and efforts will be made to make it a



Marsha Stiner Receptionist at Town Hall

safe haven for wildlife; not of the human kind! A little humor there! Another additional perk to our town is the Nature Park observation point at the north end of Dayton Avenue. It will be dedicated in April of this year and affords visitors the opportunity to relax, observe and enjoy the marsh and its residents.

Wow! We can rent bicycles, paddleboards and kayaks at the Welcome Center now...another new and fun thing to do at the beach! Take advantage of it! As a matter of fact, we should all take advantage of the many free and natural privileges that our town has to offer.

In wrapping up, I'd just like to say what a wonderful and positive change the Town of North Beach has made! It took a while, but all good things do. I'm proud to say, "I remember when..." and guess what? I'm even prouder to say " I live in North Beach, The Jewel of the Chesapeake Bay!"

## JOIN PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Joining the Public Safety Committee and being involved with their efforts is a smart way to help protect the safety of our town. Involvement creates opportunity to get to know your neighbors, helps to open the lines of communication with local police and better overall cooperation among residents in crime prevention efforts. If you are interested in joining the committee, please call 301.812.0044 or Town Hall at 301.855.6681. **Public Safety Committee** meetings are held the third Monday of every month. Help keep our town the

special place we love! Watch out for the next

Neighborhood Watch training and become involved in your town's safety solutions!

# ADVICE FROM SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Recently the Sheriff's Department has handled a rash of thefts from sheds and storage buildings in town. They suggest all residents lock shed doors and record the serial numbers, makes and models of all equipment. Please be alert, observant and caring. If you see a suspicious person or activity, call the Sheriff's Department (410.535.2800) immediately.

### IT'S YOUR PROPERTY, PROTECT IT

by Paul Goins, Code Enforcement Officer

We have been working toward making North Beach a better place to live, as well as a better place to visit. I hope that you, as citizens of the town, have noticed some changes during the last year. It's not the goal of Code Enforcement to write violations, mail civil citations and make visits to the Circuit Court. The goal is to help you protect the value of your property and improve the appearance of the town. We do this by notifying you of issues that do not comply with the Town Codes and Ordinances. Over the course of the last year, Code Enforcement has worked with others with writing the new Boat, Trailer, and RV Ordinance; conducted over 150 Rental Inspections, both residential and business; worked with Calvert Mediation to give you free access to mediation for family and home owner issues; addressed over 300 property maintenance issues, either by letter, violation or civil citation; worked with zoning, thereby lessening the workload of the zoning administrator; and worked on having our codes updated to be in line with those of Calvert County. With your help we can only move forward with our goal of making North Beach a great town in which to live. I hope that you continue to work with me, respond to my letters and continue protecting the value of your properties, thereby improving the appearance our town. I am always available to discuss any issue that you may have regarding your property or other properties you feel are neglected. I do not single out any particular property or individual and am fair with the enforcement of our codes. I look forward to working with everyone this coming year.



The new Department of Public Works building located at the corner of 11th Street and Dayton Avenue.

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE

Residents should see work begin on the sidewalk project on 7th street any day. The sidewalk will run from Dayton Avenue to Greenwood Avenue on 7th street, and from 7th to 8th on Frederick Ave. This will allow residents from the northwestern end of town safe and convenient foot travel to the waterfront and several businesses in town. Please be patient while construction is under way. This work will require cooperation from residents to ensure the project proceeds smoothly.

We have experienced a very mild winter so far, but don't forget this time of year things can change quickly. Make sure all exposed water lines are protected from freezing to avoid water line breaks and costly repairs from damage. Be sure to have a back up heat source, if possible, in case of power outages or other unforeseen problems from winter storms. Now is a good time to run your backup generator and check operation to make sure it is working correctly, if you are lucky enough to own one.

Please remember in the event that we do have a snow event and it is enough where the Department of Public Works (DPW) has to plow the streets, it is extremely important to use off-street parking if you have this option. In the event we have six or more inches of snow, if all vehicles on the numbered streets park on the north side of the street and all vehicles on the named streets park on the west side of the street, this aids DPW's snow removal from the streets and makes for a much more efficient use of the town's equipment and staff during these events. Lastly , if you don't have to travel during these storms please stay off the roadways while crews are trying to clear them. If you must travel, remember that it is a good idea to keep your fuel tanks topped off and carry a snow emergency kit in your vehicle. If you have lived here during a "minor" snow event, you know that it does not take much to cause "major" traffic problems in this area.

And lastly, another reminder about what goes down your drain. DPW is still having issues with sewer clogs. Please do not flush any type of disposable wipes or pour any fats, oils or grease down your drain. All of these things cause sewer clogs which are very costly to remove. Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) offers a short, informative video about disposing of grease. If you would like to watch the video, type *http://www.wsscwater.com/home/jsp/content/fog-index.faces* in your internet browser and click on the "Can the Grease" video on the left side of the screen.

Thanks and have a great new year, Don Bowen , DPW Superintendent

# JANUARY 2012

Trash must be bagged, placed in a trash can with a lid and curbside before 6 a.m. on Monday and Friday.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	: Trash Pickup		: Bulk Pickup	: Council Work Session, 7 pm	: Trash Pickup	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	: Trash Pickup : Special Events Mtg., 7 pm	: Environmental Committee Mtg., 7 pm	: Recycling Pickup	: Town Council Meeting, 7 pm	: Trash Pickup	
15	: No Trash Pickup 16 : Town Hall Closed : Historic Pres. Com., 7 pm	17	18	19	20	21
	: Public Safety Com., 7 pm		: Bulk Pickup		: Trash Pickup	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	: Trash Pickup : Historic Pres. Com., 7 pm		: Recycling Pickup	: Planning Commission Meeting, 7 pm	: Trash Pickup	
29	30	31				
	: Trash Pickup					

# FEBRUARY 2012

Trash must be bagged, placed in a trash can with a lid and curbside before 6 a.m. on Monday and Friday.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			: Bulk Pickup	: Council Work Session, 7 pm	: Trash Pickup	
5	: Trash Pickup	7	8	9	10	11
	: Special Events Mtg., 7 pm	: Environmental Committee Mtg., 7 pm	: Recycling Pickup	: Town Council Meeting, 7 pm	: Trash Pickup	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	: Trash Pickup		: Bulk Pickup		: Trash Pickup	
19	: No Trash Pickup 20 : Town Hall Closed	21	22	23	24	25
	: Historic Pres. Com., 7 pm : Public Safety Com., 7 pm		: Recycling Pickup	: Planning Commission Meeting, 7 pm	: Trash Pickup	
26	27	28	29			
	: Trash Pickup		: Bulk Pickup			

# MARCH 2012

Trash must be bagged, placed in a trash can with a lid and curbside before 6 a.m. on Monday and Friday.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				: Council Work Session, 7 pm	: Trash Pickup	
4	: Trash Pickup	6	7	8	9	10
	: Special Events Mtg., 7 pm	: Environmental Committee Mtg., 7 pm	: Recycling Pickup	: Town Council Meeting, 7 pm	: Trash Pickup	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	: Trash Pickup		: Bulk Pickup		: Trash Pickup	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	: Trash Pickup : Historic Pres. Com., 7 pm : Public Safety Com., 7 pm		: Recycling Pickup	: Planning Commission Meeting, 7 pm	: Trash Pickup	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	: Trash Pickup		: Bulk Pickup		: Trash Pickup	

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### PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID PRINCE FREDERICK, MD PERMIT #61

Current Resident North Beach, MD 20714

## **MAYOR FOR A DAY**

There was a very special guest at our council meeting on December 8, 2011. Daniel Carey, the Honorary Mayor, was present, as well as scouts from the Wolves Pack Cub Scout Troop #262. Daniel came to be the Mayor for a Day by winning a silent auction held by the Beach Buccaneers. After he was introduced by Mayor Frazer as the Honorary Mayor of North Beach, Daniel got right to work. His duties included declaring the North Beach Town Council meeting OPEN and banging the gavel; leading the Pledge of Allegiance; and, introducing the Town Council members and his proud parents, John and Anne Carey. Daniel received an engraved gavel as a special gift of appreciation. We hope to see the 'Mayor' back at town hall very soon!

