

Interviewee: **Barry Jose Campbell**
Interviewers: **Ernest Demby, Julie Hawkins-Ennis, Linda Moore-Garoute, Noah Waters, Ryan Craun**
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Location of Interview: **Eagle Harbor Community Center, Eagle Harbor, MD**
List of Acronyms: **BC=Barry Jose Campbell, ED=Ernest Demby, JE=Julie Hawkins Ennis, LG=Linda Moore-Garoute, NW=Noah Waters, RC=Ryan Craun**

[Begin Transcript: 00:03]

JE: First of all thank you for joining us today.

BC: Thank you for having me.

JE: My name is Julie Hawkins –Ennis, I'll be doing the interview.

BC: Okay.

JE: Let's start with the hard question like they always say.

BC: Okay.

JE: What is your full name?

BC: Barry Jose Campbell. I know, where did Jose come from?

JE: Okay, no Jose is nice, how long have you lived in this area?

BC: Forty plus years. I'll be 49 in May 17.

JE: You'll be 49 years old?

BC: I know, it's a blessing. It's in the bloodline.

JE: Are your parents originally from this area as well?

BC: Yes, well my father originally from the Washington DC area when my sister and I were born, well, before I was born actually. By the time I was born they bought a house down here. So, my mother, sister, myself, and my father and his parents were down here so they raised us up down here, started off right here, me and my sister.

JE: Well do you know, what brought them to this area from Washington DC?

BC: That's a good question, I should've asked my mother before I came here today (laughs). I think it's because of a good deal on the price of houses and stuff, I cannot really speak what they're thinking that time, but I guess it was something they wanted. My father was into farming and hogging and stuff, even in Langston Lane where he was living at so, it was dirt roads there.

JE: I'm sorry, Langston Lane is Cedar Haven.

BC: No, Langston Lane is in DC.

JE: Oh. I'm sorry.

BC: Yeah, Langston Lane is Southeast.

JE: Southeast, Okay.

BC: Yes, back on those dirt roads back then, before he moved out here, in Vatican Boulevard, where I live right now.

JE: And that's in Cedar Haven.

BC: Yeah. That's on the Cedar Haven side of Aquasco.

JE: Do you know any history of Cedar Haven, of how they developed or how they started?

BC: I learned about the history, as I got older, at the time I didn't really know too much, I was just enjoying the fact of being able to run around safely, enjoy the water, stuff as a child. But then, as I got older, I learned about the history, more or less, and how it was established as far as a place where black people came to go swimming, to party, to do their things because a lot of history back then, they can't go to Virginia Beach or Ocean City and places like that. So this was their Virginia Beach and all that and so, that's when I started to learn more about the history of Eagle Harbor and made me more respected, and appreciate it more.

JE: On that note, what are some of the memories you have about growing up in Cedar Haven?

BC: Aww man. It was a lot of children like my age, growing up, we had a lot of children. Look around now, that's what's missing. There's no children. There's not much children like when we were growing up. Outside. We stayed outside. You didn't video game. Video game what? You climbed trees, you played football, you played kickball, you played in the water fishing... Like he said, even though that water was muddy, you could swim in it. Swimming... We had fun. Doing all of the stuff that he had mentioned prior to. Man, it was fun for a child. Truthfully. So, this is what my shirt say. This is where my story began. Right here.

JE: I see you have Aquasco on it.

BC: This is where my story began right here. I was born in 1971. As I showed you on picture, you see I was a child in my front yard where I reside now. Yeah, I was a little boy growing up going fishing, going swimming. Even my father and I used to hunt and do stuff. And we used to camp at the river. We used to do a lot of stuff. Now as a grown up, I do that now with my son. I try to instill what is instilled in me. I show him how it was and how it is and how he can be. The life of good living, fun living, just enjoying life without spending money. Without sitting in the house playing video games, just wasting your life away. I'm not saying wasting away, but at the same time people got their millions making video games. But at the same time, you know, enjoying life, enjoying the beauty of nature, you know what I'm saying there's nothing like it. Me, it's growing up and understanding life now and enjoying it.

JE: So, when you moved down here, your family seemed to have stayed in the area permanently. They didn't go back and forth, at what end is, some people lived here, and some people have family that came to this area.

BC: No.

JE: So what schools did you go to?

BC: I went to Orme and then I turned around and went to Camp Schmidt when they turned it into Camp Schmidt. They turned Orme into Camp Schmidt now. I hear when people tell stories "Oh yeah, I went to Camp Smith", I'm like man I used to go to that school when it was an Elementary school. Then I went to Baden and then I went to Gwynn Park Middle School, to Gwynn Park High School where I graduated in '89.

JE: Have you ever heard about or, I don't know, maybe because your parents since they were from here, but still have you ever heard stories about the slaves that entered the port nearby?

BC: I heard, but not actually from my parents. I heard because, you know, as a child we go walk these woods and you find different stuff. Like, off of Vatican Boulevard where I live, you go all the way straight down, there at the water at the very end. Well if you continue through, what I'd like to bring back is the proper naming of all these streets. Seriously man, that's truly historical moment. So many streets that have names, but you can't see them, or they got knocked down. But there's street names in these wooded areas that actually have paths that probably can be a national museum area.

JE: Do you know the significance of it?

BC: Right, seriously.

LG: Real national treasure.

BC: Yes, truthfully.

JE: Do you know the significance of the names, of what they were?

BC: Like the streets I live on. Benjamin Banneker Boulevard. You know, Benjamin Banneker, Daniel Payne, all, black history...yes.

JE: The history of Cedar Haven when they were advertising that area from the research I've done. They named all the streets after prominent African-American men or leaders.

BC: Yes.

JE: When you said Benjamin Banneker, I knew you would know Cedar Haven.

BC: Right.

LG: Did you really hear who the founders, or the name of the man who founded supposedly Cedar Haven? Or gave the land for Cedar Haven?

JE: I can't...

LG: Or who named the streets? Because in the history, it says, He named the streets and divided it all as a subdivision for African-Americans who was a white man.

BC: Yeah. I never knew.

LG: Daniel's the man, He had an Ice Cream

JE: Yes

BC: Ice cream name?

LG: Ice Cream truck.

BC: Wow! No, but now that I know, I'm hearing about the history. I've been looking into it deeper. Because like I said, I love it down here and I wouldn't trade it for nothing. I've been blessed that my parents, and grandparents built it up and I've been blessed with it. You know. So, I mean you can't just sell it, and give that away for nothing. That's a blessing. That's why I want to be able to pass it down to my son and explain to him the things that wasn't explained to me fully at that time, and like what I said I have to do research which I had no problems doing. I want to know because it is good, to know. But like what I was saying, going all the way to that end, if you continue and you walk through them woods, it'll take you to another section of the woods that, I mean like, it's like old, like I guess they were saying shacks the whole time, old shacks that was found back there that we used as club houses. Old stuff. Seriously. Old abandoned little shacks.

LG: Big buildings too?

BC: Yes, some of them were.

JE: So that could be what the elder that we had, the oldest person in Aquasco, Mr. Glascoe, mentioned the "holden" what do you call it? The holding area. Stages. Yeah!

BC: Yeah. I can see that, because like I said if you go all the way to the end. You have to walk through the woods. There's an opening where that water opens up. Like actually, the power plant area, how the little channel opens up, there's an opening area there. Yeah. And this is from me doing this in my childhood. When I would walk through there, I see these openings, I used to go down there and play something serious, and then not understanding, where and what I was actually a part of. You know.

JE: Are those little cabins or shacks still back in there, do you know?

BC: I know they done cleared the area made it a little parking area in some places but I haven't recently walked down in the woods back there because, you know, I'm older now. I was thinking about it. No, seriously. I was thinking about the names, I would love that the names would actually open up, even if they put some kind of gravel that people can still walk through them, like little trails, just to know that these exists. There's a lot of these that have been shut down. There's a lot of them back there on our side. There's a lot.

JE: When you were young do you remember the area being, I guess, you know a fully active area? Everything, like what do you remember when you were young?

BC: You know even though it was little space over there on our side. I remember my father having cows, I had a pony named Macaroni. (Laughs) Yeah, I did. I loved this little pony. It was a white pony we called him Macaroni. I loved it because back behind where I used to live there was apple trees and all that stuff. We had peach trees in our yard. And one thing that made me laugh is where the guy said he didn't like being down here because his mother made me go outside and get a switch. Well we had a willow tree. So I really didn't like it. (Laughter)...

BC: Yeah. Them willow trees with them little switches...

LG: And they never break.

BC: Yes, I remember milking cows. I remember we had a cow and milking the cow. I remember that, because it was in the stable we had. Everything now has been modified, like the house everything is built with the framed roof and stuff. Everything is built up now. Back those days he had chickens, everything, he had everything. Our garden was actually like the Sola garden, it was nice decent side garden, a big garden, but it wasn't as big as he mentioned. I remember digging potatoes, carrots, and squash and all that stuff. They used to can all that stuff. In that yard where I live right now, it was from that fence out in over, it was from back side of the house all away to that fence. It was a nice decent size. I remember this stuff. The potatoes close to my window. When I look out in the window, I can see. The potatoes were underground, but you can see the plants that grew and everything. Dig out the potatoes and the carrots They had corn closer to the fence. The squash and stuff used to be closer to the fence. This is the stuff that I remember. I truthfully remember. Yeah. I used to love that stuff though. I didn't understand it at the time, how serious, I mean serious, how it was going to affect the way life is now. I mean, the stuff we ate back then was more, man it was more healthier.

JE: Organic.

BC: Yes. Now, when they had that little chicken thing, and they ran out of chicken. You don't know what they pumped them chickens up with to get chickens back to the Popeye's store and supply them by that time. But these chickens we used to buy them things and watch them grow. Feed them proper stuff they needed to eat and then...

LG: That's where the chickens became...

JE: Dinner that you serve to your friends.

BC: Yes. (Laughter)

JE: We spoke to your son, what do you think would attract his; eventually attract him and adults to stay in Eagle harbor.

LG: No, Cedar Haven.

JE: Sorry, Cedar Haven, what would bring back young adults back in the area?

BC: Listening to some of them like my age and younger now, that's trying to get back down here, there's actually a lot of them who wanted to get back down here. They were like, man, do you know how much I pay just to get a house back down there to actually stay? Because you don't understand it when you're here, but it's like, I don't know if it was you that was like I can't wait to go to DC? Oh no, it wasn't you. I was talking to Mr. Glascoe's daughter. She was like I couldn't wait to go to the city. I wanted to get away from the country. She wanted to get away. When I was younger, like what I said, it was more children out here during my time, we had fun. We didn't really have to go up to Suitland, DC and all that stuff to really have fun and look for a lot of stuff to do.

LG: Get in trouble with.

BC: Yes, all that mess, but like what I said, we had enough kids, we play football, basketball, many times we play on the field over there, it look much bigger back in the day. That field over there, with a helicopter coming over on Eagle harbor Day. There's a helicopter landing on our field. We used to come, people from up the hill a portion of Eagle Harbor, come down and we all go to school together, we walk by here, we all played football, basketball, like I said, we stayed active. I love it when I was a child. Now as I'm older, I like the peace, everybody got along. I never had any conflict. I've never seen it with my parents, everybody knew each other. If you did something bad out in the road, got in trouble down the road, when you get home, you got trouble. That's how I was. I didn't get to see the ports and the slavery portion. Didn't see any lot of racism. I know it existed, because hearing it in school, or talked about it, looking in at roots and all of that. My grandfather spoke about it too, because he came from Down South even though he came up North. He experienced a lot and he talked to us about it.

JE: Right.

BC: He experienced a lot, talked to us about it but you know, I had fun as child.

JE: Is your grandfather that came with you in Cedar Haven?

BC: No, that was my father's father. That was my grandmother's, my mother's father that was actually talking about it. He stayed in DC. He stayed in the district and my grandmother. I have pictures over there, we use to have cookouts, and everybody used to come down and we used to have fun. Like what I said we had fun as a child. It used to be a child's place, when they came out, they play their cards, you stayed in your room, and nobody's coming outside.

LG: I hate to touch on this sort of subject, since you lived in Cedar Haven for so long, did you have any conflict or hear any conflict or felt anything different being a resident of Eagle Harbor?

BC: A resident of Eagle Harbor?

LG: Cedar Haven, Eagle harbor, have always bumped heads.

BC: For real? I guess, never get to the political part of it. I never knew. I used to come around here like I said, because somebody had mentioned a lot of these houses on this side were normally people from the city come down in the summertime. So a lot of people that lived down here actually lived on the Cedar Haven side. It was a lot of children. The *Proctor's*, the *Savoy's*, there's a lot of them who live over there.

JE: So, what you're saying is that people in Cedar Haven come and open up their houses here, although they don't live in Cedar Haven?

BC: No. The people in Cedar Haven side, they have houses over there.

JE: Permanent residences there, so the one's here that came.

BC: Right. I meant people from the city came on the Cedar Haven, I mean on the Eagle Harbor side and in the summertime, brought here.

LG: But you didn't interact to those.

BC: We came here to play whatever we can play at.

LG: Did you play with their children?

BC: Yes, I came out, we had fun, we couldn't wait until they came down.

LG: You see, how children which is.

BC: Yes, like what I say we couldn't wait to see the new people.

LG: There was not a divide, like you over there, and we here?

BC: There was no divide. No. We're speaking of children.

LG: Children are, Okay.

BC: Children do not do that.

LG: What about the adults?

BC: I didn't see it with my parents. It was the Savoy's that lived here, Linda and them, they used to live over here. The one's that lived on the hill. People who actually who lived in the side, no, we never had any, because we all considered it as Aquasco. We live in Aquasco. It was not really Cedar Haven and Eagle Harbor. Just Aquasco. So everybody lives in Aquasco. But we looked forward to the people who come down in the summertime. Because of the new faces and are girls going out here. We used to love it. We became friends with some of them. We would be waiting for them to come, maybe living down here the following year. We exchanged numbers. We kept in touch with them. Specially, I know a couple of them. I know there was one guy who lived over here or in the house all the time. Spending the night over there, every time they come, vice versa, spend the night over here, we had fun. I am telling you it was us growing up, because there is a lot by the Aquasco's speedway. We had a lot. The Butlers. Everybody. They all came down and we all had fun.

LG: And there was no fighting?

BC: No fighting, no nothing. When I'm telling you there was none of that, there was none of that.

LG: I guess it was beautiful nature.

BC: We just had fun. I do not know. We heard more of like up there Winbrook area, Mary Catherine, we heard more of them beefing one another more than anything down this way.

JE: Mary Catherine and Stacey Clinton?

BC: Yes, seriously.

JE: He is absolutely right.

BC: Then, anything that is right.

BC: Yes. We didn't have to much of that down here. Let me tell you, I did not see it with my parents. You overhear stuff and if it was something that was said and you know not to say it. But there is none of that.

LG: Now did you ever come over to any of day town of Eagle Harbor's meetings? Where you invited? Or did you.

BC: I never, the only time that they opened up this during Eagle Harbor Day. That is the only time that I come over. I mean, like what I said, when I was child, and then once I was grown, it was more or less everybody coming down just to meet. Because like I said, when we looked at it, it was just Aquasco. We didn't look at it like Eagle Harbor or Cedar Haven. Nah. We just looked at it as Aquasco. Even though it was named Eagle Harbor day, we just look at it as.

LG: Aquasco Day.

BC: It was Aquasco Day, because even if 99% of people that usually come down here, and I know 99% of them, they coming from up there from where IGA used to be, where Aquasco Speedway used to be, people that used to live in these areas.

LG: What about Wilmer's Park?

BC: Wilmer's Park. I knew more of the white folks that lived over there. They went to Wilmer's Park. I didn't know a lot of people that lived near Wilmer's Park like that. But during that time like Mr. Glasco, we enjoyed Wilmer's Park.

JE: They have go-go's over there?

BC: Yes, they have the Go-Go's.

LG: & BC: Yes.

LG: The Go-Go's.

BC: Yes, that was here.

LG: We got Jamaican bands coming out here.

BC: Yes, all that stuff. Then you may see little bit conflict but it wouldn't be with us. It was just for Mary Catherine bringing whole bunch of dumb stuff. All about.. Yes.

LG: Mary Catherine, and Stacey...

BC: Yes, Mary Catherine, and Stacey.

LG: Who was the other one?

BC: Winbrook

JE: Right past that. If you go down. where does that bring you? What was that road?

BC: Piscataway Road.

JE: Past BK Millers

BC: B.K Miller's?

JE: Past the airport.

BC: There that was what I am trying to get at.

JE: The little airport pass that.

BC: There's a little airport back there.

JE: Yes, I have family that lived out there.

BC: Right.

JE: Nice homes back there.

BC: Yes.

JE: I used to like, why is people fighting all the time?

BC: Right.

JE: Yes.

LG: Mary Catherine.

BC: Yes, Okay, Mary Catherine, right. Yes, that is off the chain.

JE: Sorry, I have recorded it on tape. But anyhow, so what would you like to see for this area, Cedar Haven?

BC: I would love to see the signs, the streets, if not repaved with gravel to lift the history. Bring this back to life. With the signs, all the street names, posted where they belong in the right places. And the ones that grew up to be cut down, like what I said, either repave them or put some kind of walkway where people can actually just walk to see the history. I would love that portion, to stay like that, bringing it back to life, in that perspective, that way.

NW: Do you want to see the towns to come together politically?

JE: Would you like to see the towns come together politically? Though you know anything about it, but.

BC: Yes, I am just learning about that portion of it. I am sorry. Yes, but.

JE: Like come together. I know Eagle Harbor has community meetings but will you all come to a meeting.

BC: Okay but would that mean making me paying dues and all that?

JE: I do not think so.

BC: You see that is the portion, I'll be

LG: The whole town needs to pay taxes.

BC: Well I am already paying enough taxes already.

LG: We all have to pay town's taxes, but I don't think you have to pay the county tax do you?

NW: I don't think it's not that bad.

BC: So is it going to added on the taxes I already pay?

NW: I don't think there's much of a difference.

BC: Well I pay \$2600 that is a lot to me already. I feel it. So if you are going to add any more to it I am going to notice it.

LG: They're trying to build out there, bring back swimming, building.

JE: Athletic center.

BC: What, where?

NW: The new Aquatic Center, that is going to open next month.

BC: Oh. That's in Clinton. Brandywine. Wow.

NW: They did that in exchange for power.

BC: You know, I saw they were doing something out there, but I did not know what they were actually building, there's a lot of pools in there?

JE: Everything.

NW: Bad air.

JE: Basketball courts.

BC: Wow!

JE: Basketball courts, all kinds.

LG: Would you like to see the power plant to taken out because of the health problems around?

BC: Especially if they are polluting the water. If they are polluting the water, Yes. That proportion definitely.

LG: But they also pollute the air too.

BC: Wow. See you do not realize all of that when you are a child, but when you get older, that's where you looked into all of that because, like I know, my eye right now is acting crazy. It's because of allergies.

LG: There's no pollen out there now.

BC: No, it is my eye lashes grows in my eye and irritates me. I have to go an Ophthalmologists to get it checked.

NW: Have you ever noticed, whenever you go out sometimes, it smells like dry clean. Whatever that is coming from the plant. It smells like that. The chemicals you smell arelike the dry cleaners. I smell that often when I come outside.

BC: So you know what people say, like when you stink. That you don't smell yourself?

LG: Yes, like somebody else knows.

BC: Exactly. So I guess I'm so used to it, so I don't notice it. I haven't noticed it. I am not going to say that its not there because I have asthma. I know when I'm down here my asthama.

NW: Because it's strong, sometimes it is really strong.

LG: Yes, the breathing.

NW: Yes, smells like a dry cleaner. Like when you walk through dry cleaner's chemicals, it smells just like it.

BC: Wow. I have been over there a couple of times. Have you been there.

LG: Never been on that campus.

BC: The deformed fish and all that kind of stuff they got over there. I have been over there a couple times. They have cookouts over there. Just like Eagle Harbor day. They have a different types of scents coming from over there.

LG: Come in for days.

JE: The Chalk Point?

BC: Yes, the Chalk Point, they have fish I have never seen before.

NW: When they heat the water, they get agitated when they heat the water.

BC: Right.

NW: So the temperature is probably a little warmer.

BC: Right, so that is why there is going to be a lot of big fish you catch in that lower area over there.

LG: Yes, because that is where they say, it is hard for some Sunfish to breath.

BC: Wow.

LG: When the water's too warm.

NW: It is not good.

BC: The habitat, right.

RC: I got a question, what would you, can you guess what your son would like to see in this area? In Aquasco? In Cedar Haven?

BC: Well he is 10 right now. He would want more children down here. I already know. He wants to play, play, play. So there is a few of them on this side that he come and play with, but like what I said, there is no children anymore, like we were before. On that note, he would want more.

LG: Maybe a park? A nice walking park, a playground?

BC: He would like that. Like when we were camping. He likes doing stuff like that with daddy. Throw the football around. I do all that with my son. Yes, he would love for it to have more children.

NW: We talked to the mayor about some Camp Schmidt type events and children activities on the river.

BC: Oh Okay. What river?

NW: On this side..

BC: On this side? The one we don't have access to?

LG: This side, and the other side..

BC: No. That started happening with me understanding that recently. As far as I know, the guy that had the little log cabin on the top of the hill? The pass?

LG: Mickey.

BC: Mickey, yes. I did not have a problem. I get the key from him. He accessed to it. I didn't have a problem getting the key because I understood the living down here. The respect of living down here, when you live down here it's love. Now, if you don't live down here and people bringing people down here, and they bring trash down here... I understand all of that.

NW: Problems with the trash.

BC: Yes, I understand that. If you are doing stuff like that, you do not want them here, you do not want people have access to that. That is just that. Why would you want somebody trashing your neighborhood?

LG: And then leave.

BC: I do not want to do that to anybody else, and then leave, right. So I respect and understand all of that portion. So, on that note, didn't look at that way the separation. I just look at it like, they got the river over there and we got the river over here. I didn't even look at it like that is their river, because I never came over here anyway because this side drowns a lot of people, because they don't understand.

LG: An undercurrent.

BC: Because the part they do not understand is that there's an undercurrent. I am telling you, you should not be even in there swimming. You only need to be on the land, sometimes you see the poles shake so hard doing like this (demonstrates with his hand), the water be like agitated real bad, and you can see like, Wow!

LG: maybe that's what others are trying to tell.

BC: No, seriously.

LG: spirits coming out of there...

BC: That is when people come down here and go swimming around here and they go out to that area not knowing. Well we know. I know. I have been out here all my life.

LG: They should put a sign over there.

BC: They should. Nobody has.

LG: See, that's dangerous for kids, because kids love water.

BC: Yes. And that is why I keep my son on that side. I make sure that any part of the water that he goes on he will be on the last river or the middle river. Those are the two places I feel comfortable and safe.

LG: Over here?

BC: I do not come. I don't care if I go to the fishing portion of the water, I go fish over the regular land.

NW: Sorry but I have to ask you this, but thinking of Benedict, was predominantly African-American at that time, so I imagine a part of your father & son relationship that enjoyed the land, enjoy the outdoors, the river like you described. That's no longer current today. So, what do you think it is about Cedar Haven that would stop another Benedict from occurring? What is it?

BC: The joining of us together. It is like this. We have to come together with love and show you know the respect. We live out here as a family and just come together. We have to come together like this is ours. This is the where we live, and we are going to protect where we live. Keep it safe. Yeah. On that level right ther. I am for that.

LG: For our future generations to enjoy, right?

BC: For our future and myself still living right now.

JE: Exactly.

LG: Yes.

BC: Yes.

LG: Benedict was first. But up this coast, the river. It was Benedict. And now it's Cedar Haven. So now, Benedict has been converted, or so what is it called, gentrified?

NW: Gentrification.

RC: Like the one they are doing in the city.

LG: So it's a matter of time.

NW: And there is no, naming or all sort types of things, or anything legal, it seems that the phenomenon has been that in the black communities. Of course, you know, whites have always enjoyed black communities. The phenomenon seems that when whites dominate the communities such in Benedict and even in Washington DC, gentrification happens and the taxes go up and people cannot afford it.

BC: Right. So it's like. Okay. So, we going to give you all what you want but we are going to raise the taxes and run you out anyway. So, at the same time, you have to. For your children. You have to communicate with them, just like you said as far as the parks. Give them something to want to stay, because if not, they are all going to leave. They don't want to be... I was listening to listening to Mr. Glascoe's daughter, "I don't want to be here", at the same time now, she loves it.

NW: She is an idea person (Pointing at Linda Garoute). She's got a bright mind right there. That is the other person. She has suggestions about stores, museums.

BC: I bet you pushed that pinwheel.

LG: Well thank you Noah.

BC: So I know where to come to get help from.

NW: My point is we appreciate citizens like yourself coming forth because this is not going to happen on its own.

BC: Exactly. We have to reach out and touch each other though.

LG: Neighbors, helping neighbors.

BC: Because some of the fact, I didn't hear this through my neighbors here. I had to hear this through my family and friends that grew up down here, that knew somebody, that knew somebody, that knew somebody and it got to me and I live here.

LG: Look, that's the person who knew somebody, that knew somebody.

JE: I was wondering how you got here.

BC: That is how much love I have for the people down here. They know me. They respect and love me. And I respect and love them back. And when you have that, because they have been telling me that I missed it on Friday. I was like, OHH GOD, I missed it. They were like, I think they are going to have the last day on Monday.

JE: I think I am aware with people, who put it on their Aquasco page.

LG: So many have come forward, unbelievable.

JE: And they are still coming forward.

LG: The mayor said to shut it down today.

NW: After today, shut it down.

BC: Yes, at least I got.

LG: The mayor has to do other work.

NW: Other priorities.

BC: I understand respect.

LG: Billy really wanted tell us a story.

BC: Yes, but I just wanted, been here all my life, truthfully. I have seen the love. I have never seen hate or anything, but I see vanishing.

JE: You see it vanishing.

BC: Yes. I see some of the ones who vanished, they want to come back but now its costing. They let go and they want to come back. And now, the ones sticking together, they are coming up here rebuilding and doing stuff.

NW: I would suggest you spread the word because it is about maintaining for your son. As Ryan said, It is where your son and maybe Ryan's son would like to come down and stay in Eagle Harbor. It is all inclusive, but we are just trying to keep it so it's not so we cannot afford to be here, and things happen like Benedict ending up in Washington DC.

LG: Trying to keep out history alive.

BC: That is the best.

LG: Because they went through a lot, our ancestors, and this is one way to honor them for all their struggles and contributions they made to Black Americans.

BC: Right.

NW: And I am jumping in again, just because the places that is going to happen like the gentrification in DC, it is because it becomes all about money, politicians a lot of times they go for their special interests.

JE: Lobbyists.

NW: Yes, lobbyists.

RC: I got another question. A lot of people talk about the store out here. Did you go there when you were a kid? And maybe you would like to see the store.

BC: There a store on a corner. We it called a Cotton Store. I remember when Cotton Store opened up as there was a video game called Shark Attack. We used to play it all the time

LG: Oh my God.

BC: Yes, seriously. video game.

LG: Video games man. Pac-Man was in the hobby store down in the Charlotte Hall area, but Yes I would love the Pac-Man, but I was a Ms. Pac-Man fanatic myself. But I really loved Shark Attack (Laughs), because that was the only game they have over there, and I remember that was on that corner store that Mrs. Davis owned to this day.

NW: They are talking about opening and making another restaurant, memorabilia and food, with sandwiches.

BC: Mrs. Davis said that?

NW: Another Mrs. Davis, not the Mrs. Davis that has portions you know. the Mrs. Davis that owns property further up Eagle Harbor?

BC: The only one I talked to is this one.

LG: I think she has some property over Cedar Haven.

NW: I am not sure, He also mentioned about a property.

RC: Do you remember what they sell in there?

BC: Oh Yeah. They would sell, like steak, the typical stuff.

JE: Steak and cheese.

BC: Yes, steak and cheese, breakfast sandwiches and stuff. It was good. I would understand why they open up and back up because it could have been like a fast in dollar. Even if they will sell it in summertime, wintertime. They open up in the summer. They got people who go fishing. They had the bait and all. Anything. They not even selling it. IGA didn't even sell that. Mr. Grimes and Debbie sell it.

NW: She's the ideal person. She should be like the town manager. Because town has managers. You know when they grow, they need someone who's really on it. You got politicians, but you got a manager, and the manager lot of times really pushes for the town to really know for the place to move forward and know the needs.

LG: And know the business side. Most managers are business majors.

BC: Okay, on that note right there. I agree, but I don't think that everything needs to put in a village form. Like, if you live down here. I say that, you know the reason I say that, but you know I love you. I feel like we should be able to in a respectful manner, if it does not disrespect nobody sleep or whatever, we would have an access to be able to go to the water at any time that you want if you live in this neighborhood down here. There should be no, okay you gotta cut it off, you know what I mean. Because I probably work, let's say, I'm speaking for myself. My son. I love him to death and wishes his mother was with us to stay but we are not together, so I get him on the weekends. I get him, I spend my time strictly with him. I would do anything to make that boy happy and to keep him happy. I read with him. I talk to him about different stuff, go camping, like what I say, stuff that I grew up doing. I am just putting it back on him. Showing him and instilling it on him also. So if I'm not making noise or he's not making noise, I feel like there's no disrespect to nobody around you that you keep it in a proper manner. I wouldn't feel that it's unfair for it to be open for people who stay down here. You know. As long as there ain't no partying and don't light no fire that puts everybody in by a danger why not be able sleep in an area where you know.

LG: Why I can see that you would be different but other people do not know how things are done here that they just come in your neighborhood and just maybe campout, light fires and trash it up.

BC: That is what I'm saying. That's only for people who don't live out here. That is what I am saying, that is not for the people who do not live down here.

LG: Exactly.

BC: It is for strictly for people that live in the neighborhood. Strictly for the people who live in the neighborhood.

LG: For them, that's hard, because.

JE: You got to give that to the community.

BC: It's not hard.

LG: But for a lot of....

BC: But it is not hard. We basically neighborhood watch our neighbors. You know. I go to Annapolis. I have friends who live in Annapolis. In nice areas in Annapolis that's not gated communities but really nice areas and nobody can go to those waters but the people in that neighborhood.

LG: Exactly.

BC: Truthfully.

LG: It's true.

BC: They can come down here and see an area that you think that is cool and somebody is going to come down and say, "who are you with?". Exactly, I don't see no problem with that. I respect that.

LG: Because more people are needed to get involved.

BC: I understand.

NW: Who police's them in Annapolis?

BC: The neighbors.

NW: But what police department circle that area?

BC: I do not want to go that deep; like I just say I got a friend that lives up there.

JE: in this area, they all live in the same area in Britton Bay?

LG: But usually they have a heavy police force down there who keep peace?

JE: No, I, where, for instance

LG: Look. Consider the neighborhood too.

JE: Yes. I understand what you're saying because this is the area that I grew up. And I grew up in this area for years. Called Bretton. I had friends but I did not live there. But one time I took the kids down and this was years later, forgetting, but I think right now they started policing it more because they do not know people. So I'm on the beach and they were like "Who are you and why are you here?", and I said, excuse me? And I respected that. I said, my friend's houses are right on the beach, but they no longer live there but I did not know that, but still she was policing me.

BC: Right.

JE: And she was pretty much saying, "Okay you are not from around here". She was nice.

BC: Exactly.

JE: You know but you can stay for a little bit but normally this is for the neighborhood.

BC: Exactly.

JE: But immediately. I don't belong here.

LG: It should be for the neighborhood.

BC: Right.

LG: It should be for the neighborhood. Absolutely. No one should be hassling but the neighbors, but there are so many people that come in and go out that you don't know.

BC: Yes, I'm talking about after hours, I am talking about after "the hours" that is what I'm speaking about, because it is a simple fact.

LG: Yes, is there anything like you want to say? I think you said it.

BC: Yes, like what I said, I love my neighborhood and I love the Eagle harbor Cedar Haven set up. I love it. If we come together as a whole big community it's not going to raise my taxes, and as long as it keeps my head afloat....

NW: I have a question. If there's a minimal difference in taxes, but you still have what you have as opposed to no tax raises but you don't have what you have, because if builders come in, and improve the property, you are going to pay higher taxes because of the value on where you live.

BC: Raises up.

NW: Higher. So you will be going to pay a higher taxes and you would not control that at all. Just like you won't get hit. So.

BC: So, if we come together and it raises, is it going to stay that or is it going to continue to go up.

NW: Come together and control it.

BC: No. I got you, I'm just saying.

LG: Like your son. Taxes are going increase once he goes into the homestead. When you pass that property on to your son and because his home's still there and freezes rate there, for a certain amount that can't go up past four percent.

BC: Okay.

LG: That is why you don't want to pass to your son taxes.

BC: I am not leaving inside that black gate so that you can educate me.

LG: No.

BC: Yes, you wanted to educate me?!

LG: No, but I mean.

LG: I am thinking so far here, but back to controlling the community, you know, we really have control over it.

BC: Right.

LG: Eagle Harbor, Aquasco, this area. Because you see they settle on development all over Prince George's County and this area is the last sitting duck.

BC: But I really do not think they could not really actually I mean, as far as I am down here, I do not know, they can build, yes up, but down here it's like a valley, they are building stuff now?

NW: They are start building now in Cedar Haven. They are doing something.

LG: Expanding.

NW: Yes.

BC: You are talking about somebody that owns the property? Oh that, somebody own that property though.

NW: Okay, but.

BC: Right in front of the waters, it used to be a house.

NW: It's on the far side.

BC: Oh, that down the river, the last river.

NW: Yes. the far side.

BC: I have not been there lately. I would go on the middle one. That is my favorite one.

LG: Yes, you'll never know.

BC: Right.

LG: The commission owns the land. They can do what they want to do to the land.

BC: So. I mean, what makes that a park? Because they can cook down here because they don't have any kind of stuff for the children?

LG: Exactly.

NW: Because you all don't have the political power that the Eagle Harbor has. It's easier for them to do those types of things.

BC: Easier for who to do?

NW: For them to do that in Cedar Haven.

BC: But what do they have over here in Eagle Harbor?

LG: The government.

BC: What do they have over here for the kids? I don't see anything for the kids.

NW: I'm talking about the politically controlled.

JE: This is officially a town.

BC: Okay.

BC: So that is why you keep on pushing.

JE: So they don't have any permission to get down.

BC: Okay so you want to me to open the back gate? So that we can talk?

LG: Because it is the water. The water is state? How's that work, water as property.

JE: When you get past and walk into the waters, past the Prince George's County property water, how does that work?

NW: I think halfway out it becomes the property of the other county or something.

JE: Right. So, my point is when you walk into the water, that water is not Cedar Haven, it belongs to the state of Maryland. So they do whatever they want from the shore to the water. That makes sense.

BC: Alright. Okay.

LG: I think we learned so much.

JE: I know.

LG: Look, we have so much to learn about this.

BC: Right.

NW: I got you on Facebook man.

[End Transcript: 55:50]