Cub Pack 1031 is getting ready to celebrate the 90th anniversary of cub scouting. The pack will be celebrating Blue and Gold Night on February 24 where we have a family potluck supper and review all the great things we have done this year. This year, we made rockets to launch at Goddard Space Flight Center. Some scouts went to Earth Treks with Troop 1033. We had our Pinewood Derby in January. We have lots more fun happening this spring with a hike planned and a beginner orienteering event for older cubs, and we are leading the Anacostia Watershed Society Spring Cleanup in April.

The Pinewood Derby pack trophy winners were Webelos Hugo T, 1st place; Tiger Kyle T, 2nd place; and Wolf Ian K, 3rd place. Den winners were Tigers 1st Kyle T, 2nd Elizabeth B, 3rd David H. Wolf winners were 1st Ian K, 2nd Ldn S, 3rd Isaiah W; Webelos 1st Hugo T, 2nd Eddy S; and Arrows 1st Jason K, 2nd Christian N. Congrats to all the racers! This month, scouts worked on their advancements with the Tigers completing Tiger Bites, Wolves completing Air of the Wolf, Webelos working on Stronger Higher Faster, Webelos completing Walk about, and Arrows completing Duty to God.

A reminder: if you have cub scout uniforms that you can part with, please contact Regina Halper at the email below so we can pass on “experienced uniforms” to our scouts. The cost of cub scouting has been going up, and sharing your uniforms with others will cut costs.

By Rick Bergmann

UpStage Artists Announces Auditions for Its Next Production

After a very successful production of Thanks for the Laughter: A Tribute to the Carol Burnett Show, UpStage Artists, a local community theater company working out of Emmanuel United Methodist Church, is excited to announce auditions for its next show: One and Dunne: An Evening of One Act Comedies by Jeff Dunne.

One of the goals of UpStage Artists is to produce innovative and accessible theatre, classics, as well as new works. Jeff Dunne is a local playwright from the Baltimore area whose work has been performed all over the country. He is a contributor to the local arts scene in MD and is working with UpStage Artists to bring some of his one-act plays to life. If you are a playwright and would be interested in UpStage Artists possibly producing your work you can contact them at info@upstageartists.com.

Auditions for One and Dunne will take place on Sunday, April 5, and Monday, April 6, at 7 pm. They will be held at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane Beltsville, MD 20705. If you have a resume and headshot, please bring it with you. If you don’t, that is ok too. UpStage Artists is always looking for new performers. They work with people with little to no experience as well as those who have had a lot of experience. Don’t let lack of experience hold you back. You just have to be willing to give it a try.

If you would like more information about the particular plays being presented or to download an audition form, go to www.upstageartists.com/auditions. Show dates for One and Dunne will be May 15–16 at 7 pm and May 17 at 3 pm. If you have any questions about auditions you can email them at auditions@upstageartists.com. There are plenty of roles available, so come on out and give them a try. You won’t regret it!
Former Customers and Employees React to the First Spring Without Behnke's

By Jordan Swarm, Journalism Major at the University of Maryland

Vincent McDonald had been visiting Behnke Nurseries since he was a child in search of the perfect tomato plant. But for the first time in 60 years, the nursery won’t be open to welcome him in the spring.

Behnke Nurseries permanently closed in June of 2019 after 89 years at its original location in Beltsville, MD. The nursery served as a center of community for both employees of the store and customers who visited year after year.

“I don’t think it’s really sunk in for a lot of people. They’ll pick up their shovel in the spring and they’re not going to have a place to go to,” said McDonald.

Albert Behnke immigrated to the United States from Germany and opened Behnke Nurseries in 1931. He ran the nursery with the help of his wife Rose, whom he met a year after opening, and they passed it down through their children, according to their granddaughter Stephanie Fleming. Fleming served as vice president of the company before it closed and was the one who ultimately had to make the decision.

“By 2012, the third generation of the Behnke family was at the helm but ready to retire. For the first time in 80 years, there was no family member to take over,” said Bristow.

The decision wasn’t easy. Fleming and other family members discussed it for years before deciding that it was finally time to let go of the nursery. The structures with

in the property had amassed too much damage to be repaired, and replacing them would cost millions of dollars. The family made the decision and told all of their staff about two and a half years before actually closing, according to Fleming.

“We let them know what was going on every step of the way. Last January when we knew it was going to be our last spring they knew right then. They all stayed, nobody left; they stayed till the last minute,” said Fleming.

Bristow was one of the people who stayed, but for him, Behnke Nurseries truly was home. Bristow began working at Behnke’s in the summer of 1979 at the age of 17 as a way to save up for a motor-cycle. What started as a summer job became a career. In 1996, he moved with his wife and children into a little brick house built by Albert Behnke on the property. He served as a 24-hour caretaker of the property and later ran Behnke’s website when the company started to go digital, according to Bristow. For him, it was a family thing.

“Both of my children graduated from the same high school that both my wife, my father, and I attended. Both of my kids worked part-time at the nursery as well as my father who made deliveries for our florist shop,” said Bristow.

Bristow and his wife stayed in the little brick house until almost a month after the last customer visited. He still works for Behnke Nurseries alongside Stephanie Fleming running the website, which they plan to keep going.

Former customers can read blog posts about gardening and even order garden decor and gifts.

“Find it hard to go back to the property now and walk through the remains of what used to literally be my home. I remind myself of all the friends I have made over the years, the time I got to spend with my wife and children in the little brick house, all the memories that go along with 40 years of friendships,” said Bristow.

The closing of Behnke Nurseries didn’t mean a real goodbye between many staff and loyal customers. They’re a family, related or not, and according to Fleming they’ve continued to keep each other close.

“Everybody says, ‘Well reunions are once a year,’ but we have them once a year,” said Fleming.

Many former employees found jobs at other garden centers in the area, such as Meadow’s Farm Nurseries and Land-
Enjoying the Art of Bonsai

Please join the Beltsville Garden Club for a monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 25, 2020, at 7:30 pm at the James Duckworth School, 11201 Evans Trail, Beltsville, MD. Michael James will speak about enjoying the art of bonsai, offering a look at the art form through the lens of the collection at the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum, including a PowerPoint presentation. He will talk about the horticulture that makes it possible to grow woody plants in shallow containers and will bring some living examples to show.

Many people think of bonsai as a marriage between science and art, but few people understand that partnership better than Michael James. The museum curator joined the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum at the National Arboretum in 2002, first as a volunteer, then as a staff member. He brought with him not just a love of bonsai but a background in plant science, agriculture, and art, all of which have helped make him an effective curator of bonsai.

Originally from Clear Spring, MD, James grew up farming with his family. He saw his first bonsai, a forest planting of red maples native to the area, at the Clear Spring community show. He was a middle school student and was immediately intrigued by the art. James went on to attend the Maryland Institute College of Art, studying fine arts and design for two years. He then earned a degree in plant science from Cornell University in 2001.

The public is welcome, and admission is free. Contributions of a plant or plant-related item for the door prize table and a refreshment to share are appreciated. If Prince George’s County Public Schools are closed on this date for weather-related conditions, the meeting will be canceled.

Michael James, Museum Specialist. Photo by Mike Collela
Erith Adolphus Catlin

Erith was born on the sunny island of Barbados in Holders Hill St James. He was the oldest and only son of three of Eileen Catlin, a single mom. At the age of 20, he responded to the voice of the Holy Spirit and repented for his inherent sins. He became an aspiring leader in the SDA church and committed his life to spreading the good news of the Gospel. In 1965, he married Elaine Reid and adopted her daughter Claudette. Together they had Catherine and Erwin. Erith started his sales career as a colporteur for the SDA church. When this ended in 1970, he acquired his first job as an insurance agent in Barbados with British-American Insurance Co. He was valued for his honesty and diligence in his work.

In 1972 he immigrated with his family to the USA. After one year in New York City, they moved up to New Hampshire, where Erith worked for the SDA church as a regional representative for the Christian Record-Belleville Foundation. Erith had a successful career, distinguishing himself by building strong relationships in the community and services for the blind. In 1974, his second son Everett was born. In 1986, he earned a BA degree in human services from New Hampshire College and moved to Dover, DE.

He also started his 28-year career as an insurance agent with Baraboo Wisconsin. After retiring, he returned to New Hampshire and opened his own insurance agency in Chesterfield, NH. In 1997, his third son Everitt was born. In 1998, he married Maxine Riggleman, a widow with two children, and together they had a daughter, Claudette. Together they had Catherine and Erwin. Erith loved much! He was a person of many interests. He met were readily charmed by his easy smile and warm personality. Caring for others was something that he took seriously. He didn’t have much, but what he had he shared liberally. Many in the community of Dover, DE, benefited from his generosity. Erith Catlin loved to garden—he had a natural green thumb! Plants flourished under his care. Erith loved his family! He took praying for them seriously and daily interceded for his family members. In 2018, after a stroke, Erith spent the last 18 months of his life in Maryland with his daughter and her family. On February 6, 2020, Erith transitioned to his heavenly home! Erith leaves behind 5 children, 9 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild.

He was working on his second book when the Lord chose to take him home where he is dwelling in the presence of his Lord and enjoying the company of his son Erwin, who preceded him to heaven. “Six decades have gone by since that day in 1958 (when he accepted Christ), and there has been no regret for that decision. There have been obstacles and stumbling blocks along the way, but the assurance of Ephesians 3:20: “Unto him that is able to do exceeding, abundantly above all we ask or think according to the power...” If we have little power, we ask little. If we have big power, we ask and think big.”

You are welcomed to commemorate Erith’s life by visiting his website and donating to charity: https://everloved.com/life-of/erith-catlin/

Cooksey, Thomas A.

Peacefully entered into eternal rest on Thursday, January 30. Beloved husband of Marsha; loving father of David (Jessica) and Dustin (Melinda); blessed grandfather of four; also survived by one brother and four sisters; son of the late Robert and Thelma Cooksey. Viewing was held at Borgwardt Funeral Home on Thursday, February 6 and at St. Joseph Catholic Church on Friday, February 7. It was followed by a funeral mass at St. Joseph’s, Interment Fort Lincoln Cemetery. Memorials may be made to National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, P.O. Drawer 498, Emmitsburg, MD 21727. www.borgwardtfuneralhome.com

Johnson, Mildred

On Saturday, February 8, 2020, wife of the late Joseph J; mother of David (Jessica) and Dustin (Melinda); blessed grandfather of four; also survived by one brother and four sisters; son of the late Robert and Thelma Cooksey. Viewing was held at Borgwardt Funeral Home on Thursday, February 6 and at St. Joseph Catholic Church on Friday, February 7. It was followed by a funeral mass at St. Joseph’s, Interment Fort Lincoln Cemetery. Memorials may be made to National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, P.O. Drawer 498, Emmitsburg, MD 21727. www.borgwardtfuneralhome.com

Mildred “Maxine” Riggelman

Mildred “Maxine” Riggelman (Newcomb) was 98 years old when she went home to be with the Lord on February 3, 2020. Maxine was born in Cumberland, MD, on December 30, 1921. In 1943 she married Paul Kenneth Riggelman, and they remained man and wife for 64 years. Maxine lived in Maryland most of her life other than living for short periods in New Jersey, Virginia, and Hawaii while Paul was in the United States Navy.

Maxine and Paul and their daughters moved to Beltsville, MD, in 1952. The couple remained in Beltsville until they moved to the Riderwood Village retirement community in Silver Spring, MD, in December 2003. When they moved to Beltsville, Maxine was a wife, mother, and homemaker and then began working part-time and eventually, full-time at ARB (American Research Bureau), which eventually became a part of Control Data. Maxine retired from Control Data in 1986 after 28 years of employment.

Maxine’s husband, Paul, predeceased her in 2007. She is survived by her daughters Linda Robinson (Jay) of Maricopa, AZ, and Karen Bissett of Mineral, VA; her grandchildren Jeffrey Roberson, Tammy Woot (Kevin), Gary Fox, and Tom Fox (Gloria); and her great-grandchildren Ana, Ashley, and Isabella. Maxine is also survived by her sister, Ruth Smith (Roy) Thompson, and her brother, James Newcomb (Hirrit) of Sarasota, FL.

Maxine and Paul enjoyed entertaining, spending time with family and friends, and traveling. Maxine and Paul were active members of Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Beltsville, MD. In 2017 Maxine was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s and moved to a facility in Arizona. The effects of this disease eventually took her life. A memorial service is being planned at Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Beltsville, MD, some time in the spring of 2020.
Have fun — and learn — at the University of Maryland April 25

Every spring the University opens the campus to its neighbors and friends. This year, Maryland Day is Saturday, April 25 from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Games, booths, tours, performances -- every department from dance to physics shows its stuff. It’s fun and interesting for folks of all ages. And it's free. Just come down Route One and take a look. More details are located at www.marylandday.umd.edu.

Reminder: Scholarships to College

Each Senator and Delegate is allocated funds for scholarships to students in our district who attend Maryland colleges. There are so many deserving students in Beltsville. With college tuition a struggle for many families, we need to do everything we can to help hardworking students get a good education. We can’t help everyone with Senatorial Scholarships, but we can certainly help some.

To apply online for a 2020-2021 Senate scholarship, students should visit www.21stDistrictDelegation.com/college-scholarships, and the deadline to apply is Friday, July 10. A separate Delegate scholarship application from Delegates Ben Barnes, Joseline Peña-Melnyk, and Mary Lehman is on that page as well with a Thursday, April 2 deadline. Information on other financial aid for Maryland college students can be found at www.mhec.state.md.us.

More help paying for college

Savings for college is a challenge for many families. That’s why the State of Maryland and Maryland 529 want to help Maryland families through the Save-4College State Contribution Program. The program is designed to help lower to middle-income families in Maryland save money for higher education. Individuals may receive a $250 or $500 contribution by the State who do the following: 1) open or have opened a new Maryland College Investment Plan (MCIP) after December 31, 2016, 2) file an application by 11:59pm on May 31, 2019, and 3) make at least the minimum contribution ($25-$250 based on taxable income) to the account. Applications must be submitted by 11:59pm on May 31, 2019. Learn more at maryland529.com/MDMatch250, or call 888-4MD.GRAD (888.463.4723) and select option 1, or email info@marylandcollegeinvestmentplan.org.

Contact us

Please let us know if there are other issues you have questions or thoughts about. And, of course, feel free to be in touch if we can be of help to you. Just email 21stDistrictDelegation@gmail.com or call 301.858.3141.

Rosapepe’s Report to Beltsville

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From the Office of Councilmember Tom Dernoga

Keep Up with the County Council

Are you interested in following what happens in Upper Marlboro? Use this link: https://tinyurl.com/r3mzou to view committee meetings, District Council, and County Council sessions live or recorded.

Volunteer Opportunities at Our Animal Services Facility

Are you looking for volunteer opportunities? Prince George’s County Animal Services is looking for individuals who have a passion for animals. Volunteer opportunities include adults who want to get involved, students looking to fulfill their community service requirements, and court-ordered community service. Visit our Animal Services Facility at 3750 Brown Station Rd, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 or call at 301.780.7220. For more information visit: https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/2190/Volunteer.

District One 2nd Annual Food Truck Night

Save the date for the District One 2nd Annual Food Truck Night on Friday, September 18, 2020. Last year we had over 500 residents and 20+ county agencies. More information is coming soon.

Beltville Development to Watch

As our community continues to grow, we will keep you updated on upcoming District 1 projects. Please note that once a zoning application has been filed, State Public Ethics law prohibits the council member from discussing the case. You can, however, contact Chief of Staff Michelle Garcia at mgarcia@co.pg.md.us with your questions or to request a list of current Beltville development projects. Konterra Associates, LLC, has applied to build both a Restaurant Depot and a warehouse on the south side of Muirkirk Road, approximately 680 feet west of Van Dyken Road. If you wish to become a Person of Record, please submit your request online at http://www.pgplanning.org/1589/Becoming-a-Person-of-Record or by written request to the Development Review Division of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772. Please reference the pre-Application Number and the Name of Project in your request. After the application has been filed, you can contact the M-NCPPC at 301.952.2530.

As a reminder, please keep in touch! Email us at councildistrict1@co.pg.md.us or call 301.952.3887, or email district1scheduling@co.pg.md.us with details. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram: @TomDernogaD1

Council Member Dernoga connecting with a community leader at the District 1 Community Leaders Breakfast

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Kitty Post: It’s Kitten Season—Consider Fostering

Established in March 2019, Beltsville Community Cats’ (BCC) mission is to humanely control and reduce the increasing number of free-roaming (feral) cats in Beltsville. From March to December, BCC spayed/neutered over 110 cats and moved over 40 kittens into foster care, adoptive homes, and no-kill rescue programs.

With the arrival of kitten season in March, BCC expects to receive an increasing number of calls about kittens in unsafe environments. It’s hard to ignore calls about at-risk kittens, but BCC currently has only a few foster homes. BCC needs more people willing/able to foster kittens until they are old enough to be fixed and moved into adoptive homes or other suitable settings.

With love and patience, feral kittens younger than 10 weeks can be transformed into wonderful house cats. Foster homes are needed to introduce these free-roaming kitties to a home environment and socialize them to human contact, children, different types of people, and other pets.

If you like kittens but are not ready for the responsibility of providing a forever home, you might want to consider fostering! By fostering, you help a kitten/cat that was born outdoors transition into a loving forever home. You must be 18 years or older to foster. You must be willing to play with the kitty, cuddle and love it, provide a healthy diet, clean its litter box, and monitor its daily health.

Learn more about BCC, our foster program, and other volunteer opportunities by calling 240.444.8353 or emailing hello@beltsvillecats.net. Check us out on Instagram (@beltsville_cats). You can also support BCC by donating or attending one of our fundraisers. Tax-deductible donations can be sent to BCC, P.O. Box 942, Beltsville, MD 20704.

Neighbors in the News

Anacostia Watershed Society Earth Day Cleanup on April 25, 2020

The annual Earth Day cleanup organized by Anacostia Watershed Society will take place on April 25, 2020, from 9–12 noon. Sign-up will be on the Anacostia Watershed Earth Day site at www.anacostiaws.org/earthday2020 beginning on March 2, 2020. The cleanup will be overseen at the Little Paint Branch Trail by Cub Pack 1031 who sponsor the trail.

If you register online and complete the waiver, you will receive a nifty t-shirt at the registration table. If you have trouble with the link, go to Anacostia Watershed Society Earth Day and follow the instructions to sign up.

Anacostia Watershed will provide gloves, bags, and all the supplies needed for the cleanup. Sign in and registration will be at the head of the trail at the Beltsville Community Center. We will sign off for school service hours for hard work!
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Tech Sense  By John Bell

Protecting Your Information

This is the third in my series on privacy and security. Last month, I reviewed one method of creating secure passwords, and I explained how passwords are typically exposed or cracked. This month I want to look at why it is important to protect our information.

Who Are We Protecting Our Data From?

First, let’s look at who is using our data and why they are using it. Businesses like Google, Microsoft, Facebook, and Amazon; internet service providers like Comcast and Verizon FiOS; mobile phone service providers like Verizon, AT&T, T-Mobile, and Sprint are all collecting information about you through various means. Most of these companies collect your information so they can turn around and resell it to others or use it to target advertisements to you. You have probably experienced this firsthand if after searching for a medical condition or vacation site you suddenly notice all of the ads you see online are ads for related medications or hotels and attractions in the area you researched. Most of this seems benign, but do you really want Target to know your daughter is pregnant before the rest of the family knows? (This is an actual situation that occurred several years ago.) Search online for the words “teen” “rigid” and “pregnant” for more information.

In addition to normal business, you have criminals and criminal organizations, including some that are operated or supported by foreign governments. Criminal organizations typically steal information for profit. It is easy to see how to profit from stealing credit cards and bank account numbers, but other information can be used to make future attacks more effective.

Finally, you have the individual thief or attacker. They may have a number of motivations such as personal gain through theft, vandalism, or attacks on you or your family, sometimes to show they can pull it off. A couple of years ago a personalswatting attack where the attacker called the police to report a violent crime led to the death of an innocent person when the person initiating the attack used the incorrect address. The innocent victim was killed by the police believing the victim was engaged in violence against his family based on the swatting report.

What Do You Need to Protect?

It seems obvious we need to protect Social Security numbers, driver’s license information, passport information, phone numbers, credit cards, residential address, email addresses, and of course passwords. Facts like pet names, high schools, previous addresses, parent names, web sites we visit, and our current location should also be protected.

Why Do We Need to Protect Our Information?

It isn’t always clear why we need to protect all of this information. I will provide some examples of things that have actually happened to people.

For one example, a criminal monitors a Facebook account and determines from posts that a family member (child, grandchild, or sibling for example) will be away during a certain period of time and will be difficult to contact. By monitoring Facebook, they have learned a lot about the family and are able to initiate the attack used the incorrect address. The innocent victim was killed by the police believing the victim was engaged in violence against his family based on the swatting report.

If it is important to you, then it is important to me!

Alethea Morris
Fairfax Realty Inc.
10210 Greensbelt Road #120
Lansdale, MD 20706
240-305-4893 (direct)
301-794-9400 (office)
AletheaYourRealtor@gmail.com
Neighbors in the News

It’s a Man’s World

By Reverend Dr. Jalene Chase

No, I haven’t lost my mind. I realize March is recognized as Women’s Month. I was tickled to hear James Brown’s 1964 song “It’s A Man’s World” used as the music for the trailer advertising a new show on CBS about a female police chief. The real message of the song is “But it wouldn’t be nothing, without a Woman or a Girl.” Yup, because the fact is we are here because we were birthed by a woman—but I digress.

The song lists inventions by men. Of course, I started thinking of things women invented. Interesting things like Jeanne Villepreux-Power’s aquarium to study marine life; Margaret Mattie Knight’s machine that made paper bags; Josephine Cochrane’s mechanical dishwasher; Marie Beasley’s folding life raft; Mary Anderson’s windshield wipers that were rejected until her patent expired when then they were required on cars; Grace Hooper’s code for computers; Actress Hedy Lamarr’s co-founding of frequency hopping that encrypted torpedo control signals; Gladys West’s program that led to the GPS system; Dr. Patricia Era Bath’s laser that removes cataracts; Sarah E. Goode’s folding cabinet beds, also known as Murphy beds; Marie Van Brittan Brown’s pioneering of the closed-circuit TV system; and Valerie Thomas’ image processing system that sent the first satellite image to space. I would list more inventions by women, but I don’t want to deprive you of the research.

My point is we all add to society. My concern is we aren’t being treated equally for our contributions. Some early inventions by women were not recognized until years later or after being “improved” by a man. We are subject to pay differences, less airtime and rotations for our music, and limited opportunities. My response is a four-letter word—vote.

My faith tradition says that there isn’t male or female: we are all equal. If you want to learn more about working together to build a better world, join us. Be a part of ministries and partnerships that are intentional about inclusion, bridging the church and community, and addressing food scarcity through our pantry and food distribution. Worship during a non-traditional time, 9:45am Sundays, with a nursery and a sign language interpreter available. You can learn about us on our webpage www.eumcbeltsville.com or Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/EUMCBeltsville/. Until next time.

Work for equality Organize for inclusion Make a difference Engage people Nurture our nation

The Beltsville Young at Heart

By Barbara Schofield

The Beltsville Young at Heart would like to welcome new members Pat and Bruce Burnette, Delores Wallace, and Pamela Hindley to the club. March 5 will be the first meeting and March 19 the second meeting with entertainment by the Peter Hirsch Duet. Wear your green and listen to St. Patrick’s songs and sing along. It is also the first day of spring. Happy thoughts equal a happy heart.

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MAJOR TEENS AND PRE-TEENS PROGRAMS

The center regarding events for March.

BELTSVILLE YOUNG AT HEART CLUB
Join us at the Beltsville Young at Heart Club on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 11:15 a.m. Members must be at least 55 years old. Visit us three times and become a member. We have Monday lunch, entertainment, Bingo, Trivia, etc. Visit 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Contact the center regarding events for March.

WOMEN’S CLUB
Thur., Mar. 12 at 7 p.m. Club meetings will resume in March. The club meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month, except for July, August, and February.

GAME STRATEGY CLUB
Mondays from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Enjoy board games, strategy games, and tons of fun. All skill levels welcome. Any game is appropriate as long as brought to the club to be played. Cost: Free.

EUROPEAN NIGHTS and TUTORS
Mondays from 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. each day. Reading practice for grades 1 to 6. Niños entre los grados de 1 al 6 practicarán leyendo con un mentlor. Parents welcome! Questions: call Lois at 301.498.9736

CRAFTBEER
Wed., Mar. 4 at 4 p.m. Join us for an afternoon of crafting. Families welcome! Tail Waggin’ Tutors

TUESDAY’s at 7 p.m. This is a free 60-minute appointment. Learn about computers. Requests for appointments can be made on our website at www.pgcmls.info, under Services and Help One-on-One. Bilingual staff are available.

BELTSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER Address: 3900 Sellman Rd., Beltsville. Phone: 301.937.6613. Spanish line: 301.445.4509. TTY: 301.445.4512. Regular hours of operation are: Mon. – Thur. from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fri. from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sat. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed on Sunday and selected major holidays. Hours of operation for Xtreme Teens and Pre-teens: Fri. – Sat. from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Contact the center regarding events for March.

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The Ladies Auxiliary of the Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department Announces Its 2020 Officers

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department would like to announce the installation of its officers for the year 2020. Congratulations to President Pam Casagrande, Vice President Cathy Alexander, Recording Secretary Bibi Gurwah, Treasurer Angela Whitman, Corresponding Secretary Paula Stickles, Chaplain Lois Hetz, and Historian Jane Nealis.

A celebration dinner was held at The Greene Turtle in Burtonsville on December 12, 2019, with the members, their families, and their friends in attendance. Everyone had a wonderful evening. Many thanks to The Greene Turtle and its staff for having us. We look forward to another great year.

March—A Very Busy Month for Unit # 217

By Ivy Christoffers

Yes, there is much to be done this month. We must finish preparations to hold our tenth annual Maryland Veterans Creative Arts Festival, which will be on Sunday, March 22, at The Bowie Center for Performing Arts in Bowie, MD. This is located next to Bowie High School. The doors open at 12 noon for a four-hour show beginning with an art exhibit followed by a two-hour live performance. All participants are disabled veterans who are awesomely talented. The cost to attend this special event is only $10, and the public is urged and invited to attend to cheer on our veteran heroes for their amazing accomplishments.

At the same time, our national president will be making her official visit to Maryland. It seems that, since we began holding this festival, the sitting national presidents have chosen that weekend so they can add our festival to their year’s highlights. So, come out and add your encouragement to our veteran’s efforts and meet Nicole Chapp, the national president of the American Legion Auxiliary. She is a warm, gracious lady.

Our Americanism essays have been judged, and the winners have been sent to District President Carmen Brittain for further judging. Let us keep our fingers crossed that we have a national contender again this year. The students at Holy Redeemer do fabulous work.

Plans are gearing up for a veterans’ shotgun bingo fundraiser to be held at College Park Post # 217 on Sunday, April 5, from 4 until 7 pm. This will be a fast and fun-filled event with pull tabs, a cake walk, and a few, fun, fun. Come, have a ball while helping raise funds to benefit veterans’ programs.

There will be several of the American Legion family leaving from Baltimore Harbor on a Caribbean cruise from April 19-26. This is a special fundraiser cruise for Sons of the American Legion national contender J. R. Hall. These are great fun. I’ve gone once before and am looking forward to it. Also, on April 25 there will be a flea market/craft sale held at Post # 217. Mark your calendars and plan to reserve your table. Call Dorothy Calloway at 301.794.6309 for details. We still have our weekly bingo on Tuesday and Wednesday at noon, our Friday night dinner dances, and Monday night shotgun bingo at 7 pm. Thank a veteran for your freedoms. We seek Gods’ protection for our troops and His continued blessings on our great America.

The Women’s Community Club of Beltsville (WCCB) Announces Its 2020 Scholarship Program

The Women’s Community Club of Beltsville will be awarding a $1,000 scholarship to a female resident of Beltsville this spring. Applicants must be residents of Beltsville and be a high school senior who has been accepted into a college, technical school, or vocational school or a college freshman. Applications can be obtained by emailing womencclubbeltsville@gmail.com or going to the High Point guidance counselor office. To submit the completed application, students can email it to the address above or mail it to WCCB 2020 Scholarship Program, PO Box 1607, Beltsville, MD 20704. Applications must be postmarked by April 25.

Beware of phishing. Phishing is said to be real. It’s a trap and waiting for you just as a message can be verified as being from you, whether it comes from a third party or from an email or text message. Give as little information as needed on your social media sites and limit who can read your posts to only those people you know directly and not friends of friends of friends.

TECH SENSE continues on page 14

have used other internet sources to locate addresses and phone numbers and additional information. They then call a vulnerable family member and report that they are waiting on the traveler’s behalf and need cash to bail someone out. The victim is instructed to reach, set up a special code word or phrase that you can share privately so a message can be verified as being from you, whether it comes from a third party or from an email or text message. Give as little information as needed on your social media sites and limit who can read your posts to only those people you know directly and not friends of friends of friends. Beware of phishing. Phishing is the practice of enticing people to
The Reverend Joseph M. Constant, Rector

Come and Join Us
Sunday Worship Schedule
7:45 a.m. – Quiet Service/Holy Eucharist
9:15 a.m. - Family Service/Holy Eucharist
10:30 a.m. – Sunday School
11:15 a.m.- Full Service/Holy Eucharist
Sunday Nursery Care 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday Worship Schedule
12:00 Noon – Healing Service/Holy Eucharist

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Keith Holland, Pastor

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Abundant Life;
Abundant God!

Sundays:
*Sunday School for all ages 9:45 a.m.
*Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Adult Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.

Wednesdays:
Adult Bible Study & Prayer 7:00 p.m.
RA’s, G.A’s, Mission Friends 7:00 p.m.
Youth Fellowship 7:00 p.m.

* Nursery provided for infants to 2 years old.

Protect yourself by never giving any personal information to a company that calls you. If it really sounds legit and you are interested, look up the company and call them. Don’t trust a call-back number provided by an operator that called you. Never follow a link in an email unless you personally know the sender and recognize the link (I won’t even follow links in emails sent by my mother). It is best if email links are disabled by default in your email client. These links cannot only send you to phishing sites but can also send you malicious files that infect your computer through the browser.

Remember people can use your information to file fraudulent medical claims, steal your identity, and apply for loans in your name, file fake tax returns in your name and collect a refund, get a job using your social security number, and otherwise harm you and your loved ones.

My final words this month: be careful what you share, use strong passwords, and if available use multifactor authentication.
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HALL RENTALS (CATERING)

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College Park, MD 20740

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Largo Branch
9201 Basil Court
Largo, MD 20774

Upper Marlboro Branch
14741 Governor Oden Bowie Dr., RM-L210
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

*Eligible persons for membership include those who live, work, worship and volunteer in Prince George’s County, Maryland. Membership can be passed along to spouses, siblings, children, grandparents and grandchildren, even if not living in the same residence as well as those who share financial responsibility of household 18 years and older. Visit www.PrinceGeorgesCFCU.org for additional eligibility information. $25 deposit will be made to the base share account 90 days after account opening with qualified loan or deposit opened and in good standing. Estate and minor accounts excluded. New members meeting criteria must mention promotion code "SHARE" during account opening to receive promotional deposit. Unlimited promotional deposit per household. Promotion subject to end at anytime. Certain restrictions apply. Contact us for details.