

The Beltsville News

AN ALL-VOLUNTEER NEWSPAPER

PUBLISHED BY THE BELTSVILLE-VANSVILLE DISTRICT CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION, INC.

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March 2008

The Beltsville News
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A Scout is Reverent

Each year during the month of February, Scouts everywhere join together in their places of worship to show reverence to God and promote scouting. This year Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts gathered at St. Joseph's Catholic Church on Feb. 10 for the 10:00 a.m. Mass and celebrated Scout Sunday. Following the ceremony Father Quill, Pastor of St. Joseph's, presented the Light of Christ medal to Mark Barnes and the Parvuli Dei medal to Melvin Barnes III in recognition of their completion of their religious emblems.

Scout Sunday at the Emman-

REVERENT
continues on page 9



Scouts and scout leaders at St. Joseph's Catholic Church on Scout Sunday.

NEXT ISSUE:

Submissions Due

No Later

Than:

March 19

Paper Out:

March 27

Beltsville Briefs

Chesapeake Chorale Presents A Chesapeake Cabaret

The Chesapeake Chorale presents a "Chesapeake Cabaret" on **Saturday, March 1, at 8:00 p.m.** at Christian Community Presbyterian Church's Dodds Hall. Select singers and ensembles will provide an evening of musical revue from past and present favorites culminating in a chorale grand finale from "Les Miserables." Members of the chorale will be serving special desserts, coffee, and other drinks in a "Cotton Club" style atmosphere. Seating is limited and reservations are highly recommended.

Christian Community Presbyterian Church is located at 3120 Belair Drive, Bowie, MD. Ticket prices for the show are \$20 for adults or \$18 each for groups of 2 or more. Please contact 301.249.7689 for more information, or go to our website at www.chesapeakechorale.org.

The Chesapeake Chorale is a non-profit organization that receives support from the Maryland State Arts Council and our community.

BELTSVILLE BRIEFS
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The Future of Beltsville Day Depends on You

The Beltsville Recreation Council has enjoyed many successful years as a volunteer bridge between our community and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. That success has been the result of your active participation in the planning and execution of programs.

Recently, it has been increasingly difficult to get organizations

and individuals to volunteer to participate. Only one community organization consistently participates in the planning and execution and all but one of the regular members of the Council are senior citizens. This is not acceptable if the Council is to be effective, and if we are to continue sponsoring labor-intensive programs.

Without an increase in support

from the community, the 2008 Beltsville Day celebration will be our last. Is this what you want? The next planning meeting will be on Tuesday, March 4 at 7:00 p.m. at the Beltsville Community Center. Please let us know if you will participate. Call Joseph Fuchs at 301.434.6756, or e-mail joeFuchs@msn.com

By Gary Bauman,
Scoutmaster Troop 1033

Eleven Boy Scouts from Troop 1033 traveled to the University of Maryland on January 27 to attempt to conquer the Challenge Course on campus. The Challenge course program offers an adventure based team building, leadership development and high adventure ropes course. The Challenge Course philosophy was "Challenge by Choice" which means that the challenges are freely chosen by the scouts. The university facilitators taught the skills and safety procedures that helped to create a supportive environment for accepting challenges. The scouts participated in games that helped them to get to know each other better, build trust in each other and the team, and leadership skills. Once the team was formed, the scouts tackled the high ropes course but only after scouts were properly fitted with harnesses and helmets. Climbing

Scouts Climb to New Heights



Scouts at the top of the tower at the University of Maryland.

skills and correct, safe belaying methods were taught to all scouts prior to any scout attempting to scale the giant tower. University staff members were stationed at each climbing area as well as the Climb on Safely adults from

the troop. All scouts were able to climb as high on the tower as they wished before rappelling down off the tower. Several scouts made

SCOUTS CLIMB
continues on page 2

On the Agenda



By Karen Coakley, President,
Beltsville Citizens' Association

We have two guests scheduled for our March meeting. Representatives from the Prince George's County States Attorney's office will give a presentation on "Nuisance Abatement." Nuisance Abatement is the court system that hears cases when property owners or their tenants violate county ordinances. Nuisance Abatement applies to both residential and commercial properties.

KONTERRA is moving forward after 25+ years. Konterra is a Mixed Use Community that will include Office Space, Residential and an Upscale Shopping Center plus a "Towne Center." Konterra is located between Beltsville and Laurel along I-95 from Old Gunpowder Road to Route 1. Representatives from Konterra and Forest City will give an overview

ON THE AGENDA
continues on page 18

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25 Years Ago in the Beltsville News

By Phil Whitman

*Extracted from the
 March 1983 Issue*

Regional Administrator

Dr. William H. Tallent was appointed Regional Administrator for the Northeast Region of the Agricultural Research Services.

Wedding Announcement

Cathy Carauthers Robbins and **William Scott Ray**, both of Richmond, VA, were married on February 12, 1983. The bridegroom is the son of **Dr. & Mrs. Winthrop Ray** of Beltsville.

Service News

Marine **James M. Carson, Jr.**, son of **James and Geraldine Carson** of Beltsville was promoted to PFC in Memphis, TN.

Birth Announcements

On December 18, 1982, a daughter, **Cynthia Lea**, was born to **Scott & Janet Sinex**. On February 15, 1983, a daughter, **Elizabeth Marie**, was born to **Dale & Emily Secules**.

New Department Head

Dr. Ronald New was named department head of the new Computer Engineering Department at Capital Institute of Technology.

Rios Received Degree

Leona Michelle Rios of Beltsville received a Master of Science degree from Texas Women's University at commencement on December 19, 1982.

Garden Club News

Mrs. Karen Dunge of Behnke Nurseries made a presentation entitled "How to Live with Houseplants," at the February, 1983 meeting.

FISH

FISH, which stands for Friendly Immediate Sympathetic Help was open for those needing up to three days of emergency food and other emergency help. **Rev. Richard Karpal** was President of the Board of Directors.

Public Hanging

Wills Home Decorating Center was pleased to announce a free wallpaper hanging class on March 30, 1983.

New Peck Manager

Floyd A. McLeroy, a career military officer for 20 years, was appointed manager of the Beltsville office of **Hugh T. Peck Properties, Inc.**, which had 23 sales associates at that time.

Feeney Sought Community Help

Superintendent of Schools **Edward J. Feeney** began a countywide effort to visit groups, especially senior groups, to get volunteers to assist in public schools.

Obituaries

Guy Marcellus Roby, 85, died on February 27, 1983 at Greater Laurel-Beltsville Hospital. Mr. Roby was born and raised in Beltsville.

Shirley Anir (Howell) Law, 51 of Beltsville, died at her home here. She was born in Cresson, PA.

William J. Rogers, a long term resident of Beltsville, died in England on January 3, 1983. In 1972, the family returned to England after the family moved to Beltsville in 1957.

SCOUTS CLIMB

continued from page 1

it to the top. It was a cold day but the scouts enjoyed the chal-

lenge and conquered the 55-foot tower. **Michael Clifford**, **Curtis Gill**, **Evan Carr**, **Jamie Garcia** and **Mick Cotter** were very brave in climbing to the top of a 40 foot

pole and making the leap of faith by jumping off the top of the pole to either hit a ball suspended 45 feet up off the ground or swing from a trapeze bar before rappelling down to the ground.

Kris Smith, our Troop Guide for service projects, led a group of scouts including **Patrick Deery**, **Evan Carr**, **David Timus** and **Charleston Laymon** to the Veteran's Administration Hospital on Tuesday, February 12.

The scouts visited several veterans from World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War and offered them our thanks for serving our country and presented them with letters and Valentines from the Boy Scout Troop. **Mrs. Vanessa Smith** and **Francine Bauman** provided transportation and supervision for this service project. The scouts who visited the veterans went the extra mile by giving up part of their day off from school that they had due to the primary elections.

Remember to look for the Spring Fund Raiser flier distributed by the Boy Scouts. We sell and deliver to your home mulch, fertilizer, topsoil and grass seed.

The deadline for placing your orders is March 7 with delivery of your products on Saturday, March 15. For more information see our web page at: www.bsabeltsville.net.

Please support your local Boy Scout Troop. Thank you.

Beltsville News

PUBLISHED BY THE BELTSVILLE-VANSVILLE DISTRICT
 CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION INC.

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Circulation

14,000 copies published monthly; 10,000 mailed in the 20705 zip code (total saturation) and 4,000 pick up copies available at the Beltsville library, community center, selected stores, and churches.

Neighbors in the News

Girl Scouts Move up to Cadettes

By Kelly Konar

Congratulations to troop 4129's own JoAnne Murray and Gallina Brindamour for bridging from the Junior level of Girl Scouts to the cadettes level. JoAnne also received her bronze award, the highest award a Junior Girl Scout can receive before bridging to Cadettes. For her bronze award, JoAnne, along with the other members of her troop, collected over 500 books to send to an elementary school in Louisiana whose library had been devastated by Hurricane Katrina.



JoAnne Murray and Gallina Brindamour celebrate at bridging ceremony.



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Garden Speaker Series at Behnke's Nursery

All of the following seminars will take place at Behnke's Garden Center in Beltsville. They are free and start at 1:00 p.m. unless noted otherwise. Call 301.937.1100 for details and to pre-register.



Variegated Fritillary butterfly on a cosmos flower in Beltsville. Photo by Elizabeth Olson. Used with permission.

March 1

Organic Products and How They Work

Bob Peterson, Cockadoodle DOO Organic Lawn and Garden Products. Learn about organic alternatives to artificial fertilizers and herbicides for lawn and garden care – and how they work to build healthy soil and improve your plants' tolerance of insect and disease problems.

March 8

Healthier Gardening through Audubon at Home

Britt Slattery, Audubon Society of Maryland-DC Beautify your yard by using earth-friendly landscaping to attract birds and other wildlife. Get tips for greening your garden with native plants.

March 15

Extreme Gardening: Too Much or Too Little Water

Brenda Skarphol, Green Spring Gardens, Alexandria, VA

GARDEN

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Neighbors in the News



Scouts rest during the Klondike competition.

Scouts Compete in Klondike

By Gary Bauman, Scoutmaster
Troop 1033

On February 15, the Boy Scout Troop traveled to the Broad Creek Memorial Scout Reservation Camp just north of Baltimore to attend the Indian Creek District Klondike Derby. What's a Klondike Derby? Well, it's a biennial event held by Boy Scout districts during the winter months and it honors the heritage of the Klondike Gold Rush. By some accounts, the Boy Scouts have been running Klondike derbies since 1949. Think of it as sort of a Winter Olympics for Boy Scouts. Each district will determine the theme of the derbies, but the typical Klondike derby consists of a series of stations where units must test their Scoutcraft skills and their leadership abilities, earning points towards a total score. This year's derby was a fun filled day where the scouts became lumberjacks like Paul Bunyan and hiked from station to station in competition between troops. The stations included: sawing logs, judging the height of trees, throwing tomahawks, shooting .22 rifles; fire building and making flapjacks on a tin can, first aid, and building a shelter for the entire patrol for wilderness survival. Our troop was

one of two troops who obtained a perfect score in tomahawk throwing. For lunch the scouts enjoyed a medley of mixed chicken soups including chicken noodle, chicken and stars, chicken and rice, and vegetable chicken all mixed together. They were also treated to Dutch oven baked hot peach cobbler at the windy hill campsite. The scouts who pulled together as a team were: Senior Patrol Leader David Timus, Michael Clifford, Patrick Deery, Jamie Garcia, Sean Halper, Eric Matthews, and Adrian Villarroel. Assistant Scoutmasters Rick Deery and Paul Villarroel and Troop Committee Chair David Timus Sr. tagged along behind the scouts. The scouts enjoyed Dutch Oven cooked beef stew for dinner and a campfire program with all the troops who competed in the Klondike which included an Order of the Arrow "Call - Out" of the newly elected members. Our troop elected Michael Clifford, Jamie Garcia, and Adrian Villarroel as members of the Order of the Arrow, the National Boy Scout of America Honor Society. The scouts camped overnight with the temperature going down to 24 deee-greeees. Our troop came in second place overall and everyone had a great time and enjoyed racing around in the great outdoors.

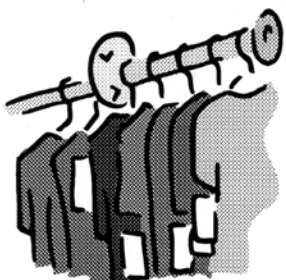
Emmanuel United Methodist Church
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Rummage Sale

Saturday, March 29
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Mario Crisalli Makes Dean's List at Salisbury State University

Beltsville resident Mario Robert D. Crisalli, 2005 honor graduate from DeMatha Catholic High School, has once again been named to the Dean's List at Salisbury University in Salisbury, Maryland. A Pre-Medicine major with minors in Chemistry, Accounting and Art, Mario Robert achieved a 4.0 GPA in the 2007 fall semester.

Come to the College Park Aviation Museum to Meet Jay Jay

Meet and Greet Jay Jay the Jet Plane on Saturday March 1, 2008 from 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at College Park Aviation Museum, 1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive, College Park. Have a photo taken with one of TV's most popular cartoon characters. Ticket price includes a photo with Jay Jay, museum admission, arts and crafts, and fun family activities. Tickets are for timed admissions. An adult must accompany all children. All adults and children over 12 months of age must be registered. Tickets are \$8/participant and can also be purchased at the facility and through SMARTlink at www.pgiparks.com.

For information call 301.864.6029, TTY 301.864.4765 or visit www.collegeparkaviationmuseum.com. The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission owns and operates this facility.

Central Maryland Chorale Annual Spring Fling & Silent Auction

The members of the Central Maryland Chorale, directed by Monica Ota, invite you to join them for their annual Spring Fling and Silent Auction on Saturday, March 8, at 7:00 p.m. at the Glenmont United Methodist Church, 12901 Georgia Avenue, in Silver Spring, Maryland. Enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres and desserts, browse items and services up for

auction, and listen to deliriously witty choruses from the comic operas of Gilbert & Sullivan. In addition, Debra Lawrence and Paul McIlvain will delight the audience with charming songs, arias and duets. Tickets are \$20. For tickets and information, call 301.317.9646 or see www.central-marylandchorale.com.

Sign Language Classes at Emmanuel United Methodist Church

By Roy White

Emmanuel United Methodist Church is offering sign language classes during Sunday School that

BELTSVILLE BRIEFS
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Patuxent Research Refuge Public Programs for March

Although the National Wildlife Visitor Center is temporarily closed for repairs, outdoor programs will continue and grounds will remain open until 4:30 p.m. daily, except federal holidays. Please make sure you provide accurate contact information when you register.

All programs are FREE, however, donations to The Friends of Patuxent are greatly appreciated! Programs DO require advance reservations. Reservations are taken by calling 301.497.5887. Please advise us of any special needs so that we may accommodate you. Visit us on the web at patuxent.fws.gov.

Programs Held at the National Wildlife Visitor Center, located on Powder Mill Rd. between the Baltimore/Washington Parkway and Rt. 197

Making Sense of Nature Hike

Sunday, March 2nd, 2 - 3:30pm, Ages 5-7

Explore the woods using your senses in this fun, hands-on program.

Bird Walks

Friday, March 14th, 8-10am, Ages 16+

Monday, March 24th, 8-10am, Ages 16+

Search for birds in several refuge habitats on this guided hike. Field guides and binoculars recommended.

Refuge Management Walking Tour

Saturday, March 15th, 10:30 - 12:00pm, Ages 12+

Join a refuge naturalist on this guided walk discussing habitat management techniques carried out in efforts to support wildlife and their ever-dwindling habitats.

Nature Tots: Baby Animals!

Wednesday, March 19th, 10:30-11:30am, Ages 3-4

It's the time of year when baby animals start coming around! Introduce your preschooler to nature's toddlers through songs, stories and more in this fun program.

Trees Are Terrific!

Wednesday, March 12th, 3-4pm, Ages 5-7

What makes trees terrific? Find out in this hands-on, tree exploration!

Programs Held at the North Tract, located on Rte. 198 between the Baltimore/Washington Parkway and Rt. 32

Bird Walk

Saturday, March 8th, 8:15-10:00 a.m., All Ages

Search for birds in several refuge habitats on this guided hike. Field guides and binoculars recommended.

Owl Prowl

Saturday, March 8th, 6:00-7:30 p.m., All Ages

Explore the refuge at night while looking and listening for owls.

Has Spring Sprung?

Sunday, March 9th, 9:00-11:00 a.m., Ages 10+

Explore the refuge for the first signs of spring plants such as skunk cabbage and spice bush on this guided walk. Field guides recommended.

Bananas in Beltsville Celebrate the Banana at the National Agricultural Library

By Kay Derr, National Agricultural Library

"No End to the Banana," a traveling exhibit from Bioversity International, is on display and open to the public at the USDA National Agricultural Library, Beltsville, through March 30.

The exhibit celebrates the importance of the banana as a staple food throughout the world, and highlights the importance of genetic diversity to ensuring that bananas remain a healthy and plentiful food resource for the future.

Going well beyond the banana's familiar image as a popular breakfast and snack food, the multi-media exhibit features a wealth of information related to the biology, cultivation, and use of bananas in their many varieties around the world.

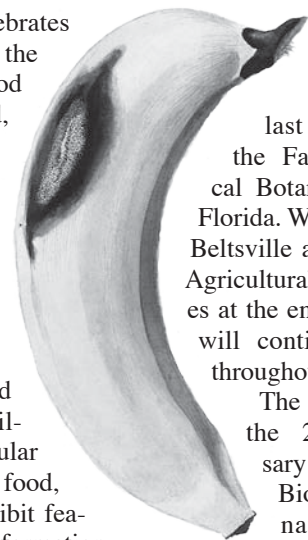
At its National Agricultural Library display, "No End to the Banana" is further enhanced by related images and nutrition information drawn from the library's respected collection. As a result, visitors can learn why the banana can be considered "the perfect food," what forces are threatening its future in that role, and what scientists are doing to protect it.

More information about the exhibit including an online preview and links to numerous other banana resources is available on the National Agricultural Library website at <http://www.nal.usda.gov/>.

"No End to the Banana," has already toured extensively in Europe, and then made its U.S. debut, last summer, at the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Florida. When the stay in Beltsville at the National Agricultural Library closes at the end of March, it will continue traveling throughout the U.S.

The exhibit marks the 20th anniversary of non-profit Bioversity International, the world's largest international research organization dedicated solely to the conservation and use of agricultural biodiversity, and the holder of the world's largest collection of banana germplasm.

Located at 10301 Baltimore Ave., Beltsville, The National Agricultural Library is the foremost agricultural research library in the world. "No End to the Banana" can be viewed on the first floor weekdays, except federal holidays, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



Neighbors in the News

Beltsville Lions Mark 50 Years of Community Service

The Beltsville Lions Club was chartered on March 17, 1958 and will celebrate 50 years of community service this month. During this 50 years of existence, members of the Club have endeavored to help people in Beltsville meet critical needs, and have also contributed to supporting larger efforts, such as the Lions Low Vision Center at the Wilmer Eye Clinic of Johns Hopkins University, Lions Camp Merrick in Nanjemoy, and the Lions Community Outreach Foundation that provides equipment for vision, glaucoma,

and hearing screening. The Club started in 1958 with just nine Charter Members. One of those, Lion Clyde Burt, is still a member of the Club.

Currently, the membership of the Beltsville Lions Club consists of 33 men and women dedicated to serving people in need. At this momentous time in the history of the Club, the members wish all residents of the Beltsville community continued good health and happiness.



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Wedding

Reid-Lenkey Wedding

Traci Ellen Reid and Robert John Lenkey, II were married at Ascension Catholic Church in Bowie, MD on May 5, 2007. The reception immediately followed at Woodmore Country Club in Mitchellville.

The bride is the daughter of Karen Reid of Beltsville, MD and Bill Reid of Greenwood, DE. The groom is the son of Barbara and Robert Lenkey who recently moved to Baltimore from Lanham, MD.

Given in marriage by her nephew, Brett Reid, the bride was attended by her cousin Kelly Quinn, maid of honor. The bridesmaids were Kara Dunnigan and Skylar McGuire-Reid. The bestman was Timothy Crowley. The groomsmen were



Newlyweds Traci & Robert Lenkey

Bryan Doerrer, Matt Mondorf, Paul Wills, and Ben Ricker. The flower girl was Jayna Dunnigan and the ring bearer was Asijah Jett.

The bride is a 1996 graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Greenbelt, MD. The groom graduated from Archbishop Spaulding High School in Glen Burnie, MD, also in 1996. The couple met in 2004 at the Ft. Lauderdale Country Club and Traci is pursuing her teaching degree while working for a large Property Management Company. The couple will continue to reside in Coconut Creek, FL with their dog Ted. They are expecting their first child in July 2008.

Engagement

Engagement Announcement

Vince and Patty Murray of Beltsville announce the engagement of their son, Tommy Murray, to Joanne Healy, daughter of Dan and Linda Healy of Glenn Dale. Tommy is a graduate of St. Vincent Pallotti High School, class of 2002. He is a member of the Steamfitters Local #602 and is employed with Kent Island Mechanical Contractors. Joanne is also a graduate of St. Vincent Pallotti High School, class of 2002. She is currently employed with Vortech as an administrative assistant. A wedding is planned for late April in Bowie.



Tommy Murray & Joanne Healy are engaged.

Get Ready for Spring Kitchen Garden Tips for March 2008

By Elizabeth Olson

Outdoors

If you haven't had your garden soil tested lately, now is a

good time to have it professionally tested. This needs to be done before you add anything to the soil (including fertilizer and soil treatments or amendments). Home soil testing kits have limited functions and can be unreliable, and Maryland does not have its own soil-testing laboratory. However, several out-of-state universities test home garden soil.

One laboratory that includes the test for lead in its standard soil test is the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Its **Standard Soil Test w/Organic Matter** is even better and only costs \$13.00 total.

Test results and recommendations for correctly fertilizing and making improvements to your garden soil can be sent to you by regular mail and e-mail. It can take one to two weeks to get the test results. See www.umass.edu/plsoils/soiltest or call 413.545.2311 for details. Having accurate information can help you to save money and have a healthier and more productive garden.

Now is also a good time to finish any remaining garden cleanup.

Indoors

It's too early to start most summer vegetables. However, some need extra time to sprout and size up. A few others can tolerate the cooler conditions of mid-spring. Use a seed starting station that has bottom heat and grow lights for the following:

Caribbean-style peppers such as *Scotch Bonnet* and *Habanero* can be started in mid to late March. After they have been hardened off, these seedlings can be transplanted outside when the nighttime temperatures are reliably above 55 degrees F., usually in the last half of May to early June.

Early-fruiting tomato cultivars such as *Oregon Spring*, *Early Girl*, and *Fourth of July* can be started near the end of March and in early April. After these seedlings have been hardened off, they can be transplanted outside after all danger of frost is past and the soil has started to warm, usually in early to mid-May.

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Obituaries

Barnett, Barbara D.

Barbara D. Barnett died on Thursday, February 7, 2008. She was the beloved wife of Earl H. Barnett, loving mother of Patricia A. (James) Fisher, Mary Ellen Seek and Michael Barnett, sister of Thomas and Michael Dillon, grandmother of Ellen Marie, Michael-Jon, Jason, Amanda and Meaghan, and great grandmother of Drew, Johnny, Eva, Aidan, Teaghan and Kay-Lyn. Private services will be held at a later date. Arrangements by Borgwardt Funeral Home.

Boyd, Marie B.

Marie B. Boyd, age 80, of Beltsville passed away on Monday, February 18, 2008. She was the beloved wife of the late Robert H. Boyd, mother of Marjorie Anne Cotterman, Patricia Marie Boyd and William Halley Boyd. She was the grandmother of Christopher and Michael Cotterman, sister of Frank M. Wood, Jr., Robert Wood, Shirley Breeden and Sharon Longley. Funeral service was held at Borgwardt Funeral Home, 4400 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville on Thursday, February 21 at 10:00 a.m. with The Reverend Jack Fitzgerald officiating. Interment Fort Lincoln Cemetery.

Deavers, Nora B.

Nora B. Deavers of Beltsville, age 84, passed away on Saturday, February 16, 2008. She was the beloved wife of James R. Deavers, mother of the late Kenneth M. Deavers, and sister of Audrey Enders. Loving nieces and nephews also survive her. Funeral service was held at Borgwardt Funeral Home, 4400 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville on Wednesday, February 20, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. with the Reverend Dr. David McNeilly officiating. Interment Fort Lincoln Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association.

Dickson, Lucius McNairy

Lucius McNairy Dickson passed away on Wednesday morning, February 13, 2008. He was born on July 19, 1929 in Mineral Wells, MS, the son of LaDelle Ingram and Lucius McNairy Dickson, Sr.

Mr. Dickson moved to Washington, D.C. in 1943 and graduated from Central High School in 1947. He had served as Treasurer of the Central Alumni Association. He served on active duty during 1951-1953 in the 1st Armored Division in Fort Hood, TX and the 7th Division in Korea. He was in the active reserve during 1953-56 and was discharged from the Army as Sergeant 1st Class.

He attended Montgomery Junior College and graduated from American University with a

degree in business administration. He was a commercial lending officer at American Security Bank in Washington, D.C. before retiring in 1988.

He married Joanne Holt in Dover, DE on April 30, 1955. They lived in Beltsville, MD for 36 years before moving to Columbia, MD. While in Beltsville, Mr. Dickson served as President of the Calverton Citizens Association in 1979 and was an active member of Emmanuel United Methodist Church.

In addition to his wife, two daughters and their husbands, Deanne & Matthew Yetman of Brookeville, MD, their four children, Zhenia, Alex, Victoria Grace and Christian, survive him, as do Suzanne & Skip Meade of Bowie, MD and their three children, Shari, Mariah, and CJ. His brother, Joe Dickson & wife Mary of Little Rock, AR, sister Mildred Friend of Norfolk, VA and stepsister Winnie Yarger & husband Charles of Chapel Hill, NC also survive him.

Services were held at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church in Highland, MD on Saturday, February 16 with the Reverend Malcolm Stranathan officiating. Burial with a graveside service by Reverend Ray Graham was held at Lakeside Cemetery in Dover, DE on Sunday, February 17.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Mount Zion Methodist Church.

Hurley, James Joseph

James "Jim" Joseph Hurley, D.V.M., 65, of Terra Alta, WV, formerly of Beltsville, MD, died at his home on Friday, February 8, 2008 after a long illness of heart trouble and lung cancer.

Jim was born on August 14, 1942 in Washington, D.C., the oldest son of the late John "Jack" Joseph Hurley and Mary Cleopatra (Loy) Hurley. When his dad returned from WWII, the family bought a little farm and moved to Beltsville. The family raised horses/ponies, operated pony rings in various communities, provided pony rides for children's birthday parties and eventually owned and operated Edgewater Riding Stables in Rock Creek Park. It was during that time that Jim developed a love for horses and their care.

Jim attended Beltsville Elementary and Buck Lodge Junior High and graduated from High Point High in 1960. A typical teenager, Jim excelled as a high school athlete, had many friends and was a "regular Beltsville boy."

Drafted into the army during the Vietnam War, Jim joined the Veterinary Corps and distempered sentry dogs used to guard the bases in Vietnam and Korea. Upon his honorable discharge he went back to the University of Maryland, finished his degree in Animal Science and later graduated from a

Veterinary College in the Philippines concentrating in Equine Medicine.

Jim spent the happiest years of his medical career operating his own equine practice in Montgomery and Frederick Counties and working for the Maryland Racing Commission as an attending veterinarian at Maryland's six racetracks.

Jim's number one priority and the love of his life was his family and their devotion and relationship to their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The entire family, church pastor and many friends and neighbors surrounded him during his illness and at the time of his death.

Jim is survived by his wife of 40 years, Colleen Hurley, three daughters and spouses, Darby & Thom McHugh of Westminster, MD, Kimberly Hurley of Oakland, MD, Kelly & Matthew Mahoney of Southern Pines, NC, five grandchildren, Ainsley, Ailis, Molly, Meghan and Tadpole, and one brother, William F. Hurley of Beltsville, MD. In addition to his parents, another brother, John J. Hurley, Jr, preceded Jim in death.

Rotruck-Lobb Funeral Home in Kingwood, WV handled arrangements and the interment ceremony (with full military honors) was held at the West Virginia National Cemetery, Grafton, WV. Please visit www.rottruck-lobb.com, click on Obituaries and click Jim's name. You can view recent pictures in Memories Gallery, add your own condolences and view those of others.

Larrick, Ellen Nora (Mosser)

Ellen Larrick passed away on January 3rd, 2008 in Prince George's County, MD where she lived. She was the daughter of the late T. H. Mosser and his wife Nora. She also was preceded in death by two brothers, Dayton Mosser and Mike Mosser, as well as three sisters, Rose, who died at a young age, Elizabeth Foster and Ireta Callis. Her husband, Wayne, and two sons, Steve and Alan, survive her. At her request, her body was cremated. Memorial contributions may be made in her memory to St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 6 South Second Street, Oakland, Maryland 21550.

Nordan-Koenig, Mary P.

On Wednesday, February 20, 2008, Mary Nordan-Koenig of Beltsville passed away at the age of 81. She was the beloved wife of Joseph A. Koenig and the late Moses P. Nordan, mother of James Robert (Alice) Nordan and the late Parker Nordan. She was the mother-in-law of Beverly Mock and Doug Lowry, grandmother of April, Angie, Andrea, Alex,

OBITUARIES
continues on page 9

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Elva Mae Midkiff, "Still doing the jive at 55."

Club News

Beltsville Garden Club

By Louise DeJames, Publicity Chair

The Beltsville Garden Club will hold a general meeting on Wednesday, March 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the James E. Duckworth School, 11201 Evans Trail, Beltsville, Maryland. The speaker for this month is Susan Bentz of the US National Arbor- etum. Her topic will be "The American Elm." Ms. Bentz will discuss the decline of the American Elm and the development of new varieties that are disease resistant. Please join us to hear this informative speaker. As always, we have plants for our door prize table and refreshments after the meeting. The public is welcomed and admission is free.

For more information, contact Louise DeJames at 301.890.4733.

Beltsville Young at Heart

By Barbara Schofield

I almost missed getting this in on time. The meeting on February 7 was opened and business was taken care of by President Koebke. The second meeting of the month on February 21 was an entertainment meeting. Bernard Spriggs entertained us with some beautiful music. He sang a very nice mix of tunes and had everyone singing along and a few even danced. He was a delight and maybe he will visit us again in the future. Marge asked for a change of date for our anniversary dinner on April 17. It was moved to April 3 because of a clash with Laurel Senior clubs appreciation day. Everyone agreed to the change. A committee is working on the decorations for this event.

Marge gave certificates of appreciation to some very deserving members who have served this club for a long time. They are past president Catch Giddings, Lil Mizzer head of the kitchen, her assistant Doris Wray, and Margaret Greenberg for ways and means. Lois Hamilton, Nancy Darmony and Blanch

Howell won the 50/50. In attendance we had 89 members and two guests, Trudy Morris and Gladys Brown. Here's wishing you a happy St. Patrick's Day and a Blessed Easter. Don't eat too many jellybeans and remember that a joy that is shared is a joy that is doubled.

Women's Community Club March Program

Public Relations Committee

Throughout the month of March groups will be celebrating Women's History Month. Our American Heritage Committee of the Women's Community Club of Beltsville (WCCB) will serve as host of our monthly program on Monday March 10 and will have an Irish theme. Our speaker will be a representative from the Behnke Nurseries Company who will speak on the subject of easy spring planting. Please join us at Emmanuel United Methodist Church 11416 Cedar Lane Beltsville at 12:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Our February program was well received and we thank representatives from the Office of the Sheriff for Prince George's County who brought us informational materials and a excellent presentation on the work of that office in handling issues of domestic violence, landlord tenant, and more.

The WCCB is a 501 (c) 3 charitable organization. Our meetings and programs are open to all in the Community and we welcome your membership. As always in support of our ongoing Community Giving project please bring a canned food donation. We thank our members, business and individual supporters over the years for their generous contributions. For more information about WCCB please contact Club President Mae Whitehead: 301.572-7464 or email: presidentwccb@yahoo.com. "Spreading a little sunshine year round."


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Action at the Beltsville Rotary Club

By Yuksel Sagirlioglu, CTC, President

We have had very interesting speakers lately. As you all know, almost every one of our weekly

meetings has a speaker. At the second Tuesday meeting in February, the speaker was Mr. Brian Bregman, an Attorney in Beltsville as well as a Volunteer in Prince George's County Advanced Emergency Services Liaison. He explained the differences between regular firefighters and volunteer firefighters. It was very interesting. Mr. Don Messenger who is a Past President in Beltsville Rotary Club invited Mr. Bergman to be our speaker. All members of the club is assigned to bring a speaker when it is their turn.

Good news, we will have two new members next week. They are both local bank managers and are young energetic business people.

Our ongoing Flea Market, which we have run every year for the last 20 years, will be on May 17, 2008 on Saturday at the same location. Past president Mr. Howard Phoebus will be the chairperson in charge of this yard sale. Dr. John Moynihan coordinated this event successfully for the last

ROTARY CLUB
continues on page 12



(L-r) Past President, Attorney, Mr. Don Messenger, Speaker Attorney Mr. Brian Bregman, Mr. Yuksel Sagirlioglu, CTC President of Beltsville Rotary Club.

Obituaries (Cont. from page 7)

Chris, Stuart, Katie, Heather and Holly, and the great-grandmother of Kenny, Kayla, Evan, Madison, Heaven, Andre, Alana, Blake, CJ and Megan. She was the sister of Jean (Kent) Osborne. Funeral service was held at Borgwardt Funeral Home, 4400 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville on Monday, February 25 at 10:00 a.m. with the Reverend Jesse Smith officiating. Interment Fort Lincoln Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Berwyn Baptist Church, 4720 Cherokee Street, College Park, MD 20740.

Rogers, Emily T.

Emily T. Rogers died on Friday, February 1, 2008. She was the beloved wife of the late Lawrence Rogers; loving sister of Floyd W. Tester, Jr., Charles E. Tester and William Marshall; sister-in-law of Mary Jane Tester, Susan M. Tester and Donna M. Marshall. Also survived by numerous loving nieces and nephews. Relatives and friends called at Borgwardt Funeral Home, 4400 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, MD on Wednesday, February 6 from 2:00 to 4:00 and 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., where service was held on Thursday, February 7

at 10:00 a.m. Interment Maryland Veterans Cemetery, Crownsville, MD. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 11331 Amherst Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20902.

Taylor, Joyce Dudley

Joyce Dudley Taylor, age 43, a former resident of Beltsville, MD, died Monday, January 28, 2008 of metastatic colon cancer. She was the beloved wife of Steven Earl Taylor; devoted daughter of John and Jill Dudley, also former residents of Beltsville; devoted mother of Jennette Lydick, Suzanne Taylor and Angela Taylor; loving sister of John Dudley, Jr.; and loving daughter-in-law of James Earl and Shirley Taylor. She is also survived by numerous other relatives and friends. Funeral services were held at the Lisbon United Methodist Church in Lisbon, MD on January 31, 2008. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Carroll Hospice Dove House, 292 Stoner Ave., Westminster, MD 21157 or to Lisbon United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 561, Lisbon, MD 21765.

BELTSVILLE BRIEFS

continued from page 5

begins at 10:10 a.m. and ends at 10:50 a.m. The classes are open to anyone in the community who wants to learn or review sign language skills for any reason. The classes are held in the Parlor room of the church located on 11416 Cedar Lane. If there are questions, contact the church office at 301.937.7114 or e-mail eumc-beltsville@earthlink.net.

Police Tip Line Established

Major Dwayne Preston, Commander of District 6 Prince George's County Police, has set up a tip line for District 6. Major Preston has asked residents to call or email the Tip Line to report suspicious activity. The phone number is 301.931.3575 and the e-mail address is police_district6@co.pg.md.us

Rummage Sale at Emmanuel United Methodist Church

On Saturday, March 29 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., the United Methodist Women will hold a rummage sale at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville. The event will feature clothing, accessories, jewelry, linens, toys, books, tools, attic treasures and household goods. Breakfast sandwiches and hot drinks will be available starting at 9:15 a.m., and hot-off-the-grill hamburgers and hot dogs will be available for a light lunch. Baked goods will also be on sale. Rain or shine. For information or directions, call the church office at 301.937.7114.

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GARDEN

continued from page 3

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March 22

Building a Butterfly Garden

Carol Allen, Horticulturist
Attract butterflies to your garden with the proper selection of plants for adults and larvae alike.

March 29

Maintaining the Perennial Garden

Martha Pindale, Horticulturist
Get the most from your perennials: keep them shorter and fuller, stagger the blooming period, and encourage reblooming by selective pruning. Learn about watering, fertilizing, and maintaining perennials.

March 30

The Best Plants and Tips for a Colorful Garden Year-round

André Viette, Radio Show Host and Co-author of Month-By-Month Gardening in the Mid-Atlantic. Mr. Viette's free-form presentation will focus on perennials, soil preparation, and assorted garden products. Copies of his book may be available for sale.

April 05

Book Signing and Seminar on Conifers for the Home Landscape

Dr. Richard Bitner, Author of Conifers for Gardens: An Illustrated Encyclopedia
Learn the historical use of conifers, their use and misuse today, and the best of the commercially available conifers for our area. The seminar is free. The books will be available for purchase on site.

REVERENT

continued from page 1

uel United Methodist Church was also observed on Sunday, Feb. 10 which started with Boy Scout Troop 1033's annual pancake breakfast consisting of scout cooked pancakes, sausage, and orange juice or coffee all served

with a smile by the scouts to their parents and friends of scouting.

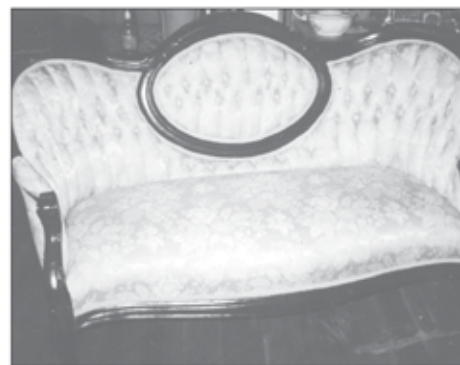
Following the pancake breakfast the scouts participated in the church service by presenting the flags. Scouts' Sabbath patches were given to all the scouts and leaders in attendance at both churches.

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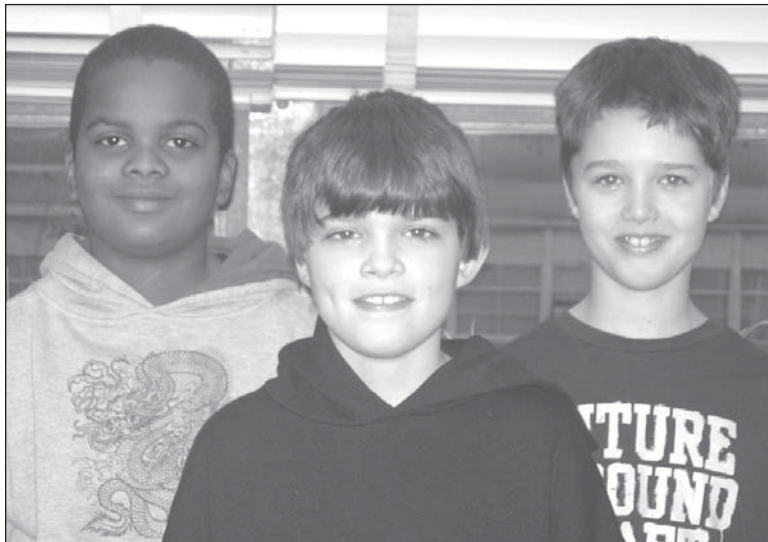
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School News



Back row (L-r) Isaiah Walcott, Ben Mast, Nash Persaud, Daniel Diasgranados, Jabari Rogers, Sheun Bello, Eric Gonzalez, Paul Gyamfi, Jonathan Harvey-Buschel, Nick Keppler
Front row (L-r) Catherine Flores, Sabrina Silva, Kennedy Mebane, Lexy Nolasco, Irene Gomez, Rebecca Bell, Elizabeth Comeau, Joanna Bell

20th Annual Geography Bee at BES



(L-r) Third Place Winner Jabari Rogers, First Place Winner Ben Mast, and Second Place Winner Nick Keppler.

The 20th annual Geography Bee took place on Thursday, January 20 at Beltsville Elementary. Eighteen nervous contestants arrived at 6:30 p.m. to prepare for their 7:00 p.m. debut on stage. Culled from a group of over 100 team members who took a preliminary test 3 weeks earlier, the 4th, 5th, and 6th graders took their seats.

Judges Peter Odell (retired Martin L. King, Jr. Middle School math teacher) and Patricia Robeson (founder of the team and currently with the Maryland Geographic Alliance) kept the competition moving at a fast pace.

For the next two hours, the audience was wowed by the knowledge displayed by the contestants. Several rounds of tiebreakers were necessary to get down to the final three and then eventually down to the winner.

After the final question was asked -- Which state was named after a king of France? -- 4th grader Ben Mast was declared the winner. Nick Keppler (5th grade) was awarded Second Place and Jabari Rogers (5th grade) was awarded Third Place.

Principal Steven Beegle presented the gold National Geographic medallion and a very large atlas to Ben. Ben has now taken the state level test, and we are awaiting the results.

The BES Geography Team (staff members Ellen Miller, Alma Pinchotti, Gail Templin, Lacey Fadely, Jen Matukonis, Kristi Keppler, Jim Fowler, and Jonathan Miller) would also like to recognize the dedication of the 100-plus team members. These students meet throughout the school year as an after-school activity. At the semester's end, the team will participate in a special field trip.



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School News

BES Holds 8th Annual Mindcore Day



Donna Hathaway Beck, Prince George's County School Board Member, tests a Beltsville Elementary School student on Mindcore Day.

Beltsville Elementary held their 8th annual Mindcore Day on February 5, 2008. Mindcore is a unique program that reinforces the knowledge that the students are learning in school while raising money for the school's PTA at the same time. Students are given one hundred questions and answers appropriate for their grade level, plus three bonus questions. Areas of study include Art, Computer Science, Geography, Health, Literature, Math, Music, Science, and Social Studies. The students have five weeks to study their questions and learn the information. Students also try to collect pledges from family and friends based upon how many correct answers they think they can achieve on Mindcore Test Day.

The Beltsville Elementary gymnasium was a busy scene on

that sunny Tuesday. Over 115 volunteers arrived at the school to help test each of the 778 students individually on their questions. The students were very excited to show their knowledge and eagerly awaited their turn to be tested. Over seven hundred of the students scored 75% or better on their questions, earning a free homework pass. James Burgess, a first grader, said, "I felt really great because I got 103. It was really awesome. I liked that I studied a lot and the woman who tested me was really nice. Mindcore was a lot of fun!" Mr. Stephen Beegle, principal of Beltsville Elementary, praised the community's support of this annual event, "Mindcore would not be possible without the support we receive from the community and local businesses. We are so appreciative of the many

people who gave part of their day to support our school."

The volunteers who tested the students consisted of parents, family members, former Beltsville Elementary staff, and workers from local businesses including USDA, Army Research Labs, Shared Technologies, The ARC of PG County, Israel Baptist Church, Potbelly Sandwich Works, PG County Board of Education, and the Maryland Geographic Alliance.

TJ's of Calverton restaurant, Jerry's Subs in Beltsville, Quiznos in Beltsville, Briggs Chaney Deli, Costco, and Safeway provided donations of food. Behnke Nurseries and Crescent Nursery School, both in Beltsville, also made monetary contributions toward the event.

ROTARY CLUB

continued from page 8

19 years,

We will soon have a fundraising plant sale. Your purchase will give you very good flowers at less expensive prices. Proceeds will go to Beltsville Rotary Club. Mr. Rick Salamy, who is currently Vice president of the Board of Directors, will handle our annual Fund raising Golf Tournament. We will notify you of the specific date

in our next article. We are looking for sponsors for this event.

I proudly say our volunteer members and I have distributed Dictionaries to a number of Elementary school third graders in our area and we are sending extra ones to an Elementary School in Das Marinas, Cavite, Manila, Philippines via the Rotary Club of Das Marinas Cavite. I visit this RCDC club frequently when I am in Cavite area where we have a house. I know all members by name. They are very dedicated Rotarians. They are trying their best to help the people and children in their area. A couple of years ago their President who is my very good friend received 33 promotions and acknowledgements, 30 of them for their club which was number 1 in their District 3810, and 3 of the promotions were for him personally. He accomplished a lot of goals.

Our last week's speaker was Past District Governor Dick Angus, who is with the College Park Rotary Club. Dick and I see

each other quite frequently in seminars I attend or other meetings. He is the one who installed me when I took the office last June. He spoke about Rotary International Foundation and its projects. As you know, Polio Eradication and later Polio Plus were two major projects. Polio is still in four countries and will be cleared very soon. Rotary International has spent 1 billion dollars along with other partner organizations such as World Health Organization and others. Recently Mr. Bill Gates, who is the richest man in the world, gave 100 million dollars to Rotary International and Rotary International has matched that amount. Nigeria, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan are the last countries left.

Rotary International has a new project of bringing peace to the world. This may take some time, but we will accomplish the goal sooner or later. Make this world a pleasant place to live. God Bless America.

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School News

Calverton Elementary School News

Black History Month Celebration

Calverton celebrated Black History Month with a host of activities. Every morning a trivia question was read during morning announcements. Classroom doors were being decorated with information and pictures on famous Black History inventors, educators, etc. The Black History programs are planned for the mornings of March 6 and March 7. The intermediate program that will be on March 7 will include staff members singing spiritual and gospel music. The High Point High School modern dance group will perform to gospel music. Melissa Blue, a former Calverton student, will sing jazz and gospel numbers. Calverton students will perform and dance to the music of 60's musical groups such as The Temptations, Diana Ross and the Supremes, and the Marvellettes. The music teacher, Mr. Edili, will accompany the students on the drums.

Math News

On Feb. 10 Calverton math students were ranked first in Maryland in First In Math. Paint Branch Elementary was not far behind. Twelve students ranked as the TOP 100 students in the state: Jowel Wreh (#9), Natasha Wynter (#26), Gallina Brindamour (#29), Aicha Nzie (#34), Faith Martin (#37), Yao Koudjodji (#49), Bruno To (#50), Victor Okonmah (#51), Akhita Page (#59), Mauricio Guerrero (#62), Justyn Stump (#74), and Thomas Odunubi (#76). Five students were new on their class TOP 10 list: Franklin Mendoza-



Mrs. Freeman's kindergarten class at Calverton Elementary School celebrating the 100th day of school on January 30. Parent volunteers Mrs. Powell and Mrs. Hernandez are with the students.

Tremino (Mrs. Njoku), Samuel Asis (Mrs. Upchurch), Jordan Crews (Mrs. Yaffe), Meghan Fakeye (Ms. Mitchell) and Zoila Flores (Ms. Brickner).

In January the following classes turned in all of their math facts calendars/reading logs: kindergarten: Mrs. Freeman; first grade: Mrs. McCollum and Mrs. Foggie; fourth grade: Mrs. Upchurch; and fifth grade: Mrs. Werner. Mrs. Mennell's, Mrs. Prelovsky's, and Mr. McCreery's were just one short of having 100% participation.

Parent Workshops

Parent Liaison Mrs. Santizo has been holding parent workshops every Monday morning from 8:00 until 9:00 to teach parenting tips and basic computer skills. In February there were addition parent workshops. There were three Sci-

ence Computer nights to help with the Science Fair boards as well as MSA nights for various grades.

Celebration of 100 Days of School

Many classes celebrated the 100th day of school on January 30 with projects, activities and treats. Mrs. Freeman's kindergartners ate 100 day breakfasts composed of a sausage (representing the "1") and two bagel halves (forming two zeros). They wore 100th day glasses and placed 10 each of 10 different small snack items (like cheerios and chocolate chips) into baggies as two of their many other fun activities. Perhaps the most exciting project was to construct art sculptures with toothpicks and marshmallows (100, of course!) The projects that they did at home are proudly displayed in the hallway.

Calverton Elementary Goes Green



Calverton Elementary students involved in the Save the World Club paper recycling program.. Seated (l-r) Bianca Wright, Ife Otukoya Standing (L-r) Jaylen Harris, Kamsi Okigbo, Debosola Otukoya, Onyinye Obiefuna, Brett Douglas, George Martin, Irlanda Luz, Shagun Sharma

The Save the World Club at Calverton, sponsored by third grade teacher Ms. Swanson, has been instrumental in getting a big paper recycling container for the school. They have distributed posters to each classroom outlining what can be recycled and recycling bins for each "paper-generating" room in the school. They will be collecting the paper twice a week to put in the recycling container. Ms. Swanson and her husband donated the sturdy, blue recycling bins for the classrooms. Staff is encouraged to take bottles and cans home for recycling or to use reusable

GREEN

continues on page 14

We Are One.

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Happy Easter, dear Friends!

It is Easter time.

Little children
come running to fill their
baskets
with colorful Easter eggs.

The purple crocus
shoots up from
cold winter grounds.

Daffodils open
their yellow trumpets
and

the white lily
adorns our Lord's table.

Happy Easter,
dear Friends,
Have a Happy Easter!

—Ingeborg
Carsten-
Miller



School News

Catholic School Week Celebrated at St. Joseph's Catholic School

The week of January 27- February 1, 2008 was Catholic School Week, and it was celebrated at St. Joseph's Catholic School with enthusiasm.

On Monday Grandparents Day kicked off the week's fun. We welcomed family and friends with an assembly that featured cheerleaders and our St. Joseph's chorus. Next it was all about the students, with a "no homework" rule that they really appreciated. On Wednesday we went All American as reds, whites, and blues were proudly worn. Letters to soldiers and Congressional leaders showed our student's concern about the

Nation. Vocation was the theme on Thursday. Parents and Community members offered insight and suggestions into different careers. Perhaps we have a future dentist, attorney, photographer, priest, teacher, or police officer among our student body. Friday was the opportunity to express our appreciation for our dynamic and awe-inspiring teachers. They demonstrated this year's theme as they "Light the Way" everyday. The 3rd and 6th graders won the Annual Door Decorating Contest, with an Honorable Mention for the Library. Thanks to everyone that helped make this a special week.



Grandparents enjoyed the day at St. Joseph's Catholic School during Catholic School Week.

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GREEN

continued from page 13

containers.

The Save the World club has 16 members who are in 3rd and 4th grades. The full members are Destiny Davis, Brett Douglas, Jaylen Harris, Patrice Henry, Irlanda Luz, Beatriz Marantal, Jenneh Margai, George Martin, Leah Moreno, Onyinye Obiefuna, Kamsi Okigbo, Victor Okonmah, Debosola Otukoya, Ife Otukoya, Shagun Sharma, and Bianca Wright. These members stay after school for meetings and will be instrumental in collecting the recycling after school on Thursdays and during recess on Mondays. They meet for 2 ½ hours after school on Thursdays. Five additional members are unable to stay after school but are still in the club: Akua Appiah-Kubi, Sarina Dockett, Joselynn Portelas, Lauryn Santiago, and Emoni Simms.

The fourth grade members worked extremely hard last year as third graders researching the benefits of recycling and writing letters (with illustrations) to school superintendent Dr. Deasy asking that he implement a county-wide school recycling program. He wrote back very gracious letters to the students. The students

began meeting in November 2006 at their recess time.

The students did a lot of research for the club and sent their findings to Dr. Deasy. Victor learned that "when just one person recycles one soda can, it saves enough energy to run a television for 3 hours. Each American throws away enough trash in 3 months to rebuild all of America's airplanes. If every American recycled 1/10 of his or her newspapers, we would save twenty-five million trees every year."

Victor would like his children to see trees someday. Ife learned that, "Americans throw away enough office and writing paper each year to build a 12-foot high wall from Los Angeles to New York City."

Bianca is scared because "if there are no more trees, we will be dead." She and the other club members realize that our world is in danger and that everyone needs to work together to make things better.

As Kamsi wrote, "We need the air, water, land and plants around us. We need a healthy environment. When we throw away things we should recycle, animals might get sick or die because they might eat garbage. PLEASE RECYCLE!"

School News

High Point High School News

High Point High School held its annual Academic Excellence Program on December 6, 2007. This program recognized students who earned a 3.5 GPA during the 2006-2007 school year. Thirty-six freshman, thirty-seven sophomores, sixty-two juniors and fifty-seven seniors were recognized for their academic achievements. The following seniors were recognized for achieving academic excellence all four years of high school. They are: Reina Chicas-Navarro, Gerson Elias-Alvarado, Nardos Ghebreab, Erika Gibson, Marilyn Joseph, Amenawon Ogiefio, Cheryl Robinson, Michael Robinson,

and Marlowe Vilchez.

Mrs. Sarah Alexander, Assistant Principal, welcomed the audience and conferred the awards to the students. Councilman Tom Dernoga brought greetings to the students and the guest speaker for the evening was Demisse Habteselassie, a member of Youth with Purpose. Mrs. Jasmine Brann, member of the High Point Faculty, and Chris Urquiaga, member of the student body, provided musical selections. Special recognition was given to Joshua Stewart, Class of 2007, recipient of the Linda Beaumier Memorial Award for Academic Excellence. Principal

Scott Smith offered congratulatory remarks and closing remarks to this special evening.

On this same evening, seventeen seniors were inducted into the National Honor Society. They are: Maria Aguilar, Juan Castillo-Tavares, Reina Chicas-Navarro, Brittany Cusack, Tafisha Edwards, Victoria Fortune, Rosiland Harper, Ulrich Kemajou, Keshawn King, Minjote Mekonen, Chike Okoro, Mehulkumar Patel, Rashma Paul, Kelsey Raley, Hai Tran, Mariolis Uribe, and Joel Ventura-Paz.

Congratulations students for your hard work and academic achievements!

High Point High School PTSA News

By Vicki Murphy-Wauschek,
PTSA President

Our February High Point PTSA Executive Board meeting was attended by Tom Dernoga's Legislative Aide, Judy Thacher, and Deborah Stoudt from The Gazette newspaper. Their support and input is appreciated and welcome. The main topic of discussion was the issue of truancy at High Point and across the area. Unfortunately, there is no quick fix to a community problem. One of the parents present at the meeting suggested that a task force

dealing with school security and truancy be formed. The group agreed wholeheartedly, and the initial process is underway. If anyone in the community is interested in joining this group, please contact me at wauschek@juno.com. The rest of the meeting dealt with upcoming social events for the staff. Besides the Valentine's goody bags that our Hospitality Chair, Debbie Cheney, gave to the entire staff, and monthly birthday cake celebrations, the PTSA is planning for Teacher Appreciation week, Teacher Perfect Attendance

awards, and a faculty social. In addition, Seniors who are PTSA members will be receiving the scholarship application for the upcoming essay contest in March. Winners of the scholarships will be announced at awards night in May. Please mark your calendar for the next Executive Board meeting: Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in room 108.

MLK News

By Michelle Mariani Williams

There have been several student achievements recently at MLK Middle School and these students deserve recognition.

On Saturday, January 26th, students from MLK's Music Program participated in the annual Prince George's County Solo and Ensemble Festival at Kenmoor Middle School. Thirty students participated in twenty-six events, including solos, duets and trios. Nineteen students received top honors and an invitation to the state festival in May. The following students participated and those names with an asterisk preceding them have qualified for the state festival. Grade 7- *Sam Brogi, *Ben Brown, Vanessa Debra, *Nicholas Ey, Lindsay Galloway, Eugene Maddy, Sandra Martin, *Kathy Rose, Ascenna Scotland, *Nicole Sterling, and *Rebecca Weidman. Grade 8- *Justin Albrecht, Rahzel Bright, Jasmine Chadwick, *Meghan Costello, *Patrick Deery, Katelyn Fosta, *Lee Friedman, *Tim Hensel, *David House, *Kelsey Karpman, *Mariah Krimchansky, Jordan McRae, Casey Meadows, *Lynn Patterson, Wendell Risher Flowers, *Becky Sowers, *Natalie Steenrod, *Rebecca Webster, and

*Andrew Weidman.

Eighth grader Valery Elizabeth Gutierrez has been nominated for the Scholar Dollar program. She has maintained a 4.0 average for all of 7th Grade and for the 1st and 2nd Quarter of her 8th grade year. She is also active in many school clubs and has completed more than the 36 hours of service learning that is required for graduation.

MLK's second quarter Honor Card Assembly was held on January 31, 2008. Two hundred and fifty two students met the requirements and applied for honor cards based on their GPA, attendance and behavior. There were 56 students who had a GPA of 4.0 and received gold honor cards. Of these students, 30 had also received gold cards the 1st quarter.

First Baptist Church, located at 1500 First Baptist Lane in Laurel, is offering free tutoring homework assistance on Thursday evenings from 6:45-8:00 p.m. Free tutoring is offered in the following subjects from elementary through high school: math (algebra, geometry, calculus, trigonometry), science (biology and physics), and English (reading and grammar). Students must have a signed parent permission slip in order to attend. For more information, please call 301.725.1688.

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Calendar of Events

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Tour the mansion Sunday thru Thursday 12:00 noon thru 3:00 p.m. and see it as it was in 1830. Tours start on the hour. \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors, \$1 for children 5-18, and under 5 free. Info 301.953.1376, TTY 301.699.2544

Building Houses Out of Chicken

Legs Saturday, March 1 at 2:00 p.m. at Montpelier Mansion. Black Women, Food and Power, a Black History and Women's History Month Lecture. Using a recipe of scholarly analysis, personal interviews, film, advertisements, cookbooks and literature,

Williams-Forsen examines the complex role of the chicken in African American life. Reservations Required. The Maryland Humanities Council sponsors this lecture. All ages welcome. Free.

Hands-On History Day for Kids

Saturday and Sunday, March 15 and 16 from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at the Montpelier Mansion. Work in a woodturner's shop and help make chairs the old-fashioned way. When you're done, you'll get your very own apprentice's contract that

you'll fill out yourself with a quill pen and ink! Reservations recommended. All ages, \$7 per child.

COLLEGE PARK AVIATION MUSEUM

1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive, College Park Museum admission is \$4/adults, \$3/seniors and \$2/children. Children under 2 admitted free. Info 301.864.6029, TTY 301.864.4765

BELTSVILLE EVENTS

VANSVILLE CITIZEN'S ASSOCIATION

Monday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m. at Franklin Brown Building, Vansville Recreation Park, 11733 Old Baltimore Pike, Vansville.

WOMEN'S COMMUNITY CLUB OF BELTSVILLE

Monday, March 10 at 12:30 p.m. at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane in Beltsville.

BELTSVILLE RECREATION COUNCIL

Monday, March 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the Beltsville Community Center.

BELTSVILLE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, March 19 at 7:00 p.m. at the Beltsville Elementary School located at 4300 Wicomico Avenue.

YOUNG AT HEART CLUB

1st and 3rd Thursdays 11:00 a.m. at the Beltsville Community Center. For ages 55 and over. Activities include speakers, entertainment, trips and socials. Info 301.937.6613

BELTSVILLE LIBRARY

Book Discussion

Tuesday, March 18 at 10:30 a.m. Jim Newton's *Justice for All*

Friends of the Beltsville Library Book Discussion

Wednesday, March 12 at 7:30 p.m. Robert Harris' *Pompeii*

Storytime

Wednesdays beginning January 9 at 10:30 a.m. for ages 3-5 years.

Goosey Loosey

Songs, fingerplays and Mother Goose rhymes for newborns to 18 months, Mondays at 10:30 a.m.

Reading Theatre

Thursday, March 13 at 10:30 a.m. *Sody Salleratus* by Aubrey Davis for ages 7-9. Have fun reading aloud with a group,

Chess Club

Tuesdays, March 11 and 25 at 7:00 p.m., for all ages.

Family Bedtime Storytime

Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. Wear your PJ's and bring your favorite bedtime buddy for an evening of stories and songs.

Annual Poetry Contest

Sponsored by Friends of the Beltsville Library for ages 6-18. Contest ends Tuesday, April 8. Pick up applications Saturday, March 1 and submit your original poetry for a chance to win. On Tuesday, April 29 at 7:00 p.m., winners will read their poetry. Family and friends invited!

Teen Programs

Scene It! Music Trivia Game Monday, March 3 at 6:30 p.m.: Test your music knowledge! Teens will compete in teams for a chance to win. Ages 13-18.

Teen Advisory Board Saturday, March 8 at 2:00 p.m. Ages 13-18 Join and make a difference at your library.

Spring Break Gaming Daze

Tuesday, March 18, Wednesday, March 19, Thursday, March 20 at 2:00 p.m.

Play video games at your library. Ages 13-18. Teens play video games on a Nintendo Wii and Playstation 2. Sponsored by the Friends of the Beltsville Library.

Teen Job Zone!

Attitudes, Appearance and Interviews: Ages 13-18.

Saturday, March 22 at 2:00 p.m.

Celebrate Teen Tech Week

March 3-8 at the Beltsville Library's Graffiti Wall of 1,001 Songs You Must Hear! Express yourself and fill in a mural size sheet of paper with songs of your choice. Call the library for details at 301.937.0294.

BELTSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

Call 301.937.6613 for more information and to pre-register.

Dr. Seuss's Story Time. Celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday with stories and a craft. Cost \$2.00. March 1 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Pre-register by February 28.

Creative Crafters. March is National Craft Month. Come out and make some crafts. March 6 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Cost: \$2.00. Pre-register by March 4.

Shamrock Stomp. Stomp on the right shamrock and win a cupcake. March 15 at 11:00 a.m. Cost: \$2.00. Pre-register by March 3.

First Day of Spring. Nature Scavenger Hunt. March 20 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Cost: \$2.00. Pre-register by March 18.

Egg Hunt! This event features an egg hunt, prizes, and crafts. March 29 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Cost: Free.

Computer Courses at the Beltsville Community Center

Each course consists of four one-hour classes and costs \$35.00. Cash, check, and MasterCard and Visa payments are accepted. Call 301.937.6613 for more information.

Computer Skills, Level 1 starting Mar. 18, 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

Computer Skills, Level 2 starting Mar. 18, 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Internet Skills starting March 18, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Digital Scrapbooking starting March 18, 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Access, Level 1 starting March 18, 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Word, Beginning starting March 18, 8:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.



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To see more about these and others, find me on the web at www.GingerHand.com



BELTSVILLE • \$295,000

JUST LISTED! Incredible buy – immaculate rambler with daylight lower level on large corner lot, off street parking on two sides, updated kitchen w/lots of lovely cabinets. 4th BR + cozy party room LL. Huge shed. Carpet over wood floors main level. Many newer appliances, roof, gutters.

BELTSVILLE

“Birmingham Estates” \$350,000

JUST LISTED! What a steal this is, a lovely rambler in sought after area with gorgeous wood floors! 3 BR, 1 ½ BA, Main level Family Room, all new appliances, new HVAC system, LL Rec Room, sitting on a lovely larger lot (1/3 ac), Circular drive for extra parking, easy access in and out.



LAUREL

“Victoria Falls” \$549,900

JUST LISTED! Incredible opportunity to own a better-than-new spacious 3 yr young home in 55+ community. Great location, 2 story great room, large lot backs to exercise trail. Walk to Clubhouse. 3 BR, 2 Baths, 2 car garage, wonderful amenities in home and community!



BELTSVILLE • \$399,993

Price REDUCED on this beautiful home complete with bright sunroom addition and large separate workshop w/heat & air! 4 BR, 2-½ bath brick rambler. Gorgeous custom new kitchen, screened porch/carport, large, lovely lot on cul-de-sac. OPEN SUNDAY MARCH 2, 1 till 4 pm.



BELTSVILLE

“Sumner Woods” \$474,000

PRICE REDUCED \$25K! A REAL BARGAIN! Beautiful, spacious 12 yr young home has SO much to offer! 5 BR, 3 ½ ba, large kitchen & breakfast room w/ new ceramic floor & French doors to large deck. 2 story FR w/overlook from upstairs! Level W/O from LL 2nd fam. room.



BELTSVILLE

“Calverton” \$395,000

PRICE REDUCED \$30K! Enjoy watching the winter from the Sunroom Addn of this immaculate 4 BR, 2 BA rambler on cul-de-sac, or enjoy cozy evenings by the FP in Family room. One of the cleanest houses you'll ever see, and comfortably located on cul-de-sac.



ADELPHI

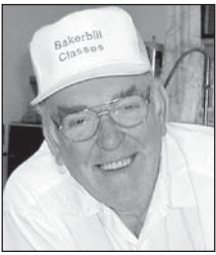
“Holly Hill Manor” \$395,000

PRICE REDUCED \$30K, and now you REALLY can't afford to pass up this custom rambler on lovely, level lot. Over 2,700 SF of house, + screened porch off dining room. 4 BR, 2 Baths, large rec room, 2 FP, updated kitchen, wood floors! Great home & location, + extra space for more rooms in LL.



Share Your News!

Send your neighborhood news items to tedladd02@aol.com.



Baker Bill

STUFF 'N THINGS

Here I sit broken hearted; I have something to write and can't get started. In past years my theme always was baking recipes and suggestions and answering questions about baking and cooking as best as I can. But in the last year, no one is writing asking questions. Have I answered all of them?

In past months I have been bellyaching about poor planning at the intersection of Gunpowder and Powder Mill Roads. Planning! Not the work being done. In fact the work is great. Curbs are perfect. The paving is smooth and good, right down to the brick inlaid cross walks.

I do have questions, however. Question #1 Why do all of us think we have the right of way crossing across the lanes in a shopping center at 40 mph. The fact is that no one has the right of way. Caution is the thing. SLOW DOWN! Now don't shake your head thinking, "Not me." In fact, we all do it from time to time. And if we should have a fender bender we will always think the other guy is at fault. The fact is that the police will not come unless someone is hurt, because it's private property. And if one comes, he will probably write up both.

Question #2 What's with this

having to back into a parking place. I watched a lady take four minutes to do it just the other day. First one way then the other. I wanted to get out and do it for her. Am I missing a trend here?

Getting back to recipes. Here's one everyone likes for home made Biscuits:

In your bowl place $\frac{3}{4}$ stick of margarine or shortening, $2\frac{1}{4}$ cup flour. 1 Tsp. salt. 1 Tsp. sugar 1 Tbsp baking powder. Now mix until you have a lumpy mixture. Stir in a cup of cold milk (mea-



BAKER BILL
continues on page 18



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This is not intended to solicit currently listed properties

Laurel • \$375,000

New Listing! Spotless townhouse in Anne Arundel County's much sought-after community of Russett. This home has 3BR, 2FB, 2HB, a 1-car garage and 2420 sq. ft. of living space. The 2-story foyer has Pergo flooring. Other features include a rec room with an electric fireplace, a new brick patio under the deck, a spacious living room and dining area with thick new carpeting, and a great family room with a slider to the deck off the gourmet kitchen. The kitchen has white cabinetry, Pergo flooring, an electric range, a 6-foot island, a pantry and a built-in microwave. The master bedroom has a luxury master bath with a double vanity sink, a soaking tub and a separate shower. For more info and photos, go to www.bettedeller.com. (AA6670597)



Beautiful Colonial in Franklin Farms • \$499,000



Beautiful 8-year-old colonial home with 4BR, 3.5BA, a sun room addition, a finished basement, 2 small decks and a 2-car garage in pristine condition and in a prime location off Amundale Rd/Ritz Way. Tasteful decor with formal LR and DR. Wonderful open area for entertaining at the back of the house with a gourmet kitchen, breakfast area and family room w/gas fireplace all in a row...and French doors leading out to a sun room. For more go to www.bettedeller.com (PG6632356)

Cozy One-Level Rancher Bowie • \$339,000

Charming 3BR, 2BA rancher w/1-car garage. Pretty azaleas, a dogwood tree and holly grace the front & driveway. A cute cottage garden at the front entrance creates interest as guests approach the front porch. The kitchen has a smooth-top electric range, double oven and wonderful pantry drawers in the lower cabinets to add appeal. A family room off the kitchen opens out onto the patio and a fenced back yard. The shed w/attached cabin provides a unique place for a playhouse or a potting room. A great home at a great price in a great location. (PG 6573031)



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NEW PRICE: \$382,500

Beltsville News

CHURCH DIRECTORY

St. John's Episcopal/Anglican Church

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(301) 937-4292

The Reverend Paula Clark Green, Priest-in-Charge

Palm Sunday, March 16th
*The Liturgy of the Palms and
Holy Eucharist*
8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

Easter Day March 23rd
Sunrise Service
at 6:45 a.m.
in St. John's Cemetery

**Maundy Thursday,
March 20th**
Passover Seder 6:00 p.m.
Light supper &
Stripping of the altar.

Easter Eucharist
8:00 & 10:00 a.m.
Music at both services.

Good Friday, March 21st
*Good Friday Liturgy at
Noon and 7:30 p.m.*
Noon Liturgy
Stations of the Cross

On Easter Day
No Sunday School classes
Nursery care available during
10 o'clock service
for infants and toddlers.

Easter Egg Hunt
For the younger children
after the 10:00 a.m. service.

Easter Brunch
Following all three services.
Please bring finger food
to share
And stay for
Easter fellowship!



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Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
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Administrative Assistant email: secqcumc@verizon.net
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Saint Joseph Catholic Church
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Beltsville, Maryland 20705

Rev. J. Michael Quill
Pastor

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followed by the recitation of the Rosary

Weekend Masses
Saturday Vigil 5:30pm
Sunday 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00noon

Sacrament of Penance - Saturday, 4:00pm - 5:00pm

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School 301-937-7154
schooloffice@stjos.org
Religious Education..... 301-937-7419
dyoung@stjos.org

<http://www.stjos.org>

BAKER BILL

continued from page 17

sure to be sure.) Soon you'll have a dough; if sticky add a bit more flour. Dump on the table and knead the dough until smooth and pliable. (The old wives' tale is if you mix biscuits too much they will be tough.) NOT true. Pat out until ¾ inches thick, cut and place on a pan close together. Bake in a hot oven 400 degrees aprox. 16 minutes.

The baker's secret is, biscuits must be half as thick as they are wide. If you are using a 2-inch cutter the biscuits must be close to 1 inch thick. Think about it! You'll only get about 5 out of this mix, but they will be pretty. If you get more they are too thin.

From one of the many newsletters I receive comes a suggestion I have been following of late. It suggests to be happier make it a point to speak to a stranger every day. Good morning? Perform an act of kindness at least once a week. Hold a door for someone, for example. Simple things. And it works, give it a try, the golden rule does work. That's all for this month. Please ask questions, I love fan mail. You'll find me @ bakerbill.net.

My words of wisdom for this month are: "The way to get started is to stop talking and get started." This came from Zimmerman's calendar.

—Bakerbill aka Bill Raulin

ON THE AGENDA

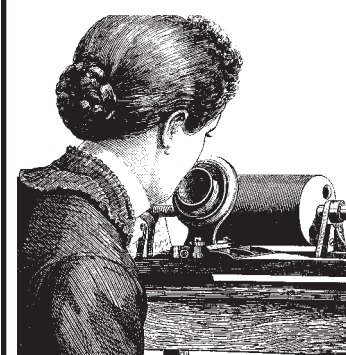
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of the plans they have submitted to M-NCPPC. This is the first step in a very long planning and development process.

We will meet on Wednesday, March 19th at 7:00 p.m. Our meetings are at Beltsville Elementary School located at 4300 Wicomico Avenue. I can be reached at 301.937.0157 or karenmcoakley@verizon.net if you have a community concern.

It is late notice, but the District 6 Community Forum is **Thursday, February 28th 7:00 p.m.** at Beltsville Elementary School. This is your opportunity to meet with Police Chief High and our new Major Dwayne Preston.

Share Your News!



Send your
neighborhood news items
to tedladd02@aol.com.

First Baptist Church of Beltsville (SBC)

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301-937-7771

www.fbcbeltsville.org
Keith Holland, Pastor

Easter Activities and Worship

Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 15, 10:00 - 11:30 am

Palm Sunday Worship, March 16

9:45 am Bible Study (for all ages)
11:00 am Morning Worship

Maundy Thursday Worship Service

March 20, 7:00 pm

Good Friday, March 21

12:00 - 8:00 pm - Church Open for Prayer

Easter Sunday, March 23

6:30am Sunrise Service
7:30 am Continental Breakfast
9:45 am Bible Study (for all ages)
11:00 am Worship Service

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**MEALS ON WHEELS OF COLLEGE
PARK** is now accepting new customers.
Meals are delivered to your door Monday
through Friday between the hours of 11:30
a.m. and 12:30 p.m. To enroll or to get
answers to any of your questions, please
call Meals on Wheels of College Park at
301-474-1002 Monday thru Friday 9 a.m.
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reducing the price to \$20.00 a week. This
includes a bread pack (with coffee, tea and
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Please, we need help. Won't you volunteer
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Music teachers wanted, guitar, trumpet and
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Governor O'Malley Calls for Emergency Session on Foreclosure Crisis

Governor Martin O'Malley called for an emergency work-session with mortgage loan servicers to help find real solutions to the foreclosure crisis and protect middle class families from losing their home. Joined by Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation Secretary Thomas Perez and Department of Housing and Community Development Secretary Raymond Skinner, Governor O'Malley announced new emergency regulations and other initiatives to protect home-ownership in Maryland and urged home-owners to seek help early if they are facing foreclosure.

During the work-session, the Governor will call for a public agreement with major servicers to set a standard for consistent, timely and sustainable loss mitigation services for Maryland home owners. Governor O'Malley also announced that Maryland has adopted new emergency regula-



Governor Martin O'Malley

tions requiring reports from mortgage loan servicers detailing their efforts to help home-owners facing default and foreclosure. Maryland is only the second state in the nation to require this data.

The regulation requires servicers to provide DLLR with lists

of home-owners who have adjustable rate mortgages that are about to reset to higher interest rates. DLLR will use this information to reach out to those home-owners, providing them with information on resources available to help them.

In addition, DLLR's Commissioner of Financial Regulation is examining the operational systems, practices and procedures of Ocwen, one of the largest servicers of Maryland loans. The Commissioner will review a sample of the company's Maryland mortgage loan servicing files.

"Everyone in the mortgage industry has said they want to help home-owners avoid foreclosure. We want to ensure their actions are matching their words," Secretary Perez said. "This data collection will shine a bright light on services, and will help DLLR help home-owners."

Governor O'Malley also called

on home-owners to take advantage of DHCD's "Bridge to Hope Loan Program," which will provide gap loans at zero percent interest to home-owners who are a few months behind in their mortgage.

"This statewide program provides Maryland home-owners with short-term relief to maintain home-ownership by preventing residential mortgage foreclosures resulting from borrowers experiencing financial difficulty caused by either a sub-prime or exotic mortgage," said Secretary Skinner.

In the fourth quarter, Prince George's, Montgomery, Washington and Worcester Counties saw the number of foreclosure events double from previous quarter. In other counties, such as Kent, Garrett and Somerset, the numbers nearly tripled. Statewide, Maryland saw 9,722 foreclosures, compared to 7,001 from the previous quarter, an increase of 2,721 fore-

closure events statewide.

According to RealtyTrac, one of the major providers of property foreclosure data, Prince George's County continued to have the highest number of foreclosure events, with 2,732. Montgomery County had the second highest number of events, with 1,310, while Baltimore City ranked third with 1,268 events.

Governor O'Malley's announcements on Tuesday were in addition to sweeping reforms proposed for the mortgage industry, including raising the bar for licensing, tightening lending standards and eliminating defective products from the market in Maryland.

The various measures represent a comprehensive effort to combat rising foreclosure rates and protect Maryland home-owners in the future. Governor O'Malley called on lawmakers to act swiftly to pass his proposals and provide relief to Maryland home-owners.



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2009 MD Federal Priorities Announced

Governor Martin O'Malley and Lieutenant Governor Brown have presented Maryland's FY2009 federal priorities in Washington D.C. including strengthening and growing our middle class and family-owned businesses and family farms, improving public safety and public education, and expanding opportunity to all Marylanders.

"Even as our families face a national economic downturn, increased energy bills, healthcare costs and foreclosures, Maryland is in a position to make it through these tough times more quickly than other states, but only if we continue to come together to protect our priorities," said Governor

O'Malley. "We are proposing a number of projects, programs and legislative priorities that will continue to protect and improve Maryland's public safety and homeland security, including our commitment to our veterans, protect the health of our environment and the quality of life we all enjoy, and also strengthen our workforce and the health of our people."

Governor O'Malley was joined by members of his Cabinet during the hour long presentation to the delegation, which included Senator Barbara A. Mikulski, Senator Benjamin L. Cardin, and Majority Leader Congressman Steny H. Hoyer.

C.O.G. Endorses New Greenhouse Gas Cut

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Board of Directors endorsed the "Cool Capital Challenge" launched in April, 2007 by volunteers from businesses, government agencies, congregations, and community and environmental organizations.

COG's Climate Change Steering Committee also supports the challenge and its goal to prevent one billion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions in the National Capital Region through the following activities: replacing existing light bulbs with compact florescent bulbs; conducting energy audits of existing buildings; maintaining heating and cooling equipment; encouraging carpooling, telecommuting, and the use of public transit; and planting trees and shrubs strategically.

COG's support for the challenge "provides individuals with

specific steps they can take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions," Nancy Floreen, Chair of the Climate Change Steering Committee, and Montgomery County Council member told the COG Board. Greenhouse gas reduction activities can be undertaken by government agencies, businesses, citizen groups, congregations, and individuals. In addition to encouraging its member jurisdictions to participate in the challenge, COG elected to join as a corporate entity.

The COG Board expressed support for resolutions in the Maryland and Virginia general assemblies, including a Maryland bill to establish a 15% reduction in electricity consumption, and a Virginia bill to establish a Commission on Energy and Climate change. The Board also approved resolutions in Maryland and Virginia to establish Green Building standards.