Fourth-grade Students Seek Ways to Make a Difference in Their Community

By Judith L. Pollock, Professional School Counselor

After viewing a Discovery Education newsclip on natural disasters and seeing the devastation they can cause to families, Mrs. Richmond’s fourth-grade class came to the conclusion that they wanted somehow to get involved. The question they wanted to answer was not if they wanted to help but how they could help. Mrs. Richard suggested that the class begin with a brainstorming session in which students were asked to identify potential projects. Several ideas continued on page 3

Santa Tour 2016

Santa Claus has confirmed his route with the Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department! Santa will begin his route around 6:30 to 7 pm. Santa wanted to pass on a few tips so his trip to Beltsville can be enjoyable for everyone involved:

• Always use caution when visiting Santa. Please pay attention to the fire apparatus and stay out of the street.
• Sometimes Santa runs behind schedule by a couple of minutes, so be patient. He will follow the schedule as close as possible.
• Have fun and make sure you know what you want for Christmas!

Tuesday December 6, 2016
James Duckworth Special Center (11201 Evans Trail) Blue Ridge @ Pocono Place Shenandoah @ Blue Ridge Cherry Hill Rd. (in front) Major Denton @ Cherry Hill Ct. Townley Apartments Cherry Mill Drive @ Cherry Tree Ct. Collier Rd. @ Powder Mill Rd. Cherryvale @ Weeping Willow Cherryvale @ Cherryvale Terr.

Thursday December 8, 2016
Calverton Elementary (3400 Beltsville Rd) Fullerton St. @ Blairmore Street Fullerton St. @ Ivy Ln. Chase Terr. @ Dunnington Rd.

SANTA TOUR continues on page 9

Cub Scout Outdoor Fun

Cub Pack 1031 had a busy month with 15 Scouts camping on October 22 at Greenbelt National Park. They learned about knife safety, developed outdoors skills, and went on a hike. The Scouts cooked hot dogs for dinner followed by a big campfire where they told stories and told s’mores. Before the trip, they had made 1a id kits and learned about poisonous plants and animals to watch out for on their hike.

Two dens went to Fairland’s Paint Branch Trail to enjoy hiking adventures. In late October, the Wolves saw wooly bears, birds, squirrels, and lots of fish in the creek. The Webelos went for a 3-mile hike along the trail on Election Day and saw lots of squirrels and learned how to identify trees by looking at their leaves and bark.

For both dens, this completed their hiking adventure requirements.

CUB SCOUTS continues on page 2

By President Karen M. Coakley

Merry Christmas and happy holidays to all!!! The Citizen’s Association will not meet in December. Here are some holiday safety tips. Lock your doors to your home and car!! Get an “RFID” wallet or envelope for your driver’s license, passport, credit, and debit cards. Thieves have found an easier way to pick your pocket and your identity at the same time. Do not leave gifts visible from your windows. If you are going out of town for the holidays, have timers on your lights and your identity at the same time. Do not leave valuables in your car!

Cub Scouts collecting food for their canned food drive!
Hello, everyone, The Beltsville News tries very hard to not involve politics in its content (other than ads purchased by outside parties), and I pride myself on this. Having said that, I know it has been a rough few weeks since the election and our politics and emotions have been on full display. One of the reasons I took the job as news director was because I love the people of Beltsville. I love that each month I get to read and listen to all that is going on in this town. I am proud to say that I am from Beltsville. As we begin this holiday season, please let us remember the good that surrounds us and use that good to combat the bad.

Do not resort to hate or violence, and do not judge someone based on their race, ethnicity, religion, or any other difference they possess. We are all different; that’s what makes us wonderful. Please take this holiday time and spend it with friends and families but also with strangers. Show them the kindness that you would like someone to show to you and your family. I am going to leave you with one of my favorite quotations from Mother Teresa. “Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier.”

Have a warm and generous holiday season,
Rick
Neighbors in the News

Annual Red Flag Conference Promotes Domestic Violence Awareness

By Deborah D. Howard

The 5th Annual Red Flag Conference was held on the grounds of the First Baptist Church of Glenarden, Maryland. The conference traditionally brings together legislators, service providers, criminal justice practitioners, members of the legal and faith-based communities, and survivors of intimate partner violence and their advocates—all tasked with addressing the issues of domestic violence/intimate partner violence, childhood sexual abuse, and human trafficking.

This year’s theme was “Not in My Backyard.” The theme was associated with scripture from Joel 2:25-27, which speaks to restoration, a major component of each conference. The keynote speaker was Dr. Kesslyn Brade Stennis, associate professor and chair of the Department of Social Work at Coppin State University. The featured survivor speaker was Betitia Hodges, a resident of Prince George’s County who shared her own personal triumph over domestic violence and generational child sexual abuse.

The inspiration and the driving force behind the Red Flag Conference is Reverend Linda J. Thomas, an associate pastor at the First Baptist Church of Glenarden and the director of the church’s Domestic Violence Ministry (www.domesticviolence@fbclgenarden.org). For her, the mission to eradicate domestic violence is both critical and personal.

Reverend Thomas has been very transparent about the abuse she suffered in her first marriage while pregnant. In a recent interview, she was quoted as saying, “I wish I could tell you that the cycle of violence ended with me, but my pivotal point, and the most painful part of my experience, was when I took my daughter to the Family Justice Center in Montgomery County,” Thomas said. “We weren’t visiting; she was a victim, and that for me was the most difficult part. The passion to do this work stems out of that.”

Reverend Thomas’s vision of providing several outlets within Prince George’s County where people who were hurting could receive “wrap around” services led to the creation of the Red Flag Conference. She is also largely credited with the long-awaited opening of the Family Justice Center of Prince George’s County.

The Family Justice Center—the third such center in the entire state of Maryland—will serve county residents who are survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and elder abuse. It will be a one-stop shop for victim services (co-located), including counseling, protective orders, legal advocacy, financial assistance, and a variety of other emergency services.

The opening of the center, or the FJC, as it is called, could not have come at a better time. Prince George’s County has the second highest number of domestic-related deaths in Maryland. As this article is being written, a man is being arraigned for the sexual assault of his estranged wife and the attempted murder (by stabbing) of his two sons.

According to Reverend Thomas, “In an effort to prevent domestic violence, we must engage and educate our youth about the behaviors associated with intimate partner violence as well involve men in the efforts to end violence against women or men. While the vast majority of victims are women, there is some evidence men are also abused. In addition, we must have programs that not only foster healing for survivors but also for those who abuse.”

DIFFERENCE continued from page 1

were explored, and after an engaging discussion, the students agreed upon a food pantry that would serve as a resource in the community.

While the food pantry is a lofty goal, there were obstacles that would make this project nearly impossible for the students to implement and maintain. But as fate would have it, their idea came just about the same time as the Maryland Food Bank Kids Helping Kids Food Campaign would be launched. Mrs. Richmond’s class was offered the project, and they accepted the challenge!

The curriculum encourages project-based learning, a teaching method in which students gain knowledge and skills by working over time to investigate and respond to an authentic problem or challenge. During the planning phase, the students learned about food insecurity in the nation, the state of Maryland, and in the community. They learned that, despite the fact that Maryland is one of the wealthiest states in the nation, its communities are deeply impacted by food insecurity and the need for food is rising among children, seniors, and working families. Armed with this new information, students began the task of outlining steps needed to move forward with the plan. They started by writing speeches to inform students that they were collecting food and discussing why it is important. Posters were also designed to advertise and serve as visual reminders of what the class hoped to accomplish.

Two by two, the fourth-grade students went into classrooms sharing their message of hope. They wanted to ensure that all those in their community would have a place to get food if needed.

The food drive project was a huge success with more than 18 boxes of food collected. Students would not have been able to complete their project without the support of the generous donations of the families at Calverton Elementary School. Home of the SOARing Eagles!
Beltville Hosts Christmas Dinner for 50 Homeless Women; Adventist Church Continues 25-year Tradition

Every year for more than 25 years about 50 homeless women have experienced Christmas at a special Friday evening dinner with all the trimmings of the season: turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, candied yams, cranberry sauce, salad, and vegetables, plus pies of multiple varieties, all in the church's fellowship hall decorated with a dozen Christmas trees and lights creating a canopy below the vaulted ceiling.

There are different women each year, but there's always a fire in the fireplace. "It's like a Norman Rockwell picture," said Kermit Netteburg, former pastor of the church.

Erika M. Buck, Age 85

Erika M. Buck of Beltsville, Maryland, formerly of Brooklyn, New York, passed away on Tuesday, November 8, after a long illness. She was the wife of the late George Theodore Buck; beloved mother of Stephen (Sallie Eubank), Kenneth (Maureen Borough), and the late Martin Buck; sister of twin Wilma Baich and the late Eleanor Kranchenfels; loving grandmother of Helen Paige and Eleanor Grace.

Erika was born on January 23, 1931, in Brooklyn, New York, to parents, Eric and Meta Reichenbach Meyer, who emigrated from Germany. Her parents worked in a delicatessen in the Ridgewood neighborhood in Queens, New York. She graduated from Grover Cleveland High School in 1949 and delighted in drawing and pastels. Erika also enjoyed vacationing at her mother’s home in Elizabethville, New York, with her sisters and cousins.

She worked for Bayer in Manhattan. After moving to Beltsville in 1964, she worked for C&P Telephone and Verizon for 17 years. The family joined the Abiding Presence Lutheran Church in 1965. In 1967, the family drove to Montreal, Canada, to camp and visit the world exposition, Expo 67. She loved cats and had cats as pets since 1960. In 1972, Stephen brought home a puppy named Linda that became his mom’s closest pal.

Mrs. Buck was a fantastic den mother when her sons were in Cub Scouts. She was also a wonderful cook who made many German specialties and an outstanding baker known for her lemon meringue pie (Stephen’s favorite) and her Christmas cookies, of which she made nearly 10 different types each holiday.

The dinner ends with the program, a special Christmas banquet, "The women dress up in their finery and fill the suitcases with basics that aren’t glamour gifts for Christmas but are essential for a woman who will live much of the winter on the streets. Each suitcase contains a new winter coat, warm socks, new underwear, toiletries, mittens, scarves, hats, and other items. “Plus, there’s some snacks in the suitcase!” Netteburg added.

The dinner is more than just food, Netteburg explained. Church members attend the meal as well, sitting with the women and sharing conversation as well as food. Children from the church serve the food. A program features a Christmas carol sing-a-long, a puppet show performed by the church’s children’s puppet theater group, stories about the meaning of Christmas, and often some songs from a chorus made up of the homeless women.

The dinner ends with the church giving each woman a roll-up suitcase filled with necessities for surviving a winter in Washington. “We want to be practical in the help we give,” Netteburg explained. “We ask people to bring in this ad for $4.95 off any order of $30.00 or more.

The graveside service and interment were held at Fort Lincoln Cemetery in Brentwood, Maryland, on Monday, November 14, at 10 am with Pastor Na officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the Humane Society of Prince George’s County.

Pilkerton, Shirley Ann, Age 78

On Thursday, November 10, Shirley Ann Pilkerton of Beltsville, MD, passed away. She was the beloved wife of David S. Pilkerton, was the mother of Sandi Horderbaum and Cindy Decinti, and is survived by 5 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Funeral service was held at Borgwardt Funeral Home, Beltsville, MD, on Tuesday, November 15, at 10 am with the Monsignor Balbigo officiating; Interment Fort Lincoln Cemetery, Brentwood, MD. www.borgwardtfuneralhome.com
Tech Sense  By John Bell

All I Want for Christmas...

It’s that time of year again where the nontechnical spouse, sibbling children, and grandparented peeps are all stumped about what gift to buy for the tech-no-geeks in their lives. Always wanting to help, we are here this year with our holiday gifts edition. Let’s jump right in!

Raspberry Pi

I have written about the $35 Raspberry Pi computer several times in this column. The current version of the Raspberry Pi is the Pi 3, it is a quad core computer with 1 gigabyte of RAM, built-in Ethernet, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and four USB ports. This computer is all about learning, and plating, and having fun. It has become very popular with hobbyist because of the low cost it maintains in such a small device. This allows it to be used for robots or remote cameras or as a learning platform to master the Linux operating system and the Python programming. The Pi plugs into the HDMI port of your television. To build a complete system, you will also need, a phone charger with a micro USB output to provide power, an HDMI cable to connect to a TV or monitor, a case for the Pi, a keyboard and mouse, and a micro SD memory card. The total cost for a fully functioning computer assuming you have to purchase everything is about $80. You can purchase an add-on camera for between $15-$25 more.

Last December, the Raspberry Pi Foundation released the Rasperry Pi Zero. This little computer sells for $5, and while it is not as powerful as the Pi 3, the basic computer is very inexpensive. The Pi Zero will require an OTG cable (about $3) to connect to the single USB port. You will still need many of the same items required for the Pi 3, but you may also want a USB hub ($3) and a Wi-Fi USB dongle ($10).

3D Printers

Prices have dropped significantly on 3D printers this year with several complete printers and a number of kits available in the under $250 price range. I wouldn’t be surprised to see under $200 kits available on Black Friday.

Most home-oriented 3D printers use ABS plastic or PLA as the printing material. The best printers will support using both materials. It is a good idea to purchase one or more spools of material when you purchase your printer. Also, be aware that some manufacturers of prebuilt printers use proprietary spools so that you must purchase the printing materials from the manufacturer at an inflated price.

Kits provide all of the components required to build your own printer. It usually takes about 6 to 8 hours for assembly. There is an advantage to building your own printer in that if it breaks you can generally repair it yourself, and you can also add new features like a heated printing bed yourself. Even with a fully assembled model, 3D printing can be a finicky process. Those that assemble their own printers are often better prepared to deal with issues as they occur. The kits are typically based on open-source software, but you may need to access the assembly instructions on the Internet.

Phones

This Santa does not purchase his phones with phone service. Instead, he purchases phones that are unlocked and not tied to a specific carrier. You can, of course, purchase an iPhone from the Apple Store, but you don’t need my help to do that. Instead, try looking at some of the unlocked Android phones.

Maybe you didn’t know this, but Google sells phones. The Google phones can be moved to any US phone network: Verizon, AT&T, T-Mobile, Sprint, and so on. Google even offers Google Fi, its own phone network that uses a special SIM card to blend the Sprint and T-Mobile services with WiFi to provide great coverage starting at $30 per month for unlimited voice, text, and 1 gigabyte of data. Additional data is available for $10 per gigabyte, and Google rebates back the money for unused data. The current Google phones are the Pixel and Pixel XL starting at $649 for a basic 32-gigabyte Pixel. While this is interesting, it is in the same price range as the iPhone. For this holiday, the better phones to look at are the Nexus phones that the Pixel models replace. A Nexus 5X with 32 gigabytes of memory is currently selling new for $280 on Amazon. The Nexus 6P is selling as low as $440. These phones compete very favorably with every other phone on the market at a much lower price point. Plus, the Nexus and Pixel phones have the pure version of Google Android, and Google updates these phones directly, so there is no wait for the carrier to update the version of Android you are running.

The next best thing to a Nexus or a Pixel is a Motorola phone, the Moto X Pure ($292 on Amazon) or the Moto G4 (as low as $180 for 32 gigabytes of memory). These phones are nearly pure Android, and Lenovo (the owner of the Motorola brand) has stated that the phones will be updated quarterly while the model is supported. Both models should work with any carrier.

Some other phones to look at include the Asus ZenFone 3 ($199) and the HTC One M8 ($270).

Television

A few years ago, the big television upgrade was for HD and 1080P. HD stands for “high definition,” and 1080P is the number of horizontal pixels that can be shown. Smaller TVs were only 720P, and standard definition (SD) is only 480i. The primary big decision was the size of the TV screen, diagonal in inches, with bigger normally being better and more expensive. This year the prices have really dropped on the latest ultra-

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- Enjoy Seasonal Music by “Violin Dreams”
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“The from our families to yours, may the season be peaceful and full of love and caring. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!”

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DECEMBER 2016 • The BELTSVILLE NEWS • Page 5
Long lines on Election Day

Many thanks to everyone who notified Delegates Barbara Frush, Joseline Peña-Melnyk, Ben Barnes, and me about the long lines at various polling places in Beltsville because many locations were only equipped with one scanner. We’re following up with the Board of Elections for better planning in future years.

Help paying your electric and gas bills

With the arrival of winter, just a reminder that you may be eligible for the Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP), which provides assistance with home heating bills. Payments are made to your utility company on your behalf. Under this program, there is limited assistance available to replace broken or inefficient refrigerators and furnaces. Apply online at mydhrbenefits.dhr.state.md.us or call 1-800-332-6347.

Do you have ideas for better laws?

As you may know, many of the state bills we propose come from ideas we get from citizens like you. For example, the laws we passed to crack down on absentee landlords illegally claiming homestead tax credits and to require banks to report foreclosures to the county. We always want to improve existing services and change laws that would improve our community. Let us know what suggestions you have. Our contact information is below.

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 help you. Just email 21stDistrict-Delegation@gmail.com or call 301.838.3141.
American Legion Auxiliary Fall Conference—A Time to Learn and Grow

By Ivy Christoffers

On October 13, American Legion Auxiliary members from all across the state of Maryland converged on Frederick, Maryland, to begin their 3-day fall conference held at American Legion Post Francis Scott Key 11. This is the time when the chairmen of the American Legion Auxiliary programs present their plan of work for the year to the attendees. The weekend began with a fun-filled ice cream social on Friday evening and a short message from our state president, Paulette Caron, who introduced our Eastern Division National Vice President Patti Lach, herself a member of Francis Scott Key Unit 11. This was followed by a truly social time of food, drinks, and music in the post lounge. The chairmen had set up very colorful and interesting tables of information. There was also a poppy hat contest and a district president’s corsage contest (there are 7 district presidents), a sales table, a Chinese raffle, and a 50/50. All these were set up on Friday night to be ready when the 225 attendees arrived on Saturday morning.

At 9 am on Saturday morning, the conference began. Chairmen were called upon to present their programs: each had 5 minutes to do so except for Girls State and Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, which always take about 20 minutes because these programs: each had 5 minutes to do so except for Girls State and Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, which always take about 20 minutes because these programs present their plan of work for the year to the attendees. The weekend began with a fun-filled ice cream social on Friday evening and a short message from our state president, Paulette Caron, who introduced our Eastern Division National Vice President Patti Lach, herself a member of Francis Scott Key Unit 11. This was followed by a truly social time of food, drinks, and music in the post lounge. The chairmen had set up very colorful and interesting tables of information. There was also a poppy hat contest and a district president’s corsage contest (there are 7 district presidents), a sales table, a Chinese raffle, and a 50/50. All these were set up on Friday night to be ready when the 225 attendees arrived on Saturday morning.

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Sunday morning started with a prayer meeting held by Chaplain Linda Green; then it was back to business as usual learning about ceremonies, and the guest speaker was Wes Moore, an Army veteran, author, Rhodes Scholar, and host of WYPR radio. Moore’s speech received was outstanding. We all enjoyed The Message of Hope Choir, directed by Gary Maynor, Jeff Kendricks, executive director of MCVET, served as master of ceremonies, and the guest speaker was Wes Moore, an Army veteran, author, Rhodes Scholar, and host of WYPR radio. Moore’s speech was spellbinding. The food was fabulous, and the standing room only crowd overwhelmed. All in attendance were turned in. Our fall conference chairmen did a wonderful job making sure our people had a fun-filled and informative weekend.

On Nov. 7, I was pleased to attend the 21-gun salute held by MCVET in Baltimore to honor the founders of this great facility and its many supporters. There were over 250 in attendance. Many elected officials and a large contingent of the American Legion family along with others enjoyed the evening. Several people received plaques for their service over the years. Beltsville resident Sandi Dutton, the president of the board of MCVET, was especially honored. The standing ovation she received was outstanding. We all enjoyed The Message of Hope Choir, directed by Gary Maynor, Jeff Kendricks, executive director of MCVET, served as master of ceremonies, and the guest speaker was Wes Moore, an Army veteran, author, Rhodes Scholar, and host of WYPR radio. Moore’s speech was spellbinding. The food was fabulous, and the standing room only crowd overwhelmed. All in attendance were turned in. Our fall conference chairmen did a wonderful job making sure our people had a fun-filled and informative weekend.

The Saturday business meeting ended at 12:30 pm, and there was free time until the banquet held from 5:30 pm to 9 pm. We had several guests join us: the state American Legion Commander, Pat McCoy, and the Sons of the American Legion Detachment Commander, Ray Edwards. We also had Honorary Junior American Legion Auxiliary President Kayori Forseyth. After the meal, we were honored and privileged to have The Message of Hope Choir from MCVET (Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training), led by choir director Gary Maynor, entertain us. They were phenomenal!! After this, there was much merrymaking in the post lounge.

Sunday morning started with a prayer meeting held by Chaplain Linda Green; then it was back to business as usual learning about the programs. There was positive energy throughout the weekend. Many national awards were presented, prizes awarded, and tons of candy consumed. Our Eastern Division National Vice President, Patti Lach, delivered an inspiring speech, and much membership was turned in. Our fall conference chairmen did a wonderful job making sure our people had a fun-filled and informative weekend.

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LEGION

continues on page 14
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The College Park Moose Lodge

The Moose Lodge Holiday Bazaar is on December 10 from 8-1 pm. Crafters and vendors may rent tables for $10 by calling 301.648.6626. Admission is free, and there will be food to purchase. Johnny Seaton and the Bad Behavior Band will be performing a Christmas show December 10 from 7-10 pm. There will also be dinner served from 5:30-7 pm before the show. The cost for dinner will be $10, and the cost for the show is $20. Get your tickets early before they sell out.

There will be a New Year’s Eve celebration on December 31. Dinner will be served from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, which will be followed by live music from The Fabulous Bel Airs from 9 pm to 1 am. Tickets are $40 each. All events are open to the public. The lodge is located at 3700 Merwood Road, College Park, MD. Call 301.915.5525 for tickets and info.

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**Our Motto is: We Work for You!**
Women's Community Club of Beltsville Activities

The Women’s Community Club (WCCB) of Beltsville is again coordinating its holiday food and gift programs as well as fundraising for other important projects. Members are asking Beltsville businesses, schools, service organizations, social clubs, churches, and individuals to help them provide food and gifts to needy families within our community for the holidays as well as funds for our other important projects. Those other projects include a college scholarship, the Adopt-A-Road Program, the Beltsville Beautification Project, and teachers’ appreciation events. Also, there are times during the year when a family has reached out to the organization in a crisis situation. The club would like to be in a position to help them as well. Members hope you can assist in these worthwhile endeavors.

The WCCB provides a Thanksgiving meal for the entire family. At Christmas, the organization not only provides a holiday meal but also provides presents for children. We accept nonperishable food and new toys and new clothes for children. Monetary contributions, store gift cards, and Visa Debit cards are also appreciated.

WCCB members hope you can assist in these worthwhile endeavors. WCCB provides a Thanksgiving meal for the entire family. At Christmas, the organization not only provides a holiday meal but also provides presents for children. We accept nonperishable food and new toys and new clothes for children. Monetary contributions, store gift cards, and Visa Debit cards are also appreciated. You or your organizations are welcome to sponsor a family. Because WCCB is a certified 501(c)(3) organization, all contributions are tax deductible. A list of donors will be publicized in the January Beltsville News unless they prefer to remain anonymous.

Monetary contributions and gift cards can be mailed to Women’s Community Club of Beltsville c/o Emmanuel United Methodist Church 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705.

The deadline for receiving your Thanksgiving donation is Thursday, November 17. The Christmas donation deadline is Monday, December 12. There is no deadline for donations for the other important projects.

Contact Karen Coakley with questions and/or to schedule a pickup or delivery time of your donation. Karenmcoakley@gmail.com or 301-937-3490. We all know there are Beltsville families who are less fortunate. Thank you for helping us “spread a little sunshine” during the holidays and throughout the year.

If you would like become a WCCB member, please email us at WCCBeltsville@gmail.com. To see a list of activities visit our Facebook page: facebook.com/womenscommunityclubofbeltsville.

Beltsville Young at Heart

By Barbara Schofield

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. At the first monthly meeting, everyone was reminded to be sure they had signed up for the Thanksgiving luncheon and selected ham or turkey, and bingo was played after the meeting. The trip to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to see Samson was wonderful. The show was spectacular with a musical, spooky take on a wonderful Bible story. The stage settings were fantastic with live animals and great performances. Sight and Sound Theater, where Samson is performed, is very large, and it was packed. Beltsville Young at Heart wishes everyone a very warm and blessed Christmas. The world is more beautiful when you hold hands and walk together.

The Prince George’s County Genealogical Society

The Prince George’s County Genealogical Society will meet on Wednesday, December 7, at the New Carrollton Municipal Center, 6016 Princess Garden Parkway, New Carrollton, MD 20784 at 7 pm.

This month, our speaker will be professional genealogist Sharon Hodges, who will discuss using digitized books and periodicals for genealogical research. Ms. Hodges is well known in this area for her insightful lectures, so be sure to join us on the 7th. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, visit us on the web at www.pgcgs.org or call the PGCGS library at 301.262.2063. You can also like us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/pgcgenealogy.
News from the YOO Club!

Beltville Volunteer Fire Department Open House Review: A Student Review of the BVFD Open House Event (October 30, 2016)

By Ava Valentine

Every year, the Beltville Volunteer Fire Department hosts an open house, welcoming families in the Beltville area to learn more about emergency safety, view firetrucks, and participate in various activities. The Youth Opportunity Outreach Club (YOO Club) journalists and photographers visited the open house to interview the firefighters and photograph the event. The following is a review of the event by one of the club’s members:

“Not only did I interview firemen at the event, but I had a lot of fun! There is much in store for attendees, especially if you like lollipops and face paint! According to one of the firemen, it is important for the community to attend because you get to see your local fire department. ‘It’s very nice to see all the kids come down,’ he said. Another firefighter told me that the most important thing to remember after attending the open house is what to do in an emergency. The Beltville Fire Department Open House is fun, entertaining, and interesting. It’s great for the community to meet their responders as well as learning what the firefighters do from day to day.

If you didn’t attend this year, I definitely recommend you go next year. There are many activities and attractions open to the public, such as a moon bounce, face painting, a firetruck, a horse, prizes, and much more.”

Ring the Alarm: An Interview with Two of the Beltville Volunteer Fire Department’s Finest

By Everett Price

On Sunday, October 30, the...
YOO CLUB

continued from page 11

Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) opened its doors to the community. There were tables with information about fire safety, finger printing for kids, face painting and fun giveaways. The BVFD set up a bouncy house and fire hose and kids could climb on it. There were many firefighters there to answer questions about fire safety and the job of a firefighter. I had an opportunity to interview Michael Schaffer, vice president of the BVFD.

Good Afternoon! My name is Everett. I'm in the journalism program at the V.O.O. Club. This is sponsored by the Beltsville Lions Club. Do you mind if I ask you a couple of questions?

Michael Schaffer: Yes.

I have a cousin that was a firefighter in Montgomery County. He started volunteering at the fire department when he was a teenager and retired when he was 48 years old. I have another cousin that attended the University of Maryland and joined the Prince George’s County Fire Department in his late 20’s. When did you decide to join the Fire Department?

VP Michael Schaffer: That’s a good question! It started when my wife and I went to Vietnam fighting in the war. I had diabetes, and they wouldn’t take me. I was upset that they were going and I couldn’t. Emergency was a weekly TV show at the time. It was about paramedics, and I said that might be something I would want to do. So, I came down to this station, and one of the men was on a truck. He talked to me for a little bit and asked me if I was interested in joining the fire department. I told him that I was interested in joining the fire department. I told him how I saw the TV show Emergency and wondered if they had a program like that. He told me that they were just starting the Emergency Medical Technician Program here in Prince George’s County and the class would be starting 2-3 days later… I took classes for about a year. I’ve been here for 40 years, and now I’m the vice president.

How long have you been doing this type of work?

VP Michael Schaffer: I’ve been doing this work for 40 years, and I’ve enjoyed every minute of it.

Would you recommend this job to young men and women?

BELTSVILLE BRIEFS

continued from page 1:

Return of the Magi: A Christmas Play

Please join us for the premiere of this thrilling Star Wars inspired Christmas play featuring special effects on Friday, December 16 at 7 pm at St. Joseph’s Regional Catholic Church. Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for kids 10 and under. You can buy tickets in our hallway on Sunday mornings or contact our church office to reserve them online. For more information, call the branch to register.

BELTSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

3505 Selman Rd., Beltsville, Phone: 301.397.6613. Spanish line: 301.445.4509. TTY: 301.445.4121. Regular hours of operation are: Mon. – Thur. from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Fri. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat. from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Contact the center regarding late changes or updates to hours of operation for Xmas Teens and Pre-teens. Fri. – Sat. from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Contact the center regarding late changes or updates to hours of operations for Teen Events. Please contact the individual facilities for information.

BELTSVILLE EVENTS

Please contact the individual facilities regarding late changes or updates to hours of operations, especially during holidays.

THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY (NAL)

Free and open to the public. Mon. – Fri. from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except for federal holidays. The Library is located at 10301 Baltimore Ave., near Sunnydale Ave. Parking is free. Main phone number: 301.504.5755. NAL is on Twitter at http://twitter.com/NAL_Best. See NAL. USDA.gov for more information.

BELSHEE NURSERIES GARDEN CENTER

11300 Baltimore Ave. Admission to the Open House is free. Please call 301.937.1130, ext. 0 or see Beltsheen.com for more information and events.

ORCHID DIAGNOSTIC & REPOTTING CLINIC

December 3 and 4 from 8:30 to 4:30 p.m. Questions about orchids? Visit with The Orchid Lady, Carol Allen. If you have questions about a specific orchid, bring it in, and if possible you need yourrepotting report, for a fee, she will take care of that, also, and show you how.

BELTSVILLE LIBRARY

The Beltsville Library will be closed on Christmas Day. The Library will be closed December 31, January 1 and for the New Year’s holiday. The library is closed on Monday’s from 12 noon to 4 p.m. next to the police station. Main phone number: 301.937.0294. Regular hours of operation are: Mon. – Thur. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Fri. from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sat. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Sunday. Visit our library system website at www.pgcmls.info to use our online library services and to check for weather-related closings.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

READY 2 READ PRESCHOOL STORYTIMES

Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m., for ages 3 to 5. The Wednesday 10:30 a.m. storyline is a repeat of the Tuesday evening program.

READY 2 READ TODDLER STORYTIME

Wednesday mornings at 11:30 a.m. for ages 2 to 3.

CHESS CLUB

Tuesdays, 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Drop in to learn to play or improve your game. All ages welcome.

DAY CAMP FOR FAMILIES

Wednesday, December 7 from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Come join us to explore static electricity and participate in other “hair-raising activities.” Ages 5 to 12 years.

BALLET @ THE LIBRARY!

December 8 from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Join us for an interactive performance by Connect the Dots ballet company. See excerpts from The Nutcracker with beautiful costumes and music. All welcome!

PEARL HARBOR

75 Years Later, Saturday, December 10 from 2:30 to 3:00 p.m. Brian Belanger, Curator, National Capital Radio and Television Museum will describe the role of radio news in the lives of Americans with source clips from Roosevelt’s “Day of Infamy” speech. All welcome!

TAIL WAGGIN’ TUTOR

Saturday December 7 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Children read to a dog. Ages 5 to 12. For information, call or visit the Branch.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Monday, December 19 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Come decorate gingerbread houses while listening to holiday stories. Limit 20, call the branch to register.

BELTSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

3505 Selman Rd., Beltsville, Phone: 301.397.6613. Spanish line: 301.445.4509. TTY: 301.445.4121. Regular hours of operation are: Mon. – Thur. from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Fri. from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. (except for Xmas Teens), Sat. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sun. from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Hours of operation for Teen Events are Mon. – Sat. from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Contact the Center regarding events for November.

BELTSVILLE TEENS AND PRE-TEENS REGULAR EVENTS

Friday from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Free with valid Center ID card. Ages 10 – 17.

VANSWELL COMMUNITY CENTER

6131 Amherst Rd., Laurel. Phone: 301.937.6621. Fax: 301.937.6623. Spanish line: 301.445.4509. TTY: 301.445.4121. Regular hours of operation are: Mon. – Thur. from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Fri. from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. (except for Xmas Teens), Sat. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sun. from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Hours of operation for Teen Events are Mon. – Sat. from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Contact the Center regarding events for November.

BELTSVILLE TEENS AND PRE-TEENS REGULAR EVENTS

Friday from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Ages 10 – 17. Free with valid Center ID card.

DECEMBER 2016

Calendar of Events

December

This Holiday Season!

Wants to Invite You

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

BELTSVILLE BRIEFS

Please join us in celebration of Christmas at 10 p.m. with lasagna, salad, dessert, and a wonderful show! For more info, visit eumcbeltsville.com or www.facebook.com/EUMCBeltsville. Emmanuel United Methodist Church wants to invite you to join our family as we celebrate advent this December. We will have a family dinner on December 10 at 5 pm with lasagna, salad, desserts, and a wonderful show! For more info, visit eumcbeltsville.com or www.facebook.com/EUMCBeltsville. Emmanuel United Methodist Church wants to invite you to join our family as we celebrate advent this December. We will have a family dinner on December 10 at 5 pm with lasagna, salad, desserts, and a wonderful show! For more info, visit eumcbeltsville.com or www.facebook.com/EUMCBeltsville.

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I will start by writing Merry Christmas to all my friends here and there. I forgot to say it last year. In the past 3 months, I have had good comments on my recipes; some have even tried them. In September, I wrote about pumpkin pie, then in October I wrote about fruit cake, and then in November I wrote about no spread Christmas cookies. Now in December I don’t know what to write about. If you missed any and would like one or more, write me at bill@bakerbill.net.

As for Thanksgiving, that’s in an uproar; they don’t know what to do with me. The last couple of years we all have gone to the Annapolis Yacht Club, but as you know that’s burned down. Because I am wheelchair bound, there can’t be any steps, and many places claim to be wheelchair friendly, but are not. I have told my family go and do your thing, I’ll be just fine here at Riderwood with the many friends I have made here. I have invited any family to join Betty and me here, but we’ll see.

One of the great social work here posts a daily thought. A few days ago she posted when you are old enough to think your dad right, you have a son that thinks you’re wrong. This is me! We draw names for Christmas, so we only need buy one family gift. I’m easy: a gift card does me just fine. My oldest granddaughter got the word she is no longer on the child’s list, so she will only get one gift like the rest.

I want to thank Anita Whitlock for an email, but she did not leave a return address, so I could not reply. I love to get mail, so drop me a line, and I will do the same. No recipe this month. I’m reciped out for now. Bakerbill@Riderwood

TECH SENSE continued from page 5

high definition (UHD) TV and high definition range (HDR) TV. UHDTV simply has more pixels that HDTV. Pixels are the little dots that are used to create an image. An HDTV in 1920 by 1080 format has over 2 million pixels on the image. Each pixel can typically be one of almost 17 million colors. The 4K UHDTV screen now available for homes has 3,840 pixels wide by 2,160 pixels tall. On the same size screen, each pixel is smaller, allowing more detail on the screen. The prices for these TV’s have dropped a lot this year with some comfortable living room models selling for under $500 on sale.

The other TV trend is for HDR television. As stated earlier, most televisions can represent about 17 million colors for any pixel. An HDR television has two additional features over a standard HDTV: it has a larger range of brightness, and it can show 30 bits of color per pixel. This can make a TV image look better without the need for more pixels. Of course, the best of both worlds is to have both UHD and HDR in a TV. While these have started to appear on the market, there are many other fun toys out there, but we are out of room. I wish everyone the best for the holidays.

RIDERWOOD continued from page 6

I am proud of the staff of Riderwood and Erickson Living who made The Glen a reality and grateful for the first “pioneer” residents who have moved to The Glen.”

Located on the second and third floors of the Orchard Point independent living building, amenities at The Glen include private meeting areas for family and friends, a library nook, a billiards game room, a fitness room and living room with a water feature. The Bistro at Orchard Point features cooked to order food from menus developed in consultation with residents and culinary professionals of Riderwood.

The lifestyle offered at The Glen is ideal for people who value their independence but require extra support with daily activities like bathing, medication management, light housekeeping and meal preparation. All assisted living residents at Riderwood benefit from a personalized care plan tailored to their specific needs, an array of activities, clubs, classes and trips, and 24/7 on-campus nursing care for peace of mind.

To learn more information about the assisted living program at Riderwood and available apartments, please call 301.572.8420.

Christian Science Church
8300 Adelphi Rd., Hyattsville, MD (301) 422-1822
Sunday church services: 10:30-11:30 a.m. (doors open at 10 a.m.)
Sunday school for youth up thru. age 19 (same time)
Wednesdays: 7:30 - 8:30 pm. testimonies of healing, sharing gratitude, and fellowship service (doors open at 7 pm)
All are welcome • Free literature available

RETURN of the MAGI: A Christmas Play
December 16, 2016, 7 PM
Adults: $5.00 Children: Free, Concession Sales.
St. Joseph’s RCS, 11011 Montgomery Road, Beltsville www.stjoscrs.org

Baker Bill

BELTSVILLE NEWS
CHURCH DIRECTORY

Emmanuel United Methodist Church
A Thriving Multicultural Church: All Are Welcome!
Pastor Jacob Young, PhD
11416 Cedar Lane Beltsville, MD 20705
301.937.7114 • office@eunchurches.com
www.eunchurches.com • www.facebook.com/groups/EUMChurches/

Sunday Services:
9:00 am Contemporary Service
11:15 Traditional Service
10:15 am Bible Study & Sunday School for adults & children
Nursery Care is available for both services
Sign Language Interpretation at 11:15 service

Upcoming Events in December
Dec 10 5pm Family Dinner with a visit from Santa Claus!
Dec. 15 10am Christmas Cantata performed by the choir and Praise band
Dec. 24th Christmas Eve!
6:30 Interactive Family Service
11:00 Candlelight Service
December 25: Christmas Day Service at 10 am

May the peace and hope of Christ's birth be with you now and in the days ahead...
Beltsville News

CHURCH DIRECTORY

First Baptist Church of Beltsville (SBC)
4700 Odell Road Beltsville, MD 20705
301-937-7771
www.fbcbeltville.org
Keith Holland, Pastor

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
December 24 at 6:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Service
December 25 at 11:00 a.m.

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

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

Mother’s Morning Out Program
For 2 & 3 Year Olds
Tues/Thurs mornings (Sept. - May) 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.
For more information email us at: mmomdir@fbcbeltville.org

*Childcare available for children up to 3 years old

Abiding Presence Lutheran Church
10774 Rhode Island Avenue
301-937-7646

Sunday Worship:
9:30 a.m. in English
10:30 Coffee and Social Hour
11:00 a.m. in Korean
Rev. Jongki Na
www.APLchurch.org

Come and Join Us
Located in the Beltsville Professional Center

St. John's Episcopal/Anglican Church
at the corner of Route 1 & Powder Mill Road in Beltsville
(301) 937-4292
The Reverend Joseph M. Constant, Rector

Sunday Worship Schedule
Quiet service: 8:00 a.m.
Family-oriented service: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Between September and June
Sunday Nursery - during our 10 a.m. service
Wednesday Evenings Bible Study 6-9 p.m.

We are a beacon of Christ’s love
offering hospitality and sustenance
to all on their spiritual way.
www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org

Join us at The City Lighthouse Ministries International
with Rev. Dr. Gwen F. & First Lady Sara Cordeon Cameron

We Are The Light Of The World,
A City On A Hill, Not Hidden. Matt 5:14

10727 Tucker Street
Beltsville, Maryland 20705
301-477-1074 | 443-574-LHMI
contactus@lhmi.org | www.LHMI.org

LEGEN

continued from page 7
all, the evening was very uplifting and positive.
Remember BIG Bingo on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at noon, our Friday night dinner dances with live bands, our Sunday football games, and our welcoming atmosphere, which makes visiting our post, #217, a pleasure.
The December 18 concert with Ronnie Dove and his special guest, Camron Robertson, is quickly filling up. To reserve your tickets, call Tina Zook at 301.935.5380 or 301.580.6134. For the nominal price of $30, you will have great entertainment and the chance to win fabulous prizes.

We hope all took time in November to remember and honor our Veterans. We seek God’s blessings on our troops around the world and wish for you and yours a blessed and joyous holiday season.

Share Your News!
Send your article submissions to News Director
Rick Bergmann at editorbvnews@gmail.com

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HUMANITARIAN

continued from page 1

...leged children. The organization accomplishes this by providing protection, nutrition, education, and healthcare. The goal is to help children develop into productive adults.

Born in very humble beginnings in Ramallah, Palestine, Norma was raised in Jordan. Throughout her childhood, she experienced extreme poverty as an orphan. This prepared her heart to be sensitive to the needs of economically disadvantaged children and those orphaned, and living on the streets in cities around the world. Working alone in a small home office in Beltsville, Maryland, she started Restore a Child in 1999. Today she has 22 projects in 15 countries helping children to regain their dignity by providing shelter, food, healthcare, and education.

Norma states, “Nothing is more important to a displaced child than a stable environment, which is the reason I am determined to see such children sheltered, protected, and cared for in homes that provide for their physical and emotional needs.” Restore a Child also ensures access to basic education, which provides the country with responsible leadership as the children mature.

For more information on the organization, go to www.restorechild.org and Facebook. Restore a Child is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) humanitarian organization registered in the state of Maryland.

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** SERVICES **

BELTSVILLE LAWN - For all your lawn and landscaping needs. We are a full service, year around Beltsville business. We offer topsoil and mulch deliveries, tree and shrub trimming, gutter cleaning, yard cleanups, mowing, thatching, aeration, flower bed edging and much more. Call Bill 301-455-4491. 12/16

Dustin’s Handyman - Home Repairs
30 yrs. Personal Experience
Roofing • Concrete • Fencing • Siding
Drywall • Rotten Wood Replacement
Gutters • Painting • Pressure Washing
Windows • Plumbing • Flooring (all types)
Doors • Hauling
Call Ken Dustin: 410-354-2092 or 443-354-2502 or 443-500-1755
4426 Powder Mill Rd.
Beltsville, MD 20705 01/17

TAX RETURNS - For businesses/individuals, Payrolls. Gerald Neumaier CPA. 301-953-1341; 301-776-6545. gncpa@verizon.net. 01/17

HAULING AND JUNK REMOVAL. Complete Clean Out - Garages, Homes, Construction Debris, etc. Licensed, insured, free estimates. Mike Smith 301-346-0840. 07/17

TREE AND STUMP REMOVAL. Pruning, land clearing, contact Bob Berra, 301-674-3770 or 301-384-4746. 12/22

STAMP COLLECTIONS purchased/appraised; U.S., Foreign, and worldwide collections – anything philatelic. Phone Alex: 301-309-5022 or E-Mail: Stamps1@gmail.com; long-time APS member. 01/17

FOR SALE

TESTER hang-up inversion machine slightly used cost $325 offered at $175. 240-420-8961.

KENMORE REFRIGERATOR IN GOOD CONDITION. White, 35 x 30 inches. $250 or best offer. 269-697-3574

HO Scale Bachmann - Electric Train Sets - Transformer Rail Power monitor TECH II (w/sound); LOCO & CABOOSE combo, F9 Diesel Locomotive; Casey Jones – steam Locomotive & 4 cars (160 pieces); Diesel Blaster 72”x32” oval track 5 cars, 2 locomotives (185 pieces); EZ track III System 56”x38” oval track, power pack, 6 cars, Diesel Loco Thunderbolt (156 pieces); Accessories (houses, trees, cars, buses). Huffy Adult Bike -10 speed, & tire pump. For details call 301-445-2183, rand9999@verizon.net

LOG SPLITTER - Hydraulic wood splitter, in good working condition for $150.00. Call Maria at 202-431-9813.

FREE FIREWOOD - cut logs that need splitting, seasoned and ready to use this winter in Beltsville location. Please call Maria at 202-431-9813.

KENMORE REFRIGERATOR in good condition. White, 35 x 30 inches. $250 or best offer. 269-697-3574

CALL & RIDE
STORE, DOCTORS, CASINO, AIRPORT. Larry, 240-743-8287 or e-mail larrykraft73@yahoo.com 12/16

** Classifieds • Call 301-937-6796 **
A HOLIDAY LOAN
that presents a great value!

Get the extra cash you need for the upcoming holiday season with a loan from us!

With a fixed-affordable rate, 12-month repayment period and quick application process, you could have the funds needed to make your holiday brighter.

ACT NOW!
Apply by December 31st!

Sample Payments Based on 12 months at 10.00% APR*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>LOAN AMOUNT</th>
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*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Holiday Loan Special is available for qualified borrowers. Loan subject to normal underwriting guidelines. Term limit is 12 months with a minimum loan amount of $500.00 and a maximum loan amount of $3,000. Representative payment example: A $3,000.00 loan at a fixed rate of 10.00%, Annual Percentage Rate for 12 months would require 12 monthly payments of $265.00. Offer ends December 31, 2016. PGCU reserves the right to change or withdraw this offer at any time.