Allen Family Notable in Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department

The Fire Department is a family matter with the Allens, including Robert “Pops” Allen, Sr., his son Robert “Bobby” Allen, Jr., and his grandson, Robert “Pinky” Allen, III. All are members of the Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD). Because of his father’s influence, Pops has three brothers that, at one time or another, were volunteer firefighters in Prince George’s County. Bobby, Jr., has more than one cousin who is a firefighter in various jurisdictions. And one relative is working to publish a book that documents the extended families.

Lilly is Home

By Kelly Parker, Co-Founder of PAWS New England

PAWS is thrilled to announce the last of the missing PAWS dogs. Lilly, is finally home after 262 days in the wild. Lilly is an elderly black lab mix that got away from her adoptive family on June 28, 2011, near the Beltsville Community Center. Lilly had only arrived to in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area a mere two days ago. Lilly

A Science Lesson Inspired by Dr. Seuss

By Sandra Freeman

A great science lesson for Mrs. Rossman’s fifth-graders and Mrs. Freeman’s kindergartners was making oobleck from the Dr. Seuss book titled Bartholomew and the Oobleck. In the book, the king is bored with plain old rain and has his magicians create a green substance that falls instead. For our lesson, oobleck is one part water to two parts cornstarch. When squeezed the mixture hardens to a rubbery ball, yet when held in the air it drips and runs like a liquid. It is the opposite of ketchup that is difficult to force from the bottle when

Police Explorer Post 600 Activities

By Leda Rose Rodriguez

How did you spend Presidents’ Day? It was a good day to get out in the sun and the Beltsville Police Explorer Post 600 did just that. 25 fun-loving teens shook off the chilly breeze with some brisk sports in Chestnut Hills Park, at Sellman and Montgomery Roads.

Since physical fitness and fun are important aspects of the Explorers, they played kickball, basketball, football, munched bagels for lunch, donated by Einstein’s Bros, and just hung out. Police Explorers is a county-wide program, similar to ROTC, with a focus on preparing students for careers in law enforcement. Beltsville’s Post 600, with students mostly from High Point, is the largest Explorer post in the county.

Samuel Coreas, 15, in 10th grade, has been in Explorers for 18 months and has achieved the rank of captain. He often represents Post 600 at community events.

“I’m happy to represent our Post because we are such a good group. When I go to a community event, we always help them. We have the highest community service hours of other Posts.”

ACTIVITIES continues on page 22

NEXT ISSUE: Submissions Due No Later Than: April 18 Paper Out: April 28

On the Agenda

By President Karen M. Coakley

Please join us on Wednesday, April 18th when representatives from the National Center for Healthy Housing (NCHH) will present the impact of the proposed Intermodal Train Transfer Facility. I strongly encourage the entire community to attend and voice concerns. If the Beltsville location along Sunnyside Edmonston up to Powder Mill Road were chosen, that would mean 900 tractor-trailer trucks per day in our community. The obvious problem is total gridlock. Other negative impacts would be on air quality, research done at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and response time for emergency vehicles.

The goal of this HIA is to use the findings and recommendations to improve both the consideration of health and the implementation of specific mitigation measures to protect health in the final project decisions. For more information about NCHH and the HIA, visit http://www.nchh.org/Policies/BaltimoreWashingtonRailIntermodal-HIA.aspx.

District 6 Police Programs

Thursday, April 5th at 1 p.m. at the Seniors Coffee House at the Laurel Senior Center. This is a Safety program for seniors. Cpl Scruggs will discuss “Real CSI topics” used by the police.

Spring is here Please keep the following in mind. The Speed limit throughout most of our communities is 25-30 miles per hour. We do not live along a race track; SLOW DOWN. Watch for children riding bikes and walkers. FYI drivers are supposed to STOP for people who are in crosswalks.

Air Conditioner Theft if you see someone working on your

ON THE AGENDA continues on page 18
By Phil Whitman

Extracted from the April 1987 issue

Two Eagle Scouts Announced

Distinguished Award
George Meurer earned a Distinguished Award for his photo, “Arch Angel” in the Atlanta awards for best photographs.

Engagement Announced
Joyce Frances Franzak was engaged to marry Joseph Edward Cox of Hyattsville, Md.

Service News
Mark A. Delbrook of Beltsville, Md., a member of the Army National Guard, completed one station unit training at Ft. Benning, Ga.
Marine Lance Cpl. Luis A. Martinez returned from a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean.
Spec. 4 Anthony R. McElroy completed a U.S. Army primary leadership course.
Patamela Q. Wills, U.S. Army, was promoted to the rank of Specialist Four.

Obituaries
Robert E. Preble passed away March 6, 1987.
Vincent N. Cascio passed away March 6, 1987.

Letter to the Editor
Editor:
Please support Zabrina Epps for School Board. She understands the importance of a quality education. She believes our schools need adequate resources and partnerships to thrive. She has over a decade of solid budget and education experience. She is ready to work on our behalf, for all our children in Prince George’s County. I am supporting her because she is READY to make a real difference.

Chonya Johnson
Parent & Community Advocate
Scouts from Cub Pack 1031 gathered in the upstairs hall at the Beltsville Fire Station to run their annual Pinewood Derby on Saturday Feb. 18. Scout parent John Camarino and his brother-in-law, Charlie Robinson, ran the races and it was a fun time with pizza, snacks and lots of racing.

Girl Scout siblings helped oversee the concessions and sold Girl Scout cookies, pizza, snacks and juice. Our Committee Chair Eric Saathoff, who helped the scouts cut out their cars, was on hand for repairs. Volunteers from the University of Maryland service fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega, helped with registration and judging.

There were tight races and tons of scout spirit. Everyone cheered for each other and had lots of racing fun. Good job, Scouts and thanks volunteers.

Pack 1031 meets on Mondays in the Beltsville Academy cafeteria and always welcomes first- to fifth-graders looking to have fun, fun, and fun. This year’s kindergartners will be eligible to join beginning on June 1, when all the scouts graduate to their next rank. For more info contact Regina Halper at r.halper2@verizon.net.

Behnke Nurseries Partners with Emmanuel Food Bank of Beltsville

Alfred Millard, President of the Behnke Nurseries Company, Inc., has authorized the Emmanuel Food Bank of Beltsville to plant and maintain a Community Garden at Behnke’s Nursery in Beltsville, Md. The garden space will be planted with seedlings personally donated by Elizabeth (Cissy) Mckenzie, Behnke’s store manager. Emmanuel Food Bank of Beltsville is managed through Emmanuel United Methodist Church located at 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, Md.

The garden will be planted and tended by members and volunteers from Emmanuel Food Bank. Harvested produce will be donated to needy families in surrounding communities.

The Emmanuel Food Bank has provided much-needed food and clothing to over 300 families and the homeless in Beltsville, College Park, Laurel, Md., and surrounding areas since May, 2011, with help from donations, grants and sponsors like Behnke’s.

People in the community interested in helping are invited to volunteer in assisting with garden-planting/harvesting, donating food or clothing, or helping with distribution of goods to families the fourth Saturday of each month. Contact the Emmanuel Food Bank at foodbank@emmanuelumcbeltsville.net or call 301.937.7114 for more information.

Joselyn Fuentes, a sixth grade student at Martin Luther King, Jr., Middle School, submitted the winning art poster from that school, competing for the International Lions Organization’s Peace Poster Contest. The College Park Lions Club (CPLC) was the local chapter sponsoring three schools in Prince George’s County, including MLK. Fuentes’s poster was the only poster among the three schools that was forwarded to compete against schools in other areas, but it was subsequently defeated. Fuentes is shown in the picture receiving a $50 gift certificate from Lion Robert Smaldore of CPLC. Fuentes says she loves artwork, especially art related to the subject of peace.

Will’s Decorating

10508 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705
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www.decoratemaryland.com

Paint Power

Paint is still the most affordable decorating option around. Think about this way: You can buy a gallon of paint, which covers about 400 square feet, for less than going out for dinner. And if you are adventurous enough to do the painting yourself, you just saved yourself the cost of the labor. The paint experts at Will’s Home Decorating, Michael Richards and Valerie Kabelac, can show you how a new vibrant paint color can have an enormous impact, instantly updating your room. The beauty of it is that it can be done in one day this weekend if you prepare by purchasing the paint and supplies ahead of time.

Michael Richards and Valerie Kabelac will help you.

There are a lot of paint manufacturers, but no doubt Benjamin Moore Paint is the best out there. Featured at Beltsville’s Will’s Home Decorating, Michael explains why Benjamin Moore Paint is superior to other brands. As Michael explicates, “Benjamin Moore is the only paint to buy. Not only does it offer tantalizing hues but it also has low and no VOC paints and the full spectrum Color Stories line that has multiple pigments without using gray or black. Plus it has multiple finishes ranging from flat, matte, and eggshell to pearl, satin and semi-gloss. It is also exceedingly durable and very washable with the exception of the Super Spec and Regal flat finishes.” In addition, Benjamin Moore’s “green,” eco-friendly Aura and Natura lines use a no VOC tinting system. This distinguishes it from other manufacturers who advertise low or no VOC paint, but then add tints to the paint that are loaded with harmful chemicals. Tints are added to the can of paint in order to make the color that you selected. For expert advice on selecting the perfect paint color and finish, stop by Will’s Home Decorating and see Michael or Valerie. Shop local, Shop Beltsville!!!
Our troop has been very busy during its first year. We are at ten Daisies and four Brownies getting ready to bridge in May. We have eight Daisies bridging to Brownies and one bridging to Juniors.

For Thinking Day, we learned about England and even had a visitor come to our last meeting and share the flag, coins and pictures of the country, along with a song and game.

Girl Scouts celebrated its 100th Birthday on March 12, so we had a ceremony and potluck dinner in the organization’s honor. The girls received their petals and badges and showed off their artwork to the parents. The girls closed by singing Happy Birthday to Girl Scouts and blew out the candles from the ceremony. Great job, girls. All had a wonderful time.

We look forward to going to the Tudor Place Museum in George-town in April, a Build-a-Bear work- shop to make Girl Scout Bears, and, to end the year, we will be attending Rock the Mall in Washington, D.C., for the Girls Scouts’ 100th birthday; more than 200,000 people are expected to attend. We will also be meeting our pen pal troop the night before Rock the Mall for dinner in Washington, D.C., as their guests. We look forward to all these fun and upcoming events for the remainder of the school year.

He began the project on Tues- day. Lilly was not at all fazed. By Wednesday, Steve sent a message saying that he believed Lilly would be captured late Thursday night or early Friday morning. The next 48 hours were some of the longest of all of our lives. We agonized that something would go wrong. But Steve remained steadfast and quietly went about his job. On Thurs- day, Steve sent another message letting us know that the enclosure was complete and he was now on the property to monitor the trap until Lilly was captured. No news was a good thing.

When I arrived at Sylvia’s house. I had dreamed of the moment I would monitor the enclosure from the house and blow out the candles from the picture of Lilly appeared when Steve called me at 3:36 a.m. on my cell phone, I burst into tears. None of us slept that night and when Steve called me at 3:36 a.m. to say, “Kelly, we have her. She’s safe!” I could hardly think straight. So many things go through your head on a day like this. You must still be dreaming. You think that it is too good to be true. You think that maybe another dog must be caught… And then you find yourself operating in automatic pilot, saying that maybe another dog must be caught… And then you find yourself operating in automatic pilot, saying that maybe another dog must be caught… And then you find yourself operating in automatic pilot. I’ll be there in 20 minutes.”

The drive to Beltsville to get Lilly was a blue. Nine months of agony, the side stories, all the people who have helped you get to this moment, flash in a completely illogical sequence. My heart was beating so hard when I arrived at Sylvia’s house. Lilly was in a humane trap wide- eyed, but calmer than I would have ever imagined her to be. Sylvia was speaking to her in the most gentle and soothing voice. We carried her trap to the garage where she was transferred into a crate and placed in the car.

And then, at 4:30 in the morning, five people who had never known each other prior to Lilly’s adven- ture cried, laughed, and uttered the phrase, “I don’t believe it,” at least 700 times. Lilly looked on cau- tiously, and, when she got tired of
Holy Week and Easter Celebrations at St. John’s Church

Holy Week and Easter observances have been expanded this year at St. John’s Episcopal Church, Beltsville, Md. Holy Week worship services begin on Sunday, April 1, with Palm Sunday blessing and distribution of palms at 8 and 10 a.m. The 10 a.m. Palm Sunday service includes a festive procession around the church with the palms waving to the beat of our festive songs.

Holy Week observances continue on Wednesday, April 4, at 7 p.m. with a new Stations of the Cross service that will include artistic renditions of each station. Dance, rap, sculpture, painting, clay and other artistic renditions will be used to convey a contemporary message of each station of the cross. Resident artists and students will mildly render renditions of each station. Dance, rap, sculpture, painting, clay and other artistic renditions will be used to convey a contemporary message of each station of the cross. Resident artists and students will mildly render renditions of each station. Again, everyone is invited to participate in this unique Holy Week worship service.

On Thursday, April 5, “Maundy Thursday” will be observed with a “Seder Supper,” at 7 p.m., to remember Jesus’ observance of the Passover at the Last Supper. The Seder Supper will include a light dinner, prayers and song. A free will-offering will be collected to cover the cost of dinner; however, everyone is invited and encouraged to come to this very special service, without worrying about cost, to remember Jesus’ last night as mortal man on earth. The Seder Supper will be followed by a traditional service of Stripping the Altar, removing all ornamentation in the church, in preparation for Good Friday observances.

On Good Friday, April 6, at noon, St. John’s will repeat its Stations of the Cross service, held previously on April 4, with the artistic renderings of each station. Everyone is invited to participate in this unique Holy Week worship service. At 7:30 p.m., St. John’s will have a traditional Good Friday service, remembering Jesus’ journey to Calvary and his crucifixion. The service will include solemn songs, sermon and prayers.

Festive celebrations will begin on Easter Sunday, April 8, at St. John’s. Our first Easter celebration will be a sunrise service at 6:15 a.m. in the church cemetery. This special, early service is a well-beloved tradition that encourages community participation. Clergy from Emmanuel United Methodist Church, and St. John’s Episcopal Church, both in Beltsville, Md., will lead the service. The service will include traditional Easter music, a short sermon, and prayers. The sunrise service is expected to last no more than 20 minutes, and will be followed by an Easter Breakfast in St. John’s Episcopal Church’s Parish Hall for all to enjoy. Festive worship services, with music, sermon, and communion follow at 8 and 10 a.m. A continuous brunch will be served following each worship service on Easter Sunday morning. After the 10 a.m. Easter worship service, there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for children 11 and younger. Nursery care will be available for infants and toddlers during the 10 a.m. worship service.

All Holy Week and Easter Sunday services are open to everyone. The St. John’s family sways our doors wide open with a warm welcome to everyone, not just during Holy Week and Easter, but all year long. We look forward to having all who seek God come and journey with St. John’s through our Holy Week and Easter worship services and activities.

St. John’s Episcopal Church is located at 11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, Md., at the corner of Powder Mill Road and Baltimore Avenue.
Neighbors in the News

Maryland Offers Property Tax Relief for Homeowners Based on Total Household Income

By Susan and Bob Newland

One of the best ways to have more money is to never pay it out in taxes in the first place. The State of Maryland helps in that regard in several ways. One way is through the Maryland Homeowner’s Tax Credit program that can reduce property taxes for qualified applicants. At the end of this article, we provide web addresses to obtain more information. In the rest of this article, we are providing information that may be of value to you concerning the Homeowner’s Property Tax Credit Program. We will tell you about another program in our next article.

What is the Homeowner’s Property Tax Credit Program?

The State of Maryland has developed a program that is available to all homeowners regardless of their age and the credits are given where the needs are based upon the person’s household income. This program allows credits against the homeowner’s property tax bill if the property taxes exceed a fixed percentage of the applicant’s household gross income. In other words, it sets a limit on the amount of property taxes any homeowner may pay based upon the household income.

General Requirements:

The applicant must meet the basic requirements:

- Applicant must own or have a legal interest in the property
- The dwelling on which the applicant is seeking the tax credit must be their principal residence

AND

- The applicant must report total income that includes combined gross household income before any deductions are taken. General- ly, eligibility for the tax credit will be based upon all money received in the applicant’s household in a given year. Supporting documentation that includes a copy of the current year tax return, a copy of the sources of income, social security, W-2s and retirement income are to be submitted with the application. For those applicants who are not required to file a tax return, the income documentation will suffice.
- The credit is based upon the amount by which the property taxes exceed a percentage of income according to a chart. Applicants may be eligible for this credit if their household income ranges from $30 to $60,000 annually.

When and how do you apply?

The Homeowners’ Tax Credit is not automatically granted and each person must apply and disclose his or her household income. The person must apply every year by no later than September 1 on a standard application supplied by the Department of Assessments and Taxation. However, it is to your advantage to submit the application by May 1 so that any credits due can be deducted before hand from the initial July tax bill. Applications, known as HTC – 60 forms, are available as of February each year at the local assessment offices and at most public libraries or by calling the Tax Credit telephone number at 410.767.4433 or 1.800.944.7403. You can download the application from the State of Maryland web site http://www.dat.state.md.us/htcweb/htc.html.

Look for our next article on a topic that may be of value. The Renter’s Tax Credit program can put cash money in eligible pockets up to $750 per year!!

—Susan and Bob Newland, Certified Public Accountants, Financial Planners and Tax Preparers located in Twin Chimneys by Wendy’s on Route 1.
Obituaries

Sigler, Virginia
Virginia S. Sigler, 87, of Winchester, Va., died Monday, March 19, at Shenandoah Valley West- minister Canterbury, a retirement community in Winchester, Va. She was the wife of the late John S. Sigler, who passed away March 23, 2003. She was born August 25, 1924, in Hunterstown, Pa., daughter of the late George E. and Laura M. (Fleming) Slaybaugh. The Siglers raised a family and lived for more than 20 years on the Government Farm in Beltsville, Md. They retired and moved to Delaware in 1986.
Virginia completed nurses’ training at Frederick Memorial Hospital in 1945 and was a registered nurse for 20 years at Prince George’s Memorial Hospital while residing in Beltsville, Md.
Virginia is survived by her daughters, Carol A. Joyce (Jon) of Berryville, Va., Norma Jean Parks (Randle) of Harbeson, Del., Susan S. Phillips (Lee) of Hamilton, Va., and a son, John D. Sigler (Sharon) of Boaz, Ala., six grandchildren: Sandra Gallagher, James Parks, Benjamin T. Parks, Melissa Sibert, Evan Phillips, and Elizabeth Phillips; five great-grandchildren; and three brothers; Bernard Slay- baugh of Finksburg, Md., Paul Slaybaugh of N.H., and Ray Slay- baugh of Littlestown, Pa., also survive her.
Daughter, Alice M. Parker, and brothers William Slaybaugh, George Slaybaugh, and Harold Slaybaugh preceded Virginia in death.
Interment on Saturday, March 24, at 11 a.m. in Pines Church Cemetery, New Oxford, Pa. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer’s Founda- tion of America, 322 Eighth Ave., 7th floor, New York, N.Y., 10001. Memories may be shared at www.feiserfuneralhome.com.

Thomassan, Elizabeth Burke
Elizabeth Burke Thomassan of Beltsville, Md.; beloved wife of George W. Thomassan; mother of Mary Jane (William) Thomassan, George W. (Christine) Thomassan, Elizabeth (Pete) Matthews, Paul J. Thomassan and the late Robert A. Thomassan; sister of William and James Burke; grandmother of Claire, James, Jill, Eric, Joy and Eli; also survived by 3 great grandchildren; Family celebrated mass of Christian burial at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church 11007 Montgomery Road Beltsville, Md., on Tuesday, March 6, at 10 a.m. Father Thomas Weisbecker officiated, Internment at Gate of Heaven Cemetery. Arrangements by Borgwardt Funeral Home.

Editorial

Rock Your Conscience

By Jacqueline Turcios, High Point High School Senior

Millions of children world- wide are deprived of a childhood through their involuntary participa- tion in sex trafficking, a modern form of slavery. High Point High School’s Student Government Association (SGA) endeavored to aid in the dissolution of this clandestine enterprise by holding a benefit concert on Thursday, March 15, with the help of the non-profit organization, Love146.
The event consisted of speakers and performers who informed the audience of the cause. The event was free, but graciously accepted donations for Love146. The goal was to make an impact and spark a desire in students to contribute to humanity and justice. Stephanie Jean, senior and Rock Your Conscience committee head, hoped for people to “open their eyes to injustice.”
The benefit concert, known as Rock your Conscience, is an annu- al event hosted by SGA in order to encourage students to take part in helping the world through any small action.
Jean chose the topic of sex trafficking because, “It’s impor- tant for everyone to know what’s going on. Children are being hurt, and their futures, destroyed.” Jean immersed herself into this issue because she wanted to help others as she would want them to help her.

According to love146.org/ love-story, the organization Love146 received its name when its cofounders traveled to South- east Asia to go undercover for an investigation at a brothel. While at a brothel investigat- ing, the cofounders were looking at children being auctioned off. The cofounders were observing the listless, traumatized children, when one child caught their eye. This child was a girl who seemed

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Riderwood is managed by Erickson Living.

Riderwood’s Free Speaker’s Bureau Accepting Spring Speaking Engagement Requests

Riderwood’s Free Speaker’s Bureau is now accepting spring speaking engagement requests from civic, nonprofit and busi- ness groups. Riderwood officials are available to speak anytime, anywhere, on all aspects of retire- ment.
“We want to provide people with information that will help them excel spiritually, socially, recreationally, intellectually and physically as they, and/or their friends and family members, approach retirement and transi- tion into their new lifestyles,” said Chip Warner, Executive Director of Riderwood.
To schedule a date and time for Riderwood speakers to come to your group please email Mel. Tansill@Erickson.com.
Riderwood (www.Riderwood- Village.us), which has nearly 3,000 residents, is the nation’s largest continuing care retirement commu- nity. It sits on 120 acres which stretch across Prince George’s and Montgomery Counties.
Riderwood offers extensive wellness and prevention programs, balance assessment, fall preven- tion programs, and fitness and aquatics centers. Also, there are more than 200 resident-inspired and resident-led clubs, commit- tees and interest groups in these categories: art, cards, computers and technology, dance, faith-based and interfaith, film, fitness and sports, games, gardening, lifelong learning, music, literature and phi- lanthropy.
Riderwood is managed by Erickson Living.

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APRIL 2012  •  The BELTSVILLE NEWS  •  Page 7
Memories of Beltsville

By Linda Clem

I look forward to reading the Beltsville News every month. It keeps me informed and up-to-date on what’s going on in Beltsville. When my parents first came to Beltsville, they lived in an apartment/boarding house. Two of us little Kidkiffs (as my Aunt Mary called us) were there. My brother, Tom, was born in May 1948. I was born in 1949. That house was owned by E. Horton, Sr. He was my father’s uncle by marriage.

My parents built a home over on Rose Dale Lane in Beltsville, Md., in the early 1950s. I attended school at Beltsville Elementary, Chestnut Hills Elementary, Beltsville Junior High and graduated from High Point High School.

One of my fondest childhood memories includes celebrating my July birthday at the Beltsville Fire Department Carnival held in July. I remember thinking, “Wow, this is all just for me,” of course not realizing it was for everyone. It still brings a smile to my face today. Thank you, Beltsville Fire Department of the 1950s and 1960s. Another memory includes the Beltsville Drive-In—that was a big “to do” back then. Dad and Mom loaded us five little darlings in the old Chevy and off we were to the drive in. We played on the swings and the sliding board. We always had a box of popcorn to share. Those were the days, my friend.

Happy Birthday Greetings to my relatives in Beltsville and Laurel:
The following had birthdays in March:
Ray Midkiff, Sr. Doug Midkiff, Sr.
Lisa Midkiff Puckett Elva Midkiff Brocht
In Memory of Cecil Midkiff (my father)
In memory of Georgia Midkiff (my mother)
In memory of Jane Curatolo (my mother-in-law)
This Irish poem is in honor of their birthdays:
May your troubles be less
May your blessings be more
And may nothing but happiness
Come through your door

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Congress has passed some very confusing tax laws! To protect yourself
from filing an “incorrect” tax return this year and missing out on a ton of
cash that is supposed to be YOURS, you better call a tax professional to
help you get all the money you deserve back from the IRS!

Hi, my name is Bob Newland and I have been a tax professional in this area
for 27 years. I have an office on Route 1 near Wendy’s, and an experienced
“hand picked” staff. Robert C. Newland & Associates will not only prepare your
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Club News

College Park Unit #217 Welcomes Spring

By Ivy Christoffers

What happened to Mother Nature this year? Did we have a winter? Spring flowers and blossoming trees a month earlier than usual? It didn’t even get cold enough to kill off the germs. Have you seen how many have shed their garments and are showing so much skin? I predict they will soon be in their physician’s office looking for a cure for pneumonia.

The members of Unit #217 held a very successful Coach Bag Bingo in March to raise funds for The College Park Scholarship Pageant. This took place at the Moose Club on Metzerott Road. We have held our pageant at this Moose Club for several years and appreciate their cooperation in the use of the hall.

We also held our Girl’s State interviews for students from High Point High School and Northwest- ern High School. Let us hope we do as well as we did in 2011 when we sponsored the young lady who ended up Governor of Girl’s State and represented the program throughout the state. Brianna did a wonderful job in completing her duties.

Do we have any bingo players out there? We have bingo on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays with big cash payoffs. Why not come out and try your luck? There is also shot-gun bingo at 6 p.m. on Monday evening. Along with that, we serve dinner several times a week. Call 301.441.2783 to check out the menu.

Do you like to dance? We hold dances every Friday evening, and the bands are really good. Do you have a special function on the horizon? Why not check out our hall and our catering capabilities? You will find us easy to work with. Welcoming you and your friends is our specialty.

Are you eligible for membership in the American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary or the Sons Of The Legion? We have a membership drive in full swing.

Give some thought to who bought and paid for the freedoms we enjoy. God bless our Military, past and present.

Happy Easter. Now that Lent is over, go ahead and eat that chocolate.

Beltsville VFW Post Aids Devastated Post in Illinois

The Beltsville Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post recently contributed $1,000 to Gallatin VFW Post 558 of Ridgway, Ill. The Ridgway VFW Post shares a building with the American Legion. The building was severely damaged by a tornado on March 1; the roof was torn off, and insurance will not cover everything lost. Post 558 intends to assist Post members who need help, as the town was almost completely wiped out.

The Commander of VFW Post 558 is manager of the Ridgway, Ill., police department and is a Vietnam veteran who was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat.
Beltsville Garden Club
By Louise DeJames, Publicity Chair

The Beltsville Garden Club will hold a general meeting on Wednesday, April 25, at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the James E. Duckworth School, 11201 Evan Trail, Beltsville, Md.

Come celebrate spring with guest speaker Amy Brecount White as she demonstrates how to improve and enliven your communication skills using the Victorian language of flowers. She will discuss the literary origins of the language, read excerpts from her novel, and assemble tussie-mussie messages. Her first novel, Forget-Her-Notes brings the language of flowers magically to life in the hand of a fourteen-year-old girl.

Amy is a writer and teacher who frequently presents her novel and demonstrates the language of flowers at botanical gardens, schools, garden clubs and book groups. She lives and gardens in Arlington, Va.

Please join us for this informative speaker. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. Bring a plant or plant-related material for the club’s door prize table.

For more information, contact Louise DeJames at 301.890.4733 or visit our website at www.beltsvillegardenclub.org.

National Active and Retired Federal Employees
Chapter 1122 Northern Prince George’s County

Our monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, April 11, at 1:30 p.m. at the Greenbriar Community Building, Terrace Room, 7600 Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt, Md. Call the office for directions at 301.441.1096 and dial “0.” The speaker will be C.J. Onyeji, a physical therapist from the Professional Sports Care & Rehabilitation Association. Come and learn which exercise will do the most for you. Prospective members welcome. Executive Board meeting follows the Chapter meeting, and Chapter members are invited to attend.

Beltsville Young at Heart
By Barbara Schofield

Some of our members enjoyed a trip to the Wayside Theater to see Smoke on the Mountain, and everyone said they had a wonderful time. We have a couple new members, Dolores Deutsch and Barbara Victor. We love to see new faces.

Our 20th Annual Celebration is May 20th. The world’s favorite whiskey wheel, and cake wheel. There will also be a performance by professional dancers and a silent auction. All for just $15 in advance or $18 at the door.

This is a benefit sponsored by the WOTM for Health Awareness Month. Proceeds will be donated to the children at Moosheart and the seniors at Moosheaven. Come out, have fun, and relive the memories of the ’70s and ’80s while helping this worthy cause.

Las Vegas Night will be held on Saturday, April 21, at 6 p.m. There will be board games, whiskey wheel, and cake wheel. You can actually buy a horse, name it, and cheer for it on the video screen for only $10. You could be a winner. Food will be available at nominal prices and admission is free.

The College Park Moose Lodge #453 is located at 3700 Metzerott Road, College Park, Md. For tickets and/or information for these events, please call 301.935.5525.

Stayin’ Alive at the College Park Moose Lodge with Music of the ’70s and ’80s

The Women of the Moose #1262 is proud to present a Charity Event, Stayin’ Alive, on Saturday, April 14. The live band, Due Process, will play and sing the hits of the ’70s and ’80s for your listening and dancing pleasure. Dig in your attic or basement to find those old bell bottoms, tie-dyed shirts, go-go boots and headbands and you’ll be right in style; or come as you are.

A delicious full dinner with dessert buffet is included in the ticket price. Dinner will be from 6-7:30 p.m. and music from 8 p.m. until midnight. There will also be a performance by professional dancers and a silent auction. All for just $15 in advance or $18 at the door.

This is a benefit sponsored by the WOTM for Health Awareness Month. Proceeds will be donated to the children at Moosheart and the seniors at Moosheaven. Come out, have fun, and relive the memories of the ’70s and ’80s while helping this worthy cause.

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Club News

By Ivy Christoffers

It has been some time since we have graced these pages, so I will try to bring you up to date, beginning with our latest meeting where we welcomed Assistant Governor Anna Mae Kobbe from College Park Rotary and John Wilkerson from Bladensburg Rotary. We also had three guests we hope will accept invitations to join our club, Valerie Kabe-lac, co-owner of Will’s Decorating, Paul Zurkowski, President of GBBA and Frank Cockrell, a local philanthropist. The prior meeting, we were pleased to welcome Miss Sara Gabriel and Mr. Benneth Chuckwu, students from High Point High School, who, in February, attended Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) camp in Edgewater, Md. It was gratifying to hear how much they enjoyed the weekend and how the experience had made a positive impression in their lives. It is our pleasure to sponsor two students from High Point each year and Past Rotary President, Mrs. Nancy Randall, has chaired this event for several years.

In January, we enjoyed Bob Pelletier from the Potomac Club who was accompanied by Sandra McMakin from Alberta, Canada. They were promoting the upcoming curling tournament that will be held in our area April 1-6. The Potomac Curling Club plays at The Ice House on Old Gunpow-der Road. Curling dates from the 1500s.

On January 17, several guests were in attendance. President Elea-nor’s friend, Jane, gave an update on the Lubuto Project. Beltsville Rotary Club was one of the first to sponsor this library project for the street children in Africa and it is now being picked up by others and continues to grow. Byron, a friend of Howard Phoe-bus, spoke of his upcoming third assignment to Afghanistan and the importance of working with the youth of all cultures, especially in war zones. Our charter member, Karl, introduced Bob Frederick, who owns Apollo Distribution that warehouses and installs household appliances in the area for G.E. and Amazon.com. John Moyni-han brought Paul Zurkowski who spoke of the Greater Beltsville Business Assoc. Paul leads a monthly meeting of these business owners. Sonja Festerling brought her daughter, Stephanie, the gen-eral manager and Alfred Millard, the President of Behnke’s Nurser-ies. They look forward to working with the Rotary Club in the future. We have held our Chili Cook-Off Fundraiser there for several years. And successfully, I might add.

On Jan. 24, we heard updates on RYLA, the bag tax and the letters received from the students at Beltsville Adventist School on dictionaries we provided each third grade student.

On Jan. 31, we had another leader in the Beltsville commu-nity become a member of the Beltsville Rotary Club. It was my honor to lead the induction service that welcomed Karen Coakley to our club. She is an activist for all the citizens of the Beltsville area and is familiar to everyone. Karen spoke of her real estate business and her knowledge of the greater Washington area, her passion for working with the police depart-ment and their at-risk youth pro-gram. Karen will definitely be an asset to our club.

We continue to meet on Tues-day at noon at The Holiday Inn in College Park, Md. Why not drop by and check us out?
Women’s Community Club of Beltsville Scholarship Program

The Women’s Community Club of Beltsville announces the 2012 scholarship program.

2012 Essay Contest, Application for Scholarship

To further your education endeavors in college or trade school.

Student Name: ______________________________
Student Address: _____________________________
Student Telephone # or e-mail address: ______________________________________
Student Identification #: ______________________
Current School: _____________________________

Requirements:
Beltsville Resident — Previous recipients of this scholarship are not eligible to apply.
High School Graduating Senior or 1st Year College or Trade School Student
36 or more Community Service Hours

Completed Application, Attachments, and Essay Attach on separate paper:
1. List school activities, community service activities, awards, leadership positions held, etc.
2. Write an essay of not more than 400 words on “Describe your most meaningful achievements and how they relate to your field of study and your future goals.”
3. Letter of Acceptance to College or Trade School.

Please return application with attached documents to:
Women’s Community Club of Beltsville 2012 Scholarship Program,
c/o Emmanuel United Methodist Church
11416 Cedar Lane
Beltsville, MD 20705
by April 16, 2012.

Masonic Lodge To Hold a Public Open House

Birmingham Lodge #188, A.F.&A.M. will sponsor an all day event open to anyone interested in the fraternal organization. The Open House will take place on Saturday, May 5th from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Food, beverages and entertainment will be provided for all visitors. Men and their families (children welcome) are encouraged to attend, with no obligation, to learn about the ageless fraternity and what community efforts are supported.

The history and traditions of Freemasonry date back to antiquity, with the singular purpose of making good men better. The tenets of our fraternity - Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth - have stood the test of time. This Masonic heritage has been passed down through the ages with centuries of traditions, promoting community involvement and the building of friendships that last a lifetime.

Birmingham Lodge #188, A.F.&A.M. has maintained its presence in Beltsville, MD since Nov. 1891, and has a rich history of community support and service. During the Open House several programs will be explained, along with information about the CHIP program (Child Identification Program), and other community service programs.

Through fellowship, charity, education and leadership, Freemasons are making their lives, and their communities, stronger by the day. We invite you to learn more about us and ask your questions. Please visit us during our Open House.

The Beltsville Masonic Lodge (Birmingham Lodge #188) is located near the intersection of Powder Mill and Edmonston Roads. More information about Masonry may be obtained at the following websites: www.AskAMarylandMason.org or www.birmingham188.org.

SEUSS

continued from page 1

it has been refrigerated. A wonderful video is found at science cafe when you google oobleck and an ABC newscast sheds light on this scientific phenomenon. We made 4 large tubs (10 pounds of cornstarch) and took them outside. We did not add food coloring, to keep clothing safe. We played with it outside, exploring its properties, collaborating in small groups with our fifth-grade friends. What a wonderful way to celebrate the birthday of children’s author Dr. Seuss.

Share Your News!
Send your neighborhood news items to tedladd02@aol.com.
United Vision

By Jamie Elie and Heidi Mendoza, High Point High School Seniors

Football players put away the seasonal gear to help the community give someone the joy of Christmas in April. At High Point High School, Mr. Brian Cannady, Investigative Counselor, and Mr. Sylvester George, security guard, face another successful year in their mentor program called United Vision. This program reaches out to students to give them an opportunity to express themselves, plan their futures, and give back to their society.

United Vision currently plans to give back to their community by putting together a project called “Christmas in April” with the Prince George’s County Police, District of Columbia National Guard and U.S. Army.

The goal of the project is to, “Give back to the community in order to become one community within a community,” stated Cannady.

During their Tuesday meetings, which consist of 40 to 50 people, their main supporters, the National Guard, speak to the kids about the value of life and how to get through their struggles. George expressed the program “teaches kids how to become productive kids in today’s society.” He also stated the program gives the kids a chance to become successful in the real world, whereas he never had a program like United Vision to guide him. George is a retired Prince George’s Corrections Officer who was a part of the program “Safety Children” in the corrections facility. He expressed that he wanted to give back what wasn’t given to him when he was young.

The program offers different job positions at different locations such as Six Flags America in Largo, Md., and other summer jobs. The program provides community service for students who are freshmen, sophomores, juniors and even seniors who haven’t completed their hours.

“Plan your work, work your plan,” said Cannady.

United Vision will always be open to youth at High Point High School. “We want the kids to bring a friend; we’re here for the students. This program is open to everybody, male and female!” exclaimed George.

School News

By Jamie Elie and Heidi Mendoza, High Point High School Seniors

Although most members are athletes, the program is open to students who would like to join. Aside from mentoring, United Vision goes to different communities to assist various organizations and the police department just to understand the value of helping each other. They involve themselves in voluntary clean-ups, fill out job applications, work on their college resumes and other tasks.

“The Mentor Program is open to the public. The program gives the students opportunities to express themselves, figure out their dreams, and give them college opportunities,” said Cannady.

When qualifications are not met

0.01% APY

On CASH balances over $10,000

0.51% APY

On CASH balances up to $10,000

& Nationwide ATM Fee Refunds*

0.01% APY

When qualifications are not met

OK, it may not help you leap tall buildings, but it is free checking that pays you massive monthly interest.

To earn interest and nationwide ATM fee refunds each month:
Each qualification cycle have at least 10 debit card purchases post and clear, have at least 1 direct deposit or automatic payment post and clear, access online banking and receive monthly e-statements.

*APY=Annual Percentage Yield. Minimum to open account is $50. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) accurate as of 4/2/12. Rate tiers are as follows: 3.01% APY applies to balances of $0.01 - $10,000 and 0.51% APY applies to balances over $10,000 if qualifications are met each monthly qualification cycle. 0.01% APY applies to balances if monthly qualifications are not met. All balances will earn 0.51% APY – 3.01% APY if monthly qualifications are met. Rates may change after the account is opened. Fees may reduce earnings. Qualifying transactions must post and clear to the account during the monthly qualification cycle. Transactions may take one or more banking days from the date the transaction was made to post to an account. Intra-bank transfers do not count as qualifying transactions. ATM Fee reimbursements up to $30 provided only if qualifications are met within the monthly qualification cycle. Limit one account per SSN.

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School News

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“Plan your work, work your plan,” said Cannady.

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Students Working at Riderwood Receive Scholarships

Thirty-five high school students from Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties received scholarships to help them attend college at a ceremony on Tuesday, March 20, at Riderwood Retirement Community, where they have worked part-time. Riderwood residents raised a total of $210,000 during the past two months to show their appreciation of the students’ work and to help assist them financially in their post-secondary education. Each student will receive a $6,000 scholarship. The students are from High Point High School, Paint Branch High School, Springbrook High School, James Hubert Blake High School, Montgomery Blair High School, John F. Kennedy High School, Sherwood High School, and Bladensburg High School.

“Many of our scholarship recipients have worked hard for the past two years to maintain their grades while working at Riderwood for 12 hours a week,” said Fiona Divecha, the community’s Philanthropy Manager.

“Most students are the first generation in their family to attend college. We, as a community, want to make an impact on the future of these young adults and feel we can do that by encouraging them to further their education,” continued Divecha. “Not only do students receive scholarships at the end of their tenure at Riderwood, but our residents build relationships with them, ask them about school, and encourage them to keep working hard. Our residents are good role models for the young adults and serve as examples for what a good education can do for one’s life.” Since 2002, more than $1.5 million in scholarship money has been awarded to students who work part-time at Riderwood.

This year’s scholarship recipients are listed above.

Calverton’s Young Authors

Calverton’s Young Authors continue to meet once a week to explore their creative energies. The Young Author, Laura Espinal, who is in her second year with the program, submitted the following two original poems. Mrs. Wood would like to again thank Target for their monetary grant to support fine arts for students in Prince George’s County.

In the Blink of an Eye
Written by the poet Laura Espinal

In the blink of an eye,
you are born,
 You blink,
and now you’re off to your first
day of school.
 You blink,
and now you are an eighth grad-
er getting ready for high school.
 You blink,
and you are now working on a
master’s degree in college.
 You blink,
and you’re on your way to jump
the broom.
 You blink,
and you’re a mother of twins
You blink,
and the cycle begins again.
In the blink of an eye

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Strategies of Local Home Invaders
By Jeannine A. Carter

One evening, about 18 months ago, as daylight was turning to dusk, my front doorbell rang. I skipped down the stairs and had my fingers around the deadbolt lock but I hesitated. I shouted my question. A man’s voice chimed in: “It’s Joe!” I asked him, “Joe who?” Once again the voice said, “You know, Joe!” I exclaimed that I did not know anyone named Joe. I hadn’t realized there were two men at the door until I heard one convince the other to leave my front stoop, and to hurry about it.

By the time I looked out of the front window they were long gone. Once upon a time I was a very trusting and friendly person, but over five years of living in a beautiful neighborhood tucked between Powder Mill Road and North Lincolfn Avenue, I am forced to put up my guard time after time.

The second incident of this nature occurred about six months later, and the ensuing examples happened so close together the time frame is sketchy. Another nice evening in late summer: The doorbell rang and having remembered the last incident I didn’t hesitate to give me invitation cards. I emphatically informed him I was not going to answer the door to anyone I didn’t know, and to please leave them in front of the school.

Quite recently the bell rang and I tiptoed downstairs and peered between the blind slats. A young man dressed all in black, a hood covering his head and most of his face, stood at the door. He rang the bell two more times, then knocked. I watched him run off, but as he did I noticed he wore bright red Chuck Taylor shoes, maybe something an ill-meaning intruder shouldn’t wear.

The last incident occurred at the very end of January. I was preparing to go to a party and a few interior lights were on. Perhaps the man who rang the bell surmised I was home, or maybe it didn’t matter. I asked who was there. No reply. I tried again and again. A man’s voice informed me he lived around the corner and wanted to give me invitation cards. I emphatically informed him I was not going to answer the door to anyone I didn’t know, and to please leave the invitations between the doors. Once again, by the time I got to the window, he was gone. Half an hour later I opened the door, and there were no invitation cards there.

Go figure.

My neighborhood is very private.” Few people socialize, sit on their front step on a nice evening and they keep their blinds and drapes drawn. There have been a few attempts to establish a neighborhood watch but there isn’t enough participation. I suppose I should play along, behaving like a turtle with its head hidden in a shell. The problem is some of the situations I experienced happened during the day.

I do not want to live like that. I am proud of my home, and I like it when I approach the house after dinner. Though the cure for spring fever varies from person to person, it usually has its "roots" in the soil. There may be an area in the garden where you want to add more color or new planter boxes you want to embellish with flowers. Even adding a fresh edge to the garden along with some much and fertilizer may scratch that itch. Whatever cure works best for you, Behnke’s has you covered.

- Fresh shipments of shrubs, trees, perennials, fruit trees and bushes, and seasonal flowers and vegetables
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- Wood and vinyl fences, pergolas, arbors, gates and more from the craftsmen at Walpole Woodworkers®
- A huge selection of stylish bird houses, many hand painted

Don’t miss the fun - go to www.behnke.com for a listing of talks and workshops, including ones on butterflies, fairy gardens, soap making, and being "green" in the garden.
School News

Calverton Elementary Celebrates Black History Month

By Becky Cavallo

Calverton students and staff ended their month-long celebration of Black History by holding a program that gave the audience a sense of the impressive contributions and rich history of African-Americans from the 1600s to today. The program was performed twice; first on Wednesday, Feb. 29, for the pre-kindergartners, kindergartners, first- and second-graders, and then again on Thursday, March 1, for the older grades. The small multipurpose room was rimmed with parents and staff members equally excited to see the show. The back of the stage was decorated with posters of famous people, and books with African-American history themes lined the stage.

Vice principal, Mr. Daniels, welcomed the parents, students and staff to the program, then turned the show over to the narrators, Melyssa Ankom-Sey and Sophia Dada. The well-spoken fifth-graders gave a short summary of African-American roots and the strength of African women; it set the tone for the talented performances that followed.

A group of students in chorus followed, performing an African call and response song. Music teacher, Mrs. Arbach, sang a line and the choral students responded by singing the same line. Fourth-graders accompanied the song by playing on African instruments. Audience members were invited to join in.

Next, an energetic dance was performed to the spiritual, Wade in the Water, evoking a time when slaves spread information about freedom and hope by gathering together to sing. Two fifth-grade girls, Katherine Molina and Laura Espinal, began the dance with white parasols and flowing white dresses, followed by a group of young ladies dressed in white who leaped and swayed to the haunting music. Two more young ladies made the water flow along the front of the stage by ripping blue cloth in front of the performers.

The final musical number was the ever-popular Temptations’ My Girl. Christian Tejada, Jhovan Romero, Nathan Nana, Ramez Antar, Eyole Wuno and Ce’Quan Crawford performed the smooth moves of those musical greats.

Sophia and Melyssa ended the program by talking about the historic accomplishments of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. and President Barack Obama. After the show, Mrs. Sloan applauded Mrs. Donnella, Mrs. Reed, and Mrs. Arbach for their contributions to the program, introduced the hard-working stage crew, and thanked Mrs. Lazard, Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Donmoyer for all of their much appreciated assistance. She also thanked the performers who worked so hard and had even given up recess time to practice their parts. Everyone’s hard work and dedication helped make the program a great success.
School News

From the Hilltop – High Point News

The members of the concert choir participated in Catholic University’s Choir Festival Day on Friday, Feb. 17. Unfortunately, there were a few students who were unable to attend the all-day affair. The students were adjudicated for their performance and earned an overall rating of excellent for their rating of excellent. The choir clinic, participated in a choir workshop, had a campus tour and ate lunch at the University Union. Catholic University is located in Northeast Washington, D.C., on the campus of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Students attending were Ruth Achi, Edward Adut, Yolande Pokam, Jacqueline Vuillima, Victoria Campos, Marisol Cartagena, Brady Cusak, Darius Cortez, Jair Francis, Persuannetie Ferrin, Tiffani Lawrence, Melissa Lazo, Crystal Mendenhall, Lorenzo Rodriguez, Daisy Yacoubou, Adai Rodriguez, Adiat Sahu, Deja Sumler, Huguette Tsgong, Lauren Thomas, Anisha Vattappara, Brandon Wells and Ackera Williams. Malachi Williams won playing cello and accompanied the choir’s performance, also attended. Ms. Priscilla Coleman directs the High Point High School Choir. Thank you Ms. Coleman for a job well done and congratulations to the choir for their rating of excellent.

Coach Andrew Verner’s wrestling team competed in the Prince George’s County Wrestling Championship Tournament Friday and Saturday, March 17 and 18 at Charles H. Flowers High School. The team placed fifth in the tournament. For the first time in many years, the “Point” had two first place finishers. Junior Denis Robles, won the gold in the 106-pound weight class. His winning percentage did the same in the next weight class (113). Kaleem Smith, a junior, finished second among those in the 170-pound class. Macred Gbenro, a sophomore, qualified them for the 3A/4A 170-pound class. Macred Gbenro finished second among those in the class (113). Kaleem Smith, a junior, and senior Ayele Gebrehana, won the gold in the 106-pound weight class. The team placed fifth in the tournament. The team’s goal of the vignettes is to encourage students in the ProStart Program. Their business plan called for a new restaurant located on a river walk in a fictional town. The restaurant was built around a sports theme, calling it Champions River- side Café and Bakery. Each student earned a scholarship package worth $25,000 or more. Congratulations and thanks to Rachel Healy, Rosa Hernandez, Tiera Stephens, Reema Taylor, Leslie Valencia and Ms. Barbara Hughes for bringing honor to High Point, the Family and Consumer Sciences Department and the students in the ProStart Program. Also, a special thank you goes out to Mr. Michael Alfaro, a High Point grad and Staff Development Manager at Riderwood Village. Mr. Alfaro was the team’s mentor. His knowledge and expertise helped to focus the team’s attention on the finer points of their presentation. The team’s goal of the vignettes is to encourage students to make better choices.

A very important topic, Achieving the Dream: Pathways to Success. The two shared their knowledge and insight with more than 550 students. They encouraged them to take advantage of every opportunity that High Point’s staff and club sponsors offer to improve and prepare themselves for life after high school. Paul is a graduate of Howard University Law School and currently serves as Deputy Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement. Demnisse is in his second year at Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif., and will serve as a White House intern this summer. Thank you Paul and Demnisse for “paying it back.”

High Point has its very own chess expert on staff. Community Resource Instruction (CRI) para-professional and High Point graduate (Class of 1986) Mr. Jeff Wilson has been on top of his chess game for many years. He played his first game when he was five-years-old. When time permits on weekends and during summer vacation, he plays up to 100 computerized games a day. He refers to chess as being karate for the brain. He has graciously volunteered his time and skills over the past four years to teach chess strategies to Youth With Purpose (YWP) students. Mr. Wilson also handled the purchasing of quality chessboards for the YWP program. His efforts to help our students master the game and become better analytical thinkers are greatly appreciated.

Finally, a team of five seniors placed third out of five teams in the management portion of the Maryland ProStart Invitational, a culinary arts and management competition put on by the Restaurant Association of Maryland Education Foundation. Their business plan called for a new restaurant located on a river walk in a fictional town. The restaurant was built around a sports theme, calling it Champions Riverside Café and Bakery. Each student earned a scholarship package worth $25,000 or more. Congratulations and thanks to Rachel Healy, Rosa Hernandez, Tiera Stephens, Reema Taylor, Leslie Valencia and Ms. Barbara Hughes for bringing honor to High Point, the Family and Consumer Sciences Department and the students in the ProStart Program. Also, a special thank you goes out to Mr. Michael Alfaro, a High Point grad and Staff Development Manager at Riderwood Village. Mr. Alfaro was the team’s mentor. His knowledge and expertise helped to focus the team’s attention on the finer points of their presentation. Until the next publication of the Baltimes News, good things will continue to happen at “the Point.” The view from the hilltop is a bright one and getting better.
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By Linda Diasgranados
High Point High School PTSA

The High Point PTSA has been very busy these last two months. In February, Councilwoman Mary Lehman came and spoke to the parents about the Secondary School Reform. Many parents, the PTSA, and staff members at High Point were not happy with the High School Reform that would have moved several programs out of High Point and placed them at other schools. High Point teacher Barbara Hughes spoke about several of the programs that were slated for removal. Luckily, with the help of the community, High Point staff members, Councilwoman Lehman’s office, Karen Coakley, Karen of TJ’s Restaurant, Riderwood staff, and a host of other supporters, we have been told that the programs slated to be moved will be staying at High Point High School. Kudos to these groups that worked at the 11th hour to keep these programs at High Point High School. Last week architects toured High Point and we will be getting a totally refurbished kitchen. They also looked at the greenhouse and we will be getting a total expansion of the greenhouse. Thank you, community. In February we had our baseball team coming together to speak with us. As many of you may know, High Point High School has one of the best baseball and softball teams in the county. The last couple of years our baseball fields have fallen on terrible times. The team lacks bleachers, they don’t have an adequate dugout or storage facility for equipment and the list goes on and on. Assistant Coach Jim Cheney and some of the players came to our PTSA meeting and showed the parents blow-up pictures of the conditions of the fields. At our March meeting, we were informed the county has come out to help our players and our field is slowly but surely being rebuilt to standard. We still have a ways to go but we are seeing some improvement.

Invasion

continued from page 15

dark and the interior is warmly lit and inviting.

During the spring and summer while working in the yard alone, many strangers approach me to sell magazine subscriptions or donate to a local church. It feels very awkward to shoo them off. My front door is likely open because I am in and out.

Unfortunately, I see a time coming when I will shut myself in on a beautiful spring day, afraid to wash my car or plant flowers. Please never open your door if you don’t know who it is. Parents and guardians who do not want to be a victim of a home invasion should never answer the door if they are not familiar with the visitor.

Use your dead bolt locks and secure the deck or patio doors as well. Criminals have many methods to fool us. That is what they do, it is their area of expertise. And if you can - if your neighbors are friendly enough - try to familiarize yourself with those nearby, because you nevr know when you may need them.

ON THE AGENDA

continued from page 1

neighbors air conditioner call them to make sure this is a scheduled service call. If you cannot reach them call the police because Air Conditioners are being stolen!!

Break-Ins and Theft from Autos. Please pay attention to strange cars in your neighborhood. Write down the tag number and description of the car. DO NOT leave valuables in your car!

ON THE AGENDA

continued from page 1

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Crime Updates


Yard Sale Signs

PLEASE take them down after your yard sale. Do not leave yard sale signs up as trash for the community.

I can be reached at 301.937.3490 or karenmcoakley@msn.com if you have a community concern or would like to receive community updates. VOTE ON APRIL 3RD. Mark your calendars for the April 18th Beltsville Citizen’s Association meeting 7 p.m. at Beltsville Academy. Bring a Friend …Bring a Neighbor.
The exhibit continues until Sunday, April 29 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. See the remains of dinosaurs, plants, and early mammals from Laurin’s own, rare deposit of fossils that are 100 million years old. The fees are included with paid admission to the museum.

FESTIVAL OF HERBS, TEA, AND THE ARTS
Saturday, April 28 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Entry to the festival is free. This year’s theme is Teas of the World, so there are lots of international treats in store. Fees: $12.50 for timed tickets to the tea, regardless of age. Tours of the hour will be free.

COLLEGE PARK AVIATION MUSEUM
1965 Q. Frank Scott Dr., College Park. Call 301.864.6039 for information on more events. TTY: 301.699.2544. Museum admission is $4.00 for adults, $3.00 for seniors, and $2.00 for children. Children under 2 admitted free. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., except for major holidays. Tours for groups of 10 or more are available by appointment.

PIONEERS ON THE PAINT BRANCH EXHIBIT
The exhibit continues until Sunday, May 27. It celebrates and honors the men who created the first Army Aviation School 100 years ago. Free. With museum admission.

LAUREL–BELTSVILLE SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER
7130 Center Rd., Laurel, MD 20707. Contact the center to learn about specific programs and special events. Phone: 301.206.3387. TTY: 301.446.3402. Regular hours of operation: Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., closed on Sunday.

BELTSVILLE EVENTS
Please contact the individual facilities for any changes in hours of operation due to inclement weather.

BLOODY DRIVE
Tuesday, April 24, 3-6:45 p.m. at the Beltsville Community Center, 3930 Sellman Road, Beltsville. Sponsored by the Beltbrite Lions in cooperation with Medstar Health Blood Donor Services. Please call Ted Ladd, 301.937.6796 to make an appointment.

WOMEN’S COMMUNITY CLUB OF BELTSVILLE
Monday, April 9/12 12:30 p.m. at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY (NAL)
10301 Baltimore Ave. Hours of operation: Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except for federal holidays. NAL is one of four national libraries of the United States, with locations in Beltsville, MD and Washington, DC. It houses one of the world’s largest and most accessible agricultural information collections and serves as the nexus for a national network of state and local and U.S. Department of Agriculture test centers. Contact 301.504.2374 for information on basic services, resources, and special events. Free and open to the public. See NAL at www.nal.usda.gov or on Twitter at http://twitter.com/#!/National_Ag.Lib.

BEHNEK NURSERIES GARDEN CENTER
11300 Baltimore Ave. Seating is limited. Please call 301.937.1100 ex. 0, or see www.behnek.com to make reservations.

PLANTING TO ATTRACT HUMMINGBIRDS AND BUTTERFLIES
Saturday, April 14 at 12 noon. There’s more to attracting hummingbirds and butterflies than pretty flowers. Learn how plants attract and provide essentials for these beautiful additions to any garden. Free.

SELECTING AND CARING FOR HUMMINGBIRD FEEDERS
Saturday, April 14 at 1:30 p.m. Learn about proper feeder care, what food is best, and what kinds of feeders are available. Free.

PRAISING BASICS FOR TREES AND SHRUBS
Sunday, April 15 at 1 p.m. Learn how to properly prune your trees and shrubs. Free.

BELTSVILLE LIBRARY
Regular operating hours are: Monday – Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. closed on Sunday.

PROGRAMS FOR EVERYONE
ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST
The Annual Poetry Contest concludes with the Annual Poetry Reading on Tuesday, April 24 at 7 p.m. Submit your original poetry for a chance to win. Pick up your applications at the Information Desk. The deadline is Saturday, April 7 by 5 p.m. Ages 6 and over.

CHESS CLUB
Tuesday, April 10 and 24 at 6 p.m. Chess for all ages and levels. Everyone welcome. Come to learn or just to play and have fun.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
STORYTIME
Wednesday, April 4, 11, 18, and 25 at 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs, and fingerplays. Ages 3 – 5.

GOOSEY LOOSEY
Wednesday, April 4, 11, 18, and 25 at 11:30 a.m. Stories, songs, fingerplays, and Mother Goose Rhymes. For children 18 months with caregiver.

TAIL WAGGIN TUTORS
Saturday, April 14 at 2 p.m. Build your child’s confidence in reading. Bring a favorite book or choose one from the library. Read to a specially trained therapy dog that will be glad to listen. Each child will read for 15 minutes. Registration is required. Please contact the Beltsville Library for more information. Ages 6 – 12.

FAMILY GAME ON!
Tuesday, April 17 at 6 p.m. Families are invited to join the library for a night of video games and board games.

PROGRAMS FOR TEENS
SPRING BREAK GAMING TOURNAMENT
Wednesday, April 4 at 2 p.m. Join us for an afternoon of tournament gaming featuring Mario Kart and Super Smash Bros. Smash. Registration begins at 2 p.m., and the tournament will begin at 2:30 p.m. The winner will win a prize courtesy of the Friends of the Library. Ages 11 – 18.

HUNGER GAMES: A LIVE ACTION ROLE PLAYING EVENT
Thursday, April 5 at 5 p.m. Join us for an afternoon of tournament gaming featuring Mario Kart and Super Smash Bros. Smash. Registration begins at 2 p.m., and the tournament will begin at 2:30 p.m. The winner will win a prize courtesy of the Friends of the Library. Ages 11 – 18.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS
FRIENDS OF THE BELTSVILLE LIBRARY
Tuesday, April 3 at 6:30 p.m.

EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION
Monday, April 8 at 7 p.m. William P. Young’s The Shovel, A Novel.

GREATER FAIRS: BORROWING EBOOKS AT YOUR LIBRARY
Tuesday, April 10 at 7 p.m. Learn more about the Kindle, the NOOK Color, and the iPad, and how to download ebooks to your devices.

AFTERNOON BOOK DISCUSSION
Tuesday, April 17 at 2 p.m. Eric Foret’s The Fiery Trail, Abraham Lincoln and American Slavery.

INTRODUCTION TO MICROSOFT WORD
Thursday, April 26 at 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. Registration required.

BELTSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER
9650 Selman Rd., Beltsville. The Program Specialist is Michael Hansborough. Contact him at 301.445.6613 or Michael.Hansborough@opo.pms.us for more information. Spanish In: 301.445.5509. TTY: 301.445.4512. Regular hours of operation are: Monday – Thursday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. (except for Xtreme Teen events), Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (except for Xtreme Teen events), closed on Sunday.

STRATEGY GAME CLUB
Every Monday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Enjoy board games, board games and strategy games and tons of fun. All ages, Free.

SPRING BREAK CAMP
Monday, April 2 to Friday, April 6 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. Enjoy arts and crafts, games, sports, and lots more. Before and After Care is available for an additional charge. Fee: $150, Resident, $170 Non-residents. Ages 5 – 12.

LET’S MAKE A KITE
Saturday, April 21 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Celebrate National Kite month and join us as we host a kite making workshop here at the community center. Pre-registration by Saturday, April 14. Fee: $3 Residets, $5 Non-residents, Ages 5 – 12.

LIVE ANIMAL SHOW FOR PRESCHOOLERS
Thursday, April 26 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Join us as we have some of our scaly and furry friends come visit us from the Mt. Rainier Nature Center. Ages 3 – 5 Free.

XTREME TEENS REGULAR EVENTS
Fridays and Saturdays from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Ages 13 – 17, FREE with valid Center ID card.

VANSWILLE COMMUNITY CENTER
6813 Amherst Lane, Vansville. The Director is Jeremy Woots. Contact him at 301.937.6621 or Jeremy.Woots@opo.com for more information. Spanish Line: 301.445.6623. Spanish In: 301.445.4509. TTY: 301.445.4512. Regular hours of operation are: Monday – Thursday from 2 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Friday from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. (except for Xtreme Teen events), and Sunday from 12 noon to 5 p.m.

PIANO BAR HAPPY HOUR
Thursday, April 12 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Please contact the Beltsville Library for more information. Ages 11 – 18.

TEEN TALK
Monday, April 2 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Please contact the Beltsville Library for more information. Ages 11 – 18.

APRIL 2012 • The BELTSVILLE NEWS
Reading Incentive Program at High Road Upper School

At the beginning of the school year, the staff at High Road Upper School (HRUS) created a new program designed to spark student interest in books and literature. The program, titled the Reading Incentive Program (RIP), has been designed and spearheaded by Ali-ciamarie Johnson and Shemika Owens. They are joined by a growing staff committee, which now has a number of enthusiastic members, including Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Owens, Ms. Alexis, Ms. Amy, Ms. Bryant, Mr. Stewart, and Mr. Hicks.

The program uses a combination of individual and group activities. Students will be rewarded with a lottery ticket each time an observer catches them engaged in reading a book. Monthly drawings of these tickets will be held dispensing awards such as gift cards, movie passes, homework passes, etc.

Classes compete in quarterly reading projects and activities such as Stop, Drop, and Read book clubs, Battle of the Books, and the annual High Road Upper School Book Fair.

Ms. Johnson states “We hope to ignite the desire to read in each of our students so that their lives can be enriched academically, socially, and professionally.”

HRUS is gearing up for an exciting month, as High Road Reads continues.

Recently the school celebrated the importance of reading throughout the month of March in honor of Dr. Seuss’s birthday. The month was full of exciting events and activities geared toward reading. The students and staff decorated the halls and bulletin boards with reading themed décor. The entire building looks like one giant Dr. Seuss book. Activities will include weekly book clubs on Tuesdays, as well as drawings for prizes, and Stop, Drop, and Read each week, where students and staff alike will stop what they are doing and take a time-out for reading. Special events will also include the third annual book fair with a special guest speaker, which will be held on March 29 from 12:30 to 2 p.m., as well as the first High Road Spelling Bee, which will take place on March 28. Committee leader, Ms. Johnson, shared, “March is going to be an exciting month of reading events that will hopefully motivate and inspire students to read.”
I have a new toy, a video camera, have posted stuff on Facebook, and have been getting a lot of feedback. At my age, I’m working hard to understand the new technology. I still do not have a cell phone. I spent a lot of money on some but never made a call nor received one, just a bill each month. I do not own an iPod. I do have a type of tablet, a Nook by Barnes & Noble. This is great. I have read 20 books in the last 16 months. I like it because I can increase the font.

Baking tip: I know why your cake mixes come up to a point or any cake for that matter. It’s easy. Your oven is too hot. Buy a thermometer and check your oven. To do this, place the thermometer and set oven to 400 degrees. The thermometer will tell you the exact temp. Older oven aren’t necessarily always colder; many get hotter over time, and with cake a few degrees means a lot. Oh, by the way, do not try to frost the just made cake, even if cool. Freeze it first; yes, freeze it. This cuts down on the crumbs in the frosting. And be sure to trim off the point on the bottom layer. If you would like to try one from scratch, check out bakerbill.net recipes. Just push control + p to print. Just a quick follow up: the frozen cake will thaw in minutes due to the high sugar content. Recipe below. Here’s a question asked of me now and again. What is the difference between bleached flour and unbleached flour? First off, the answer is really nothing. When we hear bleach we think of Clorox. No Flour is washed in bleach. Bleaching is what the sun does to the patio or any colored surface. They run the milled flour under sun lamps to make it whiter. That’s it.

Yellow layer cake; it is easier than you think:

In a medium bowl place, 1-1/2 cup sugar, 1 stick of oleo, measure in 2 cups cake flour (or all-purpose) 1 tablespoon baking powder, 1/2 teaspoon salt, and 2 tablespoons vanilla. Stir. Add 3 eggs beaten and 1 cup of milk slowly. Now whip at high speed for 2 minutes. Then add another cup of milk and stir in until smooth; divide into 2 greased cake pans. Bake in 370-degree oven for approximately 20 minutes until no wet spots; just lightly touch with finger.

As usual everything I write is my opinion. If you have another one, drop me a line at bakerbill2010@hotmail.com. Saying for the month by Dan Sanford: “Experience is what you get when you don’t get what you want.”—Bill Raulin aka bakerbill.net
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**Easter Activities and Worship**

<table>
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<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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| Palm Sunday Worship, April 1 | 9:45 a.m. Bible Study (for all ages)
  *11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
  *6:00 p.m. Evening Worship
  *6:00 p.m. Kidz Choir/Missions
  *6:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship |
| Maundy Thursday Worship Service | April 5, 7:00 p.m. |
| Good Friday                   | April 6, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. Church Open for Prayer |
| Easter Sunday, April 8        | 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service
  7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
  8:45 a.m. Bible Study (for all ages)
  *11:00 a.m. Worship Service |

*Childcare available for children up to 4 years old*
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TAX RETURNS - For businesses/individuals. Payrolls. Gerald Neumaier CPA. 301-953-1341; 301-776-6545. gncpa@verizon.net. 01/13.


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TREE AND STUMP REMOVAL. Pruning, land clearing, contact Bob Berra, 301-674-3770; or 301-384-4746. 04/12.

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MEALS ON WHEELS OF COLLEGE PARK is now accepting new customers. Meals are delivered to your door Monday thru Friday between the hours of 11:30 am and 12:30 pm. Each daily delivery consists of a hot meal, a bread pack (with coffee, tea and other condiments), a sandwich, salad, fruit, juice and milk. The price is $25.00 a week. 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 am to noon. 06/12

HELP WANTED

MEALS ON WHEELS OF COLLEGE PARK - serving Beltsville, Adelphi, Berry Hills, Greenbelt and College Park - needs volunteers to help pack daily meals for seniors and those who cannot cook for themselves. We also need drivers Monday thru Friday. Packers work from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Drivers and runners work from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please, we need help. Won’t you volunteer to work one day a week, once a month or when ever you can? Please call Monday thru Friday, 301-474-1002 to help and for more information. 6/12.

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