

The Beltsville News

AN ALL-VOLUNTEER NEWSPAPER

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

The Beltsville News
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Beltsville, Md. 20705

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Beltsville, Maryland

February 2011

Beltsville Briefs

Super Bowl Party and Spaghetti Dinner at Emmanuel United Methodist Church

By Rick Bergmann

It's almost that time again... Super Bowl Sunday, the biggest football day of the year. This year we would like you to join us for dinner and a Super Bowl party for the entire family. On Sunday February 6th we will be having a spaghetti dinner and Super Bowl Party at Emmanuel United Methodist Church. The cost for dinner is \$5.00 per person and the party is free. Dinner begins at 5:00 p.m. and kickoff is at 6:00 p.m. We will be showing the game on a large screen in the fellowship hall where we will have snacks and drinks (no alcoholic beverages). If you don't want to watch football for the entire time we will offer an alternative for you; there will be movies shown on the big screen in our sanctuary. You can buy tickets for the dinner in the narthex on Sunday mornings or call (301.937.7114) or email (eumcbeltsville@earthlink.net) the church office to reserve them. The Emmanuel Community would love to have your family join us for this special event. Any questions can be directed to the church (301.937.7114).

Special Valentine Dinner

There is still space for you at the Valentine Dinner on Saturday, February 12, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$70/pair including a 3-course meal of choice of appetizer, choice of main course with potato and vegetable, and cheesecake dessert. Dinner music will be provided. Childcare will be provided at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD by the United Methodist Youth Fellowship.

This event is a fundraiser for Family Life Ministries and the United Methodist Youth Fellowship. Funds from Family Life Ministries events provide camperships for children from Emmanuel to attend summer camp, the Seder Tasting, National Night Out, Trunk or Treat, and half of the reg-

BELTSVILLE BRIEFS
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Beltsville Business Hears a Revolution in Small Business Support

By Paul G. Zurkowski,
Beltsville Business Breakfast
coordinator

The forty plus attendees at the Beltsville Business Breakfast heard what for many was a revolution in government assistance to small businesses.

The messenger was the astute Regional Director-Capital Region Maryland Small Business Development Center, (SBDC) Dr. Anthony Ruiz, holder of a Masters of Business Administration and a Doctor of Juris Prudence in the Law. He also came with over 30 years as a "turn-around" specialist in private industry experienced rejuvenating commercial businesses.

The revolution Ruiz described is a combination of the Small



Dr. Anthony Ruiz, MBA/JD

Business Jobs Act of 2010, now just coming into effect, and the access the SBDC provides small businesses in the person of Dr.

Ruiz and his staff. Their services are free to small businesses. Other

BUSINESS
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Beltsville Student To Bike Across US Advocating Affordable Housing



Alexandra Butcher

Third-generation Beltsville resident and University of Maryland student Alexandra Butcher will bike 4,120 miles from Rhode Island to California this summer. Along the way, she will help build houses and educate other young adults about the challenges of finding affordable housing in this country.

"For the last four summers I've biked from DC to Pittsburgh for fun," said Alex. "This year I want to do something more, not only in mileage but in purpose as well." She will ride with Bike & Build — a non-profit organization whose goals include raising funds for affordable housing, fostering leadership and lasting good-fellowship among young adults as they bike across the country participating in affordable hous-

HOUSING
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High Road School Adopts...a Trail

The High Road Upper School recently began participating in the Adopt-A-Trail Program through the Prince George's County Parks and Recreation Department. Kevin Mattison, Transition Coordinator, had worked with PG Parks and Recreation in the past and thought this would be a great chance for our students to take pride in the environment. Furthermore, it provides our students with



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Post & Unit 217 Activities

By Ivy Christoffers

December was a busy month. We filled stockings for The Salvation Army and also adopted three families and filled their wish lists. Our Christmas gift shops for hospitalized Veterans were held at Perry Point VA Medical Center on Nov. 30-Dec. 1 and at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home on Dec. 5th. We served over 600 Veterans. For Veterans at Loch Raven, we brought our gift shop on Dec. 8 and Baltimore VA on Dec. 18. Over 750 gift bags were filled at Washington VAMC for their patients.

Holiday parties were held at Perry Point VAMC on Dec. 5 and Washington VAMC on Dec 17, complete with Mrs. Claus. The annual Ice Cream Social was held at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home on Dec. 18. We were privileged to take part in the Special Olympics of Prince George's County Christmas Party held on Dec 6 at La Fontainebleau in Lanham. About 150 students were entertained, and enjoyed a special visit with Santa Claus and Mrs. Santa.

Our Children's Community Christmas party was held on Dec. 13 and we hosted 60 children who brought parents and grandparents.

On Sunday, Dec. 19, the Southern Maryland District Christmas Party was held in Lusby, MD.

We have also been busy with Sunday dinners, catering responsibilities and regular visits to those confined to The Community Living Center at Washington VAMC.

We extend a warm wish for the best of the New Year to one and all. May God continue to bless America. Keep our troops in your prayers and let us hope for a safe return to their loved ones soon.

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25 Years Ago in the Beltsville News

By Phil Whitman

Excerpted from the February 1986 issue

Engagement Announced

Miss **Janet Jer** became engaged to Mr. **Glenn H. Babbitt** of Wilmington, DE.

60th Wedding Anniversary

Avis & Myra Rowland celebrated 60 years of marriage on February 20, 1986. They moved to Florida in 1974.

25 Years on Cedar Lane

Reverend **Mathias Bott** delivered a sermon on January 26, 1986 at Emmanuel United Methodist Church entitled, "Rip Van Winkle Slept Here," celebrating 25 years of the Church's location on Cedar Lane.

New President

Ronald S. Oser, M.D., Laurel Ophthalmologist was elected President of the Maryland Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons.

Roper Wins Award

Joyce Roper sold over \$6.4 million in real estate representing Shannon & Luchs.

Raulin's Bakery Celebrates

Steve Raulin of Raulin's Bakery planned to celebrate Bakeries Week by providing free samples of his bakery products and sponsoring a donut eating contest.

New Arrivals

Mr. & Mrs. **Bernard Case** of Beltsville became proud grandparents of **Felicia Renee**, along with proud parents **John & Debbie**

Case of Laurel.

John & Debbie Whitman announced the arrival of **Ashley Nicole**, born on January 6, 1986.

Michael Debert Friend was born to parents **Tamela Taylor** and **Elmer Leroy Friend**.

Barbara Jean & Gordon Thomas Carpenter, Sr. became parents of a daughter, **Candice Lynn Carpenter**.

Judith Jamison & Ross Frederick Nelson became the proud parents of **Ross William Bernard Wilson**.

Service News

PFC **Roberto B. Alexander** completed basic training at Fort Jackson, SC

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TRAIL

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a community service opportunity right in our own backyard.

Our Adopt-A-Trail location is in the NW Trail Section of PG Parks, in Adelphi on Park Drive West- (close to Byrd Stadium). We have a four-mile stretch to upkeep. It is our responsibility to clean the area about four times a year (for a 2 year period). However, our students will be providing care to this

trail twice a month. You know our trail will like our students.

From our very first visit through the trail, it was evident the students understood the importance of taking pride in their community. Despite the chill in the air, all the students actively participated and assisted with the cleanup. Nancy, a ninth grader said, "I like to help and I like to clean things up!" Furthermore, our students took initiative by creating work groups. Tasks within those groups included collecting recyclables, cleaning

debris and bagging.

Ms. Alisa Buie, Teaching Assistant, commented on the students participation; "I was pleased as well as proud of the growth and maturity the students demonstrated. They stepped up and become leaders but they also showed they could follow directions. Students demonstrated team work, accountability and great communication skills."

The Adopt-A-Trail Project is just one of many community service opportunities for the students at the High Road Upper School. Please visit our website for additional project information (www.highroadschool.com)

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

National Active & Retired Federal Employees Chapter 1122 Northern Prince Georges County

The monthly meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. on February 9 at the Greenbriar Community Building, Terrace Room, 7600 Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt, MD. Call the office for directions, 301.441.1096, and dial 0.

You do not need to be a member to attend. Merrill Lynch is sending us a tax expert, Mr. Natin Gupta, who will tell us, "What's In The New Tax Law." When it comes to taxes, knowledge is money, so come — get some!

We usually serve refreshments at our social gathering after the meeting, where you may meet friends, or make new ones. Beltsville residents needing a ride can call Bob Haas, 301.937.7987.

Share Your News!

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

Neighbors in the News

Daniel Tapscott of Beltsville makes Dean's List at Gannon University

Daniel Tapscott of Beltsville made the Dean's List at Gannon University, Erie, Pa., for the spring 2010 semester. Full-time undergraduate students with a grade point average of 3.5 or better qualify for the list.

Gannon University is a Catholic, diocesan university offering 63 undergraduate degree programs, 21 graduate degree programs, and doctoral programs in physical therapy and organizational learning and leadership. For the seventh consecutive year, Gannon is ranked as a Top Tier university in U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Colleges" and is designated as one of the annual guide's Great Schools, Great Prices for the fifth time. Gannon's enrollment exceeds 4,200 students. The university can be visited online at www.gannon.edu.

By Adrian Burns, President Maryland Softball Umpires Association

Seriously, why would someone? Let me count the ways: meet people; make new friends; enjoy the outdoors; get some exercise in the sunshine; learn new skills; see some great games and plays; stay involved in the game without having to catch, run, throw, or bat; learn leadership and arbitra-

Maryland Veterans Creative Arts coming to Beltsville in April

By Ivy Christoffers

Maryland Veterans Creative Arts is planning an art exhibit and stage performance at High Point High School on Saturday, April 9. The art exhibit will open at 1:00 p.m. and the stage performance will begin at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are available for a donation of \$10.00 each. Call Ivy Christoffers, 301.595.5225 or the Department American Legion Auxiliary office at 410.242.9519 with any questions.

One may become a sponsor of the event at these levels: Platinum-\$1,000; Gold-\$500; Silver-\$250; or, Bronze-\$100. Ads for the program book are \$75 for a full page, \$50 for a half-page, \$25 for a quarter page, and \$10 for a business card size. Deadline for inclusion in the program book is March 1. Checks should be made payable to ALA, Dept. of Maryland, Inc., earmarked April 9, Creative Arts Festival, and mailed to ALA Department of Maryland, Inc., 1589 Sulphur Spring Road, Suite 105, Baltimore, MD 21227.

The National Veterans Creative Arts competition and festival inspire pride and a sense of achievement. They establish opportunities for development of new skills and recognize the progress and recoveries made through creative arts therapies. The event spotlights the creative arts therapies of art, creative writing, dance, drama and music. With the assistance of creative arts therapists, recreation therapists, and other healthcare professionals, Veterans enter



competition in the performing and visual arts divisions at VA facilities nationwide. The first place winning entries from the local sites advance to the national level of competition by submitting a visual and audio recording of their performances or a digital image of their artwork.

An incredible annual event, the festival highlights the talents of the top medal-winning Veterans from the national competition, through exhibition of their visual artwork and presentation of a live stage performance. The festival is a time for celebration, a time to recognize our nations Veterans for their creative skills. More than 3,650 Veterans entered the local competitions in 2010 representing 123 VA Medical Centers. The American Legion Family of Maryland serves five of

these medical centers.

There were many Veterans who were medal winners in their category but were not invited to participate in the National Festival because of the magnitude of the numbers.

This Maryland Veterans Creative Arts Festival is being held to shine the spotlight on the achievements of our local medal-winning Veterans. The public is invited to attend and lend support, appreciation and gratitude to these men and women who interrupted their lives and careers to serve our country.

May God Bless our Troops and bring them home safely and soon.

Why Would Anyone Want to be an Umpire?

tor skills; learn to maintain order; learn to overcome shyness; gain self-confidence; find and visit places you never knew existed; and on, and on, and on... Granted, umpiring is not for everyone but for those few brave souls out there, the Maryland Softball Umpires Association (MSUA) of the National Softball Association

(NSA) is looking for recruits. The 2011 season is approaching and the 2011 MSUA/NSA Rookie Training Class and Veteran's Refresher Course will be held every Tuesday beginning in mid February from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the Bauer Drive Community Center at 14625 Bauer Drive in Rockville, MD. There are no registration fees or expenses

associated with these training sessions. I repeat - **THERE ARE NO COSTS! It is FREE!**

If you are interested in taking this next step that will definitely broaden your horizons and outlook, contact Adrian W. Burns, MSUA/NSA Umpire in Chief at 240.565.9789 or preferably by e-mail at ab_msua@comcast.net. Who knows, you'll probably enjoy it.

Decorating On A Budget

The chill of winter may have set in, but with a few easy and inexpensive ideas, you can brighten your home.

Debra Royster knew her Beltsville home needed updating and vowed not to put it off any longer. To help with the project, Debra contacted Valerie Kabelac and Michael Richards of Will's Home Decorating. The Beltsville, brother-sister design team, met with Debra to discuss ideas that would provide an immediate impact without breaking the bank.

For Debra, updating her living room was essential. Naturally, the sofa and chairs are central pieces in any room. To maximize Debra's budget, Valerie reupholstered two wing back chairs with a soft, chenille fabric to gently complement her sofa. The sofa was then pulled off the wall and a rectangular glass table from another room was placed behind it. By pulling the seating in, the room is now cozy. Next, Valerie selected a beautiful dupioni silk for stationary side panels, to add an understated elegance to the room. "Drapes provide an additional layer of color and texture that gives balance to the room," says Valerie.



Brother-Sister design team, Michael and Valerie

The pair returned to Will's showroom where Michael chose the perfect Benjamin Moore paint color for the walls: Monroe Bisque. Next, he selected an inexpensive, in-stock, designer wall covering for the back of her bookshelves. "No doubt, wall coverings add an interest and style that you just can't get from paint alone," says Michael. To complete the room, Michael picked a striking area rug to put color and pattern on the floor.

"Valerie and Michael are wonderful to work with. I can finally enjoy my living room again, thanks to Will's Home Decorating," says Debra. For more great decorating tips, call Michael or Valerie today.

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Mount St. Mary's University Student, Erin A. Kennedy, makes Dean's List

Erin A. Kennedy, from Beltsville, is among the 481 students who achieved the honor of Dean's List for the fall 2010 semester at Mount St. Mary's University. Erin A. Kennedy, a Senior at the Mount, achieved Dean's List by maintaining a 3.4 or higher grade point average. Erin is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Kennedy.

Mount St. Mary's University, established in 1808 is the nation's second oldest Catholic university in the nation and rated in the top 25 Catholic Universities in the country as one of the most 'Faithful and Affordable.' For more information please visit www.msmary.edu.

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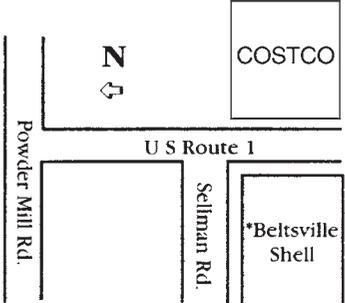


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istration fee for the annual Church Weekend Getaway.

The dinner will be held at and catered by "Enrique" at the Knights of Columbus, 9450 Cherry Hill Rd, College Park, MD 20740. Everyone who attends will be able to enjoy the evening without having to worry about setting up, cooking, serving or cleaning up. It should be a relaxing evening with members of Emmanuel and family and friends. Contact the church office for tickets at 301.937.7114. Visit our website for more information <http://www.emmanuelumbeltsville.net/Invitation.jpg>.

Basket Bingo

St. Joseph's Parish will conduct a Basket Bingo on Friday evening, March 4th, in the Parish Hall at 11011 Montgomery Road from 7:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. (non-smoking). Come join us for this

fun-filled event. Bingo winners will receive speciality baskets, pottery and home accessories. There will be door prizes and raffles too! Tickets are available for \$10.00 (in advance) daily at the school and parish offices, or at the door. Refreshments are available. Snow date is March 5th.

Announcing Softball League Information

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Play - Watkins
June - TBA - Heater - Laurel/
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July 30/31 - STATES -
Randazzo
August 27/28 - Super WS
Qualifier - Fairland
Sept - TBA - Last of Summer
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2011 SPRING/SUMMER SOFTBALL LEAGUES

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Obituaries



Beth Abbundi

Abbundi, Beth

Beltsville resident Beth Abbundi passed away December 30, 2010 after a battle with cancer. She had lived in Beltsville for a number of years, and was known to many due to her employment as a cashier at the Behnke Nurseries garden center. She was born Mary Elizabeth Schrider on August 4, 1957 and was 53 years old at the time of her passing.

A memorial service was held January 8, 2011 at the Inter-Faith Chapel at Leisure World, Silver Spring, MD, with Dr. Robert W. Perry as the officiant. More than 100 family members, friends, neighbors, and colleagues were in attendance.

Her son and daughter-in-law, Jeremy Paul and Tatiana Abbundi; two grandchildren, Karina and Travis Abbundi; her mother, Joan Eammelli; two sisters, Kathryn Van Arnum and Carole J. Schrid-

er; and many loving nieces and nephews survive her.

The family requests that memorial gifts be made to the American Cancer Society, 801 Roeder Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20910, or 301.933.9350, ext. 3.

Blaik, Fannie "Flora"

Fannie "Flora" Blaik died on December 24, 2010. She is survived by her beloved husband, Maurice Blaik, her loving children Gabe Rafael, Thomas Blaik and Ellen (Mark) England, her adored grandchildren Elizabeth England, Sarah and David Blaik, and daughter-in-law, Cindy Nagel.

Mrs. Blaik was a math teacher for 20 years in Prince George's public schools. She taught math at Beltsville Jr. High and High Point High School.

Todd, Haskell W.

Haskell W. Todd, beloved husband of Geraldine D. Todd, passed away on December 25, 2010. He was the father of David Wayne (Kristan) Todd, Daniel Steven (Tina) Todd, Sr. and Debra (Michael) Butterworth and the grandfather of Daniel, Jr., Evan and Matthew Todd. He was the brother-in-law of Cheryl and Henry Church.

The family received friends at Calverton Baptist Church on Saturday, January 8, 2011 from 2:00 p.m. until the memorial service at 3:00 p.m. Interment private. The family suggests that memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society. Arrangements by Borgwardt Funeral Home.

Beltsville Rotary News

By Ivy Christoffers

Since our last message, several interesting things have been happening within the confines of our membership. Members have taken much needed vacations, while another was invited to present a paper in his field of science. Karl Norris is called upon several times a year to lend his expertise to other scientists in their quest for advancement in spectography and related fields. Karl is one who does not husband his knowledge to himself but is eager to share and teach.

John Tvelia made his yearly sojourn to visit family and friends. President Howard Phoebus must

be one proud papa. The Sundance Film Festival in Utah employs his daughter and, therefore, "Daddy" made sure she safely arrived at her destination and joined her for a fun filled few days. Jr. Past President Rick Salamy went south to be reacquainted with the sun. Some others may have taken trips and vacations we have not heard of but we hope you all became renewed and re-energized to re-focus on our areas of concern for those in need in our Beltsville community.

Two speakers we have enjoyed this past few weeks were Robert Nixon and Fatau Kaba. Robert's subject was "Gardening With Deer in Mind." It seems Robert is a

farmer and gardener of long standing who has learned how to exist with the growing herds of deer that are encroaching on our properties and eating much of our vegetation, flowers and shrubs. He shared his experiences with learning what to plant that might survive the quest for subsistence for our four-legged friends, the deer. According to Robert, up until 50 years ago there were no deer in this area. They did not roam nearer than the other side of Frederick. Now we share our area with more than 200,000. That's a lot of deer to feed.

Fatau is a loan officer with PNC bank and she led a very lively discussion regarding the changing climate in mortgage banking and the problems that occurred that necessitated these changes. Some of us, who were in the real estate industry in the 70's and 80's, recognize the documentation which is now required was the same as was needed then. More proof that everything is cyclical.

We have lost a couple of long time Rotarians who have undergone serious medical conditions. We miss seeing them and enjoying their companionship.

We extend an invitation to any business men/women in the Beltsville area to join us for lunch on Tuesday at the Holiday Inn in College Park.



(From Left) Tracy Gross, Manager and Fatau Kaba, Loan Officer of PNC Bank in Beltsville and John Moynihan, acting President of The Rotary Club of Beltsville.



Vicki Murphy-Wauchek, Stacy Raley, and Valerie Chabot participate in the Women's Community Club of Beltsville Thanksgiving food distribution.

Women's Community Club of Beltsville

By Elaine Chabot, President

This year's regular daytime meetings will be held, as usual, on the second Monday of the month, February 14th, March 14th, April 11th, May 9th, and June 13th at 12:30 p.m. at the Emmanuel United Methodist Church on Cedar Lane.

Our Thanksgiving and Christmas Programs, providing food and gifts for families in need, were successful due to many community citizens! In addition to all

those recognized in the January *Beltsville News*, we would also like to thank Dr. John Moynihan for his generous donation of dental supplies. Our mission is to serve the Beltsville community.

Please remember we are a 501(c) 3 organization and all donations are tax deductible! If you would like more information about our club, please contact Elaine Chabot, President at ecchabot@aol.com

Beltsville Garden Club

By Louise DeJames, Publicity Chair

The Beltsville Garden Club will hold a general meeting on Wednesday, February 23, at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the James E. Duckworth School, 11201 Evans Trail, Beltsville. Our guest speaker this month will be **Christopher Puttock** and his topic will be "HAWAII WETLANDS." These wetlands include coastal lagoons, bogs and landlocked brackish pools connecting underground to both fresh and salt water. Hawaii is one of the few places worldwide where this type of wetlands is found.

Dr. Puttock was born in England, lived in Australia for 34 years as a botanist and flora writer for "Flora of Australia." In 2004 he was the Director of Pacific Center for Molecular Biodiversity where he became a leader in Hawaii conservation efforts. At the present time he is in the D.C. area, where he is a Research Associate at the Smithsonian Institution and Chief Botanist for the Monarch Sister School Program.

Please join us to hear this informative speaker. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. Bring a plant or a plant related material for the door prize table. The

public is welcomed and admission is free.

For more information, contact

Louise DeJames at 301.890.4733 or visit our website at www.beltsvillegardenclub.org.

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Weddings

Presenting Mr. and Mrs. Georgi Georgiev. Brittney K. Mackie - Harvey, daughter of Laura Harvey, of Westminster was married to Georgi N. Georgiev, son of Mr. and Mrs. Georgiev, of Bulgaria, on December 11, 2010. Pastor Ladonna Vaughn-Crowl performed the ceremony at Circle D Farm and the reception immediately followed. Maid of Honor was Tiffany Fox, of Westminster,



friend of the bride. Bridesmaid was Christina Miles, of Westminster, friend of the bride. Best man was Boris Rangelov, of Annapolis, cousin of the groom. Groomsman was Jason Carney, of Glen Burnie, friend of the groom. Flower girl was Emma Mackie, of Westminster, sister of the bride. After the honeymoon to Panama City Beach, FL the couple will reside in Beltsville, MD.

Deacon Chris Schwartz (center) had the pleasure and honor to perform his first marriage ceremony between Monica and Dave Miles, on October 2, 2010. The double ring ceremony was at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Beltsville. Monica was given away in marriage by her brother, Matthew Kutya. Monica's daughters, Madison and Victoria, served as flower girls and her son, Thomas, served as the ring bearer. Dave's daughter, Tiffany, served as maid of honor and his sister, Linda Clough, served as best woman. The couple enjoyed a honeymoon in Ocean City, MD. The couple resides in Charles Town, WV.



Charles and Peggy Hall of Milton, DE, formerly of Beltsville, are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Lisa Anne Hall of Orlando, Florida, formerly of Beltsville, to Rickey Mullino of Tampa, Florida. The wedding took place on Saturday, November 27, 2010 at the Beltsville Baptist Church. Attendants were: Matron of Honor Mary Hall, sister-in-law of the bride; Bridesmaid Samantha Malenab, niece of the bride; Flower Girl Marcelle Bernard, cousin of the bride; Best Man Chuck Hall, brother of the bride; Groomsman Kirk Mullino, son of the groom; and, Ring Bearers Dylan and Zachary Hall, nephews of the bride. A reception for 70 guests was held at the Beltsville Firehouse immediately following the ceremony. They currently reside in Orlando, Florida.

Club News

Beltsville Young at Heart

By Barbara Shofield

January 6 was the business meeting date for this month. We had 87 members brave the weather to attend. Joanne Garrison, Norma Good and Ella Lou Gribben won the fifty/fifty. January 20 was entertainment time. The New River Band played and sang country western and some bluegrass music for us. They were very pleasing to

listen to. President Blanch raised the subject of Beltsville Day and asked us to be thinking of ideas. All dues need to be paid as soon as possible for this year. If all of us puts our thinking caps on, I think we make some money on Beltsville Day May 15th. Till next time, smile and think happy thoughts. A true friend knows the healing power of chocolate.

Beltsville Lions participate in NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo

Members of the Beltsville Lions Club participated in the NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo at the Washington Convention Center on Saturday, January 15 and Sunday, January 16. NBC4 estimated that some 85,000 people attended. Beltsville Lions were included among 100 volunteers and support staff manning the Lions Mobile Health Unit to conduct hearing, vision, glaucoma and preschool vision screenings over the two-day period. By the end of the Expo, 1,003 screenings were accomplished, and 295 of those disclosed potential problems with vision and/or hearing. In those cases, the persons tested were referred for further professional treatment.

The Lions Mobile Health Unit is used to conduct screenings in Beltsville on Beltsville Day in May and National Night Out in August. We expect to serve in this way again this year.

February Happenings at College Park Moose Lodge #453

Saturday, February 19th is the date for the next Las Vegas Night at the Moose. The fun begins at 6:00 p.m. with Video Horse Races, Poker, Black Jack, Big-Six-Wheel, 60-40 Game Boards, Cake Wheel, and Whiskey Wheel. Food is available.

BINGO every Thursday night at 7:00 p.m. Specials and BIG jackpot. Free Dessert and coffee. Food is available.

Both of the events are OPEN TO THE PUBLIC and FREE ADMISSION. The College Park Moose Lodge is located at 3700 Metzert Road, College Park. For information, please call 301.935.5525.

Rosapepe's Report to Beltsville

By Senator Jim Rosapepe (D-21)

Join us in Annapolis on February 28

Delegates Barbara Frush, Ben Barnes, Joseline Peña-Melnyk and I work hard to keep in touch with Beltsville residents and help you understand what Maryland's state government is doing and how it can help you and your family. We attend the Beltsville Civic Association and other community meetings, visit local churches and schools, and host "mobile office hours" at local grocery stores. Now we'd like you to visit us in Annapolis at our annual reception for 21st District residents. It's Monday evening, February 28, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in Room 170 of the Lowe House Building, near the State House. We'll have food, fellowship, and information on legislative issues on concern to our communities. Email 21stDistrictDelegation@gmail.com or call 301.858.3141 to RSVP and for details, questions, and information on parking. We'll also have buses going from College Park and Laurel— contact our office; we'll give you the information on it, and ride, don't drive! Share this invitation with friends and neighbors. We look forward to seeing you!



Senator Jim Rosapepe

Attention, Beltsville Business Owners!

The monthly Beltsville Business Breakfasts bring local businesses together to help themselves and the whole community. Attendees have already gotten new customers they met there.

Our speaker in January was Dr. Anthony Ruiz who explained how the Capital Region Maryland Small Business Development Center can help local businesses with advice and contacts for finance -- at no cost! He can be reached at 301.403.0501 ext 11 or aruiz@mdsbdc.umd.edu.

The next meeting is February 16, 7:30- 9:00 AM at Cross Creek Golf Club in Beltsville. Please RSVP to 21stdistrictdelegation@gmail.com or call 301.858.3141. A continental breakfast will be provided at a cost of \$8 at the door. Go to www.BeltsvilleBusiness.com for regular updates on the Business Breakfasts.

How are things at High Point High School?

Over recent months, the Delegates and I, along with School Board member Rosalind Johnson and County Councilwoman Mary Lehman, have heard concerns from students, parents and neighbors of the high school -- about truancy, safety, and other matters. We all want our local high school to be the best it can for all our students. We would appreciate it if you would let us know your perspective. Just email or call me at the email address or phone number below.

Contact Us

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

School News

Beltsville Academy Enjoys the Holiday Season

During the month of December, the PTA offered an opportunity to participate and enjoy many festive activities. Families enjoyed a wonderful evening with many activities including: friends, family, food, the Santa Shop, a magician, and Santa arriving on a Beltsville fire truck.

We were also entertained with our annual Holiday Concerts. We are lucky to have a fantastic music department that never fails to impress everyone. Mr. Harrell and Ms. Murray not only led a great group of musicians, but also showed the students each instrument. Students can start thinking about what instrument they would like to play when they enter fourth grade.

Mrs. Barone did the same fabulous job with her chorus. They were outstanding with their 12 different holiday tunes and Jute



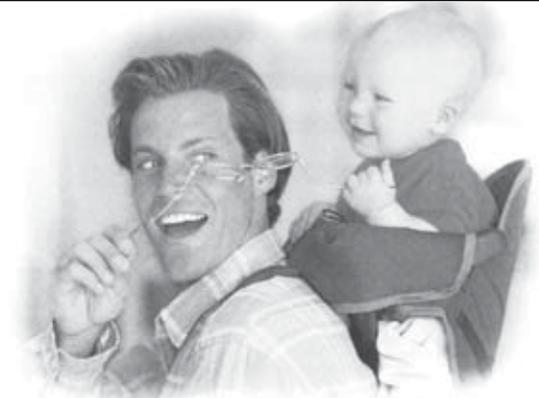
With the direction of Mrs. Barone—Frosty played by Maria DeLaRosa, Santa played by Nicolas Walker

Box theme. The speakers did a wonderful job, as well as Santa, but I think the favorite character was the snowman played by Maria DeLaRosa.

Community Meeting at High Point

By High Point PTSA

There will be a Community Meeting at High Point High School on January 31 at 6:30 p.m. in the library media center to discuss the truancy issue and other incidents that have occurred at the school.



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Remember Our Armed Forces

By Becky Cavallo (and staff)

The fourth grade students at Calverton had a "Holiday Round Robin" on Dec. 22. The four classes learned about the customs of several winter holidays, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah and Christmas. The teachers switched rooms to share holiday activities, including mak-

ing latkes for Hanukkah. Fourth grade will end their holiday unit by studying Chinese New Year. The year of the rabbit begins in February. Students will have the opportunity to "order out" a Chi-

nese lunch from a local restaurant. This unit helps the students understand, appreciate, and enjoy each other's customs. It definitely helps bring everyone closer together. There was a lot of competition for

M&Ms when the students played the dreidel game. Fourth graders also memorized the first verse of Maurice Sendak's poem, "Chicken Soup with Rice" (which begins, "In January it's so nice..."), and recited it when presenting staff members with hot (and delicious) chicken soup on January 3.

Mrs. Freeman's kindergarten class has a cooking or edible art

activity each week for each new letter of the alphabet they are learning. For the letter Cc, for example, they created camera cookies by frosting graham crackers, adding M&M buttons, a life-saver lens, and red candy licorice "string." Mrs. Freeman's class has a wonderful High Point student interning in their classroom this year. Jennifer Flores, who would like to work in the FBI someday. This gives the students a lot of one-on-one time to practice their reading and math skills.

Calverton Tidbits

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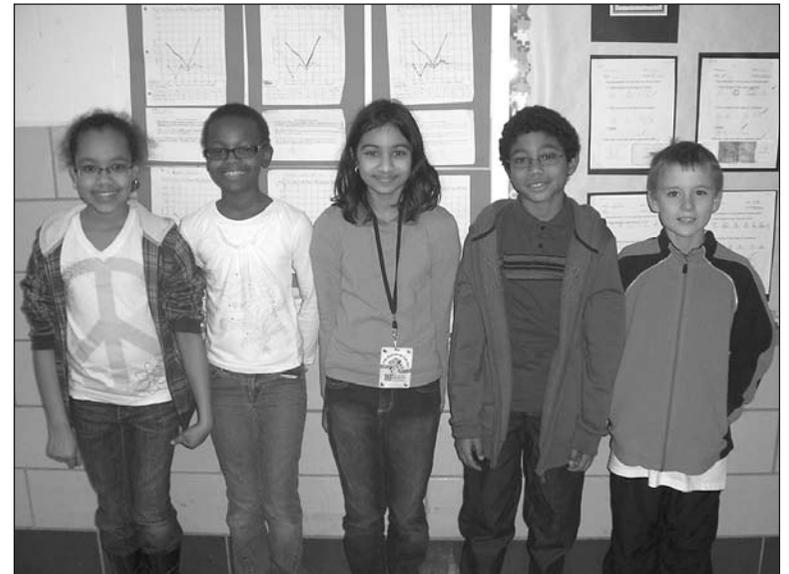


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Students representing Calverton Elementary in the county STEM Fair: (from Left) Sophia Dada, Shepsura Page, Caroline Dabre, Micah Johnson and Henry Saathoff

Calverton STEM Fair

By Becky Cavallo

Calverton Elementary recently held its annual science fair, now called the STEM Fair, under the direction and organization of fourth grade teacher, Ms. Jhanna Levin. Two hundred science projects were judged on January 13, 2011. There were five local scientists and five visiting University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire students who judged the projects. The grand champions were fifth grader Shep-

sura Page ("Tannin Tea Room 2") and fourth grader Henry Saathoff ("Bristlebot Race"). The two grand champions and three additional first place winners will represent Calverton in the county STEM Fair at Eleanor Roosevelt in May. The additional first place winners who will represent Calverton are: Caroline Dabre (fifth grade-"Hot, Cold, or in the Middle for Lycra"), Micah Johnson (fifth grade-"The ICC") and Sophia Dada (fourth grade-"Moldy Bread").

Catholic Schools: A+ for America!

St. Joseph's Regional Catholic School located on Montgomery Road in Beltsville will be kicking off another Catholic Schools Week during the week of Jan. 30 to Feb. 4. This year's events are part of a nationwide celebration of Catholic education in the United States. This year's theme, "Catholic Schools: A+ for America," celebrates the value Catholic schools add to the nation. With high academic standards grounded in strong moral values and high graduation rates, Catholic schools and their graduates make a significant contribution to American society.

School invites prospective students, their families and community residents to visit during the Open House on Thursday, February 3rd beginning at 8:30 a.m. and lasting throughout the school day, ending at 2:45 p.m., to see how the school benefits Beltsville. Visitors will have an opportunity to learn about programs for preschoolers to 8th grade students, observe classes in session and pick up enrollment materials. Students will conduct school tours. Please check in at the main school office located at the end of the cul-de-sac.

For more information call 301.937.7154 or visit us at www.stjos.org.

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Neighbors in the News

Beltsville Girl Scouts Receive Silver Award

By Gloria O'Brien

The Silver Award, the second highest award in Girl Scouts, was presented to Troop 4129 Senior Girl Scouts Christina O'Brien and JoAnne Murray. The girls celebrated this event with a cupcake baking party after their rededication and bridging ceremony. As part of the requirement for earning this award, each girl needed to contribute 40 hours or more to a community project related to a special interest. JoAnne Murray, a 9th grader at Bishop McNamara, dedicated her project to creating a Safety Patrol Training Seminar at her Alma Mater, St. Joseph's Catholic School. She decided to do this as her project because she had been a safety patrol herself and often had questions about the duties involved in the job. Her hopes are that this Training Seminar will help future Safety Patrols prepare for this important responsibility.

For her project, Christina O'Brien gathered a group of talented teens and directed and moderated a variety show at the Hillhaven Nursing Home in Adelphi. This program, entitled, "A Summer Medley of Song and Dance," featured everything from Phillip Kirk's ragtime piano and Nick Ey's clarinet playing to Ballet Academy dancers Ashley Thomas and Natalia Noyes performing variations from ballets. The show also featured the singing of



Troop 4129 Senior Girl Scouts JoAnne Murray (left) and Christina O'Brien received the Girl Scout Silver Award

Sophia Cabrales, Phoebe Mcfarb, and Christina O'Brien. For the final act, Christina and Phoebe performed their own choreographed contemporary jazz dance piece. The show concluded with residents singing favorite songs from old musicals along with the performers. This show, dedicated to Christina's grandmother, Joan O'Brien, left residents with smiles on their faces. Congratulations to these two girl scouts for a job well done.

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BUSINESS

continued from page 1

sources of comparable services charge fees as high as \$300 to \$400. So it's a revolution and at the SBDC it is free.

Fifteen million dollars of small business loans in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties were created by Dr Ruiz's team in 2010, a revolutionary increase over the \$8 and \$9 million created in the previous two years. Asked by Senator Jim Rosapepe about where those loans originated, in Montgomery or Prince George's, Dr. Ruiz said it was 60/40 with Montgomery getting more than Prince George's, even though businesses in Prince George's have greater proximity to this help.

Two Beltsville businesses, Bob Mignon of Minuteman Press and Stephanie Fleming of Behnke Nurseries Company, spoke movingly of the benefits of working with Dr. Ruiz.

One of many new features of the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 is that beginning in spring 2011 the law will allow small businesses to refinance their owner-occupied commercial real estate mortgages within the 504 loan program, a feature due to expire

on September 27, 2012.

How do you participate? Call Dr. Ruiz at 301.403.0501 ext. 11, aruiz@mdsbdc.umd.edu, to become a client of the Development Center and get help that includes building a business plan, identifying fund levels needed, having the Center shop the loan application among funding sources and receiving help meeting the loan requirements. The center also offers free business management services to help clients to solve their business problems such as marketing, H.R. issues, operations, procurement, 8a/MBE Certifications, etc. In addition SBDC offers low-priced training sessions for small businesses. See training@mdsbdc.umd.edu and click on training.

If you are interested in refinancing owner-occupied commercial real estate, contact Robert Carpenter at the Small Business Administration in Washington for assistance. He is the Director of Lending Assistance and can be reached at 202.481.5293. robert.carpenter@sba.gov. Bob was a scheduled speaker, but was down with the flu.

The Breakfast is hosted by the 21st District Delegation and is regularly emceed by Senator Jim Rosapepe.

AREA EVENTS

MONTPELIER MANSION

9650 Muirkirk Rd., Laurel. Call 301.377.7817 for reservations and information on events and classes, including those at the art center; TTY: 301.454.1472; e-mail: montpeliermansion@pgparks.com. Regular tours are on Suns. at 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. Fee: \$3.00 for adults, \$2.00 for seniors, \$1.00 for children 5 – 18. Children under 5 admitted free.

COLLEGE PARK AVIATION MUSEUM

1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Dr., College Park. Call 301.864.6029 for information on more events and the Hollywood Flyers film series. TTY: 301.864.4765. Museum admission is \$4.00 for adults, \$3.00 for seniors, and \$2.00 for children. Children under 2 admitted free. Open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed on major holidays. Tours for groups of 10 or more are available by appointment.

FLY NOW!

The exhibition continues until Feb. 25. See 40 aviation posters from 1860 to the present, from North and South America, Europe, Asia, and Africa. The posters in Fly Now! tell stories about how we traveled, thought about distance and technology, and viewed our place in the world. Free with museum admission.

FEBRUARY 2011
Calendar of Events

BELTSVILLE EVENTS

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY (NAL)

NAL is open Mon. – Fri. from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. except for federal holidays. 10301 Baltimore Ave. Parking is free in the visitor's lot accessed via the Rhode Island Ave. driveway entrance. See www.nal.usda.gov or call 301.504.5876 for information on basic services, resources, and special events. **The library is free and open to the public.**

BELTSVILLE LIBRARY

The library will be closed Feb. 21 for Presidents' Day. Regular hours of operation are: Mon. – Tue. from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Wed. – Fri. from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sat. from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., closed on Sun. Contact the Beltsville Library by phone at 301.937.0294 for more information regarding these and other programs. Visit us at 4319 Sellman Rd., Beltsville, next door to the police station. Visit our library system website at www.pgcmils.info.

PROGRAMS FOR EVERYONE

CHESS CLUB

Tues. Feb. 8 and 22 at 6:00 p.m. Chess for all ages and levels. Everyone welcome. Come to learn or just to play with others.

ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST

Applications will be available Feb. 28, 2011. Start writing your poems! The deadline for entry is Apr. 4 at 5:00 p.m. Submit your original poetry for a chance to win. Winners will be asked to read their poems. Ages 6 and over.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

FAMILY GAMING DAZE

Tue. Feb. 1 and Tue. Mar. 1 at 6:00 p.m. Families

are invited to join the library for a night of video games and board games.

STORYTIME

Weds. Feb. 2, 9, 16, and 23 at 10:30 a.m. Songs, fingerplays, and stories. Ages 3 – 5.

TODDLER TIME

Weds. Feb. 2, 9, 16, and 23 at 11:30 a.m. Songs, fingerplays, and stories. For children 18 – 36 months with caregiver.

WRITE NOW!

Mons. Feb. 7, 14, and 28 at 4:00 p.m. If you love to write and want to have fun doing it, this is the program for you! Ages 8 – 12 years.

TAIL WAGGIN' TUTOR

Sat. Feb. 19 at 10:30 a.m. Build your child's confidence in reading. Bring a favorite book or choose one from the library and read to Bou—a special, trained therapy dog who will be glad to listen. Each child will read for 15 minutes. **Registration required**, please contact the Beltsville Library for more information. Ages 6 – 12 years.

PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

Teen Advisory Board

Sat. Feb. 5 at 2:00 p.m. Make a difference at your library! Ages 13 – 18.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

FRIENDS OF THE BELTSVILLE LIBRARY MEETING

Tue. Feb. 1 and Tue. Mar. 1 at 6:30 p.m.

CALENDAR
continues on page 13

***BALLROOM RENTAL –Seats 350-400**
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Baker Bill

STUFF 'N THINGS

February 2011, "wow," hard to write. What in the world happened to January?

I have just heard that motor companies are told to make their electric cars noisier. It seems they are too quiet and people are getting hurt in parking lots, etc. An ad said that the car would go 28 miles on a charge. That's only a trip to Laurel. Then it would go another 280 miles on gasoline. I cannot speak for you, but this is not ready for me. My Lincoln gets better mileage than that, even to Laurel. I have a rule to never have an under powered car. When I pull onto Powder Mill Road in front of a truck, I want to be able to get out of the way, to speed, so to speak. The \$45,000 price tag is a setback as well. I see another problem. Who would buy a used one? I wouldn't at any price, at least not in the near future. Some motor companies dump new era cars on to us to buy and test. Remember

the auto diesel car? The company advertised the car would run on almost any liquid. At least they never sold one. "OH," remember the Wankel rotary engine that was going to take over the world?

We have been driving and perfecting the old combustible engine for one hundred years. Does anyone think all of us will jump to engines that are so new and different? Maybe so if you're rich and have someone to come for you when you are stranded on the side of 95. We'll see in 20 years or so, no sooner! These are my opinions only, of course.

I was asked a short time ago to repeat something I wrote a year or so ago, "Make room in your fridge door! Remove the catsup, mustard, pickles, olive oil, salt, pepper, and bread."

Microwaves. If yours takes four to five minutes to boil a cup of water, it's time for a new one. That one is only 250 watts. The newer

one will do it in 90 seconds. After I wrote this we had three donated to the church rummage sale. For a complete rating of microwaves, Google it.

A few years back I wrote an amusing story of a fruit fly landing on my nose in January. The question was, where did it come from? As I wrote then, the answer is from the bananas ripening on the counter. Remember? This is a suggestion. We all like to purchase bananas when they are green. This has changed in the past few years. In the past no one would buy green bananas. When working at Safeway I asked the produce man how he kept them green. They get many boxes of green bananas a day. He told me, "We do not open the boxes; the moment we do they start getting yellow." So here's what I suggest. When you get them home, put them in a plastic bag. NO, it will not stop them ripening, but it will prolong the yellowing process a day or two. OH, by the way, no more fruit flies live on the fruit! (A story for another time.)

"OH," another nifty tip. If you have old honey that's gotten hard in the bottle, microwave it for about 30 seconds. Don't go away. You do not want it to get too hot, just melt. Honey can boil at 400 degrees. Bye!

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"Montpelier Village" • \$75,000

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BELTSVILLE

"Calverton" • \$225,000

PHENOMENAL DEAL! Lovely Split in Calverton offers 3 BR, 1 full & 2 half baths. All new windows & some new appliances, incl new tankless water heater. Partially remodeled kitchen w/new cabinets. Lovely flooring, some fresh paint. Large RR w/fireplace & exit to side yard. Potential short sale.

BELTSVILLE

"Birmingham Estates" • \$285,000

PRICE JUST REDUCED! Huge home w/2 Master Suites on main level! Large addn increases the size of this home to about 3,500 SF total. ML has 4 BR + 3 full baths. Lg. T/S kitch + sep. dining area. LL has large rec room, laundry, workshop and all sorts of storage. Lovely fenced rear yard. This is a steal!

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CALENDAR

continued from page 11

EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION

Mon. Feb. 14 at 7:00 p.m. Alexander McCall Smith's *The Full Cupboard of Life*.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK DISCUSSION

Tue. Feb. 15 at 2:00 p.m. Azar Nafisi's *The Things I've Been Silent About*.

COMPUTERS FOR EVERYONE: INTERNET BASICS

Thur. Feb. 24 at 9:10 a.m. Don't be intimidated by computers! Be able to identify basic terminology and learn to search the Internet. Leave the library feeling more confident about using a computer. Limit 16 per class. **Registration required.**

BELTSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

3900 Sellman Rd. Beltsville. The Program Specialist is Michael Hansborough. Contact him at 301.937.6613 or Michael.Hansborough@pgparks.com for information on special events and classes scheduled for February. Spanish line: 301.445.4509. TTY: 301.445.4512. Hours of operation are: Mon. - Thur. from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Fri. from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (except for Xtreme Teen events), and Sat. from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (except for Xtreme Teen events). *Closed on Sunday.*

AFRICAN DANCE & DRUM PERFORMANCE

Fri. Feb. 4 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The art of telling Africa through dance and music. Audience participation is strongly encouraged. All ages welcome. **FREE.**

SCRAPBOOKING FOR CHILDREN SERIES BEGINS

Tue. Feb. 8 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. This is the first session. Kids, become creative with the help of an expert. Bring your favorite pictures, decorations, stickers, and a standard size scrapbook page (12" x 12" sheet) to generate a personalized piece. **Reservations required by Feb. 4, 2011.** Ages 6 - 12. Fee per session: Non-residents \$5.00, Residents \$3.00.

BE MY VALENTINE SENIOR SOCIAL

Thur. Feb. 10 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Come celebrate; we will provide light refreshments, music, and Valentine cards to exchange with your friends. Ages 60 and over. **Reservations required by Feb. 5.** **FREE.**

AFRICAN MASK CERAMIC WORKSHOP FOR CHILDREN

Wed. Feb. 23 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This is a special one-time workshop in celebration of Black History Month. **Reservations required by Feb. 16.** Ages 6 - 12. **FREE.**

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION FOR SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS

Wed. Feb. 23 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This is the final installment of the Financial Education Workshop series. **Reservations required by Feb. 20.** All ages welcome. **FREE.**

DROP-IN SCRAPBOOKING

The program continues on Tues. through June 2011, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Bring your scrapbook supplies to work on your projects. Gather and share ideas with others. Ages 18 and up — **call the center for exceptions.** Fee: \$5.00 per person.

XTREME TEENS REGULAR EVENTS

Every Fri. and Sat. from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Ages 13 - 17. **FREE** with valid Center ID card.

VANSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

6813 Ammendale Rd. Vansville. The program specialist is **Kathleen Reardon**. Contact her at 301.937.6621 or Kathleen.Reardon@pgparks.com for information regarding special events and classes scheduled for Feb. Spanish line: 301.445.4509. TTY: 301.445.4512. Regular hours of operation are: Mon. - Thur. from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Fri. and Sat. from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Sun. from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ANANSEGROMA OF GHANA

Tue. Feb. 8 at 3:00 p.m. Native Ghanaians offer an exciting performance of traditional music, storytelling, and dance. All ages welcome. **FREE.**

VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATION

Mon. Feb. 14 at 4:00 p.m. Enjoy making two simple arts and crafts projects for this fun holiday. Ages 5 - 12. **FREE.**

XTREME TEENS REGULAR EVENTS

Every Fri. and Sat. from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Ages 13 - 17. **FREE** with valid Center ID card.

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February 19..... What Redeemed Means,

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February 26..... What Judgment Means,

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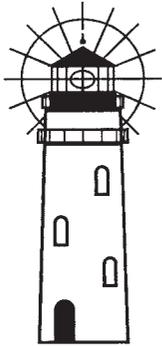
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Family-oriented service: 10:00 a.m.
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Youth Fellowship	6:00pm
Adult Choir Practice	7:00pm

Wednesdays:

*Adult Bible Study & Prayer	7:00pm
Team Kids (4 yr. old - 6th grade)	7:00pm
Youth Fellowship (7th - 12th grade)	7:00pm

*Childcare available for children up to 4 years old

HOUSING

continued from page 1

ing projects, and creating a lifelong interest in affordable housing.

"Alex has always put others first and this will be an amazing opportunity to challenge her limits while helping others," says father Chris Butcher, who along with her mother are very supportive of her new found summer plans.

While these riders will be biking about 70 miles a day, they aren't just along for the ride. Over the summer, Alex and her group will volunteer at 10 different affordable housing construction sites across the country.

When asked about why she was working for the affordable housing cause Alex had this to say, "I've been camping before, and not always in pleasant conditions. I remember one terrifying night involving a thunderstorm, a tent, and a mountaintop campsite. No one should have to live with the dreaded feeling of wondering whether their house will survive the night or whether they'll even have a roof over their family's head a few days later. When I think of people living like that, any small amount of discomfort I may experience camping seems insignificant. To rid just a few nightmares like that would make me feel so proud of the things I'm doing.

Alex will have to raise a total of \$4000 before she can join the tour. Bike & Build has raised some \$2,780,000 for affordable housing projects planned and executed by young adults like Alex.

Bike & Build sponsors eight cross-country tours every summer with approximately 31 riders each. Everyone in the group contributes equally to nightly duties ranging from leading presentations about affordable housing to local youth, host churches, and others to basics such as cooking, laundry, and general maintenance. "I love to cook," said Alex, who is excited at this particular chore. "I've pulled off multiple holiday dinners with no trouble and even won first place in a Girl Scout outdoor cooking competition. I hear that during the trip we will be cooking a lot of our own food. I just can't wait to jump into the kitchen."

To learn more about Alex's efforts and how to donate, visit Bike and Build on the web at <http://bikeandbuild.org/rider/4917>.

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Neighbors in the News

Pat & Joe Makowski Receive Special Recognition

Patricia & Joseph Makowski of Beltsville, known to friends as Pat and Joe, were honored on January 2, 2011 when they received a special recognition from Cardinal Donald Wuerl, who conducted his 25th anniversary Mass at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception that day. The Cardinal presented the "Manifesting the Kingdom Award" to Pat & Joe in recognition of their great service.

Pat & Joe are members of St. Mathias the Apostle Parish in Lan-

ham. Joe is also a member of the Knights of Columbus and is deeply involved in a prayer ministry. His pastor, Rev. Jeffrey M. Defayette, stated that Joe has offered prayers for thousands of people, and that members of the parish consider it an honor to be on his prayer list. Rev. Defayette also stated that Pat is a loyal member of the Ladies of Charity and has served as President more than once. She helps coordinate the parish food pantry, serves as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy

Communion (EMHC), schedules the other EMHCs for weekend Masses and acts as liaison between Doctor's Community Hospital in Lanham and EMHCs who daily bring the Blessed Sacrament to Catholic patients admitted to the hospital. Pat also schedules the priests of the deanery for cyclical weekly assignments as emergency/on call chaplain for Doctors Hospital.

The Beltsville News extends sincere congratulations to our neighbors, Pat & Joe Makowski.

Black Heritage Walk Event

Come join the Freestate Happy Wanderers Walking Club on February 19 at our 5-Km or 10-Km recreational walks at the New Vansville Community Center, 6813 Ammendale Way, Beltsville. In conjunction with Black History Month, a memorabilia collection will be on display featur-

ing Baseball Negro Leaguers, Black athletes on cereal boxes, and Blacks on U.S. currency, coins and postage stamps. Start the walk between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. and finish by 4:00 p.m.

For a brochure call 301.572.5574 before 9:00 p.m. or e-mail wahasse@ix.netcom.com. Find sports information at our Website, <http://www.ava.org/clubs/freestate>. Fee



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(cost depends on the glass and plants you choose)

Workshop: Make a Hypertufa Planter
Saturday, Feb. 26, 11am (\$35)

Workshop: Plant a Viola Strawberry Pot
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