THE BLISVILLE-VANSVILLE DISTRICT CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION, INC.

Vol. 64, Number 1 Beltsville, Maryland January 2016

Beltsville Briefs

ESOL Classes at Emmanuel UMC/ Clases de ESOL en Emmanuel UMC

Spring ESOL classes at Emmanuel United Methodist Church begin January 19th and run through April 26th. They are on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. There are several class levels. In the beginning class, students will be able to increase their English speaking ability through learning basic vocabulary and practicing conversations with each other. In the two intermediate level classes. students will get more practice in reading, comprehension, and pronunciation. The advanced level class emphasizes conversations on many current topics. Child care is provided for those who participate in the classes. Food is also provided each evening. The staff would love to have you join them!

Clases de ESOL en primavera Emmanuel United Methodist Church comienzan 19 de enero y se ejecutan hasta abril 26. Son los martes 7:00-21:00. Hay varios niveles de clase. Al principio los estudiantes de clase serán capaces de aumentar su capacidad de habla Inglés a través del aprendizaje del vocabulario básico y la práctica de las conversaciones con los demás. En las dos clases de nivel intermedio los estudiantes tendrán más práctica en la lectura, comprensión y pronunciación. La clase de nivel avanzado enfatiza conversaciones sobre diversos temas de actualidad. Se proporciona cuidado de niños para los que participan en las clases. Los alimentos también se ofrece cada noche. El personal le encantaría que te unas a ellos!

Walking Is Good— Come Join the Freestate Happy Wanderers!

Finish 2015 at the Freestate Happy Wanderers walk event on New Year's Eve and begin 2016 at our New Year's Day walk celebration at the Owen Brown Community Center, 6800 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD. Walk events feature two 5-km trail loops and one 10-km trail for walkers to enjoy each day. Walkers can start

BELTSVILLE BRIEFS

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Scouting News

Cub Scout Pack 1031 Adventures Continue

Cub Pack 1031 has adopted the trail along Little Paint Branch by the Beltsville Community Center. We already were doing three cleanups along the trail every year, so we thought we would add one more and help make sure the trail is kept clean. Please help us in our endeavor.

Our theme this month was Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. The Wolves built a "robot" from recycled materials. The Bears made an mbira, or thumb piano, from Altoids tins; a rain stick from

scouting NEWS continues on page 3



The Wolves built a "robot" from recycled materials.

OSTAGE
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NEXT ISSUE:

Submissions Due

No Later

Than:

January 20

Paper Out:

January 27



High Road Upper School students learn the culinary arts

Local School News

Unforgettable Flavors Offers High Road Upper School Students an Unforgettable Experience...

High Road Upper School (HRUS) in Beltsville continues to develop partnerships with local businesses to create opportunities for its students to gain much-needed work experience. HRUS's newest partner, Unforgettable Flavors, has been providing opportunities, support, and an "unforgettable experience" for student workers.

Located in the Seven Springs

Village complex at 9348 Cherry Hill Road, lower level, in College Park, Unforgettable Flavors serves gourmet Caribbean/American cuisine and is the culinary adventure of Chef Neville Nugent. Unforgettable Flavors was established in 2003 by Chef Neville and his wife Sandra. Chef Neville

SCHOOL NEWS

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The Beltsville Young at Heart Club

At our December 3rd meeting, we were delighted to be entertained by the recreation center's preschool 4 year olds lead by Ms. Joy and Ms. Patti.

The children were adorable singing "Jingle Bells" and "Feliz Navidad." It was the best entertainment we have had all year. Livia Foley, Dottie Seligh, Rita

McLaughlin, and I did the yearend audit. Cakes were brought in by Norma Good, Richard Payne, Jim Pope, and Hazel Reeves. Our election was held, and the new officers will be sworn in at the December 17th meeting. No act of kindness, no matter how small is wasted. We wish everyone a safe and happy New Year!





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Letter from the News Director

Hello everyone, those of us at the Beltsville News hope you and your family had a happy holiday season and a blessed New Year! We hope your 2016 is even better than 2015! I would also like to thank some our staff of writers, advertising personnel, treasurers, editors, social media coordinators, photgraphers and everyone else who helps to create each month's edition. They do all this hard work out of love for the paper and the community. We are entirely staffed by volunteers. Happy New Year from everyone hear at the Beltsville News!

Rick

Thank You to the Beltsville Fire Department



The Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department and Santa visit the children of Beltsville. Photo by Beltsville News staff photographer, Mariah McKenzie.

Beltsville News

News: Rick Bergmann, editorbvnews@gmail,com, 1 Morton Place, Laurel, MD 20707. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope if photo is to be returned. Accepted material may be edited. Letters to the Editor on local topics are encouraged. Names may be withheld upon request.

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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.

Please join our Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/groups/300944563420364/) and follow us at beltsville_news on Instagram.

Thank you to the Beltsville Fire Department for all that they do for the community throughout the year! Chief Matt Tomlins and all of the volunteers make a huge difference in the lives of the members of the Beltsville Community. They sponsor community activities such as pizza with Santa, Raising money for the Greenbelt Animal Shelter, Community open houses and much more. They also participate in Beltsville Day and National night out each year. Their ladies auxiliary works with the area schools on the Fire Prevention Poster contest as well. We are truly blessed to have a dedicated group of individuals willing to keep the Beltsville Community safe. Take some time to stop by the firehouse on Prince George's Avenue and thank them for all that they do.

"Grateful Tears Fall"

Hold my hands dearly, Lord. Let me feel Your scars As grateful tears fall. I would be nothing without You. You are my God and King! ...My everything!

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His One and Only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but Have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

Help me shout it out Amongst the nations!

---Crystal Joy Webb

"St Claire of little Portion"

St. Claire, a coincidence this parody ends with clarity? stumbled on your name as I stumbled into your life, leave room for serendipity.

Only chances securing your sceptical serenity, last song of solidarity.

St. Claire-whence shall you arise from Cassopiea's Chair Spend a night with a mortal, guardian of love romantics Legionnaire.
Been trapped in an interstitial inferno of infirmity, St. 'Claire words imbued my state of purgatory, leaping from Elysium fields to Ephesus garden, Claire a guiding light liberating luminary.

Electronic sounds beating my electron cochlear, Tomatis is behind this maddening method. St. Claire you near!!
Breaking marital vows of wedding the sun dial, cleaving an un-arranged affair.
Adding ticks on a whisper wife finally can hear the cow wheel gears

As Gawain sheds tears for Guinevere, I cry in to the atmosphere for Claire
Talks shorten between her and I, they shorten...shorten...shorten

telomeres.

(Aside) Pardon an aside for this atonement, years spent in alone-

I destroyed every obstacle in my life...love is a formidable opponent

Castaway defile depression preparing for this moment. Journeying out of Hades's clutches, Claire's calling contain this clairvoyance. The river Styx turn gold when a

syllable touches agaping what was once in discordance.

Goddess unrivaled facial temptations, Aphrodite crowns her a constellation,
A kiss from her heals all wounds a cocktail vaccination.
Near a decade since excitatory anticipation in waiting confrontation.
Cans't my flesh escape such incantations, perform quantum levitation, see my beloved at once Dionysus anoints our coronation.

Goodbye Dante, last day striding down the gallows these daunting halls.

Letting go of loneliness, bitterness, and sadness natures finely sharpen claws take my tell tale heart from these weltering whimpering walls Tonight I bathe in endless dreams. St. Claire's perfume's my propofol.

by Pegasus (Alter ego for Howard Abegesah)

SCOUTING NEWS

continued from page 1

paper towel rolls with rice; and a sistrum, or an additional type of musical instrument, from bottle caps and hangers. Bears and Tigers planted Black-eyed Susan seeds from seed pods from the Cubmaster's garden.

Nine scouts and their parents took a nature hike at the Patuxent Wildlife Refuge this month. We learned about the National Wildlife Refuge programs and trees and wildlife in our own backyard. We saw killdeer, geese, and signs of woodpeckers, deer, and decomposers.

We also collected 30 toys for the Prince George's District Toy Drive for sick children at the National Children's Medical Center. This year we did 8 service project and over 280 hours of service.

The Webelos completed the Communicator pin and are learning how to tie lashings in preparation for joining the Boy Scout troop.

Are you interested in discovering the fun of Cubs Scouts with your son? If you would like more information, contact Regina Halper through www.BeAScout.org. Just put in our zip code (20705) and look for Cub Pack 1031.

Scouts Compete in Orienteering

By Gary Bauchan, Assistant Scoutmaster

The 39th annual Maryland Scout Orienteering Competition took place on Saturday, November 7th,

Volunteer to Help a Child in Foster Care

It is time to do something about the overwhelming number of young men in Prince George's County who are growing up without the benefit of a stable and meaningful positive male role model. Young men in foster care are at a greater risk of dropping out of school, getting involved with drugs, and becoming homeless. The need for strong support in their lives is urgent. Court

VOLUNTEER

continues on page 14



Scouts awarded for 11th & 12th place in Pairs Orienteering.

at Broadcreek Boy Scout Reservation north of Baltimore. A total of 70 units and 600 scouts took part in the competition. Eleven Scouts including Brandon, Brian, Daniel, Henry, James, Justin, Kacey, Ryan, Sam, Surya, and Walker participated under the supervision of Assistant Scoutmasters Eric Saathoff, Buddha Pakazhenthi, and Kevin d'Eustachio and scouting parents David Timus and Dongyu Guo.

Orienteering consists of being able to read contour maps and use a compass for scouts to find their way around hill and forest, swamp and field, and river and valleys to locate orienteering markers. In the morning, individual pairs' competition takes place in which the scouts are guided by a blazed path, and along the path they have to locate 6 orienteering markers and place a dot on their maps as to the exact location of the marker. Points are awarded based upon how close

they are to the correct location of each marker. Our younger scouts did very well as Daniel, Walker, and Justin were 11th place, and Kasey and James placed 12th out of 82 pairs.

In the afternoon troop competition, all of the troops were given the same topographical map with 50 locations marked on it. The senior patrol leader (Daniel) divided up the troop into pairs to devise a plan to locate as many of the 50 orienteering markers as they could in 90 minutes. Each marker had a unique paper punch, which was punched onto the corresponding numbered box and returned to the starting point. Our troop scored 117 points for 25th place out of 70 units.

The fall weather was cool and crisp, and the scouts had a great time running around outdoors. They can't wait to compete again next year.

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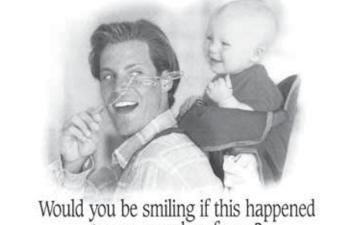


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Obituaries

Mary Ann Riley Allen, Age 78

On Monday, December 14th, Mary Ann Riley Allen passed away at her home in Woodbine, MD, surrounded by her lov-

ing family. Born on December 9, 1937, in Rockville, MD, she was the daughter of the late Dock Malton Riley and Katie Lillie Jordan Riley. Beloved wife of the late Jesse Eugene Allen, Sr., for 51 years, loving mother of Patricia

Ann Allen, Jesse Eugene Allen, Jr., and Donald (Janet) Lee Allen. Sister of Alice (Robert) Virginia Allen; Grandmother of 4, and great grandmother of 3. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great nephews.

Neighbors in the News

A Milestone Year for Paulette Goodman's Advocacy Work: "Founding Mother" of DC PFLAG Chapter Reflects on Milestone, Future

For Paulette Goodman, Friday, June 26, began as a typical day at her residence at Riderwood retirement community. In the morning, she ate breakfast and checked her computer's inbox. But later, she began receiving congratulatory phone calls and emails.

Ms. Goodman is considered the "Founding Mother" of the Metro DC Chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), and on that summer day in 2015, the United States Supreme Court issued its ruling recognizing gay marriage nationwide.

"I never thought I'd see marriage equality in my lifetime," recalls Ms. Goodman, 82. "I simply said 'Halleluiah."

The decision marked a milestone in her lifelong journey as a social justice advocate. Born in pre-World War II Paris, France, Ms. Goodman survived the Holocaust era, a tragic time in which she lost family members and close

'As a child, I knew what it was like to be afraid and ostracized. Just going to the movies on Thursday afternoons with my friends, forbidden to Jews, could have meant tragedy for the whole family had I been caught in a roundup near the theater," she described.

Since the early 1980's, Ms. Goodman has "fought the good fight," in her words, on behalf of the LGBT community. She served as the first chapter president of the Metro DC PFLAG chapter, working out of her kitchen with a cadre of volunteers. In 1988, she was elected president of the national organization, completing a four-

Her work continues at Rider-



Paulette Goodman, a resident of Riderwood retirement community, is pictured in 2013 with state and local citations for her then-thirty years of service to the Metro DC Chapter of PFLAG.

wood. She is the co-founder of a PFLAG support group that provides anonymous, one-on-one counseling for residents, distributes information and literature, and participates in events like the retirement community's Diversity Expo and Health Fair. The support group even sponsored a screening of Gen Silent in June.

Despite the Supreme Court ruling, Ms. Goodman notes that her work is not finished. "I am committed to advocating for understanding and acceptance for transgendered people in the United States and for the LGBT community internationally in places like Russia and certain parts of Africa where people still face persecution and even death."

Sixty-six years ago, she moved to the United States with family members. "The quest for social

justice has taken me all over the country working with people from all walks of life, religions, and ethnicities," noted Mrs. Goodman. "Nothing is more important than family, and that's why an organization as dedicated to social justice as PFLAG is a blessing.'

"The personal stories of people I've counseled are compelling to me. A gay teenager once told me that he lived with the inner fear of losing his own family because they might not understand his truth," Ms. Goodman described. "Giving comfort and a voice to a young adult like him has been a motivator throughout my life."

Taking a moment to reflect on the events of 2015, she simply said, "We've come a long way...a very long way."

THE NEW YEAR

When breathing out words of creation, God's Spirit brought forth more than light; He spoke o'er this earth's prime location, And covered it with His delight.

Each day was a new revelation Of birth and renewal of life, Continuing through generations, E'en though sin has tainted man's sight. Because of the hope of salvation The Christ Child brought on Christmas night, New mercies lead to celebration As we face New Year's Eve midnight.

With joy there is anticipation Of power to change wrong to right; Or maybe we feel hesitation, Not confident we have the might.

So here is the consideration: Though storms may loom heavy with fright, His promise brings true jubilation, Our God is with us in the fight.

> Rebecca Hutchings 12/04/2015

Rosapepe's Report to Beltsville

Repairs completed on the CSX Bridge on **Powder Mill Road**

As many residents are aware, the bridge on Powder Mill Road over the CSX tracks was in need of major repair. The deterioration included dangerous pot holes and crumbling railings. We're pleased to report that structural improvements have been made and the entire driving surface was replacement last month. Many thanks to the Vansville Civic Association and other Beltsville residents for contacting us about this problem. (please insert attached photo if possible)

Join me, my wife **Sheilah - and former US Senator Joe Tydings** - Sunday, January 10 to welcome 2016!

I hope you can join my wife Sheilah and me for our Welcome

2016 Celebration on Sunday, January 10 from 11:30 to 2:00 pm, at Monarch Global Academy in Western Anne Arundel. The address is 430 Brock Bridge Road, Laurel. Former US Senator Joe Tydings will be our special guest. Families are welcome. Please RSVP soon online at www.SenatorJimRosapepe.com. We look forward to seeing you!

Health insurance deadlines: January 15 **and 31**

Delegates Barbara Frush, Joseline Peña-Melnyk, Ben Barnes, and I want to be sure all working families are able to sign up for affordable health insurance. In 2016, the President's health care plan is expanding to include dental insurance. Now is the time to learn about expanded coverage -- and other ways to save money on health insurance.

• Enrollments completed before

Jan. 15 will have coverage beginning Feb. 1.

• Enrollments completed Jan. 16-Jan. 31 will have coverage beginning March 1.

Visit www.marylandhealthconnection.gov or call toll-free 1.855.642.8572 to enroll or change

State Legislative Session Starts January 13

Delegates Frush, Peña-Melnyk, Barnes, and I will be back in Annapolis representing you in the 2016 Maryland legislative session starting on January 13.

Please let us know your opinions on issues of concern and contact us with any questions. And, of course, feel free to be in touch if the Delegates or I can be of help to you. Just email 21stDistrict-Delegation@gmail.com or call 301.858.3141.

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Ready to Skim Your Debt in 2015?

To reduce your debt, first conduct a financial checkup and then contact us, Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union. Just like an annual physical or your vehicle service schedule, it's a good idea to perform an annual financial checkup to see if you're on track to meet your goals and to see how you've done over the past 12 months. The beginning of the New Year is a great time to do it. Follow these steps to conduct a financial checkup:

- 1. Evaluate your goals. Did you make progress on them in 2015? If not, why? If your goals changed during the year, revise them and commit them to paper. Has your personal situation changed, or do you anticipate any major changes in the near future—like changing jobs, going through a divorce, having another child, beginning retirement, buying a new house, or getting married? These kinds
- of events can alter your income and lifestyle significantly, so you may need to revise your budget, your spending, your savings, and your investments.
- 2. Protect your assets. Review your homeowner's or renter's insurance, health insurance, and auto insurance. Also, keep your long-term disability insurance updated to protect your income earning ability.
- 3. Review retirement plans. A 401(k) is one of the best taxreducing strategies available. Are you contributing the max? If your employer doesn't have a 401(k), start an IRA on your own at Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union. We offer a variety of IRA options.
- 4. Evaluate your debts. Are you controlling and paying down debt? Is your credit card debt under control? High interest payments on your loans can choke your ability to get ahead.

Is it time to refinance your mortgage to get a lower rate? Even a small reduction in your rate can make a big difference over the life of your mortgage.

Out-of-control debt can lower your credit score, hindering your ability to borrow, which can result in higher interest rates when you do borrow. This is exactly why from now until February 28th you should see how much you could save by refinancing your high-interest debt to a lower rate from Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union. A serious and thorough financial checkup every year will pay big dividends in your journey toward financial independence. To get started, visit us at www.PrinceGeorgesCFCU. org/Debt or call 301.627.2666 or 800.952.7428 to speak to member service representative today.

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To Use and Might Benefit From a Second Opinion!

(Don't Let Uncle Sam Keep Your Hard Earned Money This Tax Season!)

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 31 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 tax return, we will help you keep the highest amount of money legally possible, AND, if we prepare your return, We Will Electronically File Your Tax Return with the IRS AND the State of Maryland for FREE!

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How does it work? It's simple, really. We are going to bend over backwards to make sure you are well taken care of. If we don't achieve that goal, tell us. If we can't make it right to your satisfaction, we will give you your money back PLUS \$40 FOR YOUR TIME AND TROUBLE! And, if there is ever a problem on your tax return, we will fix it and pay any penalties caused if we made a mistake. That's our "Peace of Mind" Accuracy Guarantee.

No other tax firm (that I know of) makes such a strong claim, but we believe that choosing Robert C. Newland & Associates to prepare your taxes should be a "risk free no brainer." But just in case you are still not sure, I am also throwing in a Special Bonus Offer of a \$40 discount for the first 50 new clients who respond to this message before February 29, 2016. It's our way of saying, "Thanks for Trusting Us To Be Your Tax Professional!"

HURRY!! AVOID IDENTITY THEFT

The bad guys may have your personal information from hacked retail store accounts, colleges and the government entities. File your tax return before the bad guys file a bogus return and get away with stealing your identity. Let the bad guys have their bogus return bounce because you got your legitimate return to IRS before they did. If you are a procrastinator or slow to get around to it, get help from someone who prepares tax returns full time and works long hours as needed to get the job done.

2015 AFFORDABLE CARE ACT (ACA) CHALLENGE FOR SELF-FILERS

Even if you are a capable self-filer, you may want to consider seeking our help this year. IRS has Staff Action responsibility for the entire U.S. GOVERNMENT collection portion of fees relative to the ACA implementation, including taxpayer reporting, tax assessment, and tax collection procedures. In order to fulfill their responsibility, IRS depends on information made available to them from three sources.

- 1. The market place, i.e. individual insurance companies provide information to IRS in a regimented format about your health care insurance.
- 2. The insurance exchanges.
- Completed forms coming to IRS from individual taxpayers such as yourself as part of the annual tax season reporting activities.

If the information going to the IRS on your health care from the three sources does not reconcile, you and as many as half the tax return filers, even those assisted by paid preparers, may get correspondence from the IRS. This is partially because of errors in reporting by the market place or insurance exchanges and the trial-run basis of the IRS forms that taxpayers are completing. In addition, your tax information may bounce back and forth between IRS and the state to get further exchange information or other clarification. Consequently, in a large majority of tax filings, it may be mission impossible to get all the information to reconcile due to the fickle finger of fate. Please consider, though, that someone who prepares tax returns full-time may be slightly better able to avoid correspondence-causing presentations to the IRS. Never the less, responding to correspondence can be time consuming and it could be handled for you by your paid tax preparer.

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Tech Sense

By John Bell

Have a Safe New Year

Your first resolution for the New Year should be to change all of your passwords. Yes, that's right: visit each website and create a new password for the New Year. Remember that every site should have a different password. Feel free to write them down or better yet use the techniques I described last March and April to create secure and easy to remember passwords for every website. You can also save passwords securely in the Firefox web browser by using a master password. It is not safe to store passwords in Internet Explorer or Chrome at this time.

Use OpenDNS to Protect Your Family

Another safety tip for your family is to change your default Domain Name Service (DNS). Ok, I know that probably didn't mean anything to most of you, but let me explain. Every server on the Internet is accessed through an address called an IP address. The IP address is a number, not very descriptive and hard to remember, so instead of typing in an IP address to go to a web site the browser accepts a name called a domain name: for example, Google.com. If your computer does not know the address of Google.com, it will ask a domain name server to look up the address. The browser then sends the request to that address. For example, if I go to the command line and type ping google. com, the response will look like:

Pinging google.com [216.58.217.142] with 32 bytes of data:

Reply from 216.58.217.142: bytes=32 time=11ms TTL=55

Reply from 216.58.217.142: bytes=32 time=11ms TTL=55

Reply from 216.58.217.142: bytes=32 time=11ms TTL=55

Reply from 216.58.217.142: bytes=32 time=12ms TTL=55

Ping statistics 216.58.217.142:

Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),

Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:

Minimum = 11ms, Maximum = 12ms, Average = 11ms

The 216.58.217.142 is the IP address of the google.com server. By default the DNS is set to the service provided by your Internet Service Provider (ISP).

Now, let's assume you do not want children accessing inappropriate sites. Simply use a DNS service provider like OpenDNS. OpenDNS filters DNS requests so that, when a browser requests a site that is not allowed, the browser is sent to page showing the site has been blocked, thus preventing access to malicious sites or sites with content you want blocked

from children.

The change to use OpenDNS can be made on individual computers or can be set on the router so all computers accessing the Internet through the router are protected. OpenDNS can be found here: https://www.opendns.com/homeinternet-security/. This is a free service made available to families. For a small fee, OpenDNS can be used for businesses as well. I have found it useful to use OpenDNS to block the top-level domains for sites within Russia (*.ru) and China (*.cn) to prevent some of the phishing attacks that originate in those countries.



Use an Ad-Blocker

Ad-blockers have been big news since Apple started to allow them on iOS. An ad blocker prevents ads from appearing on a web page. It does this by blocking content from the domains that generate the ads and filling the space with a blank place holder. This often results in a faster browsing experience. Recently, a number of malware exploits have been carried out against computers using advertisements inserted into web pages. Ad blockers can often prevent this form of attack helping to protect your computer, tablet, or phone. Adblock Plus, one of the most popular ad blockers, can be found here: https://adblockplus. org/en/about. It is free and open source and available as a plug-in for Firefox and many other browsers. Be aware though that many websites depend on the revenue generated by ads to cover their operating costs. Adblock Plus allows you to whitelist sites to allow ads to appear if you choose to support the site that way.

Use DuckDuckGo for Private Search

Don't get me wrong-I love using Google for a number of things—but when I want to research a health issue or another private topic, I hate seeing advertisements for things related to that topic as I browse the web later. In comes DuckDuckGo, the search engine that doesn't track you. DuckDuckGo can be found at https://duckduckgo.com and works pretty much the same as Google except it doesn't remember the search topics or create ads that follow you around the Internet. You simply type your search terms into the field, and the site returns a list of sites that match the search criteria.

That's all for this month, I wish the best and safest of holidays for everyone.

Neighbors in the News

Korean Culture Appreciation Sunday at Emmanuel

In the fellowship hall of Emmanuel United Methodist Church on December 20th from 10:00 am to 11:00 am, the congregation held Korean Culture Appreciation Sunday. Emmanuel UMC has been holding quarterly fellowship events for a year to connect the members of its two worship services (contemporary and traditional). It has been a time for the two groups to share a meal and get to know one another. For December, the church decided to change the format a little. It held a Korean culture appreciation time. There were 2 major reasons for doing this: one, the worshipers at Emmanuel believe in having a "vibrant multicultural church where all God's children are welcome," and two, they have a Korean Pastor. This was an opportunity for the members to learn some more about their pastor and celebrate a different culture at the same time.

Emmanuel's Pastor, Jacob

Young, is a Korean American who was raised in Korea and immigrated to and studied in the United States. He was appointed to Emmanuel in July 2014 and noticed that Beltsville area is a community that has a variety of culture and ethnicities. Emmanuel UMC prides itself on being a church with various cultures. nationalities, and ethnicities.

Traditional Korean food was provided, Korean culture posters were displayed, Korean history was explained briefly, and a traditional Korean play and game were introduced. There was a time for learning simple Korean words ("hello," "I love you," and "thank you") as well as displaying traditional Korean clothing. Finally, Korean participants sang the Korean traditional song "Ari-

To truly be a multicultural community where there is respect and recognition among various cultural and ethnic groups, the Beltsville Community should strive to embrace and to recognize the many cultural groups around them. For Emmanuel, this was just the first, but significant, step of the goal of truly embracing the diversity of the community around it. Pastor Jacob has a vision for cross-cultural ministries and Asian ministries. If you are interested in discussing this, please don't hesitate to contact him at Emmanuel UMC, 301.937.7114, or through his email at pastor.jacob@eumcbeltsville.com. Emmanuel is located at 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705.

Emmanuel UMC will continue to plan events to embrace and celebrate the multiculturalism in the Beltsville area. The church strives to increase cultural and ethnic sensitivity and to establish harmony and solidarity as human beings. The members of Emmanuel UMC continue to pray for this. Remember that we are all God's children as brothers and sisters in Christ.



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Share Your News!

Send your article submissions to News Director Rick Bergmann at editorbynews@gmail.com

Laurel Employees to Get **Active Shooter Training**

The city of Laurel is taking steps to make sure that employees are prepared if a dangerous incident erupts in a city building.

All 193 employees are being asked to participate in active shooter training. A team of officers from the Laurel Police Department are conducting four sessions over two days for workers.

"We want to train employees on how to respond in a rapid and consistent manner if they find themselves in a serious situation, whether they're at work or off the job," Police Chief Richard McLaughlin says. "Creating that muscle memory-making their response second nature—has been proven to reduce casualties. It can be a lifesaver."

Chief McLaughlin says there are three key protocols the officers will be teaching employees who encounter a disgruntled worker with a weapon or an armed intruder on the job: run, hide, or fight.

"It's the industry standard for active shooting training. It's the same technique teachers and staff at Sandy Hook Elementary school were taught, and it no doubt saved the lives of teachers and children when that shooter went on his rampage there."

A 20-year old-shooter shot and killed 20 children and 6 adult staff members in the Newtown, Connecticut, school on December 14, 2013. Law enforcement officials called many of the staff members heroes for hiding with students in the building during the shooting. Others ran with their students to

homes in the neighborhood.

Carreen Koubek, who works in Laurel's Communications Department, attended the first training session. She called it "eye opening," and the training has really made her think about her personal safety plan if the unthinkable hap-

"It cements it in your head: you have options you can fall back on; it makes you think about what you do in that situation," Koubek says.

The Laurel Police Department is using videos, role playing, and group discussions to round out the training.

Besides city of Laurel employees, the police department has already offered active shooter training to several local businesses, including financial institutions.

Our New Year

For all of us here on Earth this New Year of 2016 another New World, new and full of Promises and Wishes, our most urgent, sincere being

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- Choosing the Right Houseplant for Your Space
- Planting Terrariums and Fairy Bowls
- · Growing from Seed: Getting Started

Orchid Diagnostic & Repotting Clinic

Saturday, January 23, 1:30 pm to 5 pm Sunday, January 24, 9:30 am to 4:30 pm

Carol's advice is always FREE. Bring in the plant(s) you are concerned about. She will tell you how to resolve problems, and, for a fee, she will expertly repot them, showing you how.

Gardening Hand Tool* Sharpening

Saturdays & Sundays 1 pm to 3 pm January 16 Through February 21

A fee of \$3 per tool (2 tools/\$5 "cash only") will be donated to the Emmanuel United Methodist Church Foodbank in Beltsville.

Limit of 2 tools per person per day. First come, first served. *Sorry, we cannot sharpen lawn mower blades or saws.

Bonsai Classes

Hands-On Bonsai Class (one day) w/ Master Ducky Hong Saturday, January 9, 2:00 to 4:00 pm Fee: \$65 - all materials provided ONLINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED - www.shop.behnkes.com

Beginner Bonsai 101 (two day class) w/ Master Ducky Hona Saturdays, January 9 & 16, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm Fee: \$120 - plus plant and pot (additional materials provided) ONLINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED - www.shop.behnkes.com

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Neighbors in the News

America's Health System Can't Put Insurers before Patients

By Dr. Kenneth Thorpe

FDA regulators recently approved several revolutionary new medicines to fight America's leading cause of death: heart disease. According to a recent study in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the new class of drugs known as PCSK9 inhibitors can reduce harmful cholesterol by as much as 60 percent—a potential lifesaver for those who don't respond well to existing treatments.

It's difficult to put a value on a breakthrough that could vastly improve the lives of millions of Americans. Yet, a new report from the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review (ICER) concludes that PCSK9 inhibitors are overpriced.

ICER's findings are part of a troubling trend in defining "value" of new drugs and medical devices through the narrow lens of the insurer without considering broader benefits of better health. Reducing a treatment's worth to calculations about medical costs ignores the real-life benefits that therapies, procedures, and devices provide. Incomplete analyses like ICER's pave the way towards policies that will inevitably deny treatments to patients and curtail future medical progress.

Over the last few years, ICER has positioned itself as an impartial authority in evaluating the latest medical treatments, devices, tests, and delivery systems. Unfortunately, the methods employed by the Boston-based nonprofit are often incomplete particularly in its assignment of a "price" for medical advances that fail to consider patient benefits.

Consider its assessment of the "CardioMEMS HF System" recently approved by the FDA. The miniature sensor sends data about a patient's heart rate and artery pressure wirelessly to hospitals and clinics. According to ICER, the device ought to cost \$10,655. How did it come up with such a precise number? By approaching the question of value from the perspective of an insurance company, a government program, or some other health-sector "payer." The analysis discounts data from randomized trials that show a 37 percent reduction in hospitalizations among heart failure patients.

Specifically, ICER's recommendation reflects the maximum price that could be paid for a medical device without exceeding ICER's self-imposed "budgetary impact threshold" and assumes that payers will allow unfettered access to the product. In other

HEALTH SYSTEM continues on page 12



Club News

The Beltsville Recreation Council

The Beltsville Recreation Council consists of active members of the Beltsville community, including Daniel Duncan, Peter Doan, Karen Coakley, Kathy Mellott, Frank Cockrell, Linda Diasgranados, Jim Pope, and Charlie Deegan. The Recreation Council plans and organizes several events in the Beltsville Community in conjunction with the Beltsville Community Center. Those events include the annual Beltsville Day in May, summer Concerts under the Stars, and winter holiday events, including a concert and a home decorating contest.

Planning for Beltsville Day 2016 has begun. Games and rides have been ordered, and applications for vendors are being distributed. Non-profit organizations wanting to sell food at Beltsville Day 2016 are asked to complete an application form and food permit application by March 15th. Only food permits submitted through the Beltsville Recreation Council will be accepted for any non-profit organization. Commercial food vendors are not allowed at Beltsville Day.

The summer concerts are being scheduled. The locally renowned NoWhere Men will be performing. If you went to high school in Prince George's County in the 60's and 70's, you might remember this band. Plan a mini high school reunion at the Beltsville Community Center to enjoy the concert with "old" friends. Bring a picnic basket, but no alcohol is allowed on the MNCPPC prop-

ertv.

To join the council and help make a difference in the Beltsville Community, come to a meeting on the 3rd Monday (2nd Monday for a month with a holiday) of each month at 7:00 pm in the Beltsville Community Center, 3900 Sellman Rd. Contact the council through email at beltsvillereccouncil@gmail.com or at our website www. beltsvillereccouncil.homestead.com.



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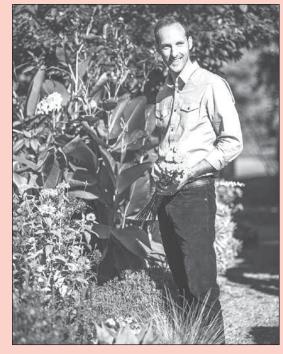
y through Saturday 10am to 9pm Sunday Noon to 6pm

The Beltsville Garden Club

The Beltsville Garden Club will meet on Wednesday, January 27th, at 7:30 pm in the multi-purpose room of the Duckworth School, 11201 Evans Trail, Beltsville, MD. Thomas Ranier will present "Planting in a Post-Wild World: Designing Plant Communities for More Resilient Landscapes."

This groundbreaking talk presents a powerful alternative to traditional horticulture, designed plantings that function like naturally-occurring plant communities. Join landscape architect Thomas Rainer, a leading voice in ecological landscape design, to learn how plants fit together in nature and how to use this knowledge to create landscapes that are resilient, beautiful, and diverse. As practical as it is inspiring, this talk explores a new synthesis of ecology and horticulture—resulting in an intentionally designed and managed community where population dynamics are encouraged within an aesthetic framework.

Thomas Rainer, a landscape architect, teacher, and writer, is a passionate advocate for an ecologically expressive design aesthetic that interprets nature rather than imitates it. His planting designs focus on creating a modern expression of the ground plane with a largely native palette of perennials and grasses. Thomas has designed landscapes for the U.S. Capitol grounds, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, and The New York Botanical Garden and blogs regularly at the award-winning site Grounded Design. He is a principal for the firm Rhodeside &



Landscape architect Thomas Rainer

Harwell in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Rainer will have copies of his just-published book on this subject available for signing after his talk. The public is welcome, and admission is free. Refreshments will be served following the program.

A New Year and New Opportunities for Service

By Ivy Christoffers

We, the members of Post and Unit #217, are proud of the past year and the support our members have afforded the active military, our veterans, our youth, and our community. We have just completed our Veteran Gift Shops at the various VA Medical Centers, the VA holiday parties, and the Special Olympics' holiday party at Le Fontain Bleu in Lanham. All were well attended and very successful. We also held our gift shop and

Christmas party at Charlotte Hall Veteran's Home. You must remember that all of these functions are funded by the American Legion Auxiliary through the generosity of our members. We can never praise them enough for their support of our programs. When one adds all the different programs we have assisted with throughout the year, it boggles the mind, and now we have the opportunity to plan that much more for 2016.

I have heard that the lady veteran students from MCVET (Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training) are still bragging about their "night on the town" at Toby's Dinner Theater. It seems the male veterans are lobbying for equal treatment from their director, Jeff Kendricks. There are approximately 200 males, but there are only 12 females, so I don't expect they will have much success.

Upcoming events at the College Park Post and Unit #217 include the January 29th debut of a new band at Post 3217. There will be Jim Simon on keyboards, previously with the Fabulous Hubcaps band, along with Bobby Farris from Johnny Seaton's Bad Behavior band. They play all kinds of music, and I understand Jim does a great Mick Jagger impersonation. There is no cost to hear these great entertainers, but a beef dinner will be served from 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm for a donation of \$10, followed by the show. Come out and enjoy yourselves after all the hustle and bustle of the holidays. We have a live band every Friday with dinner served before the band plays at 8:00 pm. Dinners begin at 5:30 pm.

very Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 12:15 pm. All gamblers unite and try for the big payouts. Also, our hall is available for your special events, and we have a fabulous chef to help you plan and provide your meals. He does a great job of providing lunch each

> **OPPORTUNITIES** continues on page 14

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"Hi! My name is Paul Essex and I have over forty years experince working with families. I never cease to be amazed at the amount of pain, turmoil and strife that surviving family members endure when a valid will is not available."

School News



Front Row (left to right): Alana Barre, Tiffany Daly, Emely Gonzalez, Perla Escolero, Shakira Humphrey, Shamira Humphrey, Suhani Patel, Lucero Soto Middle Row (left to right): Shawn Tomlin, Alyssa Barre, Gisseline Carillo, Makia Barbour-White, Natalie Alaniz, Melanie Robles, Eileen Roa, Ashley Rodriguez, Sabrina Williams Ridley, Michael Moreno Back Row (left to right): Mrs. Warrick (Program Coordinator), Kevin Tchatat, Beatrice Sandu, Jalyssa Elias, Pedrick Knight, Katie Lopez, Synclaire Williams Ridley, Maryln Arevalo, Gissel Cruz and Mrs. Samuel (Program Advisor).

SCHOOL NEWS

continued from page 1

began his career in culinary arts in 1990 when he worked as a cook in his father's restaurant in Jamaica and his passion for international cuisine began. He carried this passion with him throughout his culinary career as a roti chef at eatZi's Market and Bakery in Atlanta, GA, and as a sous chef at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Atlanta, GA, and with banquets at the Willard Hotel in Washington, DC. The café also offers catering services for weddings, private dinners/personal chef occasions, and corporate events.

Students at High Road have an opportunity to develop job/career-specific skills through participating in job shadowing activities with local business in the areas of their choice. The students who have chosen to work with Chef Neville has expressed a strong interest and have skills that illustrate they are capable of succeeding in the culinary arts.

The students are placed in a variety of positions at the café, including busing tables, preparing food, washing dishes, waiting on tables, assisting with catering, and serving as stock clerks trained to work their station and complete tasks with minimal supervision after a few weeks of beginning work.

Chef Neville explains, "The importance for the kids is to have a desire to want to learn. [They need to] Find something they are passionate about and learn all you can. I enjoy working with the students...watching them grow."

Stephan Lewis says, "The kids absolutely love coming here and lending a hand and working hard at something they like."

Royce, a student at High Road, explains, "I love coming here to work. It gives me a sense of pride knowing that I was able to

come in and do an internship for a few weeks and then get hired for weekend catering jobs. My mother is proud as well."

If you have any questions or would like to place an order, please call 301.345.2089. If you are interested in providing work experience opportunities for High Road students, please call 301.210.4860.

Beltsville Academy Student Ambassadors

Beltsville Academy is proud to announce the 2015-2016 class of student ambassadors. The Student Ambassador Program's mission is to assist individuals who are less fortunate in our community and abroad through various service projects. Past service projects include the "Walk to End Homelessness," "Treasures for our Troops," canned food drives during the holidays, and the "Teens & Jeans for the Homeless" clothing drive, just to name a few. Student ambassadors are interested in partnering with other agencies and organizations whose goal is to help families in need. To sponsor or partner with the Student Ambassador Program, please contact the school. The principal of Beltsville Academy is Mrs. Leslie Lowe, and the Student Ambassador Program is under the direction of Mrs. Warrick and Mrs. Samuel.52

From the Hilltop: High Point News

During the month of December, High Point's (HP) Student Government Association (SGA) worked with students and staff to provide both winter coats and toys for individuals and families in need during this winter and holiday season. The SGA encouraged students and staff to participate in the Toys for Tots program in order to bring hope to children who needed it during the holiday

season. For over two weeks, SGA collected toys for the Toys for Tots Foundation. The Toys for Tots Foundation then distributed those toys to less fortunate children in the community. SGA also completed a successful One Warm Coat drive to ensure children have proper clothing for this cold season.

On Saturday, December 5th, HP's drama students, under the direction of Ms. Betty Smalls, English and drama teacher, participated in the Text Alive program, which allows high school students to perform at the Shakespeare Theater. These drama students were able to collaborate with professional actors, design scenes,

SCHOOL NEWS

continues on page 13

5 Tips to Stop Bullying and Build Relationships

(BPT) - There are few parents who don't occasionally worry about whether or not their child is being bullied at school. In recent years, the issue has gained national attention, and efforts to educate students, parents and teachers on how to stop bullying have made a big impact, but the problem is still prevalent. Seventy percent of kids report they have seen bullying in their schools, prompting the founding of initiatives such as Stop Bullying: Speak Up, whose mission is to encourage kids to tell parents, teachers or another adult about bullying when they see it.

At the heart of such efforts is the idea that bullying can be stopped through positive relationship building. Strong, interpersonal relationships between children can stop

bullying before it starts.

But how is this to be accomplished? The following five tips are simple steps families and educators can take to encourage meaningful relationships and help put an end to bullying.

Take a pledge - Having kids take a pledge to stop bullying is a great way to lay out clear guidelines on what they should do if they see bullying, who to tell and how to comfort the kid who is bullied. The Speak Up Pledge provides clear guidelines for how to respond to bullying. Teach kids to be friendly to someone who's getting picked on - Kids who are bullied often need a friend, they're misunderstood and a little kindness can go

BULLYING

continues on page 14



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9650 Muirkirk Rd., Laurel, MD 20708. Phone: 301.377.7817. TTY: 301.699.2544. E-mail: montpeliermansion@pgparks.com. Contact the Art Center at 301.377.7800 regarding art and photography classes. Selfguided tours of the mansion: Thur. – Tue. from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost: \$3/adults, \$2/seniors, \$1/children ages 6 – 18, free/ ages 5 and under. The mansion is closed on Wednesdays. The grounds are open from dawn until dusk every day of the year and access is free of charge.

WHAT IS IT:

Sun., Jan. 10 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. — Opening reception. The exhibit runs from Mon., Jan. 11 through Sun., Mar. 13 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday through Tuesday each week (closed Wednesdays). Back by popular demand! See all kinds of gizmos, gadgets, whatchamacallits and thingamajigs. Your job is to guess: What is it? Parents and grandparents will see things that were commonplace when they were growing up. Kids will marvel at the nifty items of those bygone eras. Regular admission fees to the mansion apply. Cost: \$3/adults (ages 19 to 59), \$2/ seniors (ages 60 and up), \$1/children (ages 6-18), ages 5 and under admitted free.

COLLEGE PARK AVIATION MUSEUM

1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Dr., College Park, MD 20740. Phone: 301.864.6029. TTY: 301.699.2544. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except for major holidays. Cost: \$4/adults, \$3/seniors, \$2/ children, free/age 1 and under. Questions? Please don't hesitate to call us. See CollegeParkAviationMuseum.com for more information and events.

GUIDED MUSEUM TOUR:

Sat., Jan. 9 at 1 p.m. Explore exciting aspects of the Museum's collection with a Museum Educator. The tour will last approximately 45 minutes. All ages. Free with museum admission.

BOY SCOUT DAY:

Sat., Jan. 16 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts are invited to explore the history of aviation and science of flight with a variety of fun, educational activities

that count towards badge requirements. Please call the museum in advance to register and obtain more information. Ages 7 and

LAUREL-BELTSVILLE SENIOR **ACTIVITY CENTER**

up. Cost: \$5/participant.

7120 Contee Rd., Laurel, MD 20707, around the corner from the Laurel Regional Hospital. Phone: 301.206.3350. Fax: 301.206.3387. TTY: 301.446.3402. Regular hours of operation: Mon. - Thur. from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fri. from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat. from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., closed Sunday. Membership is free for Beltsville residents who are age 60 or older.

SENIOR FRIENDSHIP CLUB:

Friendship Club regular office hours are Mon. - Fri. from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Phone: 301.206.3380. The monthly meeting will take place on Wed., Jan. 13 at 10:30 a.m. Hear about our planned trips for 2016 (including a one-day bus trip to a dinner theater in Fredericksburg, VA on Mar. 30 to see My Fair Lady) and enjoy a special program on the history of early Laurel. If you would like to attend our meatloaf luncheon, please sign-up and pay by Wed., Jan. 6.

THURSDAY MOVIE MATINEES:

The movie for Thur., Jan. 14 is Maleficent and the movie for Thur., Jan. 28 is Elsa & Fred. Movie time starts at 10 a.m. and ends around 12 noon. We'll supply the popcorn and you enjoy the movie. Free.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE VISITOR CENTER

10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop, Laurel, MD 20708. Main phone: 301.497.5772. See fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent/visit/NWVC.html. The entrance is accessed from Powder Mill Rd. between the Baltimore–Washington Pkwy. and Rt. 197. Regular hours of operation for the Visitor Center are: Fri. – Wed. from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed Thursdays and federal holidays. Regular hours of operation for the trails and grounds are: Open daily from sunrise to sunset, except for federal holidays. Free admission to the Visitor Center and its exhibits, grounds, and trails. Space in public programs is limited

and registration is required unless otherwise specified — call 301.497.5887. Programs are subject to changes or cancellation due to weather or low participation. Activities and events are free of charge if not noted, but donations to the Friends of Patuxent are always appreciated. Please advise us of any special needs so that we may accom-

HOLLINGSWORTH ART GALLERY:

modate you.

The featured artists for January are students of Jing-Jy Chen. The gallery is open when

the Visitor Center is open. Registration is not required. All ages.

Calendar of Events

HUNTING SEASON:

Hunting is now in session and may be occurring in various areas in the refuge through Jan. 31. Make sure to stay on marked trails at all times and find out about closed areas when visiting.

CRITTER CAMOUFLAGE!:

Wed., Jan. 6 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Ages 8 - 10. Most animals use camouflage to hide. Come learn why and how some animals advertise their presence with bold colors and bizarre behaviors.

WALK WITH THE REFUGE MANAGER:

Wed., Jan. 13 from 2 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. Ages 12 and up. Join the refuge manager, Brad Knudsen, for a leisurely walk along Cash Lake Trail to learn about conservation and winter wildlife at Patuxent.

FAMILY FUN: FROZEN(ALL ABOUT SNOW AND ICE):

Fri., Jan. 15 and Sat., Jan. 16 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Ages 3 and up. What's a frozen fractal? Is it true that no two snowflakes are the same? What's the difference between snow and ice, or between sleet and freezing rain? The weather outside might be frightful, but join us inside as we have fun with snow-themed activities and games, while learning about wintry precipitation. (This is the second of our new Family Fun, drop-in programs — watch for more in the upcoming months. Registration is not required.

BIRD WALK:

Sun., Jan. 24 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Ages 8 and up. Search for birds in several refuge habitats on this guided hike. Field guides and binoculars recommended.

NATURE TOTS: WHITETAILS IN THE WOODS:

Wed., Jan. 27 and Fri., Jan. 29 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Ages 3 - 4. Come learn about one of the most common animals on the refuge, the white-tailed deer! Discover the lives of these shy but abundant creatures through games, stories, and crafts.

BELTSVILLE EVENTS

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

THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY (NAL)

The library is free and open to the public and public parking is free. Hours of operation: Mon. - Fri. from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30

p.m., except for federal holidays. The near Sunnyside Ave. Main phone number: 301.504. 5755. See NAL.USDA.gov. NAL is on Twitter at http://twitter.com/#!/ National_Ag_Lib.

BEHNKE NURSERIES GARDEN CENTER

301.937.1100, ext. 0 or see Behnkes.com for more information, additional events, and to register if requested.

BONSAI WORKSHOP:

Sat., Jan. 9 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. This is a hands-on workshop for beginners. Master Ducky Hong will focus on care and maintenance. Learn all the basics of bonsai design: how to select a tree, prune, transplant, landscape with rocks, and what the art of bonsai is all about. Create your very own bonsai to take home. Fee: \$65, all materials will be provided.

BELTSVILLE LIBRARY

All library branches will be closed

AND FAMILIES

PRESCHOOL STORYTIMES:

days at 10:30 a.m. Ages 3 - 5.

CHESS CLUB:

learn to play or improve your game. All ages.

TODDLER STORYTIME:

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

TAIL WAGGIN' TUTORS:

Sat., Jan. 16 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Children read to a dog. Registration recommended. Ages 5 - 12.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT:

Echoes of Nature is an interactive live animal program. All ages welcome.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

SATURDAY BOOK DISCUSSION:

library is located at 10301 Baltimore Ave.,

11300 Baltimore Ave. Please call

Jan. 1 and Jan. 18, 2016. The library is located at 4319 Sellman Rd., Beltsville, next to the police station. Main phone number: 301.937.0294. Regular hours of operation are Mon. - Tue. from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., Wed. - Fri. from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sat. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Sunday. Visit our library system website at www.pgcmls.info to use our online library services.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Tuesdays at 7 p.m., repeated on Wednes-

Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Drop in to

Mon., Jan. 25 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 9 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. David

Sedaris's Me Talk Pretty One Day. Pick up a copy at the library. All welcome.

TUESDAY BOOK DISCUSSION:

Tue., Jan. 19 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Kate Larson's *The Assassin's Accomplice*. Pick up a copy at the library. All welcome.

BELTSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

3900 Sellman Rd., Beltsville. Phone: 301.937.6613. Spanish line: 301.445.4509. TTY: 301.445.4512. Regular hours of operation are: Mon. - Thur. from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fri. from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sat. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., closed on Sunday. Hours of operation for Xtreme Teens and Pre-teens: Fri. - Sat. from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Contact the Center regarding other events for January.

TRIVIA DAY:

Mon., Jan. 4 at 6 p.m. Join us as we host a trivia contest for contestants of all ages (in teams and as individuals). Please make reservations by Dec. 31, 2015. Free.

NATIONAL HAT DAY:

Fri., Jan. 15 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Pre-school children are invited to bring their favorite hat or create one here. Reservations required by Jan. 10. Ages 2 - 5. Free.

YOUNG AT HEART CLUB:

The Beltsville Young at Heart Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 12 noon. Members must be at least 55 years old. If you visit us three times you can become a member. We have speakers, entertainment, trips, 50/50, bingo, plus light refreshments. Call Jean at 301.879.4304 with any questions.

STRATEGY GAME CLUB:

Mondays from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Enjoy board games, strategy games, and tons of fun. All skill levels welcome. Any game can be played as well as brought to the club to be played. Free, All ages

XTREME TEEN REGULAR EVENTS:

Fridays and Saturdays from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Free with valid Center ID card. Ages 13 - 17.

VANSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

6813 Ammendale Rd., Vansville. Phone: 301.937.6621. Fax: 301.937.6623. Spanish line: 301.445.4509. TTY: 301.445.4512. Regular hours of operation: Mon. – Thur. from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fri. – Sat. from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. (except for Xtreme Teens), Sun. from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Hours of operation for Xtreme Teens: Fri. - Sat. from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Contact the Center regarding other events for January.

XTREME TEENS REGULAR EVENTS:

Fridays and Saturdays from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Ages 13 - 17. Free with valid Center ID card.

BELTSVILLE BRIEFS

continued from page 1

between 9 am and 12 noon and finish by 4 pm. Everyone will enjoy the friendly walking atmosphere of fun, food, and fellowship. We will have prizes for the children. Participants should bring a can of non-perishable food for the local food pantry. For a brochure and information, interested people should call 410-437-2164 or email wahasse1798@verizon. net. The fee to walk fee is \$3.00, but kids walk free.

HEALTH SYSTEM

continued from page 9

words, \$10,655 is the price at which those budget limits are not breached given ICER's assumptions on the number of patients it assumes who would be treated. Factors like ability to work, longer life, or lesser disability do not factor into the calculation of a price. The group used the same logic to justify its calculated "price" for PCSK9 inhibitors.

The problem is that the goal of our health system is to help patients efficiently and effectively. ICER claims to be focused on value, but isn't addressing the most important question: value to whom?

A reasonable assessment of value for a device, treatment, or procedure would consider the actual benefits it will have for the people who need it. And in the case of the CardioMEMS HF System, those effects are potentially extraordinary.

Thanks to this device, those with serious heart conditions can have their health closely monitored by medical professionalswithout being tethered to a hos-

pital bed or a doctor's office. Any calculation based on insurer costs or medical spending would never capture such rewards.

Even the so-called "comparative-effectiveness" models used by the UK's controversial National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) — an institution that explicitly rations care are less reaching than ICER's budget-focused analysis, although not by much. After all, both methods assume the perspective of the payer, largely disregarding the unique medical needs, life circumstances, and preferences of individual

patients. ICER also disregards the dynamics of the competitive US healthcare market which is far different from the UK's single payer

Defining value is an important discussion we need to have in America, particularly as healthcare shifts from paying for volume to paying for value. That discussion needs to include improvements in patient outcomes relative to changes in the total costs of treating patients if we are truly seeking a patient-centered healthcare system.



Baker Bill STUFF 'N THINGS

Time goes so fast when you have nothing to do. But I have a new toy, it's a Kindle Fire tablet. It is nifty, but as for reading on, the NOOK is better and quicker. I'm reading John Grisham's new book Rogue Lawyer. It didn't get a good write-up, but so far it reads well.

According to the weather prognosticators (had trouble spelling this, and SpellCheck was no help), we are in for a hard winter, lots of snow and record cold days. But I've heard all this for years, same

This part is important. Save all the left-over bread and rolls from the holidays; do not freeze them and leave them out to dry. Don't put them in plastic! We are going to make the best bread pudding you have ever tasted. No joke. You'll note the recipe is written in a better way. Here we go....

Break the breads up onto 1-inch hunks (the dryer the better). Put them aside. In a bowl, place the following ingredients in this order:

SCHOOL NEWS

continued from page 11

and perform for their family and friends.

Prior to the winter break, the fine arts department showcased the talents of our choral, orchestra, and dance students in a winter concert that captivated the audience.

The winter sports, including basketball, swimming, wrestling, indoor track, and cheerleading, began their seasons. Please check the school's website for information on the athletic teams and schedules in order to support the players in their competitions.

Progress reports were released to students on December 21, 2015, and report cards will be released to students on February 3, 2016.

The Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) has its next general meeting on Thursday, January 21, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. All parents and students are encouraged to attend.

January will continue with important activities and events, including the Family Reunification Event, Advanced Placement Curriculum Night, and High Point's annual Blue and Gold Talent Show. Please visit High Point's website at www1.pgcps.org/ highpoint for school announcements and information, and please check High Point's school news website at hphsthebeacon.org to stay updated on school news and activities.

3 eggs

1 tablespoon flour

4 heaping tablespoons sugar A dash of salt

A dash of pepper (important for flavor)

1/8 teaspoon of the spice mace (optional)

Now, mix in 2 1/2 cups cold milk until it is smooth

Coat all the stale bread with the mix and place it all in a deep baking dish. Let the bread soak while you heat oven to 350 degrees for about 20 minutes. Slowly bake for approximately 45 minutes until it is golden brown. *NOTE the bread must be covered, and the baking dish must be deep enough. There should be no wet spots after baking: the product must be solid.

I have been getting many e-mails lately, and I love fan mail. I was at dinner here at Riderwood, and the couple I eat with recognized me and asked "Are you Baker Bill?" Frankly, it made my day and more.

Please stop asking to be friends on Facebook or Twitter. As I have written many times, I do not belong to any social media. If you wish to write me, you can do so directly at bill@bakerbill.net. I would love to hear from you. Many years ago when there were no e-mails, I delivered this drivel by hand to Ms. Sally Earl. She told me I was the only writer she ever knew that got fan mail.

Enjoy this great bread pudding. You will want to pass it down to all future members-it's that good.

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410-647-3793 damanroh@gmail.com

Christian Science Church

8300 Adelphi Rd., Hyattsville, MD (301) 422-1822

Sunday church services: 10:30-11:30 a.m. (doors open at 10 am.) Sunday school for youth up thru. age 19 (same time)

Wednesdays: 7:30 - 8:30 pm. testimonies of healing, sharing gratitude, and fellowship service (doors open at 7 pm)

> Bible Lessons: Jan. 3 'God'; Jan. 10 'Sacrament'; Jan. 17 'Life'; Jan. 24 'Truth'; Jan. 31 'Love'

All are welcome • Free literature available

Beltsville News CHURCH DIRECTORY

New Bethany Church of Christ Ministries Inc.

10741 Tucker Street, Beltsville, MD 20705 Church Contact: 443-307-6084 e-mail: newbethanycoc@yahoo.com A Caring Church, Walking in Faith and Love

Service Schedule

- Christian Education 9:30am
- Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am
- Disciple Bible Class/Ministers in Training 3:00pm
- Sunday Evening Worship 5:00pm
- Weekday Prayer Service (Wednesdays) 7:30pm



Upcoming Announcements

3rd Saturday in each Month until February Youth Fund Initiative Dinner Sale from 12noon until 4:00pm Dinners are \$12.50 to include a dessert and drink. All proceeds will go towards carrying our

youth to the Winter Jubilee in February

Also, We New Bethany Church of Christ Ministries, Every Month there will be activities for the Elderly and the Youth



OPPORTUNITIES

continued from page 10

the area, why not give him some business? The cost is very minimal. To check on hall rentals, call Gary Kingary at 301.441.2783.

Until next month, please pray for our troops who are in harm's way. May they reach home safely. God Bless America, the greatest land on earth.

VOLUNTEER

continued from page 3

Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) recruits and trains volunteers to advocate for the needs of youth living in foster care. In only 10 to 15 hours per month, CASA volunteers ensure that the court and child welfare systems remain focused on the specific needs of individual youths so that these needs, including the need for safety and permanency, are addressed expeditiously. However, the discrepancy between young men in foster care and male CASA volunteers is significant. While 50% of CASA's youth that volunteers serve are young men who have been abused or neglected, only 10% of CASA's volunteer advocates are men. All volunteers are appreciated, but men have unique experiences and perspectives they can draw from as they advocate for and mentor a young man in need. This is a unique chance to become invested in your community by spending time with a young man and advocating for his best interests in court. Will you speak for abused and neglected young men in your community? For more information, please visit our website at www.pgcasa. org or call 301.209.0491.

BULLYING

continued from page 11

a long way. Letting them know it's not their fault is an important step to cultivating kindness and respect.Build trust - Establishing trust makes it more likely kids will report bullying to an adult when they see it. Adults can build trust as simply as saying hello, asking how a kid's day is going, and most importantly, by listening.Books - Assigning or reading a book with kids that addresses bullying is a great way to begin a dialogue and to build trust. Such books allow kids to identify with incidents they have experienced and give them strategies to deal with bullying in their own lives. Build relationships through a diversity club - Victims of bullying are often singled out because they are different. Encouraging kids about the value of inclusion and to respect differences, whether it has to do with ethnicity, sexual orientation, disabilities or just behavioral differences, makes everyone happier and is an important way to stop bullying before

Beltsville News Church Directory

St. Joseph Catholic Church



11007 Montgomery Road Beltsville, MD 20705 301-937-7183 www.stjos.org

Pastor: Msgr. Karl Chimiak Mass: Sat. 5 pm; Sun. 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon

St. Joseph's Regional Catholic School Principal: Mr. Zachary Hooker 301-937-7154

A Mission Parish of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia Located in Twin Chimneys Office Park 10760 Baltimore Ave, Beltsville, MD Evening Vigil: Sat. 5:00 PM Hours & Divine Liturgy: Sun. 9:40 AM All Services in English Fr. George Johnson, Rector 301-572-5738 www.holyapostlesorthodoxchurch.org HANDER OF THE STATE OF THE ST

St. John's Episcopal/Anglican Church

at the corner of Route 1 & Powder Mill Road in Beltsville (301) 937-4292

The Reverend Joseph M. Constant, Rector

Sunday Worship Schedule

Quiet service: 8:00 a.m. Family-oriented service: 10:00 a.m.

> Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Between September and June

Sunday Nursery - during our 10 a.m. service Wednesday Evenings Bible Study 6-9 p.m.

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

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10774 Rhode Island Avenue 301-937-7646



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

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7:00pm

Wednesdays:

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Mother's Morning Out Program for 2&3 year olds

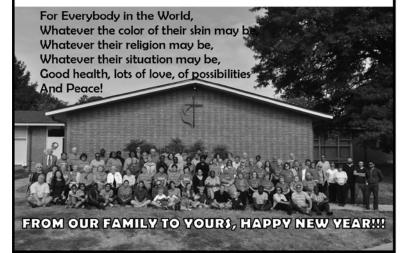
Tues/Thurs mornings (Sept. - May) 8:30-11:30 a.m. For more information email us at: mmodirector@fbcbeltsville.org *Childcare available for children up to 3 years old

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

A Vibrant Multicultural Church: All Are Welcome! Pastor Jacob Young, PhD 11416 Cedar Lane Beltsville, MD 20705 301.937.7114 • office@eumcbeltsville.com www.eumcbeltsville.com • www.facebook.com/groups/EUMCBeltsville/

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

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BILL CONSOLIDATION LOAN

Save money in the New Year!

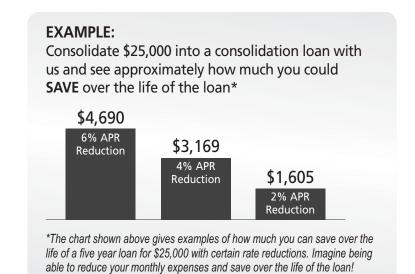


SAVE MONEY!

The holidays are over and slowly the reality of what you spent is beginning to weigh in. Don't worry. We have a debt consolidation loan that can save you hundreds when you refinance with us.

Start the New Year out right! Muscle up your finances and see how much you could save!

- Consolidate high-interest loans
- No application fees
- A quick application process





APPLY TODAY | 800.952.PGCU | 301.627.2666 WWW.PRINCEGEORGESCFCU.ORG/DEBT

