**Beltsville Briefs**

**Basket Bingo**
Birmingham Lodge of Masons at 10800 Edmondston Rd. Beltsville, MD 20705 will hold its first Family Basket Bingo on Sunday, April 25 at 2:00 p.m. The proceeds will go to the Lodge Community Outreach program. Come and join the fun.

**Beltsville Lions Blood Drive**
The Beltsville Lions cordially invite your participation in their quarterly blood drive on Tuesday, April 27 from 3:00 to 6:45 p.m. at the Beltsville Community Center, 3900 Sellman Road. Professional staff of the Washington Hospital Center, MedStar will conduct the blood donations.

The donations are done in a very efficient manner, and waiting time is kept at a minimum. Please consider donating if you are able to do so. You could give no better gift to someone in dire need of a transfusion.

If you can do it and are interested in helping with a blood donation, please call Lion Ted Ladd at 301.937.6796 or e-mail tedladd02@aol.com to schedule a time. Appointments are at 15-minute intervals starting at 3:00 p.m.

**Poured Out - A Ladies Tea**
Saturday, May 1, at 10:00 a.m. at the First Baptist Church of Beltsville, 4700 Odell Road, Beltsville, MD will present a ladies tea and crafting event. Gayla Parker, the WMU Executive Director for the Baptist Convention of MD/DE, will share an encouraging message and challenge us to be a blessing to others. Fee of $10 includes lunch and handmade crafts. Please contact the church at 301.937.7771 or churchoffice@fbcbeltsville.org to register before April 25th. All ladies are welcome!

**Vacation Bible School at First Baptist Church of Beltsville**
Saddle up your horses & giddy up to Vacation Bible School (VBS) at First Baptist Church of Beltsville, 4700 Odell Road. We’ll round up answers to life’s big questions during June 21-25, from 9:00 a.m. to high noon each day. This VBS is FREE. For more information call 301.937.7771.

**Beltsville Boy, 13, Wins Merit Award In Lions International Peace Poster Contest**

OAK BROOK, IL, USA, March 4, 2010—Eduardo A. Escamilla, a 13-year-old boy from Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School, has been named a merit award winner in the 22nd annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest. The theme of this year’s competition was “The Power of Peace.”

“My message to those who see my poster is that we can make peace in this world without fighting and making war,” said Escamilla. Escamilla’s winning poster was chosen for its originality, artistic merit and portrayal of this year’s theme. He is one of 23 merit award winners chosen from more than 350,000 entries drawn by children ages 11 to 13 from 70 countries.

As a merit award winner, the College Park Lions Club, local sponsor of the contest, will present Escamilla with a cash award of US$500 and a certificate of achievement.

“Our club is very excited to have sponsored a merit award winner in this meaningful international contest,” said Robert C. Smaldore, youth committee chairperson of the College Park Lions Club. “We are proud to share in this honor with Mr. Escamilla.”

**Local Artist Exhibited at Lowe House Office Building in Annapolis, MD**

Barbara Crawley Crowe has two of her photographs on exhibition in the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission’s annual Time/Space exhibition. The annual exhibition showcases Prince George’s County artists during the state’s nine-week legislative session and serves to remind our lawmakers that artists are important constituents and members of the community.

Her digital photographs “Out on the Bay” and “No Place to Go” are on display in the Prince George’s County Commission’s annual Time/Space exhibition.

**Beltsville Academy Science Fair Winners**

Another outstanding Science Fair was held recently at Beltsville Academy with over 200 projects submitted for judging by students in the 4th through 7th grades. More than 35 judges participated from the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, WSSC, Belhke’s Nursery, and individuals from the Beltsville community.

Eleven outstanding projects received 1st place blue ribbons, and two projects (one lower grade and one upper grade) received Grand Prize awards on March 10.

The winners not shown include Jacob Keppler, Nick Keppler, Julian Blackwell and Christina Sutton.

Barbara Crawley Crowe

George’s Delegation Wing of the Lowe House Office Building until April 2010. A reception for artists and legislators sponsored by the Prince George’s Arts Council will be held March 24th from 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Barbara is a visual communicator using as her primary medium of communication the lens of a camera, be it 35mm SLR or digital SLR. She states, “There has always been a part of me that has wanted others to see the world as I see it.”

**Chirstmas in April Project 2010**

The District 6 Police are looking for helpers with this year’s Chirstmas in April Project 2010. The date of the event is April 24, and the time of start is 8:00 a.m. If you can lend a hand, give me a call.

**Earth Day Clean Up 2010**

April meeting will be on Wednesday April 21st at 7:00 p.m.

If you have a community concern that you would like to discuss please give me a call. I can be reached at 301.937.0157 or karen-mcoalke@verizon.net.
25 Years Ago in the Beltsville News

By Phil Whitman

Extracted from the April 1985 Issue

Feeny Honored
The Maryland General Assembly honored Maralita (Micky) Feeny, longtime Beltsville librarian, for her contributions to the community.

Engagements
Mr. & Mrs. John Sigler of Beltsville announced the engagement of Susan Marie Sigler to Lee John Phillips of Scranton, PA.

Katherine Mary Tunis was engaged to Paul Lamerton Thompson of Rockville, MD and the wedding was planned for October 1985.

Weddings
Dayle Suzanne Johnson & Terry Reece were married on October 27, 1985 in the Church of the Little Flower.

Leta Jarrell Nealis married Terry Grant Cope of Houston, TX.

Carl Bohnke Graduates
Carl Bohnke graduated from the Culinary Institute of America on January 18, 1985, having completed a 21-month course in food preparation and service.

Local Author Produces New Book
Gordon F. Shea’s new book, “Managing a Difficult or Hostile Audience” became available in paperback.

FISH Benefits from Crop Walk
On November 4, 1984, participants in the Sixth annual Crop Walk raised $5,325. Twenty percent was donated to the local FISH organization. Doris Wray, Bytha Bowen and Carolyn Scarcia presented the check.

Service News
Navy Airman Recruit Gregory J. Hobson graduated from the Basic Aviation Ordinance School in Millington, TN. Marine PFC Israel Rodriguez completed the Aviation Hydraulics Maintenance Course.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am writing to acknowledge and to commend a local businesswoman, Mr. Kim, manager of Raulins’ Bakery, to a kind and considerate man who delivers bread from his bakery to an elderly man who lives on Cedar Lane in Beltsville. He delivers at no charge, in response to his phone orders for fresh bread.

He, or others in his bakery have been doing this for some time (more than 2 years). I thought it appropriate to recognize these kind and considerate acts. It is a matter of civic pride that our town has such people and businesses that contribute to our community and keep the spirit of neighborliness and thoughtfulness alive and thriving. This is especially true in the present economic situation, where we see the effects of greed, the “me first” attitudes and other negative human behavior at the national level.

Hugh O’Donnell

—

Obituaries

Wilbur I. (Brick) Snyder died April 1, 1985.
Brian D. Woodzelle died March 18, 1985.
Edna A. Bell died March 29, 1985.

The BELTSVILLE NEWS  •  Page 2  •  APRIL 2010
NSU's College of Technology

The Beltsville Campus of NSU is proud to announce the graduation ceremony that will take place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 11, 2010, in the Grand Ballroom of the Stamp Student Union at the University of Maryland in College Park. The campus holds a special place in the history of NSU, as it was the first campus to be opened outside of its main campus in Virginia. The Beltsville campus is home to approximately 3,000 students and offers a wide range of programs in the fields of business, health sciences, information technology, and cyber security.

The ceremony will feature a keynote address by Dr. John G. Papas, President of NSU, who will discuss the importance of higher education and the importance of the Beltsville Campus in NSU's mission to provide quality education to students throughout the region. The ceremony will also feature the presentation of degrees and certificates to students who have completed their studies.

For more information about the Beltsville Campus, including a list of programs and services offered, please visit the campus website or contact the admissions office.

National Agricultural Library to Present Display on Tomatoes in Washington

The National Agricultural Library (NAL) will be exhibiting at Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW) on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. NAL will feature a display on tomatoes, which includes free tomato seeds.

More than 100 government offices and agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private companies sponsoring interactive and educational exhibits will showcase the innovative and quality work performed by public employees. This year, the Partnership For Public Service and the Public Employees Roundtable will host the National Mall event May 6-9, 2010, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. The event will feature interactive exhibits on topics such as government programs, science, and health.

Smoky Bear, climb aboard an airboat, take a home free educational buttons, coloring posters and maps, and puzzles. Adults can search online for jobs, check their credit report, receive free health screenings and learn about emergency preparedness. We hope you’ll be able to join the celebration!
Happy Easter, Baby!
Leo Kai-Wei Chen McClintock, grandson of John and Ming Yee Chen of Beltsville, lives with his parents in Seattle, Washington. He turned two on March 12, 2010. Leo and his family will be in Beltsville for Mother’s Day.

Neighbors in the News

Neighborly Teamwork Clears Cedar Lane

By BBBeltsville

The snow fell all night and the next day and all night again. Then, on the third day, the sun was shining. The schools were closed, the federal government was closed and the county was closed because the sun was shining on two feet of snow. So the County Public Works Department must have thought they were closed because Cedar Lane didn’t see a plow.

On Cedar Lane the residents spent all day clearing their driveways and waiting for the county plows to come. We hoped to see the plows the next day because more snow was forecast, but “No Plows.”

Then another snow fell all night and all day, adding another two feet of snow, but still no plows. So the tired residents of Cedar Lane were out again clearing the driveways and waiting for the county plows to clear the street. Even though sidewalks and driveways were clear, the residents of Cedar lane couldn’t wait any longer for the county plows, with two snow blowers and lots of shovels, the men and women of Cedar lane cleared a single lane for the much needed escape route to Montgomery Road.

Many thanks to the friends on Cedar Lane (between Cedar Court and Stephen Lane) for a great job: Greta and Royal Smith as snow blower one, Clarke Ahlers as snow blower two, and the shovel team: Chris and Jessica Bostic, KC and Bill Clark, David and Ellen Miller, Sheldon and Diane Morris, the Whites, the Bullards, Wendy Harris and Ronald Quarry, Marcia and Ansel McKenzie. I hope we will see our county tax refund in the mail soon.

Calling all Eagle Scouts

The Boy Scouts of America are celebrating their 100th Anniversary and they are planning the largest gathering of scouts, especially Eagle Scouts, in a century. The Boy Scouts have planned a Grand Parade down Constitution Avenue on July 25th and would like to invite all Eagle Scouts to attend. If you are currently registered as an adult BSA volunteer, a complete Boy Scout uniform is acceptable. Alternatively, we ask that you wear your vocational dress. For example, if you are active military wear your military uniform; if you are a lawyer, a suit; if you are a pharmacist, your lab coat, etc. There is a $50 cost associated with participating in the parade, as the Boy Scouts need to pay for public safety, sanitation, cleanup, etc. If you are an Eagle Scout and you are interested in attending the Centennial Parade please contact Gary Bauchan, Scoutmaster Troop 1033 bsaBELTsville@hotmail.com or 301-937-0944. Troop 1003 is planning to attend and would be honored to have Eagle Scouts attend along with them.
Neighbors in the News

The Beltsville Business Breakfast – Here’s How It Works

By Paul G. Zurkowski, Coordinator

In February, after looking around the room at the Beltsville businesses gathered in the 14’ floor conference room in the tall brown National Library of Agriculture in Beltsville for the Breakfast the 21st Legislative District hosts, Senator Jim Rosapepe asked if the group would like to hear about the support the State of Maryland provides small businesses. He got a resounding “yes!”

He picked up the phone and called Les Hall, the Director of Small Business Financing in the Department of Business and Economic Development who agreed to speak to the 7:30 breakfast group on March 16.

When the day arrived 50 members of the Beltsville Business Community were present eager to hear what Les had to say.

Mr. Hall started with funding programs designed to support small businesses and to generate or preserve employment opportunities.

Loan Guarantee programs depend on having a willing lender. The government loan guarantees amounts of up to 90% of a loan of up $2.5 million and is used to support the lender’s extension of the loan. Most guarantees range from 20% to 50% of loan amounts for such things as land acquisition, buildings, machines and equipment, even working capital.

With a willing lender, a loan guarantee approval can be made quickly – within 48 hours for loans approved by a lender in the range of $50,000 to $250,000.

Direct loans from the State of Maryland are available for projects in Priority Funding areas offering major capabilities for Strategic or Local Economic Development, Direct Assistance to local jurisdictions, regional or local Revolving Loan Funds or Special Purpose loans.

Before he concluded, Mr. Hall responded to questions, many of which demonstrated that Beltsville businesses were involved and interested.

In the end, Mr. Hall encouraged businesses to call him (410.767.6356 or 877.821.0099) and promised to pinpoint the appropriate contact point at the state level for each question raised. He also introduced Robert Carpenter, the Lender Relations Specialist from the DC office of the U.S. Small Business Administration who was also in attendance at the breakfast. Hall said the two offices enjoy a high level of mutual cooperation and can be extremely helpful to small businesses. Mr. Carpenter (202.272.0355) resides in Beltsville and came to lend his support to the small business community in his hometown.

It was announced the Breakfast henceforth would meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month (April 21st) at the Cross Creek Golf Club House, 12800 Bay Hill Drive, Beltsville, at 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. Registration will remain just $5. Senator Rosapepe announced that the Prince George Community Federal Credit Union, about to open a branch office in Beltsville, would be both a sponsor and speaker at that breakfast.

The breakfast serves as a listening post for the 21st District Delegation that, in addition to Senator Rosapepe, also includes three Delegates, Barbara Flsh, Josephine Peña-Melnyk and Ben Barnes serving the Beltsville area.

Scouts Snowboard Ski Liberty

The Boy Scouts of Troop 1033 joined Troop 746 of Greenbelt, MD at Ski Liberty located near Gettysburg, PA on February 27th. The scouts rose early in the morning on Saturday to drive up to Ski Liberty. Most of the scouts decided to snowboard rather than ski as they were all jazzed up watching Shaun White snowboard in the Olympics. They got their gear including a helmet, attended a snowboarding lesson and then hit the slopes. Most of the morning was spent learning how to fall gracefully but after lunch the scouts looked almost like Olympians swooping down the slope. Following a day on the slopes the scouts went to the Quality Inn in Gettysburg to change out of their wet, snowy clothes and fed their Olympic size hunger by eating at an all-you-can-eat Chinese Buffet. Teen age scouts have unlimited energy which was proven by going swimming in the indoor pool at the hotel after digesting their dinner. The scouts enjoyed soaking in the warm waters and bragging about all the bumps and bruises they sustained while snowboarding during the day. The scouts who attended were: Tyis Robinson, Al Diagne, Danny Moreno, Eduardo Orellana, Patrick Deery, Adrian Villarreal, Nathaniel Pinnock, David Timus, Charleston Laymon, Eric Matthews, Sean Halper, Chris Walker, Nujuan Pinnock, and Chris Walker. Scoutmaster Gary Bauchan and Assistant Scoutmaster, Gregory Bauchan kept a watchful eye on the scouts while they were on the slopes. Scout parents Valeria Laymon, Betsy Matthews and Bob of up to 80 people provided transportation. The scouts awoke bright and early on Sunday and enjoyed a hot breakfast at the hotel before returning to Beltsville. The scouts did learn that just because you see it on TV does not mean you can do it also. It takes practice to become an Olympian but you just never know, one of these scouts may grow up to be an Olympic snowboarder.

Spring is Here!

With flowers beginning to bloom and birds chirping, it is time to welcome spring into your home and awaken your color senses. For sprucing up your home this spring, visit Will’s Home Decorating for all your decorating needs. Specializing in custom window treatments, HunterDouglas blinds, reupholstery, wallpaper (in-stock too), flooring (ceramic/glass tile, wood – Bruce, Mirage, BR111, carpet, laminates, vinyl sheet goods & tile) and Benjamin Moore paints, Will’s Home Decorating delivers a comprehensive selection of decorating products and all under one roof.

Will’s Decorating
10508 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705
301-937-6100

Will’s most frequently asked question is where do I begin? The easiest and most cost effective place to start is with the walls. Try a color makeover with one of Benjamin Moore’s tantalizing paint colors or with a dazzling wall covering and border. And yes, wallpaper and borders are still very much "in." Peruse are wonderful in-stock selection for the perfect pattern to make your walls come alive. For those do-it-yourselfers, this is a project you can easily complete in one weekend if you take it one room at a time. If you need help with selecting the right color or wall covering for your rooms setting, stop by our beautiful Beltsville showroom, located in the Chestnut Hill Shopping Center on Route 1 and we would be delighted to assist you.

Email your decorating questions to willsdeco@aol.com or call us at 301-937-6100. For more information about Will’s Home Decorating visit our web site at www.decoratemaryland.com. There is no time like the present to start. Will’s Home Decorating will make your spring makeover effortless!!

By Gary Bauchan, Scoutmaster
Obituaries

Beam, Franklin J.

Franklin J. Beam of Beltsville passed away on Saturday, March 13, 2010. He was the beloved husband of 59 years to Helen C. Beam, loving father of Greg (Linda) Beam, Roxann Porter and Shari (John) Papanicolas. He was the brother of Mary Spahr. Also survived by nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Funeral service was held at Borgwardt Funeral Home, 4400 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, MD, on Tuesday, March 16 at 11:00 a.m. Interment private. Memorials may be made to Berwyn Baptist Church, 4720 Cherokee St., College Park, MD 20740 on Friday, February 26 at 11:00 a.m. Interment private. Mary was the beloved wife of the late William Ferrell McCollough; loving mother of Debra (Stephen) Kane, Ferrell (Tracy) McCollough, Kelly (Steve) Wego and Kenneth (Keri) McCollough; devoted sister of Josephine Pasterchick, Vinnie Mayo and the late Philip Pezzella; grandmother of Amanda, Kara, Brooke, Jessica, Ashley and Jacob. Funeral service was held at Borgwardt Funeral Home, Beltsville, MD on Monday, March 1 at 1:00 p.m. Interment Union Cemetery, Burtonsville, MD. Memorial contributions may be made to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, National Capital Area, 8545 Richmond Highway, Suite 800, Alexandria, VA 22303.

Wauschek, William, M., Jr.

William M. “JR” Wauschek, a Beltsville resident for 28 years, passed away on Thursday, February 18, 2010. He was the beloved husband of Vicki T. Murphy-Wauschek, loving father of William Peter and Patrick Michael Wauschek, and brother of Joan Beringer. Also survived by numerous loved ones, family, and friends. The family received friends at Borgwardt Funeral Home, 4400 Powder Mill Rd., Beltsville, MD on Sunday, February 21, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Service and interment private.

Grove, Grace Wiser

Grace Wiser Grove of Beltsville, MD died on Sunday, February 21, 2010. She was the beloved wife of Harry R. Grove; mother of J. Dennis (Arlene) Grove, Michael Grove and Patricia (Bernard) Pikulski; and sister of Josephine Pasterchick, Vinnie Mayo and the late Philip Pezzella; grandmother of Amanda, Kara, Brooke, Jessica, Ashley and Jacob. Funeral service was held at Borgwardt Funeral Home, 4400 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, MD, on Thursday, February 25, at 11:00 a.m. Interment George Washington Cemetery.

Herron, Linn

Linn Herron, a longtime resident of Beltsville, passed away on Wednesday, February 25, 2010. His wife Dorothy, brother Charles Herron, a longtime resident of Beltsville, passed away on Saturday, February 20, 2010. She was the beloved wife of Harry R. Grove; mother of Becky G. Burns and Bill J. Geibel, loving mother of Viola (Kane) Seaton, loving grandmother of Amanda, Kara, Brooke, Jessica, Ashley and Jacob. Funeral service was held at Berwyn Baptist Church, 4720 Cherokee St., College Park, MD 20740 on Friday, February 26 at 11:00 a.m. Interment private. Memorials may be made to Berwyn Baptist Church. Borgwardt Funeral Home made funeral arrangements.

Geibel, Beverly S.

Beverly J. Geibel of Beltsville passed away at Laurel Regional Hospital on Saturday, February 20, 2010. She was the beloved wife of 58 years to Bill J. Geibel, loving mother of Becky G. Burns and Bill J. Geibel, Jr., and grandmother of Rachel E. Burns. Also survived by many loved ones, family, and friends. Funeral service was held at Borgwardt Funeral Home, 4400 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, MD, on Thursday, February 25, at 11:00 a.m. Interment George Washington Cemetery.

Johnny Seaton To Perform At College Park Moose Lodge #453

Johnny Seaton will perform as ELVIS at the College Park Moose Lodge #453 on Saturday, April 10, 2010. Johnny does an excellent impersonation of ELVIS. He and his band performed in Las Vegas for many years, and have also performed in Atlantic City. The ticket price includes dinner, dancing, and show. Dinner 6:00-7:30 p.m., music & dancing 8:00-11:00 p.m. The Lodge is located at 3700 Metzerott Road, College Park, MD. This event is OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. For tickets please call 301.935.5525.

Johnny Seaton will perform as ELVIS at the College Park Moose Lodge #453 on Saturday, April 10, 2010. Johnny does an excellent impersonation of ELVIS. He and his band performed in Las Vegas for many years, and have also performed in Atlantic City. The ticket price includes dinner, dancing, and show. Dinner 6:00-7:30 p.m., music & dancing 8:00-11:00 p.m. The Lodge is located at 3700 Metzerott Road, College Park, MD. This event is OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. For tickets please call 301.935.5525.

Myra Kovach, of Beltsville, announces the engagement of her daughter, Natalie Anne Kovach, to Sean Michael Miskimins, son of Neil and Christine Miskimins, of Portland, Oregon. A 2002 graduate of Saint Vincent Pallotti High School and a 2006 graduate of Stevenson University in Stevenson, Maryland, the bride-to-be is an Educational Technology Teacher at Clarksville and Swansfield Elementary Schools. She is a graduate student at Loyola University of Maryland.

The future groom is a 1996 graduate of Beloit College in Beloit, Wisconsin. He is a Middle School Social Studies Teacher at Saint Marys of the Mills School and a graduate student at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland. The bride and groom met while teaching at Saint Marys of the Mills School. A wedding is planned for July 2, 2010 at Saint Marys of the Mills Catholic Church in Laurel.

Engagement Announced

Myra Kovach, of Beltsville, announces the engagement of her daughter, Natalie Anne Kovach, to Sean Michael Miskimins, son of Neil and Christine Miskimins, of Portland, Oregon. A 2002 graduate of Saint Vincent Pallotti High School and a 2006 graduate of Stevenson University in Stevenson, Maryland, the bride-to-be is an Educational Technology Teacher at Clarksville and Swansfield Elementary Schools. She is a graduate student at Loyola University of Maryland.

The future groom is a 1996 graduate of Beloit College in Beloit, Wisconsin. He is a Middle School Social Studies Teacher at Saint Marys of the Mills School and a graduate student at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland. The bride and groom met while teaching at Saint Marys of the Mills School. A wedding is planned for July 2, 2010 at Saint Marys of the Mills Catholic Church in Laurel.

WARNING

Read This Before Filing Your TAX RETURN!

Many People Will Miss Out On BIGGER REFUNDS This Year Just Because They Weren’t Sure Which Forms 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 27 years. I have an office on Route 1 near Wendy’s, and an experienced “hand picked” staff. Robert C. Newland & Associates will not only prepare your 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!

All this is backed by our total “PEACE OF MIND” GUARANTEE

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 $30 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 next 35 new clients who respond to this message before April 15, 2010. It’s our way of saying, “Thanks for Trusting Us To Be Your Tax Professional”

CALL TODAY!!

301-595-2793
ROBERT C. NEWLAND & ASSOCIATES
10710 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD
(Next door to Wendy’s)

“SERVING BELTSVILLE AREA TAXPAYERS FOR 26 YEARS”

SPECIAL BONUS OFFER

$40 OFF Tax Preparation Fees

For the next 35 new clients to make an appointment by April 15, 2010 and bring this coupon with them.
Eagle Scout Project a Success

By Michael Cotter, Life Scout

The DVDs for Troops in Afghanistan, Eagle project by Michael Cotter, was completed with great support from Boy Scout Troop 1033, the community, members of Emmanuel United Methodist Church and St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, plus financial support from Best Buy in Laurel. The Troops received 3 boxes of nearly 100 DVDs that nearly doubled the movie library for the 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade. The movies will be signed out to soldiers who can watch them and return them for others to enjoy. “Your generosity will be felt by several thousand soldiers over the next year,” reported Major Schaap of the 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade. Thank you to all who supported my Eagle Scout project.

AWARD

continued from page 1

support local young people and encourage peace and understanding in our community.”

Lions Clubs International President Eberhard J. Wirfs said, “The youth of today will grow to lead us into a better future. They will remember that the Lions helped them to consider the significance of international cooperation and peace.”

Yu-Min Chen, a 13-year-old girl from Taiwan, created the grand prize winning poster. The merit award winners are from the Bahamas, China, the Dominican Republic, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malta, Mexico, the Philippines, Russia, Switzerland and the United States.

Escamilla enjoys playing the guitar, drawing, and using the computer to edit photos and design. He is also involved in the Cobras clubs.

Lions Clubs International, the world’s largest service club organization, is made up of 1.3 million men and women in 205 countries and geographical locations throughout the world. Lions created the Peace Poster Contest to foster a spirit of peace and international understanding in young people worldwide.
Neighbours in the News

BAPS Hosts Third Annual Women’s Conference

Focuses on Nurturing Families, Shaping Communities

This past weekend, over 150 women from the greater Washington DC, Pennsylvania, and southern New Jersey area came together for the annual BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS) Women’s Conference.

The three-hour Conference was held in celebration of International Women’s Day (IWD) and was hosted by the BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha at the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in Beltsville, MD. IWD is a global event commemorated by the United Nations to recognize women and the important contributions they have made in the world. BAPS is a member of the UN’s Economic and Social Council.

The theme of the conference, “Nurturing Families, Shaping Communities,” provided a forum for attendees to discuss the educational and environmental impact created by the global community of women through their roles in family and society. The theme draws inspiration from BAPS’ core values of nurturing individuals and creating stronger families. The various keynote speakers shared these topics.

Ms. Ami Patel, a policy assistant for the Mayor’s Office of Education in Philadelphia, PA, addressed the topic of education. Ms. Patel relayed how she was able to help shape communities in Philadelphia through her work in the field of education. She stressed the importance of education in shaping the world around them.

Dr. Vandana Sharma, a practicing neurologist from Virginia, spoke about the role of women in creating a healthy living in family and society. The theme of her message was “Nurturing Today to Shape Tomorrow.” She spoke of the importance of cultivating happiness to nurture ourselves and our families as well as nurturing communities with acts of kindness. She highlighted the importance of investing in women as natural, physical, and emotional nurturers. She provided inspiring examples of women who from their misfortunes helped community.” She emphasized the strength of women and their role as natural, physical, and emotional nurturers. She provided inspiring examples of women who from their misfortunes helped communities by establishing support groups and scholarships.

Dr. Pinaki Vaidya from Georgetown University Hospital spoke about women’s role in creating a strong family environment. The theme of her message was “Nurturing Families, Shaping Communities.” She spoke of the importance of forming communities by establishing support groups and scholarships.

Many other attendees also felt inspired and empowered, ready to implement the message of the conference in their own lives.

About BAPS

The BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS), a worldwide socio-spiritual organization in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, is dedicated to community service, peace and harmony. Motivated by Hindu principles, BAPS strives to care for the world by caring for societies, families and individuals. Through a number of social and spiritual activities, BAPS endeavors to produce better citizens of tomorrow who have a high esteem for their roots, their rich Hindu culture. Its 3,300 international centers support these activities of character building. Under the guidance and leadership of His Divine Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj, BAPS aspires to build a community that is morally, ethically and spiritually pure, and free of addictions.

About Pramukh Swami Maharaj

His Divine Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj, the fifth spiritual successor of Bhagwan Swaminarayan, has inspired millions of people across the world to lead a God-centered, morally pure life. As the present leader of BAPS, Pramukh Swami Maharaj travels from village to village, continental to continental, emphasizing the importance of family harmony, community service and spiritual progress. He embodies the essence of Hindu life. His compassion for humanity, universal wisdom and striking simplicity have touched many world religious and national leaders.

For more details visit www.baps.org
Rosapepe’s Report to Beltsville

By Senator Jim Rosapepe (D-21)

Are you concerned about speeding in Beltsville?

In response to widespread citizen concern, Delegate Bar- bara Frush, Ben Barnes, Joseline Peña-Melnyk and I supported Governor O’Malley’s proposal to allow Prince George’s County to fight speeding by putting up speed cameras near local schools and road construction projects. We all can see the signs of speed cameras mounted on I-95 near the con- struction of the ICC.

In coming months, the County will have to decide where to place speed cameras near schools in Beltsville. We and Councilman Tom Dernoga, who has worked with us closely to deal with speed- ing, would welcome your suggestions of roads near schools where speed cameras should be consid- ered. For example on Powder Mill near High Point? On Montgomery Road near Beltsville Academic and St. Joseph’s? On Ammendale Road near Martin Luther King Middle School? On Old Baltimore Pike near Vansville Elementary School? Where else? Please let us know your thoughts by emailing or calling our offices.

Join Us in Calverton on April 14

The Delegates and I will be reporting on the 2010 legislative session at the Calverton Civic Association’s at Calverton Ele- mentary School on Wednesday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m. We’ll be talking about our efforts to create jobs, protect our local schools and police, fight foreclosures, and bal- ance the state budget while help- ing those in need. Please join us so we can answer your questions and hear your concerns.

Have fun – and learn – at the University of Maryland on April 24

Every spring the University opens the campus to its neighbors and friends. This year, Maryland Day is Saturday, April 24 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Games, booths, tours, performances – every department from dance to physics shows its stuff. It’s fun and interesting for folks of all ages. And it’s free. Just come down Route One and take a look.

Be in Touch

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 21stDistricDelegate@gmail.com or call 301.858.3141.

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Children’s Corner

By Denita Johnson

April is Earth Month and a good month to teach our children the importance of recycling. We hear every day the importance of not wasting. Don’t let the water run, and reuse some of our mate- rial to keep it out of the trash that is continually growing.

Our children what to do is good, but it will be great to show them by example. Our children will continue to keep the earth clean and green if we guide them now. Having fun while recycling and planting trees are fun ways to get your children started in saving the earth for the future. So in our time of recycling more to help, the earth for the future. So in our time of recycling more to help, children will continue to keep the earth clean and green if we guide them now.

With a small craft knife make a vertical slit in the back of the bottle long enough to slip little toys and small treats in. Decorate with ribbons and insert a miniature balloon on a stick through the top.

Learning about the importance of recycling.

1. Recycling Project Ideas (trash to treasure)

Recycling Project Ideas (Trash to Treasure)

Let your children save some of their serving-size plastic chip bags. Tape together about six bags and cover with clear contact paper and use as a mat for snacks and crafts.

2. Save 16 oz. plastic bottles.

With a small craft knife make a vertical slit in the back of the bottle long enough to slip little toys and small treats in. Decorate with ribbons and insert a miniature balloon on a stick through the top.

Use as party favors on birthdays or holidays.


Cut the soles off of old children’s sneakers with designs and pictures on the bottom and use as a necklace or bracelet.

Remove the metal spout and cut a larger slot for depositing and removing money. Glue on play money or any picture you like on the container. Use as a bank for a rainy day or vacation fund.

Cut the soles off of old children’s sneakers with designs and pictures on the bottom and use as rubber stamps.

Remember to recycle all your unused items.

Ski Race

Her ski teacher congratu- lates Kira Kira Kai-Ling Chen Bertsch, six-year old granddaughter of John and Ming Yee Chen of Beltsville, after win- ning the bronze medal in a ski race in Scuol, Switzerland on February 19, 2010. Kira and her parents live in Zurich, Switzerland and last vis- ited Beltsville in October 2009 to celebrate her Grandpa’s birthday.

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The Subregion 1 Master Plan

By Councilman Tom Dernoga

The efforts to complete a new Subregion 1 Master Plan continue on – hopefully to a conclusion very soon. A Master Plan establishes development policies for transportation, environment, public facilities, parks and more. During the Master Plan process, land may be rezoned to accommodate changing uses. However, because of the potential changes and their impacts, it is very important that citizens provide input and let public officials know what type of community the citizens want and expect.

The Subregion 1 area of the County includes Beltsville, Calverton, Gunpowder, North Beltsville, Pheasant Run, South Laurel, Vanvliet, and West Laurel. The last Master Plan was approved 20 years ago and is very out of date. We have been working on a new Master Plan since 2005 and it should have been completed; however, in 2008, at my request, the County Council rejected the draft plan and sent it back to M-NCPPC (Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission) to better deal with traffic congestion, to include provisions for Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), to include updated pupil information to ensure adequate school capacity, and to better address runoff from developments. There was a public hearing on September 22, 2009 to listen to the public about potential revisions. M-NCPPC has now issued a Resolution for the County Council to consider, but the Plan needs a large number of Amendments and these must be presented to the public and a hearing must be held to seek your input.

I have requested this additional public hearing for May 10, 2010 to address additional amendments on Konterra, the Howard University property, improvements to Old Gunpowder Road, sidewalks and trails, environmental issues and design elements. The hearing will be at the County Council Hearing Room in the County Administration Building in Upper Marlboro at 7:00 p.m. (with exhibits and staff available at 6:00 p.m.). If you attend, please sign up to receive emails from me with updates on the Master Plan or other local issues, email please send your comments to LGMoore@co.pg.md.us or 301.952.3887. More on the Subregion 1 Master Plan here: http://www.pgplanning.org/Projects/Ongoing_Plans_and_Projects/Community_Plans/Subregion_1.htm

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Moore at LCMoore@co.pg.md.us or 301.952.3887. More on the Subregion 1 Master Plan here: http://www.pgplanning.org/Projects/Ongoing_Plans_and_Projects/Community_Plans/Subregion_1.htm

If you want to receive emails from me with updates on the Master Plan or other local issues, email me at TEDernoga@co.pg.md.us and we will add you to our email list. I will be sending out information about the proposed amendments as the process moves forward, so please sign up to receive any additional information.

And on a lighter note, you are invited to a party! Join us on Saturday, April 24th as we celebrate Earth Day’s 40th anniversary with a river party right on the Indian Creek in Beltsville hosted by the Anacostia Watershed Society. We will be gathering for this grand event at the parking lot adjacent to where Powder Mill Road crosses over Indian Creek (5050 Powder Mill Road) between Route 1 and Route 201. My staff and I as well as scores of other citizens from Beltsville and the surrounding communities will be rolling up our sleeves and helping clean up this very important tributary that leads into the Anacostia River, and eventually the Chesapeake Bay.

On Earth Day, this, and over thirty other sites in the Anacostia watershed, are part of an on-going effort to clean up the streams and rivers in Prince George’s County and educate citizens on what can be done to reduce stormwater runoff and other pollutants. You can be a part of making Beltsville and our county cleaner by joining us for this exciting and worthwhile event. Take this opportunity to join your neighbors, make new acquaintances, watch me really get my hands dirty, create a difference on the Indian Creek, and enjoy a free barbeque at noon to reward everyone for their hard work. This is an excellent opportunity for students to get community service hours.

Please RSVP for this event so the host can get an accurate count for the food and drinks by calling my office at 301.952.3887. Hope to see you at the party!
All programs are FREE; however, donations to The Friends of Patuxent are greatly appreciated! Programs DO require advance reservations. Reservations are taken by calling 301-497-5887. Please advise us of any special needs so that we may accommodate you. Visit us on the web: patuxent.fws.gov

Programs Held at the North Tract
The North Tract is located on Rt. 198 between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 32.

Bird Walks
Wed. April 7, 8:15-10:30 a.m. Ages 16+
Wed. April 21, 8:15-10:30 a.m. Ages 16+
Search for birds in several refuge habitats on this guided hike. Field guides and binoculars are recommended.

Spring Wildflower Walk
Sat. April 10, 9:00-11:00 a.m. All Ages
Sun. April 25, 1:00-3:00 p.m. All Ages
Come search for wildflowers on the refuge. Learn why these springtime blooms are so important in the refuge ecosystem! Field guides are recommended.

Weed Warriors!
Wednesday, April 21, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Ages 13+
Non-native invasive plants are threatening our wildlife habitat. We need YOU to help stop them! Bring gloves and water (and hand tools if available).

Herp Search
Sat. April 24, 10:00-11:30 a.m. All Ages
Join a refuge naturalist on this guided search for reptiles and amphibians. Wear good walking shoes!

Night Hike
Sat. April 24, 5:30-7:00 p.m. All Ages
Discover the nighttime world of the refuge as you walk and listen for nocturnal animals on this guided walk.

Bird Walks
Fri. April 9, 8:00-10:30 a.m. Ages 14+
Wed. April 28, 7:30-10:00 a.m. Ages 16+
Sat. April 24, 8:00-10:30 a.m. Ages 14+
Search for early spring migrants in various refuge habitats on this guided hike. Field guides and binoculars are recommended.

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

Programs Held at the National Wildlife Visitor Center
The Visitor Center is located on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197.

Puppet Show “Little Whooper’s Excellent Adventure”
Fri. April 23, 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

National Wildlife Visitor Center
Follow the life of a very special endangered Whooping Crane as he learns to migrate with the help of his human friends. All ages welcome. NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY.

Night Hike
Sat. April 11, 1:00-2:00 p.m. Ages 8-12
Come take a hike; explore the early signs of spring. Learn how to make your own field guide and identify the plants and animals you see.

Oxitar Tale
Thurs. April 15, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Ages 5-7
Live the life of an otter in this “otterageous,” hands-on program. Learn why otters are so at home in the water.

Science and Research
Sun. April 18, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Ages 12-14
Ever wonder if scientific research could take place in your own backyard? Come explore what it takes to be a scientist, study the environment and how to collect your own data to support scientific research.

Celebrate Earth Day!
Thurs. April 22, 3:00-4:30 p.m. Ages 5-7
Come out this Earth Day and learn to conserve our natural resources by Reducing the amount that we use, Reusing what we can, and Recycling.

Nature Tots: Bees and Blooms
Thurs. April 29, 10:30-11:30 a.m. & 1:00-2:00 p.m. Ages 3-4
Introduce your preschooler to our fascinating friend of flowers, the honeybee, through games, songs, and crafts in this interactive program.

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Emmanuel United Methodist Church
Pastor Daniel Mejia

Join us for Sunday Worship
9am Contemporary Worship with “Ignite”
11:15am Traditional Worship with Chancel Choir

10:15am Church School for all ages
Adult study: 1 Corinthians through Galatians
Adult study: Following Jesus—Steps to a More Passionate Faith
Adult study: Highway to Zion: The Bilingual Class

Join us for a potluck lunch on the 2nd Sunday of each month
• Nursery Care provided for all Sunday Services
• Traditional Worship Sign Language interpreted
• Assistive Listening Devices for hearing impaired

Visit our website or follow us on Facebook
Emmanuel United Methodist Church
"Together We Make a Difference"
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Beltsville, MD 20705
301-937-7114
eumcbeltsville@earthlink.net
www.emmanuelumcbeltsville.net
March 28—Jerusalem
Palm Sunday Worship—9am & 11:15am
Sunday School—10:15am
April 1—Maundy Thursday
  • Communion Service—7pm
  • Seder Tasting—8pm
April 2—Good Friday
  • Tenebrae Service—7pm
April 4—Zion
  • Easter Sunday—9am & 11:15am
  • Egg Hunt—10:15am

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Passing the Torch Service at Hillandale Baptist Church

On Sunday, December 1, 2009, the Hillandale Baptist Church of Adelphi, Maryland held a “Passing the Torch” Service in honor of its new Senior Pastor and Family, Reverend Wyndell O. Banks, Sr., Minister Dr. Amy J. Banks, and son Wyndell O. Banks, Jr. The symbolic torch was passed to Pastor Banks from Interim Pastor, Dr. I. Benn Singleton. Pastor Banks preached a sermon titled “Oh, What a Wonderful Change!” based upon 2 Corinthians 5:17-21.

Hillandale Baptist Church has been a beacon in the community for over 56 years. The church boasts a multi-racial and multi-cultural congregation, with 32 different nationalities represented among its membership. The church is located at 2601 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi, MD, and has service on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. and Prayer, Praise, and Bible Study Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Banks formerly served as an Associate Minister at Metropolitan Baptist Church in Washington, DC. Under Senior Pastor Dr. H. Beecher Hicks, Jr. Pastor Banks served as an assistant to the Minister for Men and Youth, and also provided leadership and ministry support to various outreach ministries. He was licensed at Metropolitan in March of 2003 and ordained in May of 2004.

Pastor Banks received his Bachelor’s of Science degree in Accounting from Southern University in Baton Rouge, La. in 1987. He received his Juris Doctor from Howard University School of Law in 1990. He also received a Master’s in Religious Studies from Howard University in 1999 and a Master’s of Divinity degree from Howard University’s Divinity School in 2004. Pastor Banks has been a practicing attorney since graduating from Howard’s Law School in 1990. He most recently served as Director of Legal Programs for the Neighborhood Legal Services Program (“NLSP”) in Washington, DC. NLSP is a nonprofit organization that provides free civil legal services to low-income people in the District of Columbia. Pastor Banks managed NLSP’s 3 offices and approximately 20 attorneys, in addition to administrative staff and volunteers. Prior to joining NLSP, Pastor Banks was the founding principal of The Banks Law Firm in Washington, DC, and he also has experience with the District of Columbia Housing Authority, the U.S. Small Business Administration, and the law firm of Honigman, Miller, Schwartz & Cohn in Detroit, Michigan.

Pastor Banks was born and raised on a farm outside of Forrest City, AR. He is married to Minister Dr. Amy J. Banks, and they have one son.

The City of David Tabernacle Church

The City of David Tabernacle Church is a fast growing local church located at 5010 Sunnyside Avenue, Beltsville, Maryland. The Senior Pastor Rev. Joel Njoku founded it in 2004. The City of David Tabernacle is known as a community of faith, a true church without walls bringing restoration to the dying World and uniting people from across the globe through prayer, passionate worship and prophetic Word of God that will change every life. This ministry is poised to be your family-oriented, friendly and accessible community church within your reach.

The weekly services are faith-filled and power-packed with life changing messages and inspiring devotions that will draw you closer to God.

City of David Tabernacle has a strong and meaningful fellowship of love, faith and hope, which is the greatest gift we can offer one to another.

Over the years, people have been miraculously healed by God in this church of incurable diseases, others have been set free from several years of addiction, generational curses that have hindered God’s children from fulfilling their purpose in life have also been destroyed.

The heart of God is people, and this Church is doing their part to reach out to the people in our vicinity, Nation and the World with the love of God by providing essential commodities such as food, clothing and drugs to orphans and widows in Africa and other parts of the world. They have also provided groceries to low-income families and to the elderly homes within this community.

The services are as follows: Sunday at 10:00 a.m. Every Wednesday Bible Study otherwise called Faith Clinic starts at 7:00 p.m. On Fridays is our miracle night service starting at 9:00 p.m. and the weekend leading to every first Sunday of the Month is a Freedom weekend.

You are welcome to join City of David Tabernacle in any of the services believing that this is a place for you to fulfill the plan of God for your life.

Emmanuel United Methodist Church Easter Egg Hunt

By Todd Reitzel

On Sunday, April 4, Emmanuel United Methodist Church (UMC) will hold an Easter egg Hunt for children through grade 5. The event will be held 10:15 a.m.-11:00 a.m. whether rain or shine. Children may bring their own egg baskets or may use one from the church. Adults and young people grades 6 and above are welcome to come watch the fun.

Christian Education classes will be held during the same period, and nursery care is available.

The event will be held between Emmanuel UMC’s two regular worship services. Contempor-ary worship is at 9:00 a.m. and includes a praise band. Traditional worship is at 11:15 a.m. and includes the church choir.

Easter Sunday is the culmina-tion of a number of Holy Week events at Emmanuel UMC. Palm Sunday is March 28, with an Easter Cantata at the 11:15 a.m. service. On Thursday, April 1, there will be a Communion Service at 7:00 p.m. followed by a Seder. Paschal commemorating Jesus’ Last Sup-er. The Methodist Church practices open Communion and all are welcome. The Good Friday “Tenebrae service, commemorating Jesus’ Crucifixion, begins at 7:00 p.m. on April 2.

Emmanuel UMC welcomes all Beltsville residents to attend the egg hunt, education classes, and worship services. Membership is not necessary to visit Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane in Beltsville, seeks to be a community church available to all Beltsville residents.
Beltsville Rotary Club Update

Ah! Blessed Spring! As I write this column I am still warm from my outing on this warm, sunny spring day. It is hard to think that just a few days ago we were buried in three feet of snow and had to withstand strong damaging blizzards and winds of such force to uproot trees and snap power lines. How quickly Mother Nature changes her attire from stark and barren to bright and beautiful, and how fortunate are we to witness these miracles.

During the past few weeks business has progressed as usual for the Beltsville Rotary Club. We have had some excellent speakers, some welcome visitors from other Rotary Clubs and, of course, have enjoyed the times we have spent with each other at our regular Tuesday luncheon meetings.

Mae Whitehead, a woman of many talents, graciously accepted my invitation to speak at our March 2nd meeting. Whitehead, President of The Women’s Club of Beltsville as well as a certified mediator in private practice, gave us an overview of her life in the public and private sectors. She retired from the U.S. Dept. of State in Washington D.C. after 36 years of federal service where she was a skilled analyst in the field of foreign affairs information life cycle management. In the last decade of her career she received extensive training in workplace and other conflict resolution methods. In 1993 she became interested in the rudiments of mediation and thus began her new career in the field of conflict resolution. Whitehead has earned many honors and meritorious awards over the course of her two careers. She suggests we, “Hear careers. She suggests we, “Hear

was Mack Therson who was hosted by Joyce Malin. Therson is the director of Fairland Sports and Aquatic Center who discussed programs available for both adults and children. These include group and individual training in areas as diverse as yoga, aquatics, water programs for arthritics, muscle building, tennis, etc. The facility is also available for personal events such as birthday parties. The Ice Rink is available both publicly and privately. Many groups meet there, for example, the area curling club. Therson encouraged everyone to take the time to check out the facility and to make use of its many services, such as S.A.F.E. Senior Aquatics Fitness Enthusiasts.

We had a repeat visit from an old friend this week who was the guest of Sonja Festerling. Dr. Dave Deppner, along with his wife, founder of the organization known as, “Trees For The Future.” Dr. Deppner gave us an overview of where they are in the planting of trees in the many countries where reforestation is taking place. This group and others who are dedicated to bringing about a sustainable system to these third world countries have planted many millions of trees throughout the world. Trees For The Future is one of our ongoing charities that are supported throughout the year by Beltsville Rotarians.

The Beltsville Rotary Club meets for lunch every Tuesday at the Holiday Inn in College Park. We invite any business owners or professional personnel in our area to stop in and meet some of your peers who are dedicated to bettering the lives of all mankind. Inquiries can be addressed to 301.595.5225.

Beltsville Garden Club Spring Plant Sales

Beltsville Garden Club

By Louise DeJames, Publicity Chair

The April sale will include perennials, shrubs and trees. The May sale will have annuals, vegetables, and herbs in addition to perennials, shrubs and trees. Plants grown in the Beltsville Garden Club’s greenhouse may also be available.

For more information contact Geoff White at 301.937.1539 or visit our web site, www.beltsvillegardenclub.org.

Dr. Puttock was born in England, lived in Australia for 34 years as a botanist and flora writer for Flora of Australia. In Maryland/D.C. he is engaged in flora projects as a Research Associate at the Smithsonian Institution, designing gardens as Chief Botanist for the Monarch Sister Schools Program and is the Executive Director of Chesapeake Natives.

As always we have plants for our door prize table and refreshments after the meeting. The public is welcomed and admission is free.

For more information contact Louise DeJames at 301.890.4733 or visit our website, www.beltsvillegardenclub.org.
Women’s Community Club of Beltsville

By Mae Whitehead, President

The Women’s Community Club of Beltsville (WCCB) brings “Happy Spring” greetings for everyone and a Warm Welcome to all new Beltsville residents. We thank last month’s speaker Stephanie Fleming, granddaughter of the owners of Behnke’s Nursery for her informative presentation during our Woman’s History Month program. This month we are pleased to focus on traditional public relations, print media, Internet, and word-of-mouth about our Club activities. Our door is open to meet and greet women of all ages (seasoned ladies, stay-at-home moms, single ladies, service oriented women, working women and mothers, and others).

Did you know?

We are an eighty-seven year “young” organization serving the Beltsville community since 1922 with a goal of helping women, and providing community service. That still has relevance today as women balance work, home and family life, along with many other concerns of our times.

We have over the past eight decades completed, supported and worked on projects too numerous to mention here involving our hospitals, faith community, schools/students, community organizations, and more.

We are a diverse group helping to maintain the Clubs active presence in the community.

We seek the opportunity to have more women participate in our mission as we honor the Club, and perform outreach to support the goals of all women, families, and the community in the 21st century.

What we do now:

We award annual student Scholarships via a competitive essay contest for Beltsville residents/students who attend High Point and Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

We offer speakers and presentations that concern women of all ages (i.e. health/well being, life events, family, finance, safety and security, work, etc.) as well as the community-at-large.

We provide community service through food assistance to many families identified as being disadvantaged during Thanksgiving, and food assistance and gifts for the Christmas Holiday season.

We provide food assistance year round for families or individuals identified as being in need.

We offer a consistent time and place for our monthly mid-day meetings, with social interaction and light refreshments for our members and guests.

We support and collaborate with other Beltsville community groups.

We are 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, and our membership fee is minimal. Want to know more about WCCB? Please join us at our monthly meeting at Emmanuel United Methodist Church 11416 Cedar Lane Monday April 12 at 12:30 pm in the Church Lounge. Refreshments will be served.

Visit us on the Internet: www.beltsvillerec.org or contact Mae Whitehead, President, wccb@yahoo.com 301.572.7464.

Beltsville Young at Heart Club

By Barbara Schofield

The February 18 meeting was an entertainment meeting and the New Dimensions Seniors from Beltsville sang songs from the twenties and thirties with some sing along’s for us. Thelma Forte reported that they were making aprons and ordering retro toys for the general store on Beltsville day. On March 18 we had speaker, Scott Gregerson, who told us about all the changes that have been made at Doctors Hospital. Mary Lingebach, RN spoke about breast cancer. Her web site is www.dchweb.org at Doctors Hospital.

It is really nice to have this early spring weather. Here’s hoping everyone has a blessed Easter and the Bunny is good to the little ones.
School News

Black History Month

Calverton Elementary School celebrated Black History Month by having all of its students and teachers decorate their classroom doors. Several of these doors have become famous for their artistic design. "It means a lot to me to see my kids take pride in their history," stated Mrs. Wright, the Black History Month committee co-chairman.

Wounded Warriors Fund

On April 23rd, Post #217 will hold another Karaoke event to benefit the Wounded Warriors Fund. These events provide wounded veterans with the opportunity to socialize and enjoy themselves in a fun and relaxing environment.

Calverton’s Young Authors Prepare for Special Visitor

In late February and early March, Calverton’s Young Authors prepared for a Shakespeare presentation by reading and discussing Romeo and Juliet. Their teacher, Mrs. Donnella, a drama teacher at the LAB School in Washington, D.C., presented the presentation to the students. The presentation was March 24 and March 25. Mrs. Donnella, the multi-cultural program director, and Mrs. Wright, the Black History Month committee co-chairman, prepared certificates for all participants.

School News

Karaoke is a Blast at College Park Post & Unit #217

WOW! Who knew he could sing? Have you stopped in to enjoy the fun we are all having at the Post home singing to the music as spun by D.J. Wayne Miller? Even I was brave enough to exercise my vocal chords. This is a fun time and it happens every few weeks. I know I’ll be exercising my vocal chords on March 29th. Call the Post at 301.441.2783 to find out when the next one is happening. Our Post is a friendly place to kick back and let your hair down after a hard day.

By Ivy Christoffers

The Tree

Written by the poet

Nicholas O’Connor in Mr. Reij’s 5th Grade Class

I rode that rainbow to a new world I never thought I’d see.

The water was as pure as diamonds.

There wasn’t any pollution.

Just good enough anywhere I stepped. At the end of the rainbow, I climbed down the tree.

Then I realized that the tree was always inside of me.

The Young Authors meet once a week to write creatively. There are two groups this year, one that meets on Wednesdays and the other on Thursdays. The following is a poem written by one of those talented students:

The Tree

I always think of that rugged tree

That I never used to climb

All I ever heard were bad things about that tree

When I heard those things, fear would come to me

One day I faced my fears and climbed the tree.

Suddenly everything activated inside of me.

The tree was shining with all the colors of the rainbow. We will be holding a clothing benefit for the homeless veterans served by Perry Point VAMC in mid April and will be gathering up clean, usable clothing to take to this event during the next two weeks. I have had word from Holy Joe’s Coffee Café in Iraq. The soldiers are still enjoying the Eight O’clock Coffee we sent them but have asked for some more tea. That is running a little low, so we will be sending a case off to them soon, along with a box of baked goodies.

We love and support our Troops. May God keep them safe and bring them home soon, and may God continue to bless America.

Beltsville Shell

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Beltsville, Maryland 20705
(301) 937-2066

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School News

Calverton News

Mrs. Russell would like to congratulate the ten students in her class who passed all of their second grade math facts tests as of March 12. These students are Mi’kye Jackson, Nelson Perez, Talisha Hamilton, Haley Hedrick, Julian Meade, Kyarah Rhodes, Jair Francis, Brandon Johnson, Michael Okwukwe, and Michael Danso. Congratulations to them all.

Mrs. Freeman is thrilled to have High Point student Jordan Blue interning in her classroom this year. Jordan helped the students make snowmen pictures with bubble wrap painted snowmen. Jordan reads with the students and helps them with many classroom activities.

Eastern Bluebirds Coming to Calverton

By Katie Swanson, Save the World Sponsor

Save the World! Environmental Club has constructed the beginning of a bluebird trail at Calverton Elementary School. With the help of our local bluebird expert, Tim Norvell, who has generously donated his time and expertise, plus our principal, Mary Tschudy, and teachers, Holly Bellows and Shirley Upchurch, we have built four bluebird houses. We created the houses from scratch, drilling holes and screwing wood pieces together to make houses just the right size for bluebirds. Last week, again with Mr. Norvell’s help, we hung four houses on Calverton’s grounds. The Eastern Bluebird has faced serious population declines recently, largely due to predation and competition for suitable habitat with other small species of birds. Eastern Bluebirds are a Maryland native species, so it is important to conserve them. We will be monitoring the houses regularly in hopes of finding bluebird nests. We hope that our efforts will bring bluebirds back to the Calverton area - be on the lookout for the small, beautiful, brilliantly-colored birds!

Part of our bluebird team: Standing (l-r) Laura Espinal, Mary Tschudy, Holly Bellows, Jasmine Maddi, Tim Norvell, Ila Rajkumar, Katie Swanson, Crystal Boatseng and Shirley Upchurch. Seated (l-r) Shagun Sharma and Onyinye Obiefuna

Iglesia Pentecostes Sinai
11301 Rhode Island Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705

Le invita a sus poderosos
Cultos de Alabanza y adoracion
Martes Oracon 7:30-9:00 p.m.
Sábado Evangelístico 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Domingo Alabanza y adoracion de 2:00-5:00 p.m.
El Pastor Elvin Moscoso y la congregacion le dan la bienvenida ven y gezate con nosotros
301-379-3945

THE CRESCENT NURSERY
AND
SUMMER PROGRAM

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11723 Chilcoate Lane, Beltsville, MD
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Affordable Safe Weight Loss Program

Walk-in Hours:
Mon. - Fri. 9-7
Sat. 10-4
4729 Sellman Rd.,
Beltsville, MD
301-595-2820

We now have H1N1 Vaccine in Our Clinic

By Katie Swanson,
Save the World Sponsor

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St. Joseph’s Catholic School
and the Scientific Method

Scientists and Engineers from leading industries and
government agencies including
NASA, Technical Resources
International, NSA, FDA, and
USDA served as judges for
the annual Science Fair at St.
Joseph’s. Students from first
through eighth grade partici-
pated and conducted experi-
ments employing the scientific
method. The experiments were
categorized according to con-
sumer science, environmental
science, behavioral science,
and natural science. The Grand
Prize Winners, sixth grade
student Gabriella and eighth
grade student Noah performed
original, well designed, and
well documented experiments
exploring canine response and
the effect of plant growth to
different colored light sources.
Each student was interviewed
and prepared a thorough report
of the research and calcula-
tions. The students were well
prepared by Mrs. Pappas, our
middle school Science teacher
and Science Fair coordinator.
The detailed science fair pre-
sentations were displayed in
the Parish Hall. St. Joseph’s
Catholic School continues to
provide rich foundations in
the Sciences for the students,
thanks in large part to the
great enthusiasm and energy of
the science teachers.

Regionalization Means Enrollment Boon
for St. Joseph’s Regional Catholic School

St. Joseph’s Catholic School
will become a regional school sup-
porting St. Hugh, St. Nicholas, and
St. Joseph Parishes begin-
ning with the 2010/2011
academic year. As a result,
enrollment for the
mid-size elementary
and middle school
has increased by
30% and space is
becoming extremely
limited in the school
that offers one class
per grade level.
Higher enrollment
will help keep the
tuition costs to an
affordable minimum
as well as secure increased
funding for academic
program expansion. The
school that prides itself
on discipline, spiritual
formation, and academic
excellence has plenty of
available space to accommodate
the registered students and staff
members are eager to help orient
incoming students. St. Joseph’s
continues to serve a diverse popu-
lation of children coming from a
variety of ethnic and faith back-
grounds.

Happy Easter
to All
who believe
in the
Magic of Easter,
in colorful Easter eggs,
the beauty of flowers in Spring,
the Happiness new growth brings
and
the Wish for Everlasting Peace!
@Ingeborg Carsten-Miller
April 2010
Calendar of Events

BELTSVILLE RECREATION COUNCIL
Monday, April 19, 7:00 p.m. at Beltsville Community Center

YOUNG AT HEART CLUB
1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m. at Beltsville Community Center

BELTSVILLE BUSINESS BREAKFAST
April 21, 7:30-9:00 a.m. at Oasis Creek Golf Club, 13806 Old Wayne Rd., Vansville. The Beltsville Business Breakfast is a business networking group hosted by the 21st District Delegation. It meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Registration is $5. Sponsor Representative announced that Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union, about to open a branch office in Beltsville, will be both a sponsor and speaker at that breakfast.

BARC'S 100th Anniversary is Coming Soon!
Plan ahead for Saturday, June 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., rain or shine. Mark your calendar for BARC’s festivities in celebration of its 100th Anniversary! Visit BARC at 16000 Baltimore Ave., Beltsville, MD 20705 for a fun-filled day for the whole family. There will be hayrides, a petting zoo, and farm machinery in addition to a large tented area with games, exhibits, and hands-on demonstrations. Light refreshments will be available for purchase. For more information contact Stephanie Yao, Public Relations Specialist at 301.504.1619 or stephanie.yao@usda.gov.

FIT WOUNDED WARRIORS
Monday, April 12, 12:30 p.m. at E Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane.

BELTSVILLE EVENTS

FLORIST AND GARDEN PHOTOGRAPHY
Saturday, April 10, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Old Towne Florist, 12112 Old Towne Rd., Beltsville, MD.

FLOWER AND GARDEN PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP
Sunday, April 25 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Beltsville's Garden Center will present a Garden Photography Workshop by E. David Luria, one of the Washington area's most prominent architectural photographers. Free: $60.00. Non-photographer companions are invited to come at no cost and photograph alongside the workshop. Classes are limited to 12 students, so you must reserve to receive the workshop. Workshops will be held rain or shine. Beltsville's Garden Center is located at 11300 Baltimore Ave., Beltsville, MD. Call Beltsville's Garden Center at 301.445.3700 for more information and to make reservations.

BELTSVILLE LIBRARY
Regular hours of operation are Monday: 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Closed on Sunday.

PONY EXPRESS DAY
Saturday, April 3 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Celebrate one of the original message systems by creating your own message day in our computer lab. Great for kids. Ages 5 to 10. Open by April 1, Ages 6 to 12. FREE.

LASER TAG
Friday, April 9 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Join us for some fun at 49 Laser Sport. Bring $10.00 for laser tag games. Transportation is provided. Ages 10 to 17. Reservation required by April 2.

NATIONAL PROGRAMS DAY
Friday, April 16 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Wear your favorite PJs and have snacks while watching a movie. Ages 10 to 14. FREE.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION
Join us for some exciting Go Green activities. All ages welcome. FREE.

YOUTH EXTREME REGULAR EVENTS
Fridays and Saturdays from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Ages 13 – 17. FREE with Youth ID.

FRIDAYS OF BELTSVILLE
Baltimore Pike. Menu includes Fillet of Flounder, Sunday April 11 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY (NAL)
NAL is open Monday – Friday: 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 Ridge Road Ave. drive-way entrance. See www.nal.usda.gov or call 301.937.5860 for information on basic services and special events. The library is free and open to the public.

BELTSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER
3900 Selman Rd., Beltsville. The Program Supervisor is Zaki Brown. Call 301.367.6873 for information on these and other activities. TTY: 301.445.4512, FAX: 301.937.8815. HOURS: 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Closed on federal holidays.

BELTSVILLE'S 35th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
April 13, 15, 17, 21, 23, 25, 27. Join the celebration! Events will include a special photo display of library history all week. Honored guests and cake cutting will take place Tuesday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m. A puppet show by Kaylee Puppel will take place Thursday, April 15 at 10:30 a.m. Meet and greet the Friends of the Library on Saturday, April 17 at 12 noon. This event coincides with National Library Week. All are welcome. Contact the library for more information.

CHESS CLUBS
Tuesdays, April 6 and 27 at 5:30 p.m. Chess for all ages and levels. Everyone welcome. Come to learn or just to play with other players and have fun.

WRITE NOW!
Mondays, April 5, 12, 19, and 26 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.

STORYTIME
Wednesday, April 7, 14, 21, and 28 at 10:30 a.m. Songs, fingerplays, and stories. Ages 3 – 5.

GOOSEY LOOSEY
Wednesday, April 7, 14, 21, and 28 at 11:30 a.m. Young children may improve their language and motor skills. For novices to 18 months with caregiver.

GAMING DAZE FOR FAMILIES
Monday, April 26 at 6:00 p.m. Participants will have the opportunity to play games. The availability of Wii, Xbox 360, including Mario Kart, Super Smash Bros. Wii, and Madden and multiple board games. For ages 6-12.

GAMING DAZE TOURNAMENT STYLE
Wednesday, March 31 through Friday, April 2, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. What are you doing for your son? Stop in at the library for an afternoon of tournament gaming featuring Mario Kart, Super Smash Bros. Wii, and other Xbox mini-games. Prizes may change at the discretion of the library staff. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. for registration and open practice. The tournament begins at 2:00 p.m. Ages 7 and up.

TEEN ADVISORY BOARD
Saturday, April 17 at 2:00 p.m. Make a difference @ your library. Ages 13 – 18.

FRIENDS OF THE BELTSVILLE LIBRARY MEETING
Tuesday, April 6 at 6:30 p.m.

EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION
Monday, April 12, 7:45 p.m. Alexander McCall Smith’s The Kalahari Typing School for Men. Pick up a copy at the library. All are welcome.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK DISCUSSION
Tuesday, April 20 at 2:00 p.m. Greg Mortenson’s Three Cups of Tea. Register at the library to pick up a copy.

INTRODUCTION TO MICROSOFT WORD
Thursday, April 15 at 9:00 a.m. Don’t be intimidated by computers. Learn to identify basic terminology and how to create a document. Leave the library feeling confident using Microsoft Word. Limit 24 per class. Registration required. Contact the library for more information. Adults Only! Library for more information. Adults Only!

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LYNN SMITH'S KIDS COMPUTER CLUB
Enlist @ your library. Ages 13 – 18. Program is limited to 20. Sign up by April 1, Ages 6 to 12. FREE.

WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAM
Classes are limited to 12 students, so you are encouraged to reserve. Classes held rain or shine. Behnke's Garden Center is located at 4319 Sellman Road, Beltsville, MD. Call 301.937.6029 for information. Contact the Beltsville Library by phone at 301.937.6029. Visit us at 4319 Sellman Rd., Beltsville, next door to the police station. Visit our library system website at www.pgparks.info.

ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST
Start writing your poems now! Applications are available at the library, and the deadline for entry is April 15 at 5:00 p.m. Submit your original poetry for a chance to win. Winners will be asked to read their winning poems on Tuesday, April 20 at 7:00 p.m. Contact the Beltsville Library for more information. Sponsored by the Friends of the Beltsville Library Ages 6 to adult.

BELTSVILLE CONVENTION CENTER
6813 Ammendale Rd., Vansville. Call 301.937.6621 or kathleen.reardon@pgparks.gov for more information. FAX: 301.937.1697. The program is limited to 70. Sign up by April 1, Ages 10 to 14. FREE.

BELTSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER
6813 Ammendale Rd., Vansville. The program is limited to 70. Contact the library for more information. FAX: 301.937.6621 or kathleen.reardon@pgparks.gov for more information. FAX: 301.937.6621.
Consumer corner

Little known facts: (A) If you purchase a car on the 31st of December it will be a year old on January one! It may not matter to you now but comes into play when you trade it in. (B) The best time to buy a new car is on a day no one can get to the showroom after a major snow like we just had. You can get your price. I know a lot of things and know a lot of stuff from the school of hard knocks.

Another tip for us consumers: When you open a bag of chips, open from the bottom, not the top. In this way you get all the broken ones first. I can see by my word count it’s time to close.

Until next month, William Raulin
A & K Bakerbill.net
Abiding Presence Lutheran Church
10774 Rhode Island Avenue
301-937-7046

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

Come and Join Us
Located in the Beltsville Professional Center

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

Easter Activities and Worship
Community Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, March 27, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
Children ages 2 - 12 years are welcome

Palm Sunday Worship, March 28
9:45 a.m. Bible Study (for all ages)
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship

Maundy Thursday Worship Service
April 1, 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday
April 2, 12:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Church Open for Prayer

Easter Sunday, April 4
6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service
7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
9:45 a.m. Bible Study (for all ages)
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
*Children available for children up to 6 years old

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

Palm Sunday, March 28th
The Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist
8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 1st
Passover Seder 6:00 p.m.
Light supper & Stripping of the altar.

Good Friday, April 2nd
Stations of the Cross at Noon
Liturgy at 7:30 p.m.

Easter Day April 4th
Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m.
in St. John’s Cemetery

Easter Eucharist
8:00 a.m. Adult Service
10:00 a.m. Family Service
Music at all three services.

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

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

Easter Brunch
Following all three services.
Please bring finger food to share
And stay for Easter fellowship!
In Honor of 25 Years of Service, Borgwardt Funeral Home Hosts Open House and Funeral Museum

Mobile Museum Chronicles America’s Rich History of Traditions

Beltsville, MD, April 25, 2010 – What do a President’s rider-less horse saddle, Rosa Parks’ quiet act of defiance, and Abraham Lincoln’s casket have in common? That’s what students, local residents and funeral professionals will soon discover from an exhibit featuring a collection of funeral objects and historical depiction of funeral customs in a traveling museum.

Reflections: The American Funeral, examines funeral traditions and their role in helping the living achieve closure. Spread out across 1,000 sq. ft., thoughtful display areas reveal how much we mourn the dead. Of special note is the Lincoln exhibit, featuring a reproduction of Lincoln’s casket and tracing the near 3-week funeral procession. Scholars cite Lincoln’s 1865 funeral as the birth of today’s modern funeral service. Other moving exhibits include “Arlington National Cemetery,” which honors our country’s veterans and the more than three million Americans buried in our national cemeteries. “Glory, Glory Hallelujah” showcases President John F. Kennedy’s rider-less horse – empty boots reversed in the saddle – trotting briskly in his funeral procession and Rosa Parks, who was the first woman to lie in state at the Capitol Rotunda.

“The Reflections: The American Funeral mobile museum will be located at 4400 Powder Mill Rd. Beltsville, MD 20705, in the parking lot of Donald V. Borgwardt Funeral Home, on Sunday, April 25, 2010, during their 25th Anniversary Open House between the hours of 10-3 pm.

From the cross-country funeral procession for Abraham Lincoln to the national outpouring of grief for Elvis Presley, America has a rich history of mourning the dead. Reflections: The American Funeral explores these traditions, beginning with Native American burial mounds and ending with the diverse rituals practiced across the country today. Produced by Michigan-based MRA, it’s earning praise from everyone who experiences it. “Awesome!” “Great educational tool!” “Amazing! Brings out a lot of things we don’t think about.” “Very, very moving.”

“There are intriguing stories of funeral practices throughout the centuries and this exhibit educates people on those stories and enables them to connect to the universal human experience of death,” says Harry Kurtz, President of MRA, a leading mobile exhibit and event producer. “The displays on Arlington and fallen public safety officers move people to tears.”

Reflections: The American Funeral has been touring across the United States since Summer 2008, stopping at state capitol, universities, veteran events, and mortuaty schools, funeral homes and industry conventions. During January 2009 Inauguration celebrations, both Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C., and Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine in Baltimore, MD, hosted it.

25 years of dedicated service is something that I am very proud of. My staff and I are privileged to provide comfort and care to families in their time of need with dignity, honor and respect.”

— Don Borgwardt