**Beltsville News**

**Beltsville Briefs**

**Mothers’ Morning Out Preschool Program**
You can register your 2 or 3 yr old for two mornings a week of learning, Bible stories, crafts and playtime in a loving Christian environment with experienced teachers. Classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30-11:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Beltsville, 4700 Odell Rd, Beltsville, MD 20705. Child must be 2 or 3 by Sept. 1, 2015. Potty training is not required. Registration fees are $80.00/child with low monthly tuition costs for September-May. We will be accepting registrations for Fall 2015 starting May 4th. For more information call 301-937-7771.

**Shrimp Feast at the College Park Moose Lodge #453**
Sun., June 7, is the date for the All-You-Can-Eat Shrimp Feast at the College Park Moose Lodge #453. Menu items will include: Steamed shrimp, hot dogs, hush puppies, coleslaw, baked beans, corn on the cob and ice cream sandwiches and will be served from 2-5pm. Tickets are $22 per person and must be purchased in advance. Child must be 2 or 3 by Sept. 1, 2015. Child must be 2 or 3 by Sept. 1, 2015. Potty training is not required. Registration fees are $80.00/child with low monthly tuition costs for September-May. We will be accepting registrations for Fall 2015 starting May 4th. For more information call 301-937-7771.

**S.H.A.R.E. program at St. John’s Episcopal Church**
The S.H.A.R.E. program at St. John’s provides food to local residents.

**Local Residents Answer Call to Service in FEMA Corps**
WASHINGTON — Gerald McFadden, of Washington, D.C., Ia’Lees Shirk of Lanham, Md., Margaret Craig of Annapolis, Va., and Sylvia Akikokou of Beltsville, Md., recently began 10-month terms of national service in FEMA Corps, an AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) program. FEMA Corps provides a boost to the nation’s ability to assist disaster survivors while expanding career opportunities for young people ages 18 to 24. Based out of the Pacific Region campus in Sacramento, Calif., McFadden, Shirk, Craig, and Akikokou began their first project the week of March 24.

During their 10-month terms of service, McFadden, 21, Shirk, 18, Craig, 23, and Akikokou, 22, will assist citizens and communities that have been impacted by disasters, as well as provide administrative and logistical support to the nation’s emergency management system.

Since the program launched in Fall 2012, FEMA Corps has assisted with a variety of declared disasters, including Hurricane Sandy, 2013’s historic flooding in Colorado, severe storms in Minnesota, tornadoes in Oklahoma, the fertilizer plant explosion in West, Texas, and coordinating humanitarian aid during last year’s influx of unaccompanied children along the southern U.S. border, among many others.

Serving on teams of 10 to 12 people, FEMA Corps members both travel to disaster-affected communities and support longer-term recovery efforts.

**FEMA** continues on page 2

**Summertime Safety Tips**

- **Sunscreen:** Use a broad spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30 and reapply every two hours or after swimming or sweating.
- **Sun-protective clothing:** Wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and wide-brimmed hats. Use sunglasses that block 99% to 100% of UV rays.
- **Avoid direct sunlight:** Stay indoors during the hottest parts of the day, which is typically between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- **Stay hydrated:** Drink plenty of fluids, even if you don’t feel thirsty, to prevent dehydration.

**Upcoming Events**

**June 17: Coffee with COPS!**
WSSC will be the guest speaker at the June 4th Coffee with COPS meeting. During this meetings various guest speakers come and share with us awesome information. Please share this information with your neighbors and friends and come out join us for Coffee with COPS! WSSC will be the guest speaker at the June 4th Coffee with COPS.

**District 21 Legislative Update**
District 21 legislative update for 2015. Mon., June 1st at 7pm. Martin Luther King Middle School. If you have a specific question or concern for Senator Rosapepe, Delegates Fresh, Pena Melnyk, or Barnes please forward to me by May 25th. Coffee with COPS: Thu., June 4th 1pm, at the Laurel Senior Center 7120 Comee Road, Laurel, Maryland. The first Thu. of every month Cpl. Hibbert, from our very own District VI COPS unit, host a coffee with our seniors meeting. During these meetings various guest speakers come and share with us awesome information. Please share this information with your neighbors and friends and come out join us for Coffee with COPS! WSSC will be the guest speaker at the June 4th Coffee with COPS.
A Note from the Editor

Last month we ran the wonderful poem Mother. We accidentally left off the Poet’s name. Mother was written by local Poet Ingeborg Carsten-Miller. We apologize for the omission.

Sincerely,
Rick

The Greater Beltsville Business Association

Greater Beltsville Business Association is making a difference in the community by improving relations, raising funds, and offering awareness through its advocacy relations with local Representatives. GBBA sang an impromptu Happy Birthday to Senator Rosapepe when he came out on his birthday to give us the Legislative Recap at the May breakfast at Cross Creek. Then it got a little more serious—there are several topics to follow up on and GBBA looks forward to being involved and being a presence.

GBBA is again looking forward to teaming up with the Beltsville Rotary to support local charities at the 4th Annual Greater Beltsville Charity Golf Classic. The tournament will be held on Patriot’s Day, Sept. 11. GBBA is excited to support Troops First Foundation in Laurel for the first time. Please visit www.troopsfirstfoundation.org and www.beltsvillebusiness.com and contact one of us for more information about upcoming events and even how to get involved. Thank you for your support!

FEMA continued from page 1

term recovery operations across the country. Projects range from helping disaster survivors apply for FEMA assistance to mapping of disaster-stricken areas to sharing disaster preparedness and mitigation information with the public. They arrived at the AmeriCorps NCCC Pacific Region campus on Feb. 24th and completed four weeks of specialized training in teamwork, leadership development, communication, service learning, and emergency management. They will serve on several projects in various locations throughout the United States depending on where a disaster strikes.

Prior to joining FEMA Corps, McFadden graduated from Freedom High School in 2014. McFadden said, “I chose a term of national service because it is a great experience serving in AmeriCorps NCCC and giving back to others.” Gerald is the son of Jackie McFadden.

Prior to joining FEMA Corps, Shirk graduated from Bladensburg High School in 2014. Shirk said, “I chose a term of national service for new experiences.” Ja’Lees is the daughter of Cathy Mack.

Prior to joining FEMA Corps, Craig graduated from Annapolis High School in 2010 and East Carolina University in 2014 with a degree in English and Communication. Craig said, “I chose a term of national service because I am interested in this type of work.” Margaret is the daughter of Mike and Sue Ann Craig.

Prior to joining FEMA Corps, Aklikokou graduated from High Point High School in 2010 and Salisbury University in 2014 with a degree in International Business. Aklikokou said, “Beginning my service through Student United Way, I wanted to continue my service on a national level, which is why I joined FEMA Corps.” Sylvia is the daughter of Ayawo and Ayewa Aklikokou.

After completing 1,700 hours of service, FEMA Corps members will receive a $5,750 Segal AmeriCorps Education Award to pay for tuition or student loans. FEMA Corps operates out of five regional NCCC campuses: Sacramento, Calif.; Denver, Colo.; Vinton, Iowa; Baltimore, Md.; and Vicksburg, Miss., but deploys teams nationally wherever the disaster-related need is the greatest. Applications will be accepted through Oct. 1, 2015, for those who would like to serve in FEMA Corps beginning in early 2016. For more information about FEMA Corps or AmeriCorps NCCC, or to apply online, visit www.nationalservice.gov.
Neighbors in the News

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Program at Emmanuel UMC

On May 5th, the conclusion of the eighth year of ESOL studies at Emmanuel United Methodist Church was celebrated with a very festive pot luck banquet. It afforded a great time of fellowship during which our students, their families, and our faculty shared tasty ethnic specialties. Students also received certificates of class attendance. Those who missed no classes received special recognition.

The ESOL program at Emmanuel was organized in 2007 in response to demographic changes occurring in the greater Beltsville community. Significant increases in the Latino and Asian populations had been noted. The aim of our program has been to provide our new neighbors with a safe and welcoming environment where they can build basic skills in English. These skills include listening, speaking, writing, and reading, as well as using correct grammar and pronunciation.

Over the years, our students have come from many countries, including Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Brazil, China, South Korea, Viet Nam, India, Cameroon, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Italy, Russia, Rumania and the Ukraine. Although most are permanent residents in the Beltsville area, a good number have temporarily working at the USDA and been visiting professionals temporarily working at the USDA and the University of Maryland. Our staff has felt really blessed and privileged to have gotten to know and interact with such a culturally diverse group of people.

Our ESOL program is divided into fall and spring semesters. Generally, at least 35 students register each semester. This spring, 38 students registered for classes, although not all of them were able to complete the semester. All of our teachers are volunteers, and include members of our Emmanuel congregation as well as persons from other churches. We currently have four dedicated teachers who provide English instruction at beginning, intermediate or advanced levels. We are eagerly looking forward to the start of our 9th year of providing English instruction. The fall semester will start on Sept. 9th and run through Nov. 17th. We would welcome all who might be interested in joining our teaching staff. For more information, please contact our ESOL coordinator, Ms. Pat Allen, at 301.937.2081, or via email at oldhen6@verizon.net.

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Hidden Gems

With the lazy days of summer quickly approaching, reinvent your indoor and outdoor living space to capture the spirit of summer. There are several hidden gems right here in Beltsville. They are all local so you won’t waste time or gas driving all over town and will be back to relaxing in the cool breeze in no time. Start at Will’s Home Decorating (www.decoratemaryland.com) for blinds, draperies, reupholstery, flooring, area rugs, wallpaper, custom furniture, Benjamin Moore paint and more. Their selection is one of the largest in the D.C. area. The best part is not just that they offer FREE personalized in-store design consultations, but that the consultations are typically with the owners, design gurus Michael Richards and Valerie Kabelac. For contemporary European style furniture, check out Bova Furniture (BOVAFurniture.com). Bova has a great collection of leather furniture. On your way to Bova stop at The Behnke’s Nurseries (www.Behnkes.com) for flowers, shrubs and trees. Behnke’s has everything you need to make your garden absolutely gorgeous. If you need help, Behnke’s expert staff is eager to assist you.

If all this shopping is making you hungry try one of the culinary delights in Beltsville, over by Will’s Home Decorating the wonderful arena in the air will lead you across the street to Sardi’s, where irresistible mouthwatering charbroiled chicken is on the menu. For Korean food try Da Rae Won or Gah Rham. There is also Swahili Village, which recently received a glowing review in the Washington Post for its flavorful Kenyan food. Newly opened Old Line boasts a fabulous bistro with 20 craft beers on tap. If you are craving dessert pick up a freshly baked fruit pie, cake or pastries at Raulin’s Bakery. As you head home save time or pastries at Raulin’s Bakery.

As you head home save time or pastries at Raulin’s Bakery.

SecureMedicalCare

Walk-In Urgent Care Center

16th Season USDA Beltsville Farmers Market
5601 Sunnyside Avenue
Parking Lot B
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9:30 AM – 2 PM
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Until October 20, 2015

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Farmers markets

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For additional information or vendor participation 301-564-1776 or QWCC.CustomerServices@dm.usda.gov
Do you remember when everyone would cut their grass on a regular basis and not wait until it was 2 feet tall?

Do you remember when people would actually use a trash can to discard their trash rather than throw it out the window of their car or just throw it on the ground as they walked along?

Do you remember when your lawn (front or back) was a place where you grew grass and your children played rather than use it as a parking lot for numerous cars?

Do you remember when a “single family home” was meant to describe “home” for a single family and not numerous families?

Do you remember when folks who parked in handicapped parking spaces were actually handicapped?

Do you remember when our elected leaders actually cared about those of us who “foot the bill” rather than continue to waste our money on programs that produce no results?

Do you remember when you went to see a movie and people actually watched the movie rather than talking and texting the entire time?

Do you remember when kids actually went to school to learn so that they could become productive members of society and when the money we spent on educating them was actually commensurate with their abilities and the graduation rate?

Do you remember when we were able to call Christmas, Christmas and not worry about who might be offended?

Do you remember when you held the door open for someone and they actually said thank you?

Do you remember when a person who had a negative run in with a Police Officer was generally considered a criminal and not a victim?

Do you remember when Americans actually went to work everyday because they did not believe that the government owed them everything?

Do you remember when a loaf of bread was 25 cents? ...................ahhhh, the good ole’ days!!

—John W. Anna, Jr.
Beltville Resident
Challenge Day at James E. Duckworth School

By Ted Ladd

The 21st annual Special Olympics Challenge Day was held at the James E. Duckworth School on May 15, 2015. This annual event is the culmination of intensive systematic training for all individuals with multiple and perhaps severe disabilities. It offers students the opportunity to celebrate their “personal best” in a specified motor area.

Each student participating in Challenge Day trained for 12 weeks with a peer coach from Beltsville Adventist School, Beltsville Academy or John Nevins Andrews School. The opening ceremonies began at 9 am on the 15th. The band from Buck Lodge Middle School provided inspiring music as the parade of athletes entered the auditorium. Mr. Jay Bass introduced each group on the opening day.

Middle School provided inspiring music as the “founding members” of Riderwood, the Erickson Living retirement community, kicked-off an annual celebration to commemorate its 15th anniversary. The festivities begin on Fri., May 1 during a luncheon honoring Riderwood’s 64 pioneer residents.

Special guests included State Senator Jim Rosapepe, former Executive Director Donna Mason and Ms. Patricia Davis, resident member of the Riderwood Board of Directors. Doug Franchot, a resident, presented a proclamation on behalf of Maryland State Comptroller Peter Franchot.

Chip Warner is the Executive Director of Riderwood. “It’s fitting that we begin our fifteenth anniversary celebration by honoring our pioneer residents and employees,” stated Mr. Warner during the anniversary luncheon. “In 2000, they were the first to take the leap of faith on a new idea and a construction site. By having the energy to invest deeply in the community and in each other, they created the foundation for thousands of residents to live better lives in retirement.”

Doug Franchot (left), a resident of Riderwood retirement community, presented a citation to Chip Warner (right), executive director, on behalf of State Comptroller Peter Franchot during a luncheon on May 1.

On Sat., May 2, the community hosted the Riderwood Carnival for residents, employees and family members. The event featured the annual fishing tournament plus live music, circus performers, games and food throughout the campus.

Open in 2000, the 120-acre campus is home to over 2,500 residents and 1,400 full and part-time employees. Riderwood features 1,903 independent living apartment homes in a variety of floor plans and 306 extended care residences providing assisted living, skilled nursing, short-term rehabilitation and memory care health services.

Its residents have formed 120 groups, clubs and service organizations, and in 2014, contributed more than 190,000 hours of volunteer service on campus and throughout the greater community.

Celebrate the 15th Anniversary of Riderwood! Would you like to help us celebrate the 15th anniversary of Riderwood? If you or someone you know would like to volunteer for the celebration or have any questions about the event, please contact Chip Warner at cw@riderwood.com or 301-937-3677.

Would you like to help out with the Beltsville News?
The Beltsville News is always seeking volunteers to help out in many different areas. You don’t just have to be a writer or photographer to help this wonderful newspaper. We are currently looking for help in several areas particularly the financial side. After many years of service our financial accountant will be stepping down soon and we could use a person or group of people to help fill her position. If you think you would like to work with an amazing group of people and learn something new contact us at bnewseditor@gmail.com today.

Neighbors in the News

Celebrating the 15th Anniversary of Riderwood!
the Cub Scouts participating in the solemn ceremony.

The Arrow of Light is the highest rank you can achieve in Cub Scouting and is one of 2 Cub Scout awards that can be worn on the Boy Scout uniform. To earn the rank the Webelos scouts, Michael G., James M. and Kacey T., worked on achievements over a two year period to learn the skills they will need to succeed in Boy Scouts.

It was a fun time with skits and songs as the various dens received achievements they earned over the month. The scouts then gathered together to share refreshments.

Webelos, Justin F., Aidan M., Alex M. and Arrow Kacey T., along with their parents and leader came out on Sunday to clean the fire pit on Sunday before the ceremony.

If your son is interested in joining Cub Scouts please contact Regina Halper at BeAScout.org. (Search for Cub Pack 1031 in Beltsville)

Beltsville Academy Beautification Day a Success!

Members of Troop 1033, Cub Pack 1031, Girl Scouts, students and former students at Beltsville Academy helped the Landscaping Committee weed and mulch their gardens on Saturday, May 9, 2015. 18 youth and 10 adults helped on the project.

Girls Scouts Hosting Dog Fashion Show

Please join Girl Scout Troop #6379 for an awesome Dog Fashion Show! It will be at Beltsville Academy, 4300 Wicomico Ave. on Saturday, June 13th from 1 to 3pm. You can bring your dogs to walk down the runway or just come for fun. If you are bringing your dog, why don’t you try to dress your dog in a fashionable outfit!

If you are interested in participating in the dog fashion show, send an email with your dog’s name, your name, and dog’s breed to: girlscouttroop6379@gmail.com. The deadline to enter is Wednesday, June 10, 2015. The entry fee for all participants and attendees is to bring new pet related supplies (such as dog/cat food, dog/cat toys, litter, etc.) to donate to a local pet shelter. There will be a first, second, and third place winner.

Girl Scout Troop 6379 is doing this activity as a requirement for the Power of Community Badge. The purpose of the badge is to work with the community to help those in need. The troop collectively decided to host a Dog Fashion Show to raise pet supplies for a local pet shelter. For more info. contact: girlscouttroop6379@gmail.com.

Boy Scouts Take a Springtime Hike

The Boy Scouts of America took a 10 mile trip. The scouts and their adult leaders including Scoutmaster Rick Deery, Assistant Scoutmasters Eric Saathoff, Kevin D’Eustachio, Budhan Pukazhenthi and parent Charlie Tarbrake enjoyed the beautiful spring time weather and vigorous hike. Spring has sprung; summer is right around the corner; get outside and go hiking.

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Scouts catch a tiger on their monkey bridge.
Raspberry Pi

When I started writing this column I wrote about free software. While I don’t have a good source for free hardware, I want to talk about the next best thing, low cost computers that are powerful and fun. The first of these goes by the friendly name of Raspberry Pi. The Raspberry Pi was created by a professor at the University of Cambridge’s St John’s College in response to his observation that students coming into Computer Science today were not as strong as those had had grown up with computers like the Commodore 64, Tintex Sinclair, and the BBC Micro. His idea was to create a computer that could be sold for $25 and connect to a TV as a screen. The result was the Raspberry Pi. The Raspberry Pi is a credit card size computer and initially came in two models the model A for $25 and the Model B for $35. The model A became very popular with hobbyists for controlling robots, drones, and other projects but it has no network connection and only a single USB port. The Model B for only $10 more had 2 USB ports (one for a mouse and another for a keyboard) and an Ethernet connection. Both models also have HDMI and composite video outputs and an SDHC memory socket to provide storage. The Model B was quickly upgraded from the 256Megabytes of RAM it shipped with initially to 512 Megabytes of RAM. The computers use a Broadcom System on a Chip (SoC) to provide a Central processing Unit (CPU), and Graphics processing (GPU). The SoC normally operates at 700 Megahertz but is easily overclocked to run at 900 or 1000 MHz. The graphics chip is capable of providing full 1080p graphics. The little model B can even be used as a media center to watch HD videos and television.

Over the past two years the Raspberry Pi has seen several updates including the Pi B+ which improved the performance of the network and started to use MicroSD memory popular with phones and added additional USB ports and Input/Output (IO) lines. The Pi B 2 is the latest member of the Pi family. It uses a new quad-core CPU, comes with a giga-byte of RAM memory, and runs 6 times faster than a Pi B+. The PiB2 is still available at $35 and the price on the B+ has been reduced to $25. Now when I say that the Raspberry Pi is $35 you need to understand, that is just for the computer board. In order to create a complete setup you would also want a case to put the Pi in (about $8), a mouse and keyboard ($7 from Microcenter), an HDMI cable to connect it to your TV ($6 on Amazon), a phone charger to power the computer ($7 at Microcenter), and memory to store your programs (16 Gigabyte MicroSD speed 10 memory card $7 from Microcenter). This adds up to a whopping $70.

So what can you do with a $70 computer? The Raspberry Pi runs the Linux operating system. This is the same operating system used by most of the world’s web servers. It has a Graphical User Interface (GUI) like Windows or the Macintosh. It comes with an environment to teach people how to program in the Python language as well as a complete Python development environment. It also supports programming in Java, C and C++ languages. It includes a web browser, and games and you can install office software like LibreOffice and it comes with programs like Mathematica and Wolfram Alpha pre-installed.

I use one of my Raspberry Pi’s as a media center and another is setup as a web server. I have hosted Word Press and JSP Wiki on a Raspberry Pi. My son-in-law uses his Pi to emulate and run old arcade games. Most importantly a Pi is fun to play with and learn.

Three Summery Ways to Improve Your Health

(StatePoint) For the health conscious, there’s no such thing as a summer vacation from making good nutritional choices and getting plenty of exercise. But there’s no reason to let a healthy lifestyle become boring.

Here are three ways to let the summer season guide your routine:

• Mix-Up Movement: After months of indoor exercise, you may be ready for a change of scenery. And summer is the ideal time to take a break from the treadmill and incorporate different types of movement and exercise into your lifestyle. So ditch the gym this weekend and head for greener pastures. From row boating to hiking, you’ll find yourself activating different muscles than you normally would by mixing things up.

• Eat In-Season Produce: Take advantage of the summer harvest and plan meals around in-season produce. The USDA lists apples, beets, bell peppers, kiwifruit, carrots, garlic, peaches, okra and cherries, amongst many more fruits and vegetables that reach their peak in the summer months. These items are chock full of vitamins and nutrients and taste their best in summer.

• Summer Sun: Beyond the Vitamin D factor, a study published in the Journal of Investigative Dermatology shows that sunlight may lower blood pressure, which could reduce one’s risk for heart attack and stroke. Some researchers now say the benefits of sunlight could outweigh cancer risks associated with exposure. Don’t forget to take the usual precautions, however. Wear sunglasses, sunscreen and a wide brimmed hat to protect against harmful UV radiation.

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By Sen. Jim Rosapepe

Join us Monday, June 1 in Beltsville

Delegates Barbara Frush, Joseline Peña-Melnyk, Ben Barnes, and I will be meeting with Beltsville residents to report on 2015 Maryland legislative session on Monday, June 1. All citizens are welcome. It is sponsored by the Beltsville Civic Association, Calverton Citizens Association, Cross Creek Homeowners Association, and Franklin Farms Homeowners Association. The event starts at 6:30pm and will be held at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School. We’ll be discussing local issues and answering your questions. We invite you to share your views on important state and community issues.

More MARC trains for Beltsville

As you may already know, when the legislature passed the state’s new transportation program in 2013, we insisted on more MARC commuter train service for the Camden Line which serves Beltsville at the Muirkirk stop. And we were successful! The new Camden Line MARC train service was added in March and consists of:

- An additional morning northbound train, from D.C. Union Station to Baltimore, arriving at the Muirkirk stop at 8:00 a.m.
- An additional afternoon southbound train, from D.C. Union Station to Dorsey Station, arriving at the Muirkirk stop at 3:48 p.m.
- An additional evening southbound train, from Dorsey Station to D.C. Union Station, arriving at the Muirkirk stop at 5:03 p.m.

Visit www.mta.maryland.gov/marc-train for the full schedule.

Small Businesses Looking for Health Insurance Can SHOP Around

By Janet Trautwein

Health benefits are tough to come by at small businesses, according to a new report from the Kaiser Family Foundation. Less than half of employers with three to nine workers offer health insurance. Conversely, nearly all firms with 1,000 or more employees offer some type of coverage to at least a portion of their workers.

Small firms that don’t offer health benefits could be making a strategic mistake. Providing insurance is one of the most effective, economic ways for employers to support the health of their workers -- and to retain them, too. Even better, small businesses have more coverage options available to them than ever before -- including some new ones created by the Affordable Care Act.

Employer-based coverage offers several key advantages to both firms and workers.

For starters, premiums covered by employers are tax-deductible, and employer payments towards coverage are not considered taxable income to employees. Individuals don’t get the same tax benefits paying for insurance themselves.

The tax exemption cuts the price of insurance for employers by up to 40 percent. That allows businesses to provide more generous coverage than individual workers might be able to secure on their own.

Employer-sponsored coverage is also less expensive to administer. According to the National Bureau of Economic Research, the administrative load for employer-sponsored insurance is half that for individually purchased policies.

That shouldn’t be surprising. After all, it’s easier for insurers as well as agents and brokers -- representing eight staffers than to work with one business-owner representing eight staffers than to service eight people individually.

Most importantly, for many Americans, the mere act of choosing an insurance plan is challenging. Indeed, a recent study published in the journal Health Affairs reported that “more than 60 percent of those targeted by the health insurance exchanges struggle with understanding key health insurance concepts.”

Employers usually work with agents and brokers to find coverage for their employees. In most states, a broad range of coverage is available to employers of all sizes. The Affordable Care Act also created another way for small businesses to secure health coverage for their workers -- the Small Business Health Options Program. Firms with 50 or fewer employees can select from among several health plan options. They can sign up at any time during the year. Businesses with 25 or fewer employees can qualify for tax credits that cover as much as half of their insurance tab if they purchase coverage through the SHOP program.

SHOP’s online system allows employers to choose how much to pay toward worker premiums and what level of coverage to offer. Features like dental insurance and dependent coverage are optional. As such, employers can offer any coverage that will allow employees to select from several different insurance plans. Starting this year, workers in 14 states will be able to choose their insurance provider. Fortunately, whether employers want to explore their options through SHOP or other options for coverage, they can turn to licensed agents and brokers to help them with coverage options, manage the enrollment process for them, and serve as their expert business counsel throughout the life of the insurance policy. In fact, HealthCare.gov’s SHOP exchange allows small businesses to search for agents directly on the website, or they can find someone in their area on the NAHU website at www.nahu.org. There’s no better time for employers to explore the options available to them for offering coverage than now.

Repairing the CSX Bridge on Powder Mill Road

As many residents are aware, the bridge over Powder Mill Road over the CSX tracks is in need of major repair. The deterioration include dangerous pot holes and crumbling railings. We’re pleased to report that structural improvements will be made and the entire driving surface is scheduled for replacement. The construction activities will begin this summer and will be completed this fall. Many thanks to the VanSylvie Civic Association and other Beltsville residents for contacting us about this problem.

Thanks for supporting Beltsville Day!

Beltsville Day was a great success again this year, with games for kids, music, food, great fellowship, and much more. Many thanks to the Beltsville Recreation Council for their hard work. We look forward to next year!

Contact us

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

Small Businesses Looking for Health Insurance Can SHOP Around

By Janet Trautwein

Health benefits are tough to come by at small businesses, according to a new report from the Kaiser Family Foundation. Less than half of employers with three to nine workers offer health insurance. Conversely, nearly all firms with 1,000 or more employees offer some type of coverage to at least a portion of their workers.

Small firms that don’t offer health benefits could be making a strategic mistake. Providing insurance is one of the most effective, economic ways for employers to support the health of their workers -- and to retain them, too. Even better, small businesses have more coverage options available to them than ever before -- including some new ones created by the Affordable Care Act.

Employer-based coverage offers several key advantages to both firms and workers.

For starters, premiums covered by employers are tax-deductible, and employer payments towards coverage are not considered taxable income to employees. Individuals don’t get the same tax benefits paying for insurance themselves.

The tax exemption cuts the price of insurance for employers by up to 40 percent. That allows businesses to provide more generous coverage than individual workers might be able to secure on their own.

Employer-sponsored coverage is also less expensive to administer. According to the National Bureau of Economic Research, the administrative load for employer-sponsored insurance is half that for individually purchased policies.

That shouldn’t be surprising. After all, it’s easier for insurers as well as agents and brokers -- representing eight staffers than to work with one business-owner representing eight staffers than to service eight people individually.

Most importantly, for many Americans, the mere act of choosing an insurance plan is challenging. Indeed, a recent study published in the journal Health Affairs reported that “more than 60 percent of those targeted by the health insurance exchanges struggle with understanding key health insurance concepts.”

Employers usually work with agents and brokers to find coverage for their employees. In most states, a broad range of coverage is available to employers of all sizes. The Affordable Care Act also created another way for small businesses to secure health coverage for their workers -- the Small Business Health Options Program. Firms with 50 or fewer employees can select from among several health plan options. They can sign up at any time during the year. Businesses with 25 or fewer employees can qualify for tax credits that cover as much as half of their insurance tab if they purchase coverage through the SHOP program.

SHOP’s online system allows employers to choose how much to pay toward worker premiums and what level of coverage to offer. Features like dental insurance and dependent coverage are optional. As such, employers can offer any coverage that will allow employees to select from several different insurance plans. Starting this year, workers in 14 states will be able to choose their insurance provider. Fortunately, whether employers want to explore their options through SHOP or other options for coverage, they can turn to licensed agents and brokers to help them with coverage options, manage the enrollment process for them, and serve as their expert business counsel throughout the life of the insurance policy. In fact, HealthCare.gov’s SHOP exchange allows small businesses to search for agents directly on the website, or they can find someone in their area on the NAHU website at www.nahu.org. There’s no better time for employers to explore the options available to them for offering coverage than now.

Repairing the CSX Bridge on Powder Mill Road

As many residents are aware, the bridge over Powder Mill Road over the CSX tracks is in need of major repair. The deterioration include dangerous pot holes and crumbling railings. We’re pleased to report that structural improvements will be made and the entire driving surface is scheduled for replacement. The construction activities will begin this summer and will be completed this fall. Many thanks to the VanSylvie Civic Association and other Beltsville residents for contacting us about this problem.

Thanks for supporting Beltsville Day!

Beltsville Day was a great success again this year, with games for kids, music, food, great fellowship, and much more. Many thanks to the Beltsville Recreation Council for their hard work. We look forward to next year!

Contact us

Please let us know if there are other issues you have questions or thoughts about. And, of course, feel free to be in touch if we can be of help to you. Just email 21stDistricDelegate@gmail.com or call 301.858.3141.
A Wonderful Beltsville Day

Beltsville Day pics taken by Ann Ladd and Beltsville News Staff Photographer Maria McKenzie
Sheraton College Park North Hotel Unveils Multi-Million Dollar Renovation

Hotel Debuts Transformation of Guest Rooms, Club Lounge, Lobby, Meeting Space and Asado Brasserie Restaurant

Beltsville, Md. – May 1, 2015 – Sheraton College Park North Hotel today announced the completion of an extensive multi-million dollar renovation. The hotel’s transformation includes upgrades to its 204 guest rooms and suites, and enhancements to the public areas of the hotel, most notably a new look for the hotel restaurant – Asado Brasserie.

Located in Beltsville, Maryland, Sheraton College Park North Hotel is convenient to University of Maryland – College Park, Washington D.C., historic Annapolis and the Baltimore Inner Harbor. The hotel is just a short ride from both Reagan National Airport and Baltimore Washington International Airport and close to College Park and Greenbelt Metro Station, which provides easy access to the nation’s capital.

The renovated guestrooms at Sheraton College Park North Hotel offer a relaxing ambiance and feature new carpeting, wall vinyl, case goods and window treatments. All guest rooms are outfitted with an oversized work desk, ergonomic chair, high-speed Internet and 37-inch flat panel television. Sheraton Club guests enjoy upgraded amenities, as well as complimentary breakfast, beverages and evening hors d’oeuvres in the newly renovated Sheraton Club Lounge.

“We are thrilled that this renovation is complete and look forward to offering guests an enhanced experience when their travels bring them to the College Park area,” said Terence Abernethy, General Manager, Sheraton College Park North Hotel. “The revitalization of the hotel allows us to meet the increased demand for high-caliber accommodations with distinctive experiences, and provides our guests and customers, as well as the local community, an inviting gathering place for all occasions.”

A highlight of the renovation is the redesigned Asado Brasserie. Led by Executive Chef Jorge Moreno, the restaurant serves a variety of cuisine in a newly transformed and energetic atmosphere.

At the heart of the refreshed lobby is the signature Link@Sheraton® experienced with Microsoft® where guests can come together to meet, connect and relax. The lobby also features a refinished front desk, new chandelier and seating. An ideal choice for business meetings, weddings and social functions, Sheraton College Park North Hotel features more than 5,500 square feet of refreshed state-of-the-art meeting and function space with the latest audiovisual equipment and high speed Internet access to keep attendees connected and productive during events.

The hotel is offering guests the opportunity to rediscover the Sheraton College Park North Hotel with a special renovation offer. When booking, guests will receive daily breakfast for two at Asado Brasserie, two complimentary cocktails and Internet access throughout the stay for just an additional $1. This offer is available to book for stays through May 31, 2015. To book call 866-716-8134 and mention rate plan LRPKG1 or visit the Special Offer Page at www.sheratoncollegeparknorth.com/renovation. For more information on Sheraton Hotels & Resorts, please visit www.sheraton.com.

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Neighbors in the News

Vacations

Anticipations for vacations,
To make them the best,
Are often filled with those frustrations
Which consume our rest.
Soon we’re entangled in the packing
Gathering loose ends
So, when the day dawns we are lacking
Patience has been spent.
Our plans desire to discover
Moments story-like
Yet, we just need time to recover
To enjoy our life.
Man may decide, but God directs
Give Him room to lead;
He places joys we can collect
Should we slow our speed.
“Be still and know, I am the LORD”,
Listen, He will speak;
As thankfulness for His regard
Humbles and gives peace.
His kindness teaches us to know
Time, too soon, will flee;
It is not where, but how we go,
Process is the key.
Rebecca Hutchings
5/20/15
How to Make a Difference in a Community that Matters to You

(StatePoint) You may not realize it, but you have the power to make a big difference in your community. There are so many ways to help a cause and you’ll be more fired up to devote your time, energy and talents when your efforts will benefit a community that matters to you, say experts.

Abdullah Sharif knows that better than anyone. Upon returning from the United States to his home country, Afghanistan, for a brief visit in 2007, Sharif was horrified to see the peaceful, progressive nation he left in 1976 laid to ruins, war-torn and economically devastated after decades of conflict. The heartbreaking sight inspired him to do all he could to help restore his country.

After joining the U.S. State Department in 2009, Sharif returned to Afghanistan to serve both his adoptive and native countries as a peace diplomat. In his new memoir, “Return to Kabul: An Afghan American’s Odyssey in Afghanistan,” which is the second book in a series of reminiscences, he recounts the past several years that he spent helping to rebuild his homeland, working both for the State Department and the Department of Defense.

You don’t have to participate in a big initiative to make a difference to your community, however. Anyone looking to make a meaningful impact need only discover where their passion lies and apply that to doing good, Sharif points out.

Here are some ideas for those looking to make a difference:

- **Make a visit:** Return to the places that matter to you – your former neighborhood, schools you attended, your old hometown. If it’s been long since your last visit, you may discover that these locations and institutions now need your help. Pay attention to small details. Engage with others and learn how you can be of service.
- **Expand your community:**

**Club News**

The Beltsville Rotary Club

The Beltsville Rotary Club and The Greater Beltsville Business Association once again proudly announce their Charity Golf Tournament on Fri. Sept. 11 at Cross Creek Golf Club. This year a major recipient is David Feherty’s Troops First Foundation. Mr Feherty is a former professional golfer and popular TV golf commentator. Troops First intends to build seven transition homes in Riverdale for combat wounded service member and their families. Major donors are needed for this ambitious undertaking so please contact either George Krzywicki at George.A.Krzywicki@ampf.com or John Moynihan at jackdaddio1@verizon.net

**Beltsville Rotary will soon be installing our new Officers. We continue to meet every Tue. at the Old Line Bistro in Beltsville on an alternating lunch and breakfast timetable. Lunch at 12:15 one week and breakfast the next at 7:30. We often encounter an objection from potential members that Rotary would take too much of their time. The truth is that our meetings are barely over an hour and our service commitments probably do not average much more than that over a calendar year; so about 2 hours per week. Not much time but great rewards. For our current schedule or more info please call me, Howard Phoebus, at 301.369.1765.**

**The Beltsville Young At Heart Club**

Beltsville Rotary Club President Howard Phoebus and incoming President George Abraham on occasion of Howard’s reclassification talk.

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A Very Busy Time For Post And Unit #217

By: Ivy Christoffers

Hooray! The cold windy days are all behind us for a few months. Let me ask you, “Where did spring go to this year?” We have gone from winter directly into summer. Well, let us make the best of these sunny days and pleasant evenings.

Before I tell you about the upcoming events planned for The American Legion Family of College Park #217, we must revisit the past. The recently retired Veterans Creative Arts Festival held at The Bowie Center for the Performing Arts on Apr. 26 was simply fabulous. The veterans who exhibited their art and those veterans who entertained were beyond belief. The star of the performance was Alyce Dixon, a 107 year young WWII Veteran who was one of the first women to enlist in the Women’s Army Corp. She presently resides at Washington Virginia Medical Center. Miss Dixon performed a comedy routine for which she had won a National Gold medal just a few years ago. Needless to say, she brought the house down and received a standing ovation. Prior to their performance, Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Maryland, George Owings, greeted her and the other veterans, promising his support for their ongoing efforts through the medium of art therapy. He was particularly pleased to meet Miss Dixon.

The following weekend we saw in Kent Island at a very successful “drawdown” fund raiser that was chaired by Past Dept. Pres. Linda Caudell. There were 8 past department presidents working or attending this event. Our work is never done, great work, Linda.

An annual event is rapidly approaching, The Olympic Torch Run which takes place at 1:30. A donation of $30 will reserve your place in the hall and for a further donation of $8 you will receive a delicious dinner. Tina Z and her committee always provide great food.

This month also sees the election of our officers to lead our footsteps through the next administrative year. We strongly urge our members to become more involved with your organization. Our continued success depends on the commitment and dedication of all of us.

If you will be having a special event for your family or group coming up and find you need more room to hold it, please consider the hall at The College Park American Legion. We can also cater your affair. Try us, you’ll like us.

For those who are still in harm’s way around the world, we pray God’s protection for our troops and our countries diplomats. May God continue to bless our great America.

Prince George’s County Genealogical Society

The June meeting of the Prince George’s County Genealogical Society will be June 3, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the New Carrollton Municipal Center, 6016 Princess Garden Parkway, New Carrollton, MD, 20784.

Come out to hear Historian Lindsey Horn give a presentation relating to Southern Maryland which includes both Prince George’s and Charles Counties. The meeting is open to the public and refreshments will be served. For more information, visit us on the web at www.pgcgs.org or call the library at 301-262-2063. You can also like us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/pgcgenalogy

College Park Lions Club Announce Student Scholarships

The College Park Lions Club service organization has selected 6 students graduating from local Prince George’s County high schools to receive academic scholarships in 2015-2016. The following scholarships were awarded: High Point High School: Jephthe Cadet, Beltsville, MD, $1,200 and Jerry Desay, Beltsville, MD $1,200. Parkdale High School: Julian Ventura, Julian College Park, MD, $1,000. Northwestern High School: Vanessa Herrera, Hyattsville, MD, $1,200. Elizabeth Seton High School: Myranda Hinkson, Upper Marlboro, MD, $1,200. DeMatha Catholic High School: Emmanuel A. Montesa, Hyattsville, MD, $1,000. Cadet, DeMatha, Hinkson will be attending the University of Maryland College Park. Ventura will be attending Towson University and Montesa The Catholic University of America.

COMMUNITY

continued from page 11

Do your hobbies improve your life? Bring those benefits to a wider scope of people.

For example, perhaps you’re a runner. Consider starting a running group or offering a class to a wider scope of people. Consider starting a craft-making group or offering a class on shared interests.

There also are volunteerism opportunities that let you explore the work of different charities, so you can one-stop shop for a cause that speaks to you, and wisely donate your charitable dollars.

There are many volunteer opportunities with the unique opportunities to serve the community through the medium of art therapy.

The star of the performance was Alyce Dixon, a 107 year young WWII Veteran who was one of the first women to enlist in the Women’s Army Corp. She presently resides at Washington Virginia Medical Center. Miss Dixon performed a comedy routine for which she had won a National Gold medal just a few years ago. Needless to say, she brought the house down and received a standing ovation. Prior to their performance, Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Maryland, George Owings, greeted her and the other veterans, promising his support for their ongoing efforts through the medium of art therapy. He was particularly pleased to meet Miss Dixon.

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COMMUNITY

continued from page 11

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For example, perhaps you’re a runner. Consider starting a running group or offering a class to a wider scope of people. Perhaps you’re a runner. Consider starting a running group or offering a class to a wider scope of people.也许是您是一名跑步者，考虑开始一个跑步小组或提供一门涉及共同兴趣的课程。也许是您是一名跑步者，考虑开始一个跑步小组或提供一门涉及共同兴趣的课程。也许您沉迷于烹饪，考虑组织一个烹饪工作坊或提供一门烹饪课程。也许您沉迷于烹饪，考虑组织一个烹饪工作坊或提供一门烹饪课程。考虑开始一个绘画或陶瓷制作工作坊，或者提供一门课程，让其他人也有机会接触这些艺术形式。考虑开始一个绘画或陶瓷制作工作坊，或者提供一门课程，让其他人也有机会接触这些艺术形式。也许您是一名音乐爱好者，考虑提供音乐课，或者组织一个音乐交流会，让其他人也有机会欣赏和学习音乐。也许您是一名音乐爱好者，考虑提供音乐课，或者组织一个音乐交流会，让其他人也有机会欣赏和学习音乐。考虑组织一个慈善活动，让其他人也能帮助到需要帮助的人。考虑组织一个慈善活动，让其他人也能帮助到需要帮助的人。也许您是一名园艺爱好者，考虑提供园艺课程，或者举办一个园艺交流会，让其他人也有机会接触和学习园艺。也许您是一名园艺爱好者，考虑提供园艺课程，或者举办一个园艺交流会，让其他人也有机会接触和学习园艺。考虑提供一些与环境友好和可持续发展相关的课程，让其他人也能了解和参与这些活动。考虑提供一些与环境友好和可持续发展相关的课程，让其他人也能了解和参与这些活动。
High Road Upper School Class of 2015 Graduates

The High Road Upper School in Beltsville will be graduating 17 students this year on June 16. The students have participated in academic, career planning, work experience/internship opportunities, music, art and sports activities that have laid a foundation that will support each student’s growth into adulthood.

Senior Chyna Doahue shares her thought on her experience: “Though the work was tough at times, I know that it has better prepared me for future opportunities. Chyna will be attending a cosmetology program and plans to work as a hair stylist/makeup artist.

Amber Bowers speaks of her experience, “I am glad that I put forth the effort because it made me a better person, but I am also glad it is over and I can begin the next phase.” Amber plans to attend EPIC, (formerly Southern Maryland Vocational Industries).

Each graduating senior has been connected to their post-secondary education or employment plan as outlined in the students’ transition plan as part of High Road Schools school to work program and transition planning process. Most of the graduating seniors will be enrolling in vocational training programs such as nursing assistant, child care, corrections, construction and commercial trucking.

Michael Easton, who will be attending the University of the District of Columbia’s Community College Workforce Development Center and will be studying basic plumbing had this to say about his time at High Road “At first, I really did not appreciate all that the staff have done to support me, but during my time here at High Road realized that that staff really care and want me to succeed and now I can look forward to beginning the next part of my life.”

Good Luck to all the Graduates of the Class of 2015:

- Michael Easton-University of the District of Columbia’s Workforce Development program in Plumbing
- Rodney Williams-University of the District of Columbia’s Workforce Development program in HVAC
- Justice Powell-The Hair Academy-New Carrollton
- Chyna Doahue-Universal Beauty School- Los Angeles CA
- Paul Vincent-EPIC Vocational
- Alex Dolby-EPIC Vocational
- Jordon Potts-Creative Options in Employment
- Shamar Wilson-EPIC Vocational
- Raysheona Maiden-Compass Inc
- Amber Bowers-EPIC Vocational
- Rober Angel-EPIC Vocational
- Phillip Tidde-U.S. Air Force/Prince George’s Community College-HVAC
- Jesus Hernandez-Prince George’s community College-Computer Aided Drafting/Business
- Malik Nelson-Prince George’s Community College-Team Builders Program, Maintenance Technician/HVAC training

Robotics Program Builds Interest in STEM Subjects

By Madeleine Deason

It is the end of the school day, but Elizabeth Butler’s 7th grade science class is not rushing out the door. They are having too much fun trying to build the fastest robot in the class. There will be a race at the end of the school year. Butler counts to ten and the students finally manage to reluctantly put away their robots. They can continue building next week.

Thanks to the University of Maryland’s Robotics Service Learning Program, students at Martin Luther King Middle School are getting hands-on robotics experience.

Every Thursday from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., UMD students visit the class with Lego Mindstorms, Lego-based robotics kits. MLK 7th grader Clarissa Lazo looks forward to the class each week.

SCHOOL NEWS continues on page 15

The Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education Announces 2015 Maryland Green School Awards

MAEOE Certifies Vansville Elementary School as Maryland Green School

Jessup, Maryland – (April 30, 2015) – The Maryland Association of Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE) is pleased to announce that Vansville Elementary School (Prince George’s County Public Schools) has been certified as a 2015 Maryland Green School. The Maryland Green Schools program is nationally recognized as having significant impact with students and schools. The program encourages educational opportunities for preK-12 schools that increase awareness and understanding of environmental interrelationships that impact public health and our society, and that promote responsible environmental stewardship practices. The program is aligned with Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement 2014 goals and supports Maryland State Department of Education graduation requirements and standards.

Over the past two years, our school has demonstrated and documented a continuous effort to integrate sustainable environmental management practices, environmental education curriculum, professional development opportunities, and community engagement into our daily operations. This award signifies that our school has made a commitment to developing stewards of the earth and reducing the environmental impact of our school.

“Students, teachers, school personnel, parents and community partners working together to create lasting, positive environmental actions at school are core elements to becoming a Maryland Green School,” says Laura Johnson Collard, MAEOE Executive Director. Students are involved in projects that save energy and reduce waste. Schools are also encouraged to get students outdoors to the schoolyard or to visit a local nature park. The Maryland Green Schools program plays an important role in fulfilling the state’s commitment to ensure our young people become environmentally literate by the time they graduate.

MAEOE will celebrate with Green Schools, Green Centers and schools that are interested in knowing more about the program at the Maryland Green School Youth Summit on May 29, 2015, at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis.
SOLD

Branch Elementary, Hollywood Elementary, Cesar Chavez Elementary, Paint George's County. In addition to MLK, Elea-teaching robotics at eight schools in Prince school. Now it has 45 UMD undergraduates introducing technology and robotics to stu-dents from a young age: "I didn’t really get to have this experience in middle school," he said.

The Robotics Service Learning Program started in the fall of 2011 with only one school. Now it has 43 UMD undergraduates teaching robotics at eight schools in Prince George’s County. In addition to MLK, Elea-nor Roosevelt High School, Parkdale High School, Cesar Chavez Elementary, Paint Branch Elementary, Hollywood Elemen-

7th grade students at MLK Middle School learn about robotics through the University of Mary-land’s Robotics Service Learning Program

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SCHOOL NEWS

continued from page 14

“SOLD

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RATES ARE STILL LOW, PRICES ARE GOING UP, STILL A GOOD TIME TO BUY AND SELL!

This Father’s Day
Think Beyond the Tie

(StatePoint) The tie has been a traditional Father’s Day gift since the holiday was first cele-brated. But this year, men’s fashion experts say think beyond this staid accessory while Father’s Day shopping.

“The modern man is expressing himself in much broader ways and rounding out his ward-robe with more creativity than he has in the past,” says Denis Daly Wood, founder of Dalys 1895, fourth-generation luxury men’s designer and online retailer.

To give Dad the gift of contem-porary style, Wood offers some great Father’s Day shopping tips:

• Get inspired by Dad’s favor-ite hobbies. For example, if he’s an outdoor enthusi-ast, perhaps he would like a new sturdy backpack, hiking boots or gloves to wear dur-ing his next adventure. If he’s a writer, a leather-bound journal or engraved fountain pen are great gift ideas that could prove useful and per-sonal. Search for items that could help Dad better enjoy doing the things he loves.

• Dad may have his favor-ite suits, but buying him an accessory to accent his outfit can make him look and feel his best when he’s at the office or out to din-

ner. A pocket square, like a limited edi-tion Caravaggio silk pocket square, can add a level of sophistication to Dad’s look.

• Has your father been carrying the same wallet for years? Upgrade his style with a wallet of a diff-erent color or texture or select a sterling sil-ver alternative, like the Dalys 1895 Sterling Silver 16 Gauge Mon-ey Clip, with his hand-engraved monogram for a personal touch.

• Does Dad have a favorite watch that he loves to wear? Buy Dad a watch winder or watch box where he can keep his treasure. A bracelet that complements his watch can also add a great touch to his outfit all year round.

• For the traveling dad, con-sider a sleek, stylish week-end bag or briefcase to amp up his style even while he’s on the go. If Dad always travels with his tablet or lap-top, be sure to find a bag with tech pockets that will protect his gadgets even dur-ing takeoff.

For even more Father’s Day gift ideas, visit www. dalys1895.com. Don’t resort to a tacky “Number One Dad” t-shirt or boring, tired tie. Take this holiday as an opportunity to elevate Dad’s style.

“When I started, I was on the fence on whether to continue with engineering,” she said. The program brought a human com-ponent to her major and brought back her passion for the subject.

Because teachers have to follow a cur-riculum, “this is something that I could not give them,” said Elizabeth Butler, science department chair at MLK. This is the third year of the program for MLK and Butler has noticed a change in students’ attitudes towards STEM subjects. After a few robot-ics lessons their interests grow and they start asking more question in their regular science classes, and they start asking about careers in science, she said. “If they were not exposed to this, they would not be ask-ing questions.”

“In the regular classroom situation, they are having a hard time with the concepts,” but they catch on very quickly in the robotic-ics lessons, she said. MLK student Ely Lozano said that the process of building the robot is hard, but it’s worth it when you finally get to drive it. “It’s a really interest-ing to have the experience to build robots because we’ve never done anything like this before,” she said. Butler wishes the class could be open to all students at MLK and not just her class, she said. There is no continuation when they reach the 8th grade, either, she said.

Clarissa Lozano said that her friends from other class ‘sometimes get jealous and wish they could have done this.” “The ex-pe-rience they have here is priceless,” Butler said. “When you see the glow in the eyes of the kids when you do an experiment, that’s something you cannot pay for.”
MORNINGs AT THE MUSEUM TOUR
Sat., June 13 at 11 Am June’s tour will look at our exhibit Biological Flyers of College Park Flying flight, soaring flight, speed flight, formation flight — and not by airplanes or helicopters! The exhibit explores the many different kinds of flight that birds and flying mammals can do in our neighborhood skies. Free with museum admission. All ages welcome.

LAUREL-BELTSVILLE SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER
Address: 7120 Center Rd., Laurel, MD 20707, on the corner from the Laurel Regional Hospital. Phone: 301.206.3350. Fax: 301.206.3387. TTY: 301.446.5402. Regular hours of operation: Mon. – Thu. from 8 am to 9 pm; Fri. from 8 am to 5 pm; Sat. from 8 am to 2 pm, closed on Sun. Membership is free for Beltsville residents who are age 65 or older.

BROOKSIDE GARDENS 1800 Glenallan Ave., Wheaton, MD 20902. Travel time on surface streets from Beltsville is about 20 to 25 minutes. Info Desk: 301.962.1400. Website: MontgomeryParks.org/brookside. The grounds are open every day of the year from sunrise to sunset. Free admission. Limited parking is available next to the Conservatories. Regular hours of operation for the Visitor Center are 8 am to 5 pm daily, except for most major holidays; enter through the rear double doors.

VOLUNTEER HOURS FOR STUDENTS
High school students (ages 16 and up) can earn 50 hours working in the gift shops. Basic computer skills are required to operate the cash register. Volunteer college students are also welcome to apply. Contact Joel Bucknam, Assistant Volunteer Coordinator/Librarian for Brookside Gardens, at 301.962.1429.

BOTANICA 2015 – NEW ART DISPLAY
Sat., June 6 through Fri., July 10 in the Visitor Center. Come see the beautiful artworks of Botanica 2015 – The Art & Science of Plants. Included will be three themed walks: a Fancy Wall, Certificated Projects and Variable Visuels. Artworks are by the faculty and students of the Brookside Gardens School of Botanical Art and Illustration as well as by members of the Botanical Art Society of the National Capital Region. Open when the Visitor Center is open. Free admission.

WINGS OF FANCY UPDATE
The Wings of Fancy live butterfly and caterpillar exhibit will open on Wed., July 1. Tickets will be for sale in the gift shops and will cost $8 for each adult and $5 for each child age 3 – 12. No hand feeding of children under age 3, but strokers will not be permitted, per USDA requirements.

MONTEPILIER MANSION & ART CENTER
Address: 9650 Marlton Rd., Laurel, MD 20708. Phone: 301.377.7817. TTY: 301.699.254-4. E-mail: montepiliermansionparks.com. Contact the Art Center at 301.699.254-4 or on art and photography classes. Self-guided tours of the mansion: Thu. – Tue. from 11 am to 3 pm Cost: $3/adults, $2/children ages 5 to 17, freeages 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.

SUMMER AT YOUR LIBRARY KICK-OFF
Sat., June 27 from 10 am to 1 pm This year’s theme is superheroes. Get your picture taken with Benjamin Barover, join the Puppet Brigade to learn about fire fighters in history, etc. All ages welcome. Free.

BELTSVILLE EVENTS
Please contact the individual facilities regarding late changes or updates to hours of operation.

BELTSVILLE NEWS • JUNE 2015
Page 16
I have a motorized wheelchair on loan from the Lions Club of Sandy Spring. What a great job they do. I needed a hospital bed and they delivered it to me at no charge. I’m not sure what the deal is, but when my son was in Sandy Spring he saw this chair and asked about it. When they delivered the chair they saw a lawn tractor, said they could use it, and it went with them.

A while ago I was near a stair case and a lady asked if I was going up. Just being funny, I replied, “No, the chair will not go up the stairs but it will go down them.” She looked puzzled and I continued, “It would be at the bottom waiting for me.”

This week I’m going on an adventure. I will take the Rider-wood bus to go to the local supermarket. It has a wheelchair lift. The bus service here is great and there are lots of them, so there’s very little wait time. Also, most of them have chair lifts. I do not take the bus often. I can get anywhere on campus with my chair. Outside, all the curbs have openings. But don’t get me wrong, you can get the bus often. I can get anywhere without going outside, but outside is quicker.

I’m back. I write as long as I want waiting for me.”

continued from page 16

CALENDAR

continued from page 16

ter, or by phone, or by e-mail at Jeremy. Weiss@oparks.com. Regular hours of operation: Mon. – Thu.: 9 am to 9 pm, Fri. and Sat. from 9 am to 7 pm (except for Xtreme Teens). Sun.: from 12 noon to 4 pm. Hours of operation for Xtreme Teens: Fridays and Saturdays from 7 pm to 10 pm

SCHOOL IS OUT SUMMER BASH

Fri.: June 12 from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Let’s celebrate the beginning of summer with your classmates, friends, and family. Reservation required by Fri., June 12. Ages 5 – 12. Free.

FATHER’S DAY CARD WORKSHOP

Fri.: June 19 from 4 pm to 5 pm. You want a special way to show your father how much you appreciate him? Come in and make a special Father’s Day craft for him. Ages 5 – 12. Free.

MOVIE AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Sun.: June 27 from 1 pm to 3 pm. Bring the whole family and enjoy a movie while enjoying some delicious ice cream. Reservation required by Wed., June 24. All ages welcome. Free.

XTREME TEENS REGULAR EVENTS

Fridays and Saturdays from 7 pm to 10 pm. Ages 13 – 17. Free with valid Center ID card.

Xtreme Teens, a program of the County Parks and Recreation Department, provides social and recreational activities for students in grades 6th through 12th. For more information, call 301-937-7183.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.STJOHNSELTSVILLE.ORG OR CALL 301-937-7183.

Honey Do List?

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Share Your News!

Send your article submissions to News Director Rick Bergmann at editorbvnews@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 thru. age 19 (same time)

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

All are welcome • Free literature available

St. John’s Episcopal/Anglican Church

to the corner of Route 1 & Powder Mill Road in Beltsville

(301) 937-4292

The Reverend Joseph 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

Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., contemplative service with music as well as times of silence. Come join us.

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

stjohnsbeltsville.org

St. Joseph Catholic Church

11007 Montgomery Road

Bowie, MD 20707

301-937-7183

www.stjos.org

Pastor: Msgr. Karl Chimiiak

Mass: Sat. 5 pm.

Sun. 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon

St. Joseph’s Regional Catholic School

Principal: Mrs. Anne-Marie Miller, OFS

301-937-7154

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stjohnsbeltsville.org

Beltville Library Hours

Mon. - Tues.: 1 p.m.-9 p.m.

Wed. - Fri.: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

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Wed. - Fri.: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday: Closed
Beltsville News

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

Vacation Bible School
June 28 – July 2
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
All VBS events are FREE
Children 4-years-6th grade are welcome
Pre-register online at www.fbcbeltsville.org
or call the church office at 301-937-7771
You are welcome to come join us

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

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

Abiding Presence Lutheran Church
10774 Rhode Island Avenue
301-837-7646

Emmanuel United Methodist Church is Gearing up for Vacation Bible School!
This summer Emmanuel would like to help you explore how to put your faith into action with G-Force! In this mission-focused week you will experience God’s unstoppable love and discover how to fuel up and move in and through life with God. Emmanuel will be providing an exciting week long program July 6-10th. There will be classes for kids, teenagers and adults each evening from 6-8 pm.

During these sessions you will discover how God calls each one of us to act. You will meet people from the Bible who used their hearts, minds and bodies in service for God. While experiencing the love of Jesus as you hear his message of acting through and with God. Be transformed to Move! Act! Care! Follow! & Share! Read more about it at http://www.eumcbeltsville.com/vbs and join them on this awesome adventure!

Emmanuel United Methodist Church
Pastor Jacob Young, PhD
11146 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

Iglesia Pentecostés Sinai
11301 Rhode Island Ave, Beltsville, MD 20705
Le invita a sus poderosos servicios
Martes Oración | 7:30 – 9:00p.m
Viernes Evangelístico | 7:00 – 9:00p.m
Domingo Alabanza y Adoración | 4:00 – 7:00p.m
El Pastor Elvin Moscoso y la congregación te dan la bienvenida.
Ven y goza con nosotros
301-379-3945

Beltsville News

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

Christ Embassy
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...giving your life a meaning it our year of Triumph
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Wednesdays @ 7 p.m.
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301-477-2368 | 301-477-3400
www.christembassysilverspring.com

First Baptist Church of Beltsville (SBC)
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Youth Fellowship 7:00 p.m.

Share Your News!
Send your neighborhood news items to editorbvnnews@gmail.com

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Advancing at the Lodge. No tickets will be sold at the door. Tables of 8 or more can be reserved. The Lodge is located at 3700 Metzerott Road, College Park. For information please call 301.935.5525. This event is open to the public so bring your family and friends for a fun Sun. afternoon! See you there!

At FBC Beltsville, VBS 2015 is Coming!

Come join us for the great “Journey Off the Map”!! This year’s VBS takes your kids to uncharted territory where they will begin to understand that obedience to God can lead them beyond the expected. So, toss the map, stick close to your guide, and prepare to listen for God’s direction in this journey that is unknown to us, but known by Him.

Dates: June 28 - July 2, 2015
Times: 6-9 PM
Cost: FREE!!!
Ages: 4 years - 6th Grade
.grade just completed
4700 Odell Rd,
Beltsville, MD 20705
Phone: 301.937.7771
You are encouraged to register your kids in advance. For more details or to register your children online, please visit our VBS website at http://fbcbeltsville.org/ministries/vbs.html

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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

Join us at Emmanuel where...
Nobody’s Perfect
Beginners are Welcome
The dress code is... clothes
It’s OK to not be OK
Grace is required
Forgiveness is offered
And Hope is alive!

Join Us for Vacation Bible School
July 6–10
www.eumcbeltsville.com/vbs
Reach your Beltsville neighbors with a low-cost classified ad in The Beltsville News Call 301-937-7954

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TAX RETURNS - For businesses/ 
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301-953-1341; 301-776-6545. gncpa@verizon.net. 01/16

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Complete Clean Out - Garages, Homes, 
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4426 Powder Mill Rd. 
Beltsville, MD 20705 07/15

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units, washers/dryers, lawn furniture, etc.  
Free pickup in some cases. Call Speedy @ 301-377-1937. 01/16

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professional pet care when you can’t be there  
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Experienced Catering by Ladies Auxiliary!  
WEDDING RECEPTIONS, BANQUETS, BIRTHDAY  
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Donald V. Borgwardt  
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4400 Powder Mill Rd.  
Beltsville, Md. 20705-2751  
Pre-Need Counseling  
(301) 937-1707  
By Appointment  
www.borgwardtfuneralhome.com

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Luncheons—B’Day Parties—Anniversaries—Weddings  
College Park American Legion—Post 217  
9218 Baltimore Blvd.  
(301) 441-2783  
College Park, Md 20740

Contact Gary Kingery

Reach your Beltsville neighbors with a low-cost classified ad in The Beltsville News Call 301-937-7954
You’re maybe considering a makeover for your home or wardrobe. But, have you ever considered a makeover for your finances? Spring is here and now is the time to spruce up your wallet and save money with our “Great Loan Makeover” promotion!

With our competitive rates and flexible terms, we could rework your high-interest debt to help you save over the life of your loan and possibly add some extra cash in your pocket!

Take advantage of:
• Attractive rates through the Loan Makeover calculator
• Fast online application
• Same day approvals
• A $50 gift card!* (with every refinanced loan over $10K)

ACT FAST.
Offer ends June 30th!