

The Beltsville News

AN ALL-VOLUNTEER NEWSPAPER

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

Vol. 65, Number 12

Beltsville, Maryland

December 2017

Santa Tour 2017

Santa Claus has confirmed his route with the Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department! Santa will begin his routes around 6:30 to 7 pm. Santa wanted to pass on a few tips so his trip to Beltsville can be enjoyable for everyone involved:

- If you meet Santa at the intersections listed below on the schedule, he will be able to meet more children and see more of Beltsville.
- Always use caution when visiting Santa. Please pay attention to the fire apparatus and stay out of the street.
- Sometimes Santa runs behind schedule by a couple of minutes, so be patient. He will

SANTA TOUR
continues on page 11

Beltsville Briefs

The Beltsville Recreation Council's Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Do you like to decorate for the holidays? Is your house the most decorated on the block? Do you think yours is the best-decorated home in Beltsville? You should register for the annual Holiday Home Decorating Contest sponsored by the Beltsville Recreation Council. The best two homes will win a monetary prize (\$100 for first place and \$50 for second place).

BELTSVILLE BRIEFS
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Canned goods collected by the Cub and Boy Scouts

Scouting for Food Collection a Success!

By Gary Bauman,
Assistant Scoutmaster

The Boy Scouts from Troop 1033 and Cub Scouts from Pack 1031 of the Beltsville area collected 1,457 cans and non-perishable food items totaling 1,377 pounds. That is almost three-

quarters of a ton of food. The scouts distributed 2,000 bags to Beltsville residents on Sunday, November 5, and picked up the food on Saturday, November 11. All of the food was donated to the food pantries at St. Joseph's Catholic Church and Emmanuel United Methodist Church, the

sponsoring organization of Boy Scout Troop 1033. The scouts and parents contributed over 200 volunteer hours to distribute the bags and pick up the food. Great job, scouts! We especially thank the people of Beltsville for con-

SCOUTS
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Behnke's Enters a New Era

By Jim Butcher

It's been 87 years since an enterprising young German-born immigrant named Albert Behnke opened a small plant nursery for business in Beltsville. That first business would be named, appropriately enough, "The Albert Behnke Nursery." A year later, young Albert Behnke would take for his wife an equally enterprising young German-born immigrant woman whose name was Rose Hausner.

Together, the hardworking young immigrant couple

BEHNKE'S
continues on page 2



Photo and Caption from Behnkes.com

This is a photo of Albert Behnke Nurseries as it was called in the beginning. In the distance you can see the Lewis Family home, which is still there on Wicomico Ave. Behnke Nurseries is still located on this property in Beltsville, Maryland on US 1

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No Later
Than:
November 20
Paper Out:
December 30

On the Agenda

By President Karen M. Coakley

Merry Christmas and happy holidays to all! The citizens association will not meet in December. If you have a community



Karen Coakley

concern, contact me at 301.937.3490 or karenmcoakley@msn.com. Please share this on neighborhood listservs: the emergency gas leak line number for Washington Gas is 703.750.1400 or 800.752.7520, or you can call 911. This is for folks in Adelphi who are Pepco customers. If you are a BGE customer, this is the message on BGE's website: If you smell natural gas or see downed power lines, leave the area immediately. Then call BGE. This number is available 24/7. Leave the premises immediately and go to a safe place where you can call BGE at 1.800.685.0123. You can also call 911.

Catapult Learning Marks Relocation of Two Schools in Prince George's County with Grand Opening Event

Special and Alternative Education Provider Opens Campus to Better Serve Students

Catapult Learning, a leading provider of special and alternative education solutions that generate academic gains and better life outcomes for students, hosted a grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the relocation of the High Road School and High Road Upper

School in Prince George's County, MD, at the start of this academic year. The schools' new campus is at 9701 Philadelphia Court in Lanham, MD.

Part of the Catapult Learning family,

CATAPULT
continues on page 14



The High Road ribbon cutting ceremony. Pictured from left to right; Chris Aiello, Director, High Road School; Kelcey Ostrusky, Associate Director, High Road School; Jeanette (Coco) Houghtaling, Retired Prince George's County Public Schools - PGCPSS; Keith White, Regional Vice President, Catapult Learning/High Road Schools; Carolyn Ellis-Holloman, PGCPSS; Michelle Anderson, Executive Director, High Road Upper School; and Chandra Watson, PGCPSS

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Neighbors in the News

Cub Pack 1031 Is Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, and Kind

Cub Pack 1031 helped collect Scouting for Food donations from the neighborhoods around Beltsville Academy. The food was donated to the food pantries at Saint Joseph and Emmanuel United Methodist Church. The scouts learned about expiration dates and how to sort the food by type to help the food pantries. The pack collected 330 lbs. of food.



Cub Scouts sorting Scouting for Food Donations along with the Boy Scouts

Along the same theme, the dens are completing their duty to God adventures where they work to understand how to help our families' faith communities and how the Scout Oath and Law reflect

personal faith beliefs.

The Wolf Scouts are also learning about communication, the Bears about motion, and the Arrow den how to tie knots and lashings.

Next year, the pack will consider opening its unit to families with

girls who are interested in participating in Cub Scout fun. We support the Girl Scout units in our area but realize that some families want to do family adventures.

Each year, the pack has activities such as camping, hiking, our annual pinewood derby, and campfires all year long. We also do participatory citizenship along Little Paint Branch Trail, our toy drive, and Scouting for Food. Along the way, we learn responsibility, play games, and have tons of fun.

If you are interested in discovering the fun of Cub Scouts with your son, please contact Regina Halper at Pack1031CubScouting@gmail.com for more information.

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BEHNKE

continued from page 1

ple would create—in the words of granddaughter and current-day Behnke's Vice President Stephanie Fleming—the epitome of the American Dream. They would create and build what has become the famous Beltsville-located garden center known as "The Behnke Nurseries Company," or more popularly in the local vernacular

as simply "Behnke's." The nursery would become a Beltsville and a regional landmark, a destination for gardeners and plant lovers throughout the metropolitan area, a nursery renowned for its highest plant quality and extraordinary customer service.

Business at Behnke's remains terrific, with so many new faces stopping in every week, says Stephanie Fleming. Yet after several years of consideration, the

Behnke family has come to the reluctant conclusion that it is time to consider alternate uses for the property. The family is working toward repurposing the property as a residential development that would be compatible with the surrounding neighborhood and an improvement to the Route One corridor. With the family just in the beginning stages of this long process, Behnke's management and buyers are already ordering for the spring 2018 season and working on initial plans for spring 2019 product lines.

With Christmas just around the corner, Behnke's Christmas trees arrived right on schedule in November. Customers can stop by Behnkes to pick out their 2017 Christmas tree, wreath, and decorative greens. The Christmas Shop is brimming with ornaments and keepsakes, and Stephanie is returning to America's Mart in Atlanta in January to buy for the 2018 Christmas Shop. Of course, Behnke's is known for quality plants, and the garden center is full of poinsettias and other Christmas flowers: not just red, white, and pink poinsettias, but many new styles, including orange, burgundy, and golden!

Behnke Garden Club...

Behnke's Garden Club is a way for the nursery to connect to the gardening community with timely gardening information and notice of specials. Among other benefits, members receive the Behnke weekly E-newsletter, which is filled with timely tips, gardening advice, and current activities and sales, along with articles on the Behnke family and community events. Joining is easy by completing an application form available at the nursery or online at the behnkes.com website.

Beltsville News

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(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/300944563420364/>)

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Check out our website: www.beltsvillenewstoday.com



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Celebrate Jesus With Us ...

Christmas Eve Service :: Dec. 24, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Christmas Day Service :: Dec. 25, 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Join Us This Week For Worship & Fellowship
at Lighthouse Ministries International

- Bread of Life Distribution (Pantry Program) - Wed. 6pm & Sun. 1pm
- L.I.F.E Hour (Learning Is For Everyone) - Sunday, 8:30am - 9:30am
- A Lighthouse Moment (Sunday Worship) - Sunday, 10am
- Light Through The Word (Prayer & Bible Study) - Wednesday, 7:30pm
- Little Beacons of Light (Kids Fellowship) - Friday, 7:30pm
- Shining Lights Youth Ministry (Youth Fellowship) - Friday, 7:30pm
- Virtuous Ladies of Light (Women's Fellowship) - Friday, 7:30pm
- Titus Men of Light (Men's Fellowship) - Friday, 7:30pm

My Wife and I pray that your territories will be enlarged and out of your homes and lives will shine the salvation of Jesus to others. We pronounce blessings upon your household, your business, and may everything you put your hands to be fruitful. We declare life in your marriage, your career and your mission.

Rev. Dr. Owen F. Cameron, PhD & Lady Cora-Dian Cameron



Neighbors in the News



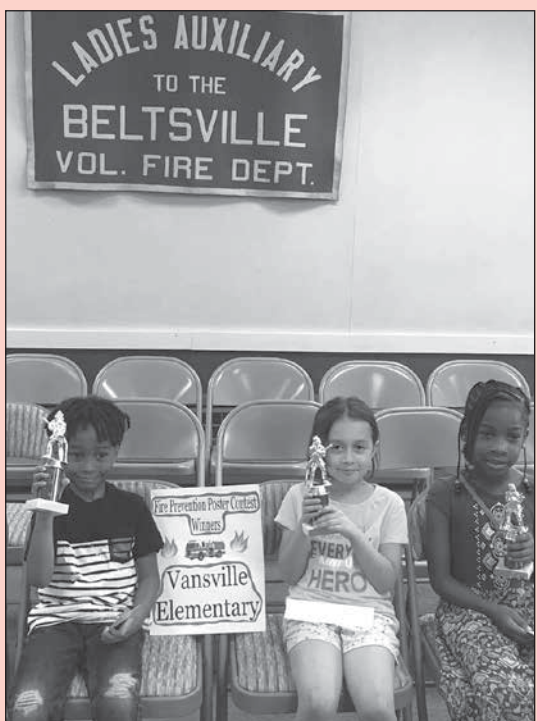
Fire prevention poster contest winners from the Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist School

Fire Prevention Poster Contest and Awards Program

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department celebrated its 40th year of conducting a fire prevention poster contest and awards program for elementary schools. Poster judging occurred on October 7. Over 600 posters were received from the participating schools: Beltsville Academy, Beltsville Seventh-day Adventist, and Vansville Elementary School. Posters best communicating the fire prevention message were selected to receive awards. The students were honored at an awards ceremony held on October 22, 2017, at the Beltsville Fire Station.



Fire prevention poster contest winners from Beltsville Academy



Fire prevention poster contest winners from Vansville Elementary



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Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department
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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Masonic_Child_Identification_Programs

Mail your letters to Santa from the Firehouse!

Holiday Cheer

With holiday music in the air and the festivities beginning, family and friends will be arriving before long. Now is the time to get your home looking its best for holiday entertaining. There are several things that you can do to quickly update your interiors that is sure to evoke a "WOW" from your guests. Wallpapering with a neutral tone on tone pattern or with a simple geometric design above the chair rail in the dining room will create warmth and interest. A large novelty mirror with an unusual shape will accentuate the wallpaper while brightening the room. There is still time to order new drapery panels, sheers and blinds for the windows that will give a finished look to any room. Will's Home Decorating (www.decoratmaryland.com) in Beltsville has a great selection of inexpensive in-stock wallpapers, special order wallpapers, draperies and Hunter Douglas blinds and novelty mirrors and lamps. Will's also does reupholstery and has lots of beautiful fabrics to choose from.



Michael Richards & Valerie Kabelac

Michael Richards, the owner of Will's Decorating, recommends taking a good look at your dining room, kitchen and family room chairs. You don't want your guests taking notice of stained or tattered chairs. Freshen it up with a new fabric. Six dining room chair seats only takes three to four yards of fabric. If the seat is caving in you probably just need new padding. Your chairs can look like new in no time. Will's does expert upholstery work and can do the makeover quickly. For more expert advice on what you can do to spruce up your home this holiday season call for your FREE design consultation at Will's Home Decorating with Michael.

Happy Holidays
From
Michael & Valerie

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Tech Sense By John Bell

Gifting Technology

It's that time of year again where we help the nontechnical spouse, sibling, or friend identify gifts for the techno-geeks in their lives. Let's peek inside Santa's bag to see what might be in there.

If You Didn't Buy It Last Year

Last year, we talked about televisions, Raspberry Pi computers, 3D printers, and cell phones. These are all good gifts again this year, but the suggestions have changed.

The 3D printer space hasn't changed much, but the prices are lower this year with several printers available for less than \$200. The Monoprice Mini has earned a good reputation for a small 3D printer. It currently retails for \$220 on Amazon and will probably be less than \$200 for Black Friday sales.

Last year, the Raspberry Pi 3

for \$35 and the Pi Zero for \$5 were the latest tiny computers from the Raspberry Pi Foundation. This year, there is the Pi Zero W. The Pi Zero W adds WiFi and Bluetooth to the Pi Zero and sells for \$10. Recently, I have found these computers on sale at Micro Center at \$30 for the Pi 3, \$5 for the Pi Zero W, and \$1 for the Pi Zero. I wouldn't be surprised to see these prices repeated for Black Friday.

Televisions have dropped dramatically in price this year with Amazon offering TVs for as little as \$69 during its multiday Black Friday sale. This year you should skip considering the ordinary HD TV and go straight to the Ultra High Definition (UHD) High Dynamic Range (HDR) TVs. The prices of these newest technology TV's have dropped to the point that they compete with last year's prices for plain HD TVs. Where an HD TV offers a screen resolution for 1920 by 1080 pixels, the new UHD/HDR TV's offers twice the number of pixels in each direction, horizontally and vertically (3840 by 2160 pixels). HDR expands the number of colors the TV can show and improves the contrast between light and dark, giving the TV a better image.

These TVs will downscale to watch the traditional TV sources, but to get the best picture, you will need UHD/HDR content. This is available through streaming sources like Netflix and Amazon and through Ultra HD Blu-Ray disks play on an Ultra HD Blu-Ray player.

This Year's Phones

Of course, all of the buzz this year is about the new Apple iPhones, the 8, 8+, and X and the Google Pixel and Pixel 2 phones. Some reviewers say the Pixel 2 may be the best phone ever made, but the iPhone X (at over \$1,000) may have the best camera. For me, they are all too expensive. This year, the phone to look at seems to be the Moto G5 and G5 Plus. These phones can be found for under \$200 and will work with any US-based carrier. They run a nearly pure version of Google's Android operating system and provide premium phone features at a low-end phone price.

New This Year: Voice Assistants

Two very hot products this year are the Amazon and Google lines of voice assistants. Amazon has an early lead with the Echo and the Alexa voice assistants. There are several Echo models; the Echo which is about 6" tall and sells for \$99 or \$79 when on sale, the

smaller Dot, which is half the size and price of the Echo, the new, larger Echo Plus listing for \$149. Amazon has recently added similar devices with video screens, the Echo Show and the Echo Spot. These devices allow you to talk to them and will play music, answer your questions, and act on your commands. The latest versions have improved voice recognition that can work from across the room. The devices can play music and interact with many Internet of Things (IoT) devices you may have installed in your home like lights, thermostats, and the Amazon Fire TV. Of course, you can place orders for merchandise from Amazon as well. The Echo can also be used to make hands-free phone calls using your Internet connection.

Google offers very similar devices known as the Google Home for \$109 and Google Home Mini for \$49. Google Home works much the same as the Amazon Echo and offers many of the same features except for the ability to order merchandise from Amazon. Instead, merchandise can be ordered through a service called "Google Express." Google Express connects to retailers like Walmart, Target, Costco, and Home Depot. Your purchases are paid through a credit card installed into Google Pay. Google Home also integrates with the Google Nest Thermostat and the Chromecast streaming devices.

Video Streamers

I wrap up this year's list with streaming TV devices because you may need a new one to get the UHD/HDR signal for your new TV. There are basically four popular devices: Roku, Google Chromecast, Apple TV, and Amazon Fire TV. Roku models are the most popular and are compatible with most streaming services. Roku offers two new models the Ultra (~\$100) and the Stick+ (~\$70) supporting both UHD and HDR. Google's Chromecast Ultra (~\$70) is the latest Chromecast device with these features. Amazon Fire TV Ultra adds UHD/HDR to the Amazon Fire but also adds the Alexa voice assistant to the remote control. Apple TV has a new model, the 4K (\$180 to \$200). If you have a lot of movies and TV on iTunes, then this may be the way to go because iTunes is not well supported outside of the Apple community.

Best Wishes

As usual, I have more to say than fits in the column. I wish a joyous holiday season to everyone, and may this be a blessed time for you and your families.

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Visit our traditional Christmas Shop filled with gifts and ornaments. Discover hundreds of poinsettias and other seasonal flowers ready to ring in the season.

Orchid Diagnostic & Repotting Clinic

w/ Carol Allen

December 9, 9:30 to 4:30; December 10, 9:30 to 4:30

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

Bonsai Hands-On Class w/ Jennifer Park

Saturday, December 2, 2:00 to 4:00 pm

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With a focus on care and maintenance, learn all the basics of bonsai design. Select a tree, learn how to transplant, and discover what the art of bonsai is all about as you create your very own bonsai to take home. This is a fully inclusive class.



Santa Claus
is Coming to Behnke's
for Photo Ops & a Little Cocoa

days & hours for photo ops:

Saturday, November 25...11-3

Sunday, November 26.....11-2

Saturday, December 2.....11-2

Sunday, December 3.....11-2

Saturday, December 9.....11-2

Sunday, December 10.....11-2

Saturday, December 23..11-2

Special Evening:
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Saturday, December 16 3-7



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Rosapepe's Report to Beltsville

Reminder: Health Insurance Deadline Is December 15

Delegates Barbara Frush, Josefine Peña-Melnyk, Ben Barnes, and I want to be sure all working families can sign up for affordable health insurance. Despite all the proposals in congress to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA), it is still in effect. Now—through December 15—is the time to learn about coverage—and other ways to save money on health insurance. Open enrollment runs until December 15. Be sure to enroll or change plans by visiting www.maryland-healthconnection.gov or call toll-free 1.855.642.8572.

Free Flu Shots for County Residents until December 29

Every year, the Prince George's Health Department offers free flu vaccinations for county residents. Injectable flu vaccines are avail-



Senator Jim Rosapepe

able to anyone age six months and older; no appointment is necessary. The walk-in clinic is open Monday–Friday (while supplies last until Dec. 29) from 9am–3pm at Cheverly Health Center (3003 Hospital Drive, Suite 2061, Cheverly, MD 20785).

Save the Date—2018 Winter Brunch

I hope you can join my wife, Sheilah, and me for our Welcome 2018 Celebration on Sunday, January 14, from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm, at College Park Academy (5751 Rivertech Ct, Riverdale). Families are welcome. Please RSVP soon at www.SenatorJim-Rosapepe.com. We look forward to seeing you!

Merry Christmas!

My wife, Sheilah, joins me in wishing you and your family a Merry Christmas and great New Year!

Contact us

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

Free or Affordable Local Activities for the Full-time Caregiver

By Maria Vogel

Two years ago my life took a 180 degree turn when I had my son and became a full-time mom. I went from having a demanding job to having a demanding newborn. Being a full-time parent has been an adventure and has come with its own challenges, and I have loved every minute of it! Now, some people may call me crazy for the following statement, but having a newborn was easier than having a toddler. Toddlers need to be entertained! Newborns, on the other hand, mostly sleep, eat, and poop, all of which can easily be done in the comfort of my own home. Toddlers, on the other hand, don't take too kindly to being cooped up all day. They have to roam free and discover the world.

As my son has gotten older, I have had to find daily activities to get him out of the house and active. The challenge is, of course, being able to do this on a daily basis without spending a lot or any money. There are plenty of very nice parks in the area, but the weather doesn't always cooperate, and at some point, you just need a change of pace. So, here is my list of tried-and-true activities:

1) Storytime and other events and the local libraries. I love the Prince George's County Library System. It has a lot of free programs for kids and a convenient app where you can find all the activities in one place. Living in the Chestnut Hills area of Beltsville, I have found that there are four libraries within a 15-minute drive: Beltsville, Laurel, Greenbelt, and Hyattsville. I tend to frequent their events most often, but I have also been known to go to events in Bowie, Bladensburg, and New Carrollton because they are only about a 25-minute drive. My favorite activity is Storytime on the Screen at the Old Greenbelt Theater on the

second and fourth Mondays of the month. The kids have popcorn and get a story and "movie" (a show segment like *Daniel Tiger* or *Curious George*) on the big screen. There is also a coloring sheet and crayons afterward.

If you are willing to drive a bit, you can find an age-appropriate storytime every morning of the week (except Sunday) if you cycle through the libraries. Not all Storytime librarians are "made equal," so you may want to cycle through a few of them to find the ones that best suit your child and you. They also have some fun, random programs like Play and Grow done in conjunction with Infants and Toddlers of PGCPs, movie nights, evening Storytimes, Bibliobop Dance Parties, performances, and much more.

2) Open gym for walkers to 5 year olds at the Fairland Aquatic Center in Laurel. It is Mondays and Wednesday at 10:30–11:30 am and Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:30 am–12:30 pm. The cost is \$5 per visit. The kids basically get to run around and play in the gymnastics training gym. It has trampolines, a foam block pit, a large play floor with balls and hoops, a small "obstacle course," and access to balance beams. If your child is having some gross motor development issues, this is a great space for working on some skills. It's the best \$5 I spend all week. My son never makes the 9-minute drive back to the house without falling soundly asleep. They do have some rules for the class, so call in advance and make sure you understand their requirements.

Side note: the Fairland Aquatic Center also has a fantastic playground. The jungle gym is very appropriate for a 2 year old because it's not too far off the ground but is very large. It has a sand area, so bring some sand toys and let them have at it! It's a great place to kill

some time on a nice day.

3) IKEA. Yeah, I know this is an odd one. However, on a rainy, cold, hot, or humid day, it's awesome. My son loves to wander around the showrooms. He can explore, open doors and cabinets, climb on the furniture, use their kiosks to "build a couch"—all well supervised by me of course—so he doesn't break anything. And there is always the actual "kids" play area. There is an actual "daycare" area where you can drop off your child, but I have never personally been able to do because there are height and potty training requirements my child doesn't meet.

Bonus: If you an IKEA family member (which is free and easy at their kiosks) you can pick up a free coffee at the cafeteria with no purchase necessary.

I always find a new food, candy, piece of furniture, storage solution, or even light bulb I need to pick up while I am there, so I don't feel guilty about coming in for an hour or so of entertainment. On another note, my house is starting to look very much like an IKEA showroom, but that can't be related, right?

Pro tips: Go around and park in the underground garage. It always has more available parking and keeps you out of the elements when walking to and from the store. Also, never go on the weekends; it's a madhouse.

4) The play zone at Wheaton Mall. Or as we call it—Lord of the Flies. This is my furthest suggestion, but it is totally worth the drive. The mall is a great place to get indoors and let your kid wander. They have those little cars that he can "ride" (my son still doesn't know that they turn on) and a play zone where there are always other kids. Weekends there are NUTS (hence the nickname), so I stick to the weekdays.

ACTIVITIES

continues on page 14



HAIRSYLIST BONNIE KNOX

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Obituaries

Allen, Charles E.

Charles "Charlie" E. Allen passed away peacefully in his home on October 19. Beloved husband of Jean C. Allen for 66 years; father of four children: Donna Allen, Michael Allen, Robert Allen, and Lisa Stovall; grandfather of five grandchildren: Matthew Stovall, Justin Allen, Megan Stovall, Timothy Allen, and Ryan Allen. Brother of Catherine Gottschalk and Harris Allen. Also survived by 25 nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by two sisters, Dorothy Hyatt, and Margaret

Cormack; four brothers-in-law: Charles Hyatt, John Nugent, Paul Nugent, Dr. Harry Bogart; and three sister-in-laws: Bette Bogart, Kathleen Allen, and Louise Nugent.

Husband, father, Cub Scout leader, grandfather, Air Force staff sergeant, engineer, member of the American Legion, photographer, WSSC Retiree Committee member, usher at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. While his children were growing up, they went camping at Lake Sherando, and after camping days ended when their fourth child was born, they vacationed every



Charles E. Allen

summer in Ocean City, MD, with the Hyatt family. He had a "boat," and the family would spend much of their childhood and adulthood cruising on the South and Severn River in Annapolis, MD.

He began his career working at a grocery store with his father, Frank, in the produce department, then enlisted in the U.S. Airforce and served at Sampson AFB, NY, during the Korean War. He met his wife Jean on a blind date. She was working with his sister Dorothy

Hyatt at Acacia Insurance Co. He had beautiful handwriting, and the WSSC hired him as a draftsman. He was soon promoted to design engineer for the water and sewer department.

He retired from the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission in 1981. In fact, he was retired longer than he worked!

He enjoyed helping his children with home improvement projects; i.e., building a screened-in porch and finishing an unfinished basement for his daughter Lisa and son-in-law Jim; building decks for his sons, Bob and Mike, and a fish pond for his son Michael and his family in his home in Reisterstown, MD. His carpentry skills were self-taught, and he built a recreation room in their Beltsville home.

His love of gardening began as a child, swimming, and fishing in his Uncle Jim Allen's farm pond near Mitchellville, MD. Eventually, the farm was sold for a housing development. The City of Bowie would preserve the pond as a historical landmark, incorporating

it into what became "Allen Pond Park." Charlie began working on his own backyard and built two landscaped fish ponds filled with koi, flowers, and goldfish along with a gazebo named "Allen Pond II." Also, Charlie designed an "unofficial park" across the street named "Allen Park, circa 2003." His good friend Jack of Holland Gardens designed an artful sign after the September 2001 tornado. Their street, Brandon Lane, took a direct impact.

He also was a wedding photographer, Charles E. Allen Wedding Photography. He photographed hundreds of weddings. Charlie lived every moment he was on this earth. His grandson Matt had taken him to an Orioles game just weeks' prior to his death.

The Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Joseph's Catholic Church on Oct. 26. Interment Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Silver Spring, MD. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the foundation theteamsteve.com and consider organ donation.

BELTSVILLE BRIEFS

continued from page 1

ond place), will receive a special 2017 recognition yard sign, and will be featured in *The Beltsville News*! Prizes will be awarded at the Beltsville Recreation Center's (3900 Sellman Road, Beltsville, MD 20705) Annual Holiday Concert on Monday, December 11, at

6:30 pm. Winners must be present at the concert to win. The judging will occur anytime between 7 and 10 pm on Wednesday or Thursday, December 6 and 7. The contest is free to enter, and any stand-alone house, townhouse, condo, or apartment may register as long as it is in the 20705 zip code. You may register by going to <http://bit.ly/120705>.

The Vansville Heights Citizen's Association Annual Yule Log Celebration

Tis the season to celebrate,

embrace our community, and fellowship! The Vansville Heights Citizen's Association would like to invite you and your family to its annual yule log celebration on Tuesday, December 26. Children of all ages and adults are welcome! There will be food, fun, and games! The celebration will take place at The Franklin Brown Recreation Community Center which is located at 11733 Old Baltimore Pike, Beltsville, MD, in the Vansville Park!

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comes to a close, I want to take this opportunity
to personally say thank you for supporting us for
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Club News

Ice Skating with the Yoo Club! Fundraiser at the Gardens Ice House

Do you like to skate on ice? If so, you do not want to miss out on this event! Kick off the Christmas season by joining the Yoo Club for a night of fun. On December 22, the Yoo Club will be hosting the Ice Skating! Winter Fundraiser with sponsorship from the Beltsville Lions Club. This night of fun will be held at the Gardens Ice House, located at 13800 Old Gunpowder Rd, Laurel, MD.

Half of ticket sales will go to the Youth Opportunity Outreach Program (The Yoo Club). These funds will help students purchase art supplies and photography and graphic design equipment for projects.



Come out and ice skate with the Yoo Club on December 22!

The Beltsville Young at Heart Club

By Barbara Schofield

The Young at Heart club had a wonderful meeting in October, the Season Players, a group of singers and dancers performed, and they were delightful. One of the Young at Heart members is also a performer with the Season Players. The Thanksgiving luncheon was also wonderful. Everyone enjoyed the food and

friendship. There is a slate of new officers to be voted on at the December 7th meeting. The Beltsville Young at Heart wishes everyone a peaceful and loving holiday season. They hope to see all in the new year. For the holidays, here's a quote from the Grinch, "What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!"

Johnny Seaton's Christmas Show at the College Park Moose Lodge

Johnny and his band, Bad Behavior, will be performing at the College Park Moose Lodge on Saturday, December 9, from 7-10 pm. Johnny will be singing, in the style of Elvis Presley, Christmas songs as well as many other tunes made popular by Elvis. He will also include hits from other recording artists such as Tom Jones and Johnny Cash. Johnny Seaton is a Las Vegas-style showman! The show is a magnificent event that you will not want to miss, and it will really get you in the holiday spirit! The ticket price is \$20 for the show only. An optional

pork loin dinner with all the trimmings will be served before the show from 5 to 6:30 pm at the cost of only \$10 for dinner. Tickets are on sale now, and this is a popular event, so don't wait until the last minute to purchase them. Tickets can be bought in advance at the lodge.

The College Park Moose Lodge is located at 3700 Metzert Road, College Park. For further information and reservations, please call 301.935.5525. Bring your family and friends to a wonderful, entertaining Christmas show!

Holiday Food, Gift & Fund Raising Program 2017

The Women's Community Club of Beltsville is again coordinating our holiday food and gift programs as well as fund raising for our other important projects. We are asking Beltsville businesses, schools, service organizations,

social clubs, churches, and individuals to help us provide food and gifts to needy families within our community for the holidays as well as funds for our other important projects. At Thanksgiving, we provide a meal for the entire family. At Christmas, we not only provide a holiday meal, but we also provide presents for children. Monetary contributions and store gift cards are also appreciated. *You or your organizations are welcome*

to sponsor a child or family. As a certified 501-3C organization, all contributions are tax deductible. Monetary contributions and gift cards can be mailed to: **Women's Community Club of Beltsville C/o Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD, 20705.** Contact Karen Coakley with questions at Karenmcoakley@gmail.com or 301.937.3490.

Prince George's County Genealogical Society

The Prince George's County Genealogical Society is pleased to announce its December guest speaker will be Ms. Heather Olsen. Heather is a longtime member of the society. She is an outstanding researcher, willing to answer questions and help others with their own research. Ms. Olson will be speaking about Using Associates to Identify Immigrant Origins—a Case Study.

The meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 6, at the New Carrollton Municipal Center, 6016 Princess Garden Parkway, New Carrollton, MD 20784. The session runs 7-9 pm and is always free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.



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Post and Unit #217—Honoring Veterans Today and Every Day

By Ivy Christoffers

Do you believe in miracles? Seven Maryland American Legion Auxiliary members traveled to Buffalo, NY, to attend the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival on October 25 where they were witness to many miracles. Imagine,

if you will, a sightless, disabled veteran who, year after year, wins gold medals for his visual art. It boggles the mind. This is only one of many miraculous works of art produced by our disabled veterans.

In total, 118 disabled veterans were invited to attend this year's

festival, which lasted for a week. These were all gold medal winners in their field of art. There were over 5,000 entrants from 136 V.A. medical centers who submitted entries. There are 53 categories of visual arts and 5 in performing arts.

The week was filled with tours of Niagara Falls, museums, and art galleries, as well as classes in jewelry making, origami, and other crafts. The evenings featured jam sessions, karaoke, photography, and great interaction between the volunteer staff and the artists. Many old friends caught up with each other, and just as many new friendships were formed. An art exhibit and a wonderful, live performance were held on Sunday before everyone departed on Monday for their homes across this great land.

The American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion of Maryland are gold sponsors of this event and are recognized each year for their generosity. This year, we were awarded Corian cutting boards shaped as buffalos at the sponsor's luncheon. It was my pleasure to accept, along with Meredith Beeg, the award for

Maryland.

This is a good time to remind you of our Maryland Veterans Creative Arts Festival that will be held on April 21, 2018, at the Bowie Center for Performing Arts. This will be our eighth annual festival. Maryland was the first state to honor our veterans with their own festival. Now others are doing likewise.

We are officially now in the countdown to Christmas and New Year's Eve, the ending of one year and the beginning of another. No matter how you celebrate the holidays, we know you will enjoy them even more if you attend one or more of the upcoming events scheduled for this month at College Park Post #217. On Friday, December 8, superstar Roddie McDowell and Nashville recording star Chet Reinert will be entertaining in our lounge with Ronnie Dove as MC. Tickets are \$35 per person. Then on Sunday, December 17, Ronnie Dove and Cameron will be here with their big annual Christmas show from 2 to 6 pm. Tickets are \$25. Also, would you believe it? Ronnie Dove and Cameron are returning on Dec. 30 with another added attraction,

Cote Deonath appearing as Elvis. For information on any of the above entertainers, call Tina Zook at 301.935.5308.

Post #217 is a great place to plan your next event. Call Gary Kingery at 391.441.2783 to discover how we can make your dreams come true. We invite you to come in on Tuesday and Wednesday at noon if you enjoy a good game of bingo and join us on Friday nights for dinner beginning at 5 pm and dancing to a live band beginning at 8 pm. There is no cover charge.

Keep our veterans in mind and the families of our deployed as you reach out to the less fortunate during this holiday season. A friend has an "orphan's table" during Thanksgiving and Christmas. Her family never knows who will be joining them for dinner, but there is always someone who would dine alone if not for her compassion and generosity.

May you be showered with blessings and may God continue to bless our great land, the home of the free because of the brave. Pray for our troops as they serve in the cause of peace around the world.



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A memory screening is a series of questions and tasks designed to gauge memory, language and thinking skills. Screenings last just 5-10 minutes, and while the results are not a diagnosis, scoring below the normal threshold can signal that someone should follow up with a clinician for a full evaluation.



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Memory Care Community

SCOUTS

continued from page 1

tributing the food. I am sure that the needy in the area will enjoy the fruits of our labor during the upcoming holiday season.

Scouts Compete in Orienteering

By Gary Bauchan,
Assistant Scoutmaster

The 41st Annual Maryland Scout Orienteering Competition took place on Saturday, November 4, at Broad Creek Boy Scout Reservation north of Baltimore. A total of 70 units and 650 scouts took part in the competition. Four scouts including Walker, Vlad, Brian, and Kyle participated under the supervision of Scoutmaster Rick Deery and scouting parent Bob Thomas. Orienteering consists of scouts being able to read contour maps and use a compass to find their way around hill and forest, swamp and field, and river and valley to locate orienteering markers.

In the morning individual pair's



Scouts are getting ready for pairs orienteering.

competition, the scouts are guided by a blazed path, and along the path, they have to locate six orienteering markers and place a dot on their maps as to the exact location of the marker. Points are awarded based on how close they are to the correct location of each marker. Two of our scouts, Vlad and Kyle, received 3rd place out of 225 pairs, fantastic!

In the afternoon troop competition, all of the troops are given the same topographical map with 50 locations marked on the map.

The scouts paired up and devised a plan to locate as many of the 50 orienteering markers as they could in 90 minutes. Each marker has a unique paper punch that must be punched onto the corresponding numbered box and returned to the starting point. Troop scores will be provided at a later date. The fall weather was cool and crisp, and the scouts had a great time running around in the outdoors. They cannot wait to compete again next year.

SANTA TOUR

continued from page 1

follow the schedule as close as possible.

- Have fun and make sure you know what you want for Christmas!

Thursday December 7, 2017

Evans Trail
Blueridge @ Pocono Place
Shenandoah @ Blueridge
Cherry Hill Rd. (in front)
Major Denton @ Cherry Hill Court
Townley Apartments
Cherry Mill Drive @ Cherry Tree Ct.
Collier @ Powder Mill Rd.
Cherryvale @ Weeping Willow
Cherryvale @ Cherryvale Terr.
Sellman @ Weymouth
Ulster @ Woodbine
Sellman @ Dresden
Sellman @ Hillwood Ct

Saturday December 9, 2017

Lighthouse @ Beltsville Drive
Beltsville Drive @ Beltsville Rd
Forestview @ Christine
Chapel View @ Craiglawn
Craiglawn @ Paca
Calverton @ Greenmount
Beltsville Rd @ Bellvue St
Greenmount @ Dunnington
Ronehill @ Castleleigh
Ingleside @ Blairmore
Dunnington @ Oriole
Stonehall @ Taney
Dunnington @ Key
Ivy @ Susquehanna
Wellford @ Dunnington
Harbour Town Dr
Briggs Chaney @ Myrtle Ave
Castle Pines
Old Gunpowder Spur

Monday December 11, 2017

Indian Creek St. @ Lime Tree Way
Hockberry Way @ Hammett St.
Old Baltimore Pike @ Brewer Rd.
Brewer Rd. @ Cordwall Dr.
Odell Rd. @ Old Baltimore Pike
Odell Farms Ct. @ Barkwood Ct.
Odell Rd. @ Ellington Dr.
Snowden Woods
West Lock
Lighthouse Dr. @ Ashcroft Dr.
Clocktower Ln. @ Admiral Dr.
Boulder Dr. @ Cap Ct.
Boulder Dr. @ Trade Wind Terr.
Summer Grove Dr. @ Hickory Grove Ct.
Summer Grove Dr. @ Poplar Grove Ct.

Wednesday December 13, 2017

Old Muirkirk @ Muirkirk Rd.
Old Muirkirk @ Longwood Dr.
Longwood Dr. @ Cailen Ct.
Longwood Dr. @ Belmar Ct.
Stanmore Dr. @ Breyers Pl.
Stanmore Dr. @ Blue Pond Terr.
Sullivan Ct. @ Burdette Way
Longwood Dr. @ Pawling Way
Longwood Dr. @ Loughborough Pl.
Longwood Dr. @ Blue Pointe Ave.
Alloway Ln. @ Northhampton Dr.
Northhampton Dr. @ Crossfield Dr.
Brickyard Development
Gordon Ave @ Blackpool Dr.
Gordon Ave @ Flash St.
Franklin St. @ Flash St.
Franklin St. @ Franklin Terr.
Franklin St. @ Ammendale Rd.
Ammendale Rd. @ Holly Tree
North Lincoln @ Vergie St.

Friday December 15, 2017

Garove @ Hennessey Dr.
Indigo @ Barbara Dr.
Longhorn @ West View Ct.
Montgomery Place @ Montgomery Ct.
Montgomery Rd. @ Kenny St.
Kenny St. @ 34th Place
35th Pl. @ Yates Rd.
35th Pl. @ Sarasota Pl.
Montgomery Rd. @ Forrester Rd.
Forrester Rd. @ Stephen Ln.
Cedar Ln. @ Cedar Ct.
Howard Rd. @ Home Acres Terr.

Sunday December 17, 2017

Prince George's Ave. @ Wicomico Ave.
Howard Rd. @ Queen Anne Ave.
Rhode Island Ave. @ Garrett Rd.
Odell Rd. @ Lexington Ave.
Manheim Ave. @ Caroline Ave.
Queen Anne Ave. @ Naples Ave.
Olympia Ave. @ Carroll Ave.
Lincoln Ave. @ Theresa St.
Quimby Ave. @ Carroll St.
Amelia St. @ Apex Ln.
Chesnut Grove @ Heartwood Rd.
Knott St. @ Wandering Oak Way
Roby Ave @ Macon Ave
Caverly Ave @ Caverly Pl.
Pines St. @ Maple Pl.
Caverly @ Greenwood Rd.
Greenwood Rd. @ Emack Rd.

Tuesday December 19, 2017

Ammendale Way @ Long Feather Ct.
Ammendale Way @ Clear Brooke Ct.
Ammendale Way @ Narrow Trail Terr.
Ammendale Way @ Horse Soldier Pl.
Ammendale Way @ Ammendale Rd.
Ammendale Rd. @ Hawk Ridge Ct.

Saquoia Ln. @ Saquoia Terr.
Saquoia Ln. @ Saquoia Pl.
Ammendale Rd. @ Hidden Brooke Ct.

Thursday December 21, 2017

Cedar Ln. @ Yates Rd.
Brandon Ln. @ Francis Dr.
Emack Rd. @ Dorset Ln.
Montgomery Rd. @ Cedar Ln.
Yates Rd. @ Garrett Ave.
Howard Rd. @ Cardinal Ave.
Brandon Rd. @ West Caroline
Worcester Ave. @ Yucca St.
Yucca St. @ Josephine Ave.
Brandon Ln. @ Howard Ave.
Montgomery Rd. @ 43rd Ave.
Usange St. @ 45th Ave.
Tonquil Pl. @ 44th Ave.
Tonquil St. @ 45th Ave.
45th Ave. @ Samar St.
Romlin St. @ 44th Ave.



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AREA EVENTS

Please contact the individual facilities regarding late changes or updates to hours of operations, especially during holidays or inclement weather.

MONTPELIER MANSION & ART CENTER

9650 Muirkirk Rd., Laurel, MD 20708. Phone: 301.377.7817. TTY: 301.699.2544. E-mail: montpeliermansion@pgparks.com. Contact the Art Center at 301.377.7800 regarding art and photography classes. Self-guided tours, **including Holiday tours**, of the mansion: Thur. – Tue. from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost: \$5/adults, \$4/seniors, \$2/children ages 5 – 18, free/ages 4 and under. The mansion is closed on Wednesdays and selected holidays. The grounds are open from dawn until dusk every day of the year and access is free of charge. Contact the Mansion for information as well as events in December.

HOLIDAY TOURS

Tue., Dec. 5 through Sat., Dec. 30 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day that the mansion is open (closed Wednesdays and Christmas Day). See Montpelier dressed up for the holidays on these self-guided tours. Witness traditional-styled rooms decorated by local garden clubs. Also, the Artists' Boutique will be open through Fri., Dec. 29 which features original ornaments, fiber art creations, and other artistic crafts.

COLLEGE PARK AVIATION MUSEUM

1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Dr., College Park, MD 20740. Phone: 301.864.6029. TTY: 301.699.2544. Regular hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except for most major holidays and some special events. Cost: \$5/adults, \$4/seniors, \$2/children, free/age 1 and under. See CollegeParkAviationMuseum.com for more information as well as events for December.

SANTA FLY-IN

Sat., Dec. 2 from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Watch Santa fly into historic College Park Airport with some help from the Prince George's County Police Aviation Unit! Make holiday arts and crafts before having your picture taken with Santa. All ages welcome. Cost: \$5/person.

HOLIDAY PLANES AND TRAINS

The exhibit runs from Sat., Dec. 16 through Sat., Dec. 23 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day except the last, when it will close at 4 p.m. See miniature trains, villages, tunnels, and depots spark the imagination as they bring history to life. The National Capital Trackers bring a fascinating, constantly moving, holiday-themed display of model railroads to the museum. Free with museum admission. All ages welcome.

LAUREL-BELTSVILLE SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

Holiday closings: Mon., Dec. 25, 2017 and Mon., Jan. 1, 2018. Regular hours of operation: Mon. – Thur. from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fri. from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat. from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., closed Sunday. Address: 7120 Contee Rd., Laurel, MD 20707, around the corner from the Laurel Regional Hospital. Phone: 301.206.3350. Fax: 301.206.3387. TTY: 301.446.3402. Contact the center

regarding classes and events for December. Membership is free for Beltsville residents who are age 60 or older.

SENIOR FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Friendship Club regular office hours are Mon. – Fri. from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Phone: 301.206.3380. The monthly meetings and luncheons take place on the second Wednesday of each month. The meeting for December will take place on Wed., Dec. 13 at 10:30 a.m. We will have holiday music. Sign-up & pay for the luncheon by Wed., Dec. 6.

THURSDAY MOVIE MATINEE

The featured movie for Thur., Dec. 14 is *Almost Christmas* and Thur., Dec. 28 is *A Dog's Purpose*. Start time is 10 a.m. and the end time is about 12 noon. Popcorn will be provided. Cost: free.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE VISITOR CENTER

Holiday closures: 1) Mon., Dec. 25, and 2) Mon., Jan. 1, 2018. The center may also close early the day before each holiday. Call the center for updates. Address: 10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop, Laurel, MD 20708. The entrance is accessed from Powder Mill Rd. between the Baltimore–Washington Pkwy. and Rt. 197. Main phone: 301.497.5772. For directions and more information, see <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent/visit/directions.html>. Regular hours of operation for the Visitor Center are: Fri. – Wed. from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed Thursdays. Regular hours of operation for the trails and grounds are: Open daily from sunrise to sunset, except for federal holidays. Cost: Free admission to the Visitor Center and its exhibits, grounds, and trails; other activities and events are free of charge if not noted. Space in public programs is limited. *Registration is by phone only and is required unless otherwise specified* — call 301.497.5887. Note: These public programs are designed for individuals/families. **Programs are subject to changes or cancellation due to weather or low participation.** Please advise us of any special needs so that we may accommodate you.

HOLLINGSWORTH ART GALLERY

The featured artists for December are volunteers who work at the refuge. The gallery is open when the Visitor Center is open. *Registration is not required.* All ages.

WILDLIFE IMAGES BOOKSTORE & BLUE GOOSE PASSPORT

The bookstore is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the days that the Visitor Center is open. Copies of the recently updated Blue Goose Passport for the National Wildlife Refuge System are for sale, and free stamps for the passports are also available.

CAMERA BASICS

Sat., Dec. 9 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Ages 16+. The auto function on cameras is often helpful, but usually another setting will get you the image you really want. This is a beginner workshop for

those using DSLR cameras.

SKULL DETECTIVES (ESP. & ENG.)

Sat., Dec. 9 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Ages 7 – 15. What was that animal? When you look at a skull there are many clues as to what the animal was. We'll be looking at the teeth, eye placement, and something called a skull ridge. Participants will be using real and plastic animal skulls.

NATURE SONGS WITH STINA

Sun., Dec. 10 from 2 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. All ages. *Parent participation required.* Join nature troubadour Stina for an afternoon indoor campfire sing along in our auditorium. Get your groove on with fun and silly nature songs!

NATURE TOTS: SENSES OF WINTER

Tuesdays, Dec. 12 and 19 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Ages 3 – 4. While seasons change, so do the smells. Come explore Patuxent using your senses. Dress appropriately.

SPRUCE, FIR, & PINE

Mon., Dec. 18 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Ages 5 – 7. Come enjoy the smell of conifers while learning about why they are still green.

RAPTORS REIGN

Sat., Dec. 16 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. All ages. *No registration required.* Join special guest and licensed falconer Rodney Stotts, as he shares the power of nature through discussions and up close encounters with birds of prey. This is a drop in program.

BELTSVILLE EVENTS

Please contact the individual facilities regarding late changes or updates to hours of operations, especially during holidays or inclement weather.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY (NAL)

Free and open to the public. Regular hours of operation are Mon. – Fri. from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except for federal holidays. The library is located at 10301 Baltimore Ave., near Sunnyside Ave. Parking is free. Main phone number: 301.504.5755. NAL is on Twitter at http://twitter.com/#!/National_Ag_Lib. See NAL.USDA.gov/visit-library for more information.

DIGITAL EXHIBITS

NAL offers online, digital exhibits that are free of charge. There are previews and links to more detailed information. See NAL.USDA.gov/exhibits. Titles include:

- *Frost on Chickens*
- *Mailboxes, Mom and Pop Stands, and Markets: Local Foods Then and Now*
- *Apron Strings and Kitchen Sinks*
- *How Did We Can? The Evolution of Home Canning Practices*

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

Fri., Dec. 22 at 7 p.m. at the Spanish Maranatha Church, 11310 Montgomery Rd. Call 240-429-2361 for updates and more information. Regular events include recovery support group meetings every Friday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

VANSVILLE HEIGHTS CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Mon., Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. Meetings are held at the Franklin Brown Recreation Community Center, 1733 Old Baltimore Pike, Beltsville, MD 20705 (located in the Vansville Park). The association meets on the second Monday of each month.

BEHNKE NURSERIES GARDEN CENTER

11300 Baltimore Ave. Please call 301.937.1100, ext. 0 or see Behnkes.com for more information and events.

BEGINNER HANDS-ON BONSAI CLASS

Sat., Dec. 2 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Learn all the basics of bonsai design with a focus on care and maintenance. Select a tree, learn how to transplant, and discover what the art of bonsai is all about as you create your very own bonsai to take home. This is a fully inclusive class. Registration required. Cost: \$65, includes all materials.

BELTSVILLE LIBRARY

Holiday closures: 1) The library will be closed Sun., Dec. 24 through Tue., Dec. 26, and 2) Sun., Dec. 31, 2017 through Tue., Jan. 2, 2018. Address: 4319 Sellman Rd., Beltsville, next to the police station. Main phone number: 301.937.0294. Regular hours of operation are Mon. – Tue. from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., Wed. – Fri. from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sat. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Sundays. Visit our library system website at www.pgcmis.info to *check for weather-related closings* and to use our online library services.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

CHESS CLUB

Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Drop in to learn to play or improve your game. All ages welcome: children, teens, and adults.

READY 2 READ PRESCHOOL STORYTIMES

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Ages 3 – 5.

READY 2 READ TODDLER STORYTIMES

Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. for ages 2 – 3 years old.

READY 2 READ BABY STORYTIMES

Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. and at 11:15 a.m. Ages birth – 2 years old.

KIDS ACHIEVE CLUB

Mondays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Free homework help with tutors, for students in grades 1 through 6.

ILEAD TUTORING AND MENTORING

Two Saturdays: Dec. 2 and Dec. 16 from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Tutoring and mentoring for students in grades 6 through 8. See www.ileadsuccess.org.

STEM FOR FAMILIES: GRAVITY

Wed., Dec. 6 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Experiment with KEVA Planks and learn more about gravity!

AN AFTERNOON OF BALLET

Sat., Dec. 9 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

for children and adults. Ballet performance by the Performing Arts Repertory Company. Call for more information.

TAIL WAGGIN' TUTORS

Three sessions: 1) Sat., Dec. 16 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.; 2) Mon., Dec. 18 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and 3) Tue., Dec. 19 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Children read to a dog and gain confidence reading. Ages 5 – 12. For information, call or visit the branch.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLUB

Wed., Dec. 6 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Practice speaking English in a friendly environment. **Classes on holiday for the rest of December.**

PAYING FOR COLLEGE AND CARS

Sat., Dec. 9 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Financial workshop: Understand consumer installment loans. Sponsored by SunTrust.

BELTSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

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

BELTSVILLE YOUNG AT HEART CLUB

Join us at the Beltsville Young at Heart Club on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 11:15 a.m. Members must be at least 55 years old. Visit us three times and become a member. We have speakers, entertainment, trips, 50/50, bingo, plus light refreshments. Questions: call Lois at 301.498.9736.

STRATEGY GAME CLUB

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

XTREME TEENS AND PRE-TEENS REGULAR EVENTS

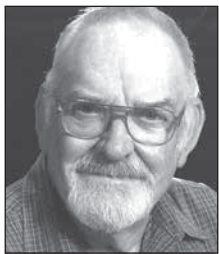
Fridays from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Free with valid Center ID card. Ages 10 – 17.

VANSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

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

XTREME TEENS AND PRE-TEENS REGULAR EVENTS

Fridays from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Ages 10 – 17. Free with valid Center ID card.



Baker Bill@Riderwood

As promised, this month it's fruitcake! I had a good response to this last year. I lot of people wanted to make it but could not find the candied, diced fruit. One purchased the fruit on the web. I went over to Giant on the bus and talked to the produce manager. He assured me they would carry the one-pound carton of diced fruit.

Let me tell you about the fruit. In the carton, it looks all shiny and sweet, but it is not. The manufacturer candies the fruit with a sulfur compound that has a nasty taste. That is why I say soak the fruit in the raisins and nuts to remove the sulfur, and it will no longer be

shiny. Drain well and rinse. Set it aside and let it dry.

Now, let's make the batter. In a fairly large bowl, place a 1/2 cup sugar, 1 cup all-purpose flour, and a pinch of salt. Then, stir in a 1/4 cup milk and one egg. Cream this well with a hand mixer for approximately 3 minutes. Next, stir in a 1/4 cup of Crisco oil. We have completed the making of the batter.

Now, dump the fruit mixture in the bowl and coat it all with the batter. Be sure all the fruit gets coated with the batter. Set your oven to 380 degrees. If you are baking in a shallow pan, it will

take about 40 minutes. If it is a deep pan, it will take about an hour. To make sure your cake is done, there a simple way: press the center lightly with a fork or spoon. It should be firm, not wet.

If you would like a more complete recipe with more details, go to my webpage, bakerbill.net, and click on recipes. To print the recipe, press (ctrl) P.

If you have any questions, you can always email me at bill@bakerbill.net.

Thank you for your emails,
Baker Bill

Central Maryland Chorale Announces Its Upcoming Holiday Concert and Messiah Sing-along

The Central Maryland Chorale, directed by Monica Otal and accompanied by the Montgomery Philharmonic, will present its annual holiday concert on Sunday, December 10, at 4 pm. The concert will be held at The Lutheran Church of Saint Andrew, 15300 New Hampshire Ave., in Silver Spring, MD.

The concert will feature a performance of John Rutter's well-loved *Gloria* as well as include an enjoyable assortment of seasonal songs that represent diverse holi-

day traditions.

In the second half of the concert, the chorale will lead the audience in Handel's *Messiah*, (Part I), and conclude the concert with the powerful and popular "Hallelujah Chorus."

For the *Messiah* sing-along, the audience may bring their own scores or rent them at the door for \$1. Tickets are \$20 (general admission), \$15 for students and seniors. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance from chorale members. For informa-

tion, call 240.478.7952 or visit www.centralmarylandchorale.com.

Church News

Emmanuel UMC Wants to Invite You to Join the Family This Holiday Season!

Emmanuel United Methodist Church wants to invite you to join its family as they celebrate advent this December. They will have a family dinner on December 9 at 5 pm with lasagna, salad, desserts, and drinks. There will be some fun and games for the family as well as a Christmas song sing-along and even a special visit by Santa himself. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids 10 and under. You can buy tickets in their hallway on Sunday mornings or contact the church office to reserve them at office@eumcbeltsville.com or 301.937.7114.

The holiday service schedule is a little different this year. On Dec. 17 at 10 am, the choir will

help celebrate the season through music with their annual Christmas Cantata. On Sunday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve, there will be one combined service in the morning at 10 am, and in the evening there will be a family service at 6:30 pm and a candlelight service at 11:00 pm. If you have never experienced a Christmas Eve service lit only by candles, then you are missing out. Join the Emmanuel family for this unique experience. Emmanuel looks forward to meeting your family this holiday season! Visit www.eumcbeltsville.com or [www.facebook.com /groups/EUMC-Beltsville/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/EUMC-Beltsville/) for more info. Emmanuel is located at 11416 Cedar Lane in Beltsville!

Happenings at the First Baptist Church of Beltsville

The First Baptist Church of Beltsville, 4700 Odell Road, invites you to see the Nativity story come to life! The church will be holding a living nativity and open house on December 2 and 3 from 6-8 pm. In case of rain, the dates will be December 9 and 10.

Then, on December 17 at 6 pm, witness "The Greatest Story Ever Told," a Christmas cantata musical celebration performed by the choir. Come out and join them for this musical worship and celebration!



Cross Creek Apostolic Church

12511 Old Gunpowder Rd Spur
Beltsville, MD 20705

Phone: 301-498-6006 - Website: www.aupc.org

Sunday Service

Adult Sunday School 9 am
Praise & Worship 10 am
Children's Ministry 10 am

Thursday Service

Adult Bible Study 7 pm
Youth Ministry 7 pm
Kids' Power Hour 7 pm
Discipleship Class 7 pm
Search for Truth 7 pm

QUEEN'S CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

7410 Old Muirkirk Road, Beltsville, MD 20705

The Reverend William E. Butler, Senior Pastor



YOU ARE INVITED TO WORSHIP WITH US ON SUNDAYS AND DURING THE WEEK

Sunday Worship Celebration begins at 10:00 a.m.

Communion Service every first Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship

Church School for all ages 8:45 a.m.; Men's Bible Class 8:45 a.m.

Weekly Prayer Service Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.

Bible Study Wednesdays 10:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

"Off the Hook" Young Adult Bible Study, Tuesdays 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

HIGHLIGHTS

HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE

Sunday, November 26, 2017 - 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

149TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

Sunday, December 3, 10:00 a.m. Worship

Christmas Eve Worship

Sunday, December 24, 10:00 a.m.

New Year's Eve, Sunday, December 31

Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m.----Watch Night Service, 10:00 p.m.



Rooms available for banquets, workshops, & conferences, long or short term rentals

Church Administrative Office - (301) 210-9038 Fax - (301) 210-9039

Web Site: www.queenschapelumc.org E-mail: secretary@queenschapelumc.com

Check us out on Facebook & Twitter

ACTIVITES

continued from page 5

They also have a super small bounce house "store" where you get 30 minutes for \$7.50.

Bonus: There is a Costco food court open to the public for a cheap meal and a Target. (There is always something you need to pick up at Target, right?)

Pro tip: Park on the Target/Costco side parking lot. If you enter through the Costco door entrance, you can take the stairs straight down and be right at the play zone.

5) Events offered by the PG Parks and Rec. They have a very useful website with a ton of activities in the area. There you can find some events worth going to free or a small fee. I have easily filled my weekends with events by spending a little time once a month going to the site. You can also take a look at the Montgomery Parks site for events in nearby Wheaton Park/Brookside Gardens (though their events almost always have a fee).

With these activities, I have always been able to fill my son's days with one morning Storytime and some play-based activity in the afternoon no matter the season. Next time, I'll share my "further away or costly but totally worth it" options. Until then, we hope to see you around!

CATAPULT

continued from page 1

High Road Schools partner with public school districts to provide a supportive, structured environment for students with exceptionalities including but not limited to emotional and learning disabilities, autism, and ADHD. The combined High Road School campus in Lanham serves students in grades 1 through 12. Facilities include a new computer lab and larger gym space.

"We are thrilled to provide our students with more space and resources to help them learn and grow," said Michelle Anderson, education director of High Road Upper School of Prince George's County. "So many students thrive at High Road Schools, and the schools' new campus only promises to bolster those positive outcomes."

An integral programmatic component at the school is the Workforce Development Program for high school students, in which all of the High Road Schools in southern Maryland participate. The partnership with Prince George's Community College will continue to provide job training, certification, and opportunities to gain experience in a variety of potential career paths like hospitality, information technology, and child care.

"At Catapult Learning, our mission is to help our students develop the skills they need to be successful inside and outside the classroom setting," said Andrea Vargas, president of Catapult Learning's Schools Division. "This relocation will enable us to better serve our students in Prince George's County."

Beltsville News CHURCH DIRECTORY




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301-937-7183
www.stjos.org
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Mass: Sat. 5 pm;
Sun. 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon

St. Joseph's Regional Catholic School
Principal: Dr. Janine Bertolotti
301-937-7154


St. John's Episcopal/Anglican Church
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(301) 937-4292
The Reverend Joseph M. Constant, Rector



Sunday Worship Schedule
Quiet service: 8:00 a.m.
Family-oriented service: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Between September and June
Sunday Nursery - during our 10 a.m. service
Wednesday Evenings Bible Study 6-9 p.m.

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

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

Live Nativity
December 2 & 3 at 6-8 p.m.
(Rain dates December 9 & 10)

Christmas Cantata
December 17 at 6:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Morning Service
December 24 at 11:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
December 24 at 6:00 p.m.

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

Wednesdays:	
Adult Bible Study & Prayer	7:00 p.m.
RA's, GA's, Mission Friends	7:00 p.m.
Youth Fellowship	7:00 p.m.



Emmanuel UMC
Beltsville, Maryland

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the Light of Christ With All People**

Pastor Jacob Young, PhD
11416 Cedar Lane Beltsville, MD 20705
301.937.7114 • office@eumcbeltsville.com
www.eumcbeltsville.com

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

Upcoming Events in December
Dec 9 5pm Family Dinner and visit from Santa Claus!
Dec. 17 10am Christmas Cantata Performed by the choir
Dec. 24th Christmas Eve!
10am Sunday Morning Service
6:30 Interactive Family Service
11:00 Candlelight Service

Classifieds • Call 301-937-6796

SERVICES

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TAX RETURNS - For businesses/individuals. Payrolls. Gerald Neumaier CPA. 301-953-1341; 301-776-6545. gncpa@verizon.net. 01/18

HAULING AND JUNK REMOVAL. Complete Clean Out - Garages, Homes, Construction Debris, etc. Licensed, insured, free estimates. Mike Smith 301-346-0840. 07/18

TREE AND STUMP REMOVAL Pruning, land clearing, contact Bob Berra, 301-674-3770 or 301-384-4746. 12/22

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Free estimates. Call Nancy 202-288-3578. 12/17

MOBILE NOTARY PUBLIC - Nickie Notary - We'll come to you, to help simplify your life. Rates between \$10-\$20. Call Nickie at 301-646-1546. 11/17

LEAVES, LEAVES, LEAVES - Beltsville Lawns is preparing our big leaf vacuum machine for the leaf season. As you know, the counties stopped vacuuming leaves that you rake to the curb - now you have to *rake and Paper bag* (no plastic bags) your leaves before they haul them away. **Beltsville Lawns** collects all leaves from your property - roof, gutters, lawn & flower beds - rake them into our tarps and haul them to the curb where we vacuum them into our big trucks and haul them to the recycling center. Call Bill @ 301-455-4491 for a free, no obligation estimate and yard consultation. 12/17

FOR SALE

OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE AT LOW COST antique items, furniture, painter/construction/gardening tools, queen size bedroom set, Infrared Heat Sauna for 2 persons, 2 large Persian carpets, lace curtains, Savonarola chair, office chair, Roland digital piano, 2 mountain bicycles, electric exercise bike, kerosene heater, Champion juicer, rototiller, etc. Will send photo upon request. Location is in Beltsville. Call 202-431-9813.

MOTORCYCLE WHEEL CHOCK available in Beltsville for \$20.00. Call 202-431-9813

ORNAMENTAL INDOOR LARGE PLANTS in Beltsville \$30 to \$50. Call 202-431-9813

FOR RENT

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College Park American Legion—Post 217
9218 Baltimore Blvd. (301) 441-2783
College Park, MD 20740

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Offer ends December 31st.

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*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Holiday Loan Special is available for qualified borrows. Loan subject to normal underwriting guidelines. Term limit is 12 months with a minimum loan amount of \$500.00 and a maximum loan amount of \$3,000. Representative payment example: A \$3,000.00 loan at a fixed rate of 10.00% Annual Percentage Rate for 12 months would require 12 monthly payments of \$265.00. Offer ends December 31, 2017. PGCFU reserves the right to change or withdraw this offer at any time.

