

The Courier

Montgomery Council 2323

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September-October 2015 • 301-977-2644



GK Mike Bean

Grand Knight's Message

Keeping The Year Special, Council "Starts" In September

As we come to the end of summer (it seems to go by so quickly), I hope you had a chance to spend time with your family on vacation or on weekend trips. September was a busy month. It starts the Knights' busiest time of the year, through December.

September was declared Special Olympics Month,

so forget about scheduling anything with **John** or **Nancy Durbin**. On Sept. 5, we hosted the SOMO picnic at Father Cuddy Hall. It was well attended by the kids from Special Olympics. We also had many helpers from our Council who cooked and served. Sept. 6, SOMO hosted a golf qualifier tournament at Rattlewood Golf Course. This is a state event so kids came from all over Maryland to compete and have fun. Thanks to those who helped out. It takes a lot of people to set this activity up. On Sept. 19, our Council hosted a SOMO barbecue fundraiser. We had 30 or 40 people come. We raised \$1,000+ for SOMO. Thanks for being so generous. Lastly, on Friday, Sept. 25, we had a Family Night that raised \$700 for SOMO. We served hamburgers, hot dogs, roast beef, chicken and so many deserts that people had to take some home. The car raffle is coming to a close, so if you didn't send your tickets in to Shannon, please do so before the end of the month. You can always drop them off at a meeting on the 1st or 3rd Tuesdays of the month. The raffle tickets help support our local seminarians.



"Cutting the rug" at the SOMO picnic at Fr. Cuddy Hall. The event drew 65 Special Olympics athletes.

Ed Day, SK, our Chancellor, will be calling to help raise money for the intellectually disabled, soliciting donations by handing out Tootsie Rolls at our churches and grocery stores. Please contact Ed at edward_day@yahoo.com. *Vivat Jesus!*



Fr. John Dillon

Chaplain's Message

Let's Walk With Francis & The Blessed Mother

Summer vacation has ended. The kids are back in school. Life goes on. But there are also, on occasion, exciting things not normally on the schedule, including the arrival of Pope Francis to Washington. Some questions people are asking me these days include: How can we get ready for the visit of Pope Francis? How can we as Knights make our participation in the Holy Father's visit and canonization of Bl. Junípero Serra (whose image is atop our newsletter front page) most spiritually fruitful as we jockey with crowds to simply try to participate? Some great questions. **Some suggestions:**

The Archdiocese of Washington is sponsoring "Walk with Francis," in which the Archdiocese invites everyone, Catholics and non-Catholics alike, to pledge to walk with Francis by doing something different—to pray, to serve, and to act. Check out the website www.walkwithfrancis.org to make your pledge. Let me suggest three ways for us to do this:

Pray regularly for the Holy Father and learn about his message on the Joy of the Gospel, the mercy of God, and the love of Christ.

Serve by reaching out and caring for those in need and supporting charitable efforts in our community and beyond.

Act to promote human life and dignity, justice and peace, family life and religious freedom. Care for creation and the common good.

I have another suggestion, better still, a challenge, for my brother Knights in our Council. This is in regard to the first suggestion of regular prayer for our Holy Father. The Supreme Council has developed a new program entitled the "Fifth Sunday Rosary Program." We all know that the Rosary offers a great opportunity for Knights of Columbus members and their families to strengthen their faith. Community devotions also can give families opportunities to experience the faith and fellowship of the Order.

We began this effort Aug. 30 and councils are encouraged to come together and promote devotion to Mary by leading a community rosary on every fifth Sunday that falls within a month. By conducting this program on each of the fifth Sundays during the 2015-2016 fraternal year, our Council can qualify as fulfilling all four Church Activity requirements of the Columbian Award.

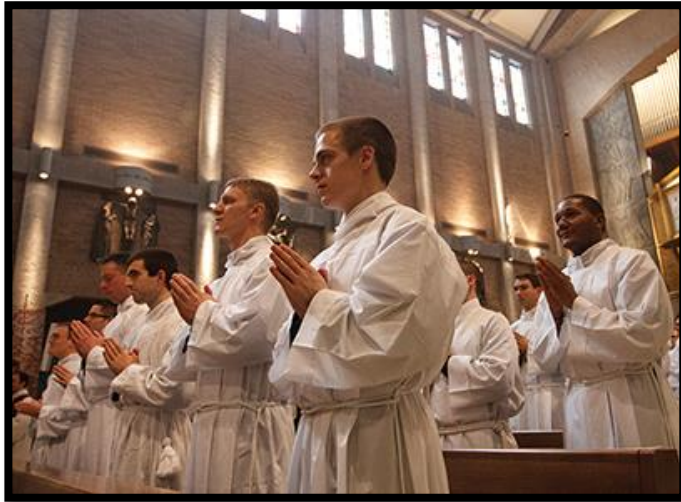
In the spirit of the Walk with Francis pledge, I pledge to pray the Rosary on the following fifth Sundays of the 2015-2016 fraternal year: Aug. 30 [passed], Nov. 29, Jan. 31, and May 29. I challenge my brother Knights to join me in praying the Rosary at 7 p.m.

in the rectory chapel at St. Francis of Assisi Church, Derwood. Other family members are welcome to pray with us.

Wisdom From a Dad of Fr. Peter Paul Maher Council 6793

Father Shares Insight About How Families Can Foster Vocations

By Brendan G. Glasgow, Sr.



Brendan G. Glasgow Jr. and James D. Glasgow share an address at the St. John Paul II Seminary in Washington, D.C. (CNS Photo: Paul Haring)

It is a tremendous joy and blessing to have two sons attending St. John Paul II Seminary in Washington, D.C. Brendan Jr. entered the seminary as part of the new school's inaugural class in the fall of 2011. James followed him in the fall of 2014.

When Brendan entered, I knew I did not control his vocation and learned to simply let go. I asked the Holy Spirit and Mother Mary to guide him in his discernment and spiritual formation.

Since then, I have not experienced any anxiety about what the future holds for my two sons because God is so evidently with them. My wife, Beth, and I are incredibly joyful as we witness our sons' response to God's call. Their openness is truly inspiring. There was a time when I helped teach and guide them in their faith, but now I learn from them—a role reversal that has been both humbling and rewarding.

Some say there is a crisis of vocations, but I believe the real crisis is in responding to the call. With two of my boys on the path to priesthood, I am sometimes asked for my "secret." I respond that three persons are most responsible—the Holy Spirit, Mother Mary and my wife. Brendan and James were both homeschooled through high school, and my wife was their first and most important catechist. Her love and knowledge of the faith planted the seed, and her wisdom and devotion taught them how to live the faith daily by word and deed. In addition, I cannot overemphasize the importance of family prayer for fostering vocations, whether to the priesthood, religious life or marriage.

About 20 years ago, I first heard the family described as a "domestic church." This spoke deeply to me and changed how I viewed family life. While I am my sons' biological father, their creator and spiritual father is the Lord. My role is to pass on the faith to them by instruction and example. When Brendan first told us that he was applying to seminary, my spirit rejoiced. His heavenly Father knew better than I what he should do with his life, and my expectations for him were no longer relevant.

For James, the path was less direct. He entered The Catholic University of America as a physics major, switched to math, and then decided to enter seminary at the end of his junior year while spending a semester in Ireland. While we were aware that he was

considering the priesthood, God led James to that decision in his own time, and that fact also brought us much joy.

One thing that has helped to foster our sons' vocations has been to invite priests and religious into the home. My wife has done this exceptionally well. Her invitations and hospitality to priests and religious sisters resulted in the boys seeing them as ordinary men and women who opened their lives to God's grace. They didn't view priests as distant figures on the altar with whom they had no connection; rather, they learned what life as a priest was like, and the extraordinary impact that one man can have on the parish community and beyond.

In the seminary, Brendan and James receive wonderful human and spiritual formation and a solid academic education. They are taught by dedicated priests who inspire them by example, and they share their lives with brother seminarians who are also a source of grace, fellowship and wisdom.

I encourage parents who may be unsure or anxious about how to respond to a child's interest in the priesthood or religious life to remain confident that the Lord knows what their vocation should be. He will lead them if you prepare and encourage them to respond to the call. Remember what Mary said to the servants at Cana: "Do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5).

***Mr. Glasgow lives in Olney, Md., where he is a member of Father Peter Paul Maher Council 6793. He and his wife, Beth, are the parents of seven children.
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District Deputy's Message

Support Your New Grand Knight & Your Council

My wife, Marilyn, and I were honored to attend your Council's Installation of Officers for the new Fraternal Year. It was a beautiful and fitting recognition of the passing of the Council baton from one team to the next. *Please give your support to GK Mike and his*

Lovely Lady, Michelle. I hope everyone enjoyed their summer vacations, a short respite from the frenetic pace of your daily lives. Now that we're all back to our routines, I hope you can find a little time to get involved with some of your many Council activities. Your Grand Knight and his Activity Directors need help to make all Council Programs successful. Please contact them after you read about an upcoming activity in your newsletter.

Don't forget recruiting is a 24/7 task. Ask someone you know to join our Order. They might even say "yes" after you share all about the great things we do to support our Church, our Clergy, our families, and the people of God through our charitable works.

Let's get a good head start on meeting your Star Council recruiting quota for this year. Thanks and *Vivat Jesus!* ~ **Steve Goldhammer, DD30**

P.S. My Brother Knights, a wonderful Art Exhibition and Sale is being sponsored by Fr. Peter Paul Maher Council 6793, the weekend of Oct. 23-25 at the Washington Art Works (www.washingtonartworks.com), 12276 Wilkins Ave., Rockville, Md. 20853. It'll begin with an opening reception from 6-9 p.m. on Friday, followed by an art display on Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and it closes with a reception from 3-5 p.m. Sunday. More than 20 local artists, including Elaine Taylor, the wife of 6793's Grand Knight,

Fred Taylor, will display work. Please contact Fred or Elaine Taylor at (301) 871-8928 or ebbtaylor@verizon.net for more information.



Jack Jones

For The Good of The Order

Jones Keeps Us Guessing & Chuckling As Council Lecturer

Replacing a Lecturer who held the gig for nearly 20 years wasn't easy, but Jack Jones has made his name at the podium. Heading into his second year as Lecturer, he has regaled the Council with his share of bad jokes and puzzling trivia, with a few legitimate jokes and brain teasers thrown in for good measure. Jack's is an appointed position, so actually his fate hung in the balance under new GK Mike Bean, but the Grand Knight reappointed him, extending the term of a man known for lottery ticket prizes passed out for a trivia question answered well. The 7-Eleven clerks at Redland Road & Route 355 know Jack will be in

before business and social meetings.

JACK SAYS THE COUNCIL'S SUCCESS RATE ON HIS TRIVIA IS ABOUT 60%. BROTHER KNIGHTS, WE CAN DO SO MUCH BETTER.

Jack says he's a trivia nut and relies on three trivia books to seed his queries to the Council. He has a couple of books of jokes but is careful what he shares, after

a slightly questionable chuckler almost got him fired at his debut. (You veterans may recall that one.) It had to do with a husband wagering his wife for a mink coat. Ever since that went over like a lead balloon, Jack has been careful where he treads and comes much more prepared.

Jack says the Council's success rate on his trivia is about 60%. (Gents, we can do much better.)

The Lecturer's role is to keep the Council in good humor, and Jack's considering developing an around-the-neck "jewel" for lecturers, presenting the idea to Supreme Council, since there isn't one now. The image he envisions is happy and sad clowns, with an anchor between them. It's appropriate, because humor and fraternity anchor every meeting. At every meeting, for about five minutes, Jack can get even the most grizzled Knights to grin. "I'm not an elaborate speaker," he says, "but I can do at least that much."





Seminarians "win" \$620!

Car Raffle A Huge Success: 928 Tix Sold!

On Sept. 19-20, Council 2323 sold car raffle tickets at St. Francis of Assisi Church. The proceeds will go to the Pope John Paul II seminarians who the Council sponsors. *Mike Thomas*, who chaired this effort, hoped to sell 500 tickets. To his amazement, the motivated sellers sold 928 tickets and received \$63 in donations! This means \$619.80 for the seminarians! Nineteen Knights assisted in this effort: *Dan Bart, Wayne Burnside, Tom Crone, Deputy Grand Knight John DeMaré, Dan Early, Jeff Freel, Jack Hey, Mike Jayner, PGK Michael Joseph, Michael Man, Treasurer Bernie McGuire, Bob Niggel, Frank Obidike, Dave O'Connor, Membership Director Gary Palmer, Larry Pinto, Barnaby Walsh, and Steve Willer. The winner will be chosen at the Columbus Day Ball in October.*

175 Seniors Wine, Dine & Dance

The 'Ogden Crew' Do It All Over Again, Logging 200+ Hours



Revonne Johnson, Senior Dance DJ, shares a smile and a Latin dance number, under the gaze of Pope Francis and Cardinal Wuerl.

The Knights of Columbus

Montgomery Council 2323 held its Annual Senior Citizen Dinner and Dance Sept. 12, the largest council-sponsored event of the Fraternal Year.

It was headed up, once again, by the indefatigable **Calvin Ogden**, master of ceremonies and dancer extraordinaire. "This gala affair originated more than 45 years ago," he says. "Preparations started in June to maximize efforts for reaching a broad base of senior citizens from churches and community organizations within the Council's service area."

The Council contributed funds for food, supplies, equipment and musical entertainment. Council members formed

work crews to arrange, decorate, and clean the Council chamber. Other crews prepared and served food and beverages, and controlled parking. Entertainment for the Seniors included music for smooth dancing, swing dancing, and Latin dancing, all in a ballroom atmosphere.

More than 200 hours were contributed by Council volunteers to produce the Dinner Dance gala. About \$1,300 was spent to nourish and entertain nearly 175 senior



Some happy dancers, dressed in their best, enjoy their partners' company under the disco ball.



These two seniors share a beverage and a smile.

citizens and disabled persons. The guests of the Council arrived in buses sponsored by the Rockville Senior Citizen Center, and personal vehicles driven from Rockville, Derwood, Gaithersburg, and Germantown.

“The gratitude and appreciation shown to the Council by our guests illustrates the worthwhile benefits received by all those who attend this social activity,” says Calvin.

To date, the Council has served more than 6,400 senior and disabled persons, contributed more than \$38,500 toward their physical and social pleasure, and volunteered more than 4,300 hours to help better the lives of the elderly.

The Council is committed to continuing this service and others that exemplify the charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism Council members steadfastly hold to, for the good of their community and country.

Besides Calvin, Council volunteers included: **Grand Knight Mike Bean; Leo Snyder; Robert Mongelli; Matthew Mongelli; George Silvas, SK, Warden, and his wife Manli; Joseph Kempf, Advocate; John Leighton; Kevin Ginley, PGK; William Rawson; Ed Day, SK, Chancellor; Steven Willer; Michael Joseph, PGK; Victor Sogah; Bernard Gomersall; and Membership Director Gary Palmer.**



SOMO Picnic Draws 65 Athletes For Music, Dancing & Good Eats



With dance music provided by Ted Virts, PGK, everyone enjoyed a delicious picnic planned by Nancy Durbin Sept. 6 and prepared and served by members of Council 2323, led by Grand Knight Mike Bean.

St. Martin's Pantry Effort

Knights Snyder, Woodward Coordinate Food Pickup For Needy Families

Leo Snyder and Ross Woodward are coordinating a food collection for St. Martin's Food Pantry. They plan to leave a collection box in Father Cuddy Hall for donations.

These are the items needed for distribution to families: One-pound bags of rice, canned soup, pasta sauce, pasta, canned vegetables, canned tuna, canned beans, boxed macaroni and cheese, Pastaroni, Ricaroni, Tuna Helper and similar products, dried beans, canned fruit, dried soup, ramen noodles, unsweetened breakfast cereal, peanut butter, jelly, powdered milk, potatoes, apples, oranges, personal hygiene and paper products, #1 and #2 baby formula (1 lb. packages or less), Pampers, paper bags, plastic bags. **Drop off items in the box in Father Cuddy Hall,** or, to make a cash donation, send a check payable to **Montgomery Council 2323 - Knights of Columbus, P.O. Box 5626, Derwood, Md. 20855-0626,** with the notation, **"Food For Families."** Contact Leo at 301-208-8930 or Ross at 301-519-1054 for more information.

Letter From the Editor

Become A Pilgrim To The North American Shrines For New Life, Light

With all the talk in this newsletter of summer coming to an end, and vacations, I feel left out ... sort of. For whatever reason, my family and I didn't take the classic family vacation this year. Bits of us flew or drove here and there.

With all the movement, and usual family stuff—my daughter starting high school, work piling up—my volunteer activities took the bullet—including this newsletter. For that, I'm sorry. I know the Council depends on communication to share its charitable activities, and to promote unity, fraternity and much more. But I'd like to suggest a way to recharge to keep doing that charitable work.

Just when I thought I was about to knuckle down on the *Courier*, I was asked to come on a pilgrimage to Montreal and Quebec. To walk down the virtuous paths of the past, into the sanctuaries of more than 400 years of early North American Church history. The Church back then, in fact, stretched from Canada south to Louisiana and west to California. Our first bishop, St. François de Laval, landing in "New France" in 1659, exhausted himself to death, visiting territories in dugout canoe, or on foot, or in snowshoes.

Jumping ahead a bit, it was ironic when I returned that my family won two papal Mass tickets in the St. Martin's parish lottery—the Canonization Mass of **Bl. Junípero Serra**, who picked up in California in 1769 where the French missionaries left off.

Combined, these two unexpected spiritual gifts left me blessed. Believe me, in every venue, I carried my Knight brothers in my heart. I hope to share observations of the canonization Mass in the next *Courier*. Although with the wall-to-wall news coverage, there may be little I can add.

In any case, in Montreal and Quebec, with about 29 other pilgrims, I visited 10 North American shrines, including **St. Joseph's Oratory** and **St. Anne de Beaupré Basilica**. Each was incredibly special and different. I'd need a book to share details and the graces I received. I'd find it hard to capture in mere words what I experienced. The heroic men and women who drew the faithful to these holy places, living lives of virtue, united to Christ, were incredible. I wanted to mention three stops, perhaps somewhat hidden, but that I highly recommend for your own pilgrimage to replenish the true Knight in you:

- **The St. Francis Xavier Mission at Fort St. Louis.** While the mission was completed in 1667, the church wasn't until 1819. At this beautiful church, within the Algonquin/Mohawk Indian reservation in Kahnawake, you can read the *Our Father* in St. Kateri Tekakwitha's language. Or, venerate her relic, and kneel at her tomb to beg her intercession. You can learn about her brief 24 years, and that of the early North American Church, in the museum, which sits over this early fort's jail cells. Or, gaze upon the same monstrosity St. Kateri gazed upon Christ. Often, however, she arrived at the chapel where she prayed at 4 a.m., to be near Christ, and prayed in any weather, until the chapel opened at 6 a.m. When smallpox took her parents' and brother's lives, the disease left her scarred, with poor eyesight. Over time, she contracted tuberculosis, and died, the Lily of the Mohawks. She was canonized Oct. 21, 2012 by Pope Benedict XVI. Her intercession is invoked for healing of addictions, families (she was orphaned), and the sick. Her feast day is April 17.

- **Centre Bl. Dina Bélanger (Mother Marie Ste-Cecile of Rome); Chapel of Sillery Convent.** Of the Religious of Jesus and Mary, this young nun also is entombed in a chapel. She's known as the "Little Flower" of the North American Church, leading a profoundly simple interior spiritual life. Trained as a classical pianist but professed as religious on Aug. 15, 1923, she sanctified all that she did for the two Hearts, dying on Sept. 4, 1929. For about the last two years of the life, she bore an "invisible stigmata," the crucified wounds of Christ. I believe she's the only saint/blessed on this list to have written

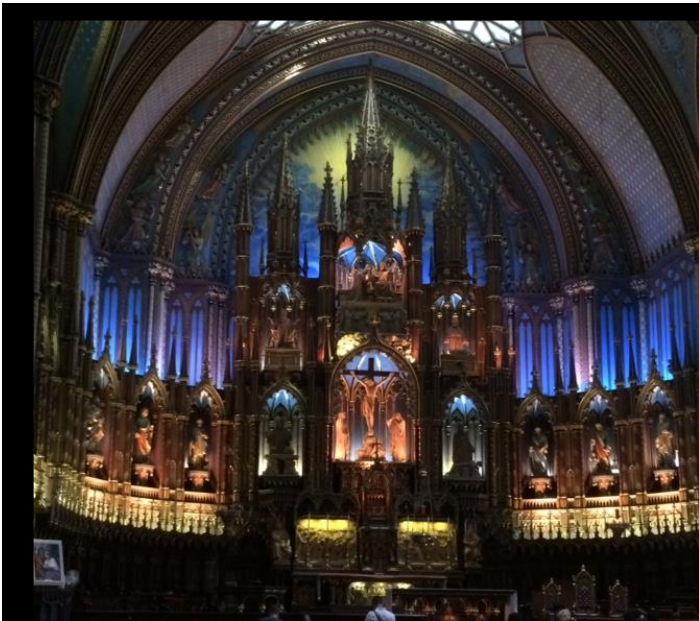
her autobiography, on command of her Superior, and in fact, by Christ himself. Beatified March 20, 1993 by Pope St. John Paul II, her feast day is Sept. 4; I visited just shortly after that day this year. She died at age 32.

▪ **Centre Catherine-de-Saint-Augustin at the Hôtel-Dieu de Quebec**

Monastery. Born in France in 1632, Catherine de Longpré became a nun at 16, after entering the convent at 12. A nurse in Quebec, she realized she was called to be crucified with Christ to advance the spread of Catholicism in the North American Church. She chose to allow all the demons of North America to lodge in her heart, for the expansion of the Church. Her spiritual director, she said, was given to her by God, a blessed Jesuit missionary, Fr. Jean de Brébeuf, who died in 1649. He visited her from 1662 on. Although she was subject to constant, cruel torments for the sins of her adopted country, she came in close quarters with the powers of darkness. It is said they preferred the depths of hell compared to the charity in her heart. Her exterior was peaceful, loving and kind. She's considered a co-founder of the North American Church. She was beatified in 1989.

No men made this list (there are many male missionary saints, martyrs and blessed in the North American Church), but the brief lives of these women are inspiring, spiritually nourishing to our Church. Each one was heroic, and did all God asked, to serve.

Thanks for allowing me to share a piece of “what I did on my summer vacation.” I hope you'll consider a pilgrimage to these wondrous shrines. They're the light of our Church. Should you visit, each will touch your heart with all that was sacrificed for our benefit. This unexpected journey touched me. I hope I'm able to share more one-on-one with you soon. ~ *Joe Schuler Jr., Courier Editor, josephschuler@starpower.net.*



Notre-Dame Basilica in Montreal, dedicated to Our Blessed Mother, is a “crown jewel” in the early North American Church. Its lighting, Gothic Revival architecture and stained glass windows of the religious history of Montreal all create a virtual glimpse into Heaven.



A look inside St. Anne de Beaupré Basilica, where behind the miraculous statue, the Great Relic, the wrist-bone of St. Anne, mother of the Blessed Virgin, is venerated.



A 27-foot illuminated cross is a beacon for pilgrims to St. Joseph's Oratory, the largest church in Canada. It is the third-largest basilica in the world.



An nighttime look at St. Anne de Beaupré Basilica, where, as at St. Joseph's Oratory, thousands of healed pilgrims have left crutches, canes, wheelchairs. A "Divine Mercy Sunset" at the Oratory (right); supernatural phenomenon aren't uncommon, where hundreds of thousands have been healed.

Montgomery Council 2323 Calendar

October

- Oct. 6, Business Meeting, 8 p.m.
- Oct. 26, Building Corp. Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 27, Executive Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

November

- Nov. 3, Business Meeting, 8 p.m.
- Nov. 17, Social Meeting, 8 p.m.
- Nov. 23, Building Corp. Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 24, Executive Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Upcoming - Highlights

*****Social Meeting/Memorial Mass Oct. 20, 8 p.m. ▪ Pumpkin Carving Oct. 25, 1-3 p.m.*****
Past Grand Knight Dinner, Nov. 14, 1 p.m.

Degree Ceremonies: 1st Degree, Oct. 28, PPM Council 6793, 7:30 p.m.; Nov. 19, St. Rose of Lima, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 15, Council 2323, 7:30 p.m.; 2nd Degree, Nov. 17, D30/Council 2323, 7:30 p.m.; 3rd Degree, Nov. 21, PM PG Council, College Park, 1:30 p.m.

All meetings at Fr. Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Rd., Derwood, Md. 20855 – unless indicated.

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