



Town of Barnesville

“Tidbit”

January 2009

Mayor's Message: Thanks to Commissioner Brown for making the beautiful swags for the Town signs as well as those on the doors of the Town Hall.

Thanks to Commissioner Fedders and his family for working to keep our seasonal flags up to date and looking wonderful.

Speed Camera's: On December 11th, at the request of Senator Garagiola, I testified before the legislative delegation of Montgomery County. He has introduced a bill, which would allow incorporated cities and towns, which do not have a police force to purchase speed cameras for their use. At his time we are not permitted to do this. I believe we made a strong case on behalf of Montgomery County Municipalities. The passage of this bill would then give the Town two options: 1. Purchase our own cameras or 2. Continue to pursue the cameras provided by the County. We will keep working on this and hope for the best.

Town Dinner: Please come to our Annual Town Dinner on February 8th at the pavilion. We are going to meet around 5:00, begin dinner around 5:45, and enjoy each other's company. Mayor Menke will be short in speaking with you about what has been going on in Town. The town will supply Fried Chicken, hot dogs, drinks, and paper goods. You bring a dish; enough for about 10 people and yourself, a serving utensil, and of course your family. Let us know if you are available to help set-up the tables, we plan to do this around one.

Christmas Caroling: This was our first year to gather at the new town hall after caroling. I think it went great! We don't have a kitchen so being our first time with food it went smoothly. I thank everyone whom pitched in to make this a great event. We had a lot of people and the curtains did their job, less noise and lots of atmosphere. Wow, Dave Johnson, you and your guys did a great job! Thank you Holly, Mike and Claire Smith for the goody bags that Santa passed out. They were a great hit; all the children really love them. Santa was wonderful as always, and the children were happy. He is a great Santa! A lot of people forgot to bring their family ornament for the tree. You can drop one off, if you wish, to

me, or bring it next year. The ones that remembered to bring an ornament, THANKS; they are a great addition to the tree. Bob Wojciekowski played his accordion, which made it very festive. We thank him for that special touch; it made the evening a lot better. The children seemed to have a great time, and we also saw where we need to make the room more kid friendly. Thank you Lib for making Mrs. Jeffers hot cider, it was greatly enjoyed. We are sorry you came down with the flu and couldn't make it with us, we missed you, and we know you missed being there. Please go to our Web site for pictures, www.BarnesvilleMd.org. Commissioner Fedders does a great job supplying pictures and information on our Web site. We all enjoyed watching the little ones and we thank you for joining us at this town event!

Town Elections: The first Monday in May, is our day to vote for three Commissioners. Please let me know, as soon as possible or by the end of March, if you plan on running for office.

More thanks: Thanks Jim Brown, and your helpers, for moving around the smart trailer. We

are aware that it does take time to do this and all of us are appreciative.

With Sympathy: Our hearts go out to Sherri Brown and her husband Allen for the lost of her mother, Claire Phumphey. Mrs. Phumphey has been a part of this town, although not a citizen, for a long time. She will not be forgotten.

Welcome Home: Welcome home Josh Brown and David Gilliam. David returns from his tour in Iraq this weekend. Josh is home from tours in Iraq and Korea and is getting out of the Army after quite a few years of service. His specialty was dog handling and he will be going to a top-flight dog handling school in Texas. We sure wish you both the best!

Post Office: Thank you Lennie for making the effort to make our post office so festive during all the holidays. A few citizens have asked me to say thanks to your efforts and I know that all of the citizens are grateful. I know that I enjoy seeing the decorations and having the candy jar. THANKS!

The Bipartisan Inaugural Ball: The bipartisan Inaugural Ball is being held at St. Mary's on January 20th 7:30pm – 11:00. There will be appetizers, an open bar, and a band. It is an open party but it is limited because of space.

If you'd like to come, you need to send \$30/person made out to WUMCO (not tax deductible) c/o William Price PO Box 68 Barnesville, MD 20838. I would not delay if you'd like to come. Please include # attending plus names. Some of you may have gotten a paper invitation but those were mailed to people who attended the last inaugural ball.

"Children at Play": The Commissioners work hard trying to get the County and State to help us in many ways. They have tried for years to get stop signs, or any traffic calming devices. Many requests prompted them to order "Children at Play" signs. Please let us know if you are interested in one of these signs. Mayor Menke also made signs to go on the "Town of Barnesville" signs. They will be noticed and they look very professional. We all want our children and animals to stay safe. We too have lost our beloved animals from the traffic. We hope with many signs in our yards; commuters may think twice on speeding.

Warm in Florida: Sandy and Theo Kavouras would like to let us know that it is around 82 in Florida and that we are welcome to visit. They will see us in the summer when their summers are too hot. Thanks Sandy and Theo!

The Green Line: Winter tips for energy savings...

- Set your thermostat back four degrees and save \$18 a month. Also consider having your hot water heater set no higher than 120 degrees.
- Open your dishwasher to air-dry dishes and put humidity into the air.
- Close doors and vents in unused rooms.
- Be sure to close fireplace damper or block the opening when not in use.
- Use passive solar. Let the sun shine in thru your south- and west-facing windows on sunny days and close your curtains, drapes, or window treatments at night (consider insulated curtains).
- Insulate pipes, ductwork, and hot water tanks in cold areas. Check attic insulation.
- Get rid of drafts. Check for leaks around doors and windows, and caulk, seal or insulate these problem areas.
- Take advantage of tax incentives for energy-efficient purchases (visit www.energytaxincentives.org for more information).

Article by, Dalis Davidson (dalis@dancingleafarm.com) and Ann Thompson (willowisp2@gmail.com)

American Flag Received: The Barnesville Baptist Church received an American Flag from the troops at FOB LOYALTY, Baghdad, Iraq as a "thank you" for the 110 mattress pads the church sent to them. The church had been collecting mattress pads for the troops. The flag came with a certificate of authenticity stating it flew over the FOB on October 27, 2008. What an inspiration!

Blue Address Signs: Have you noticed all the blue address signs in our area? They really stand out, day, or night. This is imperative in an emergency situation. You can order yours from UMCVFD call Sue at 301-972-8719.

Congratulations to Joanne Parsley: Joanne was named DAR'S "Outstanding Junior" for service (Daughters of the American Revolution), given at the Annual Conference in Washington D.C, in July. DAR is a service group that promotes volunteering, patriotism and history preservation that is open to descendents of patriots of the American Revolution. Barnesville is very proud of you Joanne.

Clerks Corner: Did you know....a 100-watt light bulb could burn for 4 hours on the energy saved from recycling ONE glass bottle? Recycle!

Don't forget to get a building permit before erecting a building or structure. Best wishes for 2009!

Mark Your Calendar:

January 18, Town meeting

January 20, Inaugural Ball

February 8, Town Dinner

May 3, Town Elections

Until next time, Patty 301-972-8411,

I am a Notary for the State of MD

TownBarnesville@aol.com,

www.BarnesvilleMd.Org (where you can also find the Commissioners and Mayor's email addresses and other town links.)