



# Greenbelt Gazette

## Men Make a Difference Day— October 12, 2009

Over 50 dads joined us on Monday, Oct 12 for Men Make a Difference Day. It is the second year that Prince George's County promoted this program in order to increase male participation in all county schools. Our dads, grandfathers and other significant male role models met in the media center for coffee, donuts, and fruit and listened to presentations about "Making a Difference in Your Child's Life". First they heard

remarks by Maryland State Delegate, Justin Russ, who is also a father of Prince Georges' county students. Both Mr. Anthony Boyd, our former Pupil Personnel Worker, and Jacob Novick, parent at our school, talked about the importance of being involved in your child's life and gave examples of what dads can do. We want to thank all of the dads and other males that came to school that day. After the programs, many dads went to visit and observe the classrooms and some



even read a story to their child's class!

We would like to thank Raulin's Bakery in Beltsville, for providing the donuts.

### Pause with Ms. Seidel

It was so exciting to greet over fifty dads and granddads at our "Men Make a Difference" day on Monday, October 12, 2009. A special thank

you to Ms. Haber for organizing event and Mr. Boyd and Mr. Novick for speaking at the event.

Testing for the first quarter is almost completed. Thank you for making sure your children arrive on time each morning.

Please make sure you re-read all field trip requirements the night before a field trip to help eliminate extra running around on the day of the trip. Lunch arrangements are especially important. Thank you.

*Kimberly Seidel*

### Gorgeous Prince George's at Greenbelt Elementary School

Thank you so much to the students, teachers, and parents who worked at our school this past Saturday in the inclement weather! To respect the work of our gardeners, we are asking that all students and parents stay out of the front grassy space, especially at pick-up. Students need to stay on the sidewalks and parents, please ask your younger children to stay on the sidewalk as well. Thank you to Ms. Zanin for organizing the Gorgeous Prince George's project this year!

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

- **October 20– FAST Testing Math Test Day 1– Grades 3-6**
- **October 20– Canned Food Drive starts– sponsored by GAB**
- **October 22– FAST Testing, Science– Grade 5 only**
- **October 23– Kindergarten through Grade 2 trip to Green Meadows Farm.**
- **October 23– Laser Shows at Howard Owens Science Center.**
- **October 23-24– Greenbelt Pumpkin Walk**
- **October 30– Schools closed for students**
- **November 3– PTA Meeting**

## Hispanic Heritage Month Celebrations

Did your children come home from school and teach you the Spanish words that they learned during Hispanic Heritage Month?

National Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated from September 15 to October 15. Each day Oscar Romero taught us a few new Spanish words on our morning television program and students practiced in their classrooms. We also had a Hispanic American of the day and Wesley Velazquez read a short biography about each person. Some of the famous people our students learned about were Gloria Estefan, Ritchie Valens, Antonia Novello, Cesar Chavez, Rita Moreno, and Sonia Sotomayor, our first Hispanic Supreme Court Justice. Thanks so much to Oscar and Wesley, who did a superb job!

We also talked about the 21 different countries where Spanish is spoken and showed where they are located on the map. Mrs. Luz Lopez told us all about her native country Colombia and showed us the flag and typical foods. Vanesa Lopez, from Ms. Sayer's class, showed her native Colombian dress and sat by her mom who spoke in Spanish while I translated what she said into English. Thanks everyone for participating!



Vanesa Lopez and Ahmed Ashkar from the Morning Announcements.

## Upcoming Events for the School and the Community

- The next opportunity for the background screening, which must be completed before attending field trips or working in the school, is **TOMORROW NIGHT**, October 20, 2009, at Greenbelt Middle School.
- The screening is from 6:30-8:30 p.m., and once completed, you can bring in your copy of the receipt (it's yellow) to the office so that we can add you to our list of volunteers.
- Even if you think that you MIGHT want to attend a field trip in the spring, please consider going to Greenbelt Middle School tomorrow night. It is better to have it done early and close by, rather than having to drive to Upper Marlboro.
- Men are especially encouraged to attend as we will need male chaperones to attend Camp Schmidt in November with the Fifth grade and in February with the Sixth grade.
- Starting October 20, 2009 and going through November 6, 2009, the school will be collecting canned food and non-perishable food items for the Food Bank. Please send your items in with your students. Thank you for supporting the community service of our students.
- On Friday, October 23, all students in Grades Kindergarten through Second have the opportunity to go to Green Meadows Farm. Please make certain that your child is dressed appropriately as this is an outdoor field trip. In addition, he or she needs to carry a bag lunch on the trip. One may be obtained from the cafeteria on the morning of the trip. Please let your child's teacher know by Thursday if a bag lunch is needed from the cafeteria.
- On Friday, October 23, Howard Owens Science Center, located on Greenbelt Road, will be presenting three laser shows. The cost is \$7 per person and are in the Planetarium. Please call during school hours to confirm the starting time of your show. The phone number for Owens Science Center is 301-918-8750.
- On Friday, October 23, you and your family can come and carve pumpkins to be part of the Greenbelt Pumpkin Walk, which will be held on Saturday, October 24 at Northway Fields.
- Please make sure that your child has money in his or her lunch account. This information can be accessed on line and you can also pay on line to avoid having to come to school to complete a transaction. No student is refused a lunch. If the child does not have sufficient money for a lunch, he or she will be provided with a cheese sandwich. Thank you.