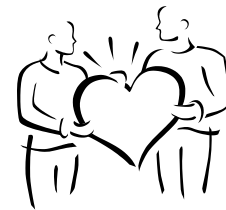


The LOVE Letter...



NEWSLETTER: ENCOURAGING HARFORD COUNTY'S HOMELESS

Spring Volume, Issue 9

March - May 2012

Letter from the Editor



Matthew 25:40 "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

New beginnings are very special and very viable if obtained with care and responsibility. That's what we are given every year and sooner than that; every morning of every day. We are given each day with new perspective and new opportunities, among other new things... Try not to drag yesterday's or last year's baggage and sorrow into this new found opportunity. Just let it go. Yes, it is a process but it can be done. Sometimes

faster than others but it can be accomplished. We must take our triumphs and failures and learn from them and apply what we've learned. So that we can get the most out of our new beginning. That at the end of it all we will be satisfied because we know that we've done all we could at our best self.

Everyone loves getting something new, whatever it may be. New is better - the best. God graces us with that every morning. He loves us so much that He gives us a new day - every day. He smiles on us and wakes us up with His brightly shining sun that beams and bursts through our windows or through the trees by caressing our brow and kissing our cheek.

New beginnings are like those open doors that I shared about... they're open doorways or open windows... I believe there's a difference between the two... One presents itself to us every-

day and the other, we have to pay close attention to and have a willing heart or they'll pass us by. Everything is linked and everything has a purpose in different degrees and levels. I can't express enough how much God loves us that He wants us to see and pursue each new opportunity with zeal and perseverance. As you let Him lead and direct you and as you include Him in every decision you make, your life will be

Fill in the blank challenge

I am asking you to write your outcome, from your own heart, because you should know yourself and prayerfully you know what it's going to take to get you to where you need to be. If not seek Godly council and go from there... Matt. 6:33. Let every new day bring you closer to a new and better you. Like they say, "go with the flow" (flow of the Holy Spirit!!!).

With Love, Bev Cotton

A Preacher's Perspective

The Hope of Jesus

You can go a long way if you have hope. In John chpt. 5, we have a story about hope followed by a breakthrough. The story centers around the pool of Bethesda where in Biblical days it was a place for a great event. At the pool multitudes of blind, sick, lame and afflicted people would gather waiting for the moving of the water. According to vs. 4, an angel would come seasonally to stir up the water, and whoever was the first to get in would get their healing. Now if you were the first to get in, that would be good news for you! But if you weren't the first, it meant that not only you didn't get your healing, but also that you had to wait again.

In the midst of this mass of people, we are introduced to a man who has been paralyzed for thirty-eight years. For thirty-eight years this man endured a painful situation. For thirty-eight years he had an affliction that kept him from

enjoying life as he had hoped. And not only did he have this problem for a long time, but he tells Jesus in vs. 7 that when the pool is stirred up, he doesn't have anybody to help him get in. He's out there by himself. Hopelessness is having a situation that won't change, locked in a scenario that you don't want to be in, enduring pain that you don't want to endure, and feeling by yourself while you're going through it.

Jesus enters in vs. 6. "Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been a long time in that condition." So the man is laid out, stuck in a horizontal position and Jesus shows up knowing that the man has been dealing with the situation we are presently enduring. He knows all the days, months, and years we have been stuck where we don't want to be. He knows that we are tired of where we are, but we don't know how to get where we want to go. Jesus meets him after thirty-eight years...

Jesus asks the man a simple question, "Do you want to get well?" The King James translation of the Bible says, "Do you want to be made whole?" In other words, can I take care of the whole problem and not just the part you want me to address? If I heal your legs, will they walk in the right direction? If I heal your voice, will it speak the right thing? If I heal your eyesight, will I look at the Bible? If I heal your body, can I heal your soul? God loves us so much that He is after the core of our being, not just the situation. Jesus is asking, "Can I have access to the inside stuff that has produced the outside stuff?" As in the case of the man, we may feel the pain of our circumstance, the pain of difficulty, the pain of being trapped, the pain of thirty-eight years. But in the midst of all this, Jesus is asking, "Do you want to be made whole?" You then have a choice... either to remain in a hopeless condition... or to say for all eternity that you have "Christ in you, the hope of glory..." Col. 1:27

Jim Hoopes

Special Points of Interests

- LETTER FROM THE EDITOR
- A PREACHER'S PERSPECTIVE
- GOVERNMENT ISSUES
- STATE ISSUES
- LOCAL COUNTY ISSUES
- QUOTES FOR THE QUARTER

Inside this issue:

CURRENT ISSUE (GOV./STATE/COUNTY)	2
POEM	2
SCRIPTURES	2
FROM TEST TO TESTIMONY	3
GIVE AND TAKE (RESOURCES)	3
E-MAIL COMMENTS	3
COMIC CENTRAL EVENTS TO BENEFIT NEXT ISSUE	BP

The LOVE Letter...

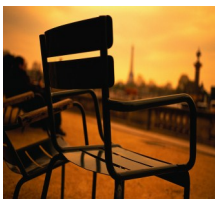
Current Issues (Government/State/County)



Spring Volume

"The more you take responsibility for your past and present, the more you are able to create the future you seek."

Author Unknown



Summer

Harford count shows slightly fewer homeless people

BY KAYLA BAWROSKI, kabawroski@theaegis.com
 January 31, 2012 / 4:25 p.m.
 There were fewer homeless people found in Harford County this year than a year earlier, according to count taken last week whose result was released Tuesday. Data released from the Department of Community Services shows that as of Jan. 25, there were 204 homeless people in Harford County in comparison to 243 counted at the same approximate date last year. The totals for each year include children and adults. This year's annual count took on an added significant following the Jan. 20 deaths of two homeless people who were living in a wooded area in Aberdeen. Not only was this year's count of the homeless lower than in 2011, it was also lower than 2010 when 221 homeless people were counted, Community Services Director Elizabeth Hendrix said. The number of homeless people on the street — people known not to take advantage of public or private shelters or transitional housing — remained about the same, 12 counted this year, compared to 13 last year. The rest of the homeless individuals counted are in hotels or shelters, Hendrix said. The department wanted the most accurate information as well, so they had teams out late into the night looking for homeless people who were clearly living outside in tents or makeshift shelters.

Poem

Homeless Night by Rodney E. Penilton

In the darkness, I saw four people, huddled beneath a gazebo in a park downtown; as I sat feeling depressed about my life, I watched and saw the broad shoulders of a man reaching for the gentle form of a woman, as she pulled thin covers over the small frames of two children, as they lifted their heads for a good night kiss.

In that moment, I saw love amidst struggle, hope come from despair

Hendrix said the latest data shows the great team work between organizations to combat the homelessness problem in Harford County. "It really means that we're doing a much better job at coordinating and communicating among all the partners who serve this population," she said, adding that they are doing a good job of "making sure folks aren't falling through the cracks."

Federal Register / Vol. 76, No. 233 / Monday, December 5, 2011 / Rules and Regulations

Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH): Defining "Homeless" Final Rule Abstract

This final rule, published in the Federal Register on December 5, 2011, Integrates the regulation for the definition of "homeless," and the corresponding recordkeeping requirements, for the Emergency Solutions Grants program, the Shelter Plus Care program, and the Supportive Housing Program. This final rule also establishes the regulation for the definition "developmental disability" and the definition and recordkeeping requirements for "homeless individual with a disability" for the Shelter Plus Care program and the Supportive Housing Program.

The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH Act), enacted into law on May 20, 2009, consolidates three of the separate homeless assistance programs administered by HUD under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act into a single grant program, revises the Emergency Shelter Grants program and renames the program the Emergency Solutions Grants program, and creates the Rural Housing Stability program to replace the Rural Homelessness Grant program. The HEARTH Act also codifies in law the Continuum of Care planning process, long a part of HUD's application process to assist homeless persons by providing greater coordination in responding to their needs.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

24 CFR Parts 91, 582, and 583 [Docket No. FR-5333-F-02] RIN 2506-AC26

Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing: Defining "Homeless"

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, HUD. **ACTION:** Final rule.

Mercedes Ma'riquez, Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development. [FR Doc. 2011-30942 Filed 12-2-11; 8:45 am] **BILLING CODE 4210-67-P**

and Loyalty bred of trust. As the children lay in the arms of the night and the wind, Mother and Father held one another and watched as shadows passed, and dust and leaves did their dance.

'Imagine the anguish, anguish of our babies sleeping in the park beneath the stars, with no home other than those found each night.'

Tears unseen and questions unanswered, the children know that this is not the way it should be as they watch other kids in new, clean

clothes and cool shoes, thinking to themselves, 'The stares don't matter, because mommy said they don't and daddy promised things will get better.'

'Maybe my sister? No.', 'My aunt? How would we get them there?' 'My mother? She is too old.', 'Honey, I just don't know.'

'Something has to happen, has to change, they deserve better than this. Honey, I know, we'll figure something out tomorrow.'

Scriptures for the Quarter

Month of March

Isaiah 43:19
 A New Thing

Month of April

Lamentations 3:22-23
 New Every Morning

Month of May

John 13:34-37
 A New Commandment

From Test to Testimony

In the year of 2001, I made the decision to move to Aberdeen, MD with my two younger children not knowing that my life would change drastically. It was a time when everything was Chaotic because of the situation with the World Trade Center and things were going crazy. It was also at that time, I decided that I had to make a change in my life for the better. I began packing and two weeks after the World Trade Center incident and the day of a plane crash in Queens N.Y., I was on the road to a new beginning asking God if I had made the right decision, but I don't think he ever answered me.

During that time, my husband was in the hospital due to an illness and was unable to make the move to Maryland. As I settled down in Aberdeen,

I traveled back and forth every weekend to visit my husband until he went home to be with the Lord on February 19, 2002.

My children and I resided in the home of my sister's son and his wife. My sister also lived in the home as well with her husband. It was a very complicated situation. With a 4 year degree I could not find a job and everywhere I went, I was told, I was over qualified. 3 months after moving to Aberdeen, my nephews renting office found out and everyone had to move because they were in breach of their lease.

At that point, my children and I became homeless living in a hotel. I was very angry to be put in a situation like that because of being told that everything would be alright. I was so humbled at that time,

because I was never put in a position like that before. But even in that, I knew that God had me. And although my children wanted to move back to N.Y., there was something that was holding me back from that move.

I applied for TCA and Food Stamps, but never told my family in N.Y. what happened because they were very upset that I made such a big move. With my strong will and faith in God, I got through it. Also, with the help of my Pastor's sister and another young lady in the church that I now attend, I was in an apartment within 3 months after being homeless. Although I continued to struggle not to live in a shelter, I have learned that because of my faith in God, I was able to hold on and never give up hope.

Theresa



Fall

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

A
n
o
t
h
e
r
:

C
o
n
t
e
n
t
f
o
r
t
h
e
G
e
n
e
r
a
t
o
r

Give and Take (Resources)

- ☎ Employment
- 🏠 Shelters Assistance
- 🏠 Housing Assistance
- 📄 Social Security
- 👮 Veterans
- 🏠 Health
- 🏠 Mental Health
- ☺ Family Support Services
- 📄 Legal Assistance
- 📖 Education
- ☠ Substance Abuse
- 👴 Senior Citizens
- 🍽 Food Assistance
- 📞 Emergency Assistance
- ✝ Spiritual Support

Call 443.640.8215 or Just go to thelovenewsletter@yahoo.com and leave a request with any questions about the listed resources and it will be forwarded to you asap to assist you in your need.

Your E-mail Comments

If you have any information concerning the topic of homelessness be it a personal comment or something you read or saw in the media and want to share. Or if you would like to give a testimony or know someone with a testimony.

Feel free to add whatever is helpful. Offering an Encouraging word.

Prayers and support are welcomed for future enlightenment on this terrible epidemic. In the local Harford County area and though out the Country and World. If you want any

Events that Benefit the Homeless please submit for advertising.

Please send your emails to: thelovenewsletter@yahoo.com

Thank you in advance, OXOXOX



Winter

Primary Address:
Harford County,
Maryland

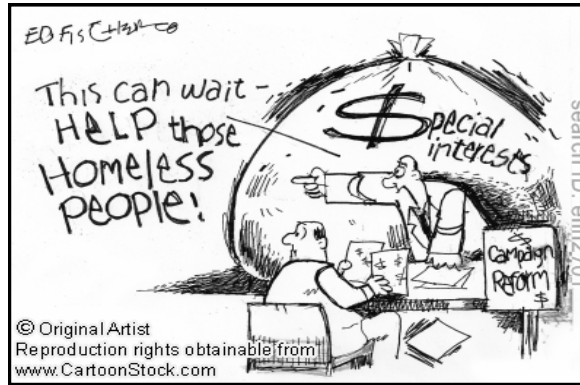
Phone:
443-640-8215

E-mail:
thelovenewsletter
@yahoo.com

"God didn't promise days without pain, laughter without sorrow, sun without rain, but He did promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears, and light for the way."

Author Unknown

Comic Central



CLS
News
Cartoons

Events to Benefit

SARC Ann. Bull & Oyst. Roast
Sat. Mar. 10, 2012, 7pm- 12am
410-836-8421

**Harford Family House
14th Annual Spring Fling**
Fri. Mar. 23, 2012, 7 - 11 pm
Jarrettsville Gardens

Annual Volunteer Expo
Sat., Mar. 24, 2012, 9am-Noon
Patterson Mill HS

**FCCAU - Welcome One ES
Basket Bingo
Longaberger/Vera Bradley**
Fri., Mar. 30, 2012, 6pm - Until
Mary Magdalen Mission

**FCCAU - Welcome One ES
Strike Out Homelessness
Bowl-a-Thon**
Sat., Apr. 21, 2012, 11 am-2pm
Forest Hill Lanes

National Day of Prayer 2012
Thursday, May 3, 2012

**FCCAU - Welcome One ES
Smile with Style!**
Thursday, May 10, 2012
5 pm - 9 pm, Rockfield Manor

**Harford Family House
Harford's Most Beautiful Baby**
May 12, 2012, 9:30 am - 2 pm
Harford Mall

Global Day of Prayer 2012
Pentecost Sun., May 27, 2012

Upcoming in the Next Issue of TLL

Summer Volume, Issue 10
June – August 2012

Government (USA) News-
Updates

State (MD) News-Updates

Harford County (Local)
News-Updates

New awareness, concerns
and comments on each issue

E-mail Comments

Another reality from Comic
Central

More love and encourage-
ment!!!



Luv ya,

'til

next

time



Luke 6:38 "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use it shall be measured to you again."

