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Tanterra Today can also be found online at [www.Tanterra.com](http://www.Tanterra.com).

Check our website for announcements and other community news!

Please submit all items for publication in the newsletter by the 20th of each month to [TanterraToday@hotmail.com](mailto:TanterraToday@hotmail.com).

*President's Message*

*by Curt Barrett*

I am pleased to announce that the Board of Directors has approved the Pool Renovation Committee's selection of Catania Construction to renovate Tanterra's pool.

The Committee obtained bids from four different pool construction companies receiving bids ranging from \$390K to \$450K. The selection committee is composed of procurement specialists, contractors and Jeff Poppera of Georgetown Aquatics, who provided technical support to the procurement process. **Wayne Johnson chaired the Committee**, which has been in operation now for one year.

The Committee conducted proper due diligence in assessing each company's ability to deliver quality workmanship on time and on budget. **The biggest unknown now is the integrity of the pool shell.** Before construction begins, we plan to take core samples of the shell to make sure the reconstruction is building on a solid shell, which will last for many years to come. In the unlikely event that problems are found with the pool shell, then the weaknesses will be fixed. This could lead to higher costs;

this is unlikely, but possible.

**My compliments to Wayne and the Committee for their perseverance and dedication** in making sure our selection process was objective and followed best practices in procurement. **Construction is set to begin this fall, in September 2012, with reopening taking place Memorial Day weekend in 2013.**

As you hear me frequently say, volunteers are the lifeblood of Tanterra. To that end, **my thanks go out to Jim Frye**, who has volunteered to mail out the newsletters each month. **Additional thanks to Tracy Krauss, for spending many hours trying to re-establish our neighborhood crime watch program.** Montgomery County police offer a great training program, but they require 10% participation from each subdivision. See Tracy's article on page nine for more info.

Please make sure to read entire the newsletter for lots of community news and information! If you have an item of interest you'd like to include in one of our upcoming issues, please email the editors at [tanterratoday@hotmail.com](mailto:tanterratoday@hotmail.com).

**Upcoming Board Meetings**

March 21 ♦ April 18 ♦ May 16

All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. and are held in the Pool Shed

*(All homeowners and associate members are welcome and encouraged to attend our Board Meetings each month.)*



## *Tanterra Homeowners Association*

### *Board Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2012*

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The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Curt Barrett.

#### **Board Members**

##### **Present:**

- ▶ Curt Barrett, Pres.
- ▶ Glen McEwen, V.P.
- ▶ Charlie Cook, Treas.
- ▶ Dick Bertin, Sec'y.

#### **Board Members at**

##### **Large in Attendance:**

- ▶ Jim Cagley
- ▶ Dick Cole
- ▶ Wayne Johnson
- ▶ Aleka Kapatou
- ▶ Glenn Wasik

#### **Others Present:**

- ▶ Sue Barrett
  - ▶ Elizabeth Bialas, HOA Clerk
  - ▶ Charlotte Cary, Newsletter
  - ▶ Tracy Krauss
  - ▶ Peter Szwec, Tennis
- ▶ = Members present & attending meeting

- 1) **Guest comments** - Guest/homeowner Tracy Krauss was welcomed. She inquired as to Tanterra's involvement with any organized effort to assist residents in need, particularly elderly residents, with issues of snow removal, transportation, or other concerns – especially in the winter months. Curt Barrett and others advised her of Tanterra's involvement with an established group in this area in support of the "Aging in Place" concept. Tracy will provide information on the topic for possible inclusion in an upcoming Tanterra newsletter to remind residents of the need to look out for neighbors. She also inquired about our Neighborhood Watch coordinator position, and was advised of local police resources. She will research the position further and remain in touch with President Barrett concerning her interest.
- 2) **Minutes** - A motion was made by Dick Cole to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2011 General Homeowners Meeting and the Board meeting which followed. Those minutes were previously distributed to Board members. Glen McEwen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- 3) **Treasurer's Report** - Clerk Elizabeth Bialas distributed the current Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement (as of December 31, 2011). Invoices for annual dues for homeowners and associate members will be mailed at the end of January. Second payments towards the special assessment will be mailed out February 15<sup>th</sup> and will be due on June 15, 2012. Reserve funds, including the pool reconstruction funds, are being held in designated interest-bearing accounts. Treasurer Charlie Cook was asked about Tanterra's reserve funds. At the next meeting, he will advise the Board on the specific status of reserve funds, to include end-of-year 2011 contributions.
- 4) **Committee Reports**
  - Pool Committee:  
Wayne Johnson reported on the pool reconstruction project. That committee continues to meet. Four bids have been received. Further review of those will narrow the number to two or three bidders, who will be interviewed by the Committee. A contract should be ready for review and approval of the board at the February meeting. Discussion followed concerning retention of a set-aside for unanticipated contingencies, contractual assurances of timely completion, and possible outside supervision of the work. These topics will be pursued further at a future meeting.

#### Architectural Committee:

No report. After discussion, the Board agreed not to set specific rules at this time for allowable carport content as part of architectural/property appearance standards.

#### Grounds Committee:

No report. It will be recommended in the Tanterra newsletter that property owners assist with maintenance of common areas adjacent to their properties.

#### GOCA:

No report. Aleka Kapatou, GOCA representative, previously distributed electronic copies of recent GOCA minutes to the Board.

(Cont'd. on page 8)

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!**

**COMMUNITY CORNER**

**RINGLING BROTHERS FULLY CHARGED ♦ MAR 21 - APRIL 1**

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Experience unbridled horse power and unparalleled superhuman power that generates mega-tons of fun! Audiences will feel the earth shake when the strongmen lift telephone poles weighing up to half a ton & twirls them above their heads!

**RAPUNZEL March 15 - April 7**

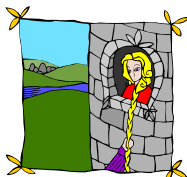
**Glen Echo Puppet Theatre**

7300 MacArthur Blvd.

Thurs & Fri: 10 am & 11:30 am

Sat & Sun: 11:30 am & 1 pm

Show runs 45 minutes



Witch Wartsmith wants a baby, and after bargaining for little Rapunzel, she must go to great lengths to keep the growing girl out of the hands of a handsome prince. For pre-K thru 4th grade. For more info call 301.634.5380 or visit <http://www.thepuppetco.org/repertory/rz/>

**17th Annual Bunnyland**

**Butlers Orchard**

**Weekends Mar 31 - Apr 15**

10 am - 3 pm

22200 Davis Mill Rd, Germantown

301-972-3299



Hunt for eggs, visit "Country Bunny," go on pony rides and hayrides; giant slides. Closed Easter Sunday.

**JOAN RIVERS at the HIPPODROME!**

**FRIDAY MARCH 23 @ 8 pm**

12 N Eutaw Street, Baltimore

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An entertainment legend of unparalleled accomplishment and talent, Joan's an internationally renowned comedienne, Emmy-winning TV talk show host, Tony®-nominated actress, best-selling author, playwright, screenwriter, director, columnist, lecturer, radio host, jewelry designer and cosmetic company entrepreneur and businesswoman! You don't want to miss this show!



**41st Annual Washington, D.C.**

**St. Patrick's Day Parade**

**Sun. March 11 @ 12pm**

Constitution Ave. & 7th Street

Washington, D.C.

Parade with 100 marching bands, military units, dance schools, floats and more proceeds down Constitution Ave from 7th to 17th Streets, N.W. For more info call 202-670-0317 or visit <http://dcstpatparade.com/>

**12th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade**

**Sat. March 17 ♦ 10am-12pm**

Rio Shopping Center

9871 Washingtonian Blvd

301-258-6350



Hosted by the City of Gaithersburg and the Harp & Shamrock Society. Bagpipes, Celtic dancers, marching bands, equestrian units, clowns, fire trucks and more! Live entertainment after the parade til 1 p.m. MIX 107.3 radio personality Robert Carson is Parade Grand Marshal. For more info call 240-447-9744 or visit [www.hssg.org](http://www.hssg.org).

**MAIN STREET HEAT CHILI**

**COOK-OFF**

**April 14 ♦ 10 am - 8 pm**

3 North Main St., Mt. Airy



International Chili Society sanctioned cook-off. Taste samples, judge for yourself, beer garden, contests and antique cars. For more info call 301-829-8300 or visit [http://www.mountairymainstreet.org/Chili\\_Cook-off.html](http://www.mountairymainstreet.org/Chili_Cook-off.html)

**WAY TO GO TANTERRA LADY SWIMMERS & DIVERS!**

The SHS Warrior Girls Swim & Dive team continued to excel in all of their meets last month ...

FEB 25: The team had an awesome showing at the Maryland State Championships this past weekend, finishing 4th in the state. **Rikki Sargent** finished 6th in the 100 breaststroke and 7th in the 100 fly. **Kylie Sheapp** finished 7th in the 200 IM and 8th in the 100 free. **Summer White** finished 7th in diving. Girls 400 freestyle relay of **Rikki, Kylie** and two others finished 3rd. *Way to go Warriors!*



FEB. 18: The team finished in 1st place at the 4A North Region Championships. The 200 freestyle relay and 400 freestyle relay teams with **Rikki Sargent** and **Kylie Sheapp** came in first place. **Summer White** finished 1st place in diving.

FEB 4: The team won the Division 2 Championship by finishing in 1st place, defeating Richard Montgomery, Northwest, Quince Orchard, Blake & Poolesville. Divers **Summer White** and **Caroline Graves** finished 2 & 4 to help win the title.



## **Olney Lions Spring Mulch Sale – April 14**

**Reserve Your Order Today!**



The Olney Lions Club will be once again hosting its annual Spring mulch sale, with delivery on Saturday, April 14. All profits go to support charitable programs in our local community and throughout the world, including vision, youth and healthcare programs.

*Price is \$5.00 for each three cubic-foot bag of shredded hardwood mulch, with free delivery on orders of 10 or more bags. **Our entire shipment usually sells out in advance, so make sure to place your order early!** Payment can be made at time of delivery or we can leave an invoice.*

To place your order, call Myron Shear at 301-774-5756, or send an email to [myron.shear@gmail.com](mailto:myron.shear@gmail.com). Please include your name, address, phone number, number of bags wanted and where you'd like us to stack your mulch.

Thank you for your past patronage; we look forward to serving you again this year!

### **New Listing in Ashton!**



Enjoy the summer breezes from the front porch of this renovated 4 bedroom colonial in sought after Ashton. This home sparkles with new paint, new flooring, new carpeting, Corian countertops and the list goes on.



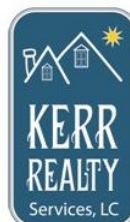
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### **MARY KERR'S MARCH Timely Tip**



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301 774 7775 Fax



***Join us for Tanterra's  
Annual Easter Egg Hunt !  
Saturday, April 7 @ 10:45 am\****

**\* Easter Egg Hunt  
Starts at 11 am  
SHARP, so  
arrive early!!**



**For Tots and Children up to 5th Grade  
Tanterra Pool Parking Lot**

*(Bring Your Camera for Pictures with the Easter Bunny!)*  
*Contact Jodie Siarkas @ [jsiarkas@comcast.net](mailto:jsiarkas@comcast.net) or 301-774-2117 with any questions*

*Rain date: Monday, April 9th @ 11 am  
(Hunt Cancelled Only in Event of Heavy Downpour)*

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***ROLLER HOCKEY ON THE COURTS!***

Attention all roller hockey fans! We're presently playing weekend pick-up games on the Tanterra tennis court near the pool, with all ages and abilities welcome to join in the fun! Current crew is 11-50 yrs old with intermediate level play. We do not have set playing times on the weekends yet, but if you would like to be added to our Facebook page to receive communications about upcoming game times, please send me an email.

Jim Welch  
[jpwelch11a@gmail.com](mailto:jpwelch11a@gmail.com)



## 2nd ANNUAL TANTERRA COMMUNITY YARD SALE !



**Saturday, April 21  
8 am til 1 pm**

Held Throughout Tanterra in Each Homeowner's Yard;  
Just Set up Shop and You're Ready to Go!

(Rain date: Sunday, April 22 ♦ 9am - 2 pm)

(If entire weekend a washout, second Rain  
Date will be Saturday, April 28 ♦ 8am til 1pm)

**Event will be Advertised on  
Olney Brookeville Exchange\*  
Craigslist and other Venues**

(\*a Yahoo listserve comprised of 2,400+ Olney families)

Email [SharleneM901@msn.com](mailto:SharleneM901@msn.com) with Questions



### GROUNDS COMMITTEE NEWS

**Tanterra Grounds Community Cleanup**

**Saturday April 21st - 10:30 a.m.**

***(FREE LUNCH for all who show up at 10:30!)***



**We need volunteers to load trim and need homeowners with pick-up trucks to haul debris to the Shady Grove dump. Meet in pool parking lot near tennis courts and bring gloves, eye protection and a neighbor!**

**If you have time before April 21st**, consider stopping by several Common Areas of our community (see below for where), to clean up cuttings already laying about in the following areas:

- by the Tennis Courts - cut pine logs and trim needs to be removed
- in the Common Area bordered by Shady View, Tanterra Circle and Considine, trim needs to be removed in the area closer to Considine

Some items will require a truck for removal. Please bring your own trash cans or paper bags for collecting materials and take to your home for pick up by the County on recycling day Friday. Remember, homeowner assistance reduces our annual dues!

Thank you!

Ron White, Grounds Committee Chair  
Questions? Email Ron at [RononEarth@hotmail.com](mailto:RononEarth@hotmail.com)



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**Under Contract in 10 Days!**

## STAGED TO SELL

You've probably seen the show before: frazzled homeowner with house for sale months on end, no buyers in sight. Then, a stager is hired, she works her magic and *\*VIOLA\** home sold in no time. What magic did she just work, you scratch your head and wonder?

***The stager removed obstacles from the buyers' eyes ...*** obstacles which may be similar to ones in your home that are keeping buyers from making an offer on your home! So what to do? Here are some tips to consider.

**Dining Room Upgrades:** Removed border paper at ceiling; chose neutral paint for walls and trim; installed new art work/mirror; removed dated art and wall sconces; purchased new light fixture; relocated excess furniture to other rooms; removed worn sheers, dated tablecloth and window seat ... and this was just in one room of many!

**To see pictures in color or greater detail, go to [www.tanterra.com](http://www.tanterra.com) and click on "newsletters."**

**Neutralize your home ...** new paint works wonders by turning that old lime green bathroom that was so hip in the 70s into a more stylish one for today's buyers. Removing dated wall or border paper, packing up large caches of collectibles, and removing taste specific decorating items help too. Remember, once your home is on the market, it is no longer "private" property, but in the public eye for all to see ... and critique!



**Finish home improvement projects ...** a home in disrepair or showing signs of age suggests to buyers there may be unseen maintenance problems. Is the plumbing and electrical in good order? HVAC working properly? How old is the roof? These items are expensive to repair or replace, and concerns regarding these hidden costs may cause a buyer to rethink your asking price, which usually results in a lower than desired offer on your home.

**Clean your home and garage ... thoroughly ...** this small investment can add hundreds of dollars to your home's value by communicating it is well maintained ... just as a cluttered home with a basement or garage that looks like a scene from the TV show "*Hoarders*," conveys a lack of care. Make sure all your rooms are sparkling clean, especially the kitchen and bathrooms. Remember, you never get a second chance to make a good first impression!

**Update older fixtures ...** from lighting to kitchen and bath hardware, these small items can pay off in a big way. Replacing older knobs and fixtures can make a room go from looking old and dreary to feeling fresh and modern!

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(cont'd. from page 2)

Newsletter:

Charlotte Cary, co-editor, asked whether Board members would like to see the "Community Corner" information continued in future issues. There was agreement that the information is a benefit to residents and the page should be continued unless its inclusion would incur substantial additional cost for printing.

Social Committee:

No report.

Tennis Committee:

Peter Szwec reported that there appears to be some heaving of the court surface near the net poles, and that there is some net damage. Curt Barrett will follow up with the paving contractor, and Peter will look into net replacement.

Web Site:

Curt Barrett reported that the new site is in early test mode, and Board members will be given access to conduct further testing. Individuals responsible for specific sections or information will be able to independently post new or updated information on the new site, which is hosted by Go Daddy.

Welcoming Committee:

No report.

5. New Business:

Dick Cole announced that the area Lions are looking for local homeowners in need of assistance from the Christmas in April – Rebuilding Together program. Suggestions should be passed to Dick.

6. Old Business:

Several leaning light poles have been noticed which should be repaired by the County. This will be referred to the Grounds and Architectural committees for follow-up with the appropriate agency.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Submitted by Richard J. Bertin, Secretary



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**E-Mail: [smalakoff@aol.com](mailto:smalakoff@aol.com)**

## THE LANDSCAPE GARDENER

by

**MARK D. UHL , Horticulturist**

What Winter weather? Very mild Winter may mean the time tables for getting things done in our landscapes will be advanced somewhat. Check list for your yard:

### MARCH

- Clean up leaves and other debris; complete winter pruning of trees and shrubs;
- Cut back perennials and grasses; tying grasses together with twine prior to cutting off can be a real time saver. If you have many of these, it makes disposal much easier.
- Cut perennials to the ground, but allow the smaller leaves at the base to remain intact.
- If planning to rake the yard, do so prior to applying pre-emergents on the lawn for control of crab-grass and other related lawn weeds. Once applied, the pre-emergent should not be disturbed by raking hard enough to disturb the soil surface layer. Plan for planting and order those last minute seeds for this years' flower and vegetable plants.
- Plant trees. Many deciduous trees are best planted at this time of year. Oaks are especially sensitive to planting time; they must be planted prior to leaf expansion in order for optimum success.
- Get mower out and ready to go, or get it fixed.

### LATE MARCH TO EARLY APRIL

- Apply pre-emergent crab-grass control to lawn areas in partial to full sun (usually March 20-25<sup>th</sup>), but may be earlier this year due to mild winter. Put it down when the forsythia blooms; this is a great indicator that is not calendar dependent.
- Start mowing around April 10.

*Have a great Spring in your yard!*

Note- Information presented here is for the use by Tanterra Today readers. Ideas presented here are for use at your own risk. If unsure about a procedure or chemical seek qualified first hand advise from horticultural professionals.

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## NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH PROGRAM

Montgomery County offers a wonderful course on how a community can implement a Neighborhood Crime Watch Program. The training consists of a police officer coming to us and teaching the course one night each week for four weeks. For sustainability, the County looks for 10% homeowner involvement, which means we need 39 Tanterra residents interested in participating (out of 390 homes).

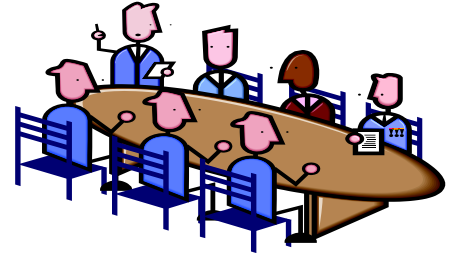
If you are interested in learning how to better protect our community, our homes and its residents, please email me at [kraussat@aol.com](mailto:kraussat@aol.com). Once I gather enough names I will email everyone, alerting them when classes begin.

Please let me know if you need additional information. Remember, it's always better to be prepared for a situation versus reactive.

Tracy Krauss

# Tanterra HOA Board of Directors

P. O. Box 25  
Brookeville, MD 20833  
[www.Tanterra.com](http://www.Tanterra.com)



## OFFICERS

President	Curt Barrett	(2012)	<a href="mailto:Curtis.barrett@verizon.net">Curtis.barrett@verizon.net</a>	301-774-0234
Vice President	Glen McEwen	(2012)	<a href="mailto:fivemcewens@msn.com">fivemcewens@msn.com</a>	301-570-3586
Treasurer	Charlie Cook	(2014)	<a href="mailto:Charlie.iii@verizon.net">Charlie.iii@verizon.net</a>	301-774-8059
Secretary	Dick Bertin	(2013)	<a href="mailto:RichardBertin@verizon.net">RichardBertin@verizon.net</a>	301-774-7926

## OTHER BOARD MEMBERS

Glenn Wasik	(2012)	301-774-5020	Jim Cagley	(2014)	301-570-1475
Dick Cole	(2013)	301-774-6534	Aleka Kapatou	(2014)	301-774-4624
Wayne Johnson	(2013)	301-774-1906			

**CLERK** Elizabeth Bialas 301-774-3809 [LizBialas@yahoo.com](mailto:LizBialas@yahoo.com) (contact for resale packets)

## COMMITTEES

<b>Architectural</b>	Hank & Kay Griffith	<a href="mailto:skayhank@comcast.net">skayhank@comcast.net</a>	240-461-7536
<b>Grounds &amp; Environment</b>	Ron White	<a href="mailto:Rononearth@hotmail.com">Rononearth@hotmail.com</a>	240-678-3189
<b>Greater Olney Civic Assn</b>	Aleka Kapatou	<a href="mailto:alekakapatou@hotmail.com">alekakapatou@hotmail.com</a>	301-774-4624
<b>Neighborhood Watch</b>	<b>Vacant</b>		
<b>Social</b>	Sarah Formichelli	<a href="mailto:sarahformichelli@yahoo.com">sarahformichelli@yahoo.com</a>	301-774-1976
<b>Pool</b>	Wayne Johnson	<a href="mailto:tanterrapool@hotmail.com">tanterrapool@hotmail.com</a>	301-774-1906
<b>Pool Phone</b>			301-774-4035
<b>Pool/Pavilion Calendar</b>	Dick Bertin	<a href="mailto:RichardBertin@verizon.net">RichardBertin@verizon.net</a>	301-774-7926
<b>Dive Reps</b>	John Siarkas	<a href="mailto:RepJohn@tanterratarpons.org">RepJohn@tanterratarpons.org</a>	301-774-2117
	Stephanie Olszewski	<a href="mailto:RepStephanie@tanterratarpons.com">RepStephanie@tanterratarpons.com</a>	240-370-9864
<b>Pre-Team Rep</b>	Gay Braker	<a href="mailto:preteam@tanterratarpons.org">preteam@tanterratarpons.org</a>	301-570-1553
<b>Swim Team Reps</b>	Susan Johnson	<a href="mailto:RepSusan@tanterratarpons.org">RepSusan@tanterratarpons.org</a>	301-924-5979
	Karen Gallagher	<a href="mailto:RepKaren@tanterratarpons.org">RepKaren@tanterratarpons.org</a>	301-570-0673
	Carleen Patterson	<a href="mailto:RepCarleen@tanterratarpons.org">RepCarleen@tanterratarpons.org</a>	240-342-2336
	Tina Varron	<a href="mailto:RepTina@tanterratarpons.org">RepTina@tanterratarpons.org</a>	240-463-3743
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<b>Volleyball</b>	Wayne Johnson	<a href="mailto:WayneLJohnson@verizon.net">WayneLJohnson@verizon.net</a>	301-260-1906
<b>Welcoming Committee</b>	Jodie Siarkas	<a href="mailto:jsiarkas@comcast.net">jsiarkas@comcast.net</a>	301-774-2117

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

The Social Committee is gearing up for another year of summer fun! Join us at our first planning party Sunday, March 11 from 4 pm to 6 pm at 3725 Stoney Castle Street in the Olney Mill community. Email Social Committee Chair Sarah Formichelli at [Sarahformichelli@yahoo.com](mailto:Sarahformichelli@yahoo.com) with any questions or to rsvp.





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YOUR SCHOOLS & CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS YEAR-ROUND**

**Stop by Mamma's this March and April and We Will  
DONATE A PORTION OF THE EVENING'S PROCEEDS  
to your favorite charity! FUNDRAISING HOURS: 5 pm to 10 pm**

March 1	Institution of Love
March 7	Olney Buccaneers U12 Baseball
March 8	Georgetown Prep
March 14	Blake HS Music Booster Club

March 15	Oakdale Emory United Methodist Church
March 21	Magruder Class of 2013
March 22	Magruder Post Prom
March 28	Sherwood ES PTA
March 29	Joyful Noise Ministries

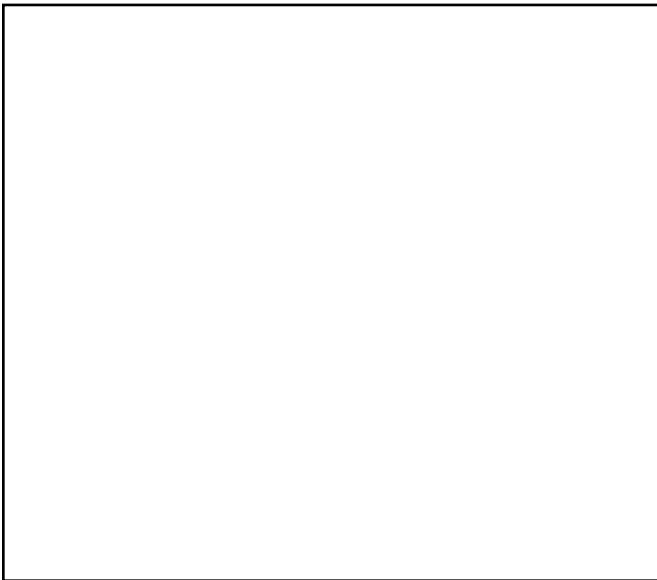
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