

Visit to say Mass next week

Archbishop coming to John Carroll

BY ABRIELLE WILLIS
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Baltimore Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien will pay a visit to the John Carroll School at the end of the month in anticipation of National Catholic Schools Week, celebrated this year from Jan. 30 to Feb. 5.

The event, scheduled for 1 p.m. Jan. 27, is free to members of the school community.

"He is here to lead us in worship, so we will have Mass," John Carroll's principal, Paul Barker, said. "His visit also coincides with John Carroll's celebration of Grandparents Day."

"This is his first visit at John Carroll," Sean Caine, director of communications for the Archdiocese of Baltimore, said. "He will celebrate a Catholic Schools Week Mass there and a grandparents celebration, just to get to know the school community a little better. He places a great deal of emphasis on interacting with the archdiocese."

"The archbishop is very interested in schools and wants to get out here and show his support to the schools under his care," Barker agreed.

But, even so, Caine continued, "with 70 catholic schools, he is still getting to some schools and parishes for the first time."

"He is looking forward to meeting the students and staff," Caine said.

A New York native, Archbishop O'Brien was elevated July 12, 2007 by Pope Benedict XVI and installed on Oct. 1, 2007 in ceremonies at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen. He succeeded Cardinal William H. Keeler as the 15th Archbishop of Baltimore.

"Cardinal Keeler actually visited us for our 40th anniversary," Barker pointed out.

Barker said the archbishop's appearance at John Carroll holds great meaning to members of the community.

"For us, we are John Carroll School, and John Carroll was the first archbishop of Baltimore," he said. "That is very important to us, to give the students a sense of continuity. It's a real honor, a real treat."

Prior to his assignment, Archbishop O'Brien was the Archbishop of the Archdiocese for the Military Services of the United States, a position he held for 10 years. His military background dates to the early days of his priesthood, when he served as a military chaplain.

He has served as rector for seminaries in New York and Rome.

Archbishop O'Brien is a member of the Fellowship of Catholic Scholars, the Canon Law Society and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. He is the chairman of the board of trustees at the Pontifical North American College in Rome and is a member of the boards of trustees at St. Joseph's Seminary and the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Archbishop O'Brien was asked by pope to lead the visitation of United States seminaries in 2005 and 2006 and will be leading a similar visitation of Irish seminaries in Rome and Ireland slated to begin next week.



The main county office building is evacuated and part of Main Street in Bel Air blocked off Tuesday afternoon after a suspicious smell drew concern. Bel Air Volunteer Fire Company declared the building safe shortly after 2 p.m.

Odor prompts evacuation

BY KIRSTEN DIZE
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The main county office building was evacuated and part of Main Street in Bel Air was blocked off after a suspicious smell drew concern Tuesday morning.

Jim Richardson, director of the office of economic development, noticed what smelled like electrical burning in the county office building at 220 S. Main St. around 1 p.m. Tuesday, according to Bob Thomas, spokesman for Harford County Government.

Richardson brought the odor to the attention of security personnel.

"They could not immediately determine the source of the odor," Thomas said.

Security personnel sounded the alarm and evacuated the building.

Bel Air Volunteer Fire Company arrived after the fire alarm went off.

Firefighters smelled burning inside the building and additional personnel and equipment were called to assist, according to

Rich Gardiner, spokesperson for the Harford Volunteer Fire and EMS Association.

Crews identified the source of the smell as a relay to the heater motor that burned in the ceiling area in the human resources office, according to Gardiner.

"There was no structural damage to the building," Thomas said.

"The building was declared safe shortly after 2 p.m.," Thomas said.

Employees were permitted to return to the building without further incident, according to Gardiner.

Bel Air police blocked off Main Street between Baltimore Pike and Churchville Road from 1:14 p.m. until 2:25 p.m., Bel Air Police Chief Leo Matrangola said.

County Executive David Craig was in Annapolis and not in the building at the time. Mary Chance, acting director of administration, was in the building and in charge of the county's response to the incident.

Make-A-Wish volunteers wanted

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Mid-Atlantic is looking for wish-granting volunteers in Harford County.

Work in teams of two to meet with wish families, help children discover their most heartfelt wish, and enhance the wish experience. This is an ongoing, long-term volunteer opportunity.

Volunteers must be 21 or older and go through a vetting process that includes a background check.

For more information, contact Lisa Kadish, volunteer coordinator at Lkadish@midatlantic.wish.org or 410-580-9474.

VOLUNTEER HARFORD COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

When asked what Dawn Rowles enjoys most about volunteering with SARC, her response was, "the fulfillment in knowing you are making a difference in someone's life that needs it the most." This is evident in how much time, energy and empathy Dawn dedicates as a hospital companion. Dawn has been volunteering with SARC as a hospital companion since 2007. SARC's hospital companion program is one of our most crucial services that we offer to victims of domestic and sexual violence. Our companions are on-call and whether it is early in the afternoon or in the middle of the night, volunteers respond to the call and are there to provide victims with support, resources and to develop a safety plan. They are there to hold their hand, answer questions and contact family members. Dawn has been at the hospital for up to six hours and has even responded to a call, when she was not the volunteer on call, but there was no one else who was able to go. Dawn doesn't even have to think about it; she grabs what she needs and is there for the victim and has a wonderful rapport with hospital staff and with local law enforcement. There have even been situations where Dawn has responded to two calls in one day; and is always there to advocate and offer support and understanding to the victims.



Dawn does not just volunteer her time as a hospital companion, but Dawn also volunteers to help at SARC fundraising and awareness events and helps out during the Holiday Project. Dawn has given countless hours answering the helpline, at our outreach events, in the office and assisting victims of domestic and sexual violence as a hospital companion. This year alone, Dawn has volunteered a total of 1,600 hours.

SARC provides a safe-haven which offers hope, empowerment, new beginnings, and the rebuilding of people's lives. Staff and over 55 community volunteers help us provide services to victims in Harford County by answering our 24 hour confidential helpline and offer resources and support to those calling and in need of help. Through our helpline, victims or a concerned friend or family member, are able to learn more about SARC and our resources. We offer legal advocacy and representation, crisis intervention, counseling, a confidentially located safe house, a hospital companion program, community outreach and education and volunteer opportunities.

To join SARC as a volunteer please visit their website at <http://www.sarc-maryland.org>

To find out how you can volunteer for
SARC
text "volunteer" to 70701
www.volunteerharford.org



For more volunteer opportunities across Harford County call or visit Volunteer Harford online.



15TH ANNUAL RICHLIN BRIDAL FAIR 2011

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2011
1:00 TO 4:00 PM

COME VISIT SOME OF OUR WONDERFUL VENDORS

Bee Happy Wedding & Event Planning
Jonathan's Weddings and Florals
Richardson's Flowers and Gifts
Simply Grande Events
Premier Mobile DJ's
Rehrmann Photography
Linton Photography
Cassidy Creations
Hess Hotel Group
Woodlea Bakery
NVS Salon and Spa
Elegant Touch

Maryland Bride
Wedding 411 on Demand
Maryland Bride
Wedding Doves for Love
Richlin Ballroom and Catering
About Town Limousine
Cameo Photography
K&B Bridal
Jenny Z Mobile DJ Service
Remax American Dream
Absolute Dream Vacations
Deer Creek Overlook
La Banque De Fleuve

Enjoy a sampling of delicious hors d'oeuvres as you visit with our many different exhibitors available to make your special day memorable!

DOOR PRIZES EVERY HALF HOUR

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