

## DBFA Adopt-a-Family Program Supports BCP Schools

BCP would like to thank the Downtown Baltimore Family Alliance (DBFA) for providing toys, clothes and books for over 180 Wolfe Street Academy families and over 20 Govans Elementary families in December.

DBFA's 7th Annual Adopt-a-Family program had an ambitious goal of adopting 200 families this year but thanks to the amazing generosity of families and businesses everywhere they were able to adopt more than 300 families.



Special thanks to DBFA President Allison Pendell-Jones for including Govans as a last-minute participant in this year's program.

Propelled by the belief that thriving, connected families are key to vibrant communities, the Downtown Baltimore Family Alliance fosters and promotes family life in Baltimore's city center.

For more information about DBFA visit: [www.dbfam.org](http://www.dbfam.org).

## Chicago Parenting Program Participants Graduate

By Connie Phelps, SWCOS Community School Coordinator at Wolfe Street Academy

Wolfe Street Academy, in conjunction with the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, held a 12-week Chicago Parenting Program course in Spanish this fall for our Pre-K parents.

Participating parents graduated with a certificate of completion and a lot of useful parenting techniques!

The Chicago Parent Program (CPP) is a 12-session, video and group-based parenting skills training program that has been shown to improve parenting skills and

confidence and reduce behavior problems in young children 2-5 years old.

It provides professionals serving families with young children the knowledge, skills, and materials needed to implement the CPP in their agency or practice. To learn more about the Chicago Parenting Program at JHU visit: <http://learn.nursing.jhu.edu/instruments-interventions/chicago-parent>.



## BALTIMORE CURRICULUM PROJECT

Empowering Neighborhood Schools

2707 E. Fayette Street  
Baltimore, MD 21224

BALTIMORE CITY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

City Springs  
Elementary/Middle School

HAMPSTEAD HILL ACADEMY

Govans  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Wolfe  
Street  
Academy



BALTIMORE CURRICULUM PROJECT'S

# CLASSNOTES

City Springs  
Elementary/Middle School

Govans  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
July 1, 2015

HAMPSTEAD HILL ACADEMY

Wolfe  
Street  
Academy

BALTIMORE CITY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WINTER 2015  
[www.baltimorecp.org](http://www.baltimorecp.org)

## ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A BCP 5TH GRADER?

After three years our students remain undefeated! See if they can outsmart the celebrities again at the fourth annual *Are*

*You Smarter than a BCP 5th Grader?* Quiz Show on Thursday, April 16, 2015 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at City Springs Elementary/Middle School.

**Outstanding Partner Award:** Baltimore City Public Schools, the Baltimore Ravens, Congressman Elijah E. Cummings, Senator Bill Ferguson, Legg Mason, Senator Nathaniel McFadden, and Irona Pope (in memoriam).

Watch the video of last year's Quiz Show at: <http://bitly.com/bcpquiz2014>  
Tickets (\$100/each) are available at: <http://bitly.com/bcpquiz2015>  
To learn about sponsorship opportunities contact Larry Schugam at [bcpinfo@baltimorecp.org](mailto:bcpinfo@baltimorecp.org) or 410-675-7000.

## PAST CONTESTANTS AND MC'S



This year BCP will be honoring the partners who supported the construction of the City Springs Community Athletic Complex. The following partners will receive a *BCP*

## Chef Cindy Wolf Hosts City Springs Students at Charleston

Chef Cindy Wolf hosted a behind-the-scenes tour of Charleston Restaurant for a group of 22 City Springs students on January 16th.

The tour began with a cooking demonstration. Chef Wolf prepared a salad and gave students the recipe so that they could recreate the dish at home. Students learned about all of the ingredients and the proper way to work in a kitchen.

Chef Wolf talked about the importance of discipline in cooking and how she is the general of her kitchen. When she gives an order, her chefs must follow directions

without "rolling their eyes" or complaining.

"Your teachers have gifts to share," said Chef Wolf.

She encouraged the students to respect their teachers in order to receive these gifts.

After the cooking demo, the

*Continued on page 2*



## Hampstead Hill Academy Celebrates the Life of Ralph Marchetti

Teachers, students, staff, family and friends gathered at Hampstead Hill Academy on January 24th to celebrate the life of Ralph Vincent Marchetti, who passed away on December 18, 2014.

Below is an excerpt from a letter to HHA parents by Principal Matt Hornbeck:

"Mr. Marchetti taught generations of students at Hampstead Hill. He had a warm smile, a kind heart, and worked hard to create more and better opportunities for his students. I've never worked with someone who cared more

about kids.

Although he officially retired last year, Mr. Marchetti returned to us this school year as a tutor and continued as the coach of our chess team and MMASSAC sports club. MMASSAC, which all the kids knew and loved, stands for Mr. Marchetti's After School Sports Club... The Baltimore Kids Chess League will rename their novice tournament each year as the Marchetti Memorial Chess Tournament in his honor.

Mr. Marchetti was a smart, well-written, curious, and proud Baltimore son. His father

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## Brendan Lee Named Hometown Champion

BCP would like to congratulate City Springs Restorative Practices Facilitator Brendan Lee on being named the 2015 NAACP Image Awards Hometown Champion for Baltimore.

This is a nationwide contest where one winner is selected for each of fifteen major cities in the USA.

Mr. Lee was awarded Key Staff Member of the Year by the State of Maryland for aiding in decreasing suspensions in a low poverty school.

He recently spoke at the White House to address issues plaguing today's youth.

Mr. Lee received his award on February 6th during a live television broadcast of the 46th NAACP Image Awards.



## Kevin Spacey Foundation Supports BCP

BCP would like to thank The Kevin Spacey Foundation (KSF) for awarding BCP a generous grant as part of a KSF initiative to support local charities during their *Kevin Spacey in Concert* event on September 29, 2014.

One of BCP's long-time partners, the Baltimore Urban Debate League, was also awarded a grant through this KSF initiative.

The concert event was critical for KSF to provide scholarships for undergraduate performing arts students, competitive project grants to emerging artists, and mentorship during the process from KSF's distinguished roster of established artists.

At the same time, KSF will expand their

efforts to bring the arts to underserved youth through the HOME GROWN program.

BCP would also like to thank KSF for providing two tickets to the concert event and after-party.

### About The Kevin Spacey Foundation

The Kevin Spacey Foundation enables the creation of new work via KSF Grants, designs bespoke education opportunities through KSF Learning, and offer free university placements via KSF Scholarships.

For more information visit: [www.kevinspaceyfoundation.com](http://www.kevinspaceyfoundation.com).

## Chef Cindy Wolf Hosts City Springs Students at Charleston (continued from page 1)

students walked through the kitchen and stopped in the walk-in refrigerator, where Chef Wolf introduced them to a variety of fresh foods that are delivered daily; some of which are flown in.

They learned about a type of expensive beef that comes from cows that drink mostly beer and receive regular massages; why cooking shrimp with the heads on creates the tastiest sauce; and how soda from glass bottles tastes better.

After the tour, everyone sat down for a fine lunch of salad topped with baked chicken, corn bread, and cookies for dessert. The students' manners were impeccable throughout the entire meal.

As they lunched, Chef Wolf continued to answer students' questions. She shared stories of her culinary career, including the time she had the opportunity to prepare lunch for Julia Child.

After lunch, the students bid Chef Wolf farewell and returned to City Springs with full bellies, full minds, and happy hearts.

BCP would like to thank Chef Wolf and her staff for their wonderful hospitality and for providing such an amazing experience for our students.

To learn more about Chef Wolf and the Foreman Wolf Restaurant Group visit: [www.foremanwolf.com](http://www.foremanwolf.com).

## Jon McGill Presents Critical Thinking Workshop

BCP Director of Academic Affairs Jon McGill presented a workshop entitled "The Power of Critical Thinking" at City Neighbors Foundation's Progressive Education Summit on January 24th and BCP's most recent Educator Think Tank on January 13th.

The workshop provided an overview of the current research on higher order questioning as a way to enhance and encourage critical thinking.

The session included hands on examples of how best to use narratives, games, and puzzles to increase student ability to ask and answer higher order questions.

"We had a really engaging time at yesterday afternoon's Think Tank. I found that my brain was highly activated by the puzzles and I got a lot of good ideas from the challenges and strategies we discussed," said BCP Academic Coach Sue Lattimore.

One element of the workshop asked participants to work with examples of Edward DeBono's "Lateral Thinking".

DeBono was a British psychologist and educator who, in the 1960's, developed programs and puzzles which were precursors of today's cliché of "thinking outside the box"

The session was interactive and generated lots of energy and a healthy application of laughter as the teachers worked through the materials and issues.

"On behalf of the 15 participants, I can say that our novice teachers felt really supported and professionally stimulated by the session. This is definitely the kind of high-quality professional development that we've aimed for in establishing the Educators Think Tank," said Ms. Lattimore.

View the PowerPoint at: [baltimorecp.org/critical-thinking.pdf](http://baltimorecp.org/critical-thinking.pdf)

**"Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education. The complete education gives one not only power of concentration, but worthy objectives upon which to concentrate."**

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

## Kids 4 K9s Teaches Compassion to City Springs Students

Last spring City Springs Elementary/Middle School added a new member to their team of dedicated professionals and she is one of the few team members who can interrupt almost any meeting to say hello to Principal Richetta.

Her name is Bella and she is a very friendly 80-lb. Golden Retriever/Standard Poodle mix who works for the Kids-4-K9s program.

In June 2012 Natalie Keegan established Kids 4 K9s with funding support from the Open Society Institute-Baltimore and began delivering humane education programming in the Baltimore City Public

Schools and surrounding communities.

The program's initial focus was to establish and grow an animal cruelty awareness



campaign, but, quickly grew into an animal assisted program that uses the natural bond between children and animals to teach empathy and encourage nonviolent ways to resolve conflict.

"The Kids-4-K9s Humane Education Program is a fun and interesting way to help students learn about animals, but also about humanity and compassion," says Keegan.

The program familiarizes students with the emotions of animals and their basic needs, bringing to light tough societal issues and gently guides students through the moral dilemmas raised to help students formulate their own code of ethics.

"The Kids-4-K9s curriculum is excellent, and Natalie Keegan is an effective instructor, but Bella is incredible!" said Principal Rhonda Richetta.

"Adding to the wonderment of Bella, the books and materials used in the classroom are thought-provoking and serve to develop the social skills and awareness Kids 4 K9s aims to teach.

"Bella has touched so many hearts of children (and adults) in our school, and because of her the lessons learned will have a lasting impact. We are fortunate to have Kids-4-K9s at City Springs!"

BCP would like to thank Natalie Keegan and the Kid-4-K9s program for creating opportunities for our students to learn about and advocate for the ethical treatment of companion animals in their home and community, and for promoting compassion in everyday interactions with people.



## Joseph and Harvey Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds Support HHA

We would like to thank the Joseph and Harvey Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds for awarding Hampstead Hill Academy a generous grant

of \$5,000 and an additional dollar for dollar challenge grant of \$10,000.

Hampstead Hill Academy's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) was instrumental in raising the \$10,000 match for the grant. Special thanks to PTO President Kelly Navas-Miguelo for her support.



The Joseph and Harvey Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds ("the Funds") are a group of Baltimore-based family foundations committed to honoring the legacy of the family's philanthropic vision and whose contributions have had significant impact not only on the city of Baltimore, but nationally and internationally as well.

## City Springs Community Fitness Program Kickoff

By Abby Baldwin, Child First Community School Coordinator at City Springs EMS

On October 28th seven City Springs EMS mothers joined Mrs. Baldwin and Coach McGee for the first Community Workout on the new track.

Coach McGee worked with all of the women on setting fitness goals, developing group fitness accountability, and led the team through a whole body workout!

The women are warriors and had an excellent time coming together with Coach McGee to work on their own physical fitness.

The program took place every Tuesday and Thursday evening during school session

from 4:30pm - 5:30pm on the track and will start again in the spring. Everyone is welcome!

We would like to thank Baltimore City Public Schools, the NFL, the Baltimore Ravens, Senator Nathaniel McFadden, Senator Bill Ferguson, Legg Mason, and everyone else who supported the construction of the City Springs Community Athletic Complex, which allows us to provide outstanding health and fitness programs like the Community Workout.

We would also like to thank CareFirst for bringing an array of health and fitness programming to City Springs such as the



American Heart Association's Teaching Gardens program and Girls on the Run.

## Hampstead Hill Academy Celebrates the Life of Ralph Marchetti (continued from page 1)

worked at Bethlehem Steel, and Ralph always had a story about his father, baseball or the latest book he was reading. He loved telling people that he did not own a television or a computer. He got his news from the radio, and he was a voracious reader of history and politics.

He was an usher at Oriole Park for decades, and recognized as Usher of the Year a few years back. Ralph Marchetti has been a huge figure in our school community and we will truly miss him."

Donations may be made in Ralph's name

to the Maryland Society for Sight, 1313 W. Old Cold Spring Lane, Baltimore, MD 21209 or the Baltimore Curriculum Project, c/o HHA Chess Team in memory of Ralph Marchetti, 2707 E. Fayette St., Baltimore, MD 21224.

### Class Notes

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