



THE MARYLAND CRIME VICTIMS' RESOURCE CENTER, INC.  
Continuing the missions of the  
Stephanie Roper Committee and Foundation, Inc.

# NEWSLETTER

SUMMER/FALL 2005

14750 Main Street, 1B, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-3055  
Phone: 301/952-0063 Toll Free: 1-877-VICTIM-1 Fax: 301/952-2319  
Email: [mail@mdcrimevictims.org](mailto:mail@mdcrimevictims.org) Website: [www.mdcrimevictims.org](http://www.mdcrimevictims.org)  
Baltimore Office: 218 E. Lexington Street, Suite 40,  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202-3519, Phone: 410/234-9885

Mark your calendar for MCVRC's . . .

## 2nd Annual Chocolate Affair

The board, staff, and volunteers of the Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc. invites friends and supporters to join us for an evening of fun and celebration at our **2nd Annual Chocolate Affair** at beautiful Mount Airy Mansion in Upper Marlboro, Maryland on Friday evening, September 23, 2005, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The historic mansion will be the setting for an evening of delicious food catered by Pineapple Alley, Inc. with tantalizing chocolate desserts from area bakers, and Silent & Live Auctions of items from area artists, craftsmen, business and entertainment. The event will also celebrate and honor the Allegany County Chapter volunteers, the Honorable William R. McCaffrey, and Norman Workman their for outstanding service and present to them the 2005 Maryland Champion for Victims Awards.

Tickets are \$40 per person and reservations must be made by September 13, 2005. Call for reservations today at: 301-952-0063. Gather your friends for a memorable evening that will enable MCVRC to continue its missions of service to crime victims and their families.

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## *Rules Committee to Consider Issues Related to Victim and Witness Privacy and Security on September 9th*

On September 9, 2005 in Crownsville, Maryland, a public hearing was scheduled on issues related to victim and witnesses' privacy and security before the Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure. (Rules Committee) MCVRC will urge the Rules Committee and subsequently the Court of Appeal to create an exception to the full disclosure of personal information of victims and witnesses.

Effective October 2004, the Maryland Court of Appeals adopted Rules regarding electronic access to court records. As a result, the privacy and safety of victims and witnesses of crime in the state of Maryland are exposed because of the Court recently released the block on electronic access to victim and witnesses information in court records and made this information electronically available. In 2006 with the creation of the Judicial Data Warehouse, this information will become further available for any and all to see in the public domain of the Internet.

### **How to make a request for address and phone number privacy in your case**

Currently, victims and witnesses can

obtain our sample pro se motion to urge the Courts to honor the privacy and security in individual cases. Please visit MCVRC's website at [www.mdcrimevictims.org](http://www.mdcrimevictims.org) to obtain a form to be filed in a case.

State's Attorneys and victim organizations are united in support of needed change. If there is to be any reconsideration about the release of victim and witness information into the public domain we as attorneys, law enforcement, judges, victim and witness services providers, and citizens need to be heard. This hearing on September 9th provided an opportunity for public input to urge a change of direction by the Judiciary in regards to victim and witness information.

Although Rule 16-1009 may allow the information to be shielded either in the court file or electronically, most victims and witnesses do not know about this rule or how it works. It is important for you to understand what you may ask in regards to your information.

If you have any questions or want to know how this may affect you in your case, please call MCVRC at 301-952-0063 or 1-877-VICTIM-1.

*To submit information for consideration of The Court of Appeals*

*please submit comments to:*

*The Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure*

*People's Resource Center, Room 1517*

*100 Community Place*

*Crownsville, MD 21032*

*(410) 514-7040*

## *How You Can Help The Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center*

The Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides criminal justice information and education, support services, therapeutic individual, family and group counseling, peer networking, legal information, referrals and representation, faith-based referrals, and advocacy for crime victims and their families.

These vital services are dependent upon the support of our members, the public and community businesses. In order to continue our missions of services to crime victims, our goal and #1 priority is to secure a permanent home for the Center, its staff, and those we serve.

### **BOND BILL LEGISLATION PASSES**

Thanks to Senator Miller and Delegates Proctor and Vallario, the Maryland General Assembly this year approved a bond bill that will give the MCVRC \$184,000 for that purpose IF we can match that amount within two years. Thanks also to Prince George's County and Executive Jack Johnson for

their support. While acquiring an office will require more than that amount, it is our beginning goal.

### **HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:**

- Businesses may contribute through the Maryland Community Investment Tax Credit Program (CITC) to benefit MCVRC (see [www.shed.state.md.us/npp/index.asp](http://www.shed.state.md.us/npp/index.asp)). Any business which contributes cash or goods to MCVRC through the CITC program reduces its Maryland tax liability and earns credits equal to 50% of the contribution, in addition to deductions on both State and Federal taxes;
- Support current or upcoming fund raising events:
  - September 23 - 2nd Annual Chocolate Affair
  - Charitable & Memorial Donations: In loving memory of someone you wish to honor
  - Membership – Annual membership provides periodic newsletters and notices to those who wish to be informed and involved with the Center on a regular basis

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## *Legislative Report*

In addition to the Capital Bond Bill, we would like to thank House Judiciary Committee Chair, Delegate Joseph F. Vallario Jr. and the following prime sponsors of our legislation which was passed by the General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Ehrlich:

- Restitution – HB 1010 & SB 873 (Senator Stone & Delegate Petzold)
- Health Insurance – HB 599 (Delegate Niemann)
- Victim & Witness Intimidation – SB 188 & SB 122 (Governor Ehrlich & Senator Forehand)

## Thank You to Special Volunteers

The Board and staff of MCVRC extends warmest wishes and gratitude to volunteers who have given their time and talents to serving the missions of the organization over many years.

• **Carole Henley** has served as MCVRC's Calvert County representative and has been the voice for crime victims on the Patuxent Institution's Board of Review since the mid 1980's; she has "made a difference" by testifying for legislation and has been a faithful friend and advocate;

• **Joan and Tony Komotsoulis** –

Joan has been the cheerful voice callers have heard as she served as a Monday Volunteer; both she and Tony helped in preparing our newsletter mailings, and daughter, Mary, volunteered with early accounting chores; all have been generous supporters.

We wish happiness to Joan & Tony in their new home, and restoration to good health for Carole.

## Thank You DBI Architects, Inc.

The missions of the MCVRC in providing vital support and legal services to crime victims and their families remain our highest priorities. Consequently, securing a more permanent office home for the Center is the #1 goal in continuing that legacy of service. Because we wish to maintain our main office base here in Upper Marlboro, we have very limited possibilities. Nevertheless, we are aggressively seeking and reviewing all options and depend upon many individuals for their expertise and guid-

ance as we work toward this goal.

Very special appreciation goes to **Geoffrey Lewis, AIA**, who is the **Senior Manager for DBI Architects, Inc.**,

Washington, D.C. Mr. Lewis has contributed his time and talents to this important search project by assisting us in an assessment of one potential site and providing architectural drawings to help in our evaluation. MCVRC will keep its members advised of progress as other sites are explored and considered.

*... securing a more permanent office home for the center is the #1 goal.*

*... we are aggressively seeking all options.*

*R. Roper*

### Monday Volunteer Needed at MCVRC!

#### Can YOU Lend a Hand?

MCVRC needs a regular Monday volunteer to help with administrative office functions. If you are available and can commit to assist our office staff every Monday, please call 301-952-0063.

## *Annual Ceremony of Remembrance, Sharing Our Memories, April 16, 2005*

A special thanks to Judith Sachwald, a MCVRC Board member, who sponsored the event and also to the following organizations who donated products:

- Vince's Deli
- Pineapple Alley Catering Inc,
- Carraba's Italian Grill
- Mama Lucia's Italian Restaurant
- Safeway Store #1448
- Pure Elegance
- Panera Bread
- Rip's Casual Dining
- Chili's Bar & Grill
- Karen's of Calvert

Please patronize these businesses in thanks for their support.

Extra Special Thanks To: Arthur Taylor, Prince George's County Courthouse; Bill Manicao, Prince George's County Office of Law; Buck Garner and staff at the Knights of Columbus Boswell Hall for their generous donation of the Hall and for graciously offering a significantly reduced dinner price

### *A Few Words from the Summer Intern - Jack Losinger*

As a legal intern I worked approximately four hundred hours for the MCVRC throughout the summer in the Baltimore City Office. I am funded by an independent, educational grant from the University of Baltimore and the State of Maryland.

I will complete my second year of law school at the University of Baltimore in the fall. My experience at the MCVRC has provided invaluable experience and unique insight into the criminal justice system. My days are spent providing support and resources to crime victims in Baltimore City, and providing legal assistance to Russell, Sandy, and Tracy on various projects.

I've learned a great deal about criminal procedure, the Court of Appeals, and the psychological effects of victimization. However, the overar-

ching experience that was most exciting to me was being part of a very necessary change in the criminal justice system. Even in the short time that I have spent here, I have seen progress made in advancing the cause of victims' rights and victim advocacy.

As my studies continue, I will always have the unique insight into what a victim's interests and rights are. Wherever my career takes me I'll be reminded that a crime is not only an offense against the State, it is an offense against a person who has suffered real injuries and should be considered in the prosecution and defense of the offender.

I'd like to thank the entire MCVRC staff for providing me with solid legal experience and for taking the time to make my summer very worthwhile.

*Please Support Our 2nd Annual Chocolate Affair  
September 23rd*

## *Golf Tournament*

On July 1st, the Second Annual Studds-DeCesaris Golf Classic was held at DeCesaris Twin Shields Golf Club in Dunkirk, MD benefiting The Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center. Thanks to the efforts of John Studds and Chris DeCesaris, the tournament netted the MCVRC more than \$5,000. A large part of the profits was based on the purchase of hole sponsorships by local businesses. They are listed below for your information and support:

Universal Mortgage and Finance, Inc.  
Edgewater, MD 21037  
1-800-316-6846

Land & Commercial, Inc.  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772  
301-952-9705

Dawn's Early Light, Inc.  
Dunkirk, MD 20754  
301-855-6300

Danner Development, Inc.  
Highland, MD 20777  
301-854-3326

Prince George's Federal Savings Bank  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772  
301-627-3504

Marrick Homes  
Dunkirk, MD 20754  
301-855-3828

Building Specs  
Dunkirk, MD 20754  
1-800-859-7037

Wachovia Bank  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
Dunn's Floor Covering  
Hanover, MD 21076  
301-621-1148

CGS Solutions  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772  
301-627-2300

Laura Peruzzi Logan  
RE/MAX  
Dunkirk, MD 20754  
301-855-2024

Ledo Pizza at the Beach  
Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732  
301-855-0909

Foundation Software Labs, Inc.  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
410-571-8660

Quality Heating & Cooling, Inc.  
Lusby, MD 20657  
410-326-0045

Rogers & Company, CPAs  
McLean, VA 22101  
703-893-1595

Dunkirk Supply, Inc.,  
Dunkirk, MD 20754  
301-855-9093

Police Training Services  
Pomfret, MD 20675  
301-518-5345

Country Carpet  
Accokeek, MD 20607  
301-283-0800

Wyvill's Tavern  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772  
301-952-1222

### **The following were additional generous supporters of our fund-raising Golf Tournament:**

Vendemia & DeCesaris Builders, Inc.  
Upper Marlboro, MD  
Joe & Donna DeCesaris  
Lothian, MD

### **Raffle Items were donated by:**

Karl Pierson  
Great Falls, VA  
Two Redskin Tickets,  
in memory of Jermaine Jefferson  
Twin Shields Golf Course  
Round of Golf for 4 with Carl  
Alexander & Cleaver, P.A.  
Four (4) Redskin Tickets  
Mama Lucia's  
Dunkirk, MD  
Three \$25 Gift Certificates  
Famous Dave's  
Annapolis, MD  
Two \$25 Gift Certificates  
Tom Feldman  
One Dozen Pro VI Golf Balls  
Scott Studds  
One Dozen Nike "Miller Genuine Draft"  
Logo Balls; Miller Genuine Draft  
Windbreaker; Dale Earnhardt, Jr. Folding  
Chair; and 10 Golf Shirts

*Thanks, Again!!*

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### *Departing Staff Members*

**Sandy Bromley, Tina Rutherford,** and **Susannah Kim** are leaving MCVRC. **Sandy** has taken a position with the National Center for Victims of Crime, as the program attorney for the Stalking Resource Center. **Tina** is leaving to pursue a master's degree in Social Work, Child & Family Therapy at Washington University in St. Louis. **Susannah**, a summer law clerk from the University of Baltimore, School of Law, is returning to her studies. They will be sorely missed. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors!

## *Join the ABA in Baltimore November 4-6, 2005*

The American Bar Association Criminal Justice Section invites you to attend its Fall meeting from November 4-6, 2005. The meeting will be the national gathering place for prosecutors, defense lawyers, academics, judges and others involved in criminal justice. Because the Section will gather the perspectives of all the players in the criminal justice field, the conference will provide a unique opportunity to obtain balanced knowledge and insight into to the complex criminal justice issues that face the nation. For details and registration click: <http://www.abanet.org/crimjust/calendar/2005fall.pdf>.

Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a multitude of CLE programs, Section Committee meetings and the Section Council meeting where important matters of criminal justice pol-

icy will be debated and substantive presentations will be made. You are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to participate.

### CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Plenary Sessions on the utilization of DNA to convict the guilty and free the innocent, the use of eyewitnesses and informants and the ramifications of the Justice for All Act.
- Concurrent sessions on criminal justice ethics, mediation of neighborhood cases, witness intimidation, and trial practice after the Crawford Case.
- Networking opportunities including the chance to meet professionals from all areas of criminal justice during the reception and other informal times at the event.

## *Unique Art Exhibit Benefits Crime Victims Served by MCVRC*

A unique program to raise money for our services to crime victims has been held in three locations across the State. The Maryland Department of Public Safety & Correctional Services & the Maryland State Arts' Council sponsored Inmate Art Exhibits, and the Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc. was selected to receive the proceeds of the art sales. The purpose was to generate inmate and public awareness of crime's consequences to victims' and their families and to provide restorative justice to those harmed by crime. As MCVRC's representative on this project, Roberta Roper has described this involvement as an opportunity for offenders to repair some of the harm their choices have created. "This does not mean forgetting or excusing criminal behavior. It does mean holding offenders accountable and responsible for

the consequences of their behavior." The art was exhibited and available for sale through a live auction and sales at a June 16th opening at the Eubie Blake Center in Baltimore, followed by shows in July at the University of Maryland, Princess Anne Campus, and in August at Allegany College of Maryland in Cumberland, MD.

In addition to selected inmate art, two works by Stephanie Roper have been reproduced as note or holiday cards that may be ordered. Limited reproductions of "The Doves", a drawing by Stephanie Roper may also be purchased by visiting our web page at: [www.mdcrimevictims.org](http://www.mdcrimevictims.org) or calling our office at: 301-952-0063. The proceeds of all sales will be used by the MCVRC to enhance programs of support to crime victims and their families.

## MCVRC's Notecard Project

### Your Support of a Unique Art Project Helps Support Crime Victims

The Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) statewide non-profit organization that provides comprehensive free services to crime victims and their families. Roberta and Vince Roper founded the Stephanie Roper Committee and Foundation, Inc. in 1982 in tribute to their slain daughter, Stephanie. In 2002, the sister organizations merged to form the Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc. (MCVRC), which today provides an array of free support and legal services to enable crime victims to rebuild their lives shattered by criminal violence.

MCVRC is honored to have been selected to benefit from this unique art prospect. We greatly appreciate the efforts of the Maryland Department of Public Safety & Correctional Services and the Maryland State Arts Council. Together they have made this project possible. MCVRC believes that this can generate greater inmate and public awareness of crime's consequences to victims and their families, and provide restorative justice to those harmed by crime.

Selected inmate art and art by Stephanie Roper have been reproduced and are available for purchase as notes, or holiday cards.

Notecards can be viewed in color and larger detail at our website, [www.mdcrimevictims.org](http://www.mdcrimevictims.org). Please make your selection(s) after viewing the available notecards by using the order form which follows the display.



1  
"The Teacher"  
Samuel Veney



2  
"Country Folks"  
Decoursey Smith



3  
"Melancholy"  
Shane McCallum



4  
"Wine & Music"  
Alfred Smith, Jr.



5  
"Flying South..."  
Decoursey Smith



6  
"Pride of Baltimore..."  
John Calhoun



7  
"Face of Native American"  
Richard Perry



8  
"Calm and Quietness"  
Anthony Boyd



9  
"The Jam"  
Antoio Makel



10  
"Maryland Crabber"  
Decoursey Smith



11  
"Ray Charles"  
Ernest Boileau



12  
"These Eyes"  
Shane McCallum



13  
"Winter Glow"  
Anthony Boyd

*Notecards 9 thru 12 are in black and white*



14  
"Playtime"  
Kelly Dorsey-bey



15  
"The Coming"  
Stephanie Roper



16  
"The Doves"  
Stephanie Roper

*Above art in color*

## *MCVRC's Notecard Order Form*

ARTWORKNAME	QTY.	X	PRICE	=	TOTAL
1. The Teacher (Color)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____
2. Country Folks (Color)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____
3. Melancholy (Color)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____
4. Wine & Music (Color)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____
5. Flying South for the Winter (Color)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____
6. Pride of Baltimore and Brown Pelican (Color)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____
7. Face of Native American Lives (Color)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____
8. Calm and Quietness (Color)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____
9. The Jam (Black & White)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____
10. Maryland Crabber (Black & White)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____
11. Ray Charles (Black & White)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____
12. These Eyes (Black & White)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____
13. Winter Glow (Holiday)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____
14. Play Time (Holiday)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____
15. The Coming (Holiday)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____
16. The Doves (Holiday)	_____	X	\$15/pack	=	_____

*Shipping & Handling Included. \$0.75 tax per pack included.*

*Notecards include 8 cards & 10 envelopes*

**TOTAL** = \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Payment:**     Check     Visa     MasterCard

Shipping/Billing Address:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Card Information:**

Card Holder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail Order Form to:** Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc.

Attn: Art Purchase  
14750 Main Street, 1B  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

**or Fax order form to (Credit Card orders only) : 301-952-2319**

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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*(Please Print)*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tele: Home (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Work (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
The Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc.,  
is a (501) (c) (3) organization and  
all contributions are tax-deductible.

*Enclosed is my check for:*

\$25 Annual Dues     Memorial Gift     Donor

*Please mail to:*

**The Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc.**  
14750 Main Street, 1B  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a member of The Maryland Crime  
Victims' Resource Center, Inc., and am informing  
you of a change in my address, phone, name,  
email, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am renewing my membership in The  
Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am enclosing a gift in memory of:  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Let me know how I may receive tax credit  
benefits

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to volunteer: telephone contact,  
community awareness, advocacy, or office assis-  
tance.

*The mailing of our newsletter is a costly expenditure.  
We depend upon you to avoid unnecessary costs.  
Please notify us if you:*

Change Address     No longer wish to receive

**PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW IN ORDER  
TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER**