MATERIALS AVAILABLE FOR RBA’s
2011 Camp Alkulana Offering and
Week of Prayer for Associational Missions (May 15-22, 2011)

The promotional materials the 2011 Camp Alkulana Offering and Week of Prayer for Associational Missions are now available at the RBA Office. Shown below are samples of the Offering Envelope and Flier (8½ x 11) for the Camp Offering; and the Prayer Guide for the Week of Prayer. Other promotional items available for the Camp Offering are, bulletin inserts (5½ x 8½) or posters (11x17), and the Camp Alkulana brochure. These promotional items are not dated so that your church can use them any time during the year when you emphasize Associational Missions. To view samples of these items and the order form, visit the Camp Offering section of the RBA website at www.rbaonline.org or to place an order contact Frances Jones 804-329-1701 ext. 201 or frances.jones@rbaonline.org. Hurry and get your order in while supplies last!

To read an informative and inspiring article about Camp Alkulana by Camp Director Beth Wright see page 3.

THE PRAYER GUIDE highlights a different associational mission for each day of the week with a photo of the RBA staff member and specific prayer requests relating to that ministry. The use of the prayer guides for a week is an excellent way for a congregation, Sunday School class or missions group to get to know the staff and ministries of the RBA. The Guide is formatted so that it can be used for any seven-day period during the year, not just during the official Week of Prayer for Associational Missions which is May 15-22, 2011.
Greetings All:

In Numbers 12:1-15 God called Moses, Aaron and Miriam to go to the Tabernacle to meet with Him in the place that symbolized His presence. For Aaron and Miriam it was a call to rebuke and discipline; God, the loving parent, was taking them to the woodshed! Miriam and Aaron had been criticizing Moses face-to-face and Miriam appears to have been the chief instigator of attacks upon God’s servant. When the three reached the Tabernacle, the cloud of Shekinah glory – the presence of God – dramatically descended to exercise judgment. Stricken with fear, Miriam and Aaron were summoned to step forward toward God.

God strongly rebuked them and defended His unique call to His dear servant, Moses, who was extremely faithful to both the Lord and the ministry to which God had called him (Num. 12:7).

God told them that other prophets would hear from Him in dreams and visions, but not Moses! Because of Moses’ faithfulness, He would speak openly and directly, not in riddles, and that he was even allowed to see the “form of the Lord.” Moses saw a form, a shape, a cloudy image of God, not the very being of God, but far more than was allowed others.

During her quarter-century as Community Missionary on behalf of God and the Richmond Baptist Association family, Margaret Allen has again and again witnessed the “form of God” as she touched with grace, hope and compassion the lives of thousands from within our city. Her gentle spirit, joyous smile, bright eyes and words of kind encouragement have lightened the load for untold numbers. She has pointed countless souls toward the God Who takes brokenness and replaces it with newness and wholeness. Margaret has personified love and patience for Him and for us. With exemplary faithfulness she has represented all of us to “the least.” When we could not be there, she was!

I am so grateful for the deep intimacy of Margaret’s relationship with God. Her openness to His guidance as well as the direct, on-going communication with Him that characterizes her life has empowered the work that she has done in our city.

Margaret, you are a dear servant who has been so extremely faithful to both the Lord and the ministry to which God has called you. I cannot tell you how much you will be missed by Richmond Baptists and by all you have served lovingly.

But you have certainly earned your retirement! So we all wish you well and pledge for you our continued prayers! May God bless you and your family richly!

Mike
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May 1</th>
<th>Community of Grace</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 8</td>
<td>Deaf Mission—First Richmond</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>Derbyshire</td>
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<td>Derbyshire Cambodian Mission</td>
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<td>May 29</td>
<td>Disciples for Christ</td>
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<td>June 5</td>
<td>Fairmount Memorial</td>
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</tbody>
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## RBA Executive Council

### To Vote on the South Richmond Baptist Center’s Community Missionary Candidate

**Thursday, May 19 @ 12:00 noon**

at

Richmond’s First Baptist Church

2709 Monument Avenue

Following a noon lunch at First Baptist Church the Executive Council of the RBA will convene in business session at 12:30 pm to receive the recommendation to engage

### The Reverend Wesley R. Garrett

as Community Missionary,

South Richmond Baptist Center

Reverend Garrett is currently a resident of Philadelphia, PA where he is enrolled at Lutheran Theological Seminary, is employed by the Christian CLC Book Center and ministers as Youth Leader at Bux Mont Baptist Church, Hatboro, PA.

He has also served as the Greater Philadelphia Baptist Association, the District of Columbia Baptist Association (Washington, D.C.), and the Peninsula Baptist Association (Newport News, VA) as Director of Church and Community Ministries. In the early 2000’s he served very well the Richmond Baptist Association as Community Missions Coordinator.

Upon affirmation, Rev. Garrett would begin his full-time service with the Richmond Association as Community Missionary at the South Richmond Baptist Center on June 16, 2011.

Executive Council Members will want to be present for this important vote. To make a reservation for lunch call (329-1701) or email (frances.jones@rbaonline.org) Frances at the RBA office by May 9. The cost for lunch is $7.00 per person and advance payment is appreciated.

Please remember the campers and staff of Camp Alkulana during your Associational Week of Prayer and Camp Alkulana Offering emphasis. This offering provides the sole funding for our operating expenses. For the last two years the slow economy has really hurt our fundraising efforts, and we have not raised nearly enough money to continue our program as it is. Please consider how you can help this year so that we can continue to offer these opportunites to kids who would not otherwise be able to attend Camp. Give both through your church’s collection for the offering, and directly by mailing a check to the RBA with a designation “for the Camp Offering”. You can also sign up to give regularly on the Camp Alkulana website: [www.alkulana.org](http://www.alkulana.org) and click the “Donate Now” button at the bottom of the page.
Announcing the Annual Meeting
Virginia Baptist Historical Society

"Sing Praises Old & New"

Lift Your Voice with Others
at the

Hymn Festival

Tuesday, May 17
7:30 p.m.

Grace Baptist Church
4200 Dover Road, Richmond
In beautiful Windsor Farms off Cary Street Road

The Hymn Festival is the main feature
of the annual meeting of the
Virginia Baptist Historical Society
and is free and open to all who enjoy
congregational singing and who are willing to
lift their voices to “Sing Praises Old & New.”

Old hymns with new presentations will be
included as well as new texts and tunes with which
to praise God.

The Hymn Festival will be led by two
church music professors: Deborah C. Loftis, Baptist
Theological Seminary at Richmond, and William
“Bill” Roberts of the Virginia Theological Seminary,
the Episcopal seminary in Alexandria.

For information call the Virginia Baptist
Historical Society at 804-289-8434.

ENCOURAGEMENT!

When the North American Mission Board
launched the new evangelism initiative “God’s Plan for
Sharing” (GPS), LifeWay Research conducted a survey
asking more than 15,000 Americans about different meth-
ods of church outreach. According to Ed Stetzer, LifeWay
Research president and missiologist, research uncovered
the top five ways Americans are willing to receive information about a local congregation:
5. Newspaper or magazine advertising: 46%
4. Outdoor sign or billboard: 46%
3. Informative ad in the newspaper: 48%
2. Personal conversation with a friend or neighbor from the church: 56%
The most effective method?
Personal conversation with a family member: 63%

Invitations from family or friends, then, are the
most effective method for reaching out, while only twenty-
five percent of Americans appreciate an unannounced visit
to their home.

Stetzer, in an article entitled “An evangelism
strategy that sticks” tells us that there are five times that
people are most open to considering matters of faith:
5. After the birth of a baby: 28%
4. After a natural disaster: 34%
3. After a major national crisis: 38%
2. During the Easter holiday season: 38%
1. During the Christmas holiday season: 47%

“Timing matters,” says Stetzer!

What is the encouragement here! Many of the
unchurched are ready to talk about Jesus. Marketing and
advertising provide important tools that can support the
efforts of a church, but they are no replacement for the
significance of personal relationships as the most effective
approach.

“Sharing the gospel with an entire community can
seem an insurmountable task. But the findings in the
study remind us that people are more receptive than we
may have thought. And, despite all of our high-powered,
high-dollar endeavors, it is in the simplest of circum-
stances that Christ is shared: one conversation at a
time. Many are ready to talk about Jesus, especially if
you have a relationship with that person.”

BUDGET REQUESTS FOR 2011

All requests for budget funds for 2011 must be
turned in to the RBA office by Friday, May 13 to
be considered for inclusion in next year’s budget.
The Budget Sub-group must prepare a 2012 budget
proposal to be presented to the Administrative
Council meeting on July 18, 2011. If you should
need assistance in preparing your budget request,
please contact the RBA Financial Coordinator, Mrs.
Tenny Farnen (329-1701 ext. 205) right away.
Thank you for your assistance with this matter.
ENTRUST IS PLEASED TO PARTNER WITH FIRST THINGS FIRST OF GREATER RICHMOND

FIRST THINGS FIRST is hosting Gary Chapman, author of The Five Love Languages, in Richmond on Friday, August 20 and Saturday, August 21. Special rates are available to churches now. Tickets will go on sale to the public on June 4. For more information about the conference “The Marriage You’ve Always Wanted” please go to http://www.firstthingsrichmond.org

The Marriage You’ve Always Wanted
August 19-20, 2011

Friday: 7 – 9:15 PM
♥ Two Essentials for a Successful Marriage
♥ Five Love Languages
♥ Five Languages of Apology
Saturday: 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM
♥ Solving Conflicts Without Arguing
♥ Making Sex a Mutual Joy
♥ How to Share the Things That Bug You

FIRST THINGS FIRST OF GREATER RICHMOND is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to strengthening families through education, collaboration and mobilization. They are a vital community resource that collaborates with and is supported by a broad cross-section of community organizations, groups and individuals.

Fact: Entrust is a credit union that was started by Christians, for Christians, more than 40 years ago. They serve the banking needs of the employees and members of our churches as well as Christian-based organizations in the Richmond area. Its primary purpose is to promote good financial stewardship through products, services, and Biblical financial education in the community. Learn more about Entrust at www.beagoodsteward.com

CALLING ALL COOKS!

Good food is something we, as Baptists, can all appreciate!

Between fellowship time, potluck dinners, and Sunday afternoon luncheons, we have plenty of opportunities to show off our cooking. It’s our chance to either experiment or use the same, time-honored recipes passed down through generations. So why not share our good cooking with others?

The Virginia Baptist Mission Board and Woman’s Missionary Union of Virginia are seeking a few good recipes to go into a new Virginia Baptist Cookbook to be available at the November BGAV Connect: 2011 annual meeting in Richmond.

All proceeds will go toward a specific Virginia Baptist hunger-related ministry. If each of our 1,400 BGAV churches submitted a recipe, think of the possibilities that could be at our fingertips!

Please submit your recipes (as many as you like!) to Paige Peak at paige_peak@vbmb.org by July 1, 2011. We look forward to seeing what you all dish up!

Memories of Ministry at the South Richmond Baptist Center
By Margaret J. Allen, Community Missionary

“You are like light for the whole world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid.” – Matthew 5: 14 (GNB)

The South Richmond Baptist Center has been an agent of hope, encouragement and inspiration to many over the years. In crises, the center was an agent of hope to an older man who was stabbed and robbed, to a mother during the time when her son was being arraigned in court and to an elderly mother as she searched for her missing son. I remember the story of the missing son as though it was yesterday. Our search took us from Chippenham Hospital to a detective who sent us to the Medical Examiner Office. We found out that her son was there and that he had passed away in the emergency room of Chippenham Hospital. It was not easy for her or me to sit there as the investigator answered our questions and read a portion of the report to us. Yet in the midst of this mother’s hurt and pain, she turned to me and said that this is so kind of you to do this for me. You know just where to go and what to ask. She then added that the center was such a blessing to her.

I remember the silence in the car as I accompanied a mother home from court after her son was arraigned and was to be tried as an adult. I remember the pain on her face as we said good bye. I always believed that her son was innocent but was in the wrong place, with the wrong people at the wrong time and his parents could not afford a lawyer to fight for him.

I also remember being told of an elderly man in the community who was stabbed and robbed and had no one to care for him. The center was there to see that he had food and the care that he needed until his family from another state arrived and took him home.

The center has not only been an agent of hope to those in crises but also encouragement to those who were seeking to better themselves. For example, a young mother with three children had a full time job and continued her education until she received her high school diploma. The center assisted her with transportation and other needs as they arrived. The one thing I remember about this mother was her strong faith in God and her ability to witness to others in her community.

The center has also been an inspiration to children. I remember a little girl who had received certificates for pizza at Pizza Hut for books she had read. She was about to throw them away and I asked why. She replied because there is no one to take me to a Pizza Hut. I remember after taking her to Pizza Hut she was inspired to read more books.

These are some examples and there are many more of how God has used the center as an agent of hope, encouragement and inspiration. I thank God that each of these individuals was able to see the center as a place of his love and care for all people. The South Richmond Baptist Center has been similar to the light as spoken of in Matthew. People have seen its good works and have given praises to God. I thank God for the opportunity that was provided for me to be his witness at the South Richmond Baptist Center.
**BETHANY PLACE** will have Dr. Vander Warner, Jr. bringing the Sunday morning messages beginning Sunday, May 8 while they are in the process of calling a pastor. **BON AIR** will send a team to southwest Virginia to build ramps for the elderly, June 6-11. They will dedicate their new Columbarium and Memory Garden, for member families to inurn, sprinkle or memorialize family members, on Sunday, June 5. **CHAMBERLAYNE** sent a mission team to Camp Alkulana April 28-30. **DERBYSHIRE** will have “Celebrating Grace”, a Special Day of Dedication and Fellowship, with a New Hymnal Dedication Service at 10:30 am followed by a Fellowship Picnic for all ages, on their Front Lawn on Sunday, May 1. **FIRST** is starting a monthly kid- and family-friendly worship service on the first Friday of the month beginning May 6, which includes a potluck dinner followed by worship for all ages called “First Friday Praise”. On Sunday, May 15 at 7:00 pm, their Church Choir and One Accord will present a concert of hymns, for a light and enjoyable hour of singing and listening, to collect a box of spaghetti and a can of spaghetti sauce from everyone attending to help feed the hungry through their Community Missions Ministry. **GINTER PARK** will have a Yard Sale on Saturday, May 21. **GRACE** will host the Virginia Baptist Historical Society’s Hymn Festival: “Sing Praises Old and New” on Tuesday, May 17 at 7:30 pm. and they will have an Adult Retreat: “Jesus in Film and Faith” led by Betty Pugh Mills and Melissa Jackson, May 20-22 at Lost River Retreat Center, West Virginia. **GROVE AVENUE** will send a Mission Team to the Valley Church in Massachusetts May 26-30 for construction (carpenters, plumbers, and electricians) and prayer walking. **HATCHER MEMORIAL** hosted the Gospel Jail Ministry Fundraising Concert featuring the “True Faith Gospel Singers” and “New Beginnings” on Saturday, April 30 and will be hosting the WMU of VA Regional Training Event “H.O.P.E.-Helping Other People Everywhere” on May 13, 6-9 pm and May 14, 8 am – 12 noon to help engage churches in new ministries that reach their communities, provide renewal for existing ministries, and to develop mission leadership. **HUGUENOT ROAD** will send a mission team to Owsley County, Kentucky May 21-28 to minister with Lerose Baptist Church, do handyman work, distribute food and clothing, work with a micro enterprise jewelry-making business for young girls, and work with local health care and assisted living facilities. **MENT HEIGHTS** will have their “2011 Love in Action Day” on Saturday, May 7 with a wide variety of mission opportunities including feeding the homeless at Freedom House, making pillows for cancer patients, preschool-K children planting flowers and delivering them to HealthSouth, youth adopting a family in Oregon Hill, baking cookies and delivering them to the Rescue Squad, providing breakfast to Wounded Warriors and Veterans Families at Fisher House, and many additional opportunities. **OAK FOREST** ladies will have a “Tea Party” on Saturday, May 21 and the church will have a “Luau” on Saturday, June 25. **OAKWOOD MEMORIAL** has decided to make their popular Family Game Night a monthly event on the last Friday night of each month. **SANDSTON** will have an RA Camp Out for RAs and Friends in 1st-6th grades, including previous RA’s and RA helpers, in the mountains near James River State Park May 21-22. **SECOND** will have a Youth Dessert Theater on Saturday, May 7 at 7:00 pm and on Tuesday, May 10 at 7:00 pm their ladies will have a tea party with Kim Newlen, founder of “Sweet Monday’s”, share how God’s truth and laughter can mix. **SOUTHAMPTON** will have Amy Ladd & Friends in concert for some good old-fashioned gospel music, refreshments and fellowship on Sunday, May 1 at 3:00 pm and a Community Flea Market Sale on Saturday, May 7 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. **SWIFT CREEK**’s men’s ministry will have a Salt Water Fishing Trip on the Rappahannock River on Saturday, May 14. **TABERNACLE** had an information sharing evening with a group from Crestwood Presbyterian Church to tell them how Tabernacle has dealt with Refugee Resettlement by integrating newcomers into the flow of worship and leadership structures, since Crestwood has had an influx of Burundis and various countries in Africa. Everyone walked away from the exchange with a sense that God was moving among them, connecting and taking them to deeper places. **WEBBER MEMORIAL** will celebrate their 90th Homecoming Service on Sunday, June 5 with guest speaker Rev. Ron Raines, their former youth director from 1990-1992.

**STAFF NEWS**

**GROVE AVENUE** recognized Mark Jenkins for ministering with them for 25 years. **PINE STREET** will have a “Celebration of the 20th Anniversary” of their pastor, Dr. Phillip W. Turner, on Sunday, June 26 at 4:00 pm.
A Really Big REUNION of All Former VCU BSUers  
JUNE 11, 2011

The Reunion is being held at the newly furnished BCM Center at Floyd & Cherry from 12:00 noon until 5 PM. The new VCU Baptist Student Union Alumni Association would like to know the names and contact information for all interested former students in order to get them reconnected along with learning how to be supportive of the current Baptist Collegiate Ministries. Please send the contact information to Debby Robertson (1970), dprmom@yahoo.com

HELP/SITUATIONS WANTED

MINISTER OF YOUTH: A dynamic Virginia Baptist church in Northern Henrico County seeks a gifted PART-TIME MINISTER OF YOUTH to guide the spiritual formation and emotional and social development of a middle and high school ministry, by being a person of intentional presence. Bethlehem Baptist Church Richmond is multi-cultural and multi-generational in makeup, working with God to make a difference in our communities, by doing whatever it takes. Help us lead our youth to live out our mission to be a group of people who seek to honor God with our lives. To view a complete job description, visit our website at: http://bbcrichmond.wordpress.com or find us on Facebook (Bethlehem Baptist Church Richmond). Inquiries and resumes can be sent to BBCRichmondSearch@gmail.com with “Youth Search” in the subject line.

USED CAR NEEDED by young single mother with three daughters who needs transportation to work, school and church/school activities. Must be automatic, not stick. Family active at Oregon Hill Center. Current car too costly to repair. Contact Jennifer Turner at 804-648-1353 for more details.

Miss Crown Financial Ministries on the Radio?

If you have been a listener, you have probably noticed we are no longer on the radio. With a history spanning three decades, Crown radio programs help listeners discover how God relates to their money and their lives, addressing the challenging issues that are confronting them today. Now, you can subscribe to MoneyLife podcasts and Crown videocasts.

MoneyLife is hosted by Crown Financial Ministries CEO, Chuck Bentley, and features in-depth discussion and relevant information on how to make and manage money while fulfilling God’s purposes for your life.

To subscribe to the podcasts and/or the videocasts go to Crown’s website: http://crown.org/media.
**Pray for**

**RBA Churches Seeking a Pastor**

- Bethany Place
- Derbyshire
- Jahnke Road
- Lakeside
- New Covenant
- Westhamppton

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**TRANSFORMED! is published monthly by the Richmond Baptist Association, 3111 Moss Side Avenue, Richmond, VA 23222, 804-329-1701.**

Contact Frances Jones via email or snail mail at the addresses listed below:

- To submit an article—must be received by the 20th of each month.
- To be added or deleted from the mailing list.
- To submit a change of address in a timely manner so the RBA will not incur postage due costs for returned newsletter that cannot be forwarded.

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**Host Churches Needed for 2011 RBA Meetings**

**Executive Council Meetings**

(includes quickly served lunch and Thursday meeting 12 noon-1:30 p.m.)

**August 18**

**November 17**

If your church is interested in hosting one of these meetings or if you have questions, contact Frances Jones or Mike Robinson at the RBA at 804-329-1701 as soon as possible.

If your church would like to host one of the Executive Council meetings, but would find serving lunch difficult, call Mike Robinson. The Virginia Baptist Foundation of the VBMB has offered to provide a catered lunch for one of our meetings at not cost to the host church or the RBA. Thanks!

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**Camp Alkulana 2011 Summer Schedule**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>Camp Work Day #1</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 4</td>
<td>Camp Work Day #2</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 6</td>
<td>Director Beth Wright moves to Camp for the summer</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 8-19</td>
<td>Staff Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 23-July 4</td>
<td>OLDER Boys Session (12-14)</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 8-15</td>
<td>YOUNGER Boys Session (9-11 &amp; CITs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 19-20</td>
<td>Staff In-Service Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 21-28</td>
<td>YOUNGER Girls (9-11 &amp; CITs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 1-12</td>
<td>OLDER Girls (2-14)</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 12-13</td>
<td>Staff Summer Wrap-Up</td>
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</tbody>
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**Making a Delivery to the RBA Office?**

Please call before you plan to arrive to make sure someone will be at the office. There are times, during the day, when everyone may be away, so it will save time and gas if you call ahead. The RBA Office is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday—Friday.

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**Help the RBA Save Money**

**Give us your Change of Address!**

If you are on our newsletter mailing list and will be moving—please let Frances Jones know your Change of Address in advance! The RBA has to pay $0.44 “postage due” for each returned newsletter because they are mailed bulk rate and the post office will not forward them to your new address! Postage due costs can add up if we have several newsletters returned each month! We appreciate your assistance with this matter.

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**Non-Profit Org. U. S. Postage Paid**

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