Rejected by Fannie Mae, Concerned Citizens Rebound

By Rande Davis

When Catherine Beliveau found out that Poolesville Presbyterian Church’s annual participation in the Fannie Mae Walk for the Homeless no longer qualified for matching funds (they were too small), she wondered aloud whether they should do their own walk for WUMCO at Whalen Commons in Poolesville instead. Others agreed, and another great idea was born.

Once the ball got rolling, the local churches jumped on board along with the Community Economic Development Committee (now pretty much experts on all things in the park). It wasn’t long before the business community joined in, and the result was more than a walk-a-thon—it became a wonderful fall festival for the town.

Organizers of the day also included Lynn Bodmer, Cathy Bupp, Helen Gunther, Kileen Wiley, and a whole bunch of enthusiastic volunteers.

The local businesses sponsoring various events (i.e., moon bounce, face paint, ring toss, lamas on display, and the pet dog contest) were: Homestead Farm, Total Automotive, Glad-I-Yoga, Corporate Network Services, Peachtree Veterinary Clinic, Hilary Schwab Photography, Wild Acres Farm, The Paul Harney Family, and Kettler Forlines Homes.

Also on the thank you list of the organizing committee for the WUMCO Fall Fun-Raiser are: K-9 Barkery (for the donation of prizes for the dogs), Master of Ceremony Ray Hoewing; contest judges, Jane Stearns, Karen Micheals, and Lori Gruber; all the vendors; and especially the youth of the Poolesville High School National Honor Society and St. Peter's Episcopal Church for donating the proceeds from their booths.

How’d they do? Along with a really terrific fun-raiser and beautiful day, they raised $2,600.00 for WUMCO.