



PHOTO COURTESY OF BARRY WOOLF/

Joe Licata and Lisa Sparr were named king and queen at the recent Mardi Gras Bash to benefit the Greater Excellence in Education Foundation.

Licata, Sparr named king, queen at Mardi Gras bash in Edgewood

The Greater Excellence in Education Foundation crowned its second king and queen during its recent Mardi Gras Bash at Clarence's Taste of New Orleans in Edgewood.

The newly crowned king and queen are Joe Licata, Harford County Public Schools, and Lisa Sparr, Coldwell Bankers. They were crowned by the Mardi Gras' reigning King Kevin Wiley, of PNC Bank, and Queen Terry Troy, community member.

Festivities of the evening included authentic New Orleans cuisine by Chef Clarence, drinks, street performers by the Edgewood High Schools Dance Team, live jazz music by Benny Russell, a Cajun cooking demonstration, a king cake, a Chinese auction, a prize wheel and beads, and masks for sale.

The Mardi Gras King and Queen were selected from six community leaders vying for the titles. These six community leaders were selected to be members of the royal court because of their community contributions and involvement. King candidates were Alan Doran, Harford County Department of Community Services; Hugh McCarthy, PNC Bank; and Joe Licata, Harford County Public Schools. Queen candidates were Laurie Slizewski, M&T Bank; Mary Hastler, Harford County Public Library; and Lisa Sparr, Coldwell Banker.

The following businesses sponsored the Mardi Gras Bash and contributed to the success of the event: Oak Contracting, M&T Bank, Johnson Controls, Barry Woolf Photography, Gipe Associates, Rita's Italian Ice in Abingdon, Benny Russell, New Belgium Brewing, Thompson Toyota, Pat Perlucke, Dixie Construction and Clarence's Taste of New Orleans.

All proceeds benefit the programs of Greater Excellence in Education Foundation to provide educational, social and fiscal resources to foster excellence in learning so all Harford County Public Schools students, with an emphasis on underserved students, can be successful in college, work and life.

For more information on the Greater Excellence in Education Foundation, visit www.geefinc.com or contact Deb Merlock, 410-322-7743.

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