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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Safer in the Shade Partner Recognized

Westminster, Md. – (August 17, 2009) – Westminster Elementary School was presented with a plaque on August 13 recognizing the school's participation in *Safer in the Shade* – an educational and tree planting initiative promoting measures to protect against skin cancer. The goal of the American Cancer Society and The Partnership is to have at least 75% of Carroll residents using at least two skin protective measures, including the use of sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher, wearing protective clothing such as a hat, sunglasses and long sleeves, avoiding the sun between the hours of 10:00 and 4:00 and avoiding tanning beds.

To help spread the message of using sun safety measures to reduce the risk of skin cancer, the American Cancer Society Leadership Council, which also serves as The Partnership's Cancer Leadership Team, organized a shade tree planting project at Westminster Elementary School in April.

Ten trees were planted around an area of new playground equipment with the help of a grant from the Maryland Urban and Community Forest Committee. Tree planting work was donated by the Living Waters Garden Center in Westminster.

The plaque of recognition was presented by Dawn Eldridge of The Partnership to Tracy Belski, Principal, Westminster Elementary School, and will be displayed at the school.

For more information on skin cancer, go to www.cancer.org (American Cancer Society), www.melanomaresource.org (Joanna M. Nicolay Melanoma Foundation) or www.sunguardman.org (Coalition for Skin Care Prevention in Maryland).

(continued)



PHOTO, LEFT TO RIGHT: Cheryl Schuster, Programs Coordinator, The Joanna M. Nicolay Melanoma Foundation and member, Cancer Leadership Council; Dawn Eldridge, The Partnership, Carroll County Health Department, and member, Cancer Leadership Council; Tracy Belski, Principal, Westminster Elementary School; Becky Herman, The Partnership; Jennifer Mayer, Community Health Advocate, Priority Partners and member, Cancer Leadership Council.

The Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County, Inc., an affiliate of Carroll Hospital Center and the Carroll County Health Department, is a private, nonprofit community led organization that seeks to build capacity for both health and quality of life improvement.

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