LOCAL WALKING TRAILS
By Marylou Stone

LITTLE PIPE CREEK PARK WALKING TRAIL

If you are into finding different birds, this is the trail for you. I spotted the following: Cedar Waxwing, Willow Flycatcher, Orchard Oriole, both male and female Red Wing Blackbirds, American Kestrel (he was actually sitting on the electric wire with a mouse in his claws), Red Bellied Woodpecker, Goldfinch, Eastern Phoebe, Mockingbird, Robin, Song Sparrow, House Sparrow, Chimney Swift, Barn Swallow, and Tree Swallow. All of these birds were spotted within one hour.

To find this trail take Md. route 26 east from Frederick to Libertytown. Then take Md. route 75 north to Union Bridge. The trail begins on the right hand side of Md. route 75, next to the car wash. There is parking available for about three cars at the trailhead. Or you can park at the Western Maryland Railroad Museum, which is open on Sundays from 1 PM until 4 PM.

The trail is paved, so it is perfect either for strollers or wheel chairs. The trail is about one half mile long, or round trip, a mile. It passes through a wetland that had a very sweet smelling flower blooming, and crosses over Little Pipe Creek. Be on the lookout for deer. I spotted one jumping across the park even at midday.