

Dear Katya,



Guardian Angels visit Scotchtown Hills **The Gazette**



Nine-year-old Carltonae Colding-Gordon, a fourth-grader at Scotchtown Hills Elementary School in Laurel, reacts as members of the Guardian Angels spoke about the realities of being in a gang during a visit Feb. 21.

Pupils learn consequences of bullying and gangs

by Maya T. Prabhu | Staff Writer

When Scotchtown Hills Guidance Counselor Carol von der Linden and Principal Tracie Prevost heard about the possibility of pupils trying to form a gang they decided they needed to take action.

"A group of boys wanted to form a gang for protection from bullying," von der Linden said. "So we wanted to educate the children about the problems that come from gangs and bullying."

Last week they called on the help of the Alliance of Guardian Angels, a non-profit organization whose goal is to motivate people to create a safer future, according to their Web site, www.guardianangels.org.

This is the first time the school has invited the Guardian Angels to speak to the pupils, von der Linden said. "Kids...don't know enough [about gangs] because they don't have enough information, so we were trying to give them good information on gangs and bullying," she said.

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