

# East County **TIMES**

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Essex, Middle River, Rosedale, White Marsh, Nottingham, Perry Hall, Kingsville & Dundalk

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### MERRY CHRISTMAS

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## Secret Santas toil to provide Christmas for local youngsters

- By Marge Neal -

While Santa Claus and his wife get most of the credit this time of year for delivering gifts to everyone on the couple's "nice" list, there are many more local helpers who pitch in to make sure deserving youngsters and less-fortunate families are also able to celebrate Christmas.

Many community organizations, churches, school PTAs and fraternal organizations "adopt" children and families this time of year to ensure there are gifts under the tree and food on the table during the holiday season.

The Chesapeake Gateway Chamber of Commerce is "very grateful" to coordinate gift-giving to about 85 local children, thanks to a generous "Secret Santa" who underwrites the massive campaign each year.

"Each year, our Secret Santa calls us with the number of children that can be adopted," chamber Executive Director Sharon Kihn said. "And then we have school counselors who identify kids in need and find out what is on their Christmas wish lists."

The benefactors, now aided by friends and family members as the project has grown, do all the customized shopping - down to preferred clothing styles and colors - for everyone on the list, and then wrap and tag each gift, according to Kihn.

"They now have to rent a truck to deliver all the gifts," Kihn said. "And each child gets a humongous bag of gifts. It's amazing to see."

Chamber member Julie Gaynor, who also teaches in Baltimore County Public Schools, has worked with the Secret Santa program since it started.

"It's massive," she said of the effort. "It's a Christmas beyond belief, I'm sure, for most of these little ones."

The annual Secret Santa campaign started innocently enough about 12 years ago. With just about one week remaining until Christmas, Gaynor realized she still knew of several children who were in need of some holiday help and reached out to local folks who might be able to help.

"Julie called me and asked if I would be willing to take a child who hadn't yet been claimed," the

anonymous benefactor told the *East County Times*. "I asked how many children she had, she said 10 and I told her I'd take all of them. And then it took off; it just kept increasing every year."

The Secret Santa has what she calls her "Christmas angels" - a group of like-minded philanthropists who enjoy sponsoring children and making sure their Christmas wish lists are fulfilled.

She recalled one of her earliest memories of helping children and families in need as the one that planted the seed of giving. She adopted some children through the Howard County Public School System. She personally delivered the gifts to the family, which was living in a motel at the time.

"We delivered all these gifts, and the parents came out of the room and cried," she said. "And the children were just so excited. It was a really powerful feeling that just stayed with me."

The Secret Santa admits to being a particular shopper who wants to make sure all the gifts are individually tailored to the children requesting them. From the skin tone of a doll to the color of clothing to a favorite professional sports team, Santa wants to know her children will be thrilled with the gifts they unwrap on Christmas morning.

"A lot of these kids never have brand names, and to get them something special, to get them that brand name that everyone else is wearing, is really something," she said. "It makes me feel warm and fuzzy inside, and all my Christmas angels feel the same way."

The Secret Santa said her group's goal is to serve at least 100 children next year.

In addition to the 85 children served by the Secret Santa program, a family of four children and their mother were treated to Christmas by an anonymous donor; the CCBC Essex campus community provided gift cards for middle and high school students; and the BreakThru Beverage Group adopted another 14 families, according to Kihn.

### Shop with a Cop

Baltimore County's Shop with a Cop program remains popular, with 108 children involved county-

wide this year, according to Officer First Class Natalie Bakhsh, who works in the Essex Precinct's community outreach office.

School resource officers and counselors help identify children to participate in the program, which involves pairing each child with a police officer for a shopping trip.

Locally, 44 children participated in the shopping excursion, with 10 from the White Marsh precinct, 23 from Essex and 11 from Dundalk.

"Each child gets to ride in a police car with their officer and each gets to spend \$100," Bakhsh said.

The Hereford and Timonium Optimist clubs raise money year-round to fund the effort. Fundraising was a little tougher this year, Bakhsh said, but a last-minute donation of \$1,000 from a local businessman allowed 10 additional children to be included.

The Cockeysville Walmart hosted Shop with a Cop on Dec. 10. When the children arrived in their special rides, they were greeted with tunes by the Dulaney High School marching band.

"They could spend their money any way they chose," Bakhsh said of the young shoppers. "They could buy for themselves and many also chose to buy gifts for others."

Walmart provided gift-wrapping services for those who bought gifts for others, according to Bakhsh.

When the shopping was done, the Hunt Valley Outback Steakhouse hosted all the children for breakfast.

"The staff came in on their own time and volunteered to cook breakfast for the kids," Bakhsh said. "The officers all pitched in to tip the staff."

And if spending \$100 and enjoying breakfast with their own police buddies wasn't enough, each child enjoyed a free cupcake, courtesy of Flavor Cupcakery and Bake Shop in Cockeysville.

"All the kids have a good time and so do our officers," Bakhsh said. "They really look forward to participating each year."

The chamber's Secret Santa agreed, saying she gets more out of the effort than the children do.

"I enjoy waking up on Christmas morning with a smile on my face, just thinking of all the children I shopped for and imagining them opening all of their gifts," she said. "That's what it's all about."



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## Residents raise concerns over Lockheed Martin cleanup activities

- By Devin Crum -

On Tuesday, Dec. 6, Essex resident Scott Sewell posted a video on social media showing a barge in the process of dredging a portion of Cowpen Creek on Middle River as part of Lockheed Martin Corporation's environmental cleanup of the area.

The video, which has received some 2,200 views, soon became an outlet for residents on both sides of the river to express their skepticism that the cleanup should really be happening and that perhaps the corporation should leave well enough alone.

Throughout the past several years, LMC has taken part in a consent decree to clean up the contamination on the land and in the waters surrounding their Middle River Complex. The contamination is the result of past industrial activity.

Over the course of the consent decree, the company has collaborated with and been overseen by local, state and federal environmental agencies to guide the course of the work. They are currently engaged in removing contaminated sediments via dredging from Dark Head Cove - also known as Martin's Lagoon - and Cowpen Creek along the shoreline of the MRC.

The work is aimed at removing pollutants known as polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, as well as some heavy metals like chromium and cadmium, which are attached to the sediments.

But in his video, Sewell expressed his concerns that the contaminated sediments being stirred up by the dredging could drift around and be distributed throughout the rest of Middle River by the tides and currents. And he hopes "to God" that the toxins do not cause another major

fish kill like what happened in the area a year ago.

In November 2015, around 200,000 fish were found to have died in the creeks of upper Middle River. However, the Maryland Department of the Environment published a report on the fish kill which implicated a late-season algae bloom. The bloom, they said, was caused by the availability of excess nutrients in the water due to storm water runoff, along with an increase in temperatures around that time.

This particular species of algae, the report explained, produced a toxin that suffocated the fish. And when the algae died off and decomposed, it stripped the oxygen from the water, compounding the problem.

MDE's report found that LMC's remediation activities did not contribute

to the fish kill.

LMC officials also explained that strict requirements govern the dredging currently being done in the waterways.

For example, the difference between the normal turbidity, or cloudiness, of the water and the restriction they must abide by is so small that you would not be able to tell the difference between the water samples with the naked eye, according to Steve McGee, LMC's project manager for the work.

Additionally, they have employed a turbidity curtain to prevent solids from migrating out of the work area and turbidity monitors both inside and outside the curtain which are constantly sending water quality data.

According to LM spokesman Tom Blackman, they would have a meeting - see **CONCERNS** on page 8 -

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# Essex Co-op reclaims right to display manger scene

- Article & photo by Patrick Taylor -

be in violation of the law since the Co-op receives federal funds. Salling and Metzgar said that is not true.

"They said that there was a law that stopped them from being able to display the scene, but that isn't true," said Salling. "I said, 'No, you have a policy, that's not a law.' After that they realized they had to be proactive which is why the vote is being held."

Held on Monday afternoon, the vote saw 50 residents show up to cast a ballot. It passed with a tally of 46 - 4.

"We were really upset by this," said one member of the Co-op. "This is a Christian area in Essex, and we're not ashamed of it. If there are people of other religions here, I wouldn't mind if they put up a menorah or some other decoration."

Salling and Metzgar said they were pleased with the vote. They also expressed gratitude to CSI for allowing the issue to be settled by the residents.

"I appreciate them holding the vote. It shows true democracy, it shows what it's all about," said Salling. "And it shows that there's accountability when they take a misstep."

CSI management, who could not be reached for comment, told Metzgar they were going off of policy that was put in place almost 30 years ago.

"I told them that I think it's time they update the policy," said Metzgar.

On Monday, Dec. 19, residents of the Essex Co-op won what they referred to as a "religious rights" victory, after a vote to display a Nativity scene in the lobby area overwhelmingly passed.

Since election season, members of the Co-op have been engaged in a struggle with management at CSI, the non-profit that runs the Co-op.

"It started back during the election," said Delegate Ric Metzgar (R-6). "The residents couldn't pray or say the Pledge of Allegiance [in common areas]. I received emails and phone calls from residents and people who have family here. They were very upset; they felt denied. There were people in tears over this."

After Metzgar received those reports, he and State Senator Johnny Ray Salling (R-6) opened a dialogue with CSI. He was told that residents could pray, as long as it was nondenominational prayer. He was also told they were able to say the Pledge of Allegiance, but noted that the official meeting where the vote was held began without it.

Residents of the Co-op again contacted Metzgar and Salling when the Nativity scene was denied a place in the lobby. According to Co-op members, management had told the residents that displaying a Nativity scene would



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## Communities call for county action on outdated development regulations

- By Devin Crum -

At its most recent meeting on Dec. 7, the Essex-Middle River Civic Council voted to send a letter to Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz and County Council members Cathy Bevins (D-Middle River) and Todd Crandell (R-Essex) asking them to take a new look at how development regulations are applied in the county.

The EMRCC - consisting of 20 community associations throughout Essex and Middle River - has recently noticed that there are many approved development plans on the books in the county that have been idle for years with little or no movement.

Some of these plans were approved but were put on hold because of the housing market crash and subsequent economic decline. And many were approved under now-outdated development regulations, particularly with regard to storm water management (SWM) and other environmental regulations.

In many cases, the community may have even forgotten about these projects, EMRCC President Bob Bendler said.

"And when they rear their heads and begin their development, we find out that they're not covered under current regulations," some having been approved a decade ago or more, he said. "And they can have a serious impact on the environment."

Prime examples of these types of projects include the Paragon outlet mall and the Cowenton apartments in White Marsh, as

well as a townhome project now planned in Essex.

When Paragon first came forward, they sought to build under 1980s environmental and SWM regulations, which were what governed the originally approved plan for office buildings on the site. And the county's departments of Permits, Approvals and Inspections (PAI) and Environmental Protection and Sustainability were willing to allow the project to move forward under those old regulations.

A county administrative law judge ruled that it had to abide by newer, but not current regulations. And it was not until Paragon faced immense public pressure that they agreed to proceed under the newest standards.

"It cost them some money, but they've got a lot more community support now," Bendler said.

The Cowenton apartments were originally approved in 2006 as senior housing which would not have affected area schools. The developer even had a legal agreement with the community not to change the plan without consulting them. But that covenant has now expired and the plan has changed to 300-plus simple apartments that were not accounted for in school enrollment projections.

And the Essex property, on Back River Neck Road at Hyde Park Road, was initially approved for a shopping center in the 1960s before being changed to an apartment complex and now a townhome development not required to use the newest environmental guidelines.

The EMRCC is now requesting action from the three elected officials to research just how broad an issue this is in the county, as well as the possibility of putting limits on how long an approved project can sit idle, and they have sent a letter to them expressing their "serious" concerns on the matter.

In the letter, the civic council asks that, to the maximum extent possible, current state and county regulations be applied to projects at the time "substantial construction" occurs.

"This represents a particularly important issue when dealing with environmental requirements," the letter reads.

In addition, they request that phased projects be subject to the most recent or updated requirements in effect at the time each phase begins.

"The importance of some environmental and safety regulations make it imperative that new and more protective regulations... be implemented as soon as possible and everywhere applicable," the letter states, adding their desire to see the county avoid or at least minimize any exceptions to this for plans currently in the pipeline.

The EMRCC acknowledged that these changes may be seen as an added hardship for developers since existing laws govern the timeframes for applying regulations to their projects.

"However, the benefits of the updated or new regulation often outweigh the inconvenience or expense involved," the letter reads.

"This is not something developers are going to like," Bendler admitted, adding, though, that the community is willing to be reasonable. But, he said, they cannot have situations where regulations that are known to be ineffective are still used in building new projects.

Kamenetz spokeswoman Ellen Kobler said the letter is currently being reviewed by PAI Director Arnold Jablon. PAI is tasked with overseeing development and land use throughout the county, according to its website.

As reported in the *East County Times* on Oct. 13, Bevins had previously said developers sometimes need several years to get financing in place for their projects, and she would not want to put onerous timeline restrictions on them.

But some community members, such as Clyde Speelman of Hopewell Pointe in Essex, feel that a project sitting for 10 years or longer is "entirely too long," feeling instead that four to five years would be an acceptable limit.

"Adequate public facilities formulas and how regulations apply to development projects are a constant discussion among Council members," Councilman Crandell said in a statement to the *Times*. "I think we owe it to our constituents to look deeper into [this issue] and appreciate the Essex-Middle River Civic Council expressing their concerns."

Jim Almon, a spokesman for Councilwoman Bevins, said she would be working with Crandell on a joint response to the EMRCC letter.

*Merry Christmas!*



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# Kamenetz issues citation to Franklin Square's Child Protective Services team

- Article & photo by Patrick Taylor -

Last week County Executive Kevin Kamenetz and Baltimore County State's Attorney Scott Shellenberger visited MedStar Franklin Square to issue commendations to Dr. Scott Krugman and Dr. Michelle Chudow of the Child Protective Services Team.

"I'd like to formally thank the medical center for their commitment to the community, particularly to the community of children they help," said Shellenberger.

According to Shellenberger, he meets with the group multiple times per week to discuss potential abuse cases and ways of keeping children safe.

"This is just another example where there's dedication, and really a sense of where hospital professionals go beyond the call of duty and really work tirelessly to advocate for something they believe in," said Kamenetz. "And in this instance it's taking care of children who are in the greatest need.

The Child Protective Services Team has been in operation since the early 2000s. The team investigates abuse, provides comprehensive abuse and neglect services, provides community outreach and training and much more.

"It's been a long process to get to this point," said Krugman, who oversees the team and has been involved in child protection for over a decade. "I'm so glad we could be of assistance to make this work."

Krugman stated that the relationship between medical personnel and investigative authorities have never been better. That sentiment was echoed by Shellenberger after the presentation.

Shellenberger stated that they are not just concerned with criminal cases, though that is a benefit to the partnership. Aside from criminal cases, he said that in cases where abuse couldn't be proven they are at least able to refer cases to the Department of Social Services which has a lower threshold for investigation.

"This advocacy group, it's the police, the Department of Social Services, the medical team and prosecutors all working together to look out for what's the best interest of the child," said Shellenberger.



Kamenetz (left) and Shellenberger (right) gave high praise to the Child Protective Services Team (center) at Franklin Square Hospital in Rosedale.

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# CONCERNS

- continued from page 4 -

with MDE and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency immediately if they exceeded their turbidity requirement to determine what went wrong and how they would address it.

Following a walk-through of the work site with LMC officials on Thursday, Dec. 15, Sewell maintained his skepticism that the turbidity curtain can prevent contaminants from migrating out of the work

area since it does not create a water-tight seal and does not strain solids from the water. In addition, it only drops to eight feet, which is not the full depth of the creek all the way across.

But McGee pointed out that the turbidity monitoring indicates the disturbed particles do not travel far from where they originated and do not even get as far as the curtain.

However, they do have another turbidity curtain sitting on the boat ramp ready to

deploy should they need an extra barrier, McGee noted. And when the dredging is complete, they will put in place a six-inch thick sand cap to minimize the movement of any residual contamination.

Also part of the project is the installation of a new bulkhead around the MRC consisting of marine-grade steel to prevent any migration of potentially contaminated soils from the land into the water, McGee said. The bulkhead has a 70-year design life.

Another topic discussed in responses to the video posted online was the type of dredge being used. Some commenters suggested a suction dredge would be more appropriate since it would not leave the distributed particles in the water.

But as the LMC officials pointed out, suction dredging does not necessarily retain all of the water that comes up with the sediment material.

The mechanical dredges LMC is using do not retain all of the water either, but they are specially constructed with screens to drain off unwanted water brought up with the dredged material while retaining any solids, McGee said. And turbidity monitoring in and around the work area ensures that there is not too much migration of the disturbed sediments.

Sewell told the *East County Times* that he also does not fully trust the MDE report about last year's fish kill in that it was caused by an algae bloom and LMC was not at all responsible. He cited a previous fish kill in the 1990s which MDE explained as having been caused by a spike in the river's salinity, which he found similarly hard to believe.

He and others responding to the online video expressed a sentiment that the sediments should have been left undisturbed and the pollutants allowed to degrade or become buried naturally over time.

However, LMC and environmental officials have explained in public meetings that PCBs build up in the food chain, first being consumed by organisms in the mud and eventually by fish when they eat those organisms. The contaminants then concentrate in fish.

"I'm glad they're doing what they're doing," Sewell said. "I don't want to make it sound like I'm anti-protecting the environment; no one cares about the environment out there more than me."

But now that the decision has already been made and the work is being done, he said, "you better believe I'm going to hold their feet to the fire" to be sure it is done right.



From Your Senator  
**JOHNNY SALLING**

By Authority - Salling for Senate - Dennis Sennett, Treasurer



One of the barges as it dredges up the work area in Cowpen Creek.

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**Delegate Robin Grammer, Kathy and Little Robin wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!**

Auth. Friends of Robin L. Grammer Jr.



### Free Mammograms

Baltimore County Womens Cancer Protection is currently offering free mammograms to those who wish to be screened. Call 410-887-3432 to schedule an appointment or for more information.

### Country Music Jamboree

Victory Villa Community Center, 404 Compass Road in Middle River, hosts a Bluegrass and Country Music Jamboree, at 6 p.m. on the third Saturday of each month. The event has been run by the Cogar Family since 1972. Come enjoy bluegrass and country music to sing and dance to. Refreshments are available.

### Angels Sugar Up Troops

Chocolate is in demand for our military troops overseas! Please help by filling our care packages with any chocolate or hard candy until April. Also in demand are pop tarts, beef jerky/Slim Jims, popcorn, peanut butter and jelly jars, crackers, Old Bay, potato chips, Cheez-Its, hot chocolate, tuna pouches/cans, ramen noodles, Cup Noodles, tea bags, coffee, powdered drink mixes, hot sauce and other snacks. We also need cough drops, dental floss, men's and women's deodorant, baby wipes, feminine products, socks, music CDs, DVDs and any other morale builders. To donate or for more information, contact Irene Spatafore at 410-284-5275 or drop off items on the picnic table at 7914 Diehlwood Road in Dundalk (off Wise Avenue and Lynch Road).

### Senior Citizens HOF

The Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame, Inc. (MSCHF) is seeking nominations of Maryland residents, 65 years of age or older, who as active volunteers (since age 65) have made outstanding contributions to improve the lives of others in the community. Nominations are accepted Jan. 1 - April 10. Approved nominees are inducted into the MSCHF at our annual awards luncheon in October. The nomination form and specific details for eligibility are available at mschf.org or by contacting Tom Kline at mschf1@verizon.net or 410-322-5193.

### Pearl Harbor Exhibit

"They Answered the Call" is a tribute to the men and women who served on the World War II homefront working for the Glenn L. Martin Company in Middle River. The photo exhibit story shares work and home experiences of these workers who kept the homefront moving when the men went off to war. A featured display showcases the contributions of women workers, the Rosie the Riveters who were pioneers of the 1940's, doing jobs never before done by women. The museum, located in Hangar 5 at 701 Wilson Point Road in Middle River, is open Wednesday - Saturday, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children. Active military or veterans with ID receive free admission. For more information, call 410-682-6122.

### Back River Senior Groups

The Back River area has two senior citizen groups. The Golden Agers of Back River group meets Thursdays at the Back River Recreation Center, 801 Back River Neck Road in Essex, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. The Sandalwood Golden Agers have moved to this location as well, meeting Wednesdays from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. For more info., contact the Back River Recreation office at 410-887-0217.

### Volunteers Needed

Brightview White Marsh assisted living, 8100 Rossville Blvd., is in need of volunteers to help with things like Rosary, cooking, short stories, games, discussions and visiting for their residents. For more information, contact Diane Gibson at 410-668-1588.

### Caregiver Support Group

We have information about Alzheimer's and other dementias, caring for an Alzheimer's sufferer, community resources that can help you and opportunities to meet and share with other caregivers. Our Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group meets on the second Wednesday of every month from 6 - 7 p.m. in the first floor conference room of John Burton Pavilion at Johns Hopkins Bayview, 5505 Hopkins Bayview Circle in Baltimore. For more information, contact Angela Gahs at 410-916-1157 or angeladaggett@msn.com.

### Food Pantry

Dundalk Church of the Nazarene, 1626 Lynch Road, has a food pantry with non-perishable food items. If you are in need or are interested in donating, please call the church at 410-288-5136.

### Build Your Life on Rock

Join young adults (ages 18-35) at Sacred Heart of Mary Parish, 6727 Duluth Ave. in Dundalk, on Mondays at 7 p.m. as we seek to build our relationship with God. There will be talks, testimonies, small group discussions, music, free food, and fun activities. For more information, contact SacredHeartYA@gmail.com or call the parish office at 410-633-2828.

### Cooties Collecting for Comrades

The Military Order of the Cootie Pup Tent 4 is collecting toiletries for male and female hospitalized veterans at the Loch Raven VA Community Living and Rehabilitation Center in Baltimore to be distributed during the monthly visit with the veterans. Items requested include one-gallon zip-lock bags, liquid hand soap, shampoo, disposable razors, shave gel, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, denture cleaner, non-alcoholic mouthwash, nail clippers, combs, socks, feminine sanitary products and wordsearch/crossword puzzles. Items can be brought to the Essex-Holly Neck Memorial VFW Post 2621, 206 Riverside Road, between the hours of 2 - 10 p.m.

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## Stopping soaring prescription drug prices

- By Delegate Eric Bromwell (D-8) -

I will be introducing legislation in the upcoming 2017 General Assembly session to address skyrocketing prescription drug prices and alleged price gouging. Soaring prescription drug prices threaten accessible and affordable health care, put financial strains on hospitals, and force increases in insurance premiums and Medicaid and Medicare expenditures, which are supported by out tax dollars. Maryland Insurance Commissioner and former District 8 Delegate, Al Redmer said in a recent hearing before the Health and Government Operations Committee, that the increase in pharmaceutical costs over the past several years constitutes about 25 percent of the increase in overall insurance rates.

Even generic drug prices are soaring. In 1984, Congress approved laws to create the generic drug industry in an attempt to make drugs more affordable, but some generic companies have become the new price gouging villains of health care.

Public outrage was sparked at the obscene price increase of EpiPen, a life-saving treatment for millions whose allergies can send them into severe shock. Since 2007, the pharmaceutical company Mylan NV increased the price of EpiPen 548 percent to \$608.61 for a pack of two doses.

Similarly, Turig Pharmaceuticals sud-

denly raised the price of Daraprim, an anti-malaria drug, 5,000 percent from \$13.50 for a single pill to \$750. Gylycypyrrolate, a drug used before surgery to dry secretions spiraled from \$5 to \$23 a unit over two years, driving hospital spending from \$5 million to \$73 million. Between 2013 and 2015, the price of the decades old pain reliever, acetaminophen, soared from a unit price of \$13 to \$30, driving spending from \$43 million to nearly \$100 million. According to a survey of more than 700 community hospitals, drug spending on hospital-administered inpatient drugs are increasing faster than retail drug spending.

My legislation, supported by the Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative, requires prescription drug companies to disclose how they set prices, notify the public of significant price hikes and authorizes the state attorney general to take legal action to prevent price-gouging. Fierce opposition from the pharmaceutical industry is a certainty.

A poll taken by Opinion Works revealed that 84 percent of Maryland voters want prescription drug transparency, which would require drug companies to explain how they set their prices, including their profits, and how much they spend on research, advertising and production. The poll also found widespread support for requiring drug companies to notify

the public if they plan to increase prices by 10 percent or more, as well as a provision enabling the state attorney general to take legal action to prevent unfair price hikes. An August 2016 Kaiser Family Foundation survey found that 86 percent of people supported requir-

ing drug companies to release to the public information explaining how they set their prices.

Please let me know your thoughts on this issue or any other issue of concern to you. As always, I welcome your input.

## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

- By Delegate Bob Long (R-7) -

I want to wish everyone in the 6th District Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. This is the time to appreciate family and the things in life that we often take for granted.

There is a lot of good news in our District; the Port of Baltimore was just named the most productive port in the U.S. in 2015 by the Journal of Commerce. We are proud of the hard working men and women of the Port of Baltimore that make the Port the most productive in the nation. We look forward to the expansion of the Port in the future. We cannot forget the Sparrows Point region as Trade Point Atlantic has announced a lot of job opportunities with the arrival of Pasha Automotive Services, Under Armour and FedEx.

The 6th District also has the best volunteers in the state. Events such as the Heritage Fair and Essex Day would not be possible without all the help of our community volunteers and the donations

from local businesses that help finance these events. The amount of generosity in the District does not go unnoticed as many volunteers and Community Leaders organized toy drives and food collections throughout the District.

We are holding a Town Hall Meeting at the Victory Villa Community Center in Middle River on Thursday, Jan. 5 from 6 to 8 p.m. and invite everyone in the District. We are heading back to Annapolis on Jan. 11 and we feel confident that our District will continue to head in the right direction.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

### Contact Your Delegates

#### District 6

**Bob Long (R)**

Phone: 410-841-3458

E-mail: bob.long@house.state.md.us

**Ric Metzgar (R)**

Phone: 410-841-3332

E-mail: ric.metzgar@house.state.md.us

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**HOUSE OF DELEGATES - DISTRICT 6**

by Authority of Friends of Ric Metzgar, Shirley Shiflett, Treasurer

## Maryland Dems announce \$15 million in funding to expand preschool programs

U.S. Senators Ben Cardin and Barbara A. Mikulski, together with U.S. Representatives Steny H. Hoyer, Elijah Cummings, Chris Van Hollen, C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, John Sarbanes, Donna F. Edwards and John Delaney (all D-Md.), announced Tuesday that Maryland has been awarded \$15 million through the Preschool Development Grants program to provide high-quality preschool programs in 19 school districts across Maryland. In the past three years, Maryland has been awarded more than \$45 million in federal funds to expand proven-beneficial preschool programs throughout the state.

"We never get do-overs when it comes to our children's early development, which makes this continued federal investment in Maryland to strengthen and expand our preschool programs incredibly important," said Senator Cardin. "Our goal is to ensure that early learners have the chance to acquire the skills they need to be successful throughout their lives. With this federal investment, we will be able to provide additional opportunities to meet that goal, as well as meet growing demand to expand access to high-quality preschool programs."

Through these Preschool Development Grant awards, more than 35,000 additional children across 18 states will be served in preschool programs

that meet high-quality standards in the third year of the program, an increase from 28,000 in the first award year in 2014. States receiving grants will develop or expand high-quality preschool programs in regionally diverse communities - from urban neighborhoods to small towns to tribal areas - as determined by the state. Since 2014, the Departments of Education and Health and Human Services have provided more than \$750 million to states in Preschool Development Grant awards.

"Education is the opportunity ladder of this nation. Every child deserves their chance to get a foothold on that ladder," said Senator Mikulski, senior member of the Senate House, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee. "These funds in the federal checkbook will help ensure children across Maryland get the care and education they need and deserve so they and their families can have a better, brighter future."

"For our economy to succeed, we need to invest in education from day one," said Senator-Elect Van Hollen. "Maryland's workforce is second to none, because we are committed to making sure our children have the best schools - from preschool through college and job training. Federal grants like this are key to this effort, as we fight every day to make sure our state has a

strong education system and a strong economy."

Maryland is one of 18 states to receive an expansion grant, which were designated for states that currently serve 10 percent of more of four-year-olds or have received a Race to the Top - Early Learning Challenge grant. States receiving expansion grants have ambitious and achievable plans to implement and sustain high-quality preschool programs that can reach and serve addition eligible children in two or high-need communities. Up to five

percent of the expansion grant award may be used for state-level infrastructure and quality improvements.

"This is the type of common sense investment Americans expect during these tough times," said Congressman Ruppersberger. "Research suggests that Pre-K can improve a child's chance of success in school and in life - children who attend Pre-K are more likely to graduate from high school and earn more as adults. It is an investment in our future."

## Ruppersberger issues statement on alleged Russian interference in U.S. election

- By Congressman

C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-2) -

Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, former Ranking Member of the House Intelligence Committee, last week issued the following statement on alleged Russian interference into U.S. elections:

"Today, I am calling for a bipartisan Congressional investigation into conclusions by the U.S. intelligence community that Russia interfered with our Presidential election. We must determine the facts to protect the validity of future elections. I also support the declassification of as much information surrounding the investigation into Russia's activities as possible.

This isn't about who won this year's election. It's about the possibility of another country - Russia or otherwise - compromising the integrity of our democracy. I would feel the same if Hillary Clinton had won in November.

No one is accusing the President-elect or his campaign of wrongdoing and his derogatory comments about our intelligence agencies are unhelpful. Our country's intelligence workers are in dangerous and remote hotspots around the globe, fighting to keep us safe just as our men and women in uniform are doing. I can think of few issues more important than protecting the credibility of the checks and balances that make our country great."

*Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year*

*From the Staff of the  
Connelly Funeral Home  
of Essex*



## Darrius Sample, Jack Muller named to All-Metro teams

- By Patrick Taylor -

While the season didn't go as planned for Perry Hall's boys soccer team, who crashed out of the MPSSAA playoffs in the second round against Bel Air, the season has ended on a high note for senior forward Jack Muller, who was named to the *Baltimore Sun's* All-Metro First Team. Muller was the only player from the east side to make the list.

Muller was a big leader for the Gators this year, scoring 12 goals and providing 11 assists. He finished his career with 48 goals and 30 assists in total.

Over the last two years, Muller has been a key component for the Gators, who won the 4A championship in 2015. With Muller heading off to college, Perry Hall will desperately be trying to fill a gargan-

antuan void in their attack and in their locker room.

While Muller was the only soccer player to be named (the girls All-Metro team hasn't been released as of yet), he's joined in All-Metro honors by Dundalk quarterback Darrius Sample.

While Sample didn't have quite the follow-up season many hoped for after he exploded onto the scene last year, not much of that can be placed on Sample. Dealing with a young and inexperienced cast makes it a whole lot more difficult to put up gaudy numbers, but Sample still ended the year with impressive stats.

More importantly than the numbers he put up is the effect he had on defenses throughout the league. The player head coach Sean Sandora referred to as

the "cornerstone" of Dundalk's offense frequently caused headaches for opposing defensive units. He had a tremendous arm when called upon, but his ability to scramble and make something of nothing made him a truly terrifying threat. Under Sample, the Dundalk Owls had back-to-back playoff appearances and made a trip to the 3A state final.

## CCBC Athletics Hall of Fame honors new members

The Community College of Baltimore County Athletics Hall of Fame held their annual dinner on Dec. 2 and welcomed 25 new members. The dinner, held at Martin's East, honors former student athletes and former and current coaches, athletic administrators and staff for outstanding contributions to athletics on the three main campuses of the CCBC. Now, in its sixth year, the CCBC Athletics Hall of Fame has a total number of 152 honorees. Congratulations to all our inductees!

This year's inductees included:

- \* Ken Batten of Havre de Grace - (Essex)
- \* Sean Anthony Burke of Bronx, N.Y. - (Dundalk)
- \* Rick Freeman of Fairfax, Va. - (Dundalk)
- \* Danny Gonzalez of East Earl, Pa. - (Essex)
- \* Valdez Preston of Baltimore - (Dundalk)
- \* Al Tomlin of Baltimore - (Essex)
- \* Geraldine Candia McQueen of Hackensack, N.J. - (Essex)
- \* Sandy L. MacIver of Abingdon - (Essex)
- \* David L. Mintzer of Sykesville - Lacrosse Coach and Director of Athletics (Catonsville and Dundalk)
- \* Joseph William Trentzsch of Manteo, N.C. - (Essex)
- \* Dariusz Bujak of Newark, Del. - (Essex)
- \* Denise Abe Probst of Arnold, Md. - (Essex)
- \* Robyn Steele of Phoenix, Md. - (Essex campus)
- \* Scott A. Wittman of Baltimore, Md. - Soccer Coach (Essex)
- \* Jane A. Terry of Parkton, Md. - (Dundalk)

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## Perry Hall, OLMC boys basketball off to big starts

- By Patrick Taylor -

It's all about getting off to a good start. While starting off the season with a couple of losses isn't a death sentence, it's much harder to scrap back into contention than it is to hold on to a lead and control your destiny. Two area boys teams - Perry Hall and Our Lady of Mount Carmel (OLMC) - are as hot as they come.

OLMC is led by senior Terry Nolan, a guard/forward who can do it all. Leading his team to nine wins in their first 10 games, Nolan has shown tremendous ability knocking down both open and contested looks. His quickness allows him to create his own shots as well as open up space for his teammates. On defense, his length gives him a rebounding and one-on-one advantage.

OLMC's lone loss on the season came against a very impressive Archbishop Spalding team. Along the way they've picked up big wins against Bishop McNamara, Calvert Hall, McDonogh and Gilman. Calvert Hall, McDonogh and Gilman are all highly touted teams, appearing in the *Baltimore Sun's* Top 15 poll. But, thanks to their big wins, OLMC currently occupies the fifth slot in the poll.

Up until the most recent poll, OLMC had occupied third. Now, that spot belongs to Perry Hall, thanks to a 4 - 0 start. Previously ranked fifth, the Gators used big wins against New Town and Calvert Hall to propel them up the rankings.

The Gators started off their season with a 59 - 42 win against Archbishop Curley. While a decent win, Curley is by no means a force. Perry Hall followed up that win with a huge statement against defending 2A state champion New Town. Down at the half, Perry Hall used a big third quarter to propel them

to a 65 - 43 victory. The win against New Town was followed up by an even bigger 61 - 57 win against Calvert Hall and a 53 - 37 win against Milford Mill.

The Gators are led by two gargantuan forwards, juniors Anthony Higgs and Laquil Hardnett. With both of these men (it really doesn't seem right to call them boys given their size) standing at 6-foot-8, it's safe to say that the Gators basically win the rebounding war by default. But more importantly, the size of Higgs and Hardnett means that opposing teams really need to work to find open shots. Space is limited in and around the paint, and so far the two have kept that area relatively free of the opposition.

Perry Hall will face another real test on Thursday when they host Poly, a team that currently sits in second in *The Sun's* poll. The two teams will tip off at 5:15 p.m.

### Around the league

The Dundalk Owls have also gotten their season off on the right foot, currently sitting with a 3 - 1 record as they head into the Christmas break. The Owls started off their season with a 57 - 53 win over Catonsville before falling to Woodlawn by a score of 57 - 39. After the relatively poor offensive showing, Dundalk came back with an 18-point win against Overlea and a 63 - 33 stomping of Towson.

The Patapsco Patriots, meanwhile, have also gotten off to a silently solid start. After taking down Sparrows Point in the season opener, Patapsco dropped their next contest to Kenwood. Following the loss they pulled off wins against Eastern Tech and Carver. They lost their last game to a solid Lansdowne team, but they have plenty of talent to regroup after the holiday.

Elsewhere on the peninsula, Sparrows Point can't

quite seem to find their way. With just one win on the year through five games, their season is already looking lost.

Over in Essex, Kenwood started off their season looking good before dropping four straight games against Parkville, Joppatowne, C. Milton Wright and Loch Raven, respectively. The Bluebirds kept contests against Loch Raven and C. Milton Wright close, but they've lacked the killer instinct needed to take those games over. Kenwood has a rough matchup against Perry Hall before they slink into the holiday.

The Eastern Tech Mavericks fell to 1 - 3 with their loss to OLMC on Monday. Patapsco trounced Tech to start the season before Northeast managed to squeeze out a win. Tech rebounded against Carver, winning 77 - 30, but dropped their next game to OLMC. Tech will take on City College before heading into the new year.

Chesapeake is currently sitting at 1 - 1 with a win against Sparrows Point and a loss against Pikesville. Chesapeake will take on Randallstown before heading into the break.

Overlea got off on the wrong foot with a 76 - 50 loss to Annapolis, but they managed to right the ship with a big 58 - 52 win over Pikesville. Dundalk and Sparrows Point made sure that good feeling didn't last too long, as the two teams easily handed Overlea losses.

Finally, the Parkville Knights have started off looking decent, with wins against Lansdowne and Kenwood and their lone loss on the season coming against a very solid Franklin team. The Knights will be looking to build on their 2 - 1 record when they take on Overlea to finish off 2016.

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**OBITUARIES**

**McGaha, Phyllis Mae**

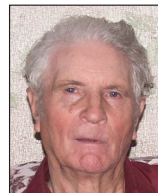
On Dec. 13, Phyllis Mae McGaha (nee Edwards) went home to be with the Lord. She was born in Baltimore in 1935 and is survived by a niece Deborah Heavrin; dear friend Patrick Simpson; brother Grason and husband Earl "Sonny" McGaha.

Many of you may know Phyllis who owned and, along with Pat Simpson, operated Phyllis and Pat's Produce on Bowleys Quarters Road for over 25 years. She will be missed by her many friends.

Services provided by the Connelly Funeral Home of Essex are private.

**McDermott, Robert William**

On Dec. 15, Robert "Mac" William McDermott, devoted husband of Elizabeth Ann (Norman); beloved father of Victoria Arnold and her husband Jerry, Michelle Phillips and her husband Tim, Stuart Morgan and his friend Pat Nutter, Mark Morgan and his wife Sharon, Robert Morgan and his wife Barbara, and the late D. Scott Morgan. Also survived by grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild; dear brother of James McDermott and his wife Barbara, the late Frances and Paulette McDermott. Also survived by numerous nieces and a nephew.



**Lipscomb, Samuel "Pat"**

On Dec 19, Samuel "Pat" Lipscomb, beloved husband of Nina Rose Lipscomb (nee Smith); devoted father of Wayne L. Lipscomb and his wife Doris, Shirley J. Propst and her husband Lewis, Francis L. Lipscomb and his wife Rhonda, Rozalia M. Smith, Rosalee J. Kidd, Rose A. Adamson and her husband Donald and the late Samuel P. Lipscomb Jr.; father-in-law of Daren Lipscomb. Also survived by 17 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and many loving family members and friends.

Funeral services will be held at the Connelly Funeral Home of Essex on Thursday, Dec. 22 at 7:30 p.m. Interment private.



**Rosendale, Dorothy E.**

On Dec. 18, 2016, Dorothy Eileen Rosendale (nee Phipps); beloved wife of the late Henry Francis Rosendale, Sr.; devoted mother of Carol A. Speargas and her husband Joe, Craig F. Rosendale and his wife Leslie, Cathy E. Foster and her husband Bill, Mary F. Rosendale, Henry F. Rosendale, Jr. and his wife Laura; loving grandmother of Paul Speargas and his wife Jennifer, Jeremy and Sara Rosendale, Lauren Gwinn and her husband Joel, and Amanda Mong and her husband Dan; cherished great-grandmother of three. Dorothy was predeceased by nine brothers and sisters. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Services provided by Schimunek Funeral Home of Nottingham. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Dorothy's name to the University of Maryland, St. Joseph Medical Center Foundation, 7601 Osler Drive, Towson, MD 21204.



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5598 Trumps Mill Road Baltimore, MD 21206, 410-668-1086

*SERVING YOUR PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS SINCE THE 1940'S.*

**Watson, J.R.**

J. R. "Bob" Watson passed away on Dec. 15. Born Dec. 9, 1927 in Three Churches, W.Va. He lived in Middle River most of his life, and was known to his friends and colleagues as PeeWee.

Preceded in death by his daughter Tammy Matthew. Survived by his wife of 62 years, Hanna Watson; son Robert "Bob" Watson and wife Mickey; grandchildren Tiffany and Travis Matthew, Jayme and Jonathan Watson; great-grandchildren Elaina and Kaison Watson.

Funeral services are private.

**Harper, Irena**

On Dec. 16, Irena V. Harper (nee Smith), beloved wife of the late Hurcel Z. Harper; devoted mother of Barbara Jean deMan and Larry Wayne Harper; loving grandmother of Kenneth and Sabrina deMan, and Gregory and Megan Harper; loving great-grandmother of Lydia, Joshua, and Koen deMan; loving sister of Ralph Smith of Charleston, W.VA. and Gladys Milliken of Houston, PA. Also survived by many loving family members and friends.

Services provided by Connelly Funeral Home of Essex. Interment at Gardens of Faith.

**Wagner, Kenneth E., Jr.**

On Dec. 14, Edward Kenneth Wagner, Jr., devoted father of Jennifer Wagner; beloved son of the late Edward Sr. and Kathleen Wagner; loving brother of Kimberly Meyers and her fiancé Jim Miller, and James Wagner Sr. and his wife Julia; dear uncle of Tom Meyers, Jesse Meyers, Steven Weissman Jr., James Wagner Jr., and Brittany Wagner; loving great-uncle of Dominic Weissman.

Services provided by the Connelly Funeral Home of Essex.

**Herzog, Madelyn F.**

On Dec. 16, Madelyn F. Herzog passed away. She was the beloved wife of the late William F. Herzog; devoted mother of the late Deborah Ranazzo; loving grandmother of Jaime L. Backof and her husband Jesse; cherished great-grandmother of Hunter, Hayden, and Mason Backof; dear sister of Marie Cundiff.

Services provided by Schimunek Funeral Home of Nottingham. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Madelyn's name to the Baltimore Humane Society, 1601 Nicodemus Rd., Reisterstown, MD 21136. Interment at St. Joseph Catholic Church Cemetery.

**Fell, Thomas A.**

On Dec. 15, Thomas A. Tom Fell, beloved husband of Sundina L. Fell (nee DelGavio); devoted father of Craig T. Fell and his wife Stephanie; dear brother of Karen Pedersen and Richard Fell; loving grandfather of Lilliana Grace Fell, Nathan Thomas Fell, and Mason Carroll Fell.

Services provided by Schimunek Funeral Home of Nottingham. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, 1500 Rosecrans Ave., Suite 200, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.

**O'Keeffe, Sr. Miriam, SFCC**

On Dec. 17, Sr. Miriam Patricia O'Keeffe, SFCC, loving sister of Mr. & Mrs. Dave O'Keeffe, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Quigley, Ned and Tom O'Keeffe; dear friend of Sr. Anthony Leo (Jeannette) Cuneo, SFCC. Also survived by many family members of the O'Keeffe and Cuneo families; and her religious members of the Sisters of St. Francis and Sisters of Christian Community.

Services provided by Schimunek Funeral Home of Nottingham.

**Friesner, Dorothy**

On Dec. 15, Dorothy Agnes Friesner (nee Zoltowski); beloved wife of the late William J. Friesner; devoted mother of Ken Friesner and his wife JoAnn, Janet Hammen and her husband Richard, Robert Friesner, Carol Duffy and her husband Len; dear sister of Jeanette Guckenberger, and the late Anna Cox, and Evelyn Geppi; cherished grandmother of nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Services provided by Schimunek Funeral Home of Nottingham. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Fullerton. Interment Parkwood Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 217 E. Redwood Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21201.

**Dietz, Carmela**

After a courageous fight with cancer, Carmela "Carmie" R. Dietz (nee Pullara) age 82, was called home on Tuesday, Dec. 13. She was the beloved wife of the late Joseph F. Dietz; cherished and loving mother of Diane S. Gough and her late husband Curtis A. and Victoria Jo Davidson and husband Scott W.; beloved Mom-Mom of Ashley Jacobs, Katie and Jaclyn Gough, Alexander and Alayna Davidson; loving great-grandmother of Dominic Dixon and Abigail Jacobs; dear sister of Vincent Pullara and his late wife Betty and John Pullara and wife Loretta. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Services provided by Schimunek Funeral Home of Nottingham. Interment Parkwood Cemetery.

E-mail Obituary announcements to [ectreporter@comcast.net](mailto:ectreporter@comcast.net) or fax to 410-780-2616.



# Oak Lawn Cemetery

*Wishes for  
Peace & Joy  
during this  
Christmas Season.*

Oak Lawn Cemetery of Baltimore County / 7225 Eastern Avenue • Baltimore, MD 21224  
410-285-4144 • [www.oaklawncemetery.org](http://www.oaklawncemetery.org)



OFFICE HOURS Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm / Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm / Closed Sunday

## Holiday lights have come a long way since candles were used to decorate trees

Holiday celebrants employ lights in various ways. Certain individuals may be content to hang lights on their Christmas trees and call their decorating complete. Others like to make sure each square inch of their home is covered in twinkling lights. Still others prefer the more subdued effect of lights framing one picture window of the house.

The tradition of Christmas lights stretches back to early modern Germany when people used candles to decorate Christmas trees in Christian homes. Those candles were harbingers of what would come when electric lights replaced gas and other open flame illuminating devices that were commonplace prior to the 20th century.

Thomas Edison, the inventor of the first successful practical light bulb, also created the first strand of electric lights used in holiday decorating. By 1880, Edison desired a way to better advertise his invention, so he decided to make the most of the holiday season and put his light bulbs on display. The concept of electric holiday lights took a bit of time to catch on. In 1895, President Grover Cleveland requested the White House family Christmas tree be illuminated by multi-colored electric light bulbs.

In 1903, when General Electric began to offer pre-assembled kits of holiday lights, they were reserved for the wealthy who could afford both the lights and a home with electricity. For example, in 1903 a single

string of electric lights cost \$12, or around \$300 today.

It would take several more years before holiday lights became a national tradition. On Christmas Eve 1923, President Calvin Coolidge began the country's celebration of Christmas by lighting the National Christmas Tree on the Ellipse located south of the White House with 3,000 electric lights.

Today, illuminated strands of lights have become a large part of holiday celebrations and have even been adopted for use during various year-round events. Such lights can be a beautiful and festive addition to many celebrations.

Lights are more complicated, more energy efficient and lend themselves to more creative productions.



# Keep Christ in Christmas

## Jesus is the Reason for the Season!

When asked what we got for Christmas, let us not speak reluctantly or timidly, but with confidence and faith proclaim to them: Baby Jesus | Love | Hope | Faith | Forgiveness | Grace | Strength | Healing | Thankfulness | My Savior | Lord Jesus Christ!!!

**Holy Spirit**  
Love  
Hope  
Faith  
FORGIVENESS  
GRACE  
Salvation  
**LORD JESUS CHRIST!**

Every good and perfect gift is from above...



## SAINT CLARE

716 Myrth Ave. • Essex, MD 21221  
410-687-6011

**Christmas Eve**  
Saturday, December 24th  
4:00pm - Children's Liturgy  
7:00pm - Spanish

**Christmas Day**  
**The Nativity of The Lord**  
Sunday, December 25th  
9:00am and 11:00am

**Solemnity of Mary**  
Saturday, December 31st  
4:00pm  
7:00pm - Spanish

**New Year's Day**  
Sunday, January 1st  
9:00am and 11:00am

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10003 Bird River Rd.  
Middle River, MD 21220  
410-686-3085 • www.qlqpm.org

~ **CHRISTMAS MASSES** ~  
**Saturday, December 24**  
4pm, 6pm & Midnight  
**Sunday, December 25**  
10:00am

*Peace Love Joy*

## Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS  
Saturday, Dec. 24th  
4pm - Church  
(Children's Mass & Pageant)  
4pm - Lower Church  
6pm - Church  
11:30pm - Carol Service  
12:00am - Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS  
Sunday, Dec. 25th • 10am

1704 Old Eastern Avenue, Essex, MD 21221  
410-686-4972 • www.olmcmd.org

## St. Joseph Fullerton Roman Catholic Church

**Pastor Fr. Jesse L. Bolger**  
8420 Belair Rd. • Balto., MD 21236  
410-256-1630  
www.stjoefullerton.org

~ **CHRISTMAS EVE MASS** ~  
**Church:**  
4:00PM, 6:00PM, 8:00PM & 10:30 PM  
*Music program will begin 1/2 hour prior to each mass.*

**Perry Hall High School:**  
4:00PM on Christmas Eve *Only*

~ **CHRISTMAS DAY MASS** ~  
**Church:**  
7:00AM, 8:30AM, 10:30AM, 12:30PM

**Merry Christmas!**  
**Come Celebrate With Us!!!**

*Please join us for*  
**Christmas Eve Services -**  
*Family Celebration 7:00 PM*  
*Traditional Candlelight 11:00 PM*  
**Christmas Day Services - 10:30 AM**  
Handicapped Accessible  
Sunday Worship Services  
Traditional 9:00 AM • Family Contemporary 10:30 AM

## HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Essex, MD 21221  
410-686-7587

## SACRED HEART OF MARY

~ **CHRISTMAS EVE, DEC. 24th** ~  
4PM, 6PM Masses  
Mass at Midnight

~ **CHRISTMAS DAY, DEC. 25th** ~  
8:30AM / 10:30AM

~ **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~  
4:30PM

~ **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~  
7:30AM / 10:30AM

6736 Youngstown Ave., Dundalk, MD 21222

## OREMS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1020 Orem Road, Middle River, MD 21220  
410-687-9483 • www.oremsumc.org  
www.facebook.com/OremSUMC

**CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE**  
**Dec. 24th, 6:00 p.m.** - Family Service  
*Our Kid Friendly Service*

**9:30 p.m.** - Organ and Piano Christmas Concert  
**11:00 p.m.** - Candlelight Service

**Dec. 25th, 11:00 a.m.** -  
Christmas Day Worship Service

**Come and Worship with us.**  
*You are invited to*  
**welcome the Christ Child**  
*into your heart!*





# Keep Christ in Christmas

## Jesus is the Reason for the Season!

When asked what we got for Christmas, let us not speak reluctantly or timidly, but with confidence and faith proclaim to them: Baby Jesus | Love | Hope | Faith | Forgiveness | Grace | Strength | Healing | Thankfulness | My Savior | Lord Jesus Christ!!!

**Holy Spirit** Every good and perfect gift is from above...  
**Love**  
**Hope**  
**Faith**  
**FORGIVENESS**  
**GRACE**  
**Salvation**  
**LORD JESUS CHRIST!**



### CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

CHILDREN SERVICES 6:30PM  
 CANDLELIGHT SERVICES 8:30PM & 11PM  
 CHRISTMAS DAY 10AM

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 3620 Red Rose Farm Road  
 Bowleys Quarters, MD 21220  
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Come Share the Joy of the Birth of Our Savior

**St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
 7834 Eastern Ave., Baltimore, MD 21224  
 Vicar: Jeanette Surita-Vazquetelles

Christmas Eve Services  
 7pm - Family Service  
 10pm - Candlelight Service  
 Christmas Day Service - 10am  
 New Year's Day Service 10am  
 All Are Welcome

### Christmas Eve CANDLELIGHT SERVICE - 8PM

### Christmas Day SERVICE - 10AM

**MARANATHA CHAPEL**  
 3 Bowleys Quarters Rd. 21220

For more information, visit [www.mchapel.org](http://www.mchapel.org) or call 410-344-9673

### PRINCE OF PEACE

8212 Philadelphia Rd.  
 Rosedale, MD 21237  
 410-866-8766

Sat., Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Service  
 7PM - Family Service  
 10PM - Traditional Service (Both with Holy Communion)

Sun., Dec. 25 - 10AM Christmas Service  
 Sun., Jan. 1 - 10AM "Sing in the New Year" Service

Please join us for our **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 5PM**  
 Invite your family and your friends!

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 518 FRANKLIN AVE, ESSEX, MD 21221  
 410-687-4621  
[WWW.STJOHNSOFESSEX.ORG](http://WWW.STJOHNSOFESSEX.ORG)

### Christmas Eve SERVICES

Handicapped Accessible

Candlelight Worship Services  
 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm

Hiss Church invites you to Christmas Eve Services:

Noon - in the Chapel  
 7PM - Family Service  
 11PM - Candlelight Service

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 Changing Lives...Join the Journey

**Hiss United Methodist Church**  
 8700 Harford Rd., Parkville, MD 21234  
 410-668-5665 • [www.hisschurch.org](http://www.hisschurch.org)

### Christmas at St. Michael the Archangel

CHRISTMAS EVE, Saturday, December 24, 2016  
 4:00PM Church: Music by the Contemporary Music Ensemble (The CME will present a program of Christmas music at 3:30PM)  
 4:00PM Chapel: Family Liturgy  
 6:30PM Church: Organ and Cantor  
 7:00PM Chapel: Missa en Espanol  
 12:00AM Midnight Church: Organ and Choir (Lessons & Carols begin at 11:30PM)

CHRISTMAS DAY, Sunday, December 25, 2016  
 9:30AM Church: Organ and Cantor

10 Willow Ave., Baltimore, MD 21206  
 410-665-1054 • [www.smoverlea.org](http://www.smoverlea.org)

### CHRISTMASTIME MASS SCHEDULE:

~ HOLY ROSARY CHURCH ~  
 408 S. Chester St., Baltimore, MD 21231  
 410-732-3960

Regular Mass Mon-Thurs - 6:30pm and Fri - 3pm & 7:30pm

DECEMBER 24 - **CHRISTMAS EVE**  
 Vigil Mass (English) @ 5PM  
 Carols / Kolendy start @ 11:30PM (Bilingual)  
 Midnight Mass (Pasterka) (Bilingual)

DECEMBER 25 - **CHRISTMAS DAY**  
 8:30AM (English), 10:30AM (Polish)  
 12:30PM (English)

DECEMBER 26 - **ST. STEPHEN FEAST DAY**  
 (Drugi dzień Świąt)  
 6:30PM (English), 7:30PM (Polish)

DECEMBER 31 - **NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
 8:30AM (Polish) 5:00PM (English)  
 7:00PM (Polish)

JANUARY 1 - **NEW YEAR'S DAY**  
**SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**  
 Holy Day of Obligation  
 8:30AM (English)  
 10:30AM (Polish)  
 12:30PM (English)

[www.holyrosarypl.org](http://www.holyrosarypl.org)

### BACK RIVER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Celebrate Christmas, Celebrate the Birth of Jesus!

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve  
 7PM - Family Service  
 10PM - Candlelight Service

544 Back River Neck Rd. Essex, MD 21221  
 (near the intersection of Turkey Point Rd. & Rt. 702)  
 410-686-4195 • [www.backriverumc.com](http://www.backriverumc.com)

## MSB teacher named NFB Distinguished Educator of Blind Children

Abigail du Pont, a teacher from The Maryland School for the Blind (MSB), has been named the Distinguished Educator of Blind Children by the National Federation of the Blind, Maryland Chapter.

Du Pont, an instructor in the Infant & Toddler Early Learning program at MSB, was nominated for the prestigious award by parents of children who are blind or visually impaired, for her effective teaching strategies that enable students to reach their fullest potential, her diligence in promoting braille literacy skills and her

dedication to her students.

Throughout her 14 years of service at MSB, du Pont has been a strong advocate for quality education and early intervention. She routinely gives of herself and her time, often going above and beyond, to ensure that her students and their families receive the support they need during this key stage of their development.

Founded in 1853, The Maryland School for the Blind is a private, statewide resource center providing outreach, educational and residential programs to children

and youth from infancy to age 21 who are blind or visually impaired including those with multiple disabilities. Annually the school serves 56 percent of the 1,700 students identified in Maryland who are blind or visually impaired through its on-campus and outreach programs.

According to Dr. Michael Bina, MSB President, "We are very fortunate to have highly dedicated and talented

individuals, like Abigail, on our staff. She is most deserving of this recognition and we are proud of her accomplishments. She plays a key role in advancing our mission by assisting our students to reach their fullest potential by preparing them to be as successful, independent and well-rounded contributing members of their communities as possible."

## Show your pride by wearing blue for Team BCPS Day 2017

Soon, Baltimore County will be seeing lots of blue. It is almost time for the fourth Team BCPS Day, an opportunity for students, staff, alumni, community members, and partners to show their public education pride.

The next Team BCPS Day is Thursday, Jan. 12, 2017. If schools are closed due to inclement weather, Team BCPS Day will be held Thursday, Jan. 19.

All members of Team BCPS are encouraged to wear blue on Jan. 12. Once again, current and former students, staff, partners, volunteers and school system supporters can share messages about what being part of Team BCPS means to them. Team BCPS participants are encouraged to share photos and videos via social media using the hashtag #BCPSBlue, or via e-mail to communications@bcps.org.

"Team BCPS Day is a fun and simple way for students and staff to share pride in our school system," Superintendent Dr. S. Dallas Dance said. "We have been so impressed by the support in the past, from as far away as California. We look forward to seeing how our business partners throughout the region continue to embrace this initiative."

Prior to Team BCPS Day, alumni and business partners are invited to submit written or video messages about how and why they are part of BCPS. These messages can be sent to communications@bcps.org any time before Jan. 12, or shared via social media.

Photos from last year's Team BCPS Day can be viewed at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/bcps/albums/72157663451369576>.

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For more information kindly call Michelle.

410-668-1588

8100 Rossville Boulevard  
Baltimore, MD 21236  
www.BrightviewWhiteMarsh.com



## Middle school writing competition now open

Whether it's taking pen to paper or fingers to keyboard, any writer will tell you that getting started can be the hardest part. But getting started is exactly what Baltimore County Public Schools middle school students need to do now to prepare for the 20th Annual Middle School Writing Contest.

The deadline for entries is Friday, Feb. 10 at 3 p.m. Exciting prizes, including NOOK tablets for first-place winners, will be presented thanks to the support of the Carver Center Foundation.

The contest rules are that:

- All submissions must be accompanied by a submission cover sheet
- Students may submit only one entry per genre and must include a separate cover sheet for each submission.
- All submissions must be in Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, and double-spaced.
- All works must have a title.
- Each page must be numbered and include the writer's last name.
- Nonfiction entries must be personal essay, memoir or journalistic in nature.
- Poetry must be no longer than 50 lines.
- Nonfiction and fiction must be no longer than 10 double-spaced pages.

Winners will be notified in early April 2017. For more information, please contact Suzanne Supplee at [ssupplee@bcps.org](mailto:ssupplee@bcps.org) or 410-887-2775.

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Nurse-Attorney  
Author of the *Unofficial Guide to Social Security Disability Claims*



## Goddard School White Marsh owners honored with Circle of Excellence award

David and Amber O'Brien and Krystle Molite, owners of The Goddard School® located at 4960 Mercantile Road in Baltimore, MD, have been awarded the Circle of Excellence President's Club Award by Goddard Systems, Inc. (GSI), franchisor of The Goddard School.

The award acknowledges Goddard School owners for being exceptional in the areas of quality assurance and health and safety and for being in the top twenty percent of Goddard Schools all throughout the country.

The O'Briens, Molite and their team believe that teacher accountability and adhering to health and safety policies and procedures helps to create a great

work added.

The O'Briens also own The Goddard School located in Forest Hill, and The Goddard School located in Middle River which is their newest location. The location is off of exit 67 fully-equipped with three new playgrounds, indoor gym with a climbing wall and play-based equipment. Come in for a tour to see the difference a Goddard education can make for your children.

To learn more about The Goddard School located at 4960 Mercantile Road in Baltimore, MD, please call David, Amber or Krystle at 410-933-3833 or visit [www.GoddardSchool.com/White-MarshMD](http://www.GoddardSchool.com/White-MarshMD).

*Merry Christmas,  
from my family to yours!*



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thanks you for your  
continued support  
and wishes you a  
very Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year!*

**IN YOUR WORDS****Thank You message to employees and neighbors at River Point Apts**

My wife and I would like to thank the employees and neighbors at River Point Apartments for everything they did for us during the loss we experienced at Food Lion in Middle River on Wednesday, Nov. 16.

A male person stole my wallet that morning, and we lost all the money we had saved in my wallet to use for Thanksgiving shopping. We are 78 and 79 years of age and it broke our hearts. We live on a limited income everyday, which makes it hard to deal with.

We would like to personally thank Traci Schneeman, community manager; Katrina Walliams; Warren Schuman; Thomas Davies; and Mary Ward, "The Prayer Circle." Shirley and I would like to thank all of you for what you all gave us to help get over this sad event. Our love and prayers will be with all of you forever!

*Shirley and John Krause  
Essex*

**Real Equity in BCPS**

In reading the paper I came across a letter to the editor that sent me to the dictionary. I always thought equity meant the same. Not so fast. In the Baltimore County school system, equity means that some students get more than others. How is that for being politically correct? A couple of other gems that make me wonder are "gender expression" and "under-represented." Since I had no idea what equity meant I did not even try to decipher the latter two terms. It is this kind of thinking, or lack thereof, that got Donald Trump elected. Of course, if you live in an area where the rulers think this way then you will just have to pony up your extortion payment (taxes) and live with it or move.

*William M. Libercci, Sr.  
Perry Hall*

**Electoral votes in Maryland**

Under Article 8, Section 505 of the Maryland Constitution, it is provided, "... the presidential electors shall cast their votes for the candidates for President and Vice President who received a plurality of the votes cast in the State of Maryland."

In 2007, the heavily dominated Democratic majority in both the State Senate and House of Delegates passed legislation that could materially alter how Maryland electors would cast their votes.

The measure was signed into law in April of that year by Governor O'Malley, just one day after the General Assembly had adjourned.

Essentially, under the new law Maryland's electoral votes would be awarded to the winner of the national popular vote, provided that a majority (270) of the nation's 538 electoral votes decided to make the same change.

If enough state legislatures enact similar legislation, the most populous states would control the presidential outcome and thwart the intentions of the Founding Fathers.

If candidate A in Maryland received more votes than Candidate B but candidate B won the popular vote, our electoral vote would go to Candidate B despite the will of the people.

Serious consideration needs to be given to rescind this legislation even though the Republican minority has very little chance to even get it out of committee.

But at least it would draw the public's attention to an act of the General Assembly that seriously threatens the integrity of the state's voters and their voice in the determination of future presidents.

*Chuck Marks  
Perry Hall*

**Positive Energy Enhances**

I wish all the analysts, critics and predictors of whatever would change their direction.

It would be nice if each on would use their energy to build up and not tear down earnest peoples' efforts.

Do something to make things better yourself! Act now! Turn those negatives into positive energy and enhance others. It's contagious!

*Lorraine Mack  
Middle River*

**To God Goes the Glory**

God answered the nation's prayers and has given us a chance to return this country to the constitutional republic gifted to us by the Founding Fathers. Let's continue to pray that our president-elect will surround himself with wise people who love America and will help him make it great again.

The hard-working men and women of America - many Democrats and Independents along with Republicans - are finally sick of the media elite, the Hollywood elite and the political establishment elite. As Americans, we just want our country back from a ruling class of poo-bahs and potentates that crosses party lines and has gotten fat on our backs.

Crony capitalism, dependency, debt, swelling bureaucracy, shrinking military open borders, globalism and attacks on life, religious liberty, property rights and Second Amendment rights were rejected. Voters chose Donald Trump, who vowed to be a champion for the "forgotten Americans."

For the first time since 1928, Republicans will control the Presidency, the Senate and the House. President Donald Trump will have a historic opportunity to deliver on the commitments that he made to those who have been left behind by the progressive agenda.

*Carlton Clendaniel  
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## Essex man charged in deadly Dundalk hit and run

The Baltimore County Police Department has announced an arrest in a fatal hit and run crash from August.

Just before 1 a.m. on Aug. 23, 23-year-old Keith Curtis Tawney was in a south-bound lane of North Point Boulevard south of Cove Road. A vehicle that had been traveling south-bound on North Point Boulevard struck Tawney and fled. Tawney died at the scene.

Last week, after an intensive Crash Team investigation, a Baltimore County Grand Jury indicted 29-year-old Daniel Earl Lawrence, of the 400 block of Riverside Drive in Essex, in connection with the crash. He was taken into custody just before 11:30 p.m. on Dec. 18 and is being held at the Baltimore County Detention Center.

## Cold weather crime prevention tips

As the holiday season approaches, many of us will be traveling to spend time with friends and family from near and far. While away, remember to protect your home with some basic crime prevention tips.

- Remove objects that might allow access to your home, such as ladders as they can be used to enter a window or scale a fence.
- Do not post travel plans on social media letting people know that your house may be unoccupied.
- Ask a neighbor, friend or relative to pick up your mail, newspapers and deliveries or simply have delivery stopped while you are away.
- Don't leave a key hidden outside. Burglars know all the best hiding places.
- Secure windows including those upstairs.
- Cut tree limbs away from second-story windows to reduce the chance of entry.
- Use timers to operate lights. It makes your home look occupied when you're not there.
- Ask a friend to move your car occasionally if it's parked in the driveway.
- Install a web-based home security system that allows you to check on your home while away, as well as arm and disarm your system from any laptop, cell phone, PDA or other web-enabled devices. Be sure to have a good firewall and protection system for your web-based system.

## Man charged in fatal Dundalk stabbing case

Baltimore County Police Homicide Detectives have charged a suspect in connection with a fatal stabbing on Eastern Avenue Sept. 1.

Wayne Edward Zeigler Jr (35) of no fixed address has been charged with first-degree murder and is being held without bail at the Baltimore County Detention Center.

Just after 7:30 p.m., police were called to the 7800 block of Eastern Avenue in Dundalk for a stabbing. When officers arrived on the scene, they found 18-year-old Gerrod Dominick Greenwood, of the 400 block of 52nd St. in Dundalk, and another man near a bus stop suffering from stab wounds to the upper body. Both men were transported to area hospitals for treatment. Greenwood died at the hospital.

The investigation has indicated that two groups had become involved in a fight near the bus stop. During the fight, Zeigler stabbed Greenwood.

The incident remains under investigation by the Baltimore County Police Homicide Unit. Anyone with information is asked to call 410-307-2020.

## Man steals \$8,000 necklace from Eastpoint Mall store

Detectives with the Dundalk Precinct Investigative Services Team are investigating after a man stole an \$8,000 necklace from a jewelry store in Eastpoint Mall.

The investigation has indicated that the suspect entered the Elite Gold and Diamonds store just before 4 p.m. on December 7 and asked to see a gold necklace worth \$8,000. A store employee handed it to him, he put it around his neck, and ran from the store. A store employee chased the suspect onto the parking lot where he got into a silver Honda Accord.

The store employee stated he was standing about 50 to 75 feet from the Honda Accord and that someone inside the vehicle pointed what he believed to be a gun at him. The vehicle fled the scene on Eastern Avenue towards Essex.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to call the Dundalk Precinct at 410-887-7320 or Metro Crime Stoppers at 1-866-7LOCKUP.

## Thieves steal laptops from Deep Creek Elementary

Burglary Detectives are investigating after two thieves stole laptop computers from a trailer at Deep Creek Elementary School.

On Dec. 13 at 2:42 a.m., officers were dispatched to Deep Creek Elementary School in the 1100 block of East Homberg Avenue in Essex for a burglar alarm. When officers arrived, they found that a window to one of the trailers was open and the window screen was on the ground.

Further investigation indicated that 20 laptop computers, worth \$1,250 each, had been taken from the trailer.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to call police at 410-307-2020 or Metro Crime Stoppers at 1-866-7LOCKUP.

Metro Crime Stoppers, an organization that is separate from the Baltimore County Police Department and Baltimore County Government, offers rewards for information in connection with felony offenses. Anonymous tips can be sent to Metro Crime Stoppers by phone, text message or online.

## Current crime trends

Since Nov. 22, there have been four burglaries targeting paint stores in the Towson, Parkville and White Marsh precincts. Rear or side doors were pried in three cases. Front window glass was broken in one case. Items taken include register drawers, money, a van, paint sprayers and a gas card.

Since Nov. 12, there have been six auto thefts and one attempt between the Cedemont and Cedonia communities in the White Marsh Precinct.

Since Nov. 30, there have been three residential burglaries targeting the Dunfield community in the Parkville Precinct. Two cases occurred between noon and 5:30 p.m. One case occurred between 9 p.m. and 6:10 a.m. Rear doors and windows were entered in two cases. A doggie door was entered in one case. Items taken include game systems, a safe, a computer, a lockbox, money and credit cards.

Since Nov. 12, there have been six commercial robberies countywide believed to be committed by the same suspect. These incidents remain under investigation by Baltimore County Police.

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# Weekend weather causes deadly crashes in Baltimore area

From midnight Friday, Dec. 16 until midnight yesterday, Maryland state troopers responded to 377 traffic crashes. Of those, 56 involved personal

injury, 131 involved disabling damage to one or more vehicles and 190 were crashes in which the vehicles involved sustained only minor damage and could be driven from the scene. During the period, troopers provided assistance to 95 disabled vehicles and stranded motorists.

The largest crash Maryland State Police responded to occurred about 5:30 a.m. on Saturday, when 15 vehicles were involved in a chain reaction crash on the inner loop of I-695 at Rt. 702. The crash occurred when drivers lost control of their vehicles because of black ice in the area. Nine people were transported to Franklin Square Hospital and Bayview Hospital, although no injuries were reported to be serious. The crash required portions of I-695 to remain closed for six hours.

I-95 saw the most activity on Saturday, as a 67-vehicle pileup kept

both sides of the highway shut down for much of the day. Two were pronounced dead while almost two dozen others were treated for injuries.

In total, there were three fatalities on I-95 on Saturday, as an unrelated crash by the Eastern Avenue exit resulted in the death of Mehmed Hodzic, a 54-year-old man from Edgewood. Hodzic was involved in an accident at approximately 4:45 a.m. and subsequently fell or jumped off the side of the elevated highway. The incident is still being investigated.

Drivers are reminded they can view the latest road conditions on the MDOT State Highway Administration's website at [www.roads.maryland.gov](http://www.roads.maryland.gov) and clicking "CHART." Travelers may obtain the latest free traffic and weather information by calling 5-1-1 from a landline or a hands-free mobile device or logging onto [www.MD511.org](http://www.MD511.org).

## HOLIDAY CLOSING



The East County Times' office will be CLOSED Monday, December 26th.

The office will RE-OPEN on Tuesday, December 27th.

All deadlines for the December 29th edition will be Friday, December 23rd at 4 p.m.

We wish you & yours a **MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
East County Times

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### SPECIAL NEEDS ALERT:

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Defenders of Animal Rights, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to eliminating cruelty to all animals. Our shelter is proud to have an adoption rate of about 97%. Donations are tax deductible. Financial info. is available upon request. Write: Defenders of Animal Rights, 14412 Old York Rd., Phoenix, MD 21131, 410-527-1466. Or, for cost of copying/postage, contact MD Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401 or the VA Division of Consumer Affairs. FL residents: Reg/Financial info. obtained from Div. of Consumer Services, toll free 800-435-7352 within state. Reg. does not imply endorsement, approval or rec. by the state. FL Reg. CH 961.

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## Precinct 9/White Marsh

**Second Degree Burglary:** On Dec. 17, officers from the White Marsh precinct responded to a call in the 8200 block of Old Philadelphia Road in Rosedale. Sometime between 10 p.m. on December 16 and 11:30 a.m. on December 17, an unknown suspect(s) pried open the front door of Universal Pizza. Once inside, the suspects stole, cash, electronic equipment, food and miscellaneous items.

**First Degree Burglary:** Shortly after 10:30 p.m. on Dec. 16, Baltimore County police were called to the 8900 block of Talc Drive in Rosedale. Sometime

between 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m., an unknown suspect(s) entered the victim's apartment and stole, cash, electronic equipment, jewelry, purses and two televisions. Anyone with information is urged to contact Baltimore County police.

**First Degree Burglary:** On Dec. 15, officers responded to a call in the unit block of Buttonwood Court in Rosedale. Sometime between 9:45 and 10:15 a.m., an unknown suspect entered the victim's residence by cutting a screen and opening an unlocked window. Once inside, the suspect ransacked the house and stole multiple items.

**First Degree Burglary:** Baltimore County police officers were called to

the 7000 block of Ridge Road in Rose-dale on Dec. 14 shortly before noon. Sometime between 10:30 and 11:50

a.m., the front door of the victim's home was pried open and the house was ransacked. No items were taken.

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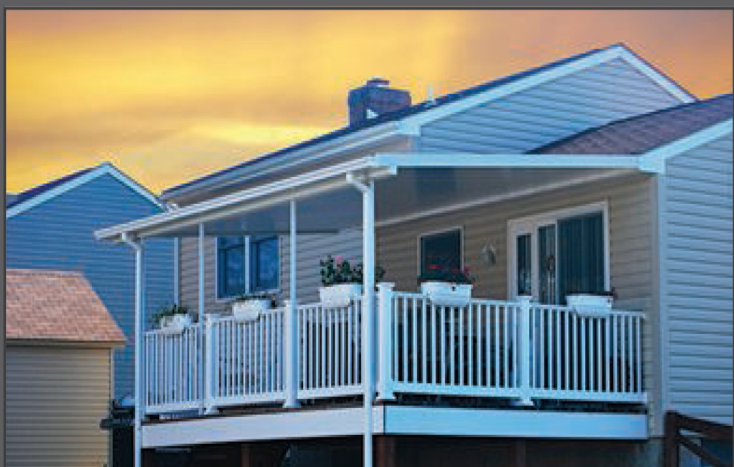
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### 'Twas the Night Before Christmas By Pam Spittel

'Twas the night before Christmas at The East County Times  
And I'm going to tell you why our newspaper shines  
First we are local, no corporation to get in our way  
And once you work here, everyone always seem to stay.

Our editorial staff loves when they are given extra space  
And Patrick gets excited when there's a story to chase  
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And we welcome Marge ~ back to the wonderful world of ink

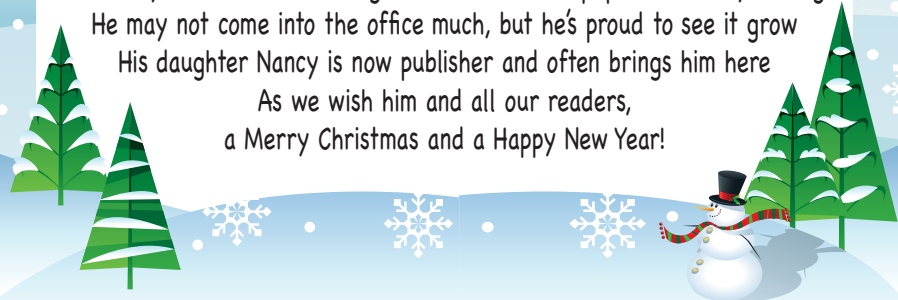
The in-house art department does their job really well  
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Our paper might be free but it's the advertising that makes it run  
I've been here for 17 years; Linda has been here since day one  
Deadlines comes around once a week, and we expect a little stress  
But it's become somewhat easier, since Linda recruited Jess.

Michele does the billing & answers most of the calls  
Terri's in charge of classified and decorates all the halls  
Jessica came on board this year to manage payroll and such  
These three keep the front office humming & we appreciate it very much.

So here we are at Christmas time, everyone is filled with glee  
But please, somebody tell me, what happened to the Christmas tree?  
Sure, Terri lit up the big fake plant, it's tacky, but it's going to have to do  
We expected each other to put it up, but then the time just flew!  
But we are blessed this season with the huge tree right across the street  
Sam Weaver donated it & Cliff's Hi-Tech's decorations were no easy feat  
It took many volunteers to help show that our community has pride  
Now the Heritage Museum is bustling, the spirit has nowhere to hide!

And finally, to our owner, George, who started the paper over 20 years ago  
He may not come into the office much, but he's proud to see it grow  
His daughter Nancy is now publisher and often brings him here  
As we wish him and all our readers,  
a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



# 'La La Land': NOT the same old song and dance

- By Teddy Durgin -

background filler as people tend to their drinks, food and murmuring conversations.

The two start a romance punctuated by beautifully staged and photographed song-and-dance numbers - some elaborate, some intimate. But the impressive thing is each of these sequences spring from character and they all serve to move the plot forward. There's never the sense of "Oh, shoot. We've gone 10 minutes without a show stopper. Let's do a line dance!"

"La La Land" also has the courage to be sad in spots. Mia and Sebastian are essentially two lonely people driven largely by ego and need. They've isolated themselves because of their lifestyle choices, and the clock is starting to tick for each for what "normal" people want at their age. Their journey becomes not only to find the love in each other, but the love in their art, their craft. Both ultimately ask "Is it worth it?"

The film is written and directed by Damien Chazelle, who previously gave cinema "Whiplash." And I suspect this rising auteur will get to write his own ticket after "La La Land" really hits. From here, I'm sure he'll be offered huge projects, and it will be interesting to see if he tries to bring his unique sensibilities to a more franchise property or continue to take chances with risky and daring fare.

I guess my only lingering nitpick is with the ultimate ending of "La La Land." Oh, it's not bad. Chazelle and all concerned DO stick the landing, and no one who I've talked to who has seen the film shares this minor gripe of mine. But, without giving anything away, I do wish fate had gone one way for one of the characters as opposed to how this person ultimately ends up. I think there was a chance for an even more poignant final resolution that might have been just a tad more grounded.

But hey, what am I talkin' about here? Grounded? This is a movie in which two lovers visit a planetarium and end up floating up to the stars and doing a waltz! It's almost impossible to have one's head in the clouds and feet on the ground. Art isn't made that way. And I'm ultimately glad "La La Land" wasn't either.

"La La Land" is rated PG-13 for some language.

# 'Rogue One' ranks up there with the Galaxy Far, Far Away's best



- By Teddy Durgin -

When I sat down to watch "The Force Awakens" last year for the first time, I was pretty sure I was in for a rollicking good time. But I was also pretty sure Han Solo, quite possibly my favorite character in all of cinema, was going to die. It hadn't been mentioned in any of the press leading up to the film. But we all pretty much knew the "Star Wars" Brinks truck was only going to be pulled up to Ford's house once.

Flash-forward a year later, and now we have "Rogue One." The story is like "Titanic" in that we already know how it's going to turn out. It's about the Rebel Alliance mission that resulted in the original Death Star plans being stolen from the evil Galactic Empire and transferred to Princess Leia's ship, which falls under attack at the very beginning of the original 1977 film. But the key to the success of the new movie would have to be "Would I care at all about these completely new characters who go on this mission?"

Yes, I spent all of "The Force Awakens" going, "Oh, please don't kill Han Solo! Please don't kill Han Solo!" By the halfway mark of "Rogue One," I was actively muttering to myself, "Oh, please don't kill Jyn Erso! Please don't kill K-2SO! Please don't kill Bodhi... or Captain Andor... or Chirrut!"

"Rogue One" is not only great, folks. It's astoundingly great! But I will readily concede this is NOT a "Star Wars" movie for everyone. It's dark, it's gritty. It's a real war film! But I applaud Disney director Gareth Edwards, "Zero Dark Thirty" cinematographer Greig Fraser and all concerned for not making this "kiddie" in any way. Kids will still thrill to it. But adults are the real target here.

This is the Rebellion just before Luke Skywalker and Han Solo show up. The Alliance is on the ropes. This is the absolute pinnacle of the Empire's power. And as rumors spread of a new, ultimate weapon of mass destruction, it looks as if all hope is about to be lost. What the street-wise Jyn (Felicity Jones), the turncoat pilot Bodhi (Riz Ahmed) and the others do in this movie allows Luke, Han and Leia to step forward soon

- see ROGUE ONE on page 26 -

"La La Land" (now open on 200 screens in select cities - including the Charles in Baltimore - and expanding globally over the next couple of weeks) is THE film to beat this award season. And deservedly so. It somehow merges the class and beauty of Golden Age, old-school Hollywood musicals with today's YouTube-friendly flash mobs; super elaborate Super Bowl halftime numbers; and broadcast TV song-and-dance shows. It's basically everything that has come before and up until now distilled into the year's most singularly entertaining motion picture.

If I had one criticism, "La La Land" is almost TOO entertaining! I was worn out at the end of this flick. My eyeballs were rolling around like some cartoon character that had just gotten slugged. My feet were tired from all of the toe tapping. And, yes, the film also worked on me emotionally. It's a two-character flick essentially, and I got WAY involved with this earnest, beautiful duo.

Emma Stone stars as Mia, an aspiring actress in L.A. who goes on audition after audition and finds that she is a little too pretty, a little too short, a little too young, a little too... well, you get the picture. It's one humiliation after another. She works in a coffee shop on a Hollywood studio back lot, and being that close to the action but not being able to get in the door is starting to weigh on her. Then she meets a kindred spirit in Sebastian (Ryan Gosling), a down-on-his-luck jazz pianist who dreams of opening his own club in southern California. He is committed to classic jazz a la Charlie Parker and Miles Davis. But the paying gigs all want him to play glorified Muzak that is more

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**GREETINGS of the SEASON**

There may be a chill in the air, but our hearts are warmed by thoughts of our many good friends and neighbors at this special time of year.

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**Baltimore Humane Society is in dire need of foster families. If you or anyone you know is interested in doing so, please contact Wendy at goldband@bmorehumane.org or visit our website at www.bmorehumane.org and click on "Foster A Pet!"**

**Baltimore Humane Society's PETS OF THE WEEK**

**MEKHI**  
 Mekhi the puggle here. Happy to meet ya'. I am a sweet, laid back and adorable guy looking for my forever home. I like long walks because I enjoy being able to smell all the cool scents around me using my beagle nose. I also like people who will give me attention like head scratches and butt rubs. I may become vocal at times especially if I think you are ignoring me... I'm so cute. Why would you want to ignore me? What you may normally find me doing is lounging around on my comfy and warm blankets so I can stay warm on these chilly days. I will be a loyal companion to you, I just know it. So stop in for a visit and I'm sure you'll agree. See ya' real soon!

**HENRY**  
 Hello, I'm Henry, a senior front declawed kitty who needs a forever home. I may be cautious with people at first, although I do like being pet. I will let you know when I have had enough, though. I love lounging around in comfy beds and watching laser pointers, but what I love most is food! You may even hear me grumbling while I'm eating if you try to talk to me or take my food - that's how much I love it. In my previous home I lived with children who liked me, but they had allergies so I could not live there anymore. My previous family called me "an awesome family cat." Stop in soon and hopefully you will agree.

The adoption fee is \$150, and \$25 for Henry. For more information visit [www.bmorehumane.org](http://www.bmorehumane.org).

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**BECAUSE WE WANT TO SEE YOU DURING THE NEW YEAR!!**

# ROGUE ONE

- continued from page 24 -

after and be the heroes they become. The film is told largely from the "grunt's" perspective. The characters here are the foot soldiers, criminals and outcasts that the Empire has marginalized, yet empowered.

The most impressive thing about "Rogue One," I think, is how it makes the original 1977 movie even MORE involving now. It deepens that classic story and makes it incredibly more urgent. Because when you think about it, that first movie in '77 really was all about those Death Star plans. So, in this film, you WILL see the lengths the Rebel spies had to go to to beam those transmissions to Leia's ship. You WILL see Rebel spaceships winning their victory against the evil Galactic Empire. And you WILL learn just how and

why those plans revealed the critical flaw they did.

And, wow, eight movies in and "Star Wars" can still dazzle us! There are things in this movie, my friends, that quite literally dropped my jaw. Things I won't spoil that other reviewers have. There are two or three HUGE risks taken here that pay off thanks to Industrial Light and Magic. And when you see them on screen, you'll mutter as so many of us muttered in '77, "How did they do THAT?!"

OK, I'll stop here, because I'm bursting at the seams to spoil the doo-doo outta the rest of this film! I will only say that when the final seconds happen, and the screen turns to a starfield with the credit "Directed by Gareth Edwards," that moment and what comes right before it is absolutely... freakin'... sweet! Like Daniel LaRusso kicking Johnny in the face, Miyagi smiling



and - BAM! - the "Karate Kid" end credits roll sweet. I saw this early with a dozen other critics in a 300-seat theater. And at the end, I clapped, I yelled "Oh Hell yeah!" and (yes) I wiped a single tear of "Star Wars" fan fulfillment from my left eye.

"Rogue One" is rated PG-13 for extended sequences of sci-fi violence and action.

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### Swearing-In Ceremony



The Riverside Democratic Club held a swearing-in ceremony for newly-elected officers and directors on Dec. 8. Baltimore County Clerk of the Courts Julie Ensor administered the oath of office to all new leaders. The club also welcomed Tara Ebersole, chairwoman of the Baltimore County Democratic party and 6th District County Councilwoman Cathy Bevins. Serving the group for the next year will be President Al Welsh (pictured above, from left), Vice President AJ Bierman, Treasurer Jean Braun, Sergeant-At-Arms Jim Braun, Financial Secretary Jay Hidden and board members Jim Butterfield, Mike Weir, Jr., Al Culver, Jim Mack, III and Brad Lewis. Not pictured are Recording Secretary Collette Tipton and board member Larry Lee, Sr. Clerk of the Court Julie Ensor has her back to the camera. The club meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Essex-Holly Neck VFW Post 2621, 206 Riverside Road in Essex. Membership is open to all interested Democrats. For more information, call Jay Hidden, 443-854-9965, or send an email to new7thnews@gmail.com.

### Alaskan Cruise X

Alaskan 10-day land and sea cruise in July 2017. Call Anthony at 443-801-5678 for more information.

### Martinville Train Garden

The third annual Martinville Train Garden at the Glenn L. Martin Maryland Aviation Museum, 701 Wilson Point Road in Middle River, is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays throughout the holiday season. Admission to the museum, which includes the miniature plane and train garden, is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children. The museum is in Hangar 5 at Martin State Airport. For more info., call 410-682-6122 or visit [www.mdairmuseum.org](http://www.mdairmuseum.org).

### Sight & Sound Bus Trip

Church of the Annunciation, 5212 McCormick Ave. in Overlea, will hold a bus trip Wednesday, Dec. 28, to see "Samson" at the Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster, Pa. Tickets, which include a show ticket, bus transportation, lunch buffet and snacks on the bus, cost \$105 for adults and \$71 for children 12 and under. The bus will leave the church parking lot at 10 a.m. and return around 7:30 p.m. To reserve a seat, call Jane at 410-866-8016.

### Celebration of Flight

On Dec. 17, 1903, brothers Orville and Wilbur Wright made the first powered and sustained flight when they kept their flying machine in the air for 12 seconds, traveling a distance of 120 feet. Thirteen years after that first flight, the Wright Co. and the Glenn L. Martin Co. merged for a brief time to create the Wright Martin Aircraft Corp. Visit the Glenn L. Martin Maryland Aviation Museum at Martin State Airport, Hangar 5, 701 Wilson Point Road in Middle River, to learn about this partnership. On display is a large scale model of Martin's first flying machine, similar in structure to the Wrights' 1903 Flyer. The museum is open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children. Information: 410-682-6122.

### Sacred Heart Christmas Services

Join us at Sacred Heart of Mary, 6736 Youngstown Ave. in Dundalk, for Mass on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. On Christmas Eve, carols will start at 3:30 p.m., followed by Mass at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. Carols (Kolendy) begin at 11:30 p.m. and will be followed by Mass at Midnight. Christmas Day Masses are at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Bring the whole family to celebrate the birth of our Savior.

### Philly Flower Show Bus Trip

Church of the Annunciation, 5212 McCormick Ave. in Overlea, will hold a bus trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show on Thursday, March 16, 2017. The theme is Holland - Flowering the World. The cost is \$70 and includes the event ticket, bus transportation and snacks on the bus. Lunch is on your own. The bus will leave the church parking lot at 10 a.m. and return at 7 p.m. A deposit of \$25 is due at the time of reservations and the balance is due Jan. 22. Call Jane at 410-866-8016 to reserve your seat.

### Historical Society Train Garden

The Dundalk-Patapsco Neck Historical Society and Museum, 4 Center Place in Dundalk, will host its 17th annual train garden thru Monday, Jan. 2. Hours are noon to 8 p.m., seven days a week, with the exceptions of Dec. 24, when the display closes at 5 p.m., and Christmas Day, Dec. 25, when the garden is closed. Free admission, but donations accepted. Info.: 410-284-2331.

### Wise Avenue Train Garden

The Wise Avenue Volunteer Fire Company, 214 Wise Ave. in Dundalk, hosts its annual train garden from noon to 9 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays and 6 to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday through Jan. 8. Admission is \$1; free for children under 7. Fire house merchandise is available for purchase.

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- Almond Slivers ..... \$6.00
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- FILET MIGNON ..... \$27.00
- 10 oz of our melt-in-your-mouth center cut Filet, lightly seasoned and flame broiled to your liking.
- MARYLAND CRAB CAKES (One) ..... \$19.00 (Two) ..... \$29.00
- Our jumbo lump perfectly seasoned Crab Cake, served fried or broiled.
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- FISHERMAN'S PIE ..... \$19.00
- Bay Scallops, Shrimp, Cod in a creamy Saffron Bisque topped with homemade fluffy Cheddar Biscuit. \*Served with salad only
- STEAK & CAKE ..... \$35.00
- Our 8 oz center cut Filet cooked to your liking alongside a Maryland style Crab Cake seasoned to perfection.
- SHRIMP & LOBSTER SCAMPI ..... \$21.00
- Jumbo Shrimp and fresh Lobster sautéed with garlic, white wine, and lemon juice over linguine. \*Served with salad only
- STUFFED ROCKFISH ..... \$26.00
- Fresh Rockfish stuffed with our Crab Imperial.
- CHICKEN CARDINAL ..... \$25.00
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**SPOTLIGHT**

**Sip and Paint Night**

Victory Villa Senior Center, 403 Compass Road in Middle River, will hold Sip and Paint Night from 6 to 9 p.m. Jan. 18. This senior center fundraiser offers budding artists the opportunity to unleash their inner Van Gogh. Supplies, snacks and a glass of wine are included in the \$35 fee. Advance registration is required. Information: 410-887-0235.

**Zumba Classes**

Bengies-Chase Recreation Council offers a winter session of Zumba classes beginning Thursday, Jan. 19. Classes will be held at Oliver Beach Elementary School, 12912 Cunningham Cove Road in Middle River, from 7 to 8 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays. For more information, call 410-887-5194.

**Patapsco Class of '72**

Organizers are looking for classmates for Patapsco High School Class of 1972's 45-year reunion set for Oct. 12, 2017. If you are not in touch via Facebook or Classmates.com, please email pspittel@verizon.net or call Pam (Bukowski) Spittel at 443-768-3210 to provide contact information.

**Seafood Nights**

Rosedale American Legion Post 180, 1331 Seling Ave., will hold seafood nights from 6 - 8 p.m. on Wednesdays through May 31, 2017. A variety of seafood will be offered each week. Reservations are not necessary. For information, call 410-866-9656.

**Tai Chi for Better Balance**

Register now for new classes beginning January 3, at Victory Villa Senior Center, 403 Compass Road in Middle River. Class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m. This class improves balance, strength and physical performance. Fee is \$15.00 for 12 weeks. Participants must be 60 or older and be a member of the Senior Center. There is no fee to join the center.

**Art of Pottery**

Register now for the winter session of Art of Pottery with Carol. This class meets on Fridays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Victory Villa Senior Center, 403 Compass Road in Middle River. The fee is \$35.00 for 10 weeks. Participants must be 60 or older and a member of the Senior Center (there is no fee to join the center).

**Aerobics**

Rosedale Recreation Council will begin a new session of aerobics on Monday, Jan. 9, at 7 p.m. at the Shady Spring PAL Center, 8876 Goldenwood Road. Classes for participants ages 16 and above will run from 7 to 8 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. The cost is \$40; cash and money orders will be accepted. Show up 20 minutes before the class to register. For more information, call the rec office, 410-887-0503.

**Karaoke**

Charles Evering VFW Post 6506, 8777 Philadelphia Road in Rosedale, will host Fun Time Karaoke with Annette and Wild Bill from 7 to 11 p.m. Friday, Dec. 23. The full dinner menu will be available. For info., call 410-391-6506. The post will be closed Saturday, Dec. 24.

**Women's Firearm Safety Course**

The Well Armed Woman Anne Arundel County Chapter holds meetings at Freestate Gun Range, 11500 Crossroads Circle in Middle River, on the second Sunday of every month starting at 2 p.m. Women can learn firearm safety techniques and self-protection. For info., call Terry DeGraw, 443-676-0548.

**Cornhole League**

Baltimore Metro Horseshoe Club will host a Baggo League (cornhole) on Thursdays from 6 to 9 p.m. from Jan. 5 to March 30, at Deep Creek Middle School, 1000 S. Marlyn Ave. in Essex. Information: 410-686-5174 or BaltMHC@gmail.com.

**EVT 40-Year Reunion**

Eastern Vocational Technical High School class of 1977 is planning its 40-year reunion. Organizers are looking for classmates without contact information on file who would be interested in attending the reunion on Sept. 30, 2017. If interested, contact Martin Friedel, 410-458-9039, or Madman@closecall.com.

**Soup Kitchen**

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church, 7834 East-ern Ave. across from Eastpoint Mall, operates its soup kitchen on the last Saturday of every month from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more info., call 410-288-0537.

**Free Home-Cooked Meals**

Essex United Methodist Church, 524 Maryland Ave., will offer free, hot home-cooked meals for anyone in the community every Wednesday from 3:30 - 6 p.m. Anyone who wishes to may sit down and eat, no questions asked.

**Sacred Heart Young Adults**

Come visit the Young Adults (ages 18-35) for those who want to grow in their spirituality, help our community, and create a stronger relationship with God. We have group discussions, testimonies, music, food and planning for community service and socials like BBQs and ice skating. We meet in the parish center at 6727 Duluth Ave. in Dundalk, every first and third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. For more information, send an email to SacredHeartYA@gmail.com or call the parish office, 410-633-2828.

**SOAR Meetings**

Chapter 8-1 of Steelworkers Organization of Active Retirees (SOAR) meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the UAW Hall at 1010 S. Oldham Street in Dundalk. Meetings feature updates on current issues facing retirees and lunch. Retirees from any organization are welcome to join; yearly dues are \$12.99 for retirees and \$3 for spouses. For more information, call Don Kellner at 410-227-8462.



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**Merry Christmas!**  
From all of us at the EAST COUNTY TIMES to you and yours!

A group photo of staff members in festive holiday attire, including red jackets and winter hats, standing in front of a decorated background.

**Attention Catholic war veterans in the Essex-Middle River area**

Catholic War Veterans is looking for veterans to restart the Maryland State Department Catholic War Veterans Post 706 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Roman Catholic Church in Essex. The Catholic War Veterans is a veteran service organization (VSO) and overseas service is not a requirement to join the organization. Its mission is to help all veterans and their families.

The Catholic War Veterans was organized in 1935 when it received an apostolic blessing from Pope Pius XI and later received a congressional charter from President Ronald Reagan in 1984. Its motto is, "For God, For Country, For Home." Membership is open to baptized Catholics, male or female, who have honorably served on active duty for a period of at least 90 days, in the Reserve Component or National Guard, or are currently on active duty in any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces. Younger veterans are needed for the future of any veteran organization.

Over the years, Catholic War Veterans Post 706 membership consisted mainly of World War II veterans, most of whom have since passed away. Fifteen veterans who are American citizens in good standing in the Catholic Church are needed to restart the post.

For many years, the Catholic War Veterans participated in wreath-laying ceremonies on the Sunday before Memorial Day at the Catholic War Veterans Post 706 monument in front of Saint Clare Church; at the Essex World War II monument at 525 Eastern Blvd. in Essex; and at the Essex Korea-Vietnam monument next to the Essex-Middle River Heritage Museum.

In addition to the ceremonies, Catholic War Veterans have the opportunity to reaffirm their Catholic faith by holding monthly meetings, planning and attending special Sunday masses before Memorial Day and Veterans Day, assisting other veterans and their families, performing special projects in the community and enjoying comradeship among its members. The Catholic War Veterans are a family-oriented organization and wear a light blue Garrison Cap, similar to other veteran organizations, in honor of the blessed Virgin Mary. Annual dues are only \$25.

Membership in the Catholic War Veteran Auxiliary, which already exists at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, is open to any baptized Catholic, male or female, who is an American citizen in good standing in the Catholic Church and related to a veteran within two degrees, such as a spouse, sibling or parent.

For more information, call State Commander Gil Barker at 410-299-7283.

**Karaoke**

Essex American Legion Post 148, 20 S. Marlyn Ave., will host Karaoke with Lightning Rod from 8 p.m. to midnight Friday Dec. 23. The post will close at 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 24 and remain closed Sunday, Dec. 25. Call 410-686-2353 for kitchen availability.

**Thursday Night Bingo**

Charles Evering VFW Post 6506, 8777 Philadelphia Road in Rosedale, holds bingo the first Thursday of each month starting at 5 p.m. Admission is \$20, which includes meal, soda, dessert, chips and pretzels. For more info., contact John Harris at 410-236-5431.

**Karaoke**

The Essex Moose Lodge, 7418 Eastern Ave., will hold karaoke every Friday and Saturday from 8 p.m. to midnight. Non-members are welcome as well. Call 443-503-5081 for information.

**Thursday Dinner**

Essex - Holly Neck VFW Post 2621, 206 Riverside Road, will serve dinner every Thursday from 5 - 7 p.m. Menu changes each week. Info: 410-391-5200.

**Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God**

Sacred Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 6736 Youngstown Ave. in Dundalk, invites you to start the new year with the Lord at its masses for the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 31, and 7:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 1.

**Senior Steelworkers United 9477**

The country's largest steelworkers' retirees group, Senior Steelworkers United, meets the third Wednesday of each month at Local 2609 Hall, 550 Dundalk Ave., beginning at noon. Coffee and donuts as well as lunch are provided, with a brief business meeting between the meals to discuss matters like pensions, medical insurance, Social Security and more. All Sparrows Point retirees are invited; dues are \$20 per year. For more info., call Don Kellner at 410-227-8462.

**New Year's Eve Party**  
 9 - ????  
 \$2.50 Domestic Beer  
 \$3.00 Fireball - \$5.00 Bombs  
 COMPLIMENTARY CHAMPAGNE TOAST  
 HATS, HORNS & NOISEMAKERS  
 Music By: **LANIE ROX**  
 Western Son Vodka Promo 10 - 11PM  
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**SUNDAY SPECIALS** - Fillet of Haddock w/1 Side \$7.99  
 1 lb. Steamed Shrimp (with or without onions) \$9.99  
**MONDAY SPECIALS** - 49¢ Jumbo Wings Min. 10, Eat-in Only  
 2 Treasure Chops w/1 Side \$7.99  
**TUESDAY SPECIALS** - 12oz. New York Strip w/1 Side \$10.99  
 12 oz. Ribeye Steak w/1 Side \$11.99  
 Large Caesar or Large Garden Salad \$3.99  
 Chef Salad \$5.99  
**WEDNESDAY SPECIALS** - Soft Crab Wrap \$9.99  
 Cheesesteak and Fries \$6.99  
**THURSDAY SPECIALS** - Jumbo Crab Pretzel \$12.99  
 Steak & Cake Platter w/1 Side \$19.99  
 1 lb. Steamed Shrimp (with or without onions) \$9.99  
 49¢ Jumbo Wings Min. 10, Eat-in Only  
**FRIDAY SPECIALS** - Crab Cake Platter w/1 Side \$19.99  
 6 oz Crab Cake & 5 Butterfly Shrimp w/1 Side \$13.99  
 10 Butterfly Shrimp w/1 Side \$7.99  
**SATURDAY SPECIALS** -  
 Hamburger Platter w/Mashed Potatoes & Gravy \$8.99  
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AUTO  
AUCTION**



**1042  
AUTO  
AUCTION**

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Featuring repossessed assets from area Credit Unions, Banks and other Financial Institutions.

**REGISTRATION & INSPECTION STARTING AT 7:00 a.m.**

To view autos being offered this week go to: [www.bscamerica.com](http://www.bscamerica.com) & click on Public Sale

**NOTE:** In order to Bid on a car a \$1,000 cash deposit is required and refunded day of sale if a purchase is not made. If you are attending the Public Sale and not bidding a deposit is not required.

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*Merry Christmas!*

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**TREE SERVICES**

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Find the hidden words in the puzzle.

- |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|
| ANIMALS | FEEDING | LOVE    |
| BIRD    | FISH    | PETS    |
| CAT     | HEALTH  | RABBIT  |
| DOG     | HOME    | SHELTER |

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 Q T S E B P A B G I Q O  
 S T V I S B M N C R D H  
 T O L N F R I C H A R H  
 L I R L H D N T E H T Z  
 I Q U G E G A V A I F Y  
 K S H E L T E R L D O G  
 Y U F J Z W G N T G M O  
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Daily! Earn up to \$65k, Ex-  
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Well-established Baltimore  
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NOW HAVE OPENINGS O  
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THAT CAN PERFORM  
COMMON AUTO RE-  
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MUNICATION SKILLS  
AND ATTENTION TO  
DETAILS FULL TIME,  
NO WEEKENDS, CLEAN  
DRIVING AND CRIMI-  
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Would like to invite the  
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- ✓ **FREE Uniforms**
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- ✓ **Excellent Working Conditions**
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- ✓ **FREE Uniforms**
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CASH PAID - UP TO \$25/BOX FOR UNEXPIRED, SEALED DIABETIC TEST STRIPS. 1-DAYPAYMENT. 1-800-371-1136

**EQUAL HOUSING**

All Real Estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to indicate any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

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**5049 WANTED**

WANTED DIABETIC TEST STRIPS - Top dollar Paid. We are now paying more for One Touch Ultra, Verio, Free Style Lite, Accu-Check. Un-opened, CASH ON THE SPOT. Will pick up. Please call Debbie 410-820-6540/410-279-3342



**6035 APARTMENTS/ CONDOS**

ROSEDALE - 1 Bedroom, private entrance with deck. Non-smoker. No pets. \$775/mo. includes utilities. + \$700 S.D. (Add'l APT also avail \$880/mo.) Please leave voice mail. 410-682-2262

**6035 APARTMENTS/ CONDOS**

**Rents starting at \$745**

Including ALL utilities  
*One Bedroom*

**Essex Village-Marlyn Gardens Apartments**

846 Brunswick Road, Essex  
**410-686-5952**  
Credit approval required.



**TIRED OF LIVING AT HOME?**



TIRED OF RENTING A ROOM?

TRY OUR **STUDIO APARTMENT RENTS STARTING AT \$500**

ALL utilities Included

**Essex Village-Marlyn Gardens Apartments**

846 Brunswick Road, Essex  
**410-686-5952**  
Credit approval required.



**6043 HOMES/ TOWNHOMES**

5 HOMELAND AVE. - 8 Room Rancher, 3 BR, 1BA, jacuzzi, 443-648-5113/667-209-0636

DUNDALK/ESSEX 2 & 3 BR townhouses. Reasonable rent. All nice areas, fresh paint. Rent from \$1050 to \$1250. Call 410-288-8333

DUNDALK 2-3 BR HOUSE - 1.5BA, \$1100/MO.+ S.D. UTILITIES NOT INCLUDED. PRIVATE PARKING. CALL BETWEEN 10 A.M. - 5 P.M. 410-284-8993

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ROSEDALE - 2 BR, not on bus line, no smoking-pets-drugs, Credit / Background Check. \$1150/mo. + S.D. Call 410-207-8636

**6035 APARTMENTS/ CONDOS**

**6051 ROOMMATES/ HOUSE TO SHARE**

APARTMENT TO SHARE - Clean & sober person wanted to share 2BR apt. in Harborview. \$600/mo + sec. dep. - 443.226.5995

**6053 ROOM FOR RENT**

2 ROOMS FOR RENT ESSEX \$400-\$500 UTILITIES INCLUDED CALL 410-391-1851

ROOM FOR RENT WATERFRONT \$530/MO. + SEC. DEP. BACKGROUND CHECK REQ. CALL 410-344-3463

MIDDLE RIVER - FURNISHED ALL UTILITIES \$530 CALL 410-218-1232

SEEKING FEMALE HOUSEMATE - NON-SMOKING, \$600/MO. + S.D., ALL UTILITIES INCLUDED. CALL 443-992-3560

**6054 ROOM/APT. WANTED**

EASTERN BALTIMORE COUNTY. I am seeking a 1 BR apt. with A/C, W/D. Can afford up to \$650/mo. Needed by Mid-January. Please call 443-801-5996

**THE CLASSIFIEDS**  
small ads **BIG** deals



**6117 LOTS & ACREAGE**

LENDER ORDERED SALE! 39 acres - assessed value - \$95,700. Available now for \$89,900! Catskill Mountain views, woods, fields, apple trees, great hunting! 3 hrs NY City! Owner terms! 888-431-7214

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ABANDONED FARM! 26 acres - \$49,900. Gorgeous acreage with views, nice pond, in a Perfect country setting! Quiet town road with utilities! EZ terms! 888-738-6994

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**MIDDLE RIVER**

**3305 Gentian Lane**

**3502 Honeysuckle Lane**

Nestled in charming Middle River, these beautiful 3 bedroom / 2 full bathroom homes are just waiting for you! Each with it's cozy living and dining room, perfectly designed kitchen, open floor plan and grand-master bedroom suite features tons of closet space. The clever floor plan makes it easy to entertain guests and spend more time enjoying yourself. Just imagine pulling into your driveway today! Community Amenities include (2) tot lots, dog park, fitness center, monthly resident activities, storage lot, community center, on-site maintenance and much, much more! All of this in a great community at a price that you can afford! Stop in today to take a tour! There is no appointment necessary!

These beautiful homes are currently listed at \$74,900.00. Lot rent is just \$682.00 per month. Give us a call today at 410-686-0077 and we will walk you through your entire purchase.

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# TOYOTA

OF BALTIMORE



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Go  
Places

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**NEW 2017  
TOYOTA COROLLA LE**

**\$209  
PER  
MONTH**

\$209.00 1st payment at signing  
36 months 12,000 miles

\*\*Payment plus tax, tag, title, \$300 dealer processing charge and \$650 acquisition fee. First payment of \$209.00 due at signing. \$0 Security deposit. 36 months/12000 mile lease, Net cap cost \$19,246.61 On approved credit. Must qualify. See dealer for details. Model #1852 MSRP \$20,049 Offer expires 12/31/16.

**NEW 2017  
TOYOTA RAV4 LE**

**\$259  
PER  
MONTH**

\$259.00 1st payment due at signing  
36 months 12,000 miles

\*\*Payment plus tax, tag, title, \$300 dealer processing charge and \$650 acquisition fee. First payment of \$259.00 due at signing. \$0 Security deposit. 36 months/12000 mile lease, Net cap cost \$26,125.00. On approved credit. Must qualify. See dealer for details. Model 4432, MSRP \$27589. Offer expires 12/31/16.

**NEW 2017  
TOYOTA CAMRY SE**

**\$229  
PER  
MONTH**

\$229.00 first payment due at signing  
36 months 12,000 miles

\*\*Payment plus tax, tag, title, \$300 dealer processing charge and \$650 acquisition fee. First payment of \$229.00 due at signing. \$0 Security deposit. 36 months/12000 mile lease. Net cap cost \$23,196.28. on approved credit. Must qualify. See dealer for details. Model 2546, MSRP \$24944.00. Offer expires 12/31/16.

**NEW 2017  
TOYOTA SIENNA LE**

**\$339  
PER  
MONTH**

\$339.00 1st payment due at signing  
36 months 12,000 miles

\*3 yr./12k miles. \$0 down. \$0 security deposit. Plus tax, tag, title, \$650 acquisition fee and \$300 dealer processing charge. First payment of \$339.00 due at signing. Net cap cost \$31,802.86. See dealer for details. On approved credit. Model 5338. MSRP \$33,659. Offer expires 12/31/16.

Excludes tax, tags. Includes freight, DPH and TDA fees. Includes all rebates. Subject to prior sale.

**6007 Eastern Avenue • Dundalk 410-633-2200**

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**2015 TOYOTA  
COROLLA'S**

5 To choose from  
**\$13,995**

#E2955



**2015 TOYOTA  
CAMRY'S**

3 to choose from  
**\$15,995**

#E2928



**2016 Toyota  
Highlanders**

2 to choose from  
**\$29,995**

#E2945



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- 08 CAMRY HYBRID** #E2952A ..... **\$7,995**
- 11 MAZDA3** #711003A ..... **\$8,995**
- 05 DODGE DAKOTA** #715017D low miles for the year ..... **\$8,995**
- 09 ACCORD** #N0211A ..... **\$9,995**
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- 14 SENTRA** #E2946 ..... **\$10,995**

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- 15 SANTA FE** #E2964 ..... **\$18,995**

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- 14 Highlander** #613066A ..... **\$27,995**
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- 15 MUSTANG GT** #G0089A Fully loaded ..... **\$33,995**

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NO CREDIT • TAX ID  
WE CAN HELP!  
410-633-2200**

Excludes tax, tags.

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