

East County TIMES

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

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VERSE OF THE WEEK -

1 John 4:16
And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love, lives in God, and God in them.

Board of Education passes motions for enrollment study, increased transportation funding



Perry Hall Middle School could see up to five additional trailers put on school grounds before the end of the year, but BCPS spokesman Mychael Dickerson told the East County Times that no decision on “re-locatables” has been made at this time.

- Article & photo by Patrick Taylor -
 Parents concerned about overcrowding at Perry Hall Middle School got much-needed wins last week when the Baltimore County Board of Education passed two motions that take steps toward alleviating overcrowding issues at the school.

The first motion added \$250,000 to the budget for a comprehensive middle and high school enrollment study. The second motion added \$1 million for increased transportation services to lower the student-to-bus seat ratio from three-to-one to two-to-one.

Over the last few weeks concerned constituents have been inundating the

Board of Education with emails and letters calling for relief at Perry Hall Middle School. At last week’s Board of Education meeting, two dozen parents attended to show their support for the cause. But while the funding has been added to the budget, the budget still needs to be reviewed by the County Council and County Executive Kevin Kamenetz, and there’s still a chance funding could be cut.

“We’ve clearly been heard by Superintendent Dallas Dance, and I thank him for his work on helping us with this matter,” said Councilman David Marks (R-5). “But we need to redirect our efforts at

the county executive. The superintendent made it clear that he understands the problem, but funding is contingent on the executive branch.”

The Northeast Area Education Advisory Committee (NEAC) sees the enrollment study as a step in the right direction, but on an 18-month timeline, some members fear it might take too long.

“We’re realistically looking at five years passing before we get relief,” said one member. “Even if they evenly redistributed every student in the northeast, we’d be at total capacity by next year.”

NEAC members proposed the idea - see **OVERCROWDING** on page 5 -

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Middle River volunteers looking to better serve community with new site

- By Devin Crum -

The Middle River Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company is unique in many ways, providing fire, ambulance and water rescue services and covering a service area much larger than most other volunteer fire or EMS companies.

But the company operates out of two separate, outdated facilities, presenting the same issues that led them to form from two separate companies in 2015.

The Middle River Volunteer Fire and

the Volunteer Ambulance Rescue companies incorporated into the MRVFR on March 15, 2015, to become a state-recognized 501(c)3 organization. This was also the first successful merger of two such companies not just in Baltimore County, but in the state. The new company went officially operational on Aug. 31, 2016.

However, since the merger, the two halves of the company have continued to operate from their original locations - ambulance and rescue from their site

on Leland Avenue and fire from theirs on Wilson Point Road - each presenting its own challenges.

As described by MRVFR Captain Shane Pule at the Feb. 1 Essex-Middle River Civic Council meeting, the company's stations are antiquated - each built between the 1940s and 1950s - and do not meet current industry standards.

The rescue station is isolated by railroad tracks and presents a difficult traffic situation which affects response times. The fire station sits partially on land owned by Martin State Airport which adds to costs because they must lease that land.

Additionally, they have to modify their equipment to fit in the bays of their buildings because they are so old, adding to costs for replacement and decreasing the opportunity for resale.

"Our ladder truck had to be lowered as well as shortened - same with our engine," Pule explained.

He said they would have to perform "major" renovations on each station to bring them up to industry fire and local building codes, but do not have the room at either site to do so. "So we've run out of space to grow."

As a result, the company is looking for a site to build a modern station with enough space for everything they need and which is central to their service area.

Geographically, the company serves much more than Middle River, Pule noted. The ladder truck and ambulance rescue serve an area on Baltimore County's east side extending from the Baltimore City line to the Harford County line and west to about Belair Road. So while Middle River has a population of about 25,000, the company actually serves an area with about 100,000 residents.

And their water assets, which include a dive unit, cover about 83 square miles of Baltimore County waterways and will even go out of state if the need arises.

Currently, their top priority for a new site is at the corner of Eastern Boulevard and Wilson Point Road on land owned by Lockheed Martin Corporation. That site, which is now occupied by seldom-used

baseball fields, would satisfy all their criteria for a new facility, they believe.

Pule said that site could see the company more strategically located and allow for a new station that is more visible, more accessible and up to code for everything they need. The increased visibility would help with recruiting new volunteers and general community support for them.

The new station is planned to be 22,000 - 24,000 square feet with an estimated cost of \$8 million when they build.

According to EMRCC President Bob Bendler - also a member of MRVFR's board of directors - several other site options are being considered as well. But MRVFR is currently involved in negotiations with Lockheed Martin for the corner site.

"Relocating onto that intersection of Wilson Point and Eastern would substantially enhance response times and decrease them tremendously for medical services," he said, adding it would "serve all of Middle River's goals" for better emergency medical and fire services.

Two million dollars in start-up funding for the new station is available via a loan from the county, along with the potential for \$1 million more in grants, according to Bendler and Pule. That, along with the \$200,000 they currently have in the bank, gives them a base from which to start, and the eventual sale of their current sites will also help with their costs.

Bendler speculated as well about potential county interest in the site since it could fit more than just the new station.

"Could that be a new location for the Essex police precinct?" Bendler asked, noting that the Essex precinct is one of the oldest in the county and the Baltimore County Police Department has been exploring the possibility of relocating it.

The precinct's location on N. Marlyn Avenue is not central to their service area, which extends to the Harford County line, Bendler said. And most of the new development happening in the area is along the MD Route 43 corridor.

"This [site] would put them in a better response situation and a more central location," he said.

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Grammer reintroduces bill to help deal with vacant homes

- By Devin Crum -

Sixth District Delegate Robin Grammer (R-Dundalk, Essex) has again introduced a bill in the General Assembly which he hopes would help communities deal with vacant homes and the issues that often come with them.

House Bill 220 would force Baltimore County to develop a process to certify empty homes as vacant so they can be processed rather than sitting and decaying for months or years, the delegate said. He noted there is already language in state law that allows for the expedited foreclosure of properties deemed vacant.

"This would force Baltimore County to do that," he said.

Grammer said he hears a lot from constituents about the lack of code enforcement or addressing community health issues, like rats or squatters, which arise

from vacant or abandoned homes.

"This initiative is to kind of speak to that and hold Baltimore County's feet to the fire," he said.

According to Grammer, he introduced essentially the same bill last year and it passed overwhelmingly in the House of Delegates with a vote of 135 - 3. However, the bill last year failed in the Baltimore County Senate Delegation after seeing opposition from County Executive Kevin Kamenetz.

The Kamenetz administration opposes the bill because of legal concerns over how to determine whether or not a property is, in fact, vacant, according to spokeswoman Ellen Kobler.

"We have no legal authority as Baltimore County that allows us to enter a vacant house and we have no way, therefore, to certify that it is vacant," Kobler said.

She said in the case of foreclosure, the administration fears the bill would shift the responsibility for correcting issues with the homes from the banks that own them onto the county government. "And that means county taxpayers."

On a complaint-driven basis, Kobler explained, when a property is seeing code violations such as overgrown grass or an exterior in disarray, the county will visit the property to assess its condition. They will attempt to make contact with the owner and issue citations if necessary.

"There are steps that we take to try to deal with the banks when it's foreclosed, et cetera," she said.

Baltimore County does not have a program like the city's Vacants to Value program which uses state and local funds to demolish vacant homes and make way for green space or new development.

"But we take measures through the courts to go after property owners and compel them to take appropriate care of the property," Kobler said.

Only in "very rare" circumstances, after a long legal process, would the county take possession of a vacant house, according to Kobler.

"There has to be really compelling health and safety-related reasons," she said.

But Grammer said the county will have to define in their own laws what the process will be for determining vacancy.

"The details they will have to work out, and I'd be happy to personally help them work through those," he said. "But to totally discount taking any sort of action on this issue because we have to work out the details, I don't agree with that at all."

- see VACANT on page 6 -

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OVERCROWDING

- continued from page 1 -

of parents voluntarily moving their children to adjacent schools that have plenty of vacant seats, saying that many parents would rather their children be in smaller classes. Others noted that even if it was a possibility, the move would simply be a stopgap.

"This problem has gotten so bad I would move my child to Pine Grove Middle School in a heartbeat if I could," said one Perry Hall Middle School parent. "And I know I'm not the only one. Parents are concerned about their children's learning environment and safety."

The idea of levying an impact fee on new development was also proposed. While Marks showed an interest, he noted an impact fee should have been levied years ago, before the Perry Hall area saw a lot of development.

"People don't want to see taxes go up, and we also don't want to lose our AAA bond rating. An impact fee would be nice but there's not as much land around here for development anymore, so there's not as much that can be raised from an impact fee," said Marks.

Marks also noted that enrollment is rising in areas where there isn't a lot of development occurring, and he chalks that up to changing demographics.

"We lowered the development potential of thousands of acres in the 2016 rezoning cycle, but much of this overcrowding comes from demographic changes as younger families move into

older communities."

Both of the motions passed by the Board of Education were proposed by board member Julie Henn, who previously worked with the NEAC.

While overcrowding has been an issue in the Perry Hall area for years, a new issue cropped up at the beginning of the school year in August when parents reported that buses transporting students to Perry Hall Middle School were so crowded that students had to sit on the floor.

BCPS officials stated it was likely that some students were getting on the wrong bus. They also noted that three students could fit on a seat.

But that notion was shot down by members of the NEAC.

"We can't have students sitting on the floor, falling out of seats, it's no way that's safe," said Julie Henn back in August.

NEAC members pointed out that sitting students three to a seat wasn't realistic or safe when you take into account backpacks, instruments, athletic equipment and other gear students might be carrying.

Board member Ann Miller was also on hand for the NEAC meeting on Monday night. Miller recently wrote a fiery op-ed (which can be found on our website) condemning the county's STAT program and claiming that cuts were made to 300 programs - including transportation - to pay for it.

The program, now in its third year, has already cost the county \$275 million. Miller states in her letter that it will cost approximately \$60 million annually.

During the last Board of Education meeting, Miller tried to freeze expansion of the STAT program for one year but was voted down 9 - 2.



NEAC members met with members of the Board of Education and Councilman David Marks to discuss overcrowding relief options.

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FeBREWary: Tasting craft beers in the name of economic development

- By Marge Neal -

From late January to earlier this month, foodies were in their glory as they celebrated Baltimore County Restaurant Week with its many special culinary offerings.

Now the rest of the month belongs to craft beer lovers. The Brewers Association of Maryland has renamed this bleak, cold, dark, last full month of winter FeBREWary in celebration of all things hops, barley and yeast (and other secret ingredients).

Those wishing to celebrate locally brewed, small-batch beers without traveling far are in luck. Eastern Baltimore County is home to three craft breweries - White Marsh Brewing at Red Brick Station in White Marsh; Key Brewing Co. in Dundalk, which offers a tasting room at its brewing facility; and DuClaw on Yellow Brick Road in Rosedale, a production brewery not yet open to the public, according to its website.

Red Brick Station is the oldest of the eastern Baltimore County-born breweries, with its roots dating back to 1997. The restaurant has a mixed identity, with its in-house brewery and a bar that features only craft beers, its extensive collection of firefighting memorabilia,

including a life-size wooden firefighter sculpture that recently made the local news when it was stolen late one night by a patron, and its nod to the British with English-style beers and menu items.

"We already had the name White Marsh Brewing and planned to name the restaurant that," co-owner Bill Blocher told the *East County Times*. "But the developer planned this to be the most masculine building on The Avenue and designed it to look like a fire station."

Some brainstorming later, the name Red Brick Station was adopted for the eatery, while the beer business remained White Marsh Brewing, he said. He put the word out to local fire companies to help decorate the pub and the extensive collection was born.

While Red Brick is actively welcoming patrons celebrating FeBREWary, the restaurant is so packed with special deals there wasn't any room for more.

"We only have so much space and time," Blocher said. "Our happy hour is 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and then we have evening happy hour from 10 p.m. on. There's always a deal here."

Key Brewing is the baby of the group, having just started its brewing production in September 2015, according to co-owner Mike McDonald. A tasting room at its Grays Road brewery, with weekend hours only, opened about two months ago.

"We just added Sunday hours this month, in time for FeBREWary," McDonald said. "We'll be open now on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays."

Key's tasting room will offer five full-time beers on tap as well as a Nitro of the Day. The selected beer will be nitrogenized instead of carbonated, which results in a creamier, silky finish, according to McDonald.

In a show of brewery brotherhood, Red Brick offers a Key beer on tap as a guest brew, and McDonald still works as White Marsh Brewing's head brewer.

The craft beer community is close-knit, according to Blocher, who mentioned a fellow brewer who stopped by recently to borrow some yeast needed for a batch of beer.

"We encourage each other and share the market," he said. "We share our knowledge and trade stuff all

the time."

Red Brick offers a variety of food and beverage specials throughout the week, including half-price burgers on Monday evenings and \$1 selected RBS beers on Tuesdays.

Key Brewing doesn't have a kitchen, but has invited a variety of food trucks, including This Swine's for You and Lib's Grill, to set up shop and offer food during tasting hours, McDonald said.

Being held for the second year, FeBREWary was designed to "bring light to the industry during a slower time of the year," according to Callie Pfeiffer, marketing coordinator for the Brewers Association of Maryland.

While small-batch craft beer is the focus of the month-long event, both McDonald and Blocher emphasized the family-friendliness of their businesses.

Red Brick has a dining room separate from the pub area and an outdoor dining patio for warmer months. Key Brewing offers vintage pinball machines, foosball and pool tables for kids and adults alike.

"We certainly expect parents to supervise their children, but there's plenty of fun stuff for them to do here," McDonald said of the Key Brewing experience.

VACANT

- continued from page 4 -

Grammer pointed out that other jurisdictions have processes for determining vacancy using indicators such as broken windows or doors or having holes in roofs to classify a home as an "unlivable" property.

"Nobody's going to live in a home that has windows and doors busted out," he said. "It's an excellent indicator that whoever was the owner of the home has really just moved on."

On the county's concern about transferring responsibility for foreclosures, Grammer said he disagrees with that premise since Maryland has a judicial-based system for determining who is responsible for a property in the case of foreclosures.

Grammer said his bill would ultimately ensure the county's participation in that judicial system.

"Right now we're essentially saying, 'we have a participatory system, but Baltimore County is going to do nothing,' and I disagree with that," he said. He added that the consequences of the county's "inaction" are evident, especially in the east side's older communities where many vacant homes sit idle.

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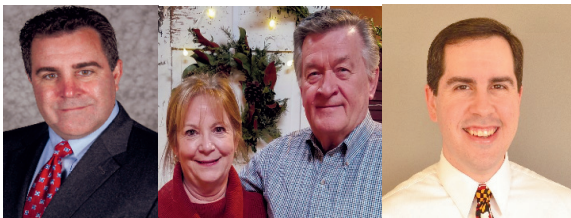


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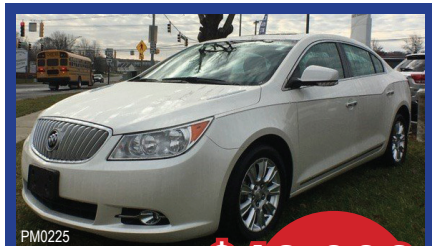
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Victory Villa Senior Center

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NPVCA Meeting

The monthly meeting of the North Point Village Civic Association will be held Thursday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. in the Southeast Regional Recreation Center (SERRC), 4021 North Point Blvd. in Dundalk. The guest speaker will be from the Baltimore County Lead Safe Program.

Dundalk Historical Society

The Dundalk-Patapsco Neck Historical Society will hold their next meeting on Monday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m. in the museum at 4 Center Place in the Dundalk Village Shopping Center, with guest speaker Katrina Jones from the Maryland Port Administration to discuss outreach in the community and dredging at the port. Open to the public; no admission charge. Call 410-284-2331 for more information.

Free Clothing

Free clothing will be available to anyone in need at St. John's Lutheran Church, 518 Franklin Ave. in Essex, on Saturday, Feb. 18, from 9 a.m. to noon. Please bring your own bag. Donations are also accepted by calling 410-687-4621.

Blood Drive

Johns Hopkins Bayview will host an American Red Cross blood drive Feb. 21 - 23, from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Knott Conference Center. All participants will receive a meal coupon, parking pass, \$5 Amazon gift card (when an email address is provided) and special gift from the medical center. Eligible donors can make twice the difference by scheduling a "power red" donation, during which a machine separates the red blood cells from other blood components and returns the remaining components back to the donor. By doing this, the machine is able to double the amount of red cells it would normally collect in a standard blood donation. Donors are actually donating two units of blood, instead of one, and saving twice the number of lives. For more information or to schedule a life-saving donation, call 410-550-0289.

Owls of Maryland: Mysterious, Silent, Wise

See owls up close, dissect pellets, explore the adaptations that make owls such powerful nighttime hunters and more from 1 - 4 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 19, in this free Nature Connections program sponsored by the Natural History Society of Maryland, 6908 Belair Road in Overlea. Crafts and activities for children. For more information, contact 410-882-5376, communications@marylandnature.org or visit www.marylandnature.org/nature-connections.

BCGS Meeting

The Baltimore County Genealogical Society (BCGS), 8601 Harford Road in Parkville, Room 308, will meet on Sunday, Feb. 26, at 2 p.m. The guest speaker will be Rebecca Morris with "Civil War Parole Camps of Annapolis, Maryland," discussing the creation of the parole camps and the stories of the men who came there, a fascinating but little known facet of local history in Anne Arundel County. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.baltimoregenealogysociety.org/BCGShome/library/ or call 410-665-8769.

Maryland Senior Citizens

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 through 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.

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.

Both of these people are straightening their teeth.

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SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

BCPS students take home 536 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards

Baltimore County Public Schools' students earned 536 regional 2017 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. This awards program is among the most prestigious high school arts recognition programs in the nation.

BCPS students from 10 high schools and two middle schools earned a total of 172 Gold Key, 176 Silver Key, and 188 Honorable Mention awards in the program. Students from Catonsville, Eastern Technical, George Washington Carver Center, Hereford, Overlea, Parkville, Patapsco, Perry Hall, Sparrows Point, and Towson high schools and Perry Hall and Sudbrook Magnet

middle schools were represented with award winners. This surpassed the school system's performance in 2016 when students won 483 awards and 2015 when students won 330 awards.

"We are so proud of these students and their teachers and administrators for demonstrating excellence in art and art education," said BCPS Superintendent Dr. S. Dallas Dance. "Their accomplishments reflect the high value our school system places on the fine arts and our commitment to quality arts instruction for all students as a way to nurture the whole student and develop a wealth of 21st century skills."

Sherri Fisher, the school system's visual arts coordinator added, "It takes considerable time to prepare and submit artwork and portfolios. We thank the teachers and students for taking the extra time to do this, and we join them in celebrating the incredible creative and artistic abilities of the young artists across BCPS."

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, sponsored by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, began in 1923 to honor talented writers and artists in Grades 7 - 12. Of those works reviewed by professionals in visual and literary arts, students earned Honorable Mention, Silver Keys, or Gold Keys in regional adjudication. Works designated

as Gold Keys are currently receiving a national-level review; the national awards will be released to student artists and writers later this spring.

Since its founding, the Awards program has identified the early promise of some of our nation's most exceptional visionaries. Alumni include artists Andy Warhol, Philip Pearlstein, and Cy Twombly; writers Sylvia Plath, Truman Capote, Ned Vizzini, and Joyce Carol Oates; photographer Richard Avedon; actors Frances Farmer, Robert Redford, Alan Arkin, Lena Dunham, and John Lithgow; fashion designer Zac Posen; and filmmakers Stan Brakhage, Richard Linklater, and Ken Burns.

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2017 Braille Challenge winners announced

Blind and visually impaired students from across the Maryland region met at the Maryland School for the Blind (MSB) in Baltimore on January 28, 2017 to test their braille skills in the Maryland Regional Braille Challenge, an academic competition unlike any other. The Braille Challenge®, a program of the Braille Institute, is the only academic competition for blind students in the United States and Canada. This two-stage contest is designed to motivate blind students to emphasize their study of braille, while rewarding their success with fun-filled, but challenging, local and national events.

Among the participants in the Maryland Regional Challenge were students from DC, Virginia, Pennsylvania

and Maryland, including a set of trip-lets from Virginia and a student from Finksburg, Maryland who won the national competition in 2016.

The 1st place winners of the Maryland Regional Braille Challenge included Henry Tucker of Bowie, MD (Novice, Pre-K); Eniolaoluway Osunkoya of Perry Hall, MD (Novice, Kindergarten); Eliaquim Ramirez-Giraldo of Fredericksburg, VA (Apprentice, grades 1-2); Meredith Day of Finksburg, MD (Freshman; grades 3-4); Julia Stockburger of Nottingham, MD (Sophomore, grades 5-6); Kayla Harris of Severn, MD (JV, grades 7-9), and Steven Cantos of Arlington, VA (Varsity, grades 10-12). The national qualifiers will be announced at a later date.

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Five important driving tips for winter road trips

- By Attorney Randolph Rice -

There are many reasons to decide on a winter road trip rather than flying to your destination: the beauty of the open road, sightseeing and spending quality time with your family. However, driving through snow, sleet and ice can be incredibly dangerous, especially to a driver in unfamiliar territory. Learn how to safely navigate wet and icy roads, avoid the worst of Maryland's traffic and keep your family safe this winter from car accidents with a few important tips.

Before you embark on a winter road trip, make a list of components to inspect on your vehicle. Cold weather and precipitation can be rough on a vehicle, making tires lose pressure and draining the battery. Service your vehicle directly before taking off, installing winter windshield wipers and winter tires.

Top off your wiper fluid and antifreeze, and make sure your defrosters are working. Check for proper tire pressure and that you have a spare in good condition in case of a flat on your trip. Try not to let your gas tank drop less than halfway full while on the drive. Fuller tanks prevent the gas line from freezing. Having adequate gas can also help keep you warm if you're stuck in your vehicle.

Baltimore sees an average annual snowfall of about 20.6 inches. If you have to drive in Baltimore's snow or some other wintry location, learn how to keep control of your vehicle at all times. Accelerate and decelerate much more slowly than you normally would. Your vehicle cannot stop or take off as quickly on icy roadways. Drive slowly and keep a safe following

distance around your vehicle.

Know your brakes. Do you have an anti-lock brake system? If so, you don't have to pump your brakes to keep from skidding. Instead, hold the pedal down firmly. If you start to skid, take your foot off the brake and accelerator. Steer your vehicle gently in the direction you wish to go. Gently apply your brakes or accelerator (depending on the type of skid) as you begin to regain control of your vehicle. Whenever possible, avoid braking altogether.

Every winter road trip needs a winter emergency kit in case you get stranded in the cold. Pack a flashlight, battery-powered radio and extra batteries. Bring a few blankets for you and the family along with plenty of bottled water. Pack high-energy, nonperishable foods like granola bars. Include a complete first aid kit as well as basic vehicle repair supplies, such as jumper cables and a tire plug kit or spare tire. Bring a fire extinguisher, maps and flares just to be safe.

Map out your journey in advance, and learn about

typical times of heavy traffic in the cities you'll pass through. Plan ahead to avoid these trouble spots, stopping to eat during rush hour and taking on major, congested cities at times of day when there is the least bad traffic. Avoiding trouble spots will not only make your trip faster and more enjoyable, but it will also lower your risk of fender-bender accidents in bad weather.

If you aren't a member of an emergency roadside service, now might be a perfect time to sign up. These services can be lifesavers if you're stuck on the side of the road in a blizzard. They'll come tow your vehicle no matter where you are in the U.S., taking you to a local mechanic. It's just another way you can ensure the safety of your family during your holiday road trip.

If you take the above steps, you can greatly improve your chances for a safe winter road trip. However, not every single scenario can be anticipated. Randolph Rice is a Baltimore attorney representing clients in criminal defense, personal injury and traffic tickets.





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Dear Daughter and Dear Husband,
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Mount Carmel rallies in second half to topple McDonough

- By Patrick Taylor -

It's the final week of the regular season for basketball, and the east side looks primed for some high quality postseason ball. And with a win over Owings Mills in their final contest, Perry Hall will likely finish the regular season as the No. 1 team in the *Baltimore Sun's* poll. This is an accomplishment for any team, especially one that started the season with a few question marks.

With Mount Carmel's win over McDonough last week, OLMC moves into first place in the MIAA A-Conference Red Division. They also held onto the No. 5 spot in the poll, which is a spot they've occupied for the last few weeks.

And, if you'll recall last week's article, I mentioned that Dundalk should have received votes. Well, it looks like the voters listened. While Dundalk didn't make the top 15, they were listed in the "other teams considered," which roughly translates to "post-season dark horse."

All three teams are vying for top spots in their respective regions and anything could happen in the last few days. One thing is certain though - we're spoiled with talent on the east side.

That talent was on full display last Wednesday as the OLMC Cougars traveled to Owings Mills to take on the McDonough Eagles in a crucial MIAA matchup, with the winner controlling their destiny.

And things did not start off so hot for the Cougars. McDonough's Jaedon Willis was hot from the opening tip, scoring seven of his team's first nine points. Trailing by almost double-digits, OLMC fought hard

just to stay within striking distance, which was no easy feat considering standout guard Terry Nolan battled foul trouble for much of the first half.

Before the halftime whistle, Willis hit a deep three to put McDonough up by 11. It looked all but over.

But whatever OLMC coach Hakim Hibbert said to his team in the locker room, it worked. The Cougars came out playing crisp basketball, executing plays well and playing tenacious defense. Willis, who looked like he was going to put up 30+ points, was predominantly held in check for the remainder of the game.

In the third quarter, junior forward Jordan Jones stepped up for OLMC, scoring eight points and pulling the Cougars within three. He would end the game with 16 points to his name.

Like all great players, Nolan shook off his rust and owned the fourth quarter for his team, scoring 12 of his 15 points in the final eight minutes. His final five points came from the foul line to essentially ice the game.

McDonough had the opportunity for a last gasp attempt, but a half-court shot thrown up by Willis bricked out giving OLMC a huge 56 - 53 victory.

Mount Carmel still has two games left, one against Loyola Blakefield, the other against Archbishop Spalding. Both teams are below average, so OLMC *should* win out and claim their conference title.

Elsewhere, Dundalk continued their winning ways with a big 64 - 59 win over Oakland Mills this week. The Owls celebrated senior night in style, picking up their sixth win on the trot. The last time the Owls lost was on Jan. 27 to Dulaney. So far in the new calendar year, the Owls are 13 - 2.

While Dundalk has been putting up points consistently, what's most impressive is their defensive effort. In their last 15 games, only three teams have broken the 50 point mark. Unless you're totally anemic on offense (which Dundalk isn't), you're

going to win big with defense that fierce.

As good as OLMC and Perry Hall are, I don't think there's any team that's playing as well as Dundalk at the moment. A state final could very well be in their future.

Speaking of Perry Hall, the Gators had a relatively easy week last week. On Feb. 8, Perry Hall easily defeated Catonsville by a score of 77 - 55. They followed that up with a casual 80 - 41 victory over Eastern Tech.

The Gators have used the last few games to steady themselves before the postseason. While they have only suffered one loss since the new year began, they haven't exactly won in convincing fashion.

Against Woodlawn, the game could have gone either way. It ultimately came down to a final attempt at the buzzer that couldn't quite make it in, giving the Gators the win. Perry Hall's game against Lake Clifton was another that came down to the wire, with the Gators fortunate to escape unscathed. Against Western Tech, Perry Hall again needed to pray to the basketball gods for help, and again they emerged unscathed, this time by a score of 56 - 55. Against Randallstown, Perry Hall almost slipped up but ultimately ended up winning by nine, but it should have been a lot more.

There are plenty of reasons to be excited about Perry Hall. They arguably have the most pure talent in the area, and their size gives them a huge (no pun intended) advantage. They have all the makings of a championship team, but some of these wins are cause for concern. I know it sounds ridiculous, but Randallstown and Western Tech should have been blowouts. Still, the Gators have to love the position they're in.

Stembridge baseball

Stembridge baseball will have registration on Feb. 19 and 26, as well as March 5 and 12, from noon - 3 p.m. at Stembridge Rec. Center, located at 99 Stemmers Run Road in Essex. Registration will also take place on Feb. 22 and March 1 and 8 from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Carroll Island McDonald's.

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Nurse-Attorney

Author of the *Unofficial Guide to Social Security Disability Claims*



BY THEIR OWN ADMISION

When it comes to automobiles, safety comes first. However, new research conducted by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety reveals that about 87 percent of drivers admitted to engaging in at least one risky behavior behind the wheel during a 30-day period. These unsafe behaviors included driving while distracted, impaired, or drowsy; speeding; running red lights; or not wearing seat belts. Nearly 70 percent of those surveyed reported that they talked on a cell phone while driving, and 31 percent reported doing so regularly. Forty-two percent of drivers admitted to reading or texting while driving, and 12 percent reported doing so regularly. These are disturbing admissions, given that nearly 33,000 Americans died in car crashes in 2014.

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HINT: According to the survey mentioned above, 48 percent of drivers reported going 15 mph over the speed limit on a highway in the past month, while 15 percent admitted to doing so often or frequently.

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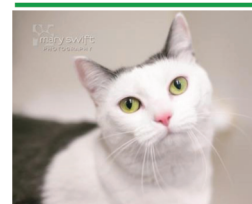
Baltimore Humane Society is in dire need of foster families. If you or anyone you know is interested in doing so, please contact Wendy at goldband@bmorehumane.org or visit our website at www.bmorehumane.org and click on "Foster A Pet!"

Baltimore Humane Society's PETS OF THE WEEK



GRETCHEN

I'm Gretchen, a sweet friendly, and some may say needy little lady who just wants to be with people. I enjoy being held or carried and being dressed in sweaters to keep warm. I crave attention and in my foster home it was the kitties at dinner time and we would all eat together. I want to love my new family and be able to feel happy about having a safe place to spend the rest of my golden years. I am hoping it does not take me long to find a forever home... Do you want me to live with you?



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Looking for a sweet feline who enjoys rubs and attention? Well, I'm Harmony and I really like those things. I also like comfy beds, listening to soothing music on the radio, and spending time with people who will love me. If you want to adopt a kitty like me who just needs some TLC, then please visit me soon!

The adoption fee is \$75 for Gretchen and \$50 for Harmony. For more information visit www.bmorehumane.org.

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Woman found dead in Nottingham home

Police are investigating after a woman is found dead in her Nottingham home on Feb. 9.

Police were dispatched to the 3800 block of Perryhurst Place in Precinct 8 around 5:07 p.m. for a medical emergency. Upon arrival they found a woman on the floor inside the home with signs of trauma to the upper body. She was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The woman, identified as 32-year-old Mayann Atilano Siason, was found by family members returning home in the evening. A 4-year-old child was also located inside the home, unharmed.

Police do not believe that this was a random act but continue to investigate leads to determine a motive for this crime. Anyone with information that could assist police in this investigation is asked to call 410-307-2020.

Anyone with information on this case can also submit a tip to Metro Crime Stoppers at 1-866-7LOCK-UP. For more information on other ways to contact Metro Crime Stoppers, as well as information on rewards offered by or through them, check their website at www.metrocrimestoppers.org. 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.

MDTA recover loaded guns and marijuana during stop

During a traffic stop last week, the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) police arrested four people from Baltimore who were in possession of two loaded handguns and marijuana.

On Feb. 7, an MDTA police officer stopped 31-year-old Terry Dewayne Jones, Jr., on northbound I-95 in White Marsh for an equipment violation on a Buick Sedan.

During a subsequent probable cause search of the vehicle, officers located more than one pound of marijuana, a digital scale and two loaded handguns, one of which was reported stolen from Pennsylvania. Jones and passengers Amber Curtis (19), Sabrina Hope Curtis (19) and Dwight Trevor Weather (28) were taken into custody without incident.

The MDTA police charged all four suspects with two counts of possession of a firearm during a drug trafficking crime; two counts of engaging in drug trafficking while carrying, wearing and transporting a firearm; one count of possession of a stolen firearm; possession of CDS marijuana; possession of CDS hashish; and possession of CDS paraphernalia. Jones was charged separately with CDS possession with the intent to distribute. A Curtis and S. Curtis were charged separately with possession of a firearm under the age of 21.

After processing, officers transported all four suspects to the Baltimore County Court Commissioner. They are being held without bail at the Baltimore County Detention Center.

Police invite kids to basketball clinic

Beginning Saturday, March 4 through Saturday, April 1, Baltimore County Police will work with area children to sharpen their basketball skills. The basketball clinic is free to County kids 8 to 14.

This year an extra clinic has been added to the schedule. On March 17, children and officers will meet at Loch Raven Middle School, 8101 LaSalle Road, Towson from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Officers from around the County will share their basketball tips and know-how with the youngsters. The children and police officers will play on state-of-the-art courts to develop their skills in teamwork and hoops.

The Baltimore County Police basketball clinics will run from 9 a.m. to noon, unless otherwise noted, on each of the following dates at the locations listed below.

- March 4: Liberty Road Resource Center, 3505 Resource Drive, 21133
- March 17: Loch Raven Middle School, 8101 LaSalle Road, 21286 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- March 25: Leadership Through Athletics Center, 2900 Hammonds Ferry Road, 21227
- April 1: Sollers Point Multi-Purpose Center, 323 Sollers Point Road, 21222

The children will also learn more about the police officers who work in their neighborhoods. This is a great opportunity for police officers and youngsters to interact with each other. The officers are great role models for young people.

Download and submit the Basketball Clinic permission slip/waiver (PDF) to register for a basketball clinic near you.

Kids are encouraged to invite their friends. There is nothing like a good game of "bball" with friends from your neighborhood. Plus there will be free water bottles and snacks for all.

Time to have fun!

Current crime trends

Since Jan. 25, there have been four robberies in the area bound by I-95, Hazelwood Avenue and the city line within the White Marsh Precinct. There has been no new related activity since January 28. Since Jan. 21, there have been two street robberies in the Essex Precinct. Cases occurred on various days during afternoon hours. The suspects displayed a weapon and took money, cell phones, a wallet and keys. In one case, the suspects took the victim's vehicle.

Since Jan. 21, there have been two street robberies in the Essex Precinct that appear to be related. There have been no new related activity since Jan. 26.

Since Jan. 18, there have been four auto thefts in the Alta apartment complex in the Parkville Precinct. Incidents occurred between 6:50 and 7:52 a.m. All vehicles were stolen while running.

Man sentenced to 80 years for Rosedale murder

Telly Williams was sentenced on Monday to 80 years in prison for the murder of Aaron Burrell in Baltimore County Circuit Court.

On January 25, 2015 Telly Williams and two others entered a room at the Regal Inn on Pulaski Highway in Rosedale. At that time, Williams produced a handgun to rob Aaron Burrell. Williams and his associates tied up Mr. Burrell and another victim. Mr. Burrell's hands and feet were tied together and some of his clothing was removed. After the robbery was completed, Telly Williams then approached Mr. Burrell and shot him at close range in his forehead. Mr. Burrell died as a result of the gunshot.

Williams had pled guilty on April 28, 2016. Judge Nancy Purpura sentenced the defendant to 80 years to be served in the Division of Corrections. The case was prosecuted by Brian Botts and Lauren Stone.

Precinct 11/Essex

Robbery: Officers from the Essex precinct responded to a call at the intersection of Sandalwood Road and Punjab Circle in Essex on Feb. 11 shortly after 10 p.m. he victim got into the suspect's vehicle and was robbed at gunpoint by the passenger. The passenger stole the victim's phone and some clothing.

First Degree Burglary: On Feb. 12, Baltimore County police officers were called to the 3700 block of White Pine Road in Middle River. Sometime between 6 p.m. on Feb. 10 and 8:30 a.m. on Feb. 12, an unknown suspect entered the victim's residence through an unlocked door. The suspect stole a game system, a video game, a controller and cash. Anyone with information that could assist police in this investigation is asked to call 410-307-2020.

First Degree Burglary: Officers from the Essex precinct responded to a call in the 300 block of Maple Avenue in Essex on Feb. 9. Sometime between 5:30 and 6 p.m., two unknown suspects gained entry into a home under renovation through an unlocked door. The suspects stole numerous items, including kitchen appliances and tools. Anyone with information should contact Baltimore County police.

First Degree Burglary: On Feb. 8, Baltimore County police officers responded to a call in the 900 block of Garden Drive in Essex. Sometime between 11 a.m. on February 9 and 8:37 p.m. on February 10, an unknown suspect broke the bathroom window to gain entry into the victim's apartment. The suspect then stole items from the victim's bathroom.

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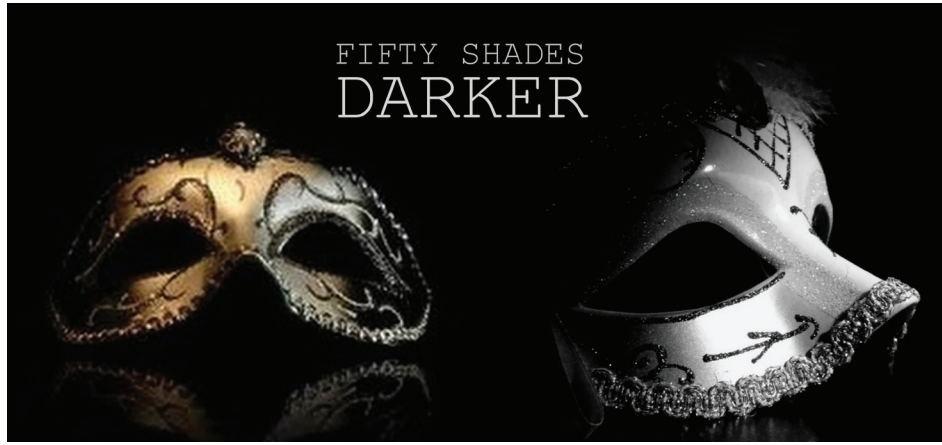
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'50 Shades Darker'...and no better

- By Teddy Durgin -



what you want for dinner. You wanna know about the last time I interrupted my wife and tried to order for her in a restaurant? I almost got MY behind whooped! Eye daggers the woman shot at me until the appetizer course arrived! But such domineering behavior is perfectly permissible in the "Grey" world... er, as long as the man doing it is an impossibly handsome billionaire with homes in Seattle, Vail and Manhattan; a 50-foot yacht; a fleet of Audis; and a *sob, sob* tragic back story.

I don't understand a lot of things in this world anymore, folks. I really don't. I certainly don't understand the appeal of author E.L. James' books with the female

audience. Your Christian Grey (Jamie Dornan)? He's an absolute scumbag. Grey has mistreated Ana Steele (Johnson) so poorly in these two films that I can't see how anyone watching would have any rooting interest in seeing the two of them together and for him to ultimately be redeemed, which has been the driving force of the narrative thus far. This is a cold man who doesn't want to get back together with his doe-eyed, open-hearted girlfriend. He wants to, in his own words, "renegotiate their terms." What a romantic! And when Ana's new publishing job requires her to go with her studly boss to New York to a Book Fair, Christian forbids it. And then he just goes ahead and buys the company

to control it and her.

But you wanna know the worst thing of all? The movie totally lets him and his creepy, possessive behavior off the hook by making Ana's boss, Jack (Eric Johnson), morph pretty much in a split second of screen time into a sexual predator who harasses Ana, pins her against an office door and tries to force her to have sex with him for job advancement. So, see? Christian's actually a hero! He saw through that dude right from the get-go... certainly before that weak, naive Ana did. She needs him!

The film then goes on to pretty much botch everything else. Christian has a former suicidal/homicidal girlfriend (Bella Heathcote) who stalks him and Ana for the first half of the film. But she is easily disarmed, institutionalized and never factors into the story again after about the halfway mark. Kim Basinger also shows up as the older woman who introduced a young Christian to kink years earlier and is jealous of Ana now. But the former "9 1/2 Weeks" star isn't even in the film for 9 1/2 minutes and is given nothing to do.

Ugh! I know there's a third film on the way, but I really just wanna untie myself from this franchise altogether now. I've been punished enough.

My high school years felt shorter than the time I spent sitting through "Fifty Shades Darker," dear readers. And keep in mind, freshman through senior year is a four-year stretch of my life I still refer to as "My Vietnam." Yikes! How did Hollywood make a movie about kinky, sadomasochistic sex so... dull?! This is one of those movies that's so bad, I almost don't know where to begin as a reviewer. Shall I start with the horrible, tone-deaf script? Or the absolutely shapeless structure of the narrative? Or the boring, scorn-worthy characters? Or how about the fact that it's no fun to watch such a skinny, carb-deprived woman as Dakota Johnson get spanked over the course of two hours?! If you're gonna make me sit through a bondage flick, I'm sorry; I need some jiggle, folks. I need some -

Well, I digress already.

Let's start by talking about how this film is being touted as a "fairy tale" in its marketing. A fantasy. A female wish fulfillment flick. And the fairy tale-fantasy wish the commercials think you want granted, ladies? To be emotionally and physically abused by a man who wants to control your every move, all of your friendships, your career, even



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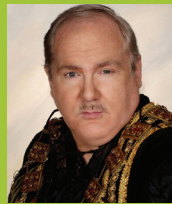
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John Wick is back in town with a few days to kill

- By Teddy Durgin -

John Wick is a dude who as a kid listened to Metallica's "Kill 'Em All" album and mistook it for an instructional recording. As played by Keanu Reeves, Wick is the ultimate hitman. He's the assassin other assassins fear. In the first film, one character wonders aloud if Wick is in fact "The Boogeyman." To which, mob boss Viggo Tarasov replied (and I paraphrase), "He isn't the Boogeyman. He's the one you send to kill The Boogeyman."

One of the truly great things about the film was it created a whole universe around the John Wick character. It introduced audiences to this skewed world just off-center of our own, where assassins and cutthroats of every background lived by certain rules, where there were neutral-ground places like The Continental Hotel in New York where they could congregate, talk shop and it was forbidden to "conduct business" (i.e. kill). But it was also a world where the mob boss's doofus son kills John Wick's dog and steals his prized car. The greatest line of dialogue this decade STILL may be Viggo's simple, yet exquisite "Oh."

John Wick: Chapter 2" is a great sequel. It builds on everything that happened in the first film, then opens up the world it has created, expands it and raises the stakes. Suddenly, John Wick isn't just tangling with goons, henchmen and disposable bodyguards. He's dealing with assassins who may be every bit as skilled as he is with guns, knives and their bare hands. It's

an often brutal film. But the gun battles and hand-to-hand fight sequences are as exquisitely staged and choreographed as any song-and-dance number in "La La Land." And at 52, Reeves still looks like a man in his 30s. He's been one of cinema's most watchable physical performers for more than 20 years now in films like "Speed," "The Matrix" trilogy and now two "John Wick" flicks.

I also loved that the Powers That Be in endeavoring to turn John Wick into a franchise, didn't turn him into a joke a la Liam Neeson's "Taken" films. After three of those, the target audience now cracks "Who's gonna get 'taken' next? Neeson's second cousin? His next door neighbor?" In "John Wick: Chapter 2," all concerned could have easily crafted a narrative in which John's new girlfriend is killed and that pulls him back in. Or maybe his cat? Or even a new dog? Nope. In this one, it's the underworld from which Wick came that pulls him back as he's forced to live up to a blood oath he took years earlier. But it's not long before the hunter becomes the hunted. By the end, Wick has literally become the most wanted man on the planet.

I don't want to go into too many plot details, because the specifics are some of the things I enjoyed most about this film. That and its sense of style. I'll only spoil one sequence. It's a mid-movie square-off between Wick and the rapper-turned-actor Common, who plays an equally brutal assassin hunting Wick for his own reasons. At one point, they find themselves on opposite sides of



a bustling Manhattan subway station. Not knowing if the rush of Gotham commuters on each side will soon pull them apart, the two start nonchalantly shooting at each other from opposite sides of the station with silencer guns, and the self-obsessed New Yorkers around them have no clue. It's the coolest thing I've seen in a flick this year.

Fortunately, my nitpicks are few. I do think the 122-minute running time drags a bit in the film's third act. And, yeah, it does get a bit ludicrous the amount of physical punishment Wick absorbs throughout and is still able to walk upright. The film sets a record for the number of stairs a protagonist falls down throughout. Nevertheless, you'll be wanting "Chapter 3" to begin immediately when the end credits start rolling on this one.

Future Islands announce new album, 'The Far Field'

- By Patrick Taylor -

It's been almost three years since Baltimore synthpop trio Future Islands burst into the mainstream with a wild performance of their song "Seasons" from the critically acclaimed album *Singles*. The performance was viewed millions of times on YouTube and singer Samuel T. Herring's dancing was memed to death.

And now, the boys are back. 'The Far Field' is slated for release on April 7 via 4AD. The announcement came with the release of the album's first single, "Ran," which finds Future Islands sticking to what they know best - anthemic, driven pop.

Herring's voice is as theatrical as it has ever been, William Cashion's basslines are still incredibly tight and bouncy and the synth provided by Gerrit Welmers is new wave gold. Suffice it to say, fans of 80s acts like Aha will likely find themselves fans of Future Islands.

Lyricaly, "Ran" is nothing special. But for these

guys, it's all about the delivery. "What's a song without you, when every song I write is about you?" The line would fall flat if not for the delivery of the next line, which finds Herring belt out, "I can't hold myself without you!"

If "Ran" is any indication, this is an album that will be near the top of the charts.

The hype for the album is already pretty huge, with Future Islands securing near-top billing at major festivals like Coachella and Bonnaroo. Not bad for a few guys from Charm City.

Recording for 'The Far Field' began in January of last year in Los Angeles at Sunset Sound (where artists like the Beach Boys and Prince have recorded). 'The Far Field' has string and horn arrangements by Patrick McMinn and is the first Future Islands record to feature live drums from member Michael Lowry. Blondie's Debbie Harry makes a guest appearance on "Shadows." The album was recorded with producer John Congleton (Sleater-Kinney, David Byrne, St. Vincent).



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POLITICIANS

Fighting gun laws

- By Delegate Bob Long (R-6) -

Last week I spoke up to protect our 2nd Amendment rights against HB 159 - Weapon-Free Higher Education Zones. This law will ban all guns on college campuses in Maryland. On the surface, it might sound like a common sense law, but this is actually anti-self defense legislation.

Someone that has obtained a conceal wear permit from the Maryland State Police, after going through rigorous handgun training, extreme background check, providing substantial police reports to prove substantial reason to receive a conceal wear permit, would not be able to carry a weapon for their protection on campus leaving them vulnerable to the person trying to harm them. The point I was making is that a simple mistake of a hunter driving through a college campus with a shotgun in his vehicle could lead to a lifetime loss of his Constitutional rights as they will never be able to possess a firearm ever again.

The reality is that this is bad legislation. Gun bills slowly strip even more of our 2nd Amendment rights away and the right to protect ourselves. We need to strictly enforce the gun laws that we have now. As lawmakers we are supposed to pass good legislation to help our constituents, not hurt them.

This bill passed the House of Delegates 84 to 49 and is now headed to the Senate. This is why in 2018 we need to stay on course and continue to change Maryland.

McDonough files legislation to stop sanctuary policies

- By Del. Pat McDonough (R-7) -

Recently I filed legislation entitled, "The Citizens' Rights Act," which gives people the right to initiate a civil suit against a politician who undertakes an action that violates The Federal Immigration Act. Sanctuary policies promoted by local elected representatives like the Baltimore Mayor or Baltimore County Executive clearly violate the Federal Immigration Act.

This legislation would not be necessary if elected representatives upheld their oath of office and did not violate the law. The same elected representatives would never refuse to enforce the Federal Civil Rights Act or the Federal Housing Act.

There are about 340 jurisdictions in the United States that are considered sanctuary places. Baltimore City and Baltimore County and even the state of Maryland could be classified as promoting sanctuary policies. All of these entities refuse to cooperate with the Federal Immigration Enforcement authorities including when it comes to criminal immigrants. Approximately 9,300 criminal immigrants were released from state prisons and local jails without prior notification to federal immigration authorities. Even though they had detainers upon them, they simply vanished into the streets. Almost 1,000 criminal immigrants were charged with murder last year.

"Welcoming Cities" is a political feel-good designation promoted by elected officials who oppose the Federal Immigration Act. It is a fake and misleading title. These are not welcoming cities; they are law-breaking cities. The local elected officials create these unlawful policies without conducting public hearings or legislation. The same situation occurs with sanctuary action by a state university president who fails to consult with the governor or state legislature. The voices of the people are ignored.

Many of the advocates for illegal immigration support the protests that are occurring around the country. Every American should support "The Citizens' Rights Act" because it is the ultimate form of protesting which is the

right to a day in court. The sanctuary policies created by elected officials have consequences for the people they represent. The citizens will become the victims because of these unlawful policies and will suffer from tax increases generated by a loss in federal revenue. Baltimore City receives about \$220 million in federal grants. Illegal immigration has a negative impact on jobs, public safety, auto safety, loss of public benefits and education, and it supports gangs and drugs. Illegal immigrants do not take jobs from lawyers, teachers or legislators. They displace low-skilled young people, working people and entry level opportunities. This is not economic justice.

Sanctuary advocates claim that local police are obligated to protect safety and not to enforce the Immigration Act. The Federal Immigration Act is about public safety. Just ask the family of Kate Stenle in San Francisco who was murdered by a criminal immigrant with a detainer. Ask the numerous Marylanders who have been victims of criminal immigrants.

We are a generous and compassionate nation. America allows more than 1 million legal immigrants into the country every year. Advocates for illegal immigration often cite the Statue of Liberty as a symbol supporting their cause. They fail to acknowledge that Lady Liberty is caressing, in her right arm above her heart, a law book. That law book symbolizes the rule of law which is the foundation of our liberty. The Federal Immigration Act is the law.

If you visit the home and museum of our first President George Washington, you will see on the wall in bold letters the beginning statement contained in his last will and testament. The opening statement reads, "I, George Washington, citizen of the United States of America, and lately president of same..." The founder of our nation was making it clear that holding the office of Citizen of this great country was more important than holding the nation's highest office. Those sentiments explain clearly the reason to support "The Citizens' Rights Act."

Contact Your State Delegates

DISTRICT 7

Richard K. Impallaria (R)

Phone: 410-841-3334, 301-858-3334

E-mail: rick.impallaria@house.state.md.us

Patrick L. McDonough (R)

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Kathy Szeliga (R)

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E-mail: kathy.szeliga@house.state.md.us



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Archie and Kim Blackwell of Middle River would like to wish their daughter, Khendal San-Jeanai Eden Blackwell, a happy and blessed 6th birthday! Khendal turned 6 on Feb. 3. Family members and friends celebrated her special day with a party at Chuck E. Cheese.

KoC Dinner on the Bay

Knights of Columbus Bethlehem Council 2605, 7401 Bay Front Road in Edgemere, will hold its monthly Dinner on the Bay from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19. The menu will include fried chicken, roast beef and gravy, pizza casserole, scalloped potatoes, vegetables, salad, soup, rolls, desserts, soda, coffee and tea. Tickets cost \$14 for adults and \$7 for children ages 8 to 12. Reservations are strongly advised. Call 410-477-5225 for more info. or to reserve seats.

WAVFC Roadhouse Fundraiser

The Wise Avenue Volunteer Fire Company will be the beneficiary of a fundraiser set for 4 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, at the Texas Roadhouse, 1736 Merritt Blvd. in Dundalk. Customers who present a fundraiser notice will have 10 percent of their total food purchase donated to the fire company. A copy of the notice can be printed from www.wavfc.org.

Dundalk Legion Karaoke

Dundalk American Legion Post 38, 3300 Dundalk Ave., will host Fun Times Karaoke with Annette and Wild Bill from 8 p.m. to midnight Friday, Feb. 17. For more information, call the Post, 410-288-2297.

Athletic Club Spaghetti Dinner

The Dundalk Athletic Club, 7801 Seaside Road in Dundalk, will hold a spaghetti dinner from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26. The menu will include spaghetti and meatballs, salad, bread and desserts. Beer, wine and sodas will be available. Tickets cost \$9 for adults and \$4 for children younger than 12. For more information, call Jim Jarzynski, 443-998-6634.

Snowshoes Tournament

The North Point Horseshoe League will hold its 3rd annual Snowshoes Tournament Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Bay Shore Bar and Grill, 8214 North Point Road in Edgemere. Registration starts at noon and competition begins at 1 p.m. The cost to enter the random draw tourney is \$5. Ravens Roost 86 will hold a Chinese auction, with proceeds going to local charities. Food and beverage specials will be available, and fire pits will help keep shooters warm.

Holly Neck VFW Karaoke

Essex Holly Neck VFW Post 2621, 206 Riverside Road in Essex, will host PJ Karaoke at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17. The kitchen will be open until 9:30 p.m.

Senior Center Bingo

Victory Villa Senior Center, 403 Compass Road in Middle River, will hold bingo from noon to 3 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17. Cards will be sold from 11 to 11:50 a.m. participants must be 60 or older and be a member of the center (there is no cost to join).

Zion UCC Bingo

Zion United Church of Christ, 7146 Golden Ring Road in Essex, will hold a cash bingo beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18, in the school building lower hall. Doors will open at noon. Snacks and drinks will be sold. For info., call Rick Rosenfeld, 443-691-2797.

Essex Legion Karaoke

Essex American Legion Post 148, 20 S. Marlyn Ave. in Essex, will host Karaoke with Lightning Rod from 8 p.m. to midnight Friday, Feb. 17; Karaoke Konnection from 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Feb. 18; and For the Good Times Karaoke with Percy and Fred from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19. Line dancing with The Dude is available from 7 to 11 p.m. on Fridays in the hall. Call the Post, 410-686-2352 for kitchen availability, menu and specials.

Cutco Bingo

Bingo featuring Cutco prizes will be held Saturday, April 1, at the Ironworkers Local 16 hall, 2800 Merritt Ave. in Dundalk. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. and games begin at 6. Tickets cost \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. For more info., call Anthony at 443-801-5678.

Hawthorne Reunion

The 23rd annual "We're the Boys of Hawthorne" reunion (for girls, too) will be held from 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19, at the Wilson Point Men's Club, 1400 Shore Road in Middle River. For more information, call Bill, 410-746-7825, or Frank, 410-686-1158.

BRUMC Spaghetti Dinner

Back River United Methodist Church, 544 Back River Neck Road in Essex, will hold its annual spaghetti and lasagna dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18. The menu will include salad, bread, beverages and homemade desserts. Tickets cost \$12 for adults and \$6 for children ages 7-12; no cost for children 6 and younger. Carry-outs will be available. For more information, call Betty, 410-870-0458.

Stembridge Baseball

Stembridge baseball registration will be held Feb. 19 and 26 and March 5 and 12, from noon - 3 p.m. at the Stembridge Rec. Center, 99 Stemmers Run Road in Essex. On Feb. 22 and March 1 and 8, registration will be held from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Carroll Island McDonald's, 3423 Eastern Blvd. in Middle River. For info., visit leaguelineup.com/stembridgebaseball.

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W Q H Y O N F R A N G E E I B O I S E D
R C E F N D Y T I V A C G A Q T W P A I
O C R G L I Y X U S P A A D A P T I V E
N V S B R B H H O Q R B L T P E Y A A X
M O I W C L U N W D O H F G A R L D I P
T L I M O E G A R U Q L U N I A L O B R
L H S T Y S U S N P A D O I U L E W L E
Y C U X A V D D E I C Q M R U U B N P E
D T W N U B I V C T V T A A C C L G L N
R U H V I N U I X O T S C O T O X M U I
I L C N G D R C O T B E Q S B N U G M N
B C T I X T W B N P H D L M M I L X A G
F W A I L U F H M I Y G O U I B L V G Q
P U H A E S E U Q S A C I O A A A C E W
M H E R B I V O R E E S Q L R P H G B V
A S N E S B A H B U V R M T F B E D B S

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

WORDS

- ADAPTIVE
- AIR
- ALBINO
- ALTRICIAL
- ALULA
- BELLY
- BILL
- BINOCULAR
- BIRD
- BOUNDING
- BROOD
- CAMOUFLAGE
- CASQUES
- CAVITY
- CERE
- CLUTCH
- COMB
- DOWN
- DRAG
- EPAULETTES
- FEATHERS
- FLEDGLING
- FLIGHT
- HABITAT
- HALLUX
- HATCH
- HERBIVORE
- INCUBATION
- MANDIBLE
- PLUMAGE
- PREENING
- RANGE
- SCAPULARS
- SOARING
- SONGS
- WINGS

2033 GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAVE 10K IN DEBT? NATIONAL DEBT RELIEF IS RATED A-PLUS WITH THE BBB. YOU COULD BE DEBT FREE IN 24-48 MONTHS. CALL 1-888-998-4967 NOW FOR A FREE DEBT EVALUATION.

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PLACE YOUR AD ON FACEBOOK; Twitter; LinkedIn and Google Ads Words through MDDC's Social Media Ad Network; Call today to find out maximize your presence on Social Media; 410-212-0616; or email Wanda Smith @ wsmith@mddcpress.com

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS. UNABLE TO WORK? Denied benefits? We Can Help! WIN or Pay Nothing! Contact Bill Gordon & Associates at 1-800-208-6915 to start your application today!

2033 GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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PLACE YOUR AD ON FACEBOOK; Twitter; LinkedIn and Google Ads Words through MDDC's Social Media Ad Network; Call today to find out maximize your presence on Social Media; 410-212-0616; or email Wanda Smith @ wsmith@mddcpress.com

WANT A LARGER FOOTPRINT in the marketplace consider advertising in the MDDC Small Display 2x2 or 2x4 Advertising Network. Reach 3.6 million readers every week by placing your ad in 71 newspapers in Maryland, Delaware and the District of Columbia. With just one phone call, your business and/or product will be seen by 3.6 million readers HURRY ... space is limited, CALL TODAY!! Call 1-855-721-6332 x 6 or 410-212-0616 email wsmith@mddcpress.com or visit our website at www.mddcpress.com

2033 GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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2033 GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION H.S. Seniors:
The MDDC Press Foundation is looking for an outstanding senior staff member from a high school newspaper in Maryland, Delaware or D.C.

Win a \$1,500 CASH SCHOLARSHIP!
Visit www.MDDCPress.com for details.
Application Deadline: March 10, 2017

2017 Michael S. Powell
High School Journalist of the Year



2033 GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

3017 BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

ADVERTISE TO 500,000 HOMES WITH A BUSINESS CARD SIZE AD. You choose the area of coverage in free community papers...we do the rest. Call 800-450-7227 or visit macnetonline.com

3018 CAREGIVING SERVICES

CAREGIVER w/MENTAL HEALTH DEGREE WILL CARE FOR THE ELDERLY. CALL 443-528-9705

3033 CHIMNEY CLEANING

CHIMNEY CLEANINGS - KEEP YOUR FIREPLACE AND CHIMNEY SAFE. Call for Early Bird Special. Licensed & Insured. We accept Visa, MC & Discover. ACE OF DIAMONDS CHIMNEY & HEARTH, 6921 Golden Ring Rd., Rose-dale. 410-477-9144

3035 CLEANING SERVICES

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3062 FINANCIAL

SAVE YOUR HOME! Are you behind paying your MORTGAGE? Denied a Loan Modification? Is the bank threatening foreclosure? CALL Homeowner's Relief Line now for Help 855-402-3220

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Office Is Open MONDAY - FRIDAY 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. 513 EASTERN BLVD ESSEX, MD 21221

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3107 PET SERVICES

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- Senior Citizens Discount
- Vaccines • Surgery
- Heart Worm Prevention
- Flea Medication
- TLC for your Sick Pets

3107 PARANORMAL GROUP

PARANORMAL GROUP SEEKS MEMBERS - Exp. pref. but not req. contact : richvinc@comcast.net

3135 WELDING

3135 WELDING

3132 SCREEN REPAIR

NEED SCREEN REPAIR ??? LOOKING FOR JOHN HODGES ??? Call 410-344-1131

3135 WELDING

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EMPLOYMENT



EMPLOYMENT



4109 PROFESSIONALS SEEKING WORK

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4134 CAREER TRAINING

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TREE SERVICES

25% OFF ANY TREE SERVICE

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4135 HELP WANTED

ACCOUNT SALES REP. WITH EXP. WORKING DIRECTLY WITH MAJOR AUTO DEALERS. SET YOUR OWN HOURS. GREAT COMM. SCALE W/ EASY 6 FIGURE ANNUAL FOR THE RIGHT PERSON. APPLY WITH RESUME TO : DAN@ARTFULLYADAPTIVE.COM

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DANCERS - UP TO \$1,000 NIGHTLY. NO EXPERIENCE NEC. APPLY AFTER 7 P.M., FRIDAY & SATURDAY ONLY. CALL 410-633-7100 WWW.NIGHTSHIFT-GIRLS.COM

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GENERAL LABOR - PART TIME POSITION for non-smoking individual, over 25 with clean, valid driving record to drive cars to and from facilities. Minimum wage and set your own hours. Great for husband and wife. Apply in person only: Auto Bank Inc., 1002 Eastern Blvd., Essex, MD 21221. Between the hours of 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. ONLY.

HOME IMPROVEMENT TECHNICIAN - Experienced preferred but will train. Must have valid Maryland driver's license. Drug free environment. Apply in person at 4031 North Point Rd., Dundalk, MD 21222

JANITORIAL WORKING SUPERVISOR: Professional janitorial company in Parkville accepting applications for a Working Supervisor. M,W,F evenings approx 6pm-9pm. Optional additional hours may be required on T, Th, Sat. Applicant will travel in between various locations to provide back up cleaning, inspections, training & deliver supplies. Carpet cleaning & tile refinishing skills a must. Have own transportation. Call 410.665.5116.

4135 HELP WANTED

LIVE IN CAREGIVER - FOR LADY IN CARNEY AREA. CALL MR. BURTON. 410-665-3849

SECRETARIES AND SCHEDULERS NEEDED for busy tax office in Rosedale. Experience preferred w/processing credit cards and scheduling appts. Call 410.391.4051

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4135 HELP WANTED

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Holly Hill Memorial Gardens seeks a full time family service counselor. Experience preferred but will train the right candidate. The right person will be comfortable using computers, working with families under difficult situations, willing and interested in learning a new career. This position does require the ability to work evenings and weekends on occasion. As a full time employee you will qualify for health, dental, vision and a 401k retirement plan. If you wish to apply, please e-mail your resume to Anthony.Cannon@dignitymemorial.com e.o.e.

4163 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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5008 BUILDING MATERIALS

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5012 CEMETERY LOTS & CRYPTS

PARKWOOD CEMETERY - 2 plots w/vaults, \$2500. Please call 410-661-2698. Burial Plots - Holly Hill Memorial Gardens, Lot No. 354-D, Spaces 1 & 2 in the Garden of Calvary, Section Two. 2 Burial Vaults and a Bronze Memorialization. Valued at over \$12,000, but will sell for \$5,000 O.B.O. Call 410-746-6052.

5016 EVENTS/TICKETS

HOLDING A CARNIVAL! FAIR! FESTIVAL! JUBILEE! Promote it to over 1 Million readers for only \$200!!! Visit www.midatlanticevents.net for more details or call 800-450-7227.

5018 FLEA MARKET/THRIFT STORES

JACK AND DIANE'S THRIFT & COLLECTIBLES 800 BOWLEYS QTRS. RD WE WILL TAKE YOU BACK! WE HAVE A LITTLE BIT OF EVERYTHING. DIANE 410-344-6316 AVON CASH & CARRY. WED. 9 A.M. - 4 P.M. SAT. & SUN 9 A.M. TO 4 P.M. GEORGE'S COMPUTER & TV REPAIR 410-344-6433

5024 HEALTH & FITNESS

VIAGRA 100MG and CIALIS 20mg! 50 Pills \$99.00 FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW! 1-866-312-6061 Hablamos Espanol

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GOT KNEE PAIN? BACK PAIN? SHOULDER PAIN? Get a pain-relieving brace at little or NO cost to you. Medicare Patients Call Health Hotline Now! 1- 844-502-1809

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4163 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

DRIVE TRAFFIC TO YOUR BUSINESS AND REACH 4.1 MILLION READERS WITH JUST ONE PHONE CALL & ONE BILL. SEE YOUR BUSINESS AD IN 91 NEWSPAPERS IN MARYLAND, DELAWARE AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR JUST \$495.00 PER AD PLACEMENT. THE VALUE OF NEWSPAPERS ADVERTISING HAS NEVER BEEN STRONGER ... CALL 1-855-721-6332 X 6 TODAY TO PLACE YOUR AD BEFORE 4.1 MILLION READERS. EMAIL WANDA SMITH @ WSMITH@MD-DPCPRESS.COM OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.MDDCPRESS.COM.

5034 MISCELLANEOUS

MAKE A CONNECTION. REAL PEOPLE, FLIRTY CHAT. MEET SINGLES RIGHT NOW! CALL LIVELINKS. TRY IT FREE. CALL NOW: 1-888-909-9905 18+.

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HELP SAVE ANIMALS LOCALLY! DONATE YOUR CAR.

Humane Society of Baltimore Co.

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