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#### **VERSE OF THE WEEK -**

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Enrollment projection paints grim picture for Northeast schools



BCPS Board of Education member Julie Henn (left) and Fifth District Councilman David Marks (right) led a rally at dismissal time across from Perry Hall Middle School last week. The two have been fighting along with advocates for a solution to overcrowding.

Article & photo by Patrick Taylor -

At the beginning of the 2016 school year, BCPS did a head count to get a gauge on what enrollment looked like across the system. The results were released last week, and the outlook for the Northeast area schools is not good.

Of the area's 21 elementary schools, 20 are over 100 percent capacity. According to the Baltimore County Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance, a school isn't considered "overcrowded" until it has a utilization rate of 115 percent. Ten schools in the area are over 115 percent, including Harford Hills, Shady Spring, Fullerton and Perry Hall, all of which

are over 130 percent capacity.

At the middle school level, things look to be quite a bit better, with no schools at 115 percent utilization. With that said, both Parkville and Perry Hall middle schools are over 100 percent, with Perry Hall Middle School nearing 113 percent utilization. The Sept. 30 head count showed that 1,851 students were enrolled, putting the school 208 students over capacity. The 2015 count showed 1,737 students enrolled in Perry Hall Middle School, with projections showing the school reaching 2,048 students by 2024. New projections say that over 2,000 students will be enrolled in the middle school by

the 2018 school year.

Councilman David Marks (R-5) believes the projections are on the conservative side and has been calling for a swift solution to the problem.

"I am asking the county executive to help us by putting money in the budget for either the design of a middle school at the Nottingham Park site - which is already owned by Baltimore County or to purchase land in Perry Hall for a middle school," said Marks in front of a crowd outside of Perry Hall Square Shopping Center.

Marks highlighted that he has - see OVERCROWDING on page 8 -

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**NEWS** 

#### Fort Howard developer signs agreement with county to avoid code violation fines

- By Devin Crum -

The developer of Fort Howard signed an agreement with Baltimore County Friday, Feb. 24, which would allow him to escape fines totaling more than \$100,000 in exchange for fixing several safety and fire code violations on the property.

Timothy Munshell, of Fort Howard Development LLC, and his company had been facing up to \$68,000 in fines from the county for failure to address problems of fire safety and security of the buildings on the premises. That amount was in addition to nearly \$45,000 in unpaid fines levied against the developer more than a year ago for the same issues.

Fort Howard, the 100-acre former military installation owned by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), has been slated for redevelopment since the veterans hospital on the site officially closed in 2002. The site has been fully vacant since the VA closed its outpatient clinic there in March 2016.

Over the last several years, the property has been the site of a number of incidents where people have illegally entered the property, causing destruction to several buildings through fire and vandalism.

Following a site visit on Dec. 14, 2014, county fire officials ordered the developer to take steps to secure the property and its structures. After failing to comply, the county issued a citation on July 31, 2015, for the violations which resulted in an

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The VA hospital building was one of two buildings on the site specifically named as needing to be secured because of open elevator shafts inside them. Signage must also be installed by March 3 warning trespassers of the danger. File photo.

order from county Administrative Law Judge Lawrence Stahl imposing \$44,800 in fines.

During a subsequent site inspection on April 12, 2016, county fire officials again ordered the developer to fix the code violations, followed by a second citation on Jan. 17 proposing fines of \$68,000. The hearing on the second penalty was scheduled for Feb. 13, but was pushed back when both the county and developer requested time to negotiate a settlement agreement.

The agreement, which went into effect on Friday, is meant to address the ongoing problems on the property such as unmaintained and unsecured buildings, breaches in the site's perimeter and out-of-service fire hydrants, according to Baltimore County Fire Director Lawrence Maichrzak.

The site has a 24-hour security service paid for by the developer, and the county reviews the logs weekly to make sure

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there are no gaps in shifts, Majchrzak said. He added that there have not been any significant fires there since that service has been in place.

However, inspections revealed holes in the perimeter fence which need to be repaired. The agreement requires the developer to inspect the fence every two weeks and repair any new breaches within three business days after noti-

- see **AGREEMENT** on page 7 -

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**NEWS** 

#### Brochin, supporters defend developer contributions bill before Senate committee

- By Devin Crum -

Senator Jim Brochin (D-Towson) and several Baltimore County residents testified on behalf of a bill to restrict campaign donations from developers to elected officials last Thursday, Feb. 23, before the Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs (EHE) Committee.

And although many supporters were from Towson testifying about issues in Brochin's home district, others spoke about planned development projects on the east side such as the North Point Government Center and Fort Howard, the former Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hospital site.

Fort Howard resident Kathy Labuda described the struggles of communities fighting the "illicit" sale of the North Point Government Center.

The prospective developer for NPGC

was shown through campaign finance records to have connections to County Executive Kevin Kamenetz.

Labuda also decried that developers with sweetheart deals with the VA have let Fort Howard waste away while neglecting to fulfill any requirements of the Enhanced Use Lease.

As well, the current developer, Timothy Munshell, was facing more than \$100,000 in fines for fire and safety code violations. But due to a settlement agreement reached with the county, he may be allowed to forego paying any of it.

Senator Johnny Ray Salling, a cosponsor of the bill and who also sits on the EHE committee, criticized the state of the NPGC as well, noting that the building has been neglected and its fate left up in the air.

Those opposed to the bill, namely

the Maryland Building Industry Association, have raised concerns about the constitutionality of the bill.

However, Jennifer Bevan-Dangle from Common Cause Maryland stressed that the bill is "a finely tuned prohibition that addresses a very clear nexus of potential corruption," she said. "The argument really has no merit with a bill that is this finely tuned."

She added that the concept has withstood legal challenges in other jurisdictions across the country.

Josh Greenfeld, a representative of MBIA, said the bill implies that all developers, their families and anyone connected to them are corrupt. But he noted that many live in and care about the communities in which they work.

"I don't think there's any evidence of corruption in county government," he said. He added his belief that the bill is unconstitutional because it restricts a form of political free speech.

Salling took issue with Greenfeld's arguments, however, because of the sale of recreational space with the NPGC and the deal essentially having been done before there was any community input.

Brochin also said previously at a hearing before the Baltimore County Senate delegation that the law has been on the books in Prince George's County for 25 years and has stood up to challenges.

"We need to make this system based on the development project that rises to the top," Brochin said. "If we take the developer money out starting on [Jan. 1, 2019, when the bill would take effect if passed], and we make it about the best project moving forward... we need to do it without the money."



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#### Foreclosure bill progresses in House, faces uncertain reception in Senate

- By Devin Crum -

Delegate Robin Grammer's bill to help Baltimore County communities deal with vacant homes and the problems that accompany them has passed out of the county's House delegation all but assuring it will get a favorable vote in the full House of Delegates.

Grammer (R-Essex) announced on Friday, Feb. 17, that his bill had received unanimous support from the House delegation, sending it on to a hearing before the House Environment and Transportation policy committee which handles housing laws in the General Assembly. The hearing has been scheduled for Friday, March 10, at 1 p.m. in Annapolis.

"But the key committee is the delegation and this is two years in a row it has passed out of delegation, this time unanimously," Grammer said.

He said the problem stems from foreclosure law changes that occurred between 2008 and 2012 which have left community leaders and elected officials with no legal recourse to take action on a vacant and abandoned property for sometimes three or more years

Grammer's bill, also introduced in the state legislature in 2016, would require Baltimore County to issue certificates of vacancy for vacant or abandoned homes to get them moving through the foreclosure process more quickly.

As depicted in videos posted to social media by community residents and activists in Essex and Dundalk, vacant homes can become havens for squatters, drug users and rats, or targets for thieves who strip the copper pipes and wiring from them, all of which can cause problems for neighbors.

"These houses are abandoned, which leads to high grass, property neglect and dumping," Grammer said. "These are key signs of a vulnerable property for squatters, drug dealers or copper thieves who quickly make targets of these properties."

The delegate called the House delegation vote a "great sign" for the bill's chances to pass, adding that he is "absolutely" confident it will pass by a wide margin in the House.

vironment and Transportation is really starting to tackle the foreclosure issue, and I feel that our bill is going to be one of several that pass," he said.

approval in the Senate.

The delegate said vacant homes are clearly an issue for communities on the

But "I don't know if they've been exposed to this problem as much in places like Towson and Lutherville," he said, which is the area that Senate delegation chairman Jim Brochin (D) represents.

Brochin is also rumored to be running for Baltimore County Executive.

"I think we've really got to hammer home in the Senate the cause of this issue and the impact it's having on our communities," Grammer said.

concerns about taking someone's home from them outright.

become really cognizant about property rights," Brochin said.

He fears that the county would eventually run into a situation where someone's home was taken and foreclosed on because they happened to be in the hospital or taking care of a sick relative for an extended period of time.

"I feel that this is the year that En-

Last year's bill also passed the full House of Delegates with heavy support after a 135 - 3 vote. But it died after an unfavorable reception in the county's Senate delegation committee, so this year Grammer is focusing on winning

eastern and western sides of the county.

Brochin noted, though, that he has

"In all my years in Annapolis I've just

Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz's administration has also expressed concerns about the bill since they do not have the legal authority to enter onto private property to certify



This vacant rowhouse in Middlesex is just an example of the many homes throughout southeastern Baltimore County which are left vacant for long periods and can attract squatters, drug users or rats when people begin dumping on the property illegally. File photo

that a home is vacant.

Brochin said he thinks the problem would be more appropriately addressed through better code enforcement practices; though, he assured he is sympathetic to the blight.

The senator said he wants to work with Grammer to reshape the bill to address the concerns.

However, Grammer remained undeterred in his push to pass the bill.

He noted that he did not bring anyone from the affected communities down to Annapolis to testify on the bill before the Senate last year.

"This is why this year we're bringing some community members into the process to hammer home the importance of this issue," he said.

Grammer pointed out that he brought community advocate and business owner Cliff O'Connell down this year to testify about the numerous examples of the problems associated with vacant housing, particularly in the Essex neighborhood of Middlesex.

"I think that was a large reason why we got a unanimous vote this year" in the House delegation, Grammer said.



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**NEWS** 

#### Proposed legislation could see yearly brewery barrel cap lifted from 500 to 5,000

- By Patrick Taylor -

Ever since Diageo announced the development of a new Guinness brewery in southwest Baltimore County, legislators have been trying to figure out a way to lift the strict 500-barrel-per-year cap imposed on Maryland breweries.

Last Friday, Feb. 24, the Baltimore County House Delegation heard arguments for and against House Bill 1391, a bill that would create a special enterprise zone in the southwest area allowing Guinness to sell 5,000 barrels of beer on site each year.

While many in the delegation and among those who spoke to the delegation agreed with the bill, they pointed out that the legislation shouldn't just pertain to a small area of the county or to breweries acquiring licenses, but to all already-licensed Class 5 breweries in the county. Delegate Robin Grammer (R-6) is proposing an amendment when the delegation votes on the bill on March 3 that would see the barrel limit raised for those already holding a Class 5 license. Both Key Brewing in Dundalk and DuClaw in Rosedale are Class 5 breweries.

Grammer referred to HB 1391 as "poorly structured" since it pertains to only a small portion of the county, but noted that it wasn't due to malice, which he maintains is rare in the world of liquor.

"Alcohol laws tend to be very slanted," said Grammer. "Businesses try to outdo each other by passing laws that benefit themselves.

A Diageo representative told the delegation that the hyper-specific legislation was crafted in a way they thought would make it easier to approve. He noted that Diageo supports expanding the bill to include Class 5 breweries across the county and state.

Kevin Atticks, executive director of the Brewers Association of Maryland,

agreed that while he supports the legislation, he'd like to see it expanded to apply statewide. Atticks told the delegation that if you look at states surrounding Maryland, most don't have a cap on the amount of beer able to be sold at a brewery, and that those who do have a cap have it set for tens of thousands of barrels.

But detractors of the bill, including Delegate Rick Impallaria (R-Middle River), stated that many who testified years ago in support of breweries being able to serve on premises agreed to the cap, and that serving at breweries was mainly allowed so that breweries who have a tough time breaking into the market can sell their product on site. Impallaria stated that Guinness doesn't have the problem that a lot of smaller breweries have, and they shouldn't receive special treatment.

"If we expand for them, what's to stop any other big name brewery from coming in and asking for the same?" Impallaria questioned.

Impallaria also questioned whether or not the bill, if expanded, would end up meaning anything to other breweries in the state.

Atticks stated that there are 10 breweries out of 67 that currently hover around the 500 barrel limit each year. He also noted that Flying Dog is looking to undergo a \$50 million expansion, the same size project as Guinness.

Many of those who testified in opposition to the bill - mainly restaurateurs and liquor store owners - cited loss of business. They questioned why residents would continue to patronize their shops and restaurants when they can go grab it straight from the brewery. One man who testified in opposition to the bill suggested Guinness look to the model created by Sam Adams in Boston. Up there, residents get a tour of the beer and a pint at the end. When everything wraps up, they have a trolley service that takes them to local establishments.

But Grammer and others think there will be a big economic benefit for those surrounding the brewery even without a similar service.

"Millennials, Gen X-ers, they love this," said Grammer. "The food truck pulls up and they're buying pulled pork sandwiches or visiting other establishments when they finish. It's an economic benefit."

An Arbutus resident testified that the Guinness brewery would be a huge boon for businesses on that side of the county. He stated that for the last few decades, there hasn't been much in the way of new attractions and that the addition of a brewery like Guinness would see tourism rise and a younger demographic willing to move to the area.

expects approximately 250,000 visitors the first year the brewery opens. With the law currently capping sales at 500 barrels, they maintain that will leave tourists with only about a half pint to consume.

Impallaria then noted that any beer given away during tours, or any voucher tickets, don't count against the cap.

The bill in its current form is sponsored by Delegate Benjamin Brooks (D-Reisterstown) and co-sponsored by many others, including delegates Grammer, Joe Cluster, Christian Miele, Ric Metzgar and Kathy Szeliga, all Republicans. Grammer stated a vote will take place after his amendment is announced, and he's hopeful it will pass.

Grammer also noted that he's cosponsoring a bill that would see the cap lifted statewide.

'The big alcohol lobby held the cap down because, frankly, they haven't had any big political players stand up against them," Grammer said, adding that he was hopeful the addition of Guinness would take some power away from lobbyists.

#### **Edgemere church seeks state aid for** completion of community center

- By Patrick Taylor -

In May of 2015, Shiloh Baptist Church of Baltimore County teamed up with Project Genesis New Beginnings, Inc. for an ambitious project - a \$1.3 million endeavor that would bring a new community center to the Edgemere area

The group took over a warehouse located at 2518 Sparrows Point Road, and since then they have been quietly raising funds and renovating the property. So far, the church has raised over

Sister Marietta Lewis of New Shiloh traveled to Annapolis last Friday, Feb. 24, to make a case for a \$200,000 bond issuance. She was aided by Sixth District Delegate Ric Metzgar.

"This is a church that's out there doing exactly what they're supposed to be doing," said Metzgar. "They aren't just talking the talk, they're walking the walk."

Metzgar told members of the Baltimore County Delegation that he visited the property, and that the church's vision for the community center is one that he is fully supporting.

Lewis told the *East County Times* that the community center will provide daycare, housing, a commercial kitchen with a dining hall and a multipurpose room. The facility will be open to all residents of Baltimore County.

The group plans to hold tutoring, summer camp, a music academy, GED classes, workforce development training, health education and more in the multipurpose room.

"It's one of our missions to promote self sufficiency... to those in the area suffering from economic plight," Lewis said referring to workforce develop-

Lewis stressed that workforce development is something they really want to engage in due to the emergence of Tradepoint Atlantic, located just minutes from the subject site.

The housing that will be provided at the facility will be six refurbished apartments for those experiencing economic struggles.

'We're looking to help disadvantaged families," said Lewis. "It could be mothers with children, the jobless, the homeless. It depends on what their economic plight is."

Lewis did not provide a date for when the project would be finished, but stated that as the project gets closer to completion they plan to have community input meetings. Despite the fact that community meetings have not been held yet, Lewis stated that representatives of the church have been to local meetings and have been taking in

"We've also been attending meetings to get a good idea of what's needed in the population, and we've also been studying available data," Lewis said.

These types of projects aren't always well-received in communities, however. Patapsco United Methodist Church was threatened with a \$12,000 fine late last year for allowing homeless individuals to sleep on their property, as well as other issues local residents saw as a nuisance. While the Shiloh Baptist and Project Genesis project is different as they will be receiving permits, Metzgar noted that he expects some push-back from community members. Ultimately, though, he expects the community to see the value in the community center.

"They told me they had a vision for the property," Metzgar said. "And when I visited the property, I was struck by the same vision. It will be a welcome addition to an area that sorely needs it."

#### East County TIMES

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#### **NEWS**

#### **AGREEMENT**

- continued from page 2 -

fication from the county, as well as to put up "No Trespassing" signs along the entire fence line.

Several fire hydrants on the site also remain out of service which Majchrzak attributed mainly to their age. Installed in the 1940s, he said many are "beyond repair" and the valves to them have been shut off to try to stop a continuing underground water main leak.

"The people shutting off the valves are employed by the developer, so they don't have the requisite knowledge to isolate the right shutoff point" to stop the leak, Majchrzak said.

The agreement with the county also requires the developer to hire a licensed contractor to repair and replace four operational fire hydrants, giving him until April 24 to make "best efforts" toward completion.

The agreement levies an ongoing obligation on the developer to secure the buildings on the property, particularly those with open elevator shafts that could present a hazard to trespassers or emergency responders.

Majchrzak said the hospital and another multi-story building are still "very open" and remain unsecured.

He said securing the property is so important because of the potential for injury and vandalism, though, they have seen much less destruction on the site with the

"We've also seen that the buildings that are secured have not been vandalized or set afire," the fire director explained.

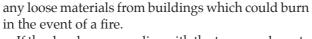
Other requirements set forth in the agreement include cutting off electricity to all but the gate house, the former healthcare clinic and one other building on the property; cutting back or removing any vegetation growing within 30 feet of buildings; and removing

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Kenny Okojie



If the developer complies with the terms and meets the deadlines, a reduced fine of \$40,000 will be waived by the county.

And while the outstanding fine of \$44,800 is still looming, the county's desire to enforce it will depend on the developer meeting the terms of the agreement in a timely manner, according to the county's attorney, Brady Locher.

The agreement also states that once the redevelopment of the property is complete and it is no longer a vacant site, the county shall "abolish" the civil penalty assessed in Judge Stahl's Jan. 14, 2016 order.

Baltimore County's obligations under the agreement include continuing weekly inspections of the property with appropriate notice given, providing assistance where necessary to ensure the developer meets his deadlines; informing the police about the agreement and requesting their prompt response to calls for illegal activity on the property; and making a good-faith effort to achieve compliance without seeking additional civil penalties through code enforcement if problems are fixed within 15 days of the developer being notified.

Locher called the agreement a "good first step to getting this property to be safe for the public."

"It has been out of compliance for so long that having this in writing will go a long way," Majchrzak added. "This is the first time we've had an actual written agreement, so that's why we're so hopeful that these problems are going to be addressed."



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#### Community concerned about merging, relocation of Essex VFCs

- By Devin Crum

The announcement two weeks ago that three volunteer fire companies in Essex plan to merge and relocate did not sit well with residents who worry about the future availability of emergency services to their neighborhoods.

They also worry about a developer's role in the issue, seeing new housing as putting pressure on local infrastructure.

As reported by the East County Times, the Rockaway Beach Volunteer Fire Company (RBVFC) held a community meeting on Feb. 16 to inform residents in their service area that they planned to merge with the Hyde Park and Middleborough VFCs to become the Essex Volunteer Fire Company due to rising costs of operation and decreasing support from Baltimore County government. They also announced their intention to relocate to a more centralized site, identifying a tract slated for development as their top priority.

Combined, the three companies serve a 45-square-mile area with about 21,000 -25,000 residents living in it. But Rockaway Beach alone has about 35 square miles of that area and approximately 7,000 residents, of which a relatively high percentage are older. And for RBVFC, their pool of potential volunteers to recruit from has shrunk over the years due to the aging

RBVFC President Kevin Nida noted that a lot of the younger residents and Chesapeake High School students in the area live in the apartments and townhomes of the more dense communities on the upper Back River Neck Peninsula, rather than in their immediate community.

"We're really out of the way," Nida said. "No one really pays attention to us down here unless they need us." Therefore, merging would help the company - all three have faced difficulties recruiting new members - maintain enough members to be able to respond to more calls for emergency service, he said.

The Times also reported in August of last year that Glen Burnie-based Crafts-

man Developers had proposed modifying an existing approved development plan for 180 apartments on a 22-acre site in Essex to allow for townhomes instead at a slightly reduced density.

Following that media attention, the three VFCs contacted the developer about their desire to build their new station on the site, said Conor Gilligan, vice president of land management for the developer, at the meeting two weeks ago.

Gilligan said he met with leadership from the three companies on three separate occasions to explain his development plan and discuss ways the site could accommodate them.

The subject site - bounded by MD-702, Middleborough Road, Back River Neck Road and Hyde Park Road - has two lots approved for commercial uses as part of the development plan which could be modified to allow for construction of a new fire station.

The commercial lots, both along Middleborough Road on the property, could also provide a central location for the combined service area, according to Gilligan. Each lot has direct access to Middleborough Road and could accommodate a larger building than is shown on the plan, he said.

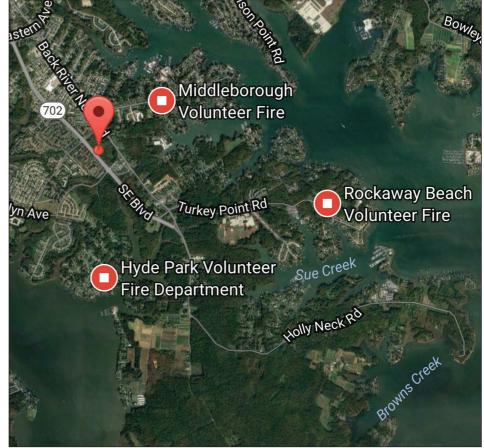
'That would be the centralized location" for the new company, Nida added.

Gilligan stated his purpose for attending the meeting was to review with the community a plan for relocating the fire company that he believes would be mutually beneficial for him and the community.

However, an agreement for the company's use of the property for a new station would have to be between the Essex VFC and the current owner of the property, Hendersen-Webb, Gilligan explained.

The plan for apartments on the property has been approved for about a decade, but Gilligan has proposed to change that plan to 125 for-sale townhomes and four single homes.

The developer has faced opposition



The red pin marks the site of the new development where the fire companies would like to build their new station. The map also shows much of their combined service area.

from some community members over his proposal and is currently involved in a legal challenge to it brought by the Rockaway Beach/Turkey Point Improvement Association (RBIA).

Gilligan expressed at the meeting his unwillingness to spar with the community over his plan, but cautioned that the approved plan will move forward if his does not.

"I believe 125 townhomes and four single-family homes would be a much better option than apartments, because if I am not successful with this plan, I can assure you this site will be developed into 180 apartments," Gilligan said.

Pamela Newland, chief operating officer for Hendersen-Webb Inc., confirmed

that the company is now ready to either sell or develop the property.

Gilligan stressed that a mandatory homeowners association with his plan would help to maintain the quality and value of the new community, and his plan would provide much more open space than required by county law. He added that his plan would see less vehicle trips per day to and from the site and contribute less children to area schools, some of which are overcrowded.

But the opposition has contended that the plan could actually be worse than the apartments. They argue that, mathematically, 125 three- and four-bedroom townhomes would see higher numbers - see CONCERNS on page 9 -

#### **OVERCROWDING**

- continued from page 1 -

downzoned more than 1,600 acres of land in his district to help deal with the issue, but stated that the crux of the problem stems from changing demographics as new families move into the area.

On Feb. 7, the Board of Education approved \$250,000 in funding to develop a county-wide enrollment study to look at the issue of overcrowding. The Board also added \$1 million to the school system's transportation budget to lower the studentto-bus seat ratio from 3-to-1 to 2-to-1. Both of these measures will need to be approved by County Executive Kevin Kamenetz when he reviews the budget later this year in April. And before the budget gets to Kamenetz, Marks would like to see funding added for a new middle school in the northeast area.

Though the two measures approved by the Board of Education are small victories for stakeholders in northeast schools, the fact that the enrollment study will be done across the county means that solutions likely won't be proposed for up to 18 months after the study begins in July, and implementing a solution could take years after the study is complete. Because of that, parents and advocates are calling for a quicker response.

"We know that we need to act now," said BCPS Board of Education member Julie Henn. "we don't have a year to wait for the results of this study; there need to be short-term solutions as well as long-term solutions."

The use of trailers to shelter the overflow of students isn't seen as an ideal solution to parents, either. A few parents at the rally last week held signs that said, "No More Band Aids at Perry Hall," referencing the use of trailers. A few weeks ago rumors began, alleging that BCPS was planning on moving five more trailers to Perry Hall Middle School. That rumor was rebuffed by BCPS spokesperson Mychael Dickerson, who stated that no decision had been made on additional trailers.

While parents have been calling for a new school, BCPS has maintained for years that they need to deal with overcrowding beginning at the elementary level. To help alleviate overcrowding in the northeast, a new elementary school on property located north of East Joppa Road and south of the intersection of East Joppa Road and Chapel Hill Road is on the way. With the school system



Parents held signs to show their support for overcrowding relief at Perry Hall Middle.

finishing up air conditioning projects and with replacement elementary schools being built in the Southeast, Northeast and Southwest areas, parents are hopeful the focus can shift to address overcrowding at the middle and high school levels.

Over the last few years, parents have voiced their concerns about growing class sizes, feeling that their children aren't receiving the attention they deserve.

They have also become more vocal about safety issues, with many wondering about whether or not overcrowded schools violate fire safety regulations. But the Baltimore County Fire Marshal's Office stated Perry Hall Middle School has passed inspection without issue. Only areas of assembly, such as gyms, are inspected to determine capactity. Classrooms are not considered areas of assembly.

#### With eyes to the sky, Kenwood cadets complete aviation ground school

- Article and photo by Marge Neal -

With posture straight and proud, marching in perfect cadence and turning crisp, square corners, cadets from Kenwood High School's Air Force JROTC recently marched themselves into school history.

Twenty students graduated on Saturday, Feb. 25, from an academically challenging aviation ground school course, a first not only for Kenwood but Baltimore County Public Schools.

In case the significance of the event was lost on family members and friends on hand to witness the ceremony, Senior Master Sgt. Erick Stone, co-instructor of the JROTC program, made sure they knew in no uncertain terms.

"These young cadets are graduating from an honors-level, ground school aviation course," Stone told the crowd. "This is a monumental event; we don't take the pinning of wings lightly and it is a significant achievement."

Lt. Col. Maria Nowack, Stone's co-instructor, called the graduation a "milestone

event" and credited Stone, in his first year with the program, with pitching the idea of holding the course.

She congratulated the students not only for their achievement, but their initiative in signing up for an elective program that ran from 7:30 to 11 a.m. across several Saturdays.

"They had to get up at 'oh-dark-thirty' to be here at 7:30 in the morning on a day most of them would have preferred to sleep in," she said with a laugh.

The cadets met for four Saturdays, with three classes at Kenwood and one at the Glenn L. Martin Maryland Aviation Museum, according to cadet Capt. Jacob Fuller. They also gathered for three after-school classes for a total of 24 hours of instruction.

In noting a class average of 95.2 on the "challenging" test, Nowack said, "Ladies and gentlemen, you have set the bar high for the next class, and there will be one."

The ceremony was quick but moving. Each graduate was called individually

to receive a diploma and embroidered name tag, and then a family member was given the honor of pinning each cadet with the prestigious and hardearned wings.

While each student was being pinned, other proud family members - often younger siblings - crowded in to take pictures.

Fuller's father, Joseph, beamed as he pinned his son, while mother Tina and other family members captured the action with cellphone cameras.

"He's actually going to be able to be in the cockpit of a plane - to be on the wheel while they're in the air," Joseph Fuller said of his son, a junior, after the ceremony. "He's only 17 - what an opportunity."

The elder Fuller was referring to the Maryland First Flight program at Martin State Airport. All cadets who passed the ground flight school course are eligible for a plane ride, offered free through the program, according to Stone.

Sophomore cadet Airman Kiahra Smith received her wings from her older brother, Yusuf, 21, while younger brother Ian, 7, watched and parents Mahisha and Yusuf photographed the event.

Before the ceremony began, Nowack made her way around the room introducing herself and welcoming family members to the ceremony.

"What a great daughter you have," she told the Smiths. "She's smart, she's attentive - she comes in to class and sits in front right in front of me, she knows her stuff."

Nowack said that Smith has leadership potential and strongly recommended



Cadet Captain Jacob Fuller received his wings from his father, Joseph.

that the cadet take advantage of a summer leadership course.

"I'd love to see her on the staff next year," Nowack told the Smiths. "She's well-liked and the cadets would really respond to her as a leader."

Jacob Fuller, who is the deputy corps commander of the 112-cadet Maryland 941 unit at Kenwood, plans a career in service to his country.

"I'm currently trying to get a job with a government defense agency," he said after the ceremony. "If not, I plan to go to college, participate in ROTC and then become a military officer and hopefully a pilot. I want to serve my country."

And, Nowack and Stone both believe, he and his fellow cadets have good head starts on such careers because of their participation in JROTC.

"This makes me so proud of each and every one of you," Nowack told the students. "The studying, the getting up early each Saturday - this is your day; enjoy it."

#### **CONCERNS**

- continued from page 8 -

of vehicles and children than 180 twobedroom apartments, according to RBIA Vice President Kevin McDonough.

In response to the criticisms, Gilligan delivered a draft community agreement for his plan to the RBIA which would see some units along Back River Neck Road eliminated from the development to create more of a landscape buffer. The developer would also make a \$50,000 donation to the county or a non-profit to somehow benefit the community, similar to what a planned unit development (PUD) requires.

That agreement was delivered in August and the association has since been considering their options, according to McDonough.

Since the meeting, RBIA leadership has reached out to other community members urging them to support the RBVFC and pressure the county for more financial support in the hope that the station in their community can remain open.

"As a community, we are extremely alarmed by the animosity that the current county administration appears to have for our volunteer fire companies, particularly Rockaway Beach VFC. It's troubling that the administration would only provide our fire department with a measly \$4,000 to operate and provide us with an essential public service...," McDonough told the *Times*. "We find that absolutely inexcusable and unacceptable."

"Our public safety is an issue which needs to be addressed before any other development can proceed in this area," RBIA President Kim Goodwin addded.

Nida did not express support or opposition for Gilligan's plan, and it appears a new fire station could be built on one of the commercial lots whether it is developed with apartments or townhomes.

He did state at the meeting, however, that the respective VFCs currently receive much more donation funding from area families in single homes and townhomes than those in apartments.



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#### Some potentially surprising facts about menopause

Menopause is a process nearly all healthy women will go through naturally. During menopause, women will begin to experience irregular menstrual cycles to the point where menstruation will cease altogether. WebMD states

that most women will enter menopause - marked by not having a period for a duration of one year - on or around the age of 50. Some women experience menopause in their 40s, while others experience it closer to 60.

Many women find they are apprehensive about menopause, which is one of the biggest hormonal changes women experience. Difficulty understanding menopause may be fueled by misinformation, including misconceptions about this time of life. Becoming educated about menopause can help women alleviate any anxiety they feel.

• Periods largely don't stop overnight. In many cases, a woman entering menopause will not cease menstruating all at once. According to the North American Menopause Society, ovary fluctuations occur gradually. It can take anywhere from three to five years before menstruation fully ceases. As ovary function fluctuates, so do hormone levels. This leads to periods being closer together or further apart, lighter or heavier.

• Weight gain can occur if women let it. Menopausal women may need to reassess their diets and exercise habits. During menopause, ovaries make fewer sex hormones, and one might experience a hormonal imbalance. As a result, the body may respond by trying to protect itself by storing fat, especially around the waist, hips and thighs.

• Hormone replacement therapy is an option. England's National Institute of Health and Care Excellence recently changed its view of hormone replacement therapy, or HRT, which was once deemed dangerous due to the perception that it increased a woman's risk of developing breast cancer. In its review of the evidence, NICE found that if 1,000 women aged 50 were not undergoing HRT, around 22 would be expected to develop breast cancer over seven years. If the same number were put on combined estrogen and progesterone treatment, there would be around five more cases and the slightly increased risk only lasts as long as women are on the therapy.





#### **Understanding osteoarthritis**

The most common chronic condition of the joints in both the United States and Canada, osteoarthritis affects roughly 30 million people in just those two countries alone.

While osteoarthritis, or OA, can affect people of all ages, it's most common in men and women over the age of 65. Understanding osteoarthritis and how

to prevent and manage the disease can help men and women over the age of 50 reduce their risk and live more comfortably even if they develop OA.

#### What is osteoarthritis?

Once considered a byproduct of the wear and tear the human body naturally endures over a lifetime, OA is now

- see **OSTEOARTHRITIS** on page 12 -



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A balanced diet is an integral element of a healthy lifestyle for men, women and children alike. But while kids and young adults might be able to get away with an extra cheeseburger here or there, men and women approaching 50 have less leeway.

According to the National Institute on Aging, simply counting calories without regard for the foods being consumed is not enough for men and women 50 and older to maintain their long-term health. Rather, the NIA emphasizes the importance of choosing low-calorie foods that have a lot of the nutrients the body needs.

But counting calories can be an effective and simple way to maintain a healthy weight, provided those calories are coming from nutrient-rich foods. The NIA advises men and women over 50 adhere to the following daily calorie intake recommendations as they attempt to stay healthy into their golden years.

#### Women

- Not physically active: 1,600 calories
- Somewhat active: 1,800 calories
- Active lifestyle: between 2,000 and 2,200 calories

#### Eating healthy at 50 and beyond

- Not physically active: 2,000 calories
- Somewhat active: between 2,200 and 2,400 calories
- Active lifestyle: between 2,400 and 2,800 calories

When choosing foods to eat, the NIA recommends eating many different colors and types of vegetables and fruits. Phytochemicals are substances that occur naturally in plants, and there are thousands of these substances offering various benefits. The Produce for Better Health Foundation notes that a varied, colorful diet incorporates lots of different types of phytochemicals, which the PBH says have disease-preventing properties.

The NIA also advises that men and women over 50 make sure at least half the grains in their diets are whole grains. Numerous studies have discovered the various benefits of whole grains, which are loaded with protein, fiber, antioxidants and other nutrients. Whole grains have been shown to reduce the risk for diseases such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease and some types of cancer.

Another potential hurdle men and women over 50 may encounter is a change in their sense of smell and taste. A person's sense of smell may fade with age, and because smell and taste are so closely related, foods enjoyed for years may no longer tantalize the taste buds. That can be problematic, as many people instinctually add more salt to foods they find bland.

According to the U.S. Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, older adults should consume no more than 1,500 milligrams of sodium per day. That equates to roughly 3/4 teaspoon of salt. Older men and women should resist the temptation to use salt to add flavor to foods, instead opting for healthy foods that they can still smell and taste. In addition, men and women should mention any loss of their sense of smell to their physicians, as such a loss may indicate the presence of Parkinson's disease or Alzheimer's

Maintaining a healthy diet after 50 may require some hard work and discipline. But the long-term benefits of a healthy diet make the extra effort well worth it.

#### **OSTEOARTHRITIS**

- continued from page 11 -

viewed as a disease, notes the AF. The following are some potential causes of OA.

- Genes: The AF notes that certain genetic traits can increase a person's likelihood of developing OA. Collagen is a protein that makes up cartilage, and, while rare, a genetic defect that affects the body's production of cartilage can lead to OA occurring in people as young as 20 years old. Researchers have also noted that the gene FAAH is more commonly found in people with OA of the knee than in people who don't have the disease. FAAH has been previously linked with pain sensitivity.
- Weight: Being overweight increases a person's risk for a host of ailments and diseases, and OA can be counted among them. Extra weight puts additional pressure on hips and joints, and over time those extra pounds can cause cartilage to break down more quickly than it would if the body was not carrying extra weight.
- Injury: Men and women who have suffered injuries to their joints may be at greater risk of developing OA than those with no such injury history.
- Overuse: Overuse of joints, tendons and ligaments can accelerate the breakdown of cartilage and increase a person's risk of developing OA. Cartilage also can

break down more quickly in the bodies of athletes and people whose careers require them to stand for extended periods of time, bend over frequently and/ or lift heavy items.

• Preexisting conditions: Conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis, hemochromatosis and acromegaly may also contribute to the development of OA among people diagnosed with such disorders.

#### Prevention and management of OA

Men and women who maintain healthy weights and exercise regularly and appropriately may be able to prevent the onset of OA. Appropriate exercises include strength training that focuses on building muscles around the joints, even if those joints are already affected by OA. Strong muscles around the joints can reduce the pain associated with OA, while range-ofmotion exercises can improve flexibility of the joints and reduce stiffness. Aerobic exercise also helps men and women maintain healthy weights while facilitating weight loss for those who are already overweight.

Those already diagnosed with OA should speak with their physicians before beginning an exercise regimen, and such conversations can also include discussions about the various medications that can be used to reduce symptoms of OA.

More information about OA is available at www. arthritis.org.

#### **Keep moving**

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, regular physical activity is one of the most important things older adults can do to promote their long-term health. The CDC recommends that men and women age 65 or older who are generally fit and have no limiting health conditions need at least two hours and 30 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity. In addition, such people should perform strengthtraining activities that work all major muscle groups at least two days per week. While many fit older men and women with no preexisting health conditions are capable of these activities, those able to push themselves a little further can opt for 75 minutes per week of vigorous-intensity aerobic activity, combined with the same strength-training regimen. A combination of moderate- and vigorous-intensity aerobic activity coupled with strength training may also provide adequate physical activity for aging men and women. Before beginning a new exercise regimen, men and women should consult with their physicians.







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#### Older adults can overcome gym intimidation

Regular exercise and a nutritious diet are two of the best things seniors can do to maintain their health. Exercise can delay or prevent many of the health problems associated with aging, including weak bones and feelings of fatigue.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says a person age 65 or older who is generally fit with no limiting health conditions should try to get two hours and 30 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity per week, while also including weight training and muscle-strengthening activities in their routines on two or more days a week.

Individuals often find that gyms have the array of fitness equipment they need to stay healthy. But many people, including older men and women who have not exercised in some time, may be hesitant to join a gym for fear of intimidation. Some seniors may avoid machines and classes believing they will not use the apparatus properly, or that they will be judged by other gym members. Some seniors may feel like gyms do not cater to their older clientele, creating an atmosphere that is dominated by younger members and loud music.

Such misconceptions are often unfounded, as many gyms welcome older members with open arms. But even if seniors find gyms intimidating, they should still sign up for memberships. In such situations, the

following tips can help seniors shed their fears and adapt to their new gyms.

- Start the process slowly. Shop around for a gym that makes you feel comfortable. Get fully informed about which classes are offered, and the benefits, if any, afforded to older members.
- Get a doctor's go-ahead. Make sure to clear exercise and gym membership with your doctor prior to purchasing a membership. He or she also may have a list of gyms where fellow senior patients have memberships.
- Build up gradually. Begin with exercises you feel comfortable performing. Spend time walking on the treadmill while observing other gym members. Tour the circuit of machines and other equipment. Find out if you can sample a class to see if it might be a good fit.
- Find a gym buddy. Working out with a partner in your age group may encourage you to keep going to the gym and increase your comfort level. You each can offer support and enjoy a good laugh through the learning process.
- Don't get discouraged. Anyone working out for the first time, regardless of age, will feel somewhat out of place until exercise becomes part of a routine. Give it some time before throwing in the towel. Once you catch on, you may discover you enjoy working out.
  - Choose a senior-friendly gym. Some gyms cater

to senior members. They may offer "SilverSneakers" classes at their facility. Other niche gyms may only accept members of a certain age group. Investigate these gyms if working out with a younger crowd is proving too great a deterrent.

Fitness is important for healthy seniors. It can prolong life, help seniors maintain healthy weights and reduce their risk of injury.

#### **Promote good kidney health**

Kidney disease is a widespread issue and many people are unaware they have it. According to the National Kidney Foundation, 26 million American adults have kidney disease, and most don't know it. Those who want to do everything they can to keep their kidneys healthy can consider the following tips, courtesy of the Cleveland Clinic.

- Stay hydrated, but avoid overhydration.
- Regular exercise benefits various parts of the human body, including the kidneys.
- Speak with a physician before taking vitamin supplements or herbal remedies. These have become popular in the 21st century, but in excess can harm the kidneys. Discuss any supplements or herbals remedies with a physician before taking them.

Learn more about kidney disease at www.kidney.org.

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#### **POLITICIANS**

#### Trump's first 30 days in office

- By Delegate Kathy Szeliga (R-7) -

I was recently interviewed on Baltimore's Fox 45 regarding Trump's first 30 Days. While it hasn't been perfect, I did not expect a non-politician to have a perfect launch to a four year term. The economy and stock markets are showing improvement. I think things are going in the right direction. In 30 short days, Trump has:

- Nominated Judge Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court. Great pick!
- Restarted the stalled Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipelines putting people back to work in good skilled jobs.
- Will do extreme vetting of refugees from seven countries that the Obama administration said are the biggest sources of terrorists. President Trump's first attempt to do this was not well done, but the 2nd Executive Order looks good.
- President Trump's America First movement is causing manufacturers and businesses to stay in the USA and scrap plans to move jobs out of our country.
- Cancelled the Trans Pacific Partnership and is renegotiating trade deals.
- Has begun work to lower taxes, both personal and corporate rates that are the highest in the world.
- Nominated business leaders to transform Washington in his cabinet members.
- Finally, Washington will secure our borders. When I ran for US Senate last year, I learned that citizens want secured borders. It's not just about engaging in immigration reform, but also guarding against terrorists, stopping the drug trade (85 percent of the

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Now, on to Annapolis issues. As a new member of the Health and Government Operations Committee, I was able to listen to the testimony on HB 370, Endof-Life Option Act, also known as Physician Assisted Suicide. The hearing was Thursday, Feb. 17, and lasted for about eight hours with almost 100 people attending.

This is an emotional issue, regardless of which side of this issue you stand. There were some very sad and passionate personal stories from citizens across our state, both for and against.

The plea of the disability community is very impactful. Many people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) face discrimination based on people's perceived "quality of life" issues. The ARC of Maryland said, "People with I/ DD are vulnerable to coercion and trying to please authority figures. One of the top reasons people say they want physician assisted suicide is to avoid being a burden to loved ones. Sadly, many people with I/DD feel they are a burden, even when their family feels otherwise."

There were many physicians and medical care providers at the hearing opposed to the bill. The American Medical Association, American College of Physicians, the American Nurses Association, and many others oppose this bill. They believe it compromises the relationship between health care provider and patient. They have also seen patients defy the odds and overcome terrible diagnoses, whose lives would have been at risk.

There were ethical arguments against the bill and libertarian arguments for it.

Of concern is the comfort of our loved ones at the end of life, especially those with debilitating chronic diseases and conditions. Enormous strides have been made with pain management, palliative and hospice care. Pharmaceuticals to help relieve pain can make most people comfortable at the end of life. All things considered, I cannot support HB 370.

#### **Contact Your State Delegates**

#### **DISTRICT 7**

Richard K. Impallaria (R)

Phone: 410-841-3334

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

Patrick L. McDonough (R)

Phone: 410-238-0025

E-mail: pat.mcdonough@house.state.md.us

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#### **Delegate Long works with BCPS** to improve safety

- By Delegate Bob Long (R-6) -

Delegate Bob Long is happy to announce he is withdrawing his bill HB 193 Baltimore County -Public Schools - Active Assailant Event Training and Drills after consulting with Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) and Dr. S. Dallas Dance. At the request of Delegate Long, BCPS has agreed to modify their school safety procedures.

"I am glad that BCPS and Dr. Dance were able to meet our requests without going through legislation," Delegate Long said. "It's always better to come together instead of forcing a mandate. We all have the same interests and that is keeping our children safe."

Delegate Long was concerned about transparency issues after a school board member was unable to provide him with information about school safety. BCPS agreed their safety policy would become more transparent as members of the BCPS Board of Education will now be updated annually of BCPS's policy and procedures from the BCPS Office of School Safety.

"We don't want our safety procedures to become public, but it's important that school board members are up-to-date on children safety," said Long.

Under the direction of The ARC of Maryland, Long also submitted an amendment that would provide evacuation plans for students, staff and visitors with disabilities in public school facilities.

BCPS stated in a letter to Delegate Long's office that the Office of School Safety will be convening in a subcommittee in the summer to review its responses and recommendations relating to the way in which disabled students are handled during drills.

#### **Delegate Grammer** revives foreclosure reform

- By Delegate Robin Grammer (R-6) -

Hopes of addressing the vacant housing epidemic in Baltimore County were revived on Feb. 17 as Delegate Robin Grammer passed a foreclosure reform bill through a key legislative committee.

The issue of abandoned and vacant properties has cascaded into a multitude of community issues. These houses are abandoned, which leads to high grass, property neglect and dumping. These are key signs of a vulnerable property for squatters, drug dealers and copper thieves.

A few days prior to the vote, several community leaders released a video of a tour through one such vacant house. The video revealed the all too typical problems with these blighted properties: rat infestations, dumping on the property and drug needles scattered throughout the house. Theft of all the copper on the property left the sump pump disabled, endangering the neighboring houses.

The issue stems from foreclosure law changes that occurred between 2008 and 2012 that have left community leaders and elected officials with no legal recourse to take action on a vacant and abandoned property for sometimes three or more years.

Cliff O'Connell of Essex, who volunteers his personal time and efforts cleaning up vacant houses in local communities, joined Delegate Grammer in Annapolis to testify on this issue. They shared powerful stories about these properties and provided media that detailed examples of how these houses are impacting our communities.

The Baltimore County Delegation passed the reform measure via a split vote in 2016. The Delegation passed House Bill 220 unanimously this year. The issue was put forward in 2016 but failed in the Senate.

The measure now moves to the policy committee, Environment and Transportation, which handles policies related to housing and foreclosure law.

# Police seek suspect who killed turtle during burglary

Baltimore County Police have obtained a warrant for the arrest of a suspect who needlessly killed a pet turtle during a burglary. The resident returned to find her home ransacked, and her pet turtle, Donatella, dead on the floor.

The investigation determined that during the overnight hours from Jan. 20 - 21, while the victim was away, two suspects entered the residence in the unit block of Barnwell Court in Parkville through an unsecured ground floor window. They stole numerous electronic devices and accessories, two television sets, gift-cards, checks and jewelry. Before leaving, one of the suspects removed Donatella from her aquarium home, and impaled her with a knife-sharpener.

On Feb. 17 police arrested one of the suspects, identified as Calvin Krasheen Fogg, 24, of the 4400 block of Marble Hall Road in Baltimore.

The second suspect, believed to be the person responsible for killing Donatella, is still outstanding. He is identified as Michael Kennard Jones, 23, previously known to reside in the 3200 block of McElderry Street in Baltimore. He is wanted on charges of first degree burglary and aggravated cruelty to kill an animal. He is also wanted in connection with a previous home invasion robbery with a gun.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Michael Jones is asked to contact police at 410-307-2020. Do not approach Michael Jones, as he is considered a dangerous subject.

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 <a href="https://www.metrocrimestoppers.org">www.metrocrimestoppers.org</a>. 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.

This incident remains under investigation by the Baltimore County Burglary Unit.

# One dead, one injured in Middle River crash

One man is dead and another in critical condition after the truck they were in flipped over and ejected both the driver and the passenger on Thursday, Feb. 23.

The truck, a 1994 Chevrolet C/K 1500, was traveling southbound on Wilson Point Road near Alder Drive in the Essex precinct around 11:24 p.m. when the driver lost control, struck multiple parked cars, and rolled over. Both occupants, who police believe were not wearing seat belts, were ejected from the truck.

Police responded and found the passenger to be deceased at the scene. He is identified as Bryan Derek Mast, 28, of the 1200 block of 4th Road in Middle River.

The driver, a 23-year-old man, was transported to an area hospital where he remains in critical condition.

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# Man wanted in Dundalk murder case extradited

A man wanted in connection with a murder that occurred in Dundalk on March 17, 2016, has been extradited to Baltimore County after being arrested in Ohio for threatening an officer with a knife.

Pablo Javier Aleman, no fixed address, is currently being held without bail at Baltimore County Detention Center.

Just before 4:30 p.m. on March 17, police responded to a home in the 6700 block of Woodley Road in Dundalk for a report of a cardiac arrest. When officers arrived on the scene, they found 51-year-old Victor Adolfo Serrano suffering from multiple stab wounds. He was declared deceased at the scene.

The investigation led detectives to identify Aleman as the suspect responsible for the crime.

Aleman fled to Ohio but was soon picked up on other charges there. Aleman was arrested in Ohio on March 29, 2016 when he threatened a Glendale police officer with a knife after the officer saw him walking on I-75 and stopped to offer him a ride. The officer shot Aleman once in the abdomen during the altercation. Aleman was treated at a local hospital and released into police custody to face charges for the assault on the officer.

On Nov. 17, 2016, after the adjudication of the case in Glendale, Ohio, Baltimore County Police detectives took Aleman into custody for extradition to Baltimore County. He is now awaiting trial.

#### Precinct 9/White Marsh

**First Degree Assault:** On Feb. 26, officers from the White Marsh precinct responded to a call in the 7900 block of Honeygo Boulevard in Nottingham. At 12:20 p.m., three unknown armed suspects entered the AT&T store. The suspects took several phones and tablets from the safe and fled in a vehicle.

**Robbery:** Baltimore County police were called to the unit block of Talister Court in Rosedale on Feb. 24 just before midnight. At 11:55 p.m., two unknown armed suspects approached the victim as she was exiting her vehicle and took her money and purse. The suspects then fled in a vehicle. Anyone with information regarding this incident is urged to contact Baltimore County police.

First Degree Burglary: On Feb. 24, officers re-

Hall on Feb. 22. At 4:35 p.m., an unknown suspect entered the PNC Bank, displayed a handgun and demanded money. He fled in an unknown direction.

**Robbery:** On Feb. 21, officers responded to a call in the 11600 block of Philadelphia Road in White Marsh. Between 12:02 and 6 a.m. an unknown suspect forced entry into the Club Baltimore Discount Liquors and stole cash, a cash drawer, electronics and cigarettes.

#### Attorney, G. Randolph Rice, Jr.

(Former Assistant State's Attorney)

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# Perry Hall student charged after bringing gun to school

A Perry Hall High School student was charged last week by Baltimore County police after bringing a handgun to school. The student, identified as 17-year-old Christopher James Engles of the unit block of Bellhurst Way in Nottingham, will be tried as an adult.

Engles is facing charges of possession of a firearm by a minor, possession of a dangerous weapon on school property, carrying or concealing a dangerous weapon and wearing or carrying a handgun on his person. He is currently being held without bail.

The School Resource Officer at Perry Hall High School was notified after one student was seen showing off a gun to other students in the hallway. He did not threaten or point the gun at anyone. Police believe the student did not have any intent to harm anyone with the firearm. Engles had a loaded magazine with him, but Baltimore County officials stated that there was no round in the chamber.

Engles told police he took the gun from his grandfather's safe over a week ago. The investigation is still ongoing.

This is the second time since 2012 a student has brought a gun to Perry Hall High School. Robert W. Gladden, Jr. brought a gun to school on the first day of classes on Aug. 27, 2012. He shot and injured 17-year-old Daniel Borowy, a special needs student. Gladden was sentenced to 35 years in prison.

sponded to a burglary call in the 4300 block of Kolb

Avenue in Overlea. Sometime between 10 p.m. on

Feb. 23 and 10 a.m. on Feb. 24, an unknown suspect(s)

entered the victim's residence through a rear win-

were called to the 4200 block of Chapel Road in Perry

Robbery: Officers from the White Marsh precinct

dow and took a purse and a computer tablet.





#### **ENTERTAINMENT**



#### ...to a theater as soon as possible to see this

- By Teddy Durgin -

Writer-director Jordan Peele's "Get Out" is the smartest, most well-constructed motion picture I've seen since "Hell or High Water." It is proof positive you can pack your film with social commentary and heady satire, yet still make it funny, scary and absolutely thrilling and fun to watch. A lot of filmmakers and stars try to make "important" movies. And too often, they forget to make... entertaining movies. Too often, the films jockeying to provoke thought and change attitudes end up becoming characters speechifying back at the audience and you leave the theater or turn off the pay-per-view feeling like you just got preached at. Not so with "Get Out."

Here's a film that, first and foremost, works as a horror-thriller genre film. Like "Collide," it's really a B movie at its heart. A delicious combo of "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner," "The Stepford Wives," "Invasion of the Body Snatchers" and "The Skeleton Key." The premise is deceptively simple. Young, black photographer Chris Washington (Daniel Kaluuya) has been dating white co-ed Rose Armitage (Allison Williams) for five months. They think it's love, and it's time to go on a road trip to meet Rose's parents. Just before they leave, Rose concedes that she's never told mom and dad that Chris is African American. But she assures him they will be cool, that if her dad could have, he would have

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"voted for Obama for a third term."

Once at the Armitages' wooded retreat, neurosurgeon Dean Armitage (Bradley Whitford) and psychiatrist Missy Armitage (Catherine Keener) welcome Chris with open arms. Maybe too open. Dean goes a bit overboard, calling Chris "my man" and talking about the importance of embracing other cultures. Missy just talks endlessly of her practice. The first red flag goes up when she starts musing about how effective hypnosis has been in treating people like Chris who want to quit smoking. Chris is also slightly freaked out by the Armitages' African-American housekeeper and groundskeeper, who both seem to be stuck in the 1950s with their smiley, subservient demeanor and zoned-out cadences.

I wouldn't dare ruin the rest of the movie here in this review, folks. I can only say that Peele has crafted a screenplay where every line is important to the collective whole. It's a masterpiece of narrative control and word efficiency - a thing of beauty, really. And he delivers some wonderfully creepy moments, such as Chris going out for a smoke late one night and spying the Armitages' groundskeeper in full sprint coming right at him out of the darkness only to veer off at the last possible second and in the other direction with not a single word said.

I also love the inclusion of Chris's friend back home, Rod (LilRel Howery in a star-making performance). Rod is basically the film's Greek chorus. He IS the audience, calling Chris up from time to time throughout and providing running commentary on the weird, wacky events that Chris relates back to him. How this character is handled late in the movie is absolutely masterful.

A lot of critics have dedicated more column space in their reviews to the film's social commentary on race relations, white attitudes and so forth than to the plot, performances and pay-off. That heady stuff is in there, for sure, but it just adds depth and context to the action.

Oh, and if you are white parents and your daughter or son one day brings home his/her new sweetheart who's outside your race, you're pretty much going to have to deal with this movie reference for quite some time. My advice, Mom and Dad? Have some fun with it. Offer the young man or the young lady some tea with a spoon.

You'll know what I mean after you see the movie. Heh heh.

#### Elliott Smith's 'Either/Or' turns 20 with reissue

- By Patrick Taylor -

While the 90s were bookended by the emergence of grunge (Nirvana, Soundgarden, etc.) and the emergence of boy/girl bands (NSYNC, the Backstreet Boys), a whole lot more happened. My Bloody Valentine pushed sound to its limits on 1991's Loveless. Radiohead made the definitive statement on alternative Rock with 1997's OK Computer. Jeff Buckley cemented his legacy with a breathtaking debut album, 1994's Grace, before tragically drowning in 1997. Rap and hip hop artists like Tupac, the Notorious BIG and Outkast rose to prominence throughout the 90s. The music across genres was loud and in your face.

Enter Elliott Smith, a quiet, introverted singer/ songwriter based out of Portland. Like many in the early 90s Pacific Northwest, Smith first started out playing in a heavy guitar post-punk band named Heatmiser. In 1994, Smith branched out on his own and released his first solo album, Roman Candle, and a year later his self-titled album was released. Both albums blend traditional folk with punk and pop, but both albums were relatively sparse, with Smith's whispery voice and acoustic guitar taking the spotlight.

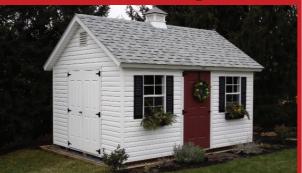
Anticipation was high for his thrid album, 1997's Either/Or, and Smith hit an absolute home run. The album is considered a lo-fi landmark, and for good reason. Smith uses a bit more instrumentation on this album compared to his first two, but it's still relatively bare, with three songs, "Between The Bars," "Angeles" and album closer "Say Yes" played solely on an acoustic. Those three songs would later appear in the 1997 hit movie "Good Will Hunting," along with two other Smith songs. His song "Miss Misery" was nominated for an Academy Award (but lost to "My Heart Will Go On"), which propelled him to heights previously unimaginable.

Either/Or draws you in from the opening notes of "Speed Trials," a haunting diddy about meeting up with a drug dealer and dealing with addiction. From there we get the meandering "Alameda," one of Smith's finest works from a composition standpoint. "Nobody broke your heart / you broke your own 'cause you can't finish what you start," Smith croons repeatedly towards the end of the song.

"The Ballad of Big Nothing" finds an exasperated Smith telling an unknown person they can do what they want, whenever they want, while "No Name No. 5" finds him wishing for solitude. A couple songs ("Angeles," "Pictures of Me") deal with how Smith saw himself compared to his reputation as a

Despite his wishes, Smith remains an icon for sadboys everywhere, along with Morrissey, and Cat Stevens. Either/Or finds him at his most vulnerable, but also finds him at the height of his lo-fi phase. His next album would be a chamber pop classic, with The Beatles heavily influencing his sound, but *Either*/ Or remains his magnum opus. Smith, like Buckley, tragically passed too early. And like Buckley's Grace, Either/Or would be considered a classic even without Smith's untimely passing.





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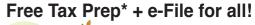


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#### - By Teddy Durgin -

Before my wonderful marriage, before fatherhood, before the mortgage and the SUV, I was a younger, single man with disposable income, a cheap apartment and a much cooler ride. For about six years in my 20s, I drove a 1995 Pontiac Firebird Trans Am.

If I had my choice of a car at that time or any time, it would have been the 1977 "Smokey and the Bandit"-era Trans Am. But the '95 version was one sweet set of wheels. And it was green. "Polo racing green" the company called it back in the day, if I recall. And when I would come out of a movie like the new "Collide" back then, I probably drove about 10 to 15 miles per hour too fast on my way back home... a smile on my face the whole way.

So, you might say I have a certain fondness for car chase flicks. They really are your quintessential "B movies." And the best thing I can say about "Collide" is that it knows what it is. In fact, it loves and embraces what it is.

And what it is is pure B-movie, junk food cinema, with car chases galore; a handsome anti-hero surviving a ridiculous amount of crashes and dodging thousands of bullets; a damsel in distress (and a tight blouse); and not one, but two over-thetop villains played by a couple of former Oscar winners who really should know better. I, of course, enjoyed the heck out

of it, even though, like a fine Big Mac and fries meal, I know it's totally bad for me.

'COLLIDE' sets a collision course...for fun!

Nicholas Hoult stars in essentially the Burt Reynolds role. In fact, his character - a car thief named Casey - is actually referred to as "Burt Reynolds" by the film's first baddie, Turkish drug dealer Geran (Ben Kingsley, slicing more ham here than Jersey Mike's on a daily basis). Casey agrees to one last heist to raise the money for an operation his terminally ill girlfriend, Juliette (Felicity Jones), needs. This brings him into conflict with the film's second baddie, German druglord Hagen Kahl (Anthony Hopkins, spreading more cheese here than Pizza Hut does on a daily basis).

Twice a year, Kahl smuggles into Germany an immense shipment of golf balls filled with cocaine and smuggles out millions in cash via a shipment of cars to Chile. Kahl's rival, Geran, commissions Casey and his partner, Matthias (Marwan Kenzari) to steal the 18-wheeler containing the golf balls.

The cast has a lot of fun with the material. Hoult is sort of like a prettier, less pretentious version of Ethan Hawke. This is what Hawke would be like if he were 10 years younger and if he showered regularly.

'Collide" was filmed about three years ago, so Jones here is especially freshfaced, too, in a role pre-"Rogue One."



And what can you say about Hopkins and Kingsley? They get a scene early on in the flick where they meet at a restaurant, and it's supposed to be the film's DeNiro-Pacino "Heat" moment. The two, of course, go overboard with the Euro-accents and dueling diction. You never once believe them in either part, but they're totally going for it here.

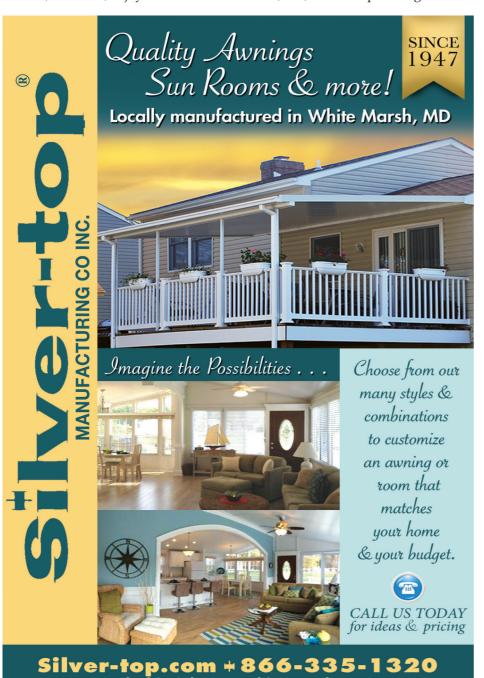
Of course, the whole caper goes wrong and Casey finds himself in a running

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foot chase, car chase and gun battle. Actually, it's a running joke how many times Casey crashes a vehicle only to then steal a better, faster automobile one scene later and keep on going.

As he makes his way back to Juliette, he never looks back or pauses, and neither does the movie. You can pick it apart totally on your not-nearly as-fun drive home. But while the rubber meets the road on screen, it's a brainless, entertaining ride.



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#### **SCHOOL NOTEBOOK**

# Deadline extended for entries to BCPS film expo

The deadline for student submissions to the second BCPS Film Expo has been extended to Thursday, March 9.

Middle and high school student filmmakers are invited to enter their work in the competition. A diverse panel of judges, composed of BCPS staff, local filmmakers, and Hollywood professionals, will evaluate each entry and select middle and high school awards to be given in five categories including: Live-Action Narrative, Documentary, Animation, Experimental and Animated GIFs.

Students planning to enter can indicate their interest by registering online. Registration is recommended but not required. Only five entries will be accepted per high school in the live action narrative, documentary, animation and experimental film categories. A maximum of three entries per school will be accepted in the GIF category. All submissions are limited to 10 minutes in length, and they must conform to the BCPS code of ethics and standards of acceptable use and propriety. All copyrighted music and images featured in the films must be properly licensed.

Finalists will be notified of their standing by Thursday, March. 23. The culmination of the competition will be a film showing and awards ceremony on Thursday, April 6, from 4 - 9 p.m. at the Historic Senator Theater in Baltimore. The expo will feature full length screenings of each winning film, a montage preview of all juried submissions, and GIFs shown on a loop display in the theater lobby.

More info. is available at www.bcpsfilmexpo.org.

# CCBC Nursing accreditation process invites public comments

The Community College of Baltimore County will host a site review for continuing accreditation of its associate's degree nursing program by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) March 1-3.

In conjunction with this visit, ACEN will hold a public meeting to allow community residents to meet the site visitation team and to share comments about the nursing program. The public meeting will be held Thursday, March 2, at 2 p.m., in Room 110 of the Administration Building at CCBC Essex, 7201 Rossville Blvd. in Rosedale.

No pre-registration is required.

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# Students at Eastern Tech, Parkville win awards for virtual reality films

Student teams from Eastern Technical High School and Parkville High School have received awards in the Digital Promise Global 360 Filmmakers Challenge.

Through the national competition, Digital Promise Global and partner Oculus (which creates virtual reality products) challenged high school students to use virtual reality and 360° video to promote social change.

The student team from Eastern Tech, working with Rebecca Meiller McCullagh, visual arts and interactive media production department chair, won the Tell 360 Award for its outstanding writing/narration of the film "Baltimore." The student team was led by Julia Mich Mabini, who edited the winning film, Natalie Bates and Zachary Soper. The student team also included Amber Crumpler, Ariel Harp Glenn, Adam Harrison, Paul Karanja, Mya Tamburello, and Keonte Wilson-Robinson. The Eastern Tech students are all in Grade 11, and their film can be viewed at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/BaltCoPS/videos/1313558001998146/">www.facebook.com/BaltCoPS/videos/1313558001998146/</a>.

"I am incredibly proud of my 11th grade Interactive Media Production students, said Meiller McCullagh. "Tackling new virtual reality equipment and video editing with a 360° film, all while working within a very short timeline, was a huge feat. My students eagerly took on the challenge and grew as leaders, thinkers, and editors throughout the process."

On the Digital Promise website, the student filmmakers wrote: "Our school is surrounded by water: the tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay, the Inner Harbor of Baltimore. The waterways greatly impact the industry of Maryland and dictate the economy for many. The health of the waterways is so important to our state and our area. Knowing that students and filmmakers across the country would be viewing this film, we wanted to present something that showed the small local companies and larger impact that the water has on our society."

The student team from Parkville High, working with Ryan Twentey (a photography and Career and Technology Education interactive media teacher), won the Complete 360 Award for overall excellence and the Hack 360 Award for employing "a unique solution to capture a scene or angle." Parkville was the only one of the nine schools honored to receive more than one award.

The Parkville film can be viewed on the BCPS Facebook page, and the members of the Parkville team are Grade 11 students Geneva Braxton (producer), Michael Connell, Victoria Ezeji, Victoria Hensley, Ivan Ignacio, Jasmine Lewis, Ariel Mitchell, Carson Rettig, Alexis Sauer, Layla Snyder, Breanna Way, Anthony Wesson, Sabriya Winder, and Julie Yap; and Grade 12 students Destiny Cage-Bollin, Liam Dietle (video editor and musician), Cheyenne Greear, Philiciea McCutcheon, Zion McFarland, Shelynta' Romingo (producer), and Chase Ringus.

"I am so proud of these students and the level of quality, collaboration, and professionalism they displayed throughout this process," said Twentey.

The Parkville filmmakers told Digital Promise, "The overall theme of the project was reaching out to those around you because you don't know what someone could be going through, and you may be able to make a difference."

As they concluded their film, the Parkville team was chosen to be showcased in an upcoming Digital Promise documentary. A film crew came to the school and recorded the students as well as audience members wearing virtual reality headsets and viewing the movie for the first time.

All participants in the 360 Filmmakers Challenge received 360° video production equipment and support from professional filmmakers.

# Dance named 2017 Maryland Outstanding Leader Using Technology

Baltimore County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. S. Dallas Dance has been named the 2017 Maryland Outstanding Leader Using Technology by the Maryland Society for Educational Technology (MSET).

In their award letter, MSET described Dr. Dance as a leader who "has clearly demonstrated outstanding use of innovative and effective practices of educational technology."

Dr. Dance is being recognized for his leadership of the school system's S.T.A.T. (Students and Teachers Accessing Tomorrow) and Passport programs as well as his national leadership on the effective use of technology in education. S.T.A.T., a comprehensive and fundamental shift in teaching and learning, uses technology, as well as other strategies, to personalize learning, and Passport begins world language instruction at Grade 4 to prepare students to graduate fluent in a second language.

"I will be pleased to accept this award on behalf of Baltimore County Public Schools," said Dr. Dance. "This honor recognizes the hard work and dedication of our students and teachers, and the commitment of Team BCPS to student-centered learning and to using technology effectively."

The award will be presented to Dr. Dance at the sixth annual Common Ground conference, to be held in Ocean City on May 4 - 5. As the winner, Dr. Dance will receive a \$500 award to be donated to the Education Foundation of Baltimore County Public Schools.

Dr. Dance's honor also qualifies him to compete at the national level for an award from the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE).

Among several awards he has received, in January, Dr. Dance received one of five Community Builder Awards presented by the National Coalition for Technology in Education and Training at its presidential inaugural ball. In October 2016, Dr. Dance was named one of the nation's Top 30 Technologists, Transformers and Trailblazers by The Center for Digital Education.

Dance was also recognized by the AFRO-American Newspaper on Feb. 23 for the positive impact he's having on the Baltimore County community. Dance was recognized along with 15 other educators across the state.





#### **OBITUARIES**



#### Lake, Allen

Allan Lake, a very popular local musician, died on Feb. 23, at the age of 67. Allan was born to Charles (Reds) and Gloria Lake in Hanover, PA on Jan. 16, 1950. His father taught

him to play guitar at age four and Allan went on to play in many bands in his youth. He was a member of The Galaxies for a number of years and later joined The Crystal Canyon band which traveled the east coast. He was performing at The Country Palace on Pulaski Highway when he met his future wife, Lynne. Allan had planned to make music his career, even securing an audition in Music City, when he had a serious accident working at the Hanover Pretzel factory. He lost most of his left index finger, and he knew that would affect his playing ability. He eventually rehabilitated himself and kept on playing. Allan and Lynne got married and he relocated to Baltimore. Allan has played at just about every venue in the Essex and the surrounding areas, billing himself as a solo artist, most recently at The Hard Yacht Café. Allan also hosted a variety of Open Mic events at such places as Long Beach, Ashland Café and Chug-A-Mug where he recorded each player and provided them a free CD of their act. Allan was a mentor to many and an active member of The Acoustic Guitarist Group and The Baltimore Guitarist Group. Allan's humble, quiet nature and dry sense of humor was endearing to his many friends and fellow musicians.

Allan is survived by his wife Lynne, stepdaughters Heather and her husband Ronald, Lisa and her husband Paul; grandchildren Jack, Hailey, Lilah, Ryan, Margo and Opal. Also survived by his sister, Kim Lynch; brother, Donald Lake of PA; five nieces and two nephews. He was predeceased by his sister, Georgia C. Wolfe.

Together, Allan and Lynne planned a party to celebrate his life. It will start with a Memorial Service on Saturday, March 4 at 12:30 p.m. at Hope Lutheran Church, located at 1901 Middleborough Rd., Essex, MD 21221. An Open Mic and Party to follow from 2 - 6 p.m. at The Seasoned Mariner, located at 601 Wise Ave, Dundalk.

#### **Owens, Ronald**

On Feb. 25, Ronald H. Owens, devoted husband of Dian Owens; beloved father Ronald Owens Jr. and his wife Rebekah, and Kristen Owens Clegg and her husband Russell; loving grandfather of Russell Jr, Elizabeth, and Samuel; dear stepfather of John Manley; cherished brother of James Sweeney, Thomas Owens, Carol Myrick, Beverly Hoy and the late Franklin Owens. Ronald was proud to be a 32nd degree Mason as well as a Coast Guard veteran.

Memorial services will be held at the Connelly Funeral Home of Essex on Saturday, March 4, at 3 p.m. Interment private.

#### Hartsell, John Thomas

On Feb. 18, John Thomas Hartsell, Jr., survived by wife Ardith Hartsell; devoted father of Gerald W. Hartsell and wife Gail, Lisa Mullen and husband Dennis, Arlette Mitchell and husband Ed, and the late John E. Hartsell and Michael K. Hartsell; loving grandfather of Richard E. Swiger, Amber Marie Haynes, Gerald W. Hartsell Jr., Angela Marie Roberts and fiancé Jason Fitzpatrick, Justin T. Hartsell and wife Caitlin; dear great-grandfather of Mason, Logan, Lydia, and Ryan. Also survived by many other relatives and friends, and beloved dog Dreama.

Services provided by Connelly Funeral Home of Dundalk. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in John's name to Alzheimer's Association, 1850 York Road, Suite D, Timonium, Maryland 21093 and/or Baltimore Humane Society, 1601 Nicodemus Road, Reisterstown, Maryland 21136.

#### **Crowe, Paul**

Paul Crowe, 93, passed away on Feb. 10. Served in WW II, Infantry #141, Baltimore County Police Dept. Badge #384, American Legion, VFW, Knights of Columbus, Eagles, Elks, Moose. He is survived by his children, Margie Johnston, Pauline Staeheli and Eddie Crowe; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit at Schimunek Funeral Home Inc., 9705 Belair Rd., Nottingham, MD 21236 on Friday, March 3, from 5 - 8 p.m. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Saturday at noon at St. Stephen Catholic Church (Bradshaw). Interment will follow at Gardens of Faith Cemetery. Online tributes may be left at <a href="www.schimunekfuneralhomes.com">www.schimunekfuneralhomes.com</a>. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Stephen Catholic Church (Bradshaw), 8020 Bradshaw Rd., Kingsville, MD 21087; The American Legion Post #130, 8666 Silver Lake Dr., Perry Hall, MD 21128; or Tidewell Hospice, 3355 26th St. W, Bradenton, FL 34205.

#### Jungblut, John R.

On Feb. 16, after a long battle with leukemia, John Ronald Jungblut, at the young age of 78, went home to be with The Lord. John is survived by his devoted wife of 22 years, Sharon M. Jungblut and his stepdaughter Tonya M. Romesburg and her husband Jeffrey Peyton.

John was preceded in death by his parents, George Carl Jungblut and Minnie Schneider Jungblut, as well as his brothers Gary David and George Calvin Jungblut. He was the loving brother-in-law of Rusty and Frank Valenti and a great uncle to many nieces and nephews.

John graduated from Kenwood High School, had a bachelor's degree in Engineering from the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University, and retired from Bethlehem Steel after more than 40 years as a machinist in 1998. He was an avid golfer and loved to vacation with his wife Sharon every year in Florida.

Family and friends gathered to honor John at Bruzdzinski Funeral Home in Essex, on Monday, Feb. 20, and to celebrate his life at the Middle River Baptist Church on Feb. 21, where John served as a Deacon for many years. Interment at Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens in Timonium Maryland.

#### Cummins, Blair E., Sr.

On Feb. 25, Blair E. Cummins Sr., beloved husband of the late Anita J. Cummins (nee Dixon); devoted father of Blair E. Cummins Jr., Sherry Cummins, Homer Cummins and Anita Cummins. Also survived by five brothers; 10 grandchildren; 23 greatgrandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Interment at Holly Hill Memorial Gardens





#### Bevans, Walter Ensor III

On Jan. 18, Walter Ensor Bevans, III, cherished son of the late Juanita and Walter Ensor Bevans, Jr; loving father of Karen and Bryan Greene, Walter Bevans IV (aka Sonny),

Brian and Roxane Bevans; devoted brother of Michael Bevans, Deborah and Robert Howley, and Mary and Joseph Montalbano. He is also survived by eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, as well as many other loving and caring family and friends.

A private cremation was held and no services are planned at this time.

#### Mastin, Jasmine

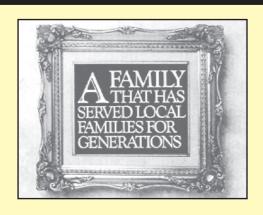
On Feb. 25, Jasmine L. Mastin, loving daughter of Ronald R. Mastin and stepmother Julia Dillard; dear sister of Madelyn Mastin; loving granddaughter of Brenda and Danny Hatchel, Bonnie and Edward Hoffner and Ruth McCall; dear niece of Amanda Fischer and her husband Frederick, Michele Tucker, Rita Herpel and her husband David; special friend of Tammy Lamb, The Stinchecum family and Jasmine's loving pet Basil.

Services provided by the Connelly Funeral Home of Essex. Visitation will be on Thursday, March 2 from 3 - 5 p.m. and 7 - 9 p.m.

#### Crivello, Anthony J., Sr.

On Feb. 26, Anthony Joseph Crivello, Sr. passed away. He was the beloved husband of the late Elizabeth Agnes Crivello (nee Flynn); devoted father of Michael Patrick Crivello, Philip Thomas Crivello, Karen Patricia Regester, Mary Elizabeth Milburn, and the late Anthony Joseph Crivello, Jr., and Sandra Lee Wanner; loving grandfather of 10 grandchildren, as well as numerous great-grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Services provided by Schimunek Funeral Home of Nottingham. Funeral services will be held on Thursday, March 2, at 11 a.m. at the funeral home, located at 9705 Belair Road in Nottingham. Interment services will follow at St. Joseph Catholic Church Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Anthony's name to Catholic Charities of Baltimore, 320 Cathedral St., Baltimore, MD 21201.



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1211 Chesaco Ave. Rosedale, MD 21237 410-682-2467 **COMMUNITY** 

#### **Senior Line Dancing**

On Monday, March 6, from 11 a.m. - noon, come join the young-at-heart seniors at Victory Villa Senior Center, 403 Compass Road in Middle River, and learn new dances to add to your repartee, then dance your cares away. No fee; must be a member of the center (membership to the center is free).

#### **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 info., contact the Back River Recreation office at 410-887-0217.

#### **Food Pantry**

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

For more Community Calendar, visit www.eastcountytimesonline.com.

#### **Sewing & Crafts**

On Wednesday, March 8, from 9:30 a.m. - noon, bring a project you are currently working on or learn from our knowledgeable seniors at Victory Villa Senior Center, 403 Compass Road in Middle River, who are willing to share their craft with you. No fee for this class. Must be a member of the center (membership is free).

#### **Boating Safety Course**

The Rosedale American Legion Post 180, 1331 Seling Ave., is offering a Boating Safety Course through the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Dates are April 18, 25 and 27 from 6 - 9 p.m. Call 410-866-9656 or 410-935-0857 for complete details.

#### **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 info., contact Diane Gibson at 410-668-1588.

#### 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.

#### **Angels Sugar Up Troops**

Chocolate is in demand for our 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, hot chocolate, tuna pouches/ cans, ramen noodles, tea bags, coffee, powdered drink mixes, hot sauce and other snacks. Also 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.

#### **Cooties 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 onegallon 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.

#### **Oliver Beach meeting to address** multiple community concerns

- By Marge Neal -

In an effort to connect community residents with the local experts who can address a variety of issues, the Bay Country Civic Improvement Committee will hold a meeting Tuesday, March 7, at Oliver Beach Elementary School in Middle River.

"We're inviting residents from Harewood Park, Twin Rivers, Oliver Beach and Bay Country to this meeting," committee chairman Patrick Pomeroy told the East County Times. "And we have confirmed speakers from a lot of different agencies to hear our concerns and share information."

The combined communities are battling several quality-of-life issues, including a recent fish kill; an uptick in crime, including speeding on residential streets, house and shed break-ins and general vandalism; and the possible water restrictions of the Hammerman area of Gunpowder State Park because of water quality, according to Pomerov.

The meeting, set for 7 p.m. in the school's cafeteria, has an ambitious

Baltimore County Councilwoman Cathy Bevins will provide an update on several local concerns, including stormwater management, Reames Road and the Paragon outlet shopping

Matthew Rowe, acting deputy director of the Maryland Department of Environment's Sciences Services

Administration, will discuss water quality, algae blooms and the fish kill on the Gunpowder and Bird rivers. MDE area supervisor Charles Poukish is also scheduled to attend.

Residents are still seeing dead fish wash up on the shoreline, according to Pomeroy. "It's a big concern to us,"

Those water quality concerns could have an impact on recreational use of the Hammerman area, which has a nearby beach area popular with swimmers and water sports enthusiasts. Tyler Morris, Hammerman's new park ranger, is scheduled to attend to discuss possible water restrictions this summer, which could occur if the quality issues are not resolved by then, Pomerov said.

Baltimore County Police Department Precinct 11 Capt. Andre Davis and new resource Officer Adam Heavner will give an area crime update; Oliver Beach principal Molly Bissell will talk about after-school use of the grounds and a recent change in student pickup procedures; and a regional manager from Royal Farms will discuss community youth loitering on the local store's parking lot and property, according to Pomeroy.

"We've really put a lot of time into putting this meeting together and we are hoping for a really big turnout," Pomeroy said. "All interested residents on the peninsula are welcome to attend."



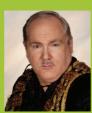


a comedy by Paul Rudnick Featuring











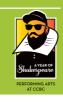


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**SPORTS** 

#### Perry Hall girls upset by Bel Air in opening game of state tournament

- Article & photo by Patrick Taylor -

Things were looking good for the Perry Hall Gators girls basketball team as they entered the second half of their game against Bel Air in the second round of the MPSSAA tournament. The girls had received a first round bye after being award the No. 2 seed, and with just 16 minutes left to play in Monday night's game, they looked like they would be moving on to the sectional semifinal. Unfortunately for the Gators, things didn't quite play out as planned and the girls were sent home packing, losing by a score of 46 - 41.

The game was essentially a series of swings. Perry Hall would go on a run while shutting down Bel Air, and vice versa. Perry Hall started out playing well, with forward Courtney Shaw controlling the lane well and guard Kara Dietrich playing smothering defense at the top of the key. Dietrich kicked off the scoring a minute in, stealing the ball at the top of the key and taking it the length of the ball for an easy lay in. She repeated the steal-and-score just seconds later.

Throughout the game, Dietrich did well to facilitate the offense. The Gators were calmest on offense when the ball was in her hands, and on defense her energy was unmatched. While she struggled with her shot throughout the game, she had close to double-digit assists, with Shaw on the receiving end of a lot of those assists.

Perry Hall went up 8-2 with three minutes to go in the first, but an easy layup from guard Casey Bender was all the Gators could muster up in the final few minutes of the quarter. Bel Air added six more points and the first quarter ended with Perry Hall in front by a score of 10-8.

The second quarter kicked off much like the first. Dietrich continued to find open teammates in good positions while Shaw continued to dominate the lane



An easy rebound falls to Bel Air during Monday night's game. Perry Hall struggled on the boards in the second half, allowing Bel Air to get plenty of second chance points.

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and pick up easy buckets.

Perry Hall had a three-point lead with five minutes left in the half, but extended their lead to 11 with just over two minutes left. Bel Air clawed back in the final few minutes, putting up six to essentially cut Perry Hall's lead in half.

If there was ever a sign that Perry Hall was about to let a win slip away, it was in the final minute of the first half. Going with a relatively small lineup, the Gators simply couldn't get hold of the ball. Bel Air kept coming away with offensive rebounds or quick steals as Perry Hall struggled to regroup. As the clock counted down the final five seconds, a Bel Air guard slipped into the lane and got a shot away. The shot was contested and fell off the rim, but a Bel Air forward was there to put it back up as the buzzer sounded, cutting the lead to five.

While there was still plenty of ball left to play, the end of the first half was a dagger for Perry Hall. They came out in the second half struggling to shoot and struggling to come away with rebounds. Bel Air took the lead in the third and didn't look like they were willing to relinquish control.

The Gators had plenty of opportunities to fight their way back into it, but they struggled to hit shots outside of the paint. As Bel Air started to realize that, offensive output became sluggish for Perry Hall.

While the loss ends their season, the Perry Hall girls have a lot to be proud of. They finished the season with a 10 - 2 record in conference play, winning six of their final seven regular season games.

But the really good news is that this is a relatively young team comprised mostly of sophomores and juniors, with only one senior gone after this season. And with a duo like Dietrich and Shaw, these girls will have the opportunity to go much deeper next year. Having a great big like Shaw is always a gamechanger, but having a trusted guard/forward duo can help provide a lot of balance.

I had Perry Hall pegged as a team that could likely make it to the finals, and while I'd like to chalk that up to buying too much into their No. 2 seed, the truth is sometimes teams just have a bad shooting night. No team can make it through the tournament without having to make it through a night like that, Perry Hall just got a bit unlucky. On the plus side, the loss to Bel Air will certainly be a motivator next year.

#### Around the league

The opening days of the MPSSAA state tournament were not kind to teams from east Baltimore County. Not kind at all.

On the girls side of things, sticking with the 4A/North region, Parkville kicked off the tournament

by getting routed by Bel Air by a score of 69 - 18. Bel Air went on to face Perry Hall, and we all know how that turned out. Elsewhere in 4A play, Kenwood was handed a first round exit at the hands of Dulaney. They didn't do much better than Parkville, losing to Dulaney by a score of 28 - 22.

In the 3A/North bracket, both Dundalk and Patapsco were knocked out in the first round of play. Dundalk entered as the No. 7 seed and fell to Towson by a score of 67 - 23. Patapsco took on Edgewood but were bested 40 - 26.

The girls in the 2A/North region did a lot better than their counterparts. Chesapeake, the No. 1 seed in the 2A/North region, took down Overlea by a score of 60 - 30 in the opening round. They followed that up with an equally impressive 75 - 36 win against Patterson, setting the stage for a March 1 sectional final against Dunbar. Elsewhere, Eastern Tech took out Sparrows Point in the opening round, winning 36 - 29. They were then knocked out by Dunbar.

On the boys side of things, it didn't get much better. Catonsville knocked out Kenwood in the opening round, beating the Bluebirds by a score of 70 - 48. Parkville took down Bel Air by a score of 81 - 55, setting the stage for a second round matchup against Perry Hall, who had a first round bye as the region's top seed. These two teams srimmaged way back before the beginning of the season, but a lot has changed since then. Parkville struggled in the second half of the season, but they play with the physicality needed to upend a team like Perry Hall.

In the 3A/North region, Patapsco was upended by Edgewood by a score of 74 - 32. Dundalk was given the top seed and a bye in their section and will take on C. Milton Wright in the second round.

In the 2A/North region, well, things got out of hand. Sparrows Point was demolished in the opening round, losing to Patterson by a score of 108 - 27. Eastern Tech was also on the losing end of a thumping, getting bounced out in the first round against Lake Clifton. Tech fell by a score of 63 - 20. Only Overlea survived the first round of 2A/North play, and they had to take down Chesapeake in the process. That game was the only close one in the region, with Overlea pulling out a 68 - 64 win. For their troubles, Overlea will have to take on a surging Patterson team that just dropped over 100 last game.

By the time this issue hits the stands, there could very well be no more teams left. The second round for the boys took place on Tuesday night, while the sectional finals for the girls took place on Wednesday. For an update on how teams are doing, feel free to visit us online at <a href="https://www.eastcountytimesonline.com">www.eastcountytimesonline.com</a>.





#### BUSINESS MATTERS

#### Parker, Pallett, Slezak and Russell - your neighborhood law firm - turns 40

- By Marge Neal -

In its 40 years of business, the law firm of Parker, Pallett, Slezak and Russell has served thousands of clients and recovered tens millions of dollars for those clients.

But those successes aren't how the White Marshbased attorneys define themselves.

"The culture here is that we are a team," lawyer Perry Lericos told the East County Times. "We are the Parker Team and we are here to take care of our clients - we hear all the time how much we care and we pride ourselves in that."

The "Parker team" was founded 40 years ago by Ronald W. Parker. Over the years, the firm grew to its current size of eight lawyers - five partners, one associate and two who are "of counsel" to the group.

The Parker firm is the largest law group in eastern Baltimore County, according to Slezak. The eight attorneys bring more than 240 years of experience to the table, with individuals who specialize in different areas of law but are able to pitch in as needed to help a fellow team member.

"Most of what we do is plaintiff work, with personal injury the biggest part of what we do," Slezak said. "Trips, slip and fall, dog bites, car accidents, that sort of thing."

Retired Judge G. Darrell Russell Jr. specializes in traffic and criminal defense and also helps out with personal injury cases.

Tara Westra is the firm's workers' compensation

expert.
"I represent injured workers," she said, adding that workers' comp hearings are held before a judge in a separate court system.

While injured workers can consult an attorney at any time during the legal process, she recommends sooner rather than later.

In addition to its legal work, the firm prides itself in its community philanthropy.

"Both as a firm and as individual lawyers, we are proud to give back to the community," Slezak said.

The MedStar Franklin Square Medical Center's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and the White Marsh Volunteer Fire Company are just two local entities that receive financial support from Parker and Pallett, while individual lawyers serve local Rotary, Shriner and other community organizations, according to Slezak.

The group also offers social events twice a year, with a "Meet the Parker Team" cookout planned for Sat., May 13, at Parker's restaurant in White Marsh.





The lawyers stress that they are the go-to local firm, with a comfortable environment and an honest and thorough approach to the law and their clients.

"We really do think we're your neighborhood law firm," Lericos said. "You don't have to go to Towson or downtown, we're right here, with plenty of free parking right out front.'

The law is intricate and complex and, in the case of most personal injury cases, the insurance companies want to pay out the least amount of money possible, according to Slezak.

"The insurance companies will try to resolve cases early on, while clients are still undergoing medical treatment and are still out of work," she said. "They need someone on their side who knows the law and knows how they apply to the case."

Lericos cited a case in which a client received lifealtering injuries in a car crash. She was unable to ever return to her former line of work, which rendered her hard-earned college education worthless.

'We were able to procure a seven-figure settlement for her, which gave her some security while allowing her train to do a vastly different kind of work, and work that would never compensate her as her previous line of work did," Lericos said. "That's where our job satisfaction is, from helping people."

Parker, Pallett, Slezak and Russell is at 11450 Pulaski Highway in White Marsh. They can be reached by phone at 410-335-3800, and their website is <u>www.ppsrlaw.com</u>.

#### **Auto Point 'stands behind' what it sells**

- By Marge Neal -

Auto Point Used Cars on Pulaski Highway in Rosedale is a family-owned-and-operated business that has specialized in Japanese cars, truck and cargo vans for more than 12 years.

Owned by husband-and-wife teams Cloves and Regiane Da Cunha and Andre and Adriana Wilbert, Auto Point offers quality used Honda, Toyota, Nissan and Hyundai vehicles and usually carries an inventory of about 80 from which to choose, according to Cloves. Other makes are also available. Prices range roughly from \$5,000 to \$25,000.

"And we're in the process of expanding the lot with the goal of building the inventory to about 120 vehicles," Da Cunha said.

Auto Point is strictly in the sales business and does not have a service department. But the company does offer financing and prides itself in its relationships it has with local lenders.

"We have good relationships with banks and credit unions for financing," Da Cunha said. "For someone with no credit problems, we can get loans as low as 1.9 percent."

Another point of pride for the company is its standing with the Better Business Bureau. Da Cunha said Auto Point has not had a single complaint filed against it in the 12 years it has existed.

"We have one of the best reputations you can ask for as a used car dealership," he said. "I would say 70 to 80 percent of our business is repeat customers, and people who are happy with us are always referring their friends and family members to us."

The dealership at 8312 Pulaski Highway in Rosedale is open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays. Inventory can be viewed at apointcars.com. The showroom can be reached at 410-682-9999.

Da Cunha invites all customers in the market for a good used car to stop by to check out Auto Point's

"When we say we stand behind what we sell, we really mean it," he said.



Auto Point Used Cars. Courtesy photo.



SPOTLIGHT

#### **VFW Americanism Awards**



Gunpowder VFW Post 10067 recently hosted an awards ceremony to recognize local students from VFW District 14 for their participation in VFW Americanism programs. Essex-Holly Neck Memorial VFW Post 2621 congratulates brother and sister Iris and Judah Stone, who were among the honorees. Iris, a student at Stemmers Run Middle School, received certificates and cash awards from Post 2621 and District 14 for her presentation of "The America I Believe In." Judah, an Eastern Technical High School freshman, received certificates and cash awards for his presentation of "My Responsibility to America." Post 2621 Commander George L. Peters Sr. noted that "It's good to see that the love for America still beats in the hearts of our youth." Pictured from left to right are grandparents Paul and Iris Torres, Iris Stone, mother Pam, Judah Stone and Post 2621 Commander George L. Peters Sr.

#### **Panther Pride Quarter Auction**

The Golden Ring Middle School PTA will hold its Panther Pride Quarter Auction on Saturday, March 4, at the FOP Lodge 34 hall, 730 Wampler Road in Middle River. Doors will open at 6 p.m., bidding will start at 7. The \$5 cost includes three paddles. Auction items will include products from Bath and Body Works, Yankee Candle, Pampered Chef and Hayward Taffy. Food and drinks will be sold. To reserve tickets, email grmspta@gmail.com.

#### **Essex Legion Karaoke**

Essex American Legion Post 148, 20 S. Marlyn Ave., will host Karaoke with Lightning Rod from 8 p.m. to midnight Friday, March 3; For the Good Times Karaoke with Percy and Fred from 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, March 4, and Fun Time Karaoke with Annette and Wild Bill from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday, March 5. Line dancing with The Dude will be held in the hall from 7 to 11 p.m. Friday. Call 410-686-2353 for more information.

#### **VFW Fish and Shrimp Dinner**

Gunpowder VFW 10067 Auxiliary, 6309 Ebenezer Road in Middle River, will hold a fish and shrimp dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, March 3. The menu will include scalloped potatoes, cole slaw, dessert and coffee or iced tea. Tickets cost \$12.00 For more information, call 410-335-8933.

#### **CPM Presents 'Lion King Jr.'**

The Children's Playhouse of Maryland, in residence at CCBC Essex, will open its spring season with "Disney's The Lion King Jr." with performances at 1 p.m. March 4-5, 11-12 and 18-19; 4:30 p.m. March 4, 12 (special sensory-friendly performance) and 18; and at 7 p.m. March 11. The 1 p.m. show on March 18 will offer sign language interpretation. Tickets cost \$10 for regular admission; \$8 for CCBC community and senior citizens; and \$5 for those on the CPM actor list. Call the CCBC box office, 443-840-2787, to reserve tickets. Advanced ticket sales are strongly recommended. Tickets will be available at the door only if space permits.

#### K of C Fish Fry

Dundalk Knights of Columbus Council 2942, 2111 Eilers Ave. in Dundalk, will hold its 12th annual World Famous Fish Fry each Friday through Good Friday, April 14. Meals will be served from noon to 6 p.m. The menu will include Alaskan pollock, French fries, cole slaw, rolls, dessert and beverage. Beer and wine will be sold at an additional cost. Tickets cost \$12 for eat-in and \$13 for carry-out. A portion of proceeds will go to local community and religious charities. For more information, call Joe Witomski, 410-409-8173 or 410-285-6660.

#### **Essex-Holly Neck Karaoke**

Essex-Holly Neck VFW Post 2621, 206 Riverside Road in Essex, will host PJ Karaoke at 9 p.m. Friday, March 3. The kitchen will be open until 9:30 p.m.

#### St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Victory Villa Senior Center, 403 Compass Road in Middle River, will hold a St. Patrick's Day party and talk from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 22. Guest speaker and historian Denny Lynch will speak about Ireland and Baltimore's Irish heritage. The talk will be followed by a catered lunch of corned beef and cabbage, potatoes, carrots, rolls, beverages and desserts, Tickets (limited supply) cost \$12 in advance. Participants must be 60 or older and a member of the center (there is no fee to join).

#### **Dundalk Legion Karaoke**

Dundalk American Legion Post 38, 3300 Dundalk Ave. in Dundalk, will host Fun Time Karaoke with Annette and Wild Bill from 8 p.m. to midnight Friday, March 3. For more info., call 410-288-2297.

#### **Coin Show Dealers Wanted**

Coin dealers are wanted for the Middle River Coin Club's spring coin show set for Sunday, March 26, at the Victory Villa Community Center, 404 Compass Road in Middle River. Tables cost \$35; a second table for the same dealer is \$30. To reserve a table, call 410-687-1517, or email pennsylpete@comcast.net. The Middle River Coin Club, a program of the Middle River Recreation and Parks Council, is a member of the Maryland State Numismatic Association.

#### **Kenwood Bingo**

Kenwood High School, 501 Stemmers Run Road in Essex, will hold a Vera Bradley bingo March 31. Doors open at 6 p.m. and games will begin at 7 p.m. Use the gym entrance. Tickets cost \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Food will be sold. Proceeds benefit the Class of 2017's after-prom party. For tickets or info., send an email to kenwoodptsa@gmail.com.

#### **VV Senior Center Needs You**

Members of the Victory Villa Senior Center, 403 Compass Road in Middle River, have been busy and they need you. The center's quilters recently sewed and donated 37 pet beds to the Baltimore County Animal Shelter. The beds were made using leftover fabric from previous projects. The center offers a variety of activities, including ceramics, tai chi, woodturning, line dancing, bingo, billiards, shuffleboard, crafts, cornhole and card groups. The center is open to Baltimore County residents 60 and older. For more information, call 410-887-0235.

#### St. Michael Church Bus Trips

St. Michael Lutheran Church, 9534 Belair Road in Perry Hall, will hold the following bus trips this spring: March 29, Old Farm House Tea in Thomasville, Pa., includes full-course meal, \$53; April 18, Rainbow Dinner Theater in Lancaster, to see "Running Mates," \$81; May 8-12, five days and four nights at the Tulip Festival in Holland, Mi, includes two breakfasts, two dinners and many activities and tours, \$549 double-occupancy. Information: Emma Hohn, 410-592-8512.

#### 'I Hate Hamlet' at DCT

Dundalk Community Theatre, in residence at CCBC Dundalk, 7200 Sollers Point Road in Dundalk, will present the comedy, "I Hate Hamlet," at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 3 and 4, and at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 5. Tickets cost \$23 for adults; \$20 for senior citizens; and \$15 for students, DCT actors and children 12 and under. The production will be held at the John E. Ravekes Theater in the campus' K Building. To reserve tickets, call the CCBC box office, 443-840-2787, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

#### **PHS Craft Show/Flea Market**

Parkville High School Athletic Boosters will hold a spring craft show and flea market from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 18, at the school, 2600 Putty Hill Ave. in Parkville. Vendors are need for the 100-plus table, all-indoor event. For info., call 410-887-5430, or email phsathboosters@yahoo.com.

#### Golden Age Bingo

The Sandalwood Golden Age Club will hold a bingo luncheon beginning at 9 a.m. Wednesday, March 22, at the American Legion Post 148, 20 S. Marlyn Ave. in Essex. The \$10 admission cost includes an Early Bird card, roast beef dinner and dessert. Additional bingo packages, which include 20 games and eight specials, cost \$10 for the first and \$5 for the second. For more information, call 410-887-5319 or 410-687-7206.



#### **DAILY SPECIALS**

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** - 12 oz. 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 -**

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#### **Cruise with the Aquajoggers**

The YMCA's Aquajoggers are planning a 14-day cruise in September to New England and Canada. For more information, call 410-882-5097.

#### St. Luke's Prayer Breakfast

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1803 Dundalk Ave., will hold its annual Welca prayer breakfast at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 4. Ellen Krich, deacon from Epiphany Lutheran Church, will be the guest speaker. The cost is \$7. Call 410-284-0783 to make reservations.

#### **Orems UMC Hall Closet**

Orems United Methodist Church, 1020 Orems Road in Middle River, will hold its Hall Closet Thrift Shop from 8:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 4. The shop offers collectibles, adult and children's clothing, toys, books, jewelry, housewares and bedding at reasonable prices. Information: 410-687-9483.

#### **Dads and Daughters Dinner**

Carney Assembly of God, 3319 Summit Ave. in Carney, will hold its Dads and Daughters Italian dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 7. Grandfathers, uncles and brothers are welcome. Tickets cost \$5 each. Menu includes baked ziti, meatballs, salad and garlic bread and cupcakes. The event will also include games for participants. Reservations: 410-661-6388.

#### St. Luke's Roast Beef Dinner

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1803 Dundalk Ave., will hold its annual all-you-can-eat roast beef dinner from 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday, March 11. The menu will include roast beef, gravy, mashed potatoes, vegetables, rolls, iced tea, coffee and dessert. Tickets cost \$12 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Children under 6 eat for free. Carry-outs and deliveries will be available. Tickets will be sold at the door. For info. or to arrange for a delivery, call 410-633-5374.

#### **SHM Lenten Mass**

Sacred Heart of Mary Church, 6736 Youngstown Ave. in Dundalk, will hold Mass at 7 p.m. Wednesday during the Lenten season for all those who work or are otherwise unable to attend the morning Mass. All are welcome. For info., call 410-633-2828.

#### **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 Thurs., 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. Call Jane at 410-866-8016 to reserve your seat.

#### **Sacred Heart Bingo**

Sacred Heart of Mary Church, 6736 Youngstown Ave. in Dundalk, a cash prize bingo luncheon Sunday, April 9. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m., lunch will begin at 12:30 p.m. and bingo games will begin at 1:30 p.m. Each \$25 ticket includes a meal, 20 regular games, early bird game, two quickie games, three specials and a \$100-prize big game. Tickets are limited and must be purchased by March 26. The event is sponsored by the church's Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality and all proceeds benefit the church. For info., call 410-633-2828, or send emails to Stephanie Sparzak, ssparzak@rcmd.com, or Donna Rosenthal, drosent2@jhmi.

#### **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.

#### **SHM Stations of the Cross**

Sacred Heart of Mary Church, 6736 Youngstown Ave. in Dundalk, will offer Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m. each Friday during the Lenten season. All are welcome to attend. For more info., call 410-633-2828.

#### **Line Dance Lessons**

Every Friday night from 7 - 11 p.m. at Iron Workers Local 16, 2008 Merritt Ave. in Dundalk. Learn two dances each week and review the dances taught the week prior. Open dancing after instruction. Food available for purchase. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$5 for kids ages 13 - 17 with paying adult, \$3 for kids ages 6 -12 with paying adult. For info., call Anthony, 443-801-5678, or email LineDancing@AnthonyMakres.com.

#### St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Sacred Heart of Mary Church, 6736 Youngstown Ave. in Dundalk, will hold its 2nd annual St. Patrick's Day dance and dinner from 7 - 11 p.m. Saturday, March 11. The menu will include corned beef and cabbage, red potatoes, ham, green beans and rolls. Food will be served from 7:30 - 10 p.m. Water, soda and beer are included in the price; BYOB. Live music will be provided by Rob Fahey. The event will also include prize wheels, laydown boards, a money wheel and other games of chance. Tickets cost \$25. Call 410-633-2828 or 443-837-5077 or email SHMparish@gmail.com to reserve seats.

#### **Back River Peninsula Reunion**

Did you grow up on the Back River peninsula and have fond memories of attending (or working at) Back River Elementary School or the Back River Teen Center? If so, you have a chance to gather with old friends and reminisce about the good old days. A combined Cedar Beach/Back River Elementary/Teen Center reunion will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 29, at the Sue Island Grill and Crabhouse, 900 Baltimore Country Club Road in Essex. There is no admission charge; pay for your food and drinks as you go. An advance head count is needed for the restaurant; RSVP to Lkeithroberts@gmail.com or send a postcard to P.O. Box 34342, Essex, MD 21221.

#### **Stembridge Baseball**

Stembridge baseball registration will be held March 5 and 12 from noon - 3 p.m. at the Stembridge Rec. Center, 99 Stemmers Run Road in Essex. On March 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 leagelineup.com/stembridgebaseball.

#### **Back River Softball**

Back River Recreation Council, 801 Back River Neck Road in Essex, will hold softball registration from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays, March 4 and 18. The program is open to players ages 4 to 18. Costs vary. For more information, call Ken Fishpaugh, 410-207-8682, or send an email to mmjkfish1@aol.com.

#### Middle River Baseball, Softball

The Middle River Recreation Council will hold walk-in registration for spring baseball and softball at the Victory Villa Community Center, 404 Compass Road in Middle River as follows: From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, March 4, 11, 18 and 25; and from 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 7. Find more program information at <a href="https://www.mrgsoftball.com">www.mrgsoftball.com</a> and <a href="https://www.middleriverbaseball.org">www.middleriverbaseball.org</a>, or register online anytime at <a href="https://www.middleriverrec.com">www.middleriverrec.com</a>.





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Lot # 036-16, 1980 Chevrolet Corvette, mileage 44,634 Vin. # 1Z878AS428338, Min. bid \$11,330.00 Los Angeles Automotive, 16771 Oakmont Ave., Gaithersburg, MD 20877

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#### **MECHANICS LIEN SALE**

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I, the undersigned, am changing my name to James Edward Darby, previously called JAMES EDWARD DARBY, domiciled in Baltimore County, Maryland. I solemnly declare: I wholly renounce/correct the use of my former name/surname of JAMES EDWARD DARBY and in place thereof, I do hereby assume from this date, February 13, 2017, the name/surname James Edward Darby. Any and all objections to this can contact James Darby, 12404 Eastern Ave., Chase, Maryland 21027.

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Receptionist duties include, but not limited to answering multi-phone lines, computer entry, and filing. Kennel position includes taking dogs outside, cleaning cages, feeding and giving medications.

If interested, please email resume to: petlove@academyhospital.com and/or fill out an application at 5915 Belair Rd., 21206. Figure 1 out an application at 33.5 Evenings and weekends availability a must.

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Interested candidates should call for an interview at

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ROSEDALE - 2 BR. not on

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#### HOMES/ TOWNHOMES

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INSPECTION: 1 hour prior to





stove, dishwasher, microwave oven, refrigerator & ceiling fan. Main level also has FR w/ceiling fan & exit to garage. Full bath, exit to rear fenced yard & enclosed back porch. Upper level has 3 BRs w/full bath, ceiling fans & closets. Lower level is unfinished w/ washer, dryer, utility sink, sump pit. Replacement windows, baseboard heat, hardwood flooring, central a/c, public water & sewer, gas fired FHA heat & hot water. Content: All remaining household furnishings to be sold in 1 lot.

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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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If you believe that you may have been discriminated against in connection with the sale, rental or financing of housing, call the United States Department of Housing and Urban 鱼 Development (HUD) at 1-800-669-9777.

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#### 6053

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MIDDLE RIVER -FUR-NISHED ROOM, ALL UTILI-TIES & CABLE. \$500/MO. CALL 410-218-1232.

MIDDLE RIVER - 1 PER-SON, \$560/MO. INCLUDES UTILITIES, CABLE & IN-TERNET. CALL 443-413-

ROSEDALE - LARGE FUR-**NISHED ROOM, INCLUDES** UTILITIES, CABLE & INTERNET. WORKING PER-SON OR WORKING SE-NIOR WELCOME, \$475/ MO., PLUS \$150 S.D. ON A **BUS LINE. CALL 410-866-**

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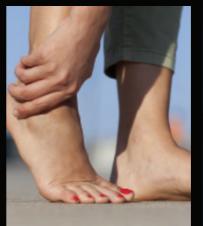
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Home Search: ThePurrfectHouse.com

# Could This Be Your Solution to Numbness, Neuropathy, or Sharp Pains?







It may come and go...interrupt your sleep...and even make your arms or legs feel weak at times. Maybe you've even been to other doctors and they claim all the tests indicate you should feel fine.

#### **More Pills Are Not** The Solution

A common treatment for many nerve problems is the 'take some pills and wait and see' method.

While this may be necessary for temporary relief of severe symptoms, using them long term is no way to live. Some of the more common drugs given include pain pills, anti-seizure medications, and anti-depressants -- all of which have serious side effects.

#### If You Read Nothing Else, Read This:

More than 20 million Americans suffer from peripheral neuropathy, a problem caused by damage to the nerves that supply your arms and legs.

This painful condition interferes with your body's ability to transmit messages to your muscles, skin, joints, or internal organs. If ignored or mistreated, neuropathy can lead to irreversible health conditions.

Why not get help by those trained to correct the major cause of peripheral neuropathy. Read the full facts on this page.

#### **The Likely Cause Of Your Problem**

My name is Dr. Dennis Travagline, D.C., of Perry Hall Chiropractic & Physical Therapy. We've been helping people with neuropathy and nerve problems for years.

Often neuropathy is caused by a degenerating spine pressing on the nerve roots. This can happen in any of the vertebral joints from the neck all the way down to the tail bone.

The good news is that these treatments have proven effective in helping to remove the pressure on the nerves.

By using gentle techniques, I'm able to release the pressure that has built up on the nerve. This allows the nerve to heal and the symptoms to go away.

What this means is that you could soon be enjoying life...without those aggravating nerve problems.

#### **Finally, You Have An Option** Other Than Drugs or Surgery

New research in a treatment called low level laser therapy, or Cold Laser, is having a profound effect on patients suffering with pain. Unlike the cutting type of laser seen in movies and used in medical procedures, Cold Laser penetrates the surface of the skin with no heating effect or damage.

Cold Laser therapy has been tested for 40 years, had over 2000 papers published on it, and been shown to aid in damaged tissue regeneration, decrease inflammation, relieve pain and boost the immune system. This means that there is a good chance Cold Laser therapy could be your pain solution, allowing you to live a more active lifestyle.

Professional athletes like Tiger Woods and team members of the New England Patriots rely upon cold laser therapy to treat the sports-related injuries. These guys use the Cold Laser for one reason only....

#### **It Promotes Rapid Healing** Of The Injured Tissues.

Before the FDA would clear Cold Laser for human use, they wanted to see proof that it worked. This led to two landmark studies.

The first study showed that patients who had Cold Laser therapy had 53% better improvement than those who had a placebo.

The second study showed patients who used the laser therapy had less these patients, it can help you too.

#### **Could This Be Your Solution?**

It's time for you to find out if this will be your neuropathy solution.

For the first 25 callers only, \$37 will get you all the services I normally charge new patients \$250 for! What does this offer include? Everything. Take a look at what you will receive:

• An in-depth consultation about your health and well-being where I will listen...really listen...to the details of your case.

- · A complete neuromuscular examina-
- · A thorough analysis of your exam and x-ray findings so we can start mapping out your plan to being pain-
- ONE LASER TREATMENT
- I'll answer your most probing questions about nerve problems and how these treatments can help.

The first 25 callers can get everything I've listed here for only \$37. The normal price for this type of evaluation is \$250, so you're saving a considerable amount by taking me up on this offer. Call 410-256-9650 now.

We can get you scheduled for your consultation and exam as soon as there's an opening.

Sincerely, Dr. Dennis Travagline, D.C.

P.S. Remember, you only have a short time to reserve an appointment at this significant discount. Why suffer for years in misery?That's no way to live, not when there could be an easy solution to your problem.

# pain and more range of motion days after treatment. If Cold Laser can help \$37 CONSULT, EXAM & **ONE LASER TREATMENT** (\$250 VALUE)

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Federal and Medicare restrictions apply.