

INSIDE:

VERSE OF THE WEEK -

Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.





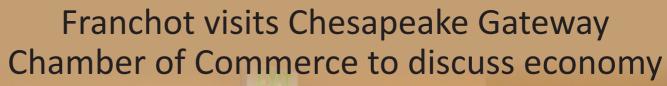
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Democratic Comptroller Peter Franchot has been in the news frequently for his battle to get Baltimore County schools air conditioned, but his message to the Chesapeake Gateway Chamber of Commerce was solely focused on economic growth in Maryland.

- Article & photo by Patrick Taylor -

Comptroller Peter Franchot paid a visit to the Chesapeake Gateway Chamber of Commerce at Red Brick Station in White Marsh last week, hitting on a variety of subjects including the economy and tax returns.

"Our economy continues to be unstable," Franchot told the crowd. "It's not what I want, but I see the data everyday. We've got high levels of unemployment, wages that are not growing."

Franchot stated that while it has been a slow economic recovery, he is optimistic for the future, citing the addition of 40,000 private sector jobs last year as well as a

declining unemployment rate.

"In order to maintain the forward momentum, I think we need to implement policies and strategies that will let us attract large businesses to locate in our state, will also help small businesses and allow middle class families to keep more of their hard-earned money," Franchot stated.

The Comptroller went on to say that these aren't partisan issues, but "Maryland issues." Franchot then went on to praise Governor Larry Hogan for his ability to work across the aisle, while stating that he didn't mind taking a few hits from his party for working with a Republican. Regarding taxes, Franchot stated that lawmakers need to stop viewing businesses as an ATM for every wellintentioned program.

Despite economic hardships, Franchot said that we have plenty of money to take care of the issues that concern our state, but that we need a new approach to spending.

"We need to reign in spending, we need to reign in unnecessary debt," Franchot said. "I call it fiscal responsibility for purpose. It's being cautious about state spending, ensuring we have a cushion, rather than spending every cent only to be faced with cuts later on."

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District 5 CZMP hearing sees struggle between land owners, communities

- by Devin Crum -

NEWS

The line stretched out the door of Perry Hall High School on Tuesday, March 22, as residents, land owners and developers packed the auditorium for the Fifth District's hearing on potential zoning decisions before the Baltimore County Planning Board.

The hearing was held as part of the quadrennial Comprehensive Zoning Map Process to garner input from the public before the Planning Board makes its recommendations for what each zoning decision should be. Other such hearings will be held before the County Council members in June before they make their final decisions in September.

Speakers at the hearing came out right away in favor of Councilman David Marks' attempts at downzoning for the sake of the quality of area schools and traffic infrastructure, as well as preserving open space and environmental quality.

Marks, who represents District 5 on the County Council, downzoned hundreds of acres in Perry Hall through the 2012 CZMP and followed that this year by raising approximately 2,500 acres of land in his district for review and potential downzoning.

Perry Hall resident Dan Williams stated at the hearing his feeling that area land should not be given zoning for increased residential density, especially when it would allow for apartments, noting that it would be "morally and ethically wrong and not good for the community."

Williams and several of his neighbors are new homeowners in the area and moved there because of the quality of the schools and the area in general. They do not want to see a dramatic change in their quality of life or the schools, he said.

Two Perry Hall High School ninth graders spoke at the hearing as well noting their support for downzoning in the area because of issues with school overcrowding. They testified that because of the sheer number of students at PHHS, some students are forced to eat lunch too early, and that congestion in the hallways can make it difficult to navigate the school.

Other residents aired their concerns about crime increases and future open space, with one stating that, "At this rate [of development], my four children won't have any open space on which to play."

Many who were opposed to increased zoning density or supported downzoning noted their respect for property values and that they do not want to see them decrease. But they also do not want to see urban development in rural or suburban areas, and they do not want development to be a detriment to the environment and wildlife in the area.

However, perhaps just as many land owners testified at the hearing, and their chief concerns were property rights and the value of their property.

Donna Fuhrer, one of the owners of a 122-acre parcel near White Marsh Mall which is under contract by a developer, said she and the other owners support leaving its zoning unchanged. She said the zoning has been the same on that tract for a long time, and it was not until the South Perry Hall Boulevard Improvement Association - which raised the issue - learned that it was under contract that it became an issue.

She pointed out that no one is asking for the density to be increased and that the owners have worked with Councilman Marks and the developer to reduce the amount of residences in the plan by 65 percent, as well as the fact that the property is districted for Overlea High School - not Perry Hall which is not overcrowded.

While the zoning issues raised by Marks were simply for review, the Perry Hall Improvement Association requested that much of the undeveloped land in eastern Perry Hall be downzoned to help slow development. One of those properties was the Gerst farm, which consists of nearly 55 acres behind Honeygo Village and is slated for development.

Baltimore County had been interested in acquiring the Gerst farm in the late 1990s for a large public park. And owner Lawrence Gerst said at the time that the land would continue to be farmed until his death, then passed on to his daughter who wanted to continue the family's agricultural tradition.

However, the family's real estate broker said at the CZMP hearing that it is no longer feasible for them to keep farming the land, so they want to develop it in a high-quality and responsible manner as a "legacy to their children."

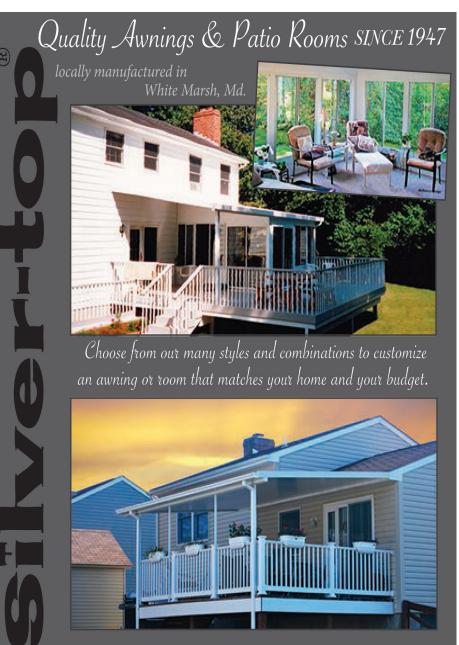
He added that downzoning of the land would ensure that it would become "just another ordinary subdivision with large, boxy homes."

Marks blocked a planned unit development for the property in June 2015 which would have seen many densely packed homes built there. And he noted that if the PHIA's request is granted, about 50 homes could still be built on the property, as opposed to about 150.

"A lot of these developers don't live in Perry Hall," the councilman explained. "They may have these grand plans for these projects, but they don't have to deal with the traffic or school overcrowding" that is the result.

- see CZMP on page 5 -





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NEWS

Fort Howard VA outpatient clinic to be closed permanently, relocate

- by Devin Crum -

Following water damage and the discovery of mold at the Veterans Administration's outpatient clinic at Fort Howard, the VA announced on Wednesday, March 23, their decision to close the clinic for good and find a more accessible and less problematic location.

The clinic initially closed on March 9 due to water damage from a broken water heater, and a more thorough evaluation of the damage revealed mold in several areas of the building, according to a statement from the VA.

After the initial closure, all patient care activities and staff were transferred to the Loch Raven VA Outpatient Clinic at 3901 The Alameda in Baltimore, where they will remain until a new location can be identified and opened in eastern Baltimore County.

Dr. Sandra Marshall, chief of staff for the Fort Howard clinic, said the decision to close the clinic permanently was made in conjunction with its entire staff, not just because of the water damage and mold, but also its myriad problems including its numerous infrastructure issues, location within a flood plain and lack of public transportation resources.

"A real desire with this relocation is to look for a site with better accessibility," Marshall commented.

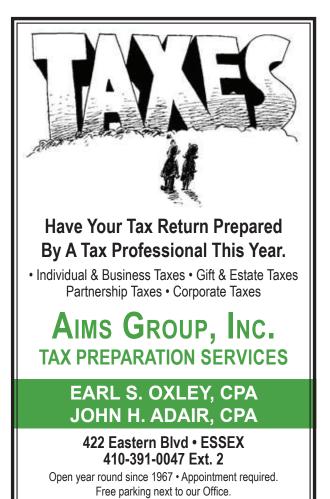
She said they filed for emergency assistance through the chain of command in the Department of Veterans Affairs and asked their contracting office to start looking for new locations in eastern Baltimore County.

Those locations would have to be medical space with a certain square footage, on a major thoroughfare and on or near bus lines since so many veterans use them or other mobility services to get to the VA's clinics, Marshall explained.

"So we want to make sure that that's part of what is incorporated into a location that we use to provide medical care," she said.

Marshall noted that the sites being considered would be up to the contracting office using the criteria provided. But it was rumored by a source who declined to be named that one of the potential sites is near Franklin Square hospital in Rosedale.

Marshall also said that the clinic would be look-



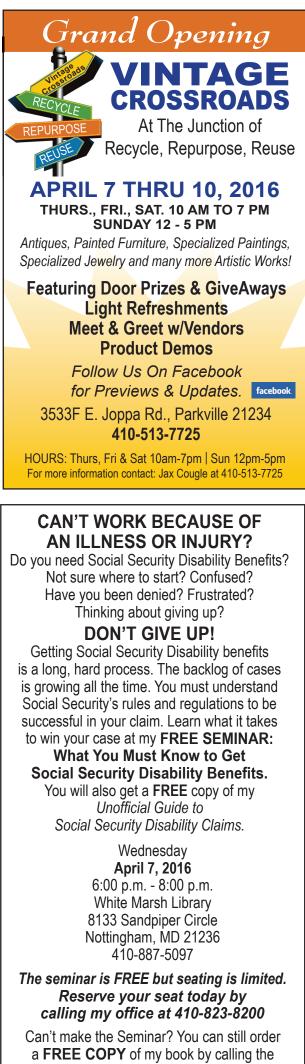
ing for space to expand with the relocation based on ricane Isabel in 2003, Marshall said. the number of veterans residing in eastern Baltimore County.

"We would be looking, hopefully, to expand services at the new relocated site," she said, adding that the square footage of the new site would be proposed to be larger than the current building which is 8,272 square feet.

The current building's location within the flood plain has been particularly problematic with storms and high tides causing flooding a number of times over the years. And the entire building underwent extensive renovations following damage from Hur-



- see FORT HOWARD on page 5 -



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FORT HOWARD

- continued from page 3 -

The VA has estimated the cost of the move at around \$2.5 million, but the final cost would be determined by solicitations through the contracting office and which new site is chosen.

And the fate of the current building will be evaluated by the VA's engineering office and the chain of command at the central office, which will make a decision on what to do with it.

In the future redevelopment of the Fort Howard property under the Enhanced Use Lease with the VA, the most recent development plans revealed to the public showed the clinic remaining at Fort Howard. However, Marshall said the clinic's relocation would not affect the terms of the EUL since the VA was to own and maintain it.

"My understanding is that the Fort Howard clinic was not maintained by the developer [in the plan]; we were independently maintaining that," she explained. "So moving the clinic at this time would not impact on the Enhanced Use Lease."

The main phone line for the Fort Howard clinic has also been transferred to the Loch Raven clinic and patients can continue to dial 410-477-1800 to schedule, change or cancel a clinic appointment or to speak with a member of their primary care team.

"We apologize for any inconvenience the closure of the Fort Howard VA Outpatient Clinic may cause our veteran patients and employees," Dr. Marshall said, noting that they have tried to make sure they have contacted all of the veterans in the area that they serve at the clinic and other stakeholders about the move.

"We really see this as a great potential to help serve additional veterans in east Baltimore County," she said.

it pauses development and forces people to come to the table to discuss it. And what he is hearing from the community is that they want growth and development to slow down, and that will likely be the result at the end of the process, he said. "My constituents want development to slow down, new schools to be built and for the county to make sure green spaces are preserved," Marks commented. "They also don't want their taxes raised to pay for the infrastructure needed by new development.

"If land is downzoned, private property owners will still make a profit," he asserted. "But the consequences will not be as severe once they sell their land and, in many cases, move away."

Baltimore County Compost Bin & Rain Barrel Sale

Baltimore County will host a Compost Bin and Rain Barrel Truckload Sale on Saturday, April 23, from 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. The sale will take place at the Maryland State Fairgrounds, rain or shine. Compost Bins are \$35 and Rain Barrels are \$50, tax included. Cash, check and credit cards (Visa and MasterCard) will be accepted. All items will be available on a first come, first served basis, while supplies last. For more information call 410-887-2000.



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CZMP

- continued from page 2 -

Marks assured that the issues raised during this zoning cycle are still being reviewed and that he is not determined to downzone everything. But he wanted to hear from both the community and property owners to get the best result and strike a balance where possible.

"That's my job," he said, "to strike a balance."

Marks said one of the benefits of the CZMP is that it pauses development and forces people to come to the table to discuss it. And what he is hearing from the community is that they want growth and development to slow down, and that will likely be the result at the end of the process, he said.

"My constituents want development to slow down, new schools to be built and for the county to make sure green spaces are preserved," Marks commented. "They also don't want their taxes raised to pay for the infrastructure needed by new development.

"If land is downzoned, private property owners will still make a profit," he asserted. "But the consequences will not be as severe once they sell their land and, in many cases, move away."

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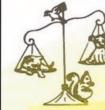
CCBC to hold special Information Sessions for homeschooling families Attend one of the Community College of Baltimore County's information sessions and learn how homeschooled students can start college and earn college credit as part of CCBC's Parallel Enrollment Program.

CCBC will hold Information Sessions exclusively for homeschooling families at 10 a.m. on Friday, April 15, in the Student Services Center, room 103, at CCBC Essex, 7201 Rossville Blvd. These programs are free and open to homeschooled students and their parents or guardians. To register, visit www.ccbcmd.





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How to handle car trouble while driving

Sudden car trouble is something no driver wants to experience, but many a driver has been driving down the highway only to feel his or her vehicle start to sputter. Such sputtering might indicate a car is running low on fuel, or it could be a sign of something more serious that requires motorists to think as quickly and safely as possible.

When car trouble strikes while a vehicle is on the road, the first thing many drivers do is check their fuel gauges. A car that runs out of gas is certainly inconvenient, but if you can pull over to the shoulder or make it to the nearest filling station, then this unfortunate situation can be remedied rather easily. But when a car's tank is full and it is still showing signs of trouble, drivers must take steps to protect themselves, their passengers and their vehicles. The following are a few simple tips motorists should keep



Not only should you check to see that your vehicle's air conditioning (AC) system is in good operating order before summer heat sets in, but you should also be running your AC during the colder months. Even though it may be cold outside, operating the AC full blast for about ten minutes every few weeks allows the coolant to circulate through the system. This is important because the coolant acts as a lubricant that keeps rubber seals and pipes from cracking and shrinking. Failure to keep these rubber parts in good condition invites leaky seals that will not hold coolant. Now is a good time to see if any seals need to be changed and/or the coolant needs recharging.

Checking your AC isn't the only reason that you should schedule a tune-up in the spring. The wear and tear of winter roads can leave your car vulnerable to damage during the warm weather driving season. Our ASE-certified technicians can provide the preventive care that will catch small problems - like cracked seals - before they turn into big headaches - like a failed air conditioner during a traffic jam on a hot summer day.

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TIRE ROTATION

in mind so they can safely handle any car trouble that may arise while they are out on the road.

• Keep a first-aid kit, spare tire and tire jack in the car at all times. Flat tires are no fun, but they are even more of a nuisance when drivers are not prepared to address them. Always keep a jack and spare tire in your car, even if the spare is a donut you can temporarily use to replace a flat tire until you make it to a filling station or automotive supply store. As an added safety measure, keep a fully stocked first aid kit in your vehicle in case you cut yourself while changing the tire or need to address another medical situation. Visit <u>www.redcross.org</u> for a list of items to include in your automotive emergency kit. Keep a blanket in the trunk as well so your passengers can stay warm should you experience car trouble on a cold day or night.

• Make note of your surroundings. Some car troubles can only be fixed by the professionals, so pay careful attention to your surroundings in case an issue arises and forces you to pull over and call for help. Always pay attention to mile markers and any landmarks that might help you describe where you are. Car troubles can strike at any time and anywhere, so be sure to pay special attention to your surroundings when driving in unfamiliar areas.

· Pull over. Don't panic if an issue arises suddenly.



Remain calm and pull over onto the shoulder. The right shoulder is the area for pulling over on most roads, but you may also use the left shoulder on multilane highways with medians. Try to get as far away from traffic as possible without driving off of level ground, and always use your signals when pulling onto the shoulder. If the vehicle can't make it to the median, put your emergency flashers on and get out of the car, moving away from both the vehicle and traffic. Immediately call for emergency roadside assistance, alerting the authorities if need be.

• Use flares or triangles to alert other drivers. So long as you are not risking your well-being, you can place flares and/or warning triangles behind your vehicle so oncoming traffic knows to drive around it. The popular not-for-profit motor club AAA recommends placing the first flare or triangle 10 feet directly behind the side of the vehicle that is closest to the road. The second should be placed between 30 and 60 feet (increase the distances as the posted speed limit increases) behind the middle of the bumper, while the third flare or triangle should be placed between 120 and 360 feet behind the vehicle's right side.

• Stay with the vehicle. Once you have called for help and set up flares or triangles, stay with the vehicle, though do so at a safe enough distance so you are not in harm's way.

• For motorists who see a disabled vehicle on the side of the road, give as much space as possible when driving around the car. hundreds are killed or injured every year while they wait with their cars on the side of the road. Many states even have laws in place to protect those stuck on the side of the road.

Sudden car troubles can be scary, but drivers who approach such issues calmly and quickly can reduce their risk for accident or injury.

Did you know?

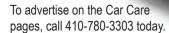
The excitement of driving a new car off of the lot extends beyond the thrill of having a new set of wheels to show off. Some people just love the smell of a new car. But while that aroma may be pleasant to the olfactory senses, it may be wise to eliminate the smell as soon as possible. According to a 2012 study from the nonprofit Ecology Center, that "new car smell" may include toxic fumes from chemicals used to create the car's interior. There are some indications that the smell is generated from more than 50 volatile organic compounds, or VOCs, that are off-gassing in a confined space. While the potential dangers of breathing in all of these compounds continues to be studied, the flame retardants and plastics used in cars have been linked to illnesses when they have been used in other applications. To speed up the process of removing VOCs from a car, open all of the windows and let it sit in the hot sun. Also, purchasing a vehicle that has been sitting on the lot for a while may mean some of the chemicals have dissipated.



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Deals for your Wheels!



Why it pays to replace headlights in pairs

When it comes to vehicle maintenance, the rule of two has long reigned among professional automotive technicians and driving safety advocates. In accordance to this rule, drivers replacing important parts in their cars and trucks, such as tires, brakes, shocks and wiper blades, should always do so in pairs.

Replacing parts in pairs can ensure vehicles are properly balanced and functioning safely. But it's not just tires, brakes and other big-ticket components that should be replaced in pairs. Vehicle lighting plays an integral role in keeping drivers and their passengers safe, and motorists should exercise the same caution regarding their vehicles' headlights, taillights and turn signals that they do when maintaining the rest of their cars and trucks.

Why replace aging headlight bulbs? Few drivers include headlight bulb replacement in their vehicle maintenance routines. But old headlight bulbs can drastically compromise visibility at night, when drivers' visual acuity is naturally reduced by as much as 70 percent. As headlight bulbs age, the effects of exposure to sunlight, ozone and pollution can significantly reduce their light output. According to Philips Automotive, a leading manufacturer of vehicle lighting components, headlight bulbs begin to project significantly less light within two to three years of their initial usage, producing dimmer light outputs that compromise the safety of drivers and their passengers. For example, new headlight bulbs capable of projecting 240-foot beams in front of a vehicle may see that projection dwindle to just 160 feet within two to three years.

Why replace bulbs two at a time? In an effort to promote the importance of changing headlight bulbs

two at a time, Philips developed the

"Change In Pairs" safety campaign, which aims to educate motorists about the dangers of dimming lights while promoting the many reasons that changing bulbs in pairs makes the road safer for all travelers. To support this safety initiative, Philips also packages its Upgrade Headlight Bulbs in pairs.

Though replacing two headlight bulbs when only one is dimming may seem unwarranted, maintaining a consistent light output in both headlights makes the road safer for drivers, their passengers and oncoming motorists. When only one bulb is replaced, the resulting light output can be both unbalanced and unpredictable, providing inadequate lighting that can compromise driver visibility. In addition, oncoming motorists may experience difficulty seeing vehicles with just one headlight operating at full capacity, and some may even mistake oncoming cars and trucks for motorcycles, creating positioning issues for drivers on both sides of the yellow line.

How else can drivers improve visibility?

• Replace worn out wiper blades. Wiper blades need to be changed each season or in three-month intervals. Rubber wiper blades can grow brittle rather quickly, potentially compromising driver visibility at times when they need their vision to be as strong as possible, such as when rain or snow is falling.

• Clean interior glass and mirrors. Over time, interior glass can develop a film-like buildup that reduces vision and creates hazy reflections from the sun. Smokers may notice such buildup is especially thick in their vehicles.

• Don't hang accessories in your vehicle. Fuzzy dice, photos and other items hung on rearview mirrors can prove distracting and block you from seeing the road.



Motor vehicles are sizable investments that, for many people, trail only homes and educations in terms of the biggest expenses they will ever have. So it's in drivers' best interests to take every step possible to protect their investments and keep their vehicles running smoothly as long as possible. While knowledgeable mechanics can be invaluable resources, drivers can take several minor, simple steps to keep their cars running smoothly for years to come.

• Perform weekly visual inspections. Few drivers take the time to look at their vehicles once those vehicles lose their new car luster. But visual inspections can help drivers find problems that, though minor, may impact their vehicles' performance. For example, a routine examination of vehicle tires can indicate if those tires are properly inflated. Poorly inflated tires can decrease fuel efficiency and affect the overall safety of a vehicle. If tires appear flat, check their pressure and inflate them to the levels listed in your owner's manual.

· Look for fluid leaks. Another telltale and easily identifiable sign that a vehicle needs some maintenance is the sight of fluids beneath the car. If you notice puddles or stains beneath where you normally park your car, your vehicle may be leaking fluids. Note the color and consistency of the fluid and then call your mechanic to determine which fluid is leaking and how to fix the problem.

· Stick to manufacturer-recommended maintenance schedules. Whether your vehicle is brand new or has some tread on its tire, consult the owner's manual for manufacturer recommendations with regard to changing fluids and replacing filters. Many recent models can now be driven roughly 5,000 miles before they need an oil change, but check your owner's manual for the guidelines established by your vehicle's manufacturer, and adhere to that schedule religiously. If you drive an older car, recognize that the vehicle may benefit from more frequent oil changes and tuneups.

In addition, read the manual for additional guidelines, such as how often to replace the air filter, headlight, turn signal and brake lamps, windshield wipers, and other vehicle parts that can wear down over time.

·Look under the hood as well. Inspect rubber belts for signs of wear and tear, and know that such belts may need to be replaced every 50,000 miles or even more frequently depending on your driving habits. Lifting the hood is also necessary when checking fluid levels, which you should check periodically and before and after any long trips.





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COMMUNITY

Sparrows Point PD

The members of the former Sparrows Point Police Department will meet for lunch at the Golden Corral restaurant, 7908 Rossville Blvd. in Fullerton, at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, April 5. For more info., contact Bill Eaton at 410-687-4914.

Motorcyclist Meeting

Baltimore Wind Riders Motorcycle Association, Inc. meetings are the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Essex Moose, 7418 Eastern Ave. in Dundalk. For more information, call Iim at 410-574-0186.

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Community Yard Sale

The Middlesex community will hold a community yard sale on Saturday, May 7, starting at 8 a.m. Middlesex consists of the brick row homes across from Kenwood High School in Essex, as well as the single homes next to Middlesex Elementary School and the homes on Welbrook Road, Chalcot Square and Capitol Court.

Volunteers Needed

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

Heritage Society Opening Day

The Heritage Society of Essex and Middle River Inc., 516 Eastern Blvd. in Essex, will celebrate its opening day for the 2016 season on Saturday, April 2, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Join the all-volunteer Heritage Society, dedicated to preserving the history and celebrating the community of Essex and Middle River, for a celebration featuring Star Enterprizez Candle Company, the Back River Restoration Committee, Katie's Kreations and Lupton's Sports Collectibles. The day will feature the local Music Hall of Fame, tours and education about one of Baltimore's oldest communities. For more information, visit www.essexmuseum.com.





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911

Woman shoots husband and son in Dundalk

The Baltimore County Police Department has identified the suspect in a March 26 shooting in Dundalk as 30-year-old Erica Nicole Shifflett of the 7300-block of School Avenue in Dundalk. Shifflett has been charged with attempted first-degree murder, firstdegree assault, and related charges. She is being held without bail at the Baltimore County Detention Center.

Just after 7 p.m. on Saturday, police responded to the 7300-block of School Avenue for a shooting. The investigation has indicated that Shifflett was trying to take her 7-year-old son from the location and became involved in an argument with her 31-year-old husband. When the husband went to take the son inside, Shifflett pulled out a gun and fired, injuring the husband and their son. Family members held Shifflett down while they waited on police to arrive. The victims were taken to an area hospital for treatment and are expected to survive.

This incident remains under investigation by the Baltimore county Police Department Violent Crimes Unit.

Trooper's truck inspection leads to dirt bike recovery

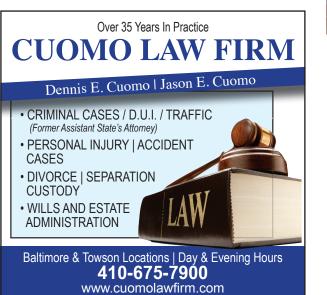
An alert state trooper's inspection of a tow truck with an equipment violation lead to the recovery of a stolen dirt bike and the arrest of a juvenile on March 23 in Essex.

The suspect is not being identified due to the suspect being a juvenile. The juvenile was charged with theft and possession of marijuana. The juvenile was released to the custody of his father.

Shortly after 8 p.m. on March 23, a Maryland state trooper assigned to Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division was monitoring traffic on southbound Maryland Avenue at Platinum Road, when he observed a tow truck with a non-working headlamp. Subsequently the trooper made a traffic stop and conducted an inspection. The tow truck was towing a Kawasaki KX 100 dirt bike. Further investigation by the trooper determined the dirt bike was reported stolen in January through Baltimore City Police Department.

The preliminary investigation revealed the driver had no knowledge the bike was reported stolen. The driver of the tow truck advised the bike was being towed at the request of his front seat passenger, identified as the accused juvenile. The tow truck operator further advised the juvenile was riding the bike earlier and flagged him down due to running out of fuel.

Maryland State Police contacted the Baltimore City Police Department and advised them of the recovery. The bike was later returned to the owner. The owner of the Kawasaki KX 100 dirt bike expressed his gratitude to the trooper and advised the trooper he thought he would never see his bike again.



Deception burglaries on the rise as weather changes

Citizens are alerted to certain crime trends that have occurred throughout the county in recent years. Deception burglaries and home improvement scams occur throughout the year, but are known to increase when the weather gets warmer. Typically these are criminals who are on the move. They begin working in the southern states and head north during the spring and summer months.

The elderly are the most likely targets since they tend to be trusting and very concerned about their property and their neighborhood. Adult relatives of senior citizens should remind them of this possible crime.

Be mindful of certain ruses:

* Suspects generally work in pairs and approach homeowners at their residence with the intent of gaining entry under a seemingly benevolent role like posing as a legitimate worker from a local gas company, water department, cable company, or as a tree trimmer, paver, county inspector, or government official. One suspect will distract the homeowner while a second suspect will quietly enter the home and search for valuables and cash.

Police looking for woman last seen in Dundalk

The Baltimore County Police Department is seeking the public's assistance in locating a woman last seen in the Dundalk area.

Lillabelle Butler is a 66-year-old African American woman, 5'04", 140 pounds, and wears a black leather jacket. Butler, who is homeless, was last on February 16 on Merritt Boulevard and her family has not heard from her in a while. She is also known to frequent the Towson Mall and may carry a suitcase.

The search for Lillabelle Butler is being led by the Baltimore County Police Missing Persons Unit.

Anyone with information on Lillabelle Butler is asked to call police at 410-307-2020.



* A suspect may also pose as a family friend of a relative or friend of a neighbor. He or she will knock on the door and ask for a pen and paper to leave the victim's neighbor a note. The suspect may appear to have difficulty writing the note, and will ask to come inside the house. Once inside the victim's house, the suspect will ask the victim to help write the note. While that criminal distracts the victim, others enter the residence to remove money and valuables.

A variety of vehicles have been associated with these subjects including pickup trucks, vans, and sport utility vehicles. Often, the victim doesn't even know he or she has been victimized for hours or days later when they might go looking for a piece of jewelry or precious heirloom.

Be alert to anyone in your neighborhood asking to gain entry into your home. Always ask to see identification and let them know you are going to call and get authorization from their company before allowing them access. If they are legitimate, they won't mind the wait.

There have already been a number of deception burglaries just in the last few weeks. If you suspect that someone at your door is a scam artist, call Baltimore County police. You could help other potential victims from being scammed.

Investigators believe many deception burglaries don't get reported because the victim is too embarrassed or fears retribution. Neglecting to call may allow a criminal to go free and victimize someone else.

Remember, do not intervene, but call 911 immediately with a description of the suspect and vehicle used in the suspicious activity.



410-256-2000

Bevins, Teddy "Max"

A Celebration of Life service will be held on April 6 at Trinity Temple, located at 914 Essex Avenue in Essex at 6 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations to the church would be appreciated.

Piercy, Larry Jay

On March 27, Larry Jay Piercy. Devoted husband of Kathleen Joyce (nee Huerter); beloved father of Nathan Piercy, Mathias Piercy and his wife Kimberly, and Ryan Piercy; loving grandfather of Lauren, Corbin, Carson and Eli; dear son of Sally Piercy-Rhynearson and the late Calvin Piercy; cherished brother of Joyce Walkowiak, Ronald Piercy, the late Marjory Hube, Calvin Dan Piercy and Randall Van Piercy.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit the Connelly Funeral Home of Essex, located at 300 Mace Avenue, on Friday April 1, from 3 - 5 p.m. and from 7 - 9 p.m. A funeral mass will be celebrated at St. Clare Catholic Church, located at 714 Myrth Avenue on Saturday, April 2 at 10 a.m. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to The American Lung Association, 211 E. Lombard St., Baltimore, MD 21202.

Bellamy, Paralee Margaret

On March 26, Paralee Margaret Bellamy "Polly" (nee Lovelace); devoted wife of the late Joseph Frank Bellamy; beloved mother of Richard Brian Bellamy and his wife Sylvia Lee, Rita Bellamy Whitekeller and her husband Bobby, David Joseph Bellamy and his wife Susan, Gary Kevin Bellamy and his wife Teresia, and the late Lynda Bellamy Burns. Also survived by 13 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit the Connelly Funeral Home of Essex, located at 300 Mace Ave., on Thursday, March 31 from 3 - 5 p.m. and from 7 - 9 p.m. There will be additional visiting hours at Eastside Church of Christ, located at 900 Martin Boulevard in Middle River, on April 1 from 10 - 11 a.m. A funeral service will follow. Interment at Holly Hill Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to The Ladies Retreat at the Eastside Church of Christ.

Krafchik, Lynn Marie

On March 25, Lynn Marie Krafchik, beloved daughter of Terry and Thomas Krafchik; dear sister of Sharon Krafchik Johnson and her husband Rob and Annette Callahan and her husband Patrick; loving aunt of Leon and Levi Peterson and Charlie Parker.



Nelson, Alberta Jean

On Wednesday, March 16, Alberta (Bobbie) Jean Nelson passed away.



Born Dec. 14, 1948 to Albert and Roberta (Opal) Nelson. Alberta was survived by her beloved son, Scott; also survived by sisters, Mary, Carol and Anna; as well as brother Albert (Bert), one niece and eight nephews.

A private service will be held by the family.

Krout, Constance V.

On March 25, Constance V. Krout (nee Mantik). Devoted wife of the late George Krout; beloved mother of Mary Ellen Johnson, Richard Koenig and his wife Leslie, Glenn Krout, Christopher Krout and his wife Diane. Also survived by 12 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren; loving sister of Thomas Mantik and Deborah Brown.

Services held at the Connelly Funeral Home of Essex. Interment at Oak Lawn Cemetery.

McWatters, Lavinia H.

On March 25, Lavinia H. McWatters (nee Varnadore). Devoted wife of the late Sumpter McWatters; beloved mother of Tom McWatters and his wife Deborah, Jerry McWatters, Lawrence McWatters and his wife Cindy, Pat Carroll and her husband Wayne. Also survived by ten grandchildren, 14 greatgrandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren; loving sister of the late Harvey, Frances and Leonard Varnadore.

Services held at the Connelly Funeral Home of Essex. Interment at Holly Hill Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to The American Heart Association, 217 E. Redwood St., 23rd Floor, Baltimore, MD 21201.

Rebetsky, Anna

On March 24, Anna Joella Rebetsky (nee Kukucka), beloved wife of the late Stephen P. Rebetsky; devoted mother of Dolores M. Welsh, Teresa M. Poligardo, Stephen P., Leo M. and Roger J. Rebetsky; dear sister of Irene Burch. Also survived by 11 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Visitation held at Cvach Rosedale Funeral Home. Mass of Christian Burial held at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Overlea. Interment Gardens of Faith Cemetery. In lieu of flowers please make donations to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America.

Lerch, Doris C.

On March 24, Doris C. Lerch (nee Rutter). Devoted wife of the late Robert F. Lerch; beloved sister of Trema Baggett, Ervita and Joanne; loving aunt of Joseph Baggett and his wife Catherine, Shirley Fuller, Claudia Hanson, Robert Baggett and his wife Mary. Also survived by many great-nieces and great-nephews.

Services held at the Connelly Funeral Home of Essex. Interment at Meadowridge Memorial Park in Elkridge.

E-mail Obituary announcements to ectreporter@comcast.net or fax to 410-780-2616.



Evering, Charlene Wanda

Charlene Wanda (Kidd) Evering, 67, of Bowleys Quarters, passed away on March 20. Born in Essex to Charles and Irene (Richardson) Kidd, she was a 1966 graduate of Kenwood Sr. High School. Charlene was the wife of James Evering Sr. for 50 years. She is survived by her husband; children: James and Casandra Evering of Bel Air and Kimberly Chaapel of Miami; and four grandchildren: Jamie (Chris) Cox, Samantha Chaapel, and Hunter and Madison Evering. She is also survived by her siblings Frances (Dana) Sumner, Charles (Bonnie) Kidd, Karl (Doris) Kidd and Norman Payne; as well as her aunts, nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was predeceased by her parents and sister, Irene Payne.

A memorial service will be celebrated on Saturday, April 2, at 2 p.m. at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church located in Essex. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her memory to a charity or religious institution of your choosing.

Haga, Marvin Lee

On March 23, Marvin Lee Haga, beloved husband of Barbara J. Haga (nee Brown); devoted father of Wendy A. Twilley and her husband Don, Natalie M. Zebraski and her husband John and Robert G. Haga; dear brother of A. Dale Haga and his wife Peggy; loving grandfather of Christian M. Grossman and Austen T. Butler.

Funeral services private.

Lamar, Dorothy J.

On March 23, Dorothy "Dot" J. Lamar (nee Bogdan). Devoted wife of Palmer J. Lamar; beloved sister of Agnes Radecki and Rose Rae. Also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation held at the Connelly Funeral Home of Essex. A funeral mass was celebrated at St. Clare Catholic Church. Entombment at Oak Lawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to St. Clare Catholic Church, 714 Myrth Ave., Essex, MD 21221.

Feurer, Nicholas

Nicholas E. Feurer, 80, of Rosedale, passed away at Stella Maris on Thursday, March 10. Nick was the beloved husband of Mary Ann (nee Jemellaro) Feurer for 59 years; loving father of Deborah Feurer and husband Thomas McNamara, Nicholas F. Feurer and wife Karen, Anthony Feurer and wife Pam, and Therese Quaranta and husband Dave; adored grandfather of Ryan and Devin McNamara, Kelsey and Nicholas Feurer, Anthony, Jason and Alec Feurer, and Jaz and Cadence Quaranta; devoted brother of Frederick, Michael and Richard Feurer and their wives Millie, Lynn and Sandy; loving brother-in-law and uncle to many; life-long friend of William and Pat Ryan. Nick graduated from Mount St. Joseph High School in 1954 and the University of Baltimore in 1964. He served in the U.S. Army in Germany from 1956 to 1958. He was employed by The Equitable Trust Company, which ultimately became Bank of America, and rose to Senior Vice President. Nick was ordained a Deacon in the Roman Catholic Church in 1983 and served the St. Clement Mary Hofbauer parish in Rosedale. Nick retired from banking in 1990 and became a full time Deacon for St. Clement. Nick devoted his life to sharing his love with his family and serving the St. Clement community. He freely gave of himself to anyone in need and he brought joy, guidance and inspiration to all whose lives he touched. The spirit of Nick's giving will continue at the St. Clement Food Pantry.

Services held at Cvach Funeral Home of Rosedale with a Mass of Christian Burial held at St. Clement. Interment at Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the St. Clement Mary Hofbauer Food Pantry, 1212 Chesaco Ave, Rosedale, MD 21237.

POLITICIANS

Delegate McDonough voices concerns over failed JLENS program, taxpayer waste

- by Delegate Pat McDonough (R-7) -The familiar blimps that have been our neighbors in the sky for many years have become a disturbing story as we learn more about them. The JLENS project cost taxpayers \$2.7 billion. These funds, which could have been used to create jobs, finance education and promote other needed projects, were wasted since the blimps are being phased out. A 2012 report by the Pentagon's Operational Test & Evaluation Office faulted the system and rated its reliability as poor.

Senator John McCain (R, Arizona) and others lampooned the troubled system, and Governor Mike Huckabee ridiculed the runaway blimp on national TV as a "bag of gas." Huckabee said, "They could not get rid of the blimps because the government had too much money invested in them."

One major embarrassment unfolded last spring when a U.S. Postal worker landed an aircraft called a gyrocopter on the lawn of the U.S. Capitol. The

blimps should have identified the gyrocopter long before it entered Washington, D.C., airspace. Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger (D, Maryland) who serves on the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee was one of the chief cheerleaders for the JLENS blimp project. "The JLENS workers will be buying homes, shopping in our grocery stores and eating in our restaurants," said Representative Ruppersberger. The blimps were built by defense contractor Raytheon and, since 1999, the company has donated \$1.6 million through its political action committee. Ruppersberger has received \$91,250 from Raytheon over the years, the highest amount of contributions to any member of Congress, according to The Center for Responsive Politics.

"I believe that Dutch Ruppersberger 'owns' this failed program that cost taxpayers \$2.7 billion in wasted funding. 'Dutch's blimps' squandered funds that could have been used for

Construction to advance on new Kingsville fire station

- By Councilman David Marks (R-5) -This year has brought exciting news for the Perry Hall and Kingsville communities. In early February, the White Marsh Volunteer Fire Company finalized a deal with General Motors that will lead to a new six-acre location on Philadelphia Road. Then, in late February, the Kingsville Volunteer Fire Company announced that construction will finally occur this summer on an upgraded and expanded station.

The new facility, which will be located at the current location off Bradshaw Road, is expected to cost \$2.7 million and take about a year to build.

The company had launched a capital

campaign to raise more than \$4 million for a new station. With help from state bond bills and funding from Baltimore County, the fire station can supplement private money and begin construction on the fire station.

The Kingsville Volunteer Fire Company serves White Marsh, Perry Hall, Long Green and Jacksonville, as well as Joppa, Joppatowne, Edgewood and Fallston in Harford County.

I would like to thank the leadership and members of the 62-year-old Kingsville fire station for their service to northeastern Baltimore County, and all those who have supported the construction of this new facility.



education, jobs and veterans. The cozy relationship between Congressman Ruppersberger and Raytheon Corporation is troubling. The taxpayers deserve a federal audit and investigations into the JLENS blimp program. This fiasco has put the nation at risk because a more effective defense system could have been developed. Despite a lack of interest by the major media, I will not permit the controversy to just fade away," said Delegate Pat McDonough.

Get help applying for Medicaid or the Maryland Children's Health Program (MCHP) 9 a.m. to Noon EVERY Saturday until May 21

Drumcastle Government Center

(6401 York Road, Baltimore, MD 21212)

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For details, call 410-887-2957





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MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING" Sequel is Strictly for Family Only

- By Teddy Durgin -

"My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2" is less of a movie and more like one of those made-for-TV reunion movies they used to do in the 1980s, '90s and 2000s where a show that had been on the air one or two or three decades earlier like "Leave It to Beaver" or "Eight Is Enough" or "Dallas" returns for a curtain call and a revisit. There's not really an important story to tell. The world would have been fine if the past had stayed in the past, and we didn't see all of the ol' cast members' new wrinkles, gray hairs and additional pounds. But it ends up being comfort viewing for the diehards.

To be honest, I saw the original "Greek

Wedding" once when it came out in 2002 and then never again. I remember liking it and marveling at the box office and minor phenomenon that built up around it. But it didn't become one of my favorites. The only thing I really recall vividly is that the bride's parents bought the newlywed couple a house, and how half the people in the audience at the time lost it and started crying and clapping.

Pretty much everyone returns from that first film ... er, I think. It was a massive cast 14 years ago, and it's a massive cast again. Lots of checks are being cut as we speak. The big returnees are Nia Vardolas as Toula and John Corbett as Ian. The first film had a good center that drove the plot, Toula and Ian's mismatched romance. The sequel picks up actually 18 years later, and it's a bit more scattershot. This time around, Toula and Ian have a teenage daughter (Elena Kampouris), who is a senior in high school and Mom is freaking out over where her baby will be going to college. At the same time, Toula's mom and dad (Michael Constantine and Lainie Kazan) learn that their wedding five decades earlier never became legit because the priest neglected to sign the wedding papers.

I keep being tempted to use the phrase "Oy vey!" But this is a Greek flick. So, in the words of Maxwell Q. Klinger, "This is a fine piece of baklava!" There, is of course, also a subplot involving Toula and Ian's marriage hitting a dry spell. And that leads to one of the film's better gags where the once-super-happy couple try to get a little something-something going in a parked car only to be interrupted by the whole family.

And the whole family here continues to largely travel as a pack. The chuckles are certainly on the level of a sitcom circa the '80s and '90s. In fact, about a decade ago if I recall, Vardolas turned her hit film into an actual sitcom with many of these actors appearing, and it only ended up lasting a handful of episodes before being cancelled.

Will these folks be welcomed back as big-screen characters? I don't know. The



original was one of those flicks that started small and steadily built its audience over a number of weeks. It actually holds the record for being the highest grossing film of all time never to actually occupy the No. 1 box office slot on any given weekend. In 2016, it will have to do battle with the likes of Batman and Superman and, in the coming weeks, a new Melissa McCarthy sitcom movie and a live-action version of "The Jungle Book." So, I don't see this one hitting the top spot either.

If you enjoyed the first one, I'm not going to dissuade you from attending this reunion. But to people who just casually liked the first movie and haven't given it a second thought over the years... eh, better to spend time with your own annoying family.

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Lockheed Martin Invites You to a Public Information Session on the Proposed Plans for Sediment Remediation and Associated Permitting at the Middle River Complex

Monday, April 4, 2016 Marshy Point Nature Center • 7130 Marshy Point Road

5 to 7 p.m. - Informal poster session with the opportunity to talk one-on-one with the project team.

Updates on other remediation efforts and community topics of interest will be available between 5 and 7 p.m., at the informal poster session, and will include experts who can discuss and answer questions about groundwater and soil remediation at the Middle River Complex, and groundwater treatment construction activities at Martin State Airport. An aquatic ecologist will also be available to answer questions and provide information on the recent local algal bloom and fish die-off. 7 p.m. - Facilitated presentation and discussion on the proposed plans and permitting requirements for sediment remediation at the Middle River Complex, and an update on construction of the groundwater treatment facility at Martin State Airport.

A facilitated question and answer and comment session will follow the presentation.

Light refreshments will be served.

LOCKHEED MARTIN

ENTERTAINMENT

Long-awaited DC Comics team-up is not so super

- By Teddy Durgin -

I'm chalking up "Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice" as one of those "I Don't Wanna" movies. As I prepared to see it earlier this week, I kept saying things like "I don't wanna go to another Superman film where the Man of Steel is portrayed as tortured and stressed and wholly uncertain of his place in this world" and "I don't wanna see a Superman/Batman movie that's NOT meant for kids."

And then the movie started, and the "I Don't Wannas" continued. "Oh, man! I don't wanna be seeing a movie in which more than half the world fears and mistrusts Superman" and "I don't wanna be seeing a Batman who has horrific nightmares, is a sadistic vigilante and is completely hollow inside."

And now I sit here at this keyboard, and the three words that keep echoing through my brain? Yup. I don't wanna! "I don't wanna give a negative review to a movie featuring heroes I grew up thrilling to, dressing up for Halloween as and generally loving" and "I don't wanna report to parents who are readers of mine that this film is definitely not appropriate for their young children."

But... sigh... that's what I must do. I found "Batman v. Superman" to be an utterly joyless moviegoing experience. It's an unrelentingly bleak and grim take on both Metropolis, Gotham City and their two favorite sons. It's not a movie that seeks to thrill. It's not a movie that aims to make your spirit soar. You won't believe a man can fly. You'll just come out tense and bothered.

Most of the cast of "Man of Steel" returns. The film opens with Henry Cavill's Superman doing battle with Michael Shannon's General Zod through Metropolis. It's the climax of "Man of Steel," only this time seen at street level as billionaire Bruce Wayne (Ben Affleck) frantically dodges falling debris from all of the skyscrapers Supes and Zod are toppling during their slugfest. When he witnesses first-hand the destruction two Kryptonian aliens can inflict on a major city, he stands among the carnage and vows as his alter ego Batman to stop whoever turns out to be the winner.

Superman, of course, is triumphant. But the battle costs thousands their lives. Eighteen months later, the world appears split on whether Superman is a benevolent protector of the planet or a false God who, if provoked, can lay waste to the world. Into this mix comes oddball corporate titan Lex Luthor (Jesse Eisenberg), who has spent untold chunks of his fortune mining the Earth for fragments of Superman's home planet. The green material, known as kryptonite, is humanity's only shot at protecting itself. It's also Luthor's ticket to push forward vague world domination plans.

The plot is more muddled than that



brief recap. And don't get me started on Hans Zimmer. I can't believe this is the same man who once composed such gentle scores to films like "Rain Man," 'Driving Miss Daisy," and "Green Card." Ever since he laid down the tracks for the "Pirates of the Caribbean" movies, his scores have been the symphonic equivalent of getting close to one's ear and just screaming. In addition to his horns and percussion, he employs a large chorus here that sound less like they are singing and more like they are crying out in physical torment. Zimmer's music has become so over-the-top bombastic that even if Christ Himself returned to

walk this Earth again, He would request, "Uh, just don't let my return be set to the music of THAT guy!"

It's hard not to compare this to the vastly more entertaining Marvel movie franchise. One smart thing that's being done over on "that side" is the hiring of different directors (everyone from Joss Whedon and Joe Johnston to Kenneth Branagh and Anthony and Joe Russo) to keep things fresh. New blood seems to energize each film that hits screens. I hope that's the case here. Because when it comes down to it, I don't wanna see future DC Comics films if they're going to be like this.



Senior & Children's Menu. Call Ahead for Carry Out & Reservations!

Page 14 East County Times March 31, 2016

SPOTLIGHT

Bull and Oyster Roast

The Bowleys Quarters Improvement Association, 1124 Bowleys Quarters Road, will host a bull and oyster roast on Saturday, April 2, from 7 - 11 p.m. Menu to include pit beef, oysters, chicken, ham, sausage, hot buffet table and dessert, as well as beer, soda, coffee and tea. Music by DJ Bill Hillmeyer. Tickets are \$40/person or \$350 for a table of 10. For tickets and table reservations, call Rich Pitz at 410-335-0267.

Spring Luncheon Bingo

The Ladies of the Essex Elks #1866, 1007 E. Homberg Ave., will host a spring luncheon bingo on Saturday, April 2, at the lodge. Doors open at 10 a.m., lunch will be served at 11 and bingo starts at noon. Cost is \$7 for lunch and one free bingo card. Package deals are \$5. Call Millie at 410-285-1009 for lunch menu and other information.

Tastes and Grapes

Join the Perry Hall/White Marsh Business Association for their second annual food and wine pairing on Friday, April 15, from 6 - 9 p.m. at DeJon Vineyards, 5300 Hydes Road in Hydes. Delectable tastes from around the world paired with a perfect wine, featuring beef prepared by Chef Ben of Richardson Farms, Chicken from Bill Bateman's Towson, seafood from Riverwatch, Italian from Liberatore's Perry Hall and dessert samplings from The Yummery. Tickets are \$50 and proceeds benefit the White Marsh Volunteer Fire Department. Contact 410-493-4984 or info@phwmba. org for tickets, or order online at <u>www.phwmba.org</u>.

Seneca Elem. PTA Vendor Bazaar

The Seneca Elementary School PTA is looking for vendors to set up at our Vendor Bazaar on Saturday, April 16, from 9 a.m. to noon. Please email Tia Abell at southabell@gmail.com for more information.

Co-ed Adult Softball League

The Kingsville Adult Co-ed Softball League is looking for players to fill empty spots on rosters for the spring league. Season runs April 1 - June 24. Games are played on Friday or Saturday nights at 6:15 and 7:25 p.m. or 8:35 and 9:45 p.m. at Honeygo Regional Park. Cost is approx. \$45, depending on the number of players on each team and includes all fees; shirts are not covered. If interested, email Kingsville AdultCoedSoftball@verizon.net with "FREE AGENT" in the subject line. Visit <u>www.leaguelineup.com/</u> <u>kingsvilleadultcoedsoftball</u> for more information.

Sock Hop

Dust off those saddle shoes and grab your poodle skirts because on April 16, from 7 - 11 p.m., American Legion Post 130, 8666 Silver Lake Drive in Perry Hall, is having a sock hop! Join us for an evening of fun: dancing, raffles, door prizes and music from the Juke Box Live Band! Menu: ham and cheese burgers, hot dogs, french fries, onion rings, pizza, snacks, beer, wine, soda. We are asking everyone to bring a pair of new socks for our men and woman veterans. Tickets are \$25, or purchase a table of eight prior to April 2 for \$180 (\$20 savings). For more information, call the American Legion Post 130 at 410-870-0625.

EVT 40 Year Reunion

Eastern Vocational Technical High School class of 1977 is in the planning stages for a 40-year class reunion. We are looking for classmates we have not been able to contact who would be interested in coming to the reunion in June 2017. If you are interested, contact Martin Friedel at 410-458-9039, Madman@ closecall.com or come and join our Facebook page, Eastern Vocational Technical 1977. We look forward to seeing you all.

Vera Bradley Bingo

To Support the after-Prom party for the Kenwood High School Class of 2016, the Kenwood PTA is hosting a Vera Bradley Bingo on Friday, April 8, in the Kenwood High School cafeteria, 501 Stemmers Run Road in Essex. Doors open at 6 p.m. and games start at 7 p.m. 50/50 raffle, bonus raffles, door prizes and more! Food and drinks available for purchase. Tickets are \$15 if pre-purchased or \$18 at the door. Space is limited. For tickets or information, contact Kathy Bauer at 443-622-5779 or bauer5092@comcast.net.

Cash Bingo

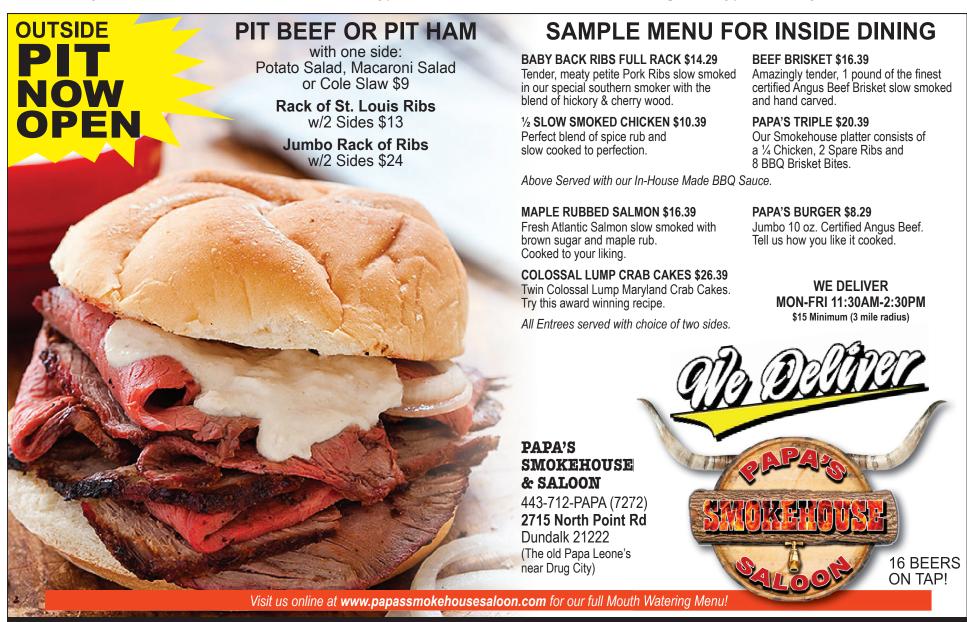
Our Lady of Mount Carmel invites you for Cash Bingo on Friday, April 15, at 7 p.m. to benefit technology for our OLMC students. Tickets are \$20 per person, featuring special games, jackpots, raffles and much more. Stair accessible entrance to the event. To order tickets, contact Katie Fitzpatrick at kfitzpatrick@olmcmd.org.

Bull and Oyster Roast

The Rosedale Volunteer Fire Company will host a bull and oyster roast from 7 - 11 p.m. on Saturday, April 2, at Rosedale Gardens, 8037 Philadelphia Road. Menu includes oysters on the half shell, top round beef, smoked pit ham, Maryland crab soup, oyster stew, barbeque chicken, sweet Italian sausage, Swedish meatballs, baked ziti and more. Also wheels and raffles. Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door. For more information, call 410-866-2598 or email rvfdbullroast@gmail.com.

Food Giveaway

St. Stephens African Methodist Episcopal Church, 1601 Old Eastern Ave., will hold a food giveaway on the third Saturday of every month, from 10 a.m. -2 p.m. Bring your own bags. Call 410-686-9392.



HAPPY HOUR: MONDAY - FRIDAY 3-6 Open EVERYDAY 11am-Close • Kitchen Hours 11am-10pm EVERY TUESDAY Charm City Trivia 7:30pm EVERY THURSDAY Showcase of Singing Stars 7pm. 7 Singers each night, Open Karaoke after. Open to the Public. EVERY SATURDAY 9PM Joey McCann, The Music Man

SPOTLIGHT

Lotto Ticket Fundraiser

During the month of April, the Rosedale Volunteer Fire Company will hold a three-digit lottery ticket fundraiser based on the daily three-digit drawing. Tickets are \$5 and numbers are good for the whole month. Winnings range from \$50 - \$150 if your numbers match the nightly 8 p.m. drawing. All proceeds benefit the Rosedale Volunteer Fire Company. For more info., call 410-866-2598.

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. Contact Anthony at 443-801-5678 or LineDancing@AnthonyMakres.com.



Get Ready to Ride Day

ABATE of Maryland, Inc., Baltimore-Harford Chapter will host a "Get Ready to Ride" Day on Saturday, April 30, from noon - 4 p.m at Kingsville Station, 5429 Ebenezer Road in White Marsh. The event will include a Blessing of the Bikes, basic firstaid training, legal tips, pre-season bike checks, a basket of cheer raffle drawing, vendors and food, a bikini bike wash and music all day. Vendors welcome. Call Jay Hidden at 443-854-9965 for more info.

Free Home-Cooked Meals

Essex United Methodist Church, 524 Maryland Ave., will offer free, hot home-cooked meals for anyone in the community every Wednesday from 3:30 - 6 p.m. Anyone who wishes to may sit down and eat, no questions asked. **Quarter Auction** Wise Avenue Volunteer Fire Company, 214 Wise Ave. in Dundalk, will hold a quarter auction on Thursday, April 7, at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6:00 pm) hosted by Christina The Purse Lady and other vendors. No bid will be more than two quarters. Tickets are \$5 which includes three paddles (extra paddles available for \$2). To reserve seats, call Jerry at 443-841-9692. Proceeds benefit Wise Avenue VFC. Food and drink will be available for purchase.

Soup Kitchen

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

D	GREEK IIIE	FKI
囘		
司	MON. MARCH 28TH - SUN.	APRIL 3RD
삗	Appetizers -	
回	Greek Village Salad \$9.95 Fresh tomatoes, cucumber, onions, olives & feta cheese.	
同	Grilled Octopus \$16.95 Served with feta cheese, tomatoes, olives & pita	
늵	Fried Calamari \$10.50 Served with Marinara Sauce	
틝	Saganaki	
巴	Fresh squeezed lemon juice	
回	Taramosalata\$5.95Fish roe dip	Lith
늘	Entrees -	
믹	Lamb Gyros	
민	Lamb Gyros Platter \$12.95 Served with french fries and side Greek salad	
맄	Baked Mousaka	
쁾	GREEKUE MON. MARCH 28TH - SUN. Appetizers - Greek Village Salad \$9.95 Presh tomatoes, cucumber, onions, olives & feta cheese. Grilled Octopus \$16.95 Served with feta cheese, tomatoes, olives & pita Fried Calamari \$10.50 Served with Marinara Sauce \$9.95 Sharp Greek cheese baked then flamed with brandy, Presh queezed lemon juice Taramosalata \$5.95 Fish roe dip Entrees - Lamb Gyros \$9.95 Served in pita with ground beef k lamb slices, tomato, lettuce, raw onions & Tzatzik is auce Lamb Gyros Platter \$12.95 Served with freach fries and side Greek salad \$15.95 Baked Mousaka \$15.95 Baked Pastichio \$15.95 Served with a side Greek salad \$15.95 Half Greek Chicken \$15.95 Served with oven browned potatoes and side Greek salad \$14.95 Homemade Stuffed Grape Leaves \$14.95 Served over Rice Pilaf W/ small Greek Salad \$13.95 Half Greek Spinach Pie \$13.95 Sinch, herbs, Feta cheases wrapped in phyll	
峝	Half Greek Chicken \$15.95 Served with oven browned potatoes and side Greek salad	
틞	Homemade Stuffed Grape Leaves \$14.95 Served over Rice Pilaf w/ small Greek Salad	
븱	Grilled Lamb Chops \$18.95 Served over Rice Pilaf w/ small Greek Salad	
쁵	Greek Spinach Pie \$13.95	
回	Served with Side Greek Salad	
등	Homemade Desserts -	A STATE
띡	Baklava \$4.95 Ground nuts and cinnamon layered in phyllo with syrup	
민	Galactobourico \$4.95 Egg, orange zest, custard in phyllo with syrup	
P	Our Homemade Rice Pudding \$3.95	DELLIS

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SPOTLIGHT

Zumba

Bengies Chase Recreation Council will hold Zumba classes for ages 13 and up at Oliver Beach Elementary School on Mondays and Thursdays from 7 - 8 p.m. New session began Jan. 11. Call the rec. office at 410-887-5194.

Women's Firearm Safety Course

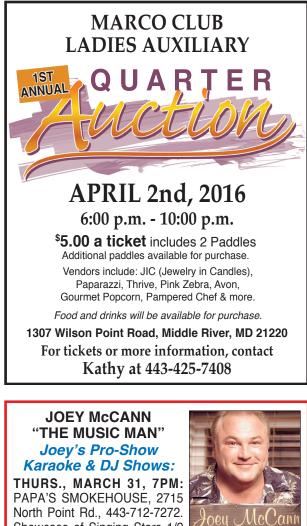
The Well Armed Woman Anne Arundel County Chapter holds meetings at Freestate Gun Range, 11500 Crossroads Circle in Middle River, on the second Sunday of every month starting at 2 p.m. Women can learn firearm safety techniques and self-protection. For info., contact Terry DeGraw at 443-676-0548.

Cape Cod Bus Trip

Trip will include Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket and Provincetown and last from June 23 - 27. Contact Anthony at 443-801-5678 or events@AnthonyMakres. com for prices and what is included.

Quarter Auction

The Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #451, 6401 Beckley St. in Baltimore, will have a quarter auction and spaghetti dinner on April 6. Doors open at 5 p.m., dinner will be served until 6:30 p.m. and the quarter auction will begin at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for both the spaghetti dinner and quarter auction and includes two paddles. Tickets for just the spaghetti dinner are \$7, or \$5 for just the quarter auction. Contact Sandy Miller at 443-255-7817.



North Point Rd., 443-712-7272. Showcase of Singing Stars 1/2 night Open Karaoke after. FRI., APRIL 1, 9PM: FATTIE'S BAR & GRILL, 1030 Old Eastern Ave., 410-686-9111. SAT., APRIL 2, 9PM: PAPA'S MOKEHOUSE, 2715 North Paint Pd. 442, 712, 7270

ern Ave., 410-686-9111. SAT., APRIL 2, 9PM: PAPA'S SMOKEHOUSE, 2715 North Point Rd., 443-712-7272. SUNDAYS 7-11PM: MO'S EASTPOINT, 7600 Eastern Ave., 410-288-2424. MON., APRIL 4, 7-11PM: GOOD TIMES SALOON - GRAB A CRAB, 1220 E. Homberg Ave., 410-682-2722. TUESDAYS 9PM: TOWER RESTAURANT, 29 S. Main St., Bel Air, 410-838-8007. WEDNESDAYS 9PM: REC ROOM, 512 York Rd., 410-337-7178. Charter Member of the Maryland Entertainment Hall of Fame

For Bookings, Call Joey & the Jammers Hotline: 410-285-BAND http://www.JoeyJammer.com Email: JoeyJammer@comcast.net FRIEND ME ON FACEBOOK!

Senior Steelworkers United 9477

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

Luncheon/Bingo

The Ladies Auxiliary of American Legion Post 130, 8666 Silver Lake Drive in Perry Hall, holds a luncheon and bingo the second Monday of every month except January and July. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. for lunch (served until 11:45 a.m.); bingo begins at noon. Cost \$14 for lunch and bingo. Call 410-804-5882.

Sacred Heart Young Adults

Come visit the Young Adults (ages 18-35) for those who want to grow in their spirituality, help our community, and create a stronger relationship with God. We have group discussions, testimonies, music, food and planning for community service and socials like BBQ's and ice skating. We meet in the Parish Center at 6727 Duluth Ave. in Dundalk, every first and third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. For more info., contact SacredHeartYA@gmail.com.

Biltmore and Asheville Bus Trip

St. Michael Lutheran Church in Perry Hall will sponsor a bus trip to the Biltmore Estate and Asheville, NC, from May 16 - 19 (four days, three nights). Cost is \$385 per double occupancy. Call Emma Hahn at 410-592-8512 for information.



St. Padre Pio Shrine Trip

On May 21, the St. Ita Chapter of the Harford County Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAOH) is sponsoring a bus trip to the St. Padre Pio Shrine in Barto, PA. Pick-ups/drop-offs, at the White Marsh Park and Ride and Deereco Park and Ride. Cost is \$120 with non-refundable deposit of \$60 is due as soon as possible. Balance of \$60 due by April 21. Call Thelma Graziano at 410-557-9339 or e-mail trgraziano@Hotmail.com as soon as possible.

NYC Bus Trip

On June 15, The St. Francis of Assisi (SFA) Sodality is sponsoring a bus trip to the New York City Radio City Music Hall with orchestra seats for the Rockettes New York Spectacular. Pick-ups/drop-offs at SFA, 3615 Harford Road, and The Hilltop Restaurant, 1709 Edgewood Road in Edgewood. Cost is \$125, nonrefundable \$55 deposit due immediately. Balance of \$70 due by May 25. Lunch on your own in NYC and dinner on your own at the Town & Country Restaurant in Bordentown, NJ. Contact Barbara Jo at 410-488-3162 or barbarajo.wuest1@aol.com ASAP.

LAOH Bus Trip

On June 22, The St. Ita Chapter of the Harford County Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAOH) is sponsoring a bus trip to the Sight and Sound Theatre in Strasburg, PA. Pick-ups/drop-offs: White Marsh Park and Ride and Deereco Park and Ride. Prior to the 2:45 p.m. show, we will have a smorgasbord lunch at the Bird-in-Hand Restaurant. Cost for adults is \$120, \$110 for children 12 and under. Nonrefundable deposit of \$60 (\$50 for children) due immediately. Balance of \$60 due by May 25. Contact Barbara Jo at 410-488-3162 or barbarajo.wuest1@aol. com ASAP if interested.

Aerobics Classes

Bengies Chase Recreation Council will present In-Shape Aerobics and In-Step Aerobics classes at Vincent Farm Elementary School. Classes held Mondays - Thursdays, 7 - 8 p.m. New session began Jan. 11. Call the rec. office at 410-887-5194.

St. James Theatre Bus Trip

On Sept. 14, The Saint Francis of Assisi (SFA) Sodality is sponsoring a bus trip to the St. James Theatre in New York City with orchestra seats for the 2 p.m. performance of the musical, "Something Rotten." Cost is \$170. Non-refundable deposit of \$100 due by April 25. Balance of \$70 due by Sept. 10. Pick-ups/ drop-offs at SFA, 3615 Harford Road in Baltimore, and the Hilltop Restaurant, 1709 Edgewood Road in Edgewood. Lunch on your own in NYC and dinner on your own at the Town & Country Restaurant in Bordentown, NJ. Contact Barbara Jo at 410-488-3162.



IN OUR OPINION

Baldwin not wrong on outlet mall, but fuzzy on the details

- By Devin Crum -

On Thursday, March 24, *The Avenue News* printed an opinion editorial by Associate Editor Dan Baldwin with the title, "Voters won't get a say on outlet mall."

That headline in itself is not a true statement since the referendum drive for Baltimore County Bill 53-15 which would allow the Paragon Outlets outright - *did* collect enough signatures and it *will* be on the ballot for voters to decide in November.

So the voters will get their say; it's just a matter of whether or not it will mean anything. But that's a technicality.

Baldwin is correct that the zoning change requested for the planned outlet mall site in the ongoing Comprehensive Zoning Map Process (CZMP) would effectively render the referendum moot since it would allow the development by right, much like Bill 53-15 itself.

But what Baldwin neglects to mention is that the zoning change is just the latest insurance policy Paragon Outlet Partners has taken out to ensure the mall gets built and the third way that it could be approved to move forward.

The first way was, of course, the planned unit development (PUD) plan which brought this whole thing about. That plan has continued to move through the judicial process throughout this whole ordeal and was most recently in the Baltimore County Circuit Court.

The judge in that case remanded the appeal back to the county's Board of Appeals for a more elaborate rationale for their approval of the project. And Paragon has appealed that decision to the Court of Special Appeals for dismissal of the case. If that appeal fails, it will be back in the Circuit Court.

With no end in sight for the legal proceedings, though, County Councilwoman Cathy Bevins, who represents the area and supports the project, proposed Bill 53-15, which the County Council unanimously approved last August. Contrary to Baldwin's assertion, it was not a zoning change, but would change the law to allow for an outlet mall under the site's current zoning (another technicality, I suppose). This was the second method



of approval.

And finally, Paragon requested the zoning change on the site from the current designation for light manufacturing to Business Major (BM), which would allow the mall - the third possibility.

To be clear, if any one of these methods is successful, the other two make no difference.

But where Baldwin really faults is in describing what the project would bring to White Marsh. While the outlet mall project would be a \$100 million investment in the area and is expected to create 1,600 jobs, and it did cut 1,000 units off of the approved plan for 1,250 apartments, he incorrectly states that it would also involve the construction of the other 250 apartments.

Paragon purchased only about 52 acres of the original 83-acre site, which is all that they need for the outlet mall. It does not include the acreage on which the apartments were to be built. The remaining acreage is still owned by Corporate Office Properties Trust (COPT). So while the apartments are still technically in the picture, it would be COPT who builds them, not Paragon.

However, COPT has also requested a zoning change on their parcel similar to Paragon's request, except that a portion of it would be designated BM-AS which would allow for a gas station and convenience store. The community is hoping that this change will take the remaining 250 apartments off the table, and Councilwoman Bevins has stated previously that she was working toward that end.

Baldwin also wrote that "Paragon has agreed to build an \$8 million ramp from Interstate 95 which will help take traffic off of Philadelphia Road." But as the two highways are nearly parallel in this location and do not intersect anywhere, they would be almost impossible to connect with a ramp.

What I'm sure he meant to say was that Paragon plans to build a ramp allowing traffic to travel from Philadelphia Road eastbound onto MD Route 43. Cur-



rently, traffic on Philadelphia can only go westbound onto MD-43, and eastbound traffic must go north to Cowenton Avenue or south to Middle River Road.

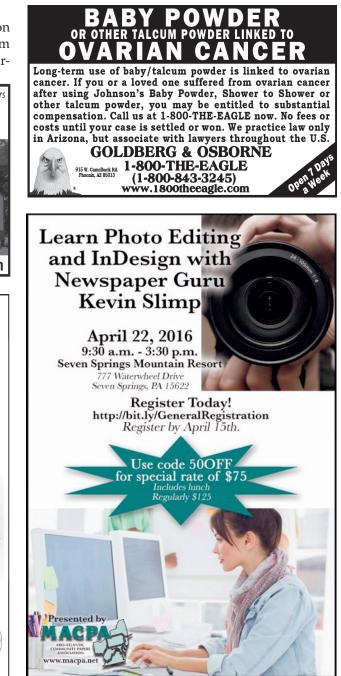
As a result, the traffic at these intersections backs up as it is, particularly at Cowenton Avenue. The new ramp would be a great improvement for moving traffic out of the area and onto larger roads that can handle it, as well as an asset for the White Marsh Volunteer Fire Company which plans to build a new station across from the site on land donated by the White Marsh GM facility.

Furthermore, Baldwin states that the state "would not, and will not" build the ramp, which is not entirely true. The project is on the Maryland State Highway Administration's list of projects to be completed. It is just not expected to be funded for at least 10 years, according to SHA officials.

I agree with Baldwin's overall message that the referendum vote essentially will not matter if the County Council approves Paragon's requested zoning change (which they are likely to do since Bevins has supported the project from the beginning and the other Council members almost always defer to the decision of the one who represents the district), and that the only people opposed to the outlet mall seem to be the "loud minority."

And he is right that the Planning Board held a public hearing at Parkville High School on Tuesday, March 29, regarding Sixth District zoning change requests, where the public again had their say. He simply needs to brush up on the details.

The above opinion reflects only the opinion of the author and not that of the East County Times. For comments or concerns, feel free to email Devin Crum directly at ecteditorial@comcast.net.







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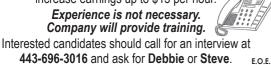
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ATTENTION SMALL BUSI-**NESSES: Simplify Your** Pavroll & Taxes with Paychex! New customers receive one month of payroll processing free! Receive a Free Quote! Call 800-805-0164

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GOT AN OLDER CAR, BOAT OR RV? DO THE HUMANE THING. DONATE IT TO THE HUMANE SOCI-ETY. CALL 1-800-758-2204

GOT KNEE PAIN? BACK PAIN? SHOULDER PAIN? GET A PAIN-RELIEVING BRACE - LITTLE OR NO COST TO YOU. MEDICARE PATIENTS CALL HEALTH HOTLINE NOW! 1- 800-419-3684

KILL BED BUGS! BUY HARRIS BED BUG KILL-ERS/KIT. HARDWARE STORES, THE HOME DE-POT. HOMEDEPOT.COM

5034 **MISCELLANEOUS**

LIFE ALERT. 24/7. ONE PRESS OF A BUTTON SENDS HELP FAST! MEDI-CAL, FIRE, BURGLAR. EVEN IF YOU CAN'T REACH A PHONE! FREE BROCHURE. CALL 1-800-746-0979

LOWER YOUR TV, INTER-**NET & PHONE BILL!!! GET** FAST INTERNET FROM \$15/MO - QUALIFYING SERVICE. LIMITED TIME \$15/MO QUALIFYING OFFER. PLUS, GET A FREE \$300 GIFT CARD. CALL 855-407-0796 TODAY!

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PLACE A BUSINESS CARD AD IN THE REGIONAL SMALL DISPLAY 2x2/2x4 Advertising Network -Reach 3.6 Million readers with just one call, one bill and one ad placement in 71 newspapers in Maryland, Delaware and DC TODAY! For just \$1450.00, Get the reach, Get the results and for Just Pennies on the Dollars Now ... call 1-855-721-6332 x 6 or email wsmith@ mddcpress.com

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SOCIAL SECURITY DIS-ABILITY BENEFITS. UN-ABLE TO WORK? DENIED **BENEFITS? WE CAN HELP!** WIN OR PAY NOTHING! CONTACT BILL GORDON & ASSOCIATES AT 1-800-208-6915 TO START YOUR **APPLICATION TODAY!**

SWITCH TO DIRECTV AND GET A \$100 GIFT CARD. FREE WHOLE-HOME GE-NIE HD/DVR UPGRADE. STARTING AT \$19.99/MO. NEW CUSTOMERS ONLY. DON'T SETTLE FOR CA-BLE. CALL NOW 800-530-1453

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

WASHER & DRYER Hi-efficency, NEW, MUST SELL, \$700. Call 410-391-4349 Leave Message.

5040 **PETS & SUPPLIES**

HELP SAVE **ANIMALS LOCALLY!** DONATE YOUR CAR. Humane Society of Baltimore Co. Free Towing.

Tax Deduction. 410-833-8848 ext. 202

5048 WANTED TO BUY



TURN YOUR COLLECTIBLES **INTO CASH**

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PARKVILLE-Clean and quiet studio apartment on bus line. \$850 Please call 301-684-5803

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East County TIMES



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ESSEX - SFH WATERVIEW, 3BR/2BA, Club basement, pool, private yard, many updates. Avail. June. \$1800/mo. + S.D. Call 443-690-3289

ESSEX WATERFRONT -Share new house. Professional/Couples, no pets. Call 410-245-4412

MIDDLE RIVER LUXURY 3 BR, 2.5 BA THS for rent, BRHP Vouchers accepted. Call Sharon Hermani, Long & Foster Real Estate INC, 410-960-6021

MIDDLE RIVER- 2bedroom townhouse, carpeted, modern kitchen, patio. \$875. Voucher/pets welcome! 410-864-8290



MOBILE HOMES



6053

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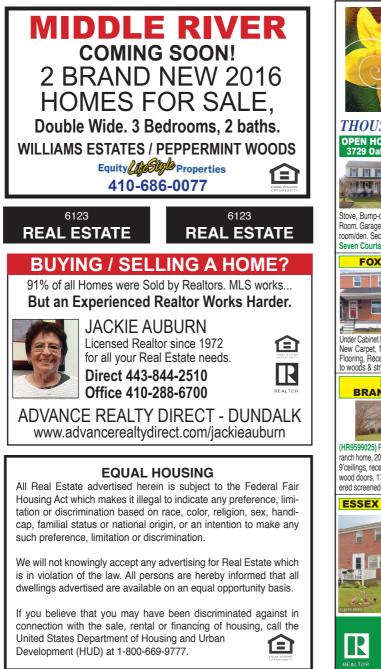
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6053 **ROOM FOR RENT**

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2005 FLEETWOOD IN MO-BILE MANOR 14' X 70'. 2 BA, \$26,000.00. 2BR. CALL 410-391-0906



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6117 **LOTS & ACREAGE**

HANDYMAN HOUSE! 5 acres Stream - \$69,900. Country 3 BR house, stream, fields views, beautiful Catskill Mountain Setting! Call (888) 738-6994 NewYork-LandandLakes.com

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6117

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