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VERSE OF THE WEEK - Psalm 73:26

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At Governor Hogan's stop at the Boulevard Diner in Dundalk on Monday, Delegate Bob Long (center) brought a "Thank You" placard that Hogan had brought to the area four years ago to thank residents of Dundalk for their support. Long said it was time to return the favor.

- Article & photos by Patrick Taylor -

Governor Larry Hogan and his cabinet split from Annapolis for much of the day on Monday, Feb. 8, to bring the state government to Baltimore County.

Hogan opted to hold a "regional cabinet meeting" at CCBC Essex before he and his top aides toured various parts of the county, including trips to Franklin Square Hospital, the new Dulaney High School and more.

The day began early at Boulevard Diner in Dundalk, with the popular Republican governor visiting a key district that flipped from blue to red in the last election, helping Hogan gain a strong footing in Baltimore County.

"He's a rock star in these parts," said Delegate Ric Metzgar, who represents the area. "And it's deserved. He's done a lot of good for the people of this area. When was the last time you saw a governor bring his entire cabinet to the east side?"

Those sentiments were shared by most local officials throughout the day. County Councilman David Marks (R-Perry Hall), who worked for Governor Bob Ehrlich, remarked to *The East County Times* that he could not remember an administration doing this.

The day had the feel of a massive campaign event, with Hogan and his

team touting the administration's efforts over the last three years while deriding County Executive Kevin Kamenetz's administration for lagging on school air conditioning and construction, supporting the "road kill" bill and failing to pay for midge treatment on Back River.

Kamenetz is vying for the Democratic nomation to challenge Hogan in November.

After the cabinet meeting, Lieutenant Governor Boyd Rutherford and George Owings, the secretary of Veterans Affairs, stopped by the Essex American Legion Post 148 to hear from local veterans and tout this administration's work to

- see **HOGAN** on page 5 -

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NEWS

Public boat ramp, pier still a go at Shaw's Discovery, developer says

- By Marge Neal -

The omission of a community boat ramp and fishing pier on a shoreline stabilization permit application filed with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is strictly an administrative problem and does not reflect a change of plans for the Shaw's Discovery project in Edgemere, according to developer Mark Sapperstein.

"This is absolutely just a paperwork issue and not an issue of desire," Sapperstein told the East County Times. "Once this permit is approved, I'll amend the plan to the Corps to make sure the boat ramp and pier are included."

Sapperstein is developing the Edgemere land known locally as Bauer's Farm, creating a 143-home community to be known as Shaw's Discovery. He is building the project using a planned unit development designation, or PUD, which allows a builder to work outside of current zoning in exchange for the community receiving a "benefit" from the project.

In this case, Sapperstein was given permission to build a higher density of housing than would have been allowed on the former agricultural land in part because of his promise to build a public boat ramp and fishing pier on the waterfront property. He has also stated that community residents will have full access to a series of walking trails planned for the residents of what will be a gated

Sapperstein said he has talked to Fran Taylor, president of the North Point Pen-

insula Council, regarding the application oversight and assured him there are no plans to back out of providing the community benefit.

Taylor said he is disappointed that "everything wasn't written down" with regard to the public amenities promised to the community and hopes that the amended application gets approved.

While Taylor is concerned that an amendment might not be approved, Sapperstein said "there is absolutely no chance" of an amended plan not being

And I plan to take it to the community before I file it to make sure it includes everything," the developer said.

The application Sapperstein filed is to get Corps of Engineers approval of a shoreline stabilization project that will restore nearly 2,800 linear feet of tidal shoreline. The proposed stone revetment will replace the existing failing bulkheads, according to the document.

It also spells out the process for mitigation required by the "permanent impact" of forested land that will be or has been cleared for roads and storm water management facilities. Sapperstein has proposed an area off of Back River Neck Road as the site for the reforestation required by law.

Taylor expressed concern that the mitigation will not occur in Edgemere, but the Back River site satisfies the requirement of being in the same watershed that suffered the impact.

Sapperstein said he is working on

the amended plan now and will keep the community updated as the project progresses.

The Corps' approval is needed to begin work on several remaining infrastructure needs, such as the creation of a deceleration lane on North Point Road and the construction of a pump station at the end of the newly constructed entrance road, according to Sapperstein.

NV Homes is the builder, and Sapperstein said he expects them to begin construction within 10 days of the Corps'

approval. NV will build six model townhomes to start and then build additional units as homes are sold.

"The builder can build a group of six houses about every 75 days," Sapperstein said. "They'll put the models up first to gain interest and then build as they get commitments. I think it's going to be a hot market."

Public comments regarding the Corps application are being taken through Feb. 16. Sapperstein expects to hear a decision about a week after that.

Grammer introduces bill to force state to acquire Fort Howard property

- By Devin Crum -

Delegate Robin Grammer, an Essex Republican, has introduced a bill in Maryland's House of Delegates which seeks to take the 100-acre Fort Howard property out of federal hands and place it in the hands of the state.

House Bill 952 would require the State of Maryland to acquire Fort Howard should the federal government make all or part of it available for sale or other transfer of ownership. The bill is co-sponsored by fellow eastern Baltimore County delegates Bob Long, Ric Metzgar, Pat McDonough, Kathy Szeliga, Joe Cluster and Christian Miele, all Republicans, as well as delegates David E. Vogt III (R-Frederick, Carroll counties), C.T. Wilson (D-Charles County) and Pat Young (D-Catonsville).

Grammer told the East County Times that the bill came about after U.S. Senator Ben Cardin visited with the Baltimore County House delegation recently in Annapolis. He used that occasion as a lobbying opportunity with the senator "because we haven't had help from our federal delegation throughout this process," he said.

"[The bill] would require action on behalf of the state," Grammer said. "And my bill is to assure that if the federal government does take action to transfer ownership, that the state would take advantage of that."

The Fort Howard former Veterans

Administration hospital and campus which comprise the property are owned by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). However, the site is slated for future redevelopment under a 75year lease held by developer Timothy Munshell and signed in 2014.

If the VA were to break its lease with the developer and seek to offload the property, the federal government's procurement process dictates that it could be offered to other federal government agencies or outside groups. This has led to concern from people in the community that any number of undesirable projects - such as public "Section 8" housing or even a prison - could be planned for the site with little to no public input or influence.

"The problem is currently, if the developer that currently has the lease walks away, we don't really have any control over what happens," Grammer said. "We just want to make sure that if we do get the opportunity we take advantage of it so that we can have some kind of project that would serve our veterans.

He said if the property is in the hands of the state, whatever is done with it "would be led by the community and political leadership" at the state and local, and possibly federal levels.

"What the state would do with it, I think that's a blank page that we could

- see ACQUIRE on page 6 -



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Parents, local officials put the heat on BCPS over discipline issues

- By Patrick Taylor -

In the midst of heavy scrutiny over ethical failures of Baltimore County Public School (BCPS) leadership under former Superintendent S. Dallas Dance, team BCPS is back under the spotlight as parents and local and state officials are calling for a review of the county's disciplinary policies.

Citing a perceived uptick in violence and issues with discipline, parents and legislators have questioned whether or not BCPS is sweeping incidents of violence under the rug.

Interim Superintendent Verletta White appeared before Baltimore County's House Delegation in Annapolis on Friday morning, Feb. 9, and BCPS representatives were present at the Northeast Area Education Advisory Council (NEAC) meeting on Monday night, Feb. 12, at Joppa View Elementary to hear from stakeholders. The message passed along to BCPS was straightforward: the public is losing trust in the school system.

"We need an independent audit to look over not just ethical concerns, but how the system handles disciplinary issues," said one parent present at Monday night's meeting. "Without an independent audit we can't trust the findings."

Throughout Monday night's meeting, disgruntled and frustrated parents

sounded off at Community Superintendent George Roberts, opining that BCPS' unwillingness to act on disciplinary issues causes a strained learning environment that makes it impossible for students to learn, creating an unsafe environment.

Incidents being covered up to keep up appearances was an issue brought to White's attention by multiple members of the House Delegation on Friday morning with Delegate Robin Grammer (R-6) questioning whether or not schools had "unwritten rules" about reporting violence and incidents involving firearms. White responded by saying she was not aware of anything of the sort.

"There is a bigger lack of trust with leadership and the board of education to the point where parents, students and teachers have completely lost trust," Grammer said after the hearing. "It applies to spending and procurement issues, but it also applies to discipline."

Grammer noted that he has been hearing about school discipline issues since he was elected in 2014. He told the East County Times that between a non-responsive Board of Education and teachers fearful of repercussions for speaking out, state legislators hear the brunt of concerns.

Last June, Grammer and County Councilman Todd Crandell (R-7) issued a joint statement calling for a public hearing on disciplinary issues. According to Grammer, the response from BCPS Chief Communications Officer Mychael Dickerson was muted, with Dickerson saying, "I believe a lot of this is being brought up by social media and people sharing videos, but many of those that I've seen have been old, old videos."

Grammer also contended that teachers from various schools in his district have highlighted the unwritten rules as a barrier.

"When you hear from multiple parents and go to different schools in the district and hear the same things, it ceases to be a conspiracy," said Grammer. The writing is on the wall.'

Shortly after Grammer finished his line of questions, White was questioned by Delegate Kathy Szeliga (R-7). Three days before White's visit to Annapolis, Szeliga and Delegate Joe Cluster (R-8) sent a letter to White about an incident that allegedly occurred a few months ago at Golden Ring Middle School. In the letter, obtained by the Times, Szeliga and Cluster detailed an incident they heard from a source close to the situation in which a child brought a gun to school and received a one-day suspension. The Times was unable to contact that source for this article.

White promised to follow up with Szeliga and Cluster, but as of Monday they had not heard a response. Dolores Pierorazio, an assistant to Dickerson, said "we have asked staff to look into [the allegations]" but "so far we have no information that is true."

One of the biggest areas of frustration for parents has been disclosure. Multiple elected officials and parents have recently expressed frustration over being left out of the loop when it comes to punishment of a perpetrator of violence in schools.

But White and Roberts both noted that they are barred by law from divulging information about students. Roberts told those gathered at the NEAC meeting that the best the school system can do is offer to arrange a sitdown meeting between parents and students, and if the parents of the perpetrator do not show up there is no other way to learn more.

"We're limited in what we can divulge about the investigation," said Roberts. "I know that can be frustrating, but our hands are tied."

Roberts said that he and his team would work on communication issues and pointed to a letter received by Perry Hall High School parents recently that served as a reminder about social media policy. He stated that in that instance, BCPS was being proactive.

But many in the crowd noted that BCPS usually reserves that type of communication for after an incident, leading many to believe that something had happened and they were being kept in the dark.

After the meeting, Councilman David Marks (R-5) expressed his frustration with the current situation, but remained hopeful.

"I believe we are making some changes, such as the 62 new cameras that have been installed at Perry Hall High School and the new staff members in the proposed budget who will review residency," he said. "But my constituents are generally unsatisfied with what they see as permissive discipline policies, and that needs to change."

That sentiment was echoed by Insurance Commissioner Al Redmer, who is in the midst of a campaign for county

"It's painfully apparent that there's a deep disconnect between parent expectations and how the administration responds," said Redmer.

On Thursday, Feb. 15, Del. Christian Miele (R-8) will host an education town hall at Perry Hall High School at 7 p.m. The Southeast Area Education Advisory Council will host a school safety and discipline meeting on Monday, Feb. 26, at 7 p.m. at Oliver Beach Elementary School.



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NEWS

HOGAN

- continued from page 1 -

better the lives of Maryland's veterans.

"I've worked in this position across multiple administrations, and none have done more for our veteran's than the Hogan administration," said Owings, who was first appointed to his position under Gov. Ehrlich in 2004.

That contention was backed by Brian Sann, commander of the Essex American Legion Post.

Sann, who has been a member of the Essex American Legion for 26 years and commander for three, told the *East County Times* that it was "pretty special" having a man of Rutherford's stature visit. Sann also could not recall ever having a visitor with such a high profile.

With regard to Owings' claim that Hogan's administration has been more dedicated than others in the past, Sann agreed. He highlighted Hogan pushing to make state parks free for veterans, as well as discounts for fishing and hunting licenses.

"I think that they have done a whole lot," Sann said. "There are some initiatives that have been put forward that have not been approved yet, and a big one is tax relief on military veterans' retirements."

Currently, only the first \$10,000 per year is tax free for a veterans' pension. For

the last few years, Hogan has pushed to make 100 percent of military pensions tax free, but legislation has not made its way through the General Assembly.

Early in the afternoon, Hogan was joined by a few of his cabinet members on a tour of Medstar Franklin Square Medical Center, where they visited the neonatal care and oncology centers.

In the neonatal care center, Hogan learned about neonatal abstinence syndrome, which occurs when a baby is born after having been exposed to drugs in the womb, most often opioids. One of the newborns Hogan visited was born weighing just over a pound and suffering from withdrawal.

From Franklin Square, Hogan jumped around the county, visiting Dulaney High School and the Pikesville Armory.

This is the third time Hogan has held a regional cabinet meeting, with the administration making trips last year to Washington County and Carroll County. A fourth is in the works that will focus on Southern Maryland.

With the gubernatorial race slated for November and a host of important local elections with major implications for the General Assembly, Hogan's deputy communications director, Amelia Chasse, acknowledged there are likely more visits in store for the east side.







Samuel E. Moskowitz (right), president of Medstar Franklin Square Medical Center, gives Hogan a rundown of the Franklin Square facilities.

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'Triple threat' Laura Clary named county's Woman of the Year

- By Marge Neal -

Laura Clary has her dream job at the Greater Baltimore Medical Center in Towson.

The Essex resident has always had a passion for clinical medical care and forensic science and has been able to blend those two passions in her role as a forensic nurse examiner and manager of the hospital's Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) program.

That passion, exceptional leadership and team-building skills, her caring nature and community service have landed a title that is icing on the perfect job cake: Baltimore County's Woman of the Year for 2018.

"It came as quite a surprise," Clary told the *East County Times* of the honor bestowed upon her by the Baltimore County Commission for Women. "It is very humbling, to say the least."

Clary was born and reared in Essex, where she lives with her husband, Joe, and two children. The 2002 graduate of Eastern Technical High School knew early on she was interested in a medical career and enrolled in the school's allied health program.

She continued her education at the Community College of Baltimore County's Essex campus, where she received an associate's degree in nursing. While working full-time as a nurse, she completed her bachelor's degree in nursing through American Sentinel University, an online institution.

While Clary is honored by the award, she gives the credit to "an awesome team

of nurses and victim advocates that makes my job easy."

Now staffed with 17 team members, the SAFE program provides clinical and emotional support to victims of adult and child sexual assault, domestic violence and human trafficking, according to Clary.

"We do forensic exams and photography to document the assault and to gather evidence," she said. "And then the evidence is packaged and sent to the Baltimore County crimes unit."

While most patients come from Baltimore County, Clary said the GBMC program provides care for anyone who shows up, regardless of where the assault took place.

She credits her team for making her job easy, but her colleagues and supervisors believe she is the one who has made the team a tightly-knit, collaborative group of professionals.

"I think she is a phenomenal team leader," said Evelyn Kim, a forensic nurse examiner. "Laura allows all of her forensic nurses to be leaders and fosters an environment for us to claim responsibility for our decisions."

The team is available 24-7-365, according to Kim, and team members often work alone and have to be confident in their patient care and decision-making.

"With Laura, you know you'll be supported in your decisions and encouraged to be your own leaders," Kim said. "Allowing your team to exercise leadership is strong stuff."

Clary's trust in and empowerment of

her team members has created a positive environment with little to no turnover, according to Kim.

"There is no selfishness here, we all collaboratively work together," Kim said. "Thanks to Laura's leadership, we have a team where people stay forever."

JoAnn Z. Ioannou, GBMC's senior vice president of patient care services and chief nursing officer, had no shortage of superlatives when talking about her star employee.

"It is no surprise to us that Laura was named Baltimore County's Woman of the Year," Ioannou said in a phone interview. "She is absolutely amazing, extremely knowledgeable and an engaging, caring leader."

Calling her a "triple threat," Ioannou cited Clary's art of caring, her knowledge of the science behind forensic nursing and her ability to empower her patients to take back their lives as just a few of the reasons she is so successful and respected.

"We are incredibly proud of her," Ioannou said. "She is absolutely deserving of this award."

The team's meticulous work leads to a "high success rate for convictions," according to Ioannou, and plays a role in helping patients recover from "the worst day in their lives."

Clary is no stranger to significant awards.

Last year, she was named America's Most Amazing Nurse by *Prevention* magazine and television program "The Doctors."

"Tons" of nominees were whittled down to five finalists, according to Clary, who were invited to New York for interviews and a photo shoot. Clary was selected as the winner and was treated to a trip to Hollywood, where she appeared on an episode of "The Doctors."

She also received \$1,000 to give to her charity of choice, which she ultimately donated to SAFE, and will also travel to Iceland in May, thanks to an all-expensespaid trip provided by the contest.

Clary and other award winners will be honored March 1 in a ceremony hosted by Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz. Parkville resident Jennifer Aubert-Utz, Baltimore County's assistant fire chief, was named the Woman Making a Difference honoree and Catonsville High School senior Gabriella Mclean was named the Young Woman of the Year.

The Woman of the Year honor is especially meaningful because of her roots, Clary said.

"I'm a product of Baltimore County, a product of Baltimore County Public Schools," she said. "Baltimore County is where my heart is so this award is special to me."

ACQUIRE

- continued from page 2 -

write the story if we get the opportunity," the delegate said.

He noted that the major problem with things currently is that elected officials and the community have little to no control over what is done with Fort Howard since it is being overseen by the VA. "And they're disgusted with the state of the currently proposed development," he said.

"The developers who have the lease now, I don't think they can get the job done," Grammer continued. "The new developer who came in to assist, they haven't even provided a traffic study."

Developer Sam Himmelrich, of Baltimore-based Himmelrich Associates, Inc., joined the conversation in October 2016 with a new proposal for the site and subsequently met with community groups multiple times. But he still has not officially decided to sign onto the project and lease.

Grammer's aim, through HB952, is to put the political leverage back in the hands of the community, he said.

"If they can't come up with a devel-

opment that is for the veterans and that the community agrees with, they could walk away and we could lose control of the property, and I think they know that," he said.

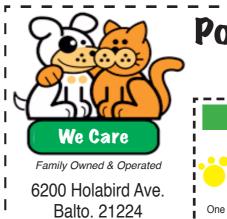
Grammer said putting this "backstop" in place to give the state default control would put the leverage back in the hands of the community.

"Any party who is part of this project is going to understand that," he said. "The community is going to have a huge stake in whatever project is ultimately developed there."

The delegate admitted, though, that a big question mark for the issue still is whether or not the VA, or some other entity in the federal government, would even be willing to sell or otherwise transfer the Fort Howard property to the state. He said that is where the help of federally elected officials would come in.

"Senator Cardin sounded very amenable to helping us out with that, and we're going to continue that line of dialogue until we work out that problem on the federal side," Grammer said.





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NEWS

Marks announces run for reelection, is again running unopposed

- By Devin Crum -

Baltimore County Councilman David Marks announced on Tuesday, Feb. 6, that he will run for reelection to his Fifth District seat on the County Council, the same day that he filed his candidacy with the county's Board of Elections.

The Fifth District includes the communities of Towson and some of Loch Raven Village in its western portions, as well as Carney, Perry Hall, Kingsville and parts of Parkville, Nottingham and White Marsh in northeastern Baltimore County. Marks has held the seat since first being elected in 2010.

When he first came into office, Marks said in an interview with the *East County Times*, he wanted to operate in a bipartisan manner to work with political leaders and community activists of all persuasions.

"I wanted to set a tone of getting things done from the beginning," he said.

Marks' specific priorities after being elected included the need to preserve green space throughout the dis-



Marks (left) and supporters march in an Independence Day parade. Courtesy photo.

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trict, revitalize commercial areas and decrease school overcrowding. While his office has made progress in each of those areas, he said, those remain his priorities.

The councilman pointed out that eight new parks have either been completed or are under construction in the Fifth District since he was elected, four of which are in Perry Hall. Those include the Perry Paw Dog Park, Gough Park, the Soukup Arena and Angel Park, a handicap-accessible playground meant to be able to be used by children of all abilities.

"And through zoning decisions we have preserved a significant amount of acreage throughout the northeast," he said, referring to the 2012 and 2016 rezoning cycles, through each of which Marks reduced the building densities on thousands of acres of land in his district.

Now, Marks said he has the specific goal of getting a regional park center built in Kingsville on the site of the former Mount Vista golf course, which is currently a 111-acre public park.

Regarding commercial revitalization, Marks said his office has made a lot of progress in downtown Towson and along the Joppa Road corridor. Additionally, he established the Perry Hall Commercial Revitalization District and brought attention to several blighted areas of Perry Hall.

"I think we're making progress there," he said.

School overcrowding, however, has been the most difficult issue to address because it is the most costly, according to Marks.

"We pursued a two-pronged approach," he said. "First we downzoned a significant amount of acreage in the most overcrowded school districts. And during that time, we worked with the county executive's staff and the school system to obtain funding to actually build new schools."

Marks noted that two new elementary schools which will serve children in his district will be finished within







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the next two years and a new middle school for the area is slated for completion in 2021.

"I think we're making progress in that area too," he said.

On top of that, Marks said his office has gotten a "significant" amount of road resurfacing done, including along Forge, Hines, Chapel and parts of E. Joppa roads, as well as Bangert Avenue. He also advocated for funding and construction of two new volunteer fire stations to serve communities in his district in Kingsville and White Marsh - each of which is in progress.

While Marks tallied his accomplishments in Perry Hall and other areas of the eastern parts of his district, he said he has focused a lot of attention on the western areas as well, particularly Towson.

Marks, a Republican, said Towson is the most Democratic part of his district and conceded that that is where he was least known when first elected. He noted he has spent a lot of time since then meeting with community leaders and focusing on issues in that area.

"Certainly I've paid attention to Towson because it is the area where I had the least amount of experience before I was elected," he admitted.

"Having said that, my record reflects work from Charles Street to the Harford County line," he said, referring to the entire east-west breadth of the district.

As of press time and with just two weeks left before the Feb. 27 filing deadline, no other candidates had yet filed to challenge Marks in either the 2018 primary or general elections, meaning Marks is fully unopposed for the second term in a row.

In response, Marks said, "I think I have demonstrated an ability to reach across the party divide, and people find that refreshing. I've demonstrated a sense of bipartisanship and of getting things accomplished."

He said he thinks people also respect that he has an "independent streak."

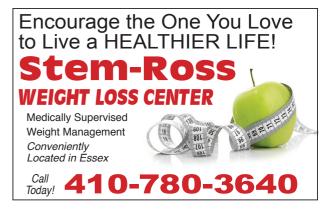
"I've challenged developers when they were wrong and I have gone against the county executive when he is wrong," Marks said.

"Good policy represents good politics," he added. "When you're doing the right thing people recognize that, and I think it brings you support as an elected official."

When first elected, Marks made a campaign promise that he would term-limit himself to three terms. And he said he intends to keep that promise, making his next term his last if elected. He added that he would not change his mind if he happened not to accomplish everything he hopes to over the next four years.

He said he is a firm believer in term limits and that a natural turnover on the County Council is healthy.

"I'm sticking to my term limits pledge," he said. "I think you should leave office with a significant amount of accomplishments but ready for something new."





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POLITICIANS

- By Delegate Pat McDonough (R-7) - Recently, I had the opportunity to hear remarks from interim Superintendent for the Baltimore County School System, Verletta White, on two different occasions. Her message was disappointing and somewhat scary. Apparently, Ms. White lives in a fantasy world, disconnected from the real problems facing the Baltimore County educational system. The interim Superintendent kept referring to the system as a "premier education system." Let us put the baloney through the grinder.

First of all, bullying, violence and a lack of discipline are a problem throughout the system. I constantly receive complaints about violent activities in the classrooms and on buses. Many of the Baltimore County delegates who were listening to Ms. White describe the discipline situation in the school system as rare and isolated were somewhat dumbfounded. Democrat and Republican delegates at the County Delegation meeting in Annapolis challenged White and pointed out discipline problems occurring in schools in their districts. It is a serious problem when the number one authority in the school system fails to recognize the 800 lb. gorilla problem in the classroom. Where is accountability in such situations?

I asked the interim Superintendent if

'Excellence in Education' is needed in BCPS

she were continuing the Dallas Dance policy on school discipline. She replied with a resounding "Yes." The reason for the question is that four years ago, Attorney General Eric Holder produced a memo on school discipline which he provided to all school superintendents in the United States. The Holder memo was not a law, executive order, rule or regulation. It was simply a memo suggesting that school systems should be "soft" on discipline because disadvantaged children need more understanding and less suspensions. Holder believed that disclosure of school problems would result in harming the systems' image. Transparency was a bad thing, according to Holder. Dallas Dance accepted the Holder memo as law and imposed its ideas upon the Baltimore County educational system resulting in the current discipline nightmare. The acceptance of the Holder memo by Interim Superintendent Verletta White guarantees that the discipline problem will continue to grow. In many ways, White's educational policies are simply an extension of Dance, almost a clone. Of course, she was Dance's deputy.

A classic example of cover-up and growing discipline problems was revealed in a recent Fox 45 TV investigation by Project Baltimore. A whistle-blower within the education system

had revealed there were 322 violent incidents within a year in Baltimore County, a 35 percent increase. At first, Ms. White denied the existence of records that would confirm this allegation. Finally, after pressure, she admitted the results were accurate, including the use of firearms. I believe the Holder memo violates federal and state law regarding school discipline policies. I will be filing a complaint and requesting an investigation by the state education department in the near future.

Another major challenge facing the Baltimore County school system is the STAT program. This program is a digital laptop system placed in the hands of the 112,000 students, beginning in Kindergarten. The laptops have already cost \$275 million with annual funding of \$60 million. The funding for this program would create 1200 teaching positions. Verletta White is a big fan of the STAT program as was Dallas Dance. Three percent of the computer devices have been broken, lost or stolen. This translates into thousands of hours of digital downtime for students, losing homework information and flying blind because the entire system is computer based. Johns Hopkins Center for Research and Reform reported that 75 percent of the teachers surveyed indicated inappropriate use of the STAT computers was evident by students playing games and visiting unapproved websites. There is evidence STAT is hurting our students. PARCC, MAP and MSA scores have declined during the time of STAT usage.

Ann Miller, an at-large school board member, pointed out a large number of harmful reductions in education assets contributed to the costs of STAT and budget decisions. In her excellent piece, Miller points out there has been a reduction in the number of teachers through attrition, overuse of substitute teachers and reduction of bus drivers, even to the point of using re-tread tires on school buses. Bus capacity based on three to a seat instead of seat is now the norm. There has been a reduction of assistant principals, tech teachers and less gifted and talented classes in elementary schools. This is not a "premier school system" as White claims. It is a system in crisis.

As I travel around the county, parents and community leaders make it clear they do not want this current school board to have the authority to appoint the permanent superintendent. Frankly, this is a lame duck school board with some of the members in a relationship with the Dallas Dance era and all its problems. The extremely important decision of selecting the permanent superintendent should be placed in the hands of the newly elected school board that will take office in November. The new school board will be the group that will actually work with the Superintendent during the next four years. There is no practical need to rush this appointment at this

I maintain it is a top priority that the next Baltimore County Executive becomes thoroughly involved in education matters. Kevin Kaminetz and other County Executives have had a hands-off approach with the attitude that the Board and the Superintendent should dominate all educational policy in the county. The County Executive is elected to represent all of the citizens of Baltimore County and all of the children.

My "Excellence in Education" program will create citizen advisory boards in various venues including private education and job training. I will phase out Common Core and include as part of the curriculum increased civics, drug awareness, financial literacy, job training in K - 12 and Patriot programs for elementary schools. Kingsville Elementary has presented a Patriot Program for Children for several years and it has been a great success. I found this to be an excellent model for such a program for all schools.

Ms. White is wrong about the Baltimore County School system as being a premier school system. Since she cannot recognize the flaws and challenges in our system, I cannot support her as the next permanent Superintendent. We need a new leader who can pursue excellence, protect our children, connect closely with the community, promote accountability and achieve success.

(Delegate McDonough is a candidate for Baltimore County Executive. To contact him, feel free to call 410-238-0025.)





Crash with school bus leaves seven injured

Around 2:43 p.m. on Feb. 9, the Baltimore County Crash Investigation Team responded to a crash on North Point Boulevard at Trappe Road involving a Baltimore County school bus.

The initial investigation determined that a Dodge Stratus traveling southbound on North Point Boulevard struck the mid-point driver side of a Baltimore County school bus carrying 27 students as the bus was making a left turn onto North Point Boulevard from eastbound Trappe Road. The collision caused the occupants of the Dodge to become trapped.

Baltimore County Fire and EMS units responded to the scene. The driver of the Dodge Stratus, a 25-yearold man, and a passenger, a 26-year-old woman, were transported to an area hospital with serious but non-life threatening injuries.

The bus was carrying one school bus assistant and 27 students from Patapsco High School. The bus assistant and four students were transported to an area hospital for treatment of non-life threatening injuries.

The factors contributing to this crash remain under investigation.

Area men arrested for heroin distribution

Maryland State Police have arrested and charged a pair of Baltimore men for their role in a heroin distribution operation that spanned from Baltimore City to Allegany County.

The suspects, identified as Karl Stovall Chambers, 27, and Jason Arthur McCray, 35, both of Essex, were arrested Wednesday after a vehicle they were traveling in was pulled over along Interstate 68 in Allegany County. The suspects were charged with possession of heroin and possession with intent to distribute heroin and are held without bail in the Allegany County Detention Center.

The traffic stop was conducted as part of the heroin distribution investigation by members of the Maryland State Police Pro-Active Criminal Enforcement Unit (P.A.C.E.) on I-68 West in Flintstone, Md. The investigation, which was initiated and conducted by the Allegany County Narcotics Task Force - who are part of the Maryland State Police Heroin Investigation Unit - revealed the vehicle was transporting heroin from Baltimore.

A search of the vehicle was conducted after a drugdetecting canine alerted to the presence of drugs coming from the vehicle. Inside, troopers located approximately 300 grams of suspected heroin concealed in the vehicle. The estimated street value of the heroin in Allegany County is \$54,000.

The Maryland State Police Heroin Investigation Unit was formed after Governor Larry Hogan established the Heroin and Opioid Emergency Task Force due to the alarming rise in opiate-related overdose deaths in Maryland. The Heroin Investigation Unit is comprised of troopers from the state police's Criminal Enforcement Division and supported by investigators from allied law enforcement agencies. Additional charges are expected as the investigation continues.



MSP arrest leads to human trafficking indictment

A Maryland State Police investigation and arrest has led to the indictment of a Baltimore County man on Feb. 5 for human trafficking.

The accused is identified as Ryan Russell Parks, aka Dinero, 25, of Baltimore. Parks was indicted yesterday by a Baltimore County Grand Jury on several charges relating to his arrest earlier this year. Parks is charged with human trafficking of a minor, prostitution, third degree sex offense and other criminal charges.

State Police arrested Parks on Jan. 10, after investigators learned he recruited a 15-year old girl through a social media app and lured her to Baltimore with the intent of using her as a prostitute. Parks instructed the young girl on how to make dates with men through the internet.

Parks was on probation stemming from a previous case from Baltimore County. He was arrested without incident, criminally charged by Maryland State Police, and transported to the Baltimore County Detention Center where he was held without bond.

The investigation began in late November last year after the 15-year old girl was recovered from a Woodlawn motel. Investigators believe Parks may have trafficked additional women.

State Police urge any additional victims - or anyone with other information regarding this incident to contact investigators at 800-637-5437. All calls may remain confidential.

The continuing investigation is being conducted by the Maryland State Police Child Recovery Unit and the Baltimore County VICE Unit.

BCoFD promotes two to Division Chief

Fire Chief Kyrle W. Preis III today announced the promotion of two members to the rank of Division Chief, the department's third-highest position.

Fire Director Thomas Ramey, who currently oversees the Fire-Rescue Academy in Sparrows Point, has been promoted to Division Chief on B shift (DC2). Battalion Chief Jay Ringgold has been promoted to Division Chief in charge of Emergency Management

"These officers already have contributed in so many ways to this Department's success," Chief Preis said. "We thank them for being willing to take on greater responsibilities and challenges."

The promotions are effective Feb. 17.

Current crime trends

Since Jan. 20, there have been two commercial robberies in the White Marsh Precinct that appear to be related. There has been no new activity since Jan. 25.

Since Jan. 7, there have been three commercial burglaries in the Dundalk Precinct that appear to be related. Suspects entered through unlocked doors or used force. Auto parts and vehicle tags were taken.

Since Jan. 20, there have been two commercial robberies on Belair Road in the White Marsh Precinct. Suspects displayed or implied a weapon and took money, cigars and liquor.

Attorney, G. Randolph Rice, Jr.

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Precinct 9/White Marsh

First Degree Burglary: On Feb. 11, Baltimore County Police responded to a call in the 11500 block of Philadelphia Road in White Marsh. Sometime between 10 p.m. on Feb. 10 and 2 p.m. on Feb. 11, an unknown suspect entered the residence through a side window by breaking the glass. The suspect did not take any items.

Robbery: Shortly before 8 p.m. on Feb. 10, officers from the White Marsh precinct responded to a robbery call in the 8200 block of Perry Hall Boulevard in Nottingham. At 8 p.m., a known juvenile suspect took a cell phone from a juvenile victim by using force. The suspect was subsequently arrested.

Second Degree Burglary: Baltimore County Police were called to the 900 block of Rosedale Avenue in Rosedale on Feb. 9. At 11:25 p.m., two unknown suspects kicked in the first and second floor doors of the unattached garage and stole a mini motorcycle. The suspects fled after being interrupted by a resident. The mini motorcycle was recovered.

First Degree Burglary: On Feb. 7, officers were called to the 1700 block of Summit Ave in Overlea. Sometime between 1:45 p.m. and 11:45 p.m., an unknown suspect kicked in the kitchen door and stole jewelry and medication from the victim's residence.

Precinct 11/Essex

Robbery: On Feb. 12, officers from the Essex precinct responded to a robbery call at the intersection of Williams Avenue and Southeastern Terrace. At 6:40 p.m., three unknown suspects approached the victim. One of the suspects, displaying a gun, demanded the victim's property, then reached into the victim's jacket pocket and removed two cell phones. The suspects fled on foot.

Attempted Robbery: Shortly before 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 10, Baltimore County Police responded to a call at the intersection of Eastern Boulevard and North Marlyn Avenue. At 5:20 p.m., the suspect told the victim that he was going to go through the victim's pockets. The suspect then struck the victim twice and then fled on foot. Nothing was taken from the victim.

Robbery: On Feb. 10, officers responded to a call at the intersection of Berkshire Road and Magnolia Terrace. At 8:52 a.m., an unknown suspect produced a handgun and robbed the victim of his cell phone, jacket and wallet. The suspect then fled.

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■ IN YOUR WORDS

CBCC begins 2018 cleanups earlier than expected, wins award

Although we hadn't planned to start our cleanups officially until March, one of our volunteers was doing some nature photography at Stansbury Park and found out some individuals had trashed the beautiful little park horribly! They had thrown the park's trash cans into the pond and trash everywhere!

Even though we have a cleanup scheduled for the park in May, we just couldn't wait that long. We were so disheartened by the state of Stansbury Park that Clean Bread and Cheese Creek Community Cleanups couldn't wait until spring to cleanup this beautiful little park. So three intrepid volunteers spent Jan. 16 cleaning up all the trash that was not frozen in the water in commemoration of the Martin Luther King Day of Service.

In the end we removed 57 bags of trash and more than 1,200 plastic bottles! We truly wish to thank John Melzer and Steve Martin for spending the better part of the day helping us. Photos are posted online at https://flic.kr/s/aHskuGKfqf.

Additionally, the National Organization of American Rivers conveyed an award to us as one of their 2017 American Rivers Cleanup Champions! The Category we won was "Cleanup Groups to Watch."

Their write-up states, "Clean Bread and Cheese Creek's nearly monthly cleanups covered 11 sites, mobilized 630 volunteers and removed over 36,000 pounds of trash in 2017 alone. Since this group's creation in 2009, Founder John Long has worked with volunteers to make incredible strides cleaning up this heavily polluted tributary of the Back River and Chesapeake Bay. This group has done an exceptional job at engaging local residents and a variety of businesses to keep these efforts going. According to John, they have river cleanups 'down to a science.'"

For more information on the award, visit <u>www.</u> <u>americanrivers.org/make-an-impact/national-river-cleanup/celebrating-2017s-river-heroe</u>s.

We are so very humbled to receive this national honor due to the passion, dedication and hard work of all our incredible volunteers!

> John Long President/Founder, Clean Bread and Cheese Creek

Bierman leaving Riverside Dems, forming new club

As vice president of the Riverside Democratic and Community Association, I was sincerely embarrassed by the action of a few members who objected to a guest speaker from the Maryland Insurance Administration, Commissioner Al Redmer. No politics, just current law and consumer information.

(**Editor's note:** Al Redmer has announced his intention to run as a Republican for Baltimore County Executive.)

We at Riverside Democratic and Community Association must have rational presentations, which Commissioner Redmer's would have been. Our guest was booked last summer, but because of scheduling and a Christmas party, he could not attend until January 2018.

I feel representative of my community in my district here in Essex and Dundalk. However, the disconnect created can no longer be overlooked. Attempts to restrict discussion or even debate are totally unacceptable. I cannot allow a member's viewpoint to diminish any speaker or guest presentation. Their arbitrary views and comments go against basic courtesy and our charter as a political and community organization that should make considerable information pertinent to our community available.

Because of the self-serving and selected comments by a few and the lack of full club support, I cannot continue as vice president.

Going forward, the Riverside Democratic and Community Association needs to get back to the fundamentals of helping the community and support speakers from county, state and federal agencies without requiring a political check to see how they may be politically registered.

With that in mind, I will be forming a new Political and Civic Club that will welcome all people to discuss all viewpoints and outlooks if it is helpful and informative to our people in the community.

Anyone from a state or local agency or department, whether elected or appointed, will be welcomed despite their political viewpoints.

Albert J. Bierman Essex

Campaign finance reform in Baltimore County

Wednesday, Jan. 10, marked an important campaign finance filing deadline with huge implications for the race for Baltimore County Executive. Our current county executive, Kevin Kamenetz, is term limited and running for governor. County Councilwoman Vicki Almond, State Senator Jim Brochin and former Del. John Olszewski Jr. are the Democratic candidates. Del. Pat McDonough and State Insurance Commissioner Al Redmer are the Republican candidates.

Controlling a multi-billion dollar budget and overseeing our expansive county government - everything from planning and zoning to our schools - the Baltimore County Executive has a lot of influence.

When the campaign finance reports surface, we'll know how the five candidates for county executive are raising their money, and with that, we may gain a glimpse into how money may influence our local politics in the future.

Special interests with big money can wield a lot of influence over county government, often outweighing the influence of citizens. Just look at the recent Towson Row debacle. Despite outcry from numerous citizens at a public hearing and without the support of the district's councilman, David Marks, the developers behind Towson Row were approved for a \$43 million corporate handout. Those same developers have given significant sums to officials like Almond.

Now running for executive, Almond recently told the *Towson Flyer* that "Developers donate money to have access."

Her opponents, Sen. Brochin and former Del. Olszewski, are calling for campaign finance reform to put an end to this. Brochin wants to ban developer donations, and Olszewski takes it to another level: public financing of elections. Under public financing, candidates receive a matching donation for every small-dollar, grassroots donation. Governor Hogan himself used public financing in his 2014 campaign.

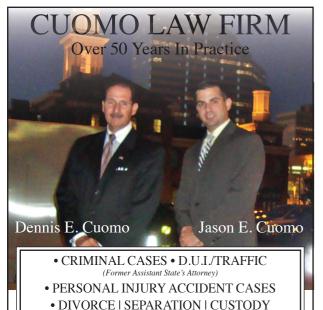
Public financing allows everyone to have a voice and run for office - not just special interests - and I'm glad Johnny is fighting for that in his campaign. Average citizens can't compete with candidates funded by special interests. Public financing creates a level playing field and competitive elections, something that benefits all of us.

Baltimore County is in need of campaign finance reform, and these reports will show us why. Hopefully we'll push for a candidate with Johnny who will bring us meaningful reform to give people a voice again.

Brad Kroner Middle River

Editor's note: Brad Kroner is a volunteer for John Olszewski Jr.'s campaign for Baltimore County Executive.





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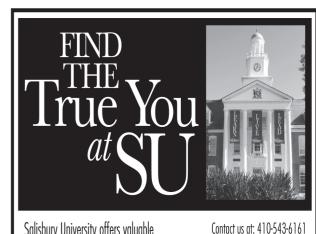
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OBITUARIES

Macek, Edward J.

On Feb. 9, Edward J. Macek, beloved husband of Jennie Macek (nee Jachim); devoted father of David Macek, Nancy Scheitlin, Carol Hagenbuch, Paul Macek, Katherine Nicholson, and the late Michael Macek; stepfather of Lou Krieger and Robert Krieger; loving brother of Walter, Bernard, and Stanley Macek, Helen Caldarazzo, Barbara Damasyn, and Gerrie Fersterman. Edward is also survived by 17 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren, other relatives, friends, and pre-deceased by his grandson Robert Kreiger, Jr.

Services provided by Kaczorowski Funeral Home. Interment at St. Stanislaus Cemetery.

Frederick, Aaron

We lost our beloved Aaron Frederick on Feb. 8. He was the beloved son of Loretta Frederick and stepfather Wells Berni. He is survived by many loving family members, including his wife, Rebecca, and brothers Justin and Chris. We also can't forget his carnival family. Aaron loved everyone and helped anyone he could. He will be greatly missed but never forgotten.

Arrangements are pending.

Pratt, Jessie L.

On Feb. 10, Jessie L. Pratt (nee Smith), beloved wife of the late Curtis O. Pratt, Sr.; devoted mother of Nancy E. Carlini and her husband Jerry, Sharon R. Reed and her husband Greg, Curtis O. Pratt, Jr. and his late wife Nancy, Deborah A. McGee and her husband Scott, Barbara J. Di'Blasio and her husband Gerry, Robert V. Pratt and his wife Theresa and the late Stephen B. Pratt; loving sister of the late Evah J. Hill. Also surviving are 14 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Services provided by Duda-Ruck Funeral Home of Dundalk. Interment at Oak Lawn Cemetery. For those desiring, memorial contributions may be directed to Lodge Forest United Methodist Church, 2715 Lodge Forest Drive, Sparrows Point, MD 21219 or to the Helping Up Mission, 1029 E. Baltimore St., Baltimore, MD 21202.

Kacher, Ruth Ann

On Feb. 11, Ruth Ann Kacher passed away. She was the beloved wife of Wayne Kacher Sr.; devoted mother of Laurie Shanty, Wayne Kacher and his wife Holly Kacher, and Michael Kacher and his wife Cindy Kacher; loving grandmother of Matthew Turner, Cody Turner, Hunter Shanty, Logan Shanty, Nicole Kacher, Kyle Kacher, Payton Kacher, and Paige Kacher; dear aunt of Carla Simpson, Rick Casey, and many other nieces and nephews.

Services provided by Schimunek Funeral Home of Nottingham.



Bayle, Richard P.

On Feb. 9, Richard P. Bayle, beloved husband of Edith Bayle (nee Tosches); devoted father of Sharon Becker and her husband Andrew, Nancy Carol Bayle and Linda Hudnet and her husband Christopher. He was the loving grandfather of Lauren Bocchino (Michael), Cathy Corun (Brandon), Eric Becker (Diane), David Clasing (Meaghan), Julie Cowley (Brian) and Justin Hudnet and a proud great-grandfather to David, Christine, Addison, Lizzie, Brooke, Cara, Jillian, Cal and Blake. He is also survived by several brothers- and sisters-in-law, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Services provided by Ruck Towson Funeral Home. Interment at Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery in Dundalk. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to Military Order of the Purple Heart Service Foundation, Inc., 7008 Little River Turnpike (P.O. Box 49), Annandale, VA 22003.

Ryan, Charles F.

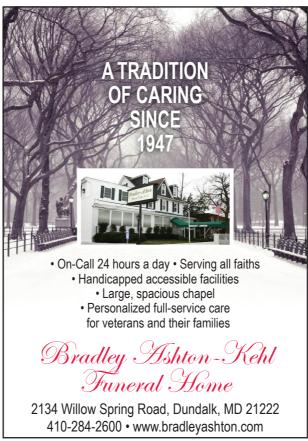
On Feb. 10, Charles F. Ryan, Jr., beloved husband of the late Marcella A. Ryan (nee Dieter); devoted father of Thomas J. Ryan (Patricia), David W. Ryan (Joanne), Judith A. King (Donald), Charles F. Ryan, III (Karen), Richard A. Ryan (Cindy); cherished grandfather of 16 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren; dear brother of Catherine Baker, Mary Perouty, John Ryan, Elizabeth Kofsky, William Ryan, and the late Robert and Michael Ryan.

Services provided by Duda-Ruck Funeral Home of Dundalk. Interment at Gardens of Faith. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Shriners Hospitals for Children, Attn: Office of Development, 2900 N. Rocky Point Dr., Tampa, FL 33607 or www.ShrinersHospitalsforChildren.org.

Eder, Carolyn E.

On Feb. 12, Carolyn E. Eder (nee Sappe) passed away. She was the beloved wife of the late Edgar A. Eder; devoted daughter of the late Carl Sappe and his wife Virginia and the late Marion Selvage and her husband Claude; dear sister of Marion Kornick and her husband Edward, Jr., Nancy Lubman and her husband Ronald, and Robert Sappe and his wife Sheila; she is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Services provided by Schimunek Funeral Home of Nottingham. Interment at Parkwood Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, those desiring may make memorial contributions in Carolyn's name to the Maryland SPCA, 3300 Falls Rd., Baltimore, MD 21211.



Lee, James H.

On Feb. 11, James H. Lee, beloved husband of the late Kathleen Victoria Lee; loving father of James D. Lee and his wife Cheryl and Karen L. Schlitt and her husband Dave. Also survived by five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Services provided by Bruzdzinski Funeral Home of Essex. Interment at Holly Hill Memorial Gardens.

Nawrocki, Irene Frances

On Feb. 10, Irene Frances Nawrocki, wife of David Nawrocki; mother of Ryan Nawrocki and wife Lauren; grandmother of Emily, Matthew, Luke and Jacob; sister-in-law of Rose Marie Pappas, Mark Nawrocki, Jerry Nawrocki, Patricia Ciofani, Donna Miller, Kenneth Nawrocki, the late Thaddeus Nawrocki and the late Darlene Nawrocki.

Services provided by the Connelly Funeral Home of Dundalk. Interment at Holy Rosary Cemetery.

Obituary Correction Policy

No newspaper blunder is more certain to upset someone than a mistake in a loved one's obituary. Unless an error made it difficult for readers to identify the deceased, no obituary will run twice in full; however, a corrected version of a flawed obituary will be mailed promptly if requested by any immediate family member.

All published obituary corrections will be as brief as possible.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Third 'Fifty Shades' film finally frees Teddy

- By Teddy Durgin -

I've seen the third and final "Fifty Shades" sex romp and have reviewed it. Folks, I feel like I've been untied and let free! In the immortal words of Tom Wopat, "Yee haw!!" And guess what? I never submitted! Not once. Even while under constant punishment for two-hour intervals at a time, the sadists who made these films never broke me. No blindfold! No safe word! I took it like a pro! And now?! Now, the punished becomes the punisher. MUHAHA!

Sorry if I'm a bit loopy here, dear readers. These flicks always turn me out, because 1) they make SO much money; 2) they're really bad movies; and 3) I'm always aware there are deeply talented writers and directors out there who can't catch a break in the Hollywood studio system even though they could make movies that are infinitely sexier and more provocative than these snoozefests.

"Fifty Shades Freed" is moderately better than the other two installments in this franchise. But that's like picking between the different strains of the flu bug going around right now. I normally go into each flick with an open mind, because I really respect the tons

- By Teddy Durgin -

of people involved in making a major motion picture. And I respect the target audience for these movies. Full disclosure: about a third of the audience applauded at the end of my recent screening of "Fifty Shades Freed."

But the problems remain. The leads, Dakota Johnson's Anastasia Steele and Jamie Dornan's Christian Grey, are just deadly dull and have gotten progressively duller. I've never bought into their chemistry. And come on! If Christian ain't a billionaire, he wouldn't get away with a fraction of this creepy, controlling, petty behavior he shows towards Ana.

"Freed" softens him a bit. Pretty much every domineering act he commits towards Ana in this film is done out of protecting her. Of course, the only way to soften him is to put him opposite an even creepier, badder dude (Eric Johnson's disgraced editor, Jack Hyde), who stalks both the newlyweds and is ready, willing and eager to commit arson, cyber theft, kidnapping and murder to exact his revenge. Having such an unredeemable baddie is the only way this film can get to a closing scene where the audience can even remotely stomach Ana comforting Christian, who has just asked if he is worse than Hyde, by telling him

(and I quote): "No, you're a man of honor. You care. You treat people well."

And don't get me started on the razor-thin plot. Jack commits arson at Christian's company. Jack attacks Ana with a knife. Jack is arrested and let go on bail. Jack kidnaps Christian's sister and holds her for ransom. Ana confronts Jack with a gun. And that's all folks! In between are scenes of Christian and Ana having kinky sex, arguing, making up, jetting off to exotic locales and then having more kinky sex.

Maybe if the film had been punctuated by scenes of the supporting cast members having sex with each other the erotic qualities of "Freed" might have been there more for me. There are some much hotter men and women cast in minor roles throughout who I'd much rather see hit the sheets. But they're basically glorified extras in The Sordid Story of Mr. and Mrs. Grey.

If you've thrilled to Ana and Christian through multiple novels and movies thus far, you'll show up for this final installment. I make no judgments... er, only on the film, that is. And to this franchise I say... Later, baby!

R.I.P. character actor Reg E. Cath as diverse as "Arrival," "The Theory of Everything,"

"Prisoners" and "Sicario." Perhaps the biggest name A number of celebrity deaths have occurred in the last week or so. I hate to use the term "minor celebrity was John Mahoney, beloved for his role as Martin Crane deaths" because that is so demeaning. If you've become

a "minor celebrity" - whether it was as an actor, actress, singer, director, whatever - congrats! You had a successful life. You achieved a level of success in a demanding industry (show biz!) that most people dream of - that most people never even touch.

Among those who passed in the last week or so was character actor Mickey Jones, probably best known for playing Ham Tyler's burly sidekick, Chris, in the "V: The Final Battle" mini-series. But whose Hell's Angels appearance enabled him to portray a succession of bikers and bodyguards and other toughs (often with a heart of gold) since the 1970s. Composer Johann Johannsson also died. Sadly, he was only 48. But he left behind some mesmerizing film scores for flicks

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

Baltimore Humane Society's PETS OF THE WEEK



Hi! I'm Jango, a big sweet boy looking for my forever home. I'm an active fellow who enjoys long walks so I can explore. It's so much fun to sniff and discover new exciting things!! I'm a very friendly guy who loves attention and being petted. So please stop by to meet me soon!

What's your favorite board game? I hope it's checkers, because here I am! My name is Checkers and I am a social, chit chatty kitty looking for my forever home. Not much is known about my past as I was transferred from another shelter. I enjoy curling up in my cat bed and getting loved on. If you want the fun and excitement of the board game in your life 24/7 then I am your guy!

CHECKERS

The adoption fee is \$100 for Jango and \$50 for Checkers.
For more information visit www.bmorehumane.org

S.O.S. - Save our Seniors Special adoption rates for seniors cho and Hopey are the <u>Seniors of the Mor</u>



he Colored 1601 Nicodemus Road, Reisterstown, MD 21136 www.bmorehumane.org Ph: 410-833-8848 BALTIMORE HUMANE SOCIETY

on NBC's "Frasier" for 11 seasons. But the one passing that has most impacted me, and I believe a good amount of the East County Times

readership, was actor Reg E. Cathey. He was the closest Baltimore had to claiming a Hollywood actor all its own. Oh, Cathey was definitely Hollywood, playing supporting roles over the past nearly three decades in films as diverse as "Clear and Present Danger," "Se7en" and "S.W.A.T." He had a gruff and oh-so-cool gravelly voice that lent itself to him playing a homeless man as he did in "American Psycho" to an authoritative scientist as he did in Josh Trank's ill-fated "Fantastic Four" of a few years back.

But in between those productions, he managed to appear in nearly every major TV show that has been filmed in Baltimore - and Maryland, in general - since the 1990s. Charm City became his second home, starting in 1998 with a guest appearance on "Homicide: Life on the Street" in a role that he reprised two years later.

From there, he returned to Crabtown when he was cast as drug dealer Scalio on "The Corner." He wasn't gone long before he returned to play political operative Norman Wilson on "The Wire." Later on "House of

Lutheran Mission

Alan Amrhine, Communications Director Lutheran Mission Society

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and elsewhere in Maryland and D.C., he was Frank Underwood's favorite barbecued rib cook Freddy Hayes.

It wasn't uncommon to see Cathey around town, eating out at Koopers Tavern down in Fells Point or at one of the pasta eateries in Little Italy or going for a walk downtown. For those who recognized him, he almost always stopped to chat or sign an autograph or two or pose for pictures... even if half the time, the folks stopping started by saying, "You look SO familiar! Aren't you an actor who was on..."

I met him twice just in passing early on in his "Homicide"/"Corner" days, and - film and TV nerd that I am - I loved that he was delighted when I brought up something as obscure as his one line of dialogue ("No talent perhaps") in Chevy Chase's 1988 comedy "Funny Farm," or how sufficiently creeped out I was by pretty much everyone (!) in "Se7en" (in which he had one or two scenes as a medical examiner).

At 59, Reg E. Cathey was way too young to be taken from us. Lung cancer. Ooof! He had at least 20 more years of playing parts that caused people on the streets of Baltimore or elsewhere to stop him and ask, "You're familiar. Aren't you an actor? Weren't you in...

Yes, he was familiar. Yes, he was an actor. And, for sure, he was in some of your favorite movies and TV shows.

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SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

CCBC again earns 'Military Times' honor for veteran services

The Community College of Baltimore County has again been named one of the Military Times' best colleges for the academic year ending in 2018.

The Times, an editorially-independent, military-related news project, ranks two- and four-year colleges through a comprehensive annual survey that assesses veteran and military student services and rates of academic achievement, according to a statement from CCBC.

"CCBC is proud to be ranked as a Military Times Best College for 2018," college President Sandra Kurtinitis said in the statement. "Through our Veterans Services department, we are working hard to ensure that those who have served our country are assisted with a successful transition back to civilian life through positive connections to academic, military and social resources."

For the third time, CCBC has been lauded for its excellence in providing a variety of educational and other services for veterans, including access to Veterans Resource centers on three campuses (Catonsville, Dundalk and Essex), affordable tuition and rigorous academic programs that utilize veterans' existing knowledge while preparing the for career advancement, according to the statement.

CCBC previously won the honor in 2014 and 2017.

More than 600 colleges took part in this year's survey and fewer than half were selected for the honor.

Eastern Tech Boys Soccer team presented with resolution in Annapolis

On Friday, Feb. 9, members of the Eastern Tech boys varsity soccer team were welcomed in Annapolis by Senator Johnny Ray Salling and delegates Robin Grammer, Bob Long and Ric

The team was congratulated by the Sixth District Delegation and received a resolution celebrating the program's first championship.

The teams were given Resolutions on both the Senate and House floors, had a chance to meet with Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford and had an opportunity to meet privately with Senator Salling and the delegates.



Left to right: Head Coach Peter Glaudemans, Asst. Coach Andy Corbett, Dr. Nardos King: Executive Director of School Support for Secondary Schools, Prinicpal Michelle Anderson.

Student/Senior... \$5

Back River Restoration Committee, Inc.

Back River Restoration Committee. Inc.

Back River Restoration Committee, Inc. 730 Riverside Drive • Essex, MD 21221 443-414-4384 www.savebackriver.org

All residents, business owners and anyone interested in restoring the health of Back River and the Chesapeake Bay should join the Back River Restoration Committee, Inc. and share in the efforts to revitalize the Back River Watershed. Become an active member, complete the form below and send it along with your annual membership dues to:

I WILL SUPPORT THE BRRC!

I am enclosing my annual dues for membership in the BRRC.

Individual \$10 Family \$25	730 Riverside Drive Essex, MD 21221	
Name	Email	
Address	Phone	
I would like to volunteer at Stream Clean Ups, Storm Drain Markings, Tree Plantings,		

Search is on for BCPS student poster to feature at national conference

One lucky student's original poster will be featured before thousands of educators at the National Conference on Magnet Schools hosted by Baltimore County Public Schools in Baltimore in April 2019.

All students are encouraged to submit one entry to the poster contest using the theme for the 2019 conference, "More Than You Can Imagine! Empowering Our Students, Our Schools, Our Communities." The poster must include the theme, reflect Baltimore, be designed in portrait/vertical orientation, and be at least 11 inches wide and 18 inches tall.

As the host school system, BCPS will showcase student talent by recognizing the poster contest winner and their teacher, as well as hosting visits

Representatives from more than 100

colleges, universities and proprietary

and military schools will be on hand to

The event is free, as is parking. High

school students and their parents are

encouraged to attend. For more in-

talk with students and parents.

MARYLAND

ccamd.org

Tuesday, March 6.

to schools during the conference. The winning student's teacher will receive \$500 in classroom supplies.

The contest deadline is Friday, March 23, 2018, and posters will be judged on use of the theme, use of color and design, originality, and unique expression reflecting Baltimore.

Send entries, including the student's full name, teacher's full name, school, and grade level, to Bryan Stoll, BCPS Office of Educational Options, 105 W. Chesapeake Ave., Lower Level, Towson, MD 21204. All entries will become the property of the BCPS Office of Educational Options and will not be returned.

Questions can be directed to Bryan Stoll, BCPS Magnet Programs, at 443-809-4127 or bstoll@bcps.org.

CCBC Essex to host College Fair The Community College of Balti-

443-840-2110.

The event will be repeated from 6 more County, in partnership with Baltimore County Public Schools, will host to 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 7, at the College Fair 2018 at the CCBC Essex CCBC Catonsville Jack Manley Well-Campus Wellness and Athletic Center, ness and Athletics Center, 800 S. Roll-7201 Rossville Blvd., from 6 to 8 p.m. ing Road. For more information, call

443-840-4894.

Each year, more than 63,000 students enroll at the college's main campuses, extension centers and online to make their starts, earn degrees, launch and build careers. CCBC offers the region's most expansive selection of degree, certificate and workplace certification



ESSEX, MD

savebackriver.org

SPOTLIGHT

Reiners Honored



Oliver Beach residents Vera and Ray Reiner were surprised with a reception held Feb. 4 in their honor. The gathering celebrated the couple's 64th wedding anniversary, Ray's 90th birthday and their decades of community service and leadership. They both have been active in a variety of community organizations, including the Oliver Beach Community Improvement Association, Friends of the Oliver House and Marshy Point Nature Center. In 2010, Vera was named the Woman Making a Difference honoree by the Baltimore County Commission for Women. Many area residents know Ray as their instrumental music teacher; he taught for Baltimore County Public Schools for 30 years. At the reception, Ray and Vera were thanked and acknowledged by representatives of many of the organizations they have belonged to, as well as by several appointed and elected officials.

Mount Carmel Fish Fry

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Knights of Columbus Council 2452, 1707 Eastern Blvd. in Essex, will hold its annual Lenten fish fry from 4 to 7 p.m. every Friday during Lent (through March 30). The menu includes Alaskan pollack or butterflied shrimp (or combo), cole slaw, dessert and coffee, tea, lemonade and soda. Other beverages will be sold separately. The children's meal offers fish sticks, macaroni and cheese and dessert. The cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children. For more information, call Gary Heil, 443-563-0020, or Charlie Knott, 410-925-2046.

New Member Orientation

Victory Villa Senior Center, 403 Compass Road in Middle River, will hold new member orientation at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23. The center offers a variety of activities and programs, including pool, shuffle board, card games and bingo, for Baltimore County residents 60 and older. For info., call 410-887-0235.

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Spaghetti Dinner

The Dundalk Athletic Club, 7801 Seaside Road in Dundalk, will hold its annual all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25. The menu will include spaghetti with meatballs, salad, bread, desserts, coffee and hot tea. Beer, wine and soda will be sold separately. Tickets cost \$8 for adults and \$4 for children younger than 12. For more information, call Jim Jarzynski, 443-996-6634.

'World Famous Fish Fry'

Dundalk Knights of Columbus Council 2942, 2111 Eilers Ave. in Dundalk, will hold its 13th annual World Famous Fish Fry from noon to 6 p.m. each Friday during Lent (through March 30). The menu will include Alaskan pollock, French fries, cole slaw, roll, beverage and dessert. Tickets cost \$12 each. Carryout meals cost \$13.00. For more information, call Joe Witomski, 410-409-8173 or 410-285-6660.

WAVFC Quarter Auction

Wise Avenue Volunteer Fire Company, 214 Wise Ave. in Dundalk, will hold a quarter auction at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 1, in the rear fire hall. Three paddles cost \$5. Additional paddles cost \$2 each. Doors will open at 6 p.m. Food and drinks will be sold. For more information, call Jerry, 443-841-9692.

Steelworkers Appreciation

The 4th Annual Steelworkers Appreciation Reunion will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 4, at the Fleming Community Center, 641 Main St. in Dundalk. The keynote speaker will be Iris Allegra-Powell, author of "Steel-Town Girl." The event, held by the Henrietta Lacks Legacy Group, serves to honor the many contributions of black steelworkers to the community. The program is free and open to the public. The traditional steelworkers' lunch of hot dogs and baked beans will be served. RSVP by March 28 by calling 240-425-2486 or sending an email to Irispowell711@gmail.com. For more information, call 443-248-4430 or 904-614-3238 or email hlackslegacy@gmail.com.

Gunpowder VFW Karaoke

Gunpowder VFW Post 10067, 6309 Ebenezer Road in Middle River, will host Fun Time Karaoke with Annette and Wild Bill from 7 to 11 p.m. Friday, Feb. 16. For more information, call the post, 410-335-8933.



Dinner on the Bay

Knights of Columbus Bethlehem Council 2605, 7401 Bay Front Road in Edgemere, will hold its monthly Dinner on the Bay from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18. The menu will include fried chicken, shredded pork roast with gravy, stuffed shells, a variety of side dishes, soup and salad, rolls, dessert and coffee, tea and soda. Tickets cost \$14 for adults and \$7 for children ages 8-12. Reservations are strongly advised. Call 410-477-5225 to reserve seats.

Karaoke/Line Dancing

Essex American Legion Post 148, 20 S. Marlyn Ave., will host Karaoke with Lightning Rod from 8 p.m. to midnight Friday, Feb. 16; Karaoke with Jimmy and Judy D from 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Feb. 17; and Fun Time Karaoke with Annette and Wild Bill from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18. Line dancing is held from 7 to 11 p.m. Fridays in the hall. For more information, call 410-686-2353.

VFW Cash Bingo

The Riverside Democratic Club holds a cash bingo every Friday at Essex-Holly Neck VFW Post 2621, 206 Riverside Road in Essex. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the kitchen is open until 9 p.m. All proceeds benefit the club's scholarship fund. For more information, call Jean, 410-391-7444.

Air Museum Bus Trip

The Glenn L. Martin Maryland Aviation Museum at Martin State Airport will hold a bus trip to the Dover Air Mobility Command Museum in Delaware from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24. The bus will leave the airport at 8:10 a.m. and return at 4:30 p.m. Housed in a historic World War II hangar at Dover Air Force Base, the Air Mobility Command Museum has on exhibit 30 aircraft, including a B17 Flying Fortress and a VC-93 that served as Air Force One and Air Force Two from 1975-2011. Exhibits feature airlifts of Berlin and the Korean and Vietnam wars. Bring your own lunch, the museum offers only beverage and snack machines. The cost is \$40 for GLMMAM members and \$45 for nonmembers. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Seating is limited and is available through paid reservations. For more information, visit www.mdair museum.org, send an email to martinmuseum@ gmail.com or call the museum, 410-682-6122.

St. Patrick's Day Eve Party

Wise Avenue Volunteer Fire Company, 214 Wise Ave. in Dundalk, will hold a St. Patrick's Day Eve party from 7 to 11:30 p.m. Friday, March 16. The event includes food, beer and soda (BYOB). Music will be provided by 3rd Alarm DJ. Tickets cost \$40. For more information or to reserve tickets, call Kim, 443-423-3073, or Sue, 443-423-3328.

Active Shooter Response Training

Active Shooting Response Training will be held at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 518 Franklin Ave. in Essex from noon to 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25. The training will be presented by Master Trooper Michelle Workman with the Maryland State Police Criminal Enforcement Division. The training will be held in the parish hall; use the main entrance.



SHM Lenten Mass Series

Sacred Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 6736 Youngstown Ave. in Dundalk, will hold Mass at 7 p.m. each Wednesday during Lent. The schedule is as follows: Feb. 21, The Rev Gregory Rapisarda, chaplain, Johns Hopkins Bayview; Feb. 28, The Rev. Bernard Carman, pastor, St. Leo's Church; March 7, the Rev. Michael Orchik, pastor, Shrine of the Little Flower; March 14, the Rev. Douglas Sutton, retired; and March 21, the Rev. Sal Furnari, pastoral director of St. Jude Shrine. All are welcome to hear each priest's take on the journey of Lent.

Prayer Breakfast

The women of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 1803 Dundalk Ave., will hold a prayer breakfast at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 3. The Rev. Eric Campbell, assistant to the bishop, will be the guest speaker. Irene Spatafore, leader of the Angels Supporting Our Troops, is also scheduled to speak. All churches are invited to participate in the event to celebrate World Day of Prayer. The cost of breakfast is \$7, reservations are required. For more information, call 410-284-0783.

Zion UCC Bingo

Zion United Church of Christ, 7146 Golden Ring Road in Essex, will hold a cash bingo at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, in the lower hall of the church school building. Snacks and drinks will be sold. Doors open at noon. For info., call Rick Rosenfeld, 443-691-2797.

Membership Open

The Baltimore County Genealogical Society is accepting new members for 2018. Membership includes publications, participation in all meetings, activities, the Eastern Europe and computer interest groups, guidance and assistance with research, and use of the lending library, data bases, computer programs and microfilm reader. Individual memberships cost \$15 and family plans cost \$20. Make checks payable to BCGS and mail to P.O. Box 10085, Towson, MD 21285. The society is at 8601 Harford Road, Room 308, in Parkville.

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 develop a stronger relationship with God. We have group discussions, testimonies, music, food and planning for community service and socials like BBQs and ice skating. We meet in the parish center at 6727 Duluth Ave. in Dundalk, every first and third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. For more information, contact SacredHeartYA@gmail. com or the parish office at 410-633-2828.

Lenten Fish Fry

Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, 10003 Bird River Road in Middle River, will hold a fish fry from 4 to 7 p.m., followed immediately by Stations of the Cross, each Friday during Lent (Feb. 16 - March 30). The menu offers choice of white pollock, coddies, fried shrimp or one-half pound steamed shrimp with french fries, one side dish, dessert and a drink. Tickets cost \$12 for adults; \$10 for senior citizens over 62; and \$6 for children under 10. Additional meals include one crab cake (\$14) and two crab cakes (\$19). Crab cakes are not available at the child's meal price. For more information, contact Mike Kahl at mkahl58@comcast.net.

SHM Luncheon Bingo

Sacred Heart of Mary Church's Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality will hold a cash luncheon bingo in the church hall, 6736 Youngstown Ave. in Dundalk, on Sunday, April 8. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m.; lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. and games will begin at 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$25. Tickets are limited and must be reserved in advance. For info., contact the church office, 410-633-2828; Stephanie Sparzak, ssparzak@rcmd.con; or Donna Rosenthal, 410-288-5516.

Middle River Coin Show

The Middle River Coin Club will hold its spring coin show from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 8, at the Victory Villa Community Center, 404 Compass Road in Middle River. Dealer tables cost \$35 for the first and \$30 for a second. Admission to the show is free. For info., or to reserve table space, call 410-687-1517 or send an email to pennsylpete@comcast.net.

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.

Thursday Night Bingo

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

Soup Kitchen

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



Klondike Derby



Boy Scout Troop 745, chartered by Essex United Methodist Church, recently participated in the Chesapeake District Klondike Derby held at the Broad Creek Memorial Scout Reservation in Harford County. Members raced their homemade sleds in a variety of challenges. The troop meets at Essex UMC at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays. If interested in joining, call Scoutmaster Jeff Bandoch, 410-375-0908.

Craft/Vendor Fair

Mars Estates Elementary School, 1500 E. Homberg Ave. in Essex, will hold a craft and vendor fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 14, at the school. The event is sponsored by the PTA. For more information, send an email to Jessie Karpus, jkarpus@verizon.net.

Bull and Oyster Roast

The Parents Club of Boy Scout Troop 745 will hold a bull and oyster roast from 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday, April 21, at the Hawks Pleasure Club, 430 Riverside Drive in Essex. Food catered by McKinney's catering will include pit beef, ham and turkey, oysters on the half shell, side dishes, desserts, beer, wine and soda. Music will be provided by DJ Kevy V. The event will include a silent auction and games of chance. Tickets cost \$40 each. For info., call Brooke, 443-804-9398, or send an email to ParentsofTroop745@yahoo.com.



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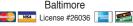
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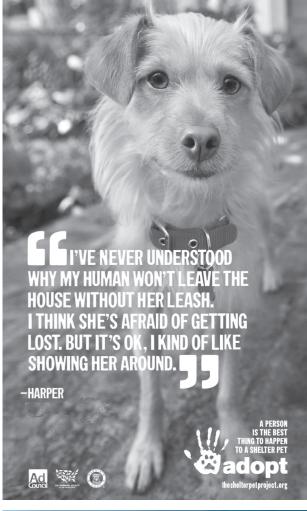
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Pursuant to Article 16, Subtitle 2 of the Commercial Law Article of the Maryland Annotated Code, Equity LifeStyle Properties, Williams Estates and Peppermint Woods Mobile Home Park, exercises its right to establish and foreclose upon a landlord's lien on the following mobile homes. located within Williams Estates and Peppermint Woods Mobile Home Park, through public auction on February 16, 2018 beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the location of each mobile home in the order listed below starting at 3519 Wheelhouse Road. Questions should be directed to the community office at 112 Whistle Stop Road, Baltimore, MD 21220, 410-686-0077. Equity LifeStyle Properties reserves the right to cancel a sale at any time for any reason.

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3137 ELLIOTT ST., BALTO., MD 21224

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1427 SUSSEX RD. BALTO., MD 21221 Stunning home and a must see! The kitchen

is a huge addition and includes all the bells and whistles with stainless steel appl, wall ovens and a huge island to include seating! Basement is completely renovated to include a bar and recessed lighting! Main level BA was just remodeled and the furnace was just replaced. Master BR is huge!

919 MARTIN RD.



BALTO., MD 21221 Charming Cape Cod that features recently replaced roof and fresh paint and

carpet. Large kitchen and mud room which also features the laundry on the main level. HUGE 2 car garage with long driveway. Basement is a 2nd family room! Extra room to be used as add-on to living room or can be made into a dining room.

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WEST INVERNESS



1922 QUENTIN RD. **BALTO., MD 21222** Lovely 3BR 2 full BA home with pergo floors, washer / drver. Lower level has a bar. Ceramic tile in BAs. This home is a must see!

LINOVER



201 LYNDALE AVE. **BALTIMORE. MD 21236** 3BR/2BA corner lot duplex with 2 car drvwy. This wellkept home offers new AC water heater, porch, windows & doors. Come check out this beauty before it's gone... Wood floors under carpet on 1st/2nd floors.



7406 BELCLARE RD. **BALTO., MD 21222** Completely rehabbed to include new HVAC, updated BAs and new kitchen

with ceramic tile and stainless steel appliances and granite countertops. Hardwood floors thruout. The upstairs is an entire master suite featuring full BA. Large BR on main level can double as second master BR. Check out the huge garage!

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