

TODAY'S GAS PRICE

\$2.67 per gallon

Last Week

\$2.74 per gallon

A month ago

\$2.35 per gallon

A year ago

\$2.25 per gallon

AVERAGE PRICE PER GALLON OF UNLEADED REGULAR GAS IN MARYLAND/D.C. METRO AREA ACCORDING TO AAA

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by Brian J. Karem

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Spare Part Woes

FTA concerned with the latest in Metrorail's budget problems

By Carolyn Komatsoulis
@CKomatsoulis

A problem with spare parts finds The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority once again in trouble with the Federal Transportation Administration.

Metro is now accused of dodging FTA budget requirements.

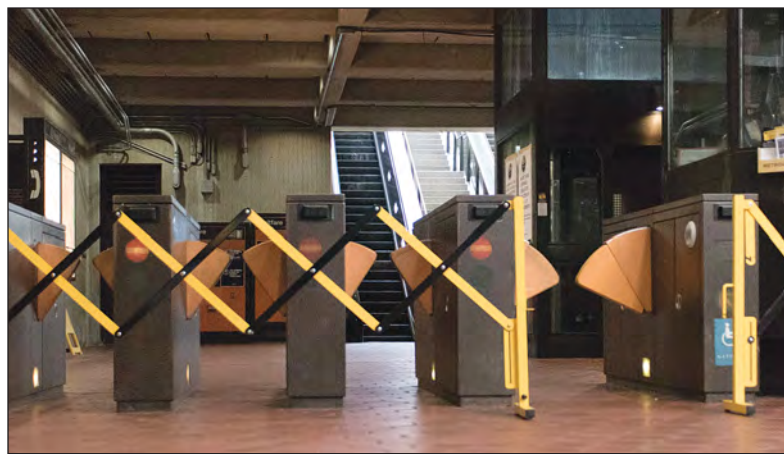
According to the proposed FY2018 budget, WMATA Charged \$23 million in railcars to the operating budget because Metro managers were having difficulty complying with FTA requirements. Those funds apparently should have been charged to the capital budget.

According to the Approval of FY2018-2023 Capital Improvement Program and CFA extension that \$23 million was spent on parts "necessary for railcar safety and reliability."

According to that same report, the money was moved not only because some parts were not procured in compliance with federal regulations but also "a lack of available non-federal capital funding."

Tom Bulger, a member of the Metro board of directors, said he wasn't aware of this specific move of money, but he was aware of alterations to the procurement process to ensure that Metro had parts to repair things.

"I'm aware of the fact that we were running out of spare parts at a fast clip since 2016 and they {Metro} needed to get more supplies in order to



Third in a series
Broken Promises - Bad Dreams
A Metro Investigation

keep up with maintenance and the procurement process was accelerated," he said.

When asked why Metro was running out of parts, Bulger assigned blame to the suppliers.

"Supply. Logistics. The suppliers were behind. We weren't able to obtain the parts on a schedule that would meet Metro's requirements."

Those alterations to the procurement process are part of The Parts Bridging Program, a program started by WMATA to "temporarily purchase parts using non-Federal funds and procurement rules until December 2017," according to the Approval of One-Year Extension of Parts Bridging Program (PMP) and Update on Parts Pro-

urement Program. Last October, the enrollment deadline was extended until December 31 of this year and the initial contract end date was extended until June 30, 2023. According to that report, the program was started after a board resolution imposed "heightened standards on parts procurement."

However, according to that same report, Metro was also running out of parts. The report states that "In the 2015 Annual Vital Signs Report, the Office of Performance (CPO) noted its findings that the high nonavailability rates of revenue service vehicles were attributable in part to inventory part shortages throughout the warehouse system. This shortage of inventory parts was having an adverse effect on

safety and on time service within the transit system."

According to that report, "the existing procurement methods used by Metro could not correct this deficiency."

According to the documents, a goal of the program is to - after the fact - request waivers for contracts that didn't follow FTA regulations or be eligible for reimbursements from the FTA from any given part in the program.

According to FTA spokesman Steven Taubenkibel, the use of local funds is a local decision.

WMATA has been accused of breaking FTA regulations before.

In 2014, a damning FTA audit revealed WMATA's misuse of grant money, which included WMATA incurring unallowable expenditures and underreporting \$42 million in federal expenditures. According to the report, WMATA also offered a contract without soliciting the three bids necessary to make that contract competitive. According to the 2014 audit, Metro didn't have the internal controls to properly manage their grant money, although the final report of the audit included documents that acknowledged Metro's progress on improving its internal controls.

Carol Kissal, the CFO of the Metro at the time and the person to

See "Metro" page 8

MoCo makes bid for Amazon

By Vic Simon
@vtime492

Just two weeks since Amazon asked states and counties to bid for its second headquarters—a project that could mean 50,000 jobs and \$5 billion in investment to the winning locality—Montgomery County and competitors all around the country were busy putting their proposals together.

Seattle-based Amazon asked for bids on Sept. 7, and gave just six weeks for initial proposals due Oct. 19. From those, Amazon will select finalists to compete for the prize with fully-specified bids.

According to the Seattle Times, more than 100 cities/counties and states/provinces in the U.S. and Canada are putting together proposals. Amazon spokesperson Drew Herdener said at this early stage in the process, "Every city is on an equal playing field." He indicated the company will choose finalists from the initial applicants, and will select a winner next year.

Even within the state of Maryland and the D.C. area, Montgomery County faces substantial competition. On Sept. 13, Gov. Larry Hogan

See "Amazon" page 8

Prosecutors consider additional charges in Wallen murder probe

By Glynis Kazanjian
@glyniskazanjian

Prosecutors in the Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office are determining whether a 33-year-old Damascus man charged with killing his girlfriend Labor Day weekend can also be charged with killing the woman's unborn child.

Olney resident Laura Elizabeth Wallen, 31, was four months pregnant when she was killed, family members said. The Damascus man accused of her murder, Tyler Tessier, 33, is believed to be the father.

Montgomery County Police charged Tessier Sept. 13 with the first-degree murder of Wallen. If Tessier is found guilty, he could be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. However, the Montgomery County state prosecutor's office has not ruled out requesting a sentence that would allow for consideration of parole.

"We have not made that decision yet," spokesperson Ramon Korionoff said.

See "Wallen" page 8

REFLECTIONS

September 10, 1987

Police officers surprised at simplicity of coke bust

Each week *The Sentinel* visits a memorable story from its archives.

"We were flabbergasted it went off so easy."

That's how the undercover narcotics officer who engineered the cocaine deal describes last week's \$400,000 drug bust.

The officer, a 10 year old veteran of the county force who asked not to be identified, said police arrested Domingo Martinez, 31, of Bowie, shortly after Martinez met him for the first time and allegedly sold the officer two kilograms of cocaine with an estimated street value of \$403,200.

Another man, who police said acted as Martinez's lookout, also was arrested. He was identified as James Fletcher Greene Jr., 36, of 4116 Denfeld Ave. in Kensington.

"This is the second-largest hand-to-hand purchase by an undercover officer (in the county)," said Lt. Ronald A. Ricucci, head of the special investigations Division.

An undercover operation in early May netted county and federal officers the first installment on a \$1.3 million purchase of 50 kilos of cocaine in the parking lot of the White Oak Shopping Cen-

ter.

The undercover officer who posed as a drug buyer in last week's bust said Martinez described as a major dealer, boasted that he could deliver 10 kilos of cocaine a week.

After martines provided the narcotics officer with a sample in the parking lot of O'Donnell's Restaurant in Bethesda earlier in the evening Sept. 1, police said, the two set up a transaction behind the nearby Radio Shack at Maple and Wisconsin avenues, where the arrests were made.

Police said cocaine and drug paraphernalia were seized in

searches of a Chevy Chase apartment and Martinez's home in Bowie.

The federal drug Enforcement Administration, which supplied county police with \$40,000 in cash for the phony drug purchase, is investigating Martinez in an attempt to uncover his Florida connections. Police said.

Ricucci said the deal was unique because it was put together "in about an hour."

"It points out the easy availability of large amounts of cocaine coming into the county. That obviously upsets us," he said.

NEWS

Old Anglers angling for zoning changes

By Suzanne Pollak
@SuzannePollak

Nearby residents of Old Angler's Inn on MacArthur Boulevard in Potomac packed the County Council hearing room Sept. 12 to speak out on a proposal to construct a banquet hall and four guest rooms in their neighborhood.

Maryland Catering Company, which owns Old Angler's Inn, has requested conditional use approval at a seven-acre lot that is up the hill from the Inn.

If the zoning amendment proposed is adopted, their banquet hall and hotel rooms would not be permitted.

Under the proposed zoning change, which appears to have the support of the majority of Council members, the banquet hall with guest rooms could only be built on land that abuts an area where the smallest lots are at least two acres.

Most nearby homes are on one-third or one-half acre lots.

Mark Regis, Maryland Catering Company owner, expressed frustration after the 45-minute hearing, saying Council members "are relying on a false narrative" by members of the various homeowners' associations who oppose the project.

"They are implying we are going to build a Hooters or a McDonald's," he said.

Regis called the zoning change unconstitutional as he believes it was created specifically to stop his project, which has been in the plan-

ning stages for two-and-a-half years.

Most of Regis' supporters were not able to speak during the public hearing as they had not signed up early enough, explained Council President Roger Berliner, who added, "The books weren't cooked here." He urged those who didn't get to testify to send the Council what they had planned to say.

Those remarks will be a part of the formal record, Berliner said.

Those both for and against the project held up signs throughout the meeting.

Many of those in opposition were brought to the meeting in a large black chartered bus, supplied by Regis. They had received an email invitation from Regis, which was obtained by *The Sentinel*, that offered anyone who came to the Old Angler's Inn by noon to attend the meeting would receive a \$50 gift certificate as well as a one-year V.I.P. Golden Hook Membership, which includes discounts and specials at the restaurant.

Ten people testified in favor of the zoning change.

"Our community is not rural. It is suburban. A country inn belongs in the country," testified Keith Williams of the River Falls Civic Association. Some members of that association own homes "that are right next door to where this country inn would be."

Andrew Finley, treasurer of the River Falls Homeowners Association, said members of his group did not want a country inn built in their

residential neighborhood. "This is a suburban area" and is not rural, he said.

Lori Newson testified that noise from weddings and other parties "could run all weekend, through all hours of the night." She told Council members, "I did not purchase my property with the intention of living adjacent" to a restaurant.

Michael Anestos, a lifelong Potomac resident attended the hearing but didn't get the chance to testify. He has enjoyed having Old Angler's Inn nearby and would welcome the new facility.

"A quaint, rustic Potomac-style Country Inn. Wouldn't that be so nice? So convenient. So needed," he wrote for testimony he had hoped to deliver. The proposal would be better for residents, who now must "shlep to Gaithersburg or Rockville" for a good restaurant, he wrote.

Much of the opposition came from members of the Brickyard Coalition, which is named for the nearby Brickyard Road.

Chairman Curt Uhre did not attend the hearing but said earlier that the proposal would add another 100 to 200 cars to an already congested area filled with hikers walking and biking the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal path.

Calling the neighborhood rural, and thus permitting a country inn, "violates a common-sense attitude of what is a rural area," he said. "That's really what is at the heart of this - what is a rural area."

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NEWS

State's attorney requests more money for mental health court

By Neal Earley
@neal_earley

ROCKVILLE – Nine months after the Montgomery County Council established its court for non-violent offenders with mental illnesses, the new court is short on funds, is understaffed and has a longer-than-expected waiting list.

State's Attorney for Montgomery County John McCarthy, joined by members of the County Council, called for more funds for the newly created County Mental Health Court at a press conference Thursday Sept. 14. McCarthy said the high demand is proof that the new court for non-violent offenders with mental illness is a success. Therefore, he was requesting an ad-

ditional \$200,000 from the County Council.

"We have more people in the court already than we ever designed it to be," McCarthy said. "And quite candidly what I'm really saying here is...that we need more support, more financial support so we can hire more therapists."

In December, the County established the Mental Health Court as a specialty docket within the Circuit and District courts for defendants with mental health issues. Non-violent offenders can apply to be on the Mental Health Court docket after being screened by mental health professionals. The County Council created the Mental Health Court to reduce recidivism by sentencing people to treatment

rather than jail or prison.

McCarthy said currently 57 people are in the Mental Health Court system, 47 in the District Court and 10 in the Circuit Court, with 24 people on a waiting list to get in. The \$200,000 McCarthy requested from the Council, if approved, would go toward hiring two therapists to screen people who are potential fits for the Mental Health Court.

McCarthy said the Mental Health Court demand "far exceeds" its capacity and needs to be expanded, saying Montgomery County Police responded to about 7,000 calls related to various "mental health emergency(ies)" in 2016.

"We should not be incarcerating people who are struggling with

mental health problems, we should be ensuring that they get the support that they need," said County Council President Roger Berliner (D-1).

Montgomery County Circuit Judge Gary E. Bair, the presiding judge in the Circuit Court Mental Health Court, told the Council joint Health and Human Services and Public Safety Committee during its meeting following the press conference that the Mental Health Court does not have enough financial resources to even fully maintain its waiting list and has had to turn people away.


In addition, Bair said some people in the Mental Health Court have to be housed in a County jail because the Mental Health Court does not


have enough resources to provide for adequate housing for them.

"For some of our clients who are in the Mental Health Court, they have significant issues with, you know, dealing with other people, and sometimes that leads to problems within the housing that they're in," Bair said. "And if they start running out of housing options unfortunately the only last resort housing option is the jail."

So far no one has graduated from the Mental Health Court given that the District Court program takes 18 months to complete and the Circuit Court program takes three years to complete. Other jurisdictions in Maryland such as Prince George's and Harford counties have similar mental health court programs.

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OPINIONS & VIEWS

What if it's all just a flashback

I woke up in one of "those" moods.

What kind of mood do you ask? Well, I guess somewhere between "Come on people now, smile on your brothers, everybody get together try to love one another right now," written by Chet Powers and famously recorded by the Youngbloods and H.L. Mencken's feelings about religion: "In America it is used as a club and a cloak by both politicians and moralists, all of them lusting for power and most of them palpable frauds."

Editor's Notebook
by Brian J. Karem

With wildfires, earthquakes, a plethora of hurricanes, the GOP's latest venture into decimating healthcare for anyone but the super rich, our president's usurpation of Bernie Taupin lyrics to describe Kim Jong Un ("Rocket Man") coupled with his threat of total destruction of North Korea as well as his continued insistence illegal immigrants, Muslims and other assorted downtrodden people of color are out to destroy our way of life while Russians and White Supremacists are no trouble, I've been left a little discombobulated.

I have a friend from college who is convinced this is all just a bad LSD trip and we'll wake up to the horrible reality that Ronald Reagan is still our president and it's 1984. "It's just our reaction to electing Rasta Ronnie," he claims with a straight face. "We're just foreshadowing how his presidency will destroy us all."

Me? I'm just waiting for the plague of locusts and frogs before the Nile turns red with blood.

For those who swear by the cloak and fiction of modern religion, we are fast approaching - if we haven't already arrived at - your "Come to Jesus" moment where you're hoping you're not among those left on the planet after your neighbors start disappearing with a very audible "Pop."

For the rest of us heathen who believe Christianity is wasted on the Christians - we're busy looking for a way to settle the hash before The Donald turns North Korea's sand into glass and ruins real estate prices worldwide.

On the one hand there is a bit of logic in letting the crazies who run rogue regimes and even terrorists who drive around in pickup trucks waging war against defenseless people know there's a bigger stick in the room. Trump is doing his Michael Keaton/Bruce Wayne impression; "Now you wanna get nuts? Come on! Let's get nuts."

The problem, of course, is on the other side of the equation you've got

a true egomaniacal idiot who's willing to bring it all down just to watch the world burn. "Never rub another man's rhubarb," Jack Nicholson/The Joker warned us all.

In the end the good guy wins but not before there's a scene from a Cecil B. DeMille film with the aforementioned scenes of biblical carnage.

So whatever you smoke and whatever you ingest, there is little that can keep you from facing the great maw into which we've plunged ourselves with our president and this administration.

General John Kelly, seen with his head in his hands during Trump's recent speech before the United Nations has been somewhat successful in controlling the craziness in the West Wing, but the administration remains a train wreck or sideshow of biblical proportions complete with circus freaks and charlatans equally vying for the limelight.

As every other week has been since the inauguration, this week in the Trump administration careened from the sublimely ridiculous to the outright dangerous. Former press secretary Sean Spicer offered a laugh in the Emmys, but few were left laughing about the Facebook ad sales to Russian troll farms, the threats against North Korea and Iran, Paul Manafort's apparent coming indictment, more twitter litter by Trump and the specter of the GOP pushing a healthcare bill that wouldn't even suffice as burial insurance.

Spicer played the fool, but the joke is on us. We all knew - well anyone who wasn't a Trump devotee - that the inaugural numbers were an example of cooking the books. Spicer coming forward and admitting the lies was nice, but it shows - at its heart - how desperately out of touch members of this administration truly are.

There are those who live by the words of the president. When you admit you've been engaging in subterfuge with the American electorate from the very first day in the highest office in the land, you've admitted to a stain that isn't easily erased.

I alternately laugh and get angry at this situation, but spend a great deal of time trying to convince those on the far right and the far left that there are those of us in the middle who want to work together.

Somewhere in the future, if we all survive, someone will undoubtedly undertake a full-length psychological study of Trump, the culture that produced him and many of his strange, oddly misinformed and brittle minions.

I'm still somewhere between Mencken's warning about politicians, "a good politician, under democracy, is quite as unthinkable as an honest burglar," and the words sung by the Youngbloods;

"We are but a moment's sunlight/ Fading in the grass."



LETTERS

Still not a fan of Metro

To the editor;
Re: "We just deal with it"

There is nothing more frustrating than using the Metro. I dread using it every day, but I must to get to work. It scares me to hear Metro workers are afraid to open up about safety concerns.

But it doesn't surprise me.

Metro Management is the worst in the area. I used to think Pepco management was the worst, but Metro wins easily.

I wish I had an alternative. My fear is dying in a Metro disaster while going to work while my husband and children wonder whatever happened to me.

It's a sobering and scary thought. But you can literally die riding Metro.
S. Garmound
Silver Spring

Jack has an idea!

To the editor;

"Elderly residents employed to help police calls," Reflections (August 8, 1979).

This Sentinel story from its archives may reach out from readers to Chief of Police, J. Thomas Manger to enlist county senior volunteers, both retired and employed, to organize a crime prevention program. One objective of the 1979 "Operation Identification" was to encourage people to mark their personal property with their driver's license number to help recover theft or lost property.

A senior volunteer crime prevention program objective can be coordinated with community association neighborhood involvement. Vetted applicants must attend class instruction at the Montgomery County Citizens Police Academy and thereafter, be certified with photo ID.

Volunteers use their personal unmarked vehicles to observe activity in residential neighborhoods, at shopping mall parking lots and near a neighborhood business location.

An incentive to reimburse volunteers for driving expenses, as in 1979, could continue with driving time in and out managed electronically.

Communications have changed since 1979. Volunteers can use flip-phones/cell phones/smart phones with other devices to communicate directly to an on duty patrol officer driving in the volunteer's location.

J. Martinelli
Rockville

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The problems of emergency veterinary care



Among the heart rending scenes in the aftermath of natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina, or more recently Harvey and Irma, were the scenes of abandoned or struggling pets and animals.

Stories were published of lawsuits over custody of animals, and concerns were raised over efforts of first responders in providing care to animals.

Maryland has a new statute going into effect October 1, 2017, to address potential legal concerns in providing emergency care to animals.

Maryland law previously provided immunity from civil liability for veterinarians, or students working under direct supervision of a veterinarian, who provided emergency care to animals whose owners were unavailable to grant per-

mission.

This law did not address persons who are not veterinarians or veterinary students, who under prior law could be committing a criminal act in practicing veterinary medicine without a license in providing emergency animal care.

Senate Bill 269, which was approved by the governor, addresses potential criminal and civil liability for a class of persons in this situation.

The new law provides that persons who provide veterinary care to an animal when the owner is not available are not unlawfully practicing veterinary medicine, and are immune from civil liability except for gross negligence.

It applies to first responders including members of any government or volunteer fire department, ambulance or rescue crew members, or law enforcement officers. It also covers animal control officers working in their official capacity. The care covered by the law is care provided to an animal at the scene of an emergency, in transit to a veterinary facility, or provided while in communication with a licensed veterinarian.

The law is not applicable to lay persons who are "good Samaritans" providing medical aid or assistance, which is governed by a separate statute and applies only to aid at the scene of an emergency provided to a person. No matter how people feel about their pets, "person" in this context does not include an animal, so the law still only protects the listed kinds of first responders who provide veterinary care. Hopefully good pet Samaritans will not fact criminal prosecution or law suits in trying to render aid to animals, but in our litigious society it remains to be seen whether this new law needs to be broadened.

If you are interested in reading more on this issue, I recommend an article in the September 2017 Maryland Bar Journal, "Injecting Reality: Veterinary Practice and Lay Person Liability" by Kathleen J. Masterton.

Thomas Patrick Ryan is a partner in the Rockville law firm of McCarthy Wilson, which specializes in civil litigation.

MID once again on the chopping block



The mortgage interest deduction (MID) seems to be the everyone's loveable fiscal scapegoat. The MID was almost abolished in 2010 as a means of increasing revenue after the recession.

And then again in 2012 it's elimination was considered to increase revenue lost through sequestration. This time, the MID is in Congress' sights as a means of tax reform.

The MID is a remnant of consumer interest deductions that were allowed when income tax was first collected. It wasn't until the 1980's when most consumer interest deductions, such as credit card and auto loan interest, were eliminated (to reduce budget deficits after a deep recession). The MID survived in a limited form, which implemented a cap on the amount of an individual's deductions.

The MID is again embattled. Reporting by AP's Marcy Gordon reveals the divide in eradicating the MID (GOP eyes popular tax breaks to finance overhaul; apnews.com, September 18, 2017). The MID is viewed by some as a

middle-class mainstay that is a political hot potato. While others see the MID as an antiquated subsidy that can be removed as part of a major tax plan.

However, the likelihood of totally abolishing the MID is slim because of the political fallout. More likely to occur is something akin to what happened in the 1980's, which was a narrowed version that limited deductions. Speaker of the House, Paul Ryan hinted that the current \$1million cap could be further reduced, by saying "We could change that limit — I suppose."

Over the decades, the MID has been criticized by some as poor economic policy. Those who argue against the MID claim that it doesn't increase homeownership. They also claim that the MID is a subsidy that artificially inflates home prices, and is used mostly by the wealthy.

Additionally, the enticement of receiving an interest deduction at the end of the year is used to encourage home buyers to buy homes that they really can't afford. A recent study by Jonathon Gruber (known to many as the architect of Obamacare), et al, produced results that mimics the MID critics' assertions (Do People Respond to the Mortgage Interest Deduction? Quasi-Experimental Evidence from Denmark; National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc; Working Paper 23600, July 2017).

Proponents of the MID, such as the National Association of Re-

altors, and the National Association of Home Builders, claim that the MID encourages homeownership and makes it affordable for many.

As a witness in the September 13th Senate Finance Committee Hearing on Individual Tax Reform, Iona Harris (chair of NAR's Federal Taxation Committee) testified that limiting or abolishing the MID could actually have the unintended consequence of increasing taxes on millions of "middle class homeowners," while "putting the value of their homes at risk."

Ms. Harris stated that "it is estimated that American homeowners already pay well over 80 percent of all federal income taxes." She also noted, "... 53 percent of individuals claiming the itemized deduction for real estate taxes in 2014 earned less than \$100,000." And recapped the outcome of the 1980's MID reduction, "... When Congress last undertook major tax reform in 1986, it eliminated or significantly changed a large swath of tax provisions, including major real estate provisions, in order to lower rates, only to increase those rates just five years later in 1991... Most of the eliminated tax provisions never returned and in the case of real estate, a major recession followed."

Dan Krell is a Realtor® with RE/MAX Success in Potomac, MD. You can access more information at DanKrell.com

NEWS ANALYSIS

The Fed isn't the enemy folks

PAUL'S VIEW

by

Paul K. Schwartz

Privatization of the federal workforce was a goal of Ronald Reagan during his administration. He convened the Grace Commission to look into how best to do just that. Now, more than thirty years later, the number of contract employees compared to career federal employees approaches a five to one ratio.

Clearly, there are some benefits to contracting out some very skill-specific functions, but the value of a properly staffed and experienced federal workforce should not be taken lightly. Nor should a dedicated federal workforce that is sworn to uphold the Constitution and not the profit motive of the company winning a federal contract be something that is taken for granted.

Placing the burden of the federal deficit on the shoulders of the federal workforce is doing exactly that and is certainly not cost effective.

Since 2011 feds have contributed more than \$120 billion toward deficit reduction.

How did I arrive at this figure, you ask. In 2011, 2012 and 2013 there was a pay freeze totaling some \$98 billion. Add to that some \$15 billion resulting from the increased retirement contributions for federal employees hired in 2013 and another \$6 billion for federal employees hired in 2014 and beyond.

Add in another \$1 billion due to lost wages from sequestration-related furloughs and you come up with the \$120 billion contribution made by the federal workforce to address the federal deficit.

Contributing to reducing the federal deficit is not the problem; paying more than one's fair share is the problem. That brings us to the fiscal year 2018 budget threats to federal employees and retirees by the 115th Congress and the president of the United States.

The 2018 budget threats include

cuts to earned retirement benefits of federal retirees and employees by reducing or eliminating cost-of-living adjustments for current and future federal employees and retirees, doing away with the annuity supplement, increasing retirement contributions, basing federal annuities on the highest five years of salary instead of the highest three years.

These are just a few of the examples in the proposed budget that are of great concern to our federal workforce. Moreover, this is tantamount to changing the rules mid-stream.

Our government made a commitment to middle-class federal and postal workers when hired that they would receive modest federal annuities in retirement in exchange for years of hard work over long careers.

As was made clear during the hiring process, when a federal employee comes on board he or she is sacrificing wealth for stability. Now, after decades of commitment, this Congress and this president would like to change the commitment made to these employees and retirees and upend the promise of stability.

Make no mistake about it, these budget proposals have more to do with privatizing the federal workforce than it does with deficit reduction.

It is a myth that reducing the federal workforce through attrition will put an end to government growth, save money and boost government efficiency.

This is because reducing the federal workforce by any arbitrary number fails to take into account existing projects and workloads.

This drives inefficiency and delays critical projects. Remember the impact of sequestration?

Having national parks not open pales in comparison to the long term impact of government agencies unable to deliver the government services they were established to do.

Anyone concerned about any delay in receiving his or her Social Security check?

How about receiving a refund from IRS?

Like most things, you don't miss something until it is no longer there or delayed. It is quite confounding that citizens do not appreciate a qual-

ified and experienced federal workforce until such time that they need it as in Hurricanes Harvey and Irma!

Despite claims to the contrary, there are fewer federal employees working today than were working in 1967.

During that period of time the population of the United States has grown some 60 percent and the private sector workforce has increased some 135 percent. As a result, the work not able to be performed by the ever reduced federal workforce must be taken on by someone else, namely outside contractors. According to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office "refusing to fill open positions would inevitably lead to hiring private contractors, a costly and unaccountable action that would mitigate any potential savings".

Point made!

To add further insult to injury, Trump recently sent a letter to House Speaker Paul Ryan announcing his intention to cut pay raises for civilian government workers.

In the letter, Trump cited his authority in times of "national emergency or serious economic conditions affecting the general welfare" to make adjustments to the 2018 pay schedule for federal employees. Feds were scheduled for a 1.9 percent increase, but Trump will use his authority to lower that to 1.4 percent. According to Trump, "We must maintain efforts to put our Nation on a sustainable fiscal course".

He further stated "A pay increase of this magnitude is not warranted, and Federal agency budgets could not accommodate such an increase..." "Pay raises for government workers outside of Washington, D.C. will average only 0.5 percent and will be specified in a coming executive order", according to Trump. Regarding members of the military, Trump will maintain the 2.1 percent pay increase.

Apparently these fiscal concerns do not apply to his quest to build the "unbuildable" and quite expensive wall along the southern border with Mexico.

Wonder if he caught the last episode of Game of Thrones regarding the vulnerability of walls! To those feds who voted for him, YOU will get what YOU deserve.

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Montgomery County, Maryland
Department of Environmental Protection

PUBLIC NOTICE

Application for Temporary Noise Waiver

The Department of Environmental Protection is currently evaluating an application for a Temporary Noise Waiver as allowed under the Montgomery County Noise Control Ordinance, Chapter 31B, Section 11(a).

The Temporary Noise Waiver is being requested by Gabe's Services, Inc., 5294 Agro Drive, Frederick, Maryland, for the purpose of performing nighttime utility work at the intersection of Fairmont Avenue and Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, which will include saw cutting, excavation, heavy machinery, material handling, and paving. The work is being performed at night under permit by the Maryland State Highway Administration to alleviate traffic congestion, and impacts to businesses and residences. The work hours will be from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. Sunday – Friday, and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

The application and related documents are available for public inspection. The Department will receive comments on the application for ten (10) days after publication of this notice.

Comments, questions or requests to examine documents may be directed to Gretchen Ekstrom, DEP/DEPC, 255 Rockville Pike, Suite 120 Rockville, MD, 20850. Telephone 240-777-7750, Fax 240-777-7715 or email Gretchen.Ekstrom@montgomerycountymd.gov.

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L'Shanah Tovah
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NEWS

Small press expo returns to local Marriott

By Barbara Trainin Blank
@traininblank

The Small Press Expo returned to the Marriott Conference Center in North Bethesda, on Sept. 16 and 17. SPX, as it is known, is a 501©(3) nonprofit founded in 1994 to promote artists and publishers who produce independent comics. The annual event attracts hundreds of cartoonists, publishers and large crowds.

This year, the Expo's roster of special guests included: Canadian illustrator and cartoonist Jillian Tamaki, who provided art for the graphic novels "Skim," and "This One Summer;" Gilbert Hernandez, who is best known for his Palomar/Heartbreak Soup stories in the alternative comic book series "Love & Rockets," which he shares with brothers Jaime and Mario; Finnish cartoonist Tommi Musturi, creator of "The Book of Hope;" and Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist Ann Telnaes, whose work appears in various newspapers across the country such as The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, The Los Angeles Times, Newsday, and international newspapers like Le Monde while animated editorial cartoons are regularly featured on The Washington Post's website.

Previous expos have featured cartooning legends such as Roz Chast of The New Yorker, and the iconic Jules Feiffer as well as relative newcomers like Congressman John Lewis, who appeared last year to promote his three-part graphic novel series called "The March."

The event also offered informal discussions and interviews open to attendees, as well as off-site events during the week of the Expo, including academic seminars, book signings, and school outreach programs.

The center's Grand Ballroom was filled with exhibitors: cartoonists, writers and publishers, who sat behind personalized display tables featuring various collections of cartoons and comic books as crowds of attendees filed past. This year, exhibitors included Indy World, Claire Connelly, Jim Rugg and The New York Review of Books.

One display table featured the work of award-winning cartoonist Keith Knight.

Knight has been drawing cartoons since elementary school; he even got better grades in most classes when he included them.

"I always knew I'd be a cartoonist and kept doing it through high school and college," said the North Carolina resident.

When one of his American literature professors in college included such authors as James Baldwin and Maya Angelou in the syllabus, it inspired Knight to start his now 25-year-old signature strip, "The K Chronicles."

The strip reflects the life of a young African-American male, representing him as a hip-hop fan, "who happens to be smart and nerdy and likes other kinds of music."

After publishing on e-zines, Knight went on to self-syndicating his cartoons in newspapers. In addition to "The K Chronicles," Knight has created the comic strips "(Th)ink" and "The Knight Life," as well as poster art featuring quotes from notable figures in African-American history. Knight is also the artist for "Father O'Flannity's Hot Tub Confessions" and "Bully Baby," two strips that regularly appear in "Mad Magazine."

Knight's comics can be viewed on his website at keithknightcartoonist.com.

C. Spike Trotman, a resident of Potomac, also has been interested in comics since she was a little kid, reading them in The Washington Post. "I used to make minicomics on the Xerox," she said.

She moved onto web comics, creating "Templar Arizona" and began to self-publish – a process she taught herself.

"Then I started using Kickstarter, which prefunds works so that you always go to press in the black," Trotman explained.

In 2007, Trotman established her own company, Iron Circus Comics, which features comic books from other artists. The various comics can be viewed at ironcircus.com.

At one time, women were scarce in the cartooning world. That is no longer the case, as reflected by the high percentage of creators at the Expo who were female.

Carla Speed McNeil, who now lives in Bowie, started out wanting to do animation. But when she realized what animators "actually do," cartooning became more appealing.

"I enjoy collaborations, but I wanted to tell the story myself," she said.

Speed McNeil has created 10

volumes of her award-winning, ongoing comic book series "Finder" – which Speed McNeil describes as "aboriginal science fiction." While the series focuses on various characters in different storylines, the central character is a "sin-eater" known as Jaeger, who wanders across Earth in the far-future, encountering various cultures. Speed McNeil's work also includes more personal stories, teenage drama, and children's books.

Self-publishing "Finder" since 1996, McNeil turned to comic book publisher Dark Horse in 2011 to continue to make her series available in eight-page installments of the monthly anthology comic book "Dark Horse Presents" as well as trade paperback collections. Installments of the series can be viewed for free at carlaspeedmcneil.com.

Creators traveled from around the country and several foreign countries to attend the Expo.

Kelsey Short, of Queens, N.Y., was one of them. She does comics and illustrations of "different styles," some of them "spooky," she said.

Most of the Expo attendees were young and enthusiastic; identifying with the various comics and cartoons showcased at the Expo and the topics they address.

"A lot of comics are very personal," said Warren Bernard, SPX executive director. "They reflect many different interests, whether it's metal rock, LGBT, black, Hispanic, or teen drama.

"SPX is now in its 21st year," he continues. "The proceeds from our annual festival go to support the Comic Legal Defense Fund, which supports the rights of cartoonists and offers educational programs."

The Expo prides itself on maintaining an open (rather than curated) registration policy and open access among attendees, exhibitors, and volunteers, Bernard said. Moreover, it is "unique among comic book exhibitions in not allowing retailers to have a formal presence. Only creators and publishers may exhibit."

Initially, the Expo was one of only two independent comic festivals, but served as the prototype for many, according to Bernard.

"There are super hero festivals," he said. "And we are everything else."

For information about the Small Press Expo, visit: www.smallpressexpo.com.

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COVER STORY

Amazon looks for new home

**“Amazon,”
From page one**

threw his support to a bid to bring the Amazon project to Port Covington in Baltimore, a site owned by Under Armour CEO Kevin Plank and investment firm Goldman Sachs. Hogan said he would personally lobby Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos on behalf of the Baltimore bid.

Hogan spokeswoman Amelia Chasse said “he would welcome Amazon to any location within Maryland, and the state will assist any city [or county] submitting a proposal.” County Council member Nancy Floreen (D-At Large), chair of the Council’s economic development committee, agreed, telling the Sentinel, “I am sure the Governor will be a team player.”

Within the D.C. area, there likely will be multiple bids from D.C., Prince George’s County, and several Northern Virginia jurisdictions. On Sept. 13, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments board of directors voted unanimously to have COG develop regional background data that could be used in every metro area proposal. Montgomery County Council president Roger Berliner (D-1) claimed in a letter from his County executive campaign that he initiated the effort, and added that if any metro area locality wins the headquarters, it would be a boon for employment throughout the region.

Amazon already has a substantial footprint in Maryland and the D.C. area. According to data Hogan released when he endorsed the Baltimore bid, the company already has about 3,500 employees in Maryland, primarily at a Southeast Baltimore distribution center. In D.C., Bezos owns the Washington Post and recently bought a large home in the Kalorama neighborhood. The company’s “cloud” services, with by far the largest market share of

any firm in the cloud business, is managed in part from several buildings in Northern Virginia.

David Petr, CEO of the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation, is leading the County’s effort to compile its initial proposal in the four weeks left before the Oct. 19 deadline.

Petr, citing competitive reasons, declined to be specific about the work or the sites the County will propose. “The Amazon proposal is receiving our significant attention,” he said, and “we have identified partners” such as owners of potential sites for the headquarters, and government leaders. Noting potential local cooperation, he added, “Montgomery County and the region have an incredible value proposition to offer Amazon.”

Floreen noted the top-line attractions the County offers: an excellent, educated workforce; three area airports and strong public transportation; and good schools, universities and quality of life. All these are cited as criteria in Amazon’s Request for Proposals for the second headquarters, often referred to as Amazon HQ2.

Floreen also listed some sites in the County that have figured in early discussions of possible HQ2 locations: the former White Flint shopping mall in North Bethesda; the Comsat site in Clarksburg; the Public Service Training Academy near the Shady Grove Metro station in Gaithersburg; and the Food and Drug Administration site on New Hampshire Avenue in Silver Spring. She noted that the Comsat and FDA sites lack nearby Metrorail access. She said other sites are probably also in the mix.

The White Flint site is ready to develop, with the exception of the Lord & Taylor’s store still open there. A smaller nearby shopping center on Nicholson Lane is also under the same owner, Lerner Enterprises.

Metro faces additional FTA scrutiny

**“Spare part woes,”
From page one**

whom some of the problem departments reported too departed.

“It’s all been cleaned up as far as I know,” said Bulger. “It better be.”

“When the changeover came there was a different way for accounting for hours spent and parts and personnel that seems to be working better,” he said about the changes to Metro’s operations after the audit. And we brought in a new CFO from Chicago.”

FTA today still requires Metro to carry out corrective actions for safety and they oversee how WMATA uses federal grant money. According to the FY2017 budget, WMATA’s operating personnel budget decreased by \$21.6 million, primarily because

WMATA moved expenses for the required safety actions to the Capital Improvement Program. In that same year, that decrease was offset by increases for FTA required safety actions.

Earlier, FTA diverted a large sum of money into safety spending

According to FTA correspondence with WMATA, FTA diverted \$20 million of non-safety spending into safety spending, \$10 million away from pressure washing and cosmetic maintenance of the stations and \$10 million away from open bankcard and automatic fare collection systems. They then put that money into SafeTrack.

FTA management is also apparently unhappy with the local governments and their failure to provide for adequate safety oversight for local

transit. According to FTA correspondence with local governments in early 2017, FTA withheld federal grant money from local transit companies, including Metro, until a new safety oversight program could be certified and it is unclear if that has even happened yet.

“The U.S. Department of Transportation advised the Governors and Mayor that their respective jurisdictions may be subject to the withholding of up to five percent of their FY 2017 Urbanized Area formula funds if they did not collectively establish a State Safety Oversight Program (SSOP) for the rail operations of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Metrorail), certified by FTA, by February 9, 2017,” reads the correspondence. “They have not met that deadline.”

Remembering the early days of Metro rail

By Vic Simon
@vtime492

“What took you so long?”

That was part of my reaction to Metrorail when I started using it regularly in 1977. I grew up on Long Island, and often visited New York City, where I took the subway all around Manhattan and to summer jobs. So with my New York background, it felt funny to be in a major city with no subway when I moved to DC in 1969.

Metrorail opened on March 27, 1976, with just five Red Line stations: Farragut North, Metro Center, Judiciary Square, Union Station and Rhode Island Avenue. Gallery Place opened in December 1976. (NoMaggallaudet did not open until 2004.)

When the Dupont Circle station opened on Jan. 17, 1977, I became a regular Metro commuter. I lived in the Dupont Circle neighborhood, and worked at the D.C. Council as a legislative aide for John A. Wilson, after whom the District’s city hall, the Wilson Building, is named.

I didn’t know it back in 1977, but that’s when I became a Red Line

guy for most of my working life. Reviewing 40 years of my commutes from then until 2016, from many different homes to many different jobs, I counted about 28 years of travel by the Red Line, and 12 years of getting to work by car or working at home.

I rode mostly on the east side of the Red Line, going through the Silver Spring and Takoma stations to downtown DC, and one year transferring to the Yellow Line for work in Alexandria.ould take me to work!

As we all know from the battles over funding Metro, its operations are subsidized by taxes; the Metro website says state and local governments cover 48 percent of rail/bus operating costs, and fares cover 52 percent. Once I read in the Examiner newspaper that used to be handed out at Metro, that 78 percent of RideOn’s costs were paid by Montgomery County government, and only 22 percent by fare payers like me.

Hey, the “System” was working for me! (And other public transport riders.)

For decades, the Red Line was the jewel of Metrorail. Most reported Metro problems were on other lines,

usually the Blue and Orange. Sometimes I would go months without a significant delay. Getting offloaded and losing 20 minutes did not seem like a big deal when it happened so rarely.

Even after the horrific June 2009 accident that killed nine people, less than a mile from the Takoma station I was using then, the Red Line stayed pretty dependable. With all its recent service problems, the Red Line is still the most used Metrorail line, according to Metro station-entry and passenger-per-car data.

Metrorail will very likely still be here in another 40 years, because it’s so needed both as transportation and to keep down the metro area’s carbon footprint. Today many people, particularly millennials, increasingly want to use Metrorail despite its service and scheduling problems, in part because they’re less interested than prior generations in having their own cars. The agency’s finance, safety and governance issues being debated today will be key questions in deciding how Metro gets through the next 40 years.

Wallen murder investigation continues with other charges possibly pending

**“Wallen”
From page one**

Montgomery County Police spokesperson Sgt. Rebecca Innocenti confirmed on Tuesday that, according to autopsy results from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Baltimore, Wallen suffered a gunshot wound to the back of the head. However, final autopsy results are pending and police have not released a cause of death for Wallen.

According to Maryland law, an unborn child has to be considered medically viable once outside the womb before a murder charge can

be brought.

“Generally speaking the viability of a fetus in Maryland has been considered somewhere between 24 and 26 weeks,” said Ramon Korionoff, spokesman for the Montgomery County State’s Attorney office. “We await further information before making our final decision on additional charges.”

In Maryland, a sentence of life requires the defendant to serve at least 15 years before parole can be considered, Rockville defense attorney David Martella said.

“If you get a sentence of life, there is a provision that says you must serve at least 15 years of the sentence before being considered

for parole,” said Martella. “For murder cases, the governor must approve the parole. It is very difficult to get the governor’s approval.”

Maryland abolished the death penalty in 2013.

Wallen’s sister Jennifer Kadi reported Wallen missing on Monday, Sept. 4.

Police found her body nine days later on Sept. 13 in a shallow grave on a plot of land on Prices Distillery Road in Damascus.

Tessier lured Wallen to a property surrounded by farms, open fields and dense woods over Labor Day weekend, according to police reports. He told Wallen he hoped to buy the land and build a home for

the couple’s new family.

“Tyler has me on an adventure in the country,” Wallen said in a text to her sister the evening of Saturday, Sept. 2. “Don’t know why I’m here but it’s for something.”

Wallen’s sister, Jennifer Kadi, asked where she was. “I’m waiting in a field,” Wallen responded.

“Take a picture,” Kadi wrote back. Wallen sent her a photograph of a large field with a tree line, police said.

Tessier had been to the area before. Police said Tessier frequented a home of a “close friend,” a house adjacent to the property where police found Wallen’s body. The friend was out of town Labor Day

weekend.

Wallen lived with her dog in a condominium complex on Rolling Meadow Way in Olney. She was a social studies teacher at Wilde Lake High School in Howard County.

The last official sighting of Wallen was on Saturday, Sept. 2 between 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., police said. Security cameras captured Wallen and Tessier grocery shopping at the local Safeway located at 3333 Spartan Road in Olney.

Between 9 p.m. and 10 p.m., a neighbor in Wallen’s condominium complex said he saw the couple carrying groceries into Wallen’s home and then walking Wallen’s dog, Parker, outside in the parking lot.

NEWS

Nine month long legal dispute continues in Gaithersburg

By Peter Rouleau
@petersrouleau

GAITHERSBURG — A nine-month-old legal battle in Gaithersburg will have a new day in court next week. On December 19 last year, Mayor Jud Ashman and the Gaithersburg City Council took up the annexation of the Johnson Property, an area near the intersection of Darnestown Road and Quince Orchard Boulevard which has been slated for mixed-zone residential and commercial development. The Council was scheduled to conduct a discussion on the project and to vote on two resolutions authorizing the annexation and authorizing City Manager Tony Tomasello to execute an agreement to develop the property.

At the time, the Council was operating at reduced capacity. Council Member Henry F. Marraffa had died two months prior and the Council had not yet selected a replacement to serve the balance of his term. Yvette D. Monroe was later appointed to the position. Council member Ryan Spiegel was absent due to illness. Spiegel had also indicated that he would recuse himself from the discussion and vote because his employer, the Bethesda-based law firm Paley Rothman, had a business relationship with one of the developers. The city

charter requires four members to be present to conduct city business. (While the mayor, under the charter, does not cast a vote or break ties, his or her presence may establish the necessary quorum.)

Council member Robert Wu noted that many city residents had expressed concerns that the annexation would negatively impact quality of life in the city by increasing density. He indicated that he was inclined towards voting against the resolutions and argued that the issue was too important to be settled by what he termed a "weak majority" vote of 2-1. He proposed tabling the discussion until after Marraffa's replacement was selected and sworn in. When his proposal received no support, Wu left the meeting, depriving the Council of a quorum. Spiegel, who had been watching the meeting on television, drove to City Hall and formally announced that he was recusing himself from the discussion and vote. According to City Attorney N. Lynn Board, Spiegel's presence re-established the quorum, and the resolutions were passed 2-0 by Council Vice President Neil Harris and Council member A. Sesma.

Aaron Rosenzweig, a Gaithersburg resident who has testified before Ashman and the Council on several occasions and

created the website teamgaithersburg.org to increase civic involvement in the city, argued that the vote violated city law, citing Section 9 of the City Charter, which reads: "A majority of the council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but no ordinance shall be passed, except an ordinance adopting the annual budget, without a majority of the whole number of members elected to the council." Rosenzweig's suit sought a writ of mandamus compelling the city to annul the vote.

Board defended the vote, stating in a January 9 memo: "Sec. 9 of the Charter does further provide that no ordinance, with the exception of the budget ordinance, may be approved without the favorable votes of a majority of the whole number of the members elected to the council, or, in other words, without 3 favorable votes. While this provision absolutely applies to ordinances, it does not apply to resolutions. Therefore, if a quorum exists, a resolution may be approved by a majority of the Council members present."

Board filed a motion to dismiss the suit, which Judge Anne K. Albright heard arguments on May 10. Albright concurred with Board that Rosenzweig, who lives two miles away from the development site, had not demonstrated why he

had standing to bring the suit, not why a writ of mandamus was appropriate. She dismissed the suit, but granted Rosenzweig's request, to do so without prejudice, permitting him the maximum 30 days under law to amend the suit.

"My mistake was not going to my neighbors first to ask if they would be co-plaintiffs," Rosenzweig said after the ruling. While several Gaithersburg residents did file motions to intervene on Rosenzweig's behalf, they did not join the lawsuit as co-plaintiffs, and Albright stated at the beginning of the May 10 hearing that she would not consider motions to intervene. Fourteen people, residents of the city and nearby land, have signed on to the amended suits as co-plaintiffs.

"The co-plaintiffs all live in close proximity, as close as can be, many directly bordering the land,

Rosenzweig said. "It's unfortunate that one needs standing to question a legislative act of government but that is the current judicial system at play. The purpose is to prevent people from abusing the system with something frivolous, but this is not."

"This land makes an odd shape and looks funny when you see how Gaithersburg might be expanded," Rosenzweig said. "It is a chunk of land connected to the

City via a pinprick. It's similar to gerrymandering. The only residents who live directly adjacent are County citizens. The closest City residents are roughly 1,000 feet away. Basically the City claims nobody can have standing because only City residents can and none live close by."

Robin Ficker, a Boyds-based attorney who sponsored a successful term limits ballot measure last year and is also seeking the Republican nomination for County Executive, is representing the plaintiffs.

"We are challenging an annexation process whereby only two of five city councilmen can annex a large gerrymandered tract of land, connected to the city by a single 5 foot-wide point," Ficker said. "In this case the schools are in the city that would serve the proposed greatly increased-density city zoning annexation are already way overcrowded with many standing-alone classrooms."

Board has again filed a motion to dismiss the lawsuit, on which Albright will hear arguments next Monday.

"We don't believe the amended lawsuit changes our position that the defendants do not have standing in the case, which is why we have filed a motion to dismiss and are seeking summary judgment in the case," Board said.

County recommends setting tone online

By Neal Earley
@neal_earley

Members of a County Council committee unanimously agreed Monday that enforcing the ban on short-term rental done through websites such as Airbnb is untenable.

With about 1,400 units listed in the County listed on Airbnb, a website where people can list their homes and apartments for short-term rentals, members of the County Council Planning House and Economic Development Committee agreed to regulate and legalize the short-term rentals. The full Council would also have to agree to legalize and regulate the short-term renting out of property, however. Renting out property on websites such as Airbnb is currently illegal under county zoning law.

"We're giving up a lot of revenue because these things exist and they will continue to exist...I don't see how you could enforce it," said Council member George Leventhal (D-at large). "The internet is very slippery."

On Monday the PHED Committee held its first of two work sessions on a proposed zoning text amendment and bill to legalize and regulate short-term rentals done through Airbnb and other online platforms where people can rent their homes and properties for days at a time.

If passed, Zoning Text Amendment 17-03 would require residents who rent out their properties on the short term to rent out their properties for only 90 days out of a calendar year, which would only apply when the resident is away; limit the number of adult guests to six; limit the total number of adults per bedroom to two and require the resident to provide one off-street parking space per rental contract.

In coordination with ZTA 17-03, Bill 2-16, if passed, would require short-term rentals to follow some County licensing requirements such as: paying taxes, keeping a record of guests and having a carbon dioxide detector for units with natural gas. The bill would also ease regulations for beds-and-breakfast, which have to follow the

same regulations as hotels in the County.

Short-term rentals such as the ones arranged through Airbnb and similar websites are illegal under County zoning laws, and both ZTA 17-03 and Bill 2-16 are attempts to legalize and regulate them.

"Currently short-term rentals are just plain illegal under the zoning code," said Jeff Zyontz, a senior legislative analyst for the County Council. "We don't allow short term rentals unless you're a hotel or a bed and breakfast."

While Council members said they didn't believe the County could enforce existing law that prohibits unregulated short-term rentals, Zyontz disagreed. He said the County could implement a "bounty" system that would offer a reward for turning in residents who listed their properties on Airbnb, to enforce county zoning law.

All members of the PHED Committee pushed back against the idea of enforcing current County zoning law on residential short-term property rentals, agreeing it would be too difficult to do so.



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NEWS

Raskin urges resistance to GOP latest ACA repeal efforts

By Neal Earley
@neal_earley

SILVER SPRING – Rep. Jamie Raskin (D-8) rallied constituents Tuesday night to fight the latest Republican attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

While many Democrats considered Republicans' attempts to repeal Obamacare over, Raskin warned that the Republicans are trying again to pass a repeal bill in little over a week, saying now is the time for citizens to make one last push to stop it.

"These are a critical few weeks we have left, a critical few days we have left, and so I just want to make sure that everybody is fully engaged as we move forward," Raskin said.

Raskin spoke at a public forum

to support Medicaid at the Silver Spring Civic Center Tuesday, promising to fight the latest attempt to repeal Obamacare. The event was part of a traveling series of public forums led by Maryland Health Care for All, a political advocacy group that has toured across Maryland holding forums to support Medicaid.

"We decided to take this tour all around the state, so we are going from one end of the state to the other talking about how wonderful the Medicaid program is," said Vinny DeMarco, president of Maryland Health Care for All.

Senators Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and Bill Cassidy (R-La), introduced a bill last week that would eliminate Obamacare subsidies to private insurers and replaced the ex-

pansion of Medicaid with block grants from the federal government to fund the program. The bill has only until Sept. 30 to pass on Congress' reconciliation rules, which allows Congress to pass budget bills without the threat of a filibuster.

For most bills, the Senate needs a super majority or 60 votes to override a filibuster, but under the rules of reconciliation, a Senate bill only needs 51 votes. While Republicans have been previously divided over the issue of health care, failing to follow through on campaign promises to repeal Obamacare, some Republican senators have endorsed the Graham-Cassidy proposal.

Raskin specifically named three Republican senators who are needed to block the bill: Susan Collins of

Maine; Lisa Murkowski of Alaska; and Rand Paul of Kentucky.

"We need three GOP senators to cross the aisle and do the right thing," Raskin said.

Republicans split over health care can be seen within the state of Maryland. On Tuesday Gov. Larry Hogan announced his opposition to the Graham-Cassidy proposal in a statement saying that the Affordable Care Act needs to be fixed, not totally repealed.

"Unfortunately, the Graham-Cassidy bill is not a solution that works for Maryland. It will cost our state over \$2 billion annually while directly jeopardizing the health care of our citizens," Hogan said in a statement. "We need common sense, bipartisan solutions that will stabilize markets and actually ex-

pand affordable coverage."

Over the last year, Maryland has had trouble under Obamacare, with all but two of the original five health care insurance companies, CareFirst BlueCross Blue Shield and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Mid-Atlantic States, dropping out of the state exchanges, which allow people to buy government-subsidized health insurance.

In addition, last month state regulators approved rate increases for health insurance which range from a 23 to 50 percent increase depending on the plan or carrier.

"The Affordable Care Act and Medicaid are huge successes and I want to emphasize that we in Maryland are doing everything we can to fully implement the Affordable Care Act," DeMarco said.

Solar advocates target new goals

By Vic Simon
@vtime492

Solar and wind energy advocates joined in Baltimore on Sept. 13 to push for higher alternative energy goals in the 2018 state legislative session, after enacting such targets in the 2016 and 2017 sessions.

Also, in Rockville on Sept. 16, Maryland Solar United Neighborhoods (MD SUN) held a conference on expanding solar use by homes and businesses throughout the state, including "community solar" projects in which individual homeowners and tenants share in large solar installations.

At the Baltimore meeting, environmental, business, labor, and religious groups came together to support requiring that 50 percent of Maryland's electricity come from renewable sources by 2030. In its 2017 session, the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation requiring 25 percent of the state's electricity from such sources by 2020, overriding Gov. Larry Hogan's veto.

In 2016, the state legislature enacted with Hogan's support a mandate for a 40 percent reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from present levels by 2030. Hogan spokeswoman Amelia Chasse said, "Maryland's standard is stronger than 90 percent of the states in the country." She added that Maryland is part of a regional group with eight other states that plan to cut GHG emissions by 30 percent between 2020 and 2030. Hogan also strongly supports electric cars and charging stations, she said.

Vinny DeMarco, founder of the Maryland Clean Energy Jobs Initiative, told the Baltimore gathering, "Renewable energy saves lives and creates jobs." He referenced the recent storms, such as Hurricanes Har-

vey and Irma, which many people attribute to climate change.

David Murray, executive director of the Maryland, DC, Delaware and Virginia Solar Energy Industries Association (MDV SEIA), told the group that there are about 5,400 solar energy jobs in Maryland, with about three-quarters working for about 120 solar installation companies. Data from the national SEIA says that 76,000 homes in Maryland have solar panels installed, spurred by a 64 percent drop in the price of solar panels over the last five years.

Omar Burrell, a solar installation worker living in Baltimore, said that his job was truly lifesaving for him, because the steady income and work were tremendous stabilizing forces in his life. Burrell obtained training in solar installation from Civic Works, a Baltimore community group.

Montgomery County Del. Bill Frick (D-16) has said he will introduce the 2018 bill to raise the Renewable Portfolio Standard target or RPS, to 50 percent. The proposal has no Senate sponsor yet. The RPS standard has smaller annual increases through 2020, and those steps would continue through 2030 under the proposed bill.

Perhaps surprisingly, the annual increases in the RPS standard are raising electricity rates in Maryland, at least for the next few years. That's because utility companies such as Pepco and Baltimore Gas & Electric must buy "renewable energy credits" to comply with the requirements. Reportedly, the credits cost the utilities—and in turn Maryland ratepayers—\$127 million in 2015. Citing this feature of the RPS standard, Hogan has derided it as a "sunshine tax."

The current RPS law counts several forms of energy generation as "renewable." In 2015, the traditional

renewables of solar, wind and geothermal energy comprised just 27 percent of the Maryland RPS.

According to MD SUN, the rest came from refuse-to-energy plants (trash incinerators), hydroelectric dams, a paper mill byproduct known as black liquor, landfill gas, other "biomass," and pelletized fuel. An important feature of the RPS standard, said MDV SEIA's Murray and MD SUN's program director Corey Ransden, is the "solar carve-out," a separate, lower percentage of Maryland's electricity that must come from solar sources. According to the national SEIA, solar now generates 2.7 percent of Maryland's electricity.

Murray and Ransden said the RSP and GHG standards are complementary because both foster using more renewable energy; the two standards, while not identical, are not contradictory, they asserted. The 2016 GHG law "has a broader impact," Murphy said, because the GHG standard applies to non-electrical energy sources, such as coal and natural gas. The GHG reductions "more directly impact" the construction, transportation, and heavy industrial sectors," Murray added. "The Maryland RPS has [also] helped grow the state's renewable sector."

Ramsden said the RPS and GHG standards "are not well-aligned... [and] are not adjusted together." The 2018 bill proposed by DeMarco's group would largely continue the pressure from the 2017 law for the state to keep improving its renewable energy performance, he noted. It's essential, he contended, that the solar carve-out percentage continue to rise with the overall RPS standard. Montgomery College Dean Ed Roberts said there are about 1,000 solar employees in the County, with about three-quarters of them doing installation work.

New skate park may be on its way to Rockville area

By Neal Earley
@neal_earley

City of Rockville officials are considering renovating the city skate park, which is in disrepair according to a City recreation official.

This Friday, City government officials will be holding an open house to get public input on the proposed new 15,000 square-foot public skate park to replace the one that is currently at Rockville Swim and Fitness Center. Andy Lett, superintendent of recreation with the City of Rockville, said the City officials are planning to build the new skate park at Welsh Park, which is adjacent to the current one.

"It's out lived its life span and we need to provide a new skate park for the residents," Lett said.

The City originally opened the skate park, located at 355 Martins Lane behind the Swim and Fitness Center, in 2001.

Members of the community can weigh for the open house on the skate park Friday Sept. 22 at the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Lett said the skate park has fallen into disrepair given some of the equipment such as the boxes and a pyramid ramp are made of wood and have deteriorated over the years.

"Activity that's the main thing really," Lett said. "Getting citizens active outside and doing something different."

While City officials have not released a request for proposal yet for the proposed new skate park, Lett said he is looking to have the new skate park be made out of mostly concrete. Lett estimated the new skate park could cost the City nearly \$1 million. Meanwhile, City Recreation and Park Department officials have allotted \$362,500 in the department's current capital improvements plan budget and are asking the City Council for the necessary funds to build the park.

Council member Virginia Onley said she supported building a new skate park, but said she plans to wait for public input before she is fully committed to supporting the project in the City's Capital Improvements Plan budget.

"I personally think it's a good idea but I'm not going to be using that skate park," Onley said.

Lett said after the City drafts its request for proposal and selects a contractor, it will take 12 to 18 months of construction to complete the skate park.

"There are a lot of young people who are on skateboards, so if they had a really nice park that would be a benefit," Onley said.

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NEWS

MCPS and residents celebrate renovation of Seneca Valley H.S.

By Rachel Cain
@rachelcain53

Officials from Montgomery County Public Schools, from County government and from state government broke ground at Seneca Valley High School for the school's long-awaited revitalization and expansion Monday.

The \$138 million project involves constructing a new school building to replace the original, which opened in 1974, and expand student capacity to accommodate the anticipated student overflow at nearby high schools.

"It's going to provide for you and future students more light, more technology access, more spaces that are more like you have in real life every day and more space for more

students," Montgomery County Public Schools Superintendent Jack Smith said at the ceremony.

Seneca Valley Principal Marc Cohen said the school administration will likely have to more than double its faculty and staff of 175 people to accommodate a larger student body.

"That particular part of the county, Germantown and Clarksburg, have really gone through a lot of growth," Board of Education President Michael Durso said. "Our schools in that part of the County are all pretty much overcrowded, so in addition to the need of an updated facility, [the revitalization and expansion] will address our growth issues."

School officials expect enrollment at Northwest and Clarksburg high schools to exceed capacity in the coming years.

Officials anticipate construction will be completed in time for the 2020-2021 school year. School officials initially anticipated construction would be completed by the 2019-2020 school year, but pushed that date back due to the complexity of the project.

According to the 2015 preliminary plans presentation on the Seneca Valley High School Revitalization/Expansion, MCPS will build a brand-new replacement school beside the original school because it would have been too expensive to bring the existing school into code compliance.

"Based on the condition of the existing facility and the cost to bring the school into compliance with code requirements, the most cost effective solution is to construct a replacement

facility adjacent to the existing school," officials said in the 2015 preliminary plans presentation.

The expanded school will be 439,346 square feet.

Durso said the school will be the largest high school in the state of Maryland.

The School will have the capacity for 2,423 students. The current building is 251,278 square feet and has the capacity for 1,361 students. The facility will include new features such as a greenhouse, a 900-seat auditorium and a TV studio.

Smith said areas around other schools in the county –including Walter Johnson, Walt Whitman and Northwood –may receive similar expansions and revitalizations in the upcoming years.

"All of those places need space

for about 2,500 more high school students in the next three years," Smith said.

Cohen and Durso said the need for a new school at Seneca Valley was apparent years ago.

"I couldn't be happier," Cohen said in an interview. "When I got to Germantown twelve years ago, people were already frustrated that the new school wasn't under construction. Twelve years later, to stand here as the principal of the school, ushering in this project, it's an amazing gift."

Durso said lack of adequate funding contributed to the delay.

"This project goes back a ways and I think it's been delayed maybe one or two times, so I think it's been pretty apparent for some time that we needed to do something."

County Rec Director files for Council seat

By Neal Earley
@neal_earley

Montgomery County Department of Recreation Director Gabe Alborno is the latest candidate to file for County Council At-Large.

Alborno has served at the County's director of the Department of Recreation since County Executive Ike Leggett appointed him to the position in 2007.

Alborno said his tenure working in County government has given him the necessary experience with forming coalitions, working with the County's non-profit partners and maintaining a budget which he said is needed on the County Council.

After 10 years of working in the executive branch, Alborno said he wants to step over to the legislative side where he can have more of an impact.

"You are in a unique position to connect dots and to build bridges between communities," Alborno said of the County Council.

Alborno credits his experience heading a County agency during the "Great recession" of 2009, saying it gave him the background

managing a budget during economic hardship. He implemented a zero-based budget that year. Alborno said each County agency, every several years or so, should work from a zero-based budget, or a budget that starts from zero and every item has to be added to the budget.

Alborno said he wants to strengthen the County's economic vitality by increasing collaboration between small and large businesses in the County. Alborno also said he supports increasing the minimum wage to \$15 per hour, but said he is worried about the impact it could have on businesses.

Alborno said the County needs to repair its out of state infrastructure namely bridges, roads and water pipes that are old and in disrepair.

"We have an aging infrastructure," Alborno said. "There are several water main breaks every day and our aging infrastructure needs to be addressed."

Alborno said infrastructure spending is part of his five-point plan to mitigate the impacts of traffic congestion. Alborno suggested the County invest in high-speed in-

ternet to encourage people to work from home. He wants the County to partner with technology companies such as Google and Uber, which are leading the way in technology for ride sharing and for driverless cars. In addition, Alborno said he supports planning communities to be more densely built around transportation hubs such as Pike and Rose.

Alborno also said wants to expand the use of apps like Alert Montgomery that can warn drivers about accidents, traffic jams and construction that may slow down commutes. Finally, Alborno proposes the County Council spend more on County roads and bridges as part of his transportation agenda.

On education Alborno said he wants to work with the County Board of Education to revamp Montgomery County Public Schools' curriculum to be more focused on science, technology, engineering and math education as well as partner with businesses to ask them what skills are they seek in a future workforce.

"We are heading toward a digital economy," Alborno said.

Takoma Park mulls Civil War era street name changes

By Nickolai Sukharev
@NickolaiSS

TAKOMA PARK – The Takoma Park City Council is considering changing street names possibly associated with Civil War figures during its weekly meeting Wednesday evening.

Streets in the city bear the names of several figures associated with both the Union and the Confederacy. Council members also acknowledged that, because the street names contained only surnames, some ambiguity existed.

"The [city] staff identified a number of streets and parks that are named for Confederate figures, some for union generals and others," said Takoma Park City Manager Suzanne Ludlow.

Ludlow's staff categorized the names as 'more than likely associated' and 'possibly associated.'

The names thought to be 'more than likely associated' with Confederate figures are Lee, Jackson, Davis, as well as the Jackson-Boyd Neighborhood Park while those 'possibly associated' are Boyd, Trescott, Garland, Palmer and Minter.

Names 'more than likely associated' with Union figures are Lincoln, Sherman, Sheridan, and Grant while 'possibly associated' names are Hancock, Colby, Hilton, Freemont, Hodges, Hayward, and Carroll.

Ludlow explained that streets bearing the names were concentrated in the central part of the city but the staff were unable to conclude how the streets received their names or if they were intended to be associated with Civil War figures.

"When you take a name like Jackson, it could be many different

people," she said.

Fred Schultz (Ward 6) added that some of the street names could be rededicated for historical figures other than those involved in the Civil War.

"Lee Avenue, we have the Blair-Lee Family, a very famous family the goes back to Civil War times," Schultz said. "Why one of our names which is named after Lincoln and Grant wouldn't also be named after Andrew Jackson would seem normal," he added.

"In the Revolutionary War we had General Light Horse Harry Lee who was a favorite of General Washington and fought at Yorktown."

Tim Male (Ward 2) added that Union figures also had objectionable associations.

"We've very much focused on Confederate generals, but as my colleagues know, I brought up the issue of both Generals Sherman and Sheridan who are closely associated with efforts to exterminate and commit genocide against Native American tribes," he said.

The Council also debated on how to pursue potential street names.

One method included the formal renaming process through the Montgomery County Council which requires the city to attain the signatures of all the property owners on the streets in question.

Another method includes a public arts project through the city's Commemoration Commission which would raise awareness on the background of the figures associated with the names.

Male said the city could also get an exemption from the Montgomery County Council to rename the streets

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NEWS

Ford offers an alternative van while Toyota goes sporty

Every day, you're probably seeing countless Ford Transit Connect vans without paying them a second glance. Most are built as rolling boxes with no rear windows, emblazoned with the names of plumbing companies or home-security specialists.

But Ford also sells versions of the 2017 Transit Connect that are designed as family cars. And despite their work-van origins — and their associated drawbacks — these vans are surprisingly appealing to drive.

First off, don't confuse the Transit Connect with its much larger Transit sibling. That's a full-size rear-

drive van for heavy-duty work, and its passenger version seats up to 15. The Transit Connect, meanwhile, is mechanically derived from Ford's compact economy car, the Focus. It has front-wheel-drive, a four-cylinder engine and it's a breeze to park.

The Transit Connect is even significantly smaller than a normal minivan, like a Chrysler Pacifica, Honda Odyssey or Toyota Sienna. It's sold as a 174-inch-long version with two rows of seats or an 189-inch-long version with three rows — the former is about as long as a Ford Fiesta subcompact sedan, and the latter is about as long as a Ford Edge midsize crossover. A normal minivan would be about a foot longer and six inches wider.

The Transit Connect's Ford Focus roots show through on the road. The Focus is one of the more fun compact cars to drive, and this van shares its delightfully tight, responsive steering. Meanwhile, the high roof and huge windows lend it outstanding visibility.

It's also quite functional. The five-passenger version has the space of a midsize SUV with the footprint of a compact or even subcompact one, along with handy sliding doors. And the long-wheelbase model — which can hold either six or seven passengers, depending on the seating configuration — offers 104 cubic feet of cargo room, more than nearly any other passenger car but a minivan or a Chevy Suburban.

However, the Transit Connect's work-van roots will hold it back for some families. Ford curiously omitted a minivan staple — power-sliding doors — and also doesn't offer a power liftgate, rear entertainment system or rear USB ports. Moreover, the rear seats were clearly retrofitted into a vehicle that was designed mainly for cargo; the cushions aren't especially comfortable, and it's a little fussy to fold them down.

Moreover, if its compact size and nimble handling aren't of paramount importance, Ford doesn't give much of a price advantage over a normal minivan. Prices for the passenger version start at nearly \$27,000 without ample equipment, and the tested top-of-the-line Titanium model surpassed \$34,000 despite its missing features. You also won't save at the pump; the Transit Connect's little four-cylinder engine is rated for 22 mpg, the same as the leading normal-sized, V6-powered minivans.

If the Transit Connect's undeniably unique personality sounds appealing, though, be sure to give it a look despite its shortcomings.

Many small two-door cars only look sporty. The popular Honda Civic coupe, for instance, has mainly cosmetic changes from the Civic sedan — it looks more fun, but mostly it retains much of the sensible four-door's everyday comfort, fuel economy and value.

Don't confuse the 2017 Toyota 86 for that type of coupe. This little two-door is a rear-wheel-drive performance machine — a vehicle with sublime handling agility but a cramped and austere interior, a noisy ride and a price that starts at a somewhat lofty \$27,150.

The 86 is the new name for the Scion FR-S, given that Toyota has discontinued its Scion brand. The car was co-developed with Subaru, which sells its own version of the car as the BRZ. In conjunction with the name change, Toyota tweaked the styling and made some modest mechanical adjustments, including the addition of five more horsepower for the 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine.

That said, drivers who care most about acceleration will likely look elsewhere. Given that the 86 weighs just 2,700 pounds, its 205-horsepower produces lively performance — but for this price, it's easy to find faster cars in a straight line. Where the 86 and BRZ stand out is their handling. Their rear-wheel-drive architecture was carefully crafted for a balanced weight distribution between the front and rear of the car, and the steering is delightfully prompt and responsive. You sit low in these lithe little coupes, maintaining a close connection to the road.

But if you're looking for broader appeal, the 86 doesn't quite deliver it. Except when handling is paramount, the rest of the package is just too crude for the price. The front seats are supremely comfortable and supportive in aggressive driving, but the rest of the cabin is dated and dull. The rear seats are almost unusable; there's zero legroom if the front seats are all the way back. The cabin is noisy and tinny. Luxury features like leather upholstery aren't offered (though you can get that one on the BRZ).

Shop the 86 and BRZ against the Mazda MX-5 and Fiat 124 Spider convertibles.

*Auto Drive
By
Brady Holt*



The Ford Transit looks interesting, up top. And directly above, the new Toyota.

COURTESY PHOTOS.

THE ARTS

Newseum exhibit highlights Berlin Wall history

By Barbara Trainin Blank
@traininblank

Even before you enter the Newseum, its mission is clear. The words of the First Amendment – guaranteeing the free exercise of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom to peaceably assemble, and freedom of petition – are emblazoned on the Pennsylvania Avenue side of the imposing glass building.

That focus highlights the Newseum's intent to educate visitors on the First Amendment's guaranteed rights. A recent study by the Annenberg Public Policy Center at the University of Pennsylvania asked roughly 1000 adults in the United States the open-ended question: "What are the specific rights guaranteed by the First Amendment?"

Forty-eight percent of those surveyed named freedom of speech as one of those rights. But far fewer could name the other First Amendment rights: 15 percent named free-

dom of religion; 14 percent named freedom of the press; 10 percent named the right of assembly, and only 3 percent named the right to petition the government.

The Newseum, which moved in 2000 from its original location in Arlington, Va. to its current location at Pennsylvania Avenue and Sixth Street in D.C., attracts some 800,000 visitors a year.

The seven-story building houses permanent and changing exhibits – comprising photographs, text, documents, videos, newspaper front pages, and other objects – as well as 15 theaters.

Staff suggests starting your visit on the Hubbard Broadcasting Concourse and taking a glass elevator to Level Six. You then walk down floor by floor till you reach Level One.

Perhaps my recent viewing once again of Steven Spielberg's 2015 Cold War movie "The Bridge of Spies," starring Tom Hanks, is what drew me to the exhibit "Berlin Wall: A City Caged."

Set during the Cold War, the film relates the story of lawyer James B. Donovan, who negotiated the release in 1962 of U.S. Air Force pilot Francis Gary Powers (flew a U-2 spy plane shot down over the Soviet Union in 1960) and college student Frederic Pryor (arrested and held without charge by the East German Police in 1961) in exchange for convicted Russian spy Rudolf Abel. The exchange took place at the Glienicke Bridge, which connected West Berlin and Potsdam, East Germany.

It's awe-inspiring to see eight actual, 12-foot-high concrete blocks from the Wall, originally built in 1961 to separate East Germany and West Berlin.

The difference between the East side blocks – totally blank – and the West one, decorated with political slogans, graffiti, and paintings, is telling.

In addition to the blocks, donated by Berlin's Checkpoint Charlie Museum, photographs, videos, and

stickers on the floor, each enumerating one freedom abridged under Communism, round out the story of one failed attempt by a regime to control the minds of people.

Also chilling is an actual East German guard tower.

Two hundred people died trying to escape from East to West. Nearly 5000 managed to get through, over, or under the Wall, but 4,000 failed and ended up in prison. Some of the would-be escapees were East German soldiers and guards.

The Berlin Wall stood until Nov. 9, 1989, when the head of the East German Communist Party announced that citizens of the country could cross the border whenever they pleased. One photo in the exhibit shows people chipping away at the wall with hammers and picks.

In another memorable photograph, Germans from both sides dance on Brandenburg Gate to celebrate the Wall's destruction.

The Newseum also has a lighter side, such as in its Funny Pages ex-

hibit, which showcases newspaper comics, and an exhibit on "First Dogs," U.S. presidents' pet dogs who lived in the White House.

It includes a dining area called the Food Section as well as a gift store.

There's a lot of ground to cover here, but all tickets are good for two consecutive days.

The Newseum is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday and closed only on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Members are admitted free year-round. School groups, K-university, who reserve ahead of time from one of 15 designated counties also enter free.

Admission rates vary: for adults 19-64, \$24.95; seniors (65 and older), \$19.95; and youth (7 to 18) \$14.9. Add taxes to all prices. Children 6 and younger are admitted free.

The Newseum is fully accessible.

Friendship and unity promoted by more than a thousand in Silver Spring

By Rachel Cain
@rachelcain53

SILVER SPRING –More than 1,600 people attended the fifth annual Montgomery County Friendship Picnic at Wheaton Regional Park on Sunday.

The free event featured halal and kosher food, musical performances of different cultures, moon bounces, face painting and free carousel rides, as well as the Friendship Walk and small-group discussions where participants had the opportunity to get to know each other and talk about their community's concerns.

Germantown resident Edna Garcia said, "I'm glad Montgomery County does this once a year."

She said she enjoyed seeing the families and the kids enjoying themselves, since it reminded her of when her own children were younger.

"It's family time, that's the most important thing," said Garcia.

More than a dozen sponsors and donors contributed to the event, including the Montgomery County Committee on Hate/Violence and the Montgomery County Human Rights Commission.

Various County, religious and cultural organizations also set up information tables at the event. County and state officials, including County Executive Ike Leggett, Council member Marc Elrich (D-At Large) and Congressman Jamie Raskin (D-8), attended the picnic.

Lisa Taylor, secretary for the Montgomery County Committee on

Hate/Violence, was one of the volunteers helping with the Sunday picnic.

"There are a lot of cultural programs here, so we try to meet the needs of all members of our community to make sure we are entertaining everyone and also educating those that haven't spoken to other parts of the community," said Taylor, who is also a civil rights attorney for the U.S. Justice Department. "So, it's an all-inclusive approach to diversity."

The Rev. Mansfield Kaseman, Montgomery County's interfaith community liaison, said one strength of the event is that in addition to helping people have fun and relax, it helps people connect with county and community resources they might not have known existed.

"In addition to the food and the free carousel and train rides, we have what might be like a resource fair with the different tables that are there welcoming anybody that isn't aware of all the services that we provide, particularly the immigrant and refugee families," Kaseman said. "So, that's why it's important to have the police and fire and rescue together with the signing up to vote and to the work we're doing with the faith community advisory council, and on from there."

Organizations such as the Office of Human Rights, the Montgomery County Pride Center and Montgomery County Fire and Rescue had tables with resources, including information on fair employment practices and how to report a hate crime.

Faize Mustapha, a member of the Islamic Society of the Washington Area, has managed a table at the event for the past several years. During that time, attendees have shared with her their experiences and struggles in the County.

"You find people who want to share their stories," she said. "They go, 'Oh, I'm an immigrant, too.' Or, 'Oh, I have some information about discrimination,' 'Oh, yeah, my employer did this at work, is that legal?' 'Oh my faith community is trying to partner with other people. How can we get that going?'"

Mustapha said the picnic is "very, very, very important. The kids get to mingle...folks get to recognize that we're all part of the same fabric, one Montgomery County."

Taylor said County officials began holding the picnic in 2013, as an effort to build unity in the divisive aftermath of the Boston Marathon bombings.

"We started to become aware of the issues in our communities surrounding hate and violence and felt that while there's a lot of good focus on dealing with it from a security standpoint, there wasn't a lot of effort to kind of bring communities together to address differences that people have in a friendly way," said Taylor, County Committee on Hate/Violence secretary. "So, this is more about a positive approach to inclusion and addressing any differences that people have through friendship and fun."

The first year, a couple hundred people attended. Since then,

the picnic has more than doubled in size.

"We've got so many great festivities and parades and stuff, it's hard to get entrenched in Montgomery County, but this is becoming fast entrenched," Raskin said. "It's actually a profoundly significant event, but you probably miss its significance being in Montgomery County. For us, we take this kind of diversity and this kind of unity for granted. In lots of parts of America, diversity is a source of conflict and tension, and in Montgomery County, diversity is the source of our strength. So, this celebrates the fact and makes people pause to appreciate it."

Taylor and Kaseman said that the event has added importance this year, with increased hate-related incidents occurring in the county.

According to a Montgomery County Police Department report, in 2016, "bias incidents" increased by 43.4 in the county from 2015.

"I think there's also a growing interest in coming together," Kaseman said. "Part of it's a reaction perhaps, to the divisiveness, to the hateful rhetoric, to all of the forces that are attempting to divide us, and move us – particularly since the election – into camps and into increased incidents of hate and violence... I talked with quite a few [families] that were talking about how important it was for their children to be playing and enjoying and being together in a diverse climate, in a park where there was that kind of diversity."

James L. Stowe, director of the

Montgomery County Office of Human Rights, regarded the picnic as a counterpoint to acts of hate in the County.

"Look around you and see all the great diversity that is here," he told a crowd. "One of my colleagues just said this: 'When we have acts of hate happen in Montgomery County, that is not the norm.' Look around you today, friends. This is the norm. Everybody working together, standing together as one community... It's a great day for Montgomery County. We're going forward. We're going forward."

Carlos Abila attended the picnic for the first time this year. As he watched while his 3-year-old granddaughter rode the carousel, he said he might be back next year. He said he enjoys "seeing all the different people" at the event.

This year, the picnic included the second annual Friendship Walk. The walk began in memory of Luis Zapata, who served as a committee member on the Montgomery County Committee on Hate/Violence.

During the walk, participants amble around the park and respond a list of questions with each other. The questions ranged from informal – How would you feel if you had to give up your favorite food – to more serious – What is an issue of the day you feel passionate about?

Attendees had the opportunity to participate in small-group discussions about issues in their communities and whether there is anything the county organizations could do to meet their needs.

CALENDAR

What's happening this week in Montgomery County

BLACKROCK CENTER FOR THE ARTS

• BLACKROCK INDEPENDENT FILM SERIES PACKAGE FILM | SUNDAY, SEP 24, 2017 | 4:00 PM | \$36

• DEEEJ FILM | SUNDAY, SEP 24, 2017 | 4:00 PM | \$7

• HYPNOTIC BRASS ENSEMBLE KICKS OFF 2017 - 2018 SEASON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2017, 8:00 PM

STRATHMORE

• THE SIMON & GARFUNKEL STORY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2017, 8:00 PM

• EXHIBITION OPENING RECEPTION - THE MANSION SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2017, 2:00 PM

THE FILLMORE

• MUTEMATH - PLAY DEAD LIVE WITH COLONY HOUSE, ROMES FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2017, 8:00 PM

• MARILYN MANSON WITH ALICE GLAS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2017, 8:00 PM

WOLF TRAP - THE BARN

• JOAN SHELLEY | JAMES ELKINGTON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2017, 8:00 PM

• MAX WEINBERG'S JUKEBOX | JD & THE STRAIGHT SHOT WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2017, 8:00 PM

SEP 21

THE HISTORY, ART AND SCIENCE OF BREWING BEER AT HOME

Sep. 21. 7:00 - 8:45 P.M. This program will introduce you to the history, art and science of beer making and demonstrate the equipment, ingredients and process for brewing your own delicious beer at home. Where: Gaithersburg Library, 18330 Montgomery Village Ave., Gaithersburg, MD 20879. Phone: 240-773-9490. Web Address: <http://montgomerycountymd.gov/library/>. This program is free.

SILVER SPRING HEALTH AND WELLNESS EXPO & DANCE FITNESS FESTIVAL

Sep. 21. 1:00 - 9:00 P.M. The Annual Silver Spring Health and Wellness Expo & Dance Fitness Festival, under the tagline "Know Your Numbers" and "Move Your Body" is a free public, OUT-DOOR event committed to building a healthier and stronger community in partnership with other health care providers, fitness professionals, health educators, businesses, and non-profit organizations to empower, inspire and motivate the public to make healthier lifestyle choices. To participate in this event, please contact info@thewellnessplex.com or call 301-565-8219. Where: Silver Spring Civic Center - Veterans Plaza, Downtown Silver Spring, 1 Veterans Pl., Silver Spring, MD 20910.

ZUMBA GOLD DROP IN CLASS

Sep. 21. 12:00 - 1:00 P.M. Have fun every Thursday and get a great workout at the same time. Where: Long Branch Senior Center, 8700 Piney Branch Road, Silver Spring, MD 20901.

PARENT LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

Sep. 21. 6:30 - 8:00 P.M. For adults who have experienced the death of one or both parents. A six-week group that meets each Thursday from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Mother Seton Catholic Church, 19951

Father Hurler Blvd., Germantown. Led by Montgomery Hospice professional counselors. Registration required: 301-921-4400.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS MEETING

Sep. 21. Thursdays: 7:15 - 8:30 P.M. Overeaters Anonymous meeting at the Rockville Church of Christ, 1450 Montgomery Ave., Rockville (in Parish House). For further information, <http://www.oa-dcmetro.org/> or Linda S at 301-641-9508.

SEP 22

THE SIMON & GARFUNKEL STORY

Sep. 22. 8:00 P.M. This critically acclaimed theatrical concert is about two boys from Queens, New York, who became the most successful music duo of all time. The Simon & Garfunkel Story includes timeless hits "Mrs. Robinson," "Bridge Over Troubled Water," "The Sound of Silence," and many more. The Simon & Garfunkel Story brings to life the lyrics and melodies that helped shape a musical generation and gave the group their global fame. Where: The Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda, MD 20852.

SEP 22 & 23

RIO SUMMER CONCERTS

Sep. 22. & 23. 6:00 - 9:00 P.M. Live music every Friday and Saturday night from 6-9pm on RIO Patio near the paddle boats and Union Jack's! Address: 9811 Washingtonian Blvd, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

SEP 23 - 24

THE GREAT GATSBY AT OLNEY THEATRE CENTER

Sep. 23 @ 7:30 P.M. and Sep. 24 @ 1:30 P.M. In a time where success is expected and excess celebrated, Jay Gatsby is a god among men, yet without the love of Mrs. Daisy Buchanan, he is unfulfilled. This fast-paced adaptation of Fitzgerald's novel brings the Jazz Age of New York to life as Daisy's cousin Nick guides us through a world where love, opportunity, deception, and tragedy are always just around the corner. Where: Olney Theatre Center, 2001 Olney Sandy Spring Road, Olney, MD 20832

SEP 24

BLACKROCK INDEPENDENT FILM SERIES PACKAGE

Sep. 24. 4:00 P.M. Are you a film lover? Save \$1 off per film by purchasing admission to all six sessions of our BlackRock Independent Film Series! Each film in the Independent Film Series at BlackRock feature a post-screening Q&A with its respective filmmaker(s). All film screenings will be General Admission and seating is first-come, first served. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Patron Services team by emailing info@blackrockcenter.org, or calling 240-912-1058.

SEP 25

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS' TRENDING TOPIC

Sep. 25. 6:45 P.M. - 8:30 P.M. How accurate are our voter registration rolls? Are elections secure? How are polling places monitored? To learn more about the Maryland election process from the experts at the State and Montgomery County Boards of Elections, join us Monday, in the 2nd Floor Meeting Room of the Rockville Library, 21 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850. State Board of Elections Deputy Administrator Nikki Charlson



COURTESY PHOTO

The Hypnotic Brass Ensemble kick off BlackRock Center's 2017-2018 Season on Friday, October 6, 2017 at 8:00 pm.

will join Montgomery Board President James Shallock, Secretary Mary Ann Keefe, and Election Director Margaret Jurgensen in explaining how Maryland election operate behind-the-scenes. Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, Maryland. Free. Come early. Seating may be limited. For more information email LWVMC@erols.com; phone 301-984-9585. Website: www.lwvmocomd.org.

SEP 26 - 27

MID-ATLANTIC FOOD, BEVERAGE & LODGING EXPO

Sep. 26 - 27. You're invited to attend the Mid-Atlantic Food, Beverage & Lodging Expo! This industry-only tradeshow offers 150 vendors & suppliers, product demos, new technology, samples, seminars and exciting competitions. Did you know Expo also includes a book signing by MasterChef Season 7 winner Shaun O'Neale? Not to mention, our NEW Construction Kitchen competition - inspired by Food Network's Cutthroat Kitchen. Where: Maryland State Fairgrounds - Timonium - Inside the "Cow Palace Building. Register yourself and your staff for FREE. Then, pick-up your badges at the Express Registration when you arrive. Your registration includes access to 200 exhibitors, samples, cooking demos, educational seminars and much more.

SEP 27

SQUARE DANCE LESSONS AND DANCING

Sep. 27. 7:30 - 9:45 P.M. Square dance lessons and dancing at North Chevy Chase Christian Church, 8814 Kensington Parkway (in Parish House). Wednesdays: 7:30 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. \$7 per person. Contact phone number: 301-598-2574. <http://www.gerrymanders.info/>

SHADY GROVE FARMERS MARKET

Sep. 27. 11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. Opening Rain or Shine, 11am - 2pm. Wednesdays May 3 to October 25

Due to Montgomery County Health Department rules, we can only have Service dogs with Service Collars at the market. The Shady Grove Farmers' Market is a true expression of Maryland agriculture from fresh produce, meats, flowers, cheeses, Maryland wines and artisans of delicious foods, breads, pottery and chic jewelry. Where: Parking Lot of Johns Hopkins Rockville Campus ***Facing Key West Ave*** 9601 Broschart Rd, Rockville, MD 20850.

September 21, 2017 - September 27, 2017

Oct. 1. 4:30 P.M. Award winning, nationally touring husband and wife duo Laura Wortman and Kagey Parrish perform fresh, original songs influenced by traditional Appalachian music. Accompanied by guitar, mandolin, banjo and harmonica, their performances are described as "mesmerizing" and "genuine." A must see for those who enjoy topnotch duet singing with roots in folk, old-time and bluegrass. Location: St. Anne's Church, 25100 Ridge Road, Damascus, MD 20872. Price: free will offering. Reception follows with refreshments and a chance to meet the artists.

AUTHOR TALK AT ROCKVILLE LIBRARY

Oct. 1. 2:00 P.M. Judith Heimann will talk about her book, *Paying Calls in Shangri-La*, at the Rockville Memorial Library (21 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD). Judith was one of the first wives to become half of a "tandem" diplomatic couple. She has spent some fifty years in American diplomacy as a Foreign Service spouse, twenty as a tandem diplomat, and now as a rehired annuitant. During a life spent mostly abroad in Europe, Asia, and Africa, she has also published widely on Southeast Asia and has authored three solo books. *Paying Calls in Shangri-La* is an entertaining memoir giving a unique look into Foreign Service life. A book sale and signing will follow.

SQUARE DANCE LESSONS AND DANCING

Oct. 4. 7:30 P.M. Square dance lessons and dancing at North Chevy Chase Christian Church, 8814 Kensington Parkway (in Parish House). Wednesdays: 7:30 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. \$7 per person, also Oct. 11, 18, and 25. Contact phone number: 301-598-2574. <http://www.gerrymanders.info/>

SQUARE DANCE LESSONS

Oct. 5. A 6-week long set of Square Dance lessons begin on Oct. 5th. Today's square dancing is not what you think it is! Come on out to see for yourself. No experience or partner needed. Couples, Singles and Families are all welcome. Rockville Nursing Home (in the conservatory hall), 303 Adclare Road, Rockville MD 20850. Cost 39.00 adults, 19.25 students, children under 16 free. Children must be accompanied by a participating adult and be at least 9 years of age. For more information email eva.j.murray@gmail.com, call 301-761-4108 or visit <http://www.RockvilleSquareDance.com>

TASTE OF BETHESDA

Oct. 7. 11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. Taste of Bethesda returns with nearly 50 restaurants and five stages of entertainment to Bethesda's Woodmont Triangle. Produced by the Bethesda Urban Partnership, downtown Bethesda's famous food and music festival celebrates 28 years of diverse and delectable cuisine offered by Bethesda's local restaurant community. Taste of Bethesda is located on Norfolk, St. Elmo, Cordell, Del Ray and Auburn Avenues in the heart of Bethesda's Woodmont Triangle. Five stages showcase musical and cultural performances, and a children's area featuring art and craft activities, balloons and face painting will provide additional entertainment for young visitors.

RESCUE DAY 2017

Oct. 7. 11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. Fire and Rescue activities and displays for all ages. Fire and Rescue trucks. Tours of the station; live demonstrations of emergency medical, rescue, and firefighting equipment; free kids' firefighter hats; a moon bounce; and more. The Rescue Squad's most advanced firefighting and rescue equipment will be on display. For directions & parking information, visit

UPCOMING

FREE SQUARE DANCE OPEN HOUSE AND DANCING

Sep. 28. 7:00 - 9:00 P.M. Free Square Dance open house and dancing. Today's square dancing is not what you think it is! Come on out to see for yourself. No experience or partner needed. Couples, Singles and Families are all welcome. Children must be accompanied by a participating adult and be at least 9 years of age. Rockville Nursing Home (in the conservatory hall), 303 Adclare Road, Rockville MD 20850. For more information email eva.j.murray@gmail.com, call 301-761-4108 or visit <http://www.RockvilleSquareDance.com>.

VOLUNTEERS TO MAKE AFGHANS AND QUILTS

Sep. 29. 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. Volunteers are invited to make afghans and quilts as gifts for sick children in hospital. You may knit, crochet, or sew (yarn and fabric provided). Monthly meetings are on the grounds of the Montgomery County Agricultural Farm Park, in the University of Maryland Extension Office, 18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855. This project is sponsored by the Montgomery County chapter of Family & Community Education. Donations of yarn and washed fabric appreciated. For more information and directions, please contact Pat at 301-460-5451 or contact Jeanne at 301-641-4878 or jcpurich@cs.com.

THE BEST LITTLE ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Sep. 30. 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Washington Grove, Maryland's "Fall Festival" presents the beautiful hand crafted work of 25 talented regional artisans in a special one-day show. You'll see an exciting selection of jewelry, paintings, original prints, photographs, pottery, glass, wood, metal, leather and more. Delicious dining at our food trucks and enjoy your favorite Ben and Jerry's ice cream. Victor Litz Music Center will feature a "musical petting zoo", plus there will be a pumpkin patch, pumpkin painting

and a Kids Art Exhibition. Hours are 10am-5pm with free parking. Presented by the Washington Grove United Methodist Church, 303 Chestnut Road, Washington Grove, MD 20880. For more info call Craig 301-840-1897

JOHN E. MARLOW GUITAR SERIES

Sep. 30. 3:00 - 4:00 P.M. Classical guitar concerts by several winners and finalists of the Beatty Music Competition held by the International Conservatory of Music. Where: Twinbrook Library. For more information call 240-777-0252

ST. ANNE'S CONCERT SERIES

CALENDAR

What's happening this week in Montgomery County

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www.bccrs.org. Where: Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad, 5020 Battery Lane, Bethesda, Maryland 20814.

ASPEN HILL LIBRARY 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Oct. 7. 10:00 A.M. The Aspen Hill Library is 50 Years Old! Come and at the Aspen Hill Library, 4407 Aspen Hill Road. Take a tour of the library (recently "refreshed", the first time since 1991). Meet old friends and make new! Enjoy light refreshments. Reminisce about times at the Aspen Hill Library. Write your Aspen Hill Library stories for the future generations to read. Everyone is welcome! Sponsored by the Friends of the Aspen Hill Library. (301) 871-1113, aspenhill@folmc.org. Admission is free.

WALTZ DANCE

Oct. 8. 2:45 - 3:30 P.M. Introductory Waltz Workshop and 3:30 to 6 P.M. Dance. Join us for a Waltz Dance in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park featuring the ensemble Addison Bleufonte playing a lively mix of folk waltzes with a few other couples dances, including Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. Admission is \$10. No partner required. For more information, call Joan

chased in-person, by phone (301.528.2260), or by going online to blackrockcenter.org.

LIBRARY EVENT: WHAT IS A VILLAGE

Oct. 12. 3:00 - 4:30 P.M. Learn the basics of the village concept in a lively discussion with Rockville village facilitator Trish Evans and an experienced village leader. Have your questions answered about starting a village in your neighborhood and get the resources to support it. Where: Twinbrook Library.

CONCERT: THE THIRTEEN

Oct. 14. 7:30 P.M. The all-star professional choir, The Thirteen, will perform an engaging and inspiring concert titled "On the Migration of Souls" at St. Columbia's Church at 4201 Albermarle Street, NW, Washington, DC. "On the Migration of Souls" tells personal and varied stories about community and migration through five centuries of music; from early chant to the African American experience, from Syria to the music of the Jewish diaspora. Concert will be followed by a complimentary meet and greet reception. Tickets can be purchased at www.TheThirteenChoir.org.

OCT 14 - 15 20TH ANNUAL BETHESDA ROW ARTS FESTIVAL

East Restaurant, 1055 Nicholson Lane, Rockville, MD 20852. Enjoy a buffet lunch followed by guest speaker Lily Qi, who will discuss "Montgomery County: Changing Community and Changing Economy." As the County's Assistant Chief Administrative Officer for Economic and Workforce Development, Ms. Qi oversees the County's overall economic strategies and economic communication and strategic partnerships and is responsible for business climate development. Cost is \$30 members, \$35 non-members, \$5 students. Register online at <http://lwvmc.eventbrite.com>. For questions or mail-in information, call League offices at 301-984-9585. Email LWVMC@erols.com; Web: <http://lwvmcomd.org>. Payment must be received by October 9, 2017.

OUT OF THE DARKNESS COMMUNITY WALK

Oct. 22. 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. Montgomery County's "Out of the Darkness Community Walk" sponsored by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention will take place at Martin Luther King Park, 1120 Jackson Road, Silver Spring, MD. The check-in time is 8:30 am. Individuals can donate, create a team, walk individually or be a virtual walker. If you have any questions please feel free to call 301-852-1022

WALTZ DANCE

Oct. 22. 2:45 - 3:30 P.M. Introductory Waltz Workshop and 3:30 to 6 P.M. Join us for a Waltz Dance in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park on Sunday, featuring the ensemble Blue Bamboo playing a lively mix of folk waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. Admission is \$10. No partner required. For more information, call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org or e-mail info@WaltzTimeDances.org. The Glen Echo National Park is located at 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, MD 20812.

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT CRAB FEAST FUNDRAISER

Oct. 22. 1:00 - 5:00 P.M. The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad Alumni Association will hold a crab feast fundraiser on Sunday, October 22, 1-5 pm, in the Anastasi Room at the Rescue Squad. All-you-can eat steamed crabs, fried chicken, potato salad, baked beans, applesauce, and rolls, along with beer and soda. Tickets cost \$45 per person in advance (or \$50 at the door). For tickets or further information, call 301-442-4136 or visit www.bccrs.org. Proceeds will benefit the B-CC Rescue Squad. The Rescue Squad is located at 5020 Battery Lane (at Old Georgetown Road), Bethesda, Maryland 20814.

PROJECT LINUS MONTHLY MEETING

Oct. 23. 7:00 - 9:00 P.M. Monthly meeting for Project Linus, a non-profit organization dedicated to donating handmade blankets (made by "blanketeers") for newborn to 18-year-old children in need of comfort. The Montgomery County chapter accepts blankets from individuals or groups. Blankets are taken to local family shelters, Montgomery County's Child Welfare Services Program, and other local organizations serving traumatized children. Meetings will be held on the fourth (4th) Monday of every month at Shaare Torah, 1409 Main St., Gaithersburg. Bring your Project Linus blanket projects or completed blankets. We will have yarn, quilting fabric, and some knitting accessories for you to use in making your blankets. We'll also have some refreshments. Please join us and meet other Montgomery County blanketeers!

AUTHOR TALK AT ROCKVILLE LIBRARY

Nov. 5. 2:00 P.M. Frances Frost, will talk about

September 21, 2017 - September 27, 2017



COURTESY PHOTO

The all-star professional choir, The Thirteen, will perform a concert titled "On the Migration of Souls" at St. Columbia's Church in Washington, DC on October 14. Concert will be followed by a complimentary meet and greet reception.

her novel, Mourning Calm. Mourning Calm is an engrossing story of love, loss, and everlasting hope. It is the story of Hannah's journey to her birthplace, Seoul, Korea, her love for her family, and the discovery of life-long, life-changing secrets. Frances Frost is a graduate of the University of Delaware and Wake Forest University. Frances will be reading excerpts from the book. A book sale and signing will follow. The Rockville Memorial Library is at 21 Maryland Ave., Rockville.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR & CHILDREN'S SECRET SHOP

Nov. 18. 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. Santa's workshop is alive and bustling in historic Washington Grove, Maryland. Talented Methodist church members and friends have been working to create unique, professional quality wreaths, centerpieces, one of a kind gifts, ornaments and decorations. There are no vendors because our group has hand crafted a collection of items you won't find anywhere else. Kids are invited, with the help of our "elves" to purchase gifts at the Children's Secret Shop. They'll find an adorable selection of gifts priced from 25 cents to \$3.00, all gift wrapped while you wait. Also select tasty home baked goods from our Bake Sale. Washington Grove Christmas Bazaar and Santa's Secret Shop at Washington Grove United Methodist Church, 303 Chestnut Road, Washington Grove, MD 20880. Call Mary Lou for info 301-840-1834

ANNUAL TOMMY IVEY MAGIC SHOW

Nov. 23. 7:00 - 8:30 P.M. Prepare to be amazed! The Columbia Conjurors, the local chapter of the Society of American Magicians, will hold their annual Tommy Ivey Magic Show in the main hall at Christ Episcopal Church (6800 Oakland Mills Road, Columbia, MD). The family-friendly show is expected to last an hour and a half, and is suitable for children of all ages, as well as adults with an interest in being baffled and mystified. Admission is free, but the Conjurors will be holding a food drive during the show in cooperation with the Community Action Council of Howard County. Attendees are therefore encouraged to bring unopened cans of food to donate in advance of Thanksgiving.

ONGOING

GALLERY 209 SEPTEMBER SHOW

Through Oct. 3. Abstract artist Marcia Bhorjee will be Gallery 209's featured artist for the September 6 through October 3 show. Her bold, colorful abstracts will be on display along with the Gallery's eleven other resident artists, with work ranging from

abstraction to realism. Gallery 209 is located at 12276 Wilkins Ave., Rockville, Md. Free parking is in rear. Regular viewing days are Tuesdays through Sundays, noon to 4pm. An opening reception will on Friday September 8 from 6 to 8 pm. For information 301-622-0546 or visit the website: Gallery209art.com.

ART EXHIBIT: ABSTRACT PAINTINGS BY DONNA K. MCGEE

Through Oct. 6. "What Was I Thinking?" Abstract paintings exhibit by Donna K. McGee at Glenview Mansion Art Gallery. McGee uses richness of color to create atmosphere and form. Location: Glenview Mansion Art Gallery - Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville, MD 20851.

ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET OPENS

Through Nov. 18. The Rockville Farmers Market gives shoppers their pick of farm-fresh produce and more from regional grower/producers. This year's market will include vendors offering fruits and vegetables, plants and flowers, herbs, baked goods, local beer and wine, knife sharpening, meat and coffee. The market will be open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, through Nov. 18 in the jury parking lot at E. Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets in Rockville Town Center.

THE WIDOWED PERSONS SERVICE OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Weekly support groups for newly widowed persons at three locations: at Margaret Schweinhaut Center 1000 Forest Glen Rd. Silver Spring on Mondays, at Holiday park Senior Center, 3950 Ferrara Drive, Wheaton, on Thursdays and at Jane Lawton (Leland) Center, 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase on Thursdays. These support groups are open, free of charge, to all widowed persons who have suffered a loss within the past two years. Those preferring an evening group are encouraged to call the WPS office. The groups are facilitated by trained volunteers. For more information or to register, please call: 301-949-7398 to register. The Widowed Persons Service is a non-profit volunteer organization sponsored by AARP, the Montgomery County Mental Health Association, and other community organizations.

ONE-ON-ONE FRIDAY FUN



COURTESY PHOTO

Grammy Award-winning, African-American, all-woman acapella ensemble Sweet Honey in the Rock take the stage for BlackRock Center's 15th Anniversary Season opening weekend on October 8, at 7:00 P.M.

Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org or e-mail info@WaltzTimeDances.org. The Glen Echo National Park is located at 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, MD 20812.

CONCERT: SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK

Oct. 8. 7:00 P.M. BlackRock Center for the Arts will host the Grammy Award-winning, African-American, all-woman acapella ensemble Sweet Honey in the Rock as part of their 15th Anniversary Season opening weekend. The troupe's powerful and moving sound holds roots of gospel music, spoken word, blues and jazz. Starting out in the D.C. vocal workshop Black Repertory Theater in 1973, the women have since made it their mission to present African-American history and culture through the powerful expression of sign language, song, and dance. This performance will feature sign-language interpretation (stage right). Tickets to Sweet Honey in the Rock are between \$29-55. Tickets can be pur-

Oct. 14. 11:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. & Oct. 15. 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. The Bethesda Row Arts Festival is recognized as one of the top fine arts festivals in the United States. For two days, the streets of downtown Bethesda are transformed into an outdoor gallery of arts and crafts. Over 190 selected artists will showcase their works of all different types, including: ceramics, drawings, fabrics, glass, graphics, jewelry, metalwork, paintings, pastels, photography, printmaking, sculpture, wood, and 2D and 3D mixed media. The event is held rain or shine. Bethesda Row is located on Woodmont and Bethesda Avenues, Elm Street and Bethesda Lane, east of Arlington Road, and is within walking distance from the Bethesda Metro station. Free parking garages are also located around the site.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS LUNCHEON

Oct. 16. 12:00 - 2:00 P.M. The League of Women Voters of Montgomery County invites you to join us for our Annual Fall Luncheon at the Far

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FOX HILL WEEKLY OPEN HOUSE
 Wednesdays, 2:00 – 4:00 P.M. The public is invited every Wednesday for refreshments and tours at Fox Hill Retirement Community in Bethesda. A free to the public open house will be held on a weekly basis. Visitors are welcome to see the one, two and three-bedroom model condominiums with a wide range of floorplans offered in a maintenance-free, cosmopolitan environment. Reservations for the Open House events can be made at foxhillresidences.com/rsvp or at 301-968-1850; walk-ins are welcome as well. Fox Hill is located at 8300 Burdette Road, Bethesda, MD; 20817. For more information, call Julie Sabag at 301-968-1850 or visit www.foxhillresidences.com.

WEEKLY BLUES DANCE

Thursdays, 8:15 – 11:30 P.M. Capital Blues presents rotating DJs and instructors in the Back Room Annex at Glen Echo Park, with beginner workshop 8:15 – 9:00 P.M., no partner necessary. \$8 for all. Visit capitalblues.org for more information.

TEEN WRITER'S CLUB

Thursdays 7:00 – 8:00 P.M. Join us at the Marilyn J. Praisner Library, at 14910 Old Columbia Pike, Burtonsville, MD 20866, to meet other teens who share your interest in writing. Learn to improve your writing and try new approaches. Ages 12 and up are welcome. For additional library events and information call 240-773-9460.

LATE NIGHT COMEDY

Fridays (open mic) and Saturdays (established comedians). Late night comedy at Benny's Bar & Grill, 7747 Tuckerman Lane, Potomac. Benny's is open 8:00 A.M. – 1:00 A.M. Fridays and Saturdays. Visit www.BennysBarGrill.com for more information.

WEEKLY SWING DANCE

Saturdays, 8:00 P.M. to Midnight. The DC Lindy Exchange presents a swing dance with live music in the Spanish Ballroom, at Glen Echo Park. Address: 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo. Beginner swing dance lesson at 8:00 P.M., followed by dancing. Admission \$16 - \$18, age 17 and under \$12. Visit www.glenchopark.org for more information.

ART EXPLORERS OPEN STUDIO

Saturdays, 10:00 – 12:00 P.M. Join us on Saturday mornings, 10am to 12:30pm in the Candy Corner Studio for drop in art activities for parents and children. Activities change weekly and there is no pre-registration; \$10 per child. This weekly event is presented by Playgroup in the Park (PGiP) and Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture. Location: The Candy Corner Visit www.glenchopark.org or call 301-634-2222

AFTERNOON GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesdays 1:30 – 3:00 P.M. For anyone grieving the death of a love one. Registration required at (301) 921-4400. North Bethesda United Methodist Church, 10100 Old Georgetown Rd., Bethesda, MD 20814.

CHILDREN'S STORYTIME

Wednesdays and Saturdays. 10:00 A.M. Listen to employees read children's books at Barnes & Noble Booksellers at 4801 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda. Free.

THANG TA

Wednesdays, 6:00 – 7:00 P.M. Learn the ancient art of the sword and spear at the Sutradhar Institute of Dance and Related Arts. Address: 1525 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring. \$25. Visit www.dancesidra.com for more information.

FOOD ADDICTS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

Every Saturday. 9:30 – 10:30 A.M. Food Addicts Anonymous meets every Saturday at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 100 Welsh Park Drive, Building #4, Rockville, MD 20850. We welcome new members. For questions, please visit www.foodaddictsanonymous.org or call Jewell Elizabeth @ 301-762-6360.

VISARTS COCKTAILS AND CANVAS CLASS

Canvas Class in the VisArts Painting and Drawing Studio. 155 Gibbs Street, Rockville. Price \$40. Visit www.visartsatrockville.org/cocktails-and-canvas for more information.

OPEN LIFE DRAWING AT DEL RAY ARTISANS

Jan-Dec. LIFE DRAWING: Looking for a chance to hone your figure drawing skills? Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for just this purpose. Just drop-in for the session and bring your supplies to draw or paint our live models. Fee ranges from \$8-\$12. All skill levels are welcome. Del Ray Artisans is located at 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria VA. See our calendar for dates and times: calendar.TheDelRayArtisans.org

SENIOR FIT

Mondays & Wednesdays, 9:15 A.M. & 2:15 P.M. This 45-minute, multi-component exercise program is for people age 55+. Ongoing classes are offered at 23 locations in partnership with Kaiser Permanente. Call 301-754-8800 to request a physician's consent form to register and for a class sched-

ule. Where: Holy Cross Hospital Senior Source, 8580 Second Avenue, Silver Spring. For more information call 301-754-8800. Cost: Free.

WEEKLY BLUES DANCE

Thursdays, 8:15 – 11:30 P.M. Capital Blues presents rotating DJs and instructors in the Back Room Annex at Glen Echo Park, with beginner workshop 8:15 – 9:00 P.M., no partner necessary. \$8 for all. Visit capitalblues.org for more information.

TEEN WRITER'S CLUB

Thursdays 7:00 – 8:00 P.M. Join us at the Marilyn J. Praisner Library, at 14910 Old Columbia Pike, Burtonsville, MD 20866, to meet other teens who share your interest in writing. Learn to improve your writing and try new approaches. Ages 12 and up are welcome. For additional library events and information call 240-773-9460.

LATE NIGHT COMEDY

Fridays (open mic) and Saturdays (established comedians). Late night comedy at Benny's Bar & Grill, 7747 Tuckerman Lane, Potomac. Benny's is open 8:00 A.M. – 1:00 A.M. Fridays and Saturdays. Visit www.BennysBarGrill.com for more information.

WEEKLY SWING DANCE

Saturdays, 8:00 P.M. to Midnight. The DC Lindy Exchange presents a swing dance with live music in the Spanish Ballroom, at Glen Echo Park. Address: 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo. Beginner swing dance lesson at 8:00 P.M., followed by dancing. Admission \$16 - \$18, age 17 and under \$12. Visit www.glenchopark.org for more information.

ART EXPLORERS OPEN STUDIO

Saturdays, 10:00 – 12:00 P.M. Join us on Saturday mornings, 10am to 12:30pm in the Candy Corner Studio for drop in art activities for parents and children. Activities change weekly and there is no pre-registration; \$10 per child. This weekly event is presented by Playgroup in the Park (PGiP) and Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture. Location: The Candy Corner Visit www.glenchopark.org or call 301-634-2222

AFTERNOON GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesdays 1:30 – 3:00 P.M. For anyone grieving the death of a love one. Registration required at (301) 921-4400. North Bethesda United Methodist Church, 10100 Old Georgetown Rd., Bethesda, MD 20814.

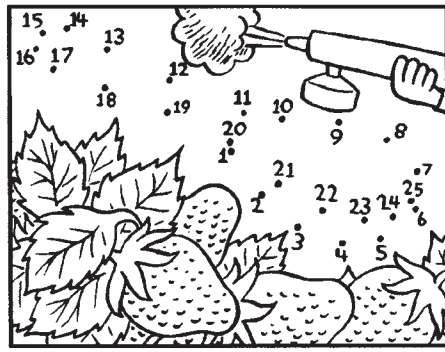
Compiled by Tazeen Ahmad

The Montgomery County Sentinel regrets to inform organizations that only Montgomery County groups or events located within the county will be published on a space-available basis.

Send news of your group's event AT LEAST two weeks in advance to:

The Montgomery County Sentinel
 22 W Jefferson St. Suite 309
 Rockville, MD. 20850
 or email mc-calendar@thesentinel.com
 or call 301.838.0788

Some Fun



CONNECT THE DOTS and find out the best way to raise strawberries.

Answer: The best way to raise strawberries is with a spoon.

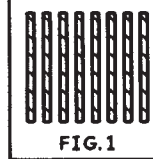


FIG. 1

A GEOMETRY WAGER! Place eight straws on the table (Fig. 1) and bet your friends that they can't arrange them in a figure that will contain one polygon and eight triangles. Figure 2 shows you how it's done.

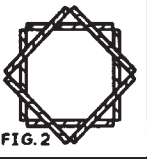


FIG. 2

IT'S MAGIC! Use the numbers 12 through 27 to fill in our Magic Square. The numbers in each horizontal row and vertical column should total 78. We've filled in six of the squares. The rest is up to you.

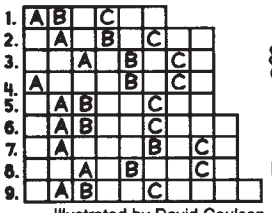
		25	
	13		
14			17
21		15	
[78]			

Our answer: First row: 19, 22, 25, 12. Second row: 24, 13, 18, 23. Third row: 14, 27, 20, 17. Fourth row: 21, 16, 15, 26.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

DO YOU KNOW YOUR ABC'S?



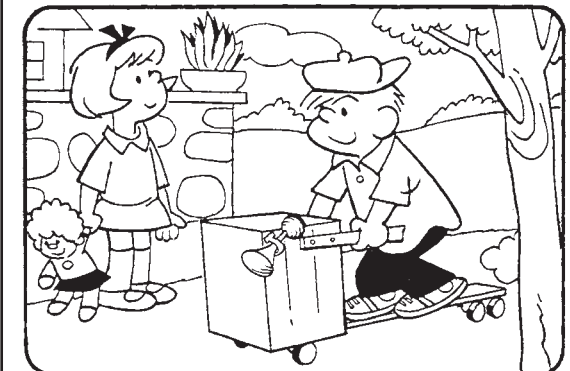
Don't let this quiz make you nervous. The grid to our left has room for nine words, each of which contains at least three of the letters that we are looking for. We also give you plenty of hints to help you fill in the missing letters.

1. An old counting device.
2. A summer dining favorite.
3. A disadvantage to a plan.
4. A type of exercise.
5. A steep climbing car.
6. To make up a false statement.
7. A type of car styling.
8. Used by the police.
9. Found in the dining room.

Answers: 1. Abacus. 2. Barbecue. 3. Drawback. 4. Aerobics. 5. Cable car. 6. Fabricate. 7. Hatblock. 8. Roadblock. 9. Tablecloth.

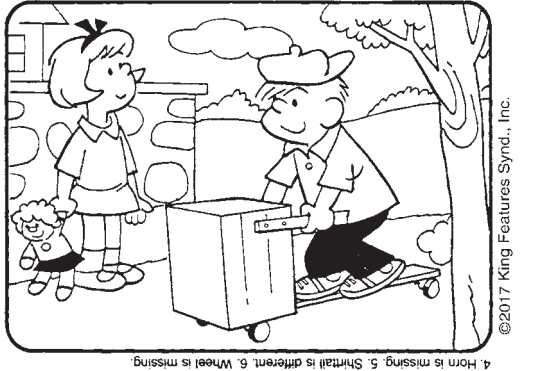
HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

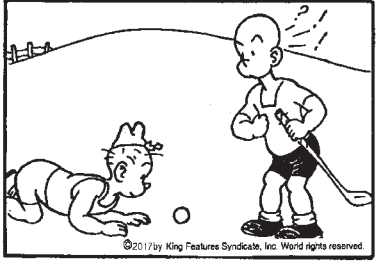
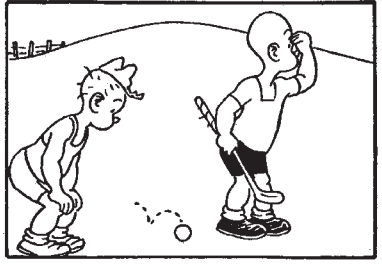
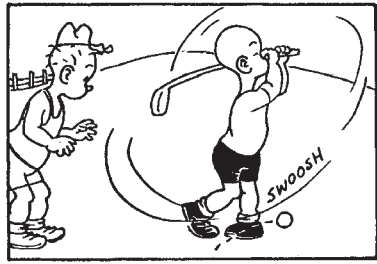
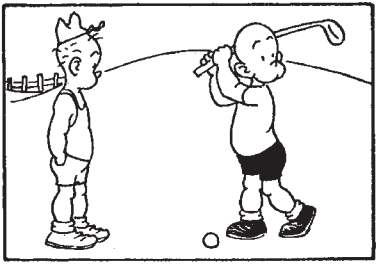
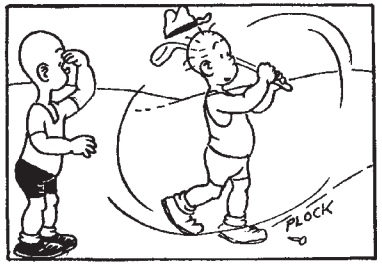
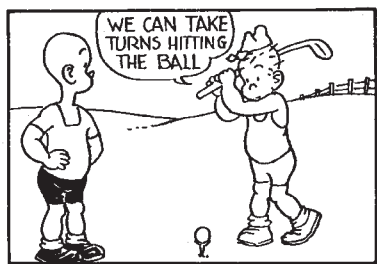
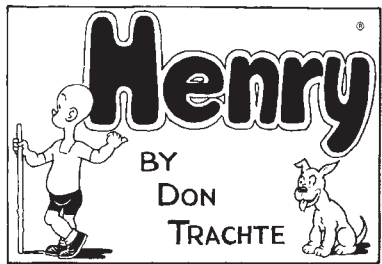


Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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CLASSIFIEDS

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Judge **NANCY B. SHUGER** served for 18 years as an Associate Judge on the District Court of Maryland for Baltimore City, handling various civil and criminal matters. Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) offers a creative, positive alternative to the cost and uncertainty of litigation for individuals, businesses, organizations and families. As a former judge, she can assist disputing parties to achieve reasonable results. ADR offers a way for her to help people discover common interests which can allow them to shape their own resolution to their disputes.

As a mediator, she acts as a private neutral. She emphasizes that mediation can be effective whether the parties desire to address differences in an ongoing relationship, or to reach a mutually agreeable solution to a single dispute, without trial. She uses mediation, arbitration and settlement conferences successfully for conflict involving personal injury (including auto torts and premises liability), employment, workplace conflict, child access, elder law, ethics, collections, contracts and other civil matters.

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PREPARE YOUR CHILD TO BECOME A "COMPUTER WIZ"- Enroll them NOW in Stanford Tech afterschool & weekend program ENROLL TODAY 240-882-1673 www.stanfordtech.net. Free school backpack.

HELP WANTED, GENERAL

ANIMAL CARE TECH (HUNT VALLEY, MD) Rescue Group. Clean and care for animals and do adoptions. We want your dedication and love for animals to save lives. 410-527-1466

EARN \$500 A DAY: Lincoln Heritage Life Insurance Wants Insurance Agents* Leads, No Cold Calls*Commissions Paid Daily*Agency Training*Life Insurance Required. Call 1-888-713-6020

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LET THE MULTI-MEDIA SPECIALISTS of MDCC Advertising Network assist you in growing your business and increasing your customer base. Call today at 410-212-0616 and starting seeing results NOW. www.mdccpress.com

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\$CASHES PAID INSTANTLY for Pre-1975 Comic Books, Vintage: Star Wars; Transformers/GI Joe Action Figures; Video Games-Systems; Magic/the Gathering/Pokemon Cards - CALL WILL: 800-242-6130, buying@getcash-forcomics.com

AUCTION & ESTATE SALES

AUCTIONS CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT & TRUCKS BID ON-SITE & ONLINE! 9/26 @ 9 AM, Richmond, VA. Excavators, Dozers, Road Tractors, Loaders, Dump Trucks, Trailers & More! Accepting consignments through 9/22; 3600 Deepwater Terminal Road; www.motleys.com. * 804-232-3300 * VAAL#16

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FREON R12 WANTED: CERTIFIED BUYER will PICK UP and PAY CASH for R12 cylinders or cases of cans. (312) 291-9169; www.refrigerantfinders.com

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HELP WANTED, GENERAL

Business Systems Analyst(s) II - DataStage Client Network Services, Inc. seeks Business Systems Analyst(s) II - DataStage, Rockville, MD. Analyzes user requirements and client business needs to develop technical solutions to business problems. Req's Exp with IBM: DataStage, ClearQuest, ClearCase; SQL Developer, PL/SQL; Unix Shell Scripting. May be assigned to various, unanticipated sites throughout the United States. Send resume to D. Roberts at careers@cns-inc.com or D. Roberts, CNSI, 2277 Research Blvd, Rockville, MD 20850. Must reference Job Code BSA2DS.

Business Systems Analyst(s) III - EDI Client Network Services, Inc. seeks Business Systems Analyst(s) III - EDI- Rockville, MD. Analyze business requirements for Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) and develop functional specifications for developers. Req's exp with EDI Transactions, including 834, 999, TA1s and 820; HIPPA/EDI Healthcare-related file formatting; EDIFECs tools (Spec Builder, Transaction Manager). May be assigned to various, unanticipated sites throughout the United States. Send resume to D. Roberts at careers@cns-inc.com or D. Roberts, CNSI, 2277 Research Blvd, Rockville, MD 20850. Must reference Job Code BSA3EDIMD.

Oracle PL/SQL Developer(s) III Client Network Services, Inc. seeks Oracle PL/SQL Developer(s) III - Rockville, MD. Perform database programming using Oracle, SQL, and PL/SQL technologies. Req's exp with PL/SQL Developer; Oracle 10g/11g; SQL Loader. May be assigned to various, unanticipated sites throughout the US. Send resume to D. Roberts at careers@cns-inc.com or D. Roberts, CNSI, 2277 Research Blvd, Rockville, MD 20850. Must reference Job Code OPLSD3MD

Software Engineer(s) II - EDI Client Network Services, Inc. seeks Software Engineer(s) II - EDI, Rockville, MD. Create/modify information systems through the design, development and installation of EDI solutions. Req's Exp with: EDI Transactions, including 834, 999, TA1s, 820, 274, 835, 824, and 810; HIPPA/EDI Healthcare-related file formatting; EDIFECs tools (Spec Builder, Transaction Manager). May be assigned to various, unanticipated sites throughout the United States. Send resume to D. Roberts at careers@cns-inc.com or D. Roberts, CNSI, 2277 Research Blvd, Rockville, MD 20850. Must reference Job Code SEIIEDI.

Software Engineer(s) III - QA Client Network Services, Inc. seeks Software Engineer(s) III - QA, Rockville, MD. Design and implement components and frameworks. Req's exp with OS (Windows, Unix); Object oriented programming (Java); Mainframe, SQL, SQL Server; May be assigned to various, unanticipated sites throughout the United States. Send resume to D. Roberts at careers@cns-inc.com or D. Roberts, CNSI, 2277 Research Blvd, Rockville, MD 20850. Must reference Job Code SE3QAR.

Adventist Healthcare is seeking a Senior Consultant for Operational Excellence in Gaithersburg, MD. Req.: Master's in Healthcare Administration or Public Health; 12 months experience in Healthcare Administration or Management Consulting in healthcare administration setting; Sigma Belt Certification. Contact: TBrown5@adventisthealthcare.com.

HELP WANTED, GENERAL

Systems Analysts- Prepare project plans, involve in project definition, requirements definition, analysis, design, testing, system documentation, project management, handle systems development life cycle on small/intermediate development/enhancement projects, develop complete external system design specifications, test, maintain, and monitor computer programs and systems, coordinate and link computer systems to increase compatibility and ensure that data is shared effectively, support end users in resolving system implementation issues, expand/modify systems to serve new purposes and to improve workflow. Travel & relo possible. Work loc: Bethesda, MD. Mail res, sal reqmt, pos applied for to: Business Integra, Inc., 6550 Rock Spring Dr., Ste 450, Bethesda, MD 20817

Sr. Database Admin: support existing Oracle-based applcs; provide tech support & maintenance for Oracle DBA & serv for comp's enterprise platform; monitor DBA events & optimize sys performance; automate reactive procedures & promote rapid response to known issues; maintain DBA configurations & perform backup & disaster recovery procedures. Min. req'ts: MS in Comp Sci, Comp Info Sys, Comp Applcs, Elec Eng'g or rel. field or for. equiv. plus 1 yr. rel. exp. or BS in Comp Sci, Comp Info Sys, Comp Applcs, Elec Eng'g or rel. field or for. equiv. plus 5 yrs. rel. exp. Send resume & cvr ltr to: HR, DrFirst.com, Inc, 9420 Key West Ave., Ste. 101, Rockville, MD 20850. No calls or emails. EOE.

Software Eng: ensure software quality, enhance user exp. for customers & safeguard private medical info. for patients using comp's e-prescription manag't sys; design & program next generation of eHealthcare tech to provide interconnectivity b/t patients, physicians, hospitals & healthcare entities; design & develop reusable, scalable, flexible & high-performing software applcs using Java/J2EE, Spring, Hibernate, JMS, web serv & applic server; develop enhancements to existing software applcs & design & develop new product lines; implement process improvements & ensure software quality. Min. req'ts: BS in Comp. Sci. Info Tech or rel. field or for. equiv. plus 6 mths rel. exp. req'd. Exp. in Java req'd. Send resume & cvr ltr to: HR, DrFirst.com, Inc, 9420 Key West Ave., Ste. 101, Rockville, MD 20850. No calls or emails. EOE.

The Sentinel Newspaper has an immediate opening for a sales representative to sell print and online advertising.

The successful candidate must have advertising sales experience, preferably in the newspaper industry and online. Applicant will conduct sales and service calls on existing accounts and new accounts to grow revenue. The successful candidate must have strong people skills, be self-motivated with good organizational skills, computer skills and have reliable transportation. A college degree is preferred. Interested persons should send cover letter, resume and references to:

Lynn Kapiloff - 5307 N. Charles St. Baltimore, MD 21210 or email: lynn@thesentinel.com

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Fall is football, apple picking...

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All in The Fall!



I love the excitement of the fall. Leaves drop from the trees. Some birds flock together to fly south for the winter. Animals gather seeds and nuts to eat during the cold winter months.

Children play soccer, football and other fall sports. Some people pile logs for fires that will take off the evening chill in their homes. Families start to cook more hot meals, and bake more goodies in the oven! Yum!

Some things fall "down" during the autumn season and some things go "up". Read the clues in the 2 puzzles to find out what!

Falling Down . . .

1. get out sweaters when these fall
2. the scurrying _____ tumbled down into their burrows
3. roasted over a fire and eaten
4. clusters of _____ hang down heavily on their vines
5. crisp and fresh! pies! sauce!
6. fields of _____
7. rake them up!
8. umbrellas, raincoats needed
9. coats the grass and windowpanes
10. fall from mighty oak trees

Wheeee!

chipmunks
apples
leaves
grapes
frost
acorns
chestnuts

We're just here because we are cute!

temperatures
hay
rain

nuts
flowers
moon
logs
birds
smells
seeds

Scarecrows go up in farmers' fields when crows come down to eat the corn. Caw!

Going Up . . .

1. stacking _____ in piles for heating
2. picking _____ to dry for fall bouquets
3. flocking together to fly south
4. kicked up over the goal post
5. piled into silo for winter feeding of animals
6. harvest _____ rising into the sky at night
7. _____ of baking pies, hot cider
8. milkweed pods open and their _____ float away
9. _____ from fires warming houses
10. squirrels pick up _____ to store

A Soft Landing!

If I have to come down in the fall, I want to have a soft landing. Help me fall into the pile of leaves!

Wheee //

Orange Clouds Moving South?!

These orange and black flying insects group together to move south for the winter.

By the thousands they land in trees, clinging to branches to rest!

Monarch

u

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AMOUNT PAID: _____

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Sentinel Sports

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Jags capture King's trophy by thrashing the Valley

By Brandy L. Simms
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GERMANTOWN – Northwest earned bragging rights after Friday night's 31-6 home victory over crosstown rival Seneca Valley.

The Jaguars (3-0) captured the King's Trophy for the second straight year and for the fourth time in the last five years.

"As a senior I'm very happy because this is my last time playing Seneca and we bring home the King's Trophy," Northwest wide receiver and cornerback Norval Black said afterward.

Northwest raced out to a 17-0 halftime lead and never looked back.

Northwest senior quarterback Chris Craddock found wide receiver Alphonso Foray who scored on a 58-yard catch and run to put the Jaguars up 7-0 in the first quarter.

Craddock, a two-year starter, finished 11-of-18 for 141 yards and passed for two touchdowns. He also ran for 37 yards on six carries and guided the Northwest offense throughout the game. Northwest senior running back Rob McNamee also had a solid performance, compiling 72 yards on four carries.

Steve Delgado's 25-yard field goal and Craddock's six-yard touchdown pass to Black put the Jaguars in control at the intermission.

Northwest players were motivated by Seneca Valley's trash talking on social media prior to the

game.

"People would post stuff on Snapchat saying 'We're coming, Northwest,'" said Black. "Nobody would post nothing. [Coach Michael] Neubeiser just said 'Don't talk, just show it on the field' and that's exactly what we did."

Northwest's defense and special teams dominated the second half; the Jaguars got touchdowns from Giovanni Hernandez who returned a blocked punt 24 yards for a score late in the third quarter and Juwon Farri who scored on a 21-yard run.

"It was really exciting for me," said Farri, who rushed for 178 yards on 16 carries. "It was like backyard football because they're only one mile down the street so we knew everybody on the team so we just had to compete and get the trophy back."

Meanwhile, Seneca Valley (2-1) scored in the game's waning moments on Michael Kapneck's 11-yard touchdown pass to Jamal Snowden with four seconds remaining in the contest.

The Screaming Eagles also got a solid performance from senior standout Harold Dotson who had a long kickoff return in the second quarter and recorded an interception in the third quarter.

Northwest's defense was led by senior linebacker Greg Bullard Jr. who made several key plays.

"He was everywhere on the field," said Farri. "He was stopping all the holes."



PHOTO BY MARK POETKER

Juwon Farri picks up yardage and scores behind stout blocking for Northwest.

Black, a two-way standout, also had a solid defensive effort along with Hernandez who recorded a sack late in the game.

"The defense was lockdown," said Farri. "We had one slip up and

that's how they got the touchdown but other than that it was lockdown."

Northwest's defense has been nothing short of spectacular after yielding 36 points against Wootton in the season opener. The Jaguars

have given up just 19 points in the past two contests.

"I'm so proud of my defense right now," said Farri. "The only thing we can do is get better. I can't wait."

Bulldogs pound Avalon into submission in a sloppy affair 30-14

Matt Cohen
@mdc_99

POTOMAC — In a very long affair Friday night, the home team Bullis Bulldogs did away with the Avalon Black Knights, pulling away in the second half to win the game 30-14.

The first quarter was sloppy for both teams, but Bullis was able to turn an Avalon mistake into points. On Avalon's first play on their second drive of the game, quarterback Aaron Gibson, who was standing in his own end zone to take the snap after a great Bullis punt, dropped the snap, and Bullis' Dalton Lewis fell on it in the end zone for a touchdown. Gibson would leave the game later with a shoulder injury, and would not return. The Black Knights

weren't able to get much going with Gibson in the game, but it didn't get any better without him.

Bullis increased their lead to 10-0 on a field goal in the second quarter. But Avalon's Satchel McKinney took the ensuing kickoff 99 yards back for a touchdown. Avalon would go for, and convert the two-point conversion try, pulling the Black Knights within two points.

Avalon had the ball again in the final seconds of the first half, and backup quarterback Todd Simmons threw a Hail Mary pass as the clock ticked down to zero. Off a tip, Bullis junior defensive back Bryson Shaw picked off the pass, and raced down the field. Shaw broke a few tackles, and returned it 82 yards all the way back for a Bulldogs touchdown. Going into the half, Bullis led 16-8.

Shaw is a three-star recruit for the class of 2019, with offers from Wisconsin, Virginia, Syracuse and Rutgers. In addition to football, Shaw is ranked as a top ten lacrosse player nationally by Recruiting Rundown. "He's a special kid," Bullis head coach Pat Cilento said about Shaw. "He's a very fierce competitor and has a little bit of speed. He wants to do whatever he can to make sure his teammates have an opportunity to win."

Bullis opened the second half strong on offense, after neither team had scored an offensive touchdown in the first half. The first two Bullis drives ended up in the end zone. In the first drive, Jason Hersh caught a touchdown pass, while Olandis Gary Jr. made a rushing score in the second. Bullis now led 30-8.

The Black Knights scored a touchdown on a 58 yard catch-and-run by Quran Hughes, but that would be the remainder of the offense in the game, as the Bulldogs ran out the clock to win the game 30-14.

Avalon leaned on the run during this game, even more so after Gibson went out with an injury. However, the Bullis front led by Eric Hegamin was dominant, not allowing the Black Knights that had carries to gain much yardage. On 31 total carries, Avalon totaled just 52 rushing yards, a dismal yard per carry average of about 1.6 yards. Bullis allowed one offense touchdown on the Hughes catch-and-run, but beyond that one play, Bullis never allowed Avalon to mount any kind of a threat to score. "The defense has

been great all year," Cilento said. "They played good, they had two touchdowns in the first half. It really was the difference in the game."

The defensive touchdowns surely helped Bullis, but the score could have been much greater. Bullis had the ball inside Avalon's 10-yard line twice in the first half, but wasn't able to score a touchdown on either attempt. In the second half, the Bullis offense began to click, led by the performance of Gary Jr. The star Bullis running back finished the game with 109 yards on 26 carries.

Bullis improved to 3-0 with the win, while Avalon dropped to 1-3. Next week, the Bulldogs will go on the road to face public school powerhouse Quince Orchard, while Avalon also has a stiff test in traveling to D.C. to face the Gonzaga Eagles.

SPORTS

Sherwood thumps Einstein 21-0

By Carlos Alfaro
@carlosalfarorod

KENSINGTON — The Sherwood Warriors shut out the Einstein Titans 21-0 Friday night, with a dominating performance from senior quarterback Michael Mbonny.

Sherwood struck first with a four-yard touchdown on first and goal by Mbonny in the second quarter.

The Titans were defensively clutch at times, and gave the Warriors grief as they held firm and denied touchdowns within their own 10-yard line more than once.

An early example was when the Titans held the Warriors a yard from goal for three downs until they forced a turnover on downs.

The Titan defense was not enough, and by the end of the game it turned out to be more like a speed-

bump than a wall.

Titans head coach Mike Bonavia was looking for the early score that would have given the Titans some momentum and keep the Warriors on their toes, but it never came. Bonavia also praised Mbonny, admitting defending against an athlete like him is no easy task.

"We had to defend the best quarterback on a well-coached team for four long quarters," said Bonavia.

A strong Warrior running game produced surprises from the visiting team, with Mbonny connecting with Eddie Dumas III as well as producing runs himself.

Mbonny was nimble and quick enough to pull out another carry for a touchdown in the fourth quarter, this one for 18 yards. He took advantage of a wide-open space on the left

for an easy cruise to the end zone.

The Warriors then went for two and once again Mbonny delivered, at this point carrying the team with 14 points.

Junior running back Andrew Comeau scored on a push through the Einstein defense to score six more on the next drive, and junior kicker Ian Salgado made the extra point to bring them to 21 points over nil in the fourth quarter.

The Titans never scored, and Einstein earned its first loss of the season and Sherwood got its second to put them on equal footing with a 2-1 record so far.

"I think we're still trying to find out identity, we're still trying to get healthy at some spots, and I think we learned something about our team tonight," said Warriors head coach Chris Grier.

RM glides past Wootton 40-34

By Eva Paspalis
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ROCKVILLE — There are rivalry games and then there are barn burners.

When the Richard Montgomery Rockets clashed with their rivals the Wootton Patriots on Friday at Roy Lester Stadium, the two squads delivered the latter in a penalty-riddled scoring fest that saw the Rockets ride home on a 40-34 victory.

The game came down to the wire as the Patriots geared up for a game-deciding fourth-and-two on the Richard Montgomery 12-yard line with less than a minute left on the clock.

Wootton senior quarterback Grant Saylor passed to his right and Rockets senior defensive back Daryn Alexander was there. Alexander broke up the pass and ended the Patriots' final chance at earning a win.

"I just saw the ball in the air and I just attacked it," he said. "I just trusted my instincts. Defense wins games."

Defense might win games but Alexander also made noise on offense when he registered a 33-yard touchdown in the second quarter. The senior joined teammates Zion Tyler and T'Kai Ayoola as the only Rockets to find the end zone.

However, with Ayoola's touchdown hat trick and Tyler's pair of scores, that was all Richard Montgomery needed to improve to 2-1.

The victory didn't come easily though, since the Patriots had an answer every time the Rockets scored.

In fact, Wootton found the end zone on its first possession when junior receiver Noelly Miller caught Saylor's 25 yard pass in coverage and fell down in the paint for his first touchdown of the evening.

The Rockets overcame a holding penalty and fired back a few minutes later when Tyler ran to his left, ducked his head and shoved through the Wootton defense for a nine-yard score.

Wootton senior receiver Elijah Trent put the Patriots back in the lead on the next possession when he ran down the right sideline for a 38-yard touchdown.

Alexander's 33-yarder tacked on another six points for Richard Montgomery. The senior caught quarterback Michael Braswell's pass in stride and picked up speed before darting into the end zone untouched. However, the extra point attempt was blocked and the Rockets still trailed.

Saylor then ran through Rockets defenders for a nine-yard touchdown of his own. This time, it was Richard Montgomery's turn to block the extra point attempt and the Patriots led by seven again.

Ayoola knotted the score at 20 a few snaps later with the first of his touchdown triad. Senior kicker Enid Diaz added the extra point.

The Rockets called for an on-side kick and junior receiver Austin Cheung recovered. Ayoola capitalized on his team's back-to-back possessions by darting into the end zone from one yard out. However, the Wootton defense stopped the sopho-

more short during Richard Montgomery's two-point conversion attempt.

A chop block penalty brought Wootton's next drive to a sputtering halt. Richard Montgomery grabbed the upper hand when Tyler's 13-yard touchdown gave the Rockets a double-digit lead.

Not to be outdone, Miller caught Saylor's 50-yard pass to give the Patriots great field position. Then, Miller scored from 15 yards out with just 11 minutes left to play. Wootton trailed by just six points after a successful two-point conversion attempt.

The two teams appeared to be trading touchdowns as Ayoola answered a few minutes later with a seven-yarder, his third of the game.

The Patriots again trailed by six after junior receiver Aaron Strauss's 18-yard score with under seven minutes left in the game.

However, Alexander spoiled Wootton's final possession as the seconds ticked off the clock and the Patriots fell to 1-2.

"RM capitalized on our mistakes. We left too many open windows on defense and we had a couple of blown coverages," said Wootton head coach Eddie Tolliver. "They made some adjustments in the second half and basically slow-bled us with the run. All we can do is go back tomorrow morning and watch film, correct our mistakes and make sure we don't make them again."

Ayoola praised his offensive line for helping him deliver a dominant performance.

Gonzaga dominates Prep 40-0

Matt Cohen
@mdc_99

WASHINGTON — In a battle of two D.C. area powers, the Gonzaga Eagles rolled over the Georgetown Prep Hoyas to the tune of a 40-0 victory, and won the Jesuit Gridiron Classic Saturday.

The Gonzaga offense was rolling throughout the game, and it didn't take long for it to get going. On the opening drive of the game, Gonzaga junior John Marshall made it to the end zone with a 22-yard touchdown run.

Early in the second quarter, Gonzaga's freshman starting quarterback Caleb Williams led his team on another long drive, which ended in a touchdown as Williams found Dean Ingram on an out route in the short corner of the end zone, giving Gonzaga a 14-0 lead.

Gonzaga's next drive also ended in the end zone. This time, it was running back Jason Labbe II who powered his way in on third-and-goal after having been stopped by the Hoyas defense on both first-and-goal, and second-and-goal. Going into the half, Gonzaga led 21-0.

Georgetown Prep opened the second half with the ball, but on that drive, as had been the case throughout the first half, the Hoyas ran the ball almost exclusively, however the Gonzaga defense was stopping everything right at the line of scrimmage. Gonzaga quickly forced a punt, and quickly found their way back into the end zone. On the Eagles first play of the second half, head coach Randy Trivers called for a trick play, and his team executed it perfectly. Williams received the snap, and immediately threw a screen pass to wide receiver Sydney Person. The Georgetown Prep defense bolted towards Person to make the tackle, but left tight end Robbie Mangas all alone. Person threw the ball deep down the field to Mangas, who was wide open behind the Little Hoyas' defense. Manga made the catch, and easily cruised into the end zone for a Gonzaga touchdown, making the score 27-0.

Gonzaga would pile on two more touchdowns, including a 48-yard rush from quarterback Sam Sweeney in the third quarter and a 19-yard rushing score from Sweeney in the fourth. Gonzaga cruised to the finish from there, ending with the final score 40-0.

Gonzaga saw production from both the running and passing game. It was hard to tell Williams was a freshman playing in his first Jesuit

Gridiron Classic. He appeared poised on the field, and delivered strikes to his receivers all over the field. "I haven't been in this culture at all. This is my first time ever seeing the crowd and all of that versus 3-1 Georgetown Prep. So, I came out like a regular game. But I knew what it meant to everyone in D.C. and Gonzaga. I prepared well during the week, I helped my team prepare well during the week, and came out with a 40-0 win," Williams said of his preparation for his first Georgetown Prep game.

Lining up behind Williams was Labbe, an experienced senior. Labbe ran well against the Georgetown Prep defense, especially in the second half once the Little Hoyas had been worn down. The Eagles' offensive line, led by Indiana commit Aidan Rafferty, was also stout in this game. It consistently opened up holes for the running backs, and kept Williams clean.

But more so than anything, it was the Gonzaga defense that was the most impressive part of this game. Shutting out an opponent is a difficult task, shutting out an opponent as talented as Georgetown Prep is even more impressive. Trivers talked about the impressive talent of the Georgetown Prep running backs, and how much of a priority it was for his team to stop them. "Defensively we were concerned about their running game," Trivers said. "They have a very potent set of running backs, you know, they've got an athletic quarterback, and their offensive line is fundamentally sound. We were very concerned about them running the ball going in. We were hopeful that we could get a lead and do well so that we could change the flow of the game...I thought the defense did a sensational job of tackling well, and getting to the football."

Led by four-star recruit Joseph Wete, the Gonzaga front did more than just stand up to the challenge. The Little Hoyas tried and tried to run the ball all throughout the game, but Wete and the Gonzaga front were unrelenting. The Gonzaga defense was so good in this game, that it was rare to see Georgetown Prep even cross midfield. The strong defensive performance consistently allowed Gonzaga to have good field position when the offense took over, thus leading to more scoring opportunities.

The win improved Gonzaga to 3-1, and dropped Georgetown Prep to 2-1. Next week, Gonzaga faces Avalon at home, while Georgetown Prep has a bye week.

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SPORTS

That was a forward pass - and the referees don't get a free one

WEEKLY PICKS

By Montgomery Marty

The mighty Hawgs are back on top this week and Captain Kirk Cousin's late touchdown pass gave this Buckin' Bronco some hope for the season.

But the 'Skins still need a better defensive scheme - some of that Packers "Nitro" might be good. We definitely got the personnel for it.

Meanwhile two tough games coming up for Hawgs fans. We win one of these two and watch out NFL.

In high school action this week the High n' Mighty thinks something mighty strange is going on.

Only three games were competitive - and only one was settled by one point. Blow outs ruled last week with Quince Orchard beating Clarksburg like a red-headed stepchild. The clock was spinning more than running.

A couple of teams have byes this week, so it's going to be a light week - which might be good. Maybe a week of rest will help out.

For the rest of the teams out there, quit playing "Madden" and start playing some real football. At

least learn how to stop the off-tackle run.

There's a few good games this week so keep your fingers crossed:

**Damascus 70
Magruder -5**

Damascus will have the second-string in by the second series of downs and still face a spinning clock. This game will be over - literally- before the sun goes down and Damascus fans will be home in time for a Jimmie cone before it closes. The stands will be empty before halftime.

**Northwest 42
Gaithersburg 3**

Years ago this would've been a game of the week. But that was then and this is now and that's all the philosophy this prognosticator can handle on an empty stomach.

**Paint Branch 35
Blair 21**

This could be a pretty good matchup, but Blair's got two things going against it. First; it's a home game for Paint Branch. Secondly, it's still in the first half of the season before Paint Branch traditionally chokes.

**Poolesville 21
Blake 17**

On paper this is a close game between two untested and relatively unknown teams. On the field it'll be

just as close. But ole' Marty's heart still rests with those farmer boys sittin' on that sack of wildwood seeds.

**Quince Orchard 35
Bullis 31**

It's the public vs. private. The Average Joes vs. Ben Stiller's Dodgeball buddies. It's Marty's game of the week. Pat Cilento has a great team, good coaches, but he's headed into Cougar Country and will be looking at a public school mauling.

**Seneca Valley 35
Watkins Mill 17**

Seneca Valley got a hurtin' put on it by rival Northwest last week. It's the kind of hurt that causes tough teams to rebound and kick the tea bags out of the next opponent.

Unfortunately Watkins Mill is in the sights for Fred Kim's bunch and they have to travel to Seneca Valley to get their whuppin'.

**Clarksburg 28
Springbrook 21**

This is another case of a good team, this time the Coyotes, coming off a humiliating defeat. Last week Clarksburg got torched, turned to ashes and scattered in a strong wind after Quince Orchard got ahold of them. This week they meet Springbrook who is coming off a close victory against, ahem, Walter Johnson. It's a home game for Springbrook

which gets them a touchdown closer, but they won't get the big basso profundo.

**Sherwood 35
Richard Montgomery 28**

Richard Montgomery has a stout running game, a great head coach and very good defense. Sherwood is Sherwood and are still the big boys on the block until someone proves otherwise.

RM is still trying to prove itself - so the question is this week can they?

**Wootton 35
Rockville 3**

Wootton has put up 109 points so far in three games. These Patriots have absolutely no problem scoring. Rockville? Well the dreamsickle crew has put up a tepid 23 points. Wootton doesn't have much of a defense, but Rockville has no offense. Do the math.

**Churchill 21
Whitman 7**

Churchill game roaring back to life last week. Whitman showed no life last week. If the trend continues, then put a fork in Whitman. They're done.

**Einstein 28
Wheaton 21**

This was a tough one for Marty to pick. Marty loves making fun of Wheaton over the years - and also

likes making fun of the eggheads at Einstein. But both of these teams are looking good this year. This should be a game worth watching.

**B-CC 10
Northwood 3**

Absolutely no truth to the rumor that Northwood will fail to show up - even less truth to the rumor B-CC won't show up for a home game.

**Kennedy 21
Walter Johnson 14**

Another battle for mediocrity among two teams who used to compete for the absolute worse in the county. Mediocrity, in other words is a step up.

**Good Counsel 35
Bishop Sullivan 21**

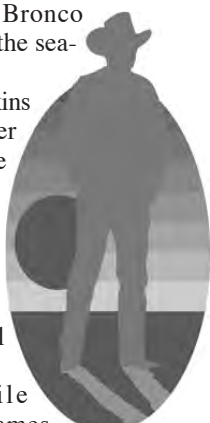
The Falcons recovered nicely last week after an uncharacteristic loss. They'll checkmate the Bishop this week too.





**Gonzaga 50
Avalon 10**

The Catholic boys are going to tear it up this week inbetween the walls and outside at Gonzaga.

The boys at Avalon must be into self-loathing by scheduling teams that will undeniably decimate them. Avalon will be lucky to get out of Gonzaga with their jerseys intact.

Gonzaga will use the Water Boy by the second half.



<p>Staff picks</p> <p>Last week totals: Montgomery Marty:15-2 Season: 44-8 Unknown editor Last week: 15-2 Season: 45-7</p> <p>This week: Blair @ Paint Branch Blake @ Poolesville Bullis @ Quince Orchard Watkins Mill @ Seneca Valley Clarksburg @ Springbrook R.M. @ Sherwood Northwest @ G-Burg Wootton @ Rockville Churchill @ Whitman Damascus @ Magruder Einstein @ Wheaton Northwood @ B-CC Bishop Sullivan @ G. Counsel W.J. @ Kennedy Avalon @ Gonzaga G. Prep - BYE Landon - BYE</p>	 <p>Brandy Simms Sports Editor</p> <p>Last week 13-4 Season 40-12</p> <p>This week: Paint Branch Blake Quince Orchard Watkins Mill Springbrook Sherwood Northwest Wootton Churchill Damascus Einstein B-CC Good Counsel Kennedy Gonzaga</p>	 <p>Eva Paspalis Sports Writer</p> <p>Last week 15-2 Season 42-10</p> <p>This week: Paint Branch Poolesville Bullis Seneca Valley Clarksburg Sherwood Northwest Wootton Churchill Damascus Einstein B-CC Good Counsel Kennedy Gonzaga</p>	 <p>Wyatt Karem Sports Intern</p> <p>Last week 15-2 Season 45-7</p> <p>This week: Paint Branch Poolesville Bullis Seneca Valley Clarksburg Sherwood Northwest Wootton Churchill Damascus Einstein B-CC Good Counsel Kennedy Gonzaga</p>	 <p>Jacqui South Photos</p> <p>Last week 13-4 Season 40-12</p> <p>This week: Paint Branch Poolesville Bullis Seneca Valley Clarksburg Sherwood Northwest Wootton Churchill Magruder Einstein B-CC Good Counsel Kennedy Gonzaga</p>
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SPORTS



PHOTO BY DAVID WOLFE

Cameron Wheeden goes to the air to intercept a pass for W.J. against Einstein in soccer action this week.

Picture of the Week . . .

High School Football Scoreboard			
<u>Last week's scores:</u>			
Damascus	54	Churchill	42
Rockville	6	Gaithersburg	13
Quince Orchard	63	Springbrook	32
Clarksburg	8	Walter Johnson	25
Sherwood	21	Watkins Mill	48
Einstein	0	B-CC	0
Paint Branch	47	Richard Montgomery	40
Whitman	6	Wootton	34
Blake	36	Poolesville	21
Magruder	7	Winters Mill	10
Blair	34	Bullis	30
Wheaton	13	Avalon	14
Kennedy	48	Good Counsel	37
Northwood	12	Spalding	21
Northwest	31	Gonzaga	40
Seneca Valley	6	G.Pre	0
		Landon	21
		Boy's Latin	20

High School Football Standings			
4A North		3A	
Paint Branch	3-0	Blake	2-1
Sherwood	2-1	Watkins Mill	2-1
Springbrook	2-1	Magruder	0-3
		Rockville	0-3
4A West		2A	
Quince Orchard	3-0	Damascus	3-0
Northwest	3-0	Seneca Valley	2-1
Einstein	2-1	Poolesville	2-1
Blair	2-1	IAC	
Richard Montgomery	2-1	Landon	3-0
Clarksburg	1-2	Bullis	3-0
Churchill	1-2	Georgetown Prep	2-1
Kennedy	1-2	WCAC	
B-CC	1-2	Good Counsel	2-1
Walter Johnson	1-2	CAFC	
Wootton	1-2	Avalon	1-3
Wheaton	1-2		
Northwood	0-3		
Gaithersburg	0-3		
Walt Whitman	0-3		

Montgomery County High School Football Top Ten	
1. Damascus	3-0
2. Landon	3-0
3. Q.O.	3-0
4. Northwest	3-0
4. Sherwood	2-1
5. Good Counsel	2-1
6. Bullis	3-0
7. R.M.	2-1
8. Paint Branch	3-0
9. Bullis	3-0
10. G-Prep	2-1

Worth Watching . . . Blair, Einstein

Damascus continues its stranglehold on the top spot with an impressive victory this week. Q.O. moves up after pasting Clarksburg - who falls out of the Top Ten. Bullis moves up a notch while Northwest soars to the fourth spot after shellacking Seneca Valley who falls out.