

The Prince George's Post



A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY *Since 1932*

Vol. 75, No. 45 November 8 — November 14, 2007 Prince George's County, Maryland Newspaper of Record Phone: 301-627-0900 25 cents

Wynn, Edwards Push Toward February Primary

Candidates Collect Money From Different Ends of Spectrum

By DANIELLE ULMAN
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON — The race for Maryland's Congressional District 4 seat has gone national, as U.S. Rep. Albert Wynn and competitor Donna Edwards vie for endorsements and cash to fill their war chests.

Edwards' receipts total \$214,365 with more than three months to go until the February primary. Much of her money comes from out-of-state philan-

thropists like Lynde Uihlein, heiress to the Schlitz Brewing fortune, and singer Barbra Streisand.

"That kind of money doesn't normally intervene in a primary," said Frances Lee, a University of Maryland, College Park professor of government and politics.

"It's not your run-of-the-mill primary in that sense," she said. "There's more ideological

See CANDIDATES, Page A7



Donna Edwards



U.S. Rep. Albert Wynn

Both Office Seekers Share 2006 Campaign Sameness

By DANIELLE ULMAN
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Albert Wynn vowed to change after he narrowly beat Donna Edwards in 2006, but the voters' opinion of the transformation won't be registered until the next primary election results are counted.

Wynn eked out a win over Edwards by 2,725 votes out of 82,165 cast in the last primary election. Voters will have the

same choice on Feb. 12 in the 4th Congressional District, which spans parts of Prince George's and Montgomery counties.

The narrow victory surprised Wynn, who had not had a credible primary challenger since 1992, when nine candidates ran for office and he received 28 percent of votes.

Following his electoral scare, Wynn pledged to hold more town hall meetings, and

See CAMPAIGN, Page A7

ONE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



PHOTO COURTESY OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Prince George's County Executive Jack Johnson signs an executive order that will put the county on the fast track for going green environmentally.

Prince George's Goes Green

Courtesy OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

UPPER MARLBORO — Prince George's County Executive Jack Johnson has signed an executive order to establish the county's first Green Building Program which requires more efficient buildings, recycling and litter reduction efforts.

"Our natural resources are so limited. Improving the energy efficiency of public buildings and help residents reduce their energy consumption is a way that we can ensure that our natural resources are available for our children, our grandchildren and their grandchildren," Johnson said.

The executive order requires the county to reduce energy consumption in all existing county buildings by 20 percent by 2015 and new county buildings and schools will be constructed with energy saving techniques so as to comply with the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System Silver Rating.

The executive order signed by Johnson also adopts the county's Green Steering Committee recommendations which will establish incentives for private businesses to achieve a LEED Silver Rating, establish a green building education and outreach program and ensure that a sufficient number of development and permit review staff

possess LEED accreditation.

The county's efforts to clean up the environment also include single-stream recycling, cleaning up the county waterways, litter-reduction and illegal dumping efforts.

The Green Building Task Force is made up of representatives from the Office of the Prince George's County Executive, Office of Central Services, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, County Public Schools, County Health Department, DER, DPW&T and the Prince George's County Council.

Representatives from the building industry have also served on the task force.

Sharing Teacher Pension Costs Being Considered

Counties Luke Warm to Idea, Lawmakers Eye Suggestion

By RICK DOCKSAI
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS — Not all the measures being considered by lawmakers would raise taxes to close the state's looming budget deficit — some would cut spending.

But they're not much more popular than the tax bills, if hearings last week are any indication.

One bill, to save the state \$334 million a year by requiring counties to pay half the costs of teacher pensions, got a scathing review from groups representing teachers and county executives.

"I can't begin to tell you how devastating this would be to school employees," said Clara Floyd, president of the Maryland State Teachers Association, at the Thursday hearing before the House Appropriations Committee.

Critics said that passing the bill on to local governments might "solve it (the deficit) at the state level," but it would force county governments to raise property taxes or cut funding for other programs in return.

"When county governments decide to pony up and come up to the plate, what happens to other services? The money is going to have to come from somewhere else," said Michele Lewis, legislative director for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

But lawmakers said sharing costs with the counties at least has to be considered, as the state looks at ways to rein in increases in education funding.

"We've got to equalize things here," said Delegate John Bohanan, D-St. Mary's. "What's a way to share some of the costs?"

Education funding has increased by \$1.3 billion since 2002 under the so-called Thornton plan, which aimed to equalize education spending between rich and poor counties in the state. But while the plan mandated increases in education funding, lawmakers did not include any new funding sources when they passed it.

According to the Department of Legislative Services,

See PENSION, Page A7



Tattoo artists, tanning salons and other services could feel tax pinch if bill is passed.

Tattoo Artists, Others Say Tax Proposal Targets Them

By RICK DOCKSAI
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS — An unlikely alliance of tattoo artists and interior designers testified against a proposal to extend the sales tax to their services, one of dozens of revenue-generating bills heard by a House committee.

The bill, co-sponsored by Delegates Justin Ross, D-Prince George's, and Anne Kaiser, D-Montgomery, would also declare body piercing, tanning salons, home-moving services, and swimming pool and hot tub cleaning as "taxable services" subject to the sales tax.

Ross said after the hearing last Saturday that he chose these services because he considers them "luxury" services.

"Most folks would agree that those are services that are not necessities. If people choose to use them, fantastic — but it's an economic choice," he said.

Taxing those services would raise about \$13 million a year for the state, according to legislative analysts, although they said the amount from tattooing and body piercing was too small to be estimated.

Ross said that at a time when Maryland is facing a budget deficit of \$1.7 billion next year, luxury services are fair game for new taxes.

"We've got to find revenue wherever we can," he said.

But interior designer Diane Gordy bristled at the "luxury" designation after the hearing.

See TAXABLE, Page A7

INSIDE



COMMENTARY

Tribute to Our Veterans

The National Commander of the American Legion writes with punch and passion about our veterans.

A4

OUT ON THE TOWN

'Bee Movie' All the Buzz

Jerry Seinfeld is the witty voice behind a clever little bee named Barry B. Benson in this animated film.

A6

Towns and NEIGHBORS

Clinton Conversations

By **NORMA FAZENBAKER**
301-579-6116

It sure looks like the Christmas season has started already. The stores have put their decorations out. It used to be after Thanksgiving, but it starts earlier every year. I have also noticed more toy commercials.

My daughter in South Carolina sent me an article that you might be interested in reading. South Carolina's violet crime rate dropped slightly in 2006, but the state still holds the unfortunate distinction as the second most dangerous place to live in the country. The state runs a distant second to D.C. for its violent crime rate.

• The eWomen Network is holding a Holiday Business and Shopping extravaganza at Maggiano's in Tyson's Corner on Wednesday, Nov. 28, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (doors open at 11a.m. for net-

working). This is a way to learn about Tysons Corner eWomenNetwork services and products through networking and shopping. There will be time to talk, to share and to shop. If you have products or services, this is the perfect time to showcase them with a Diva Shopping Showcase Table. The purpose of this event is to share your products/service with other members, share business growth and marketing strategies, build a stronger team spirit, and have fun and enjoy each other. Cost for a table is \$95, for eWN members it is \$65. Register by phone by calling 877-343-2145.

• There are 60,000 jobs coming into Maryland through the military base realignment and closure process (BRAC). The Baltimore region's GDP is growing to \$120 and our median household income is now among the highest in the nation. With this tremendous surge in growth

comes an increased strain on our overburdened transportation system. This is a challenge we must meet by increasing transportation funding by \$600 million per year to maintain and make improvements to our transportation system. More on: www.baltimoresun.com/news/opinion/oped/bal-op.abc25oct25,0,2123943,print.story.

• The U.S. House of Representatives has voted to designate a corridor that runs from Gettysburg to Monticello as a National Heritage Area, over the objections of the Maryland congressman whose district lies at its heart. This would include Carroll, Frederick and Washington counties in Maryland, taking such historic sites as Antietam National Battlefield, the Mother Seton Shrine and Camp David.

Mazine says to take every birthday with a grain of salt. And it works even better when accompanied by a Margarita.

Educator Improves Environment for Students



Michael Powell

Michael Powell, assistant principal at Patuxent Elementary School in Upper Marlboro, is the focus of a month-long "WETA Hometown Heroes" profile airing in November on WETA TV 26. WETA selected Powell for his efforts at educating students on environmental issues through numerous school programs he created that inspire children throughout Prince George's County to recycle, plant trees and respect wildlife. His profile premiered Monday at 8 p.m. prior to "Antiques Roadshow" on WETA TV 26 and repeats throughout the month.

Powell, a resident of Prince George's County, shares his love for the environment with kindergarten through 6th graders at Patuxent Elementary. Powell has introduced numerous programs that involve recycling, tree planting, and other hands-on learning opportunities for students. The planting projects he has established on school grounds have created no mow zones to help attract wildlife, along with introducing over

1,600 native trees, shrubs and flowers to the region. His work projects also include the planting of shade trees to screen the school in order to reduce energy consumption and the use of more environmentally friendly products in the school cafeteria. Powell even has the ambitious goal of trying to get the school off the power grid by the year 2010.

"At the heart of true environmental stewardship and sustainability beats a universal prosperity message — not found in man-made riches, but in hope for the future," said Powell.

Powell encourages parents, colleagues and the community to get involved with helping the environment. Each year on Gorgeous Prince George's Day, Powell persuades more than 200 students and community volunteers to plant trees and other native vegetation at the school.

Serving Suitland

By **JANUCE EUPELL**
301-736-3481

Because these days, people have so much negative energy, occasions that were intended to let children have a little clean fun are not the same. Is it any wonder that our children are filled with so much anger? I get on my soapbox every now and then, I ask your kind indulgence.

There was a point behind this one, though. It is because of society's perversions that we have to find suitable alternatives to occasions such as last

week's Halloween holiday. But thanks to some people who really care that all of the fun not be taken from our children, wonderful events such as the one sponsored by Hunter Memorial AME Church in Suitland are taking place.

Hunter sponsored "Hallelujah Night" at the church on the 31st and was host to hundreds of children in and around the community.

There were games like relay races, bowling, hot dogs, baked beans and lots of beverages. Youth were able to compete in the various games and

earn tickets that were later redeemable for special prizes. It was refreshing to see children having fun again. No fights, no screaming at each other, just everyday plain fun — the way it's supposed to be for children. Each child was sent away with a bag of candy and goodies that parents could feel confident in giving to their children. Thanks to Carol Jones, a member of Hunter and a volunteer at ROJA's After School Learning Center in District Heights, youth were able to take advantage of this exciting event.

ROJA sponsored an event prior to the Hunter event that entertained more than 40 youth for three hours with musical chairs, a game of freeze, a costume fashion show, pizza and lots of refreshments and desserts donated by their parents. This was a joint venture that everyone enjoyed, parents and children. See what great things happen when people work together.

Thanks to Pastor Harold Hayes and the Hunter family for giving children a chance to be a child and enjoy life that it was intended.

Brandywine-Aquasco

By **RUTH TURNER**
301-888-1139

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

A Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 21, at Brookfield United Methodist Church in Croom.

COLONIAL TIMES BAZAAR AND LUNCHEON

Saturday, Nov. 10 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Bells United Methodist Church, 6010 Allentown Road, Camp Springs. Lunch will be served from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Everything is homemade. Bell Ringer Inn Menu includes: chicken

salad, barbecue, hot dogs, potato salad, cole slaw, soup, chicken, vegetables, apple, cherry and pumpkin pies, old-fashioned rice pudding, coffee, tea, sodas and milk. Tables and country store with baked goods, homemade candy, Christmas decorations, attic treasures, collectibles, plants, book booth, nuts, silent bid items and manicures. Call Bells Church at 301-899-7521.

ST. PAUL'S CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S CENTER

Pre-school openings are available. St. Paul's Christian Children's Center in Upper Marlboro for 3- and 4-year olds. Full-time program (Monday through Friday) with an early childhood educa-

tion curriculum and a Christian curriculum. Call 301-627-4202.

SMHC'S HEALTH EXPRESS

Flu shots will be given at Cameron Grove Resort Center at 1000 Cameron Blvd., in Upper Marlboro from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Nov. 14; Camp Springs Senior Center in Camp Springs from 10 a.m. to noon on Nov. 15; Marlton Elementary School from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 19; and Clinton Manor at 8500 Mike Shapiro Drive, Clinton, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Nov. 29.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

This spectacular drive-through display will feature more than a million

twinkling lights at Watkins Regional Park, 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro. See the Winter Festival of Lights Friday, Nov. 23 thorough Tuesday, Jan. 1 from 5 to 9:30 p.m. Bring a canned good for donation to local food banks. \$5 for cars and vans; \$15 for mini-buses and limos; \$25 for buses; and \$10 for multi-visit passes for cars and vans. Free on Dec. 25. Call 301-699-2456.

FRUIT & NUT SALE

St. Paul's parish will be selling tree-ripened Florida citrus fruit and packages of different kinds of nuts. Call Wanda Gryszkiewicz at 301-888-9217 or Mary Jane Wilkinson at 301-579-2230.

NARFE to Meet Nov. 15

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), Southern Maryland Chapter, Chapter 1260, will meet at 1 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 15 at the Oxon Hill Library. The library is located at 6200 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill.

David Snell, director of retirement benefits, NAFRE Headquarters, will be the guest speaker.

Refreshments will be served during the event. For more information, call 301-868-0724.

Remember
Veterans' Day
is Sunday

The Prince George's Post

The Prince George's Post
P.O. Box 1001 15207 Marlboro Pike
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3151
Phone 301-627-0900 Legal Fax • 301-627-6260
Editorial Fax • 301-627-8147
Contents © 2004, The Prince George's Post

Editor/Publisher Legusta Floyd
Subscriptions Anna Curry
General Manager/ Legal Advertising Manager Brenda Boice
Acting Editor Suzanne White
Legal Advertising Assistant Robin Boerckel
Web Manager Kyler Quesenberry

Prince George's County, Md. Member National Newspaper Publishers Association, and the Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia Press Association. The Prince George's Post (ISSN 10532226) is published every Thursday by the New Prince George's Post Inc., 15207 Marlboro Pike, Upper Marlboro, Md. 20772-3151.

Subscription rate: 25 cents per single copy; \$15 per year; \$7.50 senior citizens and students; out of county add \$1; out of state add \$2. Periodical postage paid at Southern Md. 20790.

Postmaster, send address changes to Prince George's Post, P.O. Box 1001, Upper Marlboro, Md. 20772-3151.

Hyattsville's Trees are Helping Community

HYATTSVILLE — Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service completed a study of Hyattsville's 2,900 roadside trees and found that the trees provide valuable ecosystem services to residents including: Stormwater management

control by intercepting 10.5 million gallons of rainfall at a value of \$104,818; energy savings by reducing the needs for heating and cooling by 310 MWh of electricity and 10,625 therms of natural gas at a value of \$44,944; annual sequestration and reduction of over 1.1

million pounds of carbon at a value of \$8,428; and air quality improvement by annual reduction of over 500 pounds of smog (ozone) and 500 pounds of soot (particulate matter) at a value of \$2,706. Eighty-six percent of Marylanders live in urban areas.

THE CABINESS FAMILY TREE

Will a member of the Cabiness family please contact Legusta Floyd Sr. at the Prince George's Post Newspaper 301/627-0900.

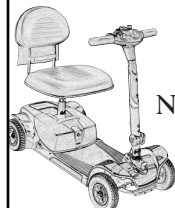
I would like to return your "LIFE SIZE" Family Tree Chart.

WET BASEMENTS STINK !!

Mold, mildew and water leaking into your basement causes health and foundation damage. What can be done to fix the problem? Allstate American Waterproofing is an honest, hardworking local company. We will give you a **FREE** evaluation and estimate and a fair price. We have repaired thousands of basements in the area; we can provide local references. When your neighbors needed waterproofing they called Allstate American. Why don't you? Call now to receive a 20% discount with your **FREE ESTIMATE.**

CALL 1 800 420 7783 NOW!

NEW POWER WHEELCHAIRS SCOOTERS and HOSPITAL BEDS



Absolutely no cost to you if qualified. New lift chairs starting at \$699.00.



Call now for free evaluation. **Toll free 1-800-470-7562**

COMMUNITY

County Youth Commission Gives Young People a Voice

Courtesy OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

UPPER MARLBORO, MD — Thirty-three nominees for the Youth Commission were unanimously confirmed by the Prince George's County Council during a recent hearing.

"I am very pleased that these young people have agreed to serve on the Youth Commission," Johnson said. "As I have said many times, the youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow, and in looking at the accomplishments of these individuals, I know the future of our county is in good hands."

The Youth Commission is comprised of youths ages 15 to 18, who represent each public and private high school in Prince George's County. The students have an interest and background in community-based activities. The commission works to increase youth involvement in government affairs and more.

The following students serve on the commission:

- **Marcus Allen**, a resident of Forestville, is a senior at Largo High School and honor student in the Bio-Technology Magnet Program and the Academy of Law.

- A resident of Bowie, **Benjamin Barrows** is a junior at Bowie High School. He is active in the National Honor Society and serves as a lobbyist for the Prince George's Regional Association of Student Governments.

- **Tiana Bias**, a resident of New Carrollton, is a senior at New Hope Academy in Landover Hills. She has received the Presidential Education Award for maintaining a 3.6 grade point average.

- A resident of Hyattsville, **Danielle Danger**, is a sophomore at Northwestern High School. She speaks Creole as a second language.

- **Chuckwunoso Dureke**, a resident of Riverdale, is a junior at Parkdale High School. He is president of the Student Government Association Executive Board and co-author of a children's book, "Art Poems & Stories of the Heart."

- A resident of Fort Washington, **Shaun Goddard** is a senior at Bishop McNamara High School. He is an executive board member of

the Prince George's Regional Association of Student Governments and an executive member of the Maryland Association of Student Councils.

- **Deanna Gonzalez**, a resident of Upper Marlboro, is a senior in the International Baccalaureate Program at Central High School. She is president of the SGA and a member of the National Honor Society.

- A resident of Suitland, **Janel Harper** is a senior at Suitland High School where she is an honor roll student with a 3.5 GPA and President of the SGA.

- **Breyana Kelly**, a resident of Accokeek, is a senior at Gwynn Park High School. She has interned for the chief operating officer of the NBA's Charlotte Bobcats.

- A resident of Capitol Heights, **Sheena King** is a senior at Tall Oaks Vocational High School in Bowie. She plans to attend Stafford University and become a licensed nurse practitioner.

- **Lamont Kinney**, a resident of Forest Heights, is a sophomore at Fairmont Heights High School, where he is a member of the Green Light for Excellence Program and the Right to Succeed Program.

- A resident of Mitchellville, **Stephanie Lipscomb** is a senior at Charles Herbert Flowers High School. She is a member of the National Honor Society, the National Art Honor Society and the National English Honor Society.

- **Gregory Long**, a resident of Capitol Heights, a junior at Forestville Military Academy where he is the 2nd Battalion Sgt. Major and president of the junior class.

- A resident of Laurel, **Cameron Miller** is a junior at Laurel High School. He is a teen mediator and founder of Empire Entertainment, a political hip hop organization that promotes positive influence and political awareness for youth.

- **Quiana Montgomery**, a resident of Accokeek, is a senior at Friendly High School where she holds a 4.0 GPA and is president of the senior class and member of the SGA.

- A resident Fort Washington, **Brandon Moulden**, is a junior at National Christian Academy in Fort Washington. He is the 2007



PHOTO COURTESY OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Members of the Youth Commission were sworn in by Prince George's County Circuit Court Clerk Peggy Magee.

Youngman of the Year Award winner from Allen Chapel AME.

- **David Murray**, a resident of Bowie, is a sophomore at Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Greenbelt. He is treasurer for the Maryland Association of Student Councils and member of M-MCPPC Teen Leadership Council.

- A resident of Lanham, **Ifedayo Olasupo** is a senior at Surrattsville High School where he is president of the SGA. He has interned in the research lab at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

- **Chanae Palmer**, a resident of Lanham, is a sophomore at DuVal High School where she is vice president of the sophomore class and a member of the Student Government Association and Junior ROTC.

- A resident of Clinton, **Alvin Rich** is a junior at Grace Brethren Christian School in Clinton where he maintains a 4.06 GPA and is the president of the junior class.

- **Taylor Scruggs**, a resident of Capitol Heights, is a freshman at Jericho Christian Academy in Landover where she is vice president of the journalism team and a member of the mock trial team.

- A resident of Temple Hills, **Charlinda Sims** is a senior at Crossland High School where she maintains a 4.13 GPA. She has been recognized for academic achievements since elementary school.

- **Cherian Trimble**, a resident of Clinton, is a junior at Frederick Douglass High School. She is a peer mediator and active in her community and church.

- A resident of Upper Marlboro, **John Webster IV** is a junior at Riverdale Baptist School in Upper Marlboro where he maintains a 4.14 GPA. He has received the

President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence.

- **Simone Alcorn**, a resident of Bowie, is a senior at Elizabeth Seton High School. She is being re-appointed to the Youth Commission after first being appointed in November 2006.

- A resident of College Park, **Korpo Cooper** is a senior at High Point High School. She is the chair of the Youth Commission's Program and Events Committee.

- **Sydney Gibson**, a resident of Mitchellville, is a senior at Queen Anne School in Upper Marlboro. She is a member of the commission's public relations committee.

- A resident of Brandywine, **Amanda Lopez** is a senior at High Road Academy in Bowie. She is a member of the commission's program and events committee.

- **Haywood Perry III**, a resident of Accokeek, is a senior at Oxon Hill High School. He is the chairman of the commission.

- A resident of District Heights, **Jada Prince** is a senior at Croom Vocational High School. She is the secretary of the commission.

- **Brandon White**, a resident of Glenn Dale, is a senior at High Road School of Prince George's County. He is being re-appointed after first being appointed to the Youth Commission in November 2006.

- A resident of Temple Hills, **Dashea Williams** is a senior at Potomac High School. She is a member of the commission's Public Relations committee.

- **Shanita Williams**, a resident of Upper Marlboro, is a junior at Dr. Henry Wise Jr. High School in Upper Marlboro. She is co-chair of the commission's treasury committee.

Hyattsville Veterans Day Tribute Set for Nov. 12

By KAREN ROBINSON
City of Hyattsville

The Town of Hyattsville will be holding a special Veterans Day Tribute from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 12, Hyattsville Municipal Building, 4310 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville. After a moment of silence at 11 a.m., town Mayor Bill Gardiner will read a Proclamation of Appreciation to Hyattsville veterans and their families, recognizing past and current contributions and sacrifices. Honored guests will be invited to share their service experiences with those in attendance. The program will include patriotic music and a "Hats Off to America" performance by the New Dimension Singers. Refreshments will be served following the presentations. The event is free. If you would like to be a part of the celebration, call Colleen Aistis, office of volunteer services, at 301-985-5057.

Homeless Mini-Walk in Suitland Nov. 17

Suitland High School's Student Government Association will host a Help the Homeless Mini-Walk on Monday, Nov. 12, at the Suitland High School track, 5200 Silver Hill Road, Forestville. Registration opens at 9 a.m. The mini-walk starts at 10 a.m. and ends at 1 p.m. Fee: \$25 adult; \$15 youth (age 25 and younger). For information or to register, call Linda Collins at 301-499-2319 or Ms. Wilkins at 301-817-0500. More than 100 people have volunteered to participate in mini-walks in Washington metropolitan area.

JUST FOR SENIORS

DAY TRIPS

Pow Wow Trip and Lunch
In honor of Native American Heritage Month, Harmony Haller Senior Citizens will take a day trip to enjoy the culture, dance and music of Native Americans at the 5th annual Pow Wow at George Mason University in Virginia on **Thursday, Nov. 8**. Participants can bring along a bag lunch or purchase their lunch on the campus. 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Reservations are required. Fee: \$3/person. Harmony Hall Regional Center. 10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington. 301-203-6040; TTY 301-203-6030.

Ready, Set, "Let's Shop!"
Travel to the Potomac Mills Outlets in Prince William, Va. on **Thursday, Nov. 8**. The fee includes transportation. Lunch is on your own, and there are plenty of places to grab a bite at the outlets. Reservations required by Nov. 6. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Fee: Resident \$5; Non-Resident \$7. Evelyn Cole Senior Center. 5720 Addison Road, Seat Pleasant. 301-386-5525; TTY 301-218-6768.

EVENTS

Drifters at La Fontaine Bleu
Enjoy a buffet luncheon and listen to the legendary Drifters as they take you on a walk down Memory Lane. **Thursday, Nov. 8**. Reservations required. 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Fee: Resident \$65; Non-Resident \$78. Cora B. Wood Senior Center 3601 Taylor Street, North Brentwood. 301-699-1238; TTY 301-445-4512.

Apple Festival
Enjoy an apple festival indoors. Everything is apple at this fun event, from fresh apple cider to yummy candied apples. 1-2 p.m. **Friday, Nov. 9**. Cora B. Wood Senior Center. 3601 Taylor Street, Brentwood. 301-699-1238; TTY 301-445-4512.

Scrapbooking Club
Scrapbooking is an ideal way of preserving a legacy and documenting events, activities, trips and milestones. If you've ever wondered about how to assemble and create a scrapbook, now is the time to join Harmony Haller and scrap



book enthusiast Joanne Cunningham for an enjoyable afternoon of scrapbooking fun. **Tuesday, Nov. 13**. 2:30-2 p.m. Participants in the class must purchase their own supplies. No reservations required. Harmony Hall Regional Center. 10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington. 301-203-6040; TTY 301-203-6030.

Spanish Club for Seniors
Join Cuban-born Harmony Haller, Loly Perez, as she helps participants to enjoy the Spanish language through conversation, basic words, sentences, common expressions, and more. If you want to refresh your Spanish speaking skills or simply start from scratch and learn a new language, this Spanish Club is for you. No reservations required. **Tuesday, Nov. 13**. 2-3 p.m. Harmony Hall Regional Center. 10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington. 301-203-6040; TTY 301-203-6030.



Water Woes Bowie Water Main Ruptures

A construction crew installing guardrails Monday around 10:30 a.m. struck and ruptured a large water main in Bowie. Crews were excavating the right shoulder area of northbound Route 301 between Ball Park Road and Governor's Bridge Road preparing to install new protective railings along the road.

A large diameter water

main was punctured, and a high pressure release of water occurred. The geyser rose 30 to 40 feet into a wooded area and fortunately drained into a small stream.

WSSC crews arrived on the scene of the rupture an hour later to begin repairs.

— Story and photos by
Mark E. Brady

COMMENTARY

OP-ED

EHRlich'S ADVICE TO O'MALLEY ...

Ax Outlandish Salaries and Rein In Spending, Then Cut Your Budget

BALTIMORE — Maryland's liberal establishment is at it again. Less than nine months after restoring one party-rule, the liberals in Annapolis are pushing massive tax increases based on a revisionist account of Maryland's budget history. Let me set the record straight.

In 2002, as state revenues steadily dwindled, the General Assembly enacted a \$1.3 billion education law. Legislators passed it knowing they had no money to pay for it. They passed a budget that overspent by \$616 million. This new spending, combined with an economic downturn and rising health costs, created a long-term deficit. My administration inherited that deficit in 2003 and, four years later, left state government a budget surplus.

We cut government spending by more than \$700 million in our first six months. We cut the size of the executive branch workforce by 7 percent. We defeated \$7.5 billion in proposed new taxes. We directed state agencies to budget under the assumption they would receive 12 percent less money than the previous year. These decisions were wildly unpopular with the lawmakers who created the budget crisis, but I took these steps to end their "cocktail party" spending in Annapolis.

We also proposed to place slot machines at Maryland racetracks. Had the leaders of the Maryland House of Delegates not rejected this bipartisan proposal for four straight years, Maryland would be enjoying an estimated \$800 million in additional non-tax revenue each year.

Despite inheriting a raft of new spending programs, my administration left Maryland in strong fiscal health. We nearly tripled the Rainy Day Fund to \$1.4 billion, and at the end of fiscal year 2006, Maryland employed a \$1 billion budget surplus and remarkably low unemployment. As recently as December of 2006, general fund revenues were up despite high gas prices and a slowdown in the housing market. We also preserved Maryland's Triple A bond rating, which saves residents money by allowing the state to borrow at low rates.

Government was leaner and more effective than it was when we inherited it, which is why I am so troubled by the administration's plans to enact historic new tax increases. Maryland's hard left leaders plan to increase the sales tax by 20 percent; expand the sales tax to new services including automotive repairs, real estate services, and health clubs; increase the income tax burden; increase and index the gas tax; increase motor vehicle fees; create a tax to be paid by new homeowners; and increase the tobacco tax.

Here's what leaders in Maryland don't get: We don't have a revenue problem; we have a spending problem. With creativity and slower budget growth, legislators can align Maryland's spending with its needs without raising taxes. Yet they inherently believe that low taxes are a problem that must be "fixed" in order to expand government's reach into our wallets and our lives.

Nowhere is that more evident than the bloated salaries doled out to political appointees. The new administration approved a whopping 58 percent pay raise for the head of the Public Service Commission, who then forced a 50 percent increase in electricity costs on 1,000,000 state residents. The new comptroller gave three of his aides salary increases to \$150,000 each — on par with cabinet secretaries with infinitely greater responsibilities. These raises may be small in the context of a \$30 billion budget, but they speak volumes about Annapolis' lack of respect for Marylanders' money.

So as our government leaders rush to Annapolis this week to raise our taxes, ask yourself: Have they made a real attempt to tighten government's belt? Or are they simply playing that old Annapolis routine of "scare 'em, tax and spend?"

The stakes in Annapolis are high. This is our state. Call your legislator today. Let your voice be heard. To find out how to contact your legislator go to mlis.state.md.us/.



Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich
"We don't have a revenue problem; we have a spending problem."



GUEST EDITORIAL

VETERANS' TRIBUTE

A Grateful Nation Remembers

As leader of the world's largest veterans organization, I often have the privilege of meeting some important people. No, I am not referring to our elected officials, business leaders or celebrities. I am speaking of the members of the United States military.

Can any Chief Executive Officer or distinguished Ivy League graduate truly claim to be under more pressure than the 21-year-old squad leader walking a patrol in Baghdad? Do they really have more responsibility than the young commander of a nuclear-powered submarine? Do they have as much on the line as the mechanic fixing a \$2 billion Stealth bomber?

"Nothing in our lives will ever be as important as this," said Lt. Col Henry Mucci, in the 2005 true-to-life film "The Great Raid." He makes the statement prior to leading the rescue of more than 500 American prisoners of war held by the Japanese.

While Mucci's mission was spectacularly successful, America is blessed because millions of men and women realized — and still realize — that nothing in their lives is as important as defending this nation.

For many veterans, it was important enough to endure long separations from their families, miss the births of their children, freeze in sub-zero temperatures, bake in wild jungles, lose limbs, and, far too often, lose their lives.

Sadly, their deeds are frequently unappreciated.

In an essay early this year, Army Sergeant Eddie Jeffers wrote, "Even thousands of miles away, in Ramadi, Iraq, the cries and screams and complaints of the ungrateful reach me. In a year, I will be thrust back into society from a life and mentality that doesn't fit your average man. And then, I will be alone. And then, I will

walk down the streets of America, and see the yellow ribbon stickers on the cars of the same people who compare our President to Hitler."

Unfortunately, Sergeant Jeffers won't get to walk down the streets of America in a year. On Sept. 19th, he was killed in Iraq. He was 23.

This brave hero is not the only veteran who has heard the screams and complaints of the ungrateful. When Congress refuses to pass mandatory funding for VA health care, veterans are disrespected.

When heroes are denied access to VA facilities, veterans are disrespected.

When schools tell the military to keep its recruiters away, veterans are disrespected. When a wartime Army general is called a traitor, veterans are disrespected.

When military and veterans funding bills are held up because of political squabbling, veterans are disrespected.

Fortunately, when a soldier walks into an American Legion post, he is given the thanks of a grateful organization. If we put soldiers in boots, and we put those boots in harm's way, The American Legion family knows it must support them in every way.

Not only must we support the veteran but we must also support their families, as we demonstrate through The American Legion Legacy Fund, which provides scholarships to the children of heroes like Sgt. Eddie Jeffers. We also show our support through the

Family Support Network, Temporary Financial Assistance and the National

Emergency Fund, just to name a few. We welcome home our wounded servicemembers with our Heroes to Hometowns program, which eases their transition to civilian society.

We are committed to finding good jobs for Sgt. Jeffers' comrades by hosting career fairs and urging Congress to maintain a strong veterans preference program for federal employment. Companies understand that it's smart business to hire veterans, and when members of the Guard and Reserves deploy, it is America's business to ensure that their civilian careers do not suffer.

We must not forget the unique needs of women veterans. Women are major contributors to our military presence in Iraq and Afghanistan and many have given their lives in the War on Terror.

VA must be prepared to adequately treat the special needs of our female veterans.

It is tragic that the men and women who allow us to be safe in our homes are often without homes themselves when they shed their uniforms.

An estimated 23 percent of America's homeless are veterans. Of these homeless Americans, 89 percent were honorably discharged and 47 percent served during the Vietnam War. Too often today's tattered citizen of the street was yesterday's toast-of-the-town in a crisp uniform with rows of shining medals.

But all is not grim. When my predecessor, Past National Commander Paul Morin, asked Americans to donate \$50,000 so wounded warriors at Landstuhl Regional Medical

Center in Germany could receive comfort items, The American Legion family and its friends responded in a big way — raising more than \$300,000 for these heroes.

Moreover, the quality of health care provided at most VA centers is consistently rated among the best in the world. Communities across our great country have recognized the value of military service, honoring heroes and their families with Blue Star salutes. And the American GI consistently tops public opinion polls and surveys as the most respected person in America.

Just as Colonel Mucci said, "Nothing in our lives will ever be this important." Likewise, nothing on a person's lifetime resume should trump past military service.

Pride in ones' military service is a bond shared by nearly all who have served. This pride is on display on every obituary page in the country, where military service — regardless of how many decades have passed and subsequent achievements reached — is mentioned with the death notice of nearly every deceased veteran.

Although the successful businessman may have closed multi-million dollar deals and raised a wonderful family, what single accomplishment tops the decisive actions he took during the siege of The Sanh, which saved the lives of several of his fellow Marines?

Fewer than 10 percent of Americans can claim the title "veteran." And while Veterans Day is Sunday, Nov. 11, we should thank our veterans everyday. It's the least a grateful nation can do for those who served.

— Marty Conatser of Champaign, Ill., is national commander of the 2.7 million-member American Legion, the nation's largest wartime veterans organization.



E-mail your Letters to the Editor to: pgpost@gmail.com

BUSINESS

Practical Money Skills

By Jason Alderman

Spend Less So You Can Save Lots More

We all know we should set aside money for a rainy day, a house down payment or retirement, but there are always a million reasons why we cannot. If this sounds familiar, remember this: To get ahead, you either need to earn more income or spend less money – or a little of both.

You could always ask your boss for a raise or take a second job, but here are a few suggestions for tackling the problem from the spending side.

Brew your own. If you spend \$3 a day on coffee, that's about \$1,000 a year. Instead of going out to get coffee, buy a good coffee maker, a thermos and your own premium coffee beans. The same goes for bottled water. Plastic bottles are bad for the environment and you're usually just paying for filtered tap water. Buy portable water filters for home and work – you'll pay pennies a day versus dollars.

Kick bad habits. Smoking one \$5 pack of cigarettes a day costs over \$1,825 a year, not to mention potentially thousands in additional medical and lost-work costs. Add \$10 a week in lottery tickets and that's another \$520 a year. By investing that same money at an 8 percent annual rate of return, you'll have more than \$37,000 after 10 years.

Brown bag it. Sometimes going out to lunch is the only way to escape work. But at \$7 a pop five times a week, you'll burn through \$1,600 a year. Try making an extra portion at dinner and brown-bagging it the next day. Then take a walk with friends during lunch hour – you may even drop a few pounds.

Consolidate your errands. Or, better yet, walk or ride a bike. Cutting out two gallons of \$3 gas a week saves \$300 a year. And trade in your gas guzzler for even larger savings.

Go green. By switching to energy-efficient light bulbs and appliances, insulating your house and lowering the thermostat, among other things, you can save big bucks – and save the environment. Go to www.energystar.gov for more information.

Switch to lower-interest and no-annual-fee credit cards. And, before you sign up for a card that offers rebates on purchases, be sure you have the discipline to pay off your bill each month; otherwise you'll negate any savings.

Shop around for no-fee checking accounts. A \$5 a month service charge can wipe out any interest you might earn, unless you carry a high balance. And while you're at it, don't settle for a savings account with 1 percent interest or less when many institutions offer 5 percent or more. Compare rates at www.bankrate.com.

Overall, the best thing you can do is make a budget and stick to it. Track exactly what you're spending each month down to the last penny and look for places to trim. Many budgeting tools are available. For example, Money magazine offers Money 101, a step-by-step guide that can help you set your financial goals, at www.money.cnn.com/pf/101.

As always, consult a financial professional regarding your particular situation.

For very little discomfort, these simple tips can save you thousands of dollars a year and give you a chance to save some money. That beats working a second job, doesn't it?

Jason Alderman directs Visa Inc.'s financial education programs. Get a free finance e-Newsletter at www.practicalmoneyskills.com/newsletter.

Alston Receives Performance Award

PITTSBURGH – Kenithia Alston of Oxon Hill is among this year's eight winners of The NC Financial Services Group's highest honor bestowed upon its employees, the PNC Performance Award.

The award program, now in its 15th year, recognizes PNC employees who demonstrate a pattern of significant achievement and deliver a consistent level of extraordinary performance.

An election committee comprised of past PNC Performance Award winners and leaders throughout PNC chose this year's honorees from among 27,000 employees across the country.

"Our company is strong because of our people. These eight employees embody our values. They make extraordinary contributions. They are the heart and soul of our company," said James E. Rohr, PNC's

"Our company is strong because of our people,"

– James E. Rohr
PNC's chairman and CEO



Kenithia Alston

chairman and chief executive officer and host of the Oct. 30 awards ceremony.

"Through their intense focus on the customer, their thoughtful and innovative approach to conducting business, and their extraordinary service to colleagues and the community, our award recipients have left an indelible imprint on our company."

Alston is a financial sales consultant at PNC's Oxon Hill branch. She has been with the bank for 10 years and serves as the branch's primary contact by

extending a caring and personal relationship to each customer.

In the community, she is involved in several organizations for youths, including Junior Achievement and as president of a young adult choir.

The following employees are all eight of the PNC Performance Award winners for 2007 (listed alphabetically with their hometown and PNC business division):

Kenithia Alston, Oxon Hill, Md., retail banking; Marlo Brown, Maple Shade, N.J.,

retail banking; Barry Gillman, East Brunswick, N.J., legal; Richard Morgan, Wilmington, Del., PFPC; Michelle Ortiz, Philadelphia, PNC Wealth Management; Elizabeth Protage, Princeton, N.J., PNC Wealth Management; Anthony Testa, Seven Fields, Pa., treasury management operations; and Kenneth Travis, McMurray, Pa., management information systems.

Smithsonian Comes to County

Courtesy COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE

UPPER MARLBORO – Prince George's County Executive Jack Johnson announced that The Smithsonian Institution will consolidate and relocate several key programs, housing collections, a library, exhibit production, conservation facilities and a security training center to a renovated 360,000 square foot facility in Landover.

"The Smithsonian's selection of an Enterprise Zone in Prince George's County as the site for the consolidation of several of its facilities confirms our understanding that the County is an ideal location for businesses and federal agencies," Johnson said. "I am pleased that the Economic Development Corporation and DCAO David Byrd were able to coordinate our agency responses in a tight time frame, which confirms our position that Prince George's County is open for business."

The programs that are coming to the county include collections from the National Museum of American History, Office of Exhibits Central, the Smithsonian Institution Libraries and the Office of Protective Services.

The new facility, recently acquired and renovated by the Trammell Crow Company, is located at 3400 Pennsy Drive in Landover. The facility allows the Smithsonian to consolidate fragmented and obsolete facilities, and is slated for occupancy in October 2008.

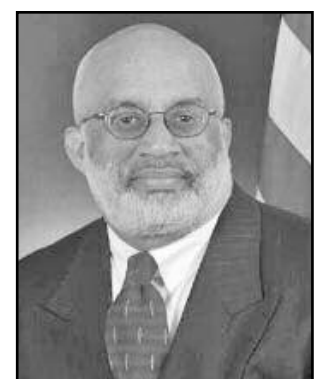
"The Pennsy Drive location provides the Smithsonian a facility that meets its growth and

New facility in Landover will house collections from the National Museum of America History

functional needs. The size of the building, the site's location near major transportation routes, access to public transportation, and its natural security barriers made it an ideal location for the consolidation of collections, conservation, and fabrication facilities," said Reid Townsend of the Trammell Crow Company.

The Smithsonian has office and warehouse facilities throughout the Washington Metropolitan area including approximately 167,000 square feet at 1111 N. Capitol Street, N.E., Washington, D.C., as well as facilities in Springfield and Newington, Va. These facilities will be vacated as Smithsonian consolidates into the Pennsy Drive facility.

The new building accommodates long-term storage needs, office requirements and growth space for future expansion. A large portion of the facility is planned to house the National Museum of America History's collections as well as to establish an area dedicated to collection housing. With the establishment of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the Smithsonian's 19th museum, the need to expand the collections facilities for the future has become even more apparent.



Dr. James A. Dula

Chamber President Completes Successful First Year

Prince George's Chamber of Commerce Chamber President and Chief Executive Officer James A. Dula, Ph.D recently completed his first year.

It has been an outstanding year of excellence and unprecedented growth for the chamber. During that time, there were 219 new members, a renewal of programs and the integration of innovative strategic planning.

This year has been packed with extraordinary achievement from the "Vision 1000 Initiative," "Renaissance 2007," recruitment and retention of old business members, innovative creation of new programs such as the Junior Chamber of Commerce, School Time Program, Chamber First Program, Health & Welfare subcommittee, Member to Member Discount Program, Youth Entrepreneurial Committee, Youth Council, Women's Leadership Council and more.

Brandywine Welcomes Retail

Courtesy COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE

BRANDYWINE – Prince George's County Executive Jack Johnson, along with Faison & Associates, broke ground this week for Brandywine Crossing, a new commercial development project in the southern part of the county.

"Brandywine Crossing will be a welcome addition to our county. It is especially what the residents in Southern Prince George's County have been waiting for," Johnson said.

"Prince George's County

has led all other counties in the Washington region in new commercial construction. This project will add to the economic renaissance that is based on first class development in the county, providing well deserved quality services to our residents," Johnson added.

Brandywine Crossing will be a 750,000 square foot regional power center in southern Prince George's County, featuring 83 acres of retail plus a 19-acre office/flex space commercial district.

Howard Biel, senior managing director of Faison & Associates, noted that there are 238,000 people with an aver-

age income of \$76,662 within seven miles of Brandywine Crossing.

"We quickly realized that Prince George's County is underserved by and well equipped for retail," said Biel. "Prince George's County has been good for business and we have had great success here."

The initial focus of the Brandywine development will be on the retail segment anchored by Target, Costco, and Safeway that is expected to deliver in the fourth quarter of 2008.

Phase II of the new development should be completed in fall 2009.

AUCTION

Tuesday, November 6th @ 12 Noon
Jacksonville Beach, FL
(2) New Homes, Beach Side

Thursday, November 8th @ 12 Noon
Tavares, FL
Mt. Dora Lake Front Home
&
Leesburg, FL
(2) 7+ Acre Wooded Lots

PLEASE VIEW OUR WEB SITE AND PREVIEW THESE LUXURY PROPERTIES FOR AUCTION WITH ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

www.soldbyauction.net/nov

SOLD by AUCTION
Call for Info @ 407-353-4121

Attend the Auctions for Chance to Win A
NEW CAR

Tis the Season to Ship Packages Smart

NewsUSA – Along with the joy of holiday gift giving comes shipping holiday gifts. Packaging requirements and holiday mailing deadlines can be dizzying.

Pak Mail, a full-service packing, shipping and crating center nationwide, has assembled a list of helpful shipping tips.

- Ship early. It can cost more to send a package at the last minute than a couple weeks ahead of time. If you are traveling over the holidays, ship the gifts ahead of you to avoid enduring the hassle of airport security. Keep in mind that one 20-pound box costs less to ship than two 10-pound boxes.

- Ship fragile items separately. The "Encyclopedia of Wines from Around the World," which weighs more than 10 pounds, shouldn't be packed with crystal wine glasses. Mark the package "fragile." You may want to consider purchasing additional shipping insurance as well.
- Attention to detail pays

off. It is a good idea to enclose an extra address label inside the package being shipped. Should things go awry and the package become damaged, it will still reach its final destination. Try to ship packages to a business address so that you can ensure that someone will be there to receive it them.

Out on the TOWN



www.rottentomatoes.com

'Bee Movie' comes to us from Jerry Seinfeld with lots of familiar voices heard by the bees. A laugh-filled movie, it will also warm your heart.

THE BUZZ IS ... BEE

In a movie land full of handsome stars, a humble bee makes a debut

By **REX REED**
New York Observer

Bee wise. Bee smart. Beehave, my heart. Apologies for the bee in my bonnet, but I've just seen Bee Movie, and I'm bee-sotted.

High time, too. Just when you were ready to give up movies for Lent five months early, here, in the middle of an avalanche of autumn violence, war and suicidal depression, comes Jerry Seinfeld's adorable animated adventure about all those busy, buzzing little fashion statements in black-and-yellow striped sweaters by Ralph Lauren. It is mercifully less than 90 minutes long, but make that an hour and a half of witty, captivating enchantment. The ad logo that announces "Honey Just Got Funny!" pretty much says everything that needs to be said. But I will say more.

Premise: On the morning of his college graduation ceremony, a bright, precocious and very amusing little bee named Barry B. Benson (Jerry Seinfeld) rises as usual, his wings whirring like micro-helicopters, sharpens his stinger, spikes his antennae with trendy fuzz gel, wolfs down a bee propolis breakfast shake and meets up with his best friend Adam (Matthew Broderick), who shares the latest scoop about the premature demise of a classmate. "Everybody knows you sting someone, you die," says Barry. "I'm not wasting it on a squirrel!" After graduating with honors (all B's, natch) Barry is expected to join Adam and do what every young bee does—go to work for Honex, a giant corporate hive where bees test technology for surviving bears, insecticides and fly swats. Adam is a conformist. But Barry, appalled by the fact that bees have never had one day off in 27 million years, is restless. To the dismay of his long-suffering parents (Kathy Bates and Barry Levinson) he doesn't want to spend the rest of his life in a honey factory. He knows there's gotta be something more in his destiny than being part of the most perfectly organized, misunderstood and underappreciated species on earth. Hiking a ride with a gang of macho "pollen jocks," he leaves the safety of the hive, heads

for Central Park, narrowly survives hairy encounters with a broom, a taxi, a tennis ball and an overturned bottle of root beer, and ends up breaking every bee rule by actually talking to Vanessa (Renée Zellweger), the nice lady who saves him. Shazam! She turns out to be a florist. It's love at first sight, but as the old joke goes, "A bird may love a fish, but where would they live?"

Meanwhile, Barry b-z-z-z's between the drones back in New Hive City ("Would it kill you to just make a little honey?" pleads his mom) and his new home in Vanessa's flower shop at 67th and Columbus. He discovers a world of sugar, pie filling and cake frosting. But he also survives a few new horrors dreamed up by humans, like bee-squashing with rolled-up magazines ("I lost a cousin to Italian Vogue once"), and learns windshield wipers can be daunting. But the most crunching blow of all is the revelation that people eat honey! Following a supermarket delivery truck to a honey farm that is like a Nazi work camp staffed by slaves, Barry is mortified by this criminal behavior. "Nobody works harder than bees—don't they deserve to profit from their own honey?" he asks, and convinces Vanessa to help him sue the human honey industry in a honey trial in the courtroom of Judge Bumbleton (Oprah Winfrey). (The evil prosecutor who hates bees is an obese villain played by a hilarious John Goodman.) Barry becomes a world hero and gets interviewed by a Larry King with wings on BeeNN. His goal: to fix it so that every time a human walks in and says, "Honey, I'm home," he'll pay a royalty. Trial witnesses include Sting, Ray Liotta and a hilarious bear who looks and growls like Vin Diesel in Sidney Lumet's Find Me Guilty. Pay special attention to Chris Rock as a jive-ass mosquito named Mooseblood. LOL. And the movie whirs on.

Mr. Seinfeld spent several years creating this project as a writer, producer and star. Directing credits go to animation experts Simon J. Smith and Steve Hickner, but I wouldn't be surprised if Seinfeld didn't have a hand in that chore as well. His stamp is certainly evident in every scene. Barry B.

looks, acts, and moves his eyes and mouth like Seinfeld, whose dry wit and sardonic humor provide his bee counterpart with a trove of memorable one-liners. (Looking aghast at an arrangement of artificial flowers, who else would say, "Nothing worse than a daffodil that's had work done.") And Mr. Seinfeld's liberal politics are only thinly veiled. The bees could be any oppressed minority being cheated, lied to and disenfranchised by disingenuous bureaucrats, and it's no secret that the biggest and most evil corporate juggernaut exposed in the headline-grabbing court case is named "Honeyburton." The manifesto is "Respect what you don't understand or face the repercussions down the road to your own ruin." Without pollution, flowers and fruit trees all die, see. Without bees, it's the end of honey, and what would the Brits do without their tea?

I won't tell you how the bees save the world with the help of the last fresh flowers on earth at the Rose Bowl Parade in Pasadena. By this time, the movie has run out of ideas and is just marking time. Since we never actually see the Rose Bowl

Parade, it looks like maybe they ran out of money, too. A few clarifying scenes seem to be missing, and I suspect there are animation boards in the design department at DreamWorks that remain unused. It is never clear where the bees are taking the plane or why, but get this for a stinging Jerry Seinfeld finale: Barry the Bee, forcing Vanessa the florist to take over the pilot controls like Doris in Julie: "Doesn't John Travolta fly a plane?" "Yes." "Then how hard can it be?"

You have to go away from Bee Movie with a revitalized respect for bees. (I'm talking furry, sluggish bumblebees who mind their own business, like the ones pictured on bear-shaped honey jars and tuna fish cans, not their nasty, worthless cousins, hornets, wasps and yellow jackets.) I have shared my garden with these miraculous critters for years. I know how harmless and wrongly feared they are. But I didn't know they were so vital and lovable until Jerry Seinfeld saved their reputation for posterity. Bee Movie is bee balm for the masses.

Calendar of Events

November 9 — November 14

FRIDAY, NOV. 9

Evening Campfire

Enjoy a campfire with tales and lore. Marshmallows provided. Bring your own hot dogs and drinks. 7-8:30 p.m. Reservations required. Ages 2 and older. Fee: Resident \$2; Non-Resident \$3. Clearwater Nature Center. 11000 Thrift Road, Clinton. 301-297-4575.

Sewing/Knitting Workshop

Learn how to make a hat and scarf to donate to charity. 7-9 p.m. Ages 6 and older. Fee: Resident \$1; Non-Resident \$2. William Beanes Community Center. 5108 Dianna Drive, Suitland. 301-568-7719.

Jazz Concert

Enjoy the sounds of the Jazz Ensemble of Prince George's Community College and other guests. Light refreshments. 7:30-9 p.m. All ages welcome. Prince George's Sports & Learning Complex. 8001 Sheriff Road, Landover. 301-583-2400.

SATURDAY, NOV. 10

Birdwatching

Identify woodland and water birds along the Anacostia River. Binoculars provided. 8-10 a.m. All ages welcome. (An adult must accompany children 16 and younger.) Fee: Resident \$2; Non-Resident \$3. Bladensburg Waterfront Park. 4601 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg. 301-779-0371; TTY 301-699-2544.

MarketPro Computer Show and Sale

Computers, hardware, software. 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 11, 9:30a.m.-4 p.m. Call for information. Show Place Arena, 14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro. 301-952-7999; TTY 301-952-7998.

Little Miss Princess

Become a princess for a day. Girls (ages 10 and younger) will receive a princess-like makeover and have their nails done. 2-5 p.m. Light refreshments. Fee: \$3/person. Temple Hills Community Center. 5300 Temple Hill Road, Temple Hills. 301-894-6616.

SUNDAY, NOV. 11

Traditional Celtic Music

Enjoy a live musical performance in our Victorian parlor featuring traditional Irish tunes sung by vocalist Dr. Elizabeth Barber. 4-5:30 p.m. Reservations required. Fee: \$5/person. Marietta House Museum. 5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale. 301-464-5291.

MONDAY, NOV. 12

Family Movie Series: Space Camp

Enjoy popcorn and a flick. 1 p.m. All ages welcome. Fee: \$4/adults, \$3/seniors, \$2/ages 18 and younger. College Park Aviation Museum. 1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive, College Park. 301-864-6029.

TUESDAY, NOV. 13

Northern Peaks Trail Hike

Join a naturalist for a mildly strenuous, 5-mile hike at Sugarloaf Mountain in Dickerson, Md. Wear appropriate hiking boots and dress. Bring lunch and water. 6 a.m.-5 p.m. Ages 18 and older. Fee: Resident \$15; Non-Resident \$18. Watkins Nature Center. 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro. 301-218-6702.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 14

Holiday Centerpiece Workshop

Make a centerpiece with greens. 6-8 p.m. Reservations required by Nov. 12. Ages 18 and older. Fee: Resident \$20; Non-Resident \$24. Langley Park Community Center 1500 Merrimac Drive, Hyattsville. 301-445-4508; TTY 301-445-4512.

JOURNALISM STUDENT?

PAID SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

For college students are now available at newspapers in MD, DE & DC through the Reese Cleghorn MD/DC Internship Program of the Maryland-Delaware-DC Press Foundation

- News reporting
- Copy editing
- Photojournalism

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:
NOVEMBER 16.**

Visit www.mddepress.com for info & application res.

IS IT TIME TO PAINT? MAKE THIS YOUR LAST TIME!!!

That's right, never paint again after applying liquid siding to your home.

LIQUID SIDING

- ECO-FRIENDLY
- ENERGY SAVING
- 25 YR LABOR AND MATERIAL WARRANTY

CALL 1-888-NEVERPAINT AND NEVER PAINT AGAIN
LEAD SOURCES: MARYLAND: 410-326-2121, DE: 302-438-2121, DC: 202-462-2121

