

The Prince George's Post



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County Approves Veterans' Housing Program Creates Permanent Rental Housing for Veterans

Courtesy OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

(LARGO, MD) – The Prince George's County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners this week authorized the development of a Veteran Rental Assistance Program (VRAP) to provide homeless and disabled veterans with housing assistance.

The program will furnish permanent housing to eligible veterans who will be issued vouchers for use in renting apartments in the private market. The resolution authorized the use of 25 vouchers for this program.

"On any given night

in Prince George's County, hundreds of veterans who have sacrificed and risked their lives for this country return to the County only to face homelessness," said Thomas Thompson, executive director of the Housing Authority. "We need to do better, and this is a step in the right direction."

The Housing Authority will partner with other government departments, non-profits, and faith-based organizations to address the housing needs of veterans who find themselves facing mental illness and unemployment, as well as homelessness.

Another Livable
See Vouchers, Page A9



PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. YOURISHIN/OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

County Executive Jack B. Johnson and 15 representatives from the Office of the County Executive joined 25 other volunteers Saturday to make repairs to the home of Eugenia Bryant in Upper Marlboro.

Christmas in April Comes Just in Time Residents & Leaders Volunteer Time to Repair Homes of Residents in Need

By EMILY APATOV
PG Post Staff Writer

Living in homes with dangerous, uneven staircases, roofs

caving in due to water damage and other safety hazards, critical home repairs are high on the wish lists of county residents who are unable, financially or physically,

to repair their homes themselves. Vincent "Cap" Mona of Mona Electric realized this was a serious problem 19 years ago, when he founded the non-profit organi-

zation Christmas in April to conduct an annual day of volunteer home improvement by the same name.

See Christmas, Page A3

Eleanor Roosevelt High School Girls' Track Team Makes Sports History

4 x 800 and 4 x 400 Teams Both Emerge Victorious at Penn Relays

Courtesy PGCPs

On Friday, April 27, the Eleanor Roosevelt High School girls' track team sprinted into sports history at the 113th Penn Relays in Philadelphia. The team accomplished something that no other American girls' track team has been able to do: win both the mile- and two-mile relay races in the same year.

The legendary track meet was held at the University of Pennsylvania's Franklin Field. The Roosevelt Raiders became the first Washington -

area girls' team to win at the University of Pennsylvania's relays since 1986 and the first area team- boys' or girls'- to win two titles in the same year.

In addition, the Raiders are only the second American team to win the 4 x 800 meter race since 1986, a status predominately held by Jamaican schools.

Finishing the two-mile relay in 8:51:19, the Raiders also booked the second-fastest time ever for a U.S. high school girls' team.

See Track, Page A10



PHOTO COURTESY PGCPs

Track Legend Obea Moore joins Eleanor Roosevelt High School's 4 x 400 team of Doris Anyanwu, Tameka Jameson, Tasha Stanley and Takecia Jameson.

Bus Tour Reveals Beauty of Gorgeous Prince George's

Explore Grovehurst and Other Historic Landmarks in Prince George's County

Courtesy MD HOUSE AND GARDEN PILGRIMAGE

Grovehurst, the home of John Petro and Kathleen Litchfield, is one of ten houses and landmarks on the Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage through Prince George's County this Saturday, May 5. Also on the tour, visit Bowieville (1819), Mount Lubentia (18th century),

Good Luck (1790), Patuxent Farm (1903), St. Thomas Church (1743), West End Farm (1850's), Magnolia Knoll (mid-19th century), Mount Calvert (1780's) and enjoy a guided Pontoon Boat tour on the Patuxent River.

Grovehurst, the second on this year's tour, was built by Fred Watkins, a local building supplier, and his wife Frances in 1961.

See Tour, Page A9

Residents Given Spirit of Hospice Award

Prince George's County Couple Awarded for Work at the Hospice of Chesapeake

Courtesy HOSPICE OF THE CHESAPEAKE

(LANDOVER, MD) – More than 170 volunteers and staff kicked off National Volunteer Week during the annual Hospice of the Chesapeake Volunteer Recognition Luncheon at the Crofton Country Club late last month.

Russell Stewart of Annapolis received the 2007 Joseph P. and Elizabeth Earley Memorial Award for his dedication to patient care. In 2006, Stewart administered care to 35 families. Mr. Stewart was the sixth Hospice of the Chesapeake volunteer to receive this honor. The award is funded by James and

See Hospice, Page A3

County Council Confirms Nominees

County Executive's Personnel Board Nominees Recently Approved

Courtesy OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

(UPPER MARLBORO, MD) – Prince George's County Executive Jack Johnson's nominees for the Personnel Board were recently confirmed by the County Council. The Board oversees employment decisions in the county.

Nominee John Hardwick, a resident of College Park, was first appointed to the Board in 2003. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Maryland.

Oxon Hill resident Yvonne Hefley, a second nominee, is an Equal
See Council, Page A3



PHOTO BY MIKE YOURISHIN/OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Sybil Wiggins, John Hardwick, and Yvonne Walker were recently sworn-in and confirmed as nominees for the County Executive's Personnel Board.

INSIDE

COMMUNITY

The Alice Ferguson Foundation invites you to the Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center for its free Annual Spring Farm Festival and Plant Sale on Saturday, May 5, from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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BUSINESS

Prince George's County Executive joined Gaylord Entertainment Wednesday, April

25, to announce April 25, 2008 as the official grand opening date for the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, the largest convention resort on the Eastern Seaboard.

A5

SPORTS

Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex Home to 2006 National Women's Football Association Champs

A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

Clinton Conversations

By **NORMA FAZENBAKER**
301.579.6116

Happy Birthday in May to May Whittington and Alvera Wathen, May 1, Thomas Smith, May 2, Willie Lee Bowden and Betty Shifflett, May 3, Billy Lederer, Alice Smolinski and Esther Nowak, May 4, Fay Smith and Mabel Vaughn, May 5, Margaret Hilton and Mary Maynor, May 6, Bessie May Zingraff, May 8, Pat McKenzie and Phyllis Ruble, May 9, Dick Statler, May 10, Mary Etter, May 11, Celeste Felious, Patsy Moreland and Helen Janowiak, May 12, Joyce Peay, May 13, Mildred Fowler and Jamie Thomas, May 17, Francine L. Webb, May 18, Janet Duty, May 20, Ruth Webb, May 21, Jean Linkins, May 23, Mary Stoutemyer, Betty Crompton, Norma Edwards and Agnes Spicer, May 25, my grandson, Trevor Donaldson, Judy Beach and Eda Brawner, May 26, Robin Collins, May 27, Jason Sylvis and Alice Weaver, May 28, Thelma Skinner, May 29, Faye Rodgers, Delia Chatman and Lucie Webner, May 30.

The North Clinton Citizens Association (NCAA) had a wonderful day on March 17, when 25 adults and 17 teens and pre-teens representing six schools came together for the NCAA’s annual cleanup. Surrattsville and Crossland High Schools, Stephen Decatur and Isaac Guardine Middle Schools, and James Ryder Randall and Avalon

Elementary Schools were represented.

Volunteers filled four 40-cubic-yards-deep dumpsters with trash. The day was the kickoff for the “Keep America Beautiful” campaign, directed by Helen Moore from the Department of Environmental Resources. A Continental breakfast was served to volunteers; later a dozen volunteers served lunch.

Associations represented at the cleanup were the NCCA, Department of Environmental Resources, Public Works and Transportation, Concerned Citizens for a Cleaner Community, and the Stephen Decatur Community Center. NCAA President Clint Burnham and the North Clinton Citizens Patrol President Franklin Ambush would like to thank everyone who participated in and supported this event.

Monday, May 7, will be Congressman Albert R. Wynn’s 15th free Annual Job Fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Prince George’s Sports and Learning Complex in Landover. Over 200 businesses and employers (including Federal and Local Government Agencies) will participate in this event. Bring your resume and dress appropriately. For more information, call 301.987.2054.

**In Pennsylvania, a minister is forbidden from performing marriage when either the bride or groom is drunk. (From what I have heard, I don’t think this is true in Las Vegas!)



PHOTO COURTESY HOSPICE OF THE CHESAPEAKE

(L-R): Spirit of Hospice Award Nominator Selisa Shelton, Prince George’s Award Recipients Elaine and Willie Gee, and Hospice of the Chesapeake President and CEO Erwin Abrams. For full story, see front page.

Aquasco-Brandywine

By **RUTH TURNER**
301.888.1139

60th Class Reunion Luncheon

Mark your calendars, you won’t want to miss this: the Frederick Douglass High School Class of 1947 will celebrate its 60th class reunion with a luncheon on Thursday, June 28, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. The event will take place at the Marlboro Golf Club located at 4750 John Rogers Boulevard in Upper Marlboro, MD. All classes are invited, particularly

classes from 1937-1957.

The meal will cost \$20. RSVP no later than June 14. To register, contact Edith Myers at 301.283.5252; Vernon Griffith at 301.627.2177; or Donald Magruder at 301.372.8986; OR register by sending a check payable to Donald Magruder and send to 5501 Accokeek Rd., Brandywine, MD, 20613. Please remit checks by June 14.

Your Child Can Learn

Your child may be smarter than his or her grades show. If you are

unhappy with your child’s report card, the time to take action is now.

If your child is struggling with schoolwork this year, Huntington Learning Center can help. Certified teachers at the Center can pinpoint your child’s strengths and weaknesses and tailor a program of instruction to meet your child’s needs. Individual testing and tutoring in reading, study skills, writing, phonics, spelling, math, and SAT preparation are available. For more information or to register, **See Aquasco, Page A10**

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They’re Blackbirds, Not Ravens- For Now County Native Alexander Austin Owns Indoor Football Team

By **LIZ FARMER**
Capital News Service

(OWINGS MILLS, MD) - It’s 10:30 in the evening, and under the dreary fluorescent lights of a practice field nearby, Alexander Austin huddles up with the other members of his indoor football team. "One...two...three... Blackbirds!" comes the cadenced shout from 30 players as they break their huddle.

Austin, 28 years old, tall and athletic, fits right in with the players as he strolls casually around the field. A real estate developer by day, Austin doesn’t play on this team - he owns it.

The American Indoor Football Association and the Baltimore Blackbirds are about as far away from the National Football League and the Canadian Football League as it is possible to get.

A professional indoor football league that began its inaugural season in February, football in the AIFA is played with 8 men on each side

instead of 11 on an artificial surface that’s half as long and narrower than a 100-yard NFL field. The game is designed to be fast-paced and high-scoring. For example, kicking teams are potentially able to score on a kickoff.

The league is made up of 14 minor league teams along the East Coast and as far west as Ohio and Illinois, with names like the Danville (Ill.) Demolition and the Mississippi MudCats. Many of the players, who earn about \$250 a game, are hoping to overcome huge odds and make it to the NFL - a dream shared by their owner and their coach.

"We all want to make it to the next level and keep moving up, that’s why we’re here," said head coach Chris Simpson, who coached in the Canadian Football League and in professional arena football leagues for the better part of 14 years. His own pursuit of the dream has taken him all over the country - from California to Texas and now to

Maryland.

"My wife understands," he said of his spouse, who works for XM Radio. "She knows it’s what I want to do."

The Blackbirds practice in a public-use sports complex 18 minutes up the road from the state-of-the-art training facility of the NFL’s Baltimore Ravens. They play their homes games at the 1st Mariner Arena in downtown Baltimore, less than a mile from the Ravens’ imposing M&T Bank Stadium. But there the similarities cease.

The Blackbirds played their first game on March 10th against the Reading Express in Pennsylvania and lost 78-6. The next weekend they traveled to Florida to play the Lakeland Thunderbolts and lost 69-14.

The team’s first home game on March 31 was their closest yet - a 38-25 loss to the Carolina Speed. Seven games into their 13-game season, the

See Blackbirds, Page A9

Serving Suitland

By **JANICE A. EUELL**
301.523.2677

THIS IS IMPORTANT!

In my column last week, I mentioned an important upcoming meeting with the Redevelopment Authority. It has officially been scheduled. A mailing was sent to Suitland residents as a Notice of Public Hearing. In case you missed it, the meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 15, at 6:30 p.m. at Suitland Elementary School located at 4650 Homer Avenue.

PLEASE ATTEND THIS MEETING. This public hearing about the Suitland Manor Redevelopment Project will be held for "the purpose of receiving advisory public input" from residents.

It would be horrible for more county agencies to be in attendance than residents. This is our time to shape the future of our community. This is an enormous undertaking.

"Persons wishing to attend and/or testify are requested to furnish at least five days prior to the proposed date of appearance, the name, address, telephone and organization affiliation, if any, by email to info@suitlandmanor.com or via postal mail to Thomas Thompson, Executive Director, Redevelopment Authority of Prince George’s County, 9201 Basil Court, Suite 155, Largo, MD 20774. For more information, visit www.suitlandmanor.com or call 301.883.5531. Speakers will be limited to three minutes." Let your voices be heard.

“Make Your Mom Proud”

It’s all about Mom on Sunday, May 13 when Toon Disney will air a seven-hour "Proud Family" Marathon beginning at 12:00 p.m. ET/PT. The Marathon kicks off with "The Proud Family Movie" followed by a three-hour, back-to-back compilation of episodes from the show’s five seasons. The Marathon concludes with an exclusive 5:00 p.m. airing of "The

Proud Family Movie" featuring an exciting alternate ending.

Immediately following The Proud Family Marathon, Toon Disney’s Jetix will feature a Yin Yang Yo! Marathon from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. ET/PT highlighting the escapades of Yin and Yang’s arch enemy Carl the Evil Cockroach and his mother, Edna the Dragon.

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

By **MARY MCHALE**
301.735.3451

Five Candidates (Two Write-ins) in the Running for Town Council

There was a good turnout Sunday for Morningside’s first Greet-Your-Candidate event at the Morningside Town Hall. Candidates for mayor and the town council shook hands and answered questions. Punch, cookies and political handouts were available.

In my April 19 column, I profiled Morningside’s two mayoral candidates, Karen Rooker and Kerry Thomas. Now I will describe the candidates hoping to fill Morningside’s two empty Council seats.

James “Jim” Ealey and his wife Selaine are longtime residents of Pine

Grove Drive and have been active in the town and with the Morningside Seniors. Jim did the brickwork for the Glaubitz memorial at the town circle on Maple Road. He has served several terms on the council and is currently the acting mayor. He writes, “This is the community that I live in and love.”

Regina “Gina” Foster has served as Police Clerk for the Morningside Police Department since 2001. She is an active member of the Recreation Council and has been the president of that organization. Regina is a karate mom, a tee ball coach, a Santa’s helper and a We Care deliverer. On occasion, she has filled in as Town Clerk. Claiming to have “attended every meeting and function that the Town has sponsored,” Regina would like to do

more as a Councilmember. She lives with her husband Terry and her two sons on Maple Road.

Elizabeth “Liz” Long was the Administrative Clerk for Morningside from 2004 to 2006, during which time she “kept in contact with all necessary business and government officials to keep the town operational.” She’s running for office because she says she has “the knowledge of how Morningside has been managed and how it should be managed.” She has lived on Randolph Road for more than 20 years.

Two others, Sheila V. Scott and Edith James, are running as write-in candidates. Sheila has been a Morningsider for more than 20 years and has previously served on the

See Morningside, Page A10

The New Prince George’s Post

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COMMUNITY

County Residents Continue Showing Holiday Spirit Year-Round

Christmas from A1

The organization raises funds and recruits volunteers to work in homes across the county for a day in the last week in April in what James Keary, Communications Director for the Office of the County Executive, describes as a “fix-up blitz” to make homes inhabitable for county residents with the greatest need.

This year, Christmas in April took place on Saturday, April 28. Between 3,000-3,500 volunteers from across the county helped repair 84 homes according to Executive Director of Christmas in April Mary Kucharski. Kucharski estimated that the group provided county residents with \$950,000 in home improvement goods and services this year.

To have one’s home considered for repair, a homeowner may apply or can be nominated for an appraisal by a Christmas in April volunteer. The volunteer assesses the needs of the homeowner and makes recommendations to a board which will ultimately decide if that homeowner will see Christmas in April. The board selects House Captains who, with the assistance of volunteer area

coordinators trained in home repair appraisal, assess how much work can be completed in a day’s time, how much skilled labor and how many volunteers will be needed at the site.

“The people of Prince George’s County come out in force to donate their time to help people in need,” said County Executive Jack B. Johnson.

Among the volunteers this year were representatives from the Office of the County Executive and representatives from the Prince George’s County Police District (PGPD), the Fire /EMS Department, the Sheriff’s Office, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Housing, and the Department of Environmental Resources, according to Kucharski.

This year, the Office of the County Executive sponsored a house on Sansbury Road in Upper Marlboro. Derrick Coley from the Office of the Chief of Staff and Edith Chatman from the Office of Community Relations served as House Captains. Coley and Chatman received help from 15 employees from the Office of the County Executive and

approximately 25 others, according to Keary.

This year the PGPD oversaw the rehabilitation of 8 houses.

Commander of the Community Policing Institute Major Everett Sesker said, “Police work is often about making a difference in people’s lives. Our recruit officers are excited to be a part of this event because their work will really make a difference.”

Members of the Community Policing Institute aided in the reparation of a home in Landover, MD.

The Fire/EMS Department took responsibility for renovating 5 homes.

Since the inception of the program in the county in 1989, 53,000 volunteers have completed over \$13 million in repairs.

Rebuilding Together, a national organization that sponsors similar events across the country, also celebrated Christmas in April on April 28th, revitalizing homes and communities nationwide. Rebuilding Together shares the mission of the Prince George’s County organization, but the two are organically separate.



PHOTO BY MIKE YOURISHIN/OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Smiling, County Executive Jack B. Johnson holds a Christmas in April t-shirt up to Eugenia Bryant of Upper Marlboro Saturday. Volunteers helped to repair Bryant’s front porch, repainted and redecorated her bathroom, performed yard work, and aided Ms. Bryant with general house cleaning.

Council Confirms Personnel Nominees

Council from A1

Opportunity Employment Specialist with the National Institute of Health.

Iris Lee resides in Clinton and she is a retired Human Services Specialist. She holds a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree from Averett University and is a candidate for a Master of Science Degree in Management from Regis University.

A resident of Mitchellville, Sybil Wiggins

holds an Associates Degree in Business Management from Prince George’s Community College.

Yvonne Walker resides in Bowie and she has more than 30 years experience in the Human Services field. She worked for the office of Civil Rights for 10 years and she received a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology from Howard University and a Masters Degree in Psychology from Temple University.

Hospice Recognizes Willie and Elaine Gee

Hospice from A1

Katherine Mandrin. Nominations for this award are made by Hospice of the Chesapeake staff. Mr. and Mrs. Mandrin select the recipient who exemplifies what it means to be a patient care volunteer.

New this year, the Spirit of Hospice Award went to

Willie and Elaine Gee of Prince George’s County. The Spirit of Hospice Award was inaugurated in 2007 to acknowledge the commitment of volunteers who do not assist directly in patient care. The assistance they provide in various departments is seen as vital to carrying out the mission at the Hospice.

Celebrating the Arrival of Spring at Farm Festival in Accokeek

Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center Is Host to Free Spring Farm Festival in Accokeek

Courtesy ALICE FERGUSON FOUNDATION

The Alice Ferguson Foundation invites you to the Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center for its free Annual Spring Farm Festival and Plant Sale on Saturday, May 5, from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

All are invited to come and celebrate the arrival of spring at the 350-acre farm on the shore of the Potomac in Accokeek, MD. Come enjoy live music, BBQ, animal exhibits, arts, crafts, and old-time farm tradition.

Visitors of all ages will find fun and unique activities to enjoy, including barnyard animals and demonstrations of activities including cow milking, butter churning, sheep shearing and wool spinning. Children will enjoy live animal demonstrations, including live raptor (birds of prey) shows, hay wagon rides to the river boardwalk, and the opportunity to create nature art and other crafts.

There will be refreshments and delicious food by Bear Creek BBQ. Picnic with ice cream and baked goods while overlooking the Farm’s rolling

hills, farmland, Mount Vernon and the Potomac River; listen to music from a variety of performers including the DC Dirty River Band. Shop for unusual spring and summer greenery, flowers and other garden specialties at the Plant Sale, perfect for the start of spring.

There will also be an expanded arts and craft show featuring wood-crafters, original watercolors, homemade baskets, handcrafted soaps, pottery, ceramics, stained glass, and more.

Parking and admission will be free.

The Alice Ferguson Foundation operates the Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center. Each year, more than 8,000 school children from the region have the opportunity to spend one or two days at the Farm. Here they discover the wonders of the natural world by participating in environmental education programs and learn also where the food comes from.

For more information about the event, the center, or the Alice Ferguson Foundation, call 301.292.5665 or visit their website at www.fergusonfoundation.org.

2007 Richard Gregory Freeland II Scholarship Deadline Approaching

Importance of Education is Recognized Through Late Son of Freelands

Courtesy STEVE YOUNG

The family of the late Richard Gregory Freeland recognizes the importance of education for the next generation. The Freeland family has established an educational scholarship fund in memory of their 50 day old son who passed away in 1992.

The scholarship is awarded on the basis of scholastic

achievement, leadership, extracurricular activities, and service to the school and community. The scholarships will be awarded again this year to those applicants who meet and/or exceed the eligibility criteria.

Each recipient will receive a scholarship ranging from \$1,000 - \$2,500.

Over the past three years, the Freeland Scholarship pro-

gram has funded \$137,000 in scholarships for 31 students attending colleges and universities such as the University of Maryland at College Park and the at the Eastern Shore, North Carolina Chapel Hill, Morehouse College, North Carolina A&T, University of Virginia, Howard University, Delaware State, Florida A&M University, Tufts University, etc.

The first Freeland Scholars are expected to graduate with the class of 2008. The deadline for submitting a completed application is May 5.

All pertinent information about the scholarship is online at: <http://www.bisahq.org/freelandscholarship>.

For more information about the scholarship and further details, contact Steve Young at 301.868.0456.

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COMMENTARY

THE PRINCE GEORGE’S POST

A Community Newspaper for Prince George’s County

The Counseling Corner Simple Steps for Better Test Scores

By the American Counseling Association

While the end of the school year has most students looking forward to summer break, it also has many dreading those end-of-year exams. While taking course exams and state-mandated standardized tests may never be fun, there are many things every student can do to reduce stress and maximize test performance:

Plan ahead. Last minute cramming seldom improves test grades, but it does raise test anxiety. Instead, start your studying early and spread it over a number of days.

Anticipate. No test covers everything about a subject. As you review your notes or text book, look for areas that seem to be the most important and the most likely to be covered on a test. Think about what the teacher has emphasized. If you’ve been given a study guide, use it. Pay attention when a teacher reviews material – the instructor will focus on the things most likely to be tested.

Be rested. It’s just common sense. You’ll feel better. Plus, a well-rested mind does a much better job of pulling up those obscure facts you forgot were even there.

Eat right. Your brain requires good nutrition to do its job. Skipping breakfast impairs brain function. Eating a healthy breakfast improves it. Avoid junk food and foods loaded with sugar. Crashing from a sugar high during a test won’t help your grades. You also want to limit caffeine. Coffee, caffeinated soda

and energy drinks may make you feel alert, but can also leave you jittery and nervous, making concentration more difficult.

Stay focused. Taking a test is seldom enjoyable. Your mind wants to wander. Don’t let it. Keep your eyes on your paper, ignore classroom distractions and pay attention to the test material.

Relax. In the days before a test, practice relaxing by closing your eyes, taking a deep breath and thinking positive thoughts about how well you’re going to do. Do the same thing at test time. If you get nervous during the test, take a few deep breaths and actually think about that air flowing into and out of your lungs. Then focus calmly back on the test. Remind yourself it’s only a test, not life or death.

Doing well on tests isn’t magic. It takes planning, studying and relaxing. But if doing all that doesn’t help, you may suffer from severe test anxiety. In such cases, talk to your school counselor, or consider seeing an outside counseling professional for help with overcoming the problem.

“The Counseling Corner” is provided as a public service by the American Counseling Association, the nation’s largest organization of counseling professionals. Learn more about the counseling profession at the ACA web site, www.counseling.org.



Think of Your Health on Prepare for Mother’s Day

By Douglas W. Laube, MD

President, The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

On Mother’s Day, we celebrate the special women in our lives—mothers, sisters, daughters, and friends—and all that they do for us. But it is also a time when women should focus on their health, for their benefit and for those they love.

Mother’s Day kicks off National Women’s Health Week (NWHW), an initiative sponsored by the federal Office on Women’s Health that encourages women to take simple steps to improve their health and increase their longevity.

In recent years, new research has advanced the study of women’s health tremendously, and women are living longer, healthier lives because of it. NWHW celebrates these positive steps and educates women about what the research is teaching us.

The NWHW website (www.womenshealth.gov/whw) provides important information on conditions affecting women, such as cancer, lupus, HIV and other STDs, cardiovascular health, menopause, and sleep disorders.

Participating organizations from across the country will hold health events and expos where women can get free health screenings and learn

more about achieving and maintaining overall good health.

National Women’s Check-Up Day on May 14 highlights the importance of regularly scheduled doctor’s visits. Most women know that staying current with routine and preventive health screenings is one of the best ways that they can protect their bodies now and in the future.

Routine screenings, such as Pap tests, clinical breast exams and mammograms, diabetes and colon cancer screenings, and blood pressure tests, help doctors find problems early or prevent them before they occur. Regular face-to-face visits also strengthen the doctor-patient relationship and give women the opportunity to ask questions and address health concerns.

Have you been to the doctor lately? Check your records to be sure. If you haven’t been to the doctor in the past year, try to schedule an appointment soon. And remind your friends and relatives to make an appointment. Taking an active interest in safeguarding your health and the health of the other special women in your life is the first step in ensuring that you’ll be able to celebrate Mother’s Day for years to come.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Hats Off to Veterans For Military Appreciation Month

Dear Editor:

Civilians coping with the demands of everyday life often forget the sacrifice of our soldiers. As we pay the rent and go shopping and raise our children, we take for granted our relative security and prosperity compared to the rest of the world. Soldiers, however, know all too well the chaos and turmoil of trouble spots because they witnessed it firsthand. May is National Military Appreciation Month and a fitting time to recognize the sacrifices American service members and their families make for freedom.

Furthermore, our Veterans deserve, and many desperately need, continuing confirmation of the value of their service as they cope with the aftermath of war. If the United States wishes to remain a society of justice and opportunity, we must continually find ways to support the people who laid their life on the line to preserve it. In addition to providing adequate healthcare, and educational benefits we must tend to psychological needs as well. Faced with budget cuts and swelling admissions, VA Medical Centers are not always able to fully address these psychological needs on an individual, veteran-by-veteran basis.

A chasm exists between Veterans with needs, and independent citizens who are willing to pitch in, but don't know how. On the one hand, many Veterans would like to participate in special outreach programs but are unable to find a sponsor. On the other, individuals and groups would like to

help a Veteran, but are often limited in the forms of assistance they can provide.

To bridge this gap, Manhattanville College created a program called Hats off to Veterans ("Hats Off"). Hats Off promotes recognition to veterans especially for those home- or hospital-bound due to injury while serving our country. When a person enrolls in the "Hats Off" program, they agree to mail or deliver a respectful greeting and note of encouragement to a hospitalized Veteran. They sign up at www.mysoldier.com to receive a "Hats Off" starter kit containing Veteran contact information, guidelines for letter writing and optional care package preparation, a My Soldier bracelet (to wear in support of Veterans and American service men and women) and a specially designed My Soldier baseball hat to include with the greeting they send to their Veteran. The program and kits are free to all who register, but donations are appreciated. Participation is not limited to Manhattanville College, but is open to the public. In fact, it is the goal of the program to have participants from all 50 states. We hope every American registers to use "Hats Off" to honor, support and thank a Veteran. It's an easy way for anyone to do his or her part to recognize and cheer a hospitalized Veteran.

Sincerely,
Richard A. Berman,
President, Manhattanville College

Letters the the Editor
We Value the Opinions of Our Readers.
Send your letter to:
Editor, Prince George’s Post,
15207 Marlboro Pike,
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

BUSINESS

MARBIDCO Announces New Financial Assistance Programs Will Stimulate Growth, Energy Efficiency in Agriculture

Combination of Loans and Grants to Preserve Maryland’s Rural Landscape, Moderate Energy Consumption

Courtesy **MD DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

On Friday, April 27, the Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation (MARBIDCO) announced it would make low-cost financing programs available to farmers and other rural business owners to assist with entrepreneurial or innovative business activities.

Examples of innovative business activities include on-farm and value-added food processing, niche product develop-

ment and marketing, smaller scale secondary wood products manufacturing, and business-related technology enhancements (especially those related to energy efficiency).

The Corporation's mission is to help agricultural and resource-based businesses innovate, diversify and exploit emerging market opportunities in food and fiber production and in rural tourism and recreation. MARBIDCO's programming is also designed to increase rural business sustainability and profitability while at the same time contributing to

the preservation of Maryland's rural working landscape of productive farms and forests.

Maryland Farm and Producer Viability Program is designed to improve the financial viability of producers/processors or assist fledgling rural entrepreneurs through specialized business planning assistance. The program aims to help early stage enterprises with operational and market risk assessment and with enhanced business plan development. Applications for the 2007 pilot program are due May 18.

The Maryland Resource-Based Industry Financing Fund will offer low-interest loans to established agricultural, forestry or seafood businesses for the purchase of land and capital equipment for production and processing activities, or environmental enhancement projects. Priority will be given to value-added and niche market-oriented projects and beginning or transitioning producers and processors. MARBIDCO will provide up to 50% of the financing needed for a project; a commercial lender and/or a public instrumentality will be

required to make an equal financial commitment. MARBIDCO will also take second position on the collateral security. The application deadline for this loan is June 1.

Rural Business Energy Efficiency Grants and Loan Interest Rate Buy-Downs helps established firms and producers purchase equipment or technology related to lowering farm and business-related energy consumption. Grants of up to 10% of a project's cost (maximum of \$5,000) are available. The deadline to submit an application for this program,

complete with a copy of an energy audit report provided by a qualified third-party consultant, is June 1.

MARBIDCO is also working with the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation to institute an Installment Purchase Agreements Program to enable landowners that sell agricultural property easements to the State (or county governments) to use tax-advantaged financial arrangements structured to benefit both landowners and the public. This program will be available this summer.

Practical Money Skills

By Jason Alderman

The Best Mother’s Day Gift: Financial Security

Mother's Day has been around in one form or another since ancient Greece. Mothers (and wives and grandmothers) deserve heartfelt thanks for tackling one of the hardest jobs on the planet. But rather than simply taking them out for Sunday brunch, why not give the moms in your life a present with more lasting meaning: the gift of financial security

Women - especially those at retirement age - often face greater financial difficulties than men:

- Women live an average of seven years longer than men, so their retirement savings often must last longer.
- On average, women earn only about three-fourths of what men do. This discrepancy can really add up, since at retirement most people live off the money they've accumulated over a lifetime of work.
- Because women are more likely than men to take time off work to raise children, their Social Security and employer-provided retirement benefits are often much smaller.
- Women tend to invest less aggressively than men so their retirement savings grow more slowly. Throughout a whole career the difference between high-risk and low-risk investments can be enormous.

So what can you do to help ensure a more secure financial future for your mother, your wife or yourself? Here are a few tips:

Expect the unexpected.

An untimely illness, accident or death can devastate a family's finances. If you depend on someone else's income - especially if you have children - make sure you both carry adequate life, health and disability

insurance. If you're self-supporting it's particularly important to be covered against accidents or disability, since even a brief period without income could deplete your savings.

Practical Money Skills for Life, a free personal financial management site sponsored by Visa USA, contains a detailed guide to anticipating unexpected events such as disability, loss of employment or the death of a spouse (www.practical-moneyskills.com/unexpected).

Plan ahead for retirement.

Time is your biggest ally when it comes to retirement savings. Compound earnings, where the interest income earned by your savings in turn generates additional earnings, can make a huge difference over time, so start setting aside savings as soon as possible.

Many investment experts recommend establishing a retirement savings account, whether an IRA, 401(k), or other plan, even before starting a child's college fund.

After all, you can always borrow money for college, a house or a car, but you can't get a loan to pay for your retirement. Check out the Practical Money Skills for Life site's retirement planning tips (www.practical-moneyskills.com/retirement).

Budget, budget, budget.

It's imperative to have a handle on how much money is coming in and going out, otherwise you can quickly burn through retirement savings. Many tools are available to help with budgeting.

Your mom gave up a lot for you when you were growing up: now's your chance to do something valuable in return.

Jack Johnson Makes a Healthy Lunch

Basil Court Grill at Radisson Hotel Names Club After Johnson

By **EMILY APATOV**
PG Post Staff Writer

(LARGO, MD) - When the Basil Court Grill at the Radisson Hotel in Largo unveiled its new menu featuring healthy Southern-style cooking on Monday, April 30, it also announced a new menu item to honor County Executive Jack B. Johnson and his healthy eating habits: the Jack B. Johnson Turkey Club.

Jason Harris, contractor, explained the history of the sandwich at the Radisson Hotel in Largo on Monday.

"We were chatting with Mr. Johnson, and we said it would be great if we could dedicate something healthy to our new menu on

your behalf."

"He said, 'That would be an excellent idea, I love to eat healthy.' So, we said, 'Well, what's your favorite sandwich?' And he said, 'Turkey sandwich.' And we said, 'Would you mind if we dedicated a new healthy turkey club in your name?' He said 'That's excellent, but you've got to make it with mustard instead of mayonnaise.'"

Under the leadership of Marcus Hopson, restaurant manager, the Basil Court Grill now features signature Boar's Head deli meats carrying the stamp of approval of the American Heart Association.

The Basil Court's Grill upgraded menu offers more salads and soups for the health conscious diner.



PHOTO BY EMILY APATOV/PRINCE GEORGE'S POST

The signature Jack B. Johnson Turkey Club comes on wheat bread with mustard instead of mayonnaise; tomatoes are optional, Harris said, because the County Executive only prefers tomatoes some of the time.

Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center to Open in April 2008

County to Become Host of Largest Convention Resort on Eastern Seaboard

Courtesy **OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

(NATIONAL HARBOR, MD) – Prince George’s County Executive Jack B. Johnson joined Gaylord Entertainment Wednesday, April 25, to announce April 25, 2008 as the official grand opening date for the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, the largest convention resort on the Eastern Seaboard.

“I am so excited to be a part of this celebration. I am really excited for the people of Prince George’s County,” Johnson said. For so many years, we have wanted a first-class facility like the Gaylord Hotel that would provide wonderful service, great restaurants and entertainment. That dream is now a reality.”

Johnson was joined by John Caparella, executive vice president and chief operating officer, Gaylord Hotels; Milt Peterson, founder and chairman, The Peterson Companies; and Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center Vice President and General Manager Sheldon Suga.

During a dramatic “Topping Off” ceremony, a 15-foot-tall Gaylord Hotels signature “G” logo was raised to the top of the hotel, commemorat-

ing the fact that construction has reached the highest point of the project. Now standing at 20 stories tall, the Gaylord

National Resort towers overlook the National Harbor complex, the Potomac River and Prince George’s County neighbors Old Town Alexandria and Washington, D.C.

Construction of the resort

See Gaylord, Page A9

FREE Business Workshops

New Classes Added: Intro. to Marketing and Basic Bookkeeping

MAY 2007 *Real Estate Investing Tuesday, May 8, 2007 Instructor: James Clarke 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Instructor: Rev. Bruce Branch 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Tuesday, May 22, 2007 Instructors: Kevin Bryan 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
*Intro to Marketing Wednesday, May 9, 2007 Instructor: Dena Newman 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	* Doing Business w/the Government Tuesday, May 15, 2007 Instructor: Fred Hargrove 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	*Steps to Successful Entrepreneurship Boost Your Business Wednesday, May 23, 2007 Instructor: Prof. Richard Lowery, III 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
*Understanding Your Credit Score Thursday, May 10, 2007 Instructor: Carolyn Mobley 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	*Health Insurance Options Wednesday, May 16, 2007 Instructor: Greg Tarver 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	*Advertising – Design for Success Thursday, May 24, 2007 Instructor: William Maxwell 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
*Writing Your Business Plan Monday, May 14, 2007	*Basic Bookkeeping Thursday, May 17, 2007 Instructor: Dawn Tucker 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	To register, please email Terri Harrison at: edti_tmh@yahoo.com
	*Payroll Taxes	

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Out on the TOWN

Jindabyne is 'Mezmerizing'



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM

On an annual fishing trip, in isolated high country, Stewart, Carl, Rocco and Billy ('the Kid') find a girl's body in the river. The fishermen, their wives and their children are suddenly haunted. Public opinion builds against the actions of the men, who continued fishing after having found the dead bodies. They cannot undo what they have done.

By STEVE RHODES
www.InternetReviews.com

Stewart Kane (Gabriel Byrne) and his fishing buddies are having a great trip, fly-fishing in a very remote mountain stream in New South Wales, Australia. The weather is perfect, and they catch some large and beautiful fish. As male bonding goes, it couldn't be better. Well, almost.

The newspaper headlines will later blast their actions -- "Men fish over dead body." But when they first

encounter the partially nude body floating in the water, they don't see any reason to cut short their weekend fishing excursion. Even if she had been sexually assaulted, they didn't do it, and, waiting for a day or two to hike out and notify the authorities surely isn't any big deal, they reason.

JINDABYNE is a slow but mesmerizing film directed with a deft hand by Ray Lawrence (LANTANA). The discovery of the body and the firestorm generated by the thoughtless men's actions is but one part of the

narrative. Based on Raymond Carver's short story "So Much Water So Close to Home," the movie has a lot on its mind.

As Stewart's wife Claire, Laura Linney plays an interesting woman still haunted by old demons. For eighteen months after their son was born, she went AWOL. One might assume that this was because of post-partum depression, but the film is good about giving us enough information to let us be curious, while not feeling the need to spell out the details.

A key part of the tale concerns the race of the deceased, an attractive young woman named Sussan (Tatea Reilly). An aborigine, Sussan's death raises racial tension in Jindabyne, a "tidy town" according to the signpost on the way in. It is also a relocated village, since it was moved to higher ground in 1964 when a new dam flooded the old town in order to create a lake.

As this character study works its way toward an ending but not really a conclusion, per se, where it is going is not particularly interesting. What makes the movie is how it gets there, revealing subtle nuances in everyone's character. And with the film's sweeping cinematography and great and haunting soundtrack, you'll be with it all the way.

JINDABYNE runs 2:03. It is rated R for "disturbing images, language and some nudity" and would be acceptable for teenagers.

The film opens in limited release in the United States on Friday, April 27, 2007.

RATING (0 TO ***): ***

Announcement

Notice of Election

The City of District Heights will hold an election for the purpose of electing two commissioners, one from each Ward I and Ward II.

The election will take place on:

Monday, May 7, 2007

Polls Open: 10am to 8pm

E. Michael Roll Municipal Building

2000 Marbury Drive

District Heights, MD 20747

The following candidates have been certified to run for the Office of Commissioner in the City of District Heights:

Ward I

Edith R. Robbins - Worthy (Incumbent)

Ward II

Eddie L. Martin (Incumbent)

Upcoming Events

Saturday, May 12: From noon - 4 p.m., introduce your children to the lifestyle of residents living on a mid-18th century tobacco farm at Children's Day at the National Colonial Farm at 3400 Bryan Point Road in Accokeek.

Friday and Saturday, May 18-19: From noon on Friday to Saturday at noon, the scientific community will join residents for *BioBlitz*, a program where kids and scientists will identify and catalogue as many living organisms as they can find in Rock Creek Park. Volunteers are needed to help count species! The kick-off ceremony will take place at 11:30 a.m. on Friday at the Rock Creek Nature Center located at 5200 Glover Road, N.W. Pre-registration is required. To register, visit www.nationalgeographic.com/bioblitz. For more information, call 202.775.6186.

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To access this feature, insert disc into your computer. This disc will not work in a CD-ROM drive and is not compatible with Apple Macintosh. You must have a DVD-ROM drive running Windows 98SE or higher.

County Church Directory

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6330 Gateway Blvd.,
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(301) 568-9127

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Sunday Worship: 7:30 a.m.
and 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Services:
Pastor’s Bible Study: 7:00
p.m.

“Hour of Power”: 12:00 noon
Thursday Services:
Men of War Bible Study:
7:30p.m.

Rev. Samuel E.
Hayward III, Pastor
www.hemingway-ame.org

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Sunday Biblical Institute:
9:45 a.m.

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www.fbhp.org

BAPTIST

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Stephen L. Wright, Sr., Pastor

5018 Lakeland Road
College Park, MD 20740
301-474-3995

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Sunday Worship 11a.m.
Holy Communion 1st Sunday
Wednesday Bible Study 7-8p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Service 8p.m.*

Mount Ephraim Baptist Church

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**610 Largo Road Upper
Marlboro, MD 20774**
Church Sunday School:
9:15 a.m.

Morning Worship:
7:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
Prayer/Praise: Tuesday 7:30 p.m.
Salvation Class: Tuesday 7:30
p.m.

New Members Orientation:
Sunday 9:15 a.m..
Baptismal Service:
Tuesday prior to the
First Sunday - 7:30 p.m.

**Church: 301-808-1584
Fax: 301-808-3243
Rev. Dr. Joseph A. Gilmore,
Pastor**

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Intercessory Prayer:Sundays - 8:30 a.m.
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Wed. Night Bible Study - 7:45 p.m.
Elder Willie W. Duvall, Pastor

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Morning Worship Service
11:00 am
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11:00 am

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UNITED METHODIST

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Worship Service: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
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Thursday Noon Day Prayer

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*Church School 10:00a.m.
Rev Robert E. Walker, Jr.,
Pastor*



James E. Jordan, Jr., Pastor

6200 Riverdale Road
Riverdale, MD 20737
301-277-2020

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Wednesday Services: 7:30 p.m.

Monday thru Friday: Noon Day Prayer

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Church (301) 627-5088

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Sunday Worship: 10a.m.
Rev. Dr. Michael A. H. McKinney, Pastor

UNITED METHODIST

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***www.gbgn.unc.org/lnnumc**
e-mail:nnunc@msn.com*

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12:00 noon - Wednesdays

Anthony G. Maclin, Pastor

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financial statements; coordinat-
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Real Estate Developer by Day, Blackbird by Night

Blackbirds from A2
Blackbirds are winless and have the league's worst record. Austin is undeterred. He notes that the Blackbirds had less time to prepare for its season than the other teams. The team also changed players and personnel during the first few months before only recently settling down with their current staff.
Austin himself pursued professional football after graduating from Towson in 2001, but says he struggled to stay afloat financially. He had workouts with NFL teams and stints with other indoor football teams around the country, but the money he earned was not enough to pay the bills year-round.
"That's why I got into real estate," he said, citing the flexible hours and good income. He said he approached the real estate business the same way he took the field before a game - studious but aggressive.
"You've got to constantly educate yourself and that's what I never want to stop doing," Austin said, adding that he looks up to people like Donald Trump and U.S. Senator and presidential candidate Barack Obama, D-Ill.
In 2004 he completed his first deal and one year later started his own company, Austin Development, LLC, located in Upper Marlboro. But football always was in the forefront. As recently as last

fall, he was working out with a start-up indoor team in Prince George's County. Austin left the team, which folded shortly afterward, but the seed for the idea that would become the Baltimore Blackbirds had been planted.
"Sometime around that September, I said to myself, 'I know if I had my own team I could put a good product on the field,'" he said. "I didn't know what it all entailed but that's kind of when the idea sparked."
The AIFA was to begin its inaugural season in February and after Austin won approval from the league for a new team - which was granted in December - a scramble ensued to fill out a 30-man roster, hire coaches and staff, find a practice facility, design uniforms, sign sponsors and tend to thousands of other details.
"On December 1st, I can't tell you how high that mountain looked," Austin said. "The powers that be just looked out for us. We just knuckled up and did it."
And through it all the team has remained optimistic. Austin said that surrounding himself with capable coaches and businessmen has alleviated some of the stress.
"It's been a process," said Simpson, a 20-year veteran coach. "The great thing about our organization is we learn from our mistakes. If we can't do it this year, what can we do

to make it happen next year?"
Simpson and Austin agree that there is a market for arena football in Baltimore and they say there is no reason an area as "sports-crazy" wouldn't have room for just one more team.
According to Simpson, game attendance averages about 4,500. Simpson predicts they can boost that figure to about 8,000 or more next year. Although maybe not going as far as MudCats owner Todd Ellis, who has vowed to shave his head at the next home game if attendance breaks 7,000, Austin said the Blackbirds' next three home games will all be theme nights, beginning with College Night on April 28.
Austin and others agree that one of the biggest frustrations they face is knowing that their players have talent and not seeing it reflected in the team's record. Austin said he is still adjusting to the management aspect of football and watching the losses from the sidelines can be particularly difficult.
"It's been tough sometimes - you still have the itch to play," he said.
And despite his youth, Austin says he is in it for the long haul.
"I'm not in this for the money, I'm honestly not...I love the game of football," he said. "You don't have to pay me for it."



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Divas Taking the Field

Divas from A7
26-yard touchdown run.
The Divas defense also shined. The New England running game went backward all night, accounting for negative 24 yards. The Intensity could manage only 27 meager yards of total offense. Divas Rookie linebacker Alissa Imbragulio was named the most valuable player on defense.

The Divas will attempt to accomplish an unparalleled feat in 2007: back-to-back championships in two completely different leagues. The quest will continue on May 5th in their next game against the New York Sharks. The next home game against the Detroit Demolition is scheduled for June 2nd, 2007, versus. DC Divas tickets are avail-

able on-line at <http://www.dcdivas.com>.
The Divas are comprised of women of varied professional and athletic backgrounds from all over the Washington metropolitan area. Together, these brave pioneers continue to shatter traditional sports stereotypes, while advancing athletic opportunities for women everywhere.

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Gaylord Hotel in PG

Gaylord from A5
is on schedule and has reached a critical point. Over the next few weeks, workers will begin installing the 50-ton, 240-foot steel trusses that will stretch from one side of the resort to the other, creating the framework for a spectacular glass-enclosed atrium. To date, more than 1.8 million man hours have been spent on the project.
With “Reaching for the Stars” as the theme for the event, Gaylord also announced plans for a mass Grand Hire event in

January 2008. During that time, Gaylord plans to hire more than 1,500 STARS (employees) to staff the resort. When fully operational in April 2008, the resort will employ more than 2,000 full-time, part-time and on-call personnel.
“Gaylord understands the importance of being a good corporate citizen and a wonderful employer. That is why they call their employees ‘stars,’” Johnson said. “We welcome the Gaylord family to Prince George’s County with open arms.”

Livable Communities Meet Veterans’ Needs

Vouchers from A1
Communities Initiative, the goals of the Veteran Rental Assistance Program will include but not be limited to veterans obtaining and remaining in permanent housing, increasing life skills and/or income, and achieving self-suffi-

ciency.
At a later date, the Housing Authority will provide information on how veterans may apply for housing assistance through the Veteran Rental Assistance Program.

Visit Historic Farms and Properties

Tour from A1
The gracious home was designed and built in an earlier Federal style, typical of homes throughout the region. Originally a 52 acre working farm set amidst thousands of acres of rolling farmland in the still relatively undeveloped Prince George's County, The house was positioned on the highest part of the property and overlooked a natural spring fed pond. Large trees and azaleas graced the property and long winding drive, along with a hillside packed densely with ferns and spring flowers
The property abuts the famous Belt Woods, a 40 acre protected woodland that has experienced little artificial disturbance for hundreds of years. This land treasure contains some of the largest untimbered Tulip Trees on the east coast. Each spring this stand of Tulip-trees (Liriodendron tulipifera) buds much as it did before Columbus sailed to the New World 500 years ago. The density of birds breeding at Belt Woods is among the highest observed on the East Coast. The State Threatened Glade Fern (Diplazium pycnocarpon) and the State Endangered Wister’s Coralroot (Corallorhiza wisteriana) grow here
John Petro purchased the property in 1979 for his landscape and sod business. In the ensuing years John and his wife Kathleen Litchfield ran Petro Design Build a landscape and architectural firm

on the property until establishing the neighborhood of Grovehurst in 1995.
The house, now secluded within five wooded acres still has the feel of a quieter time, with its wooded site, the azaleas and gardens, the homes columned front portico and rear columned two story veranda welcome guests at the many parties and fundraisers this couple hosts. John Petro and Kathleen Litchfield are active in many local and professional organizations such as IFDA, ASID, and the Prince George's County Historical Society. John is currently serving as president and participated in planning this year’s Prince George's County Home & Garden Tour.
The homes interesting architectural features include four fireplaces with ornate fire backs – based on fantasy and mythological art. The den fire back has three witches stirring a cauldron; in the living room you will find Zeus, riding a serpent and the master bedroom fire back features Medusa, one of the Gorgons, with her hair of snakes. The entry hall ceiling and trim and the dining room corner cupboards, were copied from Tulip Hill, a grand Georgian estate on the Anne Arundel County tour this year.
One of John’s favorite eras is the Hollywood Glamour style of the 30’& 40’s, so John and Kathleen have personally created an interior style that is an eclectic mix of 1930’s and 1940’s

elegance, coupled with witty touches and fun collections from a range of eras and styles. Included in this very creative couples collections are furnishings like the 1910 Steinway piano and artwork, including the much earlier paintings – St Catherine of Alexandria (circa 1670) and Coronation of the Virgin (circa 1740) and 1940’s standard issue tables and chairs in the basement that came from the Pentagon .Instead of the typical Home theater John has created a 1930’ style projection room in the basement, using a projector that came from Marjorie Merriweather Posts’ Hillwood House in Washington DC.and a speakeasy bar area for entertaining.
The home’s design has caught the eye of several location scouts and has been used for photo shoots, movies and TV commercials .Throughout the house visitors find a wide variety of fascinating objects and furniture such as “Harry” a Smithsonian – quality peacock that belonged to a neighbor; a collection of toys that line the study’s shelves; and old neon signs like the Pincus Liquor store sign that came from the landmark Brentwood , Maryland store along with the speakeasy door that came out of this same store . Other furnishings include school wall maps that once pulled down above old blackboards, a porcelain dental cabinet from the 1930’s, a Bronze “Rolls Royce” statue

that sits on the piano – one of only 50 produced as an award to the countries top dealers; antique Limoges fish and game plates grace the dining room walls and the library displays restored Stations of the Cross that formerly lined the woodlands, as well as antiques recovered from old churches.
Drawers and shelves are filled with antique linens and china. Entertaining is often themed, as music from the appropriate era fills the rooms- from big band sounds to swing or 50’s rock.
In addition to all the novel and unique furnishings in the house, John and Kathleen’s collections include antique sprinklers as accents to the garages that house any of a number of antique vehicles. You may see parked a 1971 Silver Shadow Rolls Royce, a 60’s London Taxi, a stretch Checker Limo, or a vintage Volkswagen convertible. And in the yard - a whimsical sculpture, from the “Big Heads” series by Ed Bisese shown at the opening of the Katzen Center at American University. Mr. Bisese is a College Park, Maryland based figurative artist,
So while not a historical house in the typical sense , this home is never the less filled with history... and even today as John and Kathleen often use their home to host parties that are themed to the 30’s or 40’s –you might even swear you had gone back in time.

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Morningside-Skyline

Morningside from A2
Council. Edith has lived in Morningside for three years.

The polls will remain open from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. on Monday, May 7, at the Morningside Town Hall. Remember to vote!

Have You Seen Fe-Fe?

Fe-Fe, a seven-year-old shitzu, disappeared from near by the gas station at the corner of Suitland and Randolph roads last Friday. Fe-Fe is mostly white with a fluffy tail and a lot of black around her head. I have spoken with her heartbroken owner who cried through the whole conversation. The family wants Fe-Fe home. They’ve tacked up dozens of posters around Morningside. If you’ve seen this little wayward dog, call 202.678.3150 or 202.431.4223. A reward is being offered.

Andrews’ Air Show Coming

Andrews AFB hosts its annual Joint Services Open House & Air Show May 18-20. For more information, call 301.981.5665.

It’s Academic

The McNamara Spring Band Concert—featuring the Jazz Ensemble & Wind Ensemble—is dedicated to the memory of Robert John Antonetti Sr., who directed the band in the 1960s and 1970s. “Brother Bear” (as he was known back then) died

Feb. 24, 2007. The concert will be in the Main Auditorium of Bishop McNamara High School at 7 p.m. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Admission will be \$8.00.

The Benjamin D. Foulois Elementary PTA has announced new officers for the upcoming year. They are: Sabrina Vann, president; Carla Fortune, vice president; and Sara Gray, treasurer.

Following a recent School Board decision, Fairmont Heights High School will be replaced with a school on a new site. The project will cost at least \$70 million and it will bring a major change for one of the county’s oldest, most historic schools. The 57-year-old building is the only surviving high school built for black students before the *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954) desegregation case.

I will be running names, schools and plans of 2007 graduates. To honor your graduate, call me or e-mail me at muddmm@aol.com.

Neighbors

My son, John McHale, his wife Michelle, and their girls, Samantha and Sarah, of Columbia, MD., are visiting my two other sons, way out west—Mike in El Paso, TX, and Brian in Tehachapi, CA. John called me from the

Grand Canyon to say it’s so deep I shouldn’t ever go there. (I do not like heights.)

Members of Beta Sigma Phi celebrated the 75th anniversary of the sorority’s founding with a luncheon at Mama Stella’s Restaurante on April 28. Beta Sigma Phi is an international women’s friendship network, the largest organization of its kind in the world.

Do You Have a Will?

The Prince George’s County Registry of Wills is hosting a Will & Estate Planning Workshop on Saturday, May 19, at St. Philip’s Parish Hall on 5414 Henderson Way, just off Auth Road in Camp Springs. The workshop begins at 10:30 a.m., with coffee and donuts available at 10:00.

Colonial Gaming Night

“The Rules of Play” recreates the spirit of a late 18th century gaming party on May 19 at Darnall’s Chance House Museum in Upper Marlboro. Period re-enactors will act as dealers. Guests will play both original and modern forms of 18th century games of chance.

At the end of the evening, guests’ winnings will be turned in for raffle tickets to win fabulous prizes! Hors d’oeuvres and drinks will be served. All proceeds will go towards purchase of period

furnishings and decoration for the Museum. Tickets cost \$45 per person. Reservation and payment in advance is required. For more information or to register, call 301.952.8010.

May They Rest in Peace

Margaret Louise Willinger Lau, age 100, died April 18. She had been an Oxon Hill resident and in recent years lived at Villa Rosa. She was the widow of William Franklin Lau and mother of five. Survivors include 20 grandchildren, 40 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Condolences to Lina Maralit on the death of her aunt, Maria Galvez, in Manila.

Milestones

Happy 90th birthday to May Whittington on May 1. And happy day to Kathryn Deaver, Ann Lacey, Ernestine Taylor Wood, Dante Ross Jr. and Janet Booth Kaye, May 2; our daughter Sheila Mudd and Lori Williams, May 3; India Goodall and Gerri Alexander, May 4 ; Donald Young, Jim Henderson and Marlyn Meoli, May 5; Ethel Belinky, May 6; Dwight “Chipper” Holloway, May 7; Nora Harvey and Brandi Jeter, May 9.

Special greetings to Gretchen Ennis, of District Heights, who turns 94 on May 6.



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Raiders Track Make Sports History

Bridge from A1

The six girls who competed in the race on Friday included: Tasha Stanley, junior; Dominique Lockhart, junior; Tameka Jamison, senior; Takecia Jamison, senior; Marika Walker, senior, and Doris Anyanwu, sophomore.

Eleanor Roosevelt has one of the most dominant running pro-

grams in the area.

Under the current leadership of Coach Desmond Dunham, the girls’ team continues to add to its already enormous trophy wall including 13 outdoor Maryland state team titles, 18 indoor titles, and five cross-country titles. This is the team’s first Championship of America.

Legals

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1793 COUNTRYWOOD COURT HYATTSVILLE, MD 20785			8708 BRAZKE COURT CLINTON, MD 20735		
Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Tanya D. Stewart dated January 10, 2005 and recorded in Liber 21174, Folio 614 among the Land Records of Prince George’s County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of \$147,600.00, and an original interest rate of 6.500, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at 14735 Main Street (and specifically at the entrance to the secured portion of the parking garage, immediately next to the Bourne Wing/Commissioner’s entrance, designated by the presence of the picnic table), Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772, on MAY 22, 2007 AT 11:05 AM.			Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Lori Bledsoe and Anthony J. Bledsoe dated June 11, 2004 and recorded in Liber 19730, Folio 562 among the Land Records of Prince George’s County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of \$48,000.00, and an original interest rate of 9.500, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at 14735 Main Street (and specifically at the entrance to the secured portion of the parking garage, immediately next to the Bourne Wing/Commissioner’s entrance, designated by the presence of the picnic table), Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772, on MAY 22, 2007 AT 11:07 AM.		
ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and the improvements thereon situated in Prince George’s County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.			ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and the improvements thereon situated in Prince George’s County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.		
The property will be sold in an “as is” condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.			The property will be sold in an “as is” condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.		
Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$16,000.00 by cash or certified funds is required at the time of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Prince George’s County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the note rate from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. In the event settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest. Real estate taxes to be adjusted as of the date of sale. All other public charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, condo/HOA dues, whether incurred prior to or after the sale, and all other costs incident to settlement to be paid by the purchaser. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Purchaser agrees to pay to the Sellers’ attorneys at settlement, a fee of \$295.00 for review of the settlement documents, and an additional fee of \$295.00 for review of any motion which may be subsequently filed with the Court to substitute a purchaser herein.			Terms of Sale: A deposit of \$5,000.00 by cash or certified funds is required at the time of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Prince George’s County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the note rate from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. In the event settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest. Real estate taxes to be adjusted as of the date of sale. All other public charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, condo/HOA dues, whether incurred prior to or after the sale, and all other costs incident to settlement to be paid by the purchaser. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Purchaser agrees to pay to the Sellers’ attorneys at settlement, a fee of \$295.00 for review of the settlement documents, and an additional fee of \$295.00 for review of any motion which may be subsequently filed with the Court to substitute a purchaser herein.		
If the purchaser shall fail to comply with the terms of the sale or fails to go to settlement within ten days of ratification of the sale, the Substitute Trustees may, in addition to any other available legal remedies, declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser. In such event, the defaulting purchaser shall be liable for the payment of any deficiency in the purchase price, all costs and expenses of resale, reasonable attorney’s fees, and all other charges due and incidental and consequential damages. The purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey insurable title, the purchaser’s sole remedy at law or in equity shall be the return of the deposit. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser’s sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest.			If the purchaser shall fail to comply with the terms of the sale or fails to go to settlement within ten days of ratification of the sale, the Substitute Trustees may, in addition to any other available legal remedies, declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser. In such event, the defaulting purchaser shall be liable for the payment of any deficiency in the purchase price, all costs and expenses of resale, reasonable attorney’s fees, and all other charges due and incidental and consequential damages. The purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey insurable title, the purchaser’s sole remedy at law or in equity shall be the return of the deposit. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser’s sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest.		
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