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A Busy Day for Dr. John E. Deasy



PHOTO COURTESY PGCPs, OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Superintendent Dr. John E. Deasy meets with middle school students at Dwight D. Eisenhower Middle School in Upper Marlboro on August 20th, the first day of school for PGCPS students.

Top Administrator Manages a Busy Public Schedule, Communicates County School System's Goals on the First Day of the 2007-2008 School Year

By EMILY APATOV
Prince George's Post Staff
Writer

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Superintendent Dr. John E. Deasy launched a high-profile day-long tour of some of the county's public schools on

Monday, the opening day of the 2007-2008 school term. Deasy personally introduced major programmatic improvements and facilities modernization projects that will premier in the school district in the upcoming year.

The county school system's top administrator began

his public schedule on August twentieth with a meeting at the Mullikin Bus Lot in Mitchellville at 6:30 a.m. There Deasy met with county public school bus operators for whom he provided donuts and coffee. Deasy arranged the service to show appreciation for the employees that operate

the 1,300 school buses that transport 97,000 of the county's 135,000 students to and from school, county public schools spokesman John White explained on Monday.

PGCPS Transportation Director Michael Dodson joined the superintendent at
See First Day, Page A5

11 Schools Lifted From 'Improvement' Status

Public School Improvements Position 17

Schools for Upgraded Re-Designation in '08

Courtesy PGCPS

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) announced on August 15th that record levels of student achievement have pulled 11 elementary schools out of "School Improvement" status. Twice as many schools exited School Improvement as occurred a year ago after meeting all federal mandates for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for two years in a row. "Our students' achievements are remarkable and every child should enter the new school year motivated to build upon their tremendous progress," said Board of Education Chair R. Owen Johnson, Jr. "Every member of this community is proud of what they have accomplished and the Board of Education has made investments in teaching and learning that are designed to accelerate these improvements."

When the Maryland State Department of Education announced AYP results on August 15th for last school year (2006-2007), PGCPS learned that the number of schools exiting improvement more than

doubled (11 compared to five that exited in 2005-2006), while only four schools entered School Improvement status (compared to 14 in 2005-2006).

"Parents and teachers should be proud of their students," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. John E. Deasy. "Great schools have great instruction. We will continue to focus our attention and support on improving instruction in every classroom."

PGCPS students have raised their scores in reading and mathematics on the Maryland School Assessments (MSA) for four years in a row — reaching the highest achievement levels in the school system since 2003.

The 11 schools that exited various levels of school improvement include Bladensburg ES, Concord ES, Cool Spring ES, District Heights ES, Glassmanor ES, Kenmoor ES, Longfields ES, Matthew Henson ES, Morningside ES, Overlook ES, and Riverdale ES.

Additionally, the following 17 Schools-in-Improvement made AYP and are now in position to exit improvement status next year: Beacon Heights ES,
See Improvements, Page A5

Alisha Jones Crowned Miss Black MD USA

Bowie Resident Wins on AIDS/HIV Platform

Courtesy MISS BLACK MARYLAND USA

(BOWIE, MD) — Ms. Alisha Lola Jones was crowned Miss Black Maryland USA 2008 on Saturday August 4, 2007.

Jones is currently a doctoral student at the University of Chicago, in Chicago, Illinois studying the field of Ethno-musicology, with a specialization in the African American Sacred Music tradition. She holds a Bachelor's of Music degree in Voice Performance from Oberlin Conservatory and a Master of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School. Her education awareness platform is HIV/AIDS.

Jones will represent Maryland in the 2008 Miss Black USA pageant that is scheduled for June 2008 in the Gambia, West Africa. His Excellency, President Yahyah A. J. Jammeh, will serve as the Honorary Chair of the event.

The Gambia, small as it is in area, is a "cultural giant" by any stretch of the imagination. Spanning over 11,000 square kilo-



PHOTO COURTESY MISS BLACK MD USA
Alisha L. Jones

meters, it is home to several ethnic groups, each with their own distinct cultural forms and traditions. It is most notably known as the birthplace of Kunte Kinte and where the late African-American author Alex Haley filmed the highly acclaimed television mini series "ROOTS."

The Miss Black USA pageant is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing educational opportunity to young women of color and to develop the whole woman, mind, body and spirit.

Recovery Workers Win Back Unpaid Wages

CASA of Maryland, Inc. and Zuckerman Spaeder LLP Attorneys Reach Settlement for Local Workers Involved in Restoration After Hurricane Katrina

Courtesy CASA OF MARYLAND

(WASHINGTON, DC) — Earlier this month a federal court in Maryland approved a settlement agreement that had been reached between Unlimited Restoration, Inc. (URI) and 46 Maryland day laborers who had not been paid

for their work in the Gulf Coast following Hurricane Katrina. Under the \$100,000 settlement, negotiated by Zuckerman Spaeder LLP and CASA of Maryland, Inc., the workers will be paid their regular and overtime wages in full, less administration costs.

The Maryland workers were recruited in and around

Prince George's and Montgomery Counties in September 2005 by a subcontractor of URI, MFC General Contractors, Inc., to clean up casinos in Mississippi damaged by Hurricane Katrina. After nearly two months of moving large debris from the water, shoveling away mud and cleaning out rotten food from refrig-

erators, the workers returned to Maryland and were not paid in full by MFC. In December 2005, CASA of Maryland, Inc. filed a case on the workers' behalf for their unpaid wages. Leslie Berger Kiernan and Ellen D. Marcus of Zuckerman Spaeder LLP later joined the effort, providing *pro bono* ser-

See Wages, Page A5

UM Students Consider Cleaner Cars

Energy-Efficient Autos Displayed on Campus

Courtesy MARYLAND PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP

(COLLEGE PARK, MD) — On Tuesday, August 14th, students placed a spotlight clean automobiles with a "Clean Cars Show" that spotlighted two of the many clean cars available on the market today, the Lexus SUV Hybrid and the Honda Civic Hybrid.

"Global warming is not all gloom and doom," stated MaryPIRG Campus Organizer Chris Leuchten. "Common sense solutions like clean cars are around us everywhere we look."

The vehicles, donated by Lexus of Silver Spring and
See Clean Cars, Page A5

Cancer Gala Raises Over \$450,000

Area Programs Scheduled to Benefit from Funds Raised

Courtesy SOUZA AGENCY

(CHESAPEAKE BEACH, MD) — The 26th Annual Celebration of Life Cancer Gala was a brilliant success this year.

The event raised over \$450,000 in donations for the Calvert County Unit of the American Cancer Society—the Gala's largest collection to date. Proceeds from the event will be used to contribute to research, education, and patient services in the fight against cancer.

Attendees gathered for the gala enjoyed a memorable evening of waterside dining, festive drinks, live music and moonlit dancing.

Hotel owner and Chesapeake Beach Mayor, Gerald W. Donovan, said he is,

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PHOTO COURTESY SOUZA AGENCY

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Towns and NEIGHBORS

Clinton Conversations

By **NORMA FAZENBAKER**
301.579.6116

For a long time, my children have been after me to go to a Diabetes specialist. I finally decided to do and, of course, this doctor told me all the things I already knew about what I should do and eat. Then, he told me to stop taking some of my medications I already have and gave me three new prescriptions. When I went to the drug store to get these prescriptions, it turned out that all three of them together would cost me \$1,000! What do these people think of us senior citizens, that we have more money than we know what to do with?

With the state deficit coming in at around \$1.5 million, Governor Martin O'Malley (D) released a recorded message suggesting that corporations and higher-income earners should be among those asked to pay more in taxes. Other ideas proposed by the Maryland League of Conservation Voters and allied groups are likely to generate more debate.

One possible plan to solve the budget deficit includes establishing a "green fund" that would impose fees on developers for "impervious surfaces." The proposal, which cleared the House of Delegates in a similar form this year but died in the Senate, could generate \$100 million a year.

Some other proposals include increasing the fees levied on companies disposing solid waste— a proposal that is promised to generate \$35 million in

revenues for the state. Other possible solutions include putting an end to a coal-mining tax credit, which would save \$7.7 million, and establishing a fee to charge those developers who would build on state wetlands, a proposal that may generate up to \$3.6 million. Let's hope that the solvent proposals come to completion.

Tonight- August 23rd- those aged 21 and older are encouraged to raise your glasses to conservation at the third annual "Brew at the Zoo" from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the National Zoo on Connecticut Avenue. Sample a variety of beers from over twenty microbreweries. Enjoy music from the band Welbilt while raising funds to benefit a variety of zoo projects. The fee will include a commemorative glass. For more information, call 202.633.4800.

The Open Door Community Center will host a women's empowerment workshop entitled "I Can Make It." This workshop will be held to guide women who are facing changes in their lives. The seminar will be held on September 27th at 7 p.m. at 12603 Nichols Promise Drive in Bowie. Call 301.262.5550 for more information.

The Higher Place of Praise Ministries in Forestville seeks a musician to play traditional and contemporary praise and worship music. Call 301.420.2466 if you are interested to apply for this position.

**Alex Levine said "only Irish coffee provides in a single glass all four essential food groups: alcohol, caffeine, sugar, and fat!"



PHOTO COURTESY MARYPIRG

MaryPIRG student chapter campus organizers Chris Leuchten, Shannon Lange, and Trisha Benton pose with a Honda Civic Hybrid before the Hornbake Plaza at the University of Maryland on Tuesday, August 14th. See A1, A7 for more information about the students' efforts to educate the campus community about clean, energy-efficient automobiles like the Lexus SUV hybrid and the car pictured above.

Aquasco- Brandywine

By **RUTH TURNER**
301.888.1139

Pre- Homecoming and Gospel Fest

Christ United Methodist Church and Pastor Rev. Dr. Robert E. Walker Jr. will sponsor a Pre-Homecoming Banquet and Gospel Fest at Waldorf Jaycees Community Center in Waldorf, MD, at 7 p.m. on Saturday, September 1st. The event will feature Winfield Parker and Praise, The

Anointed Majestic Sound of Annapolis, Harold Sims, the Men of Valor, and the Angels of Mercy Dance Ministry of Christ UMC and others. The cost will be \$55 per person. For tickets or for more information, please call James Forbes at 301.843.1762 or George Saunders at 301.888.9439.

Craft Fair

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Clinton Volunteer Fire Department will sponsor a craft fair at St. Johns

Catholic Church Saturday, November 17, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Lunch and home-made goodies will be available. The rental fee for tables will be \$20 per table. For additional information, please contact Linda Clagett at 301.868.2543.

Car and Bike Show

Nottingham Myers United Methodist Church will sponsor a Car and Bike show on Saturday, See Aquasco, Page A5

From Prince George's County to Brussels President of Clothing Line Promotes Multi-Cultural Awareness — Through Clothing

By **MABINTY KOROMA**

(BELTSVILLE, MD) — From Prince George's County, MD to Brussels, Belgium, Howard University adjunct professor and President & CEO of Unified Soul (US), Cheriss May is spreading the message of multi-cultural and multi-ethnic diversity through US clothing line.

The Howard alum began US last year after seeing what she believed to be too few clothing lines that promote positive self-images.

Maryland customer Drenary L. Foster stated her belief in line with May's that, "A clear indication of promoting self love during a time when the world seems so cold."

"The message that is indicated and adorned is why this line should be celebrated and appreciated," Foster continued.

"Since launching the company in June 2006, I am receiving great feedback, sales, and a number of opportunities. One of the many reasons I came to Prince George's County is because I was motivated by seeing a multi-cultural and multi-ethnic community of people succeeding



PHOTO COURTESY UNIFIED SOUL

Cheriss May

through entrepreneurship. This is a testament to the numerous possibilities in this county," said May.

The President of the Women Business Owners of Prince George's County, an organization established to foster business relationships, forge networking opportunities, and mentor business owners, attested to the need for more women business own-

ers like May.

"More and more women like Cheriss are making the bold decision to transition to more entrepreneurial focused careers. By combining education, experience, expertise and determination, they are able to cultivate business successes while living out their dreams," said President Dawn Jackson.

Some of May's designs incorporate slogans like "Soul, I love who I am" translated in nine different languages. May's creativity extends beyond one of her most popular designs with images of the African continent flipped to form wings on the back of shirts.

May's line is designed to promote cultural diversity and to celebrate the beauty of each individual who wears her designs.

"It is important that we celebrate US and our cultural heritage rather than adhere to society's ideal of beauty," said May.

May concluded, "Unified Soul is born out of respect for, appreciation and celebration of, who we are individually and collectively. In all our differences we are one — Unified Soul."

Serving Suitland

By **JANICE A. EUELL**
301.523.2677

It's back to school time, everyone! And, yes that does apply to everyone. When school reopens, everyone in the community should feel responsible for pitching in and helping parents provide the necessary resources that our children need to succeed. Let's not treat the education of our youth as a job that only our school systems can and must do.

ROJA sponsored its back to school community day at Parkway Terrace Apartments with lots of food, entertainment by the youth that attend their After School Learning Centers. School supplies, book bags, toiletries, incentives from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Teens Rejecting Abusive Smoking Habits (T.R.A.S.H.) program and lots of other arts and crafts and gifts for the whole family.

Sister Gwendolyn Leftwich, who is an Evangelist, long time friend and community activist is temporarily back in the community from Florida. Many of you will remember Sister Leftwich as an active member of our community for many years working together with schools, churches, Federal, state and local politicians,

numerous government agencies and community service organizations. She's a new grandmother and is enjoying that experience very much. It would be a great asset to our community to have Sister Leftwich back permanently, but we'll have to see how the tide flows. Welcome back, Sister Leftwich, we are always happy to see you.

Congratulations to Sharnisse Rozier for surpassing the 80% proficiency level in reading and math! That is quite an accomplishment and much praise goes to her for such an accomplishment and to her parents for understanding the importance of a high quality education for our children. Sharnisse is also President of ROJA's Youth Advisory Board and enrolled in the After School Learning Center at Parkway Terrace. Keep up the good work, Sharnisse!

Why don't some of the rest of you send me names of your wonderful children that have also passed the MSA tests. Some great incentives could be provided if we get a long lists of youth changing America with their successes. You love praise, don't you? So do our children.

Let's give them a whole lot of it this year. You just might get some back! Think about it.

In and Around Morningside Skyline

By **MARY MCHALE**
301.735.3451

Diana Prioleau, Allen Choraleer and Rectory Manager, Passes Away at 75

Diana Riley Prioleau, dedicated employee of the St. Philip the Apostle Parish for 47 years, died of pneumonia at Washington Hospital Center on August 2nd. She was hired by St. Philip's first pastor, the late Monsignor Joseph Teletchea, in February 1960, and managed the rectory for six pastors, 13 associate pastors, two priests in residence, and countless deacons and visitors. She was still employed there at the time of her death, even though she had "retired" in 1996.

It was a tribute to her that three of those pastors attended her funeral at Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church, in Southeast Washington, on Aug. 9. (Of the three pastors who were not there, two have died and one is ailing. The current pastor of St. Philip's, Father Scott Hahn, read the Gospel at the ser-

vice.

Diana was born Sept. 3, 1931 in Charleston, S.C. In 1958, she moved to Upper Marlboro. Forty years ago she married Franklin Prioleau.

For more than 40 years she has been a faithful member of Allen Chapel where she served as a member of the Hospitality Club, Willing Workers, Choir #1, the Sanctuary Choir and the Allen Choraleers which she served as president of at one time.

The obituary in Diana's funeral program said of her: "Diana was a short, sassy, wistful social enthusiast, a born leader who truly loved her family and friends. Her final words included, "Tell everyone I love them.""

Neighbors

The Daughters of Saint Anne held dedication ceremonies Saturday for the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes on the grounds of their convent in Skyline. Father Scott Hahn celebrated Mass at the site. Lunch followed at the house. Robin Murphy, formerly of Pickett

Drive, has just moved to San Francisco, but she and her dog Penny did not have a good welcome to the city. On the way into the city from the airport their taxi was struck by a red-light runner. Robin suffered a concussion, her friend Gerrie had a fracture and the cab was damaged. Penny wasn't hurt.

Former Skyline resident Sara Hays Johnston e-mailed news of daughter Ashley, 23, who graduated from Oklahoma State U. last year and now teaches 7th grade English. In October she married Ian Swart, director of the Plains Indian Museum.

Condolences to Kathy Elborne, of Boxwood Drive, on the death of her stepfather, Arthur L. Morgan, who passed away last week in Pittsburgh.

Crab Feast

The Knights of Columbus, in Forestville, are hosting a Crab Feast on August 26th from 2 - 5 p.m. For more information, call 301.735.8855.

May They Rest in Peace

See Morningside, Page A5

The New Prince George's Post

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COMMUNITY

Bowie CAP Trains New Officers in Search & Rescue Operations

Teenaged Cadets from Across the State Practice Saving Lives at Jug Bay in Upper Marlboro

Courtesy JULIE HOLLEY
Bowie Civil Air Patrol

Early one Saturday morning in the last week of July, a group of teenagers meets in the woods of Jug Bay Park in Upper Marlboro. Each was dressed in camouflage and armed with a compass, a small knife and a bag of supplies. They were gathered together to learn how to save lives.

The youngsters are members of the U.S. Civil Air Patrol. Emergency Services is one of main missions of the non-profit organization. Under the watchful guidance of experienced, adult CAP members, these cadets are learning the essentials of search and rescue operations.

CAP members are often called up to help local law enforcement agencies find missing aircraft, missing children and even elderly residents that cannot be located. Representatives from CAP's Annapolis, Arundel and Prince Frederick Squadrons were on hand for the training this day.

Today the cadets, as they are called, are learning how to find a downed aircraft. The young members, ages 12 to 18 years old, are given the following information from Capt. Christopher Pumphrey, one of three instructors on the scene.



2nd Lt. Jon Wiseman offers last minute instruction before the cadets commence the search.

"A pink and white Ultralight airplane with green trim was last seen flying over the woods of Jug Bay Park," he says.

Capt. Pumphrey goes on to explain that there has been no communication with the pilot since he was spotted flying overhead. He says that the aircraft has most likely crashed nearby. Before heading to the mock crash scene, everyone checks their gear. It is a hot day.

2nd Lt. Jon Wiseman, a former CAP cadet and current adult member, instructs the team to grab an extra bottle of water in addition to what they are carrying in their canteens.

Everything looks to be in order. The cadets line up, one behind the other, and proceed to an area where the plane could have gone down. When they reach the first possible location, the young trainees are instructed to line up side by side, about 10 feet apart.

Instructor, Capt. Scott Harris, shouts, "Forward the line!" The cadets begin walking. They slowly move forward while visually scanning the forest floor for clues.

The sound of boots crushing dead leaves resonates throughout the forest. The noise soon disappears when Cadet Airman First Class Jared

Farrar shouts, "Halt the line!" Everyone stops. This means the youngster has located a clue.

The cadet holds up a plastic bottle. He comments that it looks fairly new. After a short discussion everyone agrees that the item was used very recently, possibly by the missing pilot.

Radio operator, Cadet Capt. Chris Pearson, calls in the location to Lt. Col. Wes LaPre at mission base. Once they mark the scene with brightly colored tape, the cadets proceed down a new path. A few minutes go by when the words "Halt the

line!" once again reverberate through the woods.

This time, Capt. Harris calls the cadets to his location. It seems that the youngsters have passed over a major clue. Capt. Harris points to several pieces of wood in the path. The items are arranged in the shape of an arrow.

He explains that the objects were most likely placed there by the injured pilot to direct rescuers to his location.

The mission navigator, Cadet 1st Lt. Mark Cole, writes down the coordinates of the clue. At the same time, Capt. Harris lectures the young trainees about the importance of analyzing each piece of evidence as they move along the path.

Now the team knows it is on the right track. Soon, the cadets spot a bright pink object in the trees ahead. It is the downed aircraft they have been searching for.

If this had been a real life scenario, the search team most likely would have found an injured pilot nearby. They would have administered first aid until the victim could be transported to the hospital.

Training sessions like these happen throughout the year across Maryland. Cadets and adult CAP members learn the essentials of search and res-

cue operations so that they will be ready when real missions occur.



Cadet Chris Pearson rolls up a mock airplane used in the practice search.

CAP, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is a non-profit organization with more than 57,000 members nationwide.

CAP volunteers perform 95 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and also perform homeland security, disaster relief and counter drug missions at the request of federal, state, and local agencies. There are approximately 1,300 members of CAP throughout Maryland.

Local Chess Maven Jones Tastes Victory

EAGLE Chess Academy Holds First Tournament in Temple Hills

Courtesy EAGLE CHESS ACADEMY

(FORESTVILLE, MD) —With over thirty participants and spectators in attendance, the EAGLE Chess Academy hosted its first monthly tournament at the D'Light Skate N Palace in Temple Hills, MD, on Sunday, July 29th. The tournament consisted of four 30-minute games and was open to adults and children of all ages. Attendees ranged in age from five years old and up.

Theodore Jones came in first place and received a \$300 prize; second and third place winners were David Paulina and Zack Kinney. Runners-up Gabriel Vilarrubi, James Fabunmi, Reggie Pearson, and Herman Barber won entry fees into their next tournament.

Among the many attendees was Senator Ulysses Curry, a supporter of EAGLE Chess Academy and chess throughout Maryland. Senator



Youths and adults compete at the first monthly tournament of the EAGLE Chess Academy.

Curry is involved in the promotion of the game to the extent that he was instrumental in getting \$255,000 placed into the state budget for Chess.

Founded in 2004 by Ted Fagan, EAGLE Chess Academy currently is the largest organization promoting and providing chess instruction in PG County and one of the

largest in the state of Maryland, having impacted thousands of youth and their families.

The organization is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, established to promote and teach the game of chess, passing on educational, recreational, and social benefits to scholastic aged children in the MD/DC

metropolitan area. Their primary educational objective for teaching chess to children is to help improve their ability to think effectively.

All Prince George's County residents are invited to participate in the next EAGLE Chess Academy tournament to be held on Saturday, September 8th.

UMCP to Test New Stop-Smoking Drug

College of Health and Human Performance Announces Selegiline Study

Courtesy UM CENTER FOR HEALTH BEHAVIOR RESEARCH

(COLLEGE PARK, MD) — A new stop-smoking, non-nicotine patch is being tested At the University of Maryland Center for Health Behavior Research (CHBR). The center is looking for approximately 60 smokers to participate in the study involving an FDA approved drug which may assist people in stopping smoking. The research study is being conducted on the College Park campus and is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

The medication, *selegiline*, has been approved by the

FDA for treatment of other conditions. This is the first time selegiline will be used to treat smoking. It is applied as a skin patch. All smokers participating in the study will be provided individual smoking cessation counseling, a study physical, and either the new medication patch or a placebo at no cost. Study participants will be asked to attend sessions at the CHBR over a period of six months. Participants will be compensated for their time and travel.

"In addition to the many health consequences associated with cigarette smoking, the continual rise in the cost of cigarettes and the many restrictions being placed on smokers in public, local area residents may welcome the opportunity to participate in

See Selegiline, Page A5

COMMUNITY NOTES

• **Express your opinions and concerns about the High School Assessments tests (HSAs) before the State Board of Education** — On September 10th at Charles Herbert Flowers

High School, 10001 Ardwick-Ardmore Road, Springdale, MD 20774, the BOE will be hearing Prince George's County residents speak about the HSAs. Sign up on site at 6:15 p.m. The hearing

will be held from 7:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. If you or someone you know is interested to speak but unable to attend, residents are encouraged to submit written testimony on this subject for consid-

eration of the BOE by September 20th to Maryland State Board of Education, 200 W. Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21201.

• **Get screened for risk of**

stroke—Screenings will be held at Bernards Church, 5700 Bernard Dr., Riverdale, MD on August 30th at 9 a.m. Stroke is ranked as the

third leading killer in the world, and the leading cause of nursing home admissions. Strokes often occur without warning. The good news is that painless screening can help identify problems that lead to a stroke before it is too late. Screenings are fast, painless, and low cost. Bone density screening is also offered to assess the risk of osteoporosis.

All four screenings take less than an hour to complete. The cost for a Wellness Package of all four screening includes free osteoporosis screening is \$129. For more

information regarding the screenings or to schedule an appointment, please call 1.800.697.9721 or visit. Pre-registration is required.

• **2007 Back to Shul Night**—Oseh Shalom synagogue in Laurel will hold "Back to Shul Night" on Friday, September 7, at 7:30 p.m. This special family-oriented Shabbat evening service will feature popular local musician, Alan Oresky. Alan, who plays violin and mandolin, is a founding member of the Fabranen Fiddlers, a Washington-based Jewish-American folk music ensemble, and has recorded several CDs. Oseh Shalom's address is: 7515 Olive Branch Way, Laurel, Maryland 20707. For more information, contact the synagogue office at 301-498-5151.

School Supplies Drive-International Youth Fellowship

INFORMATION	SUPPLIES	
The IYP desires to reach out to youth around the world and to serve as an aid to all communities. Inn doing so, we are sponsoring a "School Supplies Drive." For the DC Metropolitan Area.	Supplies will be collected from August 1 to September 1, 2007.	Supply List
<i>Let's help our youth start their school year out right, as they work towards their future!</i>	Drop Off Location: Mt. Zion Commandment Ministries Kettering Middle School 65 Herrington Drive Upper Marlboro, MD 20774	• Binders • Paper • Pens • Pencils • Crayons • Backpacks • Colored Pencils • Rulers • Spiral Notebooks • Highlighters
Please bring all donations to the address listed to the right. Please make all monetary donations payable to: IYF (donations are tax-deductible)	Drop Off Times: 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. (Sat.) Please call the office for alternate drop off times!	
Thank you in Advance for your support!	International Youth Fellowship 6107 61st Place Riverdale, MD 20737 Phone: 301.396.3602 E-mail: gwoslm@yahoo.com "Impacting the Kingdom of God by empowering youth"	

BUSINESS

Advice from Your Local Better Business Bureau

By Edward Johnson

Online Degrees of Frustration

Education and the degree that results can open doors. Successful completion of a course of study is a pursuit worthy of your time, energy and effort. In many cases, it is a ticket to getting ahead in life.

No matter if you are looking to increase your knowledge in a particular field or you are trying to take your career to the next level with some impressive credentials, more and more people are turning to the convenience of the Internet. Online degree programs are an emerging education trend and present an attractive education option for busy people who are looking to add experience and qualifications to their resume.

The Sloan Consortium, the nation's largest association focused on online education, reported that in 2006 nearly 3.2 million college students were enrolled in at least one online course, up from 1.6 million in 2003. Moreover, Eduventures, a leading education industry research firm, estimates that in 2008, one in 10 college students will be enrolled in an online university.

However, as convenient and popular as online education can be, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) encourages consumers to do their homework before paying tuition. Some online education providers can be a source of fraud and frustration for consumers. For many victims of diploma mills, the only lesson that is learned is the one from the school of hard knocks. About the only thing a degree from a diploma mill is good for is wrapping fish.

It is estimated that there are well over 400 diploma mills and 300 counterfeit diploma web sites doing business of more than \$500 million annually. What used to be small-time, "mom-and-pop" fraud, is now a professional criminal operation, having gone high-tech and global in nature according to federal law enforcement representatives.

Many of these fraudulent web sites portray beautiful, picturesque campuses with old buildings and many students, when, in reality, these degrees could very possibly be printed from someone's basement.

Diploma mills are not accredited and students essentially pay for a meritless piece of paper. Many diploma mills offer degrees based on "life experience." It is true that accredited universities and colleges may grant credit based on some life experience. However, scams grant much, if not all of their credits based upon life experience, charging substantial sums and offering entire degrees for little actual coursework. These degrees are worthless and useless.

The BBB reminds prospective students to watch for the following signs that their next degree could actually be coming from a diploma mill:

- Very little or no work needs to be completed in order to receive your degree.
- The institution offers deals if you sign up to receive more than one degree at a time, such as a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's Degree for one low price.
- The name of the program is very similar to the name of a very well-known and prestigious college or university.
- Addresses for administration buildings include P.O. boxes or suite numbers.
- Prices are stated per degree instead of per credit hour.

The most important step in choosing an online degree program is to make sure the college or university you are enrolling in is accredited from one of the six regional accreditation boards. The U.S. Department of Education has a searchable database of accredited post-secondary schools at: www.ed.gov/ipeds/data/colleges/postsecondary/accreditation/. You can also check out an online degree program's reputation with the BBB at: www.bbb.org.

Edward Johnson is president & CEO of the Better Business Bureau serving the greater metro Washington, D.C. region.

Doc's Grille Opens in Laurel's Crystal Plaza

Laurel's Newest Eatery Puts a New Spin on an Old Favorite

Courtesy CARRIE FOX COMMUNICATIONS

(LAUREL, MD)—Maryland resident Jeff Weinberger had the craving for a really good hot dog last summer. However, rather than go to the food store and pick up a pack of hot dogs for his grill, he decided to open a hot dog and burger joint in Laurel, MD.

Doc's Grille, located on Laurel-Bowie Road in Laurel, is no ordinary hot dog and burger joint. Jeff's new restaurant, named in honor of his late father, brings a brand new menu item to the Washington DC area—deep fried hot dogs.

"I'd never even tasted a deep fried hot dog when I decided to explore the idea for my restaurant," says Weinberger, owner of the new Laurel eatery. "But I knew it sounded like a great idea, and after doing a bit of research, I learned that there are actually a lot of people, all across the country, raving about them!"

The casual restaurant, which officially opened its doors in July, features a simple Americana-style menu including 1/3-pound flame-grilled hamburgers, 1/4-pound hot dogs (deep fried, grilled or with chili), hand dipped milkshakes, onion rings and oversized, crispy french fries. Grilled chicken, BBQ chicken, BBQ pork sandwiches and salads round out the menu. Even better, every meal is less than \$8.00, and the portions are generous.

Located at 12729 Laurel Bowie Road in Laurel's Crystal Plaza, Doc's Grille features a



PHOTO COURTESY CARRIE FOX COMMUNICATIONS

Above: Doc's Grille, now open in Laurel's Crystal Plaza, serves up a mix of Americana-style food, including flame grilled burgers, hand dipped milkshakes and their signature deep fried hot dogs.

Right: Owner of Doc's Grille Jeff Weinberger.

smart and casual design with seating for up to 30. Doc's Grille is open on Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m., and on Sunday from 11 a.m. through 9 p.m. Take out is also available.

Weinberger, who also owns two successful Subway franchises in the Laurel/Bowie area, began construction of his first independently-run restaurant in February, and celebrated its grand opening in June. The restaurant is planning a formal Grand Opening celebration for the Fall.

"I've come a long way from my early days as a government contractor," says Weinberger of the 20-plus years he spent working alongside his father at an engineering firm in



PHOTO COURTESY CARRIE FOX COMMUNICATIONS

the DC area.

"My dad loved comfortable little burger joints where he could take the family. His grandchildren called him Doc. There's a lot of love in this place."

For those craving a taste of a deep fried hot dog (which tastes very much like a grilled hot dog, with a slightly crispier skin), Weinberger is offering a

10% discount for all government employees and employees of Capitol College Bowie State University; the discount is also available to senior citizens. Printable coupons are also available on the Doc's Grille website (www.docsgrilleweb.com).

For more information about the restaurant, including directions and a full menu, please call 301.483.9005.

M-NCPPC Study Addresses Pedestrian Safety Hazards at Future Purple Line Transit Center Site

New Sectoral Plans for Future Purple Line Transit Center Site will be Based on Study

Courtesy M-NCPPC

(UPPER MARLBORO, MD) — As a first step in what will become a comprehensive look at the future of the Takoma/Langley Crossroads at the intersection of University Boulevard and New Hampshire Avenue, a new planning study recommends important safety measures to protect pedestrians and bicyclists in a half-mile radius of this area that is known for bicycle and pedestrian accidents, some of them fatal.

Some 90,000 vehicles drive through the intersection known as the Crossroads every day. Pedestrians and bicyclists make up a large percentage of the community's 20,000 residents and use shopping centers as de facto town squares for eating, socializing, shopping, finding work and using public transit.

The recently completed study took a rare look across municipal boundaries at the multi-cultural community that straddles Prince George's and Montgomery counties. It launches 's focused look at the Takoma/Langley Crossroads leading to a sector plan that will prescribe the land uses and enhance the character in a 15-year vision of the half-mile area circling the Crossroads. M-NCPPC's plan will build upon the pedestrian study to consider transit-oriented development, economic development and pedestrian access.



PHOTO BY EMILY APATOV/ PRINCE GEORGE'S POST

The intersection of University Boulevard and New Hampshire Avenue at the Takoma/ Langley Park Crossroads was studied for improvements to pedestrian safety.

With a 2009 expected completion date, planners have begun gathering input from the community, such as collecting survey information during last Tuesday's National Night Out.

The Purple Line, a rapid bus or light rail system slated to run from New Carrollton to Bethesda through Takoma/Langley, and the planned construction of a bus transit center that will consolidate eight bus stops, represent great opportunities to redevelop the crossroads, the pedestrian study says. About 13,000 people per day ride buses through the Crossroads. Many of the short-term recommendations to create a safer, more easily traversed pedestrian environment are underway by

the Maryland State Highway Administration, among them:

- Extending sidewalks
- Installing pedestrian-activated signals along New Hampshire Avenue and University Boulevard
- Adding high-visibility crosswalks with median refuges for slower-paced walkers
- Reducing travel speeds and narrowing traffic lanes for cars

Some of the study's longer-term recommendations will be addressed in the sector plan M-NCPPC will draft, including developing a community-wide system of walkways; creating vibrant civic spaces; separating automobiles and pedestrians with landscape buffers

and other design elements; and subdividing large properties into uses that would mix residential, office, retail and open spaces. Public spaces might replace some of the bus stops to be replaced by the bus transit center planned for 7900 New Hampshire Avenue.

The Council of Governments report was funded by a grant from the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board's Transportation/Land-Use Connections program.

In addition to M-NCPPC, the City of Takoma Park, the Maryland State Highway Administration and the University of Maryland provided guidance for the pedestrian report.

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Stop- Smoking Drug

College Announces Selegiline Study

Stop-Smoking from A3

such a trial," said Elbert D. Glover, PhD, the study's principal investigator and Chair of the Department of Public and Community Health.

Selegiline works to reduce or eliminate negative withdrawal symptoms by maintaining levels of dopamine in the body. Dopamine is stimulated by nicotine when an individual smokes, and its reduction can cause withdrawal symptoms or depression. Selegiline has been used in the past to treat depression. Participants should be heavy smokers at least 18 years old who are highly motivated to quit and who will follow through with all study procedures. To volunteer, please call 301.405.0128.

The study is being conducted at the Center for Health Behavior Research at the University of Maryland in College Park, MD. The Center for Health Behavior Research is located in the Department of Public and Community Health at the University of Maryland College of Health and Human Performance.

The CHBR staff has a combined research experience of over 75 years, which includes trials for nicotine dependence, depression, generalized anxiety, Alzheimer's, schizophrenia, and eating disorders.

Recovery Workers

Wages from A1

vices to the workers.

On Wednesday, August 8, U.S. District Judge Catherine C. Blake ruled against MFC and its principals, Miguel Canales and Fredis Canales, finding that there is no bona fide dispute that the workers are owed regular and overtime wages.

The court left for a jury to determine the amount of additional damages that the workers are due. "After nearly two years, it is a relief to know that our clients will finally be paid for their hard work," said Marcus.

"I hope that this case will not only encourage employers to act responsibly, but also inspire other workers who have been similarly mistreated to come forward and seek justice." "Immigrants are among the most vulnerable workers in our economy," said Jessica Salisbury, a CASA attorney who worked on the case.

"Compounding the horror faced by poor Gulf Coast communities in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, workers rights were and continue to be violated throughout the aftermath. This case is an important victory for low-wage workers everywhere."

Aquasco

Aquasco from A2

September 29. There will be a Hnad Dance contest, food for sale, music, trophies and lots of fun for everyone. The location of the event is Southern Maryland District Youth Camp at 9301 Surratts Road in Cheltenham.

The event will last from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Please contact the Nottingham Myers Church at 301.888.2171 for more information or to register.

Health Express Van

The Health Express Van (HEV) provides screenings year-round for blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, and free screenings for abdominal aortic aneurysms. The HEV is available most weekdays and on select Saturdays. Please call 301.877.5700 to obtain additional information or to book the HEV for an event.

Tea and Art Social

Nottingham Myers Stewardship Team will sponsor a Tea and Art Social at Brookfield Church Hall in Croom. Artistic creations will be presented by professional fine artist Toni Thorne. The Social will be on Saturday, October 13. To purchase tickets or for more information, contact Nottingham Myers Church at 301.888.2171.

Morningside

Morningside from A2

Gertrude Patterson, mother of former Morningsider Cynthia "Cindi" Lewis and Cheryl Miller; grandmother of Gary "Chip" Lewis, Christopher Hammond and Amanda Miller, passed away recently. Services were held at Lee Funeral Home in Calvert County with burial at Resurrection Cemetery.

Henry Ralph Pearson, 90, longtime Oxon Hill resident who owned and operated South Capitol Hardware for 17 years, passed away on July 21 in Houston.

In the late '40s he served as a Maryland State Police trooper and a U.S. Park Police officer. In his later years he managed a Winslow Paint Co. store and was locksmith for Hadley Hospital. He volunteered with the Boys Club and Scouting, and taught Sunday school at Oxon Hill U.M. Church.

Pearson was a member of the Lions Club which presented him the Melvin Jones humanitarian award in 1993. His survivors include his wife of 65 years, C. Virginia Rice Pearson, four children, nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Gavin Michael Glaubitz, Aug. 22; Joseph R. Maiden Jr., Aug. 23; our son Brian McHale, who turns 50 on Aug. 25; Shirley Holmes, Chris Busky, William Fowler, and twins Anthony and Avery Simmons, Aug. 27; and our daughter-in-law Michelle McHale, Aug. 29.

Happy 55th anniversary to Carolyn and Earl Dade on Aug. 23, and happy 59th anniversary to Aubrey & Annetta Pridgen on Aug. 27.

Happy 40th anniversary to the Mona Electric Group, in Clinton. Mona Electric was founded by Vincent Mona in 1967.

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Dr. John E. Deasy's Big First Day

First Day from A1

the lot to announce the installation of global positioning system components and portable video cameras on all county buses, two hallmarks of a school system-wide transportation security campaign.

Next, the superintendent joined Judith Bissett to introduce the new principal to parents and students at Northview Elementary School in Bowie. Deasy's meeting also prepared the community for the school's new all-day pre-kindergarten program, one of 91 such programs that PGCPs will add on in the upcoming year.

The new programs the superintendent showcased in his early morning visits on the first day of school were just the tip of the iceberg of the school system's new offerings. In the 2007-2008 school year, one of three advanced programs-

America's Choice, AVID, and Middle-Years IB- will be in place at every county middle school, placing students on a track to complete advanced placement in high school courses and to prepare students for college, White said.

Deasy's stop at Dwight D. Eisenhower Middle School where he visited two IB-Middle Years classrooms highlighted the phasing-in of advanced academic programming to all county middle schools.

Deasy met Governor Martin O'Malley at DuVal High School in Lanham next to introduce the school's new principal, Raymond Miller, and to view the newly renovated wing of the school.

Dr. Henry A. Wise, Jr. High School, Adelphi Elementary School, Mary Harris "Mother" Jones Elementary School, Panorama Elementary School,

Laurel-Beltsville Area Elementary School, Matthew Henson Elementary School, Glenarden Woods Elementary School, and Springhill Lake Elementary School will also receive construction funding this year.

At lunch time, Deasy met with students at Greenbelt Middle School. When the superintendent entered the cafeteria, 16 students without class schedules remained in the cafeteria waiting for lunch before the meal was served. Deasy introduced himself to students, striking up conversations on the topic of summer reading and making reading recommendations.

At Greenbelt Middle School, the superintendent and the Capital Improvement Systems team met with Greenbelt MS Principal Judy Austin to discuss construction plans for the school.

Deasy visited two AP classes at Central HS in Capitol Heights. This stop was made to reinforce his commitment to the the school system's new AP8 initiative to bring AP classes to all county high schools.

Finally, at 1:15 p.m., at North Forestville ES Deasy met with Melissa Ellis, principal of the school that earned the highest MSA math score improvements among sixth grade students throughout the county. Deasy took a lesson in algebraic thinking, a mathematics course offered by the school.

Pat Perry, IB- Middle Years Coordinator at Greenbelt MS, claimed to appreciate the Superintendent's visit.

"I think that shows a real commitment to students for him to actually be out in the schools makes a great statement. It will make people feel good to know that they have a superintendent who really cares."

Students Test Drive Hybrid Automobiles

Campus Chapter of Maryland PIRG Showcases Hybrid Lexus, Honda Vehicles

Clean Cars from A1

College Park Honda, are examples of choices anyone can make to curb global warming. Motor vehicles are a major contributor to global warming pollution in the United States, accounting for almost a quarter of the country's global warming emissions.

The University of Maryland students had a chance to take each car for a test drive while learning more about hybrid technology. Many were surprised by how far the technology has come.

"I was glad to see that we have luxury hybrids now," said Maryland student Earl Schaefer. "I think they'll appeal to a broader audience."

Students also designed edu-

cational games and demonstrations, taking the lead in educating their peers about global warming. "It was a great way to raise awareness about ways to protect our communities and our environment," said Schaefer.

Aaron Johnson, University of Maryland student volunteer said of the event, "I appreciate that MaryPIRG took the time to make it known that there are other options to using resources that causes air pollution."

"I was more than happy to help out with clean car show because the environment means a lot to me and I can definitely say that taking a small portion of my time out to help was time worth spent," said Johnson.

The 'Clean Cars Show' preceded a campus screening of the documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*, and is the first in a series of educational and advocacy efforts launched this year by the University of Maryland's Campus Climate Challenge Campaign.

The campaign is designed to rally college students across the country to take a leadership role in the effort to fight global warming.

"Students can make sure that our nation's campuses lead the way in dealing with the challenge of tackling global warming," stated Chris Leuchten.

"Right now we have the know-how to deal with this prob-

lem. We want to show the country what's possible," Leuchten continued.

Tens of thousands of students on more than 280 campuses across the United States and Canada are engaged through the Campus Climate Challenge in efforts to enact and promote policies to reduce global warming pollution - on campus, in the community and in legislatures.

Working with the campaign, students across the country educate campus communities about the threat posed by global warming, work to pass policies to reduce campus global warming pollution, and advocate for strong global warming legislation in Congress.

Annual Cancer Gala Raises Over \$450,000 for Area Treatment and Prevention Programs

Gala from A1

"absolutely thrilled and delighted by the wonderful turnout."

Of the 1,703 guests, he exclaims, "A good time was had by all!" Donovan wants to sincerely express his gratitude, "to all the folks who attended and all of the sponsors who participated, it was such a generous outpouring of compassion and action in

face of a truly dreaded disease."

Various bands provided live entertainment, including oldies show band The Hubcaps.

Dance areas were provided in the ballroom and outside on the waterfront. Fantastic food and amazing ice and fruit sculptures delighted guests at every turn.

Rod 'N' Reel Executive Chef William Bednar along with

Chef Walter Portillo and Chef Nicholas Alexander prepared the elaborate spread.

The gala menu included fresh seafood such as Maine lobsters, sushi, and Mediterranean fare, roasted pig, filet mignon, barbecue ribs, grilled chicken, steamship round and desserts galore.

Through all of the fanfare,

the task at hand was never forgotten. Just some of the important programs donations contributed to are: I Can Cope, Look Good/Feel Good, and Man to Man.

The American Cancer Society also uses contributions to offer programs to help educate communities about cancer risks, and, importantly, prevention.

PGCPs Improves Status of Schools

Improvements from A1

Berkshire ES, Flintstone ES, Hillcrest Heights ES, North Forestville ES, Oaklands ES, Port Towns ES, Springhill Lake ES, William Paca ES, Forest Heights ES Gladys N. Spellman ES, J.

Frank Dent ES, Lewisdale ES, Samuel P. Massie ES, Seat Pleasant ES, Dwight D. Eisenhower MS, and Bradbury Heights ES.

The four schools that entered School Improvement for the first time are:

Carmody Hills ES, Ridgecrest ES, William W. Hall ES, and Isaac J. Gourdine MS.

Overall, there are 56 elementary and middle schools in School Improvement - down from 63 a year ago.

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