

Arundel Report

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ARUNDEL DIGEST

Lawsuit filed

The father of a Severn man killed by a drunken driver has filed a \$3 million wrongful death lawsuit in county Circuit Court.

Arthur E. Kinstler of Baltimore filed the lawsuit Thursday against James Q. Walker, of 7670 Ridge Chapel Road, Hanover. Mr. Walker was sentenced in May to three months in jail for the fatal crash. He's since been released from jail and is on probation.

"They're not doing real well after this (the crash)," said attorney David B. Love of Baltimore, who represents Mr. Kinstler, said of his client's family.

The accident occurred July 28, 1998 when Mr. Walker, who was driving on Route 170, struck Michael A. Kinstler, 39, as he walking near the roadway. The crash occurred at about 1:30 a.m.

Mr. Walker's blood alcohol content was .22 percent when it was measured by police more than two hours after the crash. Mr. Kinstler also had been drinking and his blood alcohol content was .18. The legal threshold for driving while intoxicated is .10.

Mr. Walker pleaded guilty to drunken driving, which carries a maximum of one year in jail. He declined comment on the lawsuit.

Marina money

More money means less pollution on area waters, according to the Clean Marina Initiative.

The Department of Natural Resources program has distributed \$110,000 to nine marinas to cover the cost of implementing pollution prevention measures.

South River Marina, Turkey Point Marina and Liberty Marina — all on the South River watershed — were among the nine receiving money.

The funds are to be used to improve pressure washing systems and fish cleaning stations, adding oil and antifreeze recycling stations, planting native vegetation on shoreline buffers and collecting the dust and debris from vacuum sander or grinder units.

Other marinas receiving the grants are located on the Isle of Wight Bay in Worcester County and the Upper Elk River in Cecil County.

Records workshop

The Maryland State Archives will offer a one-day workshop on immigration and naturalization records from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 18 at the Hall of Records, 350 Rowe Boulevard.

Subjects to be discussed are naturalization and immigration records from Colonial times to the present, clues to the places of origins of immigrants, records from European countries that may be found in repositories in this county, and electronic sources.

The workshop is limited to 30 participants and the registration fee is \$50 which includes lunch, morning beverage and pastries and materials.

Workshop leaders are Robert Barnes, reference archivist at the State Archives and author of the recently published "British Roots of Maryland Families," and Patricia Dockman Anderson, associate editor of the *Maryland Historical Magazine*, and an instructor in American history at Towson University.

The Maryland State Archives has the most complete collection of historical documents of any of the 13 original colonies. Included in its holdings are Colonial and state records, dating to the founding of the Maryland colony in 1634.

For more information and registration forms, call Mimi Calver or Bob Barnes at (410) 296-6400 or by e-mail to archives@mdarchives.state.md.us.

Working for Unity

Teen teaches equality through numerous activities

By LAURA GREEN
Staff Writer

Breaking down the cliques and stereotypes that can run rampant in high school is part of Melissa Block's job.

The Annapolis High School senior is one of a group of leaders at the school's annual Team Days, a series of games and mind benders aimed at showing students that even though they may not look or act the same, they are all more alike than different.

"It's sort of like a way to unify our school, to get people out of their separate groups," said Miss Block, who has helped organize the event for three years.

This year, the 17-year-old Annapolis Cove teen is presenting an exercise called Conflict Consensus, which follows the scenario of a meteor hitting the earth. Participants can only fit six of 10 characters into a shelter. They must decide, without arguing, who to save.

Miss Block's classmates know not to expect her to try to press her opinion. Her style is leading by example.

"Over time you can show (you are a leader) by your behavior," she said.

Gail Iannoli, an Annapolis High School teacher and family friend, said other students identify with Miss Block because "she is very relaxed with herself as a person."

"I am in awe of things that she's gotten involved with and the subtlety in which she's done it," she said.

Leadership roles are nothing new to the co-captain of both the soccer and indoor track teams.

She is also active in the school's chapter of the National Honor Society, The National Council of Jewish Women Annapolis Section and in the senior class as its secretary.

With grades in the top 5 percent of her class, Miss Block hopes to study biology



By David Trozzo — The Capital
Melissa Block, 17, participates in indoor track, soccer and lacrosse at Annapolis High School. The senior is also a leader in the school's annual Team Days, an event designed to create unity among the student body.

or other research sciences in college next year.

She hopes to stay close to home by choosing a college in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia or Delaware. A member of the 1999 state championship lacrosse team, she hopes to play lacrosse in college.

Miss Block lives with her parents,

Larry Block, a Broadneck High School teacher, and her mother Shirley Little, a teacher at Annapolis High.

If you'd like to nominate a local teen-ager for The Capital's Teen of the Week, contact Staff Writer Laura Green at The Capital, 2000 Capital Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401, or call (410) 280-5929.

Teen of the Week
Melissa Block

School plan could ease crowding

775 students would be moved

By LAURA GREEN
Staff Writer

A plan to ease crowding at some county schools and fill space in others will introduced to the county Board of Education on Wednesday morning.

Under the redistricting proposal, based on Superintendent Carol S. Parham's recommendations made last spring, about 775 students would be shifted.

Along with the redistricting recommendations, school officials will also announce new construction projects as part of the fiscal year 2001 capital budget.

The greatest impact of the proposed redistricting would be felt in west county, where school officials have suggested transferring Odenton Elementary School students who live west of the MARC train tracks to Meade Heights Elementary School.

MEETING

WHAT: Board of Education
WHEN: 10:30 a.m.
WHERE: 2644 Riva Road
KEY TOPIC: New school boundaries.

Despite pressure from parents and students to end overcrowding at Arundel High School by building a new high school in west county, school officials said the school is not needed for the present.

As part of the redistricting recommendations, school officials suggest studying the need for the new school in 2005.

Other proposed redistricting changes would:

- Include residents of Piney Orchard, Woodwardville, Tree Side Mobile Home Park and Odenton Trailer Park in the new Piney Orchard Elementary School district.
- Split Chesapeake Bay Middle in Pasadena into two separate schools. Students from Bodkin, Fort Smallwood and Jacobsville elementary schools would attend one side of the school while students from Pasadena/Riviera Beach and Lake Shore would attend the other.
- Continue the shift of some students at Sunset and Riviera Beach Elementary schools in Pasadena from George Fox Middle School to Chesapeake Bay Middle.

School board members also will review an annual maintenance report due to the state Department of Education listing the various maintenance projects tentatively to be completed this year.

Some of the those projects include roof and boiler replacements and new asphalt driveways.

"It's making a dent (in the maintenance backlog)," said Edward Almes, supervisor of maintenance.

Also on the agenda is the contracts for various construction and technology services.

The meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Board of Education Headquarters at 2644 Riva Road.

Grant to fund special garden for disabled

The Arc of Anne Arundel County has won a grant of \$6,883 from the Maryland Commission for Celebration 2000 for construction of a MaryLandscapes Sensory Garden designed to accommodate the disabled at its headquarters in Annapolis.

The project, spearheaded by volunteer Mel Wilkins, will feature plants native to Maryland that comprise a number of effects — a wetland pond garden, rock garden, fern garden, butterfly station, wildflower meadow and berry patches.

Special features include extra wide pathways and raised flower beds for wheelchair accessibility, Braille signs and planting scheme that encourage touching and accessibility by people with developmental and physical disabilities.

Corporate donations have already been received from Neirman Weeks Co. Inc. for the butterfly garden, Giant Food will fund the wishing well, Annapolis Animal Hospital the fern garden, and Quality Calibration the rock garden. Balcon is donating new paving bricks, Chaney Enterprises is offering the base materials and Earth Scapes has volunteered to install the wheelchair friendly pathways.

Homestead Gardens of Davidsonville will be designing and maintaining the wetland pond garden as an in-kind donation. Sommer's Landscaping is assisting in the overall garden planning. Volunteers will be used for planting the gardens. Individuals and families are also sponsoring mini-gardens as living memorials.

To encourage community participation, The Arc has created a garden sponsorship program for donations of \$125 to \$2,500 to buy the flowers and other plants for each of the mini-gardens. Each will be recognized with a garden plaque.

A "Gift a Plant" program will allow individuals to buy one plant, shrub, or tree for a smaller donation. For further information call Sheri Kloby at (410) 990-1902 or Mel Wilkins at (410) 721-7991.

Roads closed for 10-mile run

By NICOLE GAUDIANO
Staff Writer

Annapolis Striders will be racing through downtown Annapolis tomorrow morning, but the traffic won't.

City police will be closing roads intermittently downtown as about 4,000 runners pound the pavement in the annual Annapolis Ten Mile Run.

"My advice to everyone is to utilize West Street and Forest Drive," said city police Lt. T.J. Harrington, of the Community Oriented Police unit. "It may not be as quick as they like but at least they'll be moving."

The race kicks off at 7:30 a.m. at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium on Taylor Ave. All roads should be back to normal by 11 a.m.

The runners will travel down Rowe Boulevard, around Church Circle and down Main Street until they enter the Naval Academy at Gate 1.

City police expect that leg of the race to last a half hour to 45 minutes.

During that time, Rowe Boulevard, Church Circle, Main Street and Randall Street will be closed.

"If they come Rowe Boulevard, chances are they'll be stuck in the middle of traffic," Lt. Harrington said.

As runners begin leaving Gate 8 onto Route 450 — just west of the Naval Academy Bridge — police will stop all traffic from traveling the bridge for the rest of the race.

Motorists should expect the bridge to be closed from 8 to 10 a.m.

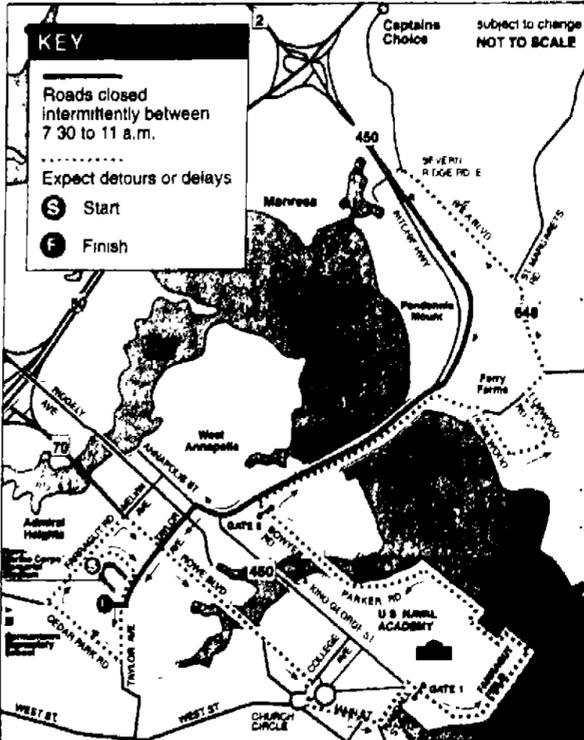
Runners travel east across the bridge, around the scenic overlook and back over the bridge.

Officer Charles Ravenell, county police spokesman, said additional officers and reserve officers will be closing off roads to help with the flow of the race in the county.

From there, they will travel along Taylor Avenue, crossing Rowe Boulevard and returning to the stadium.

For the final leg of the race, cars will be detoured around the stadium to avoid runners crossing Rowe. "We zip this thing right through downtown," said Sgt. Paul Gibbs, special events coordinator. "We've got alternate routes for traffic. It's before the major traffic push of the day."

24th annual Annapolis Run course



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