

Landover safety conference to address active shooter preparation

Shooting prompts more emergency preparedness

By CHASE COOK Staff writer

Prince George's County officials say they hope adding an active shooter presentation in response to the recent Washington Navy Yard shooting will help residents better understand how to respond to threats and save lives.

Ronnie Gill, Prince George's County Office of Emergency Management director, said that in light of recent events, this training would help address an emerging threat, "especially

when it happens next door to you." On Sept. 16, Aaron Alexis, 34, of Texas allegedly killed 12 people at the Washington Navy Yard after he got into the facility with a gun, according to the Metropolitan Police Department.

Alexis died in a gun battle with police, according to MPD.

The active shooter presentation will be part of the 2013 Emergency Preparedness Conference, which takes place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 28 at the First Baptist Church of Glenarden, 3600 Brightseat Road in Landover, Gill said.

While the panel is still being put together, panelists will be discussing safety procedures related to active

shooter scenarios, Gill said. Rex Barrett, Prince George's County Public Schools' acting security director, said he will be part of the new panel, discussing safety systems in place if a school is confronted with an active shooter.

"This panel is an opportunity to show parents and residents what the schools do in these situations, and part of the discussion will be teaching parents how they can help," he said.

"One of the things we want to urge is candid conversations with your kids," Barrett said. "If you see something, say something."

Lt. William Alexander, a county police spokesman, said people should develop plans for active shooter situations, as having a plan goes

a long way to making sure people respond appropriately and saves lives. Alexander cautions that plans are not always fool-proof and people should be prepared to adapt if the situation calls for it.

"In those situations you aren't going to have time to think," Alexander said. "We encourage people to have a plan and practice that plan."

The conference takes place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and attendance is free, but registration is required.

To register for the conference, call the Office of Emergency Management at 301-780-8313.

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Tackling violent crime

By ERIC GOLDWEN Staff writer

Prince George's County's efforts to keep serious violent offenders behind bars will be aided thanks to a state grant that will be officially announced Thursday.

"In order for a person to stay off the street, we have to be able to prosecute them," said John Erzen, spokesman for Prince George's State's Attorney Angela Alsobrooks.

A grant provided by the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention is being used to add and maintain staff members in the Alsobrooks' Strategic Investigations Unit. Erzen said the funds will pay for 11 positions, most of which were covered previously by other grants. Additional grant details will be provided at the announcement, Erzen said.

The aid is essential as Erzen said there are approximately 90 pro-

secutors in the state's attorney's office who deal with repeat violent offenders. "We're talking about violent cases, homicides, assaults, rapes," he said.

Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown (D) will announce the grant at Old Central Avenue in Capitol Heights, the site where Marckel Ross, 18, a Central High School junior, was found dead as a result of a gunshot wound Sept. 11, 2012.

Erzen said the Strategic Investigations Unit worked closely with local law enforcement to catch Travon Bennett, 20, of Bryans Road with first-degree murder. Police arrested Bennett on Feb. 25, 2013. He is currently in jail on a no-bond status awaiting a December trial.

"It gives us an opportunity to highlight the unit and highlight the partnership between our office and the police department," Erzen said.

Laurel's at-large candidates differ on speed cameras, task force

By JAMIE ANFENSON-COMEAU Staff writer

Youth services advocate Adrian Rousseau said for the Nov. 5 election, he doesn't want anyone to think Laurel's councilman-at-large race is in the bag.

"I had a lot of people tell me they didn't come out to vote because they thought I had it well in hand," said Rousseau, 50, who works as a security consultant and contractor. In 2011, Rousseau lost the at-large race with 41 percent of the vote. In the 2011 election, 13.4 percent of Laurel's registered voters came to the polls, which city clerk Kim Rau said is high for Laurel municipal elections, where turnout has generally been in the single digits.

Once again, Rousseau will square

off in a rematch for the council seat held by Michael Leszcz, 66, who is seeking his ninth term in office.

In addition to Laurel's at-large race, council seats are also contested in both wards.

Leszcz said he and his colleagues on the council offer a "steady hand" to move the city forward as it moves out of the recession.

"Things have been slow now, but they're starting to gel now," said Leszcz, citing the development of the Laurel Towne Centre at the site of the old Laurel Mall, which has been in development for more than 10 years and which is expected to open in fall 2014.

Rousseau, a volunteer at the Laurel Boys & Girls Club, said he would like to see the city do more to assist the club, which provides educa-

tional and athletic opportunities for youths.

Lever Brown, president of the Laurel Boys & Girls Club, has asked the city for regular funding and support in obtaining grants to help the club cover operational costs. The city currently helps support the club through assistance with utilities and in-kind services, city spokesman Pete Piringer said.

"It should be paid with our tax dollars, because it serves a community good," Rousseau said. "It keeps kids off the streets and off the police blotter. That's a benefit to the entire community."

Leszcz said he is not ready to propose any solutions to the club's fiscal woes until he sees the recommendations of a task force created by the city and the club to review

the club's finances and consider avenues of funding.

The final report is expected to be presented to the council in early October.

"I'm a data analyst by trade," said Leszcz, who works for the Internal Revenue Service in its Data Management Division. "I'm waiting for the report, so I can analyze the information and speak with my colleagues, then together formulate a plan based on all the information and move forward."

Rousseau said he would like the city to revisit its use of speed cameras and red light cameras. Laurel currently operates eight red-light cameras, six speed cameras and two decoy speed cameras, according to city spokesman Pete Piringer. "They're basically speed traps,"

Rousseau said. "They're about reaching into people's pockets in this community and not giving anything back."

Leszcz said he supports cameras to improve safety. "We get accused of it being a revenue generator, but I'd be happier if people just drove the speed limit and stopped at red lights," Leszcz said.

Leszcz said the speed cameras, including the dummy cameras, are making a difference in people's driving habits and improving public safety.

Piringer said the amount of citations the city issued from speed cameras dropped from 90,382 in 2011 to 36,511 in 2012.

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Exercise

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to the grant award letter. The school's mid-term update is due in December, according to the letter.

"It gives the kids an awareness of exercise," McCall said. "The kindergartners think it is play, but the older kids know what is going on."

The grant money from Action for Healthy Kids will go toward new play equipment such as soccer balls, jump ropes and also could be used to bolster the school's health fair, McCall said. There could be other uses later on, but the school hasn't received all the money yet, she said.

Indian Queen Elementary originally applied for \$1,000 but received \$2,500 based on the school having about 52 percent of its students receiving free and reduced lunches and its plan to continue keeping students active even after the year-long grant period, said Amy Moyer, Action for Healthy Kids director of field operations. The school's plan is to increase exercise time

by opening the field in the morning and buy new equipment so the children can be organized with their play instead of standing around, Moyers said.

The grants are part of the organization's School Grants for Healthy Kids, which are given to schools that implement plans to get their students active for at least 30 minutes a day and try to educate parents on the importance of an active lifestyle, Moyer said.

"There is a direct link between physical activity and academic achievement," she said. "Kids who are fit do better on standardized tests. They are able to retain information in the classroom a lot more effectively."

Action for Healthy Kids gives grants each year for varying amounts and with different purposes, reaching about 10 million students across the country, according to its annual report.

Jacob Stettes, a fourth-through sixth-grade science teacher, said having the extra exercise time is important because it gives students more time to be active during the school day. Stettes, who

used to weigh 100 pounds more than he does now and lost it due to exercise and healthy eating, said the exercise teaches the children to be healthy and can lead to a better life as they get older. He plays an active role in assisting the children by helping them do push-ups, crunches and other exercises properly.

"It needs to be a big part of what we teach these kids in health class," he said. "Hopefully we can pass that on to them. Too many people are dying too early."

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Tests

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academic outcomes for our students and will continue to work with all stakeholders to ensure students have the skills they need to succeed after graduation."

Beckford said the secret to her success is encouraging each student to improve by five to 10 points each test and students are rewarded for hitting certain numbers. Some students participate in "game days"

where they can play organized games or bring their Nintendo Wii to school.

These incentives helped the school post its best fifth-grade reading score since 2005, with more than 95 percent, about a 13 percent increase from last year, receiving a proficient or advanced score on the MSA, according to state education data.

Fifth-grade reading teacher, Theresa Dillard, has taught at the school for 15 years and she said this has been the best

she has seen the students perform. "The kids love it," Dillard said. "It is easy to teach them when they know they have these nice rewards."

Beckford said she plans to continue using incentives because it has been so successful.

"If they perform here, they will be successful later on," Beckford said. "We have three children who want to be president of the United States."

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Calories

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locations in the United States must disclose calories on menus, but the regulation is not in effect yet. There is no specific date that it will be finalized, said Shelly Burgess, U.S. Food and Drug Administration spokeswoman.

The County Council's health, education and human services committee will meet by the end of the month to discuss the bill and send its opinion back to the council, which will then take the final vote, Olson said.

Olson said he chose five restaurants instead of 20 because that would capture the majority of county restaurants without negatively

impacting smaller businesses. Many fast-food chains, the largest being McDonald's, started posting calories on their menus ahead of the federal regulation.

Montgomery County passed a similar menu-label law in 2009, Olson said.

"It's consumer information and what people do with that information is up to them," Olson said. "Personally, I think you have a right to know what you're buying."

Some residents said listing calories wouldn't make them think more before they order. "I wouldn't change my order. I get what I want," said Maurice Jones, 27, of Beltsville. "I figure I'm young, I'll burn it off."

Staff Writer Chase Cook contributed to this report. speti@gazette.net

Prince George's County Legal Notices

Deadline for placing legal advertisements in the Enquirer-Gazette is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday. To place a legal advertisement, please e-mail: legals@somdnews.com. Legal advertisements can be viewed online at www.somdnews.com.

<p style="text-align: center;">NOTICE</p> <p>THOMAS P. DORE, et al as Substituted Trustees vs. ERONY CULLENS WANDA CULLENS</p> <p>In the Circuit Court for Prince George's County CASE NO. CAEPL8-1875</p> <p>Notice is hereby given this 24th day of September, 2013, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County that the sale of the property being described in the above-captioned proceeding, known as 711 Kelly Road, Fort Washington, MD 20744, made and reported by Thomas P. Dore, Mark S. Dore, Gerard F. Miles, Jr., Erin Cloth, and Christine Drezel, Substituted Trustees, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary be shown on or before the 24th day of October, 2013, provided that a copy of this Notice be inserted in the Enquirer-Gazette in Prince George's County once in each of three successive weeks on or before the 24th day of October, 2013.</p> <p>The Report states the amount of sale to be \$694,604.15.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MARILYN M. BLAND Clerk of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County Md.</p> <p>True Copy—Test: Marilyn M. Bland, Clerk 92658 (9-26,10-3,10-10)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NOTICE</p> <p>THOMAS P. DORE, et al as Substituted Trustees vs. NICOLE N. KENAN</p> <p>In the Circuit Court for Prince George's County CASE NO. CAE13-0409</p> <p>Notice is hereby given this 24th day of September, 2013, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County that the sale of the property being described in the above-captioned proceeding, known as 520 Bolin Terrace, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774, made and reported by Thomas P. Dore, Mark S. Dore, Gerard F. Miles, Jr., Erin Cloth, and Christine Drezel, Substituted Trustees, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary be shown on or before the 24th day of October, 2013, provided that a copy of this Notice be inserted in the Enquirer-Gazette in Prince George's County once in each of three successive weeks on or before the 24th day of October, 2013.</p> <p>The Report states the amount of sale to be \$282,016.00.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MARILYN M. BLAND Clerk of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County Md.</p> <p>True Copy—Test: Marilyn M. Bland, Clerk 92657 (9-26,10-3,10-10)</p>
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