

THE AEGIS

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One dead, two injured in crash

By ALISON KNEZEVICH

One man died and two other people were injured after a single-vehicle crash early Saturday morning, the Harford County Sheriff's Office said.

Deputies said Deon Christopher Clark, 49, was a passenger in the vehicle that crashed

about 2:40 a.m. near the intersection of North Stepney Road and Aldino Stepney Road.

Clark, of Grempler Way in Edgewood, was pronounced dead at the scene, they said.

Deputies identified the driver as Jennifer Anne Keen, 38, of the 3100 block of Aldino Road in Churchville. They said she was

driving a 2017 Volkswagen when it left the roadway and hit a tree.

Medics took Keen to the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center. Keen's injuries were non-life threatening, sheriff's office spokeswoman Cristie Hopkins said Monday.

A second passenger, Roshon T. Harris, 35, of Aberdeen, was flown to the University of

Maryland R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center and remained in critical condition Tuesday, Hopkins said.

The sheriff's office asked anyone with information to contact its traffic unit at 443-409-3324.

Aegis editor S. Wayne Carter Jr. contributed to this article.

Thousands come to Darlington to enjoy apples, fun



PHOTOS BY PHIL GROUT/FOR BALTIMORE SUN MEDIA

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Reece Falter of Bel Air samples a Stayman-Winesap apple from the SweetAire Farm on Saturday at the 33rd annual Darlington Apple Festival in Harford County. Darlington Apple Festival organizer Art Johnson has an apple for Gov. Larry Hogan. Chris Greer of Forest Hill shares his "apple delight" with his soon-to-be bride, Amanda. More photos, **Page A6**.



BEL AIR ELECTION

9 mostly new faces vying for board

Commissioners race heats up as crowd battle for 3 seats

By S. WAYNE CARTER JR.

Nine residents have thrown their hat into the ring to run for three seats on the Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners, an unusually high number, according to town election officials.

Michael Krantz, the director of administration and town clerk for Bel Air, said it was the largest field of candidates for a town election since he began working there in 2013.

Among the crowded field, only one — Philip Einhorn — is an incumbent seeking re-election, although there are some familiar faces. Kevin Bianca, Daniel Gray, Erin Hughes, Donna Kahoe, Bill Kelly, Michael Kutcher, James Lockard and James "Capt'n Jim" McMahan round out the field.

Election day is Tuesday, Nov. 5. Voters may cast ballots for up to three candidates at the Bel Air Town Hall, 39 N. Hickory Ave. Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. Bel Air town commissioners are elected to four-year terms. Town elections are nonpartisan.

Amy Chmielewski and Patrick Richards were elected in 2017, beating Kutcher and Christopher Jordan for the two seats. In 2015, five candidates ran for three seats, with Susan Burdette, Einhorn and Brendan Hopkins beating Diane Simmons and Hunter Smith.

Voters must reside within the town limits of Bel Air and must be a registered voter with the State of Maryland. The voter registration deadline is Oct. 15 at 5 p.m. Applications for absentee ballots are available at the Harford County Board of Elections, 133 Industry Lane, in Forest Hill. For more information about voter registration or absentee ballots, visit www.harfordvotes.info or call 410-638-3565.

The *Aegis* asked all nine candidates to share a little about their background and why they are running for a seat on the Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners.

See **BOARD**, page A2

Aberdeen leaders honor 29 fallen service members

Event recognizes Gold Star Mothers' and Families' Day

By DAVID ANDERSON

The troops stood, ramrod straight, in their Army and Marine Corps dress uniforms, in silence, each man and woman giving a slow salute with a white-gloved hand as the name of a fallen service member was called.

Surviving family members of the 29 fallen service members stood as their loved one's name was called and the troops saluted. The ceremony was conducted late Sunday morning during the annual fall observance of Gold Star Mothers' and Families' Day on Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The ceremony, which was followed by a brunch for the Gold Star survivors at the nearby Top of the Bay restaurant, happened at APG's Gold Star Plaza and Living Legacy Forest. The Harford County Army post hosted Gold Star families from the area in Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania

served by APG's survivor outreach program, which supports the surviving relatives of military service members and retirees who have passed away.

A prior group of Gold Star families visited the plaza and forest in May, when the sculpture of battlefield cross — a rifle, helmet and pair of boots combined to form a rough cross — was unveiled. A concrete pad for a Living Legacy pavilion was present at the time; those who visited the plaza for Sunday's ceremony saw a completed pavilion.

The uniformed troops placed 29 memorial stones, each inscribed with the name of a fallen service member who had a connection to APG, within the plaza. The stones placed Sunday brings the total number in the plaza to 83, according to Gregory Mahall, a spokesperson for Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Maj. Gen. Mitchell L. Kilgo, who became senior commander of APG in June, was the guest speaker. He paid tribute to the fallen and their families, whom he said "have lived See **FALLEN**, page A4



DAVID ANDERSON/THE AEGIS

U.S. military service members stand at attention as the surviving relatives of 29 fallen service members are honored during Gold Star Mothers' and Families' Day at Aberdeen Proving Ground Sunday.





Bianca



Einhorn



Gray



Hughes



Kahoe



Kelly



Kutcher



Lockard



McMahan

BOARD

From page A1

Kevin Bianca

Bianca, who has served on the Town of Bel Air's Traffic Safety Task Force and as a member of the town police department's Citizens Advisory Board, says Bel Air "is ready for the next generation of leadership, and we need a forward thinker who is ready to work for the future of our Town."

Currently the director of the Circuit Court of Harford County's Community Work Service Program and previously the community services coordinator for the county's detention center, Bianca said he's spent his whole career in public service.

Bianca, who has lived in the Town of Bel Air for four years, said he's running for commissioner with an eye on the future.

"As the father of a young child, it's important to me that we think about how decisions made today can be made not only in the interests of the here and now, but for the interest of the future generations of Bel Air," he said.

"These elections matter, and the citizens of the Town deserve a Commissioner who will work hard every day to make sure Bel Air's future is as great as its past."

Philip Einhorn

Einhorn is seeking re-election to the board of commissioners "because I love this town and have the many hours necessary to do the job properly... I want to help Bel Air remain one of the best towns in our country." A U.S. Navy veteran and a retired sales rep for an insurance company, Einhorn first moved to Bel Air in 1962, later leaving because of his job, before returning in 2005.

He ran for commissioner four years ago because he wanted to work with his friend, Town Administrator Jesse Bane, he said.

"Shortly after my election I heard that we had some older police cars for a local auction. I attended and was shocked to see these vehicles go for as little as \$2,000," he said. Later at a Maryland Municipal League event in Ocean City, Einhorn said he met a man who had a website auctioning government vehicles. He took the idea to Bane and Bel Air joined the website to sell its vehicles and other property. "This has saved our town many thousands of dollars already," he said.

Daniel Gray

Gray is a lifelong resident of the Town of Bel Air who said he has no previous political experience, but has considered running for many years.

For the past 25 years, Gray said he has worked for various medical device companies with the focus being on improving patient's quality of life through advanced medical therapy and technology.

A father of four, Gray said he has also been actively involved in the community over the last 15 years through Harford County recreation programs and Harford County School System.

He was also an active member of the Bel Air Volunteer Fire Company for nine years.

"My platform is based on the 3 Ls," Gray said. "Listening to you, Learning from you, and Leading with your support. Community involvement is crucial to the success of the Town of Bel Air and I look forward to hearing from all of you!"

Erin Hughes

Hughes said she is trying to use her campaign to help people better understand how Bel Air's town government works, in hopes that "if people better understand how their local government functions and realize they, as residents, have opportunities to get involved, that they will do so and become more active members of their community."

A computer engineer/software developer for a contractor at Aberdeen Proving Ground following a career as a registered nurse, Hughes said she has lived in the greater Bel Air area for more than 35 years, and within town limits for about two and a half years.

During the past two years, she's been an active volunteer for the Bel Air Downtown Alliance and said "I love the way Bel Air's downtown area and the surrounding neighborhoods have developed into such a fun and vibrant place to live and work."

"My goal as a candidate for Bel Air Town Commissioner is to work with town residents and local business owners to ensure a bright and healthy future for our beautiful town," she said. "I also hope to continue to improve pedestrian/bike safety within the town and encourage environmental sustainability."

Donna Kahoe

Recently retired after a 23-year career as a legal analyst with T. Rowe Price, Kahoe said she's running for town commissioner because she wants "to see the Bel Air community continue to grow in a positive way."

Kahoe, a lifelong resident of Harford County and 20-year resident of the Bel Air, is a former member of the county's Democratic Central Committee, and has been involved with several groups including the Harford County Women's Giving Circle, Greater Bel Air Community Foundation, Habitat for Humanity and a former board member of the Liriodendron Foundation.

Electing, Kahoe said she wants to specifically focus on improving pedestrian safety "by expanding the walkability and safety of downtown for residents and visitors of all ages."

She also wants to work on "marketing our Main Street District to maximize our town venue, specifically the Armory, Rockfield, etc. which are fabulous resources for events and promoting local merchants."

Kelly

Kelly said he's running for town commissioner to "be a strong voice supporting our town including its residents and business partners."

A 15-year resident of Bel Air, Kelly is a certified public accountant and certified financial planner who, along with his partner and nephew, Bryan Kelly, co-founded The Kelly Group, located on Gordon Street in downtown. Kelly is a member of the Bel Air Economic and Community Development Commission, the Bel Air Traffic Safety Task Force and treasurer for the Greater Bel Air Community Foundation, which has supported capital improvement projects in the community. Kelly said he's stayed current with the town's "forward progress as an active participant," and, if elected, would "work hard to give back to our community."

"I bring a strong fiscal and financial perspective from my years in finance and business," Kelly said. "I am pleased with our town's growth and direction and I want to participate in the development of the positive future growth of our town. I believe I can be an effective member of the Bel Air Town Commissioners."

Michael Kutcher

Kutcher, a 30-year resident of the town, said he's seen a lot of change in that time, "some for the better, some for the worse, and some just change."

He's running for town commissioner to address "critical issues" facing the town, such as "increased crime, paralyzing traffic, vacant buildings and over development."

"I chose Bel Air 30 years ago for its small town charm and appeal to raise my family," said Kutcher, a software engineer at Digital Innovation, Inc., where he has worked for 27 years.

"Now that the kids have grown and are out on their own, I am once again being drawn to serve," he said, referencing a stint in the Maryland Army National Guard before he was medically discharged.

"I would like to help preserve Bel Air for generations to come."

James Lockard

Lockard, who has been a lifelong resident of Bel Air and recently retired from the town's police force after a 26-year career, said he's running for commissioner to "continue my service to this town, its employees, residents and visitors."

"His years working for the town give him experience navigating the landscape and politics of Bel Air, he said, and "grant me a unique skillset and knowledge from others."

"It is important that those who hold elected positions in this town realize that we must acknowledge and reward the hard work and dedication our employees, volunteers and those we serve," Lockard, who now works in enterprise security for M&T Bank and teaches classes in police administration and forensic photography at the University of Baltimore.

"I believe in looking at all possibilities to seek funding, staff and other resources," he said. "If our people are our most important resource than we must attract and retain only the most qualified and dedicated of the applicants."

James 'Capt'n Jim' McMahan

McMahan is no stranger to Harford County or Bel Air politics, having previously served as a town commissioner from 2002 to 2006, then as a member of the Harford County Council.

"Historical knowledge is extremely important to any town government and I am the only candidate who brings that knowledge to the table," he said.

McMahan has been a part of numerous organizations over the years, including the Bel Air Chamber of Commerce, co-founder of the Fourth of July Committee and of the Bel Air Community Band, and most recently reorganized the county's commissioner on veterans affairs at the request of the county executive.

The lifelong resident, former police officer and veteran, said, if elected, he wants to follow through on positive program initiated by current Bel Air Mayor Susan Burdette.

"There's an old saying, 'if it ain't broke, don't fix it.' Bel Air is not broke and I want to make sure it stays in good shape," McMahan said.

Town residents "deserve tranquil neighborhoods with traffic calming devices. They must be able to walk safely to our parks, schools and community events," he said.

"We need to fix the deteriorating police offices now. We must support our business community by buying local."

MTA wants input to guide next 25 years of transit plans

By COLIN CAMPBELL

The Maryland Transit Administration is holding a series of open houses this month to ask the public how they think the next 25 years of transit should look for the Baltimore region.

Riders have already requested better connectivity, more frequent and reliable service, additional bus stop amenities like shelters and benches, and improved customer service, among other wants. The feedback will be incorporated into the Central Maryland Regional Transit Plan, which will define the MTA's goals for buses,

trains, light rail and the metro subway.

"We're developing a 25-year plan to serve the needs of the core service area," which includes the city, and Baltimore, Howard, Harford and Anne Arundel counties, said Holly Arnold, the MTA's deputy administrator and chief planning, programming, and engineering officer.

The plan, mandated by the state legislature, lays out 29 new "regional transit corridors," which have high transit ridership, connect to job centers and other places people want to go, and have demand for additional investment and all-day service.

The proposed corridors:

- Morgan State University to Port Covington
- Glen Burnie to Port Covington
- Glen Burnie to Annapolis
- Glen Burnie to Crofton
- Convention Center to Middle River
- Towson to UM Transit Center
- Towson to Hunt Valley
- Towson to Port Covington
- North Plaza to UM Transit Center
- White Marsh to Johns Hopkins Hospital
- Fallston to Aberdeen Proving Ground
- Mondawmin to Port Covington
- Ellicott City to Silver Spring
- Mondawmin to Reisterstown
- Mondawmin to Northwest Hospital
- Ellicott City to Convention Center
- West Baltimore to Hopkins Bayview
- Sparrows Point to Hopkins Bayview
- State Center to Hopkins Bayview
- Walkbrook Junction to Berea
- Laurel to Halethorpe
- Mondawmin to Hopkins Bayview
- Halethorpe to UM Transit Center
- BWI Airport to Laurel
- BWI Airport to Columbia Town Center
- Odenton to Clarksville
- Ellicott City to Silver Spring
- Annapolis to Union Station
- Bel Air to Edgewood
- Democrat Del. Brooke Lierman, who led the legislative push to require the MTA to create a plan, noting the administration expects a population increase of 300,000 people by 2045 regionally, said the plan is about "building a transit system that allows for fewer cars on the road." "Our roads will not be able to sustain it," she said, adding that transit is also environmentally friendly. "We cannot rely on single-occupancy vehicles to get every employee to their job. Many employees can't afford cars or don't want to drive."


major transit initiative in the Baltimore region," Fry said, referring to the planned east-west light rail line Republican Gov. Larry Hogan called off, calling it a "boondoggle."

CommuterLink, the MTA's recent overhaul of the region's bus routes, "does not spur any major economic development or meaningfully improve access to jobs for residents," Fry said. And he and other transit advocates are worried about future investment.

The MTA faces a \$2 billion shortfall for capital and operating projects over the next decade, and the latest six-year capital budget for transit is 10% smaller than current spending levels, according to the agency's own data. Transportation Secretary Pete Rahn has attributed it to the completion of current capital projects.

- "We need to make sure we start changing the transit investment in the Baltimore area," Fry said. "This is an opportunity for business leaders, the public, transit advocates and others to really try to have an impact on what that plan is going to look like." The MTA meetings will take place at the following locations and times:
 - Oct. 21 — Howard County — Elkridge Library — 4-6 p.m.
 - Oct. 22 — Baltimore City — Mondawmin Mall — 4-6 p.m.
 - Oct. 24 — Baltimore County — Towson Library — 4-6 p.m.
 - Oct. 28 — Harford County — Edgewood Rec. & Community Center — 5-7 p.m.
 - Oct. 29 — Anne Arundel County — Severna Park Community Center — 4-6 p.m.

The Greater Washington Partnership and the GBC, along with the Central Maryland Transportation Alliance, Get Maryland Moving, WTS Baltimore Chapter, and YPT Baltimore, are hosting a separate event discussing the plan from 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the American Visionary Art Museum. Lierman said the business leaders' interest in more transit shows it's needed for the city and surrounding area to prosper.



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