



# The Intelligencer

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## MOVIE MADNESS

A Plumstead farmer is upset that he allowed his property to be used in the upcoming movie “The Happening” because of its violence.

**BY RILEY YATES**  
THE INTELLIGENCER

Raymond Gross is no fan of M. Night Shyamalan’s. Though his Plumstead farm is a set in the “The Sixth Sense” director’s latest movie, Gross isn’t happy about it.

At all.

“I got talked into it because I’m a dumb farmer, and I didn’t know any better,” Gross said.

Filming is under way until Monday at the Gross property off Route 611 for “The Happening,” an apocalyptic thriller starring Mark Wahlberg and Zoëy Deschanel.

Gross inked the contract allowing the crews to use his 112 acres, but he said he regretted it as soon as he learned the movie is violent.

“I’m a peaceful man,” said Gross, an octo-

genarian. “It’s not a pleasant movie. The scenes aren’t too pleasant.”

A reportedly \$57 million production, “The Happening” is being filmed based in Philadelphia. The movie is scheduled to be released by 20th Century Fox on June 13, a Friday.

Gross’ farm is expected to get between five and seven minutes of face time.

On Wednesday, crews were working on a scene in which Wahlberg and two other characters approach Gross’ home and try to determine if anyone is around.

Workers stood nearby holding microphones that trailed the actors. The slightest step on the gravel walkway drew looks demanding quiet.

Trailers, outhouses, sound equipment and even a few monogrammed

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Photos from The Associated Press and David Garrett/The Intelligencer

**A Plumstead farm will make an appearance for about five minutes in a movie being made by M. Night Shyamalan (top). “The Happening,” a thriller, stars Mark Wahlberg and Zoëy Deschanel.**

## Woman, 74, victim of sexual assault

*The Hatboro resident was dragged into her yard in the middle of the night by a man police think could live nearby.*

**BY ANNIE TASKER**  
THE INTELLIGENCER

A 74-year-old Hatboro woman was sexually assaulted by a man who dragged her from her home into a secluded area of her backyard, police said.

The man entered the West Lehman Avenue home through an unlocked door around 3 a.m. Tuesday while the woman was sitting in her kitchen.

He forced her outside and sexually assaulted her. He then took the victim back inside the house and left.

The woman called police around 5 a.m. to report the attack. She was taken to Abington Memorial Hospital, where she was still being treated Wednesday for cuts and bruises.

The suspect is described as a Hispanic man between 5 feet 8 inches and 5 feet 10 with black hair, an average build and a heavy accent.

Montgomery County District Attorney Bruce Castor said he thinks the man is a Hatboro area resident who was coming home from a nearby bar and that the assault was a crime of opportunity.

Castor urged residents to keep an eye out for anyone fitting the man’s description.

The attack shocked neighborhood residents, who live just blocks away from Penny-pack Elementary School.

That sort of thing “doesn’t happen around here,” said Ellie Decker, who lives on the same block as the victim. “It’s a great neighborhood.”

Castor described Hatboro as a “quiet community where many people leave their doors unlocked.”

“It’s scary because last week there was a

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**A police officer patrols** Campus Drive in East Rockhill just before students at Pennridge High School were dismissed Wednesday afternoon.

## Pennridge police step up patrols

*Residents of an East Rockhill neighborhood complained that teens are using drugs and intimidating people.*

**BY CHRISTOPHER RUVO**  
THE INTELLIGENCER

Stephanie McMenamin is afraid to let her children leave the block.

Some of the mother of three’s disgusted East Rockhill neighbors harbor similar fears, saying rancorous teenagers are

ruining the neighborhood through intimidation, vandalism, speeding and rampant drug abuse.

In response, police are ratcheting up patrols in the Pines of Pennridge development, a step that began Wednesday as the Pennridge police chief and two patrol cars were on scene when Pennridge High School, which

is just across the street, dismissed students.

One teenager, who doesn’t live in the Pines, was stopped by police while in the development and cited for driving while his license is suspended. That came just a day after another teenage boy was apprehended after two moms reported seeing him smoking a marijuana pipe on a neighborhood bench before school.

“All of these problems are egregious. They’re not acceptable. If you have residents that

feel their lifestyles are being affected, than you have to do something about it immediately,” said Supervisor David Nyman, adding that supervisors only learned of the activity at Tuesday’s board meeting when around 50 residents showed up, many to voice complaints.

The Pines, which has several hundred units, is located on Fifth Street across from the Pennridge School District campus. On a sunny morning, the

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### INSIDE



**WEATHER**  
Fog in the morning; mostly sunny. High of 82; low of 57. **B 6**

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## Troop surge in Iraq working, airmen say

*Local pilots from the 111th Fighter Wing returned from being eyes in the sky.*

**BY MARION CALLAHAN**  
THE INTELLIGENCER

For the past 11 weeks, Lt. Col. Bill Griffin flew over Iraq, using his A-10 fighter jet’s infrared targeting to hunt down roadside bombs, scour the terrain for insurgents and serve as the eyes and ears for Marines and soldiers on the ground.

For nearly three months he flew

his missions in the air.

But it was the sacrifices on the ground that he spoke the most about Wednesday, when he and other members of the 111th Fighter Wing came home.

“The most important thing for people here to understand is the phenomenal sacrifice being made by our brothers and sisters on the ground — who don’t care that most people here are unaware of it. They want to serve their country. That’s it. That, to me, is impressive,” the Sellersville resident said.

This week nearly 200 members of the 111th Fighter Wing will be returning home after 11 weeks of fly-

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**Lt. Col. Howard Eissler**, a Chalfont resident and member of the 111th Fighter Wing, gives his 5-year-old son, Mike, an airplane ride upon his return Wednesday to the Willow Grove air base after 11 weeks flying over Iraq.