



# The Capital



FRIDAY, JULY 16, 2010

WWW.HOMETOWNANNAPOLIS.COM — Annapolis, MD

75 CENTS

## EARTHQUAKE! Minor quake centered in Montgomery County felt across region; rumbling wakes residents

By PAMELA WOOD Staff Writer

A minor earthquake in Montgomery County rumbled across the region early this morning, being felt from Shady Side and Churchton in south county, all the way up to Brooklyn Park in north county.

The U.S. Geological Survey collected reports from throughout the county from the 3.6 magnitude quake that was centered near

Germantown and Rockville at 5:04 a.m., said Amy Vaughan, a geophysicist with the USGS National Earthquake Information Center in Golden, Colo.

Vaughan said most of the Continental Plate has faults in the bedrock, including near the Appalachian Mountain range.

"There are definitely faults that exist. They don't often move like this," she said.

In Davidsonville, Kimberly Cox and her husband were awakened by shaking and a rumbling noise.

"The whole entire bed was just shaking," Cox said.

They weren't quite sure what was going on.

"I said, 'Is this an earthquake?' He said, 'No, it couldn't be,'" Cox said.

She made sure to note the time and sure enough, when they turned

on the TV news later in the morning, they learned of the earthquake.

Susan O'Brien was asleep at home in Millersville this morning when she was jolted awake by the quake.

"I shot straight out of bed, looked at the clock — it was 5:04 — and I thought, 'Was that an earthquake?'" said O'Brien, who works in public affairs for a nursing home trade organization.

She wondered if she was still a bit queasy from the rides at the Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Department's carnival, but she knew it was something more serious than that. She also ruled out a passing airplane — living close to BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport, she knows well what that feels like.

"The sound was surreal. It was the most amazing rumbling,"

(See **QUAKE**, Page A15)

### DEALE FIREMEN'S CARNIVAL



By Shannon Lee Zirkle — The Capital

Kaylee Nehring, 4, and her neighbor Lauren Brown, 5, both of Lothian, enjoy a ride on the carousel Wednesday during the Deale Firemen's Carnival at the Deale Volunteer Fire Department. The carnival continues until Saturday, 7-10 p.m. daily. The Firemen's Parade will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday.

## City short of cash again

Another line of credit on table as \$3.8M deficit looms

By JOSHUA STEWART Staff Writer

The city is spending money faster than it is taking it in, making it tough to pay bills and other financial obligations, Annapolis officials said yesterday.

The shortfall is caused by unanticipated payroll expenses related to an early retirement incentive offered to some employees and department spending that is outpacing budgets, putting the city on pace to be \$3.8 million over budget by the end of the quarter.

However, the shortfall is likely to be short-lived. The city will receive a wave of property tax revenue in October and could see other additions to its bank account, including reimbursements for the costs to deal with last winter's snowstorms, state and federal grants, higher than anticipated building permit fees, successful legal victories from the police station garage lawsuit and other measures.

Mayor Josh Cohen said he isn't planning on taking another line of credit to keep government running until then, but he hasn't ruled out taking more debt as an option either.

In May, the City Council approved a charter amendment that allowed government to take out as much as \$10 million in credit. At the time, Cohen said the money was necessary to make payroll, pay vendors and handle other financial obligations.

He said yesterday that if the city had taken \$12 million or \$13 million line of credit instead, cash flow issues wouldn't be as great of a concern.

(See **CASH**, Page A16)

## Later last call law poised to pass

But report warns that safeguards must be in place first

By JOSHUA STEWART Staff Writer

The day after the City Council heard a report that suggested sweeping changes to Annapolis liquor laws, aldermen are poised to lift a controversial ban that

prohibits some city bars from staying open past midnight.

At least five aldermen are set to repeal a 1994 rule prohibiting Historic District bars and restaurants from staying open beyond midnight.

It's a rule that some proprietors say is unfair because bars and restaurants that received their liquor license before 1994 can stay open until 2 a.m. and

make more money.

But downtown residents have said lifting the ban would increase instances of public drunkenness, vandalism, rowdy behavior and public urination near their homes.

The bill, which is scheduled for a vote on July 26, will let all Historic District bars and restaurants stay open until 2 a.m. with the proper licenses.

Currently, 15 restaurants and bars downtown must close at midnight.

Introduced in September, the legislation had five sponsors, three of whom are still on the council. But some new aldermen also have pledged their support, giving the measure the five votes needed to pass on the nine-member council.

(See **BARS**, Page A16)

## Gov. O'Malley challenges all to buy local

Growers, chefs and winning recipes featured at picnic

By E.B. FURGERSON III Staff Writer

Gov. Martin O'Malley urged Marylanders to buy and eat at least one thing grown, caught or produced in the state during next week's Buy Local Challenge.

At a kickoff picnic held in stifling heat at the Governor's Mansion in Annapolis, he and first lady Katie O'Malley hosted 17 teams of Maryland chefs and local growers selected from 40 recipe entries to show off the state's bounty.

enjoyed Maryland wines and dishes prepared by chefs using produce, meats, cheeses and other products from around the state.

"We challenge you to eat one thing grown, caught or produced in Maryland each day for a week," O'Malley said. "Buying local is good for our farmers, it's good for our watermen, it's good for our economy. It strengthens family farms, it tastes better and it's healthier."

Chef Raphael Jurkovic of Tapenade Catering in Edgewater put together a dish using beef, vegetables and herbs from Ivy Brand and Ivy Farms, all raised and grown at Ivy Neck Farm outside Galesville.

He also used tomatoes from

(See **LOCAL**, Page A15)



By Shannon Lee Zirkle — The Capital

Gov. Martin O'Malley, left, chats up the crowd at yesterday's Buy Local Cookout while sampling of chef Craig Sewell's gazpacho. The gazpacho was a welcome chilled dish on a very hot day.

### INSIDE

Two sections, 32 pages

Arundel Report .....	A5	Lottery .....	A4
Bridge .....	XX	Neighborhoods .....	B1
Calendar .....	B16	Obituaries .....	XX
Classified .....	B2	Police Beat .....	XX
Comics .....	A13	Puzzles .....	XX
Death Notices .....	XX	School Notes .....	B16
Dr. Gott .....	A13	Sports .....	A7
Editorial .....	A14	Television .....	A10
Honor Roll .....	B15, B16		

General ..... 410-268-5000  
Classified ..... 410-268-7000  
Circulation ..... 410-268-4800  
From Kent Island ..... 800-327-1583

