



Donnie Biggs/News & Messenger

Paul and Monika Krese's son, Matthew Krese, was killed at the Forest Glen Metro Station in Maryland on Tuesday night when he was hit by a passing Metro train. Matthew was bipolar and on crutches at the time with an artificial right leg.

Father reflects on son's death

By KEITH WALKER
kwalker@potomacnews.com

Paul Krese heard the television news about a homeless man who died Tuesday in a Maryland Metro station after he was hit by a train.

On Wednesday night he learned the man was his son, Matthew Krese. "The minute they called, I knew what

it was," said Paul Krese, of Dale City.

Paul and his wife Monika Krese have an unlisted phone number. Verizon called and told them Forest Glen detectives wanted to talk to them about a police investigation.

Krese knew it wasn't about an investigation.

"They had no reason to be talking to me and if Matt was in jail, he'd have

called," the 68-year-old retired Metro driver said.

Matthew Krese, 46, had a hard life. He lost his right leg in an auto accident when he was 16. He managed to finish three years of college, but then bipolar disorder struck.

"Bipolar disorder, formerly known as

See KRESE, Page A2



Photo courtesy of WAFF NBC-48

Ryan Brocato, 17, is accused of killing his mother Toni, left.

Manassas police catch fugitive, 17

Teen arrested at father's home, mother found dead in Alabama

By DAVID STEGON
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An Alabama teen drove to Manassas on Wednesday night to kill his father after police said he allegedly killed his mother; family members told sources close to the investigation.

Manassas City police arrested Ryan Brocato, 17, of Huntsville, Ala., at his father's home early Thursday morning.

Brocato was wanted in Huntsville for allegedly beating his mother, Toni Brocato, 45, to death Wednesday afternoon, said Wendell Johnson, Huntsville police spokesman.

Relatives in Huntsville said Ryan Brocato, who has a history of domestic abuse, could be heading to Virginia looking for

his father, police said.

Huntsville police advised area police to be on the lookout for Brocato on Wednesday after his mother was found around 1 p.m. wrapped in a blanket in the garage of her home, according to police reports.

Manassas police went to 8620 Artillery Drive and arrested Brocato without incident, according to Lt. John Barnes, police spokesman.

Brocato's father, B.C. Brocato, reached at his home Thursday afternoon said, "I have no comment and do not call me again," before hanging up.

A 17-year-old girl from Madison County, Ala., who was described as Brocato's girl-

See BROCATO, Page A2

Manassas woman found guilty of animal cruelty



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See BROCATO, Page A2

Manassas woman found guilty of animal cruelty

By MARIA HEGSTAD

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When an animal control officer arrived at a Georgetown South town house two months ago, she discovered an emaciated black pit bull eating a dead pit bull.

Karen Morris was convicted of two counts of cruelty to animals, and one count each of animals creating unsanitary conditions, no dog license and no rabies vaccination Thursday.

As Chief Animal Control Officer Joan Strawderman leaned out of Morris' neighbor's window to photograph the dogs in Morris' backyard, she heard "chewing and crunching noises."

"There was no food in sight. It was horrendous, terrific, horrible conditions," Senior Animal Control Officer Karen Hayo said of Morris' backyard.

HISTORIC SITE FILE: PWC Courthouse
PRINCE WILLIAM PUBLIC ANIMALS SYSTEM
RELIC/Bull Run Reg Lib Manassas, VA

Courthouse history examined

By LILLIAN KAFKA

lkafka@potomacnews.com

An Edenton, N.C., courthouse has the only original chief magistrate judge high-backed chair with wood paneling.

Over the past few days, Prince William County discovered the "ghost marks" of its high-backed chief magistrate judge's chair in the Brentsville Courthouse.

County historians said it was installed with the courthouse's original construction.



Shannon Ayres/For the News & Messenger

Dr. Carl Lounsbury shows where he believes an elevated high-backed magistrate's chair stood in the Brentsville Courthouse.

See COURTHOUSE, Page A2



Joe Brier/News & Messenger

SNOW SPRINT: Andy Almandarez, 6, runs to cross a snowy Clipper Drive after Rockledge Elementary School let out for the day Thursday. On his way, he slapped the outstretched hand of Bill Roots, a crossing guard who has happily done his job for four years. "I call them all my children," Roots said. "I know most of their names."

Clinic regulation bill shot down

By SARI KRIEGER

skrieger@potomacnews.com

Sen. Kenneth T. Cuccinelli II, R-Fairfax, defended his abortion regulation bill Thursday in a large room overflowing with pro-choice advocates.

The Senate Education and Health Committee effectively killed SB 839, which would have placed extra regulations on Virginia's abortion clinics. The 9 to 6

vote to "pass by the bill indefinitely" came on pro-choice lobby day.

Cuccinelli felt ambushed as a result of the decision by Committee Chairman H. Russell Potts Jr., R-Winchester, to hear Cuccinelli's bill that day, but he also felt the committee gave him a fair hearing, he said.

"It's OK," Cuccinelli said. "It's part of the politics."

Cuccinelli, a pro-life lawmaker,

read aloud the list of regulations this bill would have placed on abortion clinics. Instead of merely describing the bill's merits, Cuccinelli read the list to highlight the modesty of what he proposed, he said. A woman died in a Northern Virginia clinic a few years ago, and others had been taken to hospitals for complications, he said. Women needed some form of

See CLINIC, Page A4

WEATHER

Mostly cloudy
 High 44, Low 27
 Details/A4

POTOMAC NEWS INSIDE Feb. 4, 2005

Briefs	A7	Lotteries	A2
Classifieds	C4	Obituaries	A4
Comics	D6	Opinion	A6
Leisure	D7	Scoreboard	B4

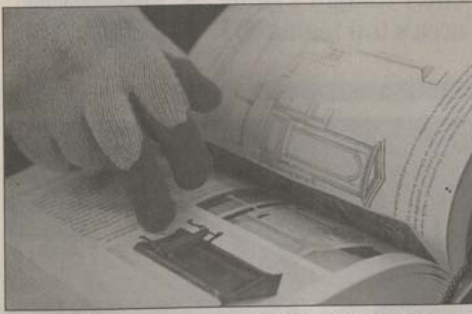
COMING TOMORROW

LIFE: Finding auction goldmines
SPORTS: Prep basketball coverage

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Shannon Ayres/For the News & Messenger

Dr. Carl Lounsbury points out a chair similar to the high-backed magistrate's chair he believes was in the Brentsville Courthouse.

COURTHOUSE

Continued from page A1

when Brentsville served as the county seat.

It was a stationary, hardwood seat on a platform reserved for the highest-ranking justice of the peace.

The colonial chairs were inspired by those of English government officials, however uncomfortable by the straight backs and immobile legs.

County staff discovered the chair's "ghost marks," or outlines in plaster peeled away layer by layer, just before architectural historian Carl Lounsbury arrived Wednesday.

Lounsbury, who works for Colonial Williamsburg, said the discovery of the chair's marks was the most exciting event as workers peel back a hundred years of renovations from the 1822 structure.

In an effort to ensure restoration accuracy, Lounsbury was hired to analyze an 1837 sketch of the courthouse's first renovation and compare it to what's left of the courthouse's fixtures.

It's a difficult job because there aren't any.

The only way they could tell the chair was there was by a brown tipped smear of undercoat plaster revealed when thick chunks of 90-year-old plaster were chipped away.

The county's historians and members of the Brentsville Historic Trust said they were excited about this week's find-

county will have installed to recreate the original courthouse.

Lounsbury spoke to a group of history enthusiasts Thursday and slid his gloved hand along a straight line of plaster spread across an exposed brick wall.

"De we have the edge of a railing for a sheriff's box?" he asked the crowd.

The 1837 sketch shows the railing at that mark.

It also lays out a lawyer's bar, the clerk's desk and the platform upon which the judge's chair was situated.

Lounsbury said the sketch couldn't be used as the only evidence of courtroom fittings because it was merely a proposal.

"They didn't have enough money," Lounsbury said. Not everything shown on the drawing was actually built, "so it doesn't seem like they followed through," he said.

"Even though we have a lot of information, so much of it is guesswork," he said. "It's educated, but it's still guesswork."

Historians must determine what was original and what was added.

The courthouse was used for a school, a community meeting place and government offices over the past 100 years.

During the Civil War, Lounsbury said the courthouse was "much abused" and in 1896 court operations were moved to Manassas, Hanafin said.

Hanafin said the county has budgeted \$280,000 to restore the courthouse, but more would be needed to add furniture.

"It's very exciting," said Kay

Driver faces marijuana charge after traffic stop in Sudley Area

A 21-year-old man was found with marijuana during a traffic stop in the Sudley

area. The man was found with marijuana and cocaine in a Woodbridge hotel room Wednesday morning, police said.

Daniel Davis, of no fixed address, was charged with possession of marijuana and possession of cocaine at the Roadway Inn on Jefferson Davis Highway at 10:13 a.m. A worker at the hotel contacted police

investigative Dennis Mangan, Prince William police spokesman.

Stephen Werneke, 28, of 1860 Sugar Hill Drive was released on a summons for possession of marijuana.

—David Stegon

ANIMALS

Continued from page A1

Strawderman and Hayo found three pit bulls in the backyard of Morris' 9291 Taney Road town house. The backyard was muddy and littered with dog feces, the officers testified.

The black pit bull, Mia, was emaciated, infected with several types of intestinal worms, and had numerous scars and bedsores on her body, Woodbridge veterinarian Angela Bakanas testified. Bakanas said that she could see each of the dog's ribs and its hipbones. The dog was hungry and consumed two cans of food, Bakanas said.

Virginia Department of Agriculture veterinarian Karl Magura examined the body of the dead dog. After examining its stomach and intestine, Magura concluded that while the dog hadn't eaten for some time before Dec. 9, the day it died, the dog had eaten one or two hours before it was killed. The dog died when two of its ribs were broken and punctured its lungs. The injury was consistent with another dog's jaws biting down on the dead dog's chest, Magura said.

Morris testified that the dead pit bull wasn't hers. The black pit bull, Mia belonged to her nephew Ira Anderson. Morris said Anderson moved out of her house several weeks before, but didn't take the dog with him. Morris said the third pit bull, Big Daddy, was hers. Big Daddy was the only dog with a city dog tag and proof of rabies vaccination, Officer Hayo testified.

Morris was out of town when the officers arrived and seized the two dogs and the corpse of the third. Morris left her house in the care of her father and a friend, and asked a nephew to feed and walk the dogs. The boy testified that he fed and walked two dogs every day after school while his aunt was in Florida at a football championship. Morris and the other defense witnesses maintained that there were only two dogs in the backyard, and that the dead dog must have entered through a hole in the fence.

Prince William General District Court Judge Craig Johnston found Morris guilty of cruelty to Big Daddy and Mia, but decided that the evidence was inconclusive regarding the dead dog. Another friend or family member could have left the dog in Morris' yard while she was away for the weekend,

Johnston concluded.

"It is clear the situation was not a good one," Johnston said. "The results were certainly horrible."

Johnston also convicted Morris of allowing animals to cause unsanitary conditions and not having a dog license or rabies vaccination for Mia.

Morris will be sentenced Feb. 14. She faces a maximum of two years in jail and plus fines for the criminal charges. Manassas City prosecutor Robert Bendall also served Morris with civil petitions, seeking to ban her from owning animals. Prior to the hearing, Strawderman said that animal control officers hope Morris will be banned from owning animals.

Officers know Morris' household, Strawderman said. According to Strawderman, Morris has owned seven different dogs that her department was aware of during the past seven years.

Bendall is also seeking to destroy Mia and Big Daddy, presently impounded at the city animal shelter. Neither dog is adoptable, Strawderman and Hayo said. Morris said she wants Big Daddy back, but not Mia.

Staff writer Maria Hegstad can be reached at (703) 369-6594.

BROCATO

Continued from page A1

friend, was reported missing Monday and was with him at the time of his arrest.

Brocato is being held in the Prince William-Manassas Detention Center awaiting extradition to Huntsville.

Johnson did not know of a

motive in the killing.

Police wanted to question Brocato in the murder, but he was missing, along with his mother's 2001 Mazda MPV minivan, when the body was found.

Brocato drove the minivan roughly 700 miles from Huntsville, which is in the northern part of Alabama.

Toni Brocato's daughter was waiting for her mom to pick her up at school Wednesday after-

noon. When she did not arrive, school officials called her grandparents, who stopped by the victim's home on their way to get the girl from school and found her body, police said.

Brocato had enrolled in the 11th grade at a Huntsville area high school Oct. 11, but withdrew Oct. 22, according to reports in the Huntsville Times which quoted school officials.

He also attended adult edu-

Metro cuts some perks for workers

By CANDACE SMITH
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Stung by criticism of financial mismanagement, cash-strapped Metro said Thursday it would limit some employee perks — including free parking.

The transit agency's top manager and board members will have to pay to park at Metro's Chinatown headquarters beginning in July, officials said. Metro also is slashing the number of vehicles its workers can take home.

Metro officials said they were not sure how much money the changes would save the agency, which continues to face multimillion dollar budget deficits despite two consecutive years of fare hikes.

Metro has more than 900 vehicles for security, maintenance and other uses, said William Scott, an assistant general manager. Employees had been assigned 135 take-home vehicles, but that number will be cut to 49 to save on wear and tear and fuel costs, he said.

KRESE

Continued from page A1

treated, and people diagnosed with the disorder can be as normal as anyone else if they stay on their medication, the Web

Paul Krese said.

Matthew Krese was in and out of homeless shelters since he graduated high school in St.

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The only way they could tell the chair was there was by a brown tipped smear of undercoat plaster revealed when thick chunks of 90-year-old plaster were chipped away.

The county's historians and members of the Brentsville Historic Trust said they were excited about this week's findings.

"This is where you can start seeing the end of the project," said Brendon Hanafin, the county's historic preservation manager.

Today Lounsbury returns to Williamsburg, where he is expected to design fittings that

doesn't seem to be followed through," he said.

"Even though we have a lot of information, so much of it is guesswork," he said. "It's educated, but it's still guesswork."

Historians must determine what was original and what was added.

The courthouse was used for a school, a community meeting place and government offices over the past 100 years.

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Hanafin said the county has budgeted \$280,000 to restore the courthouse, but more would be needed to add furniture.

"It's very exciting," said Kay Breeden, a member of Friends of the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre. "We're certainly going to be able to reconstruct it more authentically."

Staff writer Lillian Kafka can be reached at (703) 878-8091.

dog's chest, Magara said.

BROCATO

Continued from page A1

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He also attended adult edu-

cation classes and General Educational Development preparation, but school officials told the Times that he was no longer enrolled.

Manassas Police Chief John J. Skinner said he could not comment on the arrest because of the offender's juvenile status.

Staff writer David Stegona can be reached at (703) 878-8065.

KRESE

Continued from page A1

manic-depressive illness, is a psychiatric condition that causes drastic shifts in a person's mood, energy level, and ability to function," according to Carolyn Turvey, University of Iowa Health Science Relations assistant professor of psychiatry, on the Virtual Hospital Web site at <http://www.vh.org>.

Bipolar symptoms are severe, but the disease can be

treated, and people diagnosed with the disorder can be as normal as anyone else if they stay on their medication, the Web site said.

Matthew Krese wouldn't stay on his medication, which is often the case with those who suffer from the disorder, said Paul Krese.

Krese said his son achieved normality when he took his medicine, but often went off it for months at a time.

"If you know anyone personally, a loved one or anyone else, be on their back and stay on it to take their medication,"

Paul Krese said.

Matthew Krese was in and out of homeless shelters since he graduated high school in St. Louis, Mo.

He came to the area in 1998, Krese said.

Like many with the disorder, Matthew Krese was prone to erratic behavior, Paul Krese said.

Once a woman gave him new clothes that he promptly threw into the Potomac River from the Key Bridge, Krese said.

Matthew Krese's developed chronic Cellulitis, the inflammation of cellular tissue, in his remaining leg and became dependent on pain medication, Paul Krese said.

"He kept going to hospitals all over the area getting prescriptions for Percocet or whatever he could get for the pain in his leg," he said.

Police identified Krese by

the bottles of medicine they found on his body.

The Maryland medical examiner told Krese that his son's injuries were inconsistent with suicide.

Police had a recording of Matthew Krese pacing near the tracks.

"I think what he was doing was getting impatient waiting on the train," Paul Krese said. Homeless people often leave little behind when they die. Krese said he wanted to talk about his son's death, "just so people could know that he was on earth."

Krese said he wants to encourage people with bipolar disorder or their families to seek help.

"It's nothing to be ashamed of," he said. "It's just a chemical imbalance."

Staff writer Keith Walker can be reached at (703) 878-8063.

Lotteries



These numbers were drawn Thursday, Feb. 3:

Virginia
Midday Pick 35-6-2
Midday Pick 41-6-5-0
Midday Cash 57-9-14-31-34
Pick 35-6-2
Pick 43-7-3-6
Cash 54-14-17-19-28

District of Columbia

Midday Lucky Nos8-2-7
Midday D.C. Four1-5-9-4
Lucky Numbers0-7-0
D.C. Four0-4-1-3
D.C. Hot Five20-16-3-7-8
Quick Cash28-2-32-11-35-36

Maryland

Midday Pick 30-5-9
Midday Pick 49-7-1-8
Pick 39-6-4
Pick 49-2-0-0
B. Match 53-13-30-37-39 (19)

Corrections and clarifications

The Potomac News wishes to present a fair and accurate news report each day. It is the policy of this newspaper to correct all errors. If you have a concern about a story or photo published, please contact the editor of the department concerned. Phone numbers and e-mail addresses are listed below.

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USPS No. 440-300 U.S. Post Office, Woodbridge, VA and additional mailing offices.



Member: Audit Bureau of Circulations

Subscription Rates

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\$34.45 13 weeks \$14.30
\$68.90 26 weeks \$28.60
\$124.00 52 weeks \$57.20

Subscription by mail

Daily/Sunday
13 weeks \$72.76
26 weeks \$145.52
52 weeks \$291.00

Single Copy—Newsstand

Daily—per paper\$0.35
Sunday\$1.00

Circulation Services

The Potomac News delivery deadline is 5:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday and 6:30 a.m. on Sunday. If your paper has not arrived on time or is damaged please call our Customer Service Department. If you call us by 10 a.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. Sunday, a make-up copy will be radio dispatched directly to your door. Calls after these hours may receive either a make-up copy on the following day or a credit on your account. Weekend-only subscribers will receive bonus issues on the following holidays: New Year's, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Circulation Customer Service is available Monday through Saturday from 5:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m.

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