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the event.

Discussing violence in schools, McFadden asked state legislators if they tion if public education is said the county budget would support legislation fully funded. that would place violence against teachers in the BOOST program only if same category as violence we have made a full comagainst firefighters and police, such as the bill proposed last year by Del. C.T. Wilson (D-Charles).

"We have had members of our educational community hospitalized because of attacks by students," McFadden said.

BothSen.Thomas"Mac" Middleton (D-Charles) (D-Charles), the two state legislators in attendance, such legislation.

that we give to other public service people ought to an additional \$1.3 billion be extended to teachers," Middleton said. "You can't added to the state budget. disguise it, you can't deny school system."

posed any effort by Gov. mental health, drug adportunities for Students hard," Middleton said. Today) program or other to attend private schools.

and I feel that every dollar in education should go to public schools; if you a new, expanding area decide to send your child in Charles County, and to a private school, that is by the government rela- your decision," Patterson tions committee prior to said. "I stand firmly in opposition to it."

Middleton said he would only support such legisla-

"I will only support the mitment to public education," Middleton said.

Middleton warned that the upcoming fiscal year may be a difficult one for education.

"Things look very, very dismal," Middleton said. "There's about a \$400 million structural deficit. We suggested to the govand Del. Edith Patterson ernor that he reduce it by about 50 percent."

Middleton said that unsaid they would support certainty at the federal level was worrisome as well. "The same protection Repeal of the Affordable Care Act could result in in Medicaid costs being

"We're going to continit, it is happening in our ue to fight for education, but there are going to Patterson said she op- be other programs — Larry Hogan (R) to ex- diction — and where we pand the BOOST (Broad- find the money for those ening Options and Op- programs is going to be

McFadden asked what legislation for state-fund- the county proposed to do ed vouchers for students regarding the rising costs from low-income families of educating the increasing numbers of special "I oppose it, because I'm education students and a former Charles County English as a second lan- make decisions as to how school board member, guage learners in Charles that is spent."

County Public Schools. "We recognize that's an important area," said Commissioner Ken Robinson (D). "We'll do the best we can."

Commissioners' President Peter Murphy (D) seemed to be in a good position for the next fiscal year.

"It would really help us a lot if you could go back and prioritize for us, where the greatest need is within each of those groups. What do they really need, right now, so we can look at that," Murphy said. "We really rely on you to come back and say to us, Within our special populations, what we need is more personnel, more technology, or whatever it is, we really rely on you to give us that information."

McFadden also asked about teacher pay raises, which are currently two steps behind. Teachers did not receive pay increases in fiscal years 2011 and 2015 due to budget shortfalls, but Murphy indicated that was a non-starter.

"It's not possible to go back and deal with the back steps, because we have no way of generating that revenue back. We can go forward, and we've been looking to do that all along," Murphy said. "It's not that we don't want to, but we only get so much revenue, and we have to



STAFF PHOTO BY JAMIE ANFENSON-COMEAU

In foreground, Maryland Sen. Thomas "Mac" Middleton and Del. Edith Patterson take guestions from, in background, moderator Veronica McFadden during a legislative dinner hosted by the Education Association of Charles County at Milton M. Somers Middle School Thursday evening.

is also looking to slow the think might be helpful, es like you guys are," keep class sizes low.

"We're changing the way that you build in Charles County; you're not going to be able to build in this county if there isn't capacity at the elementary, middle and high schools," Murphy said.

Debra Haan, a physical education teacher at Arthur Middleton Elementary School, asked what she and her colleagues could do to assist county government in making decisions affecting schools.

"It does makes a difference when you show up, don't think for a minute that it doesn't. It makes a difference when you email, when you attend retention.

Murphy said the county public hearings. What I pace of development and is don't only attend those Kelly said. "Anything you public hearings that have to do with the budget and education specific issues," Robinson said. "We need to us." to hear from you, not less but more."

> McFadden asked school board members what they would like to do to improve retention, which is below the national average.

to look at the salary scale and to make it attractive across the continuum for teachers," said board of happening in our schools, education Chairwoman and it's even happening in Virginia McGraw.

member Victoria Kelly suggestions to improve monitor what's going on."

"We're not in the trenchcould do to help us understand what your position is, that would be helpful

McFadden asked Berry what he would do to decrease cyberbullying and abuse of social media by students.

Berry said he would like to bring in specialists to "I think it's important speak with teachers and parents about proper technology use.

"We know that sexting is the elementary level, un-Board of education fortunately," Berry said. "We also have to educate asked teachers to make the parents, so they can Twitter: @JamieACIndyNews

VERDICT From Page A5

the Maryland Office of ard's two shared children, Forensic Services, testified that she did not agree the Manges car and held diagnosed her with acute ceedings indicated. stress disorder," Grant said. "... I had no medical a hooded sweatshirt and said. "She had an escape documentation to support gloves to conceal her iden- route. She had a getaway

May 20, 2015, as the to get caught," Granados Manges waited at Mc-Donald's on Mall Circle for Richard Conway to forensic examiner with drop off Krystal and Rich-Caroline Conway entered with Brand's findings. "I them at gunpoint, pro-

Granados said she wore a brief psychotic disor- tity, "making sure people driver, and he picked her

Around 5:45 p.m. on make sure she's not going said. "... If they're looking for someone in a dark hoodie, it ain't going to be Caroline Conway because she took it off."

> Granados said she then called Richard Conway from a pre-paid cell phone at 5:50 p.m. and 5:52 p.m. "She planned ahead," he

dead."

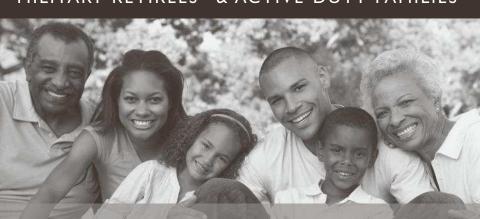
received a phone call from looking for him.

phone. "They're living out his supervisor with the their alibi," Granados said. Prince George's Coun-perimeter had formed "They're living out their ty Police Department, around the home after lie ... They don't know at Granados said, that he Krystal Mange identified this point that Krystal isn't went to their house on Caroline Conway as the Guilford Drive to identify It's only after Richard himself since they were

By this time, a police

See VERDICT Page A11

MILITARY RETIREES* & ACTIVE-DUTY FAMILIES



der."

psychotic disorders "don't Krystal was forced to call the two children in the go to lengths to cover up Richard and change their what they're doing," Grant meet up location to the La said, adding that Caroline Plata courthouse parking Conway used "evasive lot at 7:30 p.m., Robert tactics" "goal-directed behavior."

Granados began closing arguments Friday by referring to a statement Car-shooting until she had oline Conway had made accomplished her goal," in late 2013 to her former boss at a local movie the- ed out that afterward she ater, according to his tes- walked away through timony.

my grand babies, I'll kill eo without the sweatshirt May 20, 2015, the defendant made good on a threat that had been standing" for years before any allegations were ever made to DSS.

Robert Mange stayed by Krystal's side through it all, Granados said, and was at her side "when that woman opened fire."

CRASH From Page A1

passenger side, sending the vehicle into a tractor trailer which had been waiting at a traffic light on Orland Park Drive.

No one else was reported to be injured in the crash, and alcohol is not believed to have been a factor, police said.

Anyone who may have witnessed this crash is asked to contact the Maryland State Police La Plata Barrack Duty Officer at 301-392-1200. The investigation is being continued by Cpl. D.T. Ellington.

Twitter: @Andrew_IndyNews

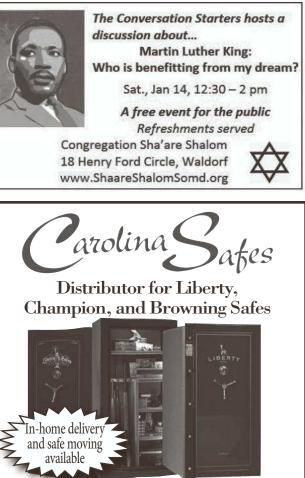
can't tell who she is, or up."

People suffering from what she's up to." After and displayed Mange went for the gun, but Caroline Conway began shooting.

Granados said, who pointa wooded area and was it down." "If she ever tries to take seen on surveillance vid-

The Conways, with backseat, then went to an acquaintance's house in Waldorf, where Caroline changed her shirt and the alleged conspirators were seen on home surveillance video handling "She kept chasing and a white trash bag, according to proceedings. "You can obviously see there's something in that bag," Granados said. "There's weight in that bag holding

Then the Conways went to the courthouse parking her," Granados said. "On on after crossing U.S. 301. lot, and Richard proceed-"She leaves right away to ed to text and call Krystal's



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