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General Dynamics Robotic Systems Awarded \$13 Million Contract (11/29/06)

WESTMINSTER, Md. – The U.S. Navy Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center (SSC, San Diego) San Diego, Calif., has awarded General Dynamics Robotic Systems a \$12.7 million contract for four Unmanned Surface Vehicles (USVs) for the Littoral Combat Ship Anti-Submarine Warfare Mission Module. General Dynamics Robotic Systems is a part of General Dynamics Land Systems (Sterling Heights, Mich.), a wholly owned subsidiary of General Dynamics (NYSE: GD).



As the prime contractor, General Dynamics will provide the Navy with an 11-meter USV that is capable of long endurance missions while being highly efficient. General Dynamics will use its experience and expertise in design, development and integration to provide the command and control and systems integration.

The USV will employ towed arrays, dipping sonar sensors and acoustic sources as payloads to carry out its Anti-Submarine Warfare mission.

“We are honored to have been given the opportunity to design, integrate and deliver the Navy’s premiere USV. We are excited at the prospect of incorporating our proven cutting-edge robotic technologies in a state-of-the-art unmanned surface vehicle platform,” said Scott Myers, president of General Dynamics Robotic Systems.

General Dynamics’ teammates include Navatek, Ltd. (Honolulu, Hawaii), Alion Science and Technology (Boulder, Colo.), Signal Systems Corporation (Severna Park, Md.), International Logistics Systems (Glen Rock, Pa.), and Chesapeake Sciences Corporation (Millersville, Md.).

General Dynamics Robotic Systems is a leading performer on Department of Defense advanced robotics technology projects such as the Autonomous Navigation System (ANS) for the Army’s Future Combat System program, Robotics Collaborative Technology Alliance (RCTA), Mobile Detection Assessment and Response System (MDARS) and Vetronics Technology Integration (VTI).

On the web: www.gdrs.com

Source: GDRS Website.

Carroll Firm Named to Forbes Best Small Companies List (10/18/2006)

A Carroll County business has made the 2006 200 best small companies listed published by Forbes Magazine.

Hampstead based Jos. A. Bank Clothiers (**NASDAQ: JOSB**) ranked number 27 on Forbes list. Jos. A. Bank is a designer, manufacturer, retailer and direct marketer of tailored and casual men's clothing and accessories. In Carroll, Jos. A. Bank maintains over 500,000 square feet of corporate headquarters and distribution space.



To qualify, a company must be publicly held and attain gross sales between \$5 million and \$750 million. The company must also have a stock share price above \$5 as of September 29th with a three-month average volume of 10,000 shares.

Jos. A. Bank reported \$502 million in gross sales over the most recent 12 month period and has enjoyed a 5-year average growth per share of 34%. Shares were trading at \$29.69 at the time Forbes announced its' best small business list.

On the web: www.josbank.com

Source: Baltimore Business Journal, Forbes.com

Ravens to Start 11th Annual Training Camp at McDaniel College (07/24/06)

The NFL's Baltimore Ravens are preparing to start their summer training camp again this year on the campus of McDaniel College in Westminster. This year marks the 11th consecutive year of the Ravens' annual summer camp at McDaniel and their 11th season playing football in Baltimore.



In April 2004 the Ravens and McDaniel College extended their agreement to hold the annual camp at McDaniel through 2010. During its 3 week stay in Westminster, the camp has historically generated upwards of 100,000 spectators.

“We’ve had a good off-season program, and we’re ready to get to camp,” said head coach Brian Billick. “We’ve hit the ground running. I like the mixture we have of proven veterans, some quality additions and young players we expect to step up.”

Players report for camp on Thursday July 27th. The first practice will be held on Friday morning, July 28th. Training camp is scheduled to end following the afternoon practice on Saturday, August 19th.

The Ravens regular season opens Sunday September 10th at the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Their home opener is Sunday September 17th versus the Oakland Raiders.

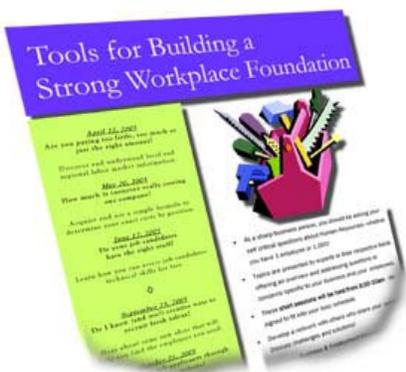
The Ravens have provided a fan information line for up-to-date practice information; that number is 410-261-RAVE (7283).

For more information on the Ravens training camp and tentative schedule, click here: [Baltimore Ravens Summer Training Camp](#)

BERC Announces 2006 Human Resources Workshop Series (06/08/06)

The Carroll Business & Employment Resource Center (BERC) announced that it will host the human resources workshop series “Tools for Building a Strong Workplace Foundation” again in 2006.

The five monthly workshops will cover workplace issues that business professionals deal with on a daily basis. Some of the topics will include hiring individuals with disabilities, business tax credits, avoiding employee turnover and more. Each topic will be presented by business experts that can address concerns specific to your business and employees. Additionally, the workshops allow human resource professionals the opportunity to network with others who share similar challenges and concerns.



required.

The workshops will be held at the BERC offices located at 224 North Center Street in Westminster. To register for a workshop, contact Gina Valentine at 410-386-2820 or gvalentine@ccg.carr.org

The dates of the workshop series are June 16th, July 21st, August 18th, September 15th and October 20th.

For a complete list of dates and topics please click on the following: “[Tools for Building a Strong Workplace Foundation](#)”.

The Carroll County Business & Employment Resource Center is the workforce development arm of the Carroll County Department of Economic Development. Their mission is to develop a highly trained and effective workforce for new and existing business, to assist individuals in achieving employment and to encourage lifelong learning.

ARHD CEO Nominated for Entrepreneur of the Year (04/27/06)

Eldersburg, Maryland—Rich Rubinstein, CEO/President, of America's Remote Help Desk (ARHD), has been nominated for Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur of the Year.

Nominations were due into Ernst & Young's office by Friday, March 31, 2006. Shortly thereafter, America's Remote Help Desk was notified by Ernst & Young and an interview was arranged for Rich Rubinstein by a team of sponsors for the award. After additional interviews, a judge's panel will make the final decision.



"This is very exciting," stated Rich Rubinstein, "It's an honor to be nominated and to be recognized for ARHD's growth, financial performance, profitability, strategic direction, innovation and integrity". He continued, "We work hard every day to be the best IT company there is, and this is one honor that says that to our competitors and the community".

America's Help Desk (ARHD) provides network implementation and Remote Help Desk support. It assumes the role of a company's IT department or acts as an extension of a company's existing IT department. For additional information, visit www.remotehelpdesk.com or call 410-727-8330.

Source: ARHD Press Release

JoS. A. Bank Clothiers Announces 17.2% Increase in March 2006 Sales (04/10/06)

HAMPSTEAD, Md.--April 6, 2006--JoS. A. Bank Clothiers, Inc. (Nasdaq National Market: "JOSB") announces that its total sales for the fiscal month ended April 1, 2006 (fiscal March 2006) increased 17.2% to \$41.5 million versus \$35.4 million in the comparable prior year period. Comparable store sales increased 4.4% when compared with fiscal March 2005, while combined catalog and Internet sales increased 20.6%.



Total sales for the fiscal two months ended April 1, 2006 increased 17.5% to \$75.2 million compared with \$64.0 million in the comparable prior year period. Comparable stores sales increased 3.9% in the fiscal two months ended April 1, 2006 when compared with the comparable prior year period, while combined catalog and Internet sales increased 28.1%.

JoS. A. Bank Clothiers, Inc., established in 1905, is one of the nation's leading retailers of men's classically-styled tailored and casual clothing, sportswear, footwear and accessories. The Company sells its full product line through 327 stores in 40 states and the District of Columbia, a nationwide catalog, and an e-commerce website that can be accessed at www.josbank.com. The Company is headquartered in Hampstead, MD, and its common stock is listed on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol "JOSB".

Source: JoS. A. Bank Clothiers, Inc. Press Release

Nexion Health, Inc. Continues Renovations at Warfield Corporate Center (04/07/06)

On November 14, 2005 Nexion Health, Inc. began renovations on “Building I” at the Warfield Corporate Center. Nexion, headquartered in Eldersburg, operates 39 skilled nursing facilities throughout Texas, Louisiana and Colorado. Francis P. Kirley, President and CEO of Nexion, stated that he takes great pride in the fact that his company will move to “a place that has provided health care” in Carroll County for years.



You can get check on the progress being made at the future site of Nexion’s corporate headquarters by visiting their Blogger site at <http://officewarfield.blogspot.com>. The transformation of the old to the new is captured in photos by Nexion employees and posted on the site. The \$1.2 million dollar renovation project is expected to be completed by summer 2006.



A new intersection on Maryland Route 32 is under construction at the gateway to the Warfield Corporate Center. Detailed engineering plans of the intersection are available on the Town of Sykesville’s website at <http://www.sykesville.net/route32war.html>.

The Warfield Development Corporation is overseeing the development of the 96-acre Warfield Corporate Center as a mixed-use business park in partnership with Carroll County Economic Development, the Industrial Development Authority, the Town of Sykesville and the State of Maryland. Located on Maryland Route 32, approximately five miles north of I-70, Warfield Corporate Center offers more than 570,000 square feet of potential space and will bring an estimated 1,000 jobs to Carroll County once fully redeveloped.

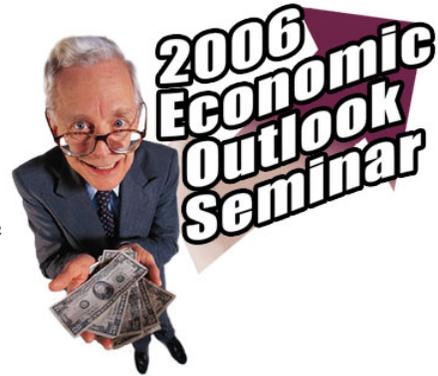
Story from Nexion Health Management, Inc.

CCDED Hosts 2006 Economic Outlook Seminar (03/16/06)

The Department of Economic Development (CCDED) held its fifth annual economic outlook seminar on Thursday March 16, 2006 at the Best Western Catering & Conference Center in Westminster.

The seminar, sponsored by BB&T, was attended by over 200 local business people, government officials and educators.

This year's presentation was again given by Anirban Basu, Chairman & CEO of Sage Policy Group, Inc. Mr. Basu, a noted regional economist and lecturer, provided a review of the economy from a Carroll County and Maryland perspective and an outlook for national and local economic growth for the year ahead.



The seminar will be telecast on the Carroll County Government Channel 24 (available only on Adelphia Cable) several times during the month of April. Check your local listings for dates and times.

Mr. Basu's presentation is available below in Adobe PDF formats

[Click here to download the presentation: "2006 Economic Outlook Seminar Presentation".](#)
(602KB) 

Tech Center Enters Partnership with General Dynamics Robotic Systems (02/24/06)

Three programs at the Carroll County Career and Technology Center have entered into a partnership with General Dynamics Robotic Systems in Westminster. The programs entering into the partnership are Machine Technology, Drafting, and Engineering ("Project Lead the Way" – PLTW).

General Dynamics Robotic Systems' core capabilities are research & development/tactical robotics, postal automation, as well as machining and manufacturing. The company is an industry leading developer of autonomous robotic systems for tactical applications.



General Dynamics Robotic Systems recognizes the value of providing career opportunities to Carroll County Public Schools and Career and Technology graduates through a Mentoring Program. Workforce development is a constant concern for many Carroll County businesses and industries, and the Career and Technology Center programs are reaching out to assist in addressing this issue.

As part of the partnership, General Dynamics Robotic Systems will provide a mentor for each of the three programs. The mentors will visit the Career and Technology classrooms on a regular basis and share current trends and processes in place at General Dynamics Robotic Systems.

The mentors will provide students with a project/concept that will help the students to develop skills in design, engineering, and manufacturing. This program will continue for the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year.

According to William Hill, Career Coordinator for the Carroll County Career and Technology Center, “We believe that each participant will directly benefit from this experience and the program will foster higher level learning for each participating student.” General Dynamics Robotic Systems is a subsidiary of General Dynamics Land Systems, which is a business unit of General Dynamics (NYSE:GD).

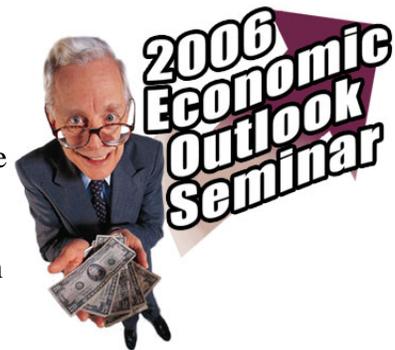
Source: Carroll County Public Schools website: www.carrollk12.org

2006 Economic Outlook Seminar Planned for March (01/30/06)

The Carroll County Department of Economic Development (CCDED) will hold its fifth annual economic outlook seminar Thursday March 16, 2006 at the Best Western Catering & Conference Center in Westminster.

The seminar will include a buffet breakfast starting at 8:00am. The presentation will begin at 8:45am and conclude at approximately 10:00am. A brief question & answer period will be included as part of the presentation.

This year’s seminar will be delivered by Anirban Basu, Chairman & CEO of Sage Policy Group, Inc. Mr. Basu, a noted regional economist and lecturer, will provide an outlook and predictions for local, regional and national economic growth for the remainder of 2006 and beyond.



“His [Basu’s] ability to accurately predict our areas’ economy in an educated and entertaining manner makes this event a must for anyone with an interest in local economics.” said Larry Twele, Director of the Department of Economic Development, “He [Basu] is truly one of the regions leading economists.”

The cost for the seminar is \$15.00 per person. Registration deadline is Friday, March 10, 2006.

Click here to download a registration form: “2006 Economic Outlook Seminar Registration”. (179KB) 

Tech Firm Takes Up Residence in Old New Windsor Fire Hall (01/24/06)

The former New Windsor Fire Department building was purchased in mid-December by the technology manufacturing firm L-1 Standards & Technology, Inc. and redeveloped to house their company operations.



Dr. Steven Lorentz, a physicist with a Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma, formed L-1 in 2001 after working many years for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg. While at NIST, Dr. Lorentz worked primarily on machinery that calibrates military and civilian satellites. After growing his business for the last

several years at an office in Frederick County, Dr. Lorentz jumped at the chance to purchase the 6,600 square-foot building in downtown New Windsor.

L-1 Standards & Technology's three full-time and two part-time employees design and build scientific calibrators much like the one's Lorentz used during his years at NIST. The cryogenic radiometers use liquid nitrogen and liquid helium to calibrate detectors that measure light, most frequently in satellites.

Design, assembly and testing are done on-sight while most of the hardware is actually manufactured by other firms. The products are so specialized that it can take the better part of a year to design and build just one unit. Likewise, L-1 may only be contracted for two or three units per year. Their customers are mostly governments both in the United States and overseas. L-1 has built calibrators for the governments of Switzerland and Taiwan.

Dr. Lorentz and his staff are still in the process of getting their new offices set-up. He said that since most of L-1's business is done by phone or over the Internet, he doesn't expect any customer traffic in the quiet little town. Lorentz also stated that he hopes to move from his Frederick County home to Carroll County to be closer to his new facility.

On the web: www.l-1.biz