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PHOTO COURTESY MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Secretary Mark Belton observes Chesapeake Bay water quality monitoring on board the department's Research Vessel Kehrin.

Maryland's Chesapeake Bay Defenders Hold Breath, Wait on Senate

By J.F. MEILS, ALEX MANN and JULIE DEPENBROCK
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON, D.C.—If the Senate does not restore a deep, House-passed cut in federal funding to the Environmental Protection Agency's Chesapeake Bay Program, the ripple effect on Maryland conservation efforts could be far larger

than what the state would lose in actual dollars, according to program supporters.

For the fourth consecutive year, House appropriators in September slashed funding for the EPA's Chesapeake program by 20 percent, to \$60 million.

In past years, the Senate restored the cut, maintaining annual funding for the program at \$73 million, more than \$12 mil-

lion of which went to Maryland in 2016, according to an analysis done by the Choose Clean Water Coalition.

But with the retirement of Maryland Sen. Barbara Mikulski, who was the top Democrat on the Senate Appropriations Committee, past is no longer precedent.

And if the House cut holds this year in the Senate, it will likely be felt at the local level,

including to grants that help fund conservation-related projects in agriculture, stormwater treatment, oyster restoration, as well as a slew of research and monitoring programs.

"Of course we're gonna try for the \$73 million (on the Senate side). You don't get it if you

See CHESAPEAKE Page A3

PG County Council Elects New Leadership Team, Announces Committee Leadership for 2018 Legislative Year

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Council

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—The Prince George's County Council elected Council Member Dannielle Glaros (D)—District 3 to serve as Chair for Legislative Year 2018. Council Member Todd Turner (D)—District 4, was elected to serve as Vice Chair. The newly confirmed Council Leadership team presided over the first session of the Legislative Year 2018 on Tuesday, December 5, 2017. Chair Glaros and Vice Chair Turner will serve in leadership through December 4, 2018.

Chair Glaros thanked her Council colleagues for entrusting her with the "Gavel of Leadership."

"I am humbled by this moment and deeply grateful to my colleagues on this Council for choosing me to serve as Chair for the 2018 Legislative Year. Thank you for your confidence and the opportunity to serve with such accomplished leaders. I am proud to accept the gavel you have entrusted to me, and of the work we have done together to strengthen the communities we are privileged to represent."

Chair Glaros also addressed the Council's priorities for Legislative Year 2018.

"The Council will continue its strong commitment to our Legislative priorities—Transportation, Economic Develop-

ment and Transit-Oriented Development; Healthcare; Education; Fiscal Responsibility; and Public Safety. We will also maintain our focus on strengthening nonprofit organizations in Prince George's County—building countywide on the work we've been doing in District 3 for the past three years. The County Council will also continue to focus on state and federal funding; the FY2019 budget; rewrite of the County's 50-year-old Zoning Ordinance; address our housing challenges; the performance audit, and act in the Council's role as the Board of Health."

Prior to concluding her remarks, Chair Glaros announced the 2018 Legislative Year committee leadership appointments:

Planning, Zoning and Economic Development (PZED)

Chair, Council Member Andrea Harrison; Vice Chair, Council Member Mel Franklin

Public Safety and Fiscal Management (PSFM)

Chair, Council Member Derrick L. Davis; Vice Chair, Council Member Deni Taveras

Transportation, Housing and Environment Committee (THE)

Chair, Council Vice Chair Todd Turner; Vice Chair, Council Member Karen Toles

See LEADERSHIP Page A3

Council Announces FY 18 Special Partnership Grant with Venture Philanthropy Partners

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Council

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—The Prince George's County Council and Venture Philanthropy Partners (VPP) announced the new Ready for Work Nonprofit Capacity Building Initiative to strengthen nonprofits to better serve youth across the county.

There are currently more than 4-thousand nonprofits operating in Prince George's County and most are without the capacity to successfully apply for major grant support or fully achieve their objectives.

Council Chair Derrick L. Davis says the Council is work-

See GRANT Page A5

Prince George's County Ranked 21st in the United States in Job Growth Among Large Counties

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Government

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics for the 2nd Quarter (June 2017) job growth report, Prince George's County, MD has the 21st highest rate of employment growth (3.5%) among the 347 largest counties in the United States. The ranking is based upon total employment—more

than double the US average (1.7%). Prince George's County is also the highest ranked jurisdiction in the State of Maryland, as well as for the most job growth in the National Capital Region ahead of Loudon County, Virginia which ranked 55th. Prince George's County's job growth rate of 3.5% is more than double the State of Maryland's

See JOB GROWTH Page A5

County Has 185 More Reasons to Welcome the New Olive Garden to Ritchie Station Marketplace

PG County Economic Development Corporation Among 100's Celebrating County Fine Dining

By LORI C. VALENTINE
PGCEDC

CAPITOL HEIGHTS, MD—The Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) President and CEO Jim Coleman joined dignitaries from the Capitol Heights area and other local business and community leaders for the Grand Opening of a brand-new Olive Garden Italian Kitchen Restaurant in the Ritchie Station Marketplace. State Delegate Angela Angel (Dist. 25), Tracy O'Connor, Olive Garden Director of Operations, representatives from the D.C. Chamber of Commerce, and the Central High School Pep Band and Cheerleaders were all on hand to welcome Moses Ntale, Olive Garden's General Manager to the neighborhood. Mr. Coleman was delighted to greet the new neighbors and welcome them to Prince George's County.

"Prince George's County deserves quality, sit-down restaurants," said Coleman. "Today, our residents have 185 reasons



PHOTO COURTESY LORI C. VALENTINE

Olive Garden General Manager Moses Ntale (c), along with Capitol Heights Team at the Grand Opening of Olive Garden in Ritchie Station Marketplace

to celebrate and enjoy the brand-new Olive Garden here, in Capitol Heights. Not only is this restaurant bringing delicious food to the thriving Ritchie Station Marketplace development, but they are also employing 185

Prince George's County residents! My Economic Development Team and I are excited to have a new restaurant to frequent. Congratulations to Mr. Ntale and the Olive Garden family. We are delighted with their

choice to expand in Prince George's County!"

The Ritchie Station Marketplace Olive Garden is the

See PGCEDC Page A5

INSIDE

Prince George's County Commemorates World AIDS Day and Announces the 2017 HIV Strategic Plan and Funding

The plan is supported by \$6 million in funding awarded by the Maryland Department of Health and an additional \$1.2 million awarded for community outreach in sexually transmitted infection prevention.

Community, Page A3

"I Didn't Make This World For You"

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act recently passed on a nearly straight party line Republican vote in the U.S. Senate is, like the House-passed bill, a moral abomination. Their enactment would be the death of America's dream for tens of millions of children.

Commentary, Page A4

Israeli Tech Firm Opens U.S. Headquarters in Maryland

Maryland is one of the first states to adopt this technology, which is now available to citizens through the state's Maryland Accessible Telecommunications (MAT) program administered by the Department of Information Technology (DoIT).

Business, Page A5

Movie Review:

The Killing of a Sacred Deer

Set in an unnamed American city (filmed in Cincinnati), it involves a heart surgeon, Steven Murphy (Colin Farrell), his ophthalmologist wife, Anna (Nicole Kidman), and their children, teenage Kim (Raffey Cassidy) and younger Bob (Sunny Suljic).

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

I'm looking for cool holiday gift ideas for a strident vegan who won't tolerate items that make use of animals or animal products. Any ideas?

—Doug Halpern,
Washington, D.C.

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

George Hunt, artist, teacher and coach, dies in motorcycle accident

It happened on Marlboro Pike at Boones Lane, Aug. 22, the day before he was due to start another year of teaching art at St. Philip the Apostle School in Camp Springs. It was about 5:40 in the afternoon. Police say the truck was heading west on Marlboro Pike and may have collided with the Honda while making a left turn.

However it happened, the accident took the life of a much-beloved teacher and artist, George A. "Coach" Hunt, Jr. He was 57 years old. He was born in Bethesda to George and Emily Mary Hunt. He grew up in Capital Heights, graduated in 1978 from Crossland where his mural might still be on the wall, and continued his education at The Corcoran School of the Arts and Design in Washington. He earned his master's at The Maryland Institute of Art in Baltimore.

He met his future wife, Margaret, when both worked at the Woolco store in Forestville Plaza Shopping Center in District Heights—he in sporting goods and she in music. They were married at Mount Calvary Church on Sept. 3, 1983.

George held a variety of positions. He taught health and physical education at McNamara, coached soccer at Wheaton H.S., coached and taught art at St. Philip's, and that's only a sampling of what he did. He and Margaret volunteered at the Hirshhorn Museum on the Mall in Washington.

Recently I had the opportunity to view some of his art at his Forestville home. I'm overwhelmed by his sculptures and other contemporary works, which in time will be shown at a Washington gallery. I'm saddened to think what he would still have created in the future.

He's survived by his wife of 34 years, Margaret; children, Anthony Jaz Hunt, Mia Alison

Hunt and Veronica Rose Bundy; brother Norman and sister Rose Marie Miller. Mass of Christian Burial was at Mount Calvary Church, with repast at St. Philip's. He is buried at Resurrection Cemetery.

George was deeply religious, and this is often reflected in his work. When he walked up the altar to serve as Eucharistic minister at St. Philip's, he always carried a rosary. Margaret found seven beads of that rosary in the street after the accident.

Festival of Lights free on Christmas

A special way to celebrate the Christmas holidays is a visit to the Winter Festival of Lights at Watkins Park in Upper Marlboro. The spectacular drive-through event features more than one million twinkling lights, remarkable themed displays and one of the tallest tree displays in the state.

Hours are 5 to 9:30 p.m. Admission for cars and vans is \$10—free on Christmas. For information, call 301-699-2456.

You can even take a hayride through the festival on several days, including Fridays, Dec. 15, 22 and 29; Saturdays, Dec. 23 and 30; and Sundays, Dec. 17 and 31—all at 7 p.m. Hayride charge is \$8 per person. For Hayride information or to make a reservation for a group, call 301-218-5770.

Also, a reminder: bring canned goods or other non-perishables for donation to local food banks.

Changing landscape

Prince George's Plaza in Hyattsville will have a new name in the spring—Hyattsville Crossing.

The affordable senior housing community planned for Suitland will be a four-story building with 122 housing units. The first floor will include retail and office space, a community club center, and fitness center. Additional resi-

dent amenities include community gardens and a golf putting green. It's slated to open June 2018.

Pat has fond memories of Morningside

I had an email from former Morningsider Pat Tull Hutson. She lived on Suitland Road. Her future husband, Norman, lived on Maple Road. She graduated from Suitland High in 1961. Norman joined the Navy and Pat worked 26 years as cafeteria manager in the Virginia Beach School System.

Now, both retired, they live in Chesapeake, Va. They have three children, eight grandkids and seven great-grandchildren. Pat has lots of old pictures of friends back in the '50s. And memories.

May they rest in peace

Glenn "Gus" Algire Waltersdorff Jr., 66, formerly of Forestville and star centerfielder for Suitland High, class of 1969, died Nov. 20. He earned a bachelor's in business administration at Towson in 1980, was founder and owner of Waldorf Marble Inc. Survivors include wife Cathy and four children. He helped lead Thomas Stone H.S., with his daughters, to two state championships.

Janet Ann (Head) Tippet, 87, of Hollywood, Md., died Dec. 5. She earned two degrees from George Washington U. and spent her career as a Census Bureau statistician. She was married 57 years to James William Tippet who died in 2008. Survivors include eight children, 11 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren at St. John Francis Regis Church, Hollywood, from which she was buried.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Linda Gryskevicz, Dec. 15; Stacie Smith and Erin Nicole Brown-Sandoval, Dec. 16; Morningside

See MORNINGSIDE Page A3

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

MINISTER LILLIAN MAKLE FORBES JOURNEY IN LIFE (PART III)

"After being interviewed last year by the Chaplain Board I was selected to serve as a volunteer Chaplain. There are several of us who volunteer as Chaplains and it is truly a ministry that blesses each of us every day. It is one of the most rewarding and fulfilling opportunities that I have been given by the Lord in ministry. I have the opportunity of going in to see the patients asking them how they are feeling, and sharing the word of God through prayer, reading of the scriptures, as well as having a listening ear for them. It is near and dear to my heart because of my own personal battle with Lupus for 12 years. "But thanks be to God" I have been healed in the name of Jesus and I still stand on that healing day. The Lord spoke to me and said "I have need of you to return home and serve. I returned back to my home church Christ United Methodist Church on September 24, 2017. I believe in sharing the word of God, his love and my personal Testimony to those that I come in contact with on my daily journey. I thank God for my life and I thank God for my Journey." Minister Lillian M. Forbes.

Minister Forbes Article was submitted in three parts. This concludes the article on Minis-

ter Lillian Makle Forbes Journey in Life.

NEW HOPE FELLOWSHIP DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to Raygiona Gant, Lisa McKelvy, Kendra Dorsey, Renie Spriggs, Excel Wright, Ernestine Dorsey, Terry Windsor, Arietha Savoy and Franklin Johnson who are members of New Hope Fellowship/Myers and Christ Church celebrating their birthdays in November.

ADVANCES IN THE MANAGEMENT OF JOINT PAIN

You are invited to join us for an informative, interactive seminar "Advances in the Management of joint Pain" presented by Daniel M. Hampton, MD Tuesday, December 19, 2017 from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. The Seminar will be held at MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center Meeting Room 7503 Surratts Road, Clinton, Maryland. Register on line today at MedStarSouthernMaryland.org/Calendar or call 855-211-8405. Admission is free but you must reserve a seat in advance.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Happy Birthday to Charles Dorsett, Irena Stammer, Taylor Terry, Shawnee Hendricks, Nurbert Hughes, Anthony Bell,

Elvin Falby, Valentine Grant II, Ronald Crawford, Sr., Doris Mackle, Lilly Jalloh, Somto Mbakwe, John Stahl, Alaya Bell, Jahmayah Dorsett, Elijah Kerrick, Carolyn Woodward, Donald Hill, Theodore (Ted) Mosley, Carol Hughes, Iyana Amirah Rojas, Kienel Peralta, Ikechi (Ike) Mbakwe, Latsha Bell, Betty Rivers, Cameron Barron, Wendell Wallace, Ky Panda-Massey, Paula Carter, Luz Knight, Joanne Elizabeth Quarm who are Clinton United Methodist Church members celebrating birthdays in December.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Wedding Anniversary to Ronald and Sandra Jones, Ikechi (Ike) and Chidinma (Chidi) Mbakwe who are Clinton United Methodist Church members celebrating Weddings in December.

DR. HENRY A. WISE JR. HIGH SCHOOL

Dr. Henry A. Wise, Jr. High School in Upper Marlboro, Maryland ended another season undefeated and won the Class 4A Football State Championship for the third consecutive year. Wise High School played Quince Orchard and a score of 38-20 to capture the school's fourth championship overall. Congratulations Pumas.

Neighborhoods

BGE Offers Tips to Help Keep Your Holidays Bright

BALTIMORE, MD—The holidays are a great time for cheer, fun gatherings and decking the halls. BGE offers customers tips to help them save and stay safe during the holidays.

Save Energy ... Don't let energy-wasting grinch steal your energy.

- Light up your home or business for the holidays by using energy efficient ENERGY STAR certified decorative light strings. They use up to 75 percent less energy than conventional incandescent light strands and are also cool to the touch.

- Power down all decorative lights when going to bed or leaving the house.

Stay Safe ... Follow these tips to light up your home safely.

- Be aware of all the power lines when decorating outdoors. Never work near overhead power lines or anywhere there is a possibility of contacting an overhead power line – either directly or indirectly – with a ladder or other piece of equipment.
- Do not string lights on outdoor trees that are growing near or into power lines.
- Ensure decorative lights used outside are approved for outdoor use.
- Hang outdoor lights with insulated staples or hooks instead of nails or tacks.
- Follow the manufacturer's guidelines for the number of light strands that can be safely connected together.

Shop Wisely ... Save big with appliance rebates on Black Friday!

Black Friday has always been a good time to upgrade appliances, and rebates available through the BGE Smart Energy Savers Program® make it the perfect time! When you choose the high-efficiency ENERGY STAR certified appliances, you can get \$50 to \$500 in rebates on select clothes washers and dryers, refrigerators, heat pump water heaters and more. Plus, for a limited time, you can save \$550 on ENERGY STAR certified heat pump water heaters. Why upgrade to ENERGY STAR models?

- **Energy Efficiency:** They use 50 percent less energy than standard models.

- **Cost Savings:** Improved energy efficiency means you can save on electricity costs year after year.

- **Rebates:** Select models qualify for rebates that will save you even more on your purchase price.

Save big this Black Friday. For more details, please visit the website at <https://bgesmartenergy.com/residential/appliance-rebates>.

The BGE Smart Energy Savers Program is a suite of programs that enable customers to control energy use, leading to more efficient use of electricity and lowering energy bills. The programs have provided \$464 million in rebates to BGE customers and have also helped nearly 1.9 million residential and business participants save more than 2.8 million MWh of electricity. Collectively, the programs help contain the cost of energy and improve reliability by reducing peak demand and

slowing the growth in energy consumption. Energy-saving solutions are available to renters, homeowners, large and small business customers, non-profits and institutional customers. More information can be found at BGESmartEnergy.com. These programs support the EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act.

MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center Joins MedStar Heart & Vascular Institute-Cleveland Clinic Alliance

CLINTON, MD—MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center is proud to announce that it has joined the MedStar Heart & Vascular Institute-Cleveland Clinic Heart & Vascular Institute Alliance.

Since 2013, Cleveland Clinic's Sydell and Arnold Miller Family Heart & Vascular Institute and MedStar Heart & Vascular Institute have shared best practices related to patient care, outcomes measurement, quality reporting and clinical research. Physician teams from both organizations work together to accelerate improvements in heart care, research and to support even better patient outcomes. MedStar Southern Maryland now joins this collaborative exchange among leading heart care providers. Patients in southern Maryland will benefit from an exceptional and unmatched level of heart and vascular care.

"Cleveland Clinic's Heart & Vascular Institute, voted the best cardiovascular program in the country and arguably, one of the best programs in the world, has acknowledged the improvements in quality of cardiology care at MedStar Southern Maryland since MedStar Health took over the hospital, by allowing us to join this alliance," said Mun K. Hong, MD, chairman of cardiology. "Physicians and the southern Maryland community can have confidence in our quality and can trust us with their cardiac care."

"MedStar Heart & Vascular Institute-Cleveland Clinic Heart & Vascular Alliance brought together outstanding regional and national heart programs to further strengthen each organization," said Christine R. Wray, MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center President. "We are very pleased to join this team and are proud of the innovative program we have developed here, which includes two full-time cardiac interventionalists, an on-site vascular surgeon, vascular access surgeon, two electrophysiologists and a fully staffed cardiac catheterization laboratory. This process has been years in the making and we are very proud to have accomplished this goal."

To become associated with Cleveland Clinic's Heart & Vascular Institute, a hospital must meet numerous national benchmarks and quality standards in cardiology, such as mortality and the median door-to-balloon time (the time between a heart attack patient's hospital arrival to treatment with angioplasty to open a clogged artery). Members must commit to maintaining these standards, and Cleveland Clinic's Heart & Vascular Institute in turn is committed to sharing its experience and expertise to further improve the

quality of care and patient safety at these hospitals.

"This accomplishment is the result of a deliberate and focused journey by the MedStar Southern Maryland team working with MedStar Heart & Vascular Institute and Cleveland Clinic's Heart & Vascular Institute leadership to bring the portfolio of their cardiovascular services to the highest levels of quality and service. MedStar Southern Maryland has evolved to become the 'go-to' cardiac and vascular center for the southern Maryland peninsula," said Stuart F. Seides, MD, MedStar Heart & Vascular Institute's physician executive director.

"Cardiovascular care is constantly advancing, and it's important to be able to deliver these innovations to patients," said Jeffrey Rich, MD, chairman of operations and strategy for Cleveland Clinic's Heart & Vascular Institute. "Adding MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center to this alliance will strengthen cardiovascular care in this region and provide patients with high-quality care."

BP on Crain Hwy. Benefits Community with U-Haul Truck Share 24/7

BOWIE, MD—U-Haul Company of Maryland, Inc. is pleased to announce that BP, a gas station, on Crain Hwy. has signed on as a U-Haul® neighborhood dealer to serve the Bowie community.

BP at 808 Crain Hwy. will offer U-Haul trucks, trailers, towing equipment, moving supplies and in-store pick-up for boxes.

U-Haul Truck Share 24/7 is now available at all U-Haul locations, enabling customers to access trucks and vans every hour of every day through the self-pick-up and self-return options on their uhaul.com account. An internet-connected mobile device with camera and GPS features is needed to take advantage of self-service.

Normal business hours are 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday–Saturday. Reserve U-Haul products at this dealer location by calling (301) 937-1405 or visiting <https://www.uhaul.com/Locations/Truck-Rentals-near-Bowie-MD-20716/049772>.

BP partners Kiranpaet Kaur and Jatinderpal Singh are proud to team with the industry leader in do-it-yourself moving and self-storage to better meet the demands of Prince Georges County.

U-Haul and BP are striving to benefit the environment through sustainability initiatives. Truck sharing is a core U-Haul sustainability business practice that allows individuals to access a fleet of trucks that is larger than what they could access on an individual basis.

Every U-Haul truck placed in a community helps keep 19 personally owned large-capacity vehicles, pickups, SUVs and vans off the road. Fewer vehicles means less traffic congestion, less pollution, less fuel burned and cleaner air.

BP is a great place to become U-Haul Famous®. Take your picture in front of a U-Haul product, send it in and your face could land on the side of a U-Haul truck. Upload your photo through Instagram using #uhaulfamous, or go to www.uhaulfamous.com to submit photos and learn more.

COMMUNITY

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Staying in Control of The Holidays

Yes, you made it through Thanksgiving and only feel slightly guilty about that third helping of dessert. But hang on, the real temptations of the holiday season are still in front of you.

Of course, the odds are pretty good you'll survive the holiday season (unless you drink and drive, but more on that later), but how about a goal this year of successfully being in charge of yourself during the holidays, in charge in a way that lets you enjoy the holidays without feeling tired, overweight and guilty when the second of January rolls around?

One starting point to making the holiday season more manageable is simply to do some planning. If this is a season of gift buying for your family, start making lists now of what things will do the job and keep you within an affordable budget. Holiday gift giving can be fun and exciting. January credit card bills can only be depressing, especially if December spending was all last minute impulse buying. And yes, homemade gifts, or truly thoughtful gifts, are always what will be the most appreciated, and usually won't break the bank.

How about not letting holiday overeating this year be another source of guilt when you step on that scale in January? Most of us will face multiple temptation opportunities from office parties to visits with friends to family gatherings. Each event will usually offer plenty of chances to consume too many high-calorie treats. Should you avoid all the parties and those food temptations? Nope. That will just leave you feeling deprived and unhappy. Instead, enjoy all your favorite things, but do so slowly and in moderation. The main thing is to make sure you're in control. One serving of holiday dessert is lovely, but two or three means the party is in control of you.

And speaking of staying in control, the place it matters most is holiday drinking. One drink too many has led to countless DUI tickets, serious accidents, or even just a career disaster thanks to what was said or done at that office party. Especially if you're normally a non- or very light drinker, don't let the holiday spirits do you in. Soft drinks, a wine spritzer, or just one drink slowly enjoyed throughout the party are all good choices compared to over-indulging.

Enjoying the holiday season while staying in control is a nice formula for a good time without January regrets.

Counseling Corner is provided by the American Counseling Association. Comments and questions to ACAcorner@counseling.org or visit the ACA website at www.counseling.org

Leadership from A1

Health, Education and Human Services (HEHS)

Chair, Council Member Mary Lehman; Vice Chair, Council Member Obie Patterson

Rules and General Assembly:

Vice Chair Turner and Council Member Davis
Council Chair Glaros, a resident of Riverdale Park, was elected to a four-year term on the Prince George's County Council in the November 2014 General Election. Vice Chair Turner of Bowie, was also

elected to serve his first term on the Prince George's County Council in 2014.

Please visit <http://pgccouncil.us> for on-demand video of the Gavel Exchange Ceremony, or to access Gavel Exchange photographs and speeches. The Gavel Exchange ceremony will also be cablecast on Prince George's Community Television (CTV), Channel 42 (Verizon FIOS) and Channel 76, (Comcast). For air dates and times, please visit www.pgctv.org or contact CTV at 301.773.0900.

Morningside from A2

Councilman Bradley Wade and David Williams III, Dec. 17; Charlene Baker and Paul Ratliff, Dec. 18; my grandson Michael Gallegos, Dec. 19; Ricky Nichols, Dec. 20; and Evelyn McKeown, Dec. 21.

Happy anniversary to Margaret and Leslie Greene, their 74th (!) on Dec. 18; Bill and Betty Malkowski, their 65th (!)

on Dec. 20; Ray and Betty Call, Dec. 20; and Suitland Road Baptist Pastor Dr. and Mrs. Kelvin McCune, their 32nd on Dec. 21.

And happy 140th anniversary to The Washington Post which printed its first edition Dec. 6, 1877. It had four pages and cost 3¢.

I don't get up in the morning if the Post is not at my front door.

Prince George's County Commemorates World AIDS Day and Announces the 2017 HIV Strategic Plan and Funding

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Government

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—World AIDS Day is an international day to raise awareness of the fight to end HIV and AIDS. In commemoration of 2017 World AIDS Day, the Prince George's County Health Department announced the 2017 HIV Strategic Plan and funding awarded to reduce the number of new HIV infections and to increase the number of residents with HIV in treatment. On December 1, 2017, Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III joined Prince George's County Council Member Karen Toles (D-District 7), Prince George's County Health Officer Pamela B. Creekmur and community providers gathered at the Health Department's World AIDS Day press conference to discuss the prevalence of HIV in Prince George's County and to energize community-wide action to end HIV.

"There are an estimated 7,500 individuals living with HIV in Prince George's County and with lifetime HIV treatment costs estimated being over \$360,000, we are determined to reduce the rate of new HIV cases in the County," said Prince George's County

Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. "The Prince George's County Health Department is leading the 2017 HIV Strategic Plan to prevent new infections by supporting treatment, enhancing data surveillance, and increasing public health education and outreach. The plan is supported by \$6 million in funding awarded by the Maryland Department of Health and an additional \$1.2 million awarded for community outreach in sexually transmitted infection prevention. I want to thank the Prince George's County Health Department and all of our healthcare related efforts to reduce HIV/AIDS infections." Health Department officials stressed the importance of routine HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) testing as well as treatment for residents living with HIV. The Cheverly Health Center in Cheverly, MD provides daily HIV and STI testing. It is also available through many community hospitals and healthcare providers.

In 2016, Prince George's County had the highest number of new HIV cases in Maryland with 328 new cases. In addition, 29% of all new HIV cases in Maryland were in Prince George's County, and the County only 15% of the state's

total population. This clearly highlights the disparity in the number of new HIV cases. In 2016, an estimated 7,500 County residents were living with HIV, with approximately half living with AIDS.

In 2017, the Health Department announced an HIV Strategic Plan supported by a \$6 million grant from the Maryland Department of Health to address the high prevalence of HIV. Additionally, the Health Department received \$1.2 million in funding to award grants to community partners to assist with STI prevention efforts. The funding will be used to reduce infections and increase the number of residents in treatment by expanding treatment and prevention services, including the use of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (or PrEP); enhancing data surveillance; and increasing sexual wellness education and outreach initiatives.

"We prioritize HIV as a public health issue," said Pamela Creekmur, Prince George's County Health Officer. "Advances have

been made in HIV research, prevention, and treatments; however, there is still work to do to reduce new infections."

In alignment with the 2017 World AIDS Day theme "Increasing Impact through Transparency, Accountability, and Partnerships," the Prince George's County Health Department is prepared, dedicated, and will partner with community organizations to lead significant improvement over the coming years. Health Officer Creekmur urges residents to "use today as an opportunity remind yourself and others to practice safe sex to reduce the risk of exposure, to seek routine HIV and STD screening, obtain and continue medical treatment if you have HIV, and stand up against HIV stigma. These four powerful choices can make a positive impact in reducing HIV in our community and creating the healthiest Prince George's County."

For more information about HIV and STIs, testing locations, and additional services, please visit <http://bestdfree.com/>.

To view video of this press conference, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=em-share_video_user&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery&v=0mnssKV_y1g. For photos from today's event, please visit: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/mjyourishin/albums/72157661159841897>

Chesapeake from A1

don't ask," said Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger, D-Timonium. "Most important is to maintain the \$60 million figure, but it's not always easy."

Both Ruppersberger and Rep. Andy Harris, R-Cockeysville, sit on the House Appropriations Committee and were instrumental in ensuring the \$60 million was put toward the EPA's Chesapeake Bay Program after President Donald Trump's budget in March proposed cutting the program entirely.

In Maryland's favor on the Senate side is Sen. Chris Van Hollen, D-Maryland, who sits on the appropriations panel where Mikulski sat, but he is in the minority and also the committee's lowest ranking member.

"The significant cuts to Chesapeake Bay funding in the House Republican bill would seriously damage our efforts to clean up the bay—and threaten the jobs that depend on a healthy ecosystem," Van Hollen told the Capital News Service.

Van Hollen recently introduced legislation to increase funding by \$200 million for a program that supports agriculture-related conservation efforts to protect the bay. Rep. John Sarbanes, D-Towson, was a co-sponsor of the companion bill in the House.

Local government and private organizations that depend on federal dollars for conservation efforts likely would take an outsized hit in any cut, as virtually all EPA funding must be matched dollar-for-dollar by state funds.

And the multiplying effect doesn't end there.

"In many ways the federal government's involvement serves as a catalyst," said Ann Swanson, executive director of the Chesapeake Bay Commission, a bipartisan legislative body created by Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania in 1980 to advise their respective

state legislatures on bay-related concerns.

"Many more dollars come in from the state and private sector than the federal government, but the federal dollars are the magnet," added Swanson, who noted that the ratio of state and private dollars to federal ones for bay conservation is about four to one.

To assess what a cut to EPA funding for the bay would mean, Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan's Council on the Chesapeake Bay, commonly known as the Chesapeake Bay Cabinet, did an impact study shortly after Trump's budget proposal was announced in March.

"Without adequate funding, the State (of Maryland) cannot make sufficient progress on its Chesapeake Bay restoration responsibilities or evaluate progress of other states towards meeting their Chesapeake Bay TMDL responsibilities," the report said.

The TMDL, or Total Maximum Daily Load, is the so-called "pollution diet" agreed to by all seven states that signed onto the EPA's Chesapeake Bay Program in 2008.

The impact report said the state doled out about \$2.7 million a year in EPA funds to local governments for bay restoration work, which includes improvements to coastal habitats, technological innovation and water-quality monitoring and reporting.

Maryland's Agriculture Department received an additional \$1.7 million through two different grant programs attached to EPA funding. These largely go to assisting farmers with implementing various practices that help limit the amount of nutrient and manure runoff into the bay. That money also supports nearly 21 nutrient management specialist positions at the University of Maryland's Farming Cooperative Extension network.

Cuts to federal funding would also adversely affect

some bay-related research done by UMD's Center for Environmental Science, which has grant-funded employees working at the EPA's Chesapeake Bay Program office on modeling, monitoring and data evaluation projects.

"Those (UMD) employees do a lot of work on the analysis and modeling, as well as communicating to the other states in the partnership what that (data) means," said Dave Nemazie, chief of staff for the Maryland center. He explained that one of the EPA's most important roles in Chesapeake restoration efforts is coordination. "They help build trust between the states in this partnership," he added.

When considering the true impact of funding cuts in Maryland, what happens in other states in the program must be considered, bay advocates said.

"You've got to recognize that a lot of money that gets spent in Pennsylvania and New York benefits Maryland directly," said Peter Marx, who worked at the EPA on Chesapeake Bay issues for 23 years and now manages federal affairs for the Choose Clean Water Coalition. "Fifty percent of the nitrogen that flows into the bay comes from outside of Maryland."

If federal funds were eliminated or reduced, it would be up to the seven states that signed on to the Chesapeake Bay Program—Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and the District of Columbia—to ante up to keep programs going.

In Maryland, which operates under an executive budget, the governor is the only person with the authority to spend more money when the legislature is not in session.

To date, Republican Gov. Larry Hogan has not discussed the possibility of covering federal cuts to the Chesapeake Bay Program, according to Maryland Del. Kumar Barve,

D-Montgomery County, who chairs the House Environment and Transportation Committee.

When asked if the governor was prepared to make up a shortfall in EPA funding, Hogan's office responded in part with the following: "The governor has repeatedly made it clear he will always fight for the Chesapeake Bay and that he opposes potential cuts at the federal level."

Barve said he thinks Hogan and others are banking on Maryland's congressional delegation to restore funding, adding that it might be strategic to play the waiting game.

"If we're too quick to put up the money, then the federal government will definitely do nothing and it's not acceptable for the federal government to do nothing," Barve said.

If Maryland does have make up for lost federal funds, Barve said, it would come at the expense of other state initiatives, like education, healthcare, economic development, "... all the things that we care about, we're going to have to short change in order to make up for this very short-sighted decision by the Trump administration."

Local climate groups including the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and the Choose Clean Water Foundation believe that full funding will be restored to the EPA's bay program.

"I have a lot of confidence we'll get the \$73 million in the Senate," Marx said. "This is how it played out the last four years. This is likely how it will play out again."

And if it doesn't?
"We've been working closely with other states and with the University of Maryland's financing center to make sure we have funding streams, strategies to pick up the ball if federal funding is not restored," said Maryland Secretary of the Environment Ben Grumbles. But he declined to offer more details on how that would work.

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COMMENTARY

Anthony Brown

U.S. Congressman
4th District of Maryland



Congressman Brown Introduces WMATA Flexible Funding and Safety Improvement Act

Bill Co-Sponsored by Congressman Raskin Would Explore Innovative Ways to Increase Ridership and Allow Metro to Avoid Cutting Service or Raising Fares

WASHINGTON, D.C.—On November 28, 2017, Congressman Anthony G. Brown (MD-04) and Congressman Jamie Raskin (MD-08) introduced the WMATA Flexible Funding and Safety Improvement Act. The bill would give Metro broader discretion and the ability to “flex” its federal grants for operating costs with the goal of avoiding service cuts and fare increases, and explore innovative ways to increase ridership including by offering flat fares and free transfers between bus and rail service. Additionally, the legislation creates two labor-management safety task forces and calls for great scrutiny of the MetroAccess paratransit program, which is currently being investigated by Metro’s Office of the Inspector General for manipulating and falsifying performance data. The bill was drafted in coordination with and is supported by the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU).

“A strong, safe and reliable Metro is key to getting people around, attracting businesses and creating good-paying jobs, and reducing congestion and carbon emissions. But over the last few years, residents of Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia have been forced to wait longer, pay more, and realize they can no longer rely on Metro. Mediocre, substandard service, and higher and higher fares, cannot be the new normal,” said Congressman Brown (D-MD). “This bill will bring more people back to Metro by exploring innovative ideas and holding the line on fare increases, fosters a permanent safety culture at WMATA, and ensures we provide high quality service for elderly riders and people with disabilities.”

“Tens of thousands of people in our region rely on WMATA as their primary mode of transportation every day. We owe it to our constituents and everyone who rides to make WMATA safe, reliable and cost-effective. To do that, we’ve got to provide consistent and reliable funding for WMATA, find new ways to

promote and reward ridership, and improve service for everyone,” said Congressman Raskin (D-MD). “This bill seeks to take practical steps to make real progress for our Metro system, and I salute Congressman Brown for his hard work on this plan.”

“Our union is enthusiastic about the WMATA Flexible Funding and Safety Improvement Act because it presents positive, forward thinking proposals that will make Metro a system that enhances the experience of our riders while recognizing the hard work of our members on the front-lines. ATU Local 689 is committed to working towards substantive improvement to Metro so that it is no longer a system that this region tolerates, but is one that is effective, safe, reliable and affordable. We are happy to stand with Congressmen Brown and Raskin as we work together to meet those goals,” said ATU Local 689 President Jackie Jeter.

“The ATU praises Reps. Brown and Raskin for putting forth a sensible approach to fix Metro by providing critical funding for Metro to ensure reliable and affordable transit service for the riding public in the DMV and to improve the safety of the system while recognizing the commitment and dedication of the frontline workers who make the system run on time each and every day,” said ATU International President Larry Hanley.

WMATA Flexible Funding and Safety Improvement Act

Federal Operating Assistance

- Currently, large transit systems like WMATA can only use their federal transit formula funds for capital improvements.
- The bill would give Metro broader discretion and the ability to “flex” its federal formula grant

See WMATA Page A6

Marc Morial, President and CEO

National Urban League



Honor World AIDS Day by Fighting to Preserve Access to Health Care

“Let us also continue to ensure that our Nation responds aggressively and humanely to the needs of people living with HIV and AIDS. Throughout this epidemic, community organizations have taken the lead in the struggle against the disease and in efforts to provide compassionate care to those in need. Across this country and around the globe, generous people perform miracles every day—holding a hand, cooling a fever, listening, and understanding. Let us further support their efforts to build a better world by strengthening the partnership between communities and government in the work to stop AIDS.”

—President William J. Clinton, proclaiming the first U.S. recognition of World AIDS Day.

In the United States, HIV—the virus that causes AIDS—affects African Americans more than any other group. According to the Centers for Disease Control, African American account for a higher proportion of new HIV diagnoses, those living with HIV, and those ever diagnosed with AIDS, compared to other groups. In 2015, the most recent year for which statistics are available, African Americans accounted for 45% of HIV diagnoses, while comprising only 12% of the US population.

World AIDS Day, which occurs each December 1, is dedicated to raising awareness of the AIDS pandemic caused by the spread of HIV infection, and mourning those who have died of the disease.

Since 2009, the National Urban League has partnered with the CDC to prevent HIV and AIDS and raise awareness—first, through the Act Against AIDS Leadership Initiative and more recently as part of Partnering and Communicating Together to Act Against AIDS (PACT).

1 in 8 people living with HIV in the United States don’t even know they have it. Not only are they not receiving HIV care and treatment, they are at high risk of unknowingly passing HIV to others. Because there is such a high prevalence of HIV among African Americans, and people tend to have relationships with partners of the same race and ethnicity, African Americans face a greater risk of HIV infection with each new sexual encounter.

Another contributing factor to the high rate of HIV and AIDS among African Americans is the relatively higher poverty rate. Lower-income people have limited access to high-quality health care, housing, and HIV prevention education.

We are at a moment in history where the health care of millions of middle-class and low-income Americans is threatened, which would only serve to make the problem worse. Because the tax reform proposal now under consideration is expected to add at least \$1.5 trillion to the national debt, it’s likely the imbalance will be offset by cuts to programs including Medicaid.

Medicaid is the single largest source of coverage for people with HIV in the U.S. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, the Medicaid expansion provision of the Affordable Care Act has had the most far reaching effects on people with HIV.

We will continue to fight for those living with HIV, those at risk, and the entire community not only through our participation in PACT, but also through our health care advocacy, and economic empowerment efforts. World AIDS Day may be once a year, but the battle for justice goes on.



Maryland State House

Open to the Public

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS PHOTO BY: MARTIN FALBISONER

MARYLAND STATE HOUSE

Completed in 1779, it was the site of nationally important events during the American Revolution, including George Washington’s resignation as commander in chief of the Continental Army from the army, and the ratification of the Treaty of Paris. The rich architecture and history of the building was recognized in 1960 when the State House was designated as a National Historic Landmark. The State House is open to the public every day from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except Christmas and New Years Day. To help make your visit to the Maryland State House more enjoyable, and to provide you with an understanding of its rich and historic past, self-guided tour information is available in the Office of Interpretation on the first floor.

Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



“I Didn’t Make This World For You”

... They have become great and rich; they have grown fat and sleek ...

they judge not with justice the cause of the fatherless ... and they do not defend the rights of the needy.

—Jeremiah 5:27-28

Woe to those who make unjust laws, to those who issue oppressive decrees, to deprive the poor of their rights and withhold justice from the oppressed of my people, making widows their prey and robbing the homeless child.

—Isaiah 10:1-2

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act recently passed on a nearly straight party line Republican vote in the U.S. Senate is, like the House-passed bill, a moral abomination. Their enactment would be the death of America’s dream for tens of millions of children. The House and Senate bills favor the wealthiest Americans and most powerful corporations over poor and moderate-income children and families—billionaires over poor babies and powerful corporations over poor children. They are evil.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. warned that “America is going to hell if we can’t use her vast resources to end poverty and make it possible for all of God’s children to have the basic necessities of life.” With both the Senate and House of Representatives now having passed extremely unjust tax bills, I must ask—how can 278 political leaders, 51 Senators and 227 House members, act against the best interests of so many in their states and across our nation to line the overstuffed pockets of powerful special interests with government money?

What religious texts do these Members of Congress and those who lobby them read? How did they miss the clear warnings of the prophets and gospels and tenets of every great faith to care for the poor, the sick, the lame and the orphan? Where did they learn that acting as Robin Hood in reverse by denying the poor

and powerless child the basic survival needs of food and shelter to give to the wealthy and powerful is acceptable?

There are 565 billionaires in the United States—the 400 richest of whom have a combined net worth of \$2.7 trillion. More than 13.2 million children—1 in 5—live in poverty in America. Their families of four make less than \$24,563 a year. More than 6 million children live in deep poverty, at less than half the poverty level.

A majority of both houses of Congress and the Trump Administration seek policies to reward millionaires and billionaires and non-needy corporations and add nearly \$1.5 trillion—around \$150 billion a year for the next ten years—to our national deficit to do so. And to pay for it, they will deny poor and moderate-income children and families health care, food, housing, child care and other survival assistance or help parents get needed jobs at livable wages to support their families.

Consider some of the facts about these tax cut bills:

- Both the Senate and House bills lavishly benefit the wealthiest households and individuals. The Senate bill doubles the estate tax threshold, en-

abling individuals to inherit tax free up to \$11 million and couples up to \$22 million. The House bill would eliminate the estate tax entirely.

- More than 60 percent of the Senate bill’s individual tax cuts in 2027 go to the richest 1 percent of households making \$1 million or more; 48 percent of current tax-paying households would face tax increases according to the Tax Policy Center. The Senate bill ends individual tax benefits after ten years while making permanent tax cuts for corporations. The House bill continues both individual and corporate tax cuts.

- The Senate’s \$1,000 Child Tax Credit increase to benefit families with children and make up for elimination of the personal exemption for dependents provides little or no assistance to poor and middle-income working families. Yet both the Senate and House bills enable higher income families to qualify for the credit for the first time. Neither Senate nor House bills make the credit fully refundable to help working families with the lowest incomes. Both bills would end eligibility

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BUSINESS

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty—Maximizing benefits and When to Retire

by Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I am looking for advice regarding maximizing social security benefits. In our case, my husband is 59 and has been on Social Security Disability for about 5 years. I am also 59 and work full time as a nurse. I would like to retire at age 62, but realistically will continue by working part time from 62-65 to keep my insurance benefits and some income. I have a fairly significant amount of money in my 401K that we can live on and delay taking Social Security benefits if need be. I have worked full time for most of the last 40 years. My maximum Social Security benefit right now at age 70 is \$2,791 per month. What do you suggest would be our ideal strategy?

Signed: Working Nurse

Dear Working Nurse: Here are some things for you to consider:

Assuming your husband will continue on Social Security disability, when he reaches his normal SS retirement age of 66 years and 8 months, his SSDI benefit will automatically convert to retirement benefits at the same monthly amount he was collecting on SSDI.

Your full retirement age (FRA) is 66 years and 8 months, and if you retire as soon as you're eligible at 62 your benefit will be 71.67% of what you would get at your FRA. For each month you wait, your benefit amount will increase slightly; if you wait until you are 63 to apply, you'll get 76.67% of your FRA benefit. Simply speaking, the longer you wait to apply the larger your benefit will be (up to the maximum at age 70). To use a simple example, if your benefit at your FRA is \$1000 and you retire at age 62, your benefit will be \$716/month. If you retire at age 63 it would be \$766 per month, and if you wait until you are 70 years old, it would be \$1266/month. These are just examples, but based upon what you've told me about your age 70 benefit your numbers should be about double those in the example. You should keep in mind that if you start your benefits early and continue working, and you earn more than Social Security's "earnings limit" (\$17,040 for 2018), you will incur a reduction to your Social Security benefits to the tune of \$1 for every \$2 you earn over the limit. If you work and exceed the earnings test it can have a pretty severe impact on your benefits, so please be sure to factor this into your thinking when deciding when to apply. The way the excess earnings reduction works is that they withhold future benefits until they have collected what you owe due to exceeding the limit, which can hurt a lot if you're depending upon your monthly SS income to meet expenses. They will eventually re-compute your benefit amount to help you recover all or some of what was withheld, but not until you reach your full retirement age. In the year you reach your full retirement age the earnings limit is considerably higher (\$45,360 for 2018) and the reduction is less (\$1 for every \$3 over the limit), and once you've reached your FRA the earnings test goes away and you can earn as much as you wish without a benefit reduction. Please note that the Social Security earnings limit goes up a little each year, but the reduction amount doesn't change. Another thing to keep in mind is that should you predecease your husband, he will be entitled to 100% of whatever benefit you are receiving (provided it is more than he is already receiving). Thus applying early has consequences not only for you but also for your surviving spouse. I mention this because many couples don't take spousal benefits into consideration when deciding when to apply. Obviously the decision when to apply is yours alone to make, but I hope the above gives you enough to make an informed choice.

The information presented in this article is intended for general information purposes only. The opinions and interpretations expressed are the viewpoints of the AMAC Foundation's Social Security Advisory staff, trained and accredited under the National Social Security Advisors program of the National Social Security Association, LLC (NSSA). NSSA, the AMAC Foundation, and the Foundation's Social Security Advisors are not affiliated with or endorsed by the United States Government, the Social Security Administration, or any other state government. Furthermore, the AMAC Foundation and its staff do not provide legal or accounting services. The Foundation welcomes questions from readers regarding Social Security issues. To submit a request, contact the Foundation at info@amacfoundation.org.

PGCEDC from A1

chain's fourth Olive Garden in Prince George's County. This 7,800-square foot facility showcases its new restaurant design and brings its own brand of 'Hospitaliano' (warmth, generosity and caring) to the community.

Prior to its Grand Opening, the Olive Garden management team conducted more than 1000 interviews and selected just 185 highly qualified individuals to complete its Capitol Heights Team. Its management training team is comprised of culinary professionals and servers from across the country who will work side-by-side with the new recruits to help them learn the business from top to bottom General Manager

Moses Ntale recalled his first encounter with Olive Garden and told the attendees why he is so committed to the Olive Garden family.

"When I came to America from Uganda, I didn't have anything. I was a dishwasher for Olive Garden," said Ntale. "The Olive Garden family took care of me with their 'Hospitaliano', and through hard work and diligence, I have been blessed to open four other Olive Gardens throughout the East Coast and am now the General Manager in Capitol Heights. I am excited to be a part of the Prince George's County community and I am looking forward to giving its residents the same opportunities that Olive Garden extended to me many years ago."

Israeli Tech Firm Opens U.S. Headquarters in Maryland

Sesame Enable Executives Met Governor Hogan During Israel Trade Mission in 2016

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of the Lt. Governor

ANNAPOLIS, MD—Governor Larry Hogan today announced that Sesame Enable™, an Israel-based technology firm, has opened its United States headquarters in Bethesda near the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. Governor Hogan met with company executives in 2016 as part of the administration's economic development and trade mission to Israel, where the governor promoted Maryland as the ideal location for the company's entry into the U.S. marketplace. The company currently has five employees in the U.S. and is looking to hire up to five additional Marylanders who are veterans or have limited mobility disabilities.

The company has developed a proprietary technology,

known as Open Sesame, that enables people to operate a smartphone through head movements and voice control if they cannot use their hands to control the device's touch screen. Maryland is one of the first states to adopt this technology, which is now available to citizens through the state's Maryland Accessible Telecommunications (MAT) program administered by the Department of Information Technology (DoIT).

"Governor Hogan has been an active supporter of Sesame Enable for the past year as we searched for a U.S. headquarters that would align with our vision of supporting people with physical challenges," said Oded Ben Dov, CEO and co-founder Sesame Enable, Ltd. "We chose Maryland because of the backing we have received from the state subsidy program, and Bethesda's

proximity to health institutions, including those focusing on veterans. In addition, we are now close to Washington, D.C., where we know we'll have opportunity to influence change needed to make our technology readily available to all Americans who can benefit from it."

"Sesame Enable's decision to choose Bethesda for its U.S. headquarters is tremendous news for Montgomery County and our state," said Governor Hogan. "I was excited to see this cutting edge technology firsthand, and we are proud to be one of the first states to expand universally accessible options to our citizens with disabilities."

"Maryland remains on the cutting edge, ensuring that innovations in technology are utilized to improve the life experiences of those with disabilities," said Maryland Department of Disabilities Secretary Carol

Beatty. "I am especially pleased to learn that the equipment developed by Sesame Enable was created by people with disabilities. I am grateful to Governor Hogan for not only bringing a new business to our state, but one which has such potential to positively impact Marylanders with disabilities."

"We are excited to welcome Sesame Enable to Maryland, which will serve as an excellent base of operations as the company expands into the U.S. marketplace," said Maryland Commerce Secretary Mike Gill. "The company's innovative technology will significantly improve the lives of people with disabilities right here in Maryland and around the globe."

Sesame Enable has been recognized by technology leaders and disability advocates for its innovation in developing life-changing options that enhance and expand the quality of life for the disabled. This year, Sesame released a new app, available on Google Play to anyone with mobile devices running Android 7 or later, making this much-needed technology available worldwide.

Grant from A1

ing to change that with a \$250,000 commitment to Ready for Work.

"The Council appropriated FY 2018 funding to support this pilot initiative and the power of nonprofits to serve the community. We are especially excited to partner with VPP to build up nonprofits in Prince George's County dedicated to improving the lives of young people, and the Council congratulates the selected nonprofit participants. This is a critical investment in our youth and the future of our County."

Carol Thompson-Cole, President and CEO of Venture Philanthropy Partners added, "At VPP, we strive to improve the lives of youth in Greater Washington. With the Ready for Work Nonprofit Capacity Building Initiative, we are investing in Prince George's County nonprofits so

they can expand their ability to help young people achieve their goals. We are excited to see the long-term impact that this will have on youth."

Ready for Work is a six-year, \$15 million investment to help young people in Prince George's County successfully transition to career and college ready adults.

A key goal of Ready for Work is to build networks of community-based organizations that can provide integrated supports for students. The Nonprofit Capacity Building Initiative will strengthen the capacity of these nonprofits to provide more students in the county with high-quality services.

Following a competitive process, four nonprofits in the County were identified as organizations specifically focused on providing high school students with academic achievement, high school completion, post-secondary preparation, career readiness and healthy behaviors.

- First Generation College Bound—http://www.fgcb.org/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery
- The Foundation for the Advancement of Music and Education (FAME)—http://fame.org.org/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery
- Joe's Movement Emporium—http://www.joesmovement.org/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery
- End-Time Harvest Ministries—http://ethm.org/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery
- VPP has selected Fair Chance—http://www.fairchancedc.org/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery—an experienced provider of nonprofit capacity building, to co-manage the initiative and work with the nonprofits to improve organizational outcomes in
- Effective leadership

- Strategic governance and stewardship
- Organizational management practices
- Program design, implementation and evaluation
- Communications
- Collaboration

Selected nonprofits will receive support to become high-performing organizations, and be provided the opportunity to strengthen grant writing, management and report writing skills and capacities. Each nonprofit will compete for mini-grants for use over a three-year period to further enhance select organizational and programmatic capacities. The program will also focus on strengthening the boards of the participating organizations.

By the end of the three-year period, participating nonprofits may be invited to begin serving students in the Ready for Work high schools.

Job Growth from A1

job growth rate at 1.4% and the national job growth rate of 1.7%.

"This is not happening by accident. From the beginning, my administration laid out a vision to make Prince George's County the 'economic engine' of the State of Maryland and the National Capital Region. We expanded our commercial tax base, which brought quality jobs to the County," said Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. "Today's report validates our strategy, stimulating economic development, reducing crime, and improving our school system. It demonstrates that we have achieved our goal. I want to thank my great economic development team, the Prince George's County Council, the Prince George's County Senate and House delegations, municipal leaders, and, most importantly, the business community of the County for believing in us, investing in us, and hiring our incredibly skilled residents. It is clear, we have made Prince George's County the "Place to Be!"

Previously, Prince George's County job growth rate ranking was 55th in the nation during the

March 2017, Bureau of Labor Statistics reporting. Additionally, Prince George's County has led the State of Maryland in job growth for three consecutive reporting quarters and has an unemployment rate of 3.7%—which is lower than the State of Maryland's 3.8% and the national unemployment rate of 4.1%.

"The Prince George's County Council joins County Executive Baker in celebrating this success," said Prince George's County Council Chair Dannielle Glaros (D-District 3). "In addition to championing the exciting development and redevelopment projects happening across the County, we are also focused on increasing opportunities and support for local entrepreneurs and small and minority businesses across the County."

Last week, Prince George's County broke ground on the \$650 million University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Center in Downtown Largo. This week, Prince George's County will celebrate the first anniversary of the opening of the \$1.4 billion dollar MGM National Harbor resort that has hired over 3,600 full time, permanent employees—nearly 50% of these employees are

Prince George's County residents. Job growth and economic development investment have been robust in every part of the County with over nearly \$9 billion in private investment attracted since the beginning of County Executive Baker's Administration in December 2010.

Over the past several months, Prince George's County Executive Baker has participated in 16 openings, groundbreakings, and ceremonial events for economic development projects, including:

- August:**
Groundbreaking of the Purple Line
- September:**
Opening of The Hotel at the University of Maryland
Opening of the new Fairmont Heights High School)
Proposing Prince George's County Amazon HQ2 Potential Locations
- October:**
Opening of the University of Maryland College Park Academy Charter School
Opening of the Catholic Charities Susan Denison Mona Center in Temple Hills

Groundbreaking of a new Kaiser Permanente building at the New Carrollton Metro Station
Groundbreaking of the new U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Headquarters at the Branch Avenue Metro

November:
Groundbreaking of Prince George's County's first Homewood Suites Hotel
Groundbreaking of Artisan Building in Gateway Arts District
Groundbreaking of Towne Square at the Suitland Federal Center
Signing of Purple Line Community Compact Agreement
Groundbreaking of Glenarden Phase I Community
Groundbreaking of new University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Center in Downtown Largo

December:
Groundbreaking of new Children's National Regional Outpatient Center at Woodmore Town Centre at Glenarden

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OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK

Movie Review

The Killing of a Sacred Deer

The Killing of a Sacred Deer
Grade: B+
Rated R, some disturbing violence, nudity and sexuality, some profanity
2 hrs., 1 min

If you've seen Yorgos Lanthimos' other films, like *Dogtooth* or *The Lobster*,* you enter *The Killing of a Sacred Deer* braced for uncomfortable hilarity with touches of deadpan violence. In that respect, Lanthimos does not disappoint. In other respects—say, in the area of providing a lighthearted cinematic experience that you can wholeheartedly recommend to all your friends—he is unsuccessful and not interested.

With regular co-writer Efthymis Filippou, the Greek absurdist here presents what might be his darkest morality play yet. Set in an unnamed American city (filmed in Cincinnati), it involves a heart surgeon, Steven Murphy (Colin Farrell), his ophthalmologist wife, Anna (Nicole Kidman), and their children, teenage Kim (Raffey Cassidy) and younger Bob (Sunny Suljic). But it also concerns a 16-year-old boy named Martin (Barry Keoghan), with whom Steven has some kind of connection, buying him gifts and taking him out for ice cream. We do not immediately understand the nature of Steven's relationship with Martin—there's an uneasy feeling as we wonder just what kind of "unsettling" this movie is going to be—but we learn that the boy's father was a patient of Steven's and that his mother



ROTTENTOMATOES

Dr. Steven Murphy (Colin Farrell) is a renowned cardiovascular surgeon presiding over a spotless household with his ophthalmologist wife Anna (Nicole Kidman) and their two exemplary children, 12-year-old Bob (Sunny Suljic) and 14-year-old Kim (Raffey Cassidy). Lurking at the margins of his idyllic suburban existence is Martin (Barry Keoghan), a fatherless teen who Steven has covertly taken under his wing. As Martin begins insinuating himself into the family's life in ever-more unsettling displays, the full scope of his intent becomes menacingly clear when he confronts Steven with a long-forgotten transgression that will shatter the Murphy family's domestic bliss.

(Alicia Silverstone) has the hots for the doctor.

Other odd details emerge. The Murphys are a loving, functional family, but their conversations are mundane, their manner detached and clinical. Steven and Anna's sex life involves one of them pretending to be unconscious, like a patient under anesthesia. Everyone overshares private information and asks strangely personal questions. Martin, a squirrely, messy kid, ingratiates himself with the Murphys, befriending teenage Kim before finally spelling out his intentions. I won't spoil them, but if the film's title means anything to you (it comes from Greek

mythology), you may guess where things are headed.

What follows is a perverse "Twilight Zone" scenario about an impossible choice, made grimly funny by everyone's stilted delivery (as if they're bored with a very un-boring situation) and Lanthimos' commitment to his premise. I wish it ended with more flourish instead of simply resolving the plot; on the other hand, Keoghan (recently seen suffering a head injury in "Dunkirk") gives a performance of remarkable subtlety and creepiness. The film is an audacious, unpredictable provocation that tickles my sensibilities but may offend yours. You'll know whether the

movie's for you by whether the preceding sentence reads like a warning or an invitation.

*I seem not to have reviewed "Dogtooth" or "The Lobster," but both are excellent forays into the absurd. "Dogtooth" concerns a family that keeps its children isolated from the rest of the world in hilarious, unsettling ways; "The Lobster" (also starring Colin Farrell) is set in a world where single people are sent to a facility and given 30 days to find a mate or be turned into the animal of their choice. (P.S. Lanthimos also made a film called "Alps," which I haven't seen but which proves not all of his titles have animals in them.)

Amir Hall One of Four Finalist for Black College Football Hall of Fame Player of the Year

By PRESS OFFICER
Bowie State University

ATLANTA, GA—The Black College Football Hall of Fame (BCFHOF) announced four Finalists for the Black College Football Player of the Year Award. The Award is presented annually to the most outstanding football player from a Historically Black College & University (HBCU) that embodies the rich tradition of athletic excellence and integrity associated with HBCUs. Former North Carolina A&T State University, and current Chicago Bears Running Back, Tarik Cohen was selected as the inaugural recipient of the Award in 2016.

The 2017 Finalists include RB Trenton Cannon (Virginia State University), QB Amir Hall (Bowie State University), QB DeVante Kincade (Grambling

State University) and QB Lamar Raynard (North Carolina A&T State University).

The Finalists were chosen by a five-member Selection Committee, which is composed of Black College Football Hall of Fame founders James "Shack" Harris and Doug Williams, long-time SBN Broadcaster and Director of News and Sports for the Power News Radio Network Ty Miller, former USA Today sports writer Roscoe Nance, and ESPN College Football Analyst Jay Walker.

"The Black College Football Player of the Year Award showcases the immense talent of our HBCU student-athletes today," said Doug Williams, BCFHOF Co-Founder and 2011 Inductee. "Each finalist has had an incredible season and we are excited to celebrate their success."



PHOTO COURTESY BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

Amir Hall moves closer to winning award.

The winner of the 2017 Black College Football Player of the Year Award will be announced on February 10, 2018 at the Ninth Annual Black College Football Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, Presented by the Atlanta Falcons in Atlanta, Georgia. He will be presented with the Deacon Jones Trophy, named in honor of the

football legend and inaugural BCFHOF inductee.

"On behalf of the Black College Football Hall of Fame Trustees, we congratulate the Black College Football Player of the Year Finalists," said James "Shack" Harris, Co-Founder and 2012 Inductee. "These student-athletes represent the very best of HBCU football."

WMATA from A4

funds for operating costs with the goal of avoiding service cuts and fare increases. However, in order to quality for these flex funds, Metro would first need to show a dedicated funding commitment from the jurisdictions of at least 50% for operating costs. Metro is currently at 46%.

Flat Fare, Free Transfer Pilot Program and Ability-Based Fares Program

- The bill sets up a one year pilot program implementing a flat \$2.50 fare on trips originating from three Metrorail stations, one in each local jurisdiction, to be selected by WMATA.

- In addition, it requires a pilot program offering free transfers between bus and rail at the participating Metrorail stations.

- Following the pilot period, Metro would issue a report on how ridership and revenue was impacted by the pilot program at, and around the participating Metrorail stations.

- The bill also requires an Ability-Based fares program to be known as the "Lifeline Program," offering reduced fares for people whose incomes are at least 200% below the Federal poverty level.

Safety Task Forces

- The bill establishes two labor-management safety Task

Forces that would review certain aspects of bus and track safety programs including but not limited to training of employees, instructions for train and bus drivers, correct right-of-way procedures, and procedures to keep train and bus operators safe from injury and assault.

MetroAccess Review

- Currently, Metro outsources their on-demand paratransit service to private contractors and recently Metro's Office of Inspector General has reopened an investigation into whether these contractors manipulated tens of thousands of trip records to make late arrivals appear on-time and masking performance lapses.

- This bill would require Metro's Inspector General to conduct a review of the MetroAccess program including but not limited to—percentage of late trips, the cost for late trips, average trip length, the number of miles a transit vehicle moves without passengers aboard (dead-heading), and the number of people that they pick up per hour.

- If the results of the review indicate that WMATA ranks in the bottom half of other large transit systems with respect to a majority of the categories within the scope of the review, WMATA shall not renew the MetroAccess contract that triggered the review and shall arrange to bring this service in house.

Winter Workouts

You Can Bring Your Exercise Routine in From the Cold

(NAPSI)—Staying in shape when it's cold out can be a challenge. Cold weather can make outdoor workouts less appealing, and it can be easy to lose motivation. Fortunately, there are many options to keep you moving.

"Don't let the cold weather discourage you from staying active," said Tom Holland, exercise physiologist and Bowflex fitness adviser. "There are many ways to work up a sweat in the comfort of your home and stay fit during the colder months. What's important is finding what works for you and sticking with it."

Here are five ways to help you stay fit during the colder months:

- 1. Embrace the great indoors.** You don't have to be outside to work up a sweat: Opt for workouts you can do at home. If your usual workout involves walking outside, make an effort to fit in some extra steps as you go about your day indoors. Everyday household activities—such as vacuuming, rearranging furniture or organizing closets—burn more calories than you might think. Purposefully making extra trips up and down the stairs for laundry runs or mopping the floors can help get you moving and sweating. In fact, 30 minutes of vacuuming can burn up to 120 calories. No matter your outdoor workout of choice, it's easy to find a way to incorporate many of the same movements into your indoor activities.

- 2. Watch TV.** That is, use it to help track your progress. Many fitness products, including the Modern Movement M-Pad Balance & Strength Trainer (www.modmov.com) and its accompanying M-Trac app, can connect to a TV screen to enhance your workout. A recent study in The Journal of the American Medical Association found that fitness-tracking games can lead to an increase in physical activity by offering a motivating experience. With the M-Pad, you can play balance and agility games including "Bull's Eye," "Maze" and "Space Invaders," all while measuring your progress and improving your balance with the functional fitness platform.

- 3. Try something new.** Find different, exciting ways to get moving. Try an exercise class, such as Zumba or a cycling class, or get two workouts in one with the Bowflex HVT fitness machine (www.bowflex.com/hvt). It offers hybrid velocity training, combining cardio and strength training into an effective, fast workout suitable for everyone from beginners to fitness pros. Bluetooth smart technology and the free HVT app help you follow along with pre-existing workouts, or customize your own with 50 trainer-led exercise videos.

- 4. Get the family involved.** Family game nights can be more than just bonding time. Pull out the interactive games, like Twister, or use your gaming console with videos like "Just Dance" to work up a sweat with the whole family. You'll keep the kids entertained and get everyone up and moving at the same time!

- 5. Set attainable goals.** Having something to work toward can help inspire you to keep moving. Whether your goal is as simple as completing a workout twice a week or tied to a deadline, such as training for a race in the spring, you'll be more motivated to be active if you have something to focus on. The sense of accomplishment you'll get from achieving your goal can be an added bonus.



PHOTO COURTESY NAPSI

The Modern Movement M-Pad fitness trainer makes working out indoors simple and fun.

**Proudly Serving Prince George's County
Since 1932**

Calendar of Events

December 14 — December 20, 2017

Xtreme Teens: Winter Campfire & Card Making Workshop

Date and time: Friday, December 15, 2017, 7:00 pm–10:00 pm
Description: Participants will get to make s'mores and enjoy the campfire experience. Come and join the fun while we make Holiday greeting cards and snack on some scrumptious snacks, too!
Cost: FREE
Ages: 10–17
Location: Deerfield Run Community Center
13000 Laurel-Bowie Road, Laurel, MD
Contact: 301-953-7882; TTY 301-699-2544

Ballad Of at the Listening Room

Date and time: Ballad Of is a DC-based quartet that offers a wide range of musical styles that are strategically intertwined to make engaging and unique musical compositions. Their style slams together vocal harmonies, guitars, banjos, cello/fiddles, and both traditional and non-traditional percussion instruments for a truly engaging performance.
Description:
Cost: \$15/ticket
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: Brentwood Arts Exchange
3901 Rhode Island Avenue, Brentwood, MD
Contact: 301-277-2863; TTY 301-699-2544

JAPA Presents: "Ace It!" Dance Audition Workshop

Date and time: Saturday, December 16, 2017, 9:00 am–1:00 pm
Description: Want to audition for musicals and plays in your school and community? Don't fear your next audition - Ace it! Join us for three audition-intensive workshops to learn and discover the skills needed to stand out at your next casting call. No prior experience necessary.
Cost: FREE
Ages: 8–15
Location: The Prince George's County Room
at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center
8270 Alumni Drive, College Park, MD
Contact: 301-446-3259; TTY 301-699-2544

Breakfast with Santa

Date and time: Saturday, December 16, 2017, 10:00 am–12:00 pm
Description: Here's your chance to visit with Santa! Enjoy complimentary continental breakfast, entertainment, and make and take arts and crafts projects, too. Remember to bring your camera to capture those special moments with Santa. (Sponsored by the College Park Recreation Board, College Park Arts Exchange and M-NCPPC).
Cost: FREE
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: College Park Community Center
5051 Pierce Avenue, College Park, MD
Contact: 301-441-2647; TTY 301-699-2544

Holiday Trains & Planes

Date and time: December 16, 2017 through
December 23, 2017, 10:am–5:00 pm
Description: Miniature trains, villages, tunnels, and depots spark the imagination as they bring history to life. The National Capital Trackers bring a fascinating, constantly moving, holiday-themed display of model railroads to the museum.
Trains will stop running at 4 pm on Dec. 23.
Cost: FREE with museum admission of: \$5/adults,
\$4/seniors, \$2/children, FREE/1 & under
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: College Park Aviation Museum
1985 Corporal Frank Scott Drive, College Park, MD
Contact: 301-864-6029; TTY 301-699-2544

Family Fun Day: Squeaky Clean Band - Mistletoe

Date and time: Saturday, December 16, 2017, 2:00 pm
Description: The whole family will have a rockin' holiday time when Suzanne and Glenn bring the wide world of year-end celebrations to the stage. Traditions and songs of Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanzaa, Dongzhi, Three Kings Day, and Eid-al-Fitr are just some of the celebrations included in this festive program. Whether your family is celebrating a major holiday, a minor holiday, or no holiday at all, this show has something for you.
Cost: \$5
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: Publick Playhouse
5445 Landover Road, Cheverly, MD
Contact: 301-277-1710; TTY 301-699-2544

Holiday Ornament Workshop

Date and time: Saturday, December 16, 2017, 2:00 pm–4:00 pm
Description: This family-friendly workshop provides the opportunity to create paper ornaments for the Holiday season. Bring your own, special paper or feel free to use any materials we'll provide. We look forward to sharing the Holidays with you!
Cost: Free
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: Brentwood Arts Exchange
3901 Rhode Island Avenue, Brentwood, MD
Contact: 301-277-2863; TTY 301-699-2544

Divas Deck the Halls

Date and time: Sunday, December 17, 2017, 4:00 pm–6:00 pm
Description: The holidays come to life during an afternoon of carols, yuletide songs, and festive fa, la, la, la, la la la la la tunes, performed by Washington National Opera sopranos. 'Tis the season to be jolly with the entire family!
Cost: \$15/ticket
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: Montpelier Arts Center
9652 Muirkirk Road, Laurel, MD
Contact: 301-377-7800; TTY 301-699-2544

EARTH TALK ... Vegan Gifts: Give Something Animal Lovers Will Love

Dear EarthTalk:

I'm looking for cool holiday gift ideas for a strident vegan who won't tolerate items that make use of animals or animal products. Any ideas?

—Doug Halpern,
Washington, D.C.

Well ... an Omaha Steaks gift box is definitely off the table as an idea, but there are plenty of great gift options for the vegans or even just the animal-friendly among us. Food-wise, how about a gift certificate to the recipient's favorite vegan restaurant or natural foods store? Or how about a subscription to Vegan Cuts' monthly "Vegan Snack Box" containing chips, cookies, sodas, teas and other vegan goodies, delivered right to the doorstep (\$222/annual or \$22.95/month)? Kids (and their vegan parents) might like Vegan Cuts' No Whey! Christmas Extravaganza! Gift Box (\$35.50) containing an assortment of vegan candies including whey-free chocolate. Yet another option is Vegan Store's Care Package Basket (\$54.95), containing vegan versions of mac'n'cheese, jerky, parmesan, cookies, taco filling, chocolate bars and even "chicken" noodle soup.

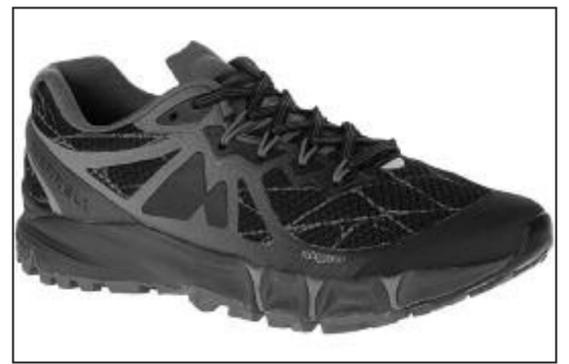
Personal care products are another retail segment where vegan products are starting to flood the marketplace. Lush Cosmetics, Mineral Fusion and Andalou are just a few of hundreds of U.S. based firms now selling vegan-friendly make-up, moisturizer, soap, shampoo and other

health and beauty products. To find more, check out the Environmental Working Group (EWG) free "Skin Deep" cosmetics database.

DIY-types might want to consider making their own vegan health and beauty products to give to that finicky vegan you love. Earth911 has collected and linked out to a list of some 50 "recipes" you can use to make your own peppermint sugar scrub bars, calendula lavender salves or coconut mocha face masks.

And remember: Being vegan is about much more than what you put in or slather on your body. If that special vegan someone needs new kicks, check out Merrell's line of vegan-friendly shoes and sandals, featuring a wide range of casual and technical footwear options for men and women. Some other manufacturers of vegan-friendly active footwear lines include Garment, Brooks, Wills, Iowa, Treksta, Keen and Zamberlan. Meanwhile, the vegan glamour girl on your list might like a new pair of heels from OlsenHaus, which crafts stylish women's footwear from renewable plant-based materials and man-made materials—but no animal products despite the fact that their shoes often look like real leather or suede.

Vegans who like to wear their lifestyle choice on their sleeve might like a t-shirt or bracelet from the online store of leading vegan blogger Vegan Zombie. Screen-printed designs look hip and feature pro-vegan



CREDIT: EARTHTALK

Merrell's line of vegan-friendly shoes, including the Agility Peak Flex pictured here, are made without any animal products yet perform as well as their conventional counterparts.

messaging. And warm up that chilly vegan with Save the Duck's Hooded Puffer Jacket featuring Plumtech down-replacement vegan insulation. For a wealth of additional ideas for gifts for vegans with a flair for clothing, check out the non-profit Farm Sanctuary's Vegan Fashion Shopping List which

links out to dozens of animal-friendly, cruelty-free clothing and footwear lines.

Of course, non-vegans would love receiving any of these gifts as well, giving the giver the satisfaction of doing the right thing by animals and the environment whether or not the recipient appreciates it.

CONTACTS: Vegan Cuts, vegancuts.com; Vegan Store, veganstore.com; Lush Cosmetics, www.lushusa.com; Mineral Fusion, www.mineralfusion.com; Andalou, www.andalou.com; EWG Skin Deep, ewg.org/skindeep/; Earth911's 50 DIY Natural Handmade Beauty Products, goo.gl/uMYrzi; VivaTerra, www.vivaterra.com; Merrell Vegan-Friendly Shoes & Sandals, merrell.com/US/en/vegan-friendly-shoes-sandals/; Treksta Vegan Styles, treksta.com/vegan_styles; OlsenHaus, olsenhaus.com; Vegan Zombie, veganzombie.com; Save the Duck, savetheduckusa.com.

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Bulldogs Women's Basketball Takes Down Goldey-Beacom Lightning 60–49

By PRESS OFFICER
Bowie State University

WILMINGTON, DE—Bowie State University women's basketball improved its record to 5–1 following a 60–49 road victory at Goldey-Beacom College on November 30, 2017.

Sophomore Kyaja Williams (Baltimore, Md.) recorded a double-double of 14 points and 11 rebounds on 5-of-7 shooting from the field to lead the Bulldogs. Senior Kiara Colston (Burtonsville, Md.) and graduate student Sade Chatman (Minneapolis, Ind.) added 13 and 12 points respectively.

Bowie State (5–1) shot 36.8 percent (21-of-57) from the field and made 15-of-17 free throws (88.2 percent). The Bulldogs held advantages in points in the paint (26–22), bench points (36–13) and rebounds (41–34).

Goldey-Beacom and Bowie State battled to a 14–all tie in the first quarter of play and featured five lead changes in opening 10 minutes.

Goldey-Beacom's Lightning led the majority of the second quarter only to see Bowie State roll into halftime with a 26–25 lead following a Chatman jumper with 35 seconds on the clock.

Britani Bryson (Hampton, Va.) scored the first field goal of the third quarter to shift the advantage over the Goldey-Beacom at 27–26 but a layup on the other by Bowie State's Chatman gave the advantage back over to Bowie State for what we be for the rest of the game.

Back-to-back Bryson field goals created the fifth tie at 44–all at the 8:54 mark of the third quarter.

BSU's Williams scored a conventional three-point play

with 8:43 remaining to give the Bulldogs a 47–44 lead only to have GBC's Amanda McGrogan (Mount Laurel, N.J.) drill a triple to knot the score at 47–47.

The Lightning's Alanna Speaks (Wilmington, Del.) canned a free throw with 4:02 left to pull the Lightning to a 49–49 deadlock. But the Bulldogs took over from there, shooting 3-of-6 from the floor the rest of the way and 5-for-6 from the line.

Williams began things for Bowie State by hitting two free throws with 3:14 to play for a 51–49 game. Both teams in the next few possessions had great looks down low and on the perimeter, but could not find the mark.

The score remained the same for almost two minutes before senior Lisa Jing (Laurel, Md.) hit a layup with 1:21 to go for a 53–49 Bulldogs lead. The

Lightning's McGrogan missed a layup for GBC and a layup by redshirt junior Pere Alexander (Baltimore, Md.) with 46 seconds left gave Bowie State a 55–49 lead.

Bowie State senior Kyah Proctor (Capital Heights, Md.) knocked down a pair of free throws with 27 seconds remaining in the game and Williams closed the non-conference contest with a layup and a free throw to seal the Bulldogs victory.

Bryson ended the night with 16 points and 11 rebounds and junior Tanner Turner-Rush (Harrisburg, Pa.) netted 13 points for the Lightning (2–6), who shot 30 percent (16-of-54) from the field.

The Bulldogs welcome the University of the District of Columbia Firebirds to the A.C. Jordan Arena on Monday (12/4) evening for a non-conference clash at 5:30 p.m.

Statement of Rushern L. Baker, III Regarding Newly Elected County Council Leadership

County Council Member Dannielle M. Glaros elected County Council Chair; Council Member Todd M. Turner elected County Council Vice-Chair

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Government

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III, released this statement after selection of Prince George's County Council Member Dannielle M. Glaros (D-District 3) as the new Council Chair and Todd M. Turner (D-District 4) as the Vice Chair:

"I would like to congratulate the new Chair of the Prince George's County Council, Council Member Dannielle M. Glaros as well as the new Vice Chair, Council Member Todd M.

Turner for being elected by their colleagues to lead the Council for the next year. I look forward to working with them and the entire Council during the final year of my administration as we continue our work to advance Prince George's County and make life better for our residents.

From New Carrollton to Camp Springs, Brentwood to Suitland, Glenarden to Largo and other communities throughout Prince George's County, we have been breaking ground on projects, opening new facilities, and welcoming new businesses and residents to the County. I am proud of these

celebrations because they are the culmination of partnership and collaboration between the Executive and Legislative branches of Prince George's County Government.

I want to thank outgoing Chairman Derrick L. Davis for his leadership of the County Council for the past two years. He has been a steadfast, energetic, skillful and respected leader who has made an impact in the County as well as throughout this region and the state. The accomplishments and achievements of the Prince George's County Council under his leadership have significantly con-

tributed to our quest to become the 'Place to Be' for residents, visitors, and businesses.

Amazing things are happening in Prince George's County. We are leading the State of Maryland in job growth, our crime rate continues to be at 30 year record lows, and we are seeing improvements in our education systems, healthcare options, and quality of life throughout our community. I am confident that my administration will continue working in concert with the members of the Prince George's County Council to provide a better quality of life for every Prince Georgian."

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