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CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTO BY PAULWALL HAWKINS

The 2014 Pink Pierce Pumper needs a name.

“Pinky” “Hope” and ?? - Third Pink PGFD Unit Needs a Name

By PRESS OFFICER
PGFD

The Prince George's County Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department is preparing to accept the final addition to our cancer awareness campaign, “Proud to be Pink.” In October 2012, Pinky, an engine wrapped in pink, was introduced to the public. Just shy of 2 years later, Hope—a painted pink paramedic transport—made her debut. Soon the Department will place in service a 2014 Pierce Velocity pumper, also painted pink but with a lavender strip around it. Each of these pieces of apparatus

was designed to raise Breast Cancer Awareness; however, the lavender strip on the pumper represents every type of cancer.

The Pierce pumper will be housed at Capital Heights Fire/EMS Station 805, where Pinky currently resides. Croom Fire/EMS Station 845 in Upper Marlboro is slated to become Pinky's new home, with Hope remaining at College Park Fire/EMS Station 812.

The nickname Hope was selected from over 200 entries submitted through a social media promotion. The same process will be used to name the pumper, and, once again, everyone is invited to

submit a nomination. When choosing a name, keep in mind that while the new Pierce engine is predominately pink, its lavender-colored strip represents all cancers. Also, your choice should be in good taste and demonstrate a positive outlook. One or 2 words are preferable, but all nominations will be considered. In the event the Fire/EMS De-

partment receives multiple entries for the winning selection, the person whose entry was received first will get an official PGFD pink uniform shirt that is worn by our personnel during the month of October.

The winning entry will be announced on September 30, 2014, at 11:00 a.m., during the dedication ceremony for the new pumper at the Capital Heights Fire/EMS Station.

Entries can be sent via Twitter to @PGFDPIO and Facebook at Facebook.com/PGFDPAGE, and should include #PGFDPIK. If you do not have a social media account, nominations may be submitted via email to tomebrady@co.pg.md.us. The deadline for submissions is September, 28, 2014.

Programs Welcome More Than 126,000 Students To PG County Public Schools

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCPS

With the opening of the 2014-15 school year, Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) is finalizing preparations to welcome over 126,000 students to its 208 schools.

More than 800 new teachers and 30 new principals will join their colleagues as Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell enters his second year as Chief Executive Officer. This year marks the first International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme at Melwood Elementary School and John Hanson French

Immersion, a new Spanish Immersion program at three elementary schools, an innovative Aerospace Engineering and Aviation Technology Career Academy at DuVal High School, and the opening of Edward M. Felegy Elementary, a creative and performing arts themed, state-of-the-art school in Hyattsville.

“We are excited to welcome our students to the new school year,” said Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell, Chief Executive Officer for PGCPS. “From build-

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O'Malley Applauds Successful Wind Energy Auction

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of the Governor

ANNAPOLIS, MD — Governor Martin O'Malley and Lt. Governor Anthony Brown congratulated U.S. Wind Inc., a company provisionally awarded wind energy leases in the U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) official auction. The two lease areas are within the Maryland Wind Energy Area (WEA) of the Outer Continental Shelf located 10 nautical miles east of Ocean City, Maryland within Federal waters.

“We need a jobs agenda to match our climate challenge,” Gov. O'Malley said. “Expanding renewable energy, like we're doing here, will bring Maryland's vision for clean energy one step closer to reality and clearly set our State apart on the country's renewable energy landscape.”

BOEM will officially award leases after the winning bids pass anti-trust review by the U.S. Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission.

Secretary Sally Jewell concurred, offering that “today's

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Protecting Maryland's Blue Crabs

By JOE GILL, Secretary
MD Dept. of Natural Resources

I say, “Maryland.”

You say, “Crabs.”

Few things dial up an instant connection to our home state like a pile of steamed crabs, hot to the touch and dusted with Old Bay, spread across a table covered with brown paper. Surrounded by friends and family with the Orioles game providing the soundtrack—you could be somewhere else, but why would you want to be?

We often take for granted our next bushel of crabs and the one after that, just as our parents and grandparents did.

We shouldn't. Harsh winter weather, coastal currents and natural predators can threaten the health of the blue crab population. To be sure, conditions can change as quickly as the striped bass bite in early fall. Good crab harvest years, such as 2012, are sometimes followed by poor seasons marked by scarcity and high prices.

The Maryland Natural Resources Police have launched a campaign – Don't Get Pinched

– to target crabbers who don't play by the rules. The enforcement effort is being embraced by our partners at the Virginia Marine Resources Commission and the Potomac River Fisheries Commission, as we stand together to protect and manage these resources using the best available science.

NRP's game plan follows the one established last year to protect another Bay keystone species – oysters. Surveillance, undercover operations, night vision equipment, saturation patrols and the Maritime Law Enforcement Information Network (MLEIN) are all being employed. Officers will be on the lookout for undersized crabs, overharvesting, recreational crabbers keeping female crabs, and crab pots that are not registered.

Rest assured we are not looking to ruin anyone's outing or dinner plans. We are working to ensure the health of our fishery, the livelihoods of honest, law-abiding watermen and the enjoyment of our citizens.

Despite harvest being within the safe range for the last six years, the 2014 spawning age female crab abundance was just



PHOTO COURTESY THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Fresh Steamed Maryland Blue Crabs.

below the minimum safe level and the last two juvenile population surveys were not as robust as we would have liked. With this, awareness and enforcement efforts such as Don't Get Pinched are necessary now more than ever.

The signature species of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries will keep its treasured place in our heritage only if we protect it. So, enjoy Maryland's delicious blue crab and the rest of your summer... but don't get pinched.

Lt. Governor Brown and Ken Ulman Announces Support for Coastal Companies' New Headquarters

Officials Hold Ceremonial Groundbreaking for New 240,000 Square-Foot Facility in Laurel Which Will Create 400 New Jobs

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of the Lt. Governor

BALTIMORE, Md. – Lt. Governor Anthony Brown joined Howard County Executive Ken Ulman to announce state and county support for a new corporate headquarters in Laurel for The Coastal Companies, a leading Mid Atlantic produce and dairy supplier. Officials also held a ceremonial groundbreaking for the new 240,000 square-foot headquarters, which is expected to be complete by early 2016. The new facilities will house the operations of various operating divisions of The Coastal Companies including Coastal Sunbelt Produce, East Coast Fresh, Cold Chain Logistics and Cold Chain Imports as well as The Coastal Companies Foundation. The company plans to create 400 new jobs by 2018.

“By working with our partners in Howard County, we are ensuring that The Coastal Companies – which has tripled in size over the last six years – has a new state-of-the-art facility with the space needed to expand and add new jobs,” said Governor Martin O'Malley. “Our most important priority continues to be creating and retaining the kinds of jobs that will sustain Maryland's economy for today and decades to come.”

“The continued investment in Maryland and Howard County by The Coastal Companies sends a strong message that Maryland has the right combination of highly-skilled workers and strategic location that world-class companies need to succeed,” said Lt. Governor Brown. “We are pleased to be able to help this home-grown Maryland company continue to expand and add 400 new jobs.”

The State, through the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED), has approved a \$1 million conditional loan with the requirement that the company retain its jobs in Maryland. Howard County is also assisting with the Company's relocation by providing \$150,000 in property tax credits and placing the project in its Fast Track Development Process to expedite the review of applications and permits. The new headquarters is being constructed just 3 miles from the company's current operation in Savage to accommodate staff and strengthen The Coastal Companies' leading position in its core market.

“When we learned that The Coastal Companies was looking at several options as they sought room to grow, our whole team

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INSIDE

Back to School and Winning the Future

Here in Maryland our schools have already begun welcoming students back for the new academic year. Initial estimates show there's a good chance we'll reach a new record enrollment this year with more than 860,000 students filling our classrooms – and we're ready for them.
Community, Page A3

Rushern L. Baker Regarding Domestic Violence Homicide in Prince George's County

We must all play an active role in identifying these situations before they happen. We need everyone's help dealing with the root causes of domestic violence such as mental illness, insufficient conflict resolution skills, drug and alcohol abuse and depression.
Commentary, Page A4

Triumphant to Receive \$750,000 From InvestMaryland

Triumphant offers large commercial enterprises and government entities continuous protection against next-generation malware attacks, including advanced persistent threats (APTs), targeted attacks, in-memory attacks, zero-day attacks and rootkits.
Business, Page A5

Movie Review: “They Came Together”

When Joel and Molly meet, it's hate at first sight: his big Corporate Candy Company threatens to shut down her quirky indie candy shop. Plus, Joel is hung up on his sexy ex. But amazingly, they fall in love, until they break up about two thirds of the way through, and Molly starts dating her accountant.
Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

Is it true that much of our food—including cereals and snacks eaten by children—is actually over-fortified with excessive amounts of vitamins and minerals that can be dangerous to our health?

— Diane Summerton, Waukesha, WI

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

Remember when Mayor Glaubitz Circle was dedicated and Gov. Schaefer was speaker?

Maryland's longest-serving mayor, Gerald "Jerry" Glaubitz, died April 6, 2005 after a period of failing health. But only seven months earlier, he was there when Morningsiders gathered to dedicate the Circle on Maple Road in his honor.

It was September 12, 2004—ten years ago this week—that Morningsiders, Pearl Harbor Survivors, Morningside police officers, neighbors and friends came to the circle to pay tribute to "Mr. Morningside."

A surprise to Jerry was the presence of his longtime friend, William Donald Schaefer, Comptroller of Maryland, and former Mayor of Baltimore and former Governor of Maryland. He came to speak at the dedication, and what a delightful presentation he made, after jokingly telling Jerry, "If you'd a-known I was comin', you'd have told them not to invite me."

He went on to admit "if anyone ever deserved to be honored, it's Jerry." He cited Jerry's accomplishments in Morningside, his presidency of the Maryland Municipal League, founding of the Morningside Fire Department, his "impressive public service" and especially his 43 years as mayor.

And then, putting on his Comptroller's hat, he told Jerry, "I checked your tax return." That got a laugh.

Town Council Chairman Karen Rooker opened the ceremonies with the Pledge of Allegiance and Vice Mayor Jim Ealey played "The Star Spangled Banner" on his harmonica.

Jim Ealey had spearheaded the dedication. He also built a handsome pedestal for the plaque that dedicates the circle to Jerry. Jim and his wife Selaine unveiled the plaque. The new mayor, Irving Robinson, presented a plaque to Jerry and told him, "You're a tough act to follow. It's hard to fill

your shoes, sir." Morningside Acting Chief of Police Charles Ridgely led his eight officers in touching salutes to Jerry.

Jerry thanked Comptroller Schaefer and all involved in the ceremony, especially his wife Jean "who is the biggest helper I have." Jean, in turn, thanked the assembly and remembered the days when "this beautiful circle was nothing but mud."

The day concluded with cake, brownies, punch and coffee at the town hall. You would have enjoyed being there.

Neighbors

Ed Alley, longtime Morningside resident and member of the Morningside Sportsmen's Club, died Aug. 23. A Celebration of His Life will be held Friday, Sept. 5, 2 to 6 p.m., at the Marlboro Moose Lodge. I'll pay tribute to him in a future column if you email muddmm@aol.com with your memories of Ed.

Elizabeth Ann Vilky, longtime Auth Road resident, and Richard Lee Hamrick were married Aug. 23 at St. Philip's Church. Their parents are Earnest and Margaret Vilky and Roger and Cathy Hamrick. Elizabeth's five sisters were among the bridesmaids.

Karen Rooker, of Morningside, is now a Mary Kay Beauty Consultant. Contact her at 301-967-8377 or kdrooker@MaryKay.com.

Col. John C. Millard took command of the 89th Airlift Wing from Col. David L. Almand in a ceremony at Joint Base Andrews on Aug. 14.

The Morningside Fire Department ran 400 calls during the month of June. They had a number of calls on July 4th and were unable to participate in the annual parade.

We would like to send along get well wishes to Dick Jurney.

Changing landscape

It looks as though Walmart might not change the Oxon Hill landscape after all; the Zoning Hearing Examiner has denied

the request. The plan was for a Super Walmart on Oxon Hill Road, across the street from Forest Heights Baptist Church, with Clarion Inn to its west, John Hanson Montessori School to its east, and Oxon Hill High to its south.

Oxon Hill High School will become the first county school to have a turf field when it opens its field this fall. Dr. Henry A. Wise and Gwynn Park will be the next high schools to get turf fields.

Coming up

The parking lot at the Morningside Fire Department will be turned into a Vendor Fair and Flea Market on Saturday, Sept. 20, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. A 10' x 10' space can be reserved for \$25. Call Kellie at 301-568-6390 for information. The Boulevard Heights Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary is sponsoring the event.

Darnall's Chance House Museum holds its 15th Annual Gingerbread House Contest & Show in November and December. If you want to construct a gingerbread house for the contest, or have your children do so, start thinking about it now, and register by calling 301-952-8010 or emailing darnallschance@pg-parks.com by Nov. 14.

Pam's Hallmark Shoppe in Clinton will hold Artists' Signings for two of their Christmas Keepsake Ornaments on Sept. 20, 10 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Justine Poe, Paul M. Locke, my granddaughter-in-law Nina McHale, Dan Needham and St. Philip's choir director, Frank Howard, Sept. 6; Melissa Howell, Sept. 7; Mike Dawes, Sept. 9; Charlie Deegan, Nan Brown, and twins Robert Andrew Woods and John Dexter Woods, Sept. 10; and Carol Lee, daughter of Jerry and Jean Glaubitz, Sept. 11.

Neighborhood Events

Edwards Denounces House Republican Bills to Address Situation on Southern Border

Washington, DC — Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards (MD-4) released the following statement denouncing two House Republican bills to address the humanitarian crisis on the southern border. Both bills, H.R. 5230—a supplemental appropriations bill related to the humanitarian situation at the southwest border and H.R. 5272—"No New DREAMers Act," passed the House.

"House Republicans have once again decided that they would rather cater to extremists in their own party than work with Democrats. Sadly, minor children, frightened, fleeing violence, needing protection, and deserving due process are the ones who will be hurt the most.

"As a mother and legislator, I know that we should be compelled to act as a matter of humanity, but also as a matter of law. The problems on the border require solutions, not political gamesmanship. Republicans have rejected one solution — comprehensive immigration reform — to address the problem. They've rejected another solution — the request of the president for a supplemental appropriation that includes resources for judges, legal representation and services for minor children, and assistance to the countries of origin.

"House Republicans did not stop there. Now they are punishing children — dreamers — who only know this country as their own. House Republicans have offered draconian measures that relegate immigrants to second-class status while doing nothing to solve the problem of an immigration system that simply does not work."

Hoyer Attended Event to Recognize 50th Anniversary of Job Corps

LAUREL, MD — Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) attended an event today at the Woodland Job Center to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Job Corps program, which provides young people with education and hands-on job training opportunities.

"Since it was established, Job Corps has served approximately two million young Americans between the ages of sixteen and twenty-four, helping them access education, skills training, and job placement so they can escape economic hardship and begin earning a living through a career," stated Congressman Steny Hoyer. "It is a truly innovative and extraordinary program, and here at the Woodland Job Center it is bringing hope and opportunities to 400 young Marylanders each year. Here they are able to learn in-demand skills and train for careers in a broad range of industries, including construction, hospitality, the culinary arts, and others. While doing so, they can complete their high school degrees, benefit from mentorship, and take courses that teach success skills for independent living."

"Job Corps is a program that has proven its worth time and again over the past half-century, and I am proud to support it in Congress," continued Congressman Hoyer. "Last month, I was proud to be on hand as President Obama signed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, legislation that was part of the Make It In America jobs plan I am leading, that strengthens the



Congresswoman
Donna F. Edwards

Job Corps program and helps it adapt to twenty-first century challenges. However, Congress ought to do more, and it can start by passing additional legislation under the Make It In America plan to help create more jobs for those who are completing training at Woodland and other centers. I will continue to push for the adoption of these bills so that more of our young people can access middle-class opportunities and make it in America."

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, signed into law by President Obama in July, reauthorized Job Corps and included provisions that will enable centers like Woodland to collect more data on best practices and permit the U.S. Labor Department to provide technical assistance to centers to improve operations and outcomes.

Library Card Sign-up Month offers ninth graders chance to win Xbox

HYATTSVILLE, Md.—In recognition of Library Card Sign-up Month in September, Prince George's County Memorial Library System will offer ninth-grade students a limited edition prize and chance to win an Xbox One when they sign up for a library card in September.

Prince George's County library cards offer students access to programs and services that support academic achievement, including print materials; electronic books; audiobooks; downloadable audio materials; public access computers; over 50 online databases; educational DVDs and videos; and free tutoring, test prep and language education.

Anyone living in Maryland, Washington, D.C., and Northern Virginia with a photo ID and proof of address may sign up for a free Prince George's County library card at any of the system's 19 branches. Students age 17 or younger unaccompanied by a parent or guardian may apply for a student library card, which allows holders to borrow up to three items and access online services and library computers.

In addition to encouraging ninth-grade students to sign up for library cards, Prince George's County Memorial Library System will provide kindergarten students at Baden Elementary School in Brandywine, Md., backpacks featuring the library's logo and beginning-reader book "May I Please Have a Cookie?" when they sign up for library cards.

During Library Card Sign-up Month, Prince George's County Memorial Library System joins with the American Library Association and public libraries nationwide to encourage community members to sign up for library

cards. The American Library Association is the oldest and largest library association in the world, providing association information, news, events and advocacy resources for members, librarians and library users.

For more information about how to sign up for a library card, visit any branch of Prince George's County Memorial Library System or online at www.pgcmli.info.

EPA Agreement with Prince Georges County School District Ensures Compliance with Safeguards for Asbestos in Schools

PHILADELPHIA — In a consent agreement with EPA, the Prince George's County School District in Maryland has resolved alleged violations of federal regulations on the management of asbestos materials in school buildings, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced today.

The school district has cooperated fully with EPA to come into compliance and ensure ongoing compliance with asbestos safeguards in all of their schools. The district — which has 126,000 students and 8,870 teachers in 195 schools — has documented \$4,720,000 in expenditures on district-wide asbestos compliance activities since 2009.

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) requires owners of school buildings to develop a management plan for asbestos-containing materials, detailing procedures to prevent asbestos releases. The management plan must be available at the school, with annual notification to parent, teacher and employee organizations of the plan and any asbestos abatement activities. Schools must train personnel on AHERA compliance, and conduct inspections and periodic surveillance of asbestos-containing materials.

According to EPA, the school district was subject to a substantial penalty for alleged AHERA violations. However, as provided by the law, EPA has taken into account the district's diligence in coming into compliance, including the \$4.72 million spent on compliance costs and commitment to on-going compliance, and has not assessed a monetary penalty.

Alleged violations, found during inspections conducted by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), involve precautionary inspections, recordkeeping and notification requirements of AHERA safeguards including:

- failure to conduct initial inspections (or obtaining an exclusion) for all school buildings;
- failure to conduct re-inspections every three years;
- failure to collect asbestos samples during inspections;
- failure to conduct asbestos training for custodial and maintenance staff;
- failure to prepare a complete asbestos management plan;
- failure to notify parent, teacher, and employee organizations of the availability of the asbestos management plan; and,
- failure to place warning labels on asbestos-containing materials in routine maintenance locations.

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

138th HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Baden Parish will be celebrating their 138th Homecoming Anniversary on Sunday, September 21, 2014. Theme is 'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me'. Morning worship with sermon will be held at 9:30 AM.

We are honored to have Reverend A. Tyrone Johnson as the speaker at our evening 3:00 PM service. The voices of Asbury United Methodist Church Men's Choir will render the music. You are invited to attend our services of your own choosing. Lunch will be served from 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM. Our church is located at 13801 Baden Westwood, Brandywine Maryland.

FARMERS MARKET

Saint Thomas Church Farmers Market will be September 20, 2014 from 8:00 AM to

12:00 PM at 14300 Saint Thomas Church Road Upper Marlboro, Maryland. The Market features fresh fruit and fresh vegetables.

USHER BOARD JOY NIGHT

Come and join us in "Joy Night" on September 19, from 7:00 -9:00 PM. It will be an evening of music and song as we give thanks and praises to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for his love and blessings. We are located at 10700 Brandywine Road Clinton, Maryland. Our office telephone number is 301-868-1281.

CHRIST CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

We will be celebrating our Homecoming on Sunday, September 28, 2014 at 11:00 AM. Guest Speaker will be Rev. Antoine Love. Our address is 22919 Christ Church Road Aquasco, Maryland.

10th ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND CELEBRATION

The Southern Maryland Tri-County Chapter of the Executive Women's Golf Association (EWGA-SMD) will be celebrating their 10TH Anniversary by hosting a Dinner Dance on Friday, October 10, 2014, from 8:00 PM to 12 midnight, at Camelot by Martin's, 13905 Central Avenue, Maryland 20744. On Saturday, October 11th, registration at 8:00 AM and tee time at 9:00 AM a golf event will be held at Glenn Dale Golf Club, 11501 Old Prospect Hill Road, Glenn Dale, Maryland 20769. The ticket cost for the Dinner Dance is \$65.00 and the golf event is \$60.00.

For tickets to the events and/or additional information, please contact Pam Wilson at pawilsoncpa@yahoo.com or Pariece Wilkins at pariece4@comcast.net. For additional information about our Chapter, please visit our website, <http://www.ewgasmd.org/>.

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COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Jason Alderman

Will Your Kids Inherit Your Debt?

Many people finally get around to writing a will in order to safeguard their assets for their heirs. But what if you've got the opposite problem: Your nest egg was decimated by the recession, bad investments or simply living longer than expected and now you've got a mountain of bills you can't pay off.



Will your kids inherit your debts after you die?

The short answer is, not in most cases. But there are situations where someone could be legally responsible for paying off your bills after death. Plus, aggressive creditors have been known to coerce heirs into paying off debts for which they're not responsible, just to be left alone.

If you're afraid that your financial legacy will be a heap of unpaid bills, here's what you need to know and prepare for:

In general, children aren't responsible for paying off their parents' unsecured debts — things like credit cards, personal loans and medical bills, which aren't collateralized by physical property. If there's not enough money in the estate to pay off those bills, creditors will have to write them off.

There are several exceptions, however:

- ❑ If your child, spouse or other acquaintance is a cosigner on a credit card or loan (e.g., mortgage, car, personal loan), they share equal responsibility for paying it off. This is why you should always think twice before cosigning anyone's loan.
- ❑ If someone is a joint account holder — that is, their income and credit history were used to help obtain the loan or credit card — they're generally responsible to pay off the balance.
- ❑ Widows and widowers are responsible for their deceased spouse's debts if they live in a community property state.

Note that authorized users on your credit cards aren't liable for repayment since they didn't originally apply for the credit. Chances are they were simply "piggybacking" on your credit record to help build their own. However, to protect authorized users from being bothered by creditors after your death, you may want to remove them from your accounts.

If you have outstanding secured debts upon death, such as a mortgage or car loan, your estate must pay them off or the creditor can seize the underlying asset. For example, if you were planning to leave your house to your kids, they'll need to either pay off or continue making payments on any outstanding mortgage, property taxes and insurance, or risk foreclosure.

Depending on your state's laws, there are a few types of assets, like life insurance proceeds and retirement benefits, which you can pass along to beneficiaries that generally won't be subject to probate or taxation and thus may be safe from creditors.

Just be aware that if you name your estate as beneficiary for an insurance policy or retirement account, creditors can come after the money to pay off your debts. Thus, it's usually wise to name specific individuals as beneficiaries — and back-up beneficiaries, in case they die first. Also, if your beneficiary is a cosigner on any of your debts, creditors can pursue him or her for any balances owed.

Check with a probate attorney or legal clinic familiar with your state's inheritance and tax laws. Free or low-cost legal assistance is often available for lower-income people.

Bottom line: If you expect to leave unpaid debts after you die, alert your family now, so that together you can plan a course of action. You don't want to blindsides your loved ones in the midst of their grief.

The Prince George's Post

Serving Prince George's County

Coastal from A1

went to work. It took a hands-on approach and great partnerships to identify the right property and get it ready for this project," said Howard County Executive Ken Ulman. "Coastal is a great corporate citizen, and I am proud of the training and advancement opportunities they provide for their workforce. It is great news for the state and the region that they are growing, right here in Howard County."

"We appreciate the support we have received from the State of Maryland and Howard County," said The Coastal

Companies CEO John Corso. "We believe our new headquarters will help us maintain our robust growth for years to come."

Founded in 1992, The Coastal Companies has emerged as a major processor and distributor of fresh produce and dairy in the Mid-Atlantic. Based in Howard County, The Coastal Companies and its subsidiaries, Coastal Sunbelt Produce, East Coast Fresh, Cold Chain Logistics and Cold Chain Imports deliver foodservice to customers across six states and the District of Columbia and to major retail customers along the East Coast.

Back to School and Winning the Future

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of the Governor

It's back-to-school season and here in Maryland our schools have already begun welcoming students back for the new academic year. Initial estimates show there's a good chance we'll reach a new record enrollment this year with more than 860,000 students filling our classrooms — and we're ready for them.

In Maryland, the O'Malley-Brown Administration has an eight-year track record of making smart investments in our schools and in our children. While 35 states have retreated on education funding during the Recession, we are one of only 13 states to increase funding per student, with a record \$6.05 billion in FY15 funding. In fact, we've had the 4th highest increase in per student funding between FY08 and FY14. Working together with students, parents, teachers, legislators and school officials across our great State, we've built a top-ranked public school system — one that gives our children the knowledge and skills they'll need to compete in our 21st century global economy.

From 2009 to 2013 — five years in a row — Education Week magazine ranked Maryland's public schools #1 in the nation. In 2014, Education Week didn't put out rankings, but Maryland retained Education Week's #1 composite state ranking. We were one of only five states in the past decade to decrease the poverty achievement gap by more than five percentage points. And the College Board announced that Maryland students continue to be #1 in Advanced Placement (AP) success.

And we're always innovating. This fall's graduating seniors will be the first class to complete Maryland's nationally



PHOTO COURTESY THE OFFICE OF GOVERNOR MARTIN O'MALLEY

Governor O'Malley with Maryland school children.

recognized environmental literacy education requirement. At the same time, many of our schools are adding new STEM-oriented programs like computer science and natural resources. We're also making new investments in quality Pre-K programs to make sure more of our youngest learners will be ready for the challenges ahead. We've also invested in innovative solutions in our public schools — the Digital Learning Innovation Fund, the Maryland Longitudinal Data System and the Early College Innovation Fund.

But despite our successes, there's always more work to be done, and more ways to improve.

This school year marks the second full-year implementation of Maryland's rigorous College and Career-Ready Standards. More than 4,000 teachers and administrators

took part in professional development to work with the standards this summer, the fourth consecutive year we've offered it. These standards are designed to ensure that all of our students will be ready to compete when it's time to step out of the classroom and into a career or college. This spring, students will be tested with the first administration of PARCC — an assessment test aligned to our standards. As we transition, we will continue to support our teachers throughout this process.

But perhaps the most critical element in building and maintaining a top-tier school system is having good teachers, principals and administrators to lead the way.

This summer we held the first Governor's Promising Principals Academy, where 48

of Maryland's finest educators — men and women who aspire to become principals — took part in intensive professional development. Additionally, our teachers and principals are working together to strengthen educator evaluation. All of our school systems are now using a new evaluation system, and in an unprecedented show of cooperation this summer, the State's teachers, principals, board members, and local superintendents all joined together with the MSEA and MSDE in a pledge to further refine the system.

All of these efforts are aimed at a single target: improving student success from day one, through graduation and beyond.

Maryland schools succeed because we have never stopped investing in our students and doing the things that work.

Students from A1

ing preparations to staff training and development, we have been working all summer to make sure we have a successful year focused on the goal of high academic achievement for all our students."

New Buildings, New Locations

The new Edward M. Felegy Elementary School opens the first day of school to welcome students from Hyattsville. The school was named after former superintendent Edward M. Felegy, who served PGCPs for more than 37 years. Its comprehensive program features a creative and performing arts theme with vocal and general Music, and the school is built to achieve LEED Gold certification for energy efficiency.

Robert Goddard French Immersion moves into its own building at the newly-renovated, historic Greenbelt Middle School. As part of the school district's continued progress in improving facilities, Glenarden Woods Elementary School moves into the Robert Goddard Montessori School site and Tulip Grove Elementary School moves into the former Meadowbrook Elementary School. Students will be temporarily housed at these locations while their buildings are being renovated this year.

New Programs and Expansions

New and expanded programs will be in place at several schools. The highly-anticipated Spanish Immersion program begins with kindergarten students at Cesar Chavez, Phyllis E. Williams and Overlook Elemen-

tary Schools. To meet growing demand for specialty programs, additional capacity was added in the French Immersion, Montessori, and Talented and Gifted programs.

For the first time, the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme will be offered at John Hanson French Immersion and Melwood Elementary. Additionally, an IB Middle Years Programme opens at Dwight D. Eisenhower Middle School, and an IB Diploma Programme begins at Frederick Douglass High School. A number of elementary schools have also expanded their language offerings and a select group of middle schools have added Italian to the slate of language options for students to learn.

In the county's "Transforming Neighborhood Initiative" (TNI) areas, all-day prekindergarten expands with additional classrooms at Allenwood, Doswell Brooks, and Indian Queen Elementary Schools. The number of Community Outreach Assistants, many of whom are bilingual, grows to 60 schools, up from 30 last year.

Students at Oxon Hill and Thomas Johnson Middle Schools will have the opportunity to experience new STEM programs where teachers will engage students in various levels of thinking and articulation of the conceptual understanding of science concepts, reasoned with evidence.

High School Enhancements

Supported by partnerships with the College Park Aviation Museum, NASA, local colleges and universities, and private industry, the new Aerospace En-

gineering and Aviation Technology Career Academy Program opens at DuVal High School to prepare students for college and high-demand careers. Existing Career Academies will expand at 11 high schools.

As part of a system-wide initiative to boost graduation rates, online credit recovery will now be available at all high schools.

SchoolMax Parent Portal Now a Mobile App

Parents who use the SchoolMax Parent Portal on a desktop computer will now have the option of using it on their smartphone. Parents who use the mobile app will be able to view grades, attendance, and assignments.

Transition and Orientation Days

On Thursday, August 21, prekindergarten and kindergarten students attended an orientation program at their schools.

For the first time, on Monday, August 25, students entering middle school in 6th or 7th grade and high school in 9th grade will attend an all-day program at their schools. The Transition Day allows students to participate in their regular school schedule and attend an information session designed to provide them with the academic and social resources they need for a successful school year.

New Principals

Thirty schools will welcome new principals. Adelphi Elementary School - Chelsea Hill, Acting; Avalon Elementary School - Veda McCoy

Baden Elementary School - Antron Huff, Acting
Barack Obama Elementary School - Megan Ashworth
Benjamin Stoddard Middle School - Michael Gilchrist, Acting
Bradbury Heights Elementary School - Yvette Faison, Acting
Capitol Heights Elementary School - Nina Lattimore
Carrollton Elementary School - Nancy Schnicker
Central High School - Daryl Kennedy, Acting
CMIT North K - 5 - Treesa Elam-Repass, Acting
CMIT South 6 - 7 - Ali Gurbaz
Drew-Freeman Middle School - LaTrecia Gloster, Acting
Dwight D. Eisenhower Middle School - Dwight Jefferson, Acting
Edward M. Felegy Elementary School - Walter Reap
Frederick Douglass High School - Eddie Scott, Acting
G. James Gholson Middle School - Jacqueline Marshall-Hall, Acting
Glenn Dale Elementary School - David Dove, Acting
Greenbelt Middle School - George Covington, Acting
Heather Hills Elementary School - Nema Manuel, Acting
Imagine Andrews Public Charter - Doug Rice, Acting
Imagine Foundations at Leeland Public Charter - Lance Pace, Acting
Northwestern High School - Elaine Murray, Acting

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COMMENTARY

Rushern L. Baker, III Executive of Prince George's County



County Executive Rushern L. Baker Regarding Domestic Violence Homicide in Prince George's County

Upper Marlboro, MD - Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III, released this statement regarding recent homicides related to domestic violence incidents. "Over the past few weeks our County and this region have dealt with several cases of domestic violence resulting in the tragic loss of lives or injuries to innocent family members, including two 3 year-old children in two separate incidents. When we hear about the harm that a loved-one senselessly inflicts on a member of their family, particularly young children, it is heart-wrenching. Unfortunately, Prince George's County has recently experienced far too many instances and we must work together as a community with a sense of even greater urgency to stop this violence. We need neighbors, family members, and friends along with victims and survivors to get involved and help save lives by calling 2-1-1 to get confidential assistance. We must proactively prevent tragedies like these from happening again.

I want all Prince Georgians to know that there is help available for our citizens in need. I am appealing

to our faith institutions, community groups, and the media to help us promote 2-1-1 as a resource to help reduce violence of this type. And I want to assure the residents of Prince George's County that the Prince George's County Government and, specifically the State's Attorney's Office, Sheriff's Office, Police Department and our health and human services agencies are continuing to address this issue in collaborative ways.

To stop domestic violence within our communities, we must all play an active role in identifying these situations before they happen. We need everyone's help dealing with the root causes of domestic violence such as mental illness, insufficient conflict resolution skills, drug and alcohol abuse and depression. As a father, I can only imagine the pain one must feel at the loss of a son or daughter. It is imperative that we bond together and protect our children from this kind of violence. I am urging everyone to join me as we work together to stop these recurring domestic violence situations in Prince George's County and throughout this region."

For a list of Prince George's County Domestic Violence Resources please visit:
<http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/sites/Family/spotlight/Documents/Domestic%20Violence%20Resources%20Full.pdf>

Marc Morial, President and CEO National Urban League



Stop the War on Young Black Men in America

"Never did we think we would be planning a funeral, we were waiting on his first day of school. They robbed us of that." Lesley McSpadden, mother of Michael Brown

"In too many communities around the country, a gulf of mistrust exists between local residents and law enforcement. In too many communities, too many young men of color are left behind and seen only as objects of fear."

— President Barack Obama

I had originally planned to use this column to denounce the July 17th death of Eric Garner, a 43-year-old, unarmed Black man following the unlawful use of a chokehold by New York City police officers who suspected Garner of selling untaxed cigarettes on a Staten Island street corner. Garner, an asthmatic who repeatedly yelled, "I can't breathe!" while being wrestled to the ground by at least five officers, died at the scene, leading to calls of police brutality from his family and members of the community. I had planned to point to the death of Eric Garner as the latest in what has become an all-too-frequent occurrence in communities of color across America — the excessive and often fatal use of force by police against young, unarmed Black men. Then came the August 9 fatal police shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri. Brown, who was unarmed and was preparing for his first year in college, was stopped and then shot by Officer Darren Wilson for the alleged crime of jaywalking, or specifically according to Ferguson police chief Thomas Jackson, of "walking down the middle of the street blocking traffic."

I have never witnessed a situation more poorly handled than this one. For almost two weeks following Brown's death, his family, community and outraged citizens across the nation have sought answers and justice from the local authorities, who have been slow to respond and quick to blame the victim, leading to intense demonstrations. Our thoughts and prayers are with Michael Brown's family. Now that the Justice Department and FBI have entered the investigation, we have confidence that justice will ultimately prevail. Attorney General Eric Holder is doing the right thing by conducting a comprehensive parallel investigation and not waiting for local authorities — a refreshing departure from the traditional approach. But this is not enough.

The tragedies in Ferguson and Staten Island are not isolated incidents. Just four days before Brown's death, on August 5, police shot and killed 22-year-old John Crawford in a Beavercreek, Ohio

Walmart, after responding to a call that a man was wielding a gun in the store. It turns out that Crawford was holding a BB rifle which he had picked up while shopping in the store. Clearly, racial suspicion and harassment of Black men, especially by law enforcement, has become an often deadly epidemic in many parts of the country. That is why we are urgently calling upon the White House, the Department of Justice and congressional leaders to review and address the ongoing pattern and practice of racial violence and systemic discriminatory treatment by law enforcement in so many of our communities.

Too often, tactics like the "broken windows" strategy result in the targeting of communities of color for enforcement of minor offenses. Too often, there is a rush by police and the media to portray Black male victims who have been killed by whites as "thugs" as we saw with Trayvon Martin, Ramarley Graham, Jordan Davis, and now with Michael Brown — particularly regarding the Ferguson Police Department's attempt at character assassination by releasing the store video of Michael Brown and attempting to deceptively link it to his killing. Add to that the militarization of police departments and the overuse of tear gas, stun grenades and other tools of war in response to largely peaceful demonstrations, as we have seen in Ferguson, and a toxic relationship between police and the communities they are sworn to protect and serve is all but certain.

Let's be clear. There is no justification for looting, property destruction and otherwise breaking the law in the name of the First Amendment, and the irresponsible actions of an ill-intentioned few do not represent the legitimate grievances of an entire community. The civil rights movement has always been and continues to be one of peaceful — yet effective and strategic — protests and actions that have initiated massive change.

As we look to solutions to ensure that a higher value — a human value — is placed on the lives of our Black men, legal remedies are absolutely needed, but this is essentially a problem of the heart. Until white Americans and police departments begin to see and treat young African American and Latino males with the dignity and deference afforded to their white counterparts, nothing will change. The death of Michael Brown has once again exposed the widespread and dangerous mistrust that exists between law enforcement and too many communities of color in America. For the sake of our nation, our communities and equal justice, we must bridge that divide.

Beltsville Agricultural Research Center



Open to the Public

PHOTO CREDIT: ???

HENRY A. WALLACE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER

The Beltsville Area consists of ARS programs at the Henry A. Wallace Agricultural Research Center in Beltsville, MD; the US National Arboretum in Washington D.C.; and worksites in Chatsworth, NJ; Presque Isle, ME; and McMinnville, TN. BARC is the largest and most diversified agricultural research complex in the world. Beltsville's record of accomplishments and ongoing programs has made it a world leader in agriculture research. It's international reputation attracts thousands of visitors each year from the United States and abroad. ARS conducts research to develop and transfer solutions to agricultural problems of high national priority and provide information access and dissemination in order to: Ensure high-quality safe food and other agricultural products, Assess the nutritional needs of Americans, Sustain a competitive agricultural economy, Enhance the natural resource base and the environment, Provide economic opportunities for rural citizens, communities, and society as a whole. Located at 10300 Baltimore Ave., Beltsville, MD

Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



"Who's Looking for Me?": God's and America's Invisible Children

Not long ago Reverend Romal Tune was the child in "Who's Looking for Me," his spoken word piece shared below—the hungry boy begging strangers for money and watching them cross the street to avoid him; the teenager planning his funeral with his then 15-year-old cousin because "dying meant that we would finally be noticed; people would finally see us and treat us like we mattered. All we really wanted was for someone to come looking for us." He shared this with the congregation gathered at this summer's annual Samuel DeWitt Proctor Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry and agreed to let me share it with you.

Today Reverend Tune is the founder, CEO, and president of Faith for Change, which partners with congregations in several cities across the country to solicit community involvement with high needs schools to keep children in school and promote their academic achievement. As the new school year begins in the throes of the Ferguson, Missouri tragedy and other unresolved killings of Black male youths and men past and present, I think Reverend Tune speaks for so many of our children and youths—still waiting, waiting, and waiting for someone to see them, to hear them, to respect them, to protect them, and to give them hope and assurance that they have a fair chance in our American society to live and learn and contribute. What is it going to take for adults of all colors and income groups to see and address in a systematic and sustained way our still racially scarred and unhealed nation's too frequently uneven-handed law enforcement system and the multiple and cumulative ways in which so many poor children of color are repeatedly subjected to disrespectful treatment, a second-class education, and an unfair chance to succeed from birth to adulthood?

"We never went to church when I was growing up. But we did believe in God and prayed that one day he would show up, because it was going to take a miracle to change the things we had to see. If it wasn't drug addicts and drive by shootings, there were families living on the

streets and teenage prostitution. By the time I was in eighth grade I got tired of asking strangers if they had any change to spare, and then watching them cross the street and look away like I wasn't even there. I mean even a blind man could see that society didn't care about people like me. I guess they figured it was my fault for being raised in poverty."

"So that's why most of my days were spent hustling on the streets, so that I could at least buy some clothes and have something to eat. Because I remember the mornings when my mother would wake me up for school, hand me three dollars and say 'Son, today I'm sorry you'll have to choose, between riding the bus to get home or buying some food.' I mean it seemed like every day I prayed hoping that God would hear me, so that my mother could stop drowning her sorrows in bottles of Hennessey, always worrying about how she was going to take care of me. We didn't have health insurance so Moms could see a doctor to deal with her depression. So instead of medication, she'd open another bottle every time she started stressing."

"On those nights when I wondered if things were ever go-

ing to change, I just wanted somebody to tell me that 'you're going to be ok,' that 'I know it's tough right now, but there will be better days.' Because I remember sitting up with my cousin one night, sharing a bag of chips and fantasizing over what our funerals would be like—you know, things like who do you think will show up? Who will share stories? And who will cry? Because it seemed like in order for people to finally see us we would probably have to die. Imagine what it's like at the age of 15 to think that the only way to stop the rejection and receive some affection is for a pastor to close the casket and give your final benediction."

"All I ever really wanted was a chance to be free, for society to stop judging me by their stereotypes and personal insecurities, and maybe then I'd have a shot at being unapologetically and authentically me. Just like Jephthah in Judges 11, I found my place on the streets. But all I ever really wanted was for God to show up for me, the same way he showed up for Moses before he parted the Red Sea and the

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The Prince George's Post

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P.O. Box 1001 15207 Marlboro Pike
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Phone 301-627-0900 Legal Fax • 301-627-6260
email: pgpost@gmail.com
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Publisher Legusta Floyd	Subscriptions/Legals Liz Brandenstein
General Manager/ Legal Advertising Manager Brenda Boice	Senior Editor Legusta Floyd
Legal Advertising Assistant Robin Boerckel	Editor Michal W. Frangia
	Web Manager Kyler Quesenberry

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BUSINESS

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

How To Help Your Teen Cope With Negative Peer Pressure

Peer pressure is probably the most important influence in your teenager's life. While parental opinions certainly are considered (if only because of the consequences of ignoring them), it's more often the opinions and actions of peers that help teens decide virtually everything from hairstyles to clothing choices to academic efforts.

Often, peer pressure is a good thing that can lead to involvement in sports, religious activities and academic excellence. But peer pressure can also be a negative, especially for a teen lacking in self-confidence and self-esteem yet anxious to be accepted by others. Negative peer pressure can result in trying to be part of a group rebelling against those things (such as school) about which the teen feels less confident.

As a parent, you can help your child overcome such negative peer pressure. Start by helping build your teen's self-confidence and positive self-image. Try to limit your criticism while looking for positive accomplishments and chances to praise jobs well done.

You also want to be genuinely interested in your teen's life. Go beyond the common "who, what, where" questions to find out what your teenager really is doing and feeling. Learn to respect what your teen is thinking even if it is counter to your point of view.

And yes, getting most teens to open up can be difficult but if you're persistent, and show appreciation when things are shared, your teen will eventually become more open with you.

Confronting problems as they arise can also help combat negative peer pressure. Try to understand your teen's need for certain friends but feel free to express your concerns, and your reasons for them, about such friends.

And sometimes it's simply necessary to set rules and boundaries. While "forbidding" certain friends seldom works, you can restrict the time spent with the most worrisome of them and insist on it being in supervised settings.

It also helps to strengthen the family relationship. Insist that homework and chores be done. Set curfews and stick to them. Handle small problems quickly, before they become big ones. Spend time with your teen, establish regular dinner hours and find quiet times when you can really talk with one another.

Not all peer pressure is negative, but part of your parental responsibility is helping your teen learn how to evaluate friendships. You need to help your teen identify peers who provide real friendship and positive benefits.

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

Wind from A1

results are a major achievement and reflect industry confidence as we strengthen our nation's foothold in this new energy frontier. I want to thank Governor Martin O'Malley, his team, and members of BOEM's Maryland Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force for all of their hard work and leadership leading up to today's successful auction. The collaboration and thoughtful planning that went into this lease sale will serve as a model as we continue up and down the coast in our efforts to ensure wind energy is developed in the right way and in the right places."

Bidders in the auction competed for a northern and a southern lease area within the Wind Energy Area. Leases give project developers an exclusive right to submit plans to conduct site assessment, which will inform project planning in the leased areas. However, prior to construction, BOEM must approve Construction and Operations Plans, which will likely involve full Environmental Impact Statements. Although the auction process results in a provisional award for the lease areas, the lessees may apply to di-

vide or assign the areas after the auction.

This auction is the first step in planning for actual projects within the WEA. Under the Maryland Offshore Wind Energy Act, which passed in 2013, site control and project feasibility are key factors in the evaluation of the proposals. Next, federal leaseholders propose projects to the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) and compete for state financial support through Offshore Renewable Energy Credit (OREC) orders, which will provide project developers with the necessary revenue certainty to move forward with projects.

MEA Director Abigail Hopper commented on the auction stating "this is an exhilarating time for the State of Maryland, as we are making significant progress in our long term goals to make renewable energy a major contributor to the state's portfolio. Today, we are charging ahead to develop the offshore wind sector in the State. Maryland businesses and stakeholders can begin planning for real and impactful projects."

For more information about this initiative, please visit the following website: <http://www.boem.gov/State-Activities-Maryland/>

Prince George's County Receives More than \$1 Million in Energy Grants

By PRESS OFFICER
Prince George's County Gov.

LARGO, MD – This year, the Prince George's County Department of the Environment (DoE) in partnership with the Office of Central Services (OCS) has received more than \$1 million in grants on behalf of the County, through the Maryland Smart Energy Communities (MSEC) Grant Program. The grants include \$400,000 to support the installation of energy efficiency upgrades within offices and facilities throughout the County and a \$643,000 grant for the devel-

opment of energy projects.

"DoE is excited to receive these funds that will assist us in bringing more sustainability to our everyday government operation, after all, we must practice what we preach," stated Adam Ortiz, DoE Director. Erica Bannerman, Energy Manager with OCS added, "Enhancement projects such as ENERGY STAR lighting and HVAC upgrades, in conjunction with other projects such as solar farms and electric vehicle charging station installation will greatly benefit the County and make it cleaner, greener and healthier."

OCS has identified several County buildings that are eligible to receive the energy efficiency upgrades. Through this grant, DoE and OCS will educate residents about energy efficiency, achieve climate action planning objectives and clean energy technology goals and partner with sister agencies to enhance energy efficiencies throughout the County.

The second grant will expand the development of policies, plans and performance of projects that contribute to reducing petroleum usage, and increase the use of renewable energy resources and energy efficiency.

Several projects supported by this grant include the installation of a solar power system at the County's Animal Services Facility located in Upper Marlboro and the purchase of plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging stations.

The Maryland Smart Energy Communities Grant Program is an initiative of the Maryland Energy Administration. The grant program is funded by the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund, which has committed \$4 million to the development and implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy/transportation projects.

Triumphant to Receive \$750,000 From InvestMaryland

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of the Governor

BALTIMORE, MD (August 13, 2014) –The Maryland Venture Fund (MVF), the equity investment arm of the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED), will invest \$750,000 in Triumphant, a leading provider of advanced threat detection and remediation technologies located in Rockville. The investment, split into two payments, will be completed by November 30. MVF invested alongside existing investors Novak Biddle Partners and Core Capital Partners using funds raised by InvestMaryland, a key initiative of Governor Martin O'Malley designed to spur growth and development of small, high-tech companies in Maryland.

"Maryland is the epicenter of cybersecurity, home to unmatched federal assets, industry-leading services and solutions providers and a growing community of promising startups like Triumphant that are developing cutting-edge products

to keep our critical computer networks safe," said Gov. O'Malley. "Maryland is committed to supporting entrepreneurs and innovators fueling the growth of our economy and we are looking forward to Triumphant's continued success following this investment."

"Maryland is quickly becoming ground zero in the battle against cyber threats," said John Prisco, president and CEO, Triumphant. "Based largely on the involvement of organizations such as the Maryland Venture Fund making strategic investments in emerging security companies we are now able to attract the top talent that allows us to not only compete, but pull ahead of other technology centers around the country."

Triumphant offers large commercial enterprises and government entities continuous protection against next-generation malware attacks, including advanced persistent threats (APTs), targeted attacks, in-memory attacks, zero-day attacks and rootkits. The company has been identified by Gartner as one of the leading

providers of endpoint security solutions. Applying mathematical theory, patented analytics and precision remediation capabilities, Triumphant enables organizations to detect and respond quickly to sophisticated attacks that bypass traditional signature-based defenses. By monitoring more than 500,000 attributes per machine – more than any other endpoint security solution on the market – Triumphant is able to accurately identify and investigate anomalous activities on endpoint systems. Triumphant stops breaches before they become full-scale attacks, and automatically repairs the machine and all collateral damage within minutes of the attack. Using Triumphant, organizations have constant assurance that sensitive data arriving on endpoints is safe, properly controlled within the enterprise, and compliant with industry standards and regulations.

Created by Governor O'Malley and passed by the General Assembly in 2011, InvestMaryland is a public-private partnership between the State

and venture capital firms. It raised \$84 million to spur growth in small, high-tech Maryland companies and is the largest venture capital investment initiative in Maryland's history. Two-thirds of the funding – \$56 million – is being managed by carefully screened private venture firms that will invest the funds and, if successful, return 100% of the principal and 80% of the profits to the State's general fund. The remaining third of the InvestMaryland capital is largely allocated to direct investments by the state-run MVF.

The Maryland Venture Fund is a regionally recognized leader in seed and early-stage investing and a national model for state-supported investment programs. With nearly two decades of experience and numerous successful investments, MVF invests in highly innovative technology companies across the full range of industry sectors including software, communications, cybersecurity and life sciences companies in the areas of healthcare IT, medical devices and diagnostics.

Watch from A4

same way he showed up for Joseph when he had his dream. Because every time I closed my eyes and tried to dream of what the future holds, like Rahab, all I had were the negative reminders of things that I was told: 'Successful people don't look like you, and you're not good enough because of what you've been through, and you don't even go to church, so why would God bless somebody like you?'"

"How many kids are growing up just like me? Like Esther, Jephthah, Moses, and Joseph, just wanting to be free. Wanting the opportunity to pursue their dreams, hoping that one day somebody's going to come looking for me. Praying that people will open their eyes and see, that I'm just like you. I may not have much but I have a purpose too. I may not go to church but God still loves me just as much as God loves you. In fact, God can use people like me too, because as a testimony of what I've been through. I didn't go to church but I found my sanctuary on the streets. And the people out here may not have degrees and prestige but at least they believed in me. So that's why today I still give God all the praise because everything changed. Faith got my mother off drugs, got me off the streets. I served my country, went to college, and got two degrees. So now it's my obligation to the next generation to go back to the streets and help people like me. Now if that ain't God then I don't know what is. Maybe unlike some people, God doesn't just help the good kids.

So instead of turning my back on people in the hood, it's my turn to give back because God has been too good."

"So for the people out there hurting and wondering if God hears you, Christians like me are answering the call and we're out looking for you. See, the Church doesn't have the right to pick and choose who gets to be a Christian, because that's not God at all, that's just elitist religion. That's why we can't covet Jesus by holding the Gospel hostage in our locations. Because this ain't just about going to church, it's about a ministry of reconciliation, and the kids on the block waiting on God to show up, or hoping that we will tell the people who are tripping on who's the better Christian, that it's time to grow up. Because God doesn't make mistakes but people do. And what you've been through doesn't define you, it merely proves to you that you're stronger than anything that has ever tried to stop you. See, that's what urban ministry is all about—telling hurting people that it's time to come out. Stop hiding in the shadows, ashamed of where you come from. Put your life in God's hands, and be the person you were destined to become."

I hope that people of all faiths will start looking for our too-invisible children who are crying out for help in our inner cities and communities across the country, especially Black males. I hope that people of all political persuasions and adults of all races and across the lines of privilege and poverty will look for this child and children like him. I hope that educators

in every school system are looking for and not ignoring and mislabeling children like him, and making sure they can read and write at grade level and see college and career and work and not prison and death as their futures. I hope law enforcement agencies across our country will start seeing him and getting to know him as a human being and a sacred child of God rather than just a threat, and will cease using unnecessary or hugely disproportionate force to any perceived offense. I hope political and community leaders of every persuasion will stop grandstanding and showing up for photo ops after the fact and instead will do the hard sustained grunt work of rekindling our children's hope and sense of adult caring, protection, and fairness. All children must be able to trust adults to struggle day in and day out and year in and year out and decade in and decade out to vote for them and speak for them and hold those in power accountable for just treatment.

I hope every Black leader, parent, grandparent, and preacher will mount a united and irresistible voice to end the structural exclusion of millions of children from the education and other opportunities required to keep them from dead end lives in our boastfully affluent but racially and poverty stratified nation. Nobody is going to love our children more than we do and we must all love them enough to stand up for them in every needed way until they reach successful adulthood. Despite our enormous racial progress over the last 50 years,

we must pick up where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. left off in the struggle to end poverty in rich America and to assure an educational and economic safety net beneath our hard earned civil rights, including the right to vote—under attack by many today who want to turn back the clock of racial progress. It is a disgrace that children are the poorest group in America and that the Black child is the poorest among them. It's way past time for the next transforming movement to assure every child in America a level playing field regardless of the lottery of birth, beginning with a quality early childhood system, health care, adequate nutrition, a stable place to live, safe places to play and learn in the summer and after school, and adults in their families, in their schools, in their faith communities, in their law enforcement agencies, and in our political life who see them, hear them, respect them, and are committed to meeting their needs as human beings on a fair basis. This is the unfinished business of America.

Marian Wright Edelman is President of the Children's Defense Fund whose Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. For more information go to www.childrensdefense.org.

Mrs. Edelman's Child Watch Column also appears each week on The Huffington Post

OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK

Movie Review

“They Came Together”

They Came Together

Grade: B+

Rated R, abundant profanity and vulgarity, a scene of strong sexuality (played for laughs, not titillation)

1 hr., 23 min

In this reviewer's not-so-humble opinion, the movie genre that is most deserving of mockery is the one that least often gets it: the Hollywood romantic comedy. Horror spoofs are a dime a dozen, and self-aware action movies have become almost as common as straightforward ones. So why aren't there more films like “They Came Together,” a spot-on takedown of rom-com clichés that makes it impossible to ever take another Katherine Heigl movie seriously? (Perhaps I have answered my own question: the Katherine Heigl lobby is too powerful to allow it.)

“They Came Together” came together through writers David Wain (who also directed) and Michael Showalter, expert-level satirists who made “Wet Hot American Summer” and once comprised two-thirds (with Michael Ian Black) of the absurdist comedy troupe Stella. This information alone will set some comedy nerds' funny bones a-tingling. Quite a few “Wet Hot American Summer” alumni appear in “They Came Together,” along with several of the comedy friends Wain and Showalter have made in the interim. The result is a large cast of improv-trained performers who are among the funniest Americans currently working. If anyone's going to tear apart romantic comedies, it should be these people.

Amy Poehler and Paul Rudd star as Molly and Joel, typical rom-com New Yorkers — which is to say, upscale white people with fabulous apartments and unlimited finances — who, as the movie begins, have already been together for some time. Over dinner, they tell the story of how they met to friends (Bill Hader and Ellie Kemper), acknowledging up front that “it's just like a movie!”

Molly owns a little candy shop. Joel works for the



ROTTENTOMATOES

When Joel (Paul Rudd) and Molly (Amy Poehler) meet, it's hate at first sight: his big Corporate Candy Company threatens to shut down her quirky indie candy shop. Plus, Joel is hung up on his sexy ex (Cobie Smulders). But amazingly, they fall in love, until they break up about two thirds of the way through, and Molly starts dating her accountant (Ed Helms). But then right at the end...well you'll just have to see. (Hint: Joel makes a big speech and they get back together.) From the director of Wet Hot American Summer, Wanderlust and Role Models comes a hilarious and irreverent subversion of the romantic comedy genre. (c) Lionsgate

Candy Systems & Research company, a conglomerate that pushes little candy shops out of business. Joel is hung up on an ex-girlfriend, Tiffany (Cobie Smulders), who isn't right for him. (He says, “I love you.” She says, “And I admire your spirit.”) Molly and Joel meet, clash, fall in love, break up, participate in some montages, and get back together via a public declaration of love. We've gotten ahead of ourselves, but you knew those things were going to happen. And the movie knows that you know.

Rudd and Poehler are ridiculously likable, separately and together, both full of infectious energy and positivity. This is not an “affectionate” satire of rom-coms — it's fiery, unrestrained, and devastating — but Poehler and Rudd's all-smiles demeanor prevents it from becoming an angry screed. The acting style across the board is exaggerated and melodramatic, as in a comedy

sketch, and it's applied so uniformly that you'd think the cast was an established troupe who work together all the time. (Many of them do, actually. In addition to those already mentioned, we've got Ed Helms, Max Greenfield, Jason Mantzoukas, Melanie Lynskey, Christopher Meloni, Kenan Thompson, Ken Marino, and Adam Scott.)

When it's not being scathingly satirical, the film revels in absurdity that borders on the surreal. It's in the little things — like someone making the “check, please” gesture to a waiter while saying, “Another bottle of wine,” or Jack McBrayer playing basketball dressed in a cardigan, or someone else in that game yelling “Swish!” after every missed shot — with none of these contradictions explained or remarked upon. In other scenes, there are big, unmissable sight gags like the spoofs of yesteryear (think “Airplane!”), including one where

a waiter is said to have “a pole up his a**” and it turns out to be literally true.

My one complaint is that there are four or five brief scenes that feel rushed and undercooked, with barely an attempt at humor. That's understandable, sometimes even necessary, in a conventional comedy set among real people in the real world, where scenes that do nothing more than advance the plot or establish characters may be sprinkled in among the big comedic set pieces. But in a farce whose only purpose is to produce laughs, where plausible characterizations and story details don't matter, there's no reason not to go for the chuckles at all times (especially when the movie is only 83 minutes long anyway). Another round of punch-ups on the screenplay might have made this a classic, whereas instead we have to settle for something that's merely one of the funniest movies of the year. Oh well!

The U.S. Department of Education Strengthens Federal Direct PLUS Loan Program

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of the Governor

As part of an effort to ensure more families can afford a higher education and promote the responsible use of taxpayer dollars, the U.S. Department of Education proposed today new regulations that will update eligibility standards and improve access for student and parent borrowers under the federal Direct PLUS loan program. The current adverse credit history regulations have not been updated since the Direct lending program was established in 1994.

“The Obama Administration is committed to keeping college accessible and affordable and helping families make thoughtful and informed choices to fund a higher education in today's economy,” said U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. “These changes allow us to continue to be good

stewards of taxpayer dollars and open the doors of college to ensure all students have the opportunity to walk through them.”

Formally published tomorrow in the Federal Register, the proposed regulations will allow more families to borrow under the PLUS lending program. While developing the updated standards, the Department gathered feedback and recommendations from students, families and partner organizations, including representatives of minority-serving institutions and Historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). Specifically, the proposed regulations would update the definition of adverse credit history and require PLUS loan counseling for approved borrowers with an adverse credit history. If a potential borrower's combined adverse debt is \$2,085 or less, the potential borrower will not be considered to have an ad-

verse credit history. Other proposed changes include:

- Clearly stating the adverse credit history eligibility standards for potential borrowers;

- Defining terms such as “charged off” and “in collection” to more accurately determine if an applicant has an adverse credit history;

- Minimizing the time period a borrower's credit history is reviewed from the last five years to the last two years for charge offs and collections to determine adverse credit history.

- Authorizing the Secretary to adjust the combined outstanding balance adverse debt threshold of \$2,085 as necessary;

- Allowing denied PLUS loan applicants the opportunity to provide documenta-

tion that can be used for the Department's reconsideration and require PLUS loan counseling for applicants who are granted loans under extenuating circumstances prior to loan disbursement.

The Department plans to publish the final rules by Nov. 1, which would allow borrowers to take out a PLUS loan under the new criteria for the 2015-16 school year. In the meantime, borrowers who are denied for a PLUS loan under the current rules can continue to apply for reconsideration. The Department is also considering implementing final regulations before the 2015-16 school year begins so that borrowers could benefit even sooner.

The Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid manages and administers the student financial assistance programs authorized by the Higher Education Act of 1965.

The Edge of Sports

by DAVE ZIRIN

At Least My Hospital Isn't Being Bombed



I was in the hospital when I wrote this, getting ready to be cut open for some kind of intestinal surgery. I felt stressed, a little scared, yet given the news in the world, oddly grateful. Grateful that this clean facility, and its overworked but exceptionally kind staff, is not in the process of being bombed by the Israeli Defense Forces.

It is a sick sign of our times that human beings throughout the world cannot take for granted the concept that your hospital will not have a bullseye on its roof, but this is exactly where President Benjamin Netanyahu has dragged us. He is not the first, and he will not be the last, to take this tactic as a legitimate means of war. But defending these actions by saying, “George W. Bush has done it!” or “Assad does it, too!” is only an argument the morally bankrupt could possibly make.

No part of Israel's war on Gaza—or any war—is more unconscionable than the targeting of hospitals. The shelling of institutions where people go to heal not only adds to the spiraling body count, it also creates mortality figures that will never ever be uttered by Wolf Blitzer, as the sick, the dying and the pregnant find themselves imperiled by Netanyahu's slaughter. The reports from the UN about the effects in Gaza on pregnant women makes one wonder when fetuses became enemy combatants—their mothers, human shields.

Then there is Al-Wafa hospital, the only facility equipped to handle brain and spinal injuries in Gaza, which is now a “smoldering ruin.” According to Jonathan Miller of NBC News, in a devastating report, patients had to be evacuated from the hospital and carried to the center of Gaza City in blankets.

As of this writing, Al Shifa hospital, the most well-equipped in Gaza, has been under bombardment. Israel is arguing that Hamas has bombed their own hospital. Ayman Mohyeldin of NBC News, who witnessed the shelling, reported otherwise, although the story from NBC has changed repeatedly without explanation.

This is yet another example of Netanyahu's—as he speaks of his war on Gaza being one of “civilization vs. barbarism”—violating Geneva protocols.

As Allison Deger summed up in her searing report on Al-Wafa hospital,

According to International Humanitarian Law (IHL) hospitals are protected sites. Article 19 of the Fourth Geneva Convention also states: “The protection to which civilian hospitals are entitled shall not cease unless they are used to commit...acts harmful to the enemy.” The Geneva Convention also requires “a reasonable time limit,” for allowing an evacuation. If a hospital is used to launch weapons, under IHL it can only be targeted when there is an imminent strike originating from the location. Even storing caches of weapons do not meet international law's stringent threshold for firing on humanitarian sites.

As for Al-Wafa, there were no weapons, no rockets. Just doctors, nurses and patients. Just teenagers, like Aya, paralyzed with a tumor on her spine, being transported with makeshift gurneys into an open space. Just bodies. Just civilians increasingly seen as legitimate targets by the IDF.

One final point. I wrote this from a hospital bed in the middle of the night, with help from a bedside lamp and extension cord attached to my computer. In other words, I had electricity.

The main power plant of Gaza has been bombed, plunging the city into darkness. CNN reported that this was either an accident of the IDF or Hamas took out their own power. (If Wolf Blitzer said Hamas was killing Israeli unicorns with the key to eternal life at this point, no one in Atlanta would blink.) Fox News was more blunt, saying that Israel was “striking at symbols of Hamas's power.” How the media spin this is irrelevant to the pressing fact that it has imperiled every health facility for a place with a population three times the size of Washington, DC. I have a lot of worries, but the absence of electricity is not one of them. Nothing exposes the lies underpinning Netanyahu's battle for “civilization” quite like this kind of savagery. Nothing feels more illustrative of the horrors Israel has unleashed quite like feeling privileged that my hospital isn't under lethal attack from the skies.

Calendar of Events

September 4 — September 10, 2014

First Fridays Wine Sampling

Date & Time: First Friday of the Month,
May-October (Except July) 6:30-8 pm
Description: Join us for our continuing series of Fine Wine Fridays! In this series, enjoy wine sampling from local vineyards, live entertainment and light refreshments. Don't miss it, it happens the first Friday of each month, May-October (with the exception of July)
Cost: Resident: \$25; Non-Resident: \$25
Ages: 21 & up
Location: Snow Hill Manor Historic Site
13301 Laurel-Bowie Road, Laurel 20708
Contact: 301-249-2004; TTY 301-446-6802

Simply Shirley Comedy Show

Date & Time: Friday, September 5, 2014 11-11:45 am
Description: Join us for Simply Shirley, an "old school" stand-up comedienne. She considers herself to be an eight track gal in an iPod world and her inner child is now outwardly displayed. In other words, there is still a whole lot of jelly left in her roll!
Cost: Free
Ages: 60 & better
Location: Camp Springs Senior Center
6420 Allentown Road, Camp Springs 20748
Contact: 301-449-0490; TTY 301-446-3402

Xtreme Teens: Skate Night

Date and Time: Friday, September 5, 2014 7-10 pm
Description: Join us for a night of roller skating fun with your friends. Make sure to wear socks and comfortable clothes to skate the night away.
Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 10-12
Location: College Park Community Center
5051 Pierce Avenue, College Park 20740
Contact: 301-441-2647; TTY 301-445-4512

Anacostia River Clean-Up

Date and Time: Saturday, September 6, 2014, 9:30 am-12 noon
Description: Join us as we help the community and the environment by cleaning up the Anacostia River! Bring your can-do attitude; supplies will be provided.
Cost: FREE
Ages: 13 & up
Location: Bladensburg Waterfront Park
4601 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg 20710
Contact: 301-779-0371; TTY 301-699-2544

Cycle through Aviation History

Date and Time: Saturday, September 6, 2014 10 am
Description: Discover 250 years of flight in a guided bicycle tour along the Anacostia River trails, from the first balloon flight in America to intriguing 20th century inventions and industry. The ride will be a flat 10 mile loop with snacks provided; some riding on quiet streets, but mostly off-road, paved trails. Bring your bicycle and helmet. Persons 16 & under must be accompanied by an adult. Please call the museum in advance to register.
Rain date: Sunday, September 7, 10 am
Cost: \$5 per participant
Ages: 12 & up
Location: College Park Aviation Museum
1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive, College Park, 20740
Contact: 301-864-6029; TTY 301-699-2544

Grandparents' Day Tours

Date and Time: Sunday, September 7, 2014 12 pm-3:30 pm
Description: The Calvert children kept in touch with their grandparents by writing letters. Keep in touch with your own grandparents by bringing them or other special senior guests for a FREE guided tour. Limited to one free tour per paid admission.
Cost: FREE
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Riversdale House Museum
4811 Riverdale Road
Riverdale Park MD 20737
Contact: 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544

Club 300 Group Walk (Governor Bridge Park)

Date & Time: Monday, September 8, 2014 9:30-11 am
Description: Hey seniors, join Club 300 for our Summer Walking Program! Walking is an easy way to stay in shape. And, we'll do so as a group walking through Governor Bridge Park together!
Cost: Free
Ages: 50 & better
Location: Governor Bridge Park
17601 Governor Bridge Road, Bowie 20716
Contact: 301-446-3400; TTY 301-446-3402

AFTERNOON TEA: Jazz Trombonist John Jensen with Piano

Date and Time: Wednesday, September 10, 2014 2 pm
Description: Join us for an afternoon performance with jazz trombonist John Jensen!
His previous roles include former lead trombonist with the U.S. Navy, former lead trombonist with the U.S. Navy Commodores, the Navy's jazz orchestra, appeared as a soloist and combo leader and with the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra.
In addition to regular jazz concerts with either the piano or combo, he does a one-man program in which he plays a variety of wind instruments.
In this program, he discusses the development of brass instruments from the beginning through Louis Armstrong, and offers a tribute program to great bandleaders.
Cost: \$16/person
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Harmony Hall Regional Arts Center
10701 Livingston Rd Ft. Washington, 20744
Contact: 301-203-6070; TTY 301-203-3803

EARTH TALK ... Over-Fortified Processed Foods

Dear EarthTalk:

Is it true that much of our food—including cereals and snacks eaten by children—is actually over-fortified with excessive amounts of vitamins and minerals that can be dangerous to our health?

—Diane Summerton,
Waukesha, WI

Added nutrients in the processed foods we eat could indeed be too much of a good thing, especially for kids. According to a report from non-profit health research and advocacy group Environmental Working Group (EWG), nearly half of American kids aged eight and under “consume potentially harmful amounts of vitamin A, zinc and niacin because of excessive food fortification, outdated nutritional labeling rules and misleading marketing tactics used by food manufacturers.” EWG’s analysis for the “How Much Is Too Much?” report focused on two frequently fortified food categories: breakfast cereals and snack bars.

Of the 1,550 common cereals studied by EWG, 114 (including Total Raisin Bran, Wheaties Fuel, Cocoa Krispies, Krave and others) were fortified with 30 percent or more of the adult Daily Value for vitamin A, zinc and/or niacin. And 27 of 1,000 brands of snack bars studied (including Balance, Kind and Marathon bars) were fortified with 50 percent or more of the

adult Daily Value for at least one of these nutrients. EWG researchers based their analysis on Nutrition Facts labels on the various food items’ packaging.

“Heavily fortified foods may sound like a good thing, but it when it comes to children and pregnant women, excessive exposure to high nutrient levels could actually cause short or long-term health problems,” says EWG research director Renee Sharp, who co-authored the report. “Manufacturers use vitamin and mineral fortification to sell their products, adding amounts in excess of what people need and more than might be prudent for young children to consume.”

Sharp adds that excessive levels of vitamin A can lead to skeletal abnormalities, liver damage and hair loss, while high doses of zinc can impede copper absorption, compromise red and white blood cells and impair immune function. Also, too much vitamin A during pregnancy can lead to fetal developmental issues. And older adults who get too much vitamin A are at more risk for osteoporosis and hip fractures.

EWG suggests it’s time to overhaul our food labeling system to better account for how ingredients may affect children as well as adults. “In other words, when a parent picks up a box of cereal and sees that one serving provides 50 percent of the Daily Value for vitamin A, he or she may think that it provides 50 percent of a child’s recommended intake,”



CREDIT: ANDY MELTON, COURTESY FLICKR

According to a report by the Environmental Working Group (EWG), nearly half of American kids aged eight and under consume potentially harmful amounts of vitamin A, zinc and niacin because of excessive food fortification. EWG's report focused on two frequently fortified food categories: breakfast cereals and snack bars.

says EWG researcher and report co-author Olga Naidenko. “But he or she would most likely be wrong, since the Daily Values are based on an adult’s dietary needs.”

EWG is working on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to update its guidelines for Nutrition Facts to better reflect how foods affect children as well as adults. In the meantime, parents might want to consider scaling back on fortified foods for their kids in favor of so-called whole foods (unprocessed, unrefined fruits, vegetables and whole grains) that deliver the right amounts of nutrients naturally.

“Research consistently shows that the nutrient

amounts and types found in whole foods provide optimal nutrition as well as least risk,” says Ashley Koff, a registered dietitian and a former ad executive for kid’s cereals and snack bars. “We owe it to parents and kids to make it easiest to choose better quality foods.”

CONTACT: EWG’s “How Much Is Too Much?” report, www.ewg.org/research/how-much-is-too-much.

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Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

Students from A3

Seat Pleasant Elementary School - LaChonta Richardson, *Acting*
Tanglewood Regional - Debra Pearce
Thurgood Marshall Middle School - DeMarco Clark, *Acting*
University Park Elementary School - Toi Davis, *Acting*
Valley View Elementary School - Kimberly Pettway
Whitehall Elementary School - Prentice Christian
William Wirt Middle School - Roger Prince

New Charter Schools

Chesapeake Math & IT Academy, a public charter school in Laurel, will expand opportunities for students to take part in its rigorous, STEM-centered academic program by opening two new schools. A second site in

Laurel will add grades K-5 to the program, and the new CMIT South school in District Heights will bring the program to 6th and 7th graders in southern Prince George’s communities.

New Electronic Payment Portal

PGCPS has a new, secure online payment service for families. MySchoolBucks will enable families to pay for school meals, monitor their child’s cafeteria purchases, make tuition payments for Before and After School Extended Learning programs, and receive email notifications for low account balances.

Updated State Immunization Requirements

The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has made two changes to the state-required immunizations for students for the 2014-2015 school year. In addition to the existing

school immunization requirements, all students entering kindergarten must have had two varicella (chicken pox) vaccinations, and all students entering 7th grade must have had one Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) vaccination and one meningococcal (meningitis) vaccination. This change will primarily impact students coming from a country outside of the United States. A child has up to 20 days from the start of school to show proof of vaccinations or that they have started a plan to get the missing immunizations.

Added Security for Students and Staff

Visitors to our school buildings will notice several additional security features. Schools are equipped with doors accessible by electronic entry. Staff and emergency responders will be able to access buildings with

a scan card; the public may press a button to request entry from the school’s office. Panic buttons have been installed at all school and office facilities and may be used in the event of an emergency. All schools now have an electronic visitor management system installed that requires visitors to present a state-issued identification card. The card will be scanned and cross-checked against the national sex offender registry and existing court-ordered protective orders.

All schools and offices have closed circuit television systems installed and are monitored by security and administrative staff. The cameras provide coverage of the interior and exterior of buildings. For additional security in elementary schools and K-8 academies, security fencing has been installed around all temporary classrooms.

BGE Helps Customers Get Their Homes in A+ Shape for Fall with Quick Home Energy Check-ups

With a Quick Home Energy Check-up customers learn easy ways to increase energy efficiency and receive up to 20 energy and money-saving items like CFL bulbs - all at no additional cost.

By PRESS OFFICER
BGE

Baltimore — As students head back to school and the seasons begin to change, Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE) encourages customers to take advantage of its Quick Home Energy Check-up Program to help customers get their homes in A+ shape this fall. The program offers customers opportunities to save energy and money by providing simple tips to help improve energy efficiency. In addition, customers who schedule a Quick Home Energy Check-up will receive up to 20 energy efficient, money-saving items installed in their homes. Customers will also learn about a variety of discounts, rebates and programs available through BGE’s Smart Energy Savers Program®, all designed to help customers save energy and money. The BGE Quick Home

Energy Check-up and installed measures are included in customers’ BGE residential electric service and are available at no additional cost.

Customers can schedule a Quick Home Energy Check-up online or by calling 877.685.7377. The Check-up begins with a one-hour walk-through by a specially trained energy efficiency expert who will evaluate the home and assess the condition of insulation, heating and cooling equipment, lighting, appliances and more. The energy efficiency expert will then prepare a summary report and discuss the findings and recommendations for ways to reduce energy use, improve comfort and save money.

With the customer’s permission, and depending on the home’s needs, the Check-up professional can install up to 12 CFL bulbs, 4 faucet aerators, 2 efficient-flow showerheads, 1 electric water heater

tank wrap and pipe insulation, and a smart power strip. These installed measures will help the customer start saving energy and money immediately.

The Quick Home Energy Check-up is available to customers through BGE’s Smart Energy Savers Program®, which supports the EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act. The Check-up is available for no additional cost, and it’s a simple, quick and smart way to reduce energy use and save money. Visit BGESmartEnergy.com or call 877.685.7377 to schedule a Check-up today.

Customers can take their energy savings to the next level by scheduling a comprehensive home energy audit through BGE’s Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® Program. The \$100 audit (a \$400 value) uses advanced diagnostic tests to produce a more detailed assessment of a home’s energy use

and reveal even more ways to save energy, save money and improve a home’s comfort, safety and durability.

About the BGE Smart Energy Savers Program

The BGE Smart Energy Savers Program is a suite of programs that enable customers to better manage energy use, leading to more efficient use of electricity and lowering energy bills from where they otherwise would be. Collectively, the programs help contain the cost of energy and improve reliability. The programs also help to reduce peak demand and slow the growth in energy consumption to lessen the need for more power plants. BGE offers energy-saving solutions for renters, homeowners, large and small business customers, non-profit organizations and institutional customers. More information is available at BGESmartEnergy.com.