

The Prince George's Post



A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY Since 1932

Vol. 84, No. 11 March 17 – March 23, 2016

Prince George's County, Maryland

Newspaper of Record

Phone: 301-627-0900

25 cents

William Paca Elementary Students and Staff Crunch Over 700 Apples to Take a Bite Out of Childhood Hunger!

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Government

LANDOVER, MD—William Paca Elementary will join students from every school district in Maryland in Hear the Maryland Crunch!, a state-wide, synchronized bite into an apple to raise awareness about the importance of school breakfast in the fight against childhood hunger. Through a partnership with the Prince George's County Food Equity Council, Prince George's County Department of Social Services, Share Our Strength, Prince George's County Public Schools, and Maryland Hunger Solutions, the event will take place during National School

Breakfast Week on Thursday, March 10th, 2016 at William Paca Elementary School, 7801 Sheriff Rd, Landover, MD 20785 from 8:15 to 9:15 am.

Beginning at 8:15 am, students at William Paca Elementary will enjoy creative educational programming from fellow students and staff about the importance of good nutrition and a healthy school breakfast and will countdown to the synchronized apple crunch at 9:15 am. Giant Food is sponsoring the event for the Landover school by providing over 700 apples, ensuring that every participating student

See 700 APPLES Page A3

PGCPS to Host 19th Annual Dance Showcase

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCPS

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—On Saturday, March 19 at 6:30 p.m., Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) will host its 19th Annual Dance Showcase at Northwestern High School, located at 7000 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782.

Nearly 200 student performers will showcase a wide variety of dance styles, includ-

ing Ballet, Modern, Jazz, Hip Hop, Lindy Hop, Musical Theater, and much more. The students will also participate in a day of master classes taught by renowned dance choreographers and guest master teachers.

Student dancers represent the following schools: Edward M. Felegy Elementary School, Benjamin D. Foulois K-8 Academy CPA, Hyattsville

See SHOWCASE Page A3



RENDERING COURTESY MGM RESORTS INTERNATIONAL

Alice Aycock—Whirlpools, 2016—located at the entry drive of the MGM National Harbor casino porte cochere.

MGM National Harbor to Feature Permanent Art Collection Inspired by Capital Region's Rich Heritage

By PRESS OFFICER
MGM National Harbor

NATIONAL HARBOR, MD—When MGM National Harbor opens in the fourth quarter, visitors will discover a permanent collection of high-quality art seamlessly integrated into the resort's public spaces. Inspired by the rich heritage of the Capital Region, the MGM National Harbor Heritage Collection will showcase commissioned and procured works by

visionary local and international sculptors, photographers and mixed-media artists, including Margaret Boozer, Alice Aycock, Sam Gilliam, John Dreyfuss, John Safer, Liao Yibai and Chul Hyun Ahn, among others.

"An unparalleled art program that exemplifies the diversity of the region and captures the spirit of MGM National Harbor, while also being accessible and engaging for everyone, has been a part of our vision from the very beginning,"

said Jim Murren, Chairman and CEO of MGM Resorts International. "The Heritage Collection will celebrate and seamlessly blend the creative brilliance, beauty and inspiration of local and international artists. That juxtaposition of global and local is a hallmark of MGM Resorts as a leading creator of entertainment destinations."

From the moment guests arrive at MGM National Harbor, situated on the shores of the Potomac River in Prince George's

County, Maryland, they will encounter a sensory experience unlike any other. From the three, 60-foot-tall stainless steel figures of the Unity sculpture greeting visitors at the hotel's porte cochere, to the whimsical seven-foot-tall Cinderella Shoe in the retail promenade, guests will be immersed in a storyline unique to the property. Every aspect of the art—from the piece

See MGM/ART Page A3

Mikulski Discusses Her Fight for Jobs and Opportunity With Women of Maryland Delta Sigma Theta Sorority

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of Barbara Mikulski

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md.), Dean of the Senate women, met with Maryland members of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority on March 2, to discuss her continued fight for jobs and opportunity for Maryland families. The meeting was a part of the sorority's "Delta Days," an annual conference aimed at helping those in need through legislation, education and community outreach.

"The Delta's are a distinguished group of women dedicated to social justice and civic leadership," Senator Mikulski said. "I am so proud to support the work they do in Maryland and across the nation. I believe that in America, people deserve a government on their side. I will continue to fight for children, families and communities that need it most so no one is left out or left behind."

At their meeting, Senator Mikulski discussed her continued fight for families and communities. In December, Senator Mikulski helped lead passage



PHOTO COURTESY THE OFFICE OF BARBARA MIKULSKI

On March 1, 2016, Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md.) met with Maryland members of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority to celebrate the sorority's "Delta Days", an annual conference aimed at helping those in need through legislation, education and community outreach.

of legislation to refresh and reform the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to ensure that America's families, regardless of the zip code they live in, have access to quality child care and education they can

count on. She fought to ensure the bill did no harm and successfully saved Maryland schools \$40 million in Title I funding. Senator Mikulski also discussed her work to pass criminal justice reforms to keep

families and communities safe. She also called on the Senate to fulfill its constitutional duty to fill the vacancy on the U.S.

See SORORITY Page A5

Senior Angela Chin Selected as Finalist for Coca-Cola Scholarship

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCPS

SPRINGDALE, MD—Charles H. Flowers High School senior Angela Chin, the only student selected from Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS), has been named a 2016 Coca-Cola Scholarship finalist.

"Congratulations to Angela Chin for receiving this scholarship," said Dr. Kevin Maxwell, Chief Executive Officer for PGCPS. "Our students continue to raise the bar and we are proud of Angela's accomplishment. Thank you to the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation for helping students reach their academic goals by providing them with financial assistance."

Angela has a 4.75 grade point average. She is the president of the Student Government Association, a member of the National Honor Society and an intern in the Science and Technology program. She plans to attend a four-year institution and major in civil and environmental engineering with a minor in international affairs.

Angela will attend the 2016 Scholars Weekend from March



PHOTO COURTESY PGCPS

Angela Chin

31-April 3, where she will meet peers for a time of inspiration, fun, and camaraderie. All participants are invited to attend an annual Scholars Banquet and participate in a Leadership Development Institute, which is an intensive leadership training that challenges students to develop an inside-out leadership philosophy.

Other PGCPS students recognized as semi-finalists in the 2016 Coca-Cola Scholars Program Scholarship include Tyra Coach (Suitland High School), Armond Dorsey (Suitland High

See SCHOLARSHIP Page A5

INSIDE

HUD Awards \$37 Million for Local Homeless Programs in Maryland

To compete most effectively, communities made very challenging decisions, often shifting funds from existing projects to create new ones that will have a more substantial and lasting impact on homeless populations.

Community, Page A3

The Color of Money: Reaping the Dividends of Entrepreneurship

According to the latest Multicultural Economy Report from the Selig center, Hispanic buying power leads all groups at 1.3 trillion dollars and Black buying power has seen an 86 percent increase with their buying power rising to 1.1 trillion dollars.

Commentary, Page A4

EDC Hires Top Management Talent to Activate Prosperity in Prince George's County

The EDC is continuously seeking high energy, innovative professionals who are committed to removing barriers in order to transform lives in Prince George's County. Game-changing careers await you.

Business, Page A5

Movie Review: "Hail Caesar!"

When Mannix, a devout, confession-every-day Catholic, assembles some religious leaders to discuss the depiction of Jesus in *Hail, Caesar!*, he finds their different explanations of God's nature confusing, contradictory, and unhelpful. ("God doesn't have any children," says the Jewish representative.)

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Are genetically modified organisms (GMOs) really so bad for us and the environment, and given their prevalence in our food supply already, how can I avoid them?

—Dianne Mercurio,
Richmond, VA

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

Civil War abolitionist's diary found, revealed at Surratt event

The Surratt Society is offering "Through the Eyes (and Pen) of Julia Wilbur" on Saturday, March 19, at 4 p.m. The event is free, but there is limited seating, so arrive early.

Paula Tarnapol Whitacre of Alexandria has found parts of Julia Wilbur's diary and will discuss the lady's experiences in Civil War Washington. Miss Wilbur was a young abolitionist sent to Alexandria, Va., on behalf of a Rochester Ladies Anti-Slavery Society, to serve as a relief worker with newly-freed slaves who were flooding into Washington.

The Surratt House is at 9118 Brandywine Road in Clinton. For information, call 301-868-1121.

Elections coming up

Maryland's Primary Election will be April 26, 7 am until 8 p.m. Early Voting for the Primary is April 14 through April 21.

Morningsiders will go to the polls May 2, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., to elect a Mayor and two Council members. Registration to run for office closed March 7; I don't know yet who's running.

Morningside history note: Fifty years ago, in 1966, the officers were Mayor Gerald Glaubitz and Council Members Robert L. Davis, Audrey L. Holmes, Harry T. Richardson and William A. Schaub.

Academia

Paul Bornman, of Skyline, is graduating from Potomac High School and has been awarded a full scholarship to Prince George's Community College.

John Daka, a senior football star at Wise High School, has been named by Parade magazine as a 2016 Parade All-American Honorable Mention. He is considering James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va.

If you listen to WGTS 91.9 you may have heard children from St. Philip's School in Camp Springs recite the Pledge of Al-

legiance at 7:10 a.m., March 7 through March 11.

Changing landscape

A new aquatic center may be in the works for the Southern Regional Technology & Recreation Complex on Bock Road in Fort Washington. For more information, call 301-699-2574.

The new Prince George's County budget may result in cutting trash pickups from twice a week to once a week. This change would save the County about \$6 million annually.

Germany-based grocery chain Lidi is planning to open 10 stores in Prince George's County.

The Clarion Hotel, 6400 Oxon Hill Road, is now Harbor-side Hotel, taking advantage of its being near National Harbor. This is about the sixth name-change for this hotel.

Cherry blossoms are now due to peak between March 24 and 28.

Interested in being a firefighter? Check out Morningside

From their website: "The Morningside Volunteer Fire Department is always looking to increase membership. Regardless if you have no public safety experience or if you are a veteran looking for a new challenge, there is room for you here at this department. This is great way to support our local community or even prepare for a paid career in the fire and rescue service. We are looking for people from a wide age range and backgrounds." For more information, email the membership committee at recruitment@morningside-vfd27.com.

May they rest in peace

Martha Margaret Kline, 90, a longtime resident of Marianne Drive in Morningside, died Dec. 30. In recent years she lived with her daughter in Rockville. She had been an active member of St. Philip's Church and in the Morningside community. She was the wife of the late Gerald

Lamont Kline; mother of Donald (Lois) Kline and Carol (Tom) DeGraba; grandmother of Maria, Thomas and Nicholas DeGraba, and Gary (Ivy) and Kevin (Elizabeth) Kline; great-grandmother of four. Her daughter Carol and grandson Kevin both served on the Morningside Town Council.

James G. Holbert, 81, who retired in 1996 after 38 years of teaching 5th and 6th grades at Skyline, Riverdale and Forest Heights' schools, died Jan. 19.

Amir Homayouni Homayouni, 83, former math teacher at Bishop McNamara High School, died Jan. 23. A native of Iran, he moved to the United States in 1952, taught at Washington-area schools and received honors including Teacher of the Year for building up science and math programs.

Robert H. Simms III, Life member of the Marlboro Volunteer Fire Department, died March 2.

Milestones

Happy belated birthday to Karen Cordero, Blake James Shipman and Father Scott Hahn, March 11; Harold Wilson, Rebecca Turner and Marcy Richardson, March 12; Pamela Woodall, Kathy Elborne, Cordelia Bland, Shirley Caruth and Gregory Ritter, March 13; my daughter Therese Gallegos and Belinda Benavidaz, March 14; Jacob Thompson, Jose Gyskewicz and Jonathan Capps, March 15; Constance Bennett and my great-grandson Riley McHale, March 16.

Happy birthday to Sharon Ryan, Helene Williams and Alysha Perez, March 18;

Kristopher Calhoun and Audrey Pridgen, March 19; Russ Kyser, Matthew Curcio-Bobbitt and Dejuh Bedewi, March 21; Ruth Anthony, my great-grandson Jack McHale and Hudson Murphy Glaubitz, March 23; and Lewis Woods, March 24.

Happy anniversary to Morrine and Harold Wilson on March 22.

Neighborhood

First Baptist Church of Glenarden's Anthony Brown Makes History With 'Perfect 10' Sweep at 31st Annual Stellar Gospel Music Awards

LANDOVER, MD—After flying to Los Angeles this month as a Grammy Award nominee but coming home empty-handed, Anthony Brown needed a spare suitcase last week for his unprecedented haul at the Stellar Gospel Music Awards in Las Vegas.

The front man for Anthony Brown & Group TherAPy—as well as the Assistant Minister of Music at First Baptist Church of Glenarden—he pulled off a historic clean sweep. Nominated in 10 categories, he won the award in each. Brown broke the record set last year by Erica Campbell, who won eight Stellar Awards.

"This doesn't happen by osmosis," Brown said. "The Lord found me in the pasture where I was serving. God didn't find me on the stage. He found me in the field working and serving."

Anthony Brown & Group TherAPy burst on the gospel scene two years ago with an eponymous debut album and the smash hit "Testimony." But he out-did himself with the follow-up project, *Everyday Jesus*. The first single, "Worth," has spent 10 months atop the charts and garnered a Grammy nomination for Best Gospel Performance/Song, which went to Kirk Franklin for "Wanna Be Happy."

But no one was happier than Brown last weekend. *Everyday Jesus* netted Stellar Awards for Artist; Song; Male Vocalist; Recorded Music Packaging; Contemporary CD; Contemporary Male Vocalist; Contemporary Group/Duo; Producer; CD; and Group/Duo of the Year.

FBCG employs quite the collection of talent in its Music and Arts Department, headed by former Stellar Award-winner Stephen Hurd. FBCG's Justin Savage won the 2016 Stellar Award for "Producer of the Year" on *Everyday Jesus*; Savage and FBCG co-worker/former Stellar Award-winner Daniel Weatherspoon also were nominated for Grammys this year.

Now everyone knows why members and guests speak so highly of the praise & worship experience at First Baptist!

Clean Water Rescue Challenge—PGFD Collection Points for Donations for Flint Residents

Four Prince George's County Fire/EMS Stations are serving as collection points in an effort to collect clean water for Flint, Michigan.

A volunteer group is collecting clean drinking water for the residents of Flint. They are proposing a "Clean Water Rescue Challenge" and asking Prince George's County residents to participate and donate as many cases of clean water that you can.

Clean water may be dropped off at the following Fire/EMS Stations where they will be stored until pickup and delivery to Flint. Please note that some of these stations may be out on calls or other tasks and may not be there to accept your donation.

You may leave your water near any door. Donations will be collected until March 20, 2016.

Donations can be left on any day of the week from 9:00 am until 7:00 pm.

Branchville Volunteer Fire Company and Rescue Squad
4905 Branchville Road,
College Park, MD

Chillum-Adelphi Volunteer Fire Department
7833 Riggs Road,
Langley Park, MD

Kettering-Largo Fire/EMS Station
10400 Campus Way South,
Upper Marlboro, MD

Glenn Dale Volunteer Fire Association
11900 Glenn Dale Blvd,
Glenn Dale, MD

For large water donations you may contact the event coordinator at 240-354-0285.

More than 17,000 Walmart Associates in Maryland To Receive Pay Raise

Maryland associates also share more than \$10 million in quarterly cash bonuses

BALTIMORE, MD—As part of the largest single-day, private-sector pay increase ever, more than 1.2 million Walmart and Sam's Club associates in the U.S., including more than 17,000 in the state of Maryland, will receive a pay raise in their March 10 paycheck. The increases are part of the company's two-year, \$2.7 billion investment in higher pay, better training, clearer career paths and additional educational opportunities for its workers.

Walmart associates are eligible for quarterly cash bonuses based on the performance of their store. For the full fiscal year, Walmart associates across the country earned more than \$550 million in bonuses, including more than \$10 million in Maryland. In addition to the higher wages, the March 10 paycheck for eligible Maryland associates will include a share of the more than \$3.2 million in bonus money earned in the fourth quarter of the year alone.

"The company continues to go to bat for its associates," said Lionel Grayson, an office associate who has worked at Walmart's Cockeysville location since August 2011. "Since I began working with Walmart a few years ago, management has continued to demonstrate a steady commitment toward its employees. In addition to the recent pay raise, there have been plenty of opportunities for associates like myself to grow and move within the company."

Walmart's associate investment is about more than wages and benefits. It is designed to provide associates the skills, knowledge and tools they need to grow with the company and provide great customer service. The company is also creating new training programs, which will create clear career paths from entry-level positions to jobs with more responsibility and higher pay.

Wages and Advancements

A job at Walmart means competitive pay for all associates. Last year, Walmart

U.S. and Sam's Club promoted more than 200,000 associates, including 2,817 in Maryland, to jobs with higher pay and more responsibility. In addition, more than 150,000 associates, including 2,097 in Maryland, were converted from part-time to full-time.

Walmart in Maryland

Walmart's local investment goes beyond the company's recent pay raises. In Maryland, the company:

- Operates 59 retail units.
- Spent \$881.6 million with suppliers, supporting 12,750 supplier jobs in fiscal year 2015.

• Paid more than \$59 million in taxes and collected more than \$150 million in sales taxes in fiscal year 2015.

This associate investment was taken into account in the financial outlook discussed last October at the company's annual analyst meeting.

BGE Employees Volunteered Close to 22,500 Hours in 2015

The company also donated \$4.5 million to central Maryland nonprofits

BALTIMORE, MD—Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE) employees volunteered 22,433 hours in 2015, dedicating time and energy to 211 nonprofit organizations across central Maryland.

Activities ranged from helping kindergarten students learn to read to preparing meals for families with seriously ill children to maintaining the Chesapeake Bay Oyster Garden. Employees also shared their time and talents by serving as board members for 130 local nonprofits.

"Our employees believe that investing time in their communities is a necessary and worthwhile endeavor, and we see the benefits of this investment every day," said Valencia McClure, BGE's director of communications and corporate relations. "We continue to be proud of the hard work and commitment of the BGE family."

In addition to investing their time, BGE employees also supported their favorite causes with financial contributions. The company's 2015 United Way employee giving campaign raised more than \$830,000 through employee donations and company matching dollars.

BGE also directed parent company shareholder dollars to local organizations that improve the quality of life for central Maryland residents. The company contributed \$4.5 million in 2015 to more than 300 nonprofit organizations that focus on the environment, arts and culture, neighborhood development, education and emergency services.

Among plans for community engagement in 2016, BGE's 200th anniversary year, employees will join with community organizations across the service area to create and install 100 mosaics through a partnership with Art with a Heart. To learn more about this project, visit the website at www.200bge.com

To learn more about BGE's ongoing charitable activities, visit bge.com

Happy St. Patrick's Day

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Happy birthday to William Farmer, Ray Anthony Johnson, Gloria Lanier, Charles Lewis, Jr., A. Vanessa Pinkney, Gill Michelle Pinkney, Gregory Pinkney, Kristen Wilkerson who are Nottingham-Myers United Methodist Church members celebrating their birthdays in March.

Happy birthday to Elizabeth Davis, Brewer Clark, Shirley Brown, Desmond Wood, Anthony Oghogho, Elton Smalling, Safiya Terry-Joseph, Brittany Baker, Denise Bourne, Mildred Edwards, Vedall Grant, Lloyd Brown, Patricia Stephens, Tina Fields, Aja LayLonie Bell, Neil Noel, Maya Stammer, Jalayah Brooks, Bonnie Fauber Hayes, Shirley Jackson, Dr. Kenneth Newby, Judy Jones-Terry, Amiah Knight, Shonnell Noel, Daniel Jones, Daniel Glee who are Clinton United Methodist Church members celebrating birthdays during the month of March.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Happy wedding anniversary to Emmanuel & Claudette Oghogho and Ben & June Fauber who are Clinton United Methodist Church members cel-

ebrating a wedding anniversary in the month of March.

BRANDYWINE-NORTH KEYS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Brandywine-North Keys Civic Association meetings are held 7:00 PM the third Wednesday of every month at Brandywine Elementary School. We meet in the Media Center at the school. The address is 14101 Brandywine Road, Brandywine, Maryland 20613. Please come out and join us at our next meeting Wednesday April 20, 2016.

ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH

Come join us for some fun on our Charles Town Races and Slots Casino Trip in Charles Town West Virginia Friday, April 15, 2016. Bus will leave St. Philip's Church, Brandywine, Maryland at 6:00 PM and Clinton Park-N-Ride, Clinton, Maryland at 6:30 PM and returns at approximately 3:00 AM. Fun package includes a \$15.00 rebate. Donation is \$40.00. There are absolutely no refunds. This trip will benefit St. Philip's Church-Bull Roast.

Points of contacts for tickets are Doretha Savoy (301) 233-3136, Ernest Douglas (301) 888-1937 and Shirley Cleaves (302) 690-4260.

NEW HOPE FELLOWSHIP CANCER CARE MINISTRY

Please come out and join our Cancer Care Ministry as we host our 2nd Annual Testimonial Service Saturday, March 19 2:00 PM, and Sunday March 20th at 6:00 PM. We will have testimonies from survivors and caregivers, gospel singing, New Hope Fellowship Choir and liturgical dancing.

Our address is New Hope Fellowship/ Nottingham Myers Campus, 15601 Brooks Church Road Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Telephone number is 301-888-2171. Rev. Constance C. Smith is our Pastor.

BLESSING OF THE BIKES

New Hope Fellowship United Methodist Parish Family Life Center located at 15601 Brooks Church Road, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772 will have Bike Blessing April 17, 2016 immediately following 11:00 AM morning worship. The blessing will be at 1:00 PM. Light refreshments after blessing. This event is sponsored by the Men's Ministry. Rev. Constance Smith, Pastor. Contact Tom at 301-888-2171 for more information.

COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Nathaniel Sillin

Growing Summer Savings in the Garden

Have you ever thought about growing your own fruits and vegetables at home? For experienced gardeners, the cold months are when their imaginations get fired up; seed catalogs seem to blow in with the arctic blast, accompanied by companion mailings from gardening accessories and equipment retailers. But where can amateurs start?



To maintain a garden as a legitimate financial alternative to store-bought food, it's important to understand the underlying costs involved. Some gardeners spend substantial bucks on fancy tools, equipment, gardening clothes, deluxe fertilizers or supplies, which sounds counter-intuitive to a money-saving alternative. Investing in home gardening requires frugal spending and a desire to learn—very few people wipe out their entire produce bill without a little preparation, knowledge and most important, trial and error.

There are plenty of studies (<http://www.garden.org/>) on how much people are investing in home, and community-based gardens, but very few reliable guidelines on how much money you can actually save by gardening. That's because it's tough to generalize results based on geography, climate and skill sets.

Nevertheless, if you still want to get your hands dirty, here are some general steps to take before you dig in:

Harvest as much local gardening knowledge as you can. The word "local" is very important. Planning a home-based edible garden in a sunny West Coast backyard is very different than planting a series of clay pots on a Midwestern terrace. Start with a close look at your climate and growing conditions before buying anything.

Plant only what you'll eat. If you want a salad garden, stick to lettuce that can be planted and harvested repeatedly in one season. Maybe you'll also want to plant a tomato plant or two. If you generally buy a lot of a particular vegetable, try and grow that first. The more you want to eat the food you're planting, the more interest you'll take in making it a success.

Keep your first effort as inexpensive as possible. Generally, the cheapest way to grow plants is from seed you start growing indoors. Some people have special lights and shelving for indoor seed starting, but if you're planning on only a few plants, it's best to start modestly. Consult experts about the most effective and frugal way to start your desired plants from seed at home and set a growing schedule that culminates in actual planting outdoor. Sometimes it's better to stick with a few borrowed or garage sale hand tools and recycled containers that will work just fine for seeding and drainage.

Keep learning as you go. When you start gardening, even if it's only a pot or two where you're growing from seed, start an annual garden journal that details what you've purchased (with prices), what's worked well and all questions and answers you've gathered along the way. You might even discover new plants you'd like to grow next year. Re-reading your journal before you start your gardening planning in winter is a great way to shape your growing and cooking priorities for the coming year.

Bottom line: Homegrown food usually tastes better for two reasons—it's fresher than anything you can buy and you have the pride of growing it yourself. However, making an economical home garden takes know-how, knowledge and as minimal initial investment as possible.

Sorority from A1

Supreme Court.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated is a private, not-for-profit organization whose purpose is to provide assistance and support through established programs in local communities throughout the world. Since its founding more than 200,000

women have joined the organization. The organization is a sisterhood of predominantly Black, college educated women. Founded in 1913 at Howard University in Washington, D.C., the sorority currently has 1,000 collegiate and alumnae chapters in the United States and countries around the world.

Showcase from A1

Middle School CPA, Oxon Hill Middle School, Thomas G. Pullen K-8 Academy CPA, Dr. Henry A. Wise, Jr. High School, Frederick Douglass High School, Largo High School, Laurel High School, Northwestern High School CVPA, Oxon Hill

High School, Potomac High School, Suitland High School CVPA, and PGCP's High School Honors Dance Ensemble.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Children under 3 years old are free. All tickets can be purchased at the door.

HUD Awards \$37 Million for Local Homeless Programs in Maryland

Funding Renews Support to Local Homeless Housing and Service Programs

By PRESS OFFICER HUD

PHILADELPHIA, PA—U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Julián Castro awarded today \$37.2 million to support 170 local homeless housing and service programs in Maryland. View a complete list of all the state and local homeless projects awarded funding.

The Tier 1 Continuum of Care (CoC) grants announced today support the Obama Administration's efforts to end homelessness by providing critically needed housing and support services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness. HUD will award approximately \$300 million in "Tier 2 grants" in the spring to support hundreds more local programs across the U.S.

"A safe, stable home is the foundation for opportunity in all of our lives," said Secretary Castro. "That's why we're continuing to challenge communities to deploy proven strategies to help people experiencing homeless-

ness find a place to call home. Through unprecedented partnership among every level of government and private, non-profit and philanthropic organizations, we know this goal is not just aspirational—it's achievable."

"More than \$175 million will fund 850 programs aimed at meeting the most critical needs of people experiencing homelessness in communities across Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia," said Jane C.W. Vincent, HUD's Regional Administrator of the Mid-Atlantic region.

This year's grants are being awarded in the most competitive environment HUD has experienced in the Continuum of Care grant program. To compete most effectively, communities made very challenging decisions, often shifting funds from existing projects to create new ones that will have a more substantial and lasting impact on homeless populations.

In 2010, President Obama and 19 federal agencies and offices

that form the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) launched the nation's first-ever comprehensive strategy to prevent and end homelessness. Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness puts the country on a path to end veterans and chronic homelessness as well as to end homelessness among children, family, and youth.

HUD estimates there were 564,708 persons experiencing homelessness on a single night in 2015. Since 2010 local communities around the country reported a decline by more than 72,000 persons, an 11 percent reduction. In addition, veteran homelessness fell by 36 percent, chronic homelessness declined 22 percent, and between 2010 and January 2015, family homelessness declined by 19 percent while the estimated number of unaccompanied homeless youth and children was 36,097.

Across the nation, local homelessness planning agencies called 'Continuum of Care' recently organized volunteers to

help count the number of persons located in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs and living unsheltered on the streets. Continuums of Care will report these one-night 'point-in-time counts' later in the year and will form the basis of HUD's 2016 national homelessness estimate.

HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. More information about HUD and its programs is available at www.hud.gov and www.espanol.hud.gov. You can also connect with HUD on social media at http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_affairs/socialmedia, and follow Secretary Castro on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/secretarycastro>), and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/secretarycastro>), or sign up for news alerts via HUD's email list at <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/subscribe/signup> & listname=HUD%20News&list=HUD-NEWS-L.

700 Apples from A1

and staff member has an apple to crunch.

The school's participation in the Crunch also highlights its impressive increases in school breakfast and lunch participation after electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) for School Year 2015-2016. CEP provides federal funding to allow high-poverty schools to offer free school breakfast and lunch to all students—essentially becoming Hunger-Free Schools.

William Paca Principal Dorothy Clowers shares that after her school elected CEP, "Our attendance has increased tremendously because every family knows their child has breakfast waiting at school. We recognize the positive impact healthy food has on the mind and the critical role school breakfast plays in academic success."

The Prince George's County Food Equity Council, a local food policy council which advocated for Prince George's County Public Schools to elect

CEP, expresses excitement in William Paca's success. "We're thrilled to highlight the school's increases in School Breakfast Program participation rates through the Community Eligibility Provision; rates increased from 69% to 79% of students taking advantage of the program in just one school year," says Prince George's County Food Equity Council Coordinator, Sydney Daigle. "Our County has a higher than (state) average rate of food insecurity. Healthy, free school meals make a tremendous impact on families' food budgets and the health of students."

William Paca Elementary is located within one of County Executive Rushern L. Baker III's Transforming Neighborhoods Initiative (TNI) communities. TNI@School offers students and families wraparound services that create protective environments for students, attend to their social, emotional, academic and behavioral health needs and connect families to community resources.

"It is important to remove the barriers to children receiving

healthy meals, especially breakfast" says Gloria Brown, Director of the Prince George's County Department of Social Services, "there is a significant correlation between nutrition and academic performance. We are excited to partner with William Paca Elementary for the advances that they are making in this area." The Department of Social Service operates various programs targeted at providing healthy meals to children of the County, including Mission: Nutrition, A Million Meals Project with the Peterson Companies, the Summer Food Program and the Food Supplement Program.

"We are thrilled to see the momentum around school breakfast building. This support will culminate when thousands of students, teachers and partners throughout the state, including the entire Maryland Congressional delegation, join together at 9:15, just after the school bell, to Hear the Maryland Crunch," said Michael J. Wilson, Director of Maryland

Hunger Solutions. "If we are serious about improving the health and the lives of Marylanders—especially children—then improving participation in school breakfast is the place to start."

For more information about the Prince George's County Food Equity Council, contact Sydney Daigle, Program Coordinator at 240-253-1036, visit www.pgcfec.org or email info@pgcfec.org

For more information about TNI@School contact Whitney Pailin-Rhodes, Project Director at 301-909-7074 or email at whitney.pailin@maryland.gov.

For more information about the Prince George's County Department of Social Services contact Shirley Schreffler, Special Assistant to the Director at 301-909-7074 or Shirley.Schreffler@maryland.gov.

For more information about Hear the Maryland Crunch! contact Michael J. Wilson, Director of Maryland Hunger Solutions at 410-528-0021, ext 27 or mjwilson@mdhungersolutions.org.

MGM/Art from A1

to the location to the orientation—has been carefully selected and strategically designed to complement the space. The artwork will evoke a sense of wonder and delight as guests wander through the resort, encountering works that are diverse and approachable, rivaling the quality and caliber of masterpieces displayed in public collections throughout the Capital Region.

The MGM National Harbor Heritage Collection will feature pieces from more than a dozen artists working with a variety of mediums including aluminum, clay, stainless steel, bronze, watercolors, photography and more. Objects will range from large-scale sculptures and paintings to photography and LED light boxes, creating a rich visual experience. Some works, like those by Madelyn Keesing and Sam Gilliam, are abstract pieces which echo the historical visual art movement of the Washington Color School that originated in Washington, D.C. Commissioned pieces by emerging artists reflect the rich heritage of Prince George's County and the greater Mid-Atlantic region, such as the landscape composition fashioned from con-

struction site clay by Margaret Boozer of Red Dirt Studio.

Murren added, "Art is one of the cornerstones of the sensory experience at our resorts, creating environments that are interesting, exciting and distinct. The experience at MGM National Harbor will be exceptional, offering the community and visitors from around the world access to a high-quality special collection."

Upon Arrival

John Safer—Unity, stainless steel, three 60-foot-tall figures with satin and polish finished surfaces—entry outside the hotel's porte cohere.

Specializing in modern monumental sculpture, this Washington, D.C. artist's work will welcome guests as they arrive at the hotel entrance. John Safer, an internationally renowned sculptor throughout the latter half of the 20th century, was also a successful entrepreneur who went on to become a major figure in banking. The *New York Times* compared Safer's position as a sculptor to that of Georgia O'Keeffe as a painter and Ansel Adams as a photographer. The U.S. Department of State sent Safer's sculptures abroad to be exhibited as an example of America's finest art. His works today stand



RENDERING COURTESY MGM RESORTS INTERNATIONAL

Alice Aycock—Whirlpools, 2016.

in over a thousand private collections and public sites and have been exhibited in museums, galleries and embassies around the world. Ascent, a 75-foot-tall work, described as one of the great public sculptures of our time, stands at the entrance of the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum at Dulles Airport. At 90, Safer continues his craft. He works with his stepdaughter Kathryn Scott, to whom he taught his trade and offered his mantle. Safer and Scott collaborated on a monumental work, Quest, for the Johns Hopkins Wilmer Eye Institute. The 35-foot-tall stainless steel sculpture is one of the

largest works of art that Johns Hopkins has received.

Alice Aycock—Whirlpools, 2016, aluminum, 80 feet long, varying in height from 3—14 feet and finished in a white powder coating—entry drive of the casino porte cohere

Alice Aycock, a prominent New York sculptor, has exhibited in major museums and galleries nationally as well as in Europe and Japan. Her works can be found in numerous collections including the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum, the Brooklyn Museum, the L.A.

See MGM/ART Page A5

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE!
in *The Prince George's Post*
Call Brenda Boice
at 301 627 0900

COMMENTARY

Barbara A. Mikulski

United States Senator for Maryland



Mikulski Fights to Protect Families From Being Victims of Tax Identity Fraud in Hearing With Treasury Department and IRS

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Senators Barbara A. Mikulski and Ben Cardin (both D-Md.) together with Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.) and a bipartisan coalition of Senators today announced that they have introduced a resolution to recognize March 8, 2016 as International Women's Day (IWD) and commemorate the achievements of women around the world.

"International Women's Day reminds us to celebrate the contributions women make around the world and here at home," Senator Mikulski said. "Every day, women fight to build stronger economies, improve conditions for families and communities, and inspire the next generation of young girls. That's why I fight every day to make sure that women are at the table and empowered to make a difference."

"At home and abroad, the way women are treated is very much a barometer for the economic and social success of a given community," Senator Cardin said. "Ensuring that girls and women can reach their full potentials should be a cornerstone of American domestic and foreign policy not just on International Women's Day, but all year round."

The International Women's Day resolution celebrates the economic, political and social achievements of women past, present and future while also recognizing the obstacles women continue to face in the struggle for equal rights and opportu-

nities. International Women's Day takes place annually on March 8.

In support of the goals of IWD, the resolution also affirms the advancement of women as a foreign policy priority for the United States. It notes that the ability of women to realize their full potential through education and economic empowerment is critical to a nation's ability to achieve strong and lasting economic growth, as well as political and social stability. Specifically, the bipartisan resolution highlights the underrepresentation of women in all aspects of public life, the denial of basic human rights for women in select countries, as well as the threat of violence and abuse too many women around the world continue to face.

In addition to Senators Mikulski, Cardin and Shaheen, the bipartisan resolution is cosponsored by Senators Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.), Ed Markey (D-Mass.), Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.), Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.), Patty Murray (D-Wash.), Dick Durbin (D-Ill.), Mark Kirk (R-Ill.), Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), Chris Murphy (D-Conn.), Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.) and Robert Menendez (D-N.J.).

The full text of the resolution is available online: <http://www.shaheen.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/International%20Women's%20Day.pdf>



Abraham Hall

Open to the Public

PHOTO COURTESY WIKIPEDIA.

Abraham Hall

Abraham Hall was constructed in 1889 by the Benevolent Sons and Daughters of Abraham, an African American society that was established for the social welfare of its members. Originally known as Rebecca Lodge #6 of the Benevolent Sons and Daughters of Abraham, the building was constructed by John W. Jackson in 1889 in the burgeoning community of Rossville. Abraham Hall, an excellent example of a multi-purpose building associated with African Americans, served as a meeting hall, a house of worship, a school, and a social hall for African Americans living in a segregated society. Located at 762 Old Muirkirk Rd., Beltsville, Maryland, Abraham Hall is available for tours, meetings and small social gatherings. Individual or group tours may be scheduled by appointment. Please call 240-264-3415 for more information.

Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



America's Back Door

The *Harvard Gazette* has released a series of articles on inequality in America. They describe Harvard University scholars' efforts across a range of disciplines to identify and understand this nation defining and dividing concern and possible solutions. The first piece in the series opens: "It's a seemingly nondescript chart, buried in a Harvard Business School (HBS) professor's academic paper. A rectangle, divided into parts, depicts U.S. wealth for each fifth of the population. But it appears to show only three divisions. The bottom two, representing the accumulated wealth of 124 million people, are so small that they almost don't even show up. Other charts in other journals illustrate different aspects of American inequality. They might depict income, housing quality, rates of imprisonment, or levels of political influence, but they all look very much the same. Perhaps most damning are those that reflect opportunity—whether involving education, health, race, or gender—because the inequity represented there belies our national identity. America, we believe, is a land where everyone gets a fair start and then rises or falls according to his or her own talent and industry. But if you're poor, if you're uneducated, if you're black, if you're Hispanic, if you're a woman, there often is no fair start."

The article notes that inequality "has become a national buzzword and a political cause célèbre in this election year," in part because across so many measures it is on the rise. Harvard-trained historian Dr. Carter G. Woodson was focused on a particular aspect of inequality when he founded *Negro History Week*—the precursor to Black History Month—ninety years ago. Dr. Woodson was especially concerned about the "mis-education" of Black children from their earliest ages—"The thought of the inferiority of the Negro is drilled into him in almost every class he enters and in almost every book he studies"—and the cumulative effects it could have: "When you control a man's thinking you do not have to worry about his actions. You do not have to tell

him not to stand here or go yonder. He will find his 'proper place' and will stay in it. You do not need to send him to the back door. He will go without being told. In fact, if there is no back door, he will cut one for his special benefit. His education makes it necessary."

Dr. Woodson believed teaching children about Black history and Black accomplishments was a crucial corrective step. We now understand the wisdom behind teaching not just Black children but all children Black history just as we make sure all of our American stories are being told as we prepare our next generations for our multicultural nation and world. Although Black History Month is over, every month should be Black and Native American and Latino and Asian American and women's and non-propertied men's history month.

Black History Month has helped infuse more multicultural attention in American education, but there is still a big struggle ahead to ensure children are taught the truth in schools in every subject including history, geography and literature. A misleading McGraw-Hill geography textbook called American slaves "workers from Africa" and the

evil slave trade just one of many "patterns of immigration." We must vigilantly monitor and challenge false history, geography and literature that sugarcoats and mischaracterizes the horrors of slavery, lynchings and institutional racism. As scholars watch American inequality's continual rise, Black children and other children of color remain disproportionately at risk of inferior status, discrimination and racial disparities in measure after measure. We must challenge anyone training any of our children to go around to the back door—yet too often we are still leaving some children outside it. This must stop.

We should remember that for so many Black children and youths each day in America, there is too little to celebrate: 3 are killed by guns.

4 die from accidents.

19 die in the first year of life.

86 are arrested for violent crimes.

90 are arrested for drug crimes.

148 are born without health insurance.

153 are born to teen mothers.

See WATCH, Page A12

Marc Morial, President and CEO

National Urban League



The Color of Money: Reaping the Dividends of Entrepreneurship

"So our people not only have to be reeducated to the importance of supporting black business, but the black man himself has to be made aware of the importance of going into business. And once you and I go into business, we own and operate at least the businesses in our community. What we will be doing is developing a situation wherein we will actually be able to create employment for the people in the community."

—Malcolm X, *The Ballot or the Bullet*, April 12, 1964

Sarah Breedlove was born to sharecroppers on a plantation in Louisiana. Breedlove—later known to millions as Madam C.J. Walker—died on her beloved four-and-a-half acre estate overlooking the Hudson River in Irvington, NY. At the time of her death, Madam Walker's estate was worth close to six million in today's dollars—making her one of the most successful, self-made business women of the twentieth century. Asked how she got her start, Madam Walker is said to have famously answered, "I got my start by giving myself a start."

Entrepreneurship is deeply embedded in our American DNA. It can take a woman from the Jim Crow era cotton plantations of the South to the pinnacle of American business success. And entrepreneurship's benefits extend further than the heart and mind of the man or woman possessed with the dream of owning their own business. Entrepreneurship is an inspiration and an opportunity that can be shared. It is a driver of the American economy and has the potential to provide new economic opportunity to local—and even distressed—communities.

Nationally, the number of firms owned by people of color is on the rise. According to the latest small business survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, minority-company ownership is up from 5.8 million in 2007 to eight million in 2012. This includes a 46 percent increase in Hispanic ownership; a 34 percent rise in the number of African-American owned businesses; an almost 24 percent increase for Asians; and a 27 percent increase in firms owned by women. And as the growth in minority-company ownership booms, so do its job numbers. It is estimated that minority-owned companies provide seven million jobs and companies owned by women employ up to eight million workers.

To save our struggling cities, we cannot solely rely on getting jobs. To strengthen our streets we must be on the forefront of creating jobs and economic opportunities. The National Urban League has created the Entrepreneurship Center, a signature program to foster the growth of minority-owned businesses and offer business owners the resources they need to grow their bottom line. Through counseling, mentoring and training services, the National Urban League's Entrepreneurship centers work with owners to develop management skills that will help their businesses obtain financing that supports job creation and preservation. By improving their strategies, the centers have helped over ten thousand business owners experience increased competitiveness and profitability, start their businesses with higher survival rates and break out to new markets and higher growth. To date, the center has helped entrepreneurs create or save close to 1200 jobs and get more than 73 million dollars in new contracts and capital.

As women and people of color continue to create and own record numbers of businesses, the buying power of communities of color continues to grow exponentially. According to the latest Multicultural Economy Report from the Selig center, Hispanic buying power leads all groups at 1.3 trillion dollars and Black buying power has seen an 86 percent increase with their buying power rising to 1.1 trillion dollars. Yet, how many of those trillions of dollars stay within our economically disadvantaged communities?

An NAACP study found that a dollar in circulates in Asian communities for 30 days, as opposed to six hours in Black communities. It found that only two cents of every dollar African Americans spend goes to Black-owned businesses. One researcher estimated that if Black consumers spent at least one dollar out of every ten with Black businesses, it could generate one million jobs for African Americans. Minority buying power can do far more than purchase; it can become an investment in stronger, local communities.

Buying Black is more than just a slogan. When you buy Black you help assure Black business growth. And, when you shore up Black business growth, you play your part in helping to revitalize the communities where those businesses reside.

The Prince George's Post

The Prince George's Post
P.O. Box 1001 15207 Marlboro Pike
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3151
Phone: 301-627-0900 • Legal Fax: 301-627-6260
Email: pgpost@gmail.com
Contents © 2016, The Prince George's Post

Publisher/Senior Editor Legusta Floyd	Editor Michal W. Frangia
General Manager/ Legal Advertising Manager Brenda Boice	Typesetter/Page Layout Jennifer Sheckels
Legal Advertising Assistant Robin Boerckel	Staff Writer Christina Williams
	Web Manager Kyler Quesenberry

Prince George's County, Md. Member National Newspaper Publishers Association, and the Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia Press Association. The Prince George's Post (ISSN 10532226) is published every Thursday by the New Prince George's Post Inc., 15207 Marlboro Pike, Upper Marlboro, Md. 20772-3151. Subscription rate: 25 cents per single copy; \$15 per year; \$7.50 senior citizens and students; out of county add \$1; out of state add \$2. Periodical postage paid at Southern Md. 20790. Postmaster, send address changes to Prince George's Post, P.O. Box 1001, Upper Marlboro, Md. 20772-3151.

BUSINESS

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Depression: A Very Treatable Illness

With most illnesses, it's relatively easy to realize that something is not right. It might be a fever, that persistent cough, a sharp pain or any of a number of other symptoms. But depression, especially in its early stages, can be more difficult to recognize.

That's unfortunate, because as an illness, just like any other illness, it can become more serious if not treated and can lead to a variety of complications. And depression is most certainly an illness. While it may not be caused by a bacteria or virus, it can have just as serious an impact on a person's life as cancer or any other major health issue.

And depression, like any other disease, has a number of common symptoms that make it recognizable. What are those symptoms that should have you concerned?

- when you experience changes in sleep or eating patterns
- having strong feelings of sadness, guilt, hopelessness or worthlessness
- finding yourself having trouble concentrating or making decisions
- experiencing a listlessness and lack of energy for no real reason
- losing interest or enjoyment from activities you usually enjoyed
- beginning to have negative thoughts that you're no good or can't do anything right
- having thoughts of death or suicide.

While all of us can experience times when we're feeling low and things just aren't going right, clinical depression is when one or more of the above symptoms are being experienced over a period of time. If a person has been suffering from symptoms such as these for two weeks or more, it's time to seek professional help.

This can be difficult simply because someone suffering from depression may think that no one can really help and that nothing can be done to make things better for them.

Such feelings are unfortunate because depression is highly treatable. A trained professional counselor may recommend a combination of counseling and medications to reduce and eliminate the symptoms of depression.

Seeking such help is especially important because depression, unlike the common cold, is not going to go away on its own. Rather, ignoring the symptoms of depression can often lead to more serious, even life-threatening, problems. If you, or someone close to you, is experiencing the symptoms of depression, talk to your family doctor, a professional counselor or your local mental health center about the help available.

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

The Prince George's Post Serving Prince George's County

MGM/Art from A3

County Museum, the National Gallery of Art, the Sheldon, Storm King Art Center, the Louis Vuitton Foundation and the Sprengel Museum in Hanover, Germany. She also exhibited at the Venice Biennale, Documenta VI and VIII and the Whitney Biennial. Her large-scale installations can be found at numerous universities and in many public buildings in major cities across the United States.

Hotel

Margaret Boozer—Untitled, 2016, clay, 34 feet wide, 24 feet tall—hotel lobby

Sculptor and ceramicist Margaret Boozer, a resident of Prince George's County, Maryland, will use soil taken directly from MGM National Harbor's construction site to create a wall-mounted interpretation of the environs of National Harbor. Boozer developed an interest in digging native clays that led to collaborations with soil scientists and work exploring intersections of art and science. Her work is included in the collection of the Smithsonian American Art Museum, The U.S. Department of State, The Wilson Building Public Art Collection

and in many private collections. Boozer taught for 10 years at the Corcoran College of Art and Design before founding Red Dirt Studio in Mt. Rainier, MD where she directs a ceramics and sculpture seminar. Recent projects include a commissioned installation at the U.S. Embassy in Djibouti.

Ronald Beverly—photography—lobby, elevator cabs, casino center bar, suites

Ronald Beverly is a photographer/digital imagist residing in the Capital Region for more than 30 years. His academic studies produced a BFA from Howard University and an MFA from George Washington University. Inspired by the masters of large format work, Beverly developed a sensibility toward texture and detail by emphasizing tactile quality of the elements within the photographic composition utilizing digital imagining enhancement techniques. The desire to capture and finesse the elusive quality of light is also a reoccurring characteristic in his work. Over time, Beverly pursued a commitment to the craftsmanship, aesthetics and philosophies of photography while bridging the gap between conventional film and digital image capture. The inspiration for the MGM Na-

EDC Hires Top Management Talent to Activate Prosperity in Prince George's County

Additional Positions Available, Seeking High-Energy Talent

By R. JOSHUA REYNOLDS
PGCEDC

LARGO, MD—EDC President & CEO Jim Coleman today announced that the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) has made two key management hiring decisions that will impact the county's business community by connecting business owners to millions of dollars in resources and opportunity to grow revenue and to become one of the EDC's 500 'Activate Prosperity Millionaires'.

"At the EDC, we hire smart people, not to tell them what to do, but for them to tell us what to do and how we can do it better," said Coleman. "With Nichelle and Kisha on board, we are going to do what's smart and Activate Prosperity in Prince George's County to help our businesses to create more jobs for our residents."

Nichelle Holmes has joined the EDC as Development Manager, offering businesses the opportunity to connect to thousands of targeted, prospective customers that could help their companies to double their revenues. She is a graduate of The George Washington University School of Business, where she graduated at the top of her class with a degree in Business Administration and a concentration in Marketing. Nichelle joins our team from Brailsford & Dunlavy (B&D), a Washington D.C. based program management firm that has been recognized by ENR as a Top 50 Program Management Firm.

While with B&D, Nichelle was responsible for the creation, development and production of marketing collateral and relevant



PHOTO COURTESY R. JOSHUA REYNOLDS

Left to right: Kisha Logan, Manager of Small Business Services; Jim Coleman, EDC President & CEO; Nichelle Holmes, Development Manager at the EDC's February Thirsty for Business Thursday event at SoBe's, which was attended by 100 businesses.

materials sent to prospective clients and past clients for enhanced business. Prior to B&D, Nichelle worked at Opower, an Arlington based software company, where she worked alongside conference organizers to develop sponsorship opportunities and managed large events.

Kisha Logan has been a valued member of the EDC for the last eight months. Kisha has been promoted to Small Business Services Manager and will provide any of our residents who are seeking to start or grow a business with the resources to create generational wealth for their families. This role includes enabling businesses to secure capital, top talent, certifications and lucrative government contracts.

Kisha is a graduate of the University of Maryland at Col-

lege Park and brings to the EDC extensive experience in Business Development, Technology Recruitment, and establishing program platforms which aid in the growth of small businesses. She also has over 15 years of sales experience in a myriad of industries in both the corporate and private sectors.

Together, Nichelle and Kisha will join the entire EDC team, enabling the 16,000 County businesses to grow and create jobs for our residents.

To contact Nichelle Holmes about upcoming sponsorship opportunities with the EDC's sold-out events, call (301) 583-4621 or email na-holmes@co.pg.md.us. To contact Kisha Logan about connecting with tools and resource to launch or grow your business, so you can be-

come one of the EDC's '500 Activate Prosperity Millionaires', call (301) 583 4650 or email kvlogan@co.pg.md.us.

The EDC is continuously seeking high energy, innovative professionals who are committed to removing barriers in order to transform lives in Prince George's County. Game-changing careers await you. Open job opportunities currently include Human Resources Coordinator. If you are interested in applying for this position or to keep your resume on file for other positions as openings become available, please submit your resume and cover letter (including salary requirements) to careers@pgcedc.com. Be sure to include the title of the position you are applying for in the subject of the email.

Scholarship from A1

School), and Phuoc Nhan (Northwestern High School).

The Coca-Cola Scholars Program Scholarship is an achievement-based scholarship awarded to graduating high school seniors each year. Students are recognized for their capacity to lead and serve, and their commitment

to making a significant impact on their schools and communities. With the 27th class in 2015, the Foundation has provided over 5,550 Coca-Cola Scholars with more than \$56 million in educational support. 150 Coca-Cola Scholars are selected each year to receive this \$20,000 scholarship.

About PGCPs: Prince

George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) is one of the nation's 25 largest school districts, with 209 schools and centers, more than 128,000 students, and nearly 19,000 employees. With an annual budget of \$1.79 billion, the district serves a diverse student population from urban, suburban, and rural communities. PGCPS offers a wide variety of innova-

tive academic programs, including language immersion, high school career academies, and dual enrollment. Its location just outside of Washington, D.C. enables the district to partner with higher education and local and national agencies and businesses to provide unique learning opportunities for students.

galleries and collectors. The unexpected imagery found in Dwyer's elegant, almost classical female forms provoke endless interpretation and exploration.

Retail Promenade

Liao Yibai—*Fighting Cash*, polished stainless steel, 12 feet wide, 7 feet tall, 5 feet deep—main entry leading from casino porte cochere to conservatory; Cinderella Shoe, polished stainless steel, 7 feet tall

Liao Yibai is a Chinese artist who creates hand-welded stainless steel sculptures that question today's skewed concept of value by depicting China's rags-to-riches story of material obsession. The oversized sculptures of watches, rings, handbags and high-heel shoes confront the multitudes of popular brands and logos and their overwhelming presence in today's society. The artist's works illustrate the challenges he faced during childhood, and his paralleled fascination with American culture. The work examines this increasing obsession with opulence and luxury goods while discrediting and glorifying it simultaneously. Yibai is inspired by China's lu-



RENDERING COURTESY MGM RESORTS INTERNATIONAL

John Safer—Unity—located at the entry outside of MGM National Harbor's hotel porte cochere.

See MGM/ART Page A6

OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK

Movie Review *Hail Caesar!*

Hail Caesar!

Grade: B

Rated PG-13, some mild, PG-level innuendo
1 hr., 40 min

Joel and Ethan Coen are Jewish, but the only one of their films to focus on the subject of faith directly is *A Serious Man*, in which the conclusion they reach is “accept the mystery”—i.e., you’re never gonna figure it out; whatever will happen will happen, so quit worrying. That theme is also found in *No Country for Old Men* (You can’t stop what’s coming) and *Inside Llewyn Davis*, where the title character faces the fact that his difficult, uncertain life might not ever get any easier.

So where, then, do the Coen brothers suggest we look for meaning in this random, capricious universe? *Hail, Caesar!* tells us where they find theirs: in the movies. Movies are the Coens’ religion, and they’re two of the best theologians currently working.

Hail, Caesar! a half-speed screwball comedy set in Hollywood in 1951, is like the Bible of Coen brothers movies: a greatest-hits compilation of things they’ve done before that, taken as a whole, sort of suggests a unified theme, kind of. Our uncertain protagonist this time is Eddie Mannix (Josh Brolin), a mid-level executive at Capitol Pictures whose job is to wrangle the studio’s stars and manage their public images. It is a 24-hour-a-day job, and Mannix is exhausted. When we meet him, he’s in the process of being headhunted by Lockheed, an aviation company that wants to lure him away with more money, less stress, and greater job security than he has at Capitol.

That’ll have to wait, though, because today Mannix is up to his elbows in Tinseltown troubles. Hollywood legend Baird Whitlock (George Clooney), star of the Roman/Biblical epic *Hail, Caesar!* now shooting, has disappeared from the set, and competing twin gossip columnists Thora and Thessaly Thacker (both Tilda Swinton) are snooping. DeeAnna Moran (Scarlett Johansson), an Esther Williams-y bathing beauty, is newly pregnant and unmarried. Singing cowboy Hobie Doyle



ROTTENTOMATOES

Four-time Oscar®-winning filmmakers Joel and Ethan Coen (*No Country for Old Men*, *True Grit*, *Fargo*) write and direct *Hail, Caesar!*, an all-star comedy set during the latter years of Hollywood’s Golden Age. Starring Josh Brolin, George Clooney, Alden Ehrenreich, Ralph Fiennes, Jonah Hill, Scarlett Johansson, Frances McDormand, Tilda Swinton and Channing Tatum, *Hail, Caesar!* follows a single day in the life of a studio fixer who is presented with plenty of problems to fix.

(Alden Ehrenreich), an authentic hick, has been reassigned to a period drama directed by the effete Laurence Lorenz (Ralph Fiennes), who says the kid can’t act.

Oh, but there’s plenty more, too. When Mannix, a devout, confession-every-day Catholic, assembles some religious leaders to discuss the depiction of Jesus in *Hail, Caesar!*, he finds their different explanations of God’s nature confusing, contradictory, and unhelpful. (“God doesn’t have any children,” says the Jewish representative. “He’s a bachelor. And he’s very angry.”) And Mannix doesn’t even know about the other impending crisis, wherein a secret cabal of Hollywood Communists are trying to get some star power on their side by any means necessary.

Sounds zany, right? It does have a few madcap moments, and more than a few very funny scenes. But it’s never as full-on screwball as it seems on paper, never as zippy and energized as you’d expect from the plot description. That’s because the ever-inscrutable Coens weren’t content to make a light, silly Old Hollywood comedy. They also wanted to revisit some of their deeper existential and spiritual themes, using Hollywood of the ‘50s—one of the most shallow

and artificial settings imaginable—as the backdrop. These weightier matters throw the film off-kilter, giving it a weird vibe that perplexed me almost as often as it entertained me.

The Coens seem to get a kick out of filtering 1950s Hollywood through their own arch, semi-ironic sensibilities and recreating it lavishly on the screen. And when it comes to recreating the production numbers that a studio like Capitol Pictures would have been filming in 1951, the Coens use no irony at all. There’s an aquatic ballet with Johansson and a musical number with a tap-dancing Channing Tatum, both shown in their entirety, neither one a parody. There’s no reason to show these whole sequences. (No narrative reason, I mean. Johansson is dressed like a mermaid and Tatum is dressed like a sailor. Obviously there are reasons.) Their inclusion, and the fact that they’re produced with such attention to detail, suggests genuine affection on the filmmakers’ part. It’s a rare indulgence (and a perfectly delightful one) from storytellers known for being unsentimental and efficient.

It’s tempting to call *Hail, Caesar!* frivolous, and I suspect the Coens will be perversely pleased when people do. But unlike, say, *Burn After Reading* or

The Ladykillers (to name two Coen films that truly don’t have much on their minds), *Hail, Caesar!* hints at bigger ideas and deeper layers. Almost every film of theirs in the last 10 years has worked better for me on second viewing, possibly because the Coens are smarter than I am (please note that this is not true of all, or even most, filmmakers). This one will probably be the same. I look forward to finding out!

P.S. Despite the presence of bigger stars, the standout is Alden Ehrenreich as the aw-shucks Western actor. Whether trying in vain to communicate with Laurence Lorenz, helping Eddie Mannix find Baird Whitlock, or twirling a lasso to kill time while waiting for his studio-arranged date to a premiere, Ehrenreich effortlessly steals every scene he’s in. He’s a great surprise, especially insofar as he balances out a more disappointing one: you’re going to feel like you didn’t get enough Clooney, Tatum, Johansson, Fiennes, Frances McDormand (who plays a film editor), or Jonah Hill (a studio lawyer). I guess that’s the problem with being such great filmmakers that you attract a huge roster of top Hollywood talent eager to work with you: finding enough for them all to do.

MGM/Art from A5

creative fake antique industry as well and the ubiquitous “Made in China” tag which adorns a majority of imported goods in the U.S. The artist’s work has been exhibited internationally and has garnered press worldwide in *The New York Times*, ARTnews and Sculpture Magazine, among others.

Chul Hyun Ahn—Untitled, 2016, light, color and illusion
Through the interplay of mirrors and light, Baltimore-based artist Chul-Hyun Ahn makes mind-bending sculptures that conjure illusions of infinite space. Drawing from light and space traditions, as well as theories of the subconscious, Ahn explores the immersive, illusory possibilities of reflection. He creates his light boxes by combining one-way mirrors and LED lights; the resulting objects look like portals extending deep into uncharted spaces, defined only by glowing geometric forms and fluorescent fractals.

Charles Hinman—Untitled, 2016, three-dimensional colored canvases

An American pioneer of hard-edged shaped canvases, Charles Hinman’s work received immediate global acclaim in 1964-1965, with work at Sidney Janis Gallery and a one-person exhibition at Richard Feigen Gallery. Major works found permanent homes at MoMA, the Albright-Knox Gallery and the Rockefeller Collection. Hinman’s work foreshadowed and influenced an important generation of artists. There have been numerous museum shows in the years since, including at the Everson Museum and three at the Butler Institute of American Art. He has received many awards, including from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, and is a current recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship. Hinman’s array of sculpted canvases energizes the space on surrounding walls. Various facets of his new white-primed rhomboids and diamonds are painted behind, or in front, in bright, saturated hues creating a fascinating play

between literal and illusionistic depth. In some shaped canvases, colors are reflected off the wall, thus allowing for the wall and the interstices to be reconsidered as foreground and ground. In other works, bands of bent colors are best viewed from the sides. As one moves around the work, it is perceived differently. New colors, new facets, new forms, and new shadows emerge as the work is constantly reinvented.

Sam Gilliam—*Rondo IX*, *Rondo XI*, *Rondo XIII*, 1983, mixed media paintings, five feet square

A pillar of the Washington, D.C., modern and contemporary art communities, internationally acclaimed abstract painter Sam Gilliam has been testing the boundaries of color, form, texture and the canvas itself over the course of his long, productive career. Filling canvases with fields of deeply saturated color and layers of expressionistic brushstrokes, both subtle and bold, Gilliam was a part of the Washington Color School (late 1950s–mid-1970s)

and has been associated with the Abstract Expressionists. Ever the innovator, he took his color-stained canvases off of the stretcher in the late 1960s and presented them in radical new ways: draped across walls and hung from the ceiling in generous, folding layers. These sculpture-painting hybrids have become a defining part of Gilliam’s practice and inflect all of his work with an ongoing exploration of the depth, physicality and resonance of color.

Casino

Martha Jackson Jarvis—Untitled, casino wall mosaic
Martha Jackson Jarvis’ sculptures have been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions in galleries and museums throughout the United States and abroad, including the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.; the Studio Museum of Harlem, NY; Snug Harbor Cultural Center in Staten Island, NY; Southeastern

See MGM/ART Page A7

The Edge of Sports by DAVE ZIRIN

Who Killed Lawrence Phillips?



Another middle-aged former NFL player committed suicide on Wednesday. His name was Lawrence Phillips, and he was found unresponsive in his cell at Kern Valley State Prison in California. He was taken to a local hospital and died soon after. It was a long way from college-football stardom and NFL dreams, and could have perhaps been prevented if only someone had taken a moment to give a damn, not only before but after his incarceration.

Lawrence Phillips started his life as a target of constant physical abuse by the men in his mother’s life. In the words of a former teammate, he “went to school in sixth grade and never came back.” Phillips was shuffled through group homes before his football skills got him plucked out of poverty. Then, when off-field issues outpaced his on-field production on the NFL’s ledger sheet, he was cast aside.

The one-time Cornhuskers star was serving 31 years for driving his car into three teenagers and assaulting an ex-girlfriend. It was the latest in a long, ugly, and almost certainly under-documented history of violence against women. This was learned behavior. Phillips mother was repeatedly beaten, battered, and abused. In the words of a teammate, he grew up “seeing things no child should see.” Before his 12th birthday, Phillips was knocked unconscious by a man she was seeing while trying to defend her. As his former teammate said, “He was a hurt person. And hurt people... hurt people.”

Yet his early run-ins with the law, instead of provoking interventions by the football coaches who comprised the adult authority figures in his life, only brought cover-ups, aimed to protect their golden goose: a kid who coaches and who, scouts said in hushed tones, ran the ball like a future MVP. In listening to a series of interviews with old teammates, you hear stories of violence conjoined with mental illness: of someone who “didn’t have all the tools in his tool box,” who could turn from kindness to anger on a moment’s notice, lash out, and then be consumed with regret. This was someone who needed counseling. Instead, he had people just hoping he would win the big game before his next arrest.

That took place most notoriously at Nebraska, where Phillips dragged his ex-girlfriend, Kate McEwen, a basketball player, down a flight of stairs. After pleading “no contest” to charges of misdemeanor assault, he was suspended for just six games. As for McEwen, she had her athletic scholarship taken away. An abhorrent message had been sent to not only Phillips but to a team that collected gender-violence charges like they collected conference titles.

Phillips’s coach, the legendary Tom Osborne, said at the time that he took Phillips back onto the team without further punishment because the young man needed “structure” and stability that only Cornhuskers football could offer. That “structure” was a college football program that, like so many others, was built on rank exploitation, with little care for the person under the helmet.

The NFL was not any better. After Phillips was selected with the sixth pick in the 1996 NFL draft by the Rams, team president Georgia Frontiere (the only female NFL president at the time) said, “If it helps our team, that’s all I care about. The thing that counts is the future.” Not Phillips’s future, the team’s future. His future would be defined less by success on the field than by more violent episodes.

Whether or not the childhood trauma experienced by Phillips was aggravated by brain injuries from playing football, one fact is certain: Living in the notorious Kern Valley State prison did not help. Our system of mass incarceration is pure torture for the mentally ill. Lawrence Phillips’s story exemplifies that.

In March 2015, Phillips wrote to his mother, “I feel myself very close to snapping. My anger grows daily as I have become fed up with prison. I feel my anger is near bursting and that will result in my death or the death of someone else.” Sure enough, in September 2015, Phillips was charged with strangling his cellmate, an instance he swore was self-defense.

Phillips’s letters to his family and coaches from behind bars describe a situation that must have set his brain on fire. Here are just some excerpts from some of his letters that have gone public about the prison he called “a jungle.”

We are on lock down at this time due to a murder and the stabbing of five other dudes. I hope you and your family are well and had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

All they want to do is the drugs, make knives and make alcohol. Then they say when they get out they will not come back. I tell them of course you will. You are doing the same thing that got you locked up. Of course they do not want to hear that. It is like speaking to a brick wall.

See PHILLIPS Page A7

Calendar of Events

March 17, — March 23, 2016

Akua Allrich: A Tribute to Nina Simone and Miriam Makeba

Date and Time: Friday, March 18, 2016, 8 pm
Description: In her "Nina Simone and Miriam Makeba" tribute concerts, rising young vocalist and composer Akua Allrich pays homage to these two powerhouse artists, who have inspired her and millions of other jazz and music lovers around the globe.

Cost: \$25/person;
10% discount for Montpelier members & seniors
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: Montpelier Arts Center
9652 Muirkirk Road, Laurel, MD
Contact: 301-377-7800; TTY 301-699-2544

World Dance Showcase

Date and Time: Saturday, March 19, 2016, 8 pm
Description: A fascinating program of dance from around the world, the World Dance Showcase features professional, globally diverse dance companies who bring their proud cultural traditions to the stage. Stunning costumes, fascinating music, and graceful dance artistry make this a memorable and unique performance.

Cost: \$15/person; \$10/Seniors, Students, and Groups of 20 or more
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Publick Playhouse
5445 Landover Rd., Cheverly, MD
Contact: 301-277-1710; TTY 301-699-2544

Easter Egg Decorating

Date and Time: Saturday, March 19, 2016, 2-4 pm
Description: Fun, glitter, and eggs! We promise all three at this family-friendly workshop at the Brentwood Arts Exchange. Your family will create beautifully decorated eggs that will impress your friends and even the Easter Bunny.

Children will receive their first two eggs for free. Additional eggs will be available to purchase at 2 for \$1.

No registration required.
Cost: \$1/person
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Brentwood Arts Exchange
3901 Rhode Island Avenue, Brentwood, MD
Contact: 301-277-2863; TTY 301-699-254

Baby Bunny Egg Hunt

Date and Time: Saturday, March 19, 2016, 10 am-12 Noon
Description: Bring your little bunnies for Easter games, crafts, snacks and an Eggcitable Egg Hunt! Don't forget to bring a basket for collecting eggs. This event takes place rain or shine.

Pre-register by March 18. Fees increase to \$7/person on the day of event.
Cost: Resident \$5; Non-Resident \$6
Ages: 5 & under
Location: Baden Community Center
13601 Baden-Westwood Road, Brandywine, MD
Contact: 301-888-1500; TTY 301-699-2544

Savor the Flavor Cooking Series: Beating Sugar Blues

Date and Time: Saturday, March 19, 2016, 11:30 am-12:30 pm
Description: Are you constantly craving sweets and want to understand why? Do you want to gain control without deprivation? Learn about healthier alternatives in this interactive demonstration.

March is National Nutrition Month and we invite you to savor the flavor of eating right all month long with our healthy cooking series at your community centers.

Take time to enjoy new flavors and fun with others while learning something new! Participants will enjoy a cooking demonstration, taste free samples and take home delicious healthy recipes.

Cost: Free
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Beltsville Community Center
3900 Sellman Rd, Beltsville, MD
Contact: 301-937-6613; TTY 301-699-2544

Concert: Jeff Majors

Date and Time: Sunday, March 20, 2016, 4 pm
Description: The popular gospel and jazz harpist returns for another Palm Sunday concert. Performing inspirational favorites like "The 23rd Psalm" along with newer compositions, Jeff Majors is a charismatic artist who lights up the theatre with his talent and energy.

This concert sold out early last season, so don't wait to purchase your tickets.

Cost: \$30/person (general admission); \$25/person (students, seniors & groups of 20 or more)
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: Publick Playhouse
5445 Landover Rd., Cheverly, MD
Contact: 301-277-1710; TTY 301-699-2544

Skippyjon Jones: Snow What (and the 7 Chihuahuas)

Date and Time: Monday, March 21, 2016, 10:15 am & 12 noon
Description: Mirror, mirror on the wall, who is the bravest Chihuahua of them all? Siamese cat Skippyjon Jones looks in the mirror and sees a brave Mexican Chihuahua looking back.

While his sisters read *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves*, Skippy heads off for the real adventure awaiting him in his closet. There he transforms into Skippito Friskito, and with the help of his friends the Four Chihuahuas (who think they're really Seven). Skippyjon must rescue the beautiful princess Nieve Qué (Snow What) battle the evil dragon and defeat the Bruja.

Curriculum Connections: Communication and Language Arts, Literature-Based, Music, Relationships & Family.
Cost: \$8/person; \$6/groups of 20 or more
Ages: Recommended for grades Pre K-3
Location: Publick Playhouse
5445 Landover Rd., Cheverly, MD
Contact: 301-277-1710; TTY 301-699-2544

EARTH TALK ... Are Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) Really So Bad for Us and the Environment

Dear EarthTalk:

Are genetically modified organisms (GMOs) really so bad for us and the environment, and given their prevalence in our food supply already, how can I avoid them?

—Dianne Mercurio,
Richmond, VA

Unless you only buy foods that are certified organic or marked as "GMO-free," odds are that a great deal of the food you eat contains genetically modified organisms (GMOs). But are you risking your health and damaging the environment by eating GMOs? Not according to Monsanto, the agricultural biotechnology company that is a leading producer of GM seed. Monsanto contends that GMOs are safe to eat and that seeds with GM traits have been tested more than any other crops in the history of agriculture—with no credible evidence of harm to humans or animals.

The company also points to studies that have positively assessed the safety of GMOs, including the 2010 European Commission report summarizing the results of 50 research projects addressing the safety of GMOs for the environment as well as for animal and human health. In announcing the report, the Commission stated that "there is, as of today, no scientific evidence associating GMOs with higher risks for

the environment or for food and feed safety than conventional plants."

Of course, not everyone agrees. According to the non-profit Non-GMO Project, genetically modified crops and food items can contaminate conventional crops and foods through cross-pollination and/or contamination. Also, since many GM crops are designed to be immune to herbicides and pesticides, farmers have increased their use of various weed and bug killing chemicals to keep competition for their cash crops at bay. The resulting overuse of these chemicals has led to a rapid evolution of "super weeds" and "super bugs" that can quickly take over unmaintained or wild lands.

Given the prevalence of GMOs in our food supply already, the non-profit Just Label It believes labeling everything that contains GMOs would be a start so at least consumers can choose on their own what they put in their bodies. Some 64 countries around the world—including China, Japan, Australia, Brazil, Russia and 28 nations in the European Union—currently require labeling on foods created with GMOs. Just Label It is one of many activist voices calling on the United States to follow suit. The group has created an online petition so everyday Americans can let the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) know that they have the right to know what's in their food, especially when it comes to GMOs.



PHOTO COURTESY EARTH TALK

Since the U.S. does not require food producers to label products containing genetically-modified organisms, the non-profit Non-GMO Project has taken matters into its own hands and released its own certification label for the industry.

But until we have federal rules in place requiring labeling, concerned consumers will have to take matters into their own hands when it comes to ferreting out the GMO content of what they eat. Luckily the Non-GMO Project is helping make it easier by offering verified products the opportunity to display its "Non-GMO" symbol on their labels. Currently the group has verified some 35,000 food products across 1,900 different brands commonly available on U.S. store shelves as GMO-free, representing annual sales topping \$13.5 billion. Meanwhile, Whole Foods has stepped up its support of GMO labeling by instituting a new policy of "full GMO transparency" in all of its North American stores by 2018.

Beyond just labeling, though, Whole Foods is also working with many of its suppliers to transition to ingredients from non-GMO sources altogether. Activists hope that this leadership will trickle down to mainstream grocers as well.

CONTACTS: Monsanto, www.monsanto.com; Non-GMO Project, www.nongmo-project.org; Just Label It, www.justlabelit.org; Whole Foods, www.wholefoods.com.

EarthTalk® is written and edited by Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss and is a registered trademark of E - The Environmental Magazine

(www.emagazine.com). Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

MGM/Art from A6

Center for Contemporary Art in Winston-Salem, NC; Anacostia Museum in Washington, D.C.; and the Tretyakov Gallery Moscow, USSR. Jackson Jarvis grew up in Lynchburg, VA and Philadelphia, PA and currently lives and works in Washington, D.C. She studied at Howard University and received a BFA from the Tyler School of Art at Temple University and a MFA from Antioch University. Jackson Jarvis also studied mosaic techniques and stone cutting in Ravenna, Italy. Her current design's inspiration incorporates reflections of the Potomac River in abstract content.

West Terrace

John Dreyfuss—Series on Early Toolmaking: Early I, Early II, Untitled I, Untitled II,

Portrait of the Prince, Cornwall, patinated bronze, five to eight feet in height

Local sculptor John Dreyfuss will feature a series of six bronze pieces to be deployed on the West Terrace, reinforcing the view of the Potomac River and neighboring communities from the outdoor plaza. Dreyfuss employs classical tools and techniques to create works in bronze, steel, iron, and, more recently, composite materials used in the aerospace industry. His work is grounded in the study of animal and architectural forms, with an emphasis on the refinement and adaptation of three-dimensional structures over time and space. Dreyfuss has exhibited extensively in the United States and abroad. His work is represented in the collections of AT&T Cellular Communications, Los

Angeles, CA, Hunter Museum of Art, Chattanooga, TN, and J.W. Kaempfer Development Corporation, Washington D.C., among others.

Pool Corridor

Terry O'Neill—Untitled, photography, four 7-foot-square photographs

Terry O'Neill is an English photographer best known for his candid celebrity stills. His photography career began at the age of 22 and he was soon freelancing for *Vogue*, *Paris Match* and *Rolling Stone* magazines. He worked alongside photographers David Bailey, Terence Donovan and Patrick Lichfield, who helped create the images that defined "Swinging London" of the 1960s. O'Neill's Hollywood film connections helped contribute to his immense success internationally. He photographed celebrities

from the Beatles and the Rolling Stones to the Royal family and Hollywood stars.

MGM National Harbor is in collaboration with the Prince George's County Arts and Humanities Council, an independent non-profit organization designated by the Prince George's County government to coordinate financial support and advocacy for the arts and humanities through grants, artistic programs and creative partnerships among business, education, government and residents. For the Heritage Collection, MGM National Harbor has also partnered with Atlantic Arts, a Maryland-based art procurement company, and RareCulture, a women-owned establishment specializing in curating fine art collections.

For additional information, please visit newsroom.mgm-nationalharbor.com.

Phillips from A1

We are still on lock down because they found a hacksaw in someone's cell. Apparently people use the saw to cut up the bunks and make knives. It is completely nuts in here. It is pretty much a free for all.

In a final, brutal irony, Phillips was defending himself on these latest murder charges by paying his attorneys from his expected \$1.4 million share of the league's \$1 billion 2015 class-action concussion settlement. We will see how much the brain disease associated with football, CTE, ravaged his mind in the coming autopsy.

Predictably, few people are mourning Lawrence Phillips. It's so much easier to say "he was a monster" than asking much more difficult questions: How did Lawrence Phillips die if he was supposed

to be in protective custody? Why are there such pathetic mental-health services in our prisons, when a majority of the 2.2 million of the incarcerated suffer from some form of mental illness? Why does our system of mass incarceration destroy people, particularly black and brown people, so casually? How many coaches would cover up for the Lawrence Phillips of today as long as they could carry the rock? Is this the exception or the norm? And most critically, who killed Lawrence Phillips? He may have died by his own hand, but it was also a death in slow motion, taking place over the course of decades, with many who either pushed him toward this fate or turned the other way, as he hurtled toward an appalling end.

We could ask these questions. Or we could just throw dirt on Lawrence Phillips's grave and name. The latter option is easier. It also guarantees that this story will repeat itself, with only the names changed.

GREEN OUT YOUR WORKOUT

Here are some ways to consider making your workout more "green:"

- Take advantage of the County's beautiful hiking and biking trails. Find trails close to your home or contact The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission at (301) 699-2544 for more details;
- Encourage your gym to add eco-friendly building materials, such as bamboo flooring and make energy efficient changes like switching to LED lighting;
- Car pool with a neighbor or friend to the gym; and
- Recycle your sneakers instead of throwing them away. Many athletic and fitness stores have recycling programs for old workout and running shoes.

Prince George's County Sealed Notice is an initiative of the Department of the Environment, Recreation & Planning and Office of Central Services to promote cost savings and sustainability in our everyday decisions.