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Maryland State Education Association President Betty Weller prepares to speak in support of bills to limit the influence of standardized testing on February 18, 2016 in Annapolis.

Maryland Educators, Legislators Seek Measures to Limit Standardized Testing in Schools

By LEXIE SCHAPITL
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS, MD—A trio of Maryland bills would limit the influence of standardized testing in schools, which some educators and legislators from both parties say has become excessive and burdensome to both teachers and students.

At a press conference Thursday afternoon, supporters said

these bills would allow teachers to focus on providing students with a well-rounded education. An overemphasis on testing narrows curriculum, detracts from arts and elective courses and can cause students to become anxious about and disengaged from school, they said.

Maryland State Education Association President Betty Weller said standardized testing has “changed what school is

about,” and added that tests are more beneficial when they are teacher-developed and align with classroom curricula.

“It’s no secret that we have a real problem in this state, much like the rest of the country, with over-testing our kids in school,” Weller said. “Far too many of these top-down, mandated tests that students take when they could be learning an instrument or doing a science

experiment, never result in useful information.”

One bill, with versions filed in both the House and Senate, would limit the amount of time spent on standardized testing to 2 percent of annual instruction time—about 21 hours in elementary and middle schools and 23 hours in

See TESTING Page A5

Board Approves \$2 Billion Budget for FY2017

By Press Officer
PGCPS

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—The Prince George's County Board of Education approved an \$2,023,794,625 Operating Budget request for the school system covering fiscal year 2017. It represents a \$182.2 million—or 9.9 percent increase—over the FY2016 revised budget, which ends June 30, 2016.

The process for developing and adopting the budget included significant public input. Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell, Chief Executive Officer, hosted a public fo-

rum in October to receive community input on budget priorities prior to presenting his proposed budget to the Board in December, and the Board of Education held three public budget hearings and two public work sessions over the past two months.

All increases proposed in the FY2017 budget either address mandatory costs, such as funding negotiated agreements, health care increases, and the teacher pension shift, or support the five pillars of the school district's Strategic Plan: Academic

See BUDGET Page A5

PG County Executive Baker Presents Proposed FY2017 Budget

FY2017 Proposed Budget is Strongest under Baker Administration, 5.7% increase in County revenues

By Press Officer
PG County Government

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—March 10, 2016, Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III, in accordance with the Prince George's County Charter presented his FY2017 Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets. The Proposed FY2017 Budget for all operating funds is \$3.70 billion, an increase of \$160.8 million or 4.5% over the FY2016 budget. The General

Fund accounts for 84.1% of all spending in FY2017 and will increase by \$157.8 million, or 5.4%. County source revenues will increase by \$96.6 million or 5.7%. The growth is primarily driven by anticipated increases in both income tax receipts and property transaction tax receipts, as well as the expected revenue gains from the mid-year opening of MGM National Harbor. To

See BAKER Page A5

Three Local Vietnam Veterans Featured in Documentary Film and Traveling Exhibit

Prince George's County Residents Play Prominent Role in Maryland Public Television Vietnam Salute

By PRESS OFFICER
MPT

Three Prince George's County residents and Vietnam veterans are featured in both the upcoming television documentary Maryland Vietnam War Stories and in a traveling exhibit visiting venues statewide to set the stage for the Maryland Public Television tribute to Vietnam veterans this spring. Both MPT projects are part of a multi-year initiative titled MPT Salutes Vietnam Veterans.

Michael Herndon of Accokeek, Roy Hodges of Glendale, and Nathaniel Howard, Sr., of Lanham are three of roughly 100 men and women who've been interviewed for the film that airs in three, one-hour parts on May 24-25-26. As advance outreach to towns and cities across the state, MPT features three men and 13 other Vietnam veterans in what's called the MPT Salutes Vietnam Veterans Traveling Exhibit that is booked through June 2016 at

municipal centers, libraries, and other public sites. Citizens of all ages are encouraged to see the exhibit with its current-day and wartime images of featured veterans along with Vietnam War artifacts.

Michael Herndon

Mr. Herndon, who served in Vietnam from 1967–68 and again from 1971–72 was a U.S. Army Dustoff pilot, a part of the Army's Medical Service Corps. Aeromedical evacuation—or Dustoff—pilots flew unarmed helicopters to the battlefield to transport wounded soldiers to a medical facility. Flying into an active landing zone to pick up wounded was a dangerous job, and slightly more than one-third of the aviators became casualties in their work. Mr. Herndon said in his on-camera MPT interview for the film: “When the horn goes, you go to the aircraft. It's not,

See VETERANS Page A3

EDC President Jim Coleman Featured Speaker at “Ready for Work” Luncheon

By LORI VALENTINE
PGCEDC

OXON HILL, MD—Last month, EDC President and CEO Jim Coleman was among the featured speakers at the Venture Philanthropy Partners ‘Ready for Work’ luncheon at the Bond 45 Restaurant in National Harbor this afternoon. The purpose of the ‘Ready for Work’ luncheon was to provide an opportunity for local business leaders to learn about the County's economic development strategy and plans to ensure County youth will be able to meet the related workforce needs of the business community.

County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III, along with Wegman's Food Market CEO Danny Wegman, Prince George's County Public Schools CEO Kevin Maxwell, Lauren Peterson for the Person Companies and Largo High School graduate as well as Finance Career Academy and Year Up alumni Brandon Bailey addressed the crowd of top business executives representing key industry sectors in the



Jim Coleman, President & CEO, PGEDC speaking; County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III (far right)

region about the importance of ensuring each youth in

“Although Prince George's County has experienced rapid

“Today's business leaders must engage in preparing the workforce of tomorrow” says Coleman

Prince George's County has the same opportunities to succeed in the workforce.

growth under the Baker Administration, now is not the time to cool off,” said Coleman. “As

business leaders, you are our private sector partners and must be involved in preparing the workforce of tomorrow, today. No one program can do it alone. We need more employers like you to get involved and stay involved. Our future depends on it.”

See COLEMAN Page A3

INSIDE

HHS Awards \$1.8 to Maryland to Help Treat the Prescription Opioid Abuse and Heroin Epidemic

HHS also estimates the number of unintentional overdose deaths from prescription pain medications has nearly quadrupled from 1999 to 2013, and deaths related to heroin increased 39 percent between 2012 and 2013.

Community, Page A3

The Business of Incarceration: Severing the Prison to Profits Pipeline

Private prisons—which began cropping up as an alternative for cash-strapped states attempting to save money by outsourcing the building and running of prisons to private companies—are incentivized to keep cells full at the lowest possible cost, not to keep cells empty.

Commentary, Page A4

Bankers Across Maryland Join Forces with Maryland Food Bank to End Hunger

If MBA succeeds in reaching its goal, it would likely be one of the largest food drives of the year for the Maryland Food Bank. Participating bank branches and organizations will host their own collections and special events to drive donations.

Business, Page A5

Movie Review: Deadpool

Based upon Marvel Comics' most unconventional anti-hero, Deadpool tells the origin story of former Special Forces operative turned mercenary Wade Wilson, who after being subjected to a rogue experiment that leaves him with accelerated healing powers, adopts the alter ego Deadpool.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

What are the health and environmental risks of using a 3D printer to make stuff?

—Will Nady,
Pittsburgh, PA

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

Hearing coming up on Andrews' flight operations Zoning Map Amendment

"This letter is to inform you that, pursuant to Part 10C of the Prince George's County Zoning Ordinance," writes John C. Wooden of M-NCPPC, "your property is located in an Impact Area for flight operations at Joint Base Andrews Naval Air Facility Washington."

Now is that scary? I thought so when the letter came. However, I went to Surratts-Clinton Library and viewed the MIOZMA (Military Installation Overlay Zoning Map Amendment) Technical Staff Report. If I studied it correctly, it seems to say that much of Skyline (including my house) and Morningside are in an area that should have possible height limitations. Other parts of the area are noted for noise and safety concerns. What I don't know is, will Andrews will be changing its flights?

Copies of the Report are also available at Spauldings Branch Library and at M-NCPPC, County Administration Building, Planning Information Services, Lower Level, in Upper Marlboro (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday).

The next public hearing will be in the Council Hearing in Upper Marlboro on Tuesday, April 5, at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 and Planning Staff will be available to answer questions.

Changing landscape

Cafe Allentown is coming to Andrews Manor Shopping Center. It will take over the long abandoned restaurant across from Andrews' West Gate. I think it started out back in the '70s or '80s as Bob's Big Boy, and has had several lives since then.

An Extended Stay hotel could be coming to Suitland Road, near its intersection of Regency Parkway. Application #4-16002 has been submitted and you might want to check it out. I received an email that reflects my opinion: "Our area seems to have its share of low-priced motels and hotels."

Construction is underway on the inbound and outbound lanes of Joint Base Andrews' Main

Gate and one lane each way will be closed from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. The West Gate on Allentown Road will open during those hours to help move traffic. Work will be paused March 28 to April 4.

You know all those Forever stamps you bought for 49¢? Did you remember that, when the price was upped from 46¢ to 49¢, 1¢ of the raise was permanent and 2¢ was temporary? Well, "temporary" is kicking in and the new 1st class Forever will be 47¢ beginning April 10.

For mothers and daughters

St. Philip's Sodality is sponsoring a Mother-Daughter Breakfast in the Social Hall, following 9 a.m. Mass, on Sunday, May 1. Tickets are \$10 per person; 5 & under are free. For tickets, call Lorraine Wright, 301-423-0969; Karin Yeatman, 301-899-7784; or Theresa Roberson, 301-868-2652.

St. Philip's first Mother-Daughter Breakfast was held April 3, 1960, under the chairmanship of Alma Broderick, at Wallace's Restaurant in Marlow Heights.

Irish reflections

I am writing this column on St. Patrick's Day and it seems a good time to mention a recent email from former Morningsider Peg Richardson. She sent a vintage photo of Margaret O'Reilly "who immigrated with my Great Grandfather, John G. Beardmore, from Ireland in 1873. I am named after her." It's a very special thing to be named for a grandmother.

My paternal grandmother, Mary Elizabeth Hartigan, also came from Ireland with her family. She grew up in Washington and eventually married my grandfather, Dr. Thomas Dyer Mudd, of Anacostia. I am named Mary for that grandmother, as are my four daughters and my great-granddaughter, Mary Adela McHale.

On St. Patrick's Day, Mary Adela's mother and dad, Heather and Conor, invited me to join them for corned beef and cabbage. Delicious!

May they rest in peace

I've received word of the death of longtime Morningsider Lois McMickle, and will pay tribute to her in a future column. I welcome your memories of her.

Helen A. Kulle, 76, a graduate of Suitland High and lifetime member and former president of the Forestville Volunteer Fire Department, died March 8. In recent years she lived in Chesapeake Beach. She was born in Washington, daughter of Maynard and Gladys Donn, and grew up in Capitol Heights. She worked as a bookkeeper and crossing guard after high school and then as a police officer at Reagan National Airport, retiring after 30 years as a background investigator. She was preceded in death by her parents and by a son, Mark Kulle. Survivors include her children, Albert and Matthew Kulle and Ann Helms; six grandchildren; and a sister, Thelma and her husband Ronald McConkey. (History note: Thelma is a shirt-tale relative of Sue Stine McConkey Mason. Also, Thelma's husband Ronald used to live on Woodland Road in Morningside.)

MSgt. Ernest Andrew Vilky, 66, an Air Force retiree, died Feb. 8 at his home in Auth Village. He was born in Berlin, Germany. Survivors include his wife Margaret Ann Vilky; six daughters, Jennifer, Christine, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Bridget and Sarah; parents, Andrew and the late Brigette Vilky; grandchildren, Nathan, Summer, Grace and Faith. Mass of Christian Burial was at St. Philip's with burial at Cheltenham.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Ken Kyser and Jay Rollins, March 25; Gina Foster, March 26; Walter Dimes, March 27; Robert Hay, Jr. and David Righter, March 28; Kimberly Smith, March 29; Akwete Bedewi, March 30; and Mark Cummings, March 31.

Happy anniversary to Terry and Gina Foster on March 26, and Antoinette and Charles Matison, March 29.

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

STATE OF THE ECONOMY BREAKFAST

The Prince George's Business Roundtable and the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation invite you to Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III's State of the Economy Breakfast Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at 7:30 AM.

The event will be held at Colony South Hotel, 7401 Surratt's Road, Clinton, Maryland 20735. Tickets cost \$75.00 per person. Please visit www.pgcedc.com/events to guarantee your seat today! Sponsorship opportunities are available. Contact Sangrea Watkins at 301-583-4619 or swatkins@pgcedc.com.

AN EVENING OF GOSPEL MUSIC

You are invited to join New Hope Fellowship Church, Rev. Constance C. Smith, Pastor, for an evening of gospel music Saturday, March 26, 2016 at 3:00 PM. The program will feature the Mighty Wonders, The Briscoe Brothers, and Liturgical Dancer Kierra Person. "Free Will Offering" (Proceeds will go toward the

Family Life Center Building Fund). Contact the church at (301) 888-2171 or email: NewHope014@gmail.com for more information.

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 on 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.

BISHOP'S FAREWELL GATHERING

United Methodists in the Southern Region will have the opportunity to honor Bishop Marcus Matthews, April 16 at Westphalia United Methodist Church in Upper Marlboro, Maryland from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM. The Bishop will be retiring in September.

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 a Bike Blessing April 17, 2016 immediately following 11:00 AM morning worship. The blessing will be at 1:00 PM. Light refreshments will be served after the blessing. This event is sponsored by the Men's Ministry. Rev. Constance Smith, Pastor. Contact Tom at 301-888-2171 for more information.

Neighborhoods

Edwards Announces Winners for 2nd Annual Congressional App Challenge

WASHINGTON, D.C.—On Friday, February 26, 2016, Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards (MD-4) hosted a reception in Suitland, MD honoring students from the 4th Congressional District of Maryland who competed in the 2nd Annual Congressional App Challenge. During the reception, Rep. Edwards announced the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners, all of whom attend Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Greenbelt, MD. Other local area schools participated in the 2nd Annual Congressional App Challenge, including students from Charles Herbert Flowers High School in Springdale, MD and The Bullis School in Potomac, MD.

For additional information about the participants in the 2nd Annual Congressional App Challenge, please see below:

Winners

1st Place

Michelle Marsandi
Eleanor Roosevelt High School

Hopping through Scales App
Description: Michelle built an app using Livecode that allows the users to learn, practice, and play various musical scales on the piano.

2nd Place

Uzoma Nwanna
Eleanor Roosevelt High School

Electro App
Description: Uzoma created a game to entertain touchscreen cellphone and tablet users in their spare time.

3rd Place

Fatima Siddiqui and Selim Boukabar

Eleanor Roosevelt High School
SAT Practice Maze App

Description: Fatima & Selim designed an app to help students study for the SAT complete with games and practice questions.

Other student participants include:

Anna Sava
Eleanor Roosevelt High School
A Child's Game App



Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards

Ezechukwu Okere
Eleanor Roosevelt High School
EZY App

Austin Millet
Eleanor Roosevelt High School
Food Facts App

Jade Hull
Charles Herbert Flowers High School
ideasforU App

Christian Mbouwen
Eleanor Roosevelt High School
ORDER App

John Santotome
Eleanor Roosevelt High School
Random Utilities App

Heather Babin
Eleanor Roosevelt High School
Recycling Game App

Eyad Kamil & Alex Pagen
Eleanor Roosevelt High School
Spot It App

Lekan Bakare
Eleanor Roosevelt High School
The Matching Game

Lawrencia Moten
The Bullis School
Health Teen App

About the Congressional App Challenge

Established by the U.S. House of Representatives, the Congressional App Challenge is a nationwide event that invites students from all Congressional districts to compete, either individually or in a group, by creating and presenting an original software application, or "app," for a mobile, tablet, or computer platform of their choice. The contest,

modeled off the long-successful Congressional Art Competition, is designed to promote innovation and engagement in the STEM education fields (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). Students entering the competition submit source code along with an online video that explains and demonstrates their app and what they learned through the competition process.

Volunteer judges from the 4th Congressional District of Maryland were:

Keith Brice
Gwynn Park High School

David Burnham
Parkdale High School

Matthew Cunningham
Northrop Grumman

Rachel Carr and William Forrester
North County High School

Anthony Powell
Philosophy

Justin Serota
North County High School

Michael Smith
Prince George's Community College

Sally Sullivan
Prince George's Community College

Roderick Woodruff
Urban Video Game Academy

Bradley Wray
Arundel High School

Frank Xu
Bowie State University

For more information about the Congressional App Challenge, please visit the website at http://donnaedwards.house.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=609&Itemid=152.

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PHOTO COURTESY DONNA EDWARDS OFFICE
Left to right: Reginald McNeil, Principal, Eleanor Roosevelt High School; Cyril Pruszek, Computer Science/Technology Education Teacher, Eleanor Roosevelt High School; Michelle Marsandi; Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards; and Uzoma Nwanna.

COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Nathaniel Sillin

5 Tips for Planning a Property-Sharing Vacation

If you've thought about renting property on vacation, keep in mind that it's become a lot easier—and in some ways, harder.

Much of the vacation rental process has moved online, making the process simpler and more accessible. Also, the so-called "sharing economy" has allowed more people in the lodging business renting rooms and dwellings. In fact, a 2015 study by consulting firm EY notes that in one year alone, the world's dominant online room-sharing company—less than 10 years old—added more listings to its inventory than the largest global hotel companies added rooms during the same period.

So vacation rentals are easier than ever, right? Possibly, but you still need to protect your money against disappointing choices and possible fraud. Before committing to any kind of property rental or property-sharing vacation, do your homework. Here are five tips to get started:

1. Evaluate your destination fully. The busiest tourist destinations generally have the broadest range of lodging option—from luxury hotels to hostels. Vacation rentals are usually a happy medium, located in desirable neighborhoods with a homey feel and kitchen availability that can make a stay a lot cheaper. However, every destination has certain ways of handling vacation rentals. While the newer generation of property-sharing companies might be active here, evaluate traditional options like vacation property brokers and listing services to compare prices and offerings. Also, search the name and address of the vacation property you're considering with the words "vacation rental scam" to see if any indication of fraud, crime or other trouble turns up.

2. Check local short-term rental laws. While it's generally easier to do this domestically than abroad, make sure the kind of vacation rental you're considering is legal. Check recent news clips or contact a local tourism bureau or chamber of commerce to see whether your target municipality doesn't have legal or zoning restrictions on your chosen rental.

3. Verify the renter personally and with local experts and agencies. If your renter is reputable, he or she should be more than willing to have a detailed conversation about the property, costs, financial arrangements and onsite rules—including deadbolt locks you can control if you are renting rooms within their residence. Make time to call the local tourism bureau, chamber of commerce, or the local chapter of the Better Business Bureau (<http://www.bbb.org>)

4. Ask for any details about the renter or the property. Ask the renter for referrals from previous renters, if possible, and consider the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) Scam Watch travel page (<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/taxonomy/term/877>) for extensive updated advice on renting out-of-town property.

5. Ask for all completed agreements and liability insurance documentation before paying. Before you reserve, ask to see all contract information with pricing and scheduling information filled in as well as proof of insurance on the rental property. You should understand all payment and property rules affecting your stay and what might happen if there is accidental damage to the property while you're there. Share these documents with your home or rental insurer for input before you sign. If a renter hesitates to share this information, you might want to consider other options. Also, review your personal health, property and liability coverage to make sure you're protected during the trip.

6. Weigh all spending risks of the rental transaction. If you're planning to rent vacation property, take the extra step of calling your credit card and travel insurance companies to determine whether they offer any particular protections in case something goes wrong with the rental. It's a good way to review the full range of protection available to you on any out-of-town trip. And if a vacation landlord asks for advance cash payment—particularly wired money—be very cautious. Many travel scams begin with wired cash.

Bottom line: Planning an upcoming vacation? Before you commit to a vacation rental, be sure to vet the owner and the property thoroughly.

Coleman from A1

The Venture Philanthropy Partners (VPP) is a network of high-performing nonprofit organizations committed to giving the children and youth of the National Capital Region the opportunity to grow into healthy, productive adults. County Executive Baker, during his first year in office invited VPP to be its partner in the implementation



Nathaniel Sillin is a financial advisor and author of the Practical Money Skills column.

of his Transforming Neighborhoods Initiative (TNI). Prince George's County would be the first place in the region where VPP would implement its innovative Youth Connect model—a pioneering initiative that combines public-private capital, evaluation experts, and high performing nonprofits to improve life opportunities for low income youth ages 14-24 in the National Capital Region.

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HHS Awards \$1.8 to Maryland to Help Treat the Prescription Opioid Abuse and Heroin Epidemic

Awards Put Health Centers at Forefront in Fight Against Abuse

By PRESS OFFICER
HHS/ASPA

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Sylvia M. Burwell announced \$1,789,021 in funding through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to support 5 health centers in Maryland to improve and expand the delivery of substance abuse services in health centers, with a specific focus on treatment of opioid use disorders in underserved populations.

"The opioid epidemic is one of the most pressing public health issues in the United States today," said Secretary Burwell. "Expanding access to medication-assisted treatment and integrating these services in health centers bolsters nationwide efforts to curb opioid misuse and abuse, supports approximately 124,000 new patients accessing substance use treatment for recovery and helps save lives."

The abuse of and addiction to opioids, such as heroin and prescription pain medication, is a serious and increasing public health problem. Approximately 4.5 million people in the United States were non-medical pre-

scription pain reliever users in 2013, and an estimated 289,000 were current heroin users. HHS also estimates the number of unintentional overdose deaths from prescription pain medications has nearly quadrupled from 1999 to 2013, and deaths related to heroin increased 39 percent between 2012 and 2013.

Administered by the HHS Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), with these awards Maryland will be able to increase the number of patients screened for substance use disorders and connected to treatment, increase the number of patients with access to MAT for opioid use and other substance use disorder treatment, and provide training and educational resources to help health professionals make informed prescribing decisions. Nationally, this \$94 million investment is expected to help awardes hire approximately 800 providers to treat nearly 124,000 new patients.

"Health centers treat some of the most at risk patients in the country," said HRSA Acting Administrator Jim Macrae. "These awards position health centers to be at the forefront of the fight against opioid abuse in underserved communities."

Research demonstrates that a whole-patient approach to treatment through a combination of medication and counseling and behavioral therapies, is most successful in treating opioid use disorders. In 2014, over 1.3 million people received behavioral health services at health centers, a 75 percent increase since 2008. This funding builds upon and leverages previous investments by providing support to health centers to improve and expand the delivery of MAT substance abuse services in an integrated primary care/behavioral health model with a specific focus on treatment of opioid use disorders in underserved populations.

"HRSA's innovative investment in the delivery of medication-assisted treatment for substance use disorders affirms the importance of behavioral health to overall health," said Kana Enomoto, Acting Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Addressing the opioid crisis is a top priority for the Administration and the Department. The Department is focused on three key areas: improving opioid prescribing practices, increasing the use of naloxone, and increasing access to MAT.

In addition, the President has made addressing the prescription opioid abuse and heroin epidemic a top priority and issued a Presidential Memorandum last year on improving access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for opioid use disorders. Today's awards are an example of HHS taking every available step to expand access to MAT. Building on these efforts, the President's Budget includes a \$1.1 billion initiative to help ensure that all individuals with opioid use disorders who want treatment are able to access it.

For More Information

To view a list of the award winners, visit the website at: <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/programopportunities/fundingopportunities/substanceabuse/fy16awards.html>

For more information on the Department's key areas of focus to address the opioids crisis, visit the website at: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2015pres/03/20150326a.html>

To learn more about HRSA's Health Center Program, visit <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/about/index.html>

To find a health center in your area, visit <http://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/>

Veterans from A1

well, we're going to take this mission or not or is the weather too bad. No, you fly the mission. Every soldier ... knew if they got wounded, Dustoff was coming." Mr. Herndon is recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, America's oldest military aviation award that recognizes heroism or achievement of individuals involved in aviation. The Lincolnton (NC) native is an alumnus of Morgan State University. He is a member of the U.S. Army Black Aviators Association, the Dustoff Association, and the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association.

Roy Hodges

Mr. Hodges, who served in Vietnam as a U.S. Air Force B-52 pilot with the 69th Bomb Squadron between 1968 and 1970 and as a helicopter pilot with the 21st Special Operations

Squadron, 56th Special Operations Wing, from 1971 to 1972, said in his on-camera MPT interview for the film: "As special ops, we had planes with no U.S. markings. We flew the sorties with no insignia most of the time. The only documentation we carried was our I.D. card and a Geneva conventions card. Supposedly, we were being secret and they wouldn't know who we were or where we came from."

Mr. Hodges is an alumnus of the University of Oklahoma. He is a member of the Air Force Association, the American Legion, the Military Officers Association of America, the Military Order of World Wars, and the Distinguished Flying Cross Society.

Nathaniel Howard, Sr.

Mr. Howard, who served in Vietnam as a U.S. Navy diving medical technician with Underwater Demolition Team-11 from

February through December 1967, said in his on-camera MPT interview for the film: "As a team, we performed a myriad of diving and rescue operations. The team had 14 members, all returned at the end of our tour of duty. We were relieved by UDT-12 in December 1967, and our hearts were broken when two members of UDT-12 were killed in January of 1968, only three weeks after we departed. I was an instructor at the Naval School of Diving and Salvage when I retired in 1975.

"The Pine Bluff (AK) native is an alumnus of Prince George's Community College and Southern Illinois University, where he earned his associate and bachelor's degrees, respectively. Mr. Howard holds a master's degree in health services administration from The George Washington University. Following his military career, he worked as a diving officer

and administrative officer at Naval Medical Research Institute, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland. He is a member of First Baptist Church of Highland Park in Landover, Maryland.

MPT Salutes Vietnam Veterans

is the largest project in MPT history and is designed to recognize and thank Maryland-area men and women who served in the military in the Vietnam era. The project unfolds in 2016 with the broadcast premiere of the documentary and a major weekend event, LZ Maryland, at the Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium on June 18-19.

Excerpts from the TV documentary, venues for the traveling exhibit, and details on the two-day public LZ Maryland event are all available at the station's website mpt.org/vietnam.

Statement of PG County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Government

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III released the following statement following the fatal shooting and line of duty death of Prince George's County Police Department (PGPD) Officer Jacai Colson #3693:

"On a quiet and rainy Sunday in Prince George's County, tragedy struck our County's police department as officer Jacai Colson, a four year veteran, died after being shot during an attack at our County's District 3 Police Headquarters. The Prince George's County Police Department is actively and aggressively pursuing this investigation with every resource available to them to understand what led to this horrible event.

Officer Colson has been described by his colleagues as a "cop's cop" and was beloved for his work ethic and commitment to serving residents of Prince George's County. He would have celebrated his 29th birthday this week and had a bright future in

front of him. I ask for all Prince Georgians to keep Officer Colson's family and the men and women of our police department

in your thoughts and prayers. This is a devastating and sad loss, but we will see it through together. This tragedy is a somber re-

minder of the sacrifice that our police officers make for our safety each and every day. We cannot take their sacrifice for granted."

Suspect Ambushes Officer Outside Police Station; Officer Fatally Wounded

Remembering Police Officer First Class Jacai Colson

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCPD

The Prince George's County Police Department is grieving after one of our officers lost his life in the line of duty this afternoon. Four-year veteran Police Officer First Class Jacai Colson was assigned to our Narcotic Enforcement Division. The 28 year old detective was fatally wounded after exchanging gunfire with a suspect outside the District III station which is attached to our headquarters in Palmer Park.

The preliminary investigation reveals a suspect opened

fire outside the front doors of the station around 4:30 pm. POFC Colson returned fire. Colson was shot and died a short time later. The suspect was also struck. He is expected to survive and remains under police custody at an area hospital. Charges are pending. A second suspect was taken in for questioning. Investigators are working to determine the motive in this case.

Our department is eternally grateful for the overwhelming outpouring of support from our community, the law enforcement family and our elected leaders.

In Memoriam



PHOTO COURTESY PGPD
Police Officer First Class Jacai Colson

COMMENTARY

Cong. Chris Van Hollen House Democratic Minority Whip



Van Hollen Announces Legislation to Bring Harriet Tubman Statue to the U.S. Capitol Building

Washington, D.C.—Today, on Harriet Tubman Day, Maryland Congressman Chris Van Hollen announced that he will introduce legislation that will bring a statue of Harriet Tubman to the U.S. Capitol Building.

“Harriet Tubman is an American icon and a courageous abolitionist hero,” said Congressman Van Hollen. “Born in Maryland, she became a conductor on the Underground Railroad to lead slaves to freedom, served as a Union spy, and pushed for women’s suffrage. Her relentless pursuit of universal freedom and human rights represents the best in Maryland and the nation. I look forward to her life and work being commemorated permanently in the U.S. Capitol.”

Congressman Van Hollen also supports placing Harriet Tubman’s portrait on currency. He urged Treasury Secretary Jack Lew to choose Tubman’s portrait as the agency moves forward with a planned redesign of the \$10 bill.

In 2012, the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation creating the Harriet Tubman Statue Commission to fundraise and commission an artist to sculpt a statue to donate for display in the U.S. Capitol Building. Congress must pass legislation in order to accept the donation, and Congressman Van Hollen’s bill is

the critical next step in the process. It will direct the Joint Committee on the Libraries, which manages art in the U.S. Capitol Building, to enter into an agreement to accept the statue after it is completed.

“It was a very long road for Harriet Tubman from the Eastern Shore to freedom,” said Linda Mahoney, President Emerita of Maryland NOW and Chair of the Harriet Tubman Statue Fundraising Commission. “But instead of stopping when she was safe, she returned to free slaves and perform other heroic deeds. And that wasn’t enough for Harriet; after the war she raised money for education and hospitals for former slaves and worked for women’s suffrage.”

Mahoney continued, “Thanks to Sen. Susan Lee and other visionaries in the Maryland General Assembly, and now thanks to Rep. Chris Van Hollen and other Congressmembers, we are finally a few steps further toward moving a statue of Harriet Tubman into the U.S. Capitol. The Maryland Chapter of the National Organization for Women has been privileged to lead the effort to recognize this true American hero, and we thank the thousands of Marylanders who signed petitions and lobbied for a statue to this icon of freedom.”



JOINT BASE ANDREWS—HOME OF AIR FORCE ONE

Joint Base Andrews is a U.S. military facility located in Camp Springs, MD. Named for Lieutenant General Frank Maxwell Andrews (1884–1943), former Commanding General of the U.S. Forces during WWII, the base serves as the home for two Boeing VC-25 aircraft, known by the call sign “Air Force One” when the President is on board. It also plays host to one of the largest annual air shows. In 2009, Andrews Air Force Base and Naval Air Facility Washington merged to create Joint Base Andrews. For more information about the base or to inquire about scheduling a tour, contact the Public Affairs Office at 240-612-4428.

Photo caption: President Obama’s first trip: Col. Steven Shepro, 316th Wing commander, and 316th Wing protocol members render a salute as Air Force One departs.

PHOTO CREDIT: US AIR FORCE / BOBBY JONES

Child Watch by Marion Wright Edelman



America, I am you

“I am an insider serving a life and 20 year sentence at Riverbend Maximum Security Institution. Twenty-six years ago I was rendered infamous by the State of Tennessee through a judicial process of ‘thingafication,’ replacing my identity with a capitalistic signature, 133881. Since then, at 19 years old, my journey towards humanization has been a struggle ... to know that you are more than a number and not have the support of your family or community environment to prove otherwise can be depressing.”

America’s Cradle to Prison Pipeline™ is a toxic cocktail of poverty, illiteracy, racial disparities, violence and massive incarceration which sentences millions of children of color to social and economic death. Once young people have entered the prison pipeline, to many people they become invisible, just a statistic.

Rahim’s pipeline to prison started during a chaotic childhood in poverty and a struggling family. His mother had given birth twice as a teen before Rahim was born. Rahim’s father was never part of his life. His mother worked in a warehouse for minimum wage and struggled to keep food on the table and clothes on her children’s backs while refusing government assistance—but Rahim says that was a cost later paid by hungry children who started a life of crime in order to eat and dress like their peers. Rahim was eventually expelled from high school, received a juvenile sentence for auto theft and burglary and was sent to a youth detention center. Less than a year after his release he was charged with felony murder after his gun went off during a robbery and a bullet ricocheted off the floor and killed an employee. He was sent to jail and received a life and 20 year sentence.

Three of his brothers have been his cellmates and he has been locked up with a total of five siblings at two different prisons. He writes about his childhood in verse:

Who Am I? Who am I?

Society doesn’t seem to know ...

You see us in the “now,” our prison condition

Blind to the facts of our mental afflictions
Past decisions made before our 15 second/mindless/crime spree/felony convictions.

The money/the honeys/the madness/materialistic sadness
Thirteen brothers/five sisters, seriously drastic.

Who am I, Who am I?
Choking in poverty, the pain runs deep you see ...

Who am I, Who am I?
My eyes, my ears, my peers; no difference: 5, 10, 15 to 30 years in prison.

Environmental voices in me, our life and death choices to be, anger and stress forcing me,

Public defenders coercing me, my family and friends divorcing me.

Crying shame, born with crime in my veins ... still begging for a new beginning.

In prison, “I was determined to survive, upset with myself, angry at the system, and filled with guilt. From jail to prison, I was stripped of my civilian clothing, a symbol that I was no longer fit to be human. My sadness, remorse, and vulnerability I masked with a ‘mean-mug,’ the look of a

cold-hearted convict. Old-heads in prison gave me the game, the knowledge of how to live and avoid death.” Eventually Rahim started to realize he was more than the way the system had defined him. “After all the growing pains of becoming a man in prison, disciplinary reports, fights, selling drugs, and rebelling in any way that I could to resist the system, I decided to change.”

Rahim got a chance to participate in a program called SALT: Schools for Alternative Learning and Transformation, which brings college students together with incarcerated men and women to study as peers in college courses and workshops behind prison walls. It was its own kind of new beginning and for Rahim “there was no looking back.” He became a leader in the program, facilitating classes and developing community education sessions and mentoring other “inside” students. “My learning has forced me to contend with the realities of American society. I wasn’t born a number ... yet I can’t deny that numbers surround me. More than 2,200,000 fill the jails and prisons across the U.S.A. Million dollar contracts

See WATCH, Page A12

Marc Morial, President and CEO National Urban League



The Business of Incarceration: Severing the Prison to Profits Pipeline

“Jails and prisons are the complement of schools; so many less as you have of the latter, so many more must you have of the former.”

—Horace Mann,

Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, 1881

America is addicted to incarceration.

No nation holds as many people behind bars as the United States of America, and the numbers tell it all. The United States imprisons 716 people for every 100,000 residents. That is more than any other country on this planet. Our nation has the largest prison population in the world—both in terms of the actual number of inmates and as a percentage of the country’s population. While the United States has less than five percent of the world’s population, we lock up almost 25 percent of the world’s total prison population. Well-meaning people will differ on the question of whether or not America’s war on crime has truly benefitted the American taxpayer, but because numbers don’t lie, we cannot question the fact that our criminal justice obsession with retribution—versus rehabilitation—has profited private prison operators in our nation’s sprawling prison industrial complex to the tune of billions of dollars.

The country’s two largest private prison operators, Corrections Corporation of America and GEO Group, recently posted their earnings. Combined, the two for-profit prison companies collected \$361 million in profits last year. According to In the Public Interest, a research and policy center, CCA made \$3,356 in profit for every person they incarcerated and GEO Group made \$2,135. Incarcerating Americans at the staggering rate of one in every 110 adults has become a profitable business that promotes the bottom lines of CEOs, but fails to promote effective public safety strategy. Research has shown that investing in social programs and education—resources that can help keep people out of jail in the first place—is far more effective

at improving public safety than investing in incarceration. Policies that promote prison over education, incarceration over mental health services and jail over job services comes at the long-term cost of our collective well-being and safety.

Over the past four decades, state spending on corrections has outpaced funding for public education, with states spending three times as much on prisons than schools. Private prisons—which began cropping up as an alternative for cash-strapped states attempting to save money by outsourcing the building and running of prisons to private companies—are incentivized to keep cells full at the lowest possible cost, not to keep cells empty. When every occupied bed represents a broken family, communities torn apart, diminished future job prospects, a potential loss of voting rights and the increased risk of returning to crime, our nation’s over-reliance on jails to combat our entrenched social ills—and the taxpayer money that keeps the system thriving—should be re-routed into education and the social institutions that serve the public good and are aligned with public safety goals.

America’s incarceration addiction is devastating wide swaths of already socially and economically vulnerable communities. Statistically, African Americans are incarcerated at nearly six times the rate of whites. Combined, African Americans and Latinos represent well over 50 percent of our national prison population. Crime induced by a lack of opportunity cannot be solved by punishment. Our current sentencing policies and prisons have not proven themselves capable of fixing mental illness, drug addiction, homelessness or unemployment. They only hide these pressing social issues from view. We must decide, as a nation, if we are going to continue to turn to blind, mass incarceration as a solution for the problems in our society, or if we are going to invest in individuals, not incarceration, and make these private prisons obsolete.

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BUSINESS

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Tips For Dealing Sensibly With Your Teenager's Mistakes

Every teenager will goof up sometime, make mistakes, act stupidly or perhaps try something which will put him or her in real danger.

And, as a responsible parent, it's going to drive you crazy. When you find out what has occurred you feel your blood boil, want to scream and wonder how badly you've failed as a parent.

But in most cases, what has happened isn't about bad parenting or raising a really not-very-bright child. Rather, what you're seeing is a teenager being a teenager. It's a time when your teen, developmentally, is supposed to be moving away from your care and protection. It's perfectly normal and it's what we all want to have our children do successfully, unless you're looking forward to your kid at 48-years-old living in your basement rent-free and playing Xbox 20 hours a day.

While it's important to recognize that it's normal for your teen to be testing limits, it doesn't mean you should have to look away when he or she makes a serious mistake. But rather than exploding (usually to a blank stare or that infamous "whatever" response) you can be much more effective by reacting calmly.

How? Start by not confronting your child when you are wild with anger. Instead, when you first see your child after whatever has happened, communicate calmly that you plan to discuss this situation later. Set a time to do so. Then take a walk or do something to relax and give yourself time to prepare your response thoughtfully, rather than emotionally.

When you're calm, sit down at the appointed time and discuss what happened and why it troubles you. This is not a time for shouting or displays of violence. It's a time to communicate rationally. Share your feelings with "I" statements, such as "I felt very angry and disappointed when I learned..." Explain as calmly as possible why what they did has upset or possibly scared you.

A next step is to impose a meaningful and appropriate consequence. Don't try and impose vague or endless punishments ("You'll NEVER drive my car again!") which clearly are not possible to meet. Instead, let the consequences show that you truly were disappointed and concerned, but that you want your child to know that once he or she pays the price for what happened, you're confident future behavior will be more responsible.

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

Budget from A1

Excellence, High Performing Workforce, Safe and Supportive Environments, Family and Community Engagement, and Organizational Effectiveness.

To build academic excellence, an additional \$1.28 million was added to expand all-day prekindergarten to eight more sites and convert eight half-day sites to full-day programs. An additional \$631,000 will support teachers in the prekindergarten program in an effort to increase kindergarten readiness. Fourteen Literacy Coaches and 20 Math Specialists were added to support schools that need it the most. The budget provides for the continuation of language immersion (\$2.28 million) and the two International High Schools (\$3.03 million); opening a new pathway for Middle College that will focus on preparing students to become teachers (\$1.29 million); and additional instructional materials for schools (\$5.0 million).

To support a high performing workforce, \$42.5 million is reserved for negotiations, \$689,000 will provide stipends for National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) choosing to work in targeted comprehensive schools, and \$890,673 will enable the school system

to train strong educators for future principalships.

To help ensure a safe and supportive environment for students, \$2.17 million is designated to implement an evening shift of maintenance workers to address critical maintenance issues at schools that cannot be completed when students are in the building. An additional \$1.26 million is designated for hiring the bus drivers needed to cover new bus routes and efficiently transport students.

To help build family and community engagement, \$1.55 million has been designated for the Healthy Start Breakfast Program, International Business Partnerships, and a "parent university."

An additional \$1.4 million will be used for security software to protect sensitive student and staff information and other systemic supports crucial to system performance improvements.

The Board will submit the FY2017 Requested Budget to Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker III for review by March 1. The County Executive will present his budget to the County Council by March 15. The Board will reconcile the budget after the County Council finalizes its appropriations for FY2017. For the latest information, visit the PGCCPS website by clicking here.

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Prince George's County
Since 1932*

Bankers Across Maryland Join Forces With Maryland Food Bank to End Hunger

Sponsored by Maryland Bankers Association's Council of Professional Women in Banking and Finance, the "Embrace Life, Nurture Success" Food Drive will run in participating bank branches until April 30

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of the Lt. Governor

ANNAPOLIS, MD—Banks across Maryland are collecting food donations in support of the Maryland Food Bank as part of the Maryland Bankers Association's (MBA) Council of Professional Women in Banking and Finance's 2016 Philanthropy Initiative, "Embrace Life, Nurture Success."

In recognition of Maryland Bankers Association's 120th anniversary, the Council has set a food collection goal of 120,000 pounds by April 30. If MBA succeeds in reaching its goal, it would likely be one of the largest food drives of the year for the Maryland Food Bank. Participating bank branches and organizations will host their own collections and special events to drive donations. With many expected to participate throughout the state, the following banks and organizations are participating thus far.

- Bank of Ocean City
- Capital One Bank
- Chesapeake Bank of Maryland
- Community Bank of the Chesapeake
- First United Bank & Trust
- Hamilton Bank
- Homewood Federal Savings Bank
- M&T Bank
- Maryland Bankers Association
- 1880 Bank

"This year's philanthropy aligns with banks' ongoing commitment to improving the communities they serve across our state," said MBA President and CEO Kathleen Murphy. "Our member banks are well positioned to exceed our collection goal to nurture success by ending hunger."

According to the Maryland Food Bank, 1 in 8 Marylanders is food insecure, meaning they do not know where their next meal comes from—that is more than 757,000 people. The Maryland Food Bank currently distributes more than 120,000 meals per day and nearly 44 million meals annually. The food items of most need include:

- ☐ Breakfast (cereal, oatmeal, quick oats, granola/cereal bars)
- ☐ Canned proteins (tuna, salmon, chicken, beans, peanut butter)
- ☐ Canned vegetables (low sodium, no salt added)
- ☐ Dairy (shelf-stable milk, evaporated milk, infant formula)
- ☐ Fruits and juices (in light syrup or its own juices, fruit cocktail, applesauce, juice boxes)
- ☐ Pasta and rice (brown and white rice, macaroni and cheese, pasta)
- ☐ Soups and stew (low sodium, beef stew, chili, chicken noodle, vegetable, turkey and rice)

"We appreciate the Maryland Bankers Association's

willingness to take on our mission and help collect food for the thousands of Marylanders who don't have regular access to nutritious meals," said Maryland Food Bank President & CEO Beth Martino. "This initiative is a great example of what can happen when motivated individuals come together to make a difference in the community, and we are excited to be a part of it."

The final results of the collective effort will be revealed at The Council's Annual Conference on May 5. The annual philanthropy initiative aligns with the Council's mission of giving back to the Maryland community through leadership and inspiration. Past initiatives supported Soles4Souls in 2014 by collecting 63,270 pairs of used shoes to help fight poverty, and the Girl Scouts of Maryland in 2015 by raising \$13,137.83.

For More Information

To learn more about the initiative and participating branches, visit MBA's website. Please direct all media inquiries and requests to Josie Hankey at 410-420-2001 or by email at Josie.Hankey@FallstonGroup.com.

About Maryland Bankers Association

Founded in 1896, the Maryland Bankers Association (MBA) is the only Maryland-based trade group representing banks in the state. MBA's

member banks employ more than 40,000 banking professionals and hold 99% of the FDIC insured deposits in Maryland in nearly 1,700 branch offices. MBA serves member banks and thrifts as a legislative and regulatory advocate at all levels of government, as the public relations voice for the industry, as a provider of professional education to members, and as a promoter of financial education to the community. Visit www.mdbankers.com for more information.

About the Maryland Food Bank

The Maryland Food Bank is a nonprofit hunger-relief organization, leading the movement to end hunger throughout Maryland. For more than 35 years, the Maryland Food Bank has partnered with communities across the state to distribute food to individuals and families in need. Through carefully-crafted programs, the food bank aims to meet the immediate needs of Marylanders while simultaneously working to find long term ways to reduce hunger statewide. Currently distributing more than 120,000 meals per day—nearly 44 million meals annually—the Maryland Food Bank will continue to expand its efforts until hunger ends. To learn more about the Maryland Food Bank, visit the website at www.mdfoodbank.org.

Testing from A1

high school. There are currently no restrictions in Maryland on the amount of time spent on federal, state and local mandated tests, according to a legislative analysis.

The bill would not impose limits on time spent preparing for standardized tests, but the bill's House sponsor, Delegate Eric Luedtke, D-Montgomery, said he hopes by reducing the amount of testing, time spent on test prep would decline as well.

As a parent and a former middle school social studies teacher, Luedtke said children can lose passion and interest for learning when overtested. Two percent of

instruction time spent on standardized testing is "more than enough time to get the data that we need," he said.

Another bill in the House would eliminate a state requirement that districts include Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers test scores in teacher and principal evaluations. The PARCC test, a new exam that aligns with Common Core State Standards, has created controversy among parents and teachers in Maryland and throughout the country. Fewer than half of elementary and middle school students in Maryland passed the PARCC test last year.

Paul Lemle, a high school social studies teacher and president of the Howard County Education Association, said PARCC scores are not a valid way to measure student growth, and it is "unfair to teachers and impractical for school districts to make staffing decisions" based on this data.

A third bill, also cross-filed in the House and Senate, would limit a statewide kindergarten readiness test to a random sample of students from each district. Supporters of the bill said the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment, or KRA, takes teachers out of the classroom and does not provide useful data in a timely manner.

The Maryland House Ways and Means Committee on Thursday heard testimony on the bills regarding kindergarten testing and teacher and principal evaluations.

Opponents of the kindergarten testing bill, including teachers and an examination specialist, said the KRA was designed to provide data on individual students rather than sampling results. The KRA often relies on observation rather than traditional testing practices, and teachers also have discretion in how to implement the test, they added.

The same committee on Feb. 11 held a hearing on the bill that would limit testing time.

Baker from A1

watch video of this budget presentation online, visit <http://livestream.com/accounts/5817366/events/4951130>

"Over the last 5 years, we have worked hard to balance the County's budget; from the 2012 budget to today, we have been focused on growing our commercial tax base in order to increase revenues," said Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. "Through these successful efforts, we have transformed the image of Prince George's County. We have become the 'Place to Be' in the region and state. This has not happened by accident or happenstance. It is the result of an incredible amount of work by our employees, the County Council and the great people of Prince George's County. We focused the County government resources on reducing crime, removing blight, attracting jobs, improving health care options, delivering more effective hu-

man services, and enhancing educational outcomes. And we are making progress."

The FY2017 proposed budget represents a blueprint of re-investment and it is the first under County Executive Baker's term. This plan's foundation is premised on a proven investment strategy—growing the economy, continuing the academic improvements in K-12 education, providing for safe and environmentally sound communities, and assisting our residents in achieving healthy outcomes and social well-being. The laudable difference, however, resides in the County's ability to take the earned returns and prudently reinvest them by proposing resource growth and expansion of critical core services and in limited ways engage in some bold new programs.

The FY2017 proposed budget maintains the long-standing commitment to grow Prince George's County's economy by expanding the

commercial tax base while creating and retaining jobs. The FY2017 proposed budgets makes investments in the Economic Development Incentive Fund, the County's economic development agencies, and the Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement (DPIE). Additionally, the FY2017 proposed budget includes resources for redevelopment projects such as the Glenarden apartments, the Suitland Town Center and the Suitland/Naylor Road areas.

This proposed budget will also continue to invest in all our education systems, as they have the greatest mission to fulfill by preparing all of our students for full participation in the rapidly growing economy. The proposed FY2017 budget demonstrates this commitment by providing nearly \$2.1 billion for our three educational systems—the Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS), the Prince George's Community College (PGCC) and the Prince

George's County Memorial Library System (PGCML).

The proposed budgets for Public Safety agencies and the Courts provide the resources necessary to meet the response time needs of an ever-growing base of residents and businesses. Taken together, they represent \$660 million of the FY2017 proposed budget and reflect the prudent decision to reinvest by expanding our ranks of direct service safety providers.

Similarly, the FY2017 proposed budget continues our commitment to promote clean and environmentally sound neighborhoods as these efforts assist in the attraction and retention of new residents and businesses. Both the Departments of Public Works and Environment have proposed resources in FY2017 to assist in the improvement of County infrastructure and to use innovative methods and approaches.

See BAKER Page A6

OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK

Movie Review *Deadpool*

Deadpool
Grade: B

Rated R, abundant harsh profanity, graphic sexual dialogue, graphic violence, a lot of nudity and sexuality. THIS MOVIE IS NOT FOR CHILDREN, YOU DOPE. 1 hr., 48 min

As I understand it from watching the movie, what separates *Deadpool* from other comic book superheroes is that he doesn't want to be a hero; he knows he's in a comic book; he's willing—nay, eager—to kill bad guys; and he swears a lot.

The *Deadpool* movie conveys these differences, often to hilarious effect. Ryan Reynolds, who played a tamer version of the character for a couple of scenes in *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*, is the perfect choice for a sarcastic, potty-mouthed superhuman, and he revels in the freedom permitted him here. The script (by *Zombieland* writers Rhett Reese and Paul Wernick) is packed with gleeful taboo-busting, including snarky put-downs of other Marvel characters (the ones in the *X-Men* cinematic universe, anyway). First-time feature director Tim Miller plays along with an opening credit sequence that mocks opening credit sequences, giving descriptions (“God’s perfect idiot”; “a gratuitous cameo”) instead of people’s names.

Yet for all its aesthetic differences, this is ultimately just another superhero origin story—an example of the formula, not a subversion of it. The body count isn’t any higher than in any comic book movie; the deaths are just more graphic. *Deadpool* breaks the fourth wall ... but he also points out that he’s breaking the fourth wall, which kind of ruins it. He cracks



ROTTENTOMATOES

Based upon Marvel Comics’ most unconventional anti-hero, *Deadpool* tells the origin story of former Special Forces operative turned mercenary Wade Wilson, who after being subjected to a rogue experiment that leaves him with accelerated healing powers, adopts the alter ego Deadpool. Armed with his new abilities and a dark, twisted sense of humor, Deadpool hunts down the man who nearly destroyed his life. © Fox

wise about other superheroes ... but only the ones that his film’s studio (20th Century Fox) has the movie rights to. For the most part, funny and zippy though it is, *Deadpool* is the safe, studio-sanctioned version of “edgy.”

We begin with Deadpool already in high gear, wearing a mask and costume while shooting, slicing, and decapitating villains before pausing the action so he can fill us in. He used to be Wade Wilson, a military assassin turned mercenary, a self-described bad guy who hurts worse guys. He also used to be quite the promiscuous slut, before settling down with strip-club waitress Vanessa (Morena Baccarin), whose sense of humor is as twisted as Wade’s. (They bond by one-upping each other’s stories of childhood abuse.)

Then Wade got cancer, tried an experimental treatment sug-

gested by a clearly untrustworthy psychopathic mutant named Ajax (Ed Skrein), and ended up the way he is now: very strong, basically immortal, able to regenerate lost or damaged parts of his body, but ghastly in appearance (hence the mask). He’s looking for vengeance against Ajax, and he’s killing anybody who gets in his way. He’s cheerful in his work, though, always ready with a joke. You appreciate that in a revenge-minded murderer.

Meanwhile, the X-Men keep trying to recruit Deadpool, or at least make him tone down the bloodbaths. And by X-Men, I don’t mean Wolverine or Professor X or anybody like that, but a couple of third-tier mutants named Colossus (Stefan Kapicic) and Negasonic Teenage Warhead (Brianna Hildebrand). Getting Hugh Jackman or Patrick Stewart or whoever to play the top-shelf

X-Men would have been prohibitively expensive, of course. But *Deadpool* makes a joke about this, so I guess it’s OK?

This is a rude, raucous action comedy, even more focused on laughs (as opposed to world-building) than *Ant-Man* was. There are bracingly funny side characters like Weasel (T.J. Miller), Deadpool’s bartender friend, and Blind Al (Leslie Uggams), an old woman who shares Deadpool’s apartment with him and apparently has a thing for cocaine. But many of the pop-culture references and jokes are perilously of-the-moment, dooming the film to a short shelf life. (Two years from now, when you re-watch it to refresh your memory before the sequel, you’ll think, “Yikes, this is dated.”) It’s a welcome new flavor in the superhero movie stew, but it’s still floating in the same pot as the rest of them.

Baker from A5

The FY2017 proposed budget includes the following specific proposals and allocations:

EDUCATION:

- The County’s contribution to the Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS) represents an increase of \$31.5 million over FY 2016 and exceeds the Maintenance of Effort requirement by \$21.4 million. The proposed budget supports the growing enrollment and provides for improvements at the international schools. The budget also allows for limited class size reductions and the continued expansion of the pre-kindergarten program. The County will also make significant investments in a number of school construction projects in FY2017, including \$106.6 million in County capital funds to support such projects as completion of the construction of the Fairmont Heights High School replacement project, and planning for the renovation or replacement of William Wirt Middle School and Suitland High school, as well as, 60 systemic replacement projects.
- The FY2017 proposed operating budget includes \$106.2 million for the Community College. The proposed budget funds employee compensation adjustments for employees and supports the core operational needs of the College. The

FY2017 budgets also include new and expanded investments that allow for greater partnering opportunities. The College will add satellite locations at Oxon Hill High School and High Point High School for the dual enrollment program, and will launch a new student support program—Creating Opportunities for Academic Success and Transfer (COAST)—at ten high schools. In addition, the CIP budget includes funding for the construction of the Queen Anne Academic Center and Lanham Hall renovations.

- The proposed FY2017 operating budget for the Memorial Library System is \$27.2 million, an increase of 2.6%. The proposed budget provides for compensation adjustments for staff and maintains the current operating hours of all branches. With the additional resources, the Library will be able to expand its on-line offerings to include a new Career High School Diploma program. The FY2017 CIP funds will support the continued construction at the Laurel, Hyattsville and New Carrollton Branch libraries, planning for Bladensburg and various improvement projects.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- The proposed FY2017 budget includes \$9 million from the Economic Development Incentive (EDI) Fund to

continue investing in the economy. The Economic Development Corporation and the Financial Services Corporation will continue to use the EDI fund, along with other available financial incentives, to retain and attract businesses to Prince George’s County.

- The FY2017 budget includes an investment to improve service delivery through the acquisition of a new \$5.3 million permitting system for the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement to improve and accelerate the permitting process.
- The FY2017 budget includes a \$3.65 million PAYGO transfer to the Redevelopment Authority’s capital budget to support community redevelopment efforts in Glenarden and Suitland. The projects include the start of the new Suitland Town Center development with \$2.2 million for design of the public infrastructure and \$20 million in property acquisitions in the Suitland/Naylor Road area.

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PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Additional funds from the FY2017 budget will allow for the following new personnel—150 police recruits and 15 school crossing guards, 70 firefighters, 25 deputy sheriffs and 3 security officers for the Family Justice Center, 105 correctional officers and funding for all dispatcher and call taker positions, including those

newly added for the opening of District VII police station.

- In wake of recent and repetitive tragic events in the County due to domestic violence, the County Executive specifically requested from the FY2017 budget a \$1 million allocation toward domestic violence prevention, awareness, and resources for the Department of Family Services and Department of Social Services.

ENVIRONMENT:

- The County’s investment in the Stormwater Management Fund increases in FY2017 by \$0.6 million or 0.8% for a total of \$67.6 million to support various water quality programs.

- The proposed budget will be amended to reflect a shift from twice a week trash collection to once a week. Prince George’s County is the only county in the surrounding area that maintains a twice per week schedule. County residents have recommended this change over the past few budget hearings. With this transition, the County will save approximately \$ 6 million annually.

Adhering to the Prince George’s County Charter, the FY2017 Proposed Budget must be submitted by March 15, 2016 to the Prince George’s County Council. The Council must adopt the FY2017 Proposed Budget on or before June 1, 2016.

The Edge of Sports by DAVE ZIRIN

The Streets of San Francisco: ‘Super Bowl City’ Meets Tent City



On a daily basis, an estimated 2,000 pounds of “trash, human waste and hypodermic needles” are removed from the homeless encampments around San Francisco. These are the tent cities that form the backdrop to the monstrous spectacle of decadence that is Super Bowl week in the Bay Area.

Last August, San Francisco’s Mayor Ed Lee made clear that a cleansing of the homeless would take place before the Super Bowl, saying, “They are going to have to leave. We’ll give you an alternative, we are always going to be supportive, but you are going to have to leave the streets.” Currently, there is no evidence of widespread mass-sweeps. But according to several Bay Area homeless rights activists and social workers with whom I spoke, it seems that when the cameras are on, the city cleans up trash. When the cameras are off, the city cleans up people, whom the San Francisco Police Department treat as if they are equally disposable.

As private planes engage in the yearly Super Bowl ritual of fighting for space at area airports, they will be entering a city that serves as a macrocosm of both the excesses of the big game and the human cost to be paid by many of the players we will be cheering on the field. While the city is having another of its periodic real-estate booms, creating the most expensive housing market in the nation—with a minuscule one-bedroom apartments going for \$3,500 a month—the number of homeless in San Francisco is staggering. In a city with an official population of about 800,000, there are from 7,000 to 10,000 homeless. As Jessica Hanson Weaver, a social worker who works in the largest of the San Francisco homeless shelters, said to me, “That number goes up and down depending on variety of factors. It includes youth, families, and adults in shelters, and also those in streets, living in parks, or in the care of hospitals.”

It is certainly true that one cannot blame the current mission-creep subtle-sweep of the homeless solely on the Super Bowl. That’s because for Mayor Ed Lee the crack-down on the homeless is not a Super Bowl phenomenon but a year-round game. In 2015, the police of San Francisco handed out roughly 2,300 citations a month to homeless people. That’s 77 every day. These citations lead to arrest, which leads to warehousing people behind bars instead of confronting the near total absence of affordable housing. The greatest sin in all of this is that 61 percent of the homeless lost their homes while still employed. There is just nowhere to live.

As Hanson Weaver said to me, “Over the past five years we have seen a sixfold increase in citations against homeless people. This is because areas where homeless have traditionally found shelter—Tenderloin, Civic Center, South of Market—are in the center of a new massive development of the ‘MidMarket’ area that surrounds Twitter headquarters.”

This housing and human crisis has led to a series of protests over the past week against the estimated \$5 million in public spending on Super Bowl infrastructure, a deal that analysts are saying is lousy for the city. Five million dollars could have meant 500 units of new housing. Instead, it has gone primarily toward building “Super Bowl City,” an NFL street fair for the locals who can’t afford tickets to the game. It’s a street fair branded with corporate logos and monitored, as journalist Davey D told us, by police in full body armor and rooftop snipers, turning public sidewalks into the property of the National Football League and their sponsors.

Yet while Twitter HQ has become a symbol for the gentrification and skyrocketing costs in the city, the social media platform has also become an organizing tool for resistance. On Wednesday, hundreds took to the streets in a protest under the banner #tacklehomelessness. The protests are aimed at challenging the priorities of SF leaders. These protests provide the only vestiges of hope for this remarkable urban area that has become more than “a tale of two cities.” It’s a tale of two worlds.

I spoke with activist Nato Green, who describes himself as “the country’s only semi-functional hybrid of comedian and union organizer.”

Calendar of Events

March 24,—March 30, 2016

Exhibition: Ulysses Marshall

Date and Time: Through Wednesday, March 30, 2016, 8:30 am
Description: An exhibition of the work by Ulysses Marshall, an artist who works principally in paper and mixed media collage.
Cost: Free
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Publick Playhouse
5445 Landover Rd., Cheverly, MD
Contact: 301-446-3251; TTY 301-699-2544

Aqua Egg Hunt

Date and Time: Saturday, March 26, 2015, 10 am–12 noon
Description: That's right, we are having an egg hunt in the water! Enjoy arts, crafts, and hunting and diving for eggs. For everyone's safety, children (5 years old and under) in the water must be within arm's reach and directly supervised by a responsible adult in appropriate swim attire.

Children (11 years old and under) must be accompanied by an adult who is responsible for their supervision at poolside.

Registration is required; space is limited.
Cost: Resident: \$6; Non-Resident: \$8
Ages: 3-12 years

Location: Theresa Banks Aquatic Center
8615 Mclain Avenue, Glenarden, MD
Contact: 301-772-5515; TTY 301-699-2544

Blue Stocking Tea

Date and Time: Saturday, March 26, 2016, 1:30–3 pm
Description: Celebrate Women's History Month by honoring the ladies in the Blue Stocking Society, an 18th-century English literary society for women.

Come as you are or as your favorite female author or character, from modern times or from the past!

Tea will be served in Montpelier's elegant East Wing and will include a seasonal, prix fixe menu of fine finger sandwiches, scrumptious cakes and pastries, buttery scones and your choice of quality loose leaf teas, served on china and tiered stands.

Cost: \$29/Person; \$25/Members of the Friends of Montpelier
Ages: 18 & up

Location: Montpelier Mansion/Historic Site
9650 Muirkirk Road, Laurel, MD
Contact: 301-377-7817; TTY 301-699-2544;
montpeliermansion@pgparks.com

Savor the Flavor Cooking Series: Beans! Beans! Beans!

Date and Time: Saturday, March 26, 2016, 1–2 pm
Description: 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: Harmony Hall Community Center
10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington, MD
Contact: 301-203-6040; TTY 301-699-2544

Concert: The Intruders

Date and Time: Saturday, March 26, 2016, 8 pm
Description: The Intruders, founded in Philadelphia in the late '60s, was one of the first groups to have hit songs under the directions of famed record producers, songwriters, Kenny Gamble and Leon Huff. They had a major influence on the development of Philadelphia 'Soul,' or "The Sound of Philadelphia."

Cost: \$35/general admission; \$30/students & seniors
Ages: All ages
Location: Arts/Harmony Hall Regional Center
10701 Livingston Rd., Fort Washington, MD
Contact: 301-203-6070; TTY 301-699-2544

Timberdoodle Hike

Date and Time: Saturday, March 26, 2016, 6:30–7:30 pm
Description: Join a naturalist for a night hike to see the spectacular courtship display of the Timberdoodle, or American Woodcock. This mysterious bird reliably performs a spiraling flight display after sunset.

Cost: Resident: \$2; Non-Resident: \$3
Ages: Ages 6 & up
Location: Patuxent River Park Group Camp
16000 Croom Airport Road,
Upper Marlboro, MD
Contact: 301-627-6074; TTY: 301-699-2544

Egg Hunt Eggstravaganza

Date and Time: Monday, March 28, 2016, 10 am–12 noon
Description: Enjoy barnyard themed egg activities, entertainment, crafts, games, animals, and, of course, an egg hunt on the grounds of Darnall's Chance House Museum.

Bring your own basket to collect the eggs. Light refreshments will be served.

Cost: Resident \$3 (\$5*); Non-Resident \$4 (\$6*)
*Price on day of event
Ages: 2-10

Location: Darnall's Chance House Museum
14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive,
Upper Marlboro, MD
Contact: 301-627-2828; TTY 301-699-2544

Hippity Hop Easter Egg Hunt

Date and Time: Monday, March 28, 2016, 12 noon–2 pm
Description: Join us as we celebrate Easter with arts and crafts projects, games and hunting for the golden eggs. Prizes will be awarded to the person(s) that find a golden egg. Refreshments will be served.

Cost: Resident \$5; Non-Resident \$6
Ages: 2-12

Location: Potomac Landing Community Center
12500 Fort Washington Road,
Fort Washington, MD
Contact: 301-292-9191; TTY 301-203-6030

EARTH TALK ... What Are the Health and Environmental Risks of Using a 3D Printer to Make Stuff?

3D Printing Could Revolutionize Manufacturing, But at What Cost to the Environment and Human Health?

Dear EarthTalk:

What are the health and environmental risks of using a 3D printer to make stuff?

—Will Nady,
Pittsburgh, PA

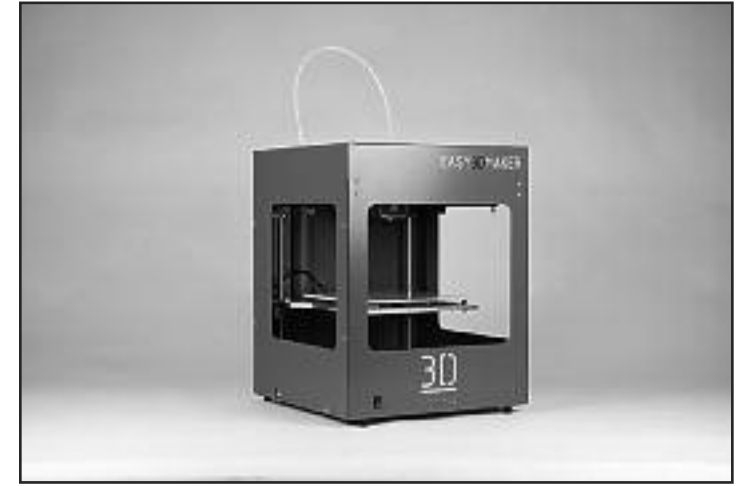
As with most inventions, the thrill of the new has led to mass excitement surrounding 3D printing. The booming industry is expected to grow from nothing just a few years ago to some \$4 billion by 2025. But some worry that our enthusiasm for 3D printing may be overshadowing some troubling health and environmental issues associated with the new technology.

3D printers heat plastic (usually a solid thermoplastic filament such as ABS or PLA) into a liquid and force it through a heated extrusion nozzle which in turn deposits it in thin layers onto a moving bed to form figures in predetermined shapes. But this process can send potentially harmful ultrafine particles (UFPs) and toxic fumes composed of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) into the air surrounding the machinery where users can breathe them in. In industrial settings, proper ventilation systems would be required and workers would have to wear protective gear to minimize exposure to similar UFP and VOC levels—but nowadays anyone can buy or borrow a desktop 3D

printer and use it at home or in school without taking any extra precautions. One study, as reported on Phys.org, equated the effects of printing a small 3D item to smoking a cigarette indoors. Effects can include nausea and headaches, particularly for those with pre-existing heart or respiratory problems.

A fully enclosed 3D printing system could mitigate exposure issues, but the major 3D printer manufacturers have yet to license the valuable patent held by one company to make this technology widely available. Until then, it's up to users to make sure to operate desktop 3D printers in a well-ventilated area. Also, PLA, which is made from organic material such as corn starch or sugar cane, seems to be a safer choice than petroleum-based ABS as far as fumes are concerned.

Besides the health effects, 3D printing can also be problematic for the environment. For starters, the plastic in 3D print material deteriorates significantly with each use, rendering recycling out of the question at this point. Another environmental hazard of 3D printing is the clear spike in electrical energy needed for the heating process. Using heat or lasers to melt plastic costs drastically more than traditional methods. When compared to injection molding, a 3D printer consumes almost 100 times the amount of energy on average to make an equivalent item.



CREDIT: CREATIVE TOOLS, FLICKRCC

3D printers could revolutionize manufacturing, but at what cost to human health and the environment?

On the plus side, 3D printing is an "additive" technology, meaning it only uses the exact amount of plastic source material needed, so little if any is wasted. Also, 3D printed objects tend to be much lighter than their traditional counterparts; this saves money, fuel, and carbon emissions when it comes to shipping. But critics maintain that the weight savings isn't enough to counteract the energy intensity of the 3D printing process.

Whether we like it or not, 3D printing is here to stay, but only time will tell if the growing industry behind the phenomenon will be able to clean up its act as it enters mainstream.

CONTACTS: "Ultrafine Particle Emissions from Desktop 3D Printers," www.sci-

encedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1352231013005086; "Emissions of Ultrafine Particles and Volatile Organic Compounds from Commercially Available Desktop Three-Dimensional Printers with Multiple Filaments," pubs.acs.org/doi/pdf/10.1021/acs.est.5b04983; "How Toxic are ABS & PLA Fumes?" 3dprintingindustry.com/2015/10/28/toxic-abs-pla-fumes-3dsafety-org-inquires-vocs.

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Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

Congressman Chris Van Hollen Announces Funding for Health Clinic in Silver Spring to Combat Opioid Abuse

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of Chris Van Hollen

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Maryland Congressman Chris Van Hollen announced that CCI Health & Wellness Services in Silver Spring will receive \$378,604 in federal funding through the Affordable Care Act to improve and expand the delivery of substance abuse services with a specific focus on

treatment of opioid use disorders in underserved populations.

"Opioid abuse is a public health crisis, and it's critical that health centers in our communities have the resources they need to treat and prevent it," said Congressman Van Hollen. "This funding is one of the many ongoing benefits of the Affordable Care Act, and it will help those suffering from addiction in our communities get the support and treatment they need."

The funding for CCI Health & Wellness Services (formerly Community Clinic, Inc.) is part of \$94 million in Affordable Care Act funding going to 271 health centers across the country. A full list of awardees in Maryland is available here.

Administered by the HHS Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), these awards to health centers across the country will increase the number

of patients screened for substance use disorders and connected to treatment, increase the number of patients with access to MAT for opioid use and other substance use disorder treatment, and provide training and educational resources to help health professionals make informed prescribing decisions. This \$94 million investment is expected to help awardees hire approximately 800 providers to treat nearly 124,000 new patients.

Tent City from A6

His comments deserve reading and rereading: "The Super Bowl is the literal, physical manifestation of Mayor Lee's term. San Francisco has become uninhabitable for anyone but rich people and tourists. At the same time that the mayor is stonewalling investigations into racist police violence and political corruption in his administration, huge swaths of public space are inaccessible to residents for private parties. He put the city on the hook for millions of dollars based on an insider handshake agreement with the representative of the Super Bowl Committee, who happened to be the spokesman for the previous mayor. His policies created a crisis of eviction and displacement, and now police are rounding up and flooding the homeless encampments they caused so Super Bowl 50 VIPs don't have to see it. Mayor Lee is trying to make San Francisco into a managed simulacrum of a city, like Disneyland's Main Street with animatronic urbanism, and police are there to evict the remaining real residents who get in the way. We're not going to make it easy for him."

If there is one positive about the debt, displacement, and militarization that the Super Bowl has amplified in San Francisco, it is that it has shined a piercing light on the problems that plague the area. In the light of day, the priorities of this "managed simulacrum of a city" have never been more exposed.