

The Prince George's Post



A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY Since 1932

Vol. 84, No. 34 August 25 – August 31, 2016

Prince George's County, Maryland

Newspaper of Record

Phone: 301-627-0900

25 cents



PHOTO COURTESY LORI VALENTINE

EDC President & CEO Jim Coleman (center) with Miss Maryland World Tarese Taylor; Entrepreneur Gabrielle Jordan, President & CEO of D.C. Sweet Potato Cakes, April Richardson; SunTrust Bank Team; Operation HOPE, Inc. Team; EDC Team and 100 'KidPreneurs' at EDC's 'KidPreneur Day.'

EDC's 'KidPreneur Day' Empowers Rising Stars of Tomorrow

More Than 100 Young Entrepreneurs Get Inspired to Dream Big, Start Businesses and Create Jobs

By LORI VALENTINE
PGCEDC

LARGO, MD—On August 4th more than 100 young entrepreneurs were given the unique opportunity to start or build their businesses at the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation's (EDC) first annual 'KidPreneur Day'. This event was hosted in part-

nership with Operation HOPE, Inc., a global leader in financial literacy. Participants, ranging in age from nine years old to twelve years old were treated to a full day of pivotal information that they can use to make their young businesses flourish and to generate wealth for them and their families.

"I was twelve years old when my father made me the CEO of

Coleman Crest, our family farm," said EDC President and CEO Jim Coleman. "The skills and experience that I gained at that age have made me the CEO that I am today. It is never too early to start your future, as these young people are demonstrating today. We are creating the next Mark Zuckerbergs and Milt Petersons of the world right here in Prince George's County. It is

our responsibility to give our kids a leg up on their future!"

Mr. Coleman launched this one-of-a-kind initiative after meeting with young County entrepreneurs such as ten year old Ava Valentine and twelve year old Gabrielle Williams, whom he deputized as Co-Chairs of Kid-

See **KIDPRENEUR** Page A2

PG County Becomes A New ACA Consumer Assistance Organization

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Government

LANDOVER, MD—Prince George's County has been awarded \$1.6 million for FY2017 by the Maryland Health Benefits Exchange (MHBE), the administrator of Maryland's health insurance marketplace, to provide enrollment assistance, education and outreach to Prince George's County residents as a newly established consumer assistance organization. The term of the renewable grant began July 1, 2016 and runs through June 30, 2017.

Known as "Prince George's County Health Connect," the program will be administered by the Prince George's County Department of Social Services (DSS); and is comprised of four primary partners: the Prince George's Health Department, the Primary Care Coalition (PCC), Mary's Center, and Health Care Dynamics International (HCDI); and four Prince George's County-based nonprofits: CASA, Community Clinic, Inc. (CCI), Heart To Hand, and Sowing Empowerment & Economic Development (SEED).

Prince George's County Health Connect joins seven other regionally-based MHBE consumer assistance programs across the state. Previously paired with Montgomery

County as one operation, Prince George's County and Montgomery County will now operate independently but cooperatively. Both counties geographically comprise the Capital Region.

"We are excited about the award, and the opportunity for Prince George's to be a consumer assistance organization. We have one of the most diverse counties in the entire state. As a program, we will have enhanced flexibility to meet the diverse needs of our residents," said Gloria Brown, Director of the Department of Social Services.

The partner organizations will utilize certified navigators to provide in-person assistance to help residents learn about, apply for and enroll in health insurance, including Medicaid (MA), and the Maryland Children's Health Program (MCHP), as well as primary care insurers, specialty care insurers, dental insurers, and others. Navigators and community health workers will also educate residents on insurance usage. The free services are mandated by the state, in accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) law established in 2010.

"We're excited to add a partner with a history of great

See **ACA** Page A6

United Way of the National Capital Area Unveils Back-to-School Initiatives Targeting Region's Middle School Students

By PRESS OFFICER
United Way

WASHINGTON, D.C.—As thousands of middle-school students prepare to head back to school this year in Washington, D.C., Northern Virginia, and Maryland, United Way of the National Capital Area (United Way NCA), the region's preeminent convener,

collaborator and catalyst for social change throughout the National Capital community, today announced Back-to-School initiatives to support the area's public schools.

As part of United Way NCA's five-year, \$12.3 million Community Commitment, the nonprofit will be tar-

See **STUFF THE BUS** Page A3

Governor Hogan Requests Federal Disaster Declaration in Response to Historic Ellicott City Flooding

By PRESS OFFICER
MEMA

ANNAPOLIS, MD—Governor Larry Hogan today requested that President Barack Obama issue a Presidential Disaster Declaration for Howard County as a result of the floods that ripped through Main Street in Ellicott City on July 30, 2016. An approved disaster

declaration would bring federal assistance to Howard County and Ellicott City through state and local agencies and public safety partners that served them during the storm.

"Our administration has made it clear that we will do everything we can, and coordinate

See **FLOODING** Page A5

More Than 200 Veterans Attend the Economic Development Corporation Veterans Day

Jobs and Resource Fair Serves Those Who Have Preserved Our Freedom

By LORI VALENTINE
PGCEDC

LARGO, MD—More than 200 Veterans came out to the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) as they celebrated *Veterans Day* and hosted a Veterans Jobs and Resource Fair, in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulations (DLLR). The concept behind today's event was to address the issue of unemployment within the Veteran community. In Prince George's County alone, there are more than 2,700 identified unemployed Veterans. Today's Jobs and Resource Fair began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Miss World Maryland, Tarese Taylor and kicks off the EDC's 'Operation 500'—an aggressive initiative geared toward securing high wage jobs for 500 Veterans over the next six months.

"It's Veterans Day at the EDC and we couldn't be more proud of being able to connect our brave men and women, who

have served this country, with a good paying job and the resources they need to give them the dignity that they deserve," said EDC President and CEO Jim Coleman. "My team of 'Angels' have worked hard to coordinate partnerships with more than 20 local employers and resource partners to provide good jobs, training, and other resources our Veterans need. Not one of our employer business partners said 'no' when asked to participate in this important initiative. There is no excuse for a Veteran in Prince George's County to not be employed. This is how we do things in Prince George's County."

Congressman Chris Van Hollen, DLLR Assistant Secretary James Rzepkowski and Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs Outreach Director Dana Hendrickson were also in attendance at the Jobs and Resource Fair and provided encouraging words for the Veterans assembled. They also praised the business community and the resource agencies for



PHOTO COURTESY LORI VALENTINE

EDC President and CEO Jim Coleman along with EDC Workforce Services Division Acting Director Walter Simmons greeting Veterans and business partners.

making Veterans a priority in Prince George's County.

"I want to thank our Veteran community for serving our country in a way that puts them at risk defending our freedom overseas," said Van Hollen. "Beyond thank you, we are here with the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation, the business community

and our various partners on the State and federal level, working together for you just as you fought together for us."

Statistics have found that Veterans are often unaware of the support services available for them. In addition, many em-

See **VETERANS** Page A3

INSIDE

Maryland Posts First-Quarter 2016 Data on Fatal Overdoses

In January, Health and Mental Hygiene issued a warning about seeing overdose data that suggested that a portion of the fatal overdoses were attributed to people unknowingly buying fentanyl while attempting to purchase other substances like heroin or cocaine. The department is repeating that concern.

Community, Page A3

Filling in the Stories

At a recent panel discussion before nearly 2,000 college students preparing to fan out across the country to teach in this summer's *CDF Freedom Schools* programs, a distinguished group of children's book authors and illustrators spoke about their work and what guides them in creating books children will love to read.

Commentary, Page A4

EDC Hosts Embassy of Canada

"We are on a mission to create lucrative opportunities for Prince George's County business owners," said Coleman. "We are following County Executive Baker's lead and executing a matchmaking initiative to explore opportunities for business in high growth countries that are primed for investment and economic partnership."

Business, Page A5

Movie Review: Star Trek Beyond

It may be the most intimate look we've had at the structure and geography of the *U.S.S. Enterprise*, and it's fun to feel the ground fall out from under you in those moments—especially since everything else about the movie is so steady and unsurprising, with a villain-of-the-week ordinariness to it.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

What is fusion energy and why are environmentalists so bullish on it?

—Mickey Brent,
Milwaukee, WI

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

With Mary McHale, will return next week

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

UNITED METHODIST MEN GATHERING

Join us for United Methodist Men gathering Saturday, October 15, 2016 from 9:00 AM–4:30 PM, \$30.00 early bird and \$35.00 after September 15. “Uniting Men in Ministry” featuring Rev. Rod Hairston, Life Coach & Chaplain for the NFL’s two-time Super Bowl Champion, Baltimore Ravens & A Stop Hunger Now: Meals Packing Project preparing 60, 000 meals for the hungry around the world: lunch & breakout sessions, worship and praise bands. “United Men in Ministry” will be at First United Methodist Church of Hyattsville, 6201 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Maryland MD 20782. Tickets on line at UMMGathering.com or call Cary Montgomery at 240-381-5914.

UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY

Unity Economic Development Corporation (UEDC) was founded in 1868 in Brandywine, Maryland. UEDC was created as an outreach arm of the Union Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church helping clients

gain control over finances. The mission of the organization is to provide “self-empowerment tools” that would give people a “hand up” rather than a “hand out.” UEDC is a nonprofit housing counseling agency that helps homeowners and prospective homeowners navigate the challenges of buying a home/owning a home, and whenever possible help them to avoid mortgage foreclosure.

UEDC provides one-on-one counseling, workshops, group counseling, and seminars designed to empower individuals to gain control of finances and to contribute to building a better community. Programs and services offered are financial stability, homeownership education, foreclosure intervention and prevention, and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA). If you need more information visit www.unityedc.org.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY FAIR

The oldest running fair in Maryland returns to the Show Place Arena at the Prince George's Equestrian Center. The dates are Thursday–Friday, Sep-

tember 8–9, 5–10 PM, Saturday, September 10, 2016, 11 AM–10 PM and Sunday, September 11, 2016, 11 AM to 6 PM.

The address is 14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Cost: Adults \$6 (13 & up); Children \$5 (ages 6–12); free for children 5 & under. Contact: 301-952-7900; TTY 301-699-2544.

140th HOMECOMING ANNIVERSARY

St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Baden Parish will be celebrating their 140th Homecoming Anniversary ('140 Years—God Yet Abides') on Sunday, September 18, 2016. Morning Worship-Holy Eucharist will be held at 9:00 AM. They are honored to have the Reverend A. Tyrone Johnson as their speaker of the hour at their 3:00 PM evening service. The church is located at 13801 Baden Westwood Road, Brandywine Maryland 20613-8426.

Family and friends are invited to attend their services. Please plan to attend and hear the spiritual message. Lunch will be served from 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM.

KidPreneur from A1

Preneur Day. Ava is an aspiring entrepreneur who is planning to be the CEO of her own fashion design company. Gabrielle is the President of Glorious Pastries by Gabrielle, and attended one of the EDC's Activate Prosperity Small Business and Job Seekers Summits earlier this year. As the only young person in a crowd of adults, Gabrielle stood out because of her determination to grow her business and to become a celebrity.

“I'm glad to be a part of KidPreneur Day. Today has been great because now I am thinking about whether I want to keep my baking my pastries at home or opening a bakery,” said Miss Williams. “We have also learned a lot about financing today, which is an important part of my decision-making process. I have

a lot more confidence that my business will succeed and I have made a lot of new friends.”

Today, participants were given the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of business, develop their own business plans, develop a strong financial plan to launch their business, create their own business cards, and learn how to pitch their business through the teachers from Operation HOPE, Inc. The Operation Hope 'Business in a Box Entrepreneur Training Program' is a program designed to help young entrepreneurs turn their ideas and dreams of starting a new business into reality.

“I am glad that Operation HOPE had the opportunity to impact our youth to gear them towards success, create jobs, and show aspirations to be their best. The kids I have met are smart,

excited and several of the entrepreneurs are already doing great things,” said Dionne Waldron, Vice President of North Region, Operation HOPE. “We are happy about this great partnership with the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation and excited to be able to interject our work into their KidPreneur program.”

The day was filled with information and fun from a variety of business experts. Sixteen-year-old entrepreneur, best-selling author and motivational speaker Gabrielle Jordan also spoke to the youth about how she began her jewelry business, Jewelz of Jordan, when she was nine years old. She encouraged the KidPreneurs to have a vision and to dream big.

See **KIDPRENEUR** Page A6

Neighborhoods

BGE Hosts “Mentoring a Girl in Construction Camp” at White Marsh Training Center

BALTIMORE, MD—Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE) today is hosting 15 school-aged girls at its White Marsh Training Center. The girls are part of the National Association of Women in Construction's (NAWIC's) Mentoring a Girl in Construction (MAGIC) Camp which provides a supportive and nurturing environment for high school girls to explore the construction industry. The campers will meet successful female BGE field workers and have the opportunity for hands-on learning. Campers will splice cables, fuse pipes to make hula hoops, learn utility pole climbing, and view electric and gas safety demonstrations during the day-long camp in White Marsh.

The young women will have an exciting opportunity to learn and practice new skills in a gender neutral environment. The camp aims at developing greater self-confidence and more self-esteem by tackling and completing challenging projects. Campers will learn the importance of working safely around electricity and natural gas while wearing construction industry attire- long pants, t-shirts, boots and hardhats.

“This camp is part of BGE's commitment to diversity and inclusion and introduces young ladies to women role models who have achieved success in our company,” said Doreen Hartley, BGE director of Regional Gas Operations. “Our hope is that these girls leave this camp with a greater belief in themselves and a sense of optimism in future career opportunities available to them at BGE and in the construction industry.”

BGE is dedicated to enhancing the success of women in the construction industry and expanding the pool of potential BGE employees.

HomeServe to Provide WSSC Customers Home Repair Service Plans

LAUREL, MD—WSSC has announced that HomeServe USA (HomeServe) will offer its customers home pipe repair service plans. The 450,000 WSSC residential customers in Prince George's and Montgomery counties will be offered optional water service line repair plans, as well as sewer line and in-home plumbing plans through HomeServe.

Service plans available through HomeServe provide homeowners with an affordable, cost-effective way to manage the unexpected expense and inconvenience of home pipe repair emergencies. Homeowners are often unaware that such repairs are not covered by basic homeowner's insurance policies or by the local utility and usually have to take on the burden of repair costs themselves.

“We know all too well that repairing or replacing pipes is a costly proposition,” said Carla A. Reid, General Manager and CEO of WSSC. “Many customers are dealing with the same aging infrastructure that we as a utility are in the process of maintaining or replacing. HomeServe's repair plans will provide peace of mind to those customers who face potentially costly repairs to the pipes on their property.”

“Many homeowners are unfamiliar with the fact that they are responsible for the water and

sewer lines on their property” said Tom Rusin, CEO of HomeServe USA. “The financial impact that comes with these repairs can be an unexpected blow, with homeowners often unprepared and blindsided by them. We are pleased to associate with WSSC to provide their customers with affordable, dependable coverage plans.”

As part of their agreement with WSSC, HomeServe will be setting aside funds to help pay for repairs and other assistance for low income homeowners in Prince George's and Montgomery counties.

HomeServe plan holders will have access to a Repair Hotline that is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year as well as local, licensed, and insured contractors available to provide high-quality home repair services to customers in a timely manner. The Water Service Line Coverage is available now to WSSC residents for \$3.99/month. HomeServe will also offer Sewer/Septic Line coverage for \$5.49/month and Interior Plumbing and Drainage System Coverage for \$9.99/month. HomeServe offers several payment options.

WSSC customers can learn more about HomeServe's plans by calling toll-free at 1-844-713-7208 or visiting www.HomeServeUSA.com.

The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Announces ScottsMiracle-Gro Partnership

ANNAPOLIS, MD—The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay announces its new partnership with ScottsMiracle-Gro Company, the world's largest marketer of leading brands in lawn and garden care. The partnership is part of the ScottsMiracle-Gro Company's new nationwide Water Positive Landscapes initiative, an integrated program that demonstrates how consumers and communities can make a positive impact on local water resources while growing the landscape they want.

The first step for Water Positive Landscapes initiative was the creation of the Water Positive National Partner Network, currently comprised of 13 nonprofit organizations that are among America's leading authorities on water quality and conservation, including the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay.

The Alliance and ScottsMiracle-Gro have developed a long-term agreement focused on two projects. Through the Alliance's Businesses for the Bay program, the two organizations will partner to educate consumers about the proper use of lawn and garden products. Additionally, through the Alliance's RiverWise Communities program, they will join forces to help homeowners throughout the Bay watershed create gardens that serve as natural rainwater catchments and filters to protect the Bay and its watershed rivers and streams.

“The Alliance is excited to be one of the initial 13 nonprofit organizations selected by ScottsMiracle-Gro to be part of its Water Positive National Partner Network,” says Corinne Stephens, the Alliance's Business Partnerships Manager. “We are looking forward to working with the Water Positive Landscapes initia-

tive to help educate consumers about ways they can improve the Chesapeake Bay watershed and its rivers and streams through the use of correctly installed conservation landscapes and rain gardens as well as the proper use of lawn and garden products.”

“Gardens can't grow without water – and as the world's largest lawn and garden products company, it is our responsibility to help our consumers enjoy the landscapes they want while also protecting the environment,” said Jim Hagedorn, chairman and chief executive officer of ScottsMiracle-Gro. “In order to succeed in this effort, we need the input and support of others. It is in that spirit that our team has worked for months to build partnerships with a network of water protection groups from coast-to-coast and from north-to-south. Our goal is to support their efforts and seek their input, which will be key to making continued progress in our efforts to protect the environment and to empower our consumers do the same.”

For more information about this new partnership, visit the website at http://businesses.allianceforthebay.org/2016/06/08/scottsmiracle-gro_water_positive_landscapes/

BGE Launches New Responsive Website for Customers

BALTIMORE, MD—BGE has launched a new website, providing anytime, anywhere access for customers. The responsive design of the new site optimizes the online experience for customers from any mobile device, tablet or desktop to enable easy access to important account information.

The new design incorporates feedback provided by customers. Upgraded navigation improves access to services, making it easy for customers to report and check the status of outages, view their energy usage and make more informed decisions based on user friendly, easily accessible pages and content.

“Enhancing the online tools for our customers based on their input is one of the many ways BGE is moving smart energy forward,” said BGE CEO Calvin G. Butler Jr. “We know our customers are using different types of devices in various settings, so we are pleased to offer an online experience that seamlessly fits into customers' lives.”

In addition to the website update, BGE recently expanded the digital notification tools and options that give customers the ability to receive information from the company in several different ways. Customers can elect to receive notifications via text, email or phone about outages, billing, payment, usage and more.

BGE, and its sister Exelon utilities, ComEd, PECCO, Pepco, Delmarva Power and Atlantic City Electric are using the latest web technology to enhance the customer online experience.

Customers can experience the new BGE website from any online device at bge.com and connect with BGE through social media sites, including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn and Flickr.

In Recognition of the Greenbelt Community Foundation's 10th Anniversary Beltway Plaza Mall Hosts Back to School Community Family Day!

What: To help celebrate the Greenbelt Community Foundation's 10th Anniversary campaign, Explore Your Greenbelt, the Beltway Plaza Mall Merchants Association will host the Back to School Community Family Day. Explore Your Greenbelt—a series of 14 events held from April to October featuring organizations that have received GCF funding. Beltway Plaza is a proud sponsor of the campaign.

Date/Time: Saturday, August 27th, 2016 from 2:00 to 6:00 pm

Where: Beltway Plaza Mall, Upper Level in front of Shopper's World and Big Lots, 6000 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Phone: (301) 345-1500, www.beltwayplazamall.com

Description: WKYS Radio will be on hand to entertain the crowd plus our own Balloon Clown and Plaza Woman will be giving away keys to everyone to see if they can open the Beltway Plaza Treasure Chest and win what's inside! Enter the raffle for a chance to win a trip to Ocean City, Maryland.

Who: Members of the Press and the General Public are invited to attend the event.

About the Greenbelt Community Foundation—The Greenbelt Community Foundation (GCF) was established in 2006 to serve as a permanent endowment fund to support worthwhile projects in Greenbelt. The Foundation awards 50% of available funds for grants each year while investing the remaining 50% to build the fund for the future. Together the Advisory Board is nourishing all of Greenbelt's Neighborhoods. Since its founding, over \$330,000 has been received in contributions from Greenbelt citizens, business owners and governmental organizations. To date, nearly \$150,000 of this has been reinvested in the Greenbelt community, such as the Farmers Market, Alight Dance Theater, Camp Fire, Friends of the Greenbelt Theater, Maker's Space and the Lady All Stars Basketball mentoring project. www.greenbeltfoundation.net

About Beltway Plaza Mall—Beltway Plaza Mall is located at 6000 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770, Phone: (301) 345-1500 and is the main community shopping center in western Prince George's County, Maryland and is comprised of 900,000 square feet with atriums, wide open common areas, plentiful above ground parking, and a variety of restaurants and eating establishments on the premises. There are approximately 100 tenants including TJ Maxx, Giant Food, Target, Big Lots, Shopper's World, Planet Fitness and more. Quantum Companies provides retail, commercial leasing, and property management. www.beltwayplazamall.com

COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Nathaniel Sillin

How to Find the Right Financial Advisor for You

If having a dedicated professional to help you manage your money sounds appealing, consider looking into a financial advisor—regardless of your income. There's no substitute for financial education but an expert advisor can help you with your financial goals.

There are many kinds of advisors who are trained to help you with many different aspects of your finances. Here are some of the most common ones:

Financial counselors work with you collaboratively to help you identify goals and potential solutions to your personal financial problems. They can help you understand complex monetary issues and improve how you manage your money. Consider finding a certified financial or debt counselor to fit your needs through non-profit organizations like the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education (AFCPE), or National Foundation for Credit Counseling (NFCC).

Investment advisors can provide a wide range of services, whether it's helping you plan for your retirement or advising you on how to manage your investments. You pay for their services with either a flat salary or a percentage (typically 1 percent) of the assets they manage for you. To learn about the basics of investing and investment products, visit the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Investor website.

Broker-dealers or stockbrokers do many of the same things that investment advisors do, but it's important to note that their job is to persuade clients to buy or sell financial products such as bonds, stocks and ETFs. Unlike investment advisors, they're paid on commission—the more transactions you make, the higher their pay. For detailed resources and advice for investors, visit the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) website.

Tax advisors or tax preparers are specially trained in tax law and work to make sure everything goes smoothly when tax season rolls around. They ensure you pay your fair share, but also that you're not paying more than you need to. They are typically paid by the hour or for a flat fee depending on the specific service. The Internal Revenue Service government website offers in-depth advice for choosing a tax advisor and provides forums to file complaints or reports if any issues arise.

Once you've determined the kind of financial advisor you would benefit most from, make sure you find the right one by considering these seven tips:

1. Check their credentials. When your money is at stake, it's crucial to make sure your advisor is accredited and legitimate. If you're considering a potential stockbroker, FINRA has a search tool that allows you to see a broker's employment history, licenses, complaints against them, and more. You can also search for information on investment advisors on the SEC government website.

2. Understand the differences between advisors held to a fiduciary or a suitability standard. Investment advisors held to a fiduciary standard are legally obligated to act in your best interests. Advisors who are registered to provide services under a suitability standard are obligated to choose investments that are suitable for you. However, this doesn't mean that advisors who work under a suitability standard are not good options—regardless of which standard they're held to, advisors with integrity work for your best interests.

3. Consider how they make their money. Depending on the type of advisor, the way they get paid can be critical to consider. For example, investment advisors that are paid at a flat rate are considered preferable to those paid on commission, since advisors paid on commission may have an incentive to advise you to invest in certain companies, even if it's against your best financial interest. Fee-only advisors are often held to a fiduciary standard, while commission-based advisors usually work under a suitability standard.

4. Get to know your potential advisor. Beyond competence and integrity, make sure you get along with your financial advisor. Personal finance can be a sensitive and stressful topic, so you want to be able to discuss issues openly with your advisor as they arise.

5. Ensure advisors operate with transparency. Though ideally you will never need to file a complaint, it's important to ensure the advisors you work with make it easy to do so. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)'s website allows customers who haven't been able to file a complaint with a company to do so directly in the CFPB complaint database. The database is open to the public, so you can also search for companies you're interested in working with and check the credibility and reliability of their services.

6. See if you fit the profile of a "typical client." If you choose to hire an investment advisor that typically works with wealth management clients and you're asking them to manage a much smaller amount of money, he or she might not be the advisor for you. Ask your potential advisor about the kinds of clients he or she manages money for and whether he or she has experience managing money for someone with similar assets to you.

7. Decide what their qualifications should be based on your needs. Depending on what you want your advisor to accomplish for you, decide what you think his or her qualifications should be and see if they match up to your expectations. It's important to check certifications—for example, Certified Financial Planners (CFPs) must pass a test covering financial categories from retirement to taxes. For more information on financial certifications, check out FINRA's complete list and explanations of professional designations. Also, search for advisors who have years of experience working with clients.

Bottom line: While there are many qualified financial advisors out there, it's important to find the right match for you. Regardless of your income, a good financial advisor can make your life easier and suggest ways to help you grow your money. Hiring one that is not a good fit could complicate your financial situation, so research your



Maryland Posts First-Quarter 2016 Data on Fatal Overdoses

Health Secretary Urges Users of Drugs to Seek Treatment: 'No Illicit Drug is Safe'

By PRESS OFFICER
DHMH

BALTIMORE, MD—The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has posted to its website the first-quarter data report for 2016 of fatal overdoses. From January to March, Maryland saw 383 deaths related to overdose. The report is posted at <http://goo.gl/XogGSc>.

Fighting substance-use disorder and the opioid epidemic in Maryland has been a major priority of Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan's administration. Earlier this month, Health and Mental Hygiene released the annual report of fatal overdoses from 2015. That report logged a total of 1,259 overdose deaths occurred in Maryland in 2015. The number of intoxication deaths had nearly doubled since 2010.

In January, Health and Mental Hygiene issued a warning about seeing overdose data that suggested that a portion of the fatal overdoses were attributed to people unknowingly buying fentanyl while attempting to purchase other substances like heroin or cocaine. The department is repeating that concern.

"Fentanyl is significantly more potent than heroin and is being added—sometimes secretly—to other drugs. No illicit drug is safe. We need people to choose treatment before their next craving for a high hits," said Health Secretary Van T. Mitchell. "These overdose data show it is just too easy to die from using drugs today. There's no other way to read the data."

Health and Mental Hygiene has been collaborating with federal, state and local partners to try to reduce the number of overdoses

and has been combating and responding to the increase in overdose deaths. With support from Governor Hogan, the department has expanded access to naloxone, a life-saving drug that can reverse opioid-related overdoses.

In December 2015, a standing order under Deputy Secretary of Public Health Dr. Howard Haft was issued. The order allows all Maryland-licensed pharmacists to dispense naloxone without a prescription to anyone trained and certified under the Department's Overdose Response Program. Health and Mental Hygiene has authorized 55 organizations to conduct naloxone trainings and to issue certificates, including local health departments, substance-use treatment programs, community organizations and law enforcement agencies. Nearly 23,000 people have been certified by these organizations since the Program was established in March 2014.

The Maryland Good Samaritan Law first passed in 2013. It was updated in 2015 to include protection from arrest and expanded the pertinent crimes—such as possession of controlled dangerous substances—and also added that calling 911 would not affect someone's parole and probation status. The Overdose Response Program law and other longtime existing laws protect people who prescribe, dispense, carry and use naloxone.

Because opioid addiction often has its roots in prescribed medication, Health and Mental Hygiene co-sponsored Scope of Pain last fall, a prescriber-education seminar geared toward training providers in managing their patients' chronic pain in ways to not facilitate addiction to opioids.

Clinical provider education and resources continue to be a critical focus of the department's addiction-prevention strategy, being achieved through Continuing Medical Education and the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP). Maryland's PDMP allows providers and pharmacists access to their patients' history of prescribed medications. Providers will be required to register with the PDMP this coming October to obtain a Controlled Dangerous Substance permit.

The Department is also expanding access to Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT). SBIRT is an evidence-based tool designed to identify individuals who have the potential for substance abuse and to provide medical intervention. It has been implemented in 53 community primary care centers and two hospitals in 15 jurisdictions across Maryland with the expectation of screening at least 90,000 individuals.

Because people who die from overdoses often have histories of hospitalization for nonfatal overdoses, the department also has been working to intervene in Marylanders' lives after they survive an overdose. The Overdose Survivors Outreach Program is an initiative to improve health outcomes for overdose survivors or those at risk for overdose by collaborating with hospitals and local health departments to facilitate interventions by Peer Recovery Specialists in the emergency department. If a patient has overdosed, or is at risk for overdose, the peer will work with the patient to assist them in enrolling in treatment or support services. If she or he is not interested in treatment, the peer

will obtain consent to refer them to an outreach peer at the local health department, who will contact them via phone or field call a day or two after presenting in the emergency department, and will periodically check in to assess their needs and willingness to enter treatment. As of June 2016, four hospitals in Baltimore City are participating in this program, as are two in northern Anne Arundel County.

Maryland Medicaid also has implemented a Corrective Managed Care program to identify participants who may be utilizing excessive quantities of controlled substances, especially when multiple prescribers and pharmacies are involved. Each month, specific participants are identified, their drug and diagnosis histories are reviewed and a determination is made whether an educational intervention letter should be sent to all prescribers and pharmacies affiliated with those participants. If intervention letters are insufficient and drug utilization does not improve, Medicaid participants can be restricted to a single pharmacy to reduce possible misuse or diversion.

Marylanders who need help finding substance abuse treatment resources should visit <http://goo.gl/nIfGm0> or call the Maryland Crisis Hotline, which provides 24/7 support, at 1-800-422-0009. For information on many of the policies currently implemented to fight addiction and overdose in Maryland, see <http://goo.gl/KvEzQw>. If you know of someone who could use treatment for substance abuse, treatment facilities can be located by location and program characteristics on our page at <http://goo.gl/rbGF6S>.

Stuff the Bus from A1

getting 12,000 at-risk middle school students in the National Capital Area to help them perform at grade level and on track to succeed. Every year, 160,000 young people in Washington, D.C., Northern Virginia, and Maryland are dropping out of high school and research shows that those students most at risk of dropping out were also struggling in middle school.

"As our area's students prepare to head back to school, it is the United Way NCA's commitment to help them succeed by both getting them the school supplies they need while at school and the nutrition required at home," said Timothy Johnson, Vice President, Community Impact, United Way of the National Capital Area. "Students who start 9th grade on time, reading at grade level and with grade-appropriate math skills, are three times more likely to graduate from high school than students who don't. United Way NCA has made it our mission to focus our efforts on helping raise 12,000 at-risk middle school students back on a path to graduate on time."

Johnson continued, "As we approach the start of the 2016-17 school year throughout the metro region, we are focusing on these initiatives because no child in our area should have to go to school hungry or without the proper supplies they need to achieve their full potential."

As part of this recently

launched Community Commitment goal, United Way NCA has unveiled new initiatives for the 2016-17 school year set to begin next week in the Washington, D.C. school district, and after Labor Day for students in Maryland and Northern Virginia.

Weekend Hunger Backpacks for Area Students

During recent middle school case studies, United Way NCA team found that too many area students were coming to school on Monday morning hungry and unable to concentrate on learning. United Way NCA's Weekend Hunger Backpacks program will provide meals to help those National Capital Area students get through the weekends during the 2016-17 school season, and come to class on Monday ready to learn.

Already, the program has launched over the summer at Francis C. Hammond Middle School in Alexandria, Virginia where in-school site coordinators have helped distribute backpacks to support over 50 students for the last six months.

During the 2016-17 school season, United Way NCA will be expanding this program to target students at:

- Buck Lodge Middle School, Prince George's County, Maryland
- John Hayden Johnson Middle School, Washington, D.C.
- Cardozo Education Campus, Washington, D.C.
- Kelly Miller Middle School, Washington, D.C.



PHOTO COURTESY UNITED WAY OF THE CAPITAL AREA

Backpack with needed supplies and snacks.

Stuff the Bus Campaign

With a goal this year to help 24,000 area school children, veterans and people experiencing homelessness by June 30th, 2017, United Way NCA has launched the Stuff the Bus campaign. Each backpack will contain school supplies such as gift cards to Targets, Wegmans and Walmart, as well pens, pencils, scissors, erasers and other needed supplies to help middle school students succeed. The backpacks will also contain personal care items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes and food.

To date, more than 1,600 backpacks have been assembled by 180 volunteers and distributed to 9 schools and/or UWNCA member nonprofits in Washington, D.C., Northern Virginia, and Maryland. For example, 100 backpacks have already been delivered to Langston Hughes Middle School in Reston, Virginia.

Area residents can help support this effort by donating here, scheduling a collection drive or

hosting a pack and sort party. Partners in the Stuff the Bus campaign include Staples and Kits for Kidz.

About United Way of the National Capital Area

Focusing on the critical areas of education, financial stability and health, United Way of the National Capital Area works to build a thriving community by addressing our region's most pressing challenges. United Way NCA has been improving lives by creating measurable impact in the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia, and Montgomery and Prince George's Counties for more than 40 years.

United Way NCA is rated Gold-level with GuideStar, the world's largest source of non-profit information that advances transparency and enables users to make better charitable giving decisions.

For more information about United Way of the National Capital Area, visit UnitedWayNCA.org.

COMMENTARY

Barbara A. Mikulski

United States Senator for Maryland



Mikulski, Cardin, Cummings Lead Maryland Delegation in Requesting Major Disaster Declaration for Howard County Following Deadly Flooding in Ellicott City

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Senators Barbara A. Mikulski and Ben Cardin and U.S. Representative Elijah E. Cummings (all D-Md.), together with U.S. Representatives Steny H. Hoyer, Chris Van Hollen, C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, John P. Sarbanes, Donna F. Edwards, Andy Harris and John Delaney today in a letter to President Obama expressed their strong support for Governor Larry Hogan's request for a federal Disaster Declaration for Howard County after the deadly and devastating flooding in Ellicott City.

"We are writing to express our shared support for Maryland Governor Larry Hogan's request for the declaration of a major disaster as a result of a severe flooding which impacted Ellicott City in Howard County on July 30, 2016. Given the massive impact that this flooding had on our resources, we respectfully request that you expeditiously approve the provision of supplementary federal assistance," wrote members of the Delegation.

The Disaster Declaration would make federal funding available to the State and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the severe flooding in Howard County.

Ellicott City suffered six inches of rain in a period of 90 minutes. The National Weather Service

predicts that a rainfall of this magnitude should statistically occur only once every one thousand years. The subsequent flooding resulted in Governor Hogan's declared state of emergency. The storm caused an estimated \$22 million in damage in Ellicott City.

The text of the delegation's letter of support is as follows:

August 12, 2016
The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to express our shared support for Maryland Governor Larry Hogan's request for the declaration of a major disaster as a result of severe flooding which impacted Ellicott City in Howard County on July 30, 2016. Given the massive impact that this flooding had on our resources, we respectfully request that you expeditiously approve the provision of supplementary federal assistance.

Ellicott City, a historic Maryland treasure known for its vibrant business community and

See **DISASTER** Page A5

Marc Morial, President and CEO

National Urban League



Hillary Clinton Stands on the Shoulders of Shirley Chisholm

"Women in this country must become revolutionaries. We must refuse to accept the old, the traditional roles and stereotypes ... We must replace the old, negative thoughts about our femininity with positive thoughts and positive action affirming it, and more. But we must also remember that we will be breaking with tradition, and so we must prepare ourselves educationally, economically, and psychologically in order that we will be able to accept and bear with the sanctions that society will immediately impose upon us."

—Shirley Chisholm

The nation has marked the historic occasion of the first woman in American history to win the Presidential nomination for a major political party.

While Hillary Clinton has come further than any woman Presidential candidate, she is not the first. Victoria Woodhull ran as the candidate for the Equal Rights Party in 1872. Margaret Chase Smith challenged Barry Goldwater for the Republican nomination in 1964. More recently, Pat Schroeder in 1988 and Carol Moseley Braun in 2004 vied for the Democratic nomination.

But the most historically significant forerunner to Hillary Clinton was Shirley Chisholm, the Brooklyn-born trailblazer who was also the nation's first African American Congresswoman.

The daughter of working-class immigrants from the Caribbean, Chisholm became interested in politics while serving as the director of a child day care center and an educational consultant for the New York City Division of Day Care. She served three years as a New York State Assemblywoman before running for Congress in 1968 with the slogan "Unbought and unbossed".

"My greatest political asset," Chisholm said, "which professional politicians fear, is my mouth, out of which come all kinds of things one shouldn't always discuss for reasons of political expediency."

Chisholm hired only women for her staff, half of whom were African Americans. "Of my two handicaps, being female put many more obstacles in my path than being black," she said.

She announced her candidacy for President at a Baptist church in Brooklyn. In an article about her candidacy, the Associated Press wrote, "Iron-

ically, her major headache seems to come from Black politicians."

"They think that I am trying to take power away from them," she said. "The Black man must step forward. But that doesn't mean the Black woman must step back."

"While they're rapping and snapping, I'm mapping," she said.

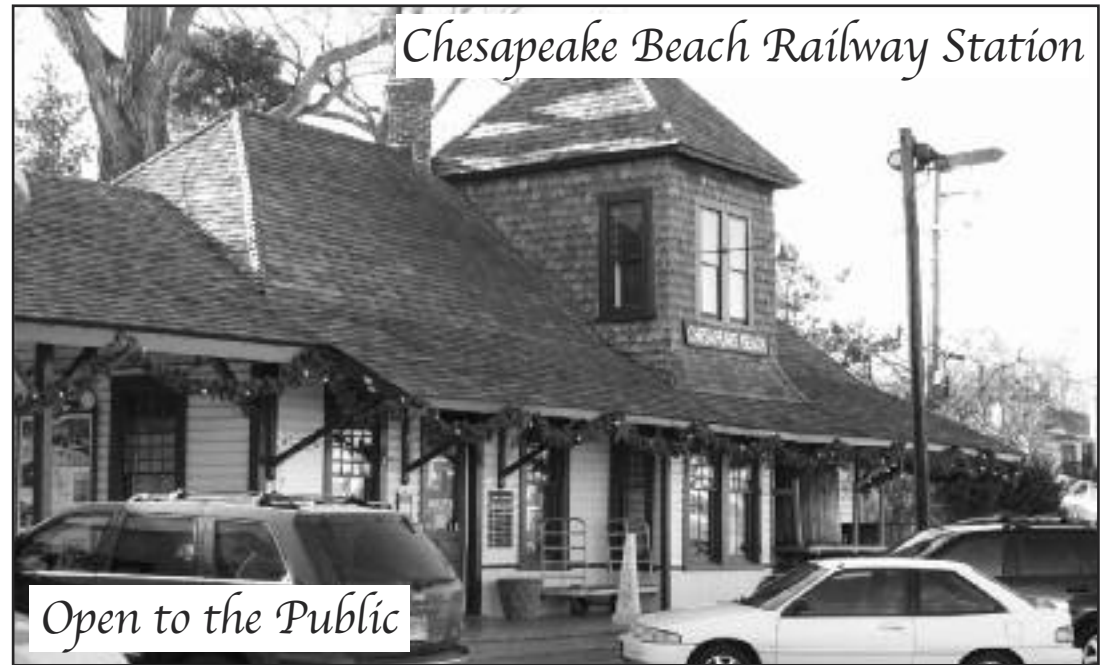
She competed in 14 states, winning 28 delegates to the convention. As a symbolic gesture, candidate Hubert Humphrey released his 83 Black delegates to cast their votes for Chisholm. With the votes of several other delegates at that contentious convention, Chisholm finished fourth in a field of 13, with 152 delegates.

It is hard to imagine, in this era of sharp division in politics, the remarkable moment during that campaign when she visited her segregationist rival, Alabama Governor George Wallace, in his hospital room after he was shot and wounded. "What are your people going to say?" he asked her. "I know what they are going to say," she said. "But I wouldn't want what happened to you to happen to anyone." She recalled that her words moved him to tears.

Chisholm retired from Congress in 1982 and remained an outspoken activist for civil rights until her death in 2005.

It would be difficult to overestimate the impact and influence of Chisholm's Congressional service and Presidential candidacy. While Congress remains disproportionately white and male, one-in-five members of the current House and Senate are a racial or ethnic minority, making the 114th Congress the most diverse in history. The nation's first African American President is winding up his second term, and a woman—a former senator and Secretary of State—has just won the Democratic nomination for President.

In her acclaimed speech on the Equal Rights Amendment in 1970, Chisholm said, "The Constitution they wrote was designed to protect the rights of white, male citizens. As there were no black Founding Fathers, there were no founding mothers—a great pity, on both counts. It is not too late to complete the work they left undone. Today, here, we should start to do so."



Chesapeake Beach Railway Station

Open to the Public

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS PHOTO BY: PUBDOG

CHESAPEAKE BEACH RAILWAY STATION

The Museum offers a wide variety of objects and artifacts, both original and best representations of the era. The Museum brings the railway and amusement park to life with pictorial displays, postcards, oral histories and memorabilia. Our exhibits range from railroading lanterns to a Dentzel carousel kangaroo from the park as well as authentic period bathing suits. Visitors may also enjoy our diorama showing the train depot and boardwalk as it appeared in the early 1900's. In addition, the Museum also offers a DVD presentation of the history of the Chesapeake Beach Railway which includes oral histories of the amusement park that was part of the resort area. The Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum is home to the last known railcar, The Dolores, which is located behind the Museum. Admission is free, mid-March–March 31, weekends only, 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.; April 1 - October 31, weekday and weekend hours, 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.; November 1–30, weekends only, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information call 410-257-3892.

Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



Filling in the Stories

Do your children love the books on their summer reading lists? Are your children reading about diverse cultures and books that reflect their experience or history? Children of color are now a majority of all public school students and will soon be a majority of all children in America yet children's books and the publishing industry have failed to keep up with the rainbow of our children's faces and cultures and needs. Every summer our Children's Defense Fund (CDF) Freedom Schools® curriculum is focused on a superb collection of diverse books that reflect children's own images and a wide variety of cultures and experiences. For some children it's the first time they've seen books with characters who look like them. For others the storylines draw them in, teach them about moments in history they may not have studied in school, and allow them to fall in love with reading in a way they've never experienced.

Children of color need to be able to see themselves in the books they read. Just as importantly, all children need to be exposed to a wide range of books that reflect the true diversity of our nation and world as they really are. At a recent panel discussion before nearly 2,000 college students preparing to fan out across the country to teach in this summer's CDF Freedom Schools programs, a distinguished group of children's book authors and illustrators spoke about their work and what guides them in creating books children will love to read. Often it's because they are creating the books they would have loved to see themselves when they were younger.

Doreen Rappaport writes fiction and nonfiction that celebrate diverse histories and biographies like her Caldecott Medal winner *Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* illustrated by Bryan Collier. Her curiosity about one kind of untold story left her wanting to know more and more: "I got into it because when I was a teenager there were no books about women. Maybe there was Eleanor Roosevelt and Jane Adams—those were the only two books. There wasn't much

of a place for young girls with a curiosity, and maybe even an ambition, and actually we were told not to be ambitious." Rappaport became an activist in the Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi and heard stories she had never learned or read in the classroom. "There were other movements that came along, and I began to explore and think about all the distortions of the stories about Native Americans. And then there was the Latino movement and the grape boycott led by [Cesar] Chavez, where people all over the United States stopped eating grapes and we banded together. So for me, telling these stories is a way of finding myself back in history and also correcting all the distortions that I learned as a kid and filling in the pieces of the real story of the United States."

Author and illustrator Don Brown started out on the very same hunt as Doreen Rappaport: "I had two little girls, and I wanted to read to them stories about real women who were brave and heroic. I couldn't find books like that." He too decided to write his own, and has since written more than two dozen books on famous and less well known historical figures and

events. His latest graphic nonfiction book, *Drowned City*, is about Hurricane Katrina. About his technique he said: "I only say this half-jokingly: I've never written a kids' book in my life ... I write a book that I know is going to be accessible to kids, but I never sit down and write a children's book, and I think that for me personally—because I think for me, I would end up pandering, and I don't. I write a book that I like that I think anybody would read."

Poet and author Carole Boston Weatherford approaches history from another angle: she said she "mine[s] the past for family stories, fading traditions, and forgotten struggles" in order to help fill in the gaps of the stories being told. Many of her books are based on historical events spanning the African American experience from slavery through the Civil Rights Movement, and she said children are often amazed to learn the stories she writes about are true: "It never fails, one of the first questions is, 'Did that really happen?' Well, you know, that's exactly the reaction that I want from the

See **WATCH**, Page A12

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

Warning Signs: When Alcohol Becomes A Problem

In our socially-oriented society, it doesn't seem like a problem. A cold beer on a hot summer afternoon ... a glass of wine with dinner ... what could be wrong with that? In most cases, moderate consumption of alcohol really isn't a problem, but for growing numbers of people their drinking doesn't stop with just a couple of beers.

Current statistics from the National Institutes of Health report that almost 90,000 Americans die from alcohol-related diseases each year, with alcohol-impaired driving responsible for over 30 percent of automobile fatalities. These same studies find that almost 25% of adults have been binge drinking in the previous month and that more than 16 million Americans suffer from an alcohol use disorder.

Perhaps because alcohol consumption is so common (more than 70 percent of Americans report having drunk alcohol some time in the past year), it's difficult for most drinkers to recognize when alcohol consumption has become a problem. That's understandable. The short term effect of drinking is a positive one, making us feel good. It's hard to link those good feelings to the negative consequences which tend to occur later, may be subtle at first, and may seem unrelated to our drinking.

Yet there actually are clear warning signs that alcohol has become a problem. One of the earliest is that people close to the person begin complaining about the amount of drinking taking place. That often happens after drinking-related arguments with family, friends or other loved ones, or may occur after drinking has led to work problems, an auto accident or other harmful incidents.

If alcohol use is affecting family, school or other obligations and relationships, or if drinking has been heavy enough to blank out memories of the night before, it's a clear sign that it's time to take action.

This isn't easy to do. People tend to feel that admitting to an alcohol problem makes them look weak or sick. In reality, it's an indication of strength, of wanting to control a situation before it gets out of hand.

A local mental health center or hospital can provide a list of professional counselors who specialize in substance abuse. While it may be difficult at first to admit there is a problem, taking action early can help avoid serious, life-threatening problems for the person, his or her family, and anyone else who may be impacted by the consequences of their drinking.

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

Flooding from A1

with all levels of government to help the residents of Ellicott City and Howard County rebuild their community after the disastrous flooding that occurred," said Governor Hogan. "These federal funds will go a long way in helping residents and local businesses rebuild infrastructure and will also help with some of the costs associated with the initial clean-up efforts."

A storm cell dumped nearly six inches of rain in the area during a few hours on the evening of July 30, causing a wall of water to cascade down Main Street. Two people were killed in the storm, dozens of buildings—many a mix of business and residential—were damaged and about 200 vehicles were swept downstream or flooded. Ellicott City sits at the intersection of the West Branch of the Patapsco River and two smaller streams.

Eastern Howard County was severely impacted by this storm. Howard County Executive Allan Kittleman quickly declared a local State of Emergency for the county, and Governor Hogan followed with a Maryland State of Emergency for the

county. The Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) coordinated the state response and recovery through the State Emergency Operations Center, and also coordinated the movement of resources from other jurisdiction in Maryland and from other states.

Governor Hogan designated MEMA as the state coordinating agency for the request. MEMA Executive Director Russell Strickland directed MEMA staff to work with Howard County staff and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to perform a damage assessment as the first step in seeking federal assistance. This process started several days after the storm, when building inspectors and public works officials declared the area safe.

"MEMA worked closely with Howard County and FEMA to jointly assess damages and costs incurred and initial estimates have validated the significant impact of this storm," said Director Strickland. "Many long-time residents said this flooding is the worst they have ever seen in that area. The amount of damage that the storm caused in just a couple of hours was devastating.

Disaster from A4

its culture of kindness and resilience, suffered significant flooding throughout an intense rainfall on the evening of July 30, 2016. The National Weather Service predicts that a rainfall of this magnitude should statistically occur only once every one thousand years. Six inches of rain poured down on Ellicott

City, an amount of rain that normally falls over the course of one month, in a period of only ninety minutes.

Governor Hogan took appropriate action under Maryland law, declaring a State of Emergency in Howard County. Maryland has since made significant efforts to respond to this unexpected event. The Maryland Emergency Man-

Economic Development Corporation Hosts Embassy of Canada

Canadian Embassy Senior Trade Commissioner shares over \$1.5 Billion in Trade Opportunities with Local Businesses

By R. JOSHUA REYNOLDS
PGCEDC

LARGO, MD—On July 29, 2016 Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) President & CEO Jim Coleman and his International Business Development Team hosted an open discussion with the Embassy of Canada Senior Trade Commissioner about trade and business opportunities. More than 70 business owners came out to hear from key officials from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Maryland Department of Commerce and the EDC's International Business Development Division to learn how to do business with the United States' most lucrative trade partner. Attendees also learned about valuable resources available to Prince George's County based companies that are serious about pursuing business opportunities in Canada.

"We are on a mission to create lucrative opportunities for Prince George's County business owners," said Coleman. "We are following County Executive Baker's lead and executing a matchmaking initiative to explore opportunities for business in high growth countries that are primed for investment and economic partnership. Canada is our closest foreign neighbor and accounted for over \$1.5 billion in export revenue for Maryland in 2015. It's only July and we are on track to surpass that by the end of 2016. There is no excuse for Prince George's County business owners to not have access to such a powerful trade partner!"

Mr. Coleman and his team highlighted the value of international companies exporting their goods and services to Prince George's County as well as setting up operations here. Isabelle Wang, EDC's International Business Development Specialist



PHOTO COURTESY R. JOSHUA REYNOLDS

EDC President and CEO Jim Coleman, Team EDC and 70 Local Business Owners Welcome Jason LaTorre, Senior Trade Commissioner at the Embassy of Canada.

also gave attendees an overview on the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Export Express Program and how SBA funds can be utilized to increase the number of small business exporters and increase the volume of U.S. exports.

Canada is the United States' largest trade partner, accounting for \$671 billion in bilateral trade in goods and services in 2015, \$1.5 billion of which came from Maryland-based companies. This is due to the close proximity of Canada to the U.S. and a shared business culture. It is also a result of Canadian-headquartered companies like the Walton Group investing billions of dollars into Prince George's County.

Maryland Department of Commerce Regional Manager for the Americas and Middle East, Brian Castleberry shared with attendees grant opportunities that can pay for their initial business trips to explore targeted international countries. Jason LaTorre, Embassy of Canada Senior Trade Commissioner, provided the key address which highlighted the current business opportunities that are available to U.S. companies in Canada.

"Prince George's County is a great trade partner with Canada, and I am delighted to be a part

of today's briefing," said LaTorre. "Our Embassy stands ready to help any business expand into Canada, particularly in the market sectors of Health/Life Sciences, Information Technology, Cybersecurity and Clean Energy Technology. Canada has as a \$120 billion in infrastructure development plan it will be implementing over the next 10 years. Now is a great time to invest in Canada."

Christine Gomes, Canada Desk Officer for the U.S. Department of Commerce briefed the business owners on the resources that the Commerce Department provides; funding to cover travel costs, low-interest financing to assist with capacity building, and assistance in the development of international business plans which will help connect companies to specialists overseas who can get their goods and services in the right markets in targeted areas.

After the presentations, EDC International Business Director Martin Ezemma gave the business owners an overview of the County's upcoming trade mission to Canada and encouraged the attendees to fill out interest forms to participate.

"Canada and the U.S. are brothers and sisters both in

trade and in culture," said Ezemma. "We are connected by proximity and progeny and must continue to do business together."

Ron Williams, Jr. Co-Owner of Dorchester's Seafood and Brewing Company was very impressed by what the EDC and its partners have to offer.

"I thought this event was very empowering because as a young entrepreneur I came to a 'one stop' that will help me not only set up more business domestically but also internationally," said Williams.

The EDC will host other mutual briefings with the embassies of Nigeria, China and Mexico over the next several months. Companies interested in international trade opportunities should join the EDC on October 14th for the Embassy of Mexico Mutual Briefing at the EDC headquarters located at 1801 McCormick Drive, Suite 140, Largo, MD 20774.

To reserve your seat for this high impact event, visit www.pgcedc.com/events.

For more information on international business development, contact Pradeep Ganguly at pganguly@co.pg.md.us, (301) 583-4650 or visit www.pgcedc.com.

Veterans from A1

ployers are also unaware of the available support services they can take advantage of for hiring Veterans. The Veterans Jobs and Resource Fair has provided a significant platform to generate awareness and provide training or employment opportunities for Veterans; many of whom walked away with jobs today.

"I have been to and worked at many job fairs, and this is the most informative, productive and customer-focused job fair that I have been to," said Valerie Stevenson, retired from United States Navy Aviation Electronic Technician, Desert Storm Recipient. "Companies were hiring and interviewing on the spot. Within 10 minutes of my arrival, the staff at the EDC introduced me to an employer who offered me a position and asked what needed to be done to bring me on board. I have a secondary interview on Wednesday to close the deal."

Walter Simmons, Acting Di-

rector of the EDC Workforce Services Division talked to the group about the importance of the partnerships with agencies such as DLLR, the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs, U.S. Vets and Easter Seals in providing jobs, housing, healthcare and education the Veteran community. He also talked about the purpose of the 'Operation 500' initiative.

"Operation 500' not only changes the lives of our current unemployed Veterans, it can also assist transitioning military personnel as they get ready to separate from the Armed Services," said Simmons. "We are grateful to be in a position to serve those who have preserved our freedom."

Stakeholder partners that participated in today's Jobs and Resource Fair were impressed with the breadth of skills and qualifications of the Veterans.

"Everyone that we met today has excellent job qualifications," said David Ramirez, Recruiter for BF Joy, LLC, a Veteran-owned small business in Hy-

attsville specializing in the installation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of underground infrastructure for the public and private sectors. "We have at least six people that we are bringing in tomorrow to talk with our hiring manager and move forward with the on-boarding process."

Other employers that came out with more than 600 current job openings to offer the Veteran community included MGM National Harbor, Reston Limousine, Lendana Construction, Dunbar Armored, CLP Resources, CVS/Caremark, Dimensions Healthcare System, Eaton Corporation, BF Joy, WMATA, Prince George's Department of Corrections, Marriott, Alban CAT, G.W. Peoples Contracting, Co., Randstad, Pepsi Beverages Co., and Ferguson Enterprises.

"As a Veteran and a recruiter, I try to pay it forward. I am grateful to be in a position to help my fellow veterans get the jobs they deserve," said Jimmy Inabinet, Army Master Sergeant and H.R. Fellow for MGM National Har-

bor. "Today's event has been extremely rewarding. Most of my interactions are with Veterans who are in need of feedback on resume writing or job skills training. MGM has workforce diversity and business development programs that can be of great assistance to Veterans."

The EDC will host a Veterans Jobs and Resource Fair every month (except November) for the next 5 months until all Operation 500 Veterans are employed. The next Jobs and Resource Fair will be on September 12th at the EDC headquarters, 1801 McCormick Drive, Suite 140, Largo, MD.

Also place the following dates on the calendar for future Veteran Jobs and Resource Fairs: October 13th, December 5th, and January 9, 2017. To reserve your seat for the September Fair or any of the others, visit the website at www.pgcedc.com/events or call Nicole Edwards at 301-583-4650.

governments alone, and requires supplementary federal assistance. Governor Hogan, working with FEMA, has estimated the total recovery cost to exceed \$22 million.

We urge you to expeditiously review Governor Hogan's request and declare a major disaster for Howard County, Maryland. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

ADVERTISE WITH US

Call Brenda Boice at
301 627 0900

OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK
Movie Review

Star Trek Beyond

Star Trek Beyond
Grade: B-
Rated PG-13, sci-fi action and violence, nothing too intense
2 hrs., 2 min

As attested by the four *Fast and the Furious* movies he made before this, *Star Trek Beyond* director Justin Lin was never a big fan of gravity. Here, at last, he can abuse it with impunity, and some of the most exhilarating moments in this amiable, low-stakes sequel involve upended starships and artificial atmospheres, people running up walls and sliding down corridors as the camera zips around to show us every angle. It may be the most intimate look we've had at the structure and geography of the U.S.S. *Enterprise*, and it's fun to feel the ground fall out from under you in those moments—especially since everything else about the movie is so steady and unsurprising, with a villain-of-the-week ordinariness to it.

That villain is Krall (Idris Elba), a fearsome warlord who attacks the *Enterprise* in search of (what else?) an ancient artifact with which he can (what else?) conquer the galaxy. Krall and his very cool fleet of swarming, synchronized warships do significant damage to the most molested spaceship in the annals of fiction and take most of the crew—including Uhura (Zoe Saldana) and Sulu (John Cho)—back to headquar-



ROTTENTOMATOES
Captain Kirk and the crew of the *Enterprise* encounter an alien warrior race when marooned on a distant planet after the destruction of their spaceship in this thrilling sequel directed by *Fast & Furious* director Justin Lin.

ters on a remote planet. It thus befalls Capt. Kirk (Chris Pine), et al., to rescue them, aided by a fierce new character, Jaylah (Sofia Boutella), who lives in the wreckage of a Federation starship that crashed on the planet a century earlier. Jaylah, working first with the marooned Scotty (Simon Pegg) and then with the rest of the *Enterprise* officers, may remind you of a certain Rey in a certain other recent Star-related sequel.

This all comes at a pivotal juncture for the *Enterprise* crew. As Kirk explains in his opening log, they've been in space for a few years, and the loneliness and repetition are

taking their toll. The mission has begun to feel "episodic," Kirk says, no doubt an intentional reference on the part of screenwriters Simon Pegg (who plays Scotty) and Doug Jung (who appears briefly as Sulu's partner) to the saga's TV origins. But that's just the thing. Though the film glides merrily through its paces, it has no more urgency than a mid-season episode of a *Trek* TV show, no risks for anyone but the unnamed crew members.

It's even lighter on character development—which is a shame, because we've really come to enjoy these new versions of the iconic characters.

The actors are comfortable in the roles—Bones (Karl Urban) and Spock (Zachary Quinto) get some quality odd-couple time together; Chekov (Anton Yelchin) gets to hang out with Kirk—but everybody's the same at the end of the film as they were when it started. (Except, that is, for the resolved mini-crisis over whether Kirk and/or Spock might leave the *Enterprise* for other assignments. Of course they won't.) The personal lives of the *Enterprise* officers are on hold this week. And it's too bad, because if Lin's keen visual sense were paired with a weightier, meatier story, he'd really be able to soar.

ACA from A1

outreach work in Prince George's County that is committed to reinforcing our efforts to provide outreach and enrollment in that part of the state," said Carolyn Quattrochi, Executive Director of MHBE. "The partnership in this region, as well as others throughout Maryland, will allow us to bet-

ter assist and inform communities across the state and to help ensure that everyone has access to affordable health coverage."

MHBE launched the connector program in 2013, the first year of open enrollment for health insurance under ACA. Since then, Maryland has been one of the fastest growing states in the country for health insurance enrollment.

According to MHBE, more than one million Maryland residents have been enrolled in health insurance, including Medicaid through the Maryland Health Connection, of which more than 140,000 of those who enrolled are Prince George's County residents. The next open enrollment period runs November 1, 2016 through January 31, 2017.

About Maryland Health Connection: Maryland Health Connection (MHC) is the state-based health insurance marketplace for individuals and families to compare and enroll in health insurance, as well as determine eligibility for Medicaid and other assistance programs, federal tax credits and cost-sharing reductions.

KidPreneur from A2

"Dare to dream big and don't let fear stop you from achieving your dreams," said Jordan. "Dreaming about your ideas, places you want to go, and people you want to meet is a process that can be frightening sometimes. But if you plan to succeed, you can push through

any feat you have to achieve your dreams."

The children were extremely excited about the information and activities they participated in during the day. During the breakout sessions, several of the youth commented on how happy they were that someone was taking an interest in their futures.

"My parents knew that I was interested in starting my own business and so they brought me to KidPreneur Day to learn more about how to do business," said 10 year old entrepreneur Audre Dabney, owner of Car Realtor, a business researches and selects the perfect car for a buyer, without the stress associated with car shop-

ping. "I'm glad I came here today. It makes me feel like I am important and that my thoughts can be shared without criticism. Someone is listening to our ideas and willing to help us."

Eleven year old Morgan Lytle, President of Morgan Camille Skincare shared with her fellow KidPreneurs why she started her company.

"I started my company because a lot of people in my family have skin conditions and I wanted to help them. So I did some research and my products worked," said Lytle. "I am currently in the process of developing new butters and oils and even enlist my friends to help. I want to take my business international!"

Today's KidPreneur Day was the first of an annual event to highlight and empower the rising stars of tomorrow and was graciously sponsored by SunTrust Bank, Infinity Technology, Operation HOPE, Inc., Lyon Bakery, D.C. Sweet Potato Cakes, Costco, ExCel Youth Mentoring Institute, Safeway, Krispy Kreme Donuts, Mrs. K's Motel and Restaurant, PEPCO, and Ledo's Pizza. All of these local businesses demonstrated their commitment to creating great community leaders at an early age.

Be WISE IMMUNIZE

Back to School IMMUNIZATIONS for your kids are available from the Prince George's County Health Department.

<p>Step 1: Make an Appointment at a Clinic Below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make an appointment, please call (301) 583-3368. • The clinics are held in Chesverly and Clinton Maryland. 	<p>Step 2: Bring These Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You MUST bring a copy of your child's immunization (shot) record. • If you do not have insurance, you must bring proof of your family's household income. • You must bring proof of your residency for Prince George's County (e.g. a driver's license or current bill). 	<p>You Should KNOW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upon request, your updated immunization record can be picked up 24 hours after your visit. • If severe weather conditions exist, please call ahead to confirm if the clinic is open.
--	---	---

See KIDPRENEUR Page A7

The Edge of Sports

by DAVE ZIRIN

Outspoken British Olympian on Brexit, Rio, and the Perils of Speaking Out



In August, Laurence Halsted will head to the Rio 2016 Summer Olympics to represent Great Britain in the sport of fencing. But Halsted is not just in Rio to play; he is a believer that as an Olympian, he has an obligation to be part of the tradition of athletes who don't just "shut up and play," but say something. In May, he wrote an essay for *The Guardian* titled, *Olympic athletes must exercise their right to speak beyond their sport.*

In it, he issued a clarion call for Olympic athletes to rise up to challenge injustices linked to the Rio Games. In this interview, he speaks some truth about Brexit, Brazil, and the importance of being an athlete unafraid to speak out.

How could Brexit impact Great Britain's future in international sports?

Whilst I think that the long-term effects will be neither as bleak, nor as utopian, as hard-line Remain and Leave campaigners will have us believe, there are certainly aspects of this decision which I find particularly saddening. The wrenching apart of the UK, coming straight after Scotland voted by a small margin in their own referendum to remain a part of it, is one such aspect. A major reason for Scotland deciding to stick with the UK was their continued membership of the EU, and since that is now due to be retracted they will most likely take to the ballot boxes again, this time with a reinforced will for independence.

Whilst there are some sports where the home nations of Scotland, England, Northern Ireland, and Wales compete separately (e.g., football and rugby), in the Olympics we have always come together as one, unified British Team. We are one of only three countries to have competed in every modern Olympics, and the only country to have won at least one gold medal at every summer Games. The British Team has a long, inspiring tradition which, in my mind, can represent a real source of pride for a people who historically have found pride in many of the wrong places.

If Scotland does achieve its own independence that could well mean that in Rio 2016 I will be amongst the last members of Team GB as we currently know it, and that is a disheartening thought. It goes heavily against my personal ideology that we should rather be removing barriers between people, and in this case even more so because I have always identified myself more as British than English. I guess this stems largely from representing Great Britain ever since I was 15. There really is nothing much more efficient for dissolving differences and fostering connection between people than working towards a shared goal, such as you find in any sports team.

Are other athletes speaking out?

Yes, actually! In the run-up to the vote there were a number of sportspeople and celebrities voicing their opinions, mostly, if not entirely, in favor of remaining in the EU. I was very pleasantly surprised to see a statement posted by David Beckham, detailing his positive personal experiences of being an integral part of Europe and why he was voting Remain. It was simply a statement about why he was voting that way, but it garnered thousands of responses, the vast majority of those that I read being vicious denunciations of Beckham and reasons why he should just keep quiet on the subject. Even keeping the right to free speech aside, I think that Beckham was showing exactly the kind of responsible and considered approach that we could do with a lot more of from our cultural icons. This referendum was actually the first time where I have really felt that a significant number of British role models were taking their position of responsibility very seriously in that respect. And at a time where the politicians on both sides were conducting divisive, fear- and hate-filled campaigns, many celebrities were modeling a more respectful, considerate approach to the debate.

In an essay you wrote for *The Guardian*, you noted, "It would be irresponsible not to take notice of the outcry in Rio around hosting the Olympics while the health and social well-being of everyday cariocas suffer." What is it specifically about the situation in Rio that is motivating you to speak out?

While there are some pretty saddening consequences of these specific Games—for instance, the vast public expenditure at a time of severe economic and health crises in Brazil, or the uprooting of thousands of people from Vila Autódromo—my motivation to speak out is born more out of the fact that I see these negative side effects as inevitable byproducts of the current Olympic system rather than unfortunate one-of-a-kind exceptions isolated to Rio 2016. I grew up enthralled by the Olympics and still have an enormous appreciation for what

See HALSTED Page A7

Calendar of Events

August 25 — August 31, 2016

G.E.A.R.: Girls Step Dance Social

Date and Time: Friday, August 26, 2016, 7–9 pm
Description: Ladies tonight we will learn the basic of step dancing while enjoying healthy snacks and playing games on the Xbox 1 and PS4.

Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 10–17

Location: Bladensburg Community Center
4500 57th Avenue, Bladensburg, MD
Contact: 301-277-2124; TTY 301-699-2544

PETS Show Off Horse Show

Date and Time: Saturday, August 27, 2016, 8 am
Description: The Prince George's Equestrian Center is proud to host the PETS Show Off Horse Show. All ages are welcome.

Cost: Free for spectators
Location: The Show Place Arena
14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro, MD
Contact: 301-952-7900; TTY 301-699-2544

Science Family Game Night

Date and Time: Saturday, August 27, 2016, 5–7 pm
Description: Do you want more than just fun & games for your family? If so, look no more. Come experience Science Family Game Night with a twist at South Tech/Rec where everyone will have fun and learn.

Cost: Free
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Southern Technical/Recreation Complex
7007 Bock Road, Fort Washington, MD
Contact: 301-749-4160; TTY 301-699-2544

Seasonal Selections: Vine to Brine

Date and Time: Sunday, August 28, 2016, 12 noon–3:30 pm
Description: The Kitchen Guild features early 19th century recipes for pickling and preserving the summer harvest.

Cost: Free
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Riversdale House Museum
4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park, MD
Contact: 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544
riversdale@pgparks.com

EARTH TALK ... What is Fusion Energy and Why are Environmentalists so Bullish on it?

Dear EarthTalk:

What is fusion energy and why are environmentalists so bullish on it?

—Mickey Brent,
Milwaukee, WI

Nuclear fusion may be the most promising energy source that most of us have never heard of. Scientists first discovered fusion as a potential energy source in the 1930's and have been quietly working on it ever since. Only recently, given societal pressure to find alternatives to fossil fuels, has fusion started to capture the attention of the media and policymakers—and now researchers are hoping the process can become a key source of safe, clean, reliable energy in the near future.

Nuclear fusion is the fusing of two atoms into one. Fusion is very different from fission, in which atoms are split in half. Although both emit energy, fusion emits much more. Fusion takes an immense amount of heat and pressure and is the reaction that happens inside of stars, including our own sun. The temperature at the center of the sun is around 15 million Kelvin (27 million degrees Fahrenheit)! Scientists have achieved temperatures of around 100 million degrees inside experimental fusion devices but have yet to make the process net energy positive. The issue with doing reactions at such high heats is that the heated

substance cannot touch anything or the container will melt. Therefore, fusion reactions are done in a donut of floating plasma, suspended by magnetic fields.

When compared to other energy sources, fusion energy seems like it might be our best bet in the long term. Compared to fossil fuels and renewable energy sources, fusion is wildly more efficient and no more dangerous. Fusion is three to four times more efficient even than nuclear fission, without the downsides such as the risk of nuclear meltdown or dirty bombs. While nuclear fission requires uranium to function, fusion reactors only require deuterium, which occurs naturally in seawater, and tritium, which can be produced through a reaction of deuterium and lithium. These low raw material costs cause fusion to be considered a potential source of limitless energy. Due to the low radioactivity of fusion, even in the case of an explosion, radioactivity would be contained to the reactor site. Fusion reactors' small input and extremely high output have made them a popular idea.

So what are the drawbacks of nuclear fusion? Or is it the perfect energy source? Most critics of fusion energy point to the timeline as its greatest weakness. The majority of projections see 2050 as the first year fusion reactors could be commercially available. This is too late for fusion energy to solve our current energy crisis. Some environmen-



CREDIT: EARTH TALK

The EU, US, China, India, Korea, Russia and Japan have all contributed to the ITER fusion reactor currently under construction in southern France.

talists claim that funding for fusion energy could be better spent on renewable sources such as solar and hydro that give us clean energy now. Another concern with fusion is public opinion. People tend to be wary of anything nuclear, if only because of the incredible devastation of nuclear bombs. While nuclear fusion is far safer than fission, many activists in France, for example, are protesting all forms of nuclear energy.

The biggest fusion energy project in the world is called the ITER which means “the way” in Latin. ITER is located in Southern France and funded by the European Union, the U.S., China, India, Korea, Russia and Japan. ITER will be a fusion reactor used for research and is currently under construction.

Current plans are for ITER to be ready for the first test of plasma by 2025. The main other research on fusion energy is being done at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Though commercial fusion reactors are far from a reality, the abundant raw materials and high safety, paired with enormous energy output, make it an outstanding possibility for the future.

CONTACT: ITER,
www.iter.org.

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.

Halsted from A6

they represent, and so I can't stand the fact that there exist justifiable reasons for people to feel the exact opposite. So rather than stand by and watch the Olympics' continued decline into just another destructive facet of celebration capitalism, I want to do my bit to try and draw it back to its purer, humanitarian traditions.

The “mosquito in the room” is Zika. Can you give your thoughts about these concerns, especially the gap between the concern by athletes/ tourists and people in Rio?

As part of Team GB we have been kept well informed on everything to do with the Zika virus. For myself, I am not particularly worried because I am not a pregnant woman and do not plan on becoming one in the near future. The media has certainly whipped up an unnecessarily big storm around it, but we can only expect that. Having said that, I do feel for those athletes for whom pregnancy is on the radar, and it did come into consideration when deciding with my fiancée whether she would come out to support me for the Games.

As for the differing impacts on athletes compared to local residents, I read about one possible effect of widespread use of insect repellent and spraying whole parts of the city with insecticide. The mosquitoes could develop a resistance and then, once the Olympic party has departed, the residents will be left with virus-carrying mosquitoes that are even harder to defend against. This sounds plausible, but I can't say this is something I know a lot about.

If you could wave a magic wand and instantly change three things about the Olympic Games, what would these changes be?

The first thing would be to choose a sustainable way for the Games to be hosted. I like the idea of a permanent location, perhaps on an “Olympic” island in the Games' traditional homeland of Greece. That would circumnavigate the need to build anew the necessary vast infrastructure every four years, avoiding the largest cost factor to any host nation. This idea would also solve some connected issues surrounding displacement of local residents, the militarization of the host society and the flow of huge amounts of public money into relatively few private hands.

Alternatively, I think there could also be potential in the idea of rotating the Games amongst a small number of cities around the world that already have the necessary infrastructure and have in place acceptable human-rights laws and high socioeconomic standards. Both these plans would also eliminate the need for a long, costly, and potentially corrupt bidding process. Then, I would use my wand to ensure that the merest hint of corruption within the IOC is snuffed out once and for all. Please don't ask me the details of how this could be achieved, I'm using a magic wand so that I don't have to take on the task in reality.

Thirdly, I would make sure that any and all sponsors are truly aligned with the values of Olympism.

What do your Olympic colleagues think about your outspokenness? Are you concerned about being silenced?

The feedback I have had from my teammates and our support staff has been very encouraging. Everyone I speak to has their own individual take on the issues, but are very willing to engage in debate, at least with me. There was, however, an interesting response

from people when my article in *The Guardian* was published. People were unanimously supportive, but many were also concerned on my behalf that I might get into trouble for speaking my mind like that. This reaction was evident even alongside the admission that the arguments I put forth were reasonable and well-thought out. It seems poignantly indicative of the current status quo that people expected some kind of backlash from ‘the authorities’ for an athlete putting forward a rational, considered opinion. This, to me, is evidence of a kind of soft barrier in the way of athletes speaking up for what they are passionate about.

As for being silenced, I have been in close contact with my own federation, British Fencing, as well as the British Olympic Association, so that they wouldn't think I was trying to ambush them. My primary goal is to ignite a discussion amongst athletes on the topic of a sustainable Olympics, not to cause as much of a stir as possible. My discussions with them have been forthright and encouraging, so in that respect I am not too concerned about being silenced. However, if I was actively pursuing a more controversial topic then I dare say I might feel differently. In this sense, I think that retired athletes are the far greater potential source of outspokenness, since they generally have less on the line than active competitors.

What do you have to say to critics who say that athletes should be seen and not heard?

I think there are two answers to this question. In the most part, the issues that I am trying to flag up refer specifically to the way the current Olympic Games are designed and organized. As an Olympian, I feel very strongly that this is an area where not only do I have a right to speak up, but even a responsibility to do so. This is my area, my back yard, so to speak. I think if someone has a problem with the authenticity of me arguing these points, then I would feel that they are missing way too many points to be worth responding to.

The second aspect refers to that type of dismissive response to sportspeople who want to use their elevated platform from which to speak out on broader, non-sports topics where perhaps they don't have such a clearly defined authority. In this respect, I would argue that a sportsperson should not be slammed with the “shut up and play” remark in just the same way that no person within a democratic society should be silenced with such an out-of-hand dismissal. A significant difference arises though, between an athlete and the person on the street, in that the athlete often occupies a position of role model either in the community of their chosen sport or in some cases in wider society. As such there is greater potential impact from their behavior and they have an enhanced responsibility to be a positive and considerate example to others. This leads on to another belief of mine—that there is incredible, untapped potential in the form of sports stars' exemplifying the kinds of social and environmental concern that the world really needs from its citizens right now.

Which politically outspoken athletes do you look to as historical guideposts—or perhaps even inspirations—as you prepare for the Rio 2016 Games?

As I have delved further into the controversial turf surrounding the Olympic Games, I have come to learn about some truly inspiring cases of sportspeople speaking out. Of course John Carlos and Tommie Smith come up at the top of any search for politically motivated athletes, and they certainly suffered for their courageous act of de-

fiance. The tennis world has had more than its fair share of outspoken and characterful athletes, with Arthur Ashe and Billie Jean King as two of the best examples.

And when talking about athletes speaking up for what they believe in and facing potential public wrath, there is no greater exemplar than Muhammad Ali.

But aside from these heroes of recent history, I find almost equal inspiration when I hear of any athlete stepping out of the brand-focused mold and saying something real and meaningful, however small. I loved hearing of Tom Brady's open damnation of Coca-Cola and Frosted Flakes as poison for our kids. We are so used to sporting icons being paid by these kinds of companies to speak on their behalf that Brady's decision to take it on himself to speak out against them felt like a refreshing, vitalizing splash of truth in a sea of disingenuousness. This is precisely the way that I think sports stars can exemplify some of the changes we most need to see in the world.

I was also particularly heartened to read about the group of Winter Olympians, led by US skier Andy Newell, who signed an open letter to world leaders, rallying against climate change.

You have created a discussion forum for British Olympians. Please tell us about this and what you envision as next steps for the campaign.

When I started out on this course of thinking critically about the Olympic Games and how they impact on different groups, I was most interested in just having dialogue with my teammates and others involved in the Olympic movement. I already knew what it was about the Olympics that I valued most but I needed to find out what was most important to other athletes. For instance, whether there was general agreement with my feeling that athletes would accept a reduced extravagance of Olympic celebration if it meant that the host nation's population was spared the soaring costs and associated consequences.

So I began by sending out e-mails left, right, and centre. I also had the idea of creating an open letter to the International Olympic Committee (IOC), undersigned by British Olympians, supporting the IOC's own stated goals of creating a more sustainable Olympics. But I came to realize that while there are athlete commissions to represent our views, there was no effective way of communicating directly with other athletes about these kinds of issues or initiatives. It was clear that if something wasn't officially sanctioned it would take a long time for anything to happen. I felt that in this age of seamless e-communication, there should be a portal to facilitate athletes creating their own dialogues. I decided that I may as well just create an online discussion forum and try to see if there were other Olympians out there who wanted to engage in this type of discussion. The forum is called Olympians' Voice.

Considering the aim of this group to get athletes to engage in issues that they felt strongly about also lead me on to another idea. Knowing that the vast majority of Olympians care deeply about the future of the Olympics themselves, I wanted to spark some discussion around that theme in the buildup to Rio, to show the world that there are alternatives. I thought this could work well in the social-media sphere, so I have decided to instigate it around the hashtag #OlympianVision.

KidPreneur from A6

“SunTrust's whole commitment is in providing financial stability in families; and it goes without saying that our families start with our children, and our children are a part of our neighborhoods, our counties, our cities and our towns,” said Muriel Garr, Vice President, SunTrust

Bank Greater Washington. “As we look at opportunities to partner and create a win/win for all, we are glad to be a partner with the Economic Development Corporation and Operation HOPE, as it aligns with the collective to bring together for-profit, non-profit and government. Today's KidPreneur program is showing these children the power of

working together and letting them know that they are in control of their own destiny.”

Infinity Technology in McLean, Virginia was also very impressed with KidPreneur Day.

“We are very honored to be able to participate in KidPreneur Day, and I am overwhelmed at the participation,

organization and energy of the children who are participating in this,” said Richard J. Gordon, Chief Information Officer & Vice President of Infinity Technology. “What I see are future leaders, movers and shakers in front of me and I am delighted to be a part of it.”

April Richardson, President and CEO of D.C. Sweet Potato

Cakes also spoke with the participants about how her business took off because she believed in herself and surrounded herself with people who could make a difference in her business.

The day was concluded with words of congratulations and encouragement from Prince George's County native Tarese

Taylor, 2016 Miss Maryland World, a demonstration from NASA's Heliophysics Science Division and a graduation ceremony for the participants.

For more information about how to start or grow your business, contact Kisha Logan, EDC Small Business Services Manager at 301-583-4650 or kvlogan@cc.pg.md.us.