

# The Prince George's Post



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## Rushern L. Baker, III Announces Appointments To PG County Board of License Commissioners

By PRESS OFFICER  
PG County Government

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—As a result of the passage of SB 488 and HB 1317 during the 2017 Session of the Maryland General Assembly, Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III is now required to appoint the five members of the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners (commonly referred to as the Liquor Board). Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III, announces the nominations of Thomas H. Graham of Upper Marlboro as Board of License Commissioner Chairman along with Eric Bowman of Brandywine, Armando "Joe" Camacho of Laurel, ShaRon M. Grayson Kelsey of Upper Marlboro, and Ken Miles of Brandywine as Commissioners. These nominated individuals must be confirmed by the Prince George's County Senate Delegation when the General Assembly convenes in January 2018. Commissioners are nominated for a term of three years (with the initial terms staggered) and a member may not be appointed to more than three terms.

"It is imperative that the residents and businesses of Prince George's County have faith in the County's Board of Licenses Commissioners and I have nominated

five individuals with incredible experience and integrity to serve on this Board," said Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. "I want to thank Chairman Graham and Commissioners Bowman, Camacho, Grayson Kelsey, and Miles for accepting these nominations, dedicating their time and talents to public service and agreeing to uphold the responsibilities of this commission, which is critical to the economic development and public safety of the County. I also want to thank Senate President Miller, Prince George's County Senate Delegation Chair Rosapepe, Prince George's County House Delegation Chair Walker, and all of the County's Senators and Delegates for working and partnering with my administration on this reform legislation during last year's General Assembly session. I look forward to working with them through the confirmation process."

The Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners serves a quasi-judicial function in administering and enforcing the Alcoholic Beverage Laws of the State of Maryland and the Rules and Regulations for the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners. As a result of the passage of SB 488 and HB

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PHOTO BY JULIE DEPENBROCK/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

The Maryland Board of Public Works met Wednesday, October 18, 2017, in the Annapolis State House and approved a surplus of 10 university properties.

## Maryland Board Approves Surplus of 10 Properties for City, Campus Revitalization

By JULIE DEPENBROCK  
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS, MD—Maryland's Board of Public Works approved the surplus of 10 University of Maryland properties on Wednesday, October 18, 2017, for an ongoing community redevelopment project known as the Greater College Park Initiative.

The university's president, Wallace Loh, took the podium

at the Maryland State House to show his support for the project and the Terrapin Development Co., a recently created limited liability corporation, which will develop and manage the real estate on the edges of the College Park campus.

"We are not in the real estate business," Loh said to the board, which includes Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan. "However, we are in the business of innovation and entrepreneurship."

Loh told University of Maryland's Capital News Service that with the transfer of these properties to the Terrapin Development Co., the university can continue its work to foster "an innovation hub" as well as a desirable place to live and work.

"To make sure that this mission of the university will outlast us here," Loh told the board. "We want to institutionalize it and that's why we've set up this

LLC, that will enable us to do business at the speed of business and will continue long after we're gone."

State Sen. James Rosapepe praised the revitalization efforts. The senator represents Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties and serves as the chair of the College Park City-University Partnership.

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## Cardin, Van Hollen Present \$25 Million Federal Grant to Prince George's County Public Schools

By PRESS OFFICER  
Office of Senator Ben Cardin

GREENBELT, MD—On October 16, 2017, U.S. Senators Ben Cardin and Senator Chris Van Hollen joined Prince George's County officials and students at Greenbelt Middle School to announce a three-year, \$25 million grant for Prince George's County Public Schools. The grant will bolster the county's "Great Teachers, Great Leaders, Great Schools" project under the Teacher Incentive Fund Program. The grant will invest in Prince George's County students by investing in teacher and principal effectiveness at high-needs schools.

"Public education is America's great equalizer, ensuring that all students have the chance to expand their horizons and succeed in life," said Senator Cardin. "These federal funds will make a real difference in the lives of our educators and our students. We're making an important invest-



PHOTO COURTESY THE OFFICE OF BEN CARDIN

Senators announce \$25 Million grant for Prince George's County Public Schools at greenbelt Middle school.

ment in spreading best-practices so that teachers in Prince George's County can deliver for our students with first-rate learning opportunities."

"Teachers in Maryland are among the best in the nation—and they are the backbone of ensuring that all of our kids have the best education possible," said Senator Van Hollen. "By investing in educators, we

are investing in students, future jobs, and our entire economy. I'll keep fighting to invest in all of the schools across the state and make sure all children have the chance at a bright future."

"I believe this critical investment in the development

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## Local Development Council Awards \$225,000 In Impact Grants

10 Non-Profit Organizations Receive Funding to Serve People and Communities in MGM National Harbor Impact Area

By PRESS OFFICER  
PG County Government

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—The Prince George's County Local Development Council (PGCLDC) recently awarded \$225,000 to 10 non-profits during a ceremony in the Office of Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III on Tuesday, October 10, 2017. PGCLDC is responsible for awarding impact grants to organizations to serve communities in close proximity to the MGM National Harbor fa-

cility. The grants awarded represent various non-profits that support youth development activities, public safety awareness, child care, and legal services.

"I want to congratulate the inaugural recipients of the Prince George's County Local Development Council grants and thank the PGCLDC for their leadership and stewardship," said Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. "These grants are designed to assist people and communities in the vicinity of MGM National

Harbor. The PGCLDC did a great job of selecting a diverse group of organizations that address a variety of challenges which range from mentoring and education to legal assistance. I have always said that the government can't do it alone and these grants are wonderful examples of the impact residents can have on directing resources that will help make their community better."

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## Montpelier Elementary Principal Receives Grant to Champion Student Creativity

By PRESS OFFICER  
PGPCS

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—Montpelier Elementary School Principal Carla Furlow is one of 20 elementary and middle school principals from across the nation selected by Crayola and the National Association of

Elementary School Principals (NAESP) for a "Champion Creatively Alive Children" school grant. Crayola and NAESP together selected 20 schools to receive the grants, which will fund innovative programs aimed at fostering children's critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication skills.

The grants are intended to help schools build creative capacity, nurture children's creativity and inspire other schools to do the same. Montpelier Elementary received a \$2,500 grant and \$1,000 worth of Crayola

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### INSIDE

#### Hogan Administration Announces \$490,000 in Community Services Block Grant Awards

Maryland receives nearly \$10 million in federal funds through the Community Services Block Grant. By law, 90 percent of these funds go directly to support the work of the 17 Community Action Agencies in Maryland.

Community, Page A3

#### We Can and Must Win for Children!

The laboriously woven child and family safety net created over decades and not yet completed is on the brink of obliteration with the administration and its congressional allies seeking to destroy our government's role and responsibility at all levels to protect those left behind.

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#### Disability Forum: Not a Hand Out, But an Opportunity

The Arc Prince George's County, a membership organization with 600 members that include people with developmental disabilities, their families and friends, the professionals who work with them, and other concerned citizens.

Business, Page A5

#### Movie Review: It

The trims and elisions that would have made it a better movie would have betrayed the readers, many of whom are as nostalgic about the book as the book is about Stephen King's childhood. Hey, for a King horror novel to be turned into a movie that isn't terrible is noteworthy on its own.

Out on the Town, Page A6

#### Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

How can we keep our kids safe from environmental hazards all around us in our everyday lives?

—Jennifer Nichols, Wareham, MA

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# Towns and NEIGHBORS

## In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

### Home from the war, Anacostia High grads wanted their own VFW

They were a bunch of Anacostia High school graduates that went off to fight in World War II and returned home to Anacostia. They spent some of their time hanging out at a drugstore on Good Hope Road. "You might say we were drug store cowboys," Stan Kingsbury told me when I interviewed him years ago about the people and events that make up the history of VFW Post 9619.

They talked about what they wanted to do "now." And decided to start their own VFW. Anacostia already had one, so they applied to the Maryland VFW.

And so it was that 70 years ago this week, Nov. 4, 1947, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9619 was chartered. Robert Burns was elected their first Post Commander and those first meetings were held at Strick's Restaurant, corner of Branch Avenue and Naylor Road. Other meeting sites were the Half-Shell (later, Riordan's) and the old Telephone Building. Finally, Stanley Ridgeway arranged the purchase of the I.C.E. Club on Suitland Road. It became the post home in April 1965.

The post was named Scott-Johnson-Collins honoring three who died in action during WWII, two from Anacostia High School and one from Eastern High.

The Auxiliary was chartered on Nov. 13, 1948 with Commander Burns' wife Ethel the first president.

In 1997, VFW Post 9619 celebrated its 50th anniversary with a dinner-dance at Andrews. I'll check to see how they're celebrating the 70th.

### Trot for a Turkey

Enjoy a unique opportunity to help families in need by walking, or running, through the beautiful Winter Festival of Lights at Watkins Park. When? Saturday night, Nov. 18, 6 to 8 p.m. Where? Watkins Regional Park Drive, Upper Marlboro. This is the 5th annual Trot for a Turkey.

The trek is on a 3.1-mile course and is open to all ages. Registration is \$30 per person. Register through Nov. 16 online via E-store. Information: 301-627-7755.

• Join historian David Taylor as he recounts the vivid picture of how a troubled country dealt with this turning point in history, *The Death of Abraham Lincoln: Reactions for a Divided Nation* at the Surratt House Museum on Nov. 11 at 4 p.m. The Surratt House is at 9118 Brandywine Road, Clinton. Info: 301-868-1121. The event is free but seating is limited.

• The Skyline Citizens Association holds its quarterly meeting Wednesday, Nov. 15, 7 p.m. at the Morningside Firehouse. I'll be there.

### Changing landscape

Babes Boys Tavern at the Top of the Hill, 15900 block of Marlboro Pike, was rammed by a speeding car about 1:30 p.m. on Oct. 24. According to Patrick Wilson, who co-owns the restaurant with his wife Debbie, a woman was driving the vehicle with Maryland tags when it jumped two curbs, took out three steel poles, went through a wall making a hole about eight feet wide and destroyed a center pillar that supports the roof. About 30 were having lunch at the time; seven were hospitalized, two with serious injuries.

Before the end of the year, UM Capital Region Health will break ground on the University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Center in Largo. This state-of-the-art facility is slated to open in 2021.

### May they rest in peace

Stephanie Michelle "Stephie" Musser, 18, of Lothian, died June 6 in a head-on accident. She was the great-granddaughter of Virginia Rosch, of Morningside, and the late Matt Rosch for whom the Morningside Town Hall is named. She was the daughter of Audrey Irwin and Samuel Musser, Sr., stepdaughter of Sandra Musser, grand-

daughter of Carol Tucker, sister of James, Jonathan and Sam Musser, Jr., and girlfriend of Marquis Hill. As for the accident, Stephanie's 2006 Honda Civic crossed the center line and crashed head-on into a van. She was thrown from the car and died at the scene. The driver of the other car suffered serious injuries. Stephanie graduated from Southern High School and worked at Heavenly Chicken and Ribs.

Benjamin F. Collins, 77, a much-loved social studies teacher at Surrattsville High School, from 1967 until he retired in 1995, died Sept. 12 at his home in Pagosa Springs, Co. In 1983 he was awarded the Washington Post's Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award. Prior to teaching, he served with the Peace Corps in Turkey, 1964 to 1967. He was born in Chattanooga, Tenn., and lived in Accokeek from 1972 to 2004. Survivors include his wife Judy, sons Chris and David, and brother Jim. A sign on his desk advised, "Keep smiling. It makes people wonder what you are up to."

John A. Weems, Sr., of Upper Marlboro, died Oct. 18 at the age of 101. He was the father of 13 and grandfather of 18. He leaves a multitude of great- and great-great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Mass of Christian Burial was at St. Mary's in Upper Marlboro with burial at Resurrection Cemetery.

### Milestones

Happy birthday to my son-in-law Luke Seidman and Flossie Keck, Nov. 3; Bella Cordero, Nov. 4; Brandon Wood and Bob Elborne, Nov. 5; Steve Call, Linda Beatty and Dennis Waby, Nov. 6; and Davey Capps, Jr., Nov. 9.

Happy anniversary to Al and Debbie Callison, Nov. 4; John and Dineen Whipple, their 42nd on Nov. 8; Becky and Dave Capps, their 54th on Nov. 9; and Roseann and Franny Rohan, their 54th on Nov. 9.

## Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

### TRASH TO TREASURE GREEN CRAFT FAIR

Saturday, November 4, 2017 from 10:00 AM–4:00 PM come and explore local crafters and artist who create treasurers made from at least 50% recycled, organic, fair trade or sustainably-harvested materials. Items for sale include candles, bags, jewelry, knitwear, paintings, recycled wood carvings, and other gifts. Free for all ages. The location is Watkins Nature Center, 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20774. Call 301-218-6702 if you need additional information.

### BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday to Pamela Baker, Derrell Bell, Dwayne Bell, Eva Cooper, Jonnetta Dent, Gloria Dotson, George Saunders, Mark Taylor, Mary Contee, Gwendolyn Deville, Stephanie Eugene, Phillip Hill, Madeline Pinkney who are members of New Hope Fellowship Parish/Nottingham Myers/Christ Church Celebrating Birthdays in November.

### PG COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Kudos to Morgan Eugene who continues to excel and blaze her own trail. Morgan along with another student from Frederick Douglass High School were recommended and asked to do a

presentation for the Prince George's County Public School Board of Education meeting opening on Tuesday, October 24th. Both students illustrated and represented the positive things happening with the students of PGCPSS. Morgan is the daughter of Curtis and Stephanie Deville Eugene who reside in Brandywine, Maryland.

### ST. PHILIP'S ANNUAL GOSPEL CHRISTMAS

St. Philip's Episcopal Church will be presenting their Annual Gospel Christmas December 3, 2017 at 3:00 PM. The church address is 13801 Brandywine Road, Brandywine, Maryland. Tickets are \$10.00 at the door.

Guests on the program are Zion Specials, Burning Light Gospel Singers, Mighty Wonders, Brother Sam Neil and Company, Southern Maryland Harmonizers.

### PGCPSS FAMILY INSTITUTE

Prince George's County Public Schools Family Institute, in collaboration with the Division of Human Resources, will host the "Keeping Our Children Safe" workshop for parents and guardians. The workshop includes Fingerprint Background Check and Child Protective Services (CPS) Clearance sessions for those interested in volunteering in their

neighborhood schools more than once a year.

Fingerprint Background Check and CPS Clearance Sessions 4–6 PM. The fee is \$56.57. There is no fee for families whose children receive free and reduced-price meals (FARMS). Please bring a copy of your Farms certification letter.

"Keeping Our Children Safe" Family Institute Workshop is 5–6PM & 6:15–7:15 PM. Learn how to recognize the often subtle signs of abuse and neglect in children. Pre-registration required: Please visit [www.pgcpss-family.org](http://www.pgcpss-family.org). Free childcare available for Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth-Grade students.

Please bring a valid, unexpired government-issued photo identification card, such as a driver's license; state, school or military ID; U.S. passport; permanent resident card or employment authorization card. Contact the Department of Family and Community Engagement for more information: 301-618-7356.

### CLINTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Please circle your calendar for Sunday, November 19, 2017. Clinton United Methodist Women will celebrate their Women's Day at both services. More information to follow next month.

## Neighborhoods

### Procedural Changes, New Training Strengthens School Safety, Reduces Staff on Leave

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) announced today that significant changes to administrative procedures and new training for all staff have strengthened school safety and substantially decreased the number of employees on administrative leave.

Since the start of the 2017-18 school year, three new student safety administrative procedures have been implemented, six procedures were revised, and more than 90 percent of all staff have completed new online SafeSchools training modules. School system officials will report to the Prince George's County Board of Education today on enhanced student safety and improved school and workplace climates as a result of the changes.

"We remain committed to improving school and student safety while providing a positive workplace climate for our employees," said Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell, Chief Executive Officer. "We must continue to do all that we can to encourage safe environments where students can focus on learning and staff feel supported.

As of Oct. 6, there were 40 staff members, including 21 teachers, on administrative leave, pending investigations into allegations of child abuse and neglect, or failure to report. The numbers have been greatly reduced from the 2016-17 school year, when 848 staff members, including 419 teachers, were placed on leave.

Last year's focus on changing culture and climate dramatically increased reporting of child abuse and neglect allegations due to staff vigilance in protecting students. To ensure correct reporting, the system has provided staff with guidance on the use of administrative leave and enacted more effective processes to address Child Protective Services referrals.

In February 2016, PGCPS created a Student Safety Task Force comprised of representatives from higher education, non-profit, private sector, local government, public safety and the school system. The task force made several recommendations based on a thorough review of the school system's policies, procedures, processes, and practices. The task force's recommendations—focused on Climate and Culture; Reporting and Training; Screening of Employees, Volunteers, Vendors and Contractors; and Curriculum and Counseling—formed the basis of the Student Safety Action Plan, implemented last school year.

### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)/ Prince George's County Public Service Announcement:

#### Become a Voice For a Child In Foster Care!

Riverdale, MD—Want to make a difference in the life of abused or abandoned children in your community? There are over 500 youth in foster care in Prince George's County and Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) is looking for compassionate and motivated individuals to advocate for these youth. In about 10 hours a month, CASA volunteers create relationships with youth in foster care to en-

sure that the court and child welfare systems remain focused on their specific needs and finding a safe permanent home. Please join us for an information session on November 30th at 6pm at the Hyattsville Municipal Building. Advocates are provided training following an in-person interview. Will you speak for abused and neglected children in your community? Applicants must be 21 or older and willing to complete a background check. For more information, please visit our website at [www.pgCasa.org](http://www.pgCasa.org) or call 301-209-0491 or email [volunteer@pgCasa.org](mailto:volunteer@pgCasa.org).

### Night of Firsts for Bowie State Volleyball in 3-0 Sweep of Elizabeth City State

BOWIE, MD—Bowie State University volleyball experienced a nights of firsts, as the Bulldogs swept Elizabeth City State University in straight sets (25–18, 25–21 and 25–22) on the night of October 17, 2017 in the A.C. Jordan Arena. The sweep was the second of the season for Bowie State but the first (CIAA) conference victory of the season and first divisional win of the year.

The Bowie State Bulldogs (2–19, 1–13 CIAA, 1–7 North) were paced by senior Tia Williams (Abingdon, Md.) with a match-high 12 kills on 22 attacks. Senior Kiana Moore (Newark, Del.) and freshman Sydney Tucker (Columbia, Md.) contributed a half dozen kills and junior Brittainy Houck (Burns, Ore.) tallied a match-high 10 digs for the Bulldogs. Sydney Tucker served up a match-high seven aces and added eight digs, a solo block and one block assists.

Freshmen Bianca Tucker (Edgewood, Md.) and Oladia Menchaca (Landover, Md.) accounted for double-digit assists of 15 and 12 respectively in the win.

As a team, the Bulldogs had a .196 attack percentage with their best set coming in the set three, recording a team attack percentage of 68 percent. The match featured 15 ties (10 in the second set) and eight lead changes.

Elizabeth City State (2–21, 2–11 CIAA, 2–5 North) was led by the freshmen duo of Elizabeth Cagle and Jahera Dangerfield, both of Jacksonville, N.C.), with six kills each while senior Nikuale Singleton (Greenville, N.C.) and freshman Breyona Debrough chipped in a pair of kills in the loss for the Lady Vikings.

Senior Lauren Burgess (Gates, N.C.) accounted for all 14 of Elizabeth City State's assists in the match to go along with three service aces and three digs.

### The Most Famous Reindeer of All is Coming to Gaylord National Resort

National Harbor, MD—The Capital Region's largest resort holiday celebration, Christmas On The Potomac, presented by FUJIFILM INSTAX®, will shine a little brighter this year at Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center. The nearly 2,000 room hotel is showcasing Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer carved in colorful ice sculptures at its popular ICE!

The annual celebration kicks off November 18 and is promising more thrills and chills for its daily holiday line-up.

Visitors will be captivated by stunning, larger-than-life vignettes that bring to life the beloved 1964 TV classic, Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, in ICE!, presented by Pepsi®. The 9-degree walk-through attraction features 13 scenes of more than two million pounds of hand-carved ice sculptures including everyone's favorite characters—Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Hermey the Elf, Bumble the Abominable Snow Monster and more.

Guests also can enjoy the thrill of sliding down two-story tall ice slides in the Island of Misfit Toys. The attraction concludes with a breathtaking Nativity scene carved from crystal ice and set behind a twinkling light curtain.

ICE! is open daily from November 18, 2017 through January 1, 2018.

If ice sculptures weren't enough, the resort also has transformed itself into a Christmas wonderland. Featuring more than two million lights, a suspended 55-foot tall Christmas tree, a 20-foot wide Washington, D.C. gingerbread display and a magical Christmas Village, families and friends will be filled with holiday spirit when enjoying the resort's plethora of activities.

Upon entering the Christmas Village, guests will delight in discovering a new ice skating attraction, carousel and train rides, Cookies with Mrs. Claus, photos with Santa and a Gingerbread Decorating Corner presented by Hallmark Channel's Countdown to Christmas.

The resort also offers a Build-A-Bear Workshop® experience where guests make their very own furry winter friend—a cuddly, cute polar bear plush, designed exclusively for Gaylord Hotels that can be personalized with cozy winter clothing and accessories. For even more fun, families can work together to solve the Build-A-Bear Workshop® Scavenger Hunt to gain a "beary" special prize.

New this year, Gaylord National also is introducing a live entertainment show, JOY—A Holiday Spectacular, set within the resort's stunning 19-story atrium. Visitors can enjoy the rich harmonies of classic and modern songs that celebrate the joy of the holiday season performed by Gaylord National singers.

The show is immediately followed by a free Tree Lighting Show that includes laser lights, a dancing water fountain, indoor snow flurry and holiday music—all centered on the resort's suspended Starlight Christmas Tree.

Visitors also can delight in a new family breakfast featuring Rudolph, the star of ICE! Rudolph's Holly Jolly™ Breakfast is a one-of-a-kind interactive character breakfast experience with tableside visits by Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Bumble the Abominable Snow Monster and Clarice.

For dates, times and pricing, please visit [www.ChristmasOnThePotomac.com](http://www.ChristmasOnThePotomac.com).

# COMMUNITY

## The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

### How Well Do You Handle Workplace Disagreements?

While we all have multiple relationships through our family and friends, for most of us the relationships in which we spend the most waking hours are our work relationships.

Disagreements in any relationship can be challenging, but with friends and family we usually find ways to work out our issues. A disagreement on the job, however, especially with someone who has more authority, can be a very difficult and awkward experience.

Even if we feel strongly about an idea, decision or a project, we often feel we have little choice but to follow the boss's wishes. When this occurs we can feel stressed and anxious, and often wish we had handled the situation differently.

If a work disagreement or bad decision occurs because of incomplete or incorrect information, it can usually be fixed by logically and cooling presenting the corrected or updated facts.

But if workplace disagreements are coming from the type of person your boss is and his business style, that's not something you're going to change. Instead, the goal is to use your energy in deciding how you'll manage the situation so that in the end you can feel good about how you handled things.

Start by deciding whether to deal with the problem now or later. Neither is always the best way. Bringing up the problem immediately might make you seem argumentative, but waiting to voice your objections might lead to even bigger problems.

You also want to decide if discussing the problem directly with your boss is the best approach. A calm discussion, handled right, might be very effective. But sometimes talking about the issue with family or friends might help you keep the problem in perspective.

An important step is simply to assess the situation, rather than just reacting quickly. How important is the problem, really? If it is important, consider possible alternative courses of action and evaluate what outcomes each might bring.

After selecting the best alternative, implement it. You should now be able to present a carefully considered discussion of the problem and a possible solution, rather than a heated response to the issue.

Then evaluate the outcome. Yes, the boss will still be the same person, but what you want to consider is whether your approach helped fix the problem, and most importantly, did it make you feel good about how you handled the disagreement?

*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*

### Grants from A1

The PGCLDC is an advisory group mandated by state law that provides community input to local jurisdictions with gaming facilities. For more information about PGCLDC, please go to <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1125/Local-Development-Council>.

List of 2017 Prince George's County Local Development Council Grant Recipients:

#### Community Advocates for Family & Youth—\$25,000.00

To support a Community Educator & Victim Services Professional in the Neighborhood Outreach & Victim Services program designed to raise awareness about vulnerability to crime.

#### Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection—\$25,000.00

To support 120 students at Potomac High School who are currently enrolled in Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection.

#### Junior Achievement (JA) of Greater Washington—\$20,000.00

To help support curriculum and programs for the JA Finance Park@Prince George's to 3 schools—John Hanson Montessori, Oxon Hill Middle & High Schools.

#### Strive To Tri, Inc.—\$25,000.00

To support free aquatics based camp offered to youth in Park Forest apartment community.

#### World Arts Focus, Inc. d/b/a/ Joe's

#### Movement Emporium—\$25,000.00

To support CreativeWorks, job training program in theater & digital media technology, for impact area residents, ages 18-24.

#### Hillcrest-Marlow Heights Civic Association—Dollars

#### for Scholars—\$15,000.00

To award 10 Potomac high school seniors or continuing college students a \$2,000 scholarship each to help cover their educational expenses for the fall 2017 semester and spring 2018 semester.

#### Legal Aid Bureau—\$15,000.00

For general operating support to fund legal services to residents of Impact Area and expand to include additional work with Tenant Council at Owens Road.

#### Prince George's Child Resource Center Inc.—\$25,000.00

To expand child care and directly support young mothers, children, providers and employers in impact area.

#### Take Charge Juvenile Diversion Program, Inc.—\$25,000.00

To support Leadership Development & Life Skills Program, designed to reduce truancy, increase parental involvement, decrease in-school bullying and improve academic performance at Oxon Hill Middle School & Glassmanor Transforming Neighborhoods Initiative (TNI) community.

#### Coalition for Public Safety Training In Schools, Inc.—\$25,000.00

Youth education and advocacy program, designed to prepare at risk youth in TNI communities with career awareness and development opportunities in the public safety sector.

## Hogan Administration Announces \$490,000 in Community Services Block Grant Awards

*These Block Grant Awards Will Provide Services for Nearly 20,000 Low-Income Residents*

By PRESS OFFICER  
MDDHDC

NEW CARROLLTON, MD—The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development today announced \$490,000 in Community Services Block Grant awards. The grants to 12 nonprofits and units of local government will provide services to nearly 20,000 low-income Marylanders and will leverage nearly \$700,000 in additional funding from private, nonprofit, and other partners.

"These awards will help provide much-needed resources and services to our low-income citizens," said Governor Larry Hogan. "The organizations receiving this funding will help Marylanders in need to gain valuable access to education, employment, and other support services to help them succeed."

Maryland receives nearly \$10 million in federal funds through the Community Services Block Grant. By law, 90 percent of these funds go directly to support the work of the 17 Community Action Agencies in Maryland. Five percent of the funds are reserved for discretionary grants, which comprise the awards listed below. Funded programs provide a range of direct services designed to assist low-income individuals and families to attain the skills, knowledge, and support needed to achieve self-sufficiency. Community action agencies provide services in all 23 Maryland counties and the City of Baltimore. Services and activities may include housing, Head Start education for youth, nutrition programs, transportation programs, employment, and emergency services such as shelter or energy assistance.

"Our local government and Community Action Agency partners are vitally important to maintaining the safety net for the most vulnerable Marylan-

ders," said Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Secretary Kenneth C. Holt. "These awards will enable them to continue to deliver quality services and programs to our citizens, and we are proud to support their good work."

The FY18 Community Services Block Grant awardees are:

#### Allegany County Human Services Development Commission, Inc.—\$15,000

The Mobility Management program helps address the transportation barrier for low-income and elderly residents needing to access non-emergency medical health care appointments.

#### Anne Arundel County Community Action Agency, Inc.—\$35,000

The Green Summer Works Program prepares low-income youth for success at school and the workplace. The program was developed to introduce youth to employment opportunities in the environmental and "green" sectors, while undergoing comprehensive workforce preparation, life skills, and financial literacy training.

#### Community Action Council of Howard County, Inc.—\$40,000

The agency will use the funding for a full-time Employment Coach Case Manager to assist Head Start families with assessment of employment needs, development of employment opportunities, enrollment in certification programs, and removal of barriers to employment. This program will also promote job stability for the newly-employed.

#### Delmarva Community Services, Inc.—\$40,000

The grant will allow the agency to provide gap services to a defined group of individuals who are often considered

hard to serve and who need intensive case management and training. Service gaps identified included dentistry, home care and homeless hygiene kits, and intensive services under the agency's Preparing Adults for Life program.

#### Harford Community Action Agency, Inc.—\$20,000

The program will offer initial case management to all households who enter the agency's food pantry and provide extensive case management for those who return for a subsequent month and are still in crisis.

#### Human Services Programs of Carroll County, Inc.—\$24,500

The program will provide bundled services through leveraging funding from their Office of Heating and Energy Program partner. The participants will receive assessment and encouragement to access multiple services by providing additional case management and incentives.

#### Maryland CASH Campaign, Inc.—\$90,500

The grant funding will be used to continue the Maryland Community Fellows Program. Graduate students will be placed in community action agencies and nonprofit organizations to address staff and volunteer gaps to ensure access to the EITC program and deliver high-quality, free tax preparation services through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program.

#### Maryland Community Action Partnership, Inc. (MCAP)—\$100,000

MCAP will provide statewide communication and coordination to the state's 17 community action agencies. Services will be rendered through training and technical assistance and will include skill sharing and knowledge advancement through conference, seminars, and communication.

#### Maryland Rural Development Corporation—\$30,000

The agency's Green Summer Youth Program will hire 24 low-income youth workers who will receive on-the-job training and green conservation and beautification work experience.

#### Shore UP!, Inc.—\$40,000

The Youth Jobs Program will provide employment for low-income youth at nonprofit organizations in Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester counties. The participants will develop job-readiness skills, leadership skills, and financial literacy skills. Other opportunities will include college preparation and a vocation skills training program.

#### Spanish Speaking Communities of Maryland, Inc.—\$35,000

The funding will enable the organization to continue to provide free consultations to target populations with very low incomes, those who speak little English or are illiterate, the unemployed and under-employed. Residents also come for a range of services and referrals related to nutrition, education, housing, and other needs.

#### Washington County Community Action Council, Inc.—\$20,000

The agency will launch the first locally-available Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program in their service area. The program will provide free tax preparation services and enroll households into additional asset-building for financial education programs, such as savings bonds, energy consumption conservation, or financial literacy programs.

For more information on the Community Services Block Grant program, visit <http://dhcd.maryland.gov/Communities/Pages/programs/CSBG.aspx>.

### Campus from A1

Rosapepe said these projects were born of the same broad university plan that included the construction of the Purple Line light rail and of College Park Academy, a charter school that opened its doors this year.

Before Loh came on the scene in 2010, Rosapepe said, the university in College Park was like "an ivory tower, isolated from its environment."

"Frankly, sometimes, we're hostile to the community and that led to a situation six or seven years ago where only 4 percent of university faculty and staff lived in College Park," Rosapepe said.

But now, the college and the city are partners, Rosapepe said.

"The city is the check and balance. When the city and the university come together, great things happen," he said. "When they go in different directions, either nothing happens or bad things happen."

Many of the surplus properties are on the east side of Baltimore Avenue, "an area of campus that years ago was the back-of-the-bus operations—parking lots, auto repair, aging student housing, old warehouses," said Carlo Colella, University of Maryland's vice president for administration and finance.

At this time, there isn't a specific building-by-building pro-

posal for the 10 properties that have been surplus, Colella said. But they are all essential to the continuing redevelopment.

For now, step one—the surplus—is complete. Step two comes in 45 days, when the board will vote on the official transfer of the properties to the Terrapin Development Co. The company, which is operated by the university and its foundation, can acquire, develop, lease, manage, and sell real property.

The following are surplus properties approved for transfer at Wednesday's meeting:

- UMD land (southern wing of service building, 7757 Baltimore Ave.)

- Parking lot (immediately east of Ritchie Coliseum, 7675 Baltimore Ave.)
- 4505 Campus Drive
- 4608, 4610, 4624, 4642, 4644 Norwich Road (Old Leonardtown Road)
- 4425 Campus Drive (Bldg. 11)
- 7761 Diamondback Drive (Bldg. 6)
- 8320-8400 Baltimore Avenue
- Parcel C (immediately northeast of The Hotel at UMD, 7777 Baltimore Ave.)
- Parcel B (immediately north of The Hotel at UMD, 7777 Baltimore Ave.)
- 4100, 4103, 4109 Metzerott Road

### Creativity from A1

products for its program, "Environmental Advocacy Weaves Together Art, Natural History and Activism." Furlow will share program outcomes on NAESP's website and a special Principal magazine supplement to help other principals develop promising practices related to arts education.

"I feel this is a perfect avenue to interweave our students' and staff's passions for the arts and the environment," she said. Students and teachers at the Laurel school will analyze and synthesize the intersections between art, natural history, and advocacy in partnership with the Smithsonian American Art Museum. They will also share their

insights with the Prince George's County Arts-Integration Network. The school's Creative Leadership Team will then help colleagues plan art-infused environmental projects that inspire activism.

"Crayola believes that for students to reach their full potential and grow into self-motivated learners, their creativity and critical-thinking skills must be nurtured. We believe children develop these 21st century skills when educators ignite their imaginations through art infused education," said Smith Holland, Crayola President and Chief Executive Officer.

The Champion Creatively Alive Children grant program asks principals to explore a "What if ..." learning opportu-

nity. For example, what if arts-infused learning thrived every day in schools? What if schools relied more on project-based authentic assessment rather than standardized tests? What if parents and schools found ways to document and articulate the value of creative experiences? The entries were judged on innovation, collaboration, and sustainability.

"Principals understand the value of using arts-infused education to ignite deep learning for all students," said NAESP Executive Director Dr. Earl Franks. "We're thrilled to work with Crayola and the Champion Creatively Alive Children grant program to provide schools with this unique opportunity to build creative capacity. These schools'

grant proposals are innovative approaches to establishing creative leadership and demonstrating promising practices that inspire others."

To view the complete list of the 20 Champion Creatively Alive Children grant recipients, visit [www.naesp.org/creativity](http://www.naesp.org/creativity).

#### About Crayola:

Crayola believes in honoring and nurturing the colorful originality in everyone. The Crayola creatED professional development program helps build creative leadership capacity school-wide. Art-integration awakens faculty and student voices, as they make thinking visible and

# COMMENTARY

## Cong. Chris Van Hollen United States Senator for Maryland



### Van Hollen, Cantwell Introduce Amendment to Ensure Tax Fairness, Protect Middle Class from Being Taxed Twice on Their Paychecks

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Today, as tax reform takes center stage in Congress, U.S. Senators Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) and Maria Cantwell (D-WA) offered a provision to keep in place the State and Local Tax (SALT) deductions, protecting taxpayers from paying taxes twice on every dollar they earn.

As part of the FY2018 Budget Resolution—which sets up Republicans' tax reform efforts—Republicans have proposed eliminating the SALT deductions for taxpayers to help pay for their massive tax cuts for corporations and the wealthy.

Currently, taxpayers pay state and local tax—whether its property, income, or sales tax—and they are able to deduct that amount from their federal income taxes. Without the SALT deductions, taxpayers would be taxed multiple times on the same income.

"The Republican Budget and Tax Plan socks it to working Americans in countless ways, but one of the biggest impacts comes from eliminating the state and local tax deduction," said Senator Van Hollen, who also offered this amendment in the Senate Budget Committee mark up earlier this month. "This deduction helps millions of people in Maryland and across the country—and getting rid of it will hit the pocketbooks the middle class families the hardest. It also would tie the hands of state and local governments, which provide critical services in every community across America. This is not a partisan issue, and I urge my colleagues to support this amendment."

"State and local tax deductions have been an important way in which our taxpayers make sure they are treated fairly," said Senator Cantwell, a senior member of the Senate Finance Committee. "Our residents have come to expect these sales tax deductions and these mortgage deductions, and they want to keep them. They do not want to hear that there's a sleight of hand at the 11th hour

... and then thereby have these thousands of dollars of tax increases hoisted on them. We have to have a tax discussion that is about a fair and open process, a continued dialogue about how to make sure that working families get a fair deal in a tax policy."

The Cantwell-Van Hollen measure would create a point of order against any bill, joint resolution, motion amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report that would raise taxes on middle class families by double-taxing income already taxed at the state or local level.

Families from all 50 states enjoy much needed tax relief from SALT deductions. According to the Government Finance Officers Association, more than 30 percent of taxpayers benefitted from the SALT deductions, making SALT deductions a key element in providing tax relief to middle class families. Only 21 percent of taxpayers used the deduction for mortgage interest, and 15 percent of taxpayers used the deduction for charitable donations.

About 45 percent of all Maryland taxpayers utilize that state and local income deduction—that's the highest percentage in the country. Nearly 1.3 million Marylanders took advantage of the SALT deductions in 2015, reducing their taxable income by an average of \$9,010 per individual, according to IRS data.

According to the IRS, more than 86 percent of taxpayers claiming SALT deductions make under \$200,000 and 56 percent of taxpayers claiming the deduction make under \$100,000.

A copy of the amendment can be found at <https://www.cantwell.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Cantwell%20Amendment%20to%20Ensure%20Tax%20Fairness,%20Protect%20Middle%20Class%20from%20Being%20Taxed%20Twice%20on%20Their%20Paychecks.pdf>

## Marc Morial, President and CEO National Urban League



### NFL Must "Provide a Better Platform" on Racism and Criminal Justice Reform

"We want to make sure we are understanding what the players are talking about, and that is complex."

—National Football League Commissioner Roger Goodell

When San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick last year began kneeling during the National Anthem at the start of games, he explained: "I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses Black people and people of color. To me, this is bigger than football and it would be selfish on my part to look the other way. There are bodies in the street and people getting paid leave and getting away with murder."

Only a handful of players had joined his protest by the start of the current season, until President Trump urged the team owners to fire the protesters. At the next game more than 200 players sat, knelt or raised their fists in protest. Owners, coaches and staff joined the players in a demonstration of solidarity.

As a lifelong football fan and mayor of a city that hosted two Super Bowls during my term, I worked closely with the NFL over the years and I am keenly aware of the untapped capacity of the League to address the systemic racism at the root of this current protest. More than 70 percent of NFL players are Black, yet the League has made no comprehensive effort to address the reality of the communities where many of their prime performers are raised and educated. There's precious little examination of the process by which many these players are forced to overcome the racial

and social challenges barriers that stood—and continue to stand—in their way.

The National Urban League has long urged the NFL and the team owners to make a serious effort to address the concerns of men and boys of color.

Following a meeting of NFL owners and players this week, Commissioner Roger Goodell said "We're not afraid of the tough conversations. That is what we are having with our players ... Out of those discussions, they understand that the owners and the NFL really do care about their issues and what we can do to make their communities better." San Francisco 49ers safety Eric Reid called the discussion a great starting point, but he would continue to protest "until we get more concrete plans and to where I feel like I don't need to protest anymore because the NFL is providing a better platform."

Many of the players, for their part, are putting their commitment to social justice into action. Kaepernick has fulfilled almost all of a pledge to donate \$1 million from jersey sales to organizations working in oppressed communities. Anquan Boldin, whose own cousin was shot and killed by police, and Malcom Jenkins, whose brother struggled to rebound from a juvenile marijuana conviction, have created a Players Coalition of about 40 players who work on criminal justice reform issues.

The League needs to support and encourage this work and expand its scope so that it can, as Reid said, "provide a better platform." The work of individual players—and coalitions of players—is exemplary, but we need a concerted league-wide effort to address issues of racial justice.

## Winter Festival of Lights



Open to the Public

PHOTO CREDIT: WATKINS PARK

### WINTER FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS AT WATKINS PARK

301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Runs November 24, 2017–January 1, 2018 from 5–9:30 p.m. daily. \$10 per car; \$20 for mini-buses and limos; \$30 for buses; \$15 for multi-visit passes for cars and vans (good for three visits). The festival is FREE on December 25. You may bring canned food items to donate to local food banks for the holidays. Winter Festival of Lights is Prince George's County, Maryland's spectacular drive-through Christmas light display featuring more than a million twinkling lights.

The park is also home to the following facilities: Watkins Nature Center, the Chesapeake Carousel, Old Maryland Farm, the Watkins Regional Park miniature train and the Watkins Miniature Golf Course. Those who enjoy nature, sports, picnics, hiking, camping, or outdoor family activities will find plenty to do at Watkins Regional Park. Throughout the year the park hosts a variety of exciting special events including summer concerts in the park, the Winter Festival of Lights, National Senior Health Fitness Day, and charity runs/walks.

## Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



### We Can and Must Win for Children!

As congregations of all faiths are observing the National Observance of Children's Sabbaths® Celebration this weekend, "Moving Forward with Hope: Love and Justice for Every Child," I offer prayers for all child advocates in this very challenging time for children and families and all of us when a half century of struggle for a more inclusive and just nation is at risk. The laboriously woven child and family safety net created over decades and not yet completed is on the brink of obliteration with the administration and its congressional allies seeking to destroy our government's role and responsibility at all levels to protect those left behind. Racial, religious and gender intolerance are mushrooming out of control and all who care about children and the future must fight back with all our might. No matter the political climate we need to remain steadfast in our stewardship of future generations and our determination to shield children from harm.

Hang in there, all of you who love children. Never give up.

#### Praise of Diversity

Wouldn't it be dull if all people were White or Black or any single color? Wouldn't it be drab if the earth was all wrapped in brown? Wouldn't it be boring if everything was blue? Wouldn't it be blah if fields were all gray? Wouldn't it be tiresome if red was all day and no seasons took turns?

Thank You, God, for Your incredible panorama of people and sights and sounds and changes and vistas afar and miracles up close. Who but You could imagine and create such a universe of connected yet beautiful complexity and diversity?

#### You Can't Segregate God's Creation

God's family is big and inclusive and everybody belongs. God is not a Catholic, Methodist, or Baptist—Southern, National, American, or Progressive.

God is not a Presbyterian, Lutheran, Episcopalian, Evangelical, Pentacostal, Mormon, Greek or Russian Orthodox.  
God is not a Jew, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, or Baha'i.  
God is all these and far, far more.  
God is not republican or democrat, socialist or communist, liberal or conservative, or radical or moderate.  
God is all these and far, far more.  
God is not Black, Brown, Red, White, or Yellow but all these and all the blends in between.  
God is not rich, middle-class, or poor; straight or gay; young, old, or middle-aged.  
God is all these and far, far more.  
God is not pretty, ugly, skinny, fat, short, tall, able-bodied or disabled.  
God is all these and so much more.  
God is no respecter of certain persons but the Creator of all persons made in God's image with their own DNA.

God is not only in the sunshine or in the moonlight or in the seas or in the mountains or in the deserts or in the rain. God is in all these things and in so much more.  
Thank You, God, for Your presence and gifts everywhere in everyone in everything in life.

#### Prayer for Courage to Do Justice (By Alan Paton)

O Lord, open my eyes that I may see the needs of others; Open my ears that I may hear their cries; Open my heart so that they need not be without succor; Let me not be afraid to defend the weak because of the anger of the strong nor afraid to defend the poor because of the anger of the rich. Show me where love and hope and faith are needed, and use me to bring them to those places. And so open my eyes and my ears that I may, this

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## The Prince George's Post

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# BUSINESS

## Social Security Matters

### Ask Rusty—SSDI and the Ticket to Work Program

**Dear Rusty:** I am 60 and currently getting Social Security Disability, but I would like to return to work as much as possible. I am concerned with how my earned income would affect my Social Security at age 65 (or even at age 70). I understand that Social Security has a “trial work” program that allows me to keep receiving disability for a while, to allow me to test my physical limits. I wish to make sure that my Social Security Disability does NOT automatically convert to the standard (early) benefit at age 62 (Ouch!). I read something about a 96 month period that is crucial. So many factors involved, so I wish to make the right decision.

#### Signed: Wanting to Work While Disabled.

**Dear Wanting:** Social Security Disability Insurance, or SSDI, provides eligible disabled workers with a financial lifeline in return for the insurance premiums they've paid into the program during their working years. Although the criteria are stringent, once awarded the benefit provides income to partially replace earnings that are lost due to a long term disability. Social Security encourages those receiving SSDI benefits to eventually return to the workforce and offers a “Ticket to Work” program to help achieve that goal. This program gives you the chance to test your ability to work for at least nine “trial work months” during a 60 month period, and during this trial work period you'll receive your full SSDI benefit regardless of how much you earn. Briefly, any month you earn more than \$840 (for 2017) counts as a trial work month. After you have reached nine trial work months, you can still receive your SSDI benefits for another 36 months, except that you won't receive benefits for any month that your earnings exceed what Social Security considers “substantial”, which for 2017 is \$1,170 (note that these dollar amounts can change annually). If your benefits stop because your earnings regularly exceed “substantial”, and within 5 years you are again unable to work due to your disability, your disability benefits can be restarted (without having to re-apply). You can get full details about the Ticket to Work program by going to <https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10095.pdf>, but this program should allow you to work and test your physical limits without a negative impact to your Social Security benefits.

To address a few of your other concerns: Your earnings from attempting to return to work while disabled shouldn't negatively affect your future Social Security retirement benefit at your full retirement age. Your disability benefits will not automatically convert to early retirement benefits at age 62, but they will automatically convert to retirement benefits when you reach your full retirement age (which is 66 years plus 6 months if you were born in 1957). However when they convert, your benefit amount will remain the same as you were receiving in disability benefits. If you are on Medicare and your benefits stop as a result of exceeding the substantial earnings limit, as long as you are still disabled your free Medicare Part A coverage will continue for at least 93 months after the 9 month trial work period. However, you will still have to pay a Medicare Part B premium in order to receive Part B coverage.

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

#### PG Schools from A1

and retention of our teachers and school leaders will lead to sustained growth in student achievement,” said Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell, CEO, Prince George's County Public Schools. “We greatly appreciate the confidence of our federal partners and this in-

valuable contribution to success of our students.”

Prince George's County Public Schools is one of the nation's 25 largest public PreK-12 school districts and the second-largest in Maryland, serving a diverse student population from urban, suburban and rural communities.

## Disability Forum: Not a Hand Out, But an Opportunity

By R. JOSHUA REYNOLDS  
PGCEDC

FORESTVILLE, MD—On October 19, 2017, the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation's President and CEO Jim Coleman was among the featured speakers participating in National Disability Employment Awareness Month at The Arc of Prince George's County's 2nd Annual 'Inclusion Works' Breakfast. Robert Malone, Executive Director of The Arc Prince George's County, Jim Estep, Director of Operations of The Greater Prince George's Business Roundtable, along with top executives from Comcast NBCUniversal and the Federal Communications Commission were also in attendance to celebrate the important role individuals with disabilities play in workforce diversity. Comcast NBCUniversal is an employer partner that contributed a computer learning lab to The Arc's Employment Center last year to assist its clients in becoming more familiar and confident with computer technology. This year they are donating a SensoryRoom.

“The EDC is a beneficiary of the great work of The Arc,” said Coleman. “Just a few months ago, we were connected to a wonderful young man named Darius. Since his arrival, Darius has become an important part of our family using the skills he learned at The Arc. He's even gained new skills as a member of my team, and you can see his work in many of the pictures that we post on our social media platforms daily. My team has first-hand experience at the power of Inclusion and we know that it really works. I encourage all employers to get engaged with The Arc Prince George's County and hire someone from their pro-



PHOTO COURTESY R. JOSHUA REYNOLDS

EDC President & CEO Jim Coleman (far right), The Arc Prince George's Executive Director Rob Malone (Back row 4th from left) with panelists, Arc clients and community partners

gram. Your company will only grow and become better!”

The Arc Prince George's County, a membership organization with 600 members that include people with developmental disabilities, their families and friends, the professionals who work with them, and other concerned citizens. Through its partnerships with the business community, companies gain a greater understanding of how individuals with disabilities are trained, prepared and supported to go into the business world.

“We're excited to have so many employers here at our Inclusion Works Breakfast,” Malone. “We had a fantastic panel of employers and Arc clients who spoke to encourage employers to look beyond the myths and address the concept of hiring people with disabilities. The Arc Prince George's County is here to prepare our clients and employers to create an inclusive workplace.”

This event was also a celebration of the contributions of workers with disabilities and educate the business commu-

nity about the value of a diverse workforce, inclusive of their skills and talents. Each company, represented by both its company ‘champion’ and its employee with differing abilities, spoke on the importance workplace inclusiveness in giving individuals with differing abilities the opportunity to succeed without judgment or fears. The employees and employers alike expressed their gratification and sense of pride in being able to go to work in an inclusive environment.

“I've been a part of the Arc since 2003,” said Timothy York, Board of Directors, The Arc Prince George's County. “I'm currently in my second-term as the client member of the Board of Directors. I've enjoyed the process so much, and I never dreamed that I would be able to make such contributions to an organization. What I try to get people to understand is that this is not just a social service organization. The Arc's work involves intervening in the lives of people and their families. Sometimes it's a matter of life and death. After my parents passed

away, had it not been for The Arc, I sincerely believe that I would not be alive today.”

Employers also highlighted that their companies addressed their fears and concerns head on by developing viable solutions that have proven successful.

“Being in the construction industry there is extreme risk which was a major concern for us,” said Joe Senddorfer, Branch Manager at Road Safe Traffic Systems. “We overcame this by being systematic and working with all of the teams in our company to come up with a plan together. We had to figure out what worked best for everyone involved. The Arc was also very supportive in this process. I had to take a personal interest in matching my employees drive.

For more information on workforce development and job placement services, contact Jeffrey Swilley ([jswilley@co.pg.md.us](mailto:jswilley@co.pg.md.us)), EDC's Deputy Director of Business Services at 301-618-8400. To learn how to engage with The Arc Prince George's County, please contact Danielle Milner at [dmilner@thearcofpgc.org](mailto:dmilner@thearcofpgc.org).

#### License from A1

1317, the terms of the previous Commissioners were terminated when the bill was enacted and these appointments were made. Each member of the Board now must have one of the following: legal experience; public safety experience; regulatory experience; and management experience. When evaluating an applicant for membership on the Board, County Executive Baker also considered the need for geographic, political, racial, ethnic, and gender diversity on the Board.

“I am honored to be nominated as Chair of the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners and thank County Executive Baker for this privilege to serve my County,” said nominated Board Chairman Thomas H. Graham. “I look forward to working with the Prince George's County Senate Delegation through the confirmation process and eventually providing a new era of leadership, integrity and transparency between the Board of License Commissioners and the Prince George's County residents and business community.”

The Board generally holds three hearings a month. Hearings are typically the first and second Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. to adjudicate alleged violations, issue permits and consider items associated with the operation of licensed premises. The third hearing is scheduled the fourth Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. to issue new licenses and transfer existing licenses. The public is encouraged to attend the hearings. For more information about the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners

please go to <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/562/Board-of-License-Commissioners>

#### BIOS OF NOMINATED CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONERS:

##### Thomas H. Graham, Chairman:

Graham was responsible for overseeing special projects for Governmental and External Affairs for Pepco Holdings. Most recently, Graham was vice president People Strategy and Human Resources for Pepco Holdings Inc. (PHI). Based in Washington, D.C., Pepco Holdings employs more than 4,700 people, owns more than \$16.1 billion in assets and generates approximately \$4.8 billion in annual revenues. He was responsible for developing and implementing enterprise-wide policies and programs encompassing all aspects of human resource management including employment, employee and labor relations, employee benefits, succession planning, compensation, performance accountability, employee training, placement, organizational development, diversity programs, compliance with applicable federal laws, and management and employee assistance.

During his 30-year career, Graham held several leadership positions that include president, Pepco region; regional vice president; manager strategic accounts; and manager billing services & investigations. Graham served on the board of the Center for Energy Workforce Development (Chair), DC Chamber of Commerce (Vice Chair) and Maryland Chamber of Commerce (Chair). Currently he serves as a Director for Prince George's County Economic De-

velopment Corporation, Excellence in Education Foundation, Green Branch Foundation (Chair), Greater Prince George's Business Roundtable and Old Line Bancshares, Inc. Other notable affiliations include Leadership Maryland, Leadership Montgomery, American Association of Blacks in Energy (D.C. chapter president) and Leadership Prince George's (immediate past president).

Mr. Graham, a resident of Upper Marlboro, has a Bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Tampa. In 2005, he completed the Senior Executive Leadership Certificate Program at Georgetown University.

##### Eric Bowman:

Eric Bowman is the President of Key Security Solutions—a company that works with government, corporate, and private business entities to develop high level security solutions. Eric has demonstrated across a career spanning 3 decades that whether it is supporting the security of various entities or ensuring peace in the community, that safety is important to him. As a Captain and Assistant Commander with the Prince George's County Police Department, he lead a command of over 300 people and was critical in implementing the nation's first Video Surveillance/Gunshot Detection Technology Project. Eric's retirement from the police department did not mean retirement from his conviction to serve, so he channeled his expertise into various projects that include Security Management for Hewlett Packard and a Security Assessment Con-

tract with the U.S. Postal Service. With a skillset that ranges from public safety management to criminal investigations, Eric has a breadth of experience that has truly benefited the community.

Mr. Bowman received a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Management and Executive Leadership from Johns Hopkins University and lives in Brandywine, MD.

##### Armando “Joe” Camacho:

Armando “Joe” Camacho is President and Owner of Bud Miller Associates, Inc. From awards to branded merchandise, Bud Miller Associates supplies a diverse catalog of clients with their promotional needs. Mr. Camacho has demonstrated across five decades that service to others is a pillar in his belief system. In the United States Air Force, he demonstrated his commitment to service as a Hungarian Linguist and his chapter of civilian life is filled with critical volunteer work for Prince George's County. Most recently, he has been a member of the Police Chief's Citizen Advisory Council and he previously served on the Board of License Commissioners. Additionally, his belief in uplifting others is evident in his decade-long commitment to organizations like Progress Place and the Center for Excellence in Education.

Mr. Camacho graduated with a Bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland and lives in Laurel, MD.

##### ShaRon M. Grayson Kelsey:

ShaRon Grayson Kelsey is an attorney at her own small

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# OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S  
IN THE DARK  
Movie Review

It

It  
Grade: B-  
Rated R, abundant profanity,  
some vulgar dialogue, graphic  
horror violence and scariness  
2 hr., 15 min

It is very long for a horror movie (135 minutes), yet covers only half of the Stephen King novel it's based on, yet is full of half-mentioned details that seem to have been crammed in hurriedly. I guess it's fitting that a nostalgic tale set in a childhood summertime would seem both eternal and not long enough, and feature a carnivorous sewer clown. (Your childhood summers may have been different from mine.)

Scary? Yes, when it wants to be, and often bloody and murderous, though not as much as the novel prescribes or the R rating would have allowed. Directed by Andy Muschietti (*Mama*) from a screenplay credited to Chase Palmer, Cary Fukunaga (*Beasts of No Nation*), and Gary Dauberman (*Annabelle*), this adaptation, rather than inspiring deep-seated terror, tends to be frightening in the carnival funhouse sort of way. But it's also about childhood friendship and coming of age in a manner that makes it a slightly less gross companion piece to *Stand by Me*.

The first part of King's 1986 novel was set in the summer of 1958. That's been updated to 1989 (nostalgia stops being lucrative if you go TOO far back), which now seems about as quaint as the '50s did then, especially in the small Maine town of Derry. Here we meet a group of too many 13-year-olds, more than the film needs or has the wherewithal to develop, personalitywise.

Their leader is Bill (Jaeden Lieberher), a sensitive boy with a stutter whose little brother went missing last fall, which happens to a lot of Derry children on account of the carnivorous sewer clown (though nobody knows that's the reason; they just think, "Huh, lots of kids disappear here, weird"). Then there's Eddie (Jack Dylan Grazer), a motermouth who we eventually realize is supposed to be a germaphobic hypochondriac; Richie (Finn Wolfhard), another motermouth but with eyeglasses who we eventually get is "the smart-



ROTTENTOMATOES

**New Line Cinema's horror thriller *IT*, directed by Andy Muschietti (*Mama*), is based on the hugely popular Stephen King novel of the same name, which has been terrifying readers for decades. When children begin to disappear in the town of Derry, Maine, a group of young kids are faced with their biggest fears when they square off against an evil clown named Pennywise, whose history of murder and violence dates back for centuries.**

aleck"; and Stanley (Wyatt Ol-eff), the Jewish one.

But wait, there's more! There is also a fat kid, Ben (Jeremy Ray Taylor), who has a crush on out-cast Beverly (Sophia Lillis), whose father is a pervert. And there's also a black kid, Mike (Chosen Jacobs), who's home-schooled and has to kill sheep with a bolt-gun as part of his step-father's business. All seven children are self-described "losers," which is doubly true when you consider that at least two of them (Mike and either Richie or Eddie) are extraneous to the movie's plot. On the other hand, the kids have a potty-mouthed rapport that rings hilariously true from what I recall of being a 13-year-old boy. They may be interchangeable or unnecessary, but they're likable, normal kids.

The film's title character, played by Bill Skarsgard, is an ancient evil entity that lives in Derry's sewers and generally takes the form of a circus clown. Pennywise, as *It* calls itself, is a chilling mixture of levity and menace (just like a real clown), but *It* can apparently shape-shift into anything it wants, appear or disappear at will, and make people hallucinate.

It feeds on children, though not as wantonly as you'd think.

All of the "losers" have a run-in with *It* at some point. Sometimes *It* appears in the form of something previously established as something a particular child is afraid of, but that's not consistent. It is likewise unclear what Pennywise's limitations are. Each of those run-ins could have resulted in the child's death but didn't. It either couldn't finish the job for reasons the movie doesn't explain, or else *It* only wanted to terrorize them, not kill them (also without explanation). At any rate, the kids realize they've all had sightings of the same thing and set out to destroy it, like you do.

When the movie focuses on these primary concerns, it's a shivery, armrest-gripping good time. Thanks to excellent makeup and Skarsgard's insidious performance, every moment with Pennywise is at least unnerving, often terrifying, and the kids' fear is palpable. Muschietti directs these sequences with assured skill.

That clown isn't the only evil presence in Derry, though. There are a lot of freelancers, too, including Beverly's dad (Stephen Bogaert), Eddie's mom (Mollie Jane Atkinson), and a trio of bullies (two more than the story needs). All of

these people eat up screen time without contributing to the larger themes, and their interactions with the main characters are among the details that got shafted in the adaptation. The situation with Eddie's mom—who for some reason is wearing an amazingly fake-looking fat suit that only covers her upper body and makes her the shape of a refrigerator—is glossed over in a few lines of dialogue (why even bother?); the bullies' vicious cruelty seems random and unmotivated; and Beverly's dad's atrocities have been obscured to the point of undermining the points they were supposed to have made about Beverly's psychology.

But the degree of difficulty in adapting a hugely popular and very lengthy novel into a film that respects fans' attachment to the source while appealing to the uninitiated is immense, and *It* mostly pulls it off. The trims and elisions that would have made it a better movie would have betrayed the readers, many of whom are as nostalgic about the book as the book is about Stephen King's childhood. Hey, for a King horror novel to be turned into a movie that isn't terrible is noteworthy on its own.

## Cutting Cable Costs

### Streaming Content Box Cuts Your Cable and Costs



PHOTO COURTESY NEWSUSA

NewsUSA—Cable TV? That was so three years ago.

These days, consumers are opting to cut the cable cord and stream their TV live.

According to a study by Deloitte in Nov. 2014, the stronghold that cable, satellite and telecommunications companies have held over TV programming is giving way to subscription streaming services and products that use this platform.

Some common complaints and reasons for dropping cable service include the high cost of packages, having to watch programs when they are aired, and the inconvenience of multiple desirable shows airing at once.

While cable subscribers have cited live sports as a reason to stick with traditional cable, various professional sports organizations are detecting the shift away from this model, as noted by the NFL's recent interest in providing streaming content to its consumers.

"The NFL has always been committed to being at the forefront of media innovation," says NFL commissioner Roger Goodell in a statement. "[W]e are taking another important step in that direction as we continue to closely monitor the rapidly evolving digital media landscape."

To this end, one company is doing its best to lure customers away from their cable boxes and satellite dishes and, to date, the virtual monopoly that has been in place.

ZUMMBOX 2.0 is a 4K streaming media player with a built-in digital antenna, which allows users to enjoy all of their traditional streaming content, while providing access to free television programming.

The way it works is this: the box essentially serves as a content-aggregating device, featuring a built-in app store, allowing consumers to download a variety of apps and other software that provides access to a diverse range of TV shows, movies, sports, gaming, podcasts, and radio.

Other key features include voice command recognition, Bluetooth compatibility, built-in DVR, and an optical import for surround sound, as well as four USB ports and three memory options.

For parents who are concerned about certain programming, the device includes a parental control feature and complies with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act. The device also complies with the Online Privacy Protection Act, and does not distribute personal information to outside parties without the consent of the user.

Unlike its competitors, there is no contract, no monthly fees and a two-year warranty. The product is available for a one-time payment of \$159 and available online exclusively at Fundingotc.com.

Zumm and the creators of the ZUMMBOX 2.0 have been working with Fundingotc.com, a unique full-service crowdfunding platform, to help launch this device. The difference between Fundingotc.com and other crowdfunding sites is that, instead of a large quantity of campaigns with questionable viability and best efforts deliverables, Fundingotc.com only posts time-to-market technologies and opportunities that have been proven to deliver.

"Time-to-market" means that the companies and products offered on this platform are already tested and past the initial development stage. Fundingotc.com also provides access to extensive marketing capabilities spanning print, radio, TV, affiliate marketing and other media outlets.

Fundingotc.com clients receive full service from copy and posting, to media and advertising. So unlike every other crowdfunding platform, they work to drive traffic to client campaigns.

## "Across the Bay 10K" to Result in Temporary Closure of Bay Bridge's Eastbound Span

By PRESS OFFICER  
MDTA

BALTIMORE, MD—Weather permitting, the eastbound span of the Bay Bridge (US 50/301) will be closed temporarily to traffic.

### What:

Two-way traffic operations will be in place on the westbound span. One lane of traffic will operate in each direction on the westbound span, with the center lane closed to traffic. NOTE: The center lane may open to traffic intermittently to help reduce westbound delays.

In addition, the following closures and detours will be in place on the Eastern Shore during the event:

- The off-ramp from eastbound US 50 to MD 8 will be closed. A detour

will be in place to direct motorists to the next exit at Thompson Creek Road. From there, motorists will travel westbound on MD 835 to the signal at MD 8.

- The on-ramp from MD 8 to westbound US 50 will be closed. All traffic attempting to access westbound US 50 will be directed to MD 18, to the roundabout at Castle Marina Road and onto westbound US 50.
- MD 18 between Main Street and Love Point Road will be closed. All traffic will be detoured through Stevensville on Love Point Road and Main Street.
- In addition, residents wishing to travel west on US 50 are advised to approach the highway from either Duke Street or Castle Marina Road.

### WHEN:

Sunday, Nov. 5, from approximately 12:01 a.m.–2 p.m.

### WHY:

The "Across the Bay 10K" running event will be held on the eastbound span. For additional information on the event, visit [bridgerace.com](http://bridgerace.com).

Motorists using the Bay Bridge on Nov. 5 will experience significant delays throughout the day. To avoid delays, motorists are urged to travel prior to 6 a.m. or after 6 p.m.

To view real-time traffic camera images at the Bay Bridge, visit [baybridge.com](http://baybridge.com). For real-time updates on major incidents follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/TheMDTA](https://twitter.com/TheMDTA).

Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/TheMDTA](https://facebook.com/TheMDTA). The MDTA thanks motorists for their patience.



## Calendar of Events

November 2 — November 8, 2017

### Holiday Toy Drive

Date and time: Thursday, November 2, 2017 through December 18, 2017, 2:00 pm–9:00 pm  
Description: Let's make this holiday season one to remember! Throughout the month of November until December 18, we will accept new, unwrapped holiday gifts for children in need. Every little bit counts, so consider donating this holiday season!  
Drop-off time is from 2 pm to 9 pm  
Cost: FREE  
Ages: All ages are welcome  
Location: North Brentwood Community Center  
4012 Webster Street, North Brentwood, MD  
Contact: 301-864-0756

### Let Go of My LEGOs

Date and time: Friday, November 3, 2017, 6:00 pm  
Description: It is time to play and learn with LEGOs! Through use of LEGOs, you can improve your fine motor and problem solving skills, better your grasp of math and engineering, even expand your senses. Part of STEAM Fest 2017—Engineering  
Cost: FREE  
Ages: 9–12  
Location: Palmer Park Community Center  
7720 Barlowe Road, Landover, MD  
Contact: 301-773-5665; TTY 301-699-2544

### Xtreme Teens: College Readiness

Date and time: Friday, November 3, 2017, 7:00 pm–10:00 pm  
Description: Ready! Set! Learn! During this informative workshop, teens will learn how to complete college applications and write essays. They'll also get a feel of what to expect when going to college, how to prepare, and talk about the PSAT, SAT, and ACT.  
Cost: FREE! with appropriate ID  
Ages: 10–17  
Location: Rollingcrest/Chillum Community Center  
6120 Sargent Road, Chillum, MD  
Contact: 301-853-2005; TTY 301-699-2544

### Xtreme Teens: Plant Terrarium

Date and time: Friday, November 3, 2017, 7:00 pm–10:00 pm  
Description: Have you been thinking about doing a little in-house gardening this winter? Is your green thumb actually a shade closer to brown? Come learn a fun way to do some inside planting using a glass container!  
Cost: FREE! with M-NCPPC Youth ID  
Ages: 10–17  
Location: Prince George's Plaza Community Center  
6600 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD  
Contact: 301-864-1611; TTY 301-699-2544

### STEAM Film Festival

Date and time: Friday, November 3, 2017, 7:30 pm  
Description: Come enjoy movie snacks and watch the recent released, highly acclaimed film about the untold story of African American women who worked at NASA and helped to launch astronaut John Glen into orbit. If this does not get you excited about STEAM, then what will!  
Cost: FREE  
Ages: 10 and older  
Location: Cedar Heights Community Center  
1200 Glen Willow Drive, Seat Pleasant, MD  
Contact: 301-773-8881; TTY 301-699-2544

### Trash To Treasure Green Craft Fair

Date and time: Saturday, November 4, 2017, 10:00 am–4:00 pm  
Description: Meet a variety of artists and crafters that create arts and crafts from reused, recycled, responsibly harvested/ sustainable or environmentally friendly products. Many types of green crafts, art, and items will be for sale.  
Cost: FREE  
Ages: All ages are welcome  
Location: Watkins Nature Center  
301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD  
Contact: 301-218-6700; TTY 301-699-2544

### Rain Gardens

Date and time: Saturday, November 4, 2017, 11:00 am–2:00 pm  
Description: As part of our STEAM Fest Kick-Off Event, our Maintenance and Development Division will be hosting a booth to educate all on the benefits of Rain Gardens! Learn why they are so important and exactly how they are able to filter so well. See you at the Kick-Off!  
Cost: FREE  
Ages: All ages are welcome  
Location: The Show Place Arena  
14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro, MD  
Contact: 240-821-7139; TTY 301-699-2544

### Xtreme Teens: Celebrate Chemistry Week

Date and time: Saturday, November 4, 2017, 2:00 am–10:00 pm  
Description: What do you get when you cross a boulder with a bag of Jolly Ranchers™? Rock Candy, of course!! Now, join us in the laboratory to concoct your own version of rock candy as we celebrate Chemistry Week.  
This project will take two sessions. Come back next Saturday, November 11, to see and taste your homemade rock candy.  
Cost: FREE! with M-NCPPC Youth ID  
Ages: 10–17  
Location: Beltsville Community Center  
3900 Sellman Road, Beltsville, MD  
Contact: 301-937-6613; TTY 301-699-2544

### Cooking Concoctions

Date and time: Monday, November 6, 2017, 6:00 pm  
Description: Let's take cooking to a new culinary level! Come and enjoy a cooking experience from the perspective of a chemist! At this event, you will combine science and art to make an explosively tasty treat any chemist would appreciate.  
Cost: FREE  
Ages: 6–10  
Location: Bladensburg Community Center  
4500 57th Avenue, Bladensburg, MD  
Contact: 301-277-2124; TTY 301-699-2544

## EARTH TALK ... Keeping Kids Safe From Environmental Hazards

Dear EarthTalk:

*How can we keep our kids safe from environmental hazards all around us in our everyday lives?*

—Jennifer Nichols,  
Wareham, MA

Children are affected by the same environmental hazards as adults, only they're more vulnerable given their smaller size and the fact that their bodies are still developing. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), harmful exposures can start as early as in utero.

"Proportionate to their size, children ingest more food, drink more water and breathe more air than adults," reports WHO. "Additionally, certain modes of behavior, such as putting hands and objects into the mouth and playing outdoors can increase children's exposure to environmental contaminants."

Some of the most common contaminants we should be vigilant about avoiding include pesticides (in foods), lead (in old paint), asbestos (in insulation and construction materials), BPA (in plastic food/drink containers and the lining of cans), PFCs (in non-stick cookware, carpeting and mattresses) and flame retardants (in furniture and drapery). And, of course, many branded household

cleaners contain potentially hazardous ingredients (bleach, ammonia, diethanolamine, triethanolamine) as well.

Given how common these elements are in today's world, keeping kids safe isn't an easy task. For starters, choose organic food and drink whenever possible to cut down on the pesticides your kids ingest. While pesticides work well to keep away the bugs that can ruin harvests, they also can cause neurological and reproductive problems for humans who ingest traces of them. Apples, celery, strawberries, peaches, spinach, nectarines, grapes, bell peppers, potatoes, blueberries, lettuce and kale/collard greens are the worst offenders in the produce aisle, according to the Environmental Working Group (EWG), so definitely spring for organic versions of these particular fruits and veggies. Packaged and processed foods likely contain plenty of pesticide residues, too, unless they are marked as certified organic.

To avoid household cleaners, the Organic Consumers Association (OCA) recommends ditching the expensive specialized products that likely contain harmful chemical additives. "A few safe, simple ingredients like soap, water, baking soda, vinegar, lemon juice and borax, aided by a little elbow grease and a coarse sponge for scrubbing, can take care of most household



CREDIT: RODDY SCHEER

**Children are affected by the same environmental hazards as adults, only they're more vulnerable given their smaller size and the fact that their bodies are still developing.**

cleaning needs." Look for specific formulations on organicconsumers.org, as well as links to some environmentally friendly name-brand household cleaners.

While there is less we can do individually about air pollution if we want our kids to spend time outdoors, at the macro level we can all help by driving our cars less and turning down our thermostats (to reduce the emissions we cause) and ordering less stuff online (to cut down on air pollution from shipping).

Parents, teachers and caregivers should educate themselves about what to avoid and become expert label readers so they can make health-smart choices. Meanwhile, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)

is urging pediatricians to take a greater interest in the environmental impacts on the health of their patients and discuss with parents how to keep kids safe in and around the home, the neighborhood, and at school.

CONTACTS: WHO, www.who.int; EWG, www.ewg.org; OCA, www.organicconsumers.org; CDC, www.cdc.gov.

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

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firm in Bowie, Maryland. Her commitment to justice has motivated her to work regularly with Prince George's County as the sole counsel to the Department of Social Services Child Abuse and Neglect Appeals Division; she acts as a Hearing Examiner, and is also regularly appointed to serve as a trustee, guardian, and representative in estate cases. As an impressive display of legal breadth and knowledge, Attorney Grayson

Kelsey holds licenses to practice law from federal level courts in Maryland and the District of Columbia to the United States Supreme Court. She also invests in the community through her volunteer work at the Maryland Pro Bono Resource Center, as an annual mentor through the Maryland Court of Appeals, and through various events and services as a member of several bar associations. In addition to her extensive background in law that spans over 25 years, she is also a Maryland licensed Real

Estate Broker who owns and operates Kelsey Realty, Inc.

Ms. Grayson Kelsey graduated from the University of Maryland, received her Juris Doctorate from the Georgetown University Law Center, and currently lives in Upper Marlboro, MD with her husband and two daughters.

### Ken Miles:

Ken Miles is a Computer Operations Manager for UNITE, Ken's role as a project manager helped him develop an ability to implement new programs and

guide large networks of personnel through challenging institutional transitions. Also, as a Communications Specialist with AFT Maryland, he built upon his prior experience and worked as a lobbyist that collaborated with local leaders and legislative committees. He has demonstrated his expertise in managing, conceptualizing, and launching at each stage of his career and has continued to pour these abilities into excellent service at the County level.

Mr. Miles is a resident of Brandywine, MD.



### Go green this Halloween and compost your pumpkin.

The Prince George's County Department of the Environment (DoE) is pleased to announce that it will collect pumpkins for composting on Monday, November 6 and Monday, November 13, 2017. In addition to pumpkins, dried corn, hay and straw will also be picked-up for composting along with yard trim.

Residents may also drop off pumpkins and other yard trim at the County's Public Convenience Centers

#### Brown Station Road Public Container Pad and Recycling Area

3501 Brown Station Road  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland  
Monday - Saturday and holidays: 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday: Closed

#### Missouri Avenue Solid Waste Acceptance and Recycling Center

12701 Missouri Avenue  
Brandywine, Maryland  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 6:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Saturday and holidays: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday: Closed

For more information, contact County Click at 3-1-1.

#### TO PARTICIPATE:

Items should be placed curbside for pickup. Pumpkins are not required to be bagged, but paper lawn/leaf bags must be used if residents choose to bag their items for collection. Pumpkins should be free of inorganic materials such as candles, wax, artificial lighting, loose decorations, etc.

