

The Prince George's Post



A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY SINCE 1932

Vol. 88, No. 12 March 19 — March 25, 2020

Prince George's County, Maryland

Newspaper of Record

Phone: 301-627-0900

25 cents

Council Chair Todd M. Turner Announces Council Response To Coronavirus in Prince George's County

By KAREN D. CAMPBELL

Prince George's County Council Media

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (March 13, 2020)—The Prince George's County Council is deeply concerned about the impact of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, on the health and safety of our residents and employees. We continue to work closely with County Executive Angela Alsobrooks, her Executive team, the County Health Department and Office of Emergency Management to address services, information and any nec-

essary resources to our County in response to this health emergency.

The Council must balance its responsibility to continue serving our community to the fullest extent possible as a legislative body, including as the County's Board of Health, and under our land-use and fiscal authority, while protecting the health, welfare and safety of our residents and staff. The Council has already participated in the dissemination of information from the Health Department to residents and communities; and is encouraging important rec-

ommended precautions, including hand-washing, use of sanitizers, and other virus-reducing practices.

In alignment with the social distancing guidance provided by the Executive Branch, and the County Health Department, the Council is making several significant adjustments to Council duties, sessions and committee meeting schedules, and is reviewing alternative means of communication and public participation in its processes.

See COUNCIL RESPONSE Page A8

PGCPS Expands Sites For Free Student Meal Pickups, Adding Breakfast and Snacks

25 schools now open weekdays, reaching more students and families

By OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS
Prince George's County Public Schools

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (March 16, 2020)—Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) has expanded the number of sites available to students for "grab and go" meals during the statewide public school temporary closings.

Starting Tuesday, March 17, a total of 25 schools will offer breakfast, lunch and a snack on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Last week, PGCPS announced nine locations to serve as sites for lunch through Friday, March 27. All Maryland public schools are closed.

"Expanding the number of meal sites will allow us to reach more communities that serve some of our most vulnerable families," said Dr. Monica Goldson, Chief Executive Officer. "The PGCPS family is at our best when we come together as a village for our students."

Dr. Goldson announced the expanded locations in a letter today to families and community members. School system staff will be on hand to distribute the meals in the cafeteria or parking lot depending on the weather. Students may pick up all three meals, which may include cold cereal, a sack lunch, fruit and milk, in one visit. Parents and guardians are not required to accompany students; meals will not be served to adults and adults may not pick up meals for children. Student IDs are not required. Additional sites may be added depending on the demand.

The list of sites is below:

- Andrew Jackson Academy, 3500 Regency Parkway, Forestville
- Benjamin Tasker Middle School, 4901 Collington Road, Bowie
- Buck Lodge Middle School, 2611 Buck Lodge Road, Adelphi
- Carmody Hills Elementary, 401 Jadeleaf Ave., Capitol Heights
- District Heights Elementary, 2200 County Road, District Heights
- Drew-Freeman Middle School, 2600 Brooks Drive, Suitland
- Dwight D. Eisenhower Middle School, 13725 Briarwood Drive, Laurel
- Hillcrest Heights Elementary, 4305 22nd Place, Temple Hills
- J. Frank Dent Elementary, 2700 Corning Ave., Fort Washington
- John Bayne Elementary, 7010 Walker Mill Road, Capitol Heights
- Judge Sylvania Woods Elementary, 3000 Church St., Glenarden
- Kenmoor Middle School, 2500 Kenmoor Drive, Landover
- Langley Park-McCormick Elementary, 8201 15th Ave., Hyattsville
- Longfields Elementary, 3300 Newkirk Ave., Forestville
- Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School, 4545 Ammendale Road, Beltsville
- Nicholas Orem Middle School, 6100 Editors Park Drive, Hyattsville
- Port Towns Elementary, 4351 58th Ave., Bladensburg
- Samuel Chase Elementary, 5700 Fisher Road, Temple Hills
- Stephen Decatur Middle School, 8200 Pinewood Drive, Clinton
- Suitland Elementary, 4650 Towne Park Road, Suitland
- Templeton Elementary, 6001 Carters Lane, Riverdale
- Thurgood Marshall Middle School, 4909 Brinkley Road, Temple Hills
- Walker Mill Middle School, 800 Karen Blvd., Capitol Heights
- William Paca Elementary, 7801 Sheriff Road, Landover
- William Wirt Middle School, 6200 Tuckerman St., Riverdale Park



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY BLACK HEALTH MATTERS

The men of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Ft Washington, MD Alumni Chapter listening to a presentation by Black Health Matters and Presenter, Dr. Adam R. Metwalli, Urologic Oncologist of Howard University Hospital.

Black Health Matters' Precision Oncology Hosted Workshop To Educate Members of Kappa Alpha Fraternity, Inc. About Prostate Cancer and Clinical Trial Participation

Physicians & Advocates Talk to African American Men About Prostate Cancer

By DEVON ALLEN

Black Health Matters

FT WASHINGTON, Md. (March 16, 2020) Black Health Matters, the nation's leading integrated platform on African American health hosted a workshop on Friday, March 13, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in conjunction with Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Fort Washington (MD) Alumni Chapter, Harmony Hall, 10701 Livingston Road, Ft. Washington, MD 20744.

The focus was to raise awareness of prostate health, prostate cancer and clinical

trials. This initiative is a part of Precision Oncology, which was launched in July 2019 at Kappa Alpha Psi's Grand Chapter meeting in Philadelphia. This educational program is funded by Bristol-Myers Squibb.

African American men are at an increased risk for developing prostate cancer over white men and other men of color. One in six African American men will develop prostate cancer in his lifetime. Overall, African American men are 1.8 times more likely to be diagnosed with—and 2.2 times more likely to die from—prostate cancer than white men. African American

men are also slightly more likely than white men to be diagnosed with advanced disease.¹ "Understanding why African-American men are more likely to be diagnosed with aggressive prostate cancer than men of other racial and ethnic groups is a critical, unanswered question in cancer disparities research," said NCI Director, Ned Sharpless, M.D.

Black Health Matters has formed strategic partnerships with important organizations focused on serving the African Amer-

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MedStar Southern Maryland Opens New Cancer Center

By CHERYL RICHARDSON

MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center

CLINTON, Md. (March 10, 2020)—On Thursday, February 27, MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center celebrated the opening of its new cancer center, MedStar Georgetown Cancer Institute at MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The new cancer center combines unmatched medical expertise, leading-edge therapies, and robust clinical research to provide the best possible care to people who live and work in Prince George's County and the Southern Maryland region.

"The cancer center we are formally opening today is a beautiful new facility that combines state-of-the-art technology with a peaceful and healing environment. Our multidisciplinary team of dedicated cancer experts works together to provide the latest, evidence-based therapies to treat cancer," said Christine Wray, president of MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center and MedStar Health senior vice president.

Hospital officials were joined by many state and local leaders, including Senator Thomas V. Miller, Jr., Maryland senate president emeritus; Dr. Ernest Carter, health officer of the Prince George's County Health Department; Dr. Louis M. Weiner, director of the Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center and MedStar Georgetown Cancer Institute; and Dr. Stephen

"Eric" Rubenstein, medical director of the MedStar Georgetown Cancer Institute at MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center. The ceremony also included remarks from cancer survivors Nomoya Malcolm and Bruce Rowe, both of whom received treatment at the center.

"I am so excited about this cancer center open-

Left to Right: Dr. Stephen Eric Rubenstein, Dr. Andrew Satinsky, Dr. Louis Weiner, Mr. Bruce Rowe, Dr. Ernest Carter, Ms. Nomoya Malcolm after the ribbon-cutting on Feb. 27, 2020.

PHOTO COURTESY MEDSTAR SOUTHERN MARYLAND HOSPITAL CENTER



ing up in Prince George's County, and it's just so incredible that MedStar had the vision to allow our residents to stay here in the county to get their services done," Dr. Carter said of the cancer center.

The new facility offers 25,000 square feet of treatment space. Notable capabilities include a state-of-the-art infusion center with eight treatment

bays and a brand-new women's imaging suite, with on-site DEXA bone density scans, ultrasound, and 3D mammography.

The center's robust radiation therapy includes technologies that are not available anywhere else

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A 25-year community development and philanthropic leader, Guillaume-Deleamar's award-winning work has helped both local and national funders.

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... children need adults to help them process and cope with any uncertainty and dangers in their daily lives.

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Kim Rhim Honored With William Donald Schaefer Helping People Award

The award is presented in each of Maryland's 23 counties and Baltimore City to individuals and organizations with an unwavering commitment to helping people.

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Health Insurance: Special Enrollment Open During Maryland's Coronavirus State of Emergency

Uninsured Marylanders may enroll through MarylandHealthConnection.gov, the state's health insurance marketplace. Individuals can enroll starting Monday, March 16 through Wednesday, April 15.

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TOWNS *and* NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301-735-3451

Morningside Election, Census and more—will the virus make a difference?

Census Event, Elections, Easter Bunny Event, Senior Luncheon, Spring Cleanup—Morningside has a lot coming up. But I'm aware any or all could be cancelled or delayed because of the coronavirus.

The next Census event is scheduled for April 18, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. There'll be a raffle drawing for attendees, free food and music, an opportunity for you to meet the Mayor, Town Council and Town employees. And assistance in filling out your census form online.

The Town Election is coming up May 4 and four are running for two Council seats: John Anthony, incumbent Sharon Fowler, Sheila Scott and Dave Williams. Next week I'll profile them.

I'm waiting to see if other activities are ready for announcement. As you know, all things are uncertain right now. But for information call 301-736-2300.

Neighbors and other good people

Gerry (Gerald T.) Jolliffe was the only person I've ever known born on a Leap Day. Gerry was born Feb. 29, 1952. He grew up in District Heights and served in the Army. I remember helping his mom Jean pack food to send him when he was in Vietnam. This Leap Day I found him on the Net. I learned he had married Margaret and he lived in Lake View, S.C. However, on Feb. 21, 2014 he died at the age of 61, having celebrated only 15+ birthdays. He is buried at Cheltenham.

President/CEO Dr. Marco J. Clark is leaving Bishop McNamara High School after 23 years of distinguished service. On June 5 there will be a Farewell Fellowship event open to the public.

Condolences to Father Jeffrey Samaha on the death of his mother, Leya Sheahin Linn.

I want to thank the Town of Morningside for the beautiful flowers delivered on my 91st birthday March 12, and the lovely card signed by the Mayor, all the Council Members and Clerk-Treasurer Karen Rooker.

Changing landscape

The Weather Building on Auth Road is being leveled and looks very sad. I remember when it was built and it has become a local landmark. Don't know what's going to go up on that site.

Clinton Urgent Care has opened on Allentown Road. The sign on the front lists hours, and that it is closed on Sunday. For information, call 301-877-7700.

The McDonald's on Oxon Hill Road is under total re-construction.

Open House for interested youth interested in cooking etc. at Our Saviour's Church

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 4915 St. Barnabas Rd., Temple Hills, is holding a 4-H Open House on April 3, 6 to 7 p.m. and April 4, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., for youth ages 8-18.

During the Open House, information will be available for young people seeking interesting activities. Presently, possible programs involve fashion and sewing, crafting, gardening, healthy teen relationships and cooking/marketing with the Furlough Cheesecake Sisters.

The 4-H Club is the largest youth organization in the country, has been in existence since 1902, provides a supportive setting to help young people reach their fullest potential, and strives to bring youth, families and the community together.

If you are interested in this valuable program, call 301-894-3556 and leave a message.

Morningside Memories: MVFD 1954

The initial meeting of the Morningside Volunteer Fire Department's installation of officers was on January 7, 1954. Mayor Shugarts presented each of them with their badges of office and thanked the Department for their service.

Officers installed were: Chief G. Glaubitz, Asst. Chief T. Goff, Captain, L. Ditmars, Fire Marshal R. McCormick, Lt. D. Holmes, Lt. C. Loughmiller, President, L. Gelbman, Vice

President W. Price, Treasurer, C. Loughmiller, Supt. Of Machinery, H. Alley.

Junior Associate officers: Capt., C. Goff, Lt. R. Ditmars, Sgt. J. Crowe, Secretary, F. Holmes and Chaplain J. Beardmore.

The Department voted membership to the Rev. J. Carr of Morningside Baptist Chapel, to serve as Chaplain.

The Ladies' Auxiliary served "homemade refreshments, which hit a high note for the evening." This story comes from the Morningside-Skyline Bulletin & Advertiser.

Saying goodbye to two State Senators

In recent weeks, we have lost two officials whom I remember fondly: Pete Bozick and Ulysses Currie.

Peter Bozick, 94, served from 1971 to 1982 as a Maryland State Senator from Prince George's County, alongside Congressman Steny Hoyer and Senator Mike Miller. Among his many accomplishments was helping in the formation of the Chesapeake Bay Commission. He died Feb. 24 in Salisbury.

Ulysses Currie, 82, spent more than 30 years as teacher and principal in the Prince George's Public Schools. In 1986 he was elected to the House of Delegates representing District 25 and was appointed majority whip. In 1994 he was elected to the State Senate, retiring in 2018. He died Dec. 27 at his home in Prince George's County.

Milestones

If Gladys Davidson is still with us, she will turn 100 on March 20. Her birthday was called in some years ago by Anthony Offut.

Happy birthday to Russ Kyser, Matthew Curcio-Bobbitt and Dejuh Bedewi, March 21; Ruth Anthony and my great-grandson Jack McHale, March 23; Hudson Murphy Glaubitz, March 23; Lewis Woods, March 24; Ken Kyser and Jay Rollins, March 25; and Gina Foster, March 26.

Happy anniversary to Morrine and Harold Wilson on March 22; and Terry and Gina Foster, March 26.

Around the County

EVENT RESCHEDULED:

'An Evening Under the Tuscan Sky' Gala

PASADENA, Md. (March 16, 2020)—In an attempt to exercise the most appropriate precautions and ensure a healthy and safe environment for the community, Hospice of the Chesapeake is honoring the recommendation of Gov. Larry Hogan and electing to postpone and reschedule its previously scheduled April 4 "An Evening Under the Tuscan Sky" gala to Saturday, **July 18**. The venue has not changed: It will be held at the Hotel at the University of Maryland in College Park.

"Because this event has become something we all look forward to as an annual opportunity to gather together and celebrate the incredible work of the Hospice of the Chesapeake family, we have worked to reschedule the event," President and CEO Ben Marcantonio said. "We believe, and are hopeful, most concerns about COVID-19 will be resolved by this date. So, between now and July, our celebration of our team, patients, families and volunteers will continue virtually instead of at the physical gathering we had planned for early April."

The nonprofit is incredibly grateful for the many sponsors, ticket holders, elected officials, vendors, venue and the Gala Committee members who have committed time and energy in the planning of this event and apologizes for any inconvenience resulting in the postponement. For updates, visit www.hospicechesapeake.org/2020-gala.

—Elyzabeth Marcussen, Hospice of the Chesapeake

Prince George's Community College Launches Innovation Hub

LARGO, Md. (March 6, 2020)—Prince George's Community College launch[ed] its first Innovation Hub (INNOHUB) on Tuesday, March 10. Located in the College's Center for Advanced Technology, the INNOHUB will serve as a physical and virtual space where students, faculty, businesses, and the community collaborate to solve problems, generate new ideas, and improve existing processes, services, and products.

The INNOHUB has four distinct areas, each offering a different area of focus. The Product Design Studio will specialize in ideation and design thinking to solve business and community problems, while the Coding Lab will focus on software development and training. The Human Capital Lab will specialize in skills-building and talent development, and the Advisory Studio will provide business coaching and consulting services on such topics as branding and marketing, safety, website design and development, as well as problem-solving expertise.

Through these unique offerings, the INNOHUB demonstrates the College's intention to take on a broader role in the economic development of the county.

The INNOHUB sponsors include Verizon Innovative Learning and Chesapeake Employers.

—Courtney Davis, Prince George's Community College

Local Student Named to Dean's List at Washington University in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Mo. (March 10, 2020)—Rylan Gottron of Fort Washington, MD, (20744), was named to the dean's list for the fall 2019 semester at Washington University in St. Louis. Gottron is currently enrolled in the university's College of Arts & Sciences.

To qualify for the dean's list in the College of Arts & Sciences, students must earn a semester grade point average of 3.6 or above and complete at least 14 graded units.

—Sue McGinn, Washington University in St. Louis

Save-the-Date: Pinot on the Potomac

Join us for Pinot on the Potomac on **June 6, 2020**, and enjoy delicious local wines and beer, great food, live music, and breathtaking views of the Potomac River and historic Mount Vernon. This year we are also introducing a live auction, with all proceeds from the event supporting the Alice Ferguson Foundation's impactful environmental education programs. By attending this event, you support our environmental education programs, which served more than 8,000 students in 2019. <https://fergusonfoundation.org/>, Alice Ferguson Foundation, 2001 Bryan Point Rd, Accokeek, MD 20607

—Alice Ferguson Foundation

Save-the-Date: FAME's 16th Anniversary and Awards Celebration

Saturday, July 11, 2020, 6 p.m., www.famemusic.org for tickets and sponsorship information, 301-805-5358, info@FAMEmusic.org

Join us as we honor community members and educators who are dedicated to making major contributions to the education and career pursuits of youth around the Greater Washington Region. We will also celebrate our amazing 2020 FAME Jazz Band Program graduates.

Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center, University of Maryland College Park, 7801 Alumni Drive, College Park, Maryland 20742

—FAME: Foundation for the Advancement of Music & Education, Inc.

Save-the-Date: Caring for the Continuum of Life 2020: A Healthcare Symposium

PASADENA, Md. (Feb. 27, 2020)—In its continued drive to raise awareness about resources, programs and services for those dealing with life-limiting illness and loss, Hospice of the Chesapeake is pleased to announce The Caring for the Continuum of Life 2020: A Healthcare Symposium. It will be held **Saturday, Oct. 24** at First Baptist Church of Highland Park, 6801 Sheriff Road, Landover, Maryland. Times will be announced when registration opens later this year.

Hosted by the Chesapeake Life Center, Hospice of the Chesapeake and Chesapeake Supportive Care, the symposium will feature a full day of presentations from experts in the fields of hospice and palliative care, grief counseling and spirituality. Some of the sessions will offer continuing education credits. This marks the third year for the event, and the second year it will be held at First Baptist Church of Highland Park.

With the support of community partners, this educational symposium is free for professionals and community members to attend as a part of the nonprofit's ongoing commitment to those it serves. There also will be a Wellness Space, which will include practitioners and demonstrations of complementary therapies.

For sponsorship opportunities, contact Jennifer Castellanos-Graham at 443-837-1527 or jcastellanos-graham@hospicechesapeake.org.

—Elyzabeth Marcussen, Hospice of the Chesapeake

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Presidential Primary: Early Voting dates are Thursday, April 16, 2020 through Thursday, April 23, 2020. Polls open at 10 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. Election Day is Tuesday, April 28, 2020. Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m.

Presidential General: Early Voting dates are Thursday, October 22, 2020 through Thursday, October 29, 2020. Polls open at 8 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2020. Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH FIELD TRIP TO D.C.

UMES' Division of Enrollment Management and Student Experience organized a Black History Month field trip for students to the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture.

Fifty students plunked down \$1 for a ticket on a bus that departed at 7: a.m. for the Saturday excursion to the nation's capital, where they also visited the nearby Washington Monument and encountered a culinary cultural phenomenon—a food truck rodeo.

For a handful of UMES students, it was their first visit to Washington, D.C. One museum visitor told trip organizers: "I didn't know there was that much history in one place." Information from UMES The Key.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the Frederick Douglass Dance Team. Saturday, March 7, 2020 the team competed at Charles Herbert Flowers High School winning 1st place Captains Award and 2nd place team award in Hip Hop.

I'M EMPOWERED FAMILY INSTITUTE 2020

Growing together Prince George's County Public Schools Family Institute I'M EMPOWERED sessions are from 6-7:30 p.m. Snacks and childcare for children ages 4-12 provided.

STRAND I: FAMILY EMPOWERMENT

Math & Reading Empowerment for Families will be offered May 28, 2020 at Glass Manor Elementary School located at 1011 Marcy Avenue, Oxon Hill, Maryland 20745. Parents will learn effective strategies for helping their child improve their performance outcomes in reading and mathematics/numeracy.

Family & School Strategies for Successful School Rela-

tionships will be offered May 11, 2020 at William Paca Elementary School. The address is 7801 Sheriff Road, Landover, Maryland 20785. "Learning Guardians" will learn the broad research-based strategies for building and maintaining effective, productive and positive relationships and partnerships with classroom teachers and school staff.

STRAND III: HEALTH & WELLNESS

Child/Adolescent Growth and Development—the Changes in Our Children will be offered May 20, 2020 at Francis Scott Key Elementary School. Parents will have meaningful fun in learning specific strategies to stay ahead of the stages and ages of child and adolescent growth and development and keeping your sanity as a parent. The address is 2301 Scott Key Drive, District Heights, Maryland 20747.

Active kids heathy eating will be offered May 5, 2020 at Carrollton Elementary School. Explore effective parenting strategies for ensuring "brain-healthy" eating habits for helping children improve their academic performance. The address is 8300 Quintana Street, New Carrollton, Maryland 20784.

CLINTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Clinton United Methodist Church will host the WED (Washington East District) Lay Service course Friday, March 27, 2020 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday, March 28, 2020 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The church is located at 10700 Brandywine Road, Clinton, Maryland. Telephone number is 301-868-1281.

GIRLFIT SUMMER PROGRAM FOR GIRLS

The program will be held from June–September 2020 from 6:30 a.m.–6:30 p.m. Please register at www.thekidfit.com. Registration fee is \$85.00 (Non-Refundable) to secure spot. Ages 5–13.

Program includes games, weekly field trips, cooking, enriching craft activities, public speaking, dancing, etiquette, entrepreneurship, fitness, weekly stem projects, leadership and team building, beauty and fashion. Girls will enjoy fun and empowering workshops with an emphasis on STEM-Fitness.

The address is 5010 Brown Station Road, #190, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Call for more information 240-510-3622 or email girlfitsummercamp@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

When to Pay Attention to Those School Complaints

Do your children sometimes (or perhaps daily) complain about school? Just about every student is going to have those days when things don't go quite right. But when the frustration is frequent, and when it's more than just, "I don't like school," or, "Math is too hard," it probably is a good time to begin listening more carefully to the complaints.

Most kids find it hard to acknowledge that they're confused by their classes, or to admit that they're feeling inadequate in the classroom. Instead the complaints that both preteens and teenagers may voice often come out as, "I hate school," or, "My teacher is out to get me." Such gripes are easy to dismiss or ignore, but what may really be happening is that your child is trying to express deeper problems and that he or she is actually in need of some help.

When such complaints are fairly frequent they are often an indicator that serious school-related problems may exist, especially when they're paired with certain behaviors such as being reluctant to discuss school or suddenly exhibiting a lack of motivation or confidence. Your child may appear angry and hostile in regard to homework and studying, and may seem defensive or irritated when criticized.

When these signs are combined with declining or failing grades it's a clear signal that action is needed. If problems are ignored, they can end up affecting the child's total well-being as self-esteem declines and negative behaviors begin to increase.

First, let your child know you understand and can empathize with the difficulties he or she faces. You could talk about your own struggles in school when you were young, while also offering assistance. If your child begins to change for the better, you want to compliment cooperation and progress in order to rebuild confidence.

If you can't help with homework or studying, you might consider a qualified tutor to assist. It's also very important to talk with your child's school counselor. They've seen most problems before and may even have alternative explanations as to why your child is struggling.

School can and should be a positive and enjoyable experience for your student. When constant complaints and clear academic problems appear, it's a clear sign your child is asking for help. Taking action can help bring better academic success and a happier, better balanced child.

Counseling Corner is provided by the American Counseling Association. Comments and questions to ACACorner@counseling.org or visit the ACA website at www.counseling.org.

The Center for Community Progress Hires National Director of Partnerships

Kathy J. Guillaume-Deleamar, Housing Authority Leader and Development Executive joins senior leadership of national Community Development Nonprofit

By JOVAN HACKLEY
Center for Community Progress

WASHINGTON (March 9, 2020)—Today, the Center for Community Progress, America's leading resource on issues of vacant, abandoned, and deteriorated (VAD) properties, announced Kathy J. Guillaume-Deleamar, Vice Chair of the City of Glenarden, Maryland's Housing Authority, will serve as its new Director of National Partnerships.

"Collaboration is a vital part of creating success at the national, local, and neighborhood level," said Dr. Akilah Watkins-Butler, President and CEO. "Mrs. Guillaume-Deleamar's extensive experience creating impact at every level will enhance our ability to grow and expand our work in the communities across America."

Guillaume-Deleamar joins the senior team at Community Progress, who led the creation of America's land banking industry and 180 institutions across the U.S. That work includes spearheading legislative progress in 15 states and creating one of America's largest land-use educational events—the Reclaiming Vacant Properties Conference.

Kathy J. Guillaume-Deleamar is the Director of National Partnerships for the Center for Community Progress (Community Progress), America's nonprofit leader for turning "Vacant Spaces into Vibrant Places."

A 25-year community development and philanthropic leader, Guillaume-Deleamar's award-winning work has helped both local and national funders drive meaningful, equitable impact in communities nationwide.

"I'm a believer that relationships lead to results," says Guillaume-Deleamar.

Her experience as a strategic advisor includes shaping the major gifts pipeline at the Washington Post-acknowledged Miriam's Kitchen and growing the organizational impact of Jubilee Housing by more than 400 percent. Those efforts included leading a three-year \$60 million capital campaign that helped revitalize affordable housing for more than 700 individuals, launching neighborhood youth services initiatives, and creating a Returning Citizens Transitional Housing program.

A former Commissioner on the Prince George's County Affordable Housing Authority, Guillaume-Deleamar has contributed as a strategic advisor and subject matter expert for the Maryland General Assembly, the Office of the Governor of Maryland, and national community development partners.

In addition to her work in the Greater Washington, DC metro area, Guillaume-Deleamar has led the development of partnerships with local and federal governments, the Federal Home Loan Banks, Enterprise Community Partners, LISC, and dozens of other in-



PHOTO COURTESY CENTER FOR COMMUNITY PROGRESS

Kathy J. Guillaume-Deleamar

fluential community development stakeholders.

Guillaume-Deleamar is a former member of the Board of New York City nonprofit Tonel Lakay Inc. and currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Faith and Money Network and Recovery Cafe DC.

A graduate of Howard University, Guillaume-Deleamar's work has been acknowledged by Bank of America, the National Capital Gift Planning Council, the Tom Joyner Foundation, and others across the United States. Today, she continues to leverage her expertise as a facilitator and passion for racial and social justice to help marginalized communities reverse wealth inequities and preserve culture; including a special, personal focus on Haitians and Haitian-Americans.

Today, Guillaume-Deleamar leads fundraising and partnership development for the Center for Community Progress and the Reclaiming Vacant Properties Conference, which connects more than 1,400 grassroots leaders and revitalization professionals nationwide.

For Charles,
kayaking
offers total
freedom.

His heart
almost took
that away
from him.



Coronary bypass surgery ranked in the nation's top 10%. Charles lives to kayak... and he almost lost it all when he developed congestive heart failure and an aortic aneurysm. He was referred to Dr. Jamie Brown at UM Capital Region Health, who is also a faculty physician at University of Maryland School of Medicine. Dr. Brown and his team replaced Charles' aortic valve and restored his life.

Charles is thankful for the outstanding care he received. "This is a miracle to me. I'm back kayaking and playing with my grandchildren—which wouldn't be possible without Dr. Brown."



See Charles' story at umcapitalregion.org/evidence

Bowie • Cheverly • Laurel • National Harbor • Suitland

COMMENTARY

Marion Wright Edelman

President Emerita,
Children's Defense Fund



ChildWatch:

Prayers For Caring For All Our Children Right Now

As the global coronavirus officially becomes a pandemic and the effects in our nation become more widespread each passing hour, children and all of us are suffering from anxiety and the virus's many threats and disruptions. Many unknowns loom large, but one thing is certain: children need adults to help them process and cope with any uncertainty and dangers in their daily lives. Most are anxious about changes to their daily routines or afraid something will happen to them, their parents or grandparents, or other people they know and love. They will need clear, age-appropriate, accurate information and loving support during every step of this massive crisis.

Here are a few prayers for the parents, teachers, and other caregivers who must be the oaks of strength children need right now even in the midst of adults' own uncertainty.

God, straighten our backs
clear our heads
strengthen our voices and judgment
infuse our hearts
with Your mighty and comforting spirit.

God, help us to be like bamboo, which bends
and bows and sways in the winds but never breaks.

God, think Your thoughts in us
do Your work through us
build Your peace in us
share Your love through us.

O God, we pray for our children and family members and for our neighbors and their children. Help us God to remember that all Your people are our neighbors and all children are our own. We pray especially for every caregiver, doctors and nurses, health and hospital personnel, and those who serve people with special needs and other vulnerable populations.

God, please help us to show our children
By our actions as well as our words
That they are loved.

O God for whom nothing is too hard
Who makes the impossible possible
Every minute of every day
Kindle within us an unshakable faith
In Your presence, power, and goodness.

O God help us to remember that You have the
whole world in Your hands—every baby, child,
woman, and man in every circumstance everywhere.
—March 13, 2020

Van Hollen, Murray, DeLauro Introduce New Emergency Paid Sick Days Legislation

WASHINGTON (March 12, 2020)—U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) has joined Senator Patty Murray (D-WA), Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, and Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro (CT-03), to introduce new, emergency paid sick leave legislation, building off the Healthy Families Act (HFA), to provide paid sick days immediately to workers in light of the coronavirus crisis, and in preparation for future public health emergencies. This legislation is included in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act set to be considered today by the House of Representatives.

"During a public health emergency, the last thing a sick employee should worry about is whether or not they have sufficient savings and enough time off to stay home or go to the doctor. As we've seen with the coronavirus, this is also crucial to preventing the spread of the disease," said Senator Van Hollen. "We must act now to ensure that workers are able to recover safely at home and to effectively contain and mitigate the spread of the coronavirus."

This emergency paid sick days legislation requires all employers to allow workers to accrue seven days of paid sick leave and to provide an additional 14 days available immediately in the event of any public health emergency, including the current coronavirus crisis.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines advise people to stay home if they are sick. However, for many workers—including many restaurant workers, truck drivers, people in the service industry, and more—staying home from work means losing a paycheck or losing your job. The bill won't just ensure workers can take care of themselves and their families, it will also ensure that workers can help keep their communities safe.

"The coronavirus is highly contagious and the problem isn't going away anytime soon," said Senator Murray. "Workers want to do the right thing for themselves, their families, and their communi-

ties—so especially in the middle of public health crises like this, staying home sick shouldn't have to mean losing a paycheck or a job. This bill would immediately give workers the ability to care for themselves, their families, and help keep their communities safe. We need to pass it without delay."

"The lack of paid sick days could make coronavirus harder to contain in the United States compared with other countries that have universal sick leave policies in place," said Congresswoman DeLauro. "No one should face the impossible choice of caring for their health or keeping their paycheck or job, especially when a sudden public health crisis occurs. But millions of hard-working people must make this decision every time they get sick or a family member needs care. Low-income workers and their families could be hit even harder by the virus, as low wage jobs are at the forefront of not providing sick leave benefits. That is why I am proud to sponsor this effort with Senator Murray to ensure that workers are able to follow the directive of public health officials and stay home without the fear of losing their paycheck."

Specifically, this bill would:

- Require all employers to allow workers to gradually earn seven days of paid sick leave.
- Require all employers to provide an additional 14 days of paid sick leave, available immediately at the beginning of a public health emergency, including the current coronavirus crisis.
- Ensure paid sick leave covers days when your child's school is closed due to a public health emergency, when your employer is closed due to public health emergency, or if you or a family member is quarantined or isolated due to a public health emergency.

The legislation has been endorsed by: National Partnership for Women and Families, National Employment Law Project (NELP), Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP), Center for American Progress (CAP).

Maryland Congressional Team Announces Nearly \$1.2 Million For Bowie State University To Support Diverse STEM Teacher Pipeline

WASHINGTON (March 4, 2020)—Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-05), Senators Ben Cardin (D-MD) and Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), and Congressman Anthony G. Brown (MD-04) today announced \$1,194,815 for Bowie State University to help to build a diverse science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) teacher workforce in Prince George's County. Awarded through the National Science Foundation (NSF) Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program, this federal funding will be administered over the next five years in partnership with Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS).

This program will encourage Bowie State STEM majors to become K-12 mathematics and science

teachers in Prince George's County public schools, filling a significant shortage. Program activities will include internships, scholarships, training, and mentoring.

The Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program seeks to encourage talented science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) majors and professionals to become K-12 mathematics and science (including engineering and computer science) teachers. The program invites creative and innovative proposals that address the critical need for recruiting and preparing highly effective elementary and secondary science and mathematics teachers in high-need local educational agencies.

Todd M. Turner

Prince George's County Council Chair



Statement on Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Budget

Council Receives County Executive's Proposed FY 2021 Spending Plan; Budget Review Process Begins

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (March 11, 2020)—The Prince George's County Council today received the Proposed FY 2021 Operating and Capital Budgets from County Executive Angela D. Alsobrooks. We thank the County Executive and her budget team for their assembly of the proposed spending plan.

This Council is committed to an open, inclusive and participatory budget process. We are supportive of the priorities detailed in the Executive's budget proposal, and we look

forward to our continued partnership with County Executive Alsobrooks, County residents and all stakeholders to produce a final FY 2021 spending plan.

Pursuant to the County Charter, the County Council, in its role as the County's fiscal authority, must adopt a new and balanced spending plan for Prince George's County on or before June 1. The new Fiscal Year begins July 1, 2020. Over the next few months, through its standing committees, staff reviews and important public

engagement, the Council will conduct its Budget Review and Adoption Process.

The County Council will hold public hearings, staff work sessions and committee meetings to accommodate public input. Budget meeting schedules are subject to change and may be impacted by the current novel coronavirus (COVID-19) health situation. For updated information on the Council budget process, committee work sessions and public hearings, visit the Council's FY 21 Budget Portal.

Marc Morial

President and CEO, National Urban League



To Be Equal:

Clyburn Endorsement Demonstrates The Power of the Black Vote

"One of my colleagues said to me, this is the first time I've seen a political billboard without a picture on it. Why isn't your picture on it? I said, because it ain't about me. It's about the message on that billboard and the message is simply this: making the greatness of this country accessible and affordable for all. We don't need to make this country great again. This country is great. That's not what our challenge is. Our challenge is making the greatness of this country accessible and affordable for all."

—U.S. Rep. James Clyburn

The 76-year-old great-granddaughter of an enslaved woman in South Carolina may be responsible for singlehandedly changing the trajectory of the 2020 Democratic Presidential Primary.

During a funeral in the church where Jannie Jones serves as an usher, she beckoned Congressman James Clyburn and whispered, "I need to know who you're going to vote for."

He replied: "Joe Biden. Are we together?"

She offered a thumbs up and replied, "What are you going to do for him, for the people?"

That question, Clyburn told the New York Times, moved him to action.

"I decided then and there that I would not stay silent," he said.

Clyburn's endorsement spurred Vice President Biden to sweeping victories—not only in South Carolina, where he won 39 of 56 delegates and almost 48% of the vote in a field of six candidates—but also in 10 of the 14 states that voted three days later.

Clyburn, who has held his Congressional seat for 27 years, is the third-ranking Democrat and highest-ranking African American in the House of Representatives. He is, so far, the only high-ranking Congressional leader to have endorsed a candidate in the primary.

Vice President Biden was expected to win South Carolina's primary even before Clyburn's endorsement, but according to exit polls, nearly half of voters there, said Clyburn's endorsement was an important factor in their vote and almost a quarter said it was the most important factor. Pollster Patrick Murray told USA Today he's never seen such a high percentage of voters cite an endorsement as the most important factor in their decision.

In Southern states, which have a higher percentage of Black voters, Biden domi-

nated the primaries. He won 63 percent of Black voters in North Carolina and Virginia, and 72 percent of Black voters in Alabama. He won a majority of Black voters in Arkansas, and 62 percent of black voters in Tennessee.

Clyburn's endorsement, and the response of Black voters, has put Biden on what appears to be an inevitable path to the Democratic nomination.

South Carolina is the only early primary state where a majority—or even any significant percentage—of Democratic primary voters are Black. Consider that 98 percent of Black Americans consider themselves Democrats, and Black voters in recent Presidential elections have comprised nearly 20 percent of the total votes for Democrats. It's no wonder that many Americans are starting to question the wisdom of starting the primary process with two states – Iowa and New Hampshire – that are more than 90 percent white.

The National Urban League has long maintained that addressing the concerns of Black voters is key to winning elections, for office-seekers at every level and of every party. At the start of the primary season, I urged the candidates, via a personal letter, to address issues such as housing affordability, educational equity, and voting rights – including the ongoing campaign by hostile foreign actors to suppress the Black vote through misinformation and deceit. As the reaction to Clyburn's endorsement has shown, responding to these issues with a comprehensive plan is the key to winning the Presidency.

The Prince George's Post

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Contents © 2020, The Prince George's Post

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

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

About the Dreaded “IRMAA” Provision

By RUSSELL GLOOR,
AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor
Association of Mature American Citizens

Dear Rusty:

About a month or two ago I was notified that my Social Security was being reduced from \$1,583 a month to about \$1,283 a month—a \$300 deduction! They said it was because my income was over the limit on my last return. I filed my taxes “married-filing separately” because my wife has her own income. If we had filed jointly, I would not have had the reduction. My question is why wasn’t this told to us when we filed our Income Tax last year instead of a last-minute thing? I am a 77-year old and a 100% disabled veteran, which probably has no effect on this, but wanted to add that information. Any light you can shed on the matter will be very much appreciated. **Signed: Irritated Senior**

Dear Irritated Senior: First, I want to thank you for your service to our country. Allow me to explain what I believe happened. Your net (not gross) Social Security benefit payment was probably reduced as a result of a rule known as “IRMAA”—the “Income Related Medicare Adjustment Amount.” This is a supplement added to your Medicare Part B premium as a result of higher income, and a higher Medicare premium would mean a lower net Social Security payment.

Although filing your taxes separate from your wife does mean a lower income reported to the IRS for you, it also reduces the clip levels at which the IRMAA rule kicks in. For those who file income tax as an individual, IRMAA applies if your “provisional” income from all sources, including IRA or 401(K) withdrawals and half of your SS benefits for the tax year, exceeds \$87,000. For those who file taxes jointly as a married couple, IRMAA applies if your combined income is more than \$174,000. Incomes above those clip levels result in corresponding higher IRMAA premiums, up to a maximum of \$491.60 (for 2020). So apparently your income for your filing status exceeded one of the higher IRMAA clip levels, which resulted in your monthly Medicare Part B premium going from the standard \$144.60 to an IRMAA premium about \$300 higher. Note that if your income in a subsequent year falls below the IRMAA clip levels, your Medicare premium will also go down to the level appropriate for your more recent income level.

As far as why you weren’t told this in advance, neither Medicare nor the IRS (nor any other Government agency) will advise you in advance on such matters; the onus is upon you (and your tax preparer or financial advisor) to understand the implications of your income on your Medicare premium as well as your income tax obligation. You may want to speak to your tax advisor to see if there is a tax-filing option for eliminating the IRMAA. Once again, thank you for your service to our country, and I hope the above clarifies what happened to your Social Security benefit.

The 2 million member Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC) (<https://www.amac.us>) is a vibrant, vital senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. We act and speak on their behalf, protecting their interests and offering a practical insight on how to best solve the problems they face today. Live long and make a difference by joining us today at <https://amac.us/join-amac>.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation’s staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

Cancer Center from A1

nearby. They include Zap-X®, the first radiosurgery system of its kind on the East Coast, which is dedicated to the treatment of brain, head and neck cancers. The facility also offers Halyon™, a new kind of radiotherapy offering faster, more accurate treatment. The cancer program’s goal is to provide full-service cancer care, from screening and diagnosis all the way through to survivorship.

MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center’s cancer program recently received full, three-year accreditation from the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (CoC). This designation recognizes the hospital for providing quality, comprehensive care using a multidisciplinary approach. Fewer than one-third of cancer programs in the country are CoC accredited.

Because the center is part of MedStar Georgetown Cancer Institute, patients also have access to clinical trials offered through the Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, the only institution in the Washington, DC metropolitan region designated a comprehensive cancer center by the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

“This is what happens when dreams come true,” said Dr. Weiner. “We can do what’s really important: we can deliver tomorrow’s treatments today, delivering what I believe is research-inspired cancer care. And instead of people having to get that care by coming into the city, wherever that city is, they can get it close to home.”

MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center, located in Clinton, Maryland, is a 176-bed acute care hospital serving the Washington, D.C., metro and Southern Maryland area. The hospital is focused on caring for patients and their loved ones utilizing advanced technology under the guidance of expert clinicians. Quality, Safety, Wellness, and Patient Satisfaction are achieved through a spirit of patient centered services that connect us to the community we serve. Visit MedStarSouthernMaryland.org.

MedStar Health is a not-for-profit health system dedicated to caring for people in Maryland and the Washington, D.C., region, while advancing the practice of medicine through education, innovation and research. For more information, visit MedStarHealth.org.

Kim Rhim Honored With William Donald Schaefer Helping People Award

By TALISA WHITE
The Training Source, Inc.

SEAT PLEASANT, Md. (March 9, 2020)—The Training Source, Inc. announced today that its Executive Director, Kim Rhim, has been selected to receive the William Donald Schaefer Helping People Award for Prince George’s County in recognition of her service to the community.

Established in 2012, the Award honors the unparalleled legacy of public service left by former Mayor, Governor and Comptroller William Donald Schaefer and is presented in each of Maryland’s 23 counties and Baltimore City to individuals and organizations with an unwavering commitment to helping people.

When Comptroller Peter Franchot announced that his office would begin accepting nominations for the Award late last year, he stated that “Maryland is full of selfless individuals and remarkable groups that prioritize the lives of others, fulfilling unmet needs to improve vulnerable communities.”

Award recipients were selected on their demonstration of improving the community, promptly responding to a citizen problem through effective government intervention, directly aiding our most vulnerable populations, or, establishing a public/private partnership to improve the



PHOTO COURTESY THE TRAINING SOURCE, INC.

The Training Source, Inc. Executive Director, Kim Rhim

lives of fellow Marylanders.

When notified about the award, Kim Rhim said, “This is an amazing honor! I was created to help others and, in the midst of a vibrant corporate career, felt led by God to start The Training Source, a non-profit (charity) to work for Him in serving others, especially people in need. It has been an incredibly rewarding opportunity to impact lives positively. My team and I don’t work hard to receive recognition, but when recognition comes we see it as a nod

of approval from God, which keeps us engineered for excellence.”

Through The Training Source’s amazing staff and supporters, Kim Rhim has helped hundreds of unemployed and low-income Maryland residents gain the skills and knowledge necessary for professional growth and transition to rewarding careers; prepared hundreds of youth for successful transition to internships, college and careers; assisted thousands of residents with access to food / SNAP, professional clothing and linkages to other support services; and supported hundreds of employers with staffing assistance and staff training for enhanced operations.

The Training Source, Inc. is one of only a few nonprofits in Prince George’s County to earn the Maryland Nonprofits’ Standards For Excellence® seal of accreditation and GuideStar® Platinum Rating for operating at the highest levels of ethics and accountability. The organization’s mission is to provide education, training and services that promote positive economic mobility. The Training Source, Inc. provides comprehensive adult and youth job training programs, youth development programs, safety-net services for families in-need and professional training for employers. Visit www.thetrainingsource.org.

Akintade Named Associate Dean of University of Maryland School of Nursing’s Master of Science in Nursing Program

By LAURA HAGER
University of Maryland
School of Nursing

BALTIMORE, Md. (March 10, 2020)—The University of Maryland School of Nursing (UMSON) has named Bimbola F. Akintade, PhD ’11, MS ’05, MBA, MHA, BSN ’03, CCRN, ACNP-BC, NEA-BC, assistant professor, Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health, as the associate dean for the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program. He succeeds Gail Schoen Lemaire, PhD ’96, RN, PMHCNS, BC, CNL.

Akintade is responsible for providing vision and leadership for the master’s program, including innovative program development and integration of technology. He is also responsible for administration and program coordination, curriculum planning, student recruitment, advisement, and retention. In addition, he will continue the School’s development of partnerships with other academic institutions and health care organizations to facilitate entry of nurses into the master’s programs.

In 2011, Akintade joined UMSON as an assistant professor in the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner/Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist spe-

cialty (AGACNP); he became AGACNP co-specialty director in 2012 and served as specialty director from 2013–16. He helped lead the AGACNP program’s conversion from a master’s-level specialty to the DNP and he served as a member of the Master’s to DNP Transition Task Force. He also participated in the specialty’s Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) accreditation process in 2014.

Akintade teaches in the Master of Science in Nursing Health Services Leadership and Management specialty. His teaching areas have included diagnosis and management, health care finance, nursing leadership, and biostatistics. He has more than 17 years of nursing experience, including more than 13 years of clinical experience as an acute care nurse practitioner in trauma and critical care nursing. He currently practices at the University of Maryland Prince George’s Hospital Center, part of University of Maryland Capital Region Health, in the Trauma/Surgery Intensive Care Unit; his prior experience includes the University of Maryland Medical Center’s Cardiac Surgery Intensive Care Unit/Post-Anesthesia Care Unit and MedStar Washington Hospital Center’s Surgical Critical Care Department.

Akintade’s research and scholarship include his current role as co-principal investigator for the Nurse Support Program II grant “Development and Implementation of a Collaborative Nurse Practitioner Clinical Training Program.” He has been an author on 11 peer-reviewed articles and eight book chapters. He has served as a member of Doctor of Philosophy dissertation committees and as chair or member of DNP scholarly project committees.

“I am delighted that Dr. Akintade has assumed the role of associate dean for the Master of Science in Nursing program; he is well prepared to build upon the legacy of Dr. Lemaire, who has played such a significant leadership role in master’s education at UMSON since 2005,” said Dean Jane Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN. “Dr. Akintade brings considerable teaching, practice, and research experience to his new role, as well as a solid understanding of the School of Nursing and its highly diverse student population. I am certain that he will do an outstanding job in his new role and foster the continued innovation of our master’s-level offerings.”

Akintade holds a PhD from UMSON, where he also earned his master’s and Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees. He



PHOTO COURTESY UMSON

Bimbola F. Akintade

also holds a Master of Science in Business Administration, International Healthcare Business, and a Master of Science in Healthcare Administration, Healthcare Organizational Leadership, from the University of Maryland, University College (now University of Maryland Global Campus). He has been recognized as a Scholar by Sigma Theta Tau International Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy.

The School of Nursing’s master’s program enrolls more than 500 students, including more than 230 in the CNL option. UMSON also offers master’s-level specialty areas in Nursing Informatics, Community/Public Health Nursing, and Health Services Leadership and Management.

SBA Announces Small Business Persons of the Year

Two Local Winners to Compete for National Honors

By JACK SPIRAKES, MPA
U.S. Small Business Administration

WASHINGTON (March 9, 2020)—Ahead of National Small Business Week (May 3–9), the U.S. Small Business Administration recently announced this year’s Small Business Persons of the Year (SBPOY) state-level winners—over 50 outstanding small business owners and entrepreneurs from across the United States, Puerto Rico and Guam. The SBA’s Washington Metropolitan Area District Office, serving the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia and Suburban Maryland (Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties), identified two local winners:

- Christi Venable, CEO of SMILE Therapy Services, LLC (Washington, D.C. SBPOY)
- Anton Bizzell, M.D., CEO of The Bizzell Group, LLC (Maryland SBPOY) (Lanham, MD)

“I am ecstatic to have received this recognition,” Venable said. “Thank you very much for seeing the quality in the work that SMILE has done over the past four years.”

Bizzell added, “I am honored that you all selected me as the statewide recipient. I look forward to celebrating with you and the other recipients in the coming weeks.”

Donald Tiaga, President of FedBiz IT Solutions, LLC is Northern Virginia SBPOY and, while he will not go on to represent the state at the national level, Tiaga remarked, “I am humbled by this recognition. This is definitely a success of the entire FedBiz IT Solutions team.”

All state winners are invited to attend ceremonies in Washington, D.C. May 3–4, where they will be honored with their individual awards and compete for 2020 National Small Business Person of the Year. Additionally, the SBA will co-host a free, two-day virtual conference featuring educational workshops and professional networking opportunities.

“We’re excited to recognize the impressive small business community in the Washington Metropolitan Area this year,” said SBA Mid-Atlantic Regional Administrator Steve Bulger, who oversees the agency’s operations in Pennsylvania, D.C., Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. “They exemplify the spirit and the strong economic impact all small businesses and our SBA partners have on our nation’s economy.”

Locally conducted awards programs and educational seminars throughout SBA’s 10 Regions and 68 Districts will also be held during the week. To get involved in National Small Business Week activities and to see all the 2020 awardees, visit www.sba.gov/nsbw.

Not OUT on the TOWN

Coronavirus Emergency

What's Open:

- The **Library** is **OPEN ONLINE** www.pgcmis.info/online-resources-432: Customers will be able to access all of the Library's online resources, including ebooks, audiobooks, streaming movies and music, educational tools, and databases. Library staff will be available to answer questions on the Library's website and via social media. Book-drops will be locked and fines incurred (during the closure only) will be waived.
- **Looking for things to do?** Here are some **fun space-related activities you can do from home**: <https://www.nasa.gov/kidsclub/index.html>
- All **Department of Parks and Recreation parks, trails and playgrounds** will remain open to the public from sunrise to sunset. Updated information, FAQs and useful forms are up on the Department's website at pgparks.com and an Information Line has been established, to provide useful information to the community by phone, at 301-446-3222. **College Park Airport** and the **Upper Marlboro Child Care Center** will remain open.

- **Piscataway Park, the National Colonial Farm, and the Accokeek Foundation administrative offices** are open and operating as usual. As the status of our facilities changes, we will update the community accordingly.
- **City of Bowie parks**, but games and practices on fields are cancelled.
- All **Downtown Upper Marlboro** on-street parking meters are **FREE** through April 6. This is due to the closure of the Courthouse, and to help support our Downtown business community during this situation.
- The **2020 NAMI Walks Maryland Kick-Off is currently scheduled to be held on April 19, 2020 in Laurel**. We will continue to monitor the situation and are hopeful we can still have this event in-person. However, steps are also being taken to adapt the material for an interactive digital event to take place the same day and time. Updates regarding this event will be communicated via email, phone, and social media.

—Compiled from email & website sources March 14–16, 2020. Subject to change.

What's Closed:

- www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AlertCenter.aspx?AID=Coronavirus-Related-Closures-31
- All **county libraries** closed,
- All **Department of Parks and Recreation facilities**. All parks, trails and playgrounds will remain open. Updated information, including complete information on closures pertinent to non-arts facilities, FAQs and useful forms on the Department's website at pgparks.com. An Information Line has been established for the community at 301-446-3222.
- All **Prince George's County Community Centers** are closed until further notice.
- Access to **county buildings** will be closed to the public. **District Courts** in Upper Marlboro and Hyattsville closed to the public until April 6.
- **Bowie State University** students do not return to campus until April 6.
- **University of Maryland at College Park** classes will resume online after Spring Break.
- **Prince George's Community College** classes will resume on March 25. All courses that can will be delivered online from March 25–April 3.
- **CASA Spring Volunteer Information Session** scheduled for Thursday, March 19 has been postponed. Call with any questions or concerns at recruitment@pgcasa.org or 301-209-0491.
- **Town of Upper Marlboro Town Offices** will be closed to physical visitors through Monday, April 6, 2020. All Town business will be handled over the phone or by email during regular office hours to reduce the risk of infection. No notarial services can be offered at Town Hall during this time period.
- **Town of Cheverly has cancelled all in-person Town sponsored (or co-sponsored) events**. This cancellation will extend until March 31.
- **City of Bowie Gymnasium, Ice Arena, Historic Properties** are closed until March 27 (follow PGCPS). See www.cityofbowie.org/2298/Bowie-Playhouse for **Bowie Playhouse** affected performances.
- **City of Laurel 150 Birthday Celebration events** in March are postponed.
- **NASA Goddard Visitor Center** is closed to the public until further notice as a means to be protective and encourage social distancing. All planned public programming and events sponsored at the Goddard Visitor Center have been postponed at this time.
- **Creative Suitland** is closed through March 29.
- All **DESIGN PARK 3311 Grand Opening Events** in Mount Rainier are cancelled.
- **PGCAC Domestic Violence Community Summit: "What About the Children?"** scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 2020 is cancelled.
- All **NAMI Model A Affiliates** including **NAMI Prince George's County** have suspended their education courses and support groups from Monday, March 16, 2020, through Friday, March 28, 2020.
- **The Bowie Center for Performing Arts** has announced its suspension of all public programs and performances, effective through April 1. If the production cannot be rescheduled, refunds will be made for events during this time period for ticket purchasers who used the Center's online ticketing.
- **ALL Bowie State Winter Sport events and Championships** (Basketball, Indoor Track and Field and Bowling) are suspended. Additionally, ALL Bowie State Spring Sport events and Championships (Softball, Women's Tennis and Outdoor Track and Field) have been suspended for the remainder of the Spring 2020 Semester.
- **Prince George's African American Museum** is closed until further notice.
- **Postponed shows for the theater at MGM National Harbor**. Events include: The Bachelor Live, Sunday, March 22; Jon Dorenbos, Saturday, March 28; Charlie Wilson, Sunday, March 29. Show updates will be made on mgmnationalharbor.com. Tickets previously purchased for postponed shows will be honored on the new date. For all refund requests, contact Ticketmaster at 800-653-8000 or visit help.ticketmaster.com.
- **Alice Ferguson Foundation Potomac River Watershed cleanups** cancelled through March 29.
- All **Sierra Club planned events** of any size are suspended for the next month, including all volunteer and staff in-person meetings.
- **Hospice of the Chesapeake's Vet to Vet Café's** March 21 date and the **Hope & Healing event** for March 30 are canceled.
- **Maryland State Parks are cancelling all events and gatherings of groups larger than 250 people** and restricting access by the public to certain park buildings and facilities. Prince George's County state parks are Merkle Natural Resources Management Area and Visitor Center, Contact: 443-510-9920; Rosaryville State Park, Contact: 301-888-1410; Cedarville State Forest, Contact: 301-888-1410 or 301-888-2165. Governor Hogan has issued an executive order related to licenses, permits, registrations, and other authorizations that may be expiring or up for renewal during the state of emergency. The executive order immediately grants a grace period of 30 days after the date of termination of the state of emergency. This includes items processed at our Maryland Department of Natural Resources Licensing Service Centers. By reducing the number of people at our service centers, we greatly reduce the possibility of spreading the virus. With that in mind, we are asking our customers to take advantage of this grace period.
- **Maryland SBDC Offices** closed to the public. All in-person **training** scheduled during the month of March will be canceled, postponed or offered online. If a paid training class is canceled or postponed, participants may request a refund or apply the funds to another class. If the class will be offered online, registered participants will receive an email with instructions for participating in the online class.
- All **Maryland casinos, race-tracks**, simulcast betting facilities are closed.
- All **Maryland bars, restaurants, movie theaters, and gyms** are closed except for pickup and delivery of food.
- **Banneker-Douglass Museum** in Annapolis is temporarily closed.
- **The National Zoo and all Smithsonian museums** in DC are closed to the public indefinitely.
- **National Law Enforcement Museum** in DC is temporarily closed to the public.
- **Maryland Historical Society** in Baltimore is closed to the public through March 31. All onsite public programs scheduled are cancelled through April 12.—Compiled from email & website sources March 14–16, 2020.

Family Living

Fun Rainy Day Tips for Families

(StatePoint) On rainy days, it can be tempting to hand children devices and let them fall down a YouTube rabbit hole. After all, there can be a lot of hours to fill when the weather isn't cooperating with your weekend plans.

There are better ways to spend those rainy days. With a little creativity, rainy days can be opportunities for fun and educational play.

Consider these great ideas from The Genius of Play, an initiative with a mission of raising awareness about the importance of play in order to help parents make it a critical part of raising kids.

- **Get messy:** Just because you're indoors, doesn't mean there isn't an opportunity for kids to satisfy their primal urge to get their hands dirty. Not only do kids love playing with sensory textures such as paints, slime, sand, play dirt and foam, doing so helps improve fine motor skills. The good news? Many such items are now designed to reduce messiness, stickiness and clean up hassles.

- **Play games:** Break out some classic board games like checkers and dominoes or grab a deck of cards for a round of crazy eights. Such games teach the importance of taking turns and good sportsmanship and can even help kids learn to strategize and plan ahead.

- **Get dramatic:** For an afternoon of open-ended playtime, encourage kids to develop their emotional, creative and communication skills by developing their own skit or play. With so many dress-up kits available, it's easy to maintain a well-stocked costume trunk that kids can use to get inspired. You can also gather up some of their favorite toys to use as props and help bring stories to life.

- **Build together:** Whether your child prefers following step-by-step instructions or using their imagination, designing, creating and playing with construction toys can build problem-solving, spatial and fine motor skills.

- **Design an obstacle course:** Rain or no rain, kids have energy



PHOTO COURTESY STATEPOINT

to burn. Building a safe obstacle course for kids to complete is a fun way for them to stay active indoors while building core muscles and developing balance. Pick three to five exercises, like pretending to jump like a frog, army crawling under the table or log rolling from one side of the living room to another and then doing five sit-ups. Practice it for 5-10 minutes, then get to work designing a new one!

- **Create a mini lab:** Play with Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) toys and games. Use a science kit to erupt a volcano or code a robot to guard the bedroom. These important educational experiences can be fun supplements to classroom learning that help set your child up for future success.

- **Make cleanup fun:** It may not sound like "play" at first glance, but cleanup can be fun with the right attitude. Crank up favorite tunes and have kids dance as they dust, straighten, put toys away, make the bed and help with chores. Or, make a game of it, racing each other to complete tasks.

For more play tips and inspiration, visit www.thegeniusofplay.org.

Be sure rainy days include playtime, which offers many developmental benefits for children to learn key communication, creative, cognitive, social, emotional and physical skills.

Healthy Eating

Good Health Reset

(NAPSI)—A good health reset can happen any time of the year. It simply takes a commitment to making small, sustainable changes that add up to impactful, healthy habits. Dr. Samara Sterling with The Peanut Institute says it's best to begin by concentrating on the good habits you already follow.

"Set yourself up for success by building on the healthy things you like to do," says Sterling. "For example, if you typically eat one serving of fruit a day, figure out a way to increase that to two servings."

Over time, as you amp up your healthy habits, the detrimental ones tend to fade away more easily.

As part of a good health reset, Dr. Sterling recommends incorporating more protein, especially plant-based proteins, into a daily diet.

"Proteins and healthy fats make you feel fuller for longer and can help eliminate the urge to snack and consume empty calories," explains Sterling.

Peanuts are an example of a powerful plant protein. Just one serving of peanuts delivers seven grams of protein, 19 vitamins and minerals and heart-healthy fats.

"Peanuts are categorized as a superfood because they're nutrient-dense and deliver superior health benefits in a very small serving," says Dr. Sterling. "If you combine superfoods, like kale and peanuts or quinoa

and peanuts, you're really maximizing your nutritional intake."

There's more good news because peanut butter also packs protein.

"Research has shown that the consumption of small amounts of peanuts or peanut butter has been associated with a reduced risk of cancer, heart disease and diabetes," says Sterling. "It's easy to incorporate peanuts and peanut butter into breakfast, lunch or dinner."

Mediterranean Grain Medley with Peanuts

3 Tbsp. peanut oil
2 garlic cloves, minced
½ tsp. hot pepper flakes
½ red bell pepper, diced
1 yellow squash, diced
8 oz. snap peas
2 cups beluga lentils or brown lentils, pre-cooked
1 cup jasmine rice, pre-cooked
2-inch piece of ginger, grated
1 cup peanuts, plain, roasted
1 bunch green onions, chopped
Salt to taste
Lime juice to taste
Cilantro as garnish

Heat a sauté pan and add peanut oil. Add garlic and pepper flakes, cook for 30 seconds. Add bell pepper and squash, sauté for 3–4 minutes. Add snap peas, cook for



an additional minute. Add lentils, rice, ginger, lime juice and salt, mix well. Heat the grains for 1 minute then toss in the peanuts and green onions. Serve warm, enjoy!

For more delicious and healthy recipes, visit peanutinstitute.com.

Anthony Brown

Maryland Congressional District 4



Congressman Brown Praises \$10.2 Million Awarded to Maryland To Support COVID-19 Response

Brown announced funding at press conference with County Executive Angela Alsobrooks

WASHINGTON (March 16, 2020)—Congressman Anthony G. Brown (MD-04) praised the \$10.2 million awarded to Maryland by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to combat the escalating outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19). This is in addition to the \$500,000 Maryland received previously for the state's public health response.

"As we confront the magnitude of this rapidly evolving pandemic, these funds are critical to ensuring our medical professionals and communities have the resources they need to effectively respond and mitigate the spread of this virus," said Congressman Anthony Brown. "This is just one component of the federal government's unprecedented response to the threat posed by the coronavirus. I urge the Hogan Administration to put these funds to use as quickly as possible. Until this threat is fully contained, I will continue

to fight in Congress for additional aid in order to protect the health and wellbeing of all Maryland residents"

CDC funds can be used for a variety of public health actions and medical supplies used to track, contain and treat the coronavirus including;

- Epidemiology
- Surveillance
- Laboratory work
- Case identification
- Public health management and risk assessment
- Travelers health
- Data management
- Equipment, supplies and shipping
- Infection control
- Surge staffing
- Distribution and use of medical material
- Emergency operations and coordination
- Risk communication

HEALTH INSURANCE

Special Enrollment Open During Maryland's Coronavirus State of Emergency

New availability complements the Easy Enrollment Health Insurance Program. Both will continue through mid-April.

By PRESS OFFICER
Maryland Health Benefit Exchange

BALTIMORE, Md. (March 13, 2020)—The Maryland Health Benefit Exchange last week announced a new special enrollment period open to all Marylanders in need of health insurance during the State of Emergency for Coronavirus (COVID-19) declared by Gov. Larry Hogan this week. Uninsured Marylanders may enroll through MarylandHealthConnection.gov, the state's health insurance marketplace.

To ensure residents of the state receive access to affordable ACA-compliant insurance coverage during this emergency, individuals can visit MarylandHealthConnection.gov or download the free "Enroll MHC" mobile app. Request or select "Coronavirus Emergency Special Enrollment Period." Free consumer assistance is available by calling 1-855-642-8572 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays.

Individuals can enroll starting Monday, March 16 through Wednesday, April 15. Coverage selected during this time will have a start date of April 1, 2020, regardless of when a consumer enrolls during this period.

"Health concerns are heightened for many fam-

ilies, and Maryland is in a state of emergency. We are grateful for the support of our insurance companies in opening this additional special enrollment for uninsured residents," said Michele Eberle, executive director of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, which administers Maryland Health Connection.

Assistance is available in more than 200 languages through the call center, and relay services also are available for the deaf and hard of hearing. Hundreds of trained insurance brokers and navigators statewide will offer free in-person help. You can find their locations and contact information at MarylandHealthConnection.gov or through the mobile app.

Additional details about Maryland's response to the ongoing pandemic can be found at governor.maryland.gov/coronavirus. And health resource information is at health.maryland.gov/coronavirus.

This special enrollment will run concurrent with the new Maryland Easy Enrollment Health Insurance Program that also ends on Wednesday, April 15. When tax filers check the box on their 502 and 502B tax forms seeking information about health coverage, they will be able to enroll.

Earth TALK™

The Environmental Bright Side of the Coronavirus?

Dear EarthTalk:

I feel weird asking, but is there an environmental bright side to the spread of the Coronavirus? And is there an environmental cause of the pandemic?

—Jane K., Miami, FL

Coronavirus has killed thousands of people and sickened hundreds of thousands (if not millions) more around the world. It has also caused mass hysteria and public health officials are bracing for the worst.

The situation is mostly bad news, but the "silver lining" for the environment might be a downturn in carbon emissions and other pollution due to reduced manufacturing, people staying home, less air travel, far fewer cars on the road—and generally less overall physical movement and economic activity.

A recent analysis by Carbon Brief, a UK-based website covering news in climate sciences and climate and energy policy, found that measures to contain the Coronavirus in China have resulted in reductions in output of 15 percent to 40 percent across key industrial sectors there, with an overall reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by some 25 percent below normal over the course of February 2020.

Only time will tell if the situation here gets as dire as in China. "Some data indicate school closures and work-from-home mandates have already reduced traffic flow around Seattle," reports E&E News. "Similar statistics have suggested that rush-hour traffic is down in New York City, as well." Meanwhile, BART ridership in and around San Francisco is down 25 percent so far in March as a result of people staying home. These examples don't add up to a huge downturn in emissions yet, but we're still in the initial stages of the pandemic's spread.

For those who would like to see this reduced output continue even after we are over the hump with this outbreak, don't count on

it. We're all used to the conveniences and creature comforts that a buzzing economic system brings us, and fat chance if the Chinese, Europeans or Americans are going to voluntarily return to a more ascetic lifestyle once the Coronavirus eases its chokehold. To wit, the Chinese government is already hyping a stimulus package designed to make up for the months of lost economic opportunity for businesses there. And we aren't far behind with President Trump promising a payroll tax cut, an infrastructure push, paid sick leave for hourly employees and the potential delay of estimated tax payments as ways to stimulate the economy in the wake of the pandemic.

As for whether there's an environmental "cause" of the pandemic, we don't think so—except in as much as it probably came to us from wildlife. But according to the World Health Organization, environmental factors that lead to human congregation—such as sunny weather—could theoretically increase the rate of spread. On the other hand, studies suggest that warmer temperatures reduce the spreading of respiratory infections, due to their effects on the dynamics of cough droplet flight. But all in all, the research shows that environmental conditions do little to affect the transmission rates of viruses such as Coronavirus.

CONTACTS: Analysis: Coronavirus has temporarily reduced China's CO2 emissions by a quarter, <https://www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-coronavirus-has-temporarily-reduced-chinas-co2-emissions-by-a-quarter>; How the Coronavirus Pandemic Is Affecting CO2 Emissions, <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/how-the-coronavirus-pandemic-is-affecting-co2-emissions/>; "Environmental factors



IMAGE CREDIT: CHAD DAVIS, FLICKRCC

Travelers at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport wearing face masks in early March 2020 as the Coronavirus spreads throughout the United States.

influencing the spread of communicable diseases," https://www.who.int/environmental_health_emergencies/disease_outbreaks/communicable_diseases/en/.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at <https://emagazine.com>. To donate, visit <https://earthtalk.org>. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

Maryland Bill Would Usher in Zero-Emission Transit Buses

By HUGH GARBRICK
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (March 3, 2020)— Maryland could begin replacing old diesel and hybrid state-operated transit buses with electric and zero-emission ones no earlier than July 2022 if a bill passes the General Assembly, jolting Maryland's fleet into the future.

Gov. Larry Hogan, R, set a goal for Maryland's bus fleet to be 50% zero-emission by 2030, laid out in the state's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act Draft Plan.

Delegate Marc Korman, D-Montgomery, is sponsoring House bill 432 and said at a hearing Feb. 18 that it is "slightly more aggressive" than Hogan's plan since the bill would make Maryland's fleet more than 50% zero-emission by 2030.

Sen. Craig Zucker, D-Montgomery, is sponsoring an identical bill, Senate bill 423.

"This is the right step to go in terms of saving the state money, and obviously it has huge benefits for the environment," Zucker testified at a Senate bill hearing Feb. 19.

Sen. Arthur Ellis, D-Charles, said he likes the idea of more electric buses, but he is concerned that the buses' power would be supplied by coal burning power plants instead of renewable energy resources.

"Unless we find a way of producing more renewable energy solutions, bills like this will be on the backs of my constituents, those in Southern Prince George's (where the population is) majority-minority. Our community members have the worst health effects when it comes to asthma," Ellis said during the bill hearing.

The Maryland Transit Administration operates about 775 transit buses, overseeing CityLink in Baltimore and more than 50 other bus routes, and

it is scheduled to sign a new contract that would update the fleet, according to a state legislative analysis.

Currently, Maryland's fleet is diesel and hybrid according to a Maryland Transit Administration spokesperson.

Zucker told Capital News service that there will be an amendment to include zero-emission buses.

These can include electric and hydrogen fuel-cell buses, because they do not release "tailpipe pollution," according to the Sierra Club.

The bus contract would begin payments in 2022, and the legislative analysis predicts 70 new zero-emission buses would be purchased each year.

"We anticipate that our next procurement will be entirely zero-emissions vehicles, with delivery of vehicles beginning in 2025," Brittany Marshall, director of media relations for the Maryland Transit Administration, told Capital News Service in an emailed statement.

The Hogan administration has not taken a position on the Democrats' legislation, according to the governor's press secretary.

Maryland Director of Chesapeake Climate Action Network Steven Hershkowitz told lawmakers the group is in favor of the bill because it will reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Hershkowitz calculated emission reductions using estimates from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act and an EPA emissions calculator.

Hershkowitz said if the legislation passes, "we would see about 50,000 metric tons of carbon removed. That's the equivalent of taking 11,000 cars off the road."

Electric buses would cost Maryland, annually, \$20.6 million more than diesel buses, according to the legislative analysis.

When compared to diesel, the legislative analy-

sis estimates 40-foot electric buses to cost about \$375,000 more and 60-foot electric buses to cost about \$200,000 more.

The analysis also noted that costs would be higher since the estimates do not take into account necessary garage upgrades or staffing expenses.

Ramón Palencia-Calvo with the Maryland League of Conservation Voters said electric buses can save the state money over time.

"Electric buses are more cost effective than diesel buses. They cost more upfront. Savings in fewer operations and maintenance throughout the life of the bus makes it more cost effective," Palencia-Calvo said.

Zero-emission buses are already transporting riders in Maryland, like in Frederick County where there are currently six electric buses in operation, according to Transit deputy director Roman Steichen.

Electric buses cost Frederick County \$130,000 per bus, and save the county \$300,000 over a bus's "12-year useful life"—largely due to lower annual energy and maintenance costs, Steichen wrote in an email to Capital News Service.

Last year, Prince George's County received a \$2.2 million grant for battery-powered buses and charging stations; the buses are expected to serve routes at the University of Maryland and National Harbor, according to a press release from the Federal Transit Administration.

Prince George's County has not purchased the



PHOTOGRAPH CREDIT HUGH GARBRICK/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

A state bus in Annapolis, Maryland. A bill in the state legislature would mean the Maryland Transit Administration can begin replacing old diesel and hybrid buses with zero-emission buses.

buses but anticipates them to arrive by early 2021, according to Paulette Jones, the public information officer for the Public Works and Transportation department.

In testimony at the Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee on Feb. 19, Hershkowitz said transportation is the largest sector contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in Maryland, at 36% in 2017 according to the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act, which aims for statewide greenhouse gas reductions of 40% from 2006 levels by 2030.

"If you really think about the work that has to be done by 2030, the legislators have taken a major step in the right direction," Hershkowitz said.

