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How Larry Hogan Won in Blue Maryland

By LEJLA SARCEVIC AND MAX BENNETT Capital News Service

COLLEGE PARK - Republican Larry J. Hogan Jr. pulled off a remarkable electoral triumph Tuesday to defeat Democratic candidate Lt. Gov. Anthony G. Brown in Maryland's gubernatorial election.

Pundits and politicians have been left with plenty to discuss as they reflect on a surprising Hogan campaign, and consider the future of the Democratic party.

Despite a fundraising advantage through the general election, including direct donations of about \$4 million to the campaign and \$1.6 to the Maryland

Democratic Party, and a strong political machine, Brown faltered in the final weeks.

Hogan, 58, who chose to take public funding, was limited to \$2.6 million, although other groups spent money on his behalf.

Governors' associations for both parties each spent over \$1 million in ad buys, according to state campaign finance filings and a statement from the Republican Governors Association. New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, chairman of the RGA, campaigned for Hogan several times in the final weeks.

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Capitol Technology University to Expand

By PRESS OFFICER Capital Technology University

Laurel, Md., — Capitol Technology University has announced plans to build a new residence complex on the school's 52 acre campus that will house 300 undergraduate students when completed. The project is a component of Capitol's five-year strategic plan to address the demand for STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education on the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Capitol made the announcement at a groundbreaking cer-

emony on Tuesday, October 22, during which keynote speaker Michael Steele, former Lieutenant governor of Maryland, emphasized the growing importance of education in science, technology, engineering and math.

"From expanding cybersecurity and gaming degree programs to building new dorms here on campus, this university speaks with assurance about its future. And indeed your future is bright," said Steele. "It is bright because

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OFFICIAL WHITE HOUSE PHOTO BY PETE SOUZA

President Barack Obama holds a press conference in the East Room of the White House, Nov. 5, 2014.

President Obama: "It's Time for Us to Take Care of Business"

By PRESS OFFICER Office of the White House

On November 5, 2014, President Obama addressed the White House press corps to discuss the midterm elections and his next steps forward.

"What stands out to me," he said, "is that the American people sent a message, one that they've sent for several elec-

tions now. They expect the people they elect to work as hard as they do. They expect us to focus on their ambitions and not ours. They want us to get the job done."

"As President, I have a unique responsibility to try and make this town work"

The President said that he has "a unique responsibility" to make Washington work. In that vein, the President will host the

Democratic and Republican leadership at the White House this Friday for a meeting to chart a new course forward.

And in a message to all Americans -- both those who voted yesterday and those who didn't -- the President made clear that he hears them:

To everyone who voted, I want you to know that I hear you. To the two-thirds of voters who chose not to participate

in the process yesterday, I hear you, too. All of us have to give more Americans a reason to feel like the ground is stable beneath their feet, that the future is secure, that there's a path for young people to succeed, and that folks here in Washington are concerned about them. So I plan on

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Maryland's Loggers Work to Protect Environment

By MAX BENNETT Capital News Service

LOVEVILLE, MARYLAND — Chainsaws, feller-bunchers, skidders, loaders and trucks all work in harmony, creating a buzz in the woods.

Sounds from the saws and heavy machinery echo through the air at a southern Maryland farm where a team of loggers are clear-cutting trees to replant healthier wood.

Robert Beale and a four-man team are working to clear about 80 acres of white and red oak, poplar, maple, gum and beech trees in order to replant loblolly pine that will be ready for harvesting in about 15 to 20 years.

Beale owns Loveville Timberworks LLC, a logging and firewood company in southern Maryland.

"Logging in Maryland is the same as logging anywhere," said Beale.

But challenges exist.

Beale said Maryland requires permits and bonds to be filed and paid for prior to starting a logging job. Each county controls its own permitting process.

"In another state like Virginia, you get a job, you move onto the job, you call the state foresters and they actually physically come out to the job," said Beale. "You don't get a permit." Foresters in Virginia come to sites regularly and discuss the property and how to mitigate damage to the environment.

"There's a lot of red tape over here" in Maryland, he said. But, he said, it's just red tape. "There's no inspection process after you're done [with a job]," Beale said.

That can be frustrating for loggers who try to do everything right on job sites because the loggers who don't play by the rules can go unnoticed without site inspections like those in Virginia, said Beale.

"We're paying that additional cost to do it right and we're not getting the benefit for it," said Beale.

Clear-cutting isn't a typical job for Beale and his crew, however.

"About 90 percent of what I do is a select cut," said Beale.

A select cut entails going into a mature forest, cutting the mature and damaged trees, which in turn improves the forest by allowing other trees



CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTO BY EDDIE MOORE
Eddie Moore, middle, was Logger of the Year in 2013. Pictured with Moore are Mike Ferrucci, senior Forest Stewardship Council-Sustainable Forestry Initiative auditor and logger Auther Egolf who serves on the Chesapeake Forest Advisory Board and was Logger of the Year in 1995.

to compete and make new timber for harvesting in 15 to 20 years.

Beale said most of the wood he harvests goes to Amish saw mills in Mechanicsville and Charlotte Hall, while pulpwood goes to Glatfelter in Pennsylvania or pulpwood mills in western Maryland. Some of the pine harvested by Loveville Timberworks goes to Potomac Supplies in Virginia, Beale said.

The wood being harvested on a recent Thursday behind Bowles Farms in Loveville is going to the Amish mills, said Beale.

Beale said when working for a mill, a load of about 80,000 pounds of wood will net about \$500 or \$550. However, Beale said prices always depend on the type of wood and the board-

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MGM Resorts College Programs Ready to Launch Careers of Maryland Students

By PRESS OFFICER MGM Resorts International

NATIONAL HARBOR, MD — MGM National Harbor, LLC, a subsidiary of MGM Resorts International (NYSE: MGM), announced today that it is currently accepting applications from current students and recent college graduates for the 2015 sessions of MGM Resorts International's acclaimed Hospitality Internship and Management Associate programs.

MGM Resorts' Hospitality Internship Program (HIP) is a full-time, paid summer internship for college students entering their junior or senior years. Beginning the first week of June and running for 10 consecutive weeks, students accepted into the HIP Program are embedded with working departments at MGM Resorts or in supporting Corporate Departments. The program also provides a practical curriculum on corporate culture and the expectations of professionals in the working

world. The HIP Program provides current college students the opportunity to demonstrate their leadership potential by executing critical projects while taking part in collaborative workshops and classes.

The Management Associate Program (MAP), a 12-month leadership development program for recent college graduates, begins in mid-July and offers a far more in-depth learning experience. Over the course of the year-long program, MAP participants are placed in specific resort or corporate departments, with the same responsibilities and expectations as full-time employees. Upon successful completion of the program, participants are offered an assistant manager or equivalent position and begin their careers as MGM Resorts employees.

Participants in both programs apply for positions in specific departments

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Lt. Governor Brown Highlights New Domestic Violence Laws

Lt. Governor Brown championed efforts this year to finally end Maryland's dubious distinction as the only state that requires victims to meet a higher standard of "clear and convincing evidence" in order to obtain a peace or protective order by reducing the standard to a "preponderance of the evidence."

Community, Page A3

Shining Like a Diamond

When they first became homeless they doubled up with relatives and then stayed with friends where Diamond shared a small space with two adults and five preschoolers. "I would get to school at 8:00 and I wouldn't leave until school closed and they told me I had to go home, because I could focus there and get work done."

Commentary, Page A4

Maryland Casinos Generate \$86.8 Million in Revenue During October

The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency announced October 2014 revenue numbers — Hollywood Casino, Horseshoe Casino, Casino at Ocean Downs, Maryland Live Casino, and Rocky Gap Casino Resort. October 2014's combined statewide revenue totaled \$86,819,616.

Business, Page A5

Movie Review: "Listen Up Philip"

Anger rages in Philip as he awaits the publication of his sure-to-succeed second novel. He feels pushed out of his adopted home city by the constant crowds and noise, a deteriorating relationship with his photographer girlfriend Ashley, and his indifference to promoting his own work.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

Is it true that global warming is causing our crops to be less nutritious?

— William Persson,
Glendale, OH

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

Civil War era Houses show what an 1865 Christmas was like

'Tis the season for visiting the Surratt House in Clinton, beginning Dec. 13, to enjoy the simpler ways of celebrating the holidays as the people of the Civil War era did. The House is open Wed., Thurs., and Fri., from 11a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sat. & Sun, from noon to 4 p.m. There's a small admission fee. The house is at 9118 Brandywine Road in Clinton. For information, call 301-868-1121.

Down in Charles County, the Dr. Samuel A. Mudd House Museum invites you to their 13th annual Victorian Christmas, Dec. 6 and 7. The house will be decorated, as it would have been in the Victorian period. There'll be music, refreshments, Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus, a walking tour of the house and an encampment of Civil War soldiers.

The house will open at 11 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. both days. It is particularly charming after dark when the luminarias are set along the driveway. Admission is \$8 for adults and \$2 for children. The house is at 3725 Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Road, just off Poplar Hill Road, in Waldorf. For information, call 301-274-9358.

And, in case you didn't already know it, the Dr. Mudd House is where my great-grandparents, Dr. Samuel and Sarah Frances Mudd, lived. I wish I'd known them.

Neighbors

There's new landscaping at the Morningside sign on Randolph Road, thanks to the handiwork of Dave and Greta Chambers.

Mary Leonard turned 90 on August 7 and she's still going strong. She and her late husband Calvin moved to Clayton Lane shortly after World War II, and Mary just might hold the record as the longest-resident of Skyline.

Nita Boone, formerly of Skyline, sent a generous donation and a lovely letter in honor of her dear friend Dwight Holloway. She wrote, "Dwight was truly an asset to the community for many years and he will be missed by all."

The Morningside Fire Department's annual Open

House boasted the special appearance of Washington Redskins Cheerleaders, Ms. Taryn W and Ms. Jennifer.

Joint Base Andrews has an abundance of deer activity and issued a warning to be alert. Tech Sgt. Cody Sturgeon, 11th Wing Ground Safety NCO advises, "If a deer happens to run in the road, don't swerve to avoid it. Most accidents occur when the driver tries to avoid the animal."

Tigger is back! You may have seen the signs posted about an 11-month-old Maltipoo with a long curly tail, which disappeared from Juanita Court in Skyline on Oct. 26. A woman in Clinton called the dog's owner on Oct. 8 to say she had him, apparently given to her by her son. No other details. Just glad he's back home.

Ten years ago this month: Joseph Yurkanin, past commander of VFW 9619, died Nov. 4. He was the guy who used to set up the football games bus tours.

Flea Market at Skyline School

Skyline Elementary School PTA is sponsoring a Flea Market Saturday, Nov. 22, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the parking lot at the school (or inside, in case of rain). To reserve a table (\$15) or for information, call Mrs. Magness, 301-817-0535.

Festival of Lights

On the day after Thanksgiving the Festival of Lights will open at Watkins Regional Park, featuring more than one million twinkling lights and many new displays. Hours are nightly through New Year's, 5 to 9:30 p.m. Admission: \$5 for car or van, free on Christmas. When you go, bring a donation of canned goods for local food banks.

Annual Gingerbread House Show

For a sweet treat, go and view an amazing display of edible gingerbread houses at Darnall's Chance House Museum, 14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro. Then vote for the best. The show is open Friday through Sunday, from noon to 5 p.m., on these weekends: Nov. 28-30, Dec. 5-7, and Dec.

12-14. Admission is \$1. For information, call 301-952-8010

Changing landscape

Osborne Shopping Center, in Upper Marlboro, had its Grand Opening Nov. 15, and the Safeway in the shopping center had its Grand Opening the day before. Petco and SunTrust Bank are two of the other retailers in the center, located on Route 301 at Osborne Road

Fuddruckers at Brandywine Crossing had its Grand Opening on Nov. 18.

May they rest in peace

Betty Jo "Nanny" Call, long-time resident of Maple Road in Morningside, died Aug. 30. I will tell you more about this interesting woman in a future column.

Mary Dean, of Morningside, called with the sad news that the sister of her son-in-law, Craig Coffren, died in a traffic accident on Nov. 6. Deborah Ann "Debbie" Fulks was driving to work about 6:30 a.m. on Nov. 6 when a car in the other lane crossed the center line of Aquasco Road and hit her head-on. She died at the scene. She was 59 and lived in Mechanicsville. In addition to her brother Craig, survivors include her husband Kenny Fulks, daughter Candie Blankenship, son Jody Fulks, two sisters and two grandchildren.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Linda Culinan and Brea Sandy-Hanson, Nov. 21; Dolores Steinhilber, Sharon McIlveen and Jill Flaherty Kimmel, Nov. 22; Leslie Greene, Nov. 23; Ben Gryskiewicz and Mike Waby, Nov. 24; Ray Call, Avanna Williams and Andrew Gryskiewicz, Nov. 25; Darryl Moss, Nov. 26; and Arthur Rose, Nov. 27.

Happy anniversary to Paul and Sharon Locke on Nov. 22.

*A Very
Happy
Thanksgiving
to all my readers!*

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation will display the Festival of Lights Friday, November 28, 2014 thru Thursday, January 1, 2015 from 5:00 PM-9:30 PM. This spectacular holiday drive-through event featuring more than one million twinkling lights is something that you will not want to miss.

Admission fees (cash only) are \$5.00/car or van, \$10/multi-visit, transferable pass for cars and vans (3 visits), \$15/minibus (seats 13-24) or limo, \$25/bus (seats 25 or more, no reservations required). Multi-visit passes on sale nightly at the gate and free on December 25. Please bring canned goods for donation to local food banks and make a difference this season.

The address is Watkins Regional Park 301 Watkins Park Drive (Route 193) Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20774. Telephone number is 301-699-2456; TTY 301-218-6768.

TEACHER RECRUITMENT JOB FAIR

Prince Georges County Public Schools seeks highly qualified candidates to attend Teacher

Recruitment Job Fair Saturday December 6, 2014 from 8:00 AM-1:00PM. The Job Fair will be held at Wise, Jr. High School, located at 12650 Brooke Lane Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Educators must pre-register to attend. Questions please e-mail hr.recruitment@pgcps.org or call 301-952-6001.

GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST & SHOW

Join us for the 15th Annual Gingerbread Contest and Show Friday-Sunday November 28-November 30; Friday-Sunday, December 5 December 7; Friday-Sunday, December 12-December 14 12:00 Noon-5:00 PM.

There will be an amazing display of edible gingerbread houses that you will be able to view. No nibbling is allowed.

You will vote for the best house in the Viewer's Choice Award Competition. All ages are welcome. Cost is \$1/person. Children 4 and under free. No reservations required.

Location is Darnall's Chance House Museum 14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Please contact 301-952-8010; TTY 301-

699-2544 for more information.

ANNUAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

It's time for their Annual Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, December 6, 2014 8:30 AM at St. Philip's Church, Baden Parish. The address is 13801 Baden Westwood Road Brandywine, Maryland 20613-8426.

Spiritual Message will be by Rev. Vaughan P.L. Booker. Theme is 'Every Good Gift and Every Perfect Gift is from above.' Cost for adults is \$10.00. Children pay \$5.00 (12 years and under). The Prayer Breakfast is sponsored by St. Philip's Church, Baden Parish Episcopal Church Women. Chairpersons are Phyllis Bell, Henrietta Wright and Shirley Cleaves.

ST. PHILIPS GOSPEL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Gospel Program will feature Zion Special, Gospel Disciples, Voices of Harmony, Gospel Revelations, Southern Maryland Harmonizers and the Burning Light December 7, 2014 at 4:00 PM. Admission is \$6.00. The address is St. Philips Episcopal Church 13801 Baden Westwood Road, Brandywine, Maryland.

Neighborhood Events

Nurses and Caregivers in Prince George's County Ratify Labor Contract

12-14. Admission is \$1. For information, call 301-952-8010

12-14. Admission is \$1. For information, call 301-952-8010

The 1400 nurses and caregivers at Dimensions Health-care System in Prince George's County have voted to ratify a new three-year contract that guarantees at least a six percent salary increase, caps work shift cancellations and insures that the \$655 million hospital planned for the county will be a union shop.

The vote, ratified late Tues-

day night, came after more than 18 months of tough negotiations during which the union representing the workers, 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East, repeatedly rejected proposals from Dimensions that would give Dimensions the option of cancelling the more than 30-year-old collective bargaining agreement in the event of a sale or merger. Dimensions put forward this proposal while in talks about a developing relationship with the statewide University of Maryland Medical System.

"We fought back and defeated an attempt to shut out employees who have sacrificed for Dimensions to survive and to be able to build the new hospital," said John Reid, executive vice president of the Maryland-DC region of 1199SEIU. "We are partners for quality care in the county and the new hospital cannot happen unless we are a part of it."

Dimensions Healthcare System includes Prince George's Hospital Center, Laurel Regional Hospital, the Bowie Health Campus and clinics in Suitland, Lanham and Brentwood. In addition to assuring continuation of the union contract at these facilities and at the new hospital, the union also eliminated a proposal by Dimensions for unlimited cancellations of work shifts. Under the contract agreement, cancellation of shifts is now capped at 15 shifts per year for full-time employees and requires the employer to first cancel agency workers, reassign a caregiver to an area of need based on experience or skills required and rotate employees who are being cancelled, so no one worker is repeatedly impacted. If this new policy results in excessive cancellations, management agrees to meet with members of the union to make policy changes.

The contract agreement will also provide a two percent wage increase for each year over the next three years, traditional "step" increases for nurses and a bonus to cover lost wages during the protracted contract negotiations.

During the year and a half of contract negotiations, nurses and caregivers at Dimensions picketed outside the system's facilities on April 16, revealed plans by Dimensions to downsize staff and services and marched in the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Parade behind a banner that read, "We Care For Maryland."

Jody Zepp Named 2014-2015 Maryland Teacher of the Year

BALTIMORE, MD — Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) released the following statement tonight after attending the 24th Annual Maryland Teacher of the Year Gala Reception and Dinner in Baltimore. Local teachers of the year from all 24 school systems were recognized and

Jody Zepp, a government and psychology teacher at Hammond High School in Howard County, was selected as the 2014-2015 Maryland Teacher of the Year from among seven finalists. There were also tributes to the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland, Brit Kirwan, and the 2014 National Teacher of the Year, Sean McComb, who was Maryland's Teacher of the Year for 2013-2014.

"I was proud to join in paying tribute to Maryland's most outstanding teachers and I congratulate Jody Zepp on her recognition as Maryland Teacher of the Year. The teachers honored tonight are at the forefront of building stronger individuals, which in turn builds stronger communities and a stronger America. Without these extraordinary teachers, Maryland would not have the best education system in America. I'm proud that we are a part of it."

"We are a

COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Jason Alderman

6 Must-Know Facts About Obamacare Open Enrollment

If you buy your own health insurance, you should have added this important date to your yearend to-do list: November 15. If not, you should be sure to do it now.

That's the date open enrollment is available for individual healthcare plans offered through the Healthcare.gov site, your respective health insurance marketplace (<https://www.healthcare.gov/medicaid-chip/eligibility/>) or independent agents in your community.

If you're working for a company that provides your health insurance, chances are your open enrollment period has already begun. The SHOP insurance marketplace, open to small businesses and nonprofits with 50 or fewer full-time employees, also begins taking online applications November 15.

If you buy your own personal or family coverage, don't wait until November 15 to start planning your 2015 coverage decisions – do it now.

Here are six things you should know to get started:

1. Timing is tight. Last year's health insurance enrollment process lasted six months. This year, it's only three – November 15 to February 15. You may be able to enroll outside of those dates if you're facing a major life change like a divorce, birth of a child or marriage; otherwise, that's your window.

2. Sticker shock is a possibility. Obamacare didn't guarantee cheap healthcare coverage; it guaranteed available healthcare coverage. Keep in mind that if you bought health coverage last year, your insurer will automatically re-enroll you on December 15 for new coverage effective January 1. However, that's no guarantee that your monthly premium will stay the same. Some experts are predicting only modest increases (<http://www.cnbc.com/id/102055144>), but depending on where you live, your premiums might go up or down. And if your 2013 carrier grandfathered your 2014 coverage, those changes may go well beyond price.

3. Your doctors and hospitals might change. Hospitals and physician practices scrutinize the state of the health insurance market very closely. Their income depends on it. In 2013, some medical practices made news by dropping insurance plans altogether and accepting only cash or credit; others changed the insurance plans they would honor. Something to keep in mind: the best way to confirm that you'll still have access to your favorite doctor and hospital choice is to pick up the phone. Your doctor's website may list the particular insurance plans his or her practice may accept, but don't expect the list to be current. Call your practitioner or their business office to confirm they're sticking with your plan or any you've chosen to use instead. You don't want to be surprised with enormous out-of-network costs later.

4. Planning future health needs is important. If in the next year you're planning to expand your family, undergo elective surgery or other factors that could affect how you'll use the healthcare system, query the plans about specialists, prescriptions and other specific services before you sign up. It could save you thousands in potential out-of-pocket costs.

5. Coverage isn't immediate. Depending on when you enroll during the open enrollment period, your actual coverage may not start until two to six weeks later. Check effective dates of coverage for every plan you're evaluating to make sure the timing addresses your particular needs.

6. You can get help. Personal referrals from friends and fellow professionals to particular plans and agents are always a good way to start your enrollment search. There may also be nonprofit assistance within your community or state to help you evaluate individual plans. On the national level, nonprofit Enroll America runs a nationwide site (<http://www.enrollamerica.org/resources/in-person-assistance/>) with specific tools and resources for help in your search.

Start now to build a good toolbox full of online and personal resources to help you with your 2015 health insurance search.

ADVERTISE!

in

The Prince George's Post

Call

Brenda Boice at
301 627 0900

Lt. Governor Brown Highlights New Domestic Violence Laws

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of the Lt. Governor

ANNAPOLIS, Last month Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown marked the start of Domestic Violence Awareness Month by highlighting three new laws going into effect that expand protections for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Maryland and hold abusers accountable. Brown, who leads the Administration's initiatives to reduce domestic violence, spearheaded efforts to pass the Administration's three-bill domestic violence package during the 2014 Legislative Session.

"Domestic violence does not discriminate - its impact is felt in every community regardless of race, religion, socioeconomic status, or gender," said Lt. Governor Brown. "This month we come together to raise awareness of this senseless crime and recommit ourselves to the effort to eliminate it. These new laws are an important part of our continued progress to protect women and children from domestic violence, but our work is not complete until every Marylander is free from fear in their home or in their community."

After similar legislation had been introduced four separate times over the past ten legislative sessions, Lt. Governor Brown championed efforts this year to finally end Maryland's dubious distinction as the only state that requires victims to meet a higher standard of "clear and convincing evidence" in order to obtain a peace or protective order by reducing the standard to a "preponderance of the evidence." Of the nearly 5,300 final peace or

protective orders that were denied last year alone, 3,500 of those were because the victim could not meet the standard of "clear and convincing evidence." This important change, which takes effect today, will ensure more victims of domestic violence have access to the protections they need.

Also, as of today, second degree assault will now be included among the list of crimes for which a person can obtain a permanent final protective order. According to the Maryland State's Attorneys Association, the majority of domestic violence cases involve second degree assault (Maryland State Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy, 2012). Additionally, a 2012 report showed that 94 percent of domestic violence crimes reported to the police are charged as assault (Uniform Crime Report, 2012).

"We were pleased to work with Lt. Governor Brown and many others this session to pass these critical laws which will go a long way toward ensuring victims have access to the protections they need," said Dorothy Lennig, Legal Clinic Director at House of Ruth Maryland. "Thanks to these new laws, victims will no longer be turned away for lack of evidence and we've closed a loophole which prevented permanent final protective orders from being issued in cases of second degree assault, the most common domestic violence conviction."

Lastly, as of today, judges will have the authority to impose enhanced penalties for acts of domestic violence committed in the presence of a minor in the home. This law will help hold

abusers accountable and keep Maryland children safe, and also represents an important step in breaking the cycle of violence. Studies carried out over the last 25 years consistently agree that children who witness violence are at a higher risk for a wide range of behavioral, emotional, and intellectual problems than are children who have not been exposed to violence.

"Today marks critical recognition of the traumatic impact that witnessing violence has upon a child," said Adam Rosenberg, Executive Director at the Baltimore Child Abuse Center. "Thanks to the leadership of Lt. Governor Brown, who has for years advocated for the protection of women and children from violence, Maryland now can punish those who commit acts of violence in the presence of minors in the home and commits itself to protecting these children from future violence."

Reducing domestic violence is a personal cause for Lt. Governor Brown. In August 2008, his cousin Cathy was senselessly murdered by her estranged boyfriend. The grief of her loss spurred Lt. Governor Brown to increase his efforts to address domestic violence in our state. Building on his experience as a legislator and the perspective provided by this tragedy, Lt. Governor Brown has championed several reforms to combat domestic violence and protect women and children from violent crime:

- 2009 - Brown leads successful effort to give judges the authority to take guns out of the hands of domestic abusers

- 2010 - Brown champions legislation allowing a victim of

domestic abuse to terminate a residential lease with a copy of a final protective order

- 2012 - Brown leads effort to allow Marylanders to apply for unemployment benefits when forced to leave a job to escape the threat of domestic violence
- 2012 - Brown champions legislation to make child neglect a criminal act in Maryland, previously the only state that did not criminalize child neglect

- 2013 - Brown secured funding to expand training and implementation of the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) in 100% of Maryland's 109 law enforcement agencies

- 2014 - Brown worked to pass three critical laws: reducing the burden of proof to obtain a peace or protective order; adding second degree assault to the list of crimes for which a permanent final protective order can be issued; giving judges the ability to impose enhanced penalties for acts of domestic violence committed in front of a minor in the home

- 2014 - Brown launches Maryland's 9th and 10th hospital-based domestic violence screening programs. The number of hospital-based programs has more than doubled since 2010 under the Lt. Governor's leadership.

Under the leadership of the O'Malley-Brown Administration, violent crime in Maryland has been driven down to the lowest rate in nearly 40 years. As a result of their increased focus on violent crime committed against women and children, the number of female and juvenile homicide victims is down 26.2 percent since 2006.

The Blind Spot: Tests Prove Rear-View Cameras Save Lives

By PRESS OFFICER
AAA Mid-Atlantic

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Nothing is more terrifying to a parent. A Maryland mother accidentally backed her SUV into five children playing in her driveway, killing her own daughter, who was only eight-years-old. Although it occurred two years ago, the horrific crash in Prince George's County underscores the fact that children under five-years-old comprise almost half of the death toll in accidents involving a vehicle backing up (or almost 100 children out of the 228 persons killed on average each year). More than 18,000 persons are injured each year in such collisions.

When used appropriately, a rear-view camera on a vehicle offers a bright, clear view directly behind the vehicle where small children are the most difficult to see, advises AAA Mid-Atlantic. Rear-view cameras in vehicles can safeguard lives and greatly enhance the safety of children, research by AAA confirms. In fact, rear-view camera systems improved rear visibility an average of 46 percent in recent tests conducted by AAA.

To prevent such tragedies, 46 percent of the 2014-model year vehicles sold in the United States rolled off the assembly line equipped with back-up camera systems. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) requires a rear-view image in all passenger vehicles beginning in 2016, with full compliance by May 2018. To gauge the effectiveness of back-up camera systems, AAA evaluated ve-

hicles with factory-installed and aftermarket rear-view cameras.

"Rear-view cameras are a great supplement for drivers and are especially helpful for viewing the first 10 feet behind the vehicle, which are the most hazardous in terms of back-over risk for young children," said John B. Townsend II, AAA Mid-Atlantic's Manager of Public and Government Affairs. "However, while these cameras dramatically improve rear visibility, they do not replace the need to check around your vehicle for obstacles before getting in to your vehicle and backing up."

These "vehicle backover avoidance" cameras are intended to improve driver awareness of the area immediately behind the vehicle in order to reduce the instance of back-over fatalities. The primary benefit of this technology is that it makes it much easier to monitor a difficult-to-see areas around the vehicle and take corrective action as a result, explains AAA Mid-Atlantic. To ascertain this:

- AAA evaluated 17 vehicles across 11 manufacturers with factory-installed and aftermarket rear-view camera systems on a variety of vehicle body styles.

- The increased visibility ranged from a 36 percent improvement in smaller sedans to a 75 percent improvement in hatchbacks. Large trucks and sport utility vehicles scored in the mid-range of vehicles evaluated.

Tragically, the predominant profile and age of the victims of a "backover" accident is that of a one-year-old baby. Compounding the tragedy, a parent or a close relative is behind the wheel

in over 70 percent of these incidents. Back-up cameras expand the driver's field of vision to encompass a 10-by-20 foot zone directly behind the vehicle, notes AAA Mid-Atlantic.

AAA's research – conducted with the Automobile Club of Southern California's Automotive Research Center – found that:

- A rear-view camera system increased visibility of the rear blind-zone area by an average of 46 percent for the vehicles tested. This ranged from a 36 percent improvement in smaller sedans to a 75 percent improvement in hatchbacks.

- Although these systems dramatically improve rear-view visibility, they do not show 100 percent of the space behind the vehicle. AAA recommends drivers always walk behind their vehicle to visually confirm that there are no obstacles, and use the rear-view camera to confirm that nothing has entered the area immediately behind the vehicle since the driver's walk-through inspection.

- Rain, snow or slush can cloud the rear-view camera lens, delivering blurry imagery. Motorists will need to resort to manual methods of confirming that the rear blind zone is clear during inclement weather. Wiping the camera during the pre-drive inspection is a good habit that ensures the camera is ready to capture a clear image.

- All of the systems tested met – and many exceeded – the minimum specifications for image quality per the NHTSA guideline.

The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety also has provided an assessment of back-up cameras, along with six other advanced

technologies, in the August 2014 report Evaluating Technologies Relevant to the Enhancement of Driver Safety. Conducted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology AgeLab, the study details a data-driven system for rating the effectiveness of new in-vehicle technologies intended to improve driver safety. Motorists can review the AAA Foundation's rating for new in-vehicle technologies, along with extensive information material, at <https://www.aaafoundation.org/vehicles-vehicle-safety-technology>.

Backing collisions comprise nearly one-quarter of all collisions across the nation. A "back-over" crash occurs when a driver reverses into and kills or injures a non-occupant such as a pedestrian or a bicyclist, explains NHTSA. However, back-up cameras can prevent such crashes because they allow the driver to view the area behind the rear bumper and see small objects that may be obstructed by the vehicle's blind spot, or may not ordinarily be visible at all, explains AAA Mid-Atlantic.

Children under five years old and adults 70 and older have an elevated risk of being backover victims compared to the rest of the population, explains NHTSA. In fact, research also shows: "In the U.S. at least fifty children are being backed over by vehicles every week. Forty-eight (48) are treated in hospital emergency rooms and at least two (2) children are fatally injured every week." Yet, back-up cameras provide an easily accessible view behind the vehicle, and may warn the driver if a potential crash/collision is detected, explains AAA Mid-Atlantic.

COMMENTARY

Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator for Maryland



Mikulski Announces More Than \$920,000 in Federal Funds to Reduce DNA Backlogs in Maryland

Federal Grant Will Help Maryland Law Enforcement Efficiently Prosecute Crimes, Protect Communities

WASHINGTON — U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md.) announced \$920,760 in federal funding to reduce DNA backlogs in Maryland. The Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention (GOCCP) has been awarded \$274,536, Anne Arundel County has been awarded \$132,676, and the City of Baltimore has been awarded \$513,548 to reduce forensic DNA sample turnaround time and help get violent offenders off the streets. The grants are being awarded through the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) within the U.S. Department of Justice.

"Our state and local law enforcement work around the clock to keep our communities safe," said Senator Mikulski, Chairwoman of the Senate Appropriations Committee which funds the DOJ. "These funds in the federal checkbook will be used to reduce untested DNA evidence backlogs in Maryland's crime labs, effectively solve and prosecute crimes, and make sure we put the right bad guys behind bars. I will continue fighting to make sure Maryland law enforcement has the tools it needs to keep our families safe."

The funding was awarded through the DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program, which provides state and local govern-

ment crime labs performing DNA analysis with resources to bolster their capacity through investments in infrastructure and expanding analysis capacity. Crime labs use these funds to process DNA samples efficiently and cost effectively. The grants are also used to identify and test backlog forensic DNA casework samples.

GOCCP, Anne Arundel County and the City of Baltimore will use this funding to help reduce forensic DNA sample turnaround time and reduce DNA forensic casework backlogs. These improvements are critical to preventing future DNA backlogs, catching the right criminals and taking them off of our streets, and helping Maryland use the full potential of DNA technology.

As Chairwoman of the Senate Appropriations Committee as well as the Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Subcommittee, Senator Mikulski works each year to put funds in the federal checkbook for law enforcement, assuring local and state authorities have the resources necessary to protect Maryland's families. Senator Mikulski included \$125 million in grant funding to state and local entities to reduce DNA backlogs and increase forensics testing capacity as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014.

Marc Morial, President and CEO
National Urban League



President Obama Nominates Loretta Lynch for Attorney General – and We Applaud

"Mr. President...I pledge to show to you and the American people that if I have the honor of being confirmed by the Senate, I will wake up every morning with the protection of the American people my first thought. And I will work every day to safeguard our citizens, our liberties, our rights, and this great nation which has given so much to me and my family."

— Loretta Lynch, November 8th, nominated by President Obama to be America's next Attorney General

This past Saturday, I had the honor of visiting the White House for President Obama's announcement of his choice to succeed Eric Holder, who recently declared his decision to retire, as Attorney General of the United States. It had been rumored for days that Loretta Lynch, who currently heads the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York, had risen to the top of the President's list. While the timing of the announcement, just four days after the power-shifting mid-term elections, may have surprised many, it also confirmed the President's commitment to seamlessly uphold the civil rights protections and criminal justice reforms that have been so fiercely advocated by Holder.

Lynch, who would be the nation's first African American woman Attorney General, has served more than 15 years as a prosecutor in the office that covers eight million people in Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island and Long Island, New York. The Senate unanimously confirmed her to lead the U.S. Attorney's office on two separate occasions – once under President Clinton and more recently under President Obama. She has an outstanding record of successful prosecutions, including the terrorists who plotted to bomb the Federal Reserve Bank and the New York subway system, some of New York's most violent and notorious mob-

sters and gang members, and corrupt public officials from both parties. She has also won a number of Wall Street financial fraud cases. In 1999, she famously prosecuted one of the most egregious cases of police brutality in New York City history, the beating and sexual assault of Haitian immigrant, Abner Louima.

In nominating Lynch, President Obama said, "It is pretty hard to be more qualified for this job than Loretta. Throughout her 30-year career, she has distinguished herself as tough, as fair, an independent lawyer who has twice headed the most prominent offices in the country. She has spent years in the trenches as a prosecutor, aggressively fighting terrorism, financial fraud, cyber-crime, all while vigorously defending civil rights."

A native of Greensboro, North Carolina, the daughter of a Baptist minister and the granddaughter of a pastor/sharecropper, Lynch's dedication to protecting civil rights and ensuring equal justice is part of her DNA. Her background and experiences also inform her commitment to common sense criminal justice reforms designed to make our system smarter and fairer. She remembers as a child riding on her father's shoulders to student anti-segregation boycott meetings at his church. She also recalls her sharecropper grandfather lamenting, "In rural North Carolina in the 1930s, if you were poor and Black and got in trouble with the law, you had very little recourse." As a lawyer and U.S. attorney, Lynch's career has been undergirded by an unshakable belief that, as she states, "Justice is only served when people feel protected by their government rather than targeted."

Those are the values we look for most in the People's Lawyer. We urge the Senate to confirm Loretta Lynch as the next United States Attorney General without delay.

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The Prince George's Ballroom

PHOTO CREDIT: PG PARKS & RECREATION

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The Prince George's Ballroom features a grand art deco ballroom and a large brick patio with breathtaking views of the adjoining golf courses and distant hills. The Ballroom, with its spectacular wood floors, brass chandeliers and French doors leading to a contemporary sun porch, is an excellent venue for weddings, receptions, and corporate meetings and seminars. The peaceful atmosphere, gorgeous sunsets over the adjoining hills, and lush surrounding woodlands offer the perfect setting for any event. Amenities include tables and chairs, a large commercial warming kitchen, ample free parking, and wheelchair accessibility. Licensed and insured caterers accepted. For fees and availability, please call 301-341-7439.

Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



Shining Like a Diamond

"I decided that my education was the most important thing that I could ever have, because without your education, you can't do much in this world. Some people find out the hard way. I did not want to be one of those people."

Seventeen-year-old high school senior Diamond May is devoted to her education. She takes all college-level classes in her school's demanding International Baccalaureate program, where her grade point average last year was above a 4.0. Her favorite subjects are math, biology, psychology, and "Theory of Knowledge," and she's considering forensic science, mechanical engineering, and architecture as possible careers. Diamond also lives in southeast Washington, D.C., one of the most poverty- and violence-stricken neighborhoods in our nation's capital—and was homeless for part of her sophomore year and nearly all of her junior year.

At a time when many other college-bound students' biggest worry was prepping for the SAT, Diamond had evenings where she, her mother, and younger brother were unsure whether they'd arrive at the local shelter in time to have a roof over their heads. When they first became homeless they doubled up with relatives and then stayed with friends where Diamond shared a small space with two adults and five preschoolers. During those days she spent as much time at school as she possibly could—"I would get to school at 8:00 and I wouldn't leave until school closed and they told me I had to go home, because I could focus there and get work done."

When the temperature dropped dramatically last January, the District of Columbia was required to find shelter for all those on the waiting list. Diamond's family was assigned space at a motel outside the city, where Diamond had to wake up at 4:00 a.m. to travel an hour and a half by public transportation in order to arrive on time and stay at her beloved public school. When that facility was forced to close her family was moved to the D.C. General Homeless Shelter for Families with Children. A former abandoned hospital, the squalor and

desperation in the shelter made national headlines after eight-year-old Relisha Rudd went missing just days before Diamond's family moved in. In the wake of that tragedy, newly-enforced rules dictated that parents and children had to arrive at and leave the shelter together. One of Diamond's biggest challenges was rearranging her own academic and after-school activities every day in order to coordinate with her mother and brother. Yet through it all Diamond actually increased her academic performance—while many of her peers never had any idea what her family was going through.

On November 18th Diamond and four other extraordinary D.C.-area high school seniors will be honored with the Children's Defense Fund's Beat the Odds® award and a scholarship for college, given each year to students who have overcome great odds stacked against them to excel academically and give back to their communities. Diamond's phenomenal high school counselor Nigel Jackson describes her this way: "She has a warrior spirit. She is humble and she's focused, and she has a goal, and when she faces circumstances, she attacks and she

fights, and it's an internally driven fight . . . Most people don't persevere through this upheaval that she's faced and circumstances that she's faced, and not only has she persevered, but she's thrived." And he expands on the odds Diamond and children like her are fighting against every day:

"There's been breakdown in the family. There's been poverty. There's been homelessness. So all of what we call risk factors, you can apply to every facet of Diamond's experience . . . children who grow up in a community that is under-resourced, where all of the public schools are underperforming, where there's crime, violence, where people experience trauma, where there's loss, they are essentially being prepared to fail. At best, they've been prepared to fail, and at worst, they've been prepared to die. Our students treat death like it's a common occurrence. They haven't been taught that they're allowed to grieve. They've been taught that they have to tolerate trauma. And when you consider all those circumstances, she has beaten the odds because she's not just

See WATCH, Page A12

The Prince George's Post

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BUSINESS

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Suggestions For Helping An Overweight Child

The U.S. Center for Disease Control reports that as many as one-third of American children are overweight or obese. That's a problem that not only brings increased health risks, but also can subject a child to taunting, discrimination, and self-confidence issues.

A starting point for helping your child is to be your child's friend in regard to weight issues. Don't lecture your child about his or her weight, or act like the food police restricting food choices. Lectures and restrictions can leave a child feeling deprived, different and controlled. The result can be lowered self-esteem and eating habits that may include hiding food or binging on restricted foods.

Instead, listen to your child's concerns about his or her weight, then try to be a guide to healthier eating and a healthier weight. Give your child an active role in food choices. Help your child learn about healthy food choices and include him or her on shopping trips to the market. Don't automatically say "no" to poor food choices, but instead gently teach your child how to balance less desirable food choices with healthier ones.

Rather than lectures about weight, teach your child to have a realistic view of the world and him or herself. We aren't all supposed to look like models or movie stars. Healthy people come in a variety of sizes and shapes.

Probably most important step is being a positive role model. Make dinner a family affair with everyone taking reasonable portions and having a choice of healthy foods. Don't lecture about healthy snack choices, instead set the example by reaching for that piece of fruit yourself.

And make being active a family goal. A family walk, bike ride, or ball game can work off excess calories, offer communication opportunities, and provide health benefits for the entire family.

Communication is important. Often we use food to make us feel calmer, to hide anger or to avoid problems. Teaching your child that there are other ways to deal with issues besides the refrigerator can help overcome the emotional eating problems so many children face.

There can be many reasons why a child is overweight. If you feel excessive weight is a significant problem for your child, talk to his or her physician about possible options. A professional counselor specializing in children and family issues can also offer help in dealing with this issue.

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

MGM from A1

that correspond with their course of study. Positions are available in a wide range of professional areas, including Advertising and Public Relations, Finance and Accounting, Food and Beverage, Hotel Operations, Human Resources, Interactive and Brand Marketing, and Information Technology.

Established in 1989, MGM Resorts College Programs has launched the careers of many current members of the company's executive leadership. Many property executives and vice presidents, and the highest ranking executives at five of our resorts — Excalibur, Monte Carlo, Vdara, Delano, and MGM Grand Detroit — are all Management Associate Program alumni.

"MGM Resorts College Programs have served not only as a launching pad for the careers of hundreds of young professionals, but also as a place where we identify and encourage the next generation of company leaders," said Lorenzo Creighton, MGM National Harbor's President and Chief Operating Officer. "With an MGM destination resort at National Harbor less than two years away, we encourage career-minded Maryland college students

to consider spending some time with our company as an intern or management professional. I'm confident some of our best and brightest who will play a role in our future success are already right here in Prince George's County."

MGM Resorts is currently recruiting participants for the 2015 HIP and MAP classes and applications are being accepted for both programs. Prospective applicants can learn more about these exciting opportunities and apply online at <http://www.mgmresortcareers.com/college>. The application deadline for both programs is November 30, 2014. Successful applicants will be selected and notified by the end of March 2015.

Mr. Creighton added, "The MAP program is a great way to get ahead in your career, especially if you have an eye toward working at our new resort at National Harbor. The 2015 Management Associates class will run through May of 2016, which aligns with the opening of MGM National Harbor later that year. Successful MAP participants will be experienced members of our MGM team and excellent candidates to apply to join the MGM National Harbor team right from the start."

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Maryland Casinos Generate \$86.8 Million in Revenue During October

By PRESS OFFICER
Maryland Lottery

(Baltimore) — The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency today announced October 2014 revenue numbers for the state's five casinos — Hollywood Casino Perryville in Cecil County, Horseshoe Casino Baltimore in Baltimore City, Casino at Ocean Downs in Worcester County, Maryland Live Casino in Anne Arundel County, and Rocky Gap Casino Resort in Allegany County. October 2014's combined statewide revenue totaled \$86,819,616.

Hollywood Casino Perryville generated \$6,132,743 from both slot machines and table games in October. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$142.17 for slot machines, \$2,485.83 for banking table games and \$337.27 for non-banking table games. Hollywood Casino's October 2014 revenue decreased by \$768,306,

or 11.1%, from October 2013. Hollywood Casino Perryville operates 1,158 slot machines and 22 (12 banking and 10 non-banking) table games.

Horseshoe Casino Baltimore generated \$22,483,204 from both slot machines and table games in October. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$162.81 for slot machines, \$2,470.57 for banking table games and \$871.27 for non-banking table games. Horseshoe Casino Baltimore operates 2,500 slot machines and 145 (120 banking and 25 non-banking) table games. The casino opened to the public on August 26, 2014.

Maryland Live Casino generated \$50,281,602 from both slot machines and table games in October. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$241.01 for slot machines, \$3,905.40 for banking table games and \$1,334.50 for non-banking table games. Maryland Live's October 2014 revenue decreased by

\$1,541,202, or 3%, from October 2013. Maryland Live Casino operates 4,222 slot machines and 189 (137 banking and 52 non-banking) table games.

Casino at Ocean Downs generated \$4,122,318 in October, and its gross gaming revenue per unit per day was \$166.22. Casino at Ocean Downs' October 2014 revenue decreased by \$115,743, or 2.7%, from October 2013. The Casino at Ocean Downs operates 800 slot machines.

Rocky Gap Casino Resort generated \$3,799,750 from both slot machines and table games in October. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$186.14 for slot machines, \$969.84 for banking table games and \$311.40 for non-banking table games. Rocky Gap's October 2014 revenue increased by \$383,637, or 11.2%, from October 2013. Rocky Gap Casino Resort operates 577 slot machines and 17 table games (15 banking and 2 non-banking).

In a year-to-year comparison — excluding Horseshoe Casino Baltimore, which opened in August 2014 — October 2014 casino revenue decreased from October 2013 by \$2,041,614, or 3.1%. Visit our website at <http://gaming.mdlottery.com> for a detailed breakdown of October 2014's fund disbursement, fiscal year-to-date totals for the individual casinos and combined state total.

The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency (ML-GCA) is responsible for all matters relating to regulation of the state's casinos. In this regulatory role, the agency oversees all internal controls, auditing, security, surveillance, background investigation, licensing and accounting procedures for the facilities.

To keep Marylanders informed and maintain integrity and transparency in its regulation of the state's casinos, the ML-GCA posts monthly financial reports on casino revenue on its website, gaming.mdlottery.com.

Board of Public Works Approves \$187,616 in Agricultural Cost-Share Grants

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of the Lt. Governor

ANNAPOLIS, MD — The Board of Public Works approved \$187,616 in Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share grants this week, which help farmers install best management practices that significantly reduce nutrient runoff in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and accelerate Bay restoration. The O'Malley-Brown Administration has supported more farmer pollution reduction projects cost-share program than any other administration in the nearly three decades since the program began.

The Board approved grants for 30 projects in 10 counties that will prevent soil erosion, manage nutrient pollution and safeguard water quality in streams, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. Together, these projects will prevent 1710.09 pounds of nitrogen, 580.37 pounds of phosphorus, and 1400.3 tons of soil from entering the Bay and its tributaries. These projects are funded by state general obligation bonds.

"Our farmers are true partners in protecting our natural resources, and we continue to support their efforts by providing grants to install proven conservation measures and innovative, state-of-the-

art practices," said Governor Martin O'Malley. "Working together, we will ensure a smart, green and growing environment for future generations, preserve open space, and maintain the rich agricultural heritage of our State."

For the past 28 years, the Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share (MACS) Program has been providing farmers with grants to cover up to 87.5 percent of the cost to install conservation measures known as best management practices (BMPs) on their farms to prevent soil erosion, manage nutrients and safeguard water quality in streams, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay.

Since the program started in 1984, farmers have installed 21,900 water quality projects. The average lifespan of a BMP is 10 to 15 years. Over the last 15 years, farmers spent \$15.8 million of their own money to match \$72.8 million in state cost share to install more than 10,800 water quality projects (not including annual practices like planting cover crops). Installation of agricultural BMPs on farmland is a key feature of Maryland's recent plan submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to reduce nutrient pollution in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

not like. That's natural. That's how our democracy works. But we can surely find ways to work together on issues where there's broad agreement among the American people.

"There's still business on the docket that needs attention this year"

gress passed short-term legislation to keep the government open and operating into December. That gives Congress five weeks to pass a budget for the rest of the fiscal year. And I hope that they'll do it in the same bipartisan, drama-free way they did earlier this year. When our companies are steadily creating jobs -- which they are -- we don't want to inject any new uncertainty into the world economy and to the American economy."

"The point is, it's time for us to take care of business. There are things this country has to do that can't wait another two years or another four years."

"I'm optimistic about our future"

President Obama concluded his remarks by expressing his optimism about America's future. Making clear that "the United States has big things to do," the President said that we'll be able to make progress if we do it together:

"The truth is I'm optimistic about our future. I have good reason to be. I meet Americans

and leadership institute as well as a convocations center and gymnasium complex.

"Capitol is entering a new era to fulfill the increasing need for a workforce educated for the challenges and opportunities of tomorrow," said Dr. Michael Wood, president of Capitol Technology University. "We have a very forward-looking plan for campus development with residence halls, academic buildings and other facilities that will transform

all across the country who are determined, and big-hearted, and ask what they can do, and never give up, and overcome obstacles. And they inspire me every single day. So the fact is I still believe in what I said when I was first elected six years ago last night. For all the maps plastered across our TV screens today, and for all the cynics who say otherwise, I continue to believe we are simply more than just a collection of red and blue states. We are the United States.

And whether it's immigration or climate change, or making sure our kids are going to the best possible schools, to making sure that our communities are creating jobs; whether it's stopping the spread of terror and disease, to opening up doors of opportunity to everybody who's willing to work hard and take responsibility -- the United States has big things to do. We can and we will make progress if we do it together. And I look forward to the work ahead.

"The United States has big things to do. We can and we will make progress if we do it together."

Capitol physically as we expand our reach as a provider of higher education."

The Capitol Guarantee

Serving 801 students from 19 states and several foreign countries, Capitol Technology University blends academic excellence with practical learning experiences that prepare students for a range of challenging and competitive careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, business and mathematics.

University from A1

Capitol Technology University remains true to its founding -- to nurture the talent of its young people, to ensure that each generation not only survives academically but thrives professionally."

The new Capitol Technology University residential complex will be built in two phases. The first phase will accommodate 198 students in 50 suites and is expected to be com-

pleted for the Fall 2015 semester. The second phase will begin shortly after the first phase is finished and is expected to be completed by Fall 2016, providing housing for an additional 102 students. The residence hall will include kitchens and living rooms in each suite. Common areas will include exercise rooms and study areas.

As part of Capitol's five-year expansion initiative, the school is also planning for the development of an innovation

OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK

Movie Review

“Listen Up Philip”

Listen Up Philip
Grade: A-
Rated R, Rated R, a lot
of harsh profanity, some
sexual dialogue
1 hr., 48 min

With its omniscient narrator, sparkling, literate dialogue, and insufferable white male protagonist, “Listen Up Philip” is more like a novel than a film (and in fact more like a novel than many novels I’ve read). Written and directed with astonishing sure-footedness by Alex Ross Perry, this acerbic comedy is, fittingly, about a novelist – one Philip Lewis Friedman (Jason Schwartzman), an anxious, snippy wunderkind whose first book rocketed him to stardom in New York literary circles. He is now, according to the critics, “notable.”

Philip’s photographer girlfriend, Ashley (Elisabeth Moss), is fed up with him, painfully in love yet quickly realizing he’s toxic. (“I hope this will be good for us,” Philip says of some idea, “but especially for me.”) Philip’s mentor, a Philip Roth-like novelist named Ike Zimmerman (Jonathan Pryce), encourages him to strive for writerly excellence even as he himself exemplifies the sort of callous, lonely crank Philip might one day become. Ike’s daughter (Krysten Ritter), who has suffered from her father’s selfishness, sums it up for Philip: “I



ROTTENTOMATOES

A complex, intimate, and highly idiosyncratic comedy, *Listen Up Philip* is a literary look at the triumph of reality over the human spirit. Anger rages in Philip (Jason Schwartzman) as he awaits the publication of his sure-to-succeed second novel. He feels pushed out of his adopted home city by the constant crowds and noise, a deteriorating relationship with his photographer girlfriend Ashley (Elisabeth Moss), and his indifference to promoting his own work. When Philip’s idol Ike Zimmerman (Jonathan Pryce) offers his isolated summer home as a refuge, he finally gets the peace and quiet to focus on his favorite subject – himself. (C) Tribeca

hope you learn to take responsibility for yourself before you destroy the lives of people who care about it.”

The film begins as Philip’s much-labored-over second novel is about to be released, reigniting his neuroses and narcissism. He’s at the crossroads in his life where he will either get his act together or succumb permanently to his

ego, either check himself or wreck himself. To give us more insight into Philip’s situation, Perry does what many novelists do: he sidelines the main character for a while and focuses on his loved ones, first Ashley and then Ike, adding layers to the underlying human drama and deepening the relationships between the characters. We miss Philip’s

bracing presence, but all three central performances are sharp, insightful portrayals of intelligent, wounded people. Perry’s use of 16mm film stock and a hip jazz-combo score give the movie an underground 1970s feel. It’s like a lost collaboration between Woody Allen and John Cassavetes, filtered through a lens of semi-ironic nostalgia.

Hogan from A1

“It was a combination of a bad campaign and a bad environment that pretty much did Anthony Brown in. That’s the simple explanation,” said Josh Kurtz, political blogger with Center Maryland.

Hogan is the son of former U.S. Rep. Larry J. Hogan Sr., who represented Maryland’s 5th Congressional District -- now occupied by U.S. House Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer.

The younger Hogan, a successful businessman, campaigned on a promise of being a financial manager for the state.

Hogan’s tax-cutting, pro-business message hit a nerve: Polls leading up to Tuesday’s win showed that the economy and jobs concern Maryland voters the most, followed by taxes, and education.

“That was brilliant, he made it a single-issue campaign,” said Blair Lee IV, a long-time political commentator. “Hogan was able to handcuff him to the O’Malley record.”

By using this strategy, Lee said, Hogan undermined Brown’s message at every step.

“I think there has to be recognition because (Hogan’s) message carried,” said outgoing Attorney General Doug Gansler, whom Brown defeated in the Democratic primary. “The message he brought to voters was the economy was not doing well and the tax burden was part of that.”

Travelling around the state in a large Hogan/Rutherford campaign bus, Hogan told voters he was not a politician, and characterized himself as a Maryland businessman, concerned about O’Malley-era tax hikes. However, politics have been a part of his life since his father’s first run for Congress, when the young Hogan attended rallies and helped his father hand out pamphlets.

“Hogan was driving his bus all over the state,” Gansler said. “If you are holding yourself out there as a leader of the state, you need to go across the state.”

Brown appeared less accessible to media and voters; for example, he did not take questions after several debates, unlike Hogan, who made himself available for a few minutes each time.

Brown’s campaign staff could not be reached for comment on Wednesday.

Hogan is the owner and president of The Hogan Companies, a real estate brokerage firm he started in the mid-1980s that has to date handled over \$2 billion in property transactions.

In the administration of Gov. Robert Ehrlich Jr., Hogan served as appointments secretary, a cabinet-level position where he familiarized himself with the ins and outs of Annapolis.

Hogan’s campaign was bolstered by the national political climate, which turned its back on Democrats across the country.

It’s a pattern that has manifested itself in Maryland previously: In 1994, Republican Ellen Sauerbrey came within 6,000 votes of beating Democrat Parris Glendening; and in 2002, a post-9/11 nation rallied around President George W. Bush, and the Maryland electorate handed Ehrlich the governorship.

In 2010, the conservative Tea Party movement surged nationally, but largely bypassed blue Maryland, said Lee. Registered Democrats outnumber Republicans 2-1 in the state.

“They thought they had a mandate to keep taxing because they weren’t hurt in 2010. Now they’ve been punished,” Lee said.

O’Malley’s larger political aspirations also may have played a role in Brown’s disappointing loss.

“His whole campaign for president has been an affront to

the people of Maryland,” Lee said. “Every time there was a headline ‘O’Malley is in Iowa,’ ‘O’Malley is in New Hampshire,’ Brown lost a vote.”

But in the last three weeks, O’Malley attended about three dozen events for the Brown/Ulman campaign -- appearing at sign wavings, campaign offices and rallies, according to an official with the governor’s PAC.

“The governor worked hard to elect Lt. Gov. Brown -- attending countless events, raising money, and organizing support -- and was disappointed with the outcome of the race,” said Lis Smith, spokeswoman for O’Malley’s O’Say Can You See PAC.

Hogan remained confident throughout the campaign, despite the fact that most polls showed Brown holding on to win.

The polls tripped up analysts at Nate Silver’s FiveThirtyEight site, a polling aggregation blog, which predicted a 10-point Brown win. Hogan won by more than 4 percentage points.

Harry J. Enten, a senior political writer and analyst with FiveThirtyEight, said that political observers were thrown by the result because news organizations stopped polling Maryland with a month to go before the election.

“The Post and (Sun) stopped polling the race in early October,” Enten said.

Enten added that even Wilson Perkins Allen, a Republican-leaning research and polling firm, didn’t see Hogan ahead until the last week.

Hogan endured continuing attack ads from Brown’s camp, most of which sought to paint the GOP challenger as a dangerous social conservative. Hogan refused to take the bait and continued down the fiscal path.

“He was speaking to the No. 1 concern of Maryland voters,”

Lee said. “It was not abortion, it was not gun control.”

Maryland Democrats have been left leaderless and someone will need to pick up the pieces, some observers noted.

The field is now wide open and the leadership for the taking. Some pundits have named Comptroller Peter Franchot, Attorney General-elect Brian Frosh, Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Prince George’s County Executive Rushern Baker III, and Brown’s running mate, Howard County Executive Ken Ulman. “It puts him in an enviable position thinking about four years from now,” he said.

Democratic strongholds are concentrated in Prince George’s and Montgomery counties and Baltimore City, and Brown needed a strong showing in those jurisdictions to carry him over the line.

Despite Brown winning all three, plus Charles County, Delegate Ana Sol Gutierrez, D-Montgomery County, said Montgomery did not live up to its turnout standards.

“We definitely underperformed,” she said.

Gutierrez said Montgomery County’s lower turnout may have determined the outcome of the race.

Brown earned nearly 152,000 votes in the county in 2014, out of 245,636 voters, according to preliminary results.

In 2010, the O’Malley-Brown ticket earned almost 199,000 votes out of 291,873 voters in Montgomery.

Delegate Aisha N. Braveboy, D-Prince George’s County, pointed to a lack of grassroots organization and efforts supporting Brown at the precinct level.

See HOGAN Page A7

The Edge of Sports

by DAVE ZIRIN

They Need Him, So Why Was Michael Sam Cut From the Dallas Cowboys?



The set-up seemed preordained, written up by a hacky Hollywood screenwriter. Here are the Dallas Cowboys, the surprise juggernaut of the 2014 NFL season. They have all the Super Bowl ingredients: a fearsome offensive line, a healthy and surprisingly calm Tony Romo at quarterback, and a record-breaking running back in DeMarco Murray. The one thing they’re missing, an essential in today’s pass-happy NFL, is the ability to rush the passer. This is a Cowboys team with only six sacks on the season and not a single player with more than 1.5. There on the practice squad is a son of Texas, Michael Sam, whose chief commodity as a college All-American was his ability to get off the edge and drop the quarterback. The script was written for Sam to be promoted to the roster, and making a needed contribution to a dream season in Big D. Instead, it was announced on Monday evening that Michael Sam was being cut from the organization. The three sacks and eleven tackles in four games Sam garnered in preseason with the St. Louis Rams meant nothing. He was gone.

Oh, by the way, if Sam had been brought up to the main squad, he would have become the first openly gay active player in NFL history.

Did this have anything to do with his release? After all, Sam fulfilled a position of need on a team achingly close, after years of mediocrity, to being on the inside track to the Super Bowl. It is a legitimate question, given the groundbreaking nature of Sam’s efforts and the risk-averse reality of today’s NFL. Even though he, by every account, had been quiet to a fault and just worked hard on the practice squad, the widespread, whispered, off-the-record, belief has been that he would be a “distraction” and was only on the team because of NFL pressure, not to mention team owner Jerry Jones’ inexhaustible desire for publicity.

Throughout the year, when asked about Sam, the Cowboys head coach Jason Garrett has been pensive. ESPN Dallas’s Jean-Jacques Taylor recently questioned the head coach about Sam’s progress. Garrett, in Taylor’s words, “did not provide a ringing endorsement.” The head coach then said, “He comes to work every day. He practices hard and he’s one of the 10 practice players we have. He’s working on his skills trying to develop, but also doing a lot of other things. He’s playing offense, playing defense and playing the kicking game. That’s what a lot of those guys do.”

Why would Garrett be so dismissive of Sam? Maybe it has something to do with why Sam was on his practice squad in the first place. Sports Illustrated’s Peter King reported that after Sam was cut from the Rams and spent almost three days without a spot on an NFL team, “a league official contacted multiple teams asking if they had evaluated Sam as a probable practice squad player. Now Sam and the NFL avoided a nightmare situation when he signed with the practice squad of the Dallas Cowboys.” The league offices have denied this, but we have to remember, as we have all learned this fall, that you know the NFL is lying when their lips are moving.

Jim Buzinski over at Outsports now argues that this will make closeted male athletes throughout the sports world far less likely to be open about their sexuality. “With Sam being cut halfway through the NFL season and without ever stepping on the field during a regular season game, I think it will be a while before we see another player come out publicly. There just isn’t much upside and the perception will linger that by being out, Sam hurt his draft status and chance of landing on a team.”

That perception is hard to shake.

Sam was typically gracious upon hearing about his release. “I want to thank the Jones family and the entire Cowboys organization for this opportunity, as well as my friends, family, teammates and fans for their support,” he said on Twitter. “While this is disappointing, I will take the lessons I learned here in Dallas and continue fight for an opportunity to prove that I can play every Sunday.”

One wonders whether Sam will get that opportunity. As of now, it looks like he was caught in a vise between NFL headquarters pushing to get him on the Cowboys practice squad and the lack of desire by any franchise to want to be “the ones” to actually put themselves out there and give him an honest chance. It is ironic that the Dallas Cowboys, a team defined for so many years by “distractions,” starting with their own endlessly embarrassing owner Jerry Jones, are now finally winning and therefore want no part of the non-football-related attention Michael Sam brings. This is still like a Hollywood movie. Only now it reeks of farce.

Calendar of Events

November 20 — November 26, 2014

Naturally Fun Campfires

Date and Time: Saturday, November 21, 2014 7-8:30 pm
 Description: Bring the whole family for an evening of fun! Share stories, both funny or scary, learn about nature, and roast marshmallows by the campfire. Marshmallows provided.
 Cost: Resident: \$2; Non-Resident: \$3
 Ages: All ages welcome
 Location: Mount Rainier Nature and Recreation Center
 4701 31st Place, Mount Rainier 20712
 Contact: 301-927-2163; TTY 301-699-2544

Xtreme Teens: Turkey Takedown (CHCC)

Date and Time: Friday, November 21, 2014 7-10 pm
 Description: Teens will participate in physical and mental challenges. Winners in each age category will walk away with a turkey.
 Must register by November 17, 2014.
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: 10-17
 Location: Cedar Heights Community Center
 1200 Glen Willow Dr., Seat Pleasant, MD 20743
 Contact: 301-773-8881; TTY 301-218-6768

It's Karaoke Time!

Date & Time: Friday, November 21, 2014 12:45-2 pm
 Description: Join us for a fun afternoon singing Karaoke tunes. Have you dreamed of singing a song in front of a crowd? Here's your opportunity! Everyone has dreamed of singing that one song in front of a crowd of people. This is a "Show Up" event
 Cost: Free (M-NCPPC Senior ID Card is required)
 Ages: 50 & better
 Location: Camp Springs Senior Center
 6420 Allentown Road, Camp Springs 20748
 Contact: 301-449-0490; TTY 301-446-3402

GEICO Gecko Series: We The People

Date and Time: Friday, November 21, 2014 10:15 am & 12 noon
 Description: Just as the national election season heats up, TheatreWorks USA puts an energizing spin on the workings of democracy with a new, upbeat musical that presents the three branches of government, the First Amendment, the judicial process, presidential elections and more with a sizzling rock, R&B and hip-hop beat.
 Cost: \$8/person; \$6/person (groups of 20 or more)
 Ages: Grades 4-8
 Location: Publick Playhouse
 5445 Landover Rd, Cheverly 20784
 Contact: 301-277-1710; TTY 301-277-0312

Winter Festival of Lights Trot for a Turkey

Date & Time: Saturday, November 22, 2014, 6-8 pm
 Description: Enjoy a walk or run through the Winter Festival of Lights! Throughout the 3.1 miles course, you will see dazzling light displays up close. Registration fee includes a commemorative long-sleeved shirt and will provide a family in need with a holiday turkey.
 Registration is available online through November 20, 2014 before 5 pm.
 Cost: Resident and Non-Resident: \$30/person
 Ages: All ages welcome
 Location: Watkins Regional Park
 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro 20772
 Contact: 301-627-7755; TTY 301-699-2544

Wright Aeroplane Rib-Making Workshop

Date and Time: Saturday, November 22, 2014 1pm
 Description: The workshop will begin with a demonstration and then participants will build their own 1909 Wright wing rib. The \$7 workshop fee includes supplies and museum admission. Please call the museum in advance to register. Private group workshops can also be scheduled.
 Cost: \$7 per person
 Ages: 12 & up
 Location: College Park Aviation Museum
 1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive
 College Park MD 20740
 Contact: 301-864-6029; TTY 301-699-2544

King of Prussia: Shopping Trip

Date & Time: Saturday, November 22, 2014 8 am-8 pm
 Description: Shop til you drop! Get your holiday gifts at the King of Prussia Mall on this shopping trip. One of the largest malls on the east coast, you're bound to satisfy all of your holiday shopping needs.
 Cost: Resident: \$40; Non-Resident: \$48
 Ages: 18 & up
 Location: College Park Community Center
 5051 Pierce Avenue, College Park 20740
 Contact: 301-441-2647; TTY 301-445-4512

2nd Annual Women's Empowering Session

"When Praises Go Up Blessing Come Down"

Date and Time: Saturday, November 22, 2014 11 am-12 noon
 Description: Come prepared to be strengthened, encouraged, and claim victory because the battle is already won! There will be food, singers, dancers, and a guest speaker, Dr. Louise Bias. Please RSVP by November 18, 2014.

Cost: Free

Ages: All ages welcome

Location: Suitland Community Center

5600 Regency Lane, Forestville 20447

Contact: 301-736-3518; TTY 301-203-6030

Xtreme Teens: Turkey Treat

Date and Time: Tuesday, November 25, 2014 3-4 pm
 Description: In honor of Thanksgiving, be festive and create a sweet holiday treat. Instead of making a savory turkey, you'll make a turkey using apples and other sweet treats.
 Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
 Ages: 10-12
 Location: College Park Youth Services Center
 4912 Nantucket Road, College Park 20740
 Contact: 301-345-4425; TTY 301-445-4512

EARTH TALK ... Climate Change and Food's Nutritional Value

Dear EarthTalk:

Is it true that global warming is causing our crops to be less nutritious?

— William Persson,
Glendale, OH

It is difficult to say whether or not the climate change we are now experiencing is negatively impacting the nutritional quality of our food, researchers warn that it may be only a matter of time.

"Humanity is conducting a global experiment by rapidly altering the environmental conditions on the only habitable planet we know," reports Samuel Myers, a research scientist at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Earlier this year, Myers and his colleagues released the results of a six year study examining the nutritional content of crops exposed to levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂) that are expected to exist by mid-century.

The conclusions were indeed troubling. They found that in wheat grains, zinc concentrations were down some 9.3 percent and iron concentrations were down by 5.1 percent across the seven different crop sites (in Australia, Japan and the U.S.) used in the study. The researchers also noted reduced protein levels in wheat and rice grains growing in the CO₂-rich test environment.

According to Myers, the findings—published in June 2014 in the peer-reviewed journal *Nature*—are particularly troubling when one considers

that some of the two to three billion people around the world who depend on wheat and rice for most of their iron and zinc already might not be getting enough of these essential nutrients. Zinc deficiency, which can exacerbate pneumonia, malaria and other health problems, is already linked to some 800,000 deaths each year among children under five. Meanwhile, iron deficiency is the primary cause of anemia, a condition that contributes to one in five maternal deaths worldwide.

Myers and company aren't the only ones worried about global warming and nutrient losses. Another recent study by mathematical biologist Irakli Loladze analyzed data from thousands of "free-air CO₂ enrichment experiments" on 130 different species of food plants and found that increased CO₂ reduced overall mineral (nutrient) content across the board.

"People don't need large quantities of the manganese or potassium they get from plants, but they do need some," comments David Berreby on BigThink.com in response to Loladze's findings. "And for billions of people, plants are their only source."

Berreby is also bothered by another of Loladze's conclusions, that higher levels of CO₂ also spur increases in starches and sugars in the same plants that lose mineral content. "In other words, with increases in atmospheric carbon dioxide, the valuable nutrients in these food crops are scarcer, and carbohydrates are more abundant—in effect,



CREDIT: PETER FREDENBURG, COURTESY FLICKR

As a six year study examining the nutritional content of crops exposed to atmospheric CO₂ levels projected by mid-century found worrisome drops in zinc and iron in wheat grains as well as reduced protein levels in wheat as well as rice grains -- a particularly troubling find considering that millions around the world who depend on wheat and rice for most of their iron and zinc already might not be getting enough. Pictured: A woman in a rice field in Bangladesh.

the nutrients are 'diluted,'" he explains. This syncs with research out of the University of California at Davis, which estimates that the overall amount of protein we get from our food plants will drop some three percent in the coming decades given global warming's expected arc.

While dramatically reducing our CO₂ emissions would be the best way to stave off nutrient losses in our crops, we do have some other options just in case

we don't get our act together regarding fossil fuel consumption. Myers suggests that breeders and genetic engineers could develop new strains of crops designed to be less sensitive to atmospheric CO₂ levels and/or higher in mineral content to begin with. Regardless, upping the amount of fruits and vegetables in our diets—perhaps more easily said than done—may be more important than ever in our carbon-intensive world.

CONTACTS: Harvard School of Public Health, www.hsp.harvard.edu; BigThink, www.bighink.com.

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Loggers from A1

footage, the standard unit for lumber volume, of the load.

"It's about 12 to 15 cents per board-foot," said Beale. "Most loads carry between 3,500 and 4,000 board-feet."

Logging is subject to supply and demand like any other industry and right now a lot of wood is going to foreign markets.

"A lot of poplar and white oak gets shipped directly to China," Beale said.

MD/DE Master Logger Program Coordinator Lyle Almond said China, Korea and Japan have always been major importers of American wood.

"The Chinese are lucrative customers for unprocessed timber due to build up of their economy," said Almond. "It's sort of like we are with oil from the Middle East."

Ships get loaded with sea-going containers that are jammed full of raw logs and sent to Chinese plants where the whole log is processed.

"We're in a good time for selling timber," Beale said.

The Maryland/Delaware Master Logger Program is an educational program offered through the University of Maryland Extension in which loggers are taught safe practices, proper logging techniques, forest ecology, and the best ways to harvest forests while minimizing damage.

Almond says there are about 116 certified active Master Loggers operating in Maryland, Delaware, Virginia and Pennsylvania and about five people are taking at least one of the four four-hour digital courses in the program.

Active Master Loggers must earn eight continuing education credits every two years to maintain their status through courses or other activities, such as serving on the group's steering committee, hosting a program promoting forestry and logging, or participation in other events.

Almond said that since loggers spend their days in forests, they tend to have stronger sensitivity and connection to the environment.

"The primary reason for environmental concerns is it's their livelihood," said Almond. "They have to make sure the forests stay healthy to produce lumber."

"We're seeing more of a push for environmental things," said Eddie Moore, a Master Logger who owns Forest Friendly Logging Inc. in Willards, Maryland.

For example, loggers are now more aware of endangered species and, Moore said, the Delmarva fox squirrel being removed from the endangered list is reflective of loggers' growing environmental concerns.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources website says the "species" success rests heavily

on ... the commitment of loggers ... to maintaining a mature forest."

Moore said environmental concerns and safe practices in logging have increased in the past 15 to 20 years.

Moore was named Logger of the Year in 2013 and was the first to receive the award twice. His first win was in 1990.

Logger of the Year is awarded by the MD/DE Master Logger Program and the Maryland Forests Association (www.md-forests.org) for exemplifying the best management practices in the logging industry.

However, the Logger of the Year will not be named for the first time since 1987 due to a lack of nominations. While Logger of the Year nominations have never flooded the program, no nominations came in for a 2014 Logger of the Year.

"The award is designed to highlight the good work of the guys who are at least doing a good job and anything innovative," said former MD/DE Master Logger Program Coordinator Nevin Dawson, coordinator of Sustainable Agriculture for the University of Maryland Extension's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

"It's an oddity on that award this year," said Bill Cheesman, chairman of the Master Logger Program's steering committee and forester with Vision Forestry LLC.

"What that tells me is that angry Democrats came out to vote (for Hogan) and a lot of traditional Democrats stayed home," Lee said.

Hogan garnered 851,366 votes to Brown's 774,383 statewide this year, according to preliminary data from the Maryland Board of Elections.

On election night, Brown's stunned supporters watched as returns slowly, then decisively, ran in Hogan's favor, and then, the crowd began to thin. Brown

The website for the award states self-nomination is encouraged. However, Almond said, most loggers are not likely to self-nominate.

"My understanding is it's just the nature of logging professionals," he said. "They're pretty humble about what they're doing."

"Another reason is it's a very small community," said Dawson. "A lot of guys who've gotten the award in the past are no longer in the industry." Winners also must not have won the award in the past five years in order to be eligible to win again.

Beale said the active loggers in Maryland are getting older and not many young loggers are cropping up.

"The younger people aren't taking it up," said Beale, 41. "Most of the guys are getting into their 60s and 70s and they're still working but they're not going to go forever."

Equipment cost is a barrier for potential new loggers.

Beale said his large pieces of equipment cost about \$250,000 and he had five on the job in Loveville.

"It's not something you can just jump into," said Beale. "If [a logging business] is not given to you by your parents, it's hard to get into."

Beale also said he thinks it's a changing demographic that isn't interested in hard, manual labor.

conceded just after midnight.

"We're in shock," said Devang Shah of the governor's commission on South Asian affairs at Brown's election night party at Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center at the University of Maryland. "We took the election for granted. Republicans did not. The only way Democrats can lose in this state is if we don't show up."

--Capital News Service correspondent Daniel Kerry contributed to this report.

Hogan from A6

Brown, who lives in Prince George's County, should have garnered more than the just over 175,000 votes he received, said Braveboy. Early results indicate 207,706 Prince George's County residents cast their ballots this year.

In the 2010 gubernatorial election, turnout for O'Malley and Brown totaled 203,957 voters in the county out of 231,836 who cast their ballots, according to the State Board of Elections.

Not only was overall voter turnout lower in 2014, but the Democratic gubernatorial ticket's share of that total also dropped in both Prince George's and Montgomery counties.

"We should have come out in stronger numbers to support him" this year, Braveboy said.

While turnout for Brown was not what she hoped, Braveboy said, the black community came out strong in the districts where blacks hold a majority of the voting bloc.

The Prince George's Post
301.627.0900