Historic Ellicott City Again Devastated by Raging Waters

By George Berkerhime, Senior Writer

On May 27, the second coming of what had been called by various parties a “1,000-year” storm rushed through and ruined Historic Ellicott City – less than two years after the late July 2016 had done likewise.

On this flood, there was no previous warning. The City was under a severe storm watch when a flash flood warning was issued. Even so, the response was minimal, according to Howard County Police. They stated that the public was not informed about the potential for a flash flood.

Recovery efforts are underway, but the damage is extensive. The historic town is once again faced with the challenge of rebuilding and recovering.

Howard County Police

The full extent of damage and property loss is not yet known, and the county is just beginning the credentialing process to allow owners access to their properties.

Emergency Response

According to Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Chief John Butler, his department responded to two structures that were destroyed. The Ellicott City Heritage Orientation Center, housed in the county’s historic first courthouse and operated by Historic Ellicott City Inc., was destroyed in the flood. The full extent of damage and property loss is not yet known, and the county is just beginning the credentialing process to allow owners access to their properties.

It’ll Take a Village

Entrepreneurs Getting Opportunities in Cannabis Industry

By Mark R. Smith, Editor-in-Chief

For Shad Ewart, setting up course BPA 227 three years ago at Anne Arundel Community College (AACC) was a no-brainer. And happily for him, and the students who are integrating into a new industry, the administration at the college backed up that idea and moved forward with the course, which is called Entrepreneurial Opportunities in Emerging Markets: Cannabis Legalization.

While that may seem like an obvious move to make given Maryland’s growing cannabis industry, there could have been roadblocks; after all, the administration at the University of Maryland College Park cancelled a cannabis program in its School of Pharmacy after beginning the student recruitment process.

While much of the focus has been on the limited number of growing facilities and dispensaries that are allowed to operate in the state, Ewart feels the real growth for Maryland’s industry will be for vendors that address a vast need for ancillary services for anything from the vapes required for ingest to batteries for vape pens to apparel.

As his new class and the industry move along, Ewart has bigger plans. “I’m going to propose to the very first college credit-bearing program in the U.S. for entry-level workers in the cannabis industry,” he said, which would give AACC credit for its students.

Howard County Graded ‘C’ in Watershed Health

By Susan Kim, Staff Writer

After studying biological, chemical and physical aspects of local streams — and completing a schoolyard assessment — more than 5,000 ninth-grade students from Howard County’s 13 high schools reported that the county earned a grade of “C” in watershed health.

While not every school indicated improvements in its assessments, overall the county has improved on its 2017 grade, which was a “D,” following a “D-minus” in 2016 and a “B” in 2015.

The Howard County Conservancy’s Watershed Report Card project, a year-long study made possible via a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration grant, culminated on April 25, when students presented the grade to county leaders.

“What’s really special about this program is that it engages students in authentic data collection,” said Meg Schumacher Boyd, executive director of the Howard County Conservancy. “I am so impressed with your generation. You are standing up to be heard on important issues facing our county and our country. Keep using that voice to advocate for the environment and everything that’s important to you.”

The grade was presented as a student-developed and -published report. See Watershed, page 10.
EC Flood from page 1

fires likely caused by lightning during the storm. "We were able to assist approximately 300 citizens from hazard areas impacted by the storm," Butler said, including nearly 30 water rescues involving individuals who were stranded or otherwise facing high levels of danger.

Howard County Department of Police Chief Gary Gardner said his department also responded to flooding in a number of other areas throughout the county, and injuries were mostly minor in nature.

"The amount of rain that fell in such a short period of time causing floodwaters to occur without much notice, in succession, was unprecedented," said Ben Car- din (D-MD), who toured the city to witness the destruction and talk with survivors. "It wasn’t just one stream of water, and it happened during a holiday weekend."

"They knew they had a problem. They placed a frantic call to Ali von Paris, owner and founder of Route One Apparel (EC Pops is its largest retail cus-
tomer), looking for immediate assistance on the worsening situation. Not believing anything to be urgent, Ali allowed the situation to remain as it was for some time, until something breaks our hearts," Cardin said. "We will use all of the resources we have at the federal level to help the county, and we will use every other resource we have to help the county." Cardin said. "We will use all of the resources we have at the federal level to help the county, and we will use every other resource we have to help the county."

EC Pops owners Lance Sovine (left) and Doug Yeakey with employee Miss Virginia. (Image 187x344 to 524x552)

Support Enables EC Pops to Reopen a Week After Flood 2

At approximately 3 p.m on Sunday, May 27, as floodwaters started to seep into the storefront of EC Pops, on Main Street in Ellicott City, owners Lance Sovine and Doug Yeakey were extremely lucky. "We had completed maybe 30% of the work that was already underway on Main Street," said Jordan. "We had to rebuild the stone walls, and we’ve also religiously cleaned through town. “We had to rebuild the stone walls, and we've also religiously cleaned through town. "We had to rebuild the stone walls, and we've also religiously cleaned through town.

EC Pops owners Lance Sovine (left) and Doug Yeakey with employee Miss Virginia. (Image 187x344 to 524x552)

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"I contacted my client, Velsor Prop-
erties, which owns a 77,000-square-foot
warehouse building in Columbus and sug-
gested the idea about coming to the rescue of EC Pops, because I knew the building had a small vacancy," Jordan said. "Three hours later, we had a signed deal, and the store owners were making plans to reopen their operations [the following] Sunday, just one week after the storm."

"This is a horrific situation and my decision was a no-brainer," said Peter Horowitz, president of Velsor, who agreed to a deal that required only the payment of operating expenses, amounting to ap-
proximately $200 per month. "We will do everything we can to make this location work for them."

"A few days ago, we had no source of income, no money in the bank, and we were housed with no place to go," said Sovine. "The re-
sponse to our situation from many people was priceless, and actually overwhelming. It just shows you that there are still good people in the world. Ali immediately jumped into action … at a time when we were not thinking clearly. We just had a few minutes to grab some clothing before evacuating from our apartment."

EC Pops received new inventory at its new location on 6655 Dobbin Road. To help supplement their income, they are also working at the Route One Apparel kiosk at the Pennsylvania Dutch Farmers Market, in Cockeysville.

Sovine estimates a loss of inventory valued at approximately $200,000 as a re-
sult of the storm, but they didn’t lose hope. "Situations like this test your resolve, but they also make you look at things in a different light," he said. "Complete strangers, and also those very close to us, went out of their way to help us. David Trapp, [owner] of Maryland My Mary-
land, actually gave us food to sell. "We will definitely make it through this and never forget the support offered by many," said Sovine. "Doug and I feel extremely lucky."
Howard Hughes Breaks Ground On Merriweather District

By George Berkheimer, Senior Writer

Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan, with a host of state and local elected officials and dignitaries, joined the Howard Hughes Corp. (HHC) on April 30 to break ground on the first urban, walkable neighborhood to be created within the Merriweather District.

“The Merriweather District represents the future of Maryland’s tech evolution, and as the home of Tenable’s new headquarters, it also means hundreds of new jobs right here in Columbia,” Hogan said.

Tenable is scheduled to move to 6100 Merriweather Drive in late 2019, occupying approximately 150,000 square feet of the 12-story, 350,000-square-foot signature office building. Also included in the first phase are plans for 382 apartments and 100,000 square feet of street level retail and restaurant space.

According to HHC Senior Vice President for Development Greg Fitchett, the Merriweather District will be built in three phases during the next six to 10 years.

Columbia-based STEER founder and CEO Anuja Sonalker announced that her company would help transform the Merriweather District into the first city in the country to be built for and operate fully autonomous parking technology.

“You will be able to automatically valet your vehicle and drop yourself off, and be picked up right here in this district, using homegrown autonomous technology,” Sonalker said.

At full build-out, the Merriweather District will include 2,300 residences, a 250-room hotel, more than 1.5 million square feet of office space, a new home for Howard County’s Central Branch Library, and 314,000 square feet of street retail, with a central park.

It’ll Be Green

During the ceremony, U.S. Green Building Council Senior Vice President of Market Transformation and Development Kimberly Lewis announced that Merriweather District Area 3 has been recognized as the first LEED Neighborhood Development (LEED-ND) Version 4 community in Maryland, making it the second development to achieve this certification on the East Coast, fifth in the United States and 10th in the world.

“LEED-ND was engineered to inspire and create better, more sustainable, high performing and well-connected neighborhoods,” Lewis said. “It looks beyond the scale of individual buildings to consider entire communities, thus the positive impacts of this project on the community of Columbia are multiplied exponentially.”

Fitchett also announced the anticipated June launch of the first Merriweather District Artist-in-Residence Program, which will see three artists setting up studios in 2 Merriweather and residing at the Metropolitan for two months.

“This project represents another step forward in fulfilling the vision to redevelop Downtown Columbia,” said Howard County Executive Allan Kittleman.

“We’re happy that Tenable is joining this vibrant business community and being a catalyst for the Howard Hughes Corp. to add more residential and other amenities.”
Market, Some Investors’ Emotions Fluctuating at Mid-Year

By Mark R. Smith, Editor-in-Chief

“The market always corrects itself.”

That’s a mantra that Jim Polucha, vice president, financial adviser with M&T Bank’s securities division in Anne Arundel County, often repeats to his clients. But he and his industry brethren know their various liaisons don’t always abide by that rule.

You know the type: If the market plunges, their emotions do, too. And that can mean quick phone calls about the sky falling, followed by responses of reassurance from their financial professional — and the client possibly still removing considerable amounts of money from his or her accounts, and its ensuing transfer into what he’d call his “safe place.”

Which is a move the client often regrets.

While volatility has reared its head in early 2018, it seems more dramatic because 2017 “was one of the least volatile years we have ever seen in the markets,” said Polucha. “People tend to have a ‘recency bias,’ where they place more weight on what early 2018, it seems more dramatic because they are seeing.

Which is a move the client often regrets.

Media Shock

Still, it happens, said Ryan Wendler, financial adviser for PNC Bank out of the Dobbins Branch road, in Columbia.

“People call more, as they should, be looking at what happened and understanding that this is not the same now, in terms of a percentage basis, as it was 10 years ago,” he said. “As [the DJIA] continues to grow (it was up at about 20,000 points at press time), the value of a 100-point move decreases in terms of the actual percentage gain or loss.”

So we’re “seeing more and more trading volume than ever before, with a larger percentage of trades being implemented by computers,” Polucha said. “This could be causing some of the increased volatility.”

Still, that’s not the only development given his clients are supposed to be looking long-term, and therefore not reacting to a given day’s market reports.

“Sometimes, we need to remind our clients that we create well-thought-out investment strategies,” Polucha said. “While we live with [market fluctuations] in our business, we need to have an understanding that you shouldn’t overreact on the day-to-day, week-by-week news reports.”

But he and his industry brethren know their situation,” he said. “I was able to put a cool head handling the controls.

As Wendler and Polucha intoned, education clients about the market, not your personal circumstances.”

As Wendler and Polucha intoned, education clients about the market, not your personal circumstances.”

Unlike Polucha and Wendler, Williams doesn’t feel like he’s had much of an issue with his clients overreacting. “Even when the market dropped 1,000 points earlier this year, I didn’t get any calls,” he said. “I think one reason is that I’m constantly educating my clients that volatility can happen at any time, so be prepared.”

Living, Learning

But all four money managers are as one when it comes to the long-term approach. “We believe that the investment theme is, ‘It’s time in the market, not market timing,’” Williams said.

And fortunately, said Polucha, he also has plenty of clients who go with the program. “Those who do not have the opposite, he think, are conditioned to overreact,” he said. “But all four money managers are as one when it comes to the long-term approach. “We believe that the investment theme is, ‘It’s time in the market, not market timing,’” Williams said.

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Roundtable Discussion Caps Howard County Business Appreciation Week

By George Berkheimer, Senior Writer

Howard County government administration and economic development officials wrapped up the recent 27th annual Business Appreciation Week by adding a new capstone event.

A business roundtable, hosted at the offices of Harkins Builders, in Columbia, on April 27 drew CEOs and business owners from throughout the county to discuss business-related topics and concerns.

According to Howard County Economic Development Authority (HCEDA) President and CEO Larry Twele, a team of 60 ambassadors visited nearly 80 businesses this year to thank them for their contributions to the county.

“This [new roundtable] is important to figure out what we can do more of to help the business community,” said Howard County Executive Allan Kittleman.

He also briefed attendees on the status of the county’s efforts to build a new courthouse, noting that bids for the project were due on May 10. The county plans to evaluate the bids by early summer, and the Howard County Council will approve the selection of the winning proposal later in the fall.

Courthouse

One unanswered question is what the county should do with the existing courthouse once it’s vacated.

Andy Funk, co-founder of the Ellicott City-based Monsters of Hip-Hop Dance Convention that tours the country to foster the career development of the industry’s top dance professionals, is among those businesses suggesting that the building become a hotel, or perhaps the home of a top-notch restaurant.

“We’re definitely going to have to have some of the areas on Route 1 that have not been kept up,” he said. “There are some businesses that want to do something about it, but it’s hard to assemble [properties] because people sometimes have difficulty understanding the worth of their property. We’re trying to figure out ways to encourage people to [sell].”

Approval of the Transit Development Plan that is currently before the council could also benefit the corridor with redesigned routes and other improvements to the public transportation system, Kittleman said.

Businesses there have people working later in the evening and the buses stop running at 5 or 6 p.m., [so] that doesn’t do much good,” he said.

Cash Flow

Patrick Misch, founder and CEO of the Columbia-based startup SilverStay, which provides short-term assisted living arrangements, said HCEDA’s Catalyst Loan Fund has been helpful, but early stage companies in the mid-Atlantic typically find themselves in a funding and investment desert.

Additionally, Twele said, “There is a whole sector of small construction and small service firms that aren’t venture capital types of firms but need startup money and pre-banking capital, and are kind of risky.”

The county’s Economic Opportunity Prosperity Task Force, under the direction of Howard County Councilman Jon Weinstein, is studying some of these issues and is expected to deliver a list of recommendations by next spring.

“A lot of our small businesses, especially those that want to do business with Howard County government, may be don’t have the cash on hand to meet some of the requirements in terms of moving forward,” said Howard County Chamber President and CEO Leonardo McClarty.

See Roundtable, page 6
Howard County’s Zoning Board has approved the redevelopment plan, by a 4-1 vote, for the Long Reach Village Center, clearing the way for developers to begin a much-anticipated overhaul of the 44-year-old center, in Columbia.

The comprehensive redevelopment of the 7.7-acre county-owned parcel had already made its way through multiple planning requirements and processes, including unanimous support from the Long Reach Community Association and Howard County Planning Board. Approval by the Zoning Board (which is composed of the five current county council members) was the next major step needed for the county to complete the sale of the center to the developer — Orchard Development Corp. — so construction can begin.

Currently, the majority of the center’s stores and offices spaces sit vacant, including the large shell of a former grocery store. Columbia Association (CA) continues to maintain the Columbia Arts Center and offices in Stonehouse, located near the back of the property. Orchard Development has entered discussions with CA to include its property as part of the overall redevelopment, eventually moving the art center and village offices into a new building within the redeveloped center.

Orchard’s conceptual plan includes outdoor public spaces with a village green, plaza and square; at least 70,000 square feet of commercial, community green, plaza and square; at least 70,000 square feet of commercial; and structured and surface parking. Details can be found at www.howardcountymd.gov/longreach.

 nearing $70M in Homeland Security Grants Given for Maryland, National Capital Region

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has awarded $69,536,494 in emergency preparedness grants for the Homeland Security Capital Grant Program and the Homeland Security Grant Program. The grants include the following:

- State Homeland Security Grant: Planning, organization, equipment, training and exercise needs to prevent, prepare for, protect against, mitigate, respond to and recover from acts of terrorism and other catastrophic events. Maryland: $6,153,500
- Port Security Area Initiative Grant. To address the unique security needs of high-threat, high-density urban areas. Baltimore Region: $4 million; National Capital Region: $52,750,000
- Emergency Management Performance Grant: To assist state and local governments in preparing for all hazards. Maryland: $6,482,994
- Nonprofit Security Grant: Support for physical security enhancements and activities by nonprofit organizations that are at high risk of terrorist attack. Baltimore Region: $150,000
- In addition to the above allocations, jurisdictions in the National Capital Area and Maryland now are eligible to apply for competitive grant programs provided by the Department of Homeland Security. They include the Port Security Grant Program, the Transit Security Grant Program, the Intercity Passenger Rail (Amtrak) Program and the Intercity Bus Security Grant Program.

Hogan Brings State Cabinet Meeting to Howard County

Gov. Larry Hogan recently brought state government to Howard County, joining County Executive Allan Kittleman and held at a Regional Cabinet Meeting held at the Charles E. Miller Library, in Elkridge. Hogan praised the collaboration between state and local leaders for progress to be made on many fronts.

Kittleman said the collaborative relationship between his administration and governor and his cabinet has contributed to the county’s growth and has included at least $20 million in dividends for Howard County, including projects such as the accelerated widening of Route 32, an agreement to move the De- partment of Social Services to the newly created Community Resources Campus, in Columbia; immediate and ongoing sup- port to rebuild Historic Ellicott City after the devastating flood of 2016; a recently announced $6 million grant to renovate the Harriett Tubman School to create an educational and cultural center; and ongoing support for the extensive ren- ovarations.

Following the cabinet meeting, Hogan and Kittleman held a press conference on Normandy Center Drive, in Elkridge, announcing a $4.6 million construction project to improve safety on Route 40 from the Baltimore County line to Route 29.

In addition to the meeting and press conference, Hogan and Kittleman made several stops in Columbia, including a visit to Waterloo Elementary School; a ribbon-cutting for SparkPost, an email delivering young people; a tour of Howard Community College’s Science, Engineering and Technology Building. They also visited All Time Toons on Main Street, in Elkridge.

MedStar to Unveil New Sim, Virtual Reality Tech for Training Centers

MedStar Health soon will celebrate the expansion and renovation of the Baltimore Clinical Simulation Center as part of the MedStar Simulation Training & Education Lab (SITE Lab), where MedStar associates receive hands-on training in caring for patients.

The center, located at 2990 S. Hanover Street, Baltimore (across from MedStar Harbor Hospital), is the largest of MedStar’s four training centers, which are all designed to enhance patient safety through the ongoing development of associates’ skills. To engage residents, nurses and other associates, MedStar uses interactive online and face-to-face training, including 3-D virtual reality and hands-on, high-fidelity simulation.

The center is equipped for training non-clinical associates who play a key role in patient care. A new program, developed with Crothall Healthcare, teaches envi- ronmental services associates to identify and resolve common hazards in the health care setting.

See Biz Roundup, page 8

Roundtable from page 5

If it’s a Catch-22 predicament: some companies need a government contract to prime them for growth, but can’t get those contracts because they’re too small to be considered.

Howard County currently has approxi- mately 6 million in Catalyst Loans under management with roughly 40 companies.

Last year, however, the Maryland General Assembly diverted some of the casino revenues going into these funds to help the Baltimore City School System, limiting statewide Catalyst Loan funding in 2017 to $10 million.

“We’ve been trying to convince the legislature to turn that faucet back on and get funding back up to $30 million,” said HCEDA Executive Vice President Vernon Thompson. “We’d love to see that money be used for other pur- poses, like maybe an investment fund.”

Logistics

In addition to funding problems, some county businesses are experiencing labor shortages.

“There’s a crisis of employment in the distribution realm,” said Saval Foodservice Vice President and CEO Paul Saval, noting that the lack of truck drivers, mechanics and diesel mechanics isn’t just affecting the delivery services.

Catalyst Loans are given to companies need a government contract to prime them for growth, but can’t get those contracts because they’re too small to be considered.

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Q&A With MACC Executive Director Bernie Sadusky

By Mark R. Smith, EDDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Bernie Sadusky was named the Maryland Association of Community College's (MACC) executive director in July 2012, after completing a year of service as interim superintendent at the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), where he filled in after the retirement of Nancy Grassick.

Previously, Sadusky served as superintendent of schools in Queen Anne's County from 1994 to 2007, and spent more than 30 years working for the Queen Anne's County Public Schools as an administrator and teacher. He was recognized as Maryland's Superintendent of the Year in 2007.

Following his retirement in Queen Anne's County, he joined the MSDE as policy liaison to the local school systems, before his appointment by the Maryland Board of Education to serve as interim state superintendent.

With an extensive background in K-12 education in Maryland, Sadusky is recognized as having played an important role in achieving and maintaining “Maryland’s status as the No. 1 school system in the nation,” according to Education Week. In his role overseeing Maryland’s 16 community colleges, he is working with Gov. Larry Hogan’s P-20 Council to integrate public high school, at the community college or online; how that works in each jurisdiction is determined by the county. Wicomico County has done this before, too, but we feel this offer needs to be statewide. The patchwork system doesn’t work.

Tennessee was the first state to get into this, and there are models in Michigan where municipalities pay for community college. New York is going to do it for four-year schools, but we can’t afford that here.

What percentage of the [potential] student body will see this benefit?

It may be as high as 40%, but we won’t know until the new program starts. In Tennessee, the state government saw 4% enrollment in the state, for degrees only. Maryland will be offering degrees, as well as certificates.

Is free community college for all out of the question?

No. And what we’ll have in Maryland won’t be free, in the sense that the colleges will require a commitment from students that they will go to school full-time, follow through and graduate. That’s why the new law doesn’t include everything, such as books.

What’s being lost in the current conversation about this new law?

I’m not sure if attending college will ever be as free as it can possibly be. But understand that if a student doesn’t finish, the money the state offers will become a loan that has to be paid back. That has to be emphasized, too.

Are you concerned that the Trump administration will roll back various rules that may encourage innovation, but harm students?

I’ll answer that by saying that we should be glad that we live in Maryland. Our legislators are in tune to what’s happening in Washington, and our legislators can buffer any moves, on a bipartisan basis, that are made there that might be perceived as harmful in our state.

Are you surprised by the trend of companies hiring employees and taking on their student loan debt?

No. That was the norm at one time, but companies, due to fiscal constraints, pulled back. I think the best approach would be dual responsibility of companies and their employees, with the state, to ensure that workers are not so saddled by debt and are not stuck with repaying student loans for the rest of their lives.

What percentage of student’s overall credit hours are earned online?

We don’t have that data, but I can tell you that [included] 159,000 courses this past year for Maryland’s 16 community colleges, combined. The next generation is so technical that they expect courses to be offered that way, but that approach was founded as a way to offer a hybrid option.

What new programs do you foresee becoming popular in the next year?

We want Maryland to be the cyber capital of the Northeast U.S. Due to Fort Meade, the National Security Agency, the Defense Information Systems Agency, etc., being located in central Maryland, we’re trying to increase that sector of the workforce because there are 18,000 cyber jobs open today. Health care is a growing field, as is career and technology education, which is geared for training workers for more traditional trades, like plumbing and electrical work.

Will agricultural-based offerings come more to the fore?

We don’t see a big push on that sector, but what we do see is the biochemistry model growing, and that’s a segment of that industry. We’re going to feed the world, and that’s how we’re going to do it. That will include agriculture, but not as we traditionally know it.

Do you think there is so much emphasis on certain programs in high-demand fields, such as technology and nursing, that others are not being properly promoted as solid career alternatives?

Yes. Here’s the big secret: We have many occupations that were not created yet five years ago. The world of work is very dynamic. See Sadusky, page 9

Discover the Value of Learning at Howard Community College

Fall classes start August 25
Noncredit classes are ongoing

Did You Know?

HCC’s cyber forensics curriculum was developed hand-in-hand with the Department of Defense Cyber Crime Center.

Meet me by the lake! - Meeting space with a view -
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Arundel’s Schuh Unveils Budget Plan for Anne Arundel County

Anne Arundel County Executive Steve Schuh has released his $1.59 billion operating budget proposal. Highlights include investing in education, as Schuh’s budget will directly invest $684 million in schools, and will fund expanding the “Tri- E” initiative to the Annapolis cluster. This program provides additional electives for elementary school populations and provides planning time for teachers. Additionally, the budget funds a third early education center, which will serve South County, to ensure residents access to pre-K opportunities and programs.

The budget also begins funding a 15% increase in compensation for police officers during the next two years. Under the plan, starting police salaries will increase from $46,854 to $51,500. It includes 20 police positions, including 10 new school resource officers.

The budget also proposes making investments in education, including building improvements. Three years ago, the county increased road maintenance funding by 53%, to $26 million annually, marking the first time the County Council increased funding required to stabilize the system and to prevent further deterioration. This year’s proposal increases the maintenance budget to $30 million, which will allow the county to improve the road system in the next few years. It would fund “chokepoint” improvements at Brock Road at Route 198, near Fort Meade; and Route 214 at Loch Haven Road, in Mayo, among others.

Schuh’s budget plan underwent a series of hearings in May and faces final consideration by the county council this month.

Schuh Includes Funding for Two Step Increases for School System Employees in Budget Proposal

Anne Arundel County Executive Steve Schuh announced that his fiscal 2019 budget proposal will provide sufficient funding for step increases to all eligible employees. Other employees and emeritus employees and emeritus employees will also receive commensurate increases to non-represented employees. The proposed $21.2 million allows for the equivalent of full-year and -mid-year steps, subject to negotiations. Schuh’s budget also provides funding for step increases to non-traditional industries. The governor will unveil a new measure to increase the capacity of Route 175 to a six-lane divided roadway. Following the project’s completion, the road will improve the safety and roadway construction is expected to start in the fall.

HCPSS Announces Two-Year Agreements with Employee Bargaining Units

The Anne Arundel County Public School System (HCPSS) has reached tentative agreements with the Howard County Administrators Association (HCAA) and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) for two-year employment contracts. Both agreements cover the 2018–2019 school year and the two-year school year. HCAA represents school administrators and other certificated school system leaders, and AFSCME represents custodial, maintenance, grounds and warehouse employees.

Subject to ratification by association membership, both contracts provide for the equivalent of a mid-year step salary increase in the first year of the contract period. Salary and other compensation provisions will be open for discussion in the second year. The current employee health benefits plan budget will be maintained through 2020. The proposal also provide for an additional day of personal leave for members of both groups, bringing the annual total to four days for HCAA members, and three days for AFSCME members. Both groups also agreed to changes to the language of their respective documents to provide for greater consistency among all HCPSS employee bargaining units.

“Considering how difficult this negotiation cycle has been due to inherited budget deficits, HCAA believes that what is being proposed is fair for our members,” said Edward Cosentino, HCAA president.

UMBC Training Centers Announce New Cyber Apprenticeship Program

UMBC Training Centers have announced a new registered apprenticeship program that will bridge the gap between apprenticeship and a college education. The new model will allow apprentices to earn semester credit toward specific bachelor’s degree programs, while simultaneously receiving the benefits of a traditional apprenticeship. The governor will unveil the new program in an address to Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) apprenticeship graduation ceremony at the UMBC Retriever Center on Thursday.

The program will train apprentices to be certified cyber analyst/operators, a new occupation for the Maryland Apprenticeship and Training Program and an emerging profession. The growing appeal to non-traditional industries.

For participants seeking to obtain a bachelor’s degree, the formal training component of the registered apprenticeship program has been approved by the American Council on Education’s (ACE) College Credit Recommendation Service for up to 22 semester hours in information systems or computer science at the baccalaureate level.

Additionally, all apprentices will complete the program with five industry-recognized certifications and certificates from UMBC Training Centers in Cyber Foundations, Cybersecurity, and Cyber Operations. This competency-based program is the first non-traditional registered apprenticeship program to be sponsored by a University System of Maryland (USM) institution and is expected to serve as a pilot with potential to be replicated throughout USM universities.

Design Work in Final Stages for Routes 175/295 Project

The Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) is finishing design work on its Route 175-Jessup Road/Annapolis Road-Route 295 (the Baltimore-Washington Parkway) Interchange Project.

To increase the capacity of Route 175 over Route 295, Route 175 is being widened from a four-lane undivided roadway to a six-lane divided roadway. Following a 2012 engineering study, MDOT SHA selected a partial cloverleaf interchange at this location. The existing northeast and southwest loop ramps of the interchange will be eliminated, and left-turns will be added at signalized intersections with Route 175 in the southeast and northwest quadrants of the interchange. A median will be constructed to separate eastbound and westbound traffic.

Once built, the project will improve roadway capacity and connectivity, improving safety along both routes, and support existing and planned development in the area.

The project will be delivered in phases Property acquisitions are nearly complete and utility relocations have begun; utility poles east of Route 295 are expected to be relocated this spring. Gas main work is expected to be completed this year and roadway construction is expected to start in the fall.
Any viewer who peruses YouTube and "Miss Utility" into the search bar can see some eye-popping videos. Unfortunately, that content isn’t the kind of action a caring person would enjoy viewing.

That’s why anyone who has to dig in his yard, on his property or at a construction site, calls Miss Utility at 811 — because — as famously advertised for many years by that deep, almost infamous low bass voice — “It’s the law.”

What many people don’t understand, even some who garner wages from moving dirt, is that not only can they hit a water pipe, fiber optic connection or an electric line, they can also hit a gas line.

That’s why BGE, for instance, employs nine inspectors, who pop in at worksites to ensure that the law is being followed.

Often times, it is. But other times, it isn’t.

“People are aware of our public ser- vice announcements, but they that to call Miss Utility first, we’ve had to retrain never seems to sink in,” said Jim Barron, executive director of the Maryland Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Authority (MUFDPA).

It Happens

Barron understands the hazards that lurk not so far underground. He owned a company in Harford County for 20 years, Ronkkin Construction, which often worked on pipelines; one day in 1996, an employee (who happened to be his son) was almost killed when he hit a mismarked 33,000-kilovolt line near Laurel Park.

“When the law requires cables of pipes to be buried to a standard depth, the ground may be graded later,” he said, noting that Verizon and Comcast, for instance, “often sub that work out. The subcontractors want to get installations done quickly, so they can make more money.”

Bad things can happen to people even when they aren’t necessarily breaking the rules. “I live in a homeowner’s association community,” he said, “and our gardeners cut my cable line simply by digging the lawn.”

All told, Barron said, MUFDPA gets “about 100 incidents reported a year, but there are thousands that aren’t.” “You’d be surprised how many people cut lines, cover them and leave. People who do this often don’t even have a business license. They’re the types who work out of their homes and boat harbors, not with any kind of community.”

Fines can be “up to $4,000 or as low as $200” depending on the circums- tances, Barron said, though they often start at $2,000 and are generally reduced to $1,500. “Then we cut that in half if they take a four-hour course with Dora [Parks, manager of client relations for One Call Concepts (OCC), in Hanover].

Make the Call

There are companies all over the country that handle the phone calls that are made to Miss Utility to schedule ap- pointments. One such concern is OCC, which handles communication and scheduling for Baltimore City and some of the surrounding areas, including Howard County (for fiber optic lines), and operates locations across other U.S. markets as well as training.

“We operate in Maryland under Title 12, which has to do with damage due to digging,” said Parks. “If you disturb the ground at any depth, you have the call center to offer information about your location, depth, type of project etc. two days in advance.”

“Then, it’s OCC’s responsibility to set up a ticket and assess what utility lines might be installed at that location, then evaluate whether the owners of the Miss Utility call center should get our service,” she said.

The users of the system are companies and homeowners, Boys Scouts and church- es, “Even utility companies are mem- bers. They need to avoid damage too,” said Sadusky.

We have more than 1,000 businesses involved in training with community col- leges in the state. We have a local mission to satisfy our communities. If you have a need, we meet it. For us to be successful, industries have to be successful.

What is the biggest challenge you face in your job?

Securing appropriate funding for the colleges to offer what the communities need. But when we implement policy, we have to be sure that everyone in the state is on the same page before we move forward.

What do you think the average Mary- lander doesn’t realize about the com- munity colleges?

The breadth of the economic oppor- tunities that arise from the diversity of services the community colleges offer. If the people of this state were better educated, we’d have to retrain so many people so they can work. And as people get older, they get harder to retrain.

I don’t have an answer for that, but if people could get a little more education, that’s foolish. The pace of change is rapid now, but it’s going to increase. So, how do you retrain these people and structure a social system where people can work, function and support families while they retrain? Will there be compensation to families during training?

What can the community colleges do to further boost their local business communities?

Call Before You Dig (or It Might Cost You Big)

By Mark R. Smith, Editor-in-Chief

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Paul Teutul, Jr., left, of “American Choppers,” and Tom Hoff, president and CEO of One Call Concepts (OCC), admire Paul Jr.’s new trike that was recently showcased at OCC’s local headquarters, in Hanover. The company uses the motorcycle to attract attention to Miss Utility and calling 811 before digging at various trade shows and events.

Listen, Learn, I a s o

Wedding is the operations manager of One Call Concepts Locating Services also of Hanover, which also has offices in various locales and contracts with such local concerns as Baltimore City, the Southern Maryland Electric Co-op, the Maryland Aviation Administration and Howard County Government. He said, “Many people just don’t understand the process. When people see us, they think we’re there to dig. Normally, after we explain the process, they understand what we’re doing.”

But not always. “I’ve had people insist that lines we’ve found weren’t really there, but upon excavation, they see we were right,” he said. “We use electromagnetic locating devices, then company records, to determine what kind of line it is.”

The rule, said Wedding, is that people “can excavate with hand tools within 18 inches of a line or a pipe, but can’t use a mechanical excavator.” His office gets “hundreds of requests per day,” he said. The week of May 7, for instance, it received 3,964 requests in Bal- timore City and a small part of Baltimore County.

No National Law

There is no national law that concerns digging or excavation, said Ron Peterson, executive director of the Kansas City-based National Utility Locating Contractors Association (NULCA), who points out that every state “has rules that slightly differ. Florida, for instance, has a great deal of water, so requests require three days’ notice before digging.”

Peterson said the idea of working toward a national law has arisen, “but it hasn’t been pushed enough. That hard. At this point, we’ve found that One Call centers would help. That kind of happens now, but there hasn’t been a movement, so far.”

Despite the progress made since the "Trilogy of 811": a car, motorcycle and trike, designed by Paul Teutul, Jr., of The Discovery Channel’s “American Choppers,” to draw attention to the booth the “Trilogy of 811”: a car, motorcycle and trike, designed by Paul Teutul, Jr., of The Discovery Channel’s “American Choppers,” to draw attention to the booth to the community in similar ways. OCC exhibits at NASCAR and other sporting events, and trade shows, often featuring what the company calls “the Trilogy of 811”: a car, motorcycle and trike, designed by Paul Teutul, Jr., of The Discovery Channel’s “American Choppers,” to draw attention to the booth to the community in similar ways. OCC exhibits at NASCAR and other sporting events, and trade shows, often featuring what the company calls “the Trilogy of 811”: a car, motorcycle and trike, designed by Paul Teutul, Jr., of The Discovery Channel’s “American Choppers,” to draw attention to the booth.

BGE reaches out to setting up booths at home shows and at Baltimore Orioles games, supporting the “Sunday Gardener With Carrie Engel and John Collins” segments on WBAL-TV’s 11 News, with Haynes also making appearances on Fox 45 News.

Not About Money

Charlie McCadden, damage preven- tion supervisor with BGE and vice chair of publication on the MUFDPA board, noted that one case of power line damage in recent years resulted in burn injuries to a victim.

“This [effort] is by way beyond cost, though the repairs can run into the thou-sands of dollars,” he said. “It’s really about injury prevention. So the best thing BGE can do prevent such problems is provide free training. Last year, we trained 4,200 people.”

Barron took that observation one step further. “If you go in business, you should get an attorney or an accountant who explains what you need to do,” he said, “but I’d say about a third of the people I meet don’t do that.”

So, all he can do is make another call.

“When we get a violation notice, I contact the violator; some respond, some I never hear from,” he said. “Their cases end up before us, and we make a decision on a fine or damage prevention training,” he added, stating that MUFDPA is the only such utility concern in the U.S. that polices itself and is not a government agency.

“Just know this,” said Barron. “There are construction companies that are worth millions of dollars that have hit one line and gone bankrupt.”
Cathleen Smith enjoyed her son’s engagement party last summer. She didn’t like the photos of herself at the event though.

“I knew I had to do something,” she said. “I wanted something to push me toward a healthier lifestyle.”

Around that time, Smith learned that her employer, Corporate Office Properties Trust (COPT), had a real estate investment trust, which was putting together teams for Howard Community College’s (HCC) 5K Challenge Race, a wellness and team-building event that raises funds for student scholarships; Smith, who had never run a race, eagerly joined in.

So, on Oct. 14, Smith and her co-workers will return to the fifth annual HCC 5K Challenge Race, where they’ll be joined by more than 500 employees from 30 area businesses who will not only run, but complete a number of challenges en route to the finish line and celebration village. The HCC 5K Challenge Race differs from other races as it specifically targets healthiness, robustness, and values from $75 to $5,000. All employees of sponsoring companies have an opportunity to partake in bi-weekly group training runs and education sessions on topics that improve participants’ health and wellness. Race participants receive a 90-day Columbia Association (CA) family membership. The Howard County Education Foundation (HCCEF), which organizes the race and works in partnership with CA, has announced for the first time that Havrevel will be the presenting sponsor.

Smith will participate in one of three teams at COPT, and is excited for training to begin in August. She’s lost 30 pounds since training for last year’s event and has remained committed since; she continues to walk and run, and competes in no less than five FitBit challenges weekly. She cut out sugary drinks and changed her eating habits. “At least Monday through Friday,” she said with a laugh.

“I stuck with it and never looked back,” she said. “I saw the same in many of my co-workers as well. Just a real positive experience. We were all part of a team, and it was nice to do something like this, motivate each other, outside of the office.”

“I’m much more healthy today because of it. It was a first step in losing the weight and getting healthy. I’ll continue to do this as long as I can,” she said.

The majority of the COPT team members, like Smith, were not runners when they signed up, said Elisa Wolf, principal analyst at COPT.

“Couch to 5K was huge for them,” Wolf said. “In promoting the race, we say you don’t have to be a runner. Show up and cross the finish line. It’s not you on your own. You’ve got a whole group supporting you. Many of those people want to do the race again this year.”

Suzanne Parrish, lease and billing administrator at COPT, ran her first HCC 5K last year. She said many of her co-workers kept up their healthy lifestyle, but admits she has slipped.

“I lost 12 pounds,” she said. “I felt more energized.” She lost her motivation over the winter holidays and is excited to get training again. And this time, keep it up.

“I just felt really good while training for this race,” Parrish said. “I don’t like to run, but I got used to it. The Columbia Association trainers are excellent. They’re really into it.”

Aside from the camaraderie and health benefits, Wolf said COPT likes its employees to support HCC.

“It’s important to support what’s in your backyard — develop a higher educated workforce for Howard County,” she said.

In its first four years, the race has raised just more than $300,000. The HCCEF, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that supports HCC and its students, expects to raise an additional $100,000 for student scholarships through this year’s race. The scholarships, made possible by sponsoring businesses, greatly impact the lives of HCC students.

“It’s a win-win for all involved,” said Matt D’Amico, chair of the HCC 5K Challenge Race Committee, HCCF board member and senior principal at Design Collective.

“Employees build relationships with each other and have the opportunity to network with other sponsors,” he said. “We encourage learning and being active in wellness and a healthy lifestyle. Companies have a healthier, happier and more productive workforce. HCC students have more scholarship dollars available to help them complete their educational goals,” D’Amico said.

“That’s the biggest win of all.”

For more information about the race, visit howard.edu/challenge or contact the college’s development office at 410-518-7970.

The 2018 “Greater Baltimore State of the Region Report” released on May 14 by the Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) and the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) looks at demographic and other changes that have occurred in the Baltimore region since 1998. The report found that the region’s population has become more diversified, a higher percentage of residents hold college degrees, and the economy has transitioned from industrial manufacturing to one driven by technology, medicine, higher education and service-based businesses.

These major shifts, which are still under way, bode well for the region’s future, the report concluded. It also compared the Baltimore Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which includes Baltimore City, and Anne Arundel and Howard counties, as well as Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Queen Anne’s counties, to 19 other peer metro regions, such as Atlanta, Dallas and Pittsburgh.

Aside from the GBC, BMC Committee and the Baltimore Metropolitan Council, the Baltimore Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which includes Baltimore City, and Anne Arundel and Howard counties, as well as Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Queen Anne’s counties, to 19 other peer metro regions, such as Atlanta, Dallas and Pittsburgh. Other findings in the report, which was released at the Greater Baltimore Committee’s 63rd Annual Meeting and on the two organizations’ websites, point to several challenges that elected officials and the private sector should watch closely, including declining home ownership rates and increased commute times.

The report considered a variety of See report, page 11
the ability to train students to become plant trimmers, lab technicians and patient advoc- 
ates, for instance, in work for various other industry jobs.

The Cannabis Rush
Ewart encourages his students to take what he calls “the picks and shovels” 
approach. As the Borregas put it, “for partially because “prices for medical cannabis are dropping signifi- 
cantly at the wholesale level,” he said; “They’re already at what the dispensaries are 
charging for their product, with the flow- 
er itself — with the price dropping from 
$4,000 per pound to $2,000 per pound, 
since they opened last winter,” he said. “That’s powered the state’s 
and in Colorado, the number of grow- 
ers has dropped by half. So, that market 
doesn’t need any more growers,” Ewart said, “We opened Feb. 8, and we’re already 
seeing 90 patients per day,” said Tony 
Point Wellness, in Linthicum. “We opened 
2018-

high of $1.117 billion for the first time in 2017

right away.”

When he agrees with the “Gold Rush” 
commodity and recreational cannabis is 
down to about $300–$400 an ounce, so that his students can take the “picks and shovels” approach. I compare it to the California Gold Rush” of 
the mid-1800s. “The people who made the money were not usually the gold prospectors, 
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that the state and many other observers 
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ceive such a grant in the state, or maybe 
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Early Numbers
While Ewart is promoting the many 
opportunities for entry into the medical canna-

lized by 125%, while 

The region’s Hispanic population grew by 125%, while 

Healthcare services.”

Took Otskov, owner. “We had hoped to reach that 
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Applications Opened for New Spark Awards Program

Better Business Bureau (BBB) of Greater Maryland is accepting nominations and applications for the Spark Awards, a new local program that honors young companies dedicated to maintaining an ethical workplace.

The Spark Awards was established to recognize entrepreneurs for building organizations on values that foster trust early on. By doing so, early-stage businesses create a foundation for lasting customer relationships and position their organizations for long-term success. The award is a complement to BBB’s Torch Awards for Ethics, which is also accepting nominations. Both programs pay tribute to businesses that demonstrate the highest commitment to honesty and integrity, according to BBB Standards.

A team of independent judges will evaluate applicants based on a set of three criteria: character, culture and community. To qualify for a Spark Award, a business or nonprofit must be located in Greater Maryland and have served customers for five years or less. Additionally, the organization must be eligible for a BBB rating of “B” or higher.

Anyone can nominate a business for the award, and eligible organizations may also self-apply, at no cost. BBB Accredited organizations must be eligible for a BBB rating of “B” or higher.

The launch of BBB’s Spark Awards will be promoted at a series of happy hours hosted by local incubators, where businesses can start their applications and videos. These events will occur on the following dates at these locations:

- June 6: Spark Baltimore, 8 Market Place, Suite 300, Baltimore
- June 13: Maryland Center for Entrepreneurship, 9250 Bonds Road, Columbia
- June 21: Homebase, Clipper Mill, 2031 Clipper Park Road, No. 107, Baltimore
- For more information about BBB of Greater Maryland or the Spark Awards, visit go.bbb.org/md-spark or call 410-400-4166.

Angie Barnett is president and CEO of the Better Business Bureau of Greater Maryland. She can be reached at 410-347-3990 and abarnett@greatermd.bbb.org.

This is a story that makes you appreciate persistence in pursuit of justice, with a conviction thrown in about what gets posted online—not just by you, but by your family, too.

Recently police arrested the Golden State Killer, a vicious and sadistic rapist, murderer and burglar, who terrorized California in the 1970s and 1980s. Searching criminal DNA databases, some established because of his activities, chasing fingerprints, rewards, nothing went anywhere for 44 years.

However, a detective nearing the end of his career wanted to crack a case he had been following for 24 years, and he had heard of a website calledGEDmatch, where users could upload their genetic information and search for family connections in a database of about 1 million profiles.

First, he had to find a DNA sample that had survived those years, since many had been discarded. With help from the FBI, he found a sample in a freezer in another county. Its data was sent to GEDmatch, and the results revealed distant relatives, probably third cousins.

This is where the saga became a true detective story, because finding the ancestry back revealed a common relation: a great-great-great-grandparent, from the early 1800s.

Many Branches

The team then went to work tracing the offspring to the present day. They used obituaries, census data and even gravestone locations. Then they created family trees on Ancestry.com. They found 25 distinct trees, and each was a tremendous help—and the one containing the killer had more than 1,000 members.

Then they narrowed it down by age and connections to the crime locations. When it was done, they had two suspects. They used another DNA test (also by a relative) to eliminate one. The other was a disgraced ex-policeman who had bought guns during the crime period.

Deputies put his house under surveillance and collected a DNA sample from a piece of his trash. It matched. He was arrested, and faces eight murder counts.

We all probably have heard of people who found branches of their families they didn’t know existed, sometimes leading to joyful reunions with delightful endings; there are surely less wonderful results as well, like the aunt who never wanted you to know about the out-of-wedlock child given up decades ago.

But this is the first I’ve heard of where family data on a website led to a killer’s arrest. Be careful out there.

Forget Me, Please

So new, even more restrictive privacy rules didn’t want insight into the European Union (EU) on May 25. While we in the U.S. rely on vague promises from Facebook to behave better, they mandate at 410-850-0171 or at cliff@feldwick.com. Oldier columns are available online at http://feldwick.com.
A Snoozy Primary for Most, With Some Hot Races

Just two weeks before his untimely death, Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz caught me snoozing at an April 26 forum for the seven Democrats running for governor.

A month later, I was able to stay awake for their first televised “debate,” but that was taped in the summer of an Obama primary as snooze-worthy. Eight candidates, 60 minutes, three questioners, a tribute to Kamenetz, and everybody played nice.

It was billed a debate, but nobody actually debated. A debate is where one side takes each rhetorical position and the other side argues against it. They all agreed: Fully funded education, spend more on mass transit and help Baltimore, where the debate managed by MPT was held. And get rid of Republican Larry Hogan, who has somehow enabled Donald Trump. Did I mention spending more on education?

That’s the answer to boosting the economy and reducing crime.

Down the ballot, if you’re not a regular Democrat, there are union, environmental and progressive groups. Kasemeyer had been running for re-election on a slate with Lam and the other two incumbent first-term delegates until he decided to retire in February. Kasemeyer praised Sigaty’s ability to listen, compromise and negotiate — qualities he has been known for. But his endorsement has upset his former slate mates and their supporters.

Baltimore County

Baltimore County may be the key battleground, where Sigaty’s reputation as the more moderately progressive of the two may aid her. She was term-limited and set to retire, but had to quickly gear up a race for Senate, after being unopposed for county council four years ago.

Sigaty quickly re-assembled a campaign and raised $55,000 in just three months, with some big contributions from business and development interests. But the numbers still favor Lam.

As a state delegate, Lam, a physician, could not raise money during the legislators’ session, but still has $70,000 in the bank after paying for several mailers. The endorsements by organizations with significant membership, particularly the teachers, can be important, particularly in a down-ballot race. And he is running on a ticket with his fellow delegates, Eric McCauley and Calvin Ball.

Hiring a Governor

Chief Executive Wanted: $44 billion enterprise seeks CEO to manage diverse operation with 80,000 employees that funds health care, universities, colleges and K–12 schools; directly manages hospitals, mental health facilities, prisons, nursing homes, parks and forests; enforces worker protections too. Ditto for Republicans in most areas.

As to independents, the only races you may choose up to four candidates, you can vote for are school board, where union, as his county teachers actively supported Ben Jealous, former president of the NAACP; a position which gives him some management chops, but little direct knowledge of state government other than as an advocate before the legislature. Jim Shea, former managing partner of DLA Piper that he helped grow into a large national law firm, was also chairman of the university system board of regents and has headed major civic and transportation organizations.

None have the experience of Hogan and Lt. Gov. Boyd Rutherford after four years in office.

Didn’t Hogan have “no political experience” as he repeatedly claims as recently as an April 24 fundraising letter? Only if you don’t count his work in the campaigns of his father, Larry, Sr., for Congress, Prince George’s County executive and governor; also serving as an aide to his county exec father; Larry, Jr.’s own two runs for Congress, the first in 1981 and getting 45% against Rep. Steny Hoyer in 1992, and his four years as appointments secretary to Gov. Bob Ehrlich, probably the most political job in the governor’s cabinet.

That adds up to more state and local governing experience than half the Democrats running for governor.

Lam vs. Sigaty

One of the most competitive races on the Howard County primary ballot for Democrats is the contest to succeed retiring county executive and Lt. Gov. Boyd Rutherford after four years in office.

Sigaty and Lam, Jr. represent the more moderately progressive of the two, with Sigaty the more recently elected while Lam, Jr. has been in the county council four years, and the numbers still favor Lam.

Lam won endorsements from more than half the Democratic candidates running for the state legislature, and the county council four years ago.

Late last month, Kasemeyer endorsed Howard County Councilmember Mary Kay Sigaty to replace him in District 12, which encompasses liberal West Columbia and the more conservative southwest Baltimore County. Baltimore County Councilman Tom Quirk and former Del. Jimmy Malone also endorsed her in the Democratic primary at the same Arbutus event.

Del. Clarence Lam is also seeking the seat, and he has been endorsed by the teachers union and more than a dozen other union, environmental and progressive groups. Kasemeyer had been running for re-election on a slate with Lam and the other two incumbent first-term delegates until he decided to retire in February.

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Managing the State

No one who becomes governor is fully aware of all the responsibilities and diverse aspects of the job, and no candidate, other than a corporate CEO, has managed an organization of the size and complexity of the state government. County executives such as Kamenetz and Rushern Baker of Prince George’s County come close. But being a chief executive also means making tough decisions that will make some people unhappy or not turn out as well as expected. This is what cost Baker the endorsement of the state teachers union, as his county teachers actively supported Ben Jealous, former president of the NAACP, a position which gives him some management chops, but little direct knowledge of state government other than as an advocate before the legislature. Jim Shea, former managing partner of DLA Piper that he helped grow into a large national law firm, was also chairman of the university system board of regents and has headed major civic and transportation organizations.

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Contrasting Sigaty and Lam’s platforms, Sigaty is better known for her specific proposals; Lam, Jr. for his general approach of consulting with stakeholders before making tough decisions. Lam, Jr. is the more experienced of the two, with Sigaty, the seven-term veteran who chairs the Budget & Taxation Committee.

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Zoning Board Approves Long Reach Plans

After making a last-minute commitment to consider the Long Reach Village Center redevelopment case in May before the primary election hearing deadline, the Howard County Zoning Board approved Orchard Development Corp.’s redevelopment plan on May 16, bringing the much-needed urban renewal project a step closer to reality.

Howard County Executive Allan Kittleman applauded the zoning board’s decision.

“The community has repeatedly expressed support for the project, through public engagement meetings and review of the Long Reach Community Association and others,” Kittleman said. “The plan is innovative, economically sustainable and encompasses key components requested by the community. We are now on our way to getting a center within the Long Reach residents will embrace and be eager to use.”

“We appreciate the decision to hear our case prior to the June election cycle,” said Orchard Development President Scott Armiger.

Centering a majority of the village center’s retail and office space sits vacant. Orchard Development has entered into discussions with Columbia Association, which maintains the Columbia Art Center and office space in the center, with the aim of eventually moving those assets into a new building within the redevelopment center.

Based on community input, Orchard’s plan includes 70,000 square feet of commercial, community and office space, 132 multi-family housing units and 110 senior housing units along with 73 townhomes, as well as structured and surface parking.

The zoning board, made up of the five current county council members, cast a 4-1 vote to approve the plan, with Board Member Jen Terrasa (D-Dist. 3) casting the dissenting vote.

School Funds

During its May legislative session, the county council tabled contentious zoning legislation sponsored by Council Chair Mary Kay Sigaty (D-Dist. 6) and Councilman Greg Fox (D-Dist. 5) that would allow composting facilities and natural wood waste recycling on preservation parcels.

Although Sigaty stressed her desire to see the mulching bill withdrawn and also proposed six amendments to the bill, the council did not discuss the proposed legislation before tabling it.

The council also tabled another bill, this one sponsored by Sigaty, which would further regulate relations between landlords and tenants.

Councilmembers could vote on both bills at the next legislative session, scheduled for June 4.

At the council’s May legislative hearing, Howard County Public School System Chief Business and Technology Officer Rudi Light urged approval for funding transfers between categories of the Board of Education’s fiscal 2018 operating budget.

The transfers include $1.9 million to fixed charges to help offset an anticipated $50.5 million health fund deficit at the end of the fiscal year, $100,000 to the administrative category and $400,000 to the student transportation category.

Additional money is needed in the administrative category to cover contract buyout costs for previous Superintendent Renee Foose, along with unanticipated costs associated with a forensic audit and court-ordered payroll processing. The money, which was freed up by efficiencies discovered or coaxed out during the fiscal year, includes $1.4 million from instructional salaries and wages stemming from turnover, attrition and unfilled positions, $707,000 from test book and instructional supplies and $42,000 from other instructional costs.

Laurel resident Brent Loveless told the council he supported the transfers, “but we need to address the elephant in the room, that if we put in our capital growth projects, which is definitely contributing to all of this.”

Zoning Change

Another bill introduced to the council in May, as requested by David Moxley of Glenwood, seeks to remove a prohibition against nursing homes and residential care facilities (R2) zoning in the Rossville (B2) zone by allowing the properties serviced by public water and sewer.

Attorney William Erskine said the legislation could enable Moxley and the Normandy Venture Partnership (NVP) Ltd. to pursue an opportunity to locate a nursing home/residential care facility on 5.9 acres behind the Normandy Shopping Center.

“That [land] doesn’t quite have the appeal for commercial uses because it doesn’t have visibility from Route 40,” Erskine said.

Claron Associates, a national land use consultant hired to review county zoning regulations ahead of a comprehensive rewrite process, recommended removal of the prohibition, Erskine said, as did the Department of Planning and Zoning and the Planning Board.

“I think it makes sense to have [these facilities] in a Planned Service Area, primarily because it provides all the other services and supports you need when taking care of people,” said Moxley.

“There are maybe a dozen pieces of property in the county that are B2 that aren’t improved and are out of the service area.”

Loveless, however, questioned the piecemeal approach of co-opting zoning change ahead of the zoning rewrite.

“It is a high priority now because there is an opportunity,” he said. “We have a repeating pattern of bringing [changes] up for single respondents or single customers.”

Flood Assistance

Following the May 27 flood in Ellicott City, the Howard County Office of Emergency Management has established a Disaster Assistance Center at the Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services Ellicott City 50+ Center, located at 940 Frederick Road.

Resources at the center will be provided by the state, county, local, state, federal and other agencies.

“We have not discussed an end date,” said Howard County Spokesman Mark Miller. “During the last storm, we kept it open as long as there was a need by those impacted by the flood.”

Information related to flood recovery and assistance will continue to be updated regularly at www.howardcountymd.gov and on the county’s social media accounts, which are www.facebook.com/hocogov and www.twitter.com/@HoCoGov.

County Execs Offer Campaign Updates

Howard Executive Kittleman Releases Campaign Fundraising Report

The Committee to Elect Allan Kittleman announced it raised $118,231.42 during the most recent reporting period, ending May 15. In all, 237 donations were received, giving the committee a total of $882,692.44 in the bank after expenditures, according to reports to be filed with the Maryland State Board of Elections.

In 2018, the Kittleman campaign aired an early round of television commercials in April and canvassed neighborhoods on weekends. “I thought it was important to kick things off on TV by doing what I’ve always done,” he said, “[by] staying positive and focusing on how we do things differently than they do in Washington, D.C. We’re kick things off on TV by doing what I’ve always done,” he said, “[by] staying positive and focusing on how we do things differently than they do in Washington, D.C. We’re.

State Political from page 13

Ebersee and Terri Hill, with them all appearing on campaign signs and literature.

Lam was also the top vote-getter in the very competitive 2014 primary with 10 candidates, and is known for his unrelenting door-knocking.

In the same district, Howard County Council member Jessica Feldmark, former chief of staff to past County Executive Ken Ulman, is viewed as a favorite among the six candidates seeking Lam’s delegate seat.

Watson vs. Medinger

Another hotly-contested delegate contest is in HB, the single-member delegate district in Ellicott City and Elkridge, where we’re keeping taxes in check, and we’re engaging residents on important issues facing our communities.”

Arundel Executive Schuh Releases Campaign Fundraising Report

Anne Arundel County Executive Steve Schuh’s re-election campaign continued its fundraising efforts over the most recent reporting period. More than $250,000 was contributed from January–May 2018, bringing the total amount raised during this election cycle to $2.3 million. Overall, the campaign has more than $1 million in cash on hand.

Of the nearly 500 contributions during the most recent reporting period, the majority was received from individuals living in the county. Of the total number of contributions received, nearly half were smaller contributions of $250 or less.

Business www.bizmonthly.com

BizMonthly
Affects the manner in which $3,000 to Kim Burns in District 1, owner Steuart Pittman, a novice candidate, his second term — if Democrat horse-farm council that he hopes to be dealing with in three terms in the House of Delegates.

Three terms on the county council, before herrepresented the area for 20 years — two Del. Pam Beidle in the November election.

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would run against Schuh for county exec on the last day, after months of saying he wanted to run.

GOP control is by using his $1 million campaign treasury to fund other can

employees and retirees. The council approved an amendment transferring $3.3 million from the county’s retiree health benefit fund, which supports school system and county retirees, and another $1.8 million from internal service funds, including fleet management, technology and communication services, risk management and the health fund.

Although the council transferred the funds in an attempt to avoid increasing classroom size in county schools, Kittlemen said he was disappointed that they transferred funds from these areas, particularly funds that support retired teachers and county employees. The transferred funds supported spending that was not included in the Board of Education’s budget request to Kittlemen.

For details, visit www.countymd.gov/Departments/County/Administration/Budget

The Howard County Council approved an amended version of the fiscal 2019 capital and operating budgets proposed by County Executive Allan Kittleman in April. The $1.6 billion operating and $146.9 million capital budgets include top priorities set by Kittlemen, and continue the focus on creating a healthy environment, improving public safety, measures to decrease opioid misuse and increased support for Howard County’s nonprofits.

In the budget he presented to the council, Kittlemen fully funded Interim Howard County Public School System Superintendent Dr. Michael Martirano’s $594.5 million budget request, which is $21.6 million (3.8%) more than fiscal 2018 and $11.4 million above the required Minimum Adequate Support level. This includes an $11 million, one-time payment to help address the HCPS shortage in its health fund, which provides health benefits to employees and retirees.

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Anne Arundel County Executive Steve Schuh has signed legislation that is planned to make Anne Arundel County a model for responsible, measured growth. The initiatives, which all passed 7-0, include the following.

• Bill 17-18: Imposes a zoning freeze in Anne Arundel County, which is a moratoria on the Planning and Zoning Office’s acceptance of applications for rezonings in all zoning districts until the General Development Plan (GDP) is drafted and submitted to the Planning Advisory Board of April 2020, whichever comes first. This bill includes an $11 million, one-time payment to help address the HCPS shortage in its health fund, which provides health benefits to employees and retirees.

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Schuh uses campaign chest to target races

Anne Arundel County Executive Steve Schuh views his role as the Republican leader of the county — though some people might call him “party boss,” if they don’t like it.

His key goals this election cycle — besides his own re-election — are making sure he maintains a Republican majority on the seven-member county council, where there are four open seats due to its two-term limit and that the GOP gains control of the county’s General Assembly delegation.

Schuh maintains that he doesn’t currently have a majority on the council, because he doesn’t consider Councilman Jerry Walker a “real” Republican, based on votes where he had opposed Schuh.

One way he can maintain and achieve GOP control is by using his $1 million campaign treasury to fund other candidates, which he has done prolifically during the past year.

In the contested Republican races, it is pretty clear who Schuh likes.

One of the largest contributions, the maximum of $6,000 from Schuh’s campaign chest, went to Anne Arundel County Councilman Jerry Walker, the councilman who filed for state Senate on the last day, after months of saying he wouldn’t run for county executive.

The Capital newspaper raised a red flag on the contribution after the May 22 campaign finance reports came out.

Grasso told the paper there was no quid-pro-quo for the transfer, saying he and Schuh had resolved their differences.

Grasso is one of the most outspoken and flamboyant of the county’s elected Republicans, has raised virtually no money — except for the $6,000 from Schuh and $1,000 from Schuh Minority Whip Steve Hershey, who has hailed from Queen Anne’s County, just across the Hay Bridge. Hershey got a $2,000 contribution from Schuh.

Both Schuh and Hershey want to take back the District 32 Senate seat represented by Democratic Sen. Ed DeGrange, who took the seat from Republican Edward Schuh in 1994 and is retiring this year.

The district, like District 30 in the Annapolis area, is one of the two in the county with retiring moderate Democrats that are possible pick-up seats for the GOP.

Grasso has a primary opponent, Maureen Bryant, and one of them will face Del. Pam Beidle in the November election.

Beidle is a formidable opponent. She has represented the area for 20 years — two terms on the county council before her three terms in the House of Delegates.

Council races

Schuh has picked his favorites for the council that he hopes to dealing with in his ninth term. If Democrat incumbent County Executive Steve Schuh wins his re-election, he will face Anne Arundel County Democratic Sen. John Astle running for the seat.

Schuh’s race pits Schuh and Walker stand-ins for the three seats that are up and convictions are down, and she was forced out of office. If Adams survives the primary challenge, he will face Anne Arundel County State’s Attorney Wes Adams faces a challenge from Kathy Rogers, who served as a prosecutor in the office for 28 years before Adams, her as soon as he took office in 2015. Rogers says crime is up and convictions are down, and she challenged him over his hiring of political strategist Lauren Scott, an attorney who has since left the office. If Adams survives the primary challenge, he will face Anne Colt Leitess, the appointed incumbent Democrat he defeated in 2014.

Sheriff Ron Bateman, who was accused of domestic violence in charges that were later dropped, has two challengers in the Republican primary, Jim Fredericks and Damon Oxtis. Two Democrats, Beth Smith and James Williams, are also seeking the post.

Open seats

Beidle’s run for Senate has left an open seat in the House of Delegate in District 33, with seven candidates seeking the three seats.

Incumbents Ted Sophocleus and Mark Chang are running for reelection and have added Sandy Bartlett to their ticket with Beidle. Democrats Derek Kent, Mike Rogers, Jeneese Jones and Patrick Armstrong are also running for the seats.

In District 30A, the two-member row

members.

Schuh Signs Arundel’s Smart Growth Initiatives Into Law

The Office of Planning and Zoning also sponsored public comment sessions that provided county citizens the opportunity to have their voices heard as county government embarks on the 18-month General Development Plan process. Officials from all relevant land use departments have been on hand for these sessions.

For more information, visit www.aacounty.org/Departments/planning-and-zoning/long-range-planning/general-development-plan/index.html#1b.
The match of technology seems to have resulted in the virtual world having supplanted in-person development of relationships that are crucial to both individual and corporate business. As we see most every day, even when people meet in person, many adults are glued to their smartphone screens; they pay more attention to their virtual existence than to the people sitting in front of them.

However, be aware: This approach is a huge mistake in the government contract marketplace, and that habit might cost you and your employer dearly.

Forty percent of American workers now work remotely at least part of their work week and rely on email, instant messaging and video web tools for doing business communications. Meetings of employees in all sectors spend 80% of their time working someplace other than the typical corporate or government office. Virtual communications tools are demanded in this environment.

This remote worker mindset has many benefits, and virtual communications seem to save time and money.

However, the government business development process relies heavily on developing trusted relationships with government prospects and customers, as well as with other businessespeople with whom one might subcontract or partner. Developing these relationships takes time and effort. It is necessary to shake hands, look each other in the eyes, converse in person and read body language and facial expressions — all of which are impossible to do when using emails, texts and instant messaging.

Make the Connection

Even video meetings can be problematic. Paul Axtell, corporate trainer and author of the book, "Meetings Matter," stated in a recent Washington Post article that, “In-person meetings provide a sense of intimacy, connection and empathy that, “In-person meetings provide a sense of intimacy, connection and empathy that is difficult to replicate via video. It’s [also] much easier to ask for attentive listening and presence, which creates the psychological safety that people need to sense in order to engage and participate fully.”

This is not just about being comfortable, as research shows that face-to-face requests are 34 times more effective than those sent by email. When an in-person physical handshake occurs, cooperation increases and outcomes of negotiation are more positive.

The government marketplace is flooded with opportunities for in-person meetings, even if individual one-on-one meetings are getting more difficult to obtain. However, they are not impossible for those that understand the motivators behind the meetings and the processes to go about asking for such a meeting.

The government marketplace, therefore, is a potential government-hosted business meetings on www.fbo.gov, a federal website that also lists upcoming bid opportunities. Look for the “small business events” option located on the home page in the lower right corner. While it states “small business,” it’s normal for all sizes of businesses to attend most events, unless otherwise noted.

These events range from large, agency-specific national procurement conferences, such as the Social Security Administration Annual Conference, which was held near Baltimore on June 1; to smaller events, such as the monthly vendor days held by the Department of Homeland Security (www.dhs.gov/small-business-vendor-outreach-sessions), which space could be limited to the first 50 registrants.

Speed Meetings

Another upcoming event includes the June 26 American Express Summit for Success at the Renaissance Washington, D.C. Downtown Hotel. While not hosted by a government agency, this event is complimentary, open to the public and government entities do participate.

Meeting opportunities are not only large conferences. One type of meeting unique to the government is called match making, which essentially follows the speed dating format. These sessions may be held in conjunction with a conference, or on its own at an agency or military base. The National Security Agency hosts “Business in a Minute,” and the Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) meet the second Tuesday of every month with vendors to conduct feasibility studies, program planning and scheduling support, and technical assistance.

These matchmaking sessions general- ly follow the same format in which multiple tables are set up in a large room, with one or two people from the government seated at each table, ready to meet with a vendor for the allotted 10- to 15-minute timeframe. At the end of that session, a moderator will announce that the session has ended and the vendor then proceeds to his or her next assigned table. Normally these sessions of four to six matchmaking connections are scheduled per vendor, per day.

And the ultimate meeting is a formal capability briefing with one or more of the many decision-makers involved in large procurements. These powerful meetings are always purposeful from both the government and vendor perspectives. They may range from a 30-minute company overview to an in-depth, two-hour opportunity-specific discussion.

These are the most difficult types of meetings to schedule, and decision-makers usually reserve their limited time for those vendors who have taken the time to develop meaningful relationships and understanding all of the other types of events first.

Face-to-Face

Meeting face-to-face is critical to success in the government marketplace. In the previously-mentioned article in the Washington Post, it was reported that “MIT’s Human Dynamics Lab spent hundreds of hours and performed drivers across industries by collecting data from electronic badges that covered everything from tone of voice to body language. The results showed unequivocally that the most valuable communication is done in-person.”

Whether pursuing a thousand-dollar product sale or a multi-million-dollar contract, we all operate in a people-oriented business environment. Everything from tone of voice to body language, from our virtual/electronic world and engage in-person, face-to-face, will forge relationships that open the door to much greater success.

Gloria Larkin is president and CEO of TargetGov, in Linthicum. Email glori aTG@targetgov.com, visit www.targetgov.com or call 866-579-1546 for more information.

Awarded Contracts

The following information regarding awarded contracts can be used to develop prime contractor, subcontractor and teaming partner relationships on these and other opportunities. For more information, contact TargetGov at 410-579-1346.

USCYBERCOM to perform enterprise architecture services and training to the Enterprise Architecture Center of Excellence. The training has been customized to develop processes, methodologies, techniques and comprehensive environment for enterprise architecture development. The work will be performed at the Naval Support Facility, Annapolis Junction, Maryland.

All Business Machines, Gaithersburg, and Sacramento, Calif., won a $30,135 contract from the Department of Commerce (NIST Division) to perform support to the Real Time Internet Access Domain System to be performed in Gaithersburg at http://attain.net/contact-vehicles

Trihalco LLC, Bethesda, won a $57 million contract from the U.S. Air Force for the Guardian Angel Technical Recovery III program, covering the acquisition and implementation of technical recovery kits, training, annual maintenance service visits and system engineering/program management. www.trihalco.com/contact.html

The Lockheed Group, Belcamp, won a $29,598,950 contract from the U.S. Army for training support to the U.S. Army Communications and Electronics Command’s Integrated Logistics Support Command. https://thelockwoodgroup.com/contact


Melwood Horticultural Training Center, Upper Marlboro, won a $22,052,441 contract from the Department of Veterans Affairs for Frostburg Center’s roof, ground and grounds maintenance support at federal installations within a 100-mile radius of the National Capitol Region. www.melwood.org/about

International Technology Group, Laurel, won a $7,078,371 contract from the Naval Sea Systems Command for engineering support services to conduct feasibility studies, program planning and scheduling support, and technical services in support of the Australia SEA 4000 and SEA 5000 programs. http://isim-group.com/contact

Sierra Nevada Corp., Hagerstown, won a $14,029,200 contract from the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, for the Saudi King Air 350 modification program including intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance/synthetic aperture radar capability, one transportable ground station, one fixed ground station and one mission system trainer. www.sncorp.com/contact

Harkins Builders, Columbia, won a $36,375,000 contract from the Naval Facilities Engineering Command for the design and construction of an unaccompanied housing facility at Naval Air Station Patuxent River. www.harkinsbuilders.com/corporate

URS Federal Services, Germantown, won a $34,479,509 contract from the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division to exercise an option for integrated support equipment maintenance repair for the Fleet Readiness Center aviation support equipment. www.aecom.com/contact

SilverBlock Systems, Leonardtown, won a $7,584,576 contract from the Naval Air Warfare Center for applied research and integration efforts to add new capabilities to radio frequency operations using geospatial hypotheses product line to include laboratory, field testing and integration. http://silverblock.net/contact-us


Lifeblox Solutions, Chesapeake, won a $126,724 contract from the Department of Veterans Affairs for supplies, services, and support to the Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Information Technology for the implementation and support of the Business Enterprise Information Systems, formerly known as the Enterprise Community Information System (ECIS). www.lifeboxsolutions.com/contact

Leidos Innovations Corp., Gaithersburg, was awarded a $64,515,461 contract from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to provide enterprise-wide information management/information technology services in support of the Army Corps of Engineers. www.leidos.com/contact/products

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June 2018
The Business Monthly
Shaun Eddy Breaks New Ground
With Focus on People and Planning,
Shaun Eddy Breaks New Ground

By Susan Kim, Staff Writer

Shaun Eddy considers Oxford Planning Group a start-up — it opened its doors only two years ago. Eddy, a certified financial planner, knows the ropes well enough to be very clear about his focus. “We are planning-focused and people-focused,” he said. “We have been in financial planning since 1989, and I love what we do. The key is: Our clients are very happy as well.”

Eddy’s path to entrepreneurship was not always so direct. Growing up in an Air Force family, he moved to Maryland as a sophomore in high school in 1977. “By then,” he said, “I had lived in 14 different places and went to 12 different schools, including nine elementary schools. It’s a blur.”

But that experience left him with a sense of “sink-or-swim” resiliency that has served him well. Another twist in the start of Eddy’s career is his science background, having earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Maryland in animal science in 1988. “I worked my way through college working at veterinary clinics,” he said.

The clinics, all of which were small businesses with around six employees, afforded Eddy the opportunity to observe, even from an entry-level position, how small businesses are managed and how they operate from a staff perspective. He was able to absorb from the owners and managers knowledge of the financial and operational challenges that confront small business owners on a daily basis, as well as over the long term.

This exposure to business and managing businesses led him to financial planning. He considers financial planning an art and a science, and believes the experience at those clinics — all of which had half-a-dozen employees at the most — gave him a deep understanding of what it takes to become an entrepreneur, or help an entrepreneur succeed financially.

Eddy became a certified financial planner in 1995, and also earned a master’s degree in financial analysis through the College for Financial Planning in 2006. He holds an Accredited Investment Fiduciary designation, which promotes a culture of fiduciary responsibility, that is, always acting in the best interests of clients and employing and providing a prudent process in planning and investment practices.

Oxford Is Born

After starting Oxford Planning Group in 2016, Eddy found offices in Woodstock, a short commute from his house. He chose the name “Oxford” for personal reasons: His mother is British and grew up not far from Oxford, England, and near Woodstock, England, where Winston Churchill was born. A large university town, Oxford always had positive connotations for Eddy. Also, the word “financial” is purposely absent from the company’s name. “We’re planning-centered,” explained Eddy. “We need to lead with planning. The industry is really getting tech-heavy right now, and some financial planners are almost pulling people out of the way to get their relationship away from the client.”

While his company highly leverages technology, he and his staff are finely focused on relationships with people. “We really want to be close to our clients,” he said. “We want to keep it more personal. We’re not really interested in growing into a mega-firm. You lose the people in the transaction.”

Younger generations look at money differently,” Eddy said, “and in helping people plan we need to adapt to someone who lived during World War II as well as someone who is 20 years old today. We need to deliver our services in a way that resonates. And part of that is simply getting to know your client.”

Eddy said he tends to hire “positive, service-focused.”

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Oxford Planning Group also serves entrepreneurs and small businesses. A key planning aspect for many business owners currently is an exit strategy, said Eddy. “If they don’t have a proper way to get out of it — a tax-efficient way — is the business even marketable?”

Improving the Community

Eddy is also very involved in the community. Among other issues, affordable housing in Howard County has become very important to him. “We need teachers, medical professionals, a local fire department,” he said. “A lot of those people cannot afford to live in our communities.”

We want to make sure we have affordable housing for a variety of needs. It’s a challenging task. A graduate of the 2004 class of Leadership Howard County, Eddy said that program expanded his horizons. “You hear about the issues from outside the business environment,” he said.

Eddy currently serves on Gov. Hogan’s Task Force on Long Term Care Education and Planning as well as on the board of directors of Heritage Housing Partners, Corporation.

He’s also a past president and chairman of the board of the Financial Planning Association’s Maryland chapter, and past chairman of the membership advisory group of the Financial Planning Association in Denver. He has previously served on the boards of Howard County Red Cross and BC Drug Free, and is past chairman of the Housing and Community Development Board.

Eddy has been a speaker for the Financial Planning Association, Maryland Accountants Association and the Maryland Institute of Certified Financial Planners. In 2009 he was named as a top Maryland financial planner by Medical Economics.

Eddy plans to continue growing Oxford Planning Group, but that growth will happen in a way that keeps his approach personal. With three employees at the moment, Eddy said he tends to hire “positive people who are very forward-focused and service-focused.”

“When clients realize that, with proper planning, many goals are possible, it’s incredibly rewarding,” he said.

Venmo, Fintech and the Future of Banking

By Sarah Ayte, Staff Writer

In an age of iPhones and near-instantaneous connection with virtually everyone and everything, it’s hard to imagine that buying a soda from a vending machine via text message would be as all exciting today. But in 1997, when Coca-Cola first introduced mobile purchases, it was an electrifying innovation.

Although the first mobile transactions began with the purchase of something so minor, this development was the beginning of what is now an entire technological and financial industry.

Due to major legal reform and legislation following the stock market crash of 2008, financial agencies had their hands full with the cleanup and overhaul of big banks. Passage of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act ensured that nearly all nooks and crannies of financial services in the U.S. became strictly regulated and supervised.

With the push for compliance with new government mandates, banks concentrated on time and resources on regulatory transformation rather than technological innovation. In the midst of the technological boom of social media sites and mobile devices in the mid- to late 2000s, banks headed down a slower path — struggling to keep up.

So when did personal finance finally begin catching up with the technological innovations across the globe?

Rise of Fintech

Take Venmo. With this smartphone app, gone are the days of writing a check, waiting for a bank transfer or exchanging cash with your friend for splitting lunch. “Venmo-ing” money takes only a day or two and requires nothing but access to the app and the use of a credit card, debit card or checking account.

Founded in 2009, Venmo has taken off as one of the leading mobile payment services, alongside PayPal, Square Cash and Zelle. Amidst the distration of the financial crisis, these companies seized the opportunity to improve upon traditional banking systems and streamlined the process with the use of mobile devices.

The advent of such mobile payment services inevitably resulted in coinage of the term “fintech” — financial technology.

Why is fintech so attractive? For one thing, it streamlines the process of doing business without the involvement of a traditional bank. In this sense, banks...
Surviving the Sandwich Generation

By Elizabeth Anes Brown

Caregiving can be an overwhelming job, whether it’s for children or parents. In fact, individuals typically in their 40s or 50s frequently find themselves respon- sible for supporting their own children in addition to caring for aging parents. This is the reason this demographic often is referred to as the Sandwich Generation. According to the Pew Research Cen- ter, 47% of adults in their 40s and 50s in the U.S. find themselves in a similar situation. Many young millennials are struggling with debt, underemployed and far behind past generations in owning their own homes. Along with longer life, spans of aging parents, this means many of the “Sandwichers” provide some level of care or financial support for parents and children simultaneously.

Here are some tips that may help if you face a similar journey.

• Helping Family Face the Future

The first step to dealing with the future is facing it. Have an open and honest conversation with your parents about their financial situation sooner rather than later. People naturally want to remain independent, so beginning to rely on their children and having that discussion may be uncomfortable for them.

Asking your parents about their plans: where they want to live in the near- and long-term and what arrangements they have made to accomplish their plans is a good way to start the conversation.

• Understand the Financial Situation

Understanding the financial resources your parents have is a critical piece in this journey. Once you start the conversation about planning, help them assemble the information about what resources they have and where it is located. Your finan- cial adviser should give you guidance about what to look for and what to ask.

Some banks provide a document called something along the lines of a “Personal Document Locator.” This useful document is designed to help you quickly retrieve valuable financial and personal information. It lists all assets, income, employee-benefit information, financial account information, estate planning in- formation and important contacts. It can be used as a quick information guide when you need to make critical decisions.

• Plan for Your Own Future

While you are helping everyone else, remember to set plans for yourself. You can’t help others if you aren’t in good health, and that is true physically, mental- ly and financially. Additionally, you are setting an example for your children, and hopefully, easing their future burdens. A nice wedding gift for children is to pay for their financial plan. Understanding saving, financial planning and prepar- ing a route to a successful retirement improves everyone’s future.

• Assembling the Right Team

Facing challenges on your own is a steep climb. Instead, be considering your own future and helping both children and parents is often overwhelming. Realize the task is too complex to face alone and that there are knowledgeable experts.

See Sandwich, page 20

Banking

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In-type services are more accessible to the under-banked and unbanked who aren’t able to open an account at a local bank. Such instant transactions enable faster commerce between businesses and customers.

Additionally, companies such as PayPal automatically convert currencies between international dealings. Fintech essentially can accelerate the human time required for the transfer of money and does so with the already-ubiquitous smartphone.

Venmo and PayPal have not invent- ed a new way to move money around; they have just made it better,” said Paris Roselli, senior vice president of digital and telephone banking at M&T Bank. Com- panies like PayPal in fact hold balances in traditional banks such as Wells Fargo, Bank of America, Citi and HSBC. If you have a balance on a PayPal debit card, the balance is kept at the Bancorp Bank — one of the largest issuers of debit cards in the U.S.

Decline of Traditional Banks?

The emergence of such efficient, ac- cessible interfaces begs the question: Will traditional banks be able to adapt or increasingly obsolete? Andrew Flott, CEO and co-president of Revere Bank, discounted the likelihood of such a rapid evolution. Although Flott anticipates the decrease of bank branches over time, he emphasized the importance of the relationship between local banks and the community.

“There you live in a small town, there only may be one bank in that town. If that bank goes away, the big bank that bought it isn’t going to spend as much time focusing on that little town,” he said. “It’s a lot easier to go into a small bank and form a relation- ship than with a big bank.”

Mobile mobile interface may be quicker to access, it lacks the often-fraught communication with financial advisers, he said. Flott termed this “high tech, low touch” relationship, for the faceless convenience.

Regarding the services offered by fin- tech companies, they are narrowly focused, in contrast with the comprehensive scope of traditional banks, Flott said. “Banks do so much more than just payments,” said Ni- colo Dorgan, senior vice president and marketing & commu- nications director of School Bank. “They act in a very consulta- tive manner and help people with financial planning — mortgage loans, auto loans, health insurance and education manage- ment, etc.” Wheth- er you’re paying off your college loan or planning for your children’s future college tuition, people often value the personalized assistance of financial professionals.

Accessibility vs. Security

Another issue regarding mobile finances concerns security and protec- tion. While access to your bank account requires direct communication and identi- fication, mobile transactions only require entry into your phone. As users often conveniently employ one same username and password for several of their accounts, hackers easily can gain access into several places.

It has become increasingly easier for hackers to break cyber barriers as the cost of technology becomes ubiquitously af- fordable. In other words, the black market surrounding data breaching and cyberfraud grows alongside the advancement of fin- tech. For those who manage personal or business-related finances on a daily basis, sometimes smartphone apps simply don’t cut it. Whether it’s the concern of a “high tech, low touch” relationship or the risk of a cybersecurity breach, many consum- ers hesitate to make the jump to mobile transactions.

In Maryland, the Financial Consum- er Protection Act of 2018 recently was passed mandating that state regulators keep a close eye on the unregulated abil- ities of fintech firms. It expands upon the existing Maryland Consumer Protection Act to regulate “abusive trade practices” regarding consumer lending and mone- tary penalty provisions. Effective as of Oct. 1, the bill also calls for the study of crypto-currencies, initial coin offerings and other block chain technologies.

The Future and Fusion

Whether you choose to stick with the traditional bank you’ve trusted for years or utilize services on your phone, the future of banking seems to lie with the fusion of both. Both Flott and Roselli pointed out in order to open a PayPal account or make a transaction via Face- book, a checking account is required.

Fintech is moving the business of banking forward, though it is doing so with the basics of traditional banking feeding into it and providing it an essential starting point. As we look into the next de- cade of personal finances, we may likely continue to witness the rise of fintech and its partnership with established banks.

Sarah Ayer is an intern with The Business Monthly. She will be graduating from Glenelg Country School in June and will attend the University of Maryland, College Park, on a lacrosse scholarship in the fall.
Estate Planning: An Introduction

By John Day

By definition, estate planning is a process designed to help you manage and preserve your assets while you are alive, and to conserve and control their distribution after your death according to your goals and objectives. But what estate planning means to you specifically depends on who you are.

Your age, health, wealth, lifestyle, life stage, goals and many other factors determine your particular estate planning needs. For example, you may have a small estate and are concerned only that certain people receive particular things. A simple will is probably all you’ll need. Or, you may have a large estate, and minimizing any potential estate tax impact is your foremost goal. Here, you’ll need to use more sophisticated techniques in your estate plan, such as a trust.

To help you understand what estate planning means to you, the following sections address some estate planning needs that are common among some very broad groups of individuals. Think of these suggestions as simply a point in the right direction, and then seek professional advice to implement the right plan for you.

Over 18

Since incapacity can strike anyone at any time, all adults over 18 should consider having:
• A durable power of attorney: This document lets you name someone to manage your property for you in case you become incapacitated and cannot do so.
• An advance medical directive: The three main types of advance medical directives are 1) a living will, 2) a durable power of attorney for health care (also known as a health-care proxy) and 3) a Do Not Resuscitate order. Be aware that not all states allow each kind of medical directive, so make sure you execute one that will be effective for you.

Young and Single

If you’re young and single, you may not need much estate planning. But if you have some material possessions, you should at least write a will. If you don’t, the wealth you leave behind if you die likely will go to your parents, and that might not be what you would want. A will lets you leave your possessions to anyone you choose (e.g., your significant other, siblings, other relatives or a favorite charity).

Unmarried Couples

You’re committed to a life partner but aren’t legally married. For you, a will is essential if you want your property to pass to your partner at your death. Without a will, state law directs that only your closest relatives will inherit your property, and your partner may get nothing.

If you share certain property, such as a house or car, you may consider owning the property as joint tenants with rights of survivorship. That way, when one of you dies, the jointly held property will pass to the surviving partner automatically.

Married Couples

For many years, married couples had to do careful estate planning, such as the creation of a credit shelter trust, in order to take advantage of their combined federal estate tax exclusions. For decedents dying in 2011 and later years, the executor of a deceased spouse’s estate can transfer any unused estate tax exclusion among the surviving spouse without such planning.

You may be inclined to rely on these portability rules for estate tax avoidance, using outright bequests to your spouse instead of traditional trust planning. However, portability should not be relied upon solely for utilization of the first to die’s estate tax exclusion, and a credit shelter trust created at the first spouse’s death may still be advantageous for several reasons.
• Portability may be lost if the surviving spouse remarries and is later widowed again.
• The trust can protect any appreciation of assets from estate tax at the second spouse’s death.

The trust can provide protection of assets from the reach of the surviving spouse’s creditors.
• Portability does not apply to the generation-skipping transfer (GST) tax, so the trust may be needed to fully leverage the GST exemptions of both spouses.

Married couples where one spouse is not a U.S. citizen have special planning concerns. The marital deduction is not allowed if the recipient spouse is a non-citizen spouse (but a $152,000 annual exclusion, for 2018, is allowed). If certain requirements are met, however, a transfer to a qualified domestic trust (QDOT) will qualify for the marital deduction.

Married With Children

If you’re married and have children, you and your spouse should each have your own will. For you, wills are vital because you can name a guardian for your minor children in case both of you die simultaneously. If you fail to name a guardian in your will, a court may appoint someone you might not have chosen.

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Are You Making These Security Mistakes With Your Smartphone?

By Gary S. Williams

It’s tough to remember how we managed our daily lives without smartphones. How did we get around town without quick access to Google Maps? Pay our bills on time before we had credit card and banking apps? Or let someone know we were running late without text messaging? Because completing tasks on smart phones is so easy, we tend to overlook the sensitivity of the data we store on them — and that could be a recipe for disaster. To help you safeguard your confidential data, here are five mistakes that most people make when using their smartphones, along with some simple fixes that you can put in place today.

1. Not auto-locking phones or using passwords

Most smartphone users don’t pass passwords when using their smartphones, along with some simple fixes that you can put in place today.

What can you do?

• Change your settings to require your phone to lock after a certain period of inactivity. This way, you’ll have to enter a password to get back in.
• Set a strong PIN or password. Although having a password is the most basic form of security, it will serve as a first line of defense, giving you the opportunity to remotely wipe or track your phone if it is lost or stolen.

2. Connecting to public or unsecure Wi-Fi networks

Public Wi-Fi networks pose a major security risk. Cyber criminals connected to the same network can view your activity and any information you send over the network, including usernames, passwords, account information, credit card information and e-mail messages.

What can you do?

• Turn off auto-discovery if your phone has that function. If you need to go online, use cellular data instead of connecting to an unsecure network.

3. Using out-of-date apps and software

Outdated apps and mobile operating system (OS) software leave your phone open to security vulnerabilities.

What can you do?

• Keep apps up to date. This mitigates risks by patching up holes that hackers could exploit to access your data. Most smartphones have an automatic update option for apps.
• Update your mobile OS software as soon as you are notified that an update is available.

4. Staying logged onto apps that store financial information

Although it’s certainly more convenient than entering your credentials every time you need access, staying logged onto Amazon, Capital One or some other shopping or banking service provider could leave you vulnerable to some serious financial risk. If your phone is lost or stolen, you’re basically handing a criminal your wallet.

What can you do?

• Don’t stay logged onto apps, and clear your device’s browser history regularly.

5. Clicking on links sent through unsolicited texts or e-mails

Cyber criminals have crossed over from the desktop to the mobile world. They now deploy their phishing attempts through text messages or e-mails, hoping that you’ll click on their bogus links and provide them with your credentials or financial information.

What can you do?

• Just as with your desktop or laptop, be wary of clicking links and downloading attachments on your smartphone — don’t do it. Viruses can infect smartphones, too.

What the Future Holds

As more people use mobile devices to communicate and transact business, more of their information will be out there tempting hackers to steal it. Don’t let your smartphone pull you into a false sense of security. Follow the simple advice shared here to help ensure the security of your personal data.

Gary S. Williams, CFP®, CRPC, AIF, is president and founder of Williams Asset Management, in Columbia. He can be contacted at 410-740-0220, Gary@WilliamsAsset.com and www.WilliamsAsset.com.

Sandwich
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Sandwich prepared to help ease the burden.

In addition to your attorney and CPA, having a financial adviser who understands your circumstances and can help you create a plan is critical. Your adviser should have access to experts — there are several areas where you’ll need in-depth knowledge, including financial planning, trusts and estates, insurance and investments. Your team will help by having conversations with you and your parents to gain in-depth knowledge that should result in an integrated action plan that grows and matures as financial needs and lifestyle objectives change.

For example, the financial planner on the team will help create a financial plan to ensure your parent’s financial resources are applied to support their lifestyle now and into the future. The trust specialist will review your parents’ estate planning documents and make sure you and your parents understand how assets will flow. The insurance strategist will review any existing life and long-term care insurance policies and make recommendations on changes to policies if needed. The investment specialist will make sure liquid assets are invested per your parents’ preferred investment strategy.

• The Future Can Be Bright

The Sandwich Generation can feel fortunate to navigate life’s journey with both children and parents. With honest conversations; solid planning; and help from a knowledgeable, experienced financial team and family members, the journey can be made easier, and the future brighter.

Elizabeth Andes Brown is senior vice president, wealth advisors regional director. She can be reached at …. This article has been edited from an article that originally was published in BB&T Perspectives, 2017, Issue 1, at https://bbtpectives.com.

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Estate
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Furthermore, without a will, some states dictate that at your death some of your property goes to your children and not to your spouse. If minor children inherit directly, the surviving parent will need court permission to manage the money for them.

You may also want to consult an attorney about establishing a trust to manage your children’s assets in the event that both you and your spouse die at the same time.

You may also need life insurance. Your surviving spouse may not be able to support the family on his or her own and may need to replace your earnings to maintain the family.

Comfortable and Looking Forward to Retirement

If you’re in your 30s, you may be feeling comfortable. You’ve accumulated some wealth and you’re thinking about retirement. Here’s where estate planning overlaps with retirement planning.

It’s just as important to plan to care for yourself during your retirement as it is to plan to provide for your beneficiaries after your death. You should keep in mind that even though Social Security may be available when you retire, those benefits alone may not provide enough income for your retirement years. Consider saving some of your accumulated wealth using other retirement and deferred vehicles, such as an individual retirement account (IRA).

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Charlie Fairchild
Fairchild Properties, LLC

Wealthy and Worried

Depending on the size of your estate, you may need to be concerned about estate taxes.

For 2018, about $11.2 million is effectively excluded from the federal gift and estate tax. Estates over that amount may be subject to the tax at a top rate of 40%.

Similarly, there is another tax, called the generation-skipping transfer (GST) tax, that is imposed on transfers of wealth made to grandchildren (and lower generations). For 2018, the GST tax exemption is also $1.2 million, and the top tax rate is 40%.

Note that the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, signed into law in December 2017, doubled the gift and estate tax basic exclusion amount and the GST tax exemption to about $11.2 million in 2018. After 2025, they are scheduled to revert to their pre-2018 levels and be cut by about one-half.

Whether your estate will be subject to state death taxes depends on the size of your estate and the tax laws in effect in the state in which you are domiciled.

Elderly or Ill

If you’re elderly or ill, you’ll want to write a will or update your existing one, consider a revocable living trust and make sure you have a durable power of attorney and a health care directive. Talk with your family about your wishes, and make sure they have copies of your important papers or know where to locate them.

John Day is a financial consultant with LPL Financial Services. He can be reached at 410-290-1000, john.day@lpl.com or online at www.daywm.com.

IN BRIEF

For Baltimore Banks, Bigger Isn’t Always Better

J.D. Power recently released its 13th annual “U.S. Retail Banking Satisfaction Study” that measures customer satisfaction with retail banks based on responses from more than 88,000 retail banking customers of 200 of the largest banks in the United States. How did the largest Baltimore area banks perform?

While the national study breaks out results across 11 broad regions of the U.S., the data has been further parsed to examine the detailed performance of the largest banks by market share on a city-by-city basis.

Some of the results may be surprising. For example, while Northwest Bank was the top performer in the mid-Atlantic region, Baltimore’s largest bank by market share — Bank of America — was the 16th-ranked performer in the region. The other biggest banks by market share in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson area are PNC, M&T, BB&T and Wells Fargo.

What are some of the primary factors driving these results?

Paul McAdam, senior director of the banking practice at J.D. Power, explained: “Robust digital offerings from some of the nation’s largest banks have helped them grow their customer bases, but the study reveals that customers who use exclusively online or mobile banking channels are the least satisfied with their banks’ service quality.

“Right now, retail banks need to address the growing ‘digital divide’ that is emerging within their customer bases,” he said. “Successfully navigating that transition will require a combination of providing better, more personalized advice that is consistent across both digital and branch interactions, and ensuring that customer needs are being met regardless of what channel they are using.”

According to Bob Neuhaus, senior director of financial services at J.D. Power, the ability to offer strong digital and branch experiences is key. “The shift to digital has clearly presented challenges for some banks, but those who are managing to get the customer satisfaction formula right, with the right combination of high tech, high touch customer interaction, are already setting the pace for others to follow.”

Determination

When Revere is your business bank, you are Revere. Celebrated for everything it took to get you here. Backed with every confidence in where you’re headed. Empowered to make your business as great as your ambition. Let’s see your vision. Let’s feel your passion. Let’s make it happen.

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“Never Before, Never Again” is the tagline for the Sonoma County Barrel Auction, an annual fundraiser sponsored by the Sonoma County Vintners, and refers to the single barrels of one-of-a-kind wines produced just for the event. This was the fourth year for the auction, the proceeds of which go to the promotion of Sonoma County wines.

In April, I had the good fortune to attend this year’s festivities, which is significant not only because I met many licensed wine sellers from the U.S. and around the world, including retailers, restaurateurs and wholesalers, but it was also just a few months after the devastating North Coast wildfires.

I’ve visited Sonoma County wineries many times before, but this trip was different. Not only did I taste some incredible wines, but I also felt like I was part of the family that is the Sonoma wine community.

About Sonoma County
Sonoma County is in Northern California and is best known as the Sonoma Valley wine region. It covers about 15,000 square miles, contains more than 60,000 acres of vineyards and is home to more than 425 wineries. Within the area between the Pacific Ocean and the Mayacamas Mountains are 18 American Viticultural Areas (AVAs), each with its own unique character and terroir. Here, you find ocean breezes, fog-covered valley floors, vineyards and sunny, cool mountain vineyards.

There are two main reasons why Sonoma County is ideal for the production of wine: climate and soil. The area is blessed with long, dry, warm summer days and cool nights. This temperature swing produces grapes with great acidity and complexity. Sonoma County also has more different soil types than all of France, so it’s no surprise that more than 50 different AVAs. Offered in quantities of five, 10 or 20 cases, these once-in-a-lifetime wines are made exclusively for the auction, and will be available in the market only by the winning bidder’s customers.

Thursday was preview day. Trade people and members of the media were invited to countywide tastings, offering the opportunity to preview and taste the 97 barrel lots of auction wines.

First up were the wines from Alexander Valley. Dry Creek Valley and Sonoma Valley at Francis Ford Coppola Winery. Many of the samples were poured by the winemakers themselves, which gave us the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge about each wine that was to be auctioned the following day. Here, the wines were primarily Cabernet Sauvignon, Zinfandel and Bordeaux blends.

Next up were the wines from Russian River Valley, Petaluma Gap and West Sonoma Coast at Martin Ray winery, again with access to the winemakers. Here, the wines were mainly Pinot Noir, along with a few Chardonnays.

Early Thursday evening was the Sonoma County Barrel Auction Icons Celebration at Mauritson Family Winery. For the previous three years, the Sonoma County Barrel Auction had celebrated Sonoma County leaders and innovators who helped shape the heritage and history of Sonoma County winemaking. This year, it honored first responders, political leaders, the media and neighbors who rose to the challenge in response to last October’s fires and came to the aid those in need.

Friday was auction day at MacMurray Estate Vineyards. Dan Kosta of AldenAlli Estate Vineyards, who lost his house in the fires, kicked off the event with a touching speech, thanking the community welcomed us with open arms and put on a quite a show. They want every-one to know that they are open for business and would love to show you everything they have to offer. Cheers!”

“Sonoma Audia is a former advertising and marketing professional with more than 20 years of experience in the wine and spirits industry. He is a wine specialist and buyer at Bay Ridge Wine & Spirits in Annapolis, holds a Certification Diploma from the Sommellier Society of America and Inter-mediate and Advanced Certificates from the Wine & Spirits Education Trust. He can be reached at sippingwithsam@verizon.net.
As a service to our readers, The Business Monthly has asked candidates running for office in our coverage area to provide responses to a short questionnaire. Their responses follow—variation was the exception of lengthy responses that were edited to adhere to space limitation requirements. Multiple attempts were made to contact each candidate using the contact information they made available to the Maryland Board of Elections.

The full Voters Guide listing candidates running for all offices within our coverage area can also be accessed online through The Business Monthly’s website, www.bizmonthly.com.

Questions:
1. What qualifications and experience do you have that prepare you for this office?
2. What are the most important priorities that this office should address following the election, and what position do you take on them?

Anne Arundel County
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Steve Schuh (R) (Incumbent):
1. I have served as Anne Arundel County Executive since 2014. I am a lifelong Anne Arundel County resident and small business owner. I know the County, its people and understand the challenges and opportunities of raising a family here. My career in financial services and as a small business owner, coupled with 12 years in public service as County Executive and Maryland State Delegate, has given me a multi-faceted perspective into how to manage County government operations, build coalitions, solve problems on behalf of citizens and make Anne Arundel County the best place to live, work and start a business in Maryland.
2. My second term priorities are to continue record investments in education to reduce class sizes, improve salaries and accelerate school construction in all parts of the County. I will continue to increase support for public safety infrastructure and personnel to build on our successful record of combating the opioid crisis, gangs and crime. Finally, we will work to facilitate major investments in our State and County infrastructure to relieve traffic and bottlenecks in our road system. My Administration will address these priorities without increasing taxes and fees, and will continue to make County government more efficient and cost effective.

Stuart Pittman (D):
1. My 33 years in the business world have been driven by the causes I have espoused. I started out building local organizations in Chicago and Des Moines that brought investment to blighted neighborhoods. I later founded Recracker Project, a market-based approach to retraining and rehiring thousands of unwanted ex-race horses across the country. I also operate a farm business in Davidsonville. My dealings with county government have been as a Farm Bureau leader and a director of the Soil Conservation District. I fought and won against county regulations that had no public benefit, and brought farmers and environmental advocates together despite decades of distrust.
2. We must bring community and business leaders together to plan growth and development in a fiscally and environmentally responsible way. Our schools, public safety, and infrastructure have not kept up with a rate of growth that citizens perceive as unmanaged. I will be elected on a “Putting Communities First” platform that provides citizens a voice in both the General Development Plan process and budgeting. Our budget process will show taxpayers the challenges we face and present spending and revenue options. Our planning process will allow development projects that have community support to move forward efficiently.

COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1
Kimberly McCoy Burns (R): No response.
Sarah Lacey (D):
1. I’m mom, a top-rated plaintiff’s attorney, a former engineer, a homeowner, and a community volunteer and leader. I campaigned for and was elected to school-wide leadership positions at both MFT and CUA Law. Those campaigns, in addition to many other leadership experiences I’ve had, prepared me for public service by teaching me to listen to the people I hope to serve and to take personal responsibility for addressing their concerns.
2. Our county has permitted severe over-development in District 1, which is the most rapidly growing and diverse District in the county. I want our representative to advocate for sustainable growth policies and catch up our infrastructure, including adding more schools/capacity, parks and recreation facilities, libraries, and even a new county government office on the western side of BWI. Paying our teachers and first responders salaries sufficient to keep our teachers and first responders working for our County rather than losing them to neighboring jurisdictions. I also want to incentivize teachers and first responders to be able to live near where they work. Protecting and improving our environment is an area where we have not only great responsibility, but also great opportunity to lead through community action and partnerships, as well as legislation.

Peter Smith (D) (Incumbent): No response.

COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2
Thomas Gardner (R):
1. I have been a resident of North County over 50 years. I want to strengthen and protect our neighborhoods, our property and our pocketbooks. As a small business owner, a board of director member, a successful private sector employee, retired State IT executive, military pilot, and past Chairman of the AACO Spending and Affordability committee I understand that there are needs that the government must meet. While fulfilling those needs the regulations cannot be so intrusive that we cannot sustain progress. I have lead projects that have created government efficiencies and improving the ease of service while saving the tax paying citizens of both time and money. I have always been active in the community, as an umpire for the local sport leagues, an area representative/architect review member on community associations or as a member on the AACO Community Center taskforce. As a candidate I have already had No Parking, Speed Limit signs replaced and addressed neighbors junk cars issues and street lights installation or replaced.
2. Protecting the tax cap and offering tax relief by eliminating the Rain Tax, I support a General Development Plan that won’t over burden our infrastructure, schools, first responders, and nature or human resources.
Candy Fountz (D): No response.

Allison Pickard (D):
1. The combination of strong leadership, practical professional experience, and higher education have served me well as I pursue common-sense, results driven solutions to community issues. I have forged strong relationships with other leaders in the county through my work with PTA, the Board of Education, and the School Board Appointment Commission. I bring a pragmatic and results-based approach to policy decisions. I remain committed to working hard and reaching out to all community members, business and labor leaders, elected officials, and community groups to make Anne Arundel County the best it can be.
2. Anne Arundel County cannot keep pushing off basic infrastructure needs. The lack of strong representation leaves District 2 vulnerable especially when considering our roads and schools. Knee jerk reactions to funding decisions and policy making over the last 3 years have left our County further behind. We must develop a budgeting approach that identifies and prioritizes where help is needed most, both socially and economically. We must craft a comprehensive multi-year approach to ensure our County fixes problems and measures results. I will be a strong advocate for neglected capital projects in the Greater Glen Burnie area as well as an emphasis on roads, schools, and public safety.

County Council District 3
Dani Smallwood-Friia (R): No response.

Nathan Volke (R):
1. Having grown up in this district, then chosen to settle in Pasadena and begin my family there, I have a love for the people and community in my hometown. I love being close to my extended family, lifelong friends and all the abundant access to waterways. I take personal satisfaction from being able to help people with issues that others may overlook or think are unimportant (like potholes, lights being out or sidewalks needing repair). My passion for serving the community, combined with my advocacy skills honed as a trial attorney, gives me the background and skills to fight for what is right in our community.
2. Limiting overdevelopment. In this term, Anne Arundel County will undertake the once-a-decade process of passing the General Development Plan and Comprehensive Re-Zoning. Together, these documents will set the stage for growth, development and allocation of county resources for the next 20 years. If elected, I intend to ensure that any new development benefits, not detracts from, current county residents. It is shortsighted and irresponsible to allow unchecked growth in our county. I will not support that.

Debbie Ritchie (D): No response.

COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4
Torrey Snow (R): No response.
Andrew Pruski (D) (Incumbent):
1. As a former teacher, school board member, and public servant, along with many other volunteer positions, I have many qualifications that provide experience for my re-election to the Anne Arundel County Council. Over the past 4 years, I have sponsored and successfully passed over 20 legislative bills to help schools, small business, and veterans.
2. My priorities continue to be supporting education, advocating for small business, increasing public safety, and protecting our environment. We accomplished numerous goals on my first term on the Anne Arundel County Council including funding for playgrounds, water
and sewer fee waivers for veteran organizations, increased education and public safety funding, and continued support for the stormwater restoration fund.

COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT 5

Amanda Fiedler (R): No response.
Michael Peroutka (R) (Incumbent): No response.

Dawn Gough Myers (D): No response.

COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT 6

Michael Christman (R): No response.

Lisa Brannigan Rodvien (D): No response.

COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT 7

Jonathan Boniface (R): No response.
James Kitchin (D): No response.

1. I have spent most of my career as a high school history and U.S. government teacher and currently work at UMBC as a public policy researcher. I have a BA in Business Administration, two MA’s in relevant fields, and am about a year away from completing a Ph.D. in Public Policy. My experience and training will make me a strong education advocate and will ensure that all decisions I make are grounded in data, based on the most recent scientific evidence, and are always in the best interest of the public.

2. First, we need to address the corrupting influence that money has on our democracy. I am in favor of a public financing system for all county offices similar to what they have adopted in Montgomery County. Second, we must change the way that we manage growth in the county. Currently, growth strains our budget from both ends: reducing our resources and subsidizing it with taxpayer money and at the same time it is increasing the demand for services. This practice needs to end. Third, we need to make sure that our teacher and public safety departments are staffed fully and that they receive competitive salaries when compared to surrounding jurisdictions.

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 1

Candace Antwine: No response.

Sidney Butcher (Incumbent): No response.

Ray Leone: No response.

Terry Gilleland (Incumbent): No response.

Vincent Goldsmith: No response.

Dana Schallheim:

1. Two degrees in business including an MBA. More than 10 years experience in project and account management on behalf of the Federal Government, private utility clients, states, and territories executing programs on their behalf. Thirty plus years volunteer and advocacy experience.

Highlights include:

- Frequent volunteering in my daugther’s public school. Named the ACLU of Mississippi’s Volunteer of the Year. Lead a campaign that raised $800,000 through the Kohler Foundation’s “Bucks for Breakfast”.

- As an at-home mom I have time to be an effective BOE member.

2. Supporting our teachers and staff by reinstating lost steps, paying living wages, and providing prep time equal to a third of a teacher’s workday.

- My priorities involve advocating for an adequate school budget, retaining and recruiting effective classroom teachers, reducing class sizes, and adopting proactive policies to address the safety and well-being of all students. Because they are my top goals, I could never vote to implement the Kirwan commission’s recommendations. I recognize the importance of working with stakeholders to increase parental and community involvement in public schools. I believe through partnerships, we would be able to develop more robust programs and access to services to support students’ personal, educational and career development.

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 5

Eiju Elliffle: No response.

Terry Gilleland (Incumbent): No response.

Michelle Corkadel: No response.

Laticia Hicks:

1. My qualifications include advanced degrees in Public Administration and Personal Education. I have over twenty-two years in public service with sixteen of those years specifically focused on the educational needs of developing and sustaining offices of agency employees and the incarcerated. I interpreted and applied policy, managed budget, and facilitated classroom instruction both within the Correctional Setting and in my local community as an English as a Second Language Instructor. Through out my career, I regularly communicated with educational personnel and families from varied backgrounds. I understand the needs and challenges of educators, students and families. I feel these insights are essential qualities of a well-rounded Board of Education member.

2. My priorities involve advocating for an adequate school budget, retaining and recruiting effective classroom teachers, reducing class sizes, and adopting proactive policies to address the safety and well-being of all students. Because they are my top goals, I could never vote to implement the Kirwan commission’s recommendations. I recognize the importance of working with stakeholders to increase parental and community involvement in public schools. I believe through partnerships, we would be able to develop more robust programs and access to services to support students’ personal, educational and career development.

Ray Leone: No response.

STATE’S ATTORNEY

Les Adams (R) (Incumbent):

1. I was a prosecutor in Anne Arundel County for 28 years. I supervised the child abuse and sexual offense units. I also successfully handled the most complex criminal cases. I was the chief prosecutor and handled prosecution of decades old rape cases solved with DNA. When I left the office in 2015, I was the Deputy State’s Attorney for my district, handling over 100 employees. Although I had many administrative duties I continued to prosecute criminal cases because I firmly believe that is the duty and mission of every prosecutor. I am very proud to say I made our community a safer place for almost 3 decades.

2. My priorities will include refocusing the State’s Attorney’s Office on prosecution as a way to make our community safer. I will eliminate political partisanship and patronage from the office. NO political appointments will be paid our taxpayer dollars.

Anne Colt Leitess (D):

1. I bring 27 years of experience in criminal law and public safety, first as a Coast Guard Judge Advocate and then as an executive with the Federal government where I was responsible for operations that were similar to the Court of Special Prosecutions. I earned many awards for service and innovation during my career and I have experience working with criminal courts, interviewing and investigating victims and first responders.

2. Among the priorities that I believe the Clerk’s Office should address is streamlining of the business licensing process. The Clerk’s Office issues approximately 110,000 permits and licenses per year. I will work with all the affected offices, including the Sheriff’s office, the state’s attorney’s office, and the office of the public defender to solve this issue.

REGISTER OF WILLS

Lauren Parker (R) (Incumbent):

1. As an attorney, I drafted Wills and Trusts for 25 years. I needed no on the job training as I had a 2 year Associate’s Degree in Legal Secretarial Science. While I used the knowledge I gained in law school, I have volunteered at Monarch Academy of courses. I also had the opportunity to interpret and apply policy, managed budget, and facilitated classroom instruction both within the Correctional Setting and in my local community as an English as a Second Language Instructor. Through out my career, I regularly communicated with educational personnel and families from varied backgrounds. I understand the needs and challenges of educators, students and families. I feel these insights are essential qualities of a well-rounded Board of Education member.

2. My priorities involve advocating for an adequate school budget, retaining and recruiting effective classroom teachers, reducing class sizes, and adopting proactive policies to address the safety and well-being of all students. Because they are my top goals, I could never vote to implement the Kirwan commission’s recommendations. I recognize the importance of working with stakeholders to increase parental and community involvement in public schools. I believe through partnerships, we would be able to develop more robust programs and access to services to support students’ personal, educational and career development.

with the public—all without increasing the budget. I currently manage a Special Victims Unit seeking justice for children and victims of domestic and sexual assault.

2. I will resume formal training to address the alarming number of dropped/lost cases in the District Court— a symptom of ill-prepared Assistant State’s Attorneys. I will also focus on increasing the number of east county agencies to expand support for programs for non-violent drug users to receive treatment rather than jail as we combat the Opioid crisis on all fronts. I would resume the Gang Task Force and expand our resource center to provide information to help vulnerable communities avoid violence.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

David Arnold (R):

1. I bring 27 years of experience in court management, operations and increasing efficiencies in service at the Clerk of the Circuit Court. As the only21-year veteran Chief Deputy, I am dedicated to continuing friendly and efficient service to the people of our county. Our mission is fair, equitable and responsive service.

2. I have the Professional in Human Resources certification from the HR Certification Institute and SHRM-CP from the Society for Human Resource Management. I have worked with multitasking, fast-paced environments, growing businesses and safer communities. I ask for your vote to lead this office in service to you.}

Bonnie Sheppe (R): No response.

Scott Poyer (D):

1. The Clerk of the Circuit Court serves as the chief administrator of the county’s circuit court system. I have over 30 years of experience in Federal law enforcement and public safety, first as a Coast Guard Officer arresting and prosecuting drug traffickers and then as an executive with the Federal government where I was responsible for operations that were similar to the Court of Special Prosecutions. I earned many awards for service and innovation during my career and I have experience working with criminal courts, interviewing and investigating victims and first responders.

2. Among the priorities that I believe the Clerk’s Office should address is streamlining of the business licensing process. The Clerk’s Office issues approximately 110,000 permits and licenses per year. I will work with all the affected offices, including the Sheriff’s office, the state’s attorney’s office, and the office of the public defender to solve this issue.

Voters Guide

from page 23
provide you with fast, live, personal serv-
vice in answering the phone and greeting you at the front desk—all from a dedicated staff. I also created outreach programs to inform clubs, churches and civic groups regarding estates.

2. Maintenance of the well-trained, knowledgeable, compassionate, computer savvy staff guaranteeing you efficiency and virtually no waiting time. I have almost completely transitioned to a paperless office to save the public supply and storage costs. I am working on legislation and Maryland Rule changes to create rules for electronic filing and preparing the project plan for e-filing of estate paperwork. My main priority is always continued excellence through caring public service.

Joseph Janosky (D):

1. Throughout my life, I have pursued issues that I found important to my community. As past school board member, Vo-Tec board member and twenty-five years volunteering for Autism Awareness, I found great enjoyment to move my community forward on these issues. I am a retired Senior Chemical Analyst and my wife is a lifelong educator. We are both involved with the Maryland Hall of Fine Arts and I am on the Board of Directors of The Captain Avery Museum.

2. After my wife and I were appointed as the Sheriff for the Howard County Sheriff’s Office, I have uncovered gross mismanagement, and will immediately begin to slow the increase of warrants, and I will implement modern, best-practices that will promote good government for the people of Howard County.

• There are more than 11,000 unserved warrants in AA County, and I will institute new programmatic practices to correct the findings and hold management accountable.

Security of the Circuit Court is not up to post 9/11 standards for security entry points or training for active shooters. I will modernize these practices to ensure citizen safety.

Damon Ostis (R): No response.

Beth Smith (R): No response.

James Williams (D): No response.

Howard County

County Executive

Allan Kittelman (R) (Incumbent):

1. I am a Howard County native, and attended Howard County Public Schools.

2. As a Howard County lawmaker, I have a graduate of 13th and University of Maryland School of Law. I served on the Howard County Council from 1998 through 2004 and served in the Maryland State Senate from 2004 through 2014. My record demonstrates that I am a proven, bipartisan and independent leader.

3. Education — I will fund the HCPS budget; build the 13th high school (and finalize the location for the 14th high school); narrow the achievement gap; and improve school safety. My commitment to education includes providing resources for Howard County Community College and for our world-class library system.

4. Public Safety — I will work to ensure that County and school buildings are safe, and secure places to learn and work. I will provide our public safety officers with the best tools and personnel available to keep our community safe.

5. Economic development — I will increase our commercial tax base to grow our net tax revenues to fund schools, public safety, infrastructure and other critical services. We will take full advantage of Howard County’s location, highly educated workforce, and incredible amenities to help current employers grow and attract new employers.

6. Proactive leadership is a must for the future of Howard County. We must always be the promotion of good government for the people of Howard County.

1. I have lived in Howard County for more than 30 years. My family and I live in Elkridge. I have a passion for Howard County and will continue to serve as a public servant in order to serve the community.

2. I am a Howard County native, and attended Howard County Public Schools.

3. Retired federal employee of 33 years in the Department of Veterans Affairs, 5) Developers must provide their developers and developers the rental and/or various management fees. Lastly, once the payments are completed, the developer freely owns the land and project all tax payer funded.

Howard County Council District 1

Raj Kalluria (R):

1. I have lived in Howard County for more than 30 years. My family and I live in Elkridge. I am a small business owner. I owned a small business in the area. I am currently a partner in Kalluria Flynn and Associates, a real estate company. I am the director of a community organization called the Howard County Economic Development Coalition.

2. I will focus on maintaining our high-quality schools without constant redistricting. Secure funding for High School 13 in Elkridge. Ensure sustainable development while guaranteeing adequate public facilities, and focus on common sense land use development. I believe that government should be helping businesses instead of being an obstruction all the way. I will be

John Francis McMahon

For Sheriff

I went to court to stop the cover-up. Now we need to vote to make the special interest. Now we need to take back the office for the citizens.

Vote June 26th John for Sheriff

Authority: Citizens for John F. McMahon, Patricia McMahon, Treasurer

See Voters Guide, page 26
working on streamlining regulations so that we are bringing and create more business opportunities in Howard County. Howard County population is rapidly aging. We need to work on better transportation for our aging adult population. The elderly and people with disabilities need to go to their doctors or running errands within the County. There needs to be a concerted county transportation partnership to enhance convenience and time savings for all residents.

Liz Walsh (D):
1. I am not a politician. I am a civil engineer by education. I insist upon verifiable, relevant input, data and complete analysis. I am a professional project contractor by experience and this value pragmatism, efficiency and concrete deliverables. And I am a construction lawyer by trade. I fiercely advocate for what cannot be compromised. I find and negotiate collaborative solutions to the most complex multi-party disputes. In its next term Howard County Council will oversee a comprehensive re-writing of its land-use and plans. We need real-world experience, know-how and independent thought like mine at the table when that happens.

2. Comprehensive re-writing of the County’s land-use laws will likely be the most significant issue undertaken by the County Council in its next term. These changes will be bright-line consistent rules, that make sense and that comport with comprehensive, thoughtful land-use planning and policy that we need for those that laws are enforced, consistently, across the board. As a Council member, I will also steadfastly support top-notch education for our children. It matters. Keeping class sizes manageable and building new schools and classrooms to replace the 224 portables that clutter our schools’ yards now. Schools are the economic driver of this County.

Jon Weinstein (D) (Incumbent):
1. My professional career includes experience as a Management Consultant and business owner. I have over 25 years of experience working with, consulting, coaching and providing comprehensive solutions that drive efficiency and effectiveness in a diverse range of organizations, mostly in the Government sector, improving their performance. I have written two books and a host of articles and book chapters on leadership and strategy for several major organizations. I was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve and served in the 220th Military Police Brigade HHIC. Other unique qualifications:
   - Founding member of the Ellicott City Partnership
   - Volunteer for local organization: Howard County Youth Program, Elkhound Youth Organization, Temple Isaiah, Hope Works, Worthington ES, Ellicott Mills MS, and Mt Helicon
   - Non-profit leadership experience
   - Only Council candidate with Council experience

2. Priorities in my next term continued efforts.
   - Working with stakeholders, bill drafters, and the County Attorney to have spoken adequately for and/or against any of these issues, I would be more inclined to support the will of the majority.

3. As the mother of an 8 year old boy who goes to Fulton ES, I see and understand the importance of the issues that are facing in our school system right now. I am a former elected legislator from Prince George’s County, MD, where I was elected to represent the 35th district and attended multiple advanced government training courses. I managed complex legal legislation and was a strong steward of our County’s budgets to benefit our community’s needs. Since moving to Howard County for the schools I have become familiar with the boards of several nonprofit organizations that do business right here in Howard County.

4. I have been involved with and served on the Boards of several local nonprofits. I have the experience of seeing and knowing our local government has been broken down. Planning Policy in Howard County has become reactionary. Rather than make policy in the general public interest, the County is prone to reacting to various interests and the crises that arise from these policies. I have done the work to prepare for this. I have the legislative process before and I would like the opportunity to use this experience for us in Howard County.
other vulnerable populations. As a County taxpayer for 30 years, I understand the importance of growing the economy, sound fiscal management and protecting the County’s Triple A bond rating. I will strive to achieve these goals.

Ian Moller-Knaudsen (D):
1. I have dedicated my life to being a Public Servant. I have assisted in disaster relief during Superstorm Sandy, upgraded electrical wiring for elderly homeowners, served as a missionary for two years, I am on several Howard county boards and I am the VP of my HOA.
2. My focus is on infrastructure. Building a better mass transit system with greater accessibility for the community. Create more affordable housing opportunities to facilitate diversity and off-set rising costs and strengthening our schools. Children are 20% of our population, but 100% of our future.

Janet Siddiqui (D):
1. During my 10 years experience on the Howard County Board of Education, I conducted budget review, legislative/policy development, evaluation of educational needs, and several other governmental activities similar to the County Council’s. With my experience and leadership, I will hit the ground running when elected. As a physician at Johns Hopkins for over 23 years, serving the needs of the families of Baltimore and the military families of Fort Meade, I can address the challenges faced every day by the entire community, including issues in housing, healthcare and mental health.
2. Infrastructure: Support the needs of the community with improved infrastructure, including issues in housing, healthcare and accessibility for the community. Create more affordable housing opportunities to facilitate diversity and off-set rising costs and strengthening our schools. Children are 20% of our population, but 100% of our future.

COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT 5
Jim Walsh (R):
1. I am a lawyer in private practice in Howard County since 1995. I am also a certified public accountant. I have been involved in County civic and government affairs. I served 10 years on the Board of Appeals, where I learned a lot about land use and zoning. Although I was the only Republican on the board, I was elected as chair four times by my fellow Board members. I served on the Charter Review Commission in 2011, and there learned the mechanics of County government.
2. Budget and Taxation: We need to watch every penny so that we can continue to provide quality services. Howard County has the highest average property tax of any jurisdiction in Maryland, and the highest local income tax allowed by law. We need to reduce our tax burden.

Election results of 2019 Spending Review Commission in 2011, and I am the only Republican on the board, I was elected as chair four times by my fellow Board members. I served on the Charter Review Commission in 2011, and there learned the mechanics of County government.
2. Budget and Taxation: We need to watch every penny so that we can continue to provide quality services. Howard County has the highest average property tax of any jurisdiction in Maryland, and the highest local income tax allowed by law. We need to reduce our tax burden.

Overdevelopment: The complaint I hear most often from voters is that we should have our infrastructure in place before allowing more development, rather than the catch-up pattern we are in now.

David Yungmann (R):
1. Extensive professional background in finance, budgeting, M&A, real estate and legislative affairs. Experience in small and large companies, senior level management and start-ups. Community leadership and achievements at a high level in zoning development, schools, real estate and matters affecting businesses. Director and volunteer for a broad range of community organizations serving Howard County in business advocacy, education, the arts, real estate, financial literacy and public safety, including playing a key role in legislative affairs.
2. Rewrite zoning and development regulations: Reduce ambiguity and qualitative parts of approval processes, improve predictability for all property owners, strengthen the role of the General Plan, streamline development processes, reduce number of conditional uses and zoning districts.

Refocus sources of economic growth. Focus development on what is required to create mixed use districts needed to attract businesses. Through that business growth, turn Howard County into an innovation and creative employment center. Continue Downtown Columbia redevelopment, follow through on Gateway redevelopment, refocus Rt. 1 and Rt. 40 master plans and begin redevelopment of aging residential neighborhoods.

Address tightening budget: Oppose policies that attract highly service dependent residents. Find ways to hold spending flat (or reduce) in every department. Use savings to fund currently unfunded liabilities.

China Williams (D):
1. I am a writer, mom, and former PTA president. I ran my PTA like a small business: increasing revenue, decreasing costs, marketing and branding our identity, and modernizing internal recordkeeping and financial systems. During my PTA tenure, I also provided constituent services to my community, helping them navigate the school bureaucracy and lobbying for more school and community resources. As a guidebook writer, I researched complicated and polarized subjects and dissected these issues for a lay audience. I am able to understand both sides of an issue, articulate the oppositions’ concerns in a neutral way, and find areas of consensus.
2. School Funding: Funding for small class sizes should be a budget priority. This is the number one tool for achieving academic success across the board.

County Revenue: With an aging population and federal tax law changes, the county is expected to encounter revenue challenges. The county should adopt the recommendations of the 2019 Spending Affordability Report in regards to transfer tax and recovery of public service over-time.

Responsible Development: Preserve Howard County’s open spaces and high quality of life by syncing infrastructure improvements with new housing developments.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Vicky Cutroneo:
1. I am a former pediatric nurse and pharmaceutical clinical research monitor. Education advocacy has provided me with an understanding of current fiscal chal- See Voters Guide, page 28.
A systematic dismantling of trust between stakeholders from across the county to Board of Education and worked with elected officials at state and local levels on education related legislation.

2. Budget: Develop a 5 to 5-year Strategic Plan that lays out HCPS’s direction and goals, with clearly defined performance measures, and alternative funding mechanisms to generate funding for capital projects. Using a public-private partnership, leverage private investment with County funds for building design construction, operation and maintenance.

Equity: High average scores and graduation rates mask variations across students and groups that are falling behind. Interventions include elimination of early tracking, decreasing class size in K-3, more creative recruitment and retention of minorities and transparency of suspension data by school.

School Climate: We need more social workers, psychologists, and counselors in Title I schools and schools with high suspension rates. I will continue to advocate towards our school system becoming a restorative one.

Robert Glacek
1. I have 32 years experience as a Howard County educator including ten years as a social studies teacher, Coordinator of G/T Programs, Director of Elementary Curricular Planning, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology and six years as an Executive Director at the Maryland State Department of Education. My leadership style is guided by the following principles: Children come first, always. Invest in people. When challenges arise, engage and listen, but never surrender, but plan for the future. Communicate the “why”: people may not always agree with the decision, but they are more likely to accept it if they understand the reasoning behind it.

2. The most important priorities are restoring the public confidence in the school system, developing responsible budgets, that support student learning, promoting safe and healthy environments for students and staff, and focusing on equity in education based upon fairness, inclusion, and access. To move forward, we must engage the community around three questions: What do we want for our children? How will we provide it? How will we know we did it well?

Timothy Hamilton: No response.

Christopher Hiliger: No response.

Danné Mackey:
1. I spent 13 years as a student in Howard County Public Schools, graduating from Wilde Lake High School in 2012, and am the only candidate with recent experience as an HCPS student. This uniquely qualifies me to speak to student-centered decisions. I am involved in education advocacy motivated by my desire to see opportunities for success for all students offered to all students. A member of the Howard County Board of Education and worked with stakeholders from across the county to facilitate change. I was vocal in opposing a systematic dismantling of trust between the HCPS and the community. These experiences give me institutional knowledge and prepare me to be an effective member of the Board of Education acting immediately to tackle the problems facing our schools.

2. Our campaign’s top three priorities are: (1) Shaping policy to foster a safe and healthy school environment that promotes mental health for students and staff, including our special education community. (2) Promoting equity system-wide to ensure the accessibility, retention, and success of all students; and (3) system and offering increased vocational programming. Establishing and repairing relationships between the BOE and the community by addressing and addressing financial crises responsibly, craft policy that promotes accountability, and prevent repetition of past mistakes.

Robert Mallo:
1. I have been working in education for nearly 30 years and have, more recently, served for four years in the leadership of the Community Advisory Council to the Board of Education. This allowed me to see a bigger picture view, to analyze, and to participate at a system-wide level. I’ve participated on multiple policy review committees and one system-wide initiative, Locally, at Swansfield Elemen-
tary, Harper’s Choice Middle, and Wilde Lake High Schools, I have served as a PTSA President, Curriculum Committee, Finance Fair & Reading Room Coordinators, and classroom volunteer.

2. Budget: We must develop a multiyear strategic plan to address the $50 million dollar deficit we are facing. We cannot continue to treat each individual year as its own separate budget crisis.

Class Size: We simply cannot continue to increase class sizes. In the last four years, central office administrative, management, and technical staff has increased in headcount by 30%. We need to ensure our resources are focused on instructional delivery.

Equity: We must look at our policies and programs to find inequity. Every child deserves an education that meets them at their level and their need, enabling them to reach their full potential.

Robert Wayne Miller:
1. I retired in 2015 after 34 years of teaching in the Howard County Public School System. Currently, I am the school director at Hammond Middle School. Hammond Elementary School, and How-

2. Implementing performance metrics to address operating budget deficiencies that affect staffing, equity and academic programming. Addressing school over-crowding, and implementing policies for redirecting, capital planning and budgets. Improving programs and supports for Special Education and trauma-impacted students. Ensuring that current facilities, custodial and plant needs are prioritized to maintain the highest standards of care and support for our students and staff.

Tania Mustapha: I support diversity, equity, and inclusion as a term used to advance special interests and that the needs of ALL children and families are impartially considered.

Sabin Taj:
1. As a long-time advisor to a foundation and an advocate for groundbreaking initiatives in K-12 education, I have a history of iden-
tifying successful programs nationwide. As a high school professor at Howard County Com-
munity College, I’ve been cultivating the next generation of educators by teaching arts integration to schoolteachers. As a member of the BOE’s Operating Budget Review Committee, I’ve been gaining a deeper understanding of the school system’s operations. As a volunteer parent, I’ve been serving on the PTAs in my children’s schools and of importance of in-
viting all stakeholders into the process. I’m a former program officer of the Columbus Foundation. Currently, a member of the Board of Howard County and current board member of Little Patuxent Review.

2. Healthy schools, healthy students – I would advocate for policies that promote physical activity, nutritious meals, and well-maintained buildings where all stu-
dents and educators feel safe and responsible use of technology.

3. As a former undersecretary to – I would promote informed decision-making reflect broad community input; active participation of students; and engagement family and have served as Vice a wide audience.

4. Educational equity – I would seek to ensure that all students have the services
2. The opioid epidemic will be a focus of the Housing Authority, and was an appointed member of the County's Opioid Task Force. I have 20 years of experience prosecuting virtually every kind of case, with a particular focus on drug traffickers. Our successes as the elected Clerk of the Circuit Court have been recognized by the State's Attorney's office, drug enforcement agencies, and Howard County police departments. I've worked with state, federal, and local law enforcement to ensure that the public is protected from the harms caused by drug traffickers.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Marlana Jareaux (R):
1. Though there are many people who have been elected to the Circuit Court, I believe the office has been under-staffed. I have over 30 years experience in the legal field, including 15 years as a family law mediator, 5 years as a paralegal, and 10 years as a court reporter. I have also served as a registered neutral on the Board of Appeals for the State of Maryland. My background gives me the experience to address the needs of individuals seeking to stay out of court and to effectively prosecute and address the increase in property crimes, domestic violence, and human trafficking once elected. I intend to take a proactive three-pronged community approach to the opioid epidemic, focusing on education, prevention, and treatment. Regarding the opioid epidemic, that means focusing on community outreach and educational programming organized by the Clerk's office, and working with the County's office of health and social services to ensure that those suffering from addiction and aggression are provided with the resources and support they need.

John VanDenburgh (R):
1. I grew up in Howard County, graduated from Glenelg High School, and received degrees from the University of Maryland, College Park, and University of Baltimore School of Law. I've had the privilege to serve as Register of Wills for Howard County since 2010. During my tenure I've been recognized as a trusted and effective manager, an innovative reformer, and a visible and accessible presence in the community. In my position I've been able to provide professional, efficient, and customer service oriented leadership to those who partner with the Register of Wills. I've built an office where each person who calls us or walks through our door speaks with an experienced staff that is knowledgeable and available when and if they need help. I work with my staff to keep the office running smoothly and efficiently.

Wayne Robey (D) (Incumbent):
1. I have been with the Clerk's Office for 32 years, the last 3 years have been as the elected Clerk. I have worked in all aspects of the office and understand the work of all departments. I am the past President of the Maryland State's Attorney's Association and past Chair of the County's Alliance of Prosecutors. I have worked with the State's Attorney's Office at the forefront of the prosecution of these cases. We sit on every local and statewide task force, we educate our judges about the nature of the crime, its causes, and its lasting effects on victims, we train other prosecutors from other agencies. Our successes in the courtroom with this type of crime is unmatched. My hope is that my continued fight against any form of human trafficking will take Howard County off the map of any offender looking for a place to stop and victimize.

Rich Gibson (D):
1. I bring a fresh perspective based upon prosecuting for 14 years in multiple jurisdictions throughout the state. I have actual experience at the state level with the types of cases that are a proliferation of crimes.

Shawn Conley (R):
1. With an advanced degree in the Sciences, an and active duty Firefighter I bring a perspective to the needs of the community. I have spent most of my professional career working under strict Federal, State, and Ethical Guidelines. Among other things, I have taken on the responsibility of starting and maintaining the complex patient sample testing facility. I understand the paperwork alone for such an undertaking requires a certain amount of time, but I'm someone who enjoys the nuances involved with running a team, and I have the ability to adapt to the Democratic Central Committee.

2. The opioid epidemic will be a focus of my administration. Additionally, I will emphasize the development of strategies to effectively prosecute and address the increase in property crimes, domestic violence, and human trafficking once elected. I intend to take a proactive three-pronged community approach to the opioid epidemic, focusing on education, prevention, and treatment. Regarding the opioid epidemic, that means focusing on community outreach and educational programming organized by the Clerk's office, and working with the County's office of health and social services to ensure that those suffering from addiction and aggression are provided with the resources and support they need.

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implemented programs that lead to his- toric reductions in crime & traffic related fatalities. We improved our outreach to our most vulnerable citizens, including seniors, and reduced domestic violence, those with mental health issues & those new to the country. We enhanced our youth related programs. I lead the response to the Baltimore City Mall shooting in 2014, for which we received national and international praise.

1. I was appointed to the Office of Sheriff in 2016, after the prior Sheriff retired in the wake of a Human Rights Commission investigation into his behavior. Since then, I have been working to restore the commu- nity’s trust in the Office and ensuring that our staff has the leadership, policy, training and equipment expected of a professional law enforcement agency. We are updating our policies, enhancing our training and improving our technology. We are work- ing with the community to educate them about the role of the Office and to resolve issues with the Sheriff. As a professional, executive level perspective to the position, critical as we plan our move to the new Courthouse.

2. The most important priority is to protect the civil and constitutional rights of the people of Howard County. Howard County has been limited in the sheriff’s office. The duty to the people remains. I will listen and investigate all complaints from simple. Transparency and citizen review are my priorities. Thank you to the 42000 people who voted for me in the last election.

**MARYLAND STATE SENATE DISTRICT 9**

Gail Bates (R) (Incumbent):

1. I have served 4 years in the Senate of Maryland, 13 years in the House of Dele- gates and 8 years in County government. I am a certified Public Accountant and a former middle school teacher.

2. Maryland taxes are now and have been too high, putting a burden on our hard working families, businesses, and senior citizens. The tax burden and will continue to do so.

As a former teacher, I believe we need to do more to improve academic outcomes for our students across the state and ensure the future of the state’s job market. We need to continue our investment in improving our state roads.

Reid Novotny (R): No response.

**MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES DISTRICT 9A**

Bryan Simonaire (R) (Incumbent):

1. More than 30 years of successful busi- ness and investment experience, as well as 12 years experience in the Maryland Senate focusing on financial, technology, and workforce issues.

2. My top priority is boosting state sup- port for businesses with skill shortages by expanding career and technical education and apprenticeship training.

**MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES DISTRICT 9B**

Bob Flanagan (R) (Incumbent):

1. I am a small business owner, a US Navy veteran, and served as Maryland House Speaker for 10 years. It is my good fortune to be lucky to call Ellicott City home for over 25 years. One of my most important and unique qualifications is my record of suc- cessful collaboration with my colleagues, Executive Kittleman and Councilman Weinstein. The tragic Ellicott City Flood demanded that we work together, across party lines, to facilitate healing, repairing, rebuilding, restoring and promoting His- toric Ellicott City. I am proud of the role I

News, Served on: HC Republican Central Committee; Oakland Mills Village Board; University of Maryland Law School Board of Visitors; the Columbia Foundation; Howard County Business Partnership Action. Establishing a historic Ellicott City. I am proud of the role I
played in its heroic resurgence. I have also consistently maintained a pro-business rating in Annapolis and have fought hard for our local small businesses. I was the lead sponsor on legislation exempting businesses in the historic district from the onerous business personal property tax.

2. Following this election, we must continue to work together, regardless of party, to grow our economy and maintain Maryland’s amenity and enterprise. I know there is no easy way to avoid the gridlock of DC. My priorities include: Providing our children with the best possible education, fostering a healthy and community-minded workforce, increasing economic opportunity, ensuring that job-creators, graduates, and retirees stay in Maryland, enacting non-partisan redistricting reform, increasing transparency and public trust and improving road safety and mobility.

Daniel Medinger (D): I am seeking the opportunity for more public service after years of achievement as a community activist and leader. After completing Leadership Howard County, I serve on community boards including the Howard County Executive’s Commission on the Operating Budget Review Committee for Howard County Public Schools, Rebuilding Together Howard County, the Community Coordinating Council, and others. I also like to do more public service representing Ellicott City in the House of Delegates.

2. We need to improve education throughout the state of Maryland by fully funding the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education. We need to support entrepreneurs and small businesses, which employ more than 52% of our workers. It is critical for our economic opportunity. We need a transportation system that gets people moving to work, school and recreation. We need to respond to dysfunction in Washington and develop a health care plan that serves everyone. We need to protect our seniors with an “aging policy” that won’t tax them out of their homes and deprive them of their golden years. We need to combat climate change and protect our natural resources. I am running for the Maryland House of Delegates to be a strong voice for our community.

Courtney Watson (D): I am in my role as an executive with a $1.2 billion international insurance broker, I work with more than 250 businesses across the state of Maryland. I’ve had the opportunity to risk management challenges to protect against unexpected losses. In addition to my career in the private sector, I have served as a local government as a County Councilmember and in our public education system as a member of the School Board and Community College Board of Trustees. Additionally, I serve on non-profit boards and have initiated projects that facilitate the investment of private dollars into our community. I have worked on programs such as Operation Flood Cleanup which acquired and dispersed over $100,000 in free cleanup supplies to businesses and homemakers from around the City of Baltimore. My experience will allow me to hit the ground running as a state delegate and to help educate my peers in the General Assembly about challenges that local communities face.

2. My priorities are working in partnership with the business community, keeping our public education system strong, ensuring our communities have access to high quality health care, making progress on the environment, and maintaining common sense gun regulations.

Maryland House of Delegates District 12
Bob Cockey (R): No response.
Melanie Harris (R): I am qualified due to my career and volunteer work, as well as my personal motivation, and commitment to my community. My most recent experience was as a substitute teacher in the Howard County School System. After, I assisted in drafting policy, helping constituents, and volunteered in community activities. I want to bring that experience to my district, and serve as a responsive resource for voters in District 12. I not only see firsthand critical needs that we must address for the next generation, but also understand the need for high quality education experiences. Our community experiences we can use to create positive change.

2. This office serves as a sounding board for community concern and a catalyst for system change. I represent myself, and our community and keep our reeling boomer generation generation in Maryland. We must fix in equity in public schools, legislate better to address the recurrent plague of overprescribing painkillers, and make Maryland more affordable for people to live, work, and retire. In addition to economic growth, transportation – expecting bus/matching; emphasizing small business development; improving education; full employment and living wage opportunities, enhancing quality of life; pre-K – 12 education;

Dario Broccolino (D): 1. 12 years as elected State’s Attorney proven leadership; ability to work with both parties; former teacher and hospital lab tech; won’t accept any contributor, I will work for all – not just special interest groups and big donors; will be a full time legislator available year round; appointed by Democratic and Republican Governors to Medical Marijuana Commission; Handgun Roster Board; State Board of Victim Services; Chair of Legislative Commission on Prescriptions; formerly Chief of the State Prosecutor Selection & Disability Commission; President of Ellicott City Volunteer Fire Company; lifelong Marylander.

2. We must provide a quality education for all in SAFE, MODERN facilities. However, we must hold local jurisdiction responsible for the proper use of State funds by doing full audits. Community College for those who can meet certain qualification. Trade skills offerings at Community Colleges. Business welcoming climate – taxes should be maintained at the lowest possible level; regulations should not be so burdensome that small businesses go out of business. Gerrermanding - form a non-partisan commission to set district boundaries. Transportation – expecting bus/subway/matching; emphasizing small business development; improving education; full employment and livable wage opportunities, enhancing quality of life; pre-K – 12 education; full employment and livable-wage jobs through workforce training programs, increasing living wage opportunities, small business sustainability and growth. Healthcare – short term: continue mitigating premium, pharmaceutical and cost-share escalations. Long-term: move towards single-payer solution, including drug price negotiations, catastrophic care, and risk identification, education, inter- vention and management.

James Howard (D): I have experience working in the private sector, the nonprofit sector, the media, and the nonprofit sector. In addition, I have held appointed positions for more than 15 years in Howard County. Beyond this, my edu- cation has focused on public policy with a master’s degree from the University of Baltimore and a doctorate from UMBC in both public policy.

2. I am concerned about long-term issues like climate change and government is ignoring right now. This includes climate change, where the effects on Maryland will be catastrophic. Since we cannot require others to act, we must take action to mitigate and protect ourselves against the inevitable sea-level rise. In addition, I am concerned about the spiraling cost of health care and that is something that a young adult could face in their lifetime. We must take a very long-term view of issues like gun control. While passing laws that are hit-or-miss with the courts sounds good, this isn’t the answer to the Second Amendment. If we want to maintain a healthy society, it is critical that we control gun violence.

Jessica Feldmark (D): I have worked 22 years in a variety of nonprofit and government roles with a single common focus of strengthening our communities. It is time to take my knowledge, experience, and commitment to getting things done to Annapolis. Having served as Chief of Staff to County Executive and in the Assembly, I can effectively address the recurrent plague of overprescribing painkillers, and make Maryland more affordable for people to live, work, and retire. In addition to economic growth, transportation – expecting bus/matching; emphasizing small business development; transportation – expecting bus/matching; emphasizing small business development; improving education; full employment and livable wage opportunities, enhancing quality of life; pre-K – 12 education; full employment and livable-wage jobs through workforce training programs, increasing living wage opportunities, small business sustainability and growth. Healthcare – short term: continue mitigating premium, pharmaceutical and cost-share escalations. Long-term: move towards single-payer solution, including drug price negotiations, catastrophic care, and risk identification, education, intervention and management.

Maryland House of Delegates District 13
Chris Yates (R): No response.
Vanessa Atterbeary (D) (Incumbent): I have served in the General Assembly since January 2015. I believe I’ve had a very positive way of moving in Howard County. I’ve sponsored and successfully passed major pieces of legislation that will positively affect the lives of all Marylanders. These bills include HB 1646, ensuring domestic abusers have turned in their firearms and HB 819 creating a transparent process for handgun transfers. Along with my continued work for community service, my qualifications include: a great Howard County Public School System education, a degree in Government from The College at UWBM and a J.D. from The Villanova Uni- versity School of Law; and several years of experience as a practicing attorney. I am also a graduate of Leadership Maryland Class of 2012.

2. If I am re-elected, my top priorities for 2019 would include: 1) Education, specifically ensuring the funding and implementa- tion of universal pre-K; 2) Domestic Violence & Gun Violence, continuing to fight for stricter gun laws to protect our communities. 3) Economic Security, introducing legislation to strengthen Maryland’s domestic violence laws; and 3) Economic Security, ensuring that all Marylanders earn a living wage.

Shane Pendergrass (D) (Incumbent): I represented District 13 in the House of Delegates since 1994, serving first on the Economic Matters Committee and then moving to the newly created Health and Government Operations Committee. Over the years, I have developed an interest and expertise in health care policy and have served as chair of HGO. I work hard to develop bipartisan consensus on difficult issues to make sure the best version of a bill...
advances – or, conversely, to stop a poorly conceived bill.

I have sponsored or helped shepherd through numerous bills designed to help ensure more affordable, meaningful health care for Marylanders. Examples include measures to help stabilize health-insurance premiums, programs to help people navigate the healthcare system, and policies to provide affordable prescription drug coverage for seniors; combat the opioid crisis; allow for electronic health records; and report publicly regarding health care associated infection rates; and allow pharmacists to dispense birth control without a doctor’s prescription.

2. Because of my position as HGO chair, I will continue to focus largely on issues that come to my committee. In addition, in my leadership role in the House of Delegates, I will be part of any discussions on high missed work, reduced profitability, and getting others sick. Focus trans-

Portion spending on improving local and regional bus systems, serving those who have no other options and include commuter options to jobs centers. Expand campaign finance reform to state level, modeled on local legislation I cosponsored establishing contribution limits in exchange for matching funds, elevating the voices of ordinary citizens. Implement Kirwan Commission education recom- mendations - expand early childhood learning, afterschool/summer programs, and opportunities for technical training toward certified credentials.

Maryland House of Delegates District 21

Chike Anyanwu (R): No response.

Richard Douglas (R): No response.

1. 36 years in Maryland and a genuine understanding of challenges to Maryland residents and communities. Active con-

tributor to major public policy debates.

2. Support local efforts to increase minority business enterprise participation requirements.

3. On-state funded procurements, establish and enforce fair contracting policies for U.S. citizen and foreign permanent resident workers.

John Barresi (D) (Incumbent): No response.

Matt Dernoga (D): No response.

Mary Lehman (D): No response.

James McDowell Jr. (D): No response.

1. I am a long-time advocate, educator, and administrator of 18 years and champion for education reform. Also 10 years as a small business owner turning around failing schools and a turnaround specialist.

2. Support 21st century (technology/green/safe) schools, quality infrastructure & low-income housing, mental health, enforcing zoning, equal pay & purchasing policies.

Joselina Pena-Melnyk (D) (Incumbent): No response.

Brenn Smith (D): No response.

Ray Ranker (Unaffiliated, General Election only):

1. Raised by a single mother after my fa-

ther died in a car accident, I am where I am today because of the support of a loving family and community. I spent my whole childhood in Maryland public schools. After graduating from The University of Maryland, I served abroad for the better part of three years with different service agencies. These experiences strengthened my commitment to public service person-

ally and professionally. As a pastor, I can

walk with people throughout their lives, especially in the difficult times.

Listen to people and support them, no matter their background or political persuasion.

2. Our political system is broken. Big

benefactors and donors have outsized influence on our politicians and our policy. Too often we wonder if politicians are primarily serving the interests of their big donors, or the in-

terests of the common good. I am the only candidate who is not taking corporate or interest of their big donors, or the in-

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...
Jim Rouse wanted Columbia to be a complete city. He also said that this complete city would continue to change.

“You will not, I'm sure, have a sense of sharing with us in the gradual unfolding of this city — and so no sense that you've arrived at Wildwood Lake,” Rouse said in June 1967, at the dedication of Wildwood Lake. “It will be long time being completed, maybe never. We hope never.”

In aspiring for Columbia to be a complete city, Rouse wanted Columbia to be just another suburban community with the typical landscape of residences and sprawl. He and his team planned meticulously, because they knew that this one community must also have businesses and industries, as well as educational and cultural institutions.

“ Provision has been made for schools and churches, for a library, college, hospital, concert halls, theaters, restaurants, hotels, offices and department stores,” Rouse said during Columbia’s development.

For all of their meticulous planning, there also was recognition from Rouse and his team that Columbia would grow and evolve over time. And because of the times. A recession in the 1970s scuttled plans for a vibrant urban core in Downtown Columbia, and the 1980s recession forced a long-term rethink of plans.

In 1994, the 20-year plan was rethought and the 2030 Plan was developed. This plan, which serves as the foundation for the 2010 Downtown Plan, which also includes the 2020 Plan, is focused on the development of a vibrant urban core.

For more information about the event, visit www.cyberhoward.com.
Three Promotions Announced at Crosby

Linsey Goebel has been promoted to vice president, director of Community Foundation of Howard County; Jolene McFillin, executive director of Fretz; and Lindsey Goebel has been promoted to teddyboard

Columbia-based TECDOO has appointed Mayra Norton and Robert Lord to its board of directors. Norton is president and chief operating officer of Arena, a Baltimore-based firm that delivers big data in the health care industry; and Lord is the co-founder and president of Proten, a Baltimore-based analytics platform that detects inappropriate activity in health care institutions.

Shetrone, Jr.: CEO Cited by MTC

John Shetrone, Jr., president and CEO of Glen Burnie-based Vision Technolo
gies, was named CEO of the Year by the Maryland Tech Council (MTC) at its 30th Industry Awards Celebration. Shetrone guided the company to more than $117 million in revenue during 2017.

Glassberg Honored by NAIOB

Glenn Glassberg, senior vice president with NAIOB KLNB, recently re
eceived NAIOB Maryland’s 2018 Best Transaction Award of Excellence for her role in making it possible for more than a dozen human services providers to co-locate under one roof at the Montgomery County Nonprofit Center. Previous efforts failed for two de
cades, due to lack of funding, challenges of collocation and locating suitable office space.

Jakovics Named Principal of Monarch Academy Glen Burnie

The Children’s Guild and Anne Arundel County Public Schools have announced the appointment of Kimberly Jakovics as the principal of Monarch Academy Public Charter School, in Glen Burnie. Prior to joining Monarch Academy, Jakovics was assistant principal of Corkran Middle School, also in Glen Burnie, where she served as school perfor
cemance coach.

kelchan Receives Housing Legacy Award

Kevin Kelchan, a partner with Carney, Kelchan, Bresler, Bennett & Scherr, in Columbia, received the Housing Legacy Award from Heritage Housing Partners Corp. He received one of the two inaugural Heritage Housing Partners Legacy Awards with his friend, the late Thomas Car
dbo, who was most recently director of the Howard County Department of Housing.

McLaughlin Cited by Cablefax

Cablefax has announced that Mary McLaughlin has been named MSO Regional Executive of the Year by Cablefax as part of the magazine’s 2018 MSOs of the Year Awards. She serves as senior vice presi
dent of Comcast’s Beltway Region, which includes Maryland, Virginia, Washington, D.C., and parts of three other states.

Howard Fire Chief Appointed to State EMS Board

John Butler, chief of the Howard Coun
dy Department of Fire and Rescue Services (HCFRS) has been appointed by Gov. Larry Hogan to the Maryland Emergency Medical Services (EMS) board of directors. His four-year term begins July 1.

McChriston Appointed to MCW

Brenda McChriston has been appointed as a commissioner to the Maryland Com
mission for Women (MCW). She is CEO of Spectrum HR Solutions, of Baltimore, a human resources advisory practice.

Mardock Joins JHU Career Center

Karen Mardock has been named assistant director, employer and market develop
tment, at The JHU Career Center. Previously, she worked for six years at Loyola University Maryland, coordinating operations for graduate programs.

Monarch Global Academy’s Carughan: Teacher of the Year

Heather Carughan, an eighth-grade social studies teacher at Laurel’s Monarch Global Academy Public Con
tract School, was named the 2017-18 Anne Arundel County Public Schools Teacher of the Year. Carughan is the first charter or contract school teacher to win the award and will compete for Maryland State Teacher of the Year.

HCGB’s Edsall Kromm Receives Trustees’ Award

Elizabeth Kromm, vice president of population health and advancement for Howard County General Hos
pital (HCGBH), will receive the 2018 Trustees’ Award for Outstanding Ser
dvice to Howard Community College (HCC). Kromm chaired a health care task force as part of HCC’s Commission on the Future.

The Arc Baltimore Salutes Culler

The Arc Baltimore has presented its 2018 Volunteer Service Award to Elliott City resident Jill Culler. Culler has been the Court Appointed Special Advocate for one of The Arc Baltimore’s foster youth, identified as “Tony,” for more than a year, supervises weekly visits with his mother, and has arranged for him to visit other family members.

Monarch Global Academy’s Carughan: Teacher of the Year


Thursday, June 13

Howard County Estate Planning Council Social Networking.” 5–7 p.m.


Thursday, June 14

Howard County General Hospital, www.hcgh.org/heroes.

Thursday, June 21

Central Maryland Chamber Networking.” 5–7 p.m.


Thursday, June 28


Friday, June 22


Saturday, June 23

“African American Community Roundtable: Community Health Fair.” 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Long Reach High School, achowh@howard.k12.md.us.

“Maine Girls.” 3–7 p.m. Montebello Hall, Howard Community College, Colum
bia Festival of the Arts, www.columbiafes
tival.org.


Sunday, June 24

“Summer Concert With Ken and Brad Kolo

Thursday, June 7


Friday, June 8

“WGC Pre-Event Reception: Before the Screening of The End of Vision Technolo
gies,” was named CEO of the Year by the Maryland Tech Council (MTC) at its 30th Industry Awards Celebration. Shetrone guided the company to more than $117 million in revenue during 2017.


Monday, June 11

“7th Annual Power of the Purse.” 4:30–7:30 p.m. Sub-Zero and Wolf Show

Tuesday, June 12

“Howard County Estate Planning Council Social Networking.” 5–7 p.m.


Wednesday, June 13

“NAACC: Business Women’s Lun
ccheon.” 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. Timbuktu


Thursday, June 14

FMA Annual Meeting Cocktail Re
cption.” 5:30 p.m. $75/$150. Sheraton


Friday, June 15–Sunday, June 17

columbiafestival.org.

Saturday, June 16


“Sprout Films.” 4–5:30 p.m. $15–$53 Montebello Hall, Howard Community College. Columbia Festival of the Arts with the Arc of Howard County and Howard County Autism Society, www.columbiafes
tival.org.


Sunday, June 24

“Sundance Shorts on Tour.” 1 p.m. & 4 p.m.–5 p.m. $15–$53. Columbia Festival of the Arts, www.columbiafestival.org.

Monday, June 25

“The 5th Annual Zaching Golf and Ten
sis Outing.” 9:30 a.m. $175. Tennis: 4:30 p.m. $150. www.zachingagainstcancer.org.

Wednesday, June 27

“Women Mean Business–Social Media
Distraction.” 8:30–10 a.m. $20/$25. Bagels & Brunch, Annapolis. Central Mary

Friday, June 29

“Summer Concert With Ken and Brad Kold

“Doe Dee Bridgewater’s Memphis.” 8 p.m. $15–$53. Jim Rouse Theatre. Colum
bia Festival of the Arts, www.columbiafes
tival.org.

Saturday, June 30

“Verba Shadow Theater.” 7 p.m. $15–

Monday, July 6

“4th Nick Mangione, Sr. Italian Invita
tional Golf Tournament.” 10 a.m. Turf Valley Resort. Loyola Univer
sity Maryland Scholarship Fund. Contact shorts@turfvalley.com.

Tuesday, July 17

“Women’s Giving Circle Happy Hour.” 5–7 p.m. $35. Sub-Zero & Wolf Showroom by Fretz. Women’s Giving Circle of How

CMMC

from page 33

July

10 Networking Mixer, 5 p.m.

Wednesday, June 27

“Women Mean Business–Social Media
Distraction.” 8:30–10 a.m. $20/$25. Bagels & Brunch, Annapolis. Central Mary

Friday, June 29

“Summer Concert With Ken and Brad Kold

For details and registration, visit www.
centralmarylandchamber.org.
Schuh Announces North Arundel Revitalization Plan

Anne Arundel County Executive Steve Schuh, with Speaker of the House Mike Busch, announced that the county is in negotiations to buy a 100-plus acre parcel of property from Cordish Companies for use as a regional park in the Brook Park/North County area. The county will work to develop the land for public uses as the City of Baltimore did with the adjacent Park Cove, which is less than five miles away and is expected to generate thousands of new jobs.

A new school has not been built in the North County area since 1972; Anne Arundel County has not built a new park in the area since 1967. Schuh announced $2.5 million in his fiscal 2019 budget proposal to purchase land for schools, parks and other public assets.

What’s Next

Many of the 14 neighborhood centers are aging and many require renovations, which also trigger bringing them up to code. In 2018, we completed $488,000 in renovations at a 1,500-square-foot neighborhood center, which is now available for use by the community as it changes.

We understand that there are children who benefit from the day care facilities at these neighborhood centers, and adults and families who use them for meeting spaces. However, 45-50 years later there are far more options available than in Columbia’s first decades, when it was a new community that had sprung up in rural Howard County.

The recently completed assessment examining the neighborhood centers is “working document,” with no decisions related to the recommendations having been made. CA’s board of directors and staff will continue to discuss the study and its recommendations, considering both what we’ve heard from the community and CA’s strategic vision as to how to continue to serve the community as it changes.

We have heard from some in the community who believe CA and others have moved away from Rossie’s vision; however, we ask that you please remember that Rossie’s overall plans for Columbia evolved over time, even after he founded the community.

Our goals are to support the new leadership and be energy-efficient and respectful of the environment. Features include the following.

- Programmed timers for outlet receptacle sets to operate only during office hours
- Sensors that turn lights off when motion is detected
- Periods ofkB2001
- Enclosed offices located in the center of the floor with glass walls to provide maximum natural light
- Waste disposal in accordance with Green Building Standards

What does the future hold for the community? As we enter a new era of growth and change, it is important to remember the core principles that have guided our community since its founding. Here are some key points to consider:

- The community values education, with numerous schools and educational institutions in the area.
- Community members are committed to environmental sustainability, with efforts to reduce waste and conserve natural resources.
- There is a strong emphasis on community events and gatherings, with a variety of cultural and social activities held throughout the year.
- The community is diverse, with residents from various backgrounds and cultures.
- There is a strong sense of community and neighborly spirit, with residents working together to improve the neighborhood.

In conclusion, the community values education, environmental sustainability, community events, diversity, and a strong sense of community, making for a vibrant and welcoming environment for all who call it home.
DiversityInc’s list of the Top 50 Companies

Kittelman: Free RTA Fares for Seniors, Disabled

Howard Community College

Human iPSC" workshop. This four-day event will partner with the firm on three stem cell projects. GeneTrac, a solutions company, has announced that it will collaborate with Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund (MSCRF), at Columbia-based TEDCO, will be held in April.

Soft Surroundings to Open at The Mall in Columbia

Arundel’s Schuh to Release Supplemental Budget

Anne Arundel County Executive Steve Schuh announced a proposed supplemental budget plan to increase mental health services for its residents.

BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport

BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport has welcomed the start of new international service from Air Canada. The airline will offer flights to Toronto from BWI Marshall. In January 2018, Maryl...
Business Briefs, from page 36

sparing prompt payments to small businesses working as federal contractors across the Defense Department.

Women in Theatre Conference Coming to HCC on Aug. 25

Rep Stage has announced that the third annual conference dedicated to women working in the theatre will be held Aug. 24 at 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The conference pairs the original mission of providing opportunities for women in theatre to network, with the need for women to develop strategies to further the cause of gender equality.

The keynote speaker will be Washington, D.C.-based actor and activist Erika Rose, whose recent credits include “Queen’s Girl in Africa” at Mosaic Theatre and “An Octoroon” at Woolly Mammoth. Registration for the conference will be open on June 1. To register, contact the Horowitz Center for the Performing Arts at 301-518-1500 or visit www.repstage.org/womintheatre.

TSA Pre✓ Exclusives to Include Six More International Airlines

The Transportation Security Administration has announced the expansion of its TSA Pre✓ expedited screening program to six additional international carriers. The six new partnering airlines are Air Serbia, Concorde Airlines, Porter Airlines, Scandinavian Airlines, Thomas Cook Airlines (U.K.) and Thomas Cook Airlines (Scandinavia).

The announcement brings the number of airlines participating in TSA Pre✓ to 52 domestic and international carriers. TSA Pre✓ new partnerships will significantly increase the trusted traveler population and raise the baseline for aviation security. TSA is committed to enabling additional partnerships with airline partners.

Two Northrop Realty Commercialists Receive Emmy Nominations, Telly Award

Two TV commercialists for Northrop Realty, A Long & Foster Company, were nominated for Emmy Awards by the National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. Both companies, created by Baltimore ad agency Kapowza, also received Specialty Awards each year.

The awards recognize 30-second com- mercial “Box Blue” and 15-second com- mercial “Club Bed.” “Box Blue” depicts a commercial for a product that can change a person’s life — becoming engaged, purchasing a home and starting a family — followed by the on-screen tagline, “Now, sell houses, you can sell homes.” “Club Bed” shows a woman trying to fall asleep in a bedroom with light from an exterior neon sign shining through the window and loud music, under the tagline, “Time for a new place?”

Maryland Pastel Society Exhibit Set for Slayton Gallery

The Bernice Kish Gallery at Slayton House, 10400 Cross Fox Lane, Colum- bia, has announced a special exhibit. The Maryland Pastel Society (MPS) will have a Signature Member exhibit in the Lobby and Bill White Room galleries. The exhibit, “Pastel Passion,” will be on display from June 14–Aug. 11.

There will be a reception on Sunday, June 24, from 3–5 p.m. The public is invited to attend. For more information, call 410-730-3987 or 301-596-4883.

C-SPAN Rolls Into Long Reach High School

C-SPAN’s newly revamped, 45-foot customized bus visited Long Reach High School, in Columbia, on May 16 to honor local winner Eli Kuperman for his entry in C-SPAN’s annual student video documentary competition, StudentCam. Since 2006, C-SPAN has partnered with local cable providers in communities nationwide to inspire middle school students (grades 6–8) and high school students (grades 9–12) to produce short documentaries on a subject of national importance.

This summer a series will address the theme, “The Constitution & You: Choose a provision of the U.S. Constitution and create a video illustrating why it’s important to you.” C-SPAN1 is in the process of recording 2,985 video submissions from more than 5,700 students in 46 states and Washington, D.C. One hundred fifty six students and 53 teacher awards were provided, totaling $100,000 in prize money. Visit www.studentcam.org to watch all the win- ning videos for 2018.

HCC Receives Gold Aster Award for Marketing

BHC, a full-service marketing communica- tions firm, received a 2018 Gold Aster Award for Wellness Matters, a quarterly magazine the agency writes, edits and designs for Howard County General Hospital. Gold Awards recognize entries with scores of 95% to 99%, placing them among the top 5% in the nation.

Lori Schuh has announced his fiscal 2019 budget proposal will fund Operation Home, an effort he made to end veteran homelessness in Anne Arundel County. The proposal would make available services for these individuals, with an additional $60,000 in county funds and $51,000 in high school and college students, on sale at the longest-table-2018.evemrkte.com. For more information, visit www.ChooseCivil- ization.org.

Lori Schuh Announces Proposal to End Veteran Homelessness in Anne Arundel County

The Maryland University’s “Bright Minds, Bold Hearts” campaign has raised $1.5 million to support ide- a generation, will be held on Saturday, June 16, from 6–7:30 p.m. at Howard Com- munity College Lots B & C, 1091 Littleton Road, Arnold.

Proposals are being accepted for Community Impact Projects for Premier Class Howard County’s (LHC) Leadership Howard County Premier Class of 2019. These proposals are designed for the senior level leaders who will work on the projects from October 2018–May 2019. All projects are assigned a committee liaison to serve as a resource to board members and project participants.

The Longest Table Will Be Held on Saturday, June 16

The second annual Longest Table, an event established to spur community conversation that leads to action, and new ideas, will be held on Saturday, June 16, from 6–7:30 p.m. at Howard Commu- nity College Lots B & C, 1091 Littleton Road, Arnold.

Interested in being a table host? The event will provide conversation starters and in orientation. The goal is to provide each table with a host who will keep guests ac- tively engaged in conversation throughout the evening. Hosts must purchase a ticket to the event.

Sponsor levels and benefits can be downloaded or by contacting Rita Hamlet at 410-313-7799 or rita.hamlet@hcbcray.com. Sponsorships are available in high school and college students, on sale at the longest-table-2018.evemrkte.com. For more information, visit www.ChooseCivil- ization.org.
Nonprofit, from page 37

55 existing scholarships.

The money also enhanced athletic facilities, including a new pool and gym and constructed new classrooms and science lab. Several community events were sponsored by the university, invested in the local commu-
nity and strengthened academic programs, including Peace and Justice studies, global studies, and the first-year program Messina.

SECU Receives Rouse Diversity Award

Linthicum-based SECU has been awarded the 2018 James W. Rouse Ex-
cellence in Diversity Award for Midsize Employers by the Chesapeake Human Resources Association (CHRA). The award is presented annually by CHRA to the local organization that best exemplifies an attitude and environment of acceptance and inclusion.

SECU has demonstrated its commit-
manship to promoting a diverse, healthy workplace through human resource efforts in a variety of disciplines. The award was

established in 1996 to honor Rouse, whose vision of building a better way to live and work through diversity was embodied in the many employee programs, most notably Columbia, for which he is known internationally.

AMFM Awards $5,000 Scholarship to College Music Major

Annapolis Musicians Fund for Musi-
cians (AMFM) awarded its first Tim King Music Scholarship of $5,000 to Chesapeake High School senior Elizabeth Engelmeyer. This fall, Engelmeyer will enroll as a freshman at Belmont University, in Nashville, Tenn., where she intends to pursue a bach-

elor’s degree in music performance.

Engelmeyer, a vocalist, has performed in high school, all-county and all-state choruses, as a soloist in a jazz quartet and at Baltimore’s Lyric Opera House. In addition, she teaches voice to elementary school students and sings for the informed in retirement homes and hospitals. For more information about AMFM and the Tim King Music Scholarship, visit

www.amfm.org

The Pinacle Prizes Awarded at HCC Entrepreneurial Celebration

The fourth floor of The Rouse Compa-
ny Foundation Student Services Hall (RCP) at Howard Community College (HCC) resembled the shooting of an episode of star Trek during the annual Spring Entrepreneurial Business Excellence (CBE) awards ceremony. Over 300 people attended the event at Howard Community College’s Chamber of Commerce hosted the top two student winners from the fall and spring competitions at the Main Event for a business after-business gathering May 31. Ken Solow, founding partner of Pinnacle Advisory Group, participated in the awards ceremony for the following students.

• Arundel County—Anne Arundel Community College:

Anne Engelmeyer received the Tim King Music Scholarship, visit

www.amfm.org

The spring Entrepreneurial Celebration. The semi-annual event gives selective students from HCC’s introductory entrepre-

neurship and creativity course an opportu-
nity to pitch their business ideas to the panel. The top scorers are awarded the Pinnacle Entrepreneur

Prize, which earns $1,800 for first place; a $600 prize in addition to Howard Community College’s Chamber of Commerce hosted the top two student winners from both the fall and spring competitions at the Main Event for a business after-business gathering May 31. Ken Solow, founding partner of Pinnacle Advisory Group, participated in the awards ceremony for the following students.

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Arundel County: Anne Arundel Community College

The Anne Arundel County government has been recognized with three Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties (NACO). The awards honor innovative, effective county government programs that strengthen services for resi-
dents.

NACO has awarded a 2018 Achieve-
manship Award to the county for its Safe Stations program in the category of Health. In its Anne Arundel program in the category of Civic Education and Public

Information, and its Strategic Procurement Implementation program in the category of County Administration and Management.

NACO will recognize award-winning counties at its 2018 Annual Conference & Exposition from July 13–16, in Nashville (Davidson County), Tenn.

BGE Employees Shine During National Safety Week

Nearly 100 BGE employees celebrated

BGE employees celebrated arts and culture, supported community development, championed the environment and supported education initiatives in celebration of National Volunteer Month in April, volunteering more than 1,200 volunteer hours to power a cleaner and brighter future for communities.

Service highlights during the month included volunteering, for the fourth con-
secutive year, with the Community Action Council in Howard County. Employees also joined in “Families in the Field” at the Baltimore County Agricultural Fair, where they served as judges.

Howard Health Department Receives Four Governor’s Citations

The Howard County Health Depart-
ment employees, and two programs from the department, were awarded Governor’s Ci-

The Howard County Department of

The Governor’s Customer Service Initiative

pledges to provide “friendly, courteous, timely, responsive, accurate, consistent, accessible, convenient, truthful and trans-
parent service to constituents, businesses, customers and stakeholders alike.”

Health Inspector Ryan Rapaport,

BGE employees, spent many hours to power a cleaner and brighter future for communities.

The SECU MD Foundation Golf Classic

The SECU MD Foundation Golf Clas-

seventh Annual Tournament in 2012, raised more than $74,000 to support SECU MD Foundation scholarship programs, including the Don-

al Tynes, Sr., Scholarship for business students at Morgan State.

Nearly 120 golfers participated in the event. The SECU MD Foundation will match the proceeds raised from the tournament by SECU during the past several years, including the scholarship programs, the Own Your Money online financial educa-

ation tools and the Reality Fairies at local

high schools and colleges, which educate students on managing money and making smart financial decisions. For more infor-
mation, visit www.secumdfoundation.org.

Howard Rec & Parks to Upgrade Water Fountains Via Donations

Howard County partners of Rec-

creation & Parks launched an initiative to replace water fountains in county parks with drinking fountains, which are to be paid for with donations from the community. By replacing the existing 49 free-standing water fountains and 16 addi-
tional fountains throughout the county’s 15 parking lots, patrons will have a convenient option to re-fill reusable water bottles.

Each bottle filler station includes a stainless steel bowl and a dispenser that conforms with ADA standards, and an attached water bowl for pets. Each free-standing fountain costs $3,810 and is attached to the existing water fountain. Donors may select the park location and an attached water bowl for pets. Each free-

standing fountain costs $3,810 and is attached to the existing water fountain. Donors may select the park location and

The United States recycling rate for plastic is only 23%. For more information, visit www.howardcountymd.gov/Department/ Public-Works/Bureau-Of-Environ-

mental-Services/Recycling.

Howard County Celebrates Successes for Children

The Howard County Department of Commu-
nity Services (AMFM) awarded its first Tim King Music Scholarship, visit

www.amfm.org

Arnold family awarded the 2018 James W. Rouse Excellence in Diversity Award for Midsize Employers by the Chesapeake Human Resources Association (CHRA). The award is presented annually by CHRA to the local organization that best exemplifies an attitude and environment of acceptance and inclusion.

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Partnership Hosts Secretary Rahn
Pete Rahn, secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation, was the speaker at the BWI Business Partnership’s May breakfast. The event was held at the BWI Airport Marriott.

HC DrugFree Participates in Take Back Day
HC DrugFree collected more than 800 pounds of unwanted or expired drugs and medication on the recent National Drug Take Back Day. Pictured, center, is HC DrugFree Executive Director Joan Webb Scornaienchi, who received a proclamation from Lt. Gov. Boyd Rutherford. Also attending were, from left, Dr. Brian Morrison, County Councilmember Calvin Ball, Dr. Andrew Angelino and Howard County Executive Allan Kittleman.

Columbia Rotary Helps Rebuilding Together
The Columbia Rotary club participated in Rebuilding Together on April 28. Shown, from left, are Steve Sachs, The Columbia Rotary club; Suzy Ganz, RMI board of directors; Erin Spitzer, GM Baltimore Operations; and Maryland Lt. Gov. Boyd Rutherford; Suzy Ganz, RMI board of directors; and Aris Melissaratos, chair, RMI board of directors.

It’s Ear Candy Time at The Soundry
A new music venue has opened at Columbia’s Lakefront with the debut of The Soundry, which opened at the former location of the Tomato Palace. The first show was on June 1 and featured singer/songwriter Joe Pug.

GM Supports RMI’s TechnoShift Initiative With $10K Donation
Erin Spitzer, of General Motors (GM) Baltimore Operations, presented Regional Management Inc. (RMI) with a check for $10,000 from the General Motors Community Foundation. The funds supported students attending the May 3 TechnoShift and RMI’s future efforts to connect STEM students to next-generation Maryland manufacturers. Pictured, from right, are Mike Galuzzo, RMI president; Erin Spitzer, GM Baltimore Operations; Maryland Lt. Gov. Boyd Rutherford; Suzy Ganz, RMI board of directors; and Aris Melissaratos, chair, RMI board of directors.

Now Open at One Merriweather
Cured and 18th and 21st, two new bistros in Downtown Columbia, opened at the end of May. While there are no TVs in either eatery, there are some cool posters on the walls from Merriweather Post Pavilion days gone by.

SparkPost Celebrates New Headquarters
Gov. Larry Hogan and Howard County Executive Allan Kittleman helped SparkPost celebrate its new Maryland headquarters at a ribbon-cutting on May 10.

For Neighbor Ride, It’s B-I-N-G-O
Neighbor Ride’s 4th Annual Basket BINGO, held on May 5, raised more than $13,000 for the volunteer-driven senior transportation program, bringing community members young and old together for some fun and games.

Laurel Historical Society Gala
The Laurel Historical Society (LHS) honored individuals and organizations with Community Impact Awards at its annual gala, which was held on April 28 at the Doubletree Inn, on Sweetzer Lane. Shown, from left, are Jhanna Levin, LHS; Ken White, Revere Bank; Kimberly Prescott, Laurel Advocacy & Referral Services; Robert Mignon, Individual Community Impact Award winner; Mariam and Ali Thakkar, Main Street Pharmacy, Small Business Community Impact Award winner; and Alicia Fields, Revere Bank.

Awards at Howard Chamber’s Annual Meeting
The Howard County Chamber (HCC) held its annual meeting last month at Turf Valley Resort. The chamber honored several members with its annual ACE awards. Honoring the winners were, from left, Board Chair David Anderson, Expense Reduction Analysts; and outgoing Board Chair Jeff Agnor, Davis, Agnor, Rapaport & Skalny (DARS); Awardees were Ambassador of the Year Janet Loughran, Columbia Association; Young Professional of the Year Antony Justin, Howard Hughes Corp.; and Business Advocate of the Year Andrew Robinson, Offit Kurman; who are pictured with HCC President Leonardo McClarty.

Encore at Turf Valley Expands
Lorien Health Services recently hosted Encore at Turf Valley’s ribbon-cutting at its innovative iPerformance Suites. The ceremony was dedicated to Nancy Butler, Encore’s former director of nursing. Shown, from left, are John Mangione, Sr., owner of Lorien; Allan Kittleman, Howard County executive; and Pete Mangione, of Lorien Health Services and of Turf Valley Resort. Photo: Lorien Health Services

Celebrating the First Century
From left, Anne Arundel County Chamber of Commerce (AAACCC) President and CEO Bob Burdon, AAACCC Board Chair Dennis Murphy and U.S. Naval Academy Superintendent Walter Carter cut the cake in celebration of the AAACCC’s 100th anniversary.

Roof Raised at the Pavilion
The new roof at Merriweather Post Pavilion is up and operating, and covered the fans in the pavilion during the (partly cloudy) first night of the Capital Jazz Festival during the year’s opening night performance, by Ledisi.
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