CA Urges Calmer Outlook on Neighborhood Centers

By Susan Kim, Staff Writer

In the wake of emotional reactions to the potential closure of some of its neighborhood centers, Columbia Association (CA) is stressing that the closures will not happen immediately, that the published assessment on neighborhood centers is a study (and not a proposal), and that the public will have plenty of opportunities for input.

“What over my career as a city manager, I have always come to the board with my recommendations as a starting point for conversation,” said Milton Matthews, president and CEO of CA. “We had an initial discussion at a work session with the board, and now we are putting together a timeline to go back to the board to start the conversation.”

The timeline is one that maps out the conversation about the closures, not the closures themselves, said Matthews. “The only facility we recommended for short-term closure is Locust Park, and that is in 2020 when the current occupants have vacated.

“A lot of individuals pounced on the idea of closure,” said Matthews, “without going further in the report.”

Strategic Plan
In an April 5 memo from Dennis Mattey, CA director of open space and facilities services, to Matthews and the CA Board of Directors, Mattey presented what’s called the Neighborhood Center Strategic Plan. The memo recommends the implementation of a long-term strategy to reduce the number of neighborhood centers from 14 to six. It also presents profiles of each neighborhood center that outline, among other factors, the capital expenses and repairs necessary to maintain structural integrity, a watertight envelope and minimal aesthetic value.

The estimated cost of minimal work on the Locust Park Neighborhood Center, which would need to occur in the next one to three years, is $212,000. The center currently has an estimated annual income of $32,324 and total annual estimated expenses are $47,531.70, according to the memo.

In an April 12 presentation to the CA board, Matthews recommended demolishing the Locust Park Neighborhood Center and replacing it with a passive park in fiscal 2020; repurposing the Running Brook and Faulkner Ridge centers for ADA-compliant pool bathhouse improvements.

EC Study: Flooding Can Be Mitigated, Not Prevented

By George Berkheimer, Senior Writer

A Hydrology/Hydraulic Study and Concept Mitigation Analysis commissioned by Howard County following the July 30, 2016, flood in Ellicott City contains a blueprint for making the town safer.

Authors of the study, however, said the city would still be prone to flooding — even if all the projects could be completed, which could take decades, plus an investment of nearly $85 million.

Speaking at a media briefing in May, Chris Brooks, director of Water Resources Engineering for Philadelphia-based McCormick Taylor, the firm responsible for the study, said:

“The purpose of the study was to make a determination of the quantity, depth and velocity of water that travels through downtown Ellicott City during a given storm event,” Brooks said. “We modeled a number of mitigation measures, and also provided some initial prioritization recommendations based on benefit analysis of those mitigation ideas.”

The study estimated that the city was inundated with just under 35 million cubic feet of water in 2016, enough to fill an 80-story building occupying a footprint similar to that of the roughly one-acre Parking Lot F on Ellicott Mills Drive. The figure for
Cyber 2018 Explores the Pitfalls of an Increasingly Connected World

By George Berkheimer, Senior Writer

Now in its ninth year, the Howard County Chamber’s annual cybersecurity forum brought together leaders from government and private industry to explore timely and emerging topics in information security.

This year’s Cyber 2018 program, held last month at Howard Community College, took an in-depth look at the issues of blockchain technology, medical device vulnerability, open source code and the chronic cybersecurity workforce shortage.

“We need to deal with the bipartisanship when it comes to a lot of these issues,” said Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger (D-Md.), who opened the forum.

One of the topics Congress could address this year is minimum standards for devices that make up the Internet of Things, he said.

“Ultimately, I think we ought to consider a comprehensive reorganization of the government’s cyber efforts [under] the Department of Homeland Security,” Ruppersberger said. “The department has many critical missions on its plate, and we should be open to removing the defense goals.”

Blockchain, Unchained

Blockchain technology, associated primarily with cryptocurrencies since its introduction in 2008, is slowly being adopted for other uses.

Essentially a distributed digital ledger without a central authority, blockchain is a chronological, immutable record of every transaction made that is verified and shared by every user within a given network, making it transparent and resilient to tampering or fraud.

According to Daniel Yim, a principal with the nonprofit technical and advisory solutions firm Noblis, of Reston, Va., blockchain is being used to create efficiencies within supply chains. It’s also allowing consumers and vendors to trace back every step of a product’s manufacturing and distribution process to verify authenticity and guard against counterfeiting.

Countries with unstable governments, such as Ghana, Nigeria and Estonia, are using blockchain for public records, including land titling and registrations, Yim said.

In other new uses, Daimler AG issued the world’s first corporate bond using blockchain in 2017, and the technology is being used to enable self-executing and self-enforcing smart contracts, although their legality is still being debated.

“It’s useful in cases where there’s a lack of trust between actors, when a third-party intermediary is unwanted or not feasible, or you can’t trust information that others are sharing on your network and you want data to be immutable for auditability,” Yim said. “[State and local] governments are already using blockchain technology or exploring what it can do, and West Virginia, in fact, could become the first state to use blockchain for voting.”

Open Source Code

The Federal Source Code Policy requires the sharing and reuse of custom-developed software across agencies, requires agencies to release at least 20% of new source code to the public, and tasks agencies with collaborating and creating new open source communities. That, of course, opens an entirely new cybersecurity risk vector, and not just from hackers looking for easy access to government networks.

“When we have many tools using the same common set of libraries and components, risk of failure across the board is one risk,” said U.S. Air Force Col. David Merritt, experimental branch chief for U.S. CyberCommand. “There’s also the risk of, if one tool gets leaked, does it burn all of the other tools that use the same parts of that code?”

According to Maryland Department of Humans Services Chief Information Security Officer John Evans, government consumers of open source software are contracting with separate vendors to perform manual validations of code as it’s being developed to ferret out any malicious code or unintentional back doors.

“It’s a separation of duties, and there’s a check and balance in place,” he said.

Shana Cosgrove, CEO of Baltimore-based Nyla Technology Solutions, which is involved in helping government agencies reconfigure their systems to enable inter-agency compatibility, termed the effort “Herculean.”

“Sometimes they just throw out old systems and build a new one, because it’s too much to modernize it,” she said.

Maryland’s own foray into open source code includes an effort to improve case management dealing with child welfare, adult services, adult welfare and juvenile services.

According to Evans, Maryland’s modular microservices system will allow other states to pull out pieces of the code that fit their own needs.

“We’re doing things now that no other

See Cyber 2018, page 4
UMBC's RedShred Garners NSF Stage II Funding

By Mark B. Smith, Editor-in-Chief

It’s not every day that a startup is so well-received that it garners grant money from a federal agency to help it bridge the gap to early-stage investment. There are even fewer days when it happens for a second time, with the potential for it to happen again. But that’s the happy place where a startup at bwtech@UMBC Research & Technology Park recently found itself.

RedShred, an artificial intelligence (AI) firm that uses its text analysis technology to crunch small pockets of data that may otherwise be overlooked — and therefore “ends the need to read boring but important documents,” according to the company website — is the recipient of a $750,000 Phase II Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant from the Arlington, Va.-based National Science Foundation (NSF).

Among the Few

RedShred garnered its NSF $250,000 SBIR Phase I award in January 2016 for the commercialization of a project where the firm used AI and big data to identify answer boxes for readers to more easily garner information from complex documents, said Jeehye Yun, CEO/founder of the company and a UMBC graduate.

What makes this award special is that RedShred is “one of only 60–70 out of 1,200 applicants that made it to Phase II with the NSF; we’re one of the few Phase IIs in Maryland and the first at UMBC,” Yun said.

Technically, the service the company offers is called machine learning natural language processing, which is a sector of AI. Yun said that while the service is gaining steam, entry into AI isn’t as easy as it may look.

“One person wants to jump on the AI bandwagon, but there’s more to it than ‘add water and go,’” she said. “AI systems, in general, need a great deal of data, and people need to understand how to use AI models to get something useful out of what’s available.”

Also needed is subject matter “that ensures useful data is produced,” said Yun, adding, “We have technology where we use unsupervised methods to create answer boxes (like those often found on the right side of a Google page) and other useful AI artifacts.

“So what we want to do,” she said, “is build a smart retrieval engine that large and small companies can use to search for what they need. Also, they want to be able to support a user asking specific questions about proposals; RedShred technology can do that from written questions and text in a more efficient manner than a traditional search engine.”

‘Read Less, Win More’

Yun also pointed out the advantages of working with a research university like UMBC, citing the input from Tim Finin, the Willard and Lilian Hackerman chair in engineering and a professor of computer science and electrical engineering, who has served as RedShred’s research collaborator.

Finin offered his view of the project in basic terms. “RedShred’s idea is to do put more effort into getting straight-up questions answered from private company data in the same way Google or Bing work with the open Internet. It gives the user answers regarding information that isn’t easily available,” like private company data, as well as info boxes and helpful links.

For the sake of comparison, what Google presents after a search today is “types of things in the world and information about them, much much more information it has mined about well-known organizations, etc.” he said. “That’s general knowledge.

“But what they do at RedShred,” said Yun, “‘is for a much smaller domain, such as government requests for proposal (RFP). If you take an organization like Northrop Grumman or UMBC, they have employees who need to spend their days searching these proposals to see if they are worth pursuing. These organizations all have pockets of data that no one can see, aside from in-house professionals,” Finan said. “It can be used to gain an enormous competitive advantage, but it requires making use of what are known as ‘data lakes,’ so that they can begin deriving value from this historical knowledge.”

And that can be a tough road to travel for non-AI companies.

“There’s enormous pressure that’s derived from the fear of missing out — pressure for companies to get AI work on the data that matters to them competitively,” said Jim Kukla, RedShred’s chief technical officer and also a UMBC grad. “It takes a lot of effort to do that happen, and for non-AI companies, there can be anxiety about addressing that issue effectively.”

And RedShred’s technology helps these non-AI companies “get a leg up on what they might be missing and make use of all of that data,” he said.

“Our slogan is, ‘Read less, win more,’” he said. “Whatever a ‘win’ may mean in your context, we want to help companies get AI to work on extracting value from business documents so they can get back to doing what they do best for their customers.”

It’s About Time

Ellen Hemmerly, executive director at bwtech@UMBC, said the incubator has worked with a number of advisors with technical backgrounds concerning RedShred, and said, “Everyone who really looks into what they’re doing tells us that they’re impressed.”

“This technology enables better use of time and increases the success rate in pursuing various events,” such as (but not limited to) RFPs. “The issue,” Hemmerly said, “has been finding out what the largest market is and deciding how best to go after it.”

“From our perspective, when a company can collaborate, like RedShred has [to attempt to answer that question], observers view it as a really big plus,” she said.

The underpinning reason why the UMBC Research Park exists “is we can create business opportunities and jobs, as well as promote collaboration between the university and industry, while supporting our mission,” said Hemmerly. “It’s been a great fit. There is also increasing interest in AI and machine learning, which we think will help RedShred grow and be successful.”

Valley of Life

That observation was echoed by Sarah Bates, public affairs specialist with NSF. “AI is a new, growing area of investment for us in small business innovation research,” she said.

Bates also addressed the fact that it’s hard to obtain a Phase II grant. “We give out significantly fewer Phase II grants than Phase I, so it really is an indication that a company has achieved a significant milestone in the R&D, as well as within business-to-business sectors,” she said.

To date, NSF has invested about $1 million in RedShred, and Bates noted that each startup can receive up to $1.5 million in grants. She added that, unlike other agencies in the federal government, NSF doesn’t offer Phase 3 grants but does have other means of granting additional funding to RedShred and other companies.

All told, she said, that provides that crucial link for a startup that can eventually equate to ultimate success.

See RedShred, page 4

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Page 3
Hockey, which operates the Metro Maple Leafs youth team, clinics, training and adult programs out of Odenton’s Piney Orchard Ice Arena. 

What he’s noticed is that, while the kids are excited, the adults are as well. “Perhaps even more so,” said Burton. So the adult instruction side of the business, in which he thinks his business “may see some growth.”

Sometimes, the good news can be about more than a championship. “This is not infrequent in a youth hockey boom,” said Merritt. “In 2004 when [Capitals Team Captain] Alex Ovechkin was drafted,” said Ryan Merritt, vice president of Black Bear Sports Group, in Chevy Chase. “It was the same thing.”

It’s Early Yet

While it’s early to definitively know whether the Capitals next season, there are various train of thought on the matter within the Caps’ vast fan base — the team’s radio network includes about a dozen stations, spanning from central and southeast Virginia to central Pennsylvania, with outlets in West Virginia and even one in North Carolina — though it’s well known in the industry that scoring a Stanley Cup can have a huge impact on creating long-term passions for not only those who have already been hooked, but potentially new fans.

“We don’t know yet what impact the Capitals winning the Stanley Cup will have on enrollment in our hockey programs,” said Rachelle Zieger, president of the Caps’ Learn to Skate program. “This is a perfect time to think about being feeling likewise in the near future.

Our Learn-to-Skate numbers are way up for our current classes,” he said. “Our Learn to Play numbers are up significantly.”

The Caps have conquered their playoff demons and, you’ve read this far, you know the Caps have “brought new life” to the franchise, and the reason, said FEI Systems Chief Executive Officer David Dunlop, is the “inspiration that’s being leveraged toward a single purpose,” he said.

“Once I hire someone, they spend an inordinate amount of time outside the fence,” Dunlop said, “to make sure that the right people are in the right places, and they’re able to do the job the right way.”

RedShred from page 3

“Private industry doesn’t invest in early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels. So SBIR grants is a way that NSF bridges to early stage startups because of the risk involved, not even angels.

Hockey

The Washington Capital’s mascot, Slapshot, drops the (street hockey) ball in the best possible way as he works to get kids interested in playing, and progressing in, what can be a time-consuming and expensive sport.

Let’s Have Fun, Let’s Play Hockey numbers are up significantly, even during the late spring and summer sessions on Saturdays. “When there are other sports competing for players,” and we’re certain that the registration for this fall/winter adult hockey league season will be very strong.”

But it’s Coming

At The Gardens Ice House, in Laurel, the Caps’ victory, has “brought new energy” to the venue, said Founder and President Clai Carr. And from his tone, it sounds like theCaps’ success could have him feeling likewise in the near future.

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Cyber 2018 from page 2

Some state has been able to do, implementing a platform as a service,” he said. “We’ve really leapfrogged all the other states in terms of where we are in our development timeline.”

In most cases, Merritt said, open source solutions are preferable to custom solutions.

“There’s some wisdom of the crowd, and there’s something about the diversity of skills and expertise that’s being leveraged toward a single purpose,” he said.

Critical Challenges

Critical cybersecurity needs are well defined, but there are significant challenges in finding the workforce to meet them. In a field that remains dominated by male employees, one obvious solution is finding ways to begin attracting young women to the field at an early age, said Maryland Department of Labor Secretary Kelly Schulz.

Additionally, noted Army Col. Matthew Dunlop, currently assigned to U.S. CyberCommand, the industry should place more emphasis on freeing up human resources for creative thinking tasks by using machine learning and artificial intelligence for tasks better suited for computer automation.

“I have 15 to 20 [information security] positions that go unfilled no matter what I do,” Schulz said, a result of the limited, lawfully mandated salaries government can offer. “The private sector wins out every single day.”

Federal hiring and security clearance adjudication timelines also hinder Cyber Command and other national defense agencies from staffing up to meet current mission goals.

“Once I hire someone, they spend an inordinate amount of time outside the fence,” Dunlop said, “suggesting a policy change to allow interim clearances or temporary assignments to work on unclassified projects as a logical palliative step.”

Medical Security

As a special panel on device security pointed out, cybersecurity issues aren’t limited to the realm of trained professionals, but can affect anybody with a device connected to the Internet, including items as seemingly innocuous as Fitbits, CPAP machines and implantable pacemakers.

The reason, said FEI Systems Chief Security and Privacy Officer Jason Taule, is that medical devices present a potentially easy onramp into more heavily secured databases. Their greatest benefit — getting health information to a practitioner in a timely manner — is also their greatest risk.

“Health institutions are probably sitting on the widest and most unprotected buckets of information,” Taule said.

Worst-case scenarios involving mass casualties or a large-scale incident are not great, squad coming out of training camp.

The surprising win has raised new possibilities, such as: Will the cup victory affect the NHL’s regional youth and adult hockey market that already needed more facilities?

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Q&A With Documentary Filmmaker Jeff Krulik

By Mark B. Smith, Editor-in-Chief

Director/producer Jeff Krulik, a native of what was once known as Belair at Bowie and Bowie High School grad, has received national acclaim, shown his work at numerous film festivals and constantly built his reputation for uncovering great stories in unexpected places. His latest project, a documentary that topic could be more unpredictable than his hometown (more on that in a minute)?

Know that Krulik has screened at New York’s Museum of Modern Art and the Lincoln Center; the American Film Institute Theater; in Silver Spring; and on PBS. His résumé includes work for famed documentarian Errol Morris, Discovery Networks and National Geographic Channel.

His honors include guest filmmaker at the Discovery Channel Seminar, a participant in WB/FYI/Discovery Producers Academy and becoming the inaugural recipient for the Peter C. Rollins Award for Outstanding Achievement in Documentary Film, which is presented by the Popular Culture Association. His commissioned work includes a one-hour documentary on carousels for the show history for The Travel Channel.

However, Krulik is best known as the co-producer of the somewhat众所周知 while-much-loved 17-minute cult documentary, “Heavy Metal Parking Lot” (the precursor to his “Neil Diamond Parking Lot” and “Harry Potter Parking Lot” projects), which was eventually turned into a reality TV series for pop culture network TRIO and simply called “Parking Lot.”

Krulik’s other documentaries include “Hitler’s Hat,” “Ernest Borgnine on the Bus” and the award-winning “I Created Lancelot Link.” In 2008, he produced the Emmy award-winning documentary “Eatin’ Crabs” for Maryland Public Television’s Chesapeake Bay Week.

More extensive highlights of his career are easily found online at Internet.

His more recent works include “Led Zeppelin Played Here,” which concerns whether (or not) the legendary rock band played a show at the Wheaton (Md.) Youth Center in January 1969; and his soon-to-be-released ode to his beloved hometown and its people, “Tales of Belair at Bowie.

What got you interested in producing this documentary?

My old Bowie High School friend and former roommate, Jeff Billings, is one of the inspirations. Once we were having a casual conversation and he mentioned that, one day, all of Bowie’s Levitt & Sons development history will be forgotten; I wouldn’t say that was a “eureka” moment, but I certainly had a vision.

Soon after, I was looking for 1960s Bowie memorabilia for a high school reunion in 2009 and was surprised to discover that very little had been collected: It was just two file boxes, but one box held a scrapbook, with a 1965 newspaper article about a German film crew making a TV documentary called “Suburban USA.”

That was certainly a key moment, learning that early footage might exist. So I went on a long, involved search to find the film. Which I eventually did.

Also with the 50th anniversary of Belair at Bowie (in 2011), people started coming forward with more memorabilia and, luckily for me, more contacts and stories about early Levitt & Sons history.

I’ve done three work-in-progress screenings so far, each at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts, and they’ve all been well-received. The response has been overwhelming, in fact.

So, how far are you from completion of the project?

I’ve never really had a game plan with it, but almost 10 years later it’s about 75%-80% done. I’ll have it done by the end of this year.

What do you think William Levitt could have done differently when he designed Belair at Bowie?

That’s hard to say, because by the time he was developing Belair at Bowie, he’d perfected his formula after building his namesake projects — the Levittowns in New York and in Pennsylvania — marketing affordable housing via assembly line, even though building flaws were apparently common. Still, he accomplished what he set out to do: provide attractive and affordable housing to families, many of whom proceeded to spenddecades living in Bowie (as have Krulik’s parents — Ed.), in houses that seem to be holding up well.

Of further note, the community was largely segregated; Levitt & Co. would not sell to black families, prompting organized protests in 1963, and a reversal of company policy by 1968, after the Fair Housing Act. Even though individual homeowners could re-sell to anyone they wished, the time period is complicated by the tremendous social issues of discrimination and civil rights.

How long does it generally take you to finish a major project?

Sometimes too long, since I’ve worked on much of my better-known stuff in my spare time. They are all labors of love, so I do what I can, when I can. It does help me to have a deadline, which is why I’ve given myself one for Tales of Belair at Bowie.

How is the film being financed?

Through sweat equity and whatever resources I can muster via my time and energy, though I have indeed licensed footage for my projects over the years.

I’m hoping to recover any expenses with DVD sales of this Bowie project, which includes bonus content.

Do you know what’s funny, though? When you screen a movie, and enjoy the reception and any applause, you forget about all of the hardships.

What else do you do?

I do freelance archival research for producers of TV shows, documentaries, etc., such as “History Detectives” on PBS, and the upcoming “Chasing The Moon” for American Experience. I’ve even done work for the Shanghai Media Group, in China, and freelance video production work.

I’ve found that, in this business, you constantly have to reinvent yourself. I used to work at The Discovery Channel, where I was part of a research and evaluation team. Today, I might be doing the same thing, but for a show that is targeted for Internet distribution.

You’re most famous for the cult classic, “Heavy Metal Parking Lot” (HMPL), that you produced in 1986 with your friend John Heyn. Just how long was HMPL basically out of circulation before it was “rediscovered”?

For the first 10 years, HMPL was basically underground, just on VHS and seen via tape trading. There was new footage for it on TV due to the content, not even overnight on MTV; plus, it couldn’t have been more raw and grassroots, as it was made with public access equipment. But eventually, with the Internet, there was an easier way to watch it.

I have a sense of humor. I’ve been having any thing without the entertaining characters we met that day in the parking lot, to whom I’m forever grateful. And three decades later, we made it, there was a year-long gallery display at the Clarice Smith Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Maryland College Park.

There’s never been any financial windfall from HMPL, although from time to time we make what I consider lunch money. Still, it’s been a terrific journey. And to think, our main goal when we shot the footage was just to return the cameras back to my employer in one piece.

What were your goals during your college days at UMCP?

I’ve always loved the visual media and the entertainment business, and I wanted to be a content provider; so, I was essentially drawn to the idea of documenting reality. I came to discover that truth is stranger than fiction, especially because I’ve been so inspired by topics that are not mainstream.

I was a DJ in college at WMUC (at UMCP), but I wanted to work for a record company or even be a concert promoter. I found that I wasn’t cut out for those careers, but one of the other DJ’s introduced me to the public access station in Hyattsville where he had free access to professional video equipment. I was inspired when I realized I could easily document the reality around me.

What are your thoughts about the Discovery Channel moving out of Silver Spring?

I worked there from 1990-95, when it was See Krulik, page 8

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Charlie Fairchild
Falchild Properties, LLC
Flood Recovery Progresses, Access Restored to Parts of Ellicott City’s Main Street

Howard County Executive Allan Kit Kramer has outlined a plan restoring access to portions of Ellicott City impacted by the May 27 flood. Parking Lot D is now open to the public to accommodate employees and patrons of businesses impacted by the flood, but outside the no-access zone. The reopening of Lot D provides approximate-ly 150 spaces for public use while public works recovery projects continue. Access to Lot D is only from Roussey Lane via Old Columbia Pike. There will be no Main Street access from Lot D, and Hamilton Street will remain closed while repairs continue.

Main Street is reopened to two-way traffic west of Old Columbia Pike and through Maryland of Ellicott City. Vehicles traveling west on Frederick Road from Baltimore County now can be across the Patapsco River Bridge and turn left onto Maryland Avenue to access St. Paul Street and Col-lege Avenue. New Cut Road will remain closed to through traffic because of flood damage.

Also, 24 parking spaces have become available in Lot B with the reduction of the no-access area. Lot E reopened with 27 spaces, and portions of lots F and G that reopened on a space-available basis as construction equipment used in the re-covery is demobilized. An additional exit to the restricted area, from 6 a.m.–8 p.m., is open.

The plan also includes office space and a courtroom for a sixth judge, a larger and more comfortable jury assembly area and a 691-space parking garage adjacent to the courthouse. The administration pre-filed legislation for the public-private partnership multi-year contract in June. A public hearing is scheduled for July 16, and a vote by the county council is expected on July 27.

Demolition of the Thomas Dorsey Building is scheduled for June-July 2019, with construction of the new Circuit Courthouse beginning in August 2019. The courthouse is expected to be ready for occupancy in summer 2021. For a list of Edgemore-Star America’s partners, pre-liminary renderings, a conceptual computer animation of the project and complete information on the project, visit www.howardcountymd.gov/howardcourthouse.

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 still simultaneously receiving the benefits of a traditional apprenticeship.

The program will train apprentices to be certified cyber analyst/operators, a new occupation for the Maryland Appren-ticeship and Training Program. It’s an example of the program’s growing appeal to nontraditional industries.

For participants seeking to obtain a bach-elor’s degree, the formal training component of the registered apprenticeship program has been approved by the American Council on Education’s (ACE) College Credit Recom-mendation Service for up to 25 semester hours in information systems or computer science at the baccalaureate level.

Gradually, the program will complete the project with five industry-recog-nized certifications and certificates from UMBC Training Centers in Cyber Operations. This competency-based program is the first nontraditional registered apprenticeship program to be sponsored by a University of Maryland System (UMS) institution and is expected to serve as a pilot with potential to be replicated throughout USM universities.

Cured, 28th & 21st Open at Columbia’s One Merriweather
Cured Table & Tap and 18th & 21st, two distinct dining concepts housed under one roof, are now open in Columbia’s One Merriweather building. This joint bar and restaurant is owned by Steve Wecker, co-owner of the nearby Iron Bridge Wine Company, and his partner Vince Culotta, former Iron Bridge general manager. It is the first restaurant and bar to open at Howard Hughes Corp.’s 68-acre development that is being built adjacent to Merriweather Park.

The name “Cured” is derived from the large charcuterie and raw bar that is the focal point of the dining room. “Cured was designed as a casual dining space. People always tell us that Iron Bridge is kind of like ‘Cheers’ with wine, so we wanted to create that same vibe,” said Wecker.

Wecker began after a series of positions and an amend-ment that enacted prohibition — and the subsequent amendment that repealed it — 18th & 21st is a modern take on a sophisticated, prohibition-era supper club with live music and dancing. The execu-tive chef will be Christopher Lewis, who began his career at the historic Milton Inn, followed by positions at Linwoods, The Brass Elephant and Iron Bridge. In 2017, Wecker, Culotta and their partners at The Iron Bridge Wine Co. were named corporate philanthropists of the year by the Community Foundation of Howard County. They will continue their charitable endeavors by establishing Charlie Wecker Charity Nights, so named after Wecker’s father. On select Monday nights, they will host fundraisers to benefit local organizations and groups they are working on a fundraiser to benefit Ellicott City.

BGE Natural Gas System Modernization Continues With Regulatory Rate Review
BGE has filed an application with the Mary-land Public Service Commission (PSC) to review natural gas delivery rates to ensure they reflect the cost of the major safety and reliability improvements made.

Under the proposal, BGE is seeking to incorporate $63.3 million invested in modernizing the natural gas system in gas delivery rates. As proposed, the average residential and electric customer’s total bill would increase by 3.5% or $5.77 per month. BGE is not requesting an adjust-ment to electric rates. BGE last filed for a regulatory rate review in 2015.

Even as investments in major sys-tem improvements continue to enhance the safety and reliability of the natural gas system that serves almost 675,000 customers in central Maryland, the aver-age residential gas customer’s total bills would remain lower than a decade ago under this proposal. Several factors have enabled bills to remain lower during the last decade, including significant de-creases in natural gas commodity prices, customers being encouraged to use less energy overall, and most recently the federal tax reductions that allowed BGE to flow $103 million in annual tax savings to customers beginning in February of this year.

BGE’s Strategic Development De-velopment and Enhancement (STRIDE) program, now in its fifth year, has accelerated the rate at which aging and leak-prone pipes made of outdated cast iron and unprotected gas pipe are replaced. BGE recently received approval of a second five-year STRIDE program that will provide $20 million investment in more neigh-borhoods throughout central Maryland in 2019 through 2023.

Booz Allen Invests in Cyber Talent With New Central Maryland iHub
Booz Allen Hamilton has announced the opening of its new Innovation Hub (iHub) at 304 Sentinel Drive, Annapolis Junction, to provide its national cyber teams with a space for research, design, learning and collaboration.

The state-of-the-art facility is designed to support cyber organizations, including the National Security Agency (NSA), U.S. Cyber Com-mand and U.S. military cyber operations, as well as ongoing learning and develop-ment within the cyber community. The Central Maryland (CMD) iHub also will serve as the headquarters for Booz Allen’s Dark Labs team, an elite group of security researchers, penetration testers, reverse engineers and innovators.

“Knowing that, state-of-the-art facil-ity is designed to support cyber organizations, including the National Security Agency (NSA), U.S. Cy ber Command and U.S. military cyber operations, as well as ongoing learning and development within the cyber community. The Central Maryland (CMD) iHub also will serve as the headquarters for Booz Allen’s Dark Labs team, an elite group of security researchers, penetration testers, reverse engineers and innovators,” said James Allen, executive vice president at Booz Allen. “This iHub will help enrich and diversify the experi-ence of cyberprofessionals at all stages of their career by providing a space to share, grow and collaborate.”
CA Centers
from page 1

tenants when the current tenants vacate; replacing Stevens Forest and Jeffers Hill centers with passive parks when current tenants vacate; and taking out of service the Tallibs Springs, Longfellow and MacGilis Common centers when current tenants vacate.

This all will be coordinated with the CA village associations with plenty of opportunity for public input. “Staff will be working to recommend a timeline for the board to discuss the neighborhood centers,” Matthews said.

Disparate Impact

While it’s clear many of the neighborhood centers will require significant repair work and that cost is an issue, some Columbia residents argue that you can’t put a price on the good the centers bring to the people.

“It is reasonable for the CA to assess and plan for the future, but the CA board must also remember that its mission requires more than a dollars-and-cents approach,” said Bob Fontaine, a member of the board of the Village of Harper’s Choice. “CA’s organizing documents recognize this.”

The general purpose listed in the CA charter provides that CA is formed to “organize and operate a civic organization which shall not be organized or operated for profit, which shall be organized and operated exclusively for the promotion of the common good and social welfare of the people of the community of Columbia and its environs.”

The charter elaborates on that general purpose to specifically provide that CA must “aid, promote and provide for the establishment, advancement and perpetuation of any and all utilities, systems, services and facilities within Columbia which tend to promote the general welfare of its people with regard to health, safety, education, culture, recreation, comfort or convenience.”

Fontaine argues that the services the neighborhood centers provide can’t be replicated.

“And it is silly, if not disingenuous, to justify decisions about them based on the number of hours in a day they are in use,” he said. “We don’t suggest that pools or schools or churches are not useful parts of an integrated community because they are used only on certain days or during certain hours.”

Fontaine believes the neighborhood centers forward the goals expressed in CA’s charter.

“I think every [resident] of the villages would tell you that the neighborhood centers perform that function, and that they especially perform that function to residents with more limited financial means,” he said. “It’s pretty clear to those of us involved in the villages that closing neighborhood centers would have a disparate impact on our less-wealthy residents.”

Changing Needs

The CA neighborhood centers were initially developed as daycare co-ops, managed and staffed on a voluntary basis by immediate neighbors; over time, the co-op daycare concept has largely given way to for-profit, independent daycare operations. Today, many of the neighborhood centers are still primarily used as daycares, along with church gatherings, camps and other village rentals.

Jessica Harvey, a teacher, has operated Adventures in Camp each summer for the past 13 years out of the Stevens Forest Neighborhood Center.

“Honestly, when I graduated from University of Maryland, College Park, in fall of 2004, and I decided to create a summer camp for my future, I wasn’t looking for a place for one summer or even a two-year plan,” Harvey said. “I looked at communities that I not only was a part of, but communities that were solid enough that I could run a teacher-run summer camp for the next 25-plus years.”

Harvey is saddened by news of the Stevens Forest Neighborhood Center potentially closing, “as I’m sure all of the families will be sad who have come to us for child care again and again every summer,” she said. “When I first heard the news of neighborhood centers closing, I was sick to my stomach. My dreams of retiring from my own teacher-made and teacher-run summer camp business were destroyed, my dreams of having my children run the camp all gone, in an instant.”

‘Guardedly Optimistic’

Morgan Pardue-Kim, whose son attends preschool at a neighborhood center, said she believes CA is involving the community in decisions regarding possible closings.

“It appears that they are not interested in making a hasty decision,” she said. “Given the alarming way the proposal was initially presented, we hope CA’s follow-up response will reflect its stated intentions.

We are guardedly optimistic that our son will remain at our beloved school for the remainder of his preschool years and that his little brother may do the same.”

While Fontaine agrees that no decisions have been made about the neighborhood centers, he is perhaps even more cautious than Pardue-Kim.

“I don’t think decisions have been made about the neighborhood centers but, then again, we are not privy to, nor involved in, the decision-making,” Fontaine said. “I think everyone invested in the continuation of the neighborhood centers needs to robustly express to the CA board their beliefs about the value of the centers.”

Young Professionals Networking Event @ TEN.m.flats Apartments

Wednesday, July 11th, 2018
5:00pm - 7:00pm

$15 for members | $30 for non-members

www.howardchamber.com

Did You Know?

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

Did You Know?

Discover the Value of Learning
at Howard Community College

Fall credit classes start
August 25
REGISTER TODAY!
howardcc.edu

Business
Hockey from page 4

‘Looking Forward’

The outlook of John Coleman, former president of the Potomac Valley Amateur Hockey Association (PV AHA), is one of cautious optimism — especially after some conversations he was involved in on a pre-Stanley Cup Final trip.

“I just came back from the USA Hockey Annual Congress meeting earlier this month, and people were talking about how Stanley Cup-winning locations have seen increases,” said Coleman. “and that we should be looking forward to that scenario.”

That news was directed toward a market where USA Hockey announced a record 115,694 participants at the 8-and-Under (8U) level for the 2016-17 season, highlighted by the largest year-over-year 8U participation in the PV AHA; also, during the prior five seasons at that point, the total number of 8U players in the PV AHA rose from 2,541 to 3,873, up 52%.

Coleman said that executives at USA Hockey observed that the Southeastern District (which consists of 11 states and the District of Columbia) has excelled, compared with other areas around the country. “When I started going to our dis trict meetings 15 years ago, we were 10th out of the 11 districts [in terms of player engagement]. Today, we’re third.”

But with that upbeat news come the reminder of another issue, aside from the cost of suiting up, that have plagued local players from gaining entry to participation within the sport.

“The question is, ‘Where do you put the kids?’ The rinks in our region are maxed out,” Coleman said, about a sport that’s also notorious for odd start times. He did point out some new sheets of ice are coming on the market; construction is just beginning on the second sheet in Finney Orchard, the long-discussed new Bowie rink is set to rise by early 2021, and The St. James, a large sports complex also in Northern Virginia, will soon open with two sheets. The Mount Vernon RECenter Ice Arena, also in Northern Virginia, is planning a second sheet.

The Next Horizon

How has the area’s hockey scene already evolved? Consider that the Capitals have had one homegrown player in the team’s history, Montgomery County’s Jeff Halpern, who joined the team in 1999; as he advanced through the youth hockey ranks, he had to play in northeast states because there wasn’t much going on locally.

Today, the Caps have a booming program based out of Northern Virginia, which is home to much of the team’s fan base. And the team and the NHL are trying to make it bigger, via the league’s aforementioned Learn to Play program, said Matt Herr, another former Capitol who was recently named senior director of youth hockey for the league.

“It’s a three-year program that lasts six to eight weeks, and addresses multiple barriers to entry,” said Herr, “and the kids don’t have to travel, like Jeff did. It gives kids a way to see how much they enjoy playing.”

He’s optimistic about the program’s future, due in part to an agreement between the NHL Player’s Association and the team owners to grow it via an industry growth fund, which is also used to service other areas of the sport.

Herr is encouraged by the early returns. “You’ll see more men’s and women’s leagues in general, as well as growth in the areas around Washington and its vast outlying regions, with the interest in the team probably at an all-time high.”

And he, too, looked at Stanley Cup history and the bigger picture as he envisioned the next era in local hockey circles. “Many of the Washington-area rinks are full already, and they’re going to be more so,” he said, “so we need to push for more facilities that [offer] the right programming. We saw it happen in Pitts burgh and data in other areas that have had success.”

But there’s more to this trend than just getting players on the ice. “It can be through street hockey, too,” Herr said. “In the end, it’s about getting sticks in people’s hands.”

Krulek from page 5

was in New Carrollton, and later Bethesda. It was a wonderful launching pad for many local professionals who built careers in an active film and video market. It’s no doubt a loss on one level, but the media landscape is continually evolving, and one has to adapt with it.

I had to adapt in 1995 when my de partment, which employed writers and researchers, was disbanded. Since very little production was done onsite at TDC, I decided to jump into the independent and freelance production market, because that’s where the creative work seemed to be.

From that point on, I’ve done some ambitious, maybe even crazy, projects like “Ernest Borgnine on the Bus” and “Hitler’s Hat” (Krulek’s films are all avail able online, accessible via www.jeffkrulek.com).” — Ed).

What else are you working on now?

Mainly a small batch DVD screener for “Led Zeppelin Played Here,” with limited circulation, unlike my wider release plans for the Bowie project. That film isn’t so much about the band, but about the emergence of the concert business at the time, and how it was being invented via small places, like the Wheaton Youth Center and the Alexandria (Va.) Roller Rink. I’m real proud of what we did with that film, and I want to provide a punctuation mark to our efforts with a DVD screener.

Why do you have such an allegiance to your hometown?

Because I’ve lived here all my life, and I think it’s important to commemorate and document the legacy of these topics I’ve covered. There may be some benefits financially from the new film, and if so, that’s fine. But that’s not why I did it.

What else would you like to do?

I want to finish my current projects, including what I’ve mentioned as well as a film about a popular D.C.-area band from the 1970s called the Razz. I also enjoy curating and researching local history projects, and plan to help further process The Jeff Krulek Collection, which was acquired by Mass Media & Culture collections within the UMCP Libraries’ Special Collections and University Archives in November 2015.
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Cash Flow

In the past, co-op officials voiced a desire to see their land remain undeveloped, considering it an option of last resort. During the past few years, however, an overall decline in the dairy industry, exacerbated by a growing market share gained by dairy alternatives like almond and soy milk, has brought more woes to an already troubled sector that is heavily regulated and prone to constant government pricing controls.

In March, the cooperative sent letters of apology to its farmers announcing a reduction in its February advance price for milk and for providing members little notice of the decrease.

“The cooperative is managing through a tight cash position, made tighter by unforeseen mechanical issues at two key plant operations in late January and early February,” the letter read. “The decision to reduce the announced advance price was driven strictly by cash availability.”

According to a report in Lancaster Farming, of Lancaster, Pa., a farming newspaper covering the Northeast and mid-Atlantic regions, the cooperative also faced an unprecedented setback at the end of 2014 when a third-party buyer that was originally contracted for more than half of the cooperative’s fluid milk supply cut its order.

Cooperative spokesperson Amber Sheridan said that particular challenge was joined by a host of additional factors reflecting a changing marketplace in the dairy industry around the same time, forcing an adjustment in the cooperative’s business model.

“We knew that we had to adapt, to become more relevant,” she said. “The cooperative’s leadership recognized that and initiated a significant multi-year capital project to revitalize two of our key facilities. Since 2014, the cooperative has poured nearly $40 million into our Laurel and Landover facilities, modernizing the plants and expanding their capacity and product offerings. These investments are key to our long-term financial stability.”

The cooperative also changed its focus to concentrate more heavily on streamlining the delivery of milk to retailers.

The 2018 flood is expected to be greater, but has not yet been determined.

Taken as a whole, the study’s recommendations could reduce the announced advance price for milk and for providing members little notice of the decrease.

The study’s recom...
Democrat’s Primary Voters Move Left, Where Can Center Go?

Democratic primary voters in Maryland shoved their party to the left in last month’s primary. Younger, more progressive candidates beat older establishment liberals in key races, led by the energetic performance of former NAACP president Ben Jealous, who will face Republican Gov. Larry Hogan in the general election this fall.

The strong showing by Jealous, carrying all but two counties, including Howard and Anne Arundel, against the underfunded and low-keyed Prince George’s County Executive Rushern Baker, may have been a key factor in progressive victories down the ballot, particularly in the Baltimore region. Jealous got almost 40% of the vote statewide against eight opponents.

He thumped the establishment-backed Baker in Baltimore City and County, with the strong backing of the teachers union, many labor groups, out-of-state progressives like Sen. Bernie Sanders and money from liberal backers in California, where he was born and raised.

In the Howard-Baltimore county District 12, in the contest to replace retiring Del. Clarence Lam, a Hopkins School of Public Health doctor, creamed the veteran liberal chairman of the Howard County Council, Mary Kay Sigaty, with 72% of the vote. Lam already had a strong edge in money, organization, backing by unions and progressive organizations, and a slate with Dels. Terri Hill and Eric Eberold, but the enthusiasm of the progressive Jealous voters may have given him some extra oomph.

In a rousing victory speech, Jealous immediately began pounding Hogan as a creature of the past, aiding and abetting President Trump. The new Democratic nominee for governor touted his signature progressive causes, beating older establishment candidates and has no Republican opponent, and easily defeated the five other Democrats by almost 5,000 votes, including State’s Attorney Dario Broccolino, who appeared to put little effort into his campaign.

The District 12 team faces a full slate of Republicans in the fall: Joe Hooe for Senate, Bob Cockey, Melanie Harris and Michael Russell for delegate, all based in Baltimore County; but the district was drawn by Democrats to elect Democrats. Term-limited Howard County Council member Jen Terrasa easily won her primary as part of the District 13 team that includes Del. Vanessa Atterbeary and Shane Pendergrass.

Budget & Tax Committee Chairman Ed Kasemeyer, the younger, more progressive Del. Clarence Lam, a Hopkins School of Public Health doctor, creamed the veteran liberal chairman of the Howard County Council, Mary Kay Sigaty, with 72% of the vote. Lam already had a strong edge in money, organization, backing by unions and progressive organizations, and a slate with Dels. Terri Hill and Eric Eberold, but the enthusiasm of the progressive Jealous voters may have given him some extra oomph.

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Howard Council Approves Amended Budget

In a special legislative session on May 31, the Howard County Council approved an amended version of the fiscal 2019 capital and operating budgets proposed by County Executive Allan Kittleman (R) in April.

The $1.6 billion operating and $146.9 million capital budgets include priority funding for education, school security, public safety, measures targeting opioid misuse and nonprofit organizations.

“This was not an easy budget, due to many competing priorities and modest revenue growth, but we still managed to accomplish a lot,” Kittleman said.

The budget contains full funding for Howard County High School System Superintendent Michael Martirano’s $594.5 million request, including an $11 million, one-time payment to help address shortcomings in the school’s Health Fund which provides health benefits to employees and retirees.

Also included are $500,000 toward health benefits toward members of the U.S. House of Representatives easily won their primaries, and in District 3, Democrat Christiana ng had her seat with only 61.5% of the vote. The legislation was opposed by some local homeowners and health advocates throughout the county who raised concerns about potential public health and safety risks from groundwater contamination and dust particles.

Election Results

Outgoing Howard County Councilman Calvin Ball (D-Dist. 1) defeated challenger Harry Danburn in the June primary election and will face incumbent County Executive Allan Kittleman (R) in the fall general election.

In District 2, Republican John Liao and Democrat Opel Jones faced no challengers, and in District 3, Democrat Christiana na Rigby defeated Hiruy Hdag, Steven Hunt and Greg Jennings; there were no Republican candidates.

In District 4, Republican Lisa Kim was the sole candidate, and Democrat Deb Jung won the Democratic contest against Ian Moller-Knudsen and Janet Siddiqui.

Republican David Yungmann won out against Jim Walsh in the primary race for District 5 and will face Democrat China Williams in the general election. In the school board race, Candidates Vicky Cuntroneo, Bob Glasscock, Robert Miller, Chao Wu, Sabina Taj, Danny Mackey and Anita Pandey advance to the general election ticket to fill four va cant seats, defeating Carleen Pena, Saif Rehman, Mavoureen Robinson, Timothy Hamilton and Christopher Hilliger.

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Women Will Return to County Council, as Two Incumbents Lose

After eight years with no women on the seven-member Anne Arundel County Council, there will be at least two women on the council by the end of the year, possibly three (or even four). In the “Year of the Woman,” as some have dubbed this election, both parties have nominated women to serve on the county’s governing body.

There is also the possibility that a woman or two will serve as state senators representing the county, something that hasn’t happened in 10 years, though there have been numerous female members of the House of Delegates.

All but one of the seven council members will be new, as will two of the senators. Four current council members had already been forced to leave by the county’s two-term limit, and party primary voters knocked off two of the incumbent council members seeking reelection, nominating women in their place.

Smith, Peroutka Defeated

In Council District 1, the northern corner of the county that includes BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport and Brooklyn Park, Sarah Lacey, of Jessup, beat County Councilmember Peter Smith in the Democratic primary with 56% of the vote (498 votes). Lacey, a recent transplant from Howard County, got into the race after complaining about Smith’s lack of response to constituent needs.

She will face Republican Kimberly McCoy Burns, an attorney with long political and government experience. Her father was a member of the House of Delegates, as was her husband.

In District 5, the area from Severna Park to Arnold that is the county’s most Republican, Amanda Fiedler defeated Michael Peroutka by 356 votes (53%) and will face Democrat Dawn Gough Myers in the fall. While Democrats have mired against Peroutka’s unusual views, such as the biblical basis of the U.S. Constitution and his coziness with secessionist groups, it is ironic that he was taken down by a young Republican woman. Fiedler has extensive experience selling and buying TV ads for political campaigns across the country.

In a 2016 letter to The Capital newspaper that Fiedler linked to on her website, she wrote: “Mr. Peroutka hasn’t exemplified leadership on the County Council and I certainly don’t identify him as a Republican. In 2007, Peroutka changed his party from ‘Constitution’ to ‘Constitution-other’ when the state no longer recognized the party. He registered as a Republican in January 2014, the same year he ran for County Council in a highly Republican district. That isn’t a coincidence.”

Fiedler has been an advocate for more spending on public education, and she was especially critical of Peroutka’s lack of support for it.

Other Council Races

In District 2, Allison Pickard beat Candy Fouts in the Democratic primary with 65% of the vote, and faces Republican Tom Gardner in the fall.

In District 3, Democrat Debbie Ritchie will face Nathan Wolke, an attorney who chaired the county’s Republican Central Committee, after he overwhelmed Dana Smallwood-Friia in the GOP primary with 79% of the vote.

Council District 4’s member Andrew Pruski, a Democrat representing Odenton and Fort Meade, is the sole surviving incumbent on the general election ballot. In the fall, he faces Republican Torrey Snow, a black Republican conservative.

In District 6, the Annapolis peninsula, Lisa Braunagel Rodvien won the Democratic primary over Scott MacMullan by 53% and will face Republican Michelle Gersten, a state senator, in the fall.

In District 7, the county’s most Democratic primary featuring 11 candidates in Legislative District 33, the most solidly Republican county in the state. Schuh says Walker voted too often with Democrats, including the appointment of Laura Neuman as county executive instead of him six years ago.

They faced Republicans Mark Bailey, Peter Ewing and Tim Walters.

Walker, Leopold Go Down

Schuh’s long-running feud with Walker played a seat Walker’s race to take the seat of one of the three Republican delegates in Legislative District 33, the most solidly Republican in the county.

Schuh says Walker voted too often with Democrats, including the appointment of Laura Neuman as county executive instead of him six years ago.

They faced Republicans Mark Bailey, Peter Ewing and Tim Walters.

District 32 has had Republican representation in the past and is one of the five Senate seats targeted by Republicans to bolster their numbers at the State House. But Beidle has a long string of electoral victories running in this part of the county.

In the other county Senate seat target- ed by the GOP, District 30 representing Anne Arundel was held by retiring Sen. John Astle, Sarah Elfreth beat Chrissy Holt in the Democratic primary. Both women con-
**AACo Political from page 12**

to see more businesses grow larger due to the bundling process.

On May 24, the House of Representatives passed the fiscal 2019 National Defense Authorization Act by a vote of 351 to 66, prior to congressional recess. The annual defense spending measure would allow the Pentagon to spend $686 billion in fiscal 2019. Congress and the Senate will be required to submit its recommendations

**Crooks Wins**

Circuit Court Judge Mark Crooks, Hogan’s former deputy counsel that Hogan appointed to the bench last year, survived the primary against six challengers.

**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.

**Coast Guard**

The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, Laurel, won a $93 million contract from The Space and Missile Systems Center, Space Superiority Systems Directorate, Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif., for space systems engineering. [www.jhuapl.edu/Home/Contact](http://www.jhuapl.edu/Home/Contact)

The Bell Boeing V-22, California, won a $24,695,613 contract from the Defense Logistics Agency Aviation, Philadelphia, Pa., for V-22 spare parts.

**USAA**

LG Electronics, Baltimore, won an $108,642,777 contract from the Veterans Affairs Health Care System for the supply and installation of a bridge replacement at the Department of Veterans Affairs, Washington, D.C.

**Lockheed Martin**

GE Aviation, West Palm Beach, Fla., won a $20,205,970 contract from NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Md., for development of a space blanket.

**SAIC**

The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, Laurel, MD, won a $13,773,680 contract from the U.S. Army for a digital weapon system.

**Boeing**

Boeing, Huntsville, Ala., won a $1,298,653 contract from the Department of Veterans Affairs for support of the documentation of all hospital care services.

**AmerisourceBergen**

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New Attractions Add Diversity to Local Summer Fun Options

By George Berkheimer, Senior Writer

With the addition of new upscale dining options, entertainment venues and recreation opportunities in addition to the excellent choices that already exist, there are plenty of possibilities in the local area for families, groups and individuals looking to escape this summer.

Sports and Recreation

Patrons can flex their muscles and get in touch with their inner Ninja at a variety of specialized gyms and obstacle courses.

Terrapin Adventures at Savage Mill offers rope courses and zip lines, and the same can be found at the Adventure Park at Sandy Spring (16701 Norwood Road), which features the largest high-ropes aerial obstacle course and zip line park in North America.

For an indoor experience, the newly reopened and expanded Earth Treks Climbing and Fitness (7125 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia) offers challenging climbing routes for all abilities, a bouldering area and a strength and cardio fitness area, as well as group fitness and yoga classes.

If that’s not enough of a challenge, then the area’s Ninja Warrior-patterned obstacle training centers might fit the bill. NinjaBE (9301 Snowden River Parkway in Columbia) can handle personal training, birthday parties, summer classes and group events with different Games Truss-based obstacle courses consisting of 15 to 20 elements. There’s also climbing, bull riding and even old-fashioned dodge ball.

Similar to NinjaBE, the Endurance Factory (8725 Bollman Place, Savage) primarily focuses on boot camp fitness classes for all levels, best described as a hybrid between Orangetheory Fitness and CrossFit workouts.

“We’re really strength and weight loss focused, and our open gym features obstacle course elements,” said owner and head coach Ken Peluso. “The first class is free, and we’re also launching a 12-week, women-only strength training course in July. We do recommend that visitors reserve spots in advance.”

Food and Beverage

It would take too long to drive to all of the small specialty farms and artisanal producers of bread, cheese, and farmed oysters in the state, so look no further than Food Plenty (1250 Clarksville Pike, Clarksville) to find all of the ingredients gathered in one kitchen.

The Orchid Gaming & Smoking Patio, seen in this Live! Casino rendering, is Maryland’s first and only outdoor gaming area.

The Marriner family’s newest restaurant venture features traditional and modern comfort food made from scratch using high quality, locally-sourced ingredients, including herbs and vegetables from the Marriner’s working farm, Manor Hill Farm, in Ellicott City.

New iterations of old restaurants can be found at Lupa, run by Tony Foreman and Cindy Wolf, a casual Roman trattoria at 10215 Wincopin Circle, Columbia; and at Lib’s Grill (8191 Maple Lawn Boulevard, Fulton), featuring fresh seafood, steaks and six (or more) varieties of oysters from the raw bar.

The Crooked Crab Brewing Company (8251 Telegraph Road, Odenton) represents the region’s newest brewpub offering, where 12 taps deliver year-round staples and seasonal specials ranging widely in styles and flavor profiles.

To really get a feel (and a satisfying taste) of what’s on tap in the region, it doesn’t get any easier than a reservation with Maryland Brewery Tours (mdbrewerytours.com). There’s no need to draw straws for a designated driver, and destination inns include breweries and distilleries in Montgomery, Frederick, Howard, Baltimore and Anne Arundel counties.

Entertainment and Variety

Not all that long ago, Columbia was considered a nightlife desert, redeemed only by the presence of Merriweather Post Pavilion, the Lakefront Summer Festival and a few far-flung nightspots.

All that changed virtually overnight in June with the addition of two live music venues within walking distance of each other.

The Soundry (10221 Wincopin Circle, Columbia), a Clyde’s Restaurant Group performance venue overseen by the same personnel in charge of Hamilton Live in the nation’s capital, brings national acts to an intimate dining room and bar setting on the lakefront.

Nearby 18th and 21st (10980 Grandchester Way, Columbia), the newest venue of the Wecker Hospitality Group, is designed as a prohibition-era supper club that features elevated dining, cocktails and live music performances six nights a week.

Anne Arundel County’s Live! Casino recently announced the May opening of its Orchid Gaming & Smoking Patio, Maryland’s first and only full-service outdoor gaming area featuring an expansive cigar collection in its humidor.

Weather permitting, casino customers have a choice of 12 live action table games, 28 electronic table positions, and more than 150 slot machines.

“Live! is committed to continuous improvement and developing new and different experiences for our guests,” said Robert Norton, president of Cordish Global Gaming. “With Orchid, we have created a completely unique environment with a blend of gaming, music, design and an upscale bar.”

Next door, the newly opened Live! Hotel has added 310 overnight rooms, two new restaurants and a spa to Maryland’s See New Attractions, page 15

Summer Fairs

Howard County Fair
Aug. 4–11, 2018, 2210 Fairgrounds Road, West Friendship
Livestock shows, commercial exhibits, petting areas, rides, horse shows, entertainment, home arts, horse and tractor pulls. www.howardcountycfair.org

Anne Arundel County Fair
Sept. 12–16, 2018, 1400 General’s Highway, Crownsville
Farm animals, exhibits, contests, carnival midway, entertainment, family atmosphere, agriculture education, 4-H exhibits and auction. www.aacountyfair.org

Prince George’s County Fair
Sept. 6–9, 2018, Show Place Arena, Upper Marlboro
The oldest running fair in the state

Maryland Renaissance Festival
Aug. 25–26; Sept. 1–3, 8–9, 15–16, 22–23, 29–30; Oct. 6–7, 13–14, 20–21
1821 Crownsville Road, Annapolis
Thrills, feasting, handmade crafts, entertainment and merriment. www.renfest.com

The Maryland State Fair
Aug. 23–Sept. 3, 2018, Maryland State Fairgrounds, Timonium
Food, fun & family entertainment; tame and thrilling rides; classic fair & local farm-fresh food; livestock, horse, farm, garden & home arts exhibits; live thoroughbred racing; national & local concerts. www.marylandstatefair.com
Talented Restaurateurs Raise Local Standards

By Susan Kim, Staff Writer

There’s room for several new local restaurants — Lupa, Cured, 18th and 21st, and even a pirate bar — in your stomach and your mindset. Not only are they diverse in menus and atmosphere, but a lot of talent, passion and sheer hard work went into opening their doors.

Ask Tony Foreman, founder and co-owner of Baltimore’s premier restaurant company, Foreman Wolf, to explain how he named Lupa, and you learn a bit about Roman history and food at the same time.

“Lupa means she-wolf,” explained Foreman. “A lupa suckling the twins Romulus and Remus, founders of Rome in 765 B.C., was always the symbol of Rome during the Republic days.”

Lupa is also a traditional name for a restaurant offering Roman food outside of Rome, Foreman said. Finally, he added: “It also lets me have a joke with my partner, Cindy Wolf.”

Earlier this year, in February, Foreman Wolf closed Petit Louis Bistro, in Columbia, and transformed it into Lupa in less than four weeks, making it one of the fastest makeovers in the business.

By June, on a summer afternoon next to Lake Kittamaqundi, people were streaming into Lupa to try the fresh pasta, pizza and gelato in a rustic Italian space that includes outdoor seating.

“After getting to know how Howard County lives — serving its residents the last four years — I felt like Lupa would offer the high quality and universal accessibility the market demands,” said Foreman.

A Decade in the Making

Steve Wecker, who co-owns Iron Bridge Wine Company with his brother Rob, said he thought of the idea of a jazz club and speakeasy in Columbia around 2008, but the first actual conversation about it happened eight and a half years ago. “I sat in the Rouse building — in what is now Whole Foods, probably where the ‘hot-to-go’ section is — and I told John DeWolf (now senior vice president for development at Howard Hughes) that I wanted to put in a restaurant.”

Now, Wecker and Vince Culotta, former general manager at Iron Bridge, have figured it out in a grand way: not only one restaurant, but two. The first is Cured and the second is 18th and 21st, named for the constitutional amendments that instituted and repealed Prohibition. The restaurants are co-located on the ground floor of One Merriweather — what locals know as the MedStar Health building.

Cured features what Wecker calls “humble takes” on classic comfort foods complemented by craft beer and cocktails. In fact, one of the proposed, and later rejected, names for the restaurant was “The Humble Butler,” with the slogan, “Eat, drink and stay humble.”

Walk into the back of Cured, and 18th and 21st transform your world into a Prohibition-era supper club with live music, elevated dining and speakeasy-inspired cocktails. This place might well be what turns downtown Columbia into a real downtown with nightlife.

The Food: What to Try

Lupa

First, just the crusty bread loaf alone, with the exquisite olive oil for dipping, and a glass or half-bottle of wine could satisfy one for a good while, especially on a beautiful summer’s day watching people walk along Lake Kittamaqundi.

But for a real beginning, try the asparagus soup, made with parmigiano and olive-parsley olive oil, or the “Secret Amish Early Caprese Salad,” so named because the farm source for the tomatoes is a secret.

You simply can’t go wrong with any of the carefully made fresh pastas, and for meat and fish lovers, several main courses include steak, bronzino and lamb.

For dessert, the panna cotta is crafted with cabbage, potatoes, corn, fennel, tomato and lump crab — that will even please the traditionalists. Pair it with a roasted beet salad for lunch.

The burger — short rib, chuck, brisket, greens, tomato jam, camembert, grilled broccoli — should be named something grander, and the diver scallops rival it so closely that you’ll need to try both multiple times to break the tie.

18th and 21st

The masa crusted oysters are so good an appetizer that you may consider ordering five plates of those and calling it a meal.

As part of a day-long adventure, there are plenty of opportunities to learn new things about other cultures and their traditions.

Visitors can conduct their own Special Forces mission at ShadowLand Laser Adventures (1979 Red Branch Road, Columbia). And for those with a need for speed, the Autobahn Indoor Speedway (8251 Preston Court, Jessup) has just the ticket, with two tracks and high-speed go-karts.

For a scientific option, the Howard Astronomical League (www.howardastro.org) has scheduled monthly public star parties at Alpha Ridge Park on July 21, Aug. 11 and Sept. 15. It’s a great way to learn about the night sky and get close-up views of celestial objects. League members begin setting up their telescopes around dusk.

Rainy Days

The weather doesn’t always cooperate with plans for outdoor activities, but it’s still possible to while away a few hours doing something fun and exciting indoors.

Breakout Games (8661 Robert Fulton Drive, Columbia) offers a variety of themed escape rooms with puzzles for teams to solve.

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Whether taken separately or combined as part of a day-long adventure, there are good meals, good beverages and good times to be discovered over Howard and Anne Arundel counties.
Another summer of movies, concerts and more has begun this year in Colum-
bia. A slate of 25 movies and 55 concerts, Columbia Association’s (CA) Lakefront Summer Festival includes completely free, family-friendly options nearly every day of the week.

The festival is underway and continues into September. A complete schedule can be found at www.columbiaassociation.org/lakefrontfestival.

Movies will be screened under the stars at the Downtown Columbia Lakefront on Mondays and Fridays through Monday, Aug. 27. All films are closed-captioned.


From Aug. 31 through Sept. 8, CA will show Marvel Comics Universe movies every Friday and Saturday. These titles include “Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 1”; “Guardians of the Galaxy: Vol. 2”; “Thor: Ragnarok” and “Avengers: Infinity War.” Each is rated PG-13. All showings will begin at about 8:30 p.m.

Movie nights have been hosted by Tom “Mr. B” Brzezinski for the past 47 years and are sponsored by CA, with a generous grant from the Columbia Film Society. Also, 45 nights and seven after-
noons of music are scheduled through September. Concerts and performance-
classes are held on almost every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday through Aug. 16, with additional concerts on four Sundays in September. Start times are as follows.
• Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.
• Wednesdays through Aug. 15, noon
• No concert on July 4
• Wednesdays though Aug. 15, 7:30 p.m. No concert on July 4
• Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. No concert on July 5
• Saturdays, 7:30 p.m.
• Sundays through Aug. 12, 6:30 p.m.

Music festival: Annapolis & Anne Arundel County

There’s a lot of new eating and drink-
ing experiences in Annapolis and Anne Arundel County this summer. Here’s a sampling of some of the latest attractions on the dining scene.

• Arundel Mills Mall opened a revital-

• The Boat House next to the Anchored Inn at Hidden Harbor has kicked off its first summer season. Visiting the bar is like visiting a maritime museum. The boat “The Southern Belle” is the focal point of the 173-person gathering place, having been used for clamming, oystering and crabbing in its past life. A food truck is present, as well.

• Chesapeake Brewing Company began brewing in downtown Annapolis in fall 2017, offering craft beers, local sea-
food and creative cocktails.

• Known for its authentic, made-from-
scratch Tex-Mex cuisine, Chuy’s opened its second Maryland location at the Festi-
vale at Riva shopping center in Annapolis last fall. Its menu offers family recipes from south Texas, New Mexico and Mex-
ican border towns, made to order from the freshest ingredients.

• Crooked Crab Brewing Company opened in February in a warehouse at the Telegraph Commerce Center in Odenton. The 2,200-square-foot taproom’s initial lineup includes six brews.

• Last August, Flying Dog Tap House became the latest bar and restaurant at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport. This is the first restaurant location for one of Maryland’s most beloved brews. It fea-
tures craft beer from Flying Dog and food from Roseda Black Angus Farm, a cattle farm in Harwood.

• Great Frogs Winery opened a new Tadpole Barn, complete with a new tasting room.

• The Great Outdoors by Guinness Open Gate Brewery and Barrell House is slated to open this sum-
mer. Located on the Anne Arundel/Balti-
more county line in Halethorpe, it will be the first operational Guinness Brewery in the United States in more than 60 years. A test taproom at 5001 Washington Boule-
vard, Halethorpe, is open Friday–Sunday. After being a fixture in downtown Annapolis for nearly 50 years, O’Brion’s Oyster Bar and Restaurant, at 113 Main Street, was sold in March. The new owner is keeping the restaurant’s historic name, but is transitioning the menu more toward seafood. The historic site has housed an eatery since it was built in 1774 as the Rose & Crown Tavern.

• In May, Annapolis Urban EventTours launched the Original Annapolis Dessert Sprawl, a new tour that includes dessert at four different locations. Available daily from 1:30–3:30 p.m., the $59 per person tour features signature desserts from locations that are unique to Annapolis and Eastport. The tour is conducted on all-elec-
tric, five-passenger EZ Cruisers, operated by Annapolis Urban EventTours. Private arrangements can be made for groups as well.

• Slated to open this summer, Tavolo Di Chef is located in the former Pappas Bros. Steak and Seafood on Main Street in downtown Annapolis. The restaurant is designed to be an artful en-
tertainment space that will offer a monthly calendar of events, classes and other gatherings. Owner David Hammer says he’ll initially focus on fun and informative culinary information and events as well as visual arts events, including cooking classes, private events, art exhibits and live music.

• Westfield Annapolis is undergoing a revitalization that includes construction of an all-new, food-hall-inspired Dining Court slated to open this summer. The bistro-style court will incorporate an additional 200 lounge-style seats amidst white pendant lighting, cage fixtures and ceiling sculptures. All the eateries cur-
cently operating in the space — including Chick-fil-A, Charleys Philly Steaks, Five Guys, Mezze Mediterranean Grill and Panda Express — will remain open for business during construction.

• In July, a queen will ascend the throne at Medieval Times Arundel Mills. The new show expands on Televi-
sion’s 34-year history since a queen will be taking the throne. Along with the queen’s reign, the show is all new, complete with new costumes, armor, light shows and musical score.

Restaurants

from page 15

“I’m not running food anymore, so I can really see the people. I have great management in all the loca-
tions. We’re all having a good time.”
‘Frontline Fort’: CCC’s Pledge to Fort Meade

Fort Meade’s Community Covenant Council (CCC) regularly makes an event out of signing a document which formalizes the ongoing commitment between Fort Meade and surrounding communities. Each time the covenant is signed the council recognizes the installation’s status as the nation’s platform for information, intelligence and cyber operations.

During the most recent event, held in November 2017, Garrison Commander Col. Tom Rickard, Rep. C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger and Rep. John Sarbanes, along with other state and local political leaders and business, education and community representatives, signed the agreement in a ceremony that took place at the Odenton Regional Library.

Established in 2011 by the CCC, the covenant “is a pledge to partner with the installation and a recognition of the role Fort Meade plays outside our fence line,” said Chad Jones, the Fort Meade public affairs officer who served as emcee.

Pledging Support

The CCC works “to provide the Fort Meade military community with the support and resources that are reflective of the commitment of the more than 56,000 men and women working on the installation,” Jones said.

In signing the covenant, the communal leaders pledge to present a unified voice for the Fort Meade community; increase the region’s awareness and understanding of Fort Meade, its goals and objectives; connect the Fort Meade community on and off-post with beneficial partnerships and opportunities; serve as the garrison commander’s resource for relevant information related to the surrounding region; and assist the garrison in supporting the mission for its agencies and tenant organizations.

Since its inception, the covenant has been signed by each new garrison commander.

Some of the signatories of the 2017 document include Maryland Secretary of Veterans Affairs George Owings III; Turhan Robinson, senior civilian aide to the secretary of the Army; Del. Mark Chang; Del. Pamela Beidle; state Sen. Guy Guzzone; Anne Arundel County Councilman District 1 Pete Smith; Greg Pecoraro, former executive director, BWI Business Partnership; Steve Tiller, president, Fort Meade Alliance; John Fulin, director of center operations, USO of Metropolitan Washington-Baltimore; Raj Kulchadkar, president and CEO, Central Maryland Chamber; Dawn Lindsay, president, Anne Arundel Community College; and George Arlotto, superintendent, Anne Arundel County Public Schools.

Rickard said the work of the council contributes to the stability and growth of Fort Meade and its impact on the lives of service members and their families through various projects.

“The efficacy of this powerful council is widely respected and deeply appreciated by our Fort Meade families,” Rickard said.

Cyber Prominence

Addressing Fort Meade’s prominence in cyberspace operations, Rickard said, “Fort Meade is a frontline fort.”

Scores of the installation’s service members and Department of Defense civilians work every day, he said, “coding, decoding, translating, hacking and counterhacking” cyberspace entities that are “necessary for our national defense.”

Rickard said Fort Meade’s cyber growth provides an opportunity to “develop a talent pipeline” from the installation’s schools to meet the demand for cyber operators to work on behalf of the country’s national security.

The CCC serves as advocates for transportation needs off the installation. For example, its organizations provided

See ‘Frontline Fort,’ page 18
Gen. Paul Nakasone recently assumed command from Adm. Mike Rogers, USN, as commander, U.S. CyberCommand and director, National Security Agency/chief, Central Security Service.

U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan and Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats were among the dignitaries and guests who attended the change of command and change of directorship ceremony at Fort Meade. Prior to the event, Nakasone was promoted from lieutenant general to his current rank.

“On behalf of the dedicated officers of the Intelligence Community, we thank Adm. Mike Rogers,” said Dan Coats, director of national intelligence. “His lifetime of service in the Navy has contributed immeasurably to American — and allied — security. We bid him fair winds and following seas. We welcome his successor, Gen. Paul Nakasone. His experience and strong leadership will prove essential as we move into the next era of cyber operations.”

A long-time member of the cryptologic community, Nakasone previously served as commander of U.S. Army CyberCommand and led U.S. CyberCommand’s (USCYBERCOM) Joint Task Force-ARES in the global fight to counter ISIL (Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant) in cyberspace.

“NSA and USCYBERCOM’s greatest strength has always been our people,” said Nakasone. “Your agility and ability to solve the unsolvable challenges are more critical than ever, and perhaps our mission has never been more demanding. But we are up to this task, and I look forward to leading you in this new chapter of our history.”

The event also marked USCYBERCOM’s elevation to the nation’s 10th combatant command and the official opening of NSA and USCYBERCOM’s Integrated Cyber Center (ICC) facility, specifically designed for coordinating and planning operations against cyberthreats.

USCYBERCOM’s elevation reflects the growing importance of cyberspace to U.S. national security interests, and better postures the command to accomplish its three missions: defend Department of Defense networks, systems and information; defend the nation against cyberattacks of significant consequence; and provide integrated cyber capabilities to support military operations and contingency plans.

The ICC is one of the first buildings to be completed as part of NSA and USCYBERCOM’s new East Campus currently under construction at Fort Meade. Scheduled for completion in 2028, the campus will include six buildings and house more than 20,000 personnel. Construction of NSA’s East Campus is among Rogers’ many accomplishments in his role as NSA director from 2014 until his recent retirement. Rogers’ legacy leading NSA includes creating an Office of Equality to make the agency a model of inclusion, establishing a Civil Liberties and Privacy Office to unify the agency’s efforts to preserve American values while keeping pace with technological innovation, and implementing a new organizational structure to better integrate production of foreign intelligence and defense of U.S. information networks.
Community Steps Up to Support Fort Meade Resiliency & Education Center

It has taken years of planning, a multi-million-dollar capital campaign and the ability to envision an unprecedented solution to a critical military need, but a local nonprofit is nearly ready to begin construction of a Resiliency & Education Center at Fort Meade.

Leaders of the Fort Meade Alliance (FMA) Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that manages charitable initiatives designed to support Fort Meade, long ago recognized the need for improved, on-post services for military personnel and their families, federal workers, reservists and retirees.

Fort Meade’s unique standing as a preeminent cyber installation, and the individual missions of the 119 commands housed in World War II-era buildings and limited by their lack of space and modern technologies, even with the demonstrated need for improved services.

In recent years, Fort Meade has posted higher rates of chronic disease, behavioral health disorders and substance abuse than other U.S. Army installations. Fort Meade has a higher percentage of active duty soldiers with medical deficiencies that cannot be resolved within 72 hours (making them not medically ready for service) and one of the highest obesity rates among Army installations.

So the FMA Foundation developed a plan to transform Fort Meade’s historic Kuhn Hall into an expansive, state-of-the-art Resiliency and Education Center capable of serving more than 160,000 people. The 9,000-square-foot renovated facility will serve as the hub of information, programming and services for the Fort Meade community — covering all five areas of resiliency: physical, emotional, social, family and spiritual.

“We need to take care of the people who take care of us by providing a vital support system that will keep them strong and resilient,” said Deon Viergutz, president of the FMA Foundation. “While many of the programs and services supporting the five pillars of resiliency already exist on the installation, this new center will help soldiers, their families and [Department of Defense] civilians find those resources and empower them to be the best they can be.”

The FMA Foundation conducted the “Ready, Strong and Connected” capital campaign over the last two years and reached its goal of raising more than $3.6 million to fund the renovation.

“We had people and organizations who aren’t typically involved with the Fort Meade Alliance step up and support this campaign in really significant ways,” Viergutz said.

Local charitable foundations and corporate leaders have generously supported the fundraising efforts. The state of Maryland and Anne Arundel County, through the county’s Local Development Council, have been large contributors to the campaign. A complete list of donors is available at www.fmeadalliancefoundation.org.

The FMA Foundation will offer a “gift” of the renovation to the United States Army this summer. Once that gift has been accepted, the FMA Foundation will temporarily take over responsibility for the Army-owned Kuhn Hall for the length of the renovation, then present the completed Resiliency and Education Center to the Army.

The FMA Foundation hopes to start the renovation in October. The nine-month project will preserve historic elements of Kuhn Hall while outfitting its interiors with modern, welcoming spaces and state-of-the-art technologies for resiliency and education services.

For more information or to donate to the FMA Foundation, go to www.fmeadalliancefoundation.org.

The Kuhn Hall project will create a resiliency and education center to provide needed services and resources to Fort Meade. Photo: Sherry Kuiper

Investing in Our Community

Foster team unity, invest in local nonprofits, and help the county thrive.

Our Mission is to inspire and promote giving in Anne Arundel County by connecting people who care with causes that matter.

"Philanthropy is about getting involved in the community, knowing where the needs are, and responding by giving your time and resources. Establishing a Corporate Advised Fund at the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County has provided a great opportunity for our business to help local nonprofits thrive and provide important services for all of us."

— Hall Chaney, President of Chaney Enterprises, Chaney Foundation Board Director

community foundation of annapolis valley, 914 Bay Ridge Road, Suite 220, Annapolis, Maryland 21403, www.cfaac.org | 410.280.1102

Our knowledgeable staff is happy to meet with you and share more, please call us at 410.280.1102.
BWI Business Partnership Beautifies the Community

Founded in 1985, the BWI Business Partnership was established as the Transportation Management Association (TMA) for Central Maryland. Over the years, it has become widely known for its Signature Speaker Breakfast Series, which attracts 200 or more business and community leaders each month.

The partnership is recognized as focusing on sound transportation resources and business infrastructure, as well as being an advocate at the local, state and federal levels for policies, programs and projects that benefit the region.

While the partnership is acknowledged for supporting the BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport, Arundel Mills, Fort Meade and the National Security Agency through its many other initiatives, few in the community are aware of one of its quieter initiatives: The LDC Beautification Project.

Several years ago the Local Development Council of Anne Arundel County (LDC) identified the need to supplement the state’s and county’s efforts in combating trash accumulation on the roads surrounding Arundel Mills and Live! Casino & Hotel. Increasing numbers of travelers, shoppers and guests were driving up the litter, and sustained growth in the area depended on a positive overall experience, not only inside and immediately outside the venues, but in the area surrounding them.

The partnership has long played an active role in the regional transportation improvements benefitting the business potential of the region — which requires an understanding of the critical relationship between transportation and economic development, recruiting and retaining workforce and promoting the region to tourists. It is that understanding that allows the partnership to successfully support the BWI Business District, and ultimately led to its organic involvement in the beautification project.

Monday through Saturday, the partnership oversees a landscaping team that maintains the roads, median strips and exit ramps surrounding the mall and the hotel/casino. Litter is cleared, and signs are moved; weeds are treated, grass is mowed; and trees and shrubs are trimmed. The team plants and waters perennials and annuals.

“It is a rewarding project,” said BWI Business Partnership COO Cate Sheehy, adding, “My family shops and eats at Arundel Mills all the time. Being able to focus on the experience we are having and not being jolted out of it by the sight of excessive trash or overgrown surroundings allows us to enjoy the experience that much more.

It furthermore allows the partnership to serve as the eyes and ears of the shopping district. An unusual accumulation of trash can indicate a larger problem that needs to be addressed. If the crew members witness an issue, alteration or something suspicious, they can alert the police.

It’s this extra effort that adds to the service being performed and subtly lends itself to the success of the region.

For more information, visit bwipartner.org.

Connecting a County

On April 19, Anne Arundel County Executive Steve Schuh stood between Arundel Mills and Live! Casino to announce the launch of an initiative designed to tackle the challenge of connecting people to jobs in Anne Arundel County.

“Connecting people with skills to the jobs that are hiring new employees is crucial to maintaining our prosperity and the jobs that are hiring new employees is crucial to maintaining our prosperity and the success that much more.”

The County Connector is operated 365 days a year by the Local Development Council of Anne Arundel County (LDC), is an expansion of the pre-existing MillsRide Shuttle, which was operated by the BWI Business Partnership and ran a loop between the mall/casino and the Cromwell MTA Light Rail station, in Glen Burnie, between the hours of 9:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m. every night.

The LDC’s sole purpose is to advise the county executive on the needs and priorities of the communities surrounding the Maryland Live! Casino and the expenditure of video lottery terminal funds.

Together, it was determined that growing the geographic area covered by the shuttle to include the BWI Business District and BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport, as well as increasing its hours of operation, was the key to servicing the community in the most beneficial way. The partnership teamed up with the county’s Office of Transportation to spearhead this pilot shuttle program.

From its July 1 start through June 30, 2019, the shuttle will operate 365 days a year, 19 hours a day (and 14 hours on Sundays and holidays). Riders will be able to download an app that will track the location of the shuttle on the route, estimate times of arrivals and provide them with the means to send feedback to the partnership.

Issues or delays in service will be effectively communicated through the app, and the partnership will utilize the technology to identify the most heavily used stops, as well as the needs of the workforce.

The County Connector street team is currently meeting with human resource managers in the area, educating employees and exhibiting at job fairs. To arrange a meeting or for more information, contact the BWI Business Partnership at 410-859-1000 or connect@bwipartner.org.

The shuttle schedule and additional details are available at http://bwipartner.org/CountyConnector.

Connect with us!

CCShuttle
410.859.1000

text CCShuttle to 555888 for shuttle updates
bwipartner.org

Daily Service | July 1-31, 2018

Shuttle Route

BWI Light Rail
BWI MARC/Amtrak Station
Mathison Way
Dorney/Candlewood Stop
Arundel Mills Mall/Casino
Arundel Preserve

The Business Monthly
Making the Perfect Match Between Businesses, Military Spouses

Margarita Dolar recently moved to Maryland and was, once again, confronted with the challenge of finding meaningful employment.

Dolar is a military spouse and part of a group that supports the efforts of our nation — but, unfortunately, faces unemployment rates four times higher than the national average.

She found a potential solution when scanning social media. The answer was the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation’s Hiring Our Heroes Corporate Fellowship Program (CFP) for military spouses and recently separated veterans. The program is being piloted in Maryland through a partnership with Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corp. (AAWDC) Military Corps Career Connect (C3) initiative, which is funded by a $4.3 million Department of Labor National Dislocated Worker Grant.

The BWI Business Partnership was looking for the perfect individual to join its team, and she was connected to the partnership through the fellowship program. After only one interview, both sides knew they had a match.

The BWI Business Partnership has been amazing,” said Dolar. “I am for this opportunity,” said Dolar. “I hope that many more spouses take advantage of this opportunity and that more employers take advantage of what we can offer.”

C3 helps Maryland’s transitioning service members, active duty military spouses and recently separated veterans (non-retirees) transition into successful careers. The initiative works one-on-one with veterans and military spouses to help them get in-demand industry certifications, credentials, licenses and hands-on experience needed to succeed. C3 also connects businesses looking to hire veterans and military spouses with candidates that meet their needs. To learn more, visit www.militaryc3.org.

The Guard Changing for the FMA

With Steve Tiller, of Whiteford, Taylor & Preston, right, recently completing his run as president of the Fort Meade Alliance (FMA), the organization welcomed Doreen Harwood, president of the FMA, as its new president at its annual meeting.

Dolar began her six-week fellowship with the partnership, and the experience quickly proved valuable to both parties. “My experience with the BWI Business Partnership has been amazing,” Dolar said. “I’m working with a great organization and a great group of people.”

The partnership quickly realized that Dolar would make an excellent full-time employee. “We took advantage of the C3 on-the-job training and made Margarita an offer for full-time employment upon completion of her six-week fellowship,” said Cynthia Dawson, chief administrator at the partnership.

“Today, this is not just a job. This is a path to a career that I enjoy and love. I cannot emphasize enough how grateful I am for this opportunity,” said Dolar. “I hope that many more spouses take advantage of this opportunity and that more employers take advantage of what we can offer.”

BWI Business Partnership Holds Annual Meeting at BWI Marshall

The BWI Business Partnership held its annual meeting in the International Wing of BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport, and it had a decidedly Carribean, or Jimmy Buffett-style (think “Parrotheads”), theme. Flanking Ed DeGrange, who was presented with the Sam Heffner Legacy Award that night, are the partnership’s Ed Rothstein, left, and Sam Minnite.
Better is the journey.
Best is the destination.

Fraport USA and BWI are on the move, and we want to bring you with us. From our partners to entrepreneurs to passengers, we want you to share our success.

Obrycki’s is one of the 40 best restaurants in America’s biggest airports - The Thrillist

BWI airport retail program aims to give boost to entrepreneurs - Baltimore Sun

One of the nine healthiest airports around the world - Well+Good


Better Airports. Better Communities.
BWI Offering New Valet Parking Service

BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport has one of the more robust onsite parking programs in the country, offering hourly, daily, express and long-term lots that fit every traveler’s budget. But unlike other airports that are similar in size, BWI Marshall has not had valet parking as an option in more than 20 years.

In February 2018, Fly Away Valet, operated by Jacobson Daniels, opened as part of Executive Director Ricky Smith’s plan to make BWI Marshall a world-class airport with world-class amenities. And giving passengers access to valet parking is in line with his vision.

“The new Fly Away valet parking offers our customers an ‘Easy Come, Easy Go’ experience,” said Ricky Smith, executive director of BWI Marshall. “This valet parking option is our latest initiative to provide excellent, efficient customer service for our travelers.”

Fly Away Valet costs $30 a day. For that fee, travelers get access to a dedicated express entrance lane upon entering the hourly lot. They can grab a ticket and drive directly to the fifth floor, where there are 155 spaces in a section near Southwest Airlines’ primary crossover walkway.

Customers can find a promotional coupon at www.BWIAirportValet.com.

Upon arrival, a team member opens the customer’s door, grabs his or her luggage and inspects the car for damage. The customer receives a claim ticket that’s logged into the system.

Customers will be offered free bottled water and a USA Today newspaper. They also can print out their airline boarding pass in the business center. A team member is available to help customers and their luggage get to the terminal. During a trip, the customer’s car windshield will be cleaned and its interior will be vacuumed.

Upon landing, customers can call or use the app to let the valet know they have arrived. Their car will be backed in, warmed up and running when they arrive. After payment, there’s an exclusive exit lane that allows customers to leave quickly.

Customers will be able to make reservations in advance via a special app, BWI Marshall’s website or by simply driving up on the day of departure. The app will keep a credit card on file, and customers will be able to pay via the app.

Fly Away Valet is located on Level 5 of the hourly garage at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport.

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BBB, FTC, Law Enforcement Launch Operation Main Street

Better Business Bureau (BBB) is partnering with state and federal agencies on Operation Main Street: Stopping Small Business Scams, a law enforcement initiative targeting operations seeking to defraud small businesses, and an education outreach effort to help small businesses protect themselves from fraud.

BBB joined with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), eight state attorneys general (AG), the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and two U.S. Attorneys' Offices to launch the efforts. The agencies announced a total of 24 actions involving defendants who allegedly perpetrated scams against small businesses, including one new FTC case, three other FTC actions from the past six months, two criminal actions announced by U.S. Attorneys' Offices and 18 actions by state AGs during the past year.

BBB has also released a new research report, “Scams and Your Small Business,” that provides new insights into how fraud affects small businesses. In addition, the FTC and the BBB announce new business education materials designed to help small business owners and their employees avoid, identify and report scams. The report is based on results from a survey of small businesses.

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The report is based on results from a new survey that was conducted in March 2018. It contains information from approximately 1,200 small businesses.

Key results include the following.

- Sixty-seven percent of the respondents surveyed believe there is a growing risk of scammers targeting small businesses.
- Only 3% believe that the risk has decreased during the past three years.
- The top five scams identified as putting small businesses at risk are: 1. bank credit card company impostors; 2. direct listing and advertising services; 3. fake invoices/supplier bills; 4. fake checks; and 5. tech support scams.
- Thirty-eight percent of respondents believe that hearing generally about a particular type of scam is the best way to proactively protect their business, followed by 35% who think the best way is to have generally heard about the methods and behaviors of scammers.
- The primary motivations for small businesses to report scams include helping to warn others about the scams, trying to bring justice to the scammer and trying to recover money lost through the scam.
- Millions of U.S. consumers either own or work at small businesses nationwide, and the FTC is happy to join with our law enforcement partners and the BBB to help stop scams and spread the word about how they can identify and avoid scams targeting their livelihood,” said FTC Chairman Joe Simons. “A top FTC priority is to stem the tide of fraud against small businesses.”

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

What Did I Miss?

FOMO (form of missing out) is well documented as part of the addictive properties of smartphones. Besides Facebook, reminding us to wish someone a happy birthday, chats of all stripes show up and news feeds can be constant.

As we write this column, the Washington Post digs me with news that the anti-trust court approval of AT&T’s purchase of Time Warner will start a bidding war between Disney and Comcast for 21st Century Fox. And even don’t ask what will happen with Google and Facebook eating up rival companies, with their fear of anti-trust removed.

Gourmet, it’s not. Fast, it is. Cheap, as well.

But don’t expect celebrity chefs — or any chefs, period.

At a restaurant in Boston, called Spycce, meals are prepared by robots. Customers create “bowls” using touch screens, much like some of the automated systems at the local Royal Farms or Sheetz convenience stores, but featuring vegetables and grains, instead of bacon.

The display offers a calorie count. An “ingredient delivery system” collects things from a fridge, portions them out and delivers them into a robotic wok, where they’re cooked at high heat. The wok then lifts and dumps the finished meal into a bowl. Hot water jets then rinse out the wok for the next load.

A human does get involved at the very end, adding some cheese crumbles or cilantro to the bowl. And there is a human assistant to help stop scams and spread the word about how they can identify and avoid scams targeting their livelihood,” said FTC Chairman Joe Simons. “A top FTC priority is to stem the tide of fraud against small businesses.”

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Cooking, I would guess, is not one of their passions.

Kitchen automation has been tried before. A hamburger flipper (named Flippy) was tried at some fast food kitchens in California, but it was too slow. But the primary reason holding robots back is not necessarily technical solutions, but the low wages of most kitchen workers, which makes investing in automation not cost-effective.

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Cyber Conference Recap

In early June, hundreds of the region’s cyber industry leaders filled Merriweather Post Pavilion for the Cyber Conference, which was held at the end of June. The conference, organized by the Maryland Department of Commerce, focused on the need for more cyber professionals and the dangers of relying on an untrained workforce.

The conference’s afternoon keynote speaker, Debora Plunkett, founder of Plunkett Associates and a senior fellow at Harvard University’s Belfer Center, focused her talk on The Mainstreaming of Cybersecurity, touching on the fact that everyone needs to be informed and engaged when it comes to cybersecurity.

McClyr closed the conference by thanking all of the attendees and presenters, along with additional conference sponsors. They included Unum, Noblis, Tower Federal Credit Union, Howard Community College, UMBC’s Office of Professional Programs, Leidos, Hertzberg, Corporate Office Properties Trust, Amazon Web Services, Sparksoft Corp., Atlantic Data Forensics, the Howard County Economic Development Authority and Capitol Technology University.

Signature Event

The Howard County Chamber has announced a new member who will keep the membership laughing all night at the 2018 Signature Event: It will be headlined by author, nationally syndicated humor columnist and standup comedian Greg Schwem. HuffPost syndicated humor columnist and standup comedian Jeff Foxworthy will be headlined by author, nationally syndicated humor columnist and standup comedian Greg Schwem. HuffPost

The conference sessions began with concurrent talks on blockchain. One talk was designed for technologists, while the other focused on blockchain’s risks. The panels covered topics such as encryption, including the development of a roadmap for the state’s cybersecurity industry.

The conference sessions covered both audiences as well as, but with panel discussions rather than individual speakers. They discussed the topic of Security in an Open Source World.

During lunch, conference attendees were treated to a panel discussion about the current cyber workforce, how educational institutions are adapting curricular programs to train more trained cyber professionals and the dangers of relying on an untrained workforce.

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FMA Appoints New President, Board Members
The Fort Meade Alliance (FMA) has appointed a new president, executive committee and board members.

Doreen Harwood, of Leonardtown, was appointed to a three-year term as president; she replaces Steve Tiller of Whitemford, Taylor & Preston. Joacim Pacelici of IronNet Cybersecurity was re-elected as vice president and treasurer, and Norther Fronrunnus’s Will Metts was elected secretary.

Anne Arundel Community College’s Dawn Lindsay and Anne Arundel Economic Development Corp’s Julie Musgrove was also elected to the executive committee, and five new board members were appointed: Paul Gentile of ManTech, Diane Gresham of Bridges Consulting and Jen Haverman of Deloitte.

Monarch Global Academy Employees Honored
Monarch Global Academy’s Beth Matthews, coordinator of the school’s International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program, was named Elementary School Educator of the Year; and Gary Cooper, custodian at the academy, was named Administrative Support Staff of the Year by the Central Maryland Chamber (CMC). Both were recognized at the CMC’s recent Spirit of Community Awards dinner.

Swiederk to Succeed Staats at SECU
The board of directors at SECU has announced that Dave Swiederk will succeed Richard Staats as president and CEO of the $3.5 billion credit union. Swiederk brings more than 25 years of experience leading financial services organizations to the position, and most recently served as executive vice president and chief operating officer at OneAZ Credit Union.

RealStreet’s McGovern Voted GSCM’s Board Chair
Girl Scouts of Central Maryland (GSCM) voted Judy McGovern as its new board chair. McGovern has been involved in Girl Scouting for nearly 25 years and is the owner and president of RealStreet, a provider of employee leasing solutions in the architecture, engineering and construction industries.

Woo Added to Department of Aging Committee
Revere Bank Senior Vice President and Business Development Officer Rick Woo was appointed to the Financial Reconciliation Committee of Aging by Maryland Secretary Rona Kramer. Woo will serve Maryland’s care retirement communities.

RCA Hires Gamill
Recovery Centers of America (RCA) has hired Joani Gammill, an Anna Foglund-based drug and alcohol intervention facilitator who appeared on television as a guest of such hosts as Dr. Oz and Dr. Phil. She will provide free intervention services for families and individuals suffering from substance use disorder.

TFCU Names Harris New SVP, CFO
Doug Harris has joined Toward Federal Credit Union (TFCU) as senior vice president and chief financial officer. He succeeds Allen Bach, who recently retired. Harris has 33 years of experience in the finance field, 17 of which were in the credit union industry.

Rosenheim to Direct The Lutheran Village at Miller’s Grant
Michelle Rosenheim has been named executive director of The Lutheran Village at Miller’s Grant in Ellicott City. She has two decades of experience in senior living management.

Loyola Names Bozzuto Business Leader of the Year
Loyola University Maryland’s Sellinger School of Business and Management named Thomas Bozzuto, founder and chairman of The Bozzuto Group, the 2018 Business Leader of the Year. Loyola will honor Bozzuto at the annual Business Leader of the Year dinner on Tuesday, Nov. 13, at the Renaissance Harborplace Hotel, Baltimore.

Revere Bank’s Cook to Chair MBA
The Maryland Bankers Association (MBA) has appointed Revere Bank Co-President and CEO Ken Cook as its chairman for 2018-19. Cook previously served on the MBA Executive Committee as vice chairman and has been the chairman-elect for the past year.

Northrop Named Innovan Innovator Award Finalist
Craig Nordhorn, president and CEO of Northrop Realty, was named a 2018 Innovan Innovator Award finalist by real estate news provider Innovan. Nordhorn will speak on the panel “Going From Agent To Team — Common Mistakes You Can Avoid” at Inman Connect, a national real estate conference to be held in San Francisco this summer.

Jones to Lead EAGB on Interim Basis
The Maryland Bankers Association (EAGB) is being led on an interim basis by real estate development and government relations adviser Bill Jones. The former senior adviser to Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith and current head of Farview Advisors will lead the EAGB through the end of 2018.

TFCU Names Ercole VP
Christopher Ercole has joined Toward Federal Credit Union (TFCU) as vice president of consumer lending. Ercole brings more than 24 years of experience in lending to the position and will manage the growing division.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Tuesday, July 10

Wednesday, July 11
“Your Sales Professionals Networking.” 5-7 p.m. $15/$30. TEN.m.flat Apartments. www.howardchamber.com.

Thursday, July 12

Monday, July 16
“34th Nick Mangione, Sr., Italian Invitational Golf Tournament.” 10 a.m. Tipton Airport. Contact shorn@turfvalley.com.

Tuesday, July 17

Wednesday, July 18

Tuesday, July 10

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Parkway Resurfacing to Begin in Early July
The Maryland Department of Trans- portation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) will soon begin a project to resurface Route 295 (Baltimore-Wash- ington Parkway) between Route 100 and Route 175 (Annapolis Road/Jessup Road) in Anne Arundel County. It will begin in the southbound direction in early July and be complete by late fall.

The $6 million project includes pave ment patching, removal of the top layer of asphalt, paving and restriping the 3.3 mile section of Route 295. MDOT SHA’s contractor, Allan Myers Maryland, of Fallston, will also clean drainage inlets and pipes, repair roadway slopes and replace damaged concrete drainage ditches.

Crews are permitted to work Sunday nights through Friday mornings between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. to expedite the work, especially during paving operations. Approximately 104,600 vehicles per day use this section of Route 295, which was last resurfaced in 2005. MDOT SHA has resurfaced or treated half of all state highway lanes since 2015.

Elliott City Under Consideration for SBA Disaster Relief
The U.S. Small Business Administra tion (SBA) recently approved Gov. Larry Hogan’s request for a physical disaster declaration in Frederick County following flooding that occurred between May 15-19.

In addition to Frederick County resi dents, flooding victims in Carroll, Howard, Montgomery and Washington counties also are eligible to apply. A separate re quest specifically covers the devastating late May flooding in Elliott City which is under consideration.

The SBA disaster declaration allows businesses of all sizes, private nonprofit organiza tions, homeowners and renters to apply for SBA low-interest disaster loans. SBA disaster loans are not to replace or replace the following items damaged or destroyed in a declared disaster: real estate, personal property, machinery and equipment, and inventory and other business assets.

Long-Time Arundel Politician Slocum Dies
Del. Ted Slocum, the Democratic delegate from Linthicum who once ran for state comptroller, has passed away another term in the District 32 primary election, and who was the pharmacis
town of Ted’s Linthicum Pharmacy, died June 8 in a hospital in Baltimore. He was 79.

Slocum was one of the long est-serving public officials in Arundel County history. He went through surgery earlier this year after a neck injury and took a brief leave of absence during the 2018 General Assembly session. He was survived by his wife, Alice, who worked closely with him during his political career of more than two decades, their children and grandchildren.

Arundel Council Adopts Budget That Focused on Schools, Public Safety
The Anne Arundel County Council on Monday adopted the fourth budget enacted under County Executive Steuart Schu. The $1.59 billion budget includes an investment of $86 million in schools, including a $2.2 million for two educator step pay increases. To reduce class sizes, the en acted budget would add 130 educators. The county will also fund expanding the Triple E initiative to the Annapolus Cluster. This program provides additional electives for the elementary school population and provides planning time for teachers.

The budget begins funding a 15% in crease in compensation for police during the next fiscal year. To this end, the plan calls for police salaries will increase from $46,854 to $51,500. The budget calls for 24 new po lice positions, including 10 new school resource officers.

It also makes targeted investments in congestion relief. Three years ago, the county increased road maintenance funding by more than $10 million annually, this year’s budget takes the next step of increasing the maintenance budget to $30 million, which will allow the county to improve the road system in the next five years, including the intersection at Brock Bridge Road at 198, in Laurel.

Ciena to Acquire Packet Design Hanover-based Ciena Corp. has en tered into a definitive agreement to acquire Packet Design, a maker of network of network performance management software focused on Layer 3 network optimization, topology and route analysis. SBA.

The combination of Ciena’s Blue Planet software platform and Austin, Texas-based Packet’s capabilities will form a unique platform that delivers real-time analysis, operational and orchestration capabilities to support the broadest range of closed-loop automation use cases across multi-layer, multi-vendor networks. Blue Planet is already one of the premier brands in the network automation space. The addition of Packet Design will enhance our position by enabling cus tomers to realize networks that are more adaptive — capable of self-optimizing and self-healing for faster time-to-market for new services, more efficient and lower cost network operations, and the ability to deliver an overall better customer experience,” said Rick Hamilton, Ciena’s senior vice president of global software and services.

OmniLytics, Ceris USA Join Forces to Develop New Biostatics
OmniLytics has entered into an exclu sive U.S. sales and marketing collabora tion agreement with Ceris USA for its AgriPhage line of biostatics. The collaboration is expected to introduce new products for the control of blight and citrus water blight, which fight against a bacterial spot and bacterial speck disease in fruiting vegetables.

The active ingredients of OmniLytics AgriPhage products are bacteriophages known in layman’s terms as “bacteria eaters.” Bacteriophage-based products are highly desirable solutions for bacterial diseases because of their environmental ly-friendly profiles and because of the re sistance bacterial diseases have developed to traditional disease control products. “We're looking forward to partnering with OmniLytics to bring the new bacteriophage products will pro vide new tools for disease control in crops,” said Ceris USA Director of Busi ness Development Jim Black. “Ceris USA offers growers a suite of bacteriophage products that are a natural fit with the AgriPhage line to maximize protection from these difficult-to-control pathogens.”

Lorien Expands Encore at Turf Valley With Skilled Nursing Suites
Lorien Health Services is expanding its work to improve the quality of life for seniors a year and offer a progressive, advanced student training partnership with the Howard County Office of Workforce Development.

The new suites will offer a two-way nurse call system that electronically communicates alarms for immediate response, enhanced security features and an in-house Clinical Laboratory Improve ment Amendments-waived lab, with on site testing and results.

Having capabilities such as continuous EKG and end tidal CO2 monitoring, pulse oximetry and an electronic stethoscope will provide for immediate examination.

The ability to perform critical tests such as EKGs and laboratory studies within minutes when needed is an acute care need. The new suite will allow Encore to provide immediate care, so the resident will not have to be subjected to an Emergency Room transfer.

Capitol Signs Agreement With NSA’s Armstrong Institute for Health
The Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) celebrated the first cohort of graduates from the Independent Sector Pre-Apprenticeship Student Program at a recent graduation ceremony. This program is the only opportunity of its kind in the state and provides 200 hours of on-the-job and classroom instruction in electrical trades to prepare students to take the next step towards a Registered Apprenticeship Program and work in the industry.

The program provided pre-appren-
How to Help Old Elfick City
Many generations of entrepreneurs have called Old Elfick City’s Main Street home, and the hope of many people is that the tradition will continue. On that note, businesses and residents affected by the flooding on May 27 need a great deal of help.

The efforts to assist are ongoing. For more information, call www.visithowardcounty.com/economic.

Howard County Rec & Parks Reopens B&O Ellicott City Station Museum
One month after the devastating May 27 flood, Howard County Rec & Parks, developer and manager of Recreation & Parks’ Baltimore & Ohio (B&O) Ellicott City Station Museum has reopened to the public, albeit under reduced capacity and safety regulations affecting Main Street. The museum will operate Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. These hours of operation are expected to remain in place until regular business hours resume on Main Street. Admission is free.

“Although the flood damage to historic Ellicott City was severe, the museum was, in effect, spared,” said Museum Manager Bob Turney. “We have worked closely with Howard County’s Recovery Commission to ensure that the museum can stay open for visitors and to provide a safe environment for museum staff. We are excited to welcome back our visitors and new visitors alike.”

Howard EcoWorks Supports HCPS Environmental Literacy for Students
Howard EcoWorks has partnered with Howard County Public School System (HCPS) students and staff to create a healthier environment in Howard County. Shown at the May 29 signing is Howard EcoWorks Executive Director Lori Lilly.

Regent Healthcare Acquires Freedom In Home Care
Regent Healthcare, which operates its central Maryland office from Hanover, has completed the acquisition of In Home Care. In accordance with the Intermediary Agreement to innovate new opportunities for the company, the property which includes interior and exterior renovations, as well as amenity upgrades to reposition the asset. As such, the company will complete premium kitchen renovations, enhance the fitness center, install new grilling areas and a fire pit, and refresh other common area amenities; in addition, Morgan will add a putting green and outdoor gaming area, a playground, exterior fitness stations, a dog park and parking rooms.

Lee & Associates Brokers Sale of 9705 Laurel Road
Lee & Associates Brokers has closed on the sale of 9705 Laurel Road, a 12,624-square-foot, single-story building in the Laurel section of Howard County, for $3.1 million. Steve Weiss of Lee & Associates represented the seller, The Gaskie Family Trust, and the buyer, Apogee Investments, property tax credit for the elderly, veterans and have lived in the same dwelling for the last 40-plus years; and be a retired member of the uniformed services of the United States, the military reserves or the National Guard, or a professional or volunteer serving an agency within the city's corporate limits.

Applications will be accepted at the Laurel Municipal Center in the Department of Budget and Personnel Services until Aug. 31. To apply, visit cityoflaurel.org. For more information, call Andrea Pickett at 301-725-5300, ext. 2248.

St. John Properties Named NAIOP’s Developer of the Year
NAIOP, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association, has selected St. John Properties, of Baltimore, as the 2018 Developer of the Year. The commercial real estate developer and owner has 19 million square feet of Class A commercial office, retail & R&D, and retail and warehouse space, as well as more than 2,500 residential units.

By the end of 2019, the St. John portfolio will expand to approximately 20 million square feet. The company’s real estate investments currently are valued at more than $2.9 billion, with 2,100 clients across 13 states, including Colorado, Louisiana, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Utah, Virginia and Wisconsin.

AAAM Breaks Ground for Mental Health Hospital
Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAAMC) has broken ground on the construction of its mental health hospital, the J. Kent McNew Family Medical Center. The center will be located on Riva Road next to Pathways, AAAMC’s substance use and co-occurring disorders treatment facility. It is scheduled to open in summer 2020.

The 16-bed facility will double the AAAMC’s inpatient capacity and provide dual diagnosis treatment for adults. The J. Kent McNew Family Medical Center will provide inpatient mental health and substance use disorder treatment for adults, children and adolescents, and will serve as a de-escalation center for adults living with behavioral issues.

Eleven of the hospital’s 16 inpatient beds will be dedicated to adults living with co-occurring disorders. The 4-bed unit will be a de-escalation center for adults living with behavioral issues. The hospital will provide care for children and adolescents between the ages of 12 and 18, with a maximum of 90 days of care.

AAAMC’s mental health hospital will provide a variety of inpatient services, including substance use and co-occurring disorders treatment, as well as comprehensive services for adults, children and adolescents living with co-occurring disorders. The hospital will provide inpatient mental health and substance use disorder treatment for adults, children and adolescents, and will serve as a de-escalation center for adults living with behavioral issues.

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Howard County Executive Allan Kittleman has advocated for years in public health and be able to attend the 18 years of age or older, have an interest candidates must be Howard County residents, to be eligible for consideration, can in the health and sanitary interests of the people use disorders professional to serve on the ideally a physician, and one substance Public School System. This year’s Week five free summer lunch sites selected day through Labor Day weekend at four of Snackpacks will be distributed every Fri churches, schools and nonprofits. work of local food pantries run by county food not used in the Weekend Warriors program, started last year as a pilot under for the Weekend Warriors Snackpack FEMA. The expansion this summer of a free weekend Other HCAC programs, visit hocoarts.org for purchase. The exhibited artwork will be available for purchase.

Howard Accepts FEMA Meal Kits for Expanded Summer Program for Children Howard County has announced the expansion this summer of a free weekend meal program for low-income children and seniors, making use of meal kits from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Early this century, the accepted delivery of 25,000 pounds of canned shelf-life meal kits from FEMA to use for the Weekend Warriors Snackpack program, started last year as a pilot under Kittleman’s Achieve 24/7 initiative. Any food not used in the Weekend Warriors program will be distributed through a network of local food pantries run by county churches, schools, and nonprofits. This summer, the Weekend Warriors Snackpacks will be distributed every Friday through Labor Day weekend at four of the five free summer lunch sites selected by and run through the Howard County Public School System. This year’s Week- end Warrior sites are Howard County Middle School, Oakland Mills Middle School, Laurel Woods Elementary School and the East Columbia Branch Library.

Kittleman Establishes Harriet Tubman School Advisory Council Howard County Executive Allan Kittleman signed an executive order creating the Harriet Tubman School Advisory Council, establishing a group that will prioritize ways to restore, renovate and preserve the historic building. The council will give residents and other community stakeholders input on the conversion of the Tubman School into an educational and cultural center. Kittleman has advocated for years for the school to be transformed into an African-American cultural and educational center. Closed in 1965, the county’s only all-black high school had been used for more than three decades as office and storage space for the school system’s maintenance and school construction departments. In 2017, the Howard County Public Schools began to operate the Tubman building surplus and agreed to transfer the site to Howard County government. MDOT SHA is beginning to resurface an additional 1.4 miles between Oak Street and the Howard County line in Laurel. The project will begin mid-July. The $3.2 million project includes upgrading sidewalk ramps and driveway entrances to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance, repairing or replacing storm drain inlets and cleaning drainage pipes and milling, paving and re-striping Route 1. Crews will also construct concrete barriers to protect the approach from heavy vehicles, such as buses. Motorists can expect single-lane closures between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. Sunday through Friday mornings.

SECU MD Foundation Awards $100K in Scholarships Five Howard County residents have received scholarships from the SECU MD Foundation. They include State Employee Scholarship winners Mariana Torres, a Columbia resident who attends Notre Dame of Maryland; and Ellicott City residents Lauren Bitter, a student at the University of South Carolina; and Madisyn Steinberg, who attends the University of Delaware. Both the other two are USM Scholarship winner Graham Schuckman, a resident of Ellicott City who attends the University of Maryland College Park; and Vasilis Anagnostopoulos-King, a Fulton resident and student at the University of Maryland College Park, who was awarded a State of Maryland College Park; and Vasilis Anagnostopoulos-King, a Fulton resident and student at the University of Maryland College Park, who was awarded a State of Maryland College Park; and Vasilis Anagnostopoulos-King, a Fulton resident and student at the University of Maryland College Park, who was awarded a State of Maryland College Park; and Vasilis Anagnostopoulos-King, a Fulton resident and student at the University of Maryland College Park, who was awarded a State of Maryland College Park; and Vasilis Anagnostopoulos-King, a Fulton resident and student at the University of Maryland College Park, who was awarded a State of Maryland College Park; and Vasilis Anagnostopoulos-King, a Fulton resident and student at the University of Maryland College Park, who was awarded a State.
The wine, beer and spirits store donates Cancer Loyalty Day at Petite Cellars manneqart.org Oct. 11. For more information, visit Council’s main gallery from Aug. 31 to of love, fantasy, metro and mechanics. Again celebrate artists who have submitted according to a statement. Therefore, the 2018 in Laurel “for the foreseeable future,” ac Bromo Arts District in Baltimore have Plans to move ManneqART into the Studio space will be provided in the Rodríguez, director of marketing for HHC. Space studio will be provided in the Two Merriweather office building in Downtown Columbia’s Merriweather District. Living accommodations will be provided at The Metropolitan Downtown Columbia apartments.

CAC Opens Howard Food Bank The Community Action Council of Howard County (CAC) opened the How ard County Food Bank on Memorial Day (a day the food bank is typically closed) in order to respond to the disastrous flooding that affected the City that had taken place the day before. The local community responded to the crisis with incredible generosity, donating more than 80,000 pounds of supplies to the Food Bank that day within a four hour period. The CAC followed Howard County’s lead in responding to the crisis, providing supplies to flood victims.

ManneqART Moves Event to Laurel Plans to move ManneqART into the Bromo Arts District in Baltimore have been postponed indefinitely and Manneq ART will remain at its current location in Laurel “for the foreseeable future,” ac cording to a statement. Therefore, the 2018 ManneqART Madness Photography Day is rescheduled for Oct. 13 and 14 and will again celebrate artists who have submitted their interpretations of this year’s theme of love, fantasy, metro and mechanics. In addition to Photography Day, Man neqART has been accepted for a month long exhibit at the Howard County Arts Council’s main gallery from Aug. 31 to Oct. 11. For more information, visit www. manneqart.org.

Petite Cellars Gives Back to Zaching Against Cancer Foundation Every Tuesday is Zaching Against Cancer Loyalty Day at Petite Cellars, lo cated at 11079 Resort Road, Ellicott City. The wine, beer and spirits store donates 10% of all merchandise sold on Tues days directly to Zaching Against Cancer Foundation (ZACF), a Columbia-based nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that improves the quality of life for cancer patients and their caregivers by providing support through direct patient services and programs, scholarships and grants. Serving “to be a constant provider of strength, courage, determination and hope,” ZACF was founded by Zach Lederer and his parents, John and Chris tine Lederer. While studying broadcast journalism at the University of Maryland and serving as student manager for the Terps mens’ basketball team in 2013, Zach battled brain cancer for the second time.

Since defeating his first brain tumor at age 11, Zach had met one-on-one with cancer patients, spoken to large groups about the importance of positivity and started a worldwide movement with his signature “Zaching” pose. In 2014, he passed away at age 20. For more details, visit www.zachingagainstcancer.org.

In addition to the weekly Tuesday fundraisers, Petite Cellars hosts the annual Surf Valley Towne Square Fall Festival to benefit ZACF. Featuring wine, beer, food from area restaurants and live entertain ment, this year’s event is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 4. Details will be posted at www.petitecellars.com.

BBB Issues a Call for Entries for 2018 Torch Awards Better Business Bureau of Greater Maryland (BBB) is accepting applications from businesses and nonprofits for its 2018 Torch Awards for Ethics. There is no fee to enter. Applicants are judged in one of four categories according to number of employees. A complete list of eligibility guidelines, along with the application, are available online at go.bbb.org/md-torch.

Step one of the application requests only basic business information and is due July 9. Applicants will be screened and notified to ensure they meet all eligi bility requirements: to have been serving customers for a minimum of three years, to have a BBB rating of B or better and to have not won the award in the last three years. Step two of the application is due Aug. 15. Winners will be announced the evening of Thursday, Sept. 27, at the Bal timore Museum of Industry.

For more information call 410-400-4BBB or 410-332-0739, or visit www. greatermd.bbb.org.

Bormel, Grice & Huyett Celebrate The Big 5-0 Bormel, Grice & Huyett (BGH) celebrated the firms 50th anniversary on June 7 with a celebration that included more than 150 guests and received proclamations from the state of Maryland, Prince Georges County Executive Rushern Baker, the City of Laurel and the Howard County Council. In addition, June 7 was proclaimed Bormel, Grice & Huyett Day by the City of Laurel and by Prince George’s County. Pictured, from left, are Faye Nwoko, Maryland Department of Correction; Ray Plummer, Anna Huyett, Katherine Grice and Larry Bormel, BGH; and David Lewis, Prince George’s Economic Development Corp.

Let’s Get Down and Eat (and Drink, Too) Owner Steve Wecker and General Manager Vince Colutta recently served as cordial hosts of a press event at their two new restaurants in Downtown Columbia’s Merriweather District, Cured and 18th & 21st. 

Let’s Hear It for the Girls Girl Scouts of Central Maryland recently hosted its signature fundraiser, the Distinguished Wom en Awards Celebration, at The Center Club, in Baltimore. More than $130,000 was raised to support the more than 20,000 girls served through GSCM’s various programs. Pictured is honoree Alicia Ritchie with Shadow Girl Scout Monica.

The Big Winner on Bike to Work Day Howard County Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator Chris Eaton, left, presents Joy Evans with a brand new Trek FX2 bicycle, the grand prize drawing in Howard County’s 10th annual Bike to Work Day celebration.
Howard County Shines at SBA Awards
The Small Business Administration’s (SBA) 2018 Maryland event was held at Martin’s West on June 7. Several Howard County companies and individuals were honored, including Gordon Mumpower, of Commercial Insurance Managers, who received the Veteran-Owned Small Business of the Year award. He’s pictured with his staff.

Columbia Rotary Gives, Receives
The Columbia Rotary club handed out more than $13,000 in charitable donations to local nonprofits on Tuesday, June 19. One of the international contributions goes to an orphan in Sierra Leone that the club sponsors to attend school. Shown is Jennifer Carr Pilholski, left, with her daughter, Anna; she’s presenting a certificate of appreciation to club president Becky Mangus.

DCACC to Provide Opportunities for Students at Merriweather
The Howard County Public School System (HCPS) recently saluted Garrison Commander Tom Rickard at a late June luncheon at Club Meade. New Fort Meade Alliance (FMA) President Doreen Harwood, center, and FMA Foundation President Denise Viergutz presented Rickard with a plaque — and the news that $3.6 million had been raised to turn Kuhn Hall into the Fort Meade Resiliency Center.

The Mall in Columbia Partners With WLHS
Wilde Lake High School (WLHS) partnered with The Mall in Columbia to promote student success and good citizenship by developing a “good neighbor” relationship. Signing the partnership agreement at The Wolvos Oyster & Ale House were, from left, Andrew Akard, Mackenzie Harrison, Will Richardson and Barbara Nicklas, The Mall in Columbia; Rick Wilson and Paul Rivers, WLHS; and Thomas McNeal, Howard County Public School System.

Honoring HCGH 2018 Heroes in Health Care
Nearly 300 guests gathered at The Great Room at Historic Savage Mill on Sat., June 9, to celebrate and raise funds for Howard County General Hospital (HCGH) at the 2018 Heroes in Health Care event. Caregivers from the Lundy Family Neo-Natal Intensive Care Unit, Labor & Delivery, and Maternal Child Units at HCGH were honored, while guests enjoyed great food and live music. Shown are, from left, David and Eileen Powell, event co-chairs; and Joyce and Steve Snelgrove, HCGH president.

LHC Celebrates Grads, Awardees
On June 12, more than 250 guests attended Leadership Howard County’s (LHC) graduation of its Premier and Essentials classes, and honored outstanding community leaders for their service at Turf Valley Resort. Awarded pictured, from left: Rob Moxley received a Distinguished Alumni citation; Vivian “Milly” Bailey received the Leadership Legacy Award; and Pete Mangione was presented the 2018 Unsung Hero award.

Power of the Purse Packs a Punch
Her Mind Magazine and Blossoms of Hope collected more than 2,300 new and used purses to sell at the Power of the Purse, which was held on June 11 at the Sub-Zero, Wolf and Cove by Fretz Kitchen Showroom. More than 450 people attended the event, where more than $32,000 for Blossoms of Hope in support of the Claudia Mayer/Tina Broccolino Cancer Resource Center, as well as the Ellicott City flood victims, was raised.

C_CC Bids Farewell to Rickard
The Fort Meade Community Covenant Council (CCC) recently saluted Garrison Commander Tom Rickard at a late June luncheon at Club Meade. New Fort Meade Alliance (FMA) President Doreen Harwood, center, and FMA Foundation President Denise Viergutz presented Rickard with a plaque — and the news that $3.6 million had been raised to turn Kuhn Hall into the Fort Meade Resiliency Center.

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Certificates Presented to ADAAB Members
The final Howard County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Advisory Board (ADAAB) meeting was held on June 20. County Executive Allan Kittleman provided certificates of recognition to the appointed board members, and the Howard County Health Department staff presented HC DrugFree Executive Director Joan Webb Scornaienchi with a glass egg to recognize her eight years as chair. In the coming months, ADAAB and the Mental Health Authority board will transition into a new county board.
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