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Camp Impact Leaves a Mark at Ft. Washington Elementary/Middle School



Camp Impact participants pose for a photo during the second week of the camp. Camp Impact was a five-week camp that introduced them to functional life skills. The camp exposed the youth to educational and cultural experiences to prepare them to become future leaders in their community. Camp Impact's largest community outreach project was a reading-themed mural they created at Fort Worthington Elementary/Middle School in East Baltimore's Berea neighborhood.

(See article on page 11) Courtesy Photo

JUUL Labs offers new device to help smokers monitor, change their habits

Company also launches education efforts to combat underage use

By Stacy M. Brown

Kevin Burns, the CEO of the e-cigarette technology firm JUUL Labs, said his company is dedicated to eliminating traditional cigarette smoking by offering existing adult smokers a real alternative to combustible cigarettes.

The JUUL device uses an intelligent heating mechanism that creates an aerosol and is engineered to minimize combustion, according to the company's website.

Burns, who formally served as president and COO of the Greek yogurt brand Chobani, told the NNPA Newswire that JUUL remains focused on improving the lives of the more than 38 million adults who smoke in America and the one billion-plus who indulge in cigarette use around the globe.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Black adults smoke cigarettes at roughly the same rate as White adults (16.5 percent for non-Hispanic Blacks vs. 16.6 percent of non-Hispanic Whites).

"This is a product focused on the adult smoker and we want to eliminate smoke around the world and give the smoker the nicotine experience with the switch to e-cigarettes" said Burns, who holds a bachelor of science degree from the University of Connecticut and an MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

The JUUL is a slim device that looks like a flash drive. The company, which reportedly has an estimated worth of \$16 billion, also manufactures e-liquid "JUULpods" that contain nicotine salts, which Burns said result in nicotine delivery



The JUUL e-cigarette is a slim device that looks like a flash drive. E-cigarettes have the potential to benefit adult smokers who are not pregnant if used as a complete substitute for regular cigarettes and other smoked tobacco products, according to the CDC. (JUUL)

that users find as satisfying as what they get from traditional cigarettes. The liquid pods contain benzoic acid, a naturally occurring ingredient that, when combined with nicotine, helps in mimicking the peak nicotine delivery of a cigarette.

A single JUULpod contains five percent nicotine; a three percent nicotine pod will be more widely available this month, Burns said.

"We hope the availability of different nicotine strengths will continue to allow adult smokers the ability to explore what's best for them," Burns said.

That's important for African Americans, Hispanics, lower-income individuals and many military veterans, all who tend to use nicotine products, he said.

"We think we can bring a solution that can have an incredible impact on people switching from combustible tobacco products [to e-cigarettes]," Burns said.

The company has created educational

materials to support underserved communities and they continue to encourage the use of their products by adults only, Burns said.

"Our intent is not to have people who aren't using nicotine products to [purchase our products]," Burns said. "We don't want non-users and we don't want underage users."

JUUL Labs has spared little expense in its educational efforts.

In the United States, youth are more likely than adults to use e-cigarettes, according to the CDC, which makes those education efforts even more critical, as the company expands into new markets.

JUUL Labs established an advisory council for community outreach and youth education awareness and prevention in Baltimore, Md. It's the first city in which JUUL is attempting a hands-on approach, aligning with partners like the Black Mental Health Alliance and Baltimore

Corps., an organization that enlists talented individuals in public service and social entrepreneurship in Baltimore.

When asked how does JUUL plan to market its products to African Americans and Hispanics, Burns said the company is evaluating options.

"We're formulating a plan now. We have a partnership with Black Mental Health Alliance...doing community work and we're working on the population that's underserved and over-harmed," Burns said.

The company is also making efforts in terms of retail auditing to make sure people are not selling their products to underage youth, Burns said.

The company takes underage smoking very seriously and, to that end, they're also establishing the use of Bluetooth technology which could one day shut devices down around schools and other places, Burns said.

JUUL is also developing a Bluetooth-enabled device in international markets that consumers can link to health and wellness apps on their smartphones.

"We are looking at the ability to allow them to reduce their dependence," Burns said. "Connection to the app may have features that allow you to monitor and have active management of your device, which can actively manage nicotine levels; getting people off of [combustible] cigarettes is a big win."

Burns concluded: "With the hardware and software, we'll be able to give people every opportunity to minimize their relationship with nicotine. This will be done through a very sophisticated technology where we will have a device connected to an app that will allow you to have active management of your use."

Learn more about the vapor alternative to traditional cigarettes at JUUL.com

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Wells Fargo ups donations to more than \$1 Million a day to charities

Wells Fargo & Company last year continued to invest in communities across the country through its philanthropy and volunteerism, donating more than \$286.5 million in 2017 to more than 14,500 nonprofits, the company announced.

The company's plan to target \$400 million in donations to nonprofits and community organizations in 2018 is an increase of approximately 40 percent from

2017. Wells Fargo already is one of the top corporate cash donors, ranking first among financial institutions and third among all U.S. companies in a 2016 report (most recent ranking) by The Chronicle of Philanthropy.

"We understand the important role we play in helping our communities, so we will continue to identify additional opportunities where Wells Fargo can make a difference," CEO, Tim Sloan said. "Wells Fargo's

increased philanthropy will have a positive effect on the causes and communities we support and further enhance our Corporate Social Responsibility efforts, which will continue to focus on advancing diversity and social inclusion, creating economic opportunities in underserved communities, and accelerating the transition to a lower-carbon economy and a healthier planet."

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Wells Fargo commits \$3.5 million to increase financial capability across U.S.

Toncé Jackson was at a low point four years ago. In Chicago's Cook County Jail for a fourth time, she was struggling with substance abuse, had no job, a limited education, terrible credit, and was burdened with debt — she didn't even have a bank account. Caught in a painful cycle that was destroying her family, she resolved to change.

"I wanted to start my life over," said Jackson. "I just needed a little help with my beginning."

The Wells Fargo Financial Capability Grant program focuses on helping people, like Jackson, who are facing destabilizing economic challenges. Started in 2017, the program's grants help people from diverse populations who are underbanked by connecting them to income supports and financial training.

The program has just awarded \$3.5 million to two nonprofits with thoughtful and focused financial capability programs — the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), and the Cities for Financial Empowerment (CFE) Fund.

The Wells Fargo grants will provide \$1 million funding for the CFE Fund and \$2.5 million funding for LISC financial capability programs in a total of 25 U.S. cities and regions over three years.

"All of the cities we are working with demonstrated that they are looking to make financial empowerment front-and-center in the work they can do," said Tamara Lindsay, a principal at the CFE Fund. "The long-term vision is to create a permanent home for this work, to help make sure it is sustainable."

City leaders collaborate with CFE Fund partners to open Financial Empowerment Centers, or FECs, for their residents. At FECs, professionally trained counselors help consumers with low and moderate incomes manage their finances, pay down debt, increase savings, establish and build credit, and access safe and affordable mainstream banking products. The FEC model integrates counseling into other social services, including housing and foreclosure prevention, workforce development, prisoner reentry, benefits access, domestic violence services, and more. First piloted in New York City under Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg in 2008, the FECs are a proven success — about 80,000 consumers have reduced individual debt by almost \$94 million and increased their families' savings by about \$12 million. A recent CFE Fund evaluation showed that this program works even for residents with very low incomes and other complex financial challenges.

"Offering financial counseling as a public service, though local governments, helps stabilize struggling households and communities. Local leaders know the importance of helping families and neighborhoods build financial stability and make better use of social services," said Jonathan Mintz, president and CEO of the CFE Fund.

Wells Fargo's grant to LISC will strengthen and expand the Financial Opportunity Center, or FOC, model across 15 target markets. Working through local nonprofits nationwide since 2006, FOCs offer services including employment and career counseling, one-on-one

financial coaching and education, and connect individuals with low-cost financial products that help build credit, savings and assets. FOCs also have a remedial education component that provides participants with foundational reading and math skills that they need in order to get into job training programs that can lead to higher paying, living-wage careers.

"Promising talent exists in all our communities, and we have to invest to help people realize their full potential. That's where FOCs come in," said LISC CEO Maurice A. Jones. "By connecting people to the tools they need, they can compete for the quality jobs that employers must fill to innovate and grow. They'll be able to earn more, save more and access life-changing opportunities for themselves and their families."

During a conversation with her parole officer, Jackson found out about a local Financial Opportunity Center housed at Chicago's Jane Addams Resource Corporation, a nonprofit local community resource center. The FOC helped Jackson find additional education opportunities and got her into a job placement program. After she successfully landed her welding job, Jackson continued to receive guidance from a financial coach. She created a budget, reduced her medical debts, and established credit.

Mike Rizer, head of Wells Fargo Community Relations, said results like Jackson's are the goal.

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Guest Editorials/Commentary

Does America really have the worst health system in the developed world?

By Sally C. Pipes

America spends twice as much on healthcare as its peers in the developed world yet fares worse on a range of health indicators, including life expectancy and infant mortality.

That's the finding of a new survey of 10 developed countries published by the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Surveys like these tend to point out that the United States spends a lot on healthcare but doesn't appear to get much in return. A closer look, however, reveals that America's seemingly poor performance is largely attributable to lifestyle and social factors -- not the quality of the institutions that make up its healthcare system.

Take life expectancy. Americans live for 78.8 years, on average -- less than the citizens of the other 10 developed nations examined in the JAMA study.

Several factors unrelated to our healthcare system explain Americans' poor life expectancy. Our death rate from car crashes is more than double that of other high-income nations. The U.S. drug overdose death rate is higher as well; Americans are twice as likely as Brits and six times as likely as the French to die of overdoses.

Americans are also heavier than citizens of other nations. More than 70 percent of U.S. adults are either overweight or obese, which increases their risk of premature death.

None of these factors reflects the quality of America's doctors or hospitals. Yet they all contribute to our low life expectancy.

Then there's infant mortality. The JAMA analysis finds that America has the developed world's highest infant mortality rate -- 5.8 per 1,000 live births, compared to an average of 3.6 per 1,000.

But this statistic is misleading. Countries record infant deaths differently.

In the United States, it's standard practice to count any newborn showing the slightest evidence of life as a live birth. The Netherlands and France, by contrast, don't count babies born before 22 weeks of gestation or weighing 1.1 pounds or less as live births.

By excluding premature and underweight babies, many of whom don't survive, these countries artificially decrease their infant mortality rates.

Yet another deceptive indicator is the share of the population with health insurance. America's 90-percent insured rate falls short of the coverage rates in the other nations.

Insurance, however, is no guarantee of access to healthcare. In my native Canada, the median wait time for receiving treatment from a specialist after referral from a general practitioner soared to a record high of 21.2 weeks last year.

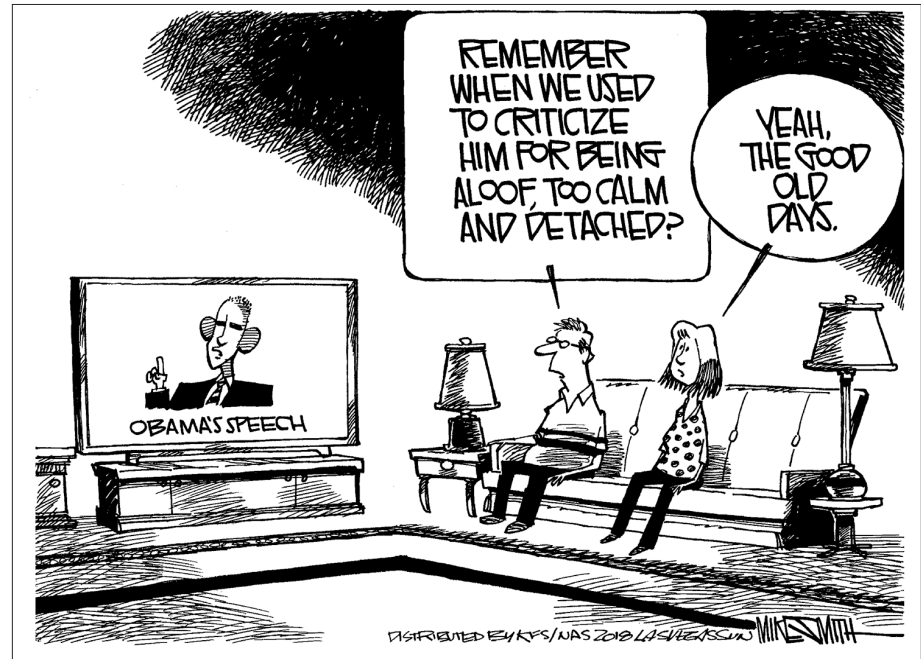
Patients in the United Kingdom's single-payer system routinely wait for hours in hospital hallways -- or even in the back of ambulances.

Most patients in the United States, by contrast, receive top-notch care essentially on-demand. It's no coincidence that roughly 40 percent of patients seeking treatment outside their home country go to the United States, according to a 2017 survey.

The American system is also much better at treating serious illnesses like cancer. Five-year survival rates for breast, colon, and prostate cancers are higher in the United States than in other developed countries like Canada, the United Kingdom, France, and Germany.

The U.S. healthcare system isn't perfect. But it's irresponsible to blame it for our nation's comparatively low life expectancy and high infant mortality without acknowledging the societal factors behind those problems.

Sally C. Pipes is President, CEO, and Thomas W. Smith Fellow in Health Care Policy at the Pacific Research Institute. Her latest book, *The False Promise of Single-Payer Health Care (Encounter)*, was released this spring. Follow her on Twitter @sallypipes.



Letter to the Editor

Open Letter to Senator Ben Cardin

Dear Senator Cardin:

It is now more evident than ever that Mr. Donald Trump is not competent to serve as president of the United States of America.

To place the entire nation secondary to his personal biases, crass conduct, delusion and disrespect to nation states is both dangerous and antithetical to his oath of office. He clearly demonstrated a lack of faithfulness and an unwillingness or inability to protect the United States at the Helsinki Summit with Mr. Putin.

To act singularly and recklessly against experienced advisors; to ignore briefings in favor of his inexperienced opinion and outright delusion; to denigrate the Intelligence community; and to evade answering critical questions from

the American press on the world stage, is not the behavior of a faithful, protective president.

Perhaps it is past time to call into question Mr. Trump's general mental wellbeing.

Sen. Cardin, this is not a partisan issue to be played back and forth across the aisle or pushed down the road to another session. Congress must step up now and fulfill its role in reigning in and holding accountable a malfunctioning president with a personal agenda that supersedes the domestic and international affairs and concerns of the United States of America.

Please, please communicate this to your congressional colleagues regardless of the side of the aisle on which they may be seated.

Respectfully Yours,
Joycelyn E. Jolly
Baltimore, Maryland

When sending letters to the editor, your correct name, address and telephone number must be included with your submission.

Your letter will not be published without the required information.

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The Racial Optics of the Opioid Epidemic

By Raynard Jackson
(NNPA Newswire Columnist)

Please excuse me for not welling up with empathy for those who are addicted to opioids. Yeah, I know drug addiction is a bad thing, but people make choices and have to live with the consequences.

I am old enough to have lived through the crack epidemic of the 1980s and 1990s and found little to no empathy from the public, especially politicians, because crack fell disproportionately hard on the black community. As a matter of fact, blacks were told it was a moral failing by the user and the seller, thus they deserved what they got. As a matter of fact, the public demanded legal action be taken against those caught up in the crack epidemic.

Lock 'em up and throw away the key was the political sentiment in Washington, D.C. during the 90s when it came to crack dealers and users.

This view led to the mass incarceration of low-level drug dealers and users, culminating in people like Hillary Clinton labeling young, blacks who were caught



Raynard Jackson
Photo: BABF

up in the drug game “super predators.”

According to the *U.S. News and World Report*, 79 percent of 5,669 sentenced crack offenders in 2009 were black,

ous forms of treatment and prevention; whereas, crack addiction was labeled a moral failing and a law enforcement issue.

Basically, the crack epidemic dispro-

“Whether it’s abusing opioids or smoking crack, people make choices and have to live with the consequences.”

— Raynard Jackson

versus 10 percent who were white and 10 percent, who were Hispanic.

Juxtapose that with what the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation found about the opioid problem. In 2016, according to the foundation, white victims made up almost 80 percent of the deaths from opioid overdoses, with black victims comprising only 10 percent of deaths and Hispanic victims 8 percent.

Opioid addiction is being treated as a medical condition, with hundreds of millions of dollars being allocated to vari-

portionately affected blacks and the current opioid epidemic predominately affects whites. A study in the *Annals of Internal Medicine* found that cocaine-related overdose deaths among blacks were on par with heroin and prescriptions opioid-related deaths among whites between 2000 and 2015.

There are all kinds of reasons for this and I get it. But what I don’t understand and won’t accept is the conscious choices media appointed Black leaders make to the detriment of their own people.

When will these leaders stand up and demand more money and programs for the drug problems that are destroying the black community that have nothing to do with opioids? When will they demand law enforcement action against physicians who have willfully overprescribed opioids to patients unnecessarily?

These physicians are the modern-day version of the drug dealer, except they are not working on the street corner, but rather in the cozy confines of their medical offices.

Where is the lock ‘em up and throw away the key sentiment towards opioid users that politicians showed towards crack dealers?

One would have to be totally blind not to see the racial optics being played out in this whole debate about the opioid drug addiction versus how the crack addiction was handled.

I am really struggling with my inability to muster up any empathy for the victims of this latest drug scourge that is moving across our country.

So, to those who are reading this column and think I am cold, heartless, and hateful please spare me your unrighteous indignation.

Raynard Jackson is founder and chairman of Black Americans for a Better Future (BAFBF), a federally registered 527 Super PAC established to get more Blacks involved in the Republican Party. BAFBF focuses on the Black entrepreneur. For more information about BAFBF, visit www.bafbf.org. You can follow Raynard on Twitter @Raynard1223.

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Josephine Baker documentary headlines African Diaspora International Film Festival



Josephine Baker: Black Diva in a White Man's World directed by Annette von Wangenheim is a tender, revealing documentary about one of the most famous and popular performing artists of the 20th century. Courtesy Photos

By Stacy M. Brown

"Streetlight Harmonies," by Brent Wilson and the documentary, "Josephine Baker: Black Diva in a White Man's World," count among the highlights of the 12th annual African Diaspora International Film Festival which opens on Friday, August 17, 2018 at the George Washington University Marvin Center in Northwest, Washington, D.C.

The three-day festival, which presents films to diverse audiences and redesigns the black cinema experience by strengthening the role of directors of African descent in contemporary world cinema, will feature 16 films that will take audiences in and out of the United States, including eight that will have their premieres in the nation's capital.

"There's a lot new this year," said Reinaldo Barroso-Spech, an educator in foreign languages and black literature who created the festival with his wife, Diarah N'Daw-Spech, a financial consultant and university budget manager.

The opening night film, "Timeless," by Ed LaBorde counts as a love story that transcends time from 19th century

Ghana to the modern day Caribbean. Some of the social issues explored in the film are the human trafficking of the slave trade in the past and the present day human trafficking in the Virgin Islands, as well as political corruption and immigration.

The opening night event starts with a VIP catered reception at 8 p.m. LaBorde will participate in a question and answer session at 9 p.m.

Festival organizers also plan to present the premiere screening of the award-winning drama, "The Citizen," a narrative about middle-aged African political refugee Wilson who seeks Hungarian citizenship. The film has already earned acclaim from critics at the New York Times and other publications.

Organizers have also expressed excitement about "Streetlight Harmonies," a film about doo-wop featuring a who's who of musicians that trace the evolution of pop music from doo-wop and Phil Spector's legendary "wall of sound" through Motown, surf music and the British Invasion.

The festival also includes a special program where films depict the lives of



Streetlight Harmonies by Brent Wilson is about Doo-wop and features stellar vocal harmonies sung a cappella, born on street corners in the 1950s. In **Streetlight Harmonies**, a who's who of musicians trace the evolution of American pop music from doo-wop and Phil Spector's legendary "wall of sound" up through Motown, surf music and the British Invasion. It's a toe-tapping stroll down memory lane for music lovers of all ages.



Paris Noir: African-Americans in The City of Light by Joanne Burke is an exciting, enlightening documentary on the presence of African-Americans in Paris from WWI to the early 1960s

a native of one country who moves to another nation like, "African-Americans in Europe," which features a Josephine Baker documentary by Annette von Wangenheim.

Two other films directed by women explore issues of identity in diaspora communities in the United States.

"The Good Life— or La Belle Vie— by Rachele Salnave, reflects on the cultural crossfire she experienced as a Haitian-American growing up in Harlem juxtaposing her parents' memories of noble family histories with a humble working class reality.

"Life Is Fare," by Sephora Woldu counts as a cross-cultural film that challenges how patriotism and nationalism are practiced by people of a country, and is inspired by current Eritrean and Ethiopian migration experiences in the United States.

"From its inception, the festival has always showcased great films that explore the black British experience," Barroso-Spech said.

For a complete list and the schedule of all films, tickets and more information, visit: www.nyadiff.org.

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Keep Sober Driving In Mind This Labor Day Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over. It's the Law.

By Dr. Laura Buchanan

This article is part of the #STCPreventionMatters campaign from the University of Maryland Medical Center. For more information about the campaign and the Center for Injury Prevention and Policy, visit: www.umm.edu/PreventionMatters

Every day, law enforcement officers and emergency personnel rush to the scene of tragic vehicle crashes. Often, the people involved in the motor vehicle crashes end up at Shock Trauma. Here we treat the most severe and life-threatening injuries in the state; 37 percent of which are caused by a motor vehicle crash. Each crash is unique—each cause and outcome is different.

In 2016, 37,461 people were killed in vehicle crashes, and nearly one-third of those fatalities (10,497) were due to drunk driving. Those numbers remain similar year after year. Even with the knowledge that drunk driving is criminal behavior (not to mention deadly) in all 50 States and Washington, D.C., people continue to drink and drive. Even after numerous DUIs, data shows some people continue this frightening behavior.

Drinking and driving is a choice, and it is a choice that should not be made.

Every month, our Shock Trauma nurses present on the consequences of drinking and driving for the Adult Court Ordered Drinking Driver Monitor Program. The vast majority of the people that attend are first time offenders and it is the nurses' goal to convince attendees to never drink and drive again. They would rather people not drink and drive in the first place.

At Shock Trauma, we firmly believe that most trauma, is preventable and death and injury resulting from drinking and driving is no exception. As a trauma surgeon, I have seen a single mistake ruin six or seven lives, even when the patient survives their injuries.

Patients can break bones, suffer from traumatic brain injuries, and even lose an arm or a leg after a crash. Some never recover. The person who made the rash decision put so many at risk. Few people knowingly decide to DRIVE DRUNK. Instead, people tend to underestimate



how impacted they are by the alcohol they consume. Remember, any amount of drinking and driving is dangerous and impairment begins with the very first sip.

The decision to not drink and drive should never be a tough one. Drunk driving is illegal, but it's also deadly—to the driver, to his or her passengers and to other road users. If you cannot control your own behavior, a law enforcement officer will. They will be out on high alert, seeking out drunk drivers during the holiday period, showing zero tolerance for anyone driving drunk. If they find you driving drunk, you will be arrested—no excuses!

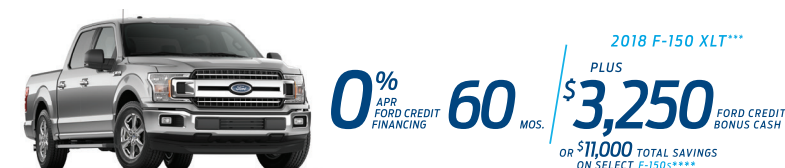
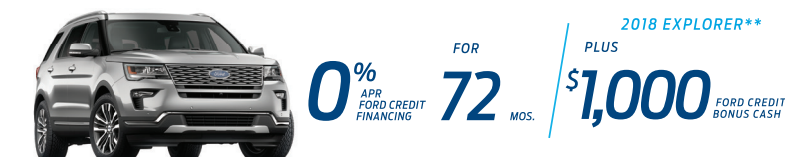
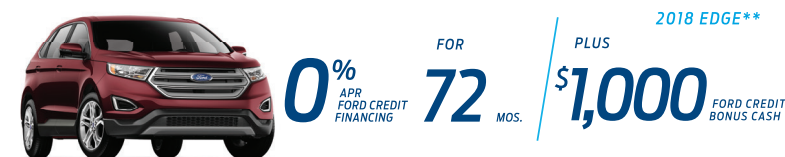
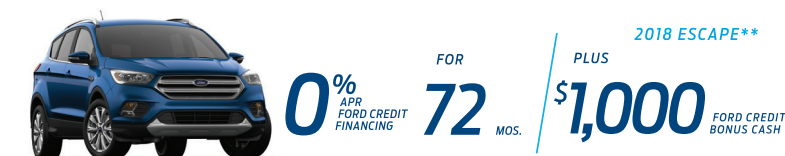
This news should not come as a surprise; everyone knows it is against the law to drink and drive. Alcohol consumption lowers inhibitions, causing you to make bad decisions you would not otherwise make. Do not trust yourself when you drink.

This Labor Day holiday, a time of year when drunk-driving fatalities and injuries surge, local law enforcement will be out in full force in support of the 2018 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign. Between August 17 and September 3, 2018, law enforcement officers will team up with the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to participate in high-visibility exercises, pulling over and arresting drunk drivers. Save a life—do not make the tragic choice to drink and drive.

Laura Buchanan, MD is an assistant professor of trauma and surgical critical care at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and a trauma surgeon at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center

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State and Federal Government Sign Maryland Model All-Payer Contract

Annapolis— Governor Larry Hogan, together with Seema Verma, Administrator of the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), signed and officially enacted Maryland's Total Cost of Care All-Payer Model, known as the "Maryland Model," in a signing ceremony at the Maryland State House.

The Maryland Model is an innovative approach to healthcare provider payment that is unique to Maryland and made possible via a contract between CMS and the state. The new model contract is expected to provide an additional \$300 million in savings per year by 2023, totaling \$1 billion in savings over five years.

"We are thrilled to be here today to officially execute and enact our unique and innovative Maryland Model, which is the only one of its kind in the nation," said Governor Larry Hogan. "Today, we are taking another major step forward in our efforts to ensure that every Marylander has access to quality healthcare. It is my hope that these actions will be an example to the nation that when both sides of the aisle and all levels of government



come together to develop innovative solutions, we can make real progress toward addressing our healthcare challenges and making care more accessible and more affordable."

"This Model is a step towards aligning the entire delivery system toward paying for value over volume," said CMS Administrator Seema Verma. "Maryland has led the way by adopting the first alternative payment model to shift hospi-

tal payments to full global budgets. Success under this new Model will require both hospitals and physicians to be equally, committed to payment transformation and care redesign. We look forward to seeing the great work to come and to continuing to partner with you Governor Hogan, and the whole state of Maryland in this bold initiative."

"Maryland can be very proud of our new day in healthcare. [The] signing strengthens and expands our first in the nation patient-focused health system transformation. The Administration, the General Assembly, providers, insurers, and consumers are all working closely together to build a health system which puts keeping people healthy as our top priority," said Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative President Vincent DeMarco.

Maryland's previous All-Payer Model, approved in 2014, has already saved Medicare more than \$586 million through 2016, compared to national spending. Under the current model, hospitals have successfully reduced unnec-

essary readmissions and hospital-acquired conditions while decreasing the growth in hospital cost per capita.

The new Maryland Model will expand this successful approach across the healthcare system when it takes effect on January 1, 2019 and extends through the end of 2023. The contract can then be extended for an additional five years, pending a review of the terms.

The Maryland Model aims to control the growth in healthcare costs, both at hospitals and community providers, while improving patient outcomes and quality of care. To achieve this comprehensive coordination across the entire healthcare system, the Maryland Model will:

- Coordinate care across both hospital and non-hospital settings, including mental health and long-term care
- Invest resources in care that is focused on the patient and enhance primary-care teams to improve individual patient outcomes
- Set a range of quality and care improvement goals and provide incentives for providers to meet them
- Concentrate system and community resources on population health goals to help address opioid use and deaths, diabetes, hypertension, and other chronic conditions
- Encourage and facilitate programs focusing on the unique needs of Marylanders across geographic settings and other key demographics

The Maryland Model provides a significant incentive across the health system to provide greater coordinated care, expanded patient-care delivery, and collaboration of chronic disease management, while improving the quality of care at lower costs to the consumer.

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Maryland mother-daughter duo become semi-finalist in Sally Beauty Supply competition

By Andrea Blackstone

At just 13 years old, Lexi Proctor (Lexi P.) is holding a golden opportunity in the palm of her hands, with the help of her mother. Before Lexi heads to a Prince George's County Public School (PGCPS) as an eighth grader, the kidpreneur is creating a social media buzz to urge the public to vote for her company, Curlanistas, LLC (Curlanistas).

Lexi and her mother, Monica Proctor, are one of four semi-finalist hair care brands vying for a \$25,000 monetary grant, product distribution on SallyBeauty.com, and support to help grow her business through the Sally Beauty Cultivate program.

Online voting ends on August 12, 2017. The number of votes, and how well each brand pitches their business at Sally's headquarters in Texas, are factors which determine who will be awarded the top spot.

"This (winning) would help Lexi continue to expand her product line and get it on shelves across the country at Sally Beauty Supply at an accelerated rate," Proctor said. "It would also help her gain even more exposure to a larger audience."

Proctor—a Morgan State University alumna—is operations manager of Curlanistas, LLC. The dedicated mother explained that Sally Beauty Supply, the largest retailer and distributor of professional beauty supplies, crafted a Sally Beauty Cultivate program called "For Women by Women." Sally Beauty Supply has an established track record of supporting emerging products and entrepreneurs before they become household names. A business accelerator program was designed to help women beauty entrepreneurs grow their businesses.

All of these reasons explain why Lexi aims to make her big dreams come true.

"Vote for me because my brand needs this opportunity to help get my message of self-love out there even faster. My curl cream and detangler are really magical and will help so many people with their daily routine of caring for their nat-



Lexi Proctor, 13, feels that the most rewarding part of being a kidpreneur is knowing that she is inspiring others to follow their dreams. Lexi's Curlanistas, LLC, is one of four semi-finalist brands vying for a \$25,000 monetary grant and product distribution on SallyBeauty.com to help grow her business through the Sally Beauty Cultivate program. The public can vote for Lexi's brand daily until August 12, 2018 via <https://www.sallybeauty.com/cultivate.html> to help her win a rare opportunity. Courtesy Photos



ural hair," Lexi said. "I also have other products I'm working on, and this will help me get there."

Ironically, Curlanistas was launched in 2016, and the hair line kicked off in 2018, because Lexi was once teased about her big, curly hair. She decided that she wanted to help girls going

through the same things by sparking a Curlanistas movement, which complimented her first book, "Curly Girls Love Your Curls."

Lexi's goal was to develop her brand to help girls to feel empowered to wear their hair big, bold and proud. She aimed to share her personal lessons about

learning to love herself in her first book. Her second book, "The Ice Cream Talk: Loving The Skin You're In!," expanded on the self-love topic.

"I [teach] girls how to love their hair with my books. Now, I want to teach girls how to care for their hair with my line of hair products," Lexi said. "I launched my Curlanistas hair line in February 2018, but did a soft launch at the world famous Bronner Brothers Convention in Atlanta, Georgia in August of 2017, and I sold out the first day."

Lexi has even recognized by Instagram, in partnership with the Book Confidence Code for Girls, through their #CaptureConfidence initiative. However, Lexi's ambition has been observable since she was a young girl. Proctor revealed that her daughter began showing interest in business at approximately nine years old.

"She asked me to buy some candy, so she could sell it in school [to buy] a new toy she wanted. She soon learned she wasn't allowed to sell the sweet treats at school, but quickly learned about another passion of hers which is writing,"

Proctor said. "Her fifth-grade teacher had Lexi enter a contest for a book she was required to write as a creative writing assignment, and a spark was lit."

After a few short weeks, Lexi informed her mother that she completed a draft of "Curly Girls Love Your Curls." That was the beginning of Proctor knowing that her daughter was serious about becoming an author, plus so much more.

"From there it was only natural for her to transition into the world of being a businesswoman in beauty. When we both saw the impact and responses we were getting from girls, and even grown women, we knew Lexi was doing something so important," Proctor said. "Lexi is passionate about her message and wants to help girls around the world feel good about themselves."

You may vote for Lexi's Curlanistas brand daily until August 12, 2018 via <https://www.sallybeauty.com/cultivate.html>

Camp Impact Leaves a Mark at Ft. Washington Elementary/Middle School

Reading-themed mural unveiled at closing ceremony.

By Ursula V. Battle

A group of youth left a lasting impression at a Baltimore school thanks to one summer camp. The youngsters, who were 14-17 years of age, participated in “Camp Impact,” a five-week camp that introduced them to functional life skills. The camp exposed the youth to educational and cultural experiences to prepare them to become future leaders in their community.

Camp Impact’s largest community outreach project was a reading-themed mural created by the campers at Fort Worthington Elementary/Middle School in East Baltimore’s Berea neighborhood. The mural’s theme is “Planting the seeds to read.”

On Friday July 27, 2018, Camp Impact closed out their summer camp program with a VIP reception and an unveiling of the mural. The ceremony took place at the school, which is located at 2710 E Hoffman Street in Baltimore. Fifteen youth participated in Camp Impact, which ran from July 25, 2018 to July 27, 2018.

Camp Impact was founded earlier this year by Live the Dream Foundation, a non-profit organization created by All Walks of Life LLC (AWL). The organization was founded in 2006 as an outpatient mental health clinic in the Baltimore metropolitan area. AWL assists youth who are in crisis and need support as they strive for self-empowerment. Live the Dream partnered with the Baltimore City Youth Works program to create the summer program.

Dr. Gwen Taliaferro is the director of Live the Dream Foundation and was the camp’s director.

“These were beautiful young people,” said Dr. Taliaferro. “We have to help children move along to assist them in achieving the goals they have set for themselves. We mentored them, and gave them life-skills. We have to have safe villages for our children. It is also important for our children to feel they are a part of the community and are giving back to it.”

During the camp, artist Breonna Erica worked with the youth.

“Breonna was outstanding,” said Dr. Taliaferro. “We didn’t know the painting skill of the campers, but Breonna said she would show them how to paint. Some of the students painted, others washed out the brushes, and others ran upstairs and downstairs to get and bring back supplies. They all pitched in to complete the mural, and they felt really good about that.”

She added, “At the end of the camp, they all received certificates. Breonna and the camp’s counselor Collette Preston talked to each of them about how they saw them grow, the light they saw in them, and what they needed to focus on. The children felt good about what they heard. Kids need to hear things like that. They were encouraging words for the youth, and made them feel good. They can take that encouragement with them back to school.”

During the camp, various speakers came in and spoke on a variety of topics, which included health and entrepreneurship. The speakers included Lee Taylor Butler, a developer and licensed realtor.

“We painted the mural at Ft. Washington, but in the afternoon we honed in on life skills,” said Preston. “We had a variety of speakers to come in and speak to the campers on various topics. Ms. Butler told her story from beginning to end. She is very successful, and her story inspired them. It let the campers know they can do it too. The students were paid for the mural, which gave them the opportunity to earn money over the summer. When it was complete, the campers’ reaction was ‘Wow! We did this!’”

She added, “The camp was incredible. It was seamless. The kids came from various backgrounds and bonded. They encouraged one another, laughed together, ran together, and played together. The goal of the mural was to give back to the younger children, and encourage them to read more and imagine more. The camp taught them there are many ways to give back. Camp Impact lived up to its name. It definitely made a huge impact.”



*The completed mural at Fort Worthington Elementary/Middle School.
Courtesy Photos*



A camper works on the mural during the five-week camp.



Dr. Gwen Taliaferro Director of Live The Dream Foundation and Camp Director of Camp Impact talks to campers.

Rambling Rose

Good Music Soothes the Nerves



Rosa Pryor Trusty

Hello everyone! How are things with you? Happy, I hope. Well, looking at my calendar, I believe it is going to be a slow week ahead.....

There is a gospel event coming up, I think it will be awesome because of the acts they will have on the program. You know me, I love my down-home gospel entertainment just as much as I love R&B, oldies, blues and jazz.

Well on this particular program, I believe it will be a whole lot of stumping your feet, clapping your hands and maybe shouting up and down the aisles. Check this out! It is the "26th Anniversary of Sparkie & the Tones of Joy" featuring Lil Rev. & the Georgia Boyz from Douglas Georgia; Anointed Voices from Bainsburg, SC.; Spiritual Voices from Washington, DC.; Kenny Davis & the Melodyaires; The Singing Pastors from New Jersey; Sisters with a Voice Praise Team; Lil' James Price & the Men of God; The New Ebony Singers with Minister. The event takes place at 3:30 p.m. at Greater New Hope Baptist Church, 2720 W. North Avenue in Baltimore. Dr. Linwood Robinson is the Pastor. For more information, call 410-949-6687. Tell them you heard about it from "Rambling Rose" in the Baltimore Times.

Speaking of good music, Cleve Brister and the late Ruth Kirk family is still having the "Ruth Kirk Festival" on Saturday, September 1st and Sunday, September 2nd. The date was changed on them by the City for the month of August, but having the festival in September is still good.

This will mark the "24th Annual Ruth

M. Kirk Family Fun Festival" on Labor Day Weekend from 12 noon until 8 p.m. on both days. Activities will include the Children's Village; arts & crafts; games; face painting; lots and lots of food vendors. The live entertainment will include: MC Booze; Rebirth; Marlene Ross; First Impression; Bonia' and her group; and the Spindles. The festival will begin with a parade on Saturday around 10 a.m. starting in the 200 block of N. Schroeder Street and the 1000 blk. of W. Lexington Street, straight up to the Square entrance on N. Carey and Fayette Street. The parade will end up in the center of Franklin Square Park where the event will happen. It is open and FREE TO THE PUBLIC.

Another event coming up is "Moon Man" Show & Dance Cabaret Style" on Friday, August 17th starting at 7 p.m. Free food and a bottle of champagne on every table, free set-ups, and BYOB. You can also bring your own food. The show will feature live in-person from the Motor City of Detroit: Jr. Walkers All Star Band & Show; Detroit Ladies of Soul; Blue Magic featuring Richard Pratt's, Ten Karat Gold Band & Show; The Panama Band & Show; and the Virtuoso Band. Sounds like a party to me! I will see you there. For more information, call Moon Man at 443-854-2771.

Well, my dear friends, I am out of space and out of time, remember if you need me, call me at 410-833-9474 or email me at atrosapryor@aol.com. UNTIL THE NEXT TIME, I'M MUSICALLY YOURS.



Clarence Ward III, saxophonist and trumpeter will be performing at An Die Musik, 409 N. Charles Street in Baltimore on Sunday, August 12 at 7 p.m. with Michael Bowie on bass, Allyn Johnson on piano and Quincy Phillips on drums. For more information, call 410-385-2638.



.Willie "Moon Man" Bacote, former radio personality and now promoter will host a "Big Motown Show & Dance, Cabaret Style" on Friday, August 17, show starts at 8 p.m. at the Forest Park Senior Center, 4801 Liberty Heights Avenue.



Home Going Service for Leon Jones: Viewing is Friday, August 20 at Vaughn Green Funeral Home, 8728 Liberty Road from 4-8 p.m.; the Wake is Saturday, August 11, at Epworth United Methodist Church, 3317 St Lukes Lane, in Baltimore at 10:30 a.m., funeral to follow at 11 a.m. Leon Jones was a popular DJ, a Brother of Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity, former Football Commissioner for Maryland Football and Sponsor with MD Ski Express. Condolences to his Family and Friends.



Happy Anniversary to Medford and Joan Campbell, my Brother and Sister of the Order in Prince Hall Mason and dear friends, may God continue to bless this special couple for many years to come.

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Peabo Bryson 'Stands for Love' with New CD

By Stacy M. Brown

Peabo Bryson sat on the front porch of his Buckhead, Georgia home, watching a family of deer pass by as the southern sky turned dark because of an impending storm.

Having recently completed his 21st studio album with the legendary production duo of Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis, Bryson lit up as he talked about his career. He says he is as excited as ever about his new music and accompanying tour that will have him travel all over the United States and to Japan.

First, however, he wanted to talk about his son.

"I have such a beautiful family and my little man—I can tell you it's like watching a mini version of myself. Almost every single aspect of him reminds me of me," the proud father said.

One of the premiere vocalists in music over the past 40 years, Bryson has earned two Grammy Awards and two Academy Awards. He is also responsible for a memorable 1992 Oscar night performance with Angela Lansbury and Celine Dion as they earned rave reviews for their performance of the title track from the movie, "Beauty and the Best," which won Best Original Song.

With hits that include duets with Natalie Cole, Roberta Flack and Regina Belle, Bryson has the distinction of being the first artist in music history to have separate records topping four different charts.

He believes his new album, "Stand for Love," has even more hits, particularly because of the added touch of Jam and Lewis.



Peabo Bryson
Courtesy Photo

"Excited doesn't begin to describe what it's like working with them. The first thing you notice is the absence of ego and self-importance," Bryson said about the producers who have worked with Prince, Michael Jackson and many others.

Together, Jam and Lewis made Janet Jackson an international icon.

"My challenge to them was, 'Can you make me current without destroying what has taken me a lifetime to accomplish?'" Bryson said. "I asked them if they could put me in today's conversation about music—to make me valid to

be in a conversation. I couldn't think of anyone else."

Even prior to its release, the new album has caught on.

The lead single, "Love Like Yours and Mine," has rocketed to No. 3 on Billboard's Adult R&B list and the second single, "All She Wants to Do is Me," has already been featured on the Showtime hit series, "The Chi."

Part of Bryson says his success can be credited to him being able to say no in a world where everybody is accustomed to hearing the opposite. "I was saying no to drugs long ago. Some might have

called me a 'goody-two-shoes' and a bunch of other things but I tend to look at it as being young and pragmatic, as opposed to young and restless," Bryson said.

The singer, whose career has yielded such hits as "Feel the Fire," "Tonight I Celebrate My Love," and "Can You Stop the Rain," has also kept the proper perspective on celebrity and real life.

"There are two things you have to understand about celebrity and success," Bryson said.

"One is, fame is not real. You have to accept that. Fame really for an artist is everybody else's perception of you, but you. Everybody else's perception is valid except for yours if you adapt that. In terms of success, everything that you have can be taken a way from you in the next five seconds.

"[Celebrities] become invulnerable and that's what they think success is but the hardest thing to navigate for a human being is not adversity—it's success itself. Every single virtue you've ever had or everything you've ever hoped to achieve. Look, I treat every human being that I come in contact with the way I want to be treated and look—I buy my own toilet paper."

For Bryson, the new album is just one more thing that he is grateful for.

"At this stage of my life, I appreciate things more completely and it's not just regular gratitude," he said. "I'm starting to appreciate the concept of second-hand grace, and I'm not sitting around waiting for that big grace. To have this kind of success and a seven-month-old to carry my name and to marry my best friend—yes, I'm grateful," he said.



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CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION

CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE PROJECT NO. 1294

WET WEATHER CONSENT DECREE COMPLIANCE AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SERVICES

I. Introduction

The City of Baltimore Office of Boards and Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Office of Engineering and Construction (OEC), to advertise for firms specializing in Program management to provide Wet weather consent decree compliance and program management services. One (1) firm will be awarded for a period of three (3) years with optional five (5) one year extensions. The Project fees for the above services have been estimated up to \$22,000,000.00. If further information is required regarding this request, please contact Mr. Mohammed Rahman at 410-396-3440 or by e-mail at Mohammed.rahman@Baltimorecity.gov.

II. Background

Baltimore City sanitary system serves a population of approximately 1.5 Million (620K within City) and a service area of approximately 390 miles including Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Howard County and Anne Arundel County through 3100 miles of sewer pipes (1400 miles in City) and 2 wastewater treatment plants with a capacity of about 240 Million Gallons per day.

Baltimore City entered into a Consent Decree (CD) with US EPA/ MDE in 2002 to implement a series of remedial measures, including among others, the elimination of certain sanitary sewer overflow structures, the inspection of the collection system, infiltration and inflow evaluation, rainfall and flow monitoring, rehabilitation of certain pumping stations, and development of a collection system Hydraulic model.

Baltimore City entered into a Modified Consent Decree (MCD) in 2017 that provides a two phase adaptive management approach. The first phase calls for the removal of hydraulic restriction at the Back River WWTP, Heavy cleaning of large diameter sewers, elimination of Sanitary sewer over-

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flows (SSOs) structures, Flow and Rainfall Monitoring for SSO Structure Elimination, Elimination of Illegal connections, Pumping Station Inspection, Rehabilitation, and Repair, selective conveyance system upgrades, elimination of Sanitary Discharges of Unknown Origins (SDUOs), development of a building backup plan and a building backup expedited reimbursement program, and updating the Emergency Response Plan. The second phase will require additional work on the collection system to meet performance goals set forth in the MCD.

Baltimore City has prepared sewershed evaluations and plans for future rehabilitation and corrective action for each of eight sewersheds in the collection System and prioritized rehabilitation projects and corrective actions for the system.

Baltimore City Department of Public Works has developed and is implementing an asset management program for operations and maintenance of the Collection System that includes a Fats, Oils and Grease ("FOG") Program; a Root Control Program; and a Trunk Sewer Inspection Program.

Baltimore has also implemented integrated planning based on EPA's guidance entitled "Integrated Municipal Storm water and Wastewater Planning Approach Framework" (IPF), dated May 2012 into the Capital improvement program planning.

The City recognized the need for program management support services to ensure successful compliance with the requirements of the CD program and help City to negotiate with regulators, develop an asset management program, implement an integrated planning framework, and assist in design and construction management. This contract will be a replacement of the existing Wet weather consent decree program management services contract.

III. Scope of Services

The services to be provided under this contract may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Assist the Department of Public Works in achieving compliance to Modified Consent Decree Wet Weather requirements by coordinating and tracking all the related activities.
- Assist the Department of Public Works in preparation of reports and certifications as required by a Clean Water Act enforcement

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action and Modified Consent Decree.

- Assist the Department of Public works in developing a vision to improve operations within its wastewater program during the Modified Consent Decree period and beyond.

- Assist the Department of Public Works in completing the Phase I projects and formulating and negotiating the scope of Phase II projects.

- Assist the Department of Public Works in developing and implementing successful media strategies to disseminate information to Baltimore City residents and businesses regarding the impact of this program.

- Assist the Department of Public Works to streamline the existing CIP process and to refine and align its overall CIP/IPF) integration process. The PMT will perform analysis of people, tools and processes to ensure the smooth integration of IPF into the City's CIP.

- Assist the Department of Public Works with incorporating and implementing economic development and outreach initiatives like Small Business Development program, Workforce Development and Education and development of Minority, Disadvantaged and Women Business enterprise.

- Assist the Department of Public Works manage design and construction projects as required by Modified Consent Decree. Supervise, both direct and indirect, the design and construction contractors.

- Provide assistance to Department of Public Works with general construction management support during construction of the projects being undertaken under Modified Consent Decree. Assist with managing and inspecting construction projects.

- Assist the Department of Public Works in technical assistance for special projects and other work being performed in-house, including augmentation of the City's engineering staff.

- Assist the Department of Public Works in developing the RFPs to solicit future design, construction management, and other project related consultants.

- Assist the Department of Public Works with Post construction flow monitoring and SSO inspection Program. Executing field work associated with SSO root cause analysis and elimination (e.g. light cleaning, CCTV, condition assessment of laterals, manholes and pipes). Ability to interpret data and recommend renewal options, including trenchless solutions.

- Assist the Department of Public Works in maintaining, enhancing and applying the sewer system hydraulic model to reflect the

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ongoing system improvements do detailed engineering analysis using hydraulic data.

- Assist the Department of Public Works in implementation of Utility asset management division.

- Assist the Department of Public Works in managing utility operational and core data, GIS support, mapping, and software application support. Also assist in inventory, review and approve information being collected and submitted to the City of Baltimore by designers and contractors.

- Assist the Department of Public Works in delivering training classes for the engineering and construction staff.

- Assist the Department of Public Works in implementation, utilization and support of Computerized Maintenance Management System (Cityworks®).

IV. Selection Criteria

The following is the selection criteria:

- Familiarity with Modified Consent Decree of Baltimore City and experience in managing similar Federal or state regulated programs addressing issues related to Clean water Act compliance.

The interested firm is required to demonstrate and document their experience in managing programs similar to Baltimore City's modified Consent decree with EPA. The firm is also required to highlight the regulatory aspects of the programs and their role in negotiating with the regulatory agencies. The firm is encouraged to highlight any relevant successful program initiatives implemented by the firm in the past.

- Experience in Program management services for large civil/utilities programs, including planning; scheduling; budgeting; prioritizing; and monitoring and coordinating investigative activities, design, construction management of capital improvement wastewater projects, and maintenance activities. *The interested firm is required to demonstrate and document their experience in program management services for large utility programs and their role in the program.*

- Experience in assisting clients to develop long-term strategies for improved operations that the client can ultimately run independently.

The interested firm is required to demonstrate and document their experience in developing long-term planning and mission

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statements for clients, with an emphasis on State, Federal or local Government agencies. Also include international experience, if any. The firm may also propose ideas on long-term strategy for DPW wastewater program.

•Key personnel on the Program Management team and their relevant experience. *The interested firm is required to demonstrate and document the experience of the Key personnel they propose for the program management services. The Key personnel should include the minimum personnel mentioned in the section V.*

•Experience in implementing a Utility Asset Management Program. *The interested firm is required to demonstrate and document their relevant experience.*

•Experience in Economic Development program, Public Information and Outreach programs. *The interested firm is required to demonstrate and document their relevant experience.*

•Experience in development, calibration and maintenance of Hydraulic Modeling for Wastewater Utilities system. *The interested firm is required to demonstrate and document their relevant experience.*

•Overall team approach with Minority/Women Business Enterprises. *The interested firm is required to demonstrate and document MBE & WBE firm's role and their relevant experience.*

V. Program Requirements

The Key personnel on the Program Management team shall include, but not limited to the following;

•Personnel with skills equivalent to a Program Manager, including a minimum education level of Graduate Degree and a minimum of ten (10) years of experience performing program management work for State or Federal mandated programs. Experience in negotiating with regulatory agencies is preferred.

•Personnel with skills equivalent to a Senior Design Engineer, including a minimum education level of Graduate Degree, Professional Engineer (P.E.) Certification and a

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minimum of ten (10) years of experience performing wastewater utility designs. Experience in preparing concept design proposals and managing wastewater utilities and facilities design contracts is preferred.

•Personnel with skills equivalent to a Senior Construction Manager, including a minimum education level of Graduate Degree, Professional Engineer (P.E.) or Certified Construction Manager (CCM) Certification and a minimum of Fifteen (15) years of experience managing construction projects.

•Personnel with skills equivalent to a Senior Engineer, including a minimum education level of Graduate Degree, Professional Engineer (P.E.) and a minimum of Ten (10) years of experience performing Asset Management for utilities.

VI. Proposal

•Firms intending to submit a proposal as a prime consultant for this project should submit a "Letter of Interest" to the Office of Boards and Commissions, 4 South Frederick Street, 4th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 (EMAIL: OBC.Consultants@baltimorecity.gov). Since these letters are utilized to assist small, minority and women business enterprises in identifying potential teaming partners, the letters should be submitted within five (5) days of the date of the project's advertisement. The letter should contain a contact person. Failure to submit a "Letter of Interest" will not disqualify a firm submitting a proposal for the project.

•Each prime consultant applying for this Project will be required to complete and submit an original Federal Form 255, along with five (5) copies, to the Office of Boards and Commissions. The Federal Form 255 and five (5) copies must be submitted on or before 12:00 P.M. (Noon) on **September 10, 2018**. Submittals may not be accepted after this deadline.

•The consultant implementation plan for the project, including at a minimum, those tasks outlined in Section III, Scope of Services, of this Request for Proposals.

•The consultant experience and history in performing this type of work, particularly those projects that have been successfully carried to construction. Include references of persons, firms, or agencies that the City may contact to verify the experience of the proposer.

•An organizational chart, including identification of proposed key personnel by name and firm. Describe each key person's role

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on the project team. Proposed personnel shall be able to perform all services listed in the Scope of Services.

•A statement of qualifications and experience for each individual expected to perform responsible portions of the work. Please emphasize the specific qualifications and experience relevant to this project. The City expects key team members to remain on the project throughout its duration. Replacement of key team members will not be permitted without prior consultation and approval by the City, unless the circumstances are beyond the consultant's control.

•Descriptive material in support of the proposal including articles, drawings, photographs, or other media that would be helpful in evaluating the proposal. Provide information specific to your approach on this project for those items listed in the Scope of Services. Include what you believe are the major project emphasis and challenges as well as your approach assisting in the project success.

VII. Insurance Requirements

The Consultant shall procure and maintain during the life of this agreement, the following required insurance coverage.

a. Worker's Compensation coverage as required by the State of Maryland, as well as any similar coverage required for this work by applicable Federal or "other States" State Law.

b. Professional Liability, Errors, and Omissions Insurance at a limit of not less than Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) including a 3 year extended reporting period, in the event that services delivered pursuant to this Agreement, either directly or indirectly, involves or requires professional services, Professional Liability, Errors, and Omissions coverage shall be provided. "Professional Services" for the purpose of this Agreement shall mean any services provided by a licensed CONSULTANT professional.

c. Commercial General Liability Insurance at limits of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence for claims arising out of bodily injuries or death, and property damages. With those policies with aggregate limits, a minimum limit of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) is required. Such insurance shall include contractual liability insurance. The CITY, its elected/appointed officials, employees, and agents

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shall be covered, by endorsement, when applicable, as additional insureds as respects to; liability arising out of activities performed by or on behalf of the CONSULTANT in connection with this Agreement.

d. Business Automobile Liability at limits of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence for all claims arising out of bodily injuries or death and property damages. The insurance shall apply to any owned, non-owned, leased, or hired automobiles used in the performance of this agreement

e. To the extent of the CONSULTANT's negligence, the CONSULTANT's insurance coverage shall be primary insurance as respects the CITY, its elected/appointed employees and agents. Any insurance and/or self-insurance maintained by the CITY, its elected appointed officials, employees and agents, shall not contribute with CONSULTANT's insurance or benefit the CONSULTANT in any way.

f. Coverage shall not be suspended, voided, cancelled, reduced in coverage, or in limits, except by the reduction of applicable aggregate limit by claims paid, until after forty-five (45) days prior written notice has been given to the CITY. There will be an exception for non-payment of premium, which is ten (10) days' notice of cancellation.

g. Insurance is to be placed with insurers with a Best's rating of no less than A:VII, or, if not rated with Best's with minimum surpluses the equivalent of Best's surplus size VII and must be licensed/approved to do business in the State of Maryland.

h. The CONSULTANT shall furnish the CITY a "Certificate of Insurance" with a copy of the additional insured endorsement, when applicable, as verification that the coverage is in force. The CITY reserves the right to require complete copies of insurance policies at any time.

VIII. Prequalification Certification

All architectural, construction management, project management, and surveying firms listed in the specific proposal for the Project must be prequalified by the Office of Boards and Commissions for each applicable discipline at time of submittal for this

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Project. A copy of the prime and sub consultant's current Prequalification Certificate should be included in the bid submittal package. If you need information on the City's Prequalification Certification process please call the Office of Boards and Commissions at 410-396-6883.

IX. MBE/WBE Certification

It is the policy of the City of Baltimore to promote equal business opportunity in the City's contracting process. Pursuant to Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code (2000 Edition) – Minority and Women's Business Program, Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation goals apply to this contract.

The MBE goal is 25%
The WBE goal is 13%

Both the proposed Minority and Women's Business Enterprise firms must be named, identified as an MBE or WBE and the recommended percentage reflected for each within Item 6 of the Standard Form (SF) 255 in the spaces provided for identifying outside key consultants/associates anticipated for utilization for this project.

Any submittals that do not include the proper MBE/WBE (in some instances DBE) participation will be disapproved for further consideration for this project.

X. Local Hiring Law Provision

It is the policy of the City of Baltimore to promote Local Hiring in the City's contracting process. Pursuant to Article 5, Subtitle 27 of the Baltimore City Code, as amended (the "Local Hiring Law") and its rules and regulations apply to contracts and agreements executed by the City on or after the Local Hiring Law's effective date of December 23, 2013. The requirements for the Local Hiring Law apply to this contract.

More information can be obtained from the Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED) and can also be found on its website: www.oedworks.com.

XI. Verifying Certification

Each firm submitting a SF 255 for consideration for a project is responsible for verify-

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ing that all MBEs and WBEs to be utilized on the project are certified by the Minority and Women's Business Opportunity Office (MWBOO) prior to submitting the proposal. A directory of certified MBEs and WBEs is available from MWBOO. Since changes to the directory occur daily, firms submitting SF 255s should call MWBOO at (410) 396-4355 to verify certification, expiration dates and services that the MBE or WBE is certified to provide.

Non-Affiliation

A firm submitting a proposal may not use an MBE or WBE to meet a contract goal if:

1. The firm has a financial interest in the MBE or WBE
2. The firm has an interest in the ownership or control of the MBE or WBE
3. The firm is significantly involved in the operation of the MBE or WBE (Article 5 subtitle 28-41).

A firm submitting as a prime consultant that fails to comply with the requirements of Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code when executing a contract is subject to the following penalties: suspension of a contract; withholding of funds; rescission of contract based on material breach; disqualification as a consultant from eligibility to provide services to the City for a period not to exceed 2 years; and payment for damages incurred by the City.

Additional Requirements

A resume for each person listed as key personnel and/or specialist, including those from MBE and WBE must be shown on the page provided within the application.

Please be advised that for the purpose of reviewing price proposals and invoices, the City of Baltimore defines a principal of a firm as follows:

A principal is any individual owner, partner of a partnership, shareholder of a Sub-Chapter 'S' Corporation, or an officer/director of any Corporation.

Out-of-State Corporations must identify their corporate resident agent within the application.

Firms will not be considered for a specific project if they apply as both a sub-consultant and prime consultant.

The applications for this Project (Form 255)

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cannot be supplemented with any additional information such as graphs, photographs, organization chart, etc. All such information should be incorporated into the appropriate pages. Applications should not be bound. Applications should simply be stapled in the upper left-hand corner. Cover sheets should not be included. Inclusion and/or submittal of additional material may result in the applicant being disqualified from consideration for this project.

Failure to follow directions of this advertisement or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Deena Joyce,
Chief

**To place Legal Notices in
The Baltimore Times,
contact the Legals
Department
Phone: 410-366-3900
email:
legals@btimes.com**

Applications Now Open for Disney Dreamers Academy at Walt Disney World Resort

Lake Buena Vista, Fla.— Applications are being accepted now through October 31, 2018, for the Disney Dreamers Academy with Steve Harvey and Essence magazine. This annual outside-the-classroom mentoring program is scheduled for March 21-24, 2019, at the Walt Disney Resort in Florida. The program helps 100 select high school students, ages 13-19, from across the United States jump-start their life goals and pursue their dreams.

Disney Dreamers Academy turns the entire magical setting of Walt Disney World into a vibrant classroom. Students participate in a series of sessions and workshops designed to help them imagine bright futures, make exciting discoveries and learn how to put their goals into action. Disney Dreamers engage in a wide variety of experiences at Walt Disney World while working side by side with celebrities, community and industry leaders and Disney cast members.

For more than a decade, Disney Dreamers Academy has inspired young people from across the country by fueling their dreams and showing them a world of possibilities as they prepare for the future. Each year, students participate in hands-on, immersive career seminars in a wide range of disciplines found at Walt Disney World. Participants learn how to improve their com-

munication skills, what it means to be a leader and networking strategies, among other skills. Celebrity speakers and other special guests will share their stories in an effort to inspire the students, as well as provide insights on how they may achieve their life goals.

The second decade of Disney Dreamers Academy is focused on challenging young people to relentlessly pursue their dreams through the "Be 100" campaign. This promotional push is inspired by the powerful impact Disney Dreamers Academy has made on graduates, who have gone on to become doctors, nurses, engineers, pilots, journalists and more. Some have started their own public relations firms, while others have worked with national political leaders.

Applicants must answer essay questions about their personal journeys and dreams for the future. Students are selected based on a combination of attributes, including strong character, positive attitude and determination to achieve their dreams. A parent or guardian accompanies each student on the trip.

The four-day, all-expenses-paid experience at Walt Disney World will continue to help change the lives of young people in 2019. For more information or to apply, visit DisneyDreamersAcademy.com.

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Alan Amrhine, Communications Director
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