



# Howard County Happenings with Allan H. Kittleman

July 2018

## Achieve 24/7 gives children a boost to succeed



One of the more gratifying things I do as County Executive comes when I interact with children. It's why I make sure to visit every school at least once during the year. It's also why we created Achieve 24/7, my initiative to break down barriers so that all children have the chance to succeed.

As part of the Achieve 24/7 initiative, I visited Oakland Mills Middle School last week for the signing of a Partnership Agreement between the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) and the Office of the Local Children's Board. Among other things, this partnership will allow us to identify student human service needs, work together on a variety of community programs, combine staffs to support priority areas and share resources and programs to promote an inclusive culture that embraces diversity.

While at the school, I got to spend time with some of the 80 students who are voluntarily taking part in a summer math enrichment program. I also got to take part in a reading enrichment activity for some of the younger members of the community.

In addition to this activity, Achieve 24/7 is continuing its successful "Weekend Warrior Snack Pack" program in conjunction with the summer lunch program run by the Howard County Public School System. Last fall, Achieve 24/7 launched a school readiness program for children from birth to age 5, offering free educational videos to county families. Parents and guardians can sign up to receive the short videos by text message or email, demonstrating simple activities to do with children to increase school readiness.

## Community Resources Campus growing



The Community Action Council is one of several organizations who have relocated to the Community Resources Campus.

We're moving forward with our Community Resources Campus, located off Patuxent Woods Drive in Columbia.

The Department of Community Resources and Services, Department of Housing and Community Development, Office of Human Rights and Community Action Council opened at their new campus locations July 17. These agencies join 16 nonprofit organizations that have offices at the NonProfit Collaborative, a center located on the campus.

Next year, a state agency, the Howard County Department of Social Services, will also move to the campus.

It's long been my belief that co-locating key governmental and nonprofit agencies at the same campus will improve the delivery of services and quality of life for our most vulnerable residents at a critical time in their lives. Rather than spending hours, sometimes days, traveling throughout the county, residents will go to a single location for their needs.

For more information about the Community Resources Campus, click [here](#).

## Main Street reopens to traffic on Friday at 5 p.m.

Ellicott City's Main Street will reopen to two-way vehicular and pedestrian traffic this Friday, July 20, at 5 p.m. Prior to the reopening, I will sign an Executive Order ending the State of Emergency 10 days sooner than authorized by the County Council.

I feel we can now safely reopen the entire street and our police officers will continue to have a round-the-clock visible presence. Contractor-only parking will be allowed on Main Street between Old Columbia Pike and Maryland Avenue. Only contractor-identified vehicles, or contractor vehicles with signage identifying their company and location of work, will be allowed to park in this area. There will be no restriction on the timing and it will be first-come, first-serve. For all other vehicles, no parking will be allowed except for short periods of loading and unloading.

Ellicott Mills Drive will remain closed until late fall while public works crews repair a culvert and portions of the road there. For more details, click [here](#).

## Congratulations to Chief Butler



Chief John Butler has been an outstanding leader, elevating the professionalism and delivery of services of the fire department. He will be missed.

Many of you have undoubtedly heard the news that John Butler, the chief of the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services, announced last week that he will be taking a job heading the Fairfax County (Va.) fire department.

The news of the chief's decision was bittersweet. John has been an outstanding leader, having worked himself up through the ranks of the department to be named chief nearly four years ago. He will be missed but, at the same time, John is very deserving of this opportunity.

## Keeping our parks safe

We all know that stopping crime must be a team effort. That's why we've launched Park Watch, to call upon park patrons to be the "eyes and ears" in county parks.

In this joint effort between residents, visitors, County Park Rangers and local police, we want to improve park and patron safety, increase public ownership of parks and deter and reduce crime with the help of volunteers. It's a similar idea to a Neighborhood Watch program.

Communities can receive training on how to recognize criminal or suspicious activities, how to properly report issues and how to keep themselves safe, while enjoying one of the county's many parks. In addition, interested individuals can become dedicated Park Watch Volunteers through the County's Department of Recreation & Parks.

Interested in taking part? Call the Ranger Duty Phone at 410-313-1679 or email [here](#).



The county unveiled Park Watch safety program on Monday.



I visited George McGurl's Burleigh Manor Middle classroom in April.

## Top honors for George McGurl

Congratulations to George McGurl, a science teacher at Burleigh Manor Middle School, for receiving the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching! George was the only Howard County teacher selected for this prestigious award and only one of two Marylanders of the 140 honored nationally.

Back in April, I was fortunate to visit his classroom during Burleigh Manor Middle's Maker Faire. It was very apparent that day that he had a passion for mentoring his students, particularly about the environment and in STEM programs. It's no wonder he was named in 2013 as Howard County Teacher of the Year and a Maryland State Teacher of the Year finalist.

It's great that we have people like George McGurl teaching in our Howard County Public School System.

## Calendar

July 20 [Teen Health Expo at Mall in Columbia](#) 1-5 PM

Aug. 7 [National Night Out](#) - 6 PM

Aug. 4- Aug 11 [Howard County Fair](#)

A schedule of various public Events & Meetings can also be found [online](#).