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Snip, Snap, Sauté Service Introduced by PHILLIPS' Special Education School as Part of Culinary and Farm Career Skills Program

By SHAWN FLAHERTY
PHILLIPS Programs for Children and Families

LAUREL, MD (September 26, 2018)—PHILLIPS Programs for Children and Families, a local nonprofit helping youth with a variety of challenges succeed, is starting Snip, Snap, Sauté, a student run food preparation service at its Special Education Day School in Laurel—which serves youth from DC and Maryland, including Howard, Prince George's and Montgomery Counties. The service is part of PHILLIPS' Growing Futures, a career training program that incorporates a vertical farm and commercial kitchen.

“Our student’s grow, cook and now prepare food. Traditional curriculums aren’t as effective for our students. Educational programs that are active and engaging help train our students for careers. Snip, Snap, Sauté rounds out our classroom offerings taking it from farm to fork,” explained Piper Phillips Caswell, president & CEO, PHILLIPS Programs.

Growing Futures' Farm to Table model is a hands-on experiential program encompassing both culinary arts training in a state-of-the-art commercial kitchen, and training in an indoor hydroponic vertical farm growing and harvesting fresh ingredients such as herbs, vegetables and microgreens all year long. Snip, Snap, Sauté is a food preparation service which is part of PHILLIPS' Growing Futures. Students use the fresh ingredients they have grown in the farm to



PHOTO COURTESY OF PHILLIPS SCHOOL

Students of PHILLIPS School—Laurel learn career skills as they grow, cook and now prepare food in their commercial kitchen. Students seen with PHILLIPS staff: Julie Buisson, Leslie Finnegan and Chef Erik Lund.

augment the taste and nutrition of the food they cook in the school’s commercial kitchen.

Growing Futures youth gain confidence and competence culminating in employment. Through participation in entrepreneurial activities and authentic work experiences, youth thrive as they develop marketable career skills, acquire health and wellness practices and gain an understanding of sustainability practices with earth’s natural resources.

The curriculum teaches students the foundational food service skills needed for ServSafe Certification while Snip, Snap, Sauté gives them an opportunity to reinforce these classroom skills by applying them to real-world situations. The combination of classroom learning and real-world scenarios gives

PHILLIPS' students a unique way to apply their hospitality knowledge, gain confidence and ultimately become employed and productive young adults.

The Growing Futures Program complements PHILLIPS Building Futures, which provides intensive trades education for students with disabilities. During the school day, students participating in Building Futures receive academic programming, supportive services, and related services while they learn the building trades by building homes and rehabbing a variety of structures at a rural retreat. Additionally, PHILLIPS Designing Futures, a 3D design and print class, is a gateway curriculum for IT. It is offered to both PHILLIPS students and community youth and young adults on the autism spectrum.

These programs are important since PHILLIPS serves students with behavioral needs ages 6–22 who have significant learning and emotional challenges and for whom school has often been a place of repeated failure and frustration. For 51 years, PHILLIPS has helped youth succeed by providing customized support and education through three programs, including: Special Education Day Schools in Annandale, Fairfax and Leesburg, VA and Laurel, MD; PHILLIPS Family Partners offering home- and community-based counseling and support; and PHILLIPS Career Partners, which offers our career and technical education avenues including Building Futures, Growing Futures and Designing Futures.

Council Vice Chair Todd M. Turner Hosts “Stay Sharp On Social Media”

A Day of Fun and Information on Social Media Use, School Safety, and Networking for Parents and Students

By COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE
Prince George's County Council

UPPER MARLBORO, MD (Sept 25, 2018)—Prince George's County Council Vice Chair Todd M. Turner (D)—District 4, in partnership with Bowie State University, In Reach, Inc., AC Pollard Staffing, Jack and Jill of America—National Harbor Chapter, the City of Bowie Education Committee and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). will host “Stay Sharp on Social Media—Challenges, Choices and Chances.”

The event will be held on Saturday, October 6, 2018, 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. at Bowie State University, Center for Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Nursing, 14000 Jericho Park Road in Bowie.

“Stay Sharp on Social Media” will feature panel discussions focusing on responsible social media use, school safety, mental health and personal branding. The day’s event will also include special guest News 4 Today reporter Molette Green, Prince George's County State's Attorney Angela Alsobrooks, Bowie State University President Dr. Amita Breaux, WKYS radio host DJ Freeez, scholarship opportunities and giveaways.

Council Member Turner encourages parents, guardians and students to join in the timely discussion of social media safety.

“The amount of time young people spend online continues to grow, making it especially important that conversations about social media safety are ongoing. We want to provide parents and guardians with important information and updates about how social media networks are used, and students with the tools and resources to stay safe online. Additionally, in response to the rise in school

At-A-Glance: “Stay Sharp on Social Media—Challenges, Choices and Chances”

WHO: Council Member Todd M. Turner (D)—District 4, Reporter Molette Green, News 4 Today; Bowie State University President Dr. Amita Breaux; Prince George's County State's Attorney Angela Alsobrooks; Prince George's County Assistant State's Attorney Jade Mathis; Prince George's County Police Department Commander Steven Yuen; Author and Motivational Speaker Dr. Roselyn Acker-Black; Founder and CEO of B. Carter Solutions and Social Media Strategist, Brittany Carter McKinnon; Community Activist “Sgt. Pushup” Patrick Parker; District of Columbia Schools Director of Social Emotional Learning, Dr. William Blake; Resilient Child Therapy Institute, LLC, Kristian Ownes

WHEN: Saturday, October 6, 2018, 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

WHERE: Bowie State University, Center for Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Nursing, 14000 Jericho Park Road, Bowie, MD 20715

shootings, a new component of the ‘Stay Safe’ event will focus on school safety and mental health. It is sure to be an informative day and we encourage residents to join the conversation.”

This free event is open to all public and private, middle and high school students, as well as their parents/guardians. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. **Pre-registration is required.** For additional information including registration, contact Evelyn Archie at 301.952.4355, or EJArchie@co.pg.md.us.

County Hosts Fall 2018 ‘Clean Up, Green Up’ on October 20, 2018

The registration deadline is Friday, October 5

By PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
P.G. County's Department of Public Works & Transportation

LARGO, MD (September 27, 2018)—Prince George's County's bi-annual countywide beautification event—‘Clean Up, Green Up’—will take place on Saturday, October 20, 2018. The County invites community organizations, schools, businesses, municipalities, and anyone interested in helping keep it clean and green to participate.

“‘Clean Up, Green Up’ is a win-win on several levels. Not only is it great for the environment with the planting, cleaning, and litter removal, but it also creates opportunities for neighbors to reconnect with one another and for new residents, businesses, and organizations to get to know their communities,” said Gwendolyn T. Clerkley, Acting Director of the Department of Pub-

See CLEAN UP Page A8



County Establishes New Poet Laureate Office

Poet, Author J. Joy Matthews Alford Becomes County's First Poet Laureate

By PRESS OFFICER
Prince George's Arts Council

UPPER MARLBORO, MD (September 27, 2018)—The Prince George's County Council voted unanimously September 18 to create a first-ever Poet Laureate program through the passage of CR-50-2018.

The program will be established under the Prince George's Arts & Humanities Council.

Known as the Office of the Poet Laureate, the program will allow the county to create a greater spotlight for advocacy among poetry and prose and it will aid in positioning the county on a global stage within the arts and humanities. Cultural and county leaders also expect the county poet laureate to be a catalyst in raising the consciousness of the poetry among residents and to help develop programs that center on and encourage writing of all forms.

The proclamation reads: “For the purpose of supporting the establishment of a County Poet Laureate Program under the auspices of the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council (PGAHC) to highlight literary arts and promote appreciation for poetry, to inspire deeper engagement in the written and spoken word in Prince George's County.”

The move signals an evolution in the cultural and historic development of the county.

“I truly thank our County Council for their unanimous support of CR 502018,” says Prince George's Arts & Humanities Council Executive Director Rhonda Dallas. “Collectively, we have established a significant cultural legacy within the arts community as we intend to fully engage the Office of Poet Laureate to inspire both our youth and our adults and build community



PHOTO COURTESY OF PGAHC

J. Joy Matthews Alford

throughout Prince George's County.”

Poet J. Joy Matthews Alford, also known as, “Sistah Joy,” will serve as the county's first poet laureate in leading the office.

“I'm honored to have been appointed as the inaugural Poet Laureate of Prince George's County,” Alford says. “I look forward to working to provide opportunities for poets, from beginner to established poet and to help ensure a solid foundation for poetry throughout the county. I look forward to helping build bridges between generations and cultures as well as between the poetry community and those for whom poets speak. Being a part of creating an enhanced poetry experience in Prince George's County is an incredible opportunity, privilege and responsibility, one that I'm excited to work toward over the next three years.”

For additional information, including poetry by Sistah Joy visit her website, <https://www.sistahjoy.com>.

PGAHC seeks to create a world-class cultural environment where diverse high-quality arts and humanities programs are available for all Prince George's County residents and visitors.

INSIDE

Year 20 of “Heat’s On—Water’s Off” Set For October 6

Plumber & Steamfitter (HVAC) volunteers will be providing over \$100,000 worth of free plumbing/heating repairs & equipment to approximately 16–20 low-income senior home-owners in Prince George's County.

Community, Page A3

End Cruelty to Immigrant Families and Children

What is wrong with us? As we continue to fight for parents and children separated at the border to be reunified and for children crossing alone to be treated humanely, we must intensify the call of all major faiths to protect children and welcome the stranger.

Commentary, Page A4

BBB Warns Of Buying Flood Damaged Cars

Better Business Bureau (BBB) urges used car buyers to be cautious of unscrupulous businesses and individuals who may try to sell flood-damaged cars as standard secondhand cars, without revealing the vehicles' history.

Business and Finance, Page A5

Movie Review:

Alpha

But Keda's journey is frequently thrilling in the way that boys' adventure novels are, intense but not overwhelming, with a satisfying resolution. I liked it; I think an outdoorsy kid who's 11 or 12 would love it.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

A friend recently told me that when her family stopped using hand sanitizer and antibacterial wipes ..., they stopped getting sick ... Is there any research backing up this theory...?

—Betsy Edger, via e-mail

Features, Page A7