

PERRY HALL/KINGSVILLE

Cheers to the Maryland School for the Blind grads

The Maryland School for the Blind (MSB), 3501 Taylor Ave., held its 163rd commencement June 1. The ceremony celebrated the accomplishments of 18 students from the Class of 2016 who are now proud alumni.



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The ceremony consisted of the conferring of diplomas, certificates and awards, with remarks from **Dr. Michael J. Bina**, the school president, and **Marcella Franczkowski**, assistant state superintendent of schools. The program also featured keynote speaker **Gary Lay**, who serves on the MSB board of directors and is an educator for Baltimore County Public Schools. His daughter **Carman** was a student at MSB before her untimely death at the age of 8. He and his wife, **Tricia**, established the **Carman Lay Foundation** in her memory. In his address to the graduates, Lay praised the students for overcoming adversity and encouraged them to make their own way in the world by using their talents and skills. "Start where you are, use what you have and do what you can," Lay said.

Other highlights included class President **Timothy Jones'** address to the Class of 2016 and the singing of the school song by Jones and fellow graduate, **Benjamin Major**. Special awards were presented to several seniors who exhibited leadership qualities and academic excellence throughout their years at MSB. Major received the B. Franklin Newcomer Award, which recognizes a student who demonstrates through leadership and citizenship a positive influence in both school and residential life. Both Major and **Colin Prettyman** won State of Maryland Merit Scholastic awards. Prettyman scored a perfect 800 on the verbal portion of the SAT exam.

As a statewide resource center, the Maryland School for the Blind provides outreach, educational and residential services for students from birth to age 21 to enable them to reach their fullest potential. Each year, the school serves 56 percent of the 1,700 students in the state of Maryland who are blind or visually impaired.

Congratulations to all the MSB graduates on their accomplishments. For more information, contact **Dotty Raynor** at 410-319-5722 or dotty@mdschblind.org.



Class President Timothy Jones delivers his address to the Maryland School for the Blind's Class of 2016.

The summer concerts at **Jerusalem Mill Village**, 2813 Jerusalem Road in Kingsville, have been announced. The **Summer Concerts in the Meadow** take place on Sundays, from 6 to 8 p.m., and feature the following: June 19 — 2nd Sole (rock & blues); July 3 — Free Range Blue (Americana); and July 17 — Trinidad & Tobago Baltimore Steel Orchestra (Caribbean). Ticket prices are \$5 members/seniors/12-16 years old, 12 and under free, and \$10 for nonmembers. Possible location change in the event of inclement weather. Check/cash only. Bring blanket/chairs. Please bring a canned food for the local food pantry. There will be a food vendor on site. For more info, call the event hotline, 410-877-3679.

Don't forget the date! July 8 marks the start of the **Angel Park** "community build," when members of the public join together to build the all-inclusive park. In taking about 10 days to complete, thousands of volunteers are needed to make Angel Park a reality. Three shifts will work during the daylight hours. Even if you're not handy with construction, please sign up to volunteer, as all skills are needed. Please go to the website www.Angel-Park.org to get involved, volunteer and sign up to receive Angel Park's communications. You also have an opportunity to buy pickets and pavers to memorialize your family's contribution to the project. Angel Park will be located next to the **Perry Hall Library** at 9685 Honeygo

Blvd. in Perry Hall.

Baltimore County Councilman David Marks has announced that an agreement was reached to place Neighborhood Commons, or open-space zoning, on the 29-acre **Maryland State Fish and Game Protective Association** property off Honeygo Boulevard. Currently, the land is zoned DR 1, or one house per acre. The Neighborhood Commons zoning restricts any development whatsoever on the property, a heavily wooded site next to **Joppa View Elementary School**.

"I would like to thank association President **David Van Sant** for the support and also acknowledge the wonderful work this organization does in advancing conservation and sportsmanship," Marks commented. The Maryland State Fish and Game Protective Association traces its roots to 1895. The property is also protected as part of the **Maryland Environmental Trust**, so the down-zoning adds another level of protection. In 2012, Marks helped add 11 acres to the north of the property to Honeygo Park. The Baltimore County Council is scheduled to vote on the zoning maps Aug. 30.

The 2016 **Kingsville Fourth of July Parade** is themed "Let Freedom Ring." The winning theme entry was submitted by two outstanding young members of the community, **Kathryn Murray**, third grade, and **Olivia Lockett**, sixth grade, both students at **St. Stephen School**, submitted the same winning theme idea.



Benjamin Major receives his diploma from the Maryland School for the Blind President Dr. Michael Bina. Major also received a State of Maryland Merit Scholastic Award and the B. Frank Newcomer Award.



Colin Prettyman receives a State of Maryland Merit Scholastic Award from Carol Bogue, education director of the Maryland School for the Blind.

Congratulations to both! The parade grand marshal is longtime Kingsville resident **Samuel A. Barody**. The parade takes place rain or shine on Monday, July 4. Preparade festivities kick off at the triangle of Bradshaw, Jerusalem and Belair roads at 10 a.m. The parade begins at 10:45 from the **Kingsville Volunteer Fire Co.** on Bellvue Avenue, proceeds down Bradshaw Road, turns right onto Jerusalem Road and ends at **St. Paul's Church**. Arrive early to enjoy the festivities (Note: Bradshaw and Jerusalem roads will close at 9:50 a.m.)

To share your news, announcement or event in the Perry Hall, Kingsville area, send an e-mail to write2shell@yahoo.com or call 443-286-5881.

PHOTOS BY DOTTY RAYNOR