

FOUNDATION FOCUS

SUPPORTING MONTGOMERY COLLEGE TODAY AND TOMORROW | FALL 2018 | VOLUME 12, NO. 2

THE Leggetts' LEGACY



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The Leggetts' Legacy

Isiah "Ike" Leggett's career represents all that can go right if you work hard enough and you have people in your life who believe in you. His story began, as has often been reported, living with his 11 siblings in a four-room house—a house that lacked indoor plumbing. As the story continued, he thrived, earning four college degrees and rising through the ranks to hold the title of Montgomery County Executive for 12 years.

Ike and his wife, Catherine, agree that education was the key to opportunity for them, and they firmly believe that education should be available to all. To support this belief, the generous couple established the Catherine and Ike Leggett Scholarship, which will benefit students most often under represented in higher education. At Montgomery College and The Universities at Shady Grove, these are the students participating in our Achieving Collegiate Excellence and Success (ACES) program.

The Leggetts are well known in this community for their dedication to the empowerment of all. To celebrate this dedication, community members, friends, and family gathered on Sunday, September

Cokie Roberts, political commentator, ABC News and NPR; and Bob Levey, College Trustee and *The Washington Post*, retired; encourage audience members to donate to the Ike and Catherine Leggett Scholarship. In total, more than \$1.6 million was raised for student scholarships.



The Leggetts with Montgomery College Foundation board member and MC2020 co-chair, Jeffrey Slavin.



Catherine and Ike Leggett with steering committee member Aris Mardirossian and his wife, Marianne.

23, for the Leggett Legacy Forward Celebration, held at the Music Center at Strathmore. The event highlighted the lasting impact the Leggetts have had on our community, and featured remarks by many notable leaders including Governor Larry Hogan; Senator Ben Cardin; Hans Riemer, president of the Montgomery County Council; and Sheryl Brissett Chapman, executive director of the National Center for Children and Families.

As many politicians do, Ike wanted to party with a purpose. He requested that the celebration serve as a fundraiser, with the majority of the proceeds benefiting their newly established ACES scholarship, as well as other scholarships at Montgomery College and The Universities at Shady Grove. In total, more than \$1.6 million was raised to support scholarships that will allow students to pursue their associate's degree at Montgomery College and then transfer to the Universities at Shady Grove to complete their bachelor's degree. This overwhelming generosity will ensure that students will be given the education that leads to opportunity, and that the mission of the Leggetts will continue to positively impact the lives of Montgomery County residents for years to come.



Ike and Catherine Leggett (left) with steering committee member Sol Graham and his wife, Dorothy.



Senator Ben Cardin shares memories of Ike and Catherine Leggett's work on behalf of the Montgomery County community.



Governor Larry Hogan recognizes Ike Leggett's many contributions to Montgomery County.



Hans Riemer (far right), president of the Montgomery County Council, presents Ike Leggett (far left) with proclamation. Also pictured Angela Riemer (second from right) and Catherine Leggett (second from left).

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Michael Yuen



Michael Yuen is a board member of the Montgomery College Foundation and the chair of the Governance & Audit Committee. When not keeping busy with the Foundation's financial affairs, Michael holds down a full-time job as a CPA and a certified financial

planner focusing on tax consulting in estate, trust, and gift tax planning for clients. Michael, who holds a master's degree from Ohio State University, started his tax consulting career in Washington, DC, with a large law firm and a "Big Four" public accounting firm. This long-time Montgomery County resident lives with his wife and an old orange tabby cat in Rockville.

Let's Get Personal! What's...

Your favorite local sports team? Washington Redskins, but I'm not a fan of their management.

Your favorite place to eat lunch around the College? "Love Sushi" on Gaither Road.

The last good movie you saw? "Crazy Rich Asians."

Your favorite piece of advice to give? It's not true that no good deed goes unpunished. But do exercise good judgment when helping others.

The first car you remember driving? A British Morris Minor stick shift.

Your favorite sport to play (or favorite pastime)? Tennis.

The junk food you find most irresistible? Popeye's fried chicken, unfortunately.

The best concert you've attended? Santana.

An adjective your friends would use to describe you? Caring.

Your biggest global wish? Peace, no war, no conflict—that we would all live in perfect harmony. And that all the money we spend on military stuff could be used to improve human lives and to educate our children.

Winston Churchill once said, "We make a living from what we get. We make a life from what we give." This axiom applies to all 24 members of the Montgomery College Foundation Board of Directors. They make a living as successful lawyers, investment analysts, real estate professionals, professors, and public servants. But they make a life by sharing that talent with an array of nonprofits benefitting the greater good, including the Montgomery College Foundation. As members of our board, these dedicated individuals oversee \$122 million in assets made up of contributions from our generous donors as well as real estate acquisitions made on behalf of the College. Throughout this issue, you will read about a few of our board members who graciously lend their talents on behalf of the students of Montgomery College. Linda Yougentob, who was recently selected by The Community Foundation to be the 2018 Montgomery County Philanthropist of the Year, is one such board member. So is Anne Gunsteens, whose years of outstanding service as the executive director of the J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation were

recently recognized when its board of trustees established the Anne L. Gunsteens Scholarship benefitting Montgomery College students. These two board members serve as wonderful examples for our newest member,



Allison Henderson. As vice president of education studies at Westat, Ms. Henderson measures the effectiveness of state and federal education reform initiatives. Moreover, she shares her wealth of knowledge—and invaluable contacts in the community—as a member of the College's ACES advisory council. On behalf of our entire board, I welcome Ms. Henderson. I am confident her invaluable insight will yield positive results for the thousands of students who receive scholarships from the Foundation. Ultimately, we want students to make a living—and a life—for themselves.

Congratulations to Linda Youngentob, 2018 Philanthropist of the Year

When The Community Foundation selected Linda Youngentob to be the 2018 Montgomery County Philanthropist of the Year, no one at the Montgomery College Foundation was surprised. After all, Montgomery College and the Foundation have benefited from her generosity—of time, talent, and resources—for many years. First and foremost, Linda is a teacher, fully committed to the success of her students in the Macklin Business Institute. Her commitment to student success extends well beyond the classroom. Through her leadership, advocacy, and mentoring, Linda works tirelessly to provide students with the resources and support needed to see their education through to completion, and to overcome any barriers they might face. As co-chair of the MC2020 Campaign and a dedicated member of the Foundation's board of directors, Linda promotes the educational opportunities the College and the Foundation provide, encouraging others to join her and her husband, Bob, as supporters. On Thursday, November 1, hundreds of community leaders, friends, family, fellow philanthropists, and business leaders gathered to honor Linda, who spoke passionately about the importance of giving back to the

community. Her fellow board member and co-chair for the MC2020 Campaign, Jeffrey Slavin, who was the 2011 Philanthropist of the Year, believes that the Community Foundation chose very wisely in honoring Linda this year. "Linda represents the absolute best of the philanthropic community in Montgomery County," he said. "Not only does she know how to make the most strategic financial investments, but her active day-to-day participation in the lives of so many county residents reflects her willingness to roll up her sleeves and do the most important work. She has raised the bar high for the rest of us who are inspired by her"



Linda Youngentob (third from left) joins Macklin Business Institute students and the Raptor at the 2018 Scholarship Luncheon.



Linda Youngentob's family was joined by hundreds of others on November 1 to celebrate Linda being recognized as the 2018 Philanthropist of the Year. (From left) Lisa, Bob, Linda, Casey, and Jamie.

Marriott Foundation Establishes Scholarship in Honor of Longtime Executive Director

THE J. WILLARD AND ALICE S. MARRIOTT FOUNDATION

The Marriott family has been a vital institution in the Washington, DC region for as long as any of us can remember. This is, in part, because of The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation, which was founded in 1965 to give back to the community by supporting exceptional nonprofit organizations.

For 18 years, Anne Gunsteens has worked tirelessly to ensure that the legacy of Mr. and Mrs. Marriott continues to have an impact on communities all over the world. At the same time, she has served as a board member for the Montgomery College Foundation, helping to ensure that our students have the resources they need to access the quality educational experiences offered at the College and successfully complete their degrees.

As Ms. Gunsteens prepared for retirement in September 2018, The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation Board of Trustees surprised her with a thoughtful tribute. During a private lunch, she was presented a framed certificate announcing the establishment of the *Anne L. Gunsteens Endowed Scholarship* at



Janet Saros, front row far left, director of the Marriott Hospitality Center; Bob Daly, far left second row, director of operations at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center; Anne Gunsteens, front row second from right, MCF board member and recently retired executive director of the J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation; Kimberly Kelley, first row far right, vice president and provost of the Rockville Campus; with Marriott Hospitality students.

the Montgomery College Foundation, which will benefit our students in perpetuity.

When Dr. Pollard learned about the scholarship, she was elated. "I cannot think of a more fitting tribute to Anne and her dedication to uplifting her community. Countless Montgomery College students will be empowered to fulfill their potential as a result of this award."

Richard E. Marriott, chair of the Marriott Foundation Board of Trustees, agrees wholeheartedly. "Throughout her tenure here, Anne has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to helping all people have the opportunities and means to achieve their dreams and make a positive difference in the world."



*In honor of
Anne L. Gunsteens*

In recognition of her 18 years as the executive director of The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation and her dedication to our community, the Board of Trustees of The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation is pleased to honor Anne L. Gunsteens by establishing the

Anne L. Gunsteens Endowed Scholarship

This scholarship is a lasting tribute to Anne's commitment to the Montgomery College mission, her recognition of education's transformative power, and her devotion—both personal and professional—to ensuring that all students, regardless of their financial circumstances, have access to the educational opportunities they aspire to attain. The Anne L. Gunsteens Endowed Scholarship will help ensure that many young men and women will be able to realize their dream of a college education. Montgomery College is privileged and honored to celebrate the dedication of Anne Gunsteens through the establishment of this exceptional endowment.

A long-standing member of the Montgomery College Foundation's Board of Directors, Anne Gunsteens' commitment and dedication to the betterment of her community have established a tremendous legacy for which Montgomery College will always be grateful.

Derionne P. Pollard
DERIONNE P. POLLARD, PhD
PRESIDENT, MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

The twenty-fourth of September, two thousand and eighteen

Words of Wisdom from an ACES Student



Leandra Young-Williams, a general studies major, graduated in June from Springbrook High School in Silver Spring. She was encouraged to join ACES by her mother, who thought

it would help prepare Leandra for the rigors of college. She is one of 20 students who receive the Cliff and Deborah White ACES Pathway Champions Scholarship. This scholarship will not only provide for her education and wraparound services while she pursues her associate's degree at Montgomery College, but it will also follow Leandra to Towson University at The Universities at The Shady Grove Campus in Rockville, where she will pursue her bachelor's degree in elementary education. Her long-term goal is to pursue her master's—or perhaps her doctorate—in elementary and special education.

What will you do once you complete your BA? I want to go to school so I can get my master's degree.

List three adjectives that describe ACES' impact on your education. **Useful**—ACES has provided me opportunities that have been very useful in my educational journey. They always have workshops and speakers which help to further motivate me to keep pushing forward and always strive to better myself. **Caring**—They care a lot about each ACES student. The coaches are always there to listen to me when I need assistance with school, whether it comes to having trouble in a class or helping me raise my grades. **Organized**—The ACES coaches that I have talked to all gave me accurate information. They have also helped me remember important dates and meet deadlines.

Which class at MC has had the most impact on you? **Why?** Psychology has had the most impact on me. It has shown me how seriously you need to take college!

Fill in the blank: Because of ACES, I can attend college knowing that I'm not alone and will always have support. Between my parents, family, and now ACES, I believe I can achieve anything I set my mind to do.

In your wildest dreams, what does the future look like for you? In my wildest dreams, I will get my AA from Montgomery College in general studies, then attend Towson University at The Universities at Shady Grove to earn my bachelor's degree. After that, I plan to obtain a master's degree and possibly a doctorate degree, while pursuing my career in elementary education and special education. My brother told me at my graduation party, "This is only the beginning." He was right! College is different from high school, but all of the struggles and emotions will be worth it.

What's the best advice you've received from your ACES coach? The best advice I received from my ACES coach was to go to Montgomery College! He told me that I would not regret it because the amount of help and support from the Montgomery College ACES coaches would be unbelievable...and it has been.

Who is your role model and why? My two role models are my parents. My mom is one of my role models because she had my brother at a young age and that never stopped her from achieving everything she wanted in life. My mom went back to college and got her bachelor's degree and now owns her own business. My dad is my second role model because when I was growing up he worked multiple jobs. After all that hard work, he became a manager for his company. My parents have always stressed that life will never be easy and that you will struggle before you succeed, and I am a firm believer in that.

What does success look like to you? To me, success looks like me walking across the stage in four years and pursuing my dream career.

If your ACES donors are reading this, what do you want them to know about you? I want them to know that I am so very grateful for the opportunity they gave me. When I met them, Cliff White's family mentioned that I was one of their children now. I want them to know I will always continue making all four of my parents proud and I will always give 100% effort in whatever I do.

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* gifts of \$1,000 or more

Did You Have a “Ball” at the 33rd Annual Golf and Tennis Classic?

This year’s golf and tennis tournament on Monday, October 22, was a resounding success. Once again, this was due to the unwavering commitment of our golf committee, including Peter Bearsch of Lexus of Rockville; Carl Buch, Peter Bulcavage, and Steve Bulcavage of Buch Construction; Bill Hard of LCOR; Sam Spiritos of Shulman, Rogers, Gandal, Pordy, & Ecker; and Morgan Sullivan of JLL. We also want to thank our incredibly generous golf sponsors, who are committed to ensuring educational opportunities are available through the unrestricted scholarships their support helps provide.

Many thanks, too, to David Lee of The Team 980, for his support of our tennis program. Each year, David does an extraordinary job of encouraging his fellow tennis enthusiasts to join him in support of our students. We are very grateful to the Educational Federal Credit Union, the presenting sponsor for tennis for 2018.

Every year a highlight of the tournament is the announcement of the winner of the trip to Pebble Beach. Congratulations to John Dowdy, who will be headed to California in December to participate in the 2018 Lexus Champions for Charity National Championship. This all-expense paid trip for two, compliments of Lexus of Rockville, includes 18 holes of golf at Pebble Beach, Spyglass, and the Links at Spanish Bay. It’s a golfer’s dream experience.

Finally, it is with immense gratitude we recognize our presenting sponsors, Buch Construction and Lexus of Rockville.

The Foundation offers our warmest thanks and congratulations to the winners of this year’s golf and tennis tournament. We look forward to seeing all of you on the links or the courts next year.



Thank you to the incredibly generous sponsors of the 2018 33rd Annual Golf and Tennis Classic.



Stephen Cain, Montgomery College acting president, congratulates Specified Electrical Systems, the first-place winner of the 2018 golf tournament (from left) Rick Griffin, Francis DiGuiseppi, Stephen Cain, Brandon Kaelin, and Tim Abell.



Francine McLeod enjoyed the cool weather during this year’s tournament.



Kevin Dowdell gets in a few practice shots before the tournament begins.



Ken Cook, MCF board member; Mike Paukstis, MCF board member; Gary Gerber, America’s Promise job developer; and Marc A. Gordon, SVP, Revere Bank.



Stephen Cain, acting president (second from right), presents the 2018 golf committee with a token of appreciation. (from left) Sam Spiritos, MCF board member; Bill Hard, MCF board member; Peter Bearsch, Steve Bulcavage, Stephen Cain, and Peter Bulcavage. Not pictured, Carl Buch and Morgan Sullivan.



Ken Weiner, retired faculty member and tournament auctioneer, congratulates John Dowdy (right), the 2018 winner of the Lexus Champions for Charity National Championship trip to Pebble Beach.



Educational Systems Federal Credit Union representatives and the Raptor.



Peter Bearsch (second from left) general manager of Lexus of Rockville and golf committee member, along with members of the Lexus of Rockville foursome.



Raptor (back row) joins the members of this year's tennis tournament including tennis chair, David Lee (standing fifth from the right) and Michael Yuen, MCF board member (standing second from right).

Guardian Life Helps MC Students Build Solid Financial Futures

When students go to college, there are a lot of things they have to manage themselves: Courses can be more demanding, teachers can be more intimidating, and navigating a new social circle can be challenging. And there's one necessary skill that trips up students from all walks of life—learning to manage money.

Colleges know this, and many urge students to take finance courses that will teach them the ins and outs of interest rates, investing, budgeting, and navigating student loans. Montgomery College is able to offer even more assistance, thanks to the incredible generosity of the Guardian Life Insurance Company of America. For the past three years, Guardian has supported a program to help Montgomery College students learn basic personal finance skills and train them in entrepreneurship.

This year, Guardian has extended its outreach and the opportunities available to MC students. They include:

- Offering 80 early childhood education students entry to a course teaching them business practices that will help them be successful in opening their own childcare businesses, including one course each semester that is taught in Spanish



- Supporting a two-day Entrepreneurs and Small Business Symposium, inviting 40 students in the College's Applied Technologies, Gudelsky Institute for Technical Education, Hillman Entrepreneurs and other business programs to participate in the symposium
- Providing funding for a part-time faculty member to serve as the program advisor for the Personal Finance program

In addition, Guardian offers MC students its Money Management for LifeSM program. This alliance with community colleges across the country, including Montgomery College and the University of the District of Columbia Community College, provides free personal finance courses that earn college credit. These courses educate students, and provide a solid foundation of information that will allow them to build the skills to manage their own money and plan for their educational and financial futures.



Students who are part of the Hillman Entrepreneurs Program will get a chance to attend a two-day Entrepreneur and Small Business Symposium.

Foundation Board Recognizes Doug Firstenberg's Numerous Contributions

Doug Firstenberg is a man who likes to make a difference. Sometimes he's busy overseeing a project from his office in downtown Bethesda, where he's engaged in transforming the real-estate landscape across the metropolitan area. Sometimes he's walking a construction site, focused on bringing a concept to life. And, thankfully, sometimes he's talking to members of the Montgomery College Foundation Board of Directors, devising new ways to support our students. Regardless of where he is, Doug brings a vision of development—to a project, to a city, to a college.

Montgomery College is fortunate to have been on the receiving end of that vision. It began in 2004, when Doug joined the Foundation's Board of Directors, and continued when he was elected chair in 2007. Under his leadership, the Foundation funded more than \$65 million in construction projects. Doug was instrumental in bringing Holy Cross Health to MC, establishing the College as the only community college in the country to have a hospital on its grounds. Doug was also the chairman of the board when the \$25 million campaign—the most successful to-date—was completed in 2009. It is with gratitude for these accomplishments, and many others too numerous to list, that we announce the transition of Doug's role to director emeritus.



Dr. Pollard (left) and Ken Becker (right), chair of the MCF board, present Doug Firstenberg (middle) with a resolution from the Montgomery College Foundation Board of Directors honoring his many achievements during his years on the board and bestow upon him the title of director emeritus.



Members of the MCF Real Estate Committee (from left) Ken Becker, MCF board chair; Bill Hard, Real Estate Committee chair; Sam Spiritos; Cris White; and Doug Firstenberg. The committee was instrumental in the purchase and renovation by the Foundation of the Central Services Building in Rockville, which will lead to a savings of \$40 million over 30 years for the College.

According to Ken Becker, chair of the Foundation's Board of Directors, "Doug has played a critical role in most of the Foundation's major achievements over the past dozen years. He demonstrates an unwavering commitment to helping Montgomery College students, and we are delighted he will continue to be engaged through his new role as director emeritus."

The Foundation will continue to benefit from Doug's visionary approach. We thank him for supporting our mission, and look forward to working with him as the Foundation and the College grow and thrive.

Lifelong Learner Makes Impactful Gift

When Janet Crampton decided to make a gift of a lifetime to the Montgomery College Foundation, she made one with no restrictions. This kind of gift allows the foundation to direct funds to the College's areas of greatest need. Mrs. Crampton's practical approach to giving means a future for hundreds of students, and demonstrates a life of service to her community.

It all began in 1954 when she graduated from high school. She entered college not quite sure of her career path. Her parents said they would not pay for college unless she took courses that would lead to a job. She received a bachelor's in geology, a teaching certificate in math, and later a master's in geology. In those days, educated women were steered toward careers as teachers and nurses, but Janet took a different path.

Her enthusiasm for educating young people and her natural ability for organizing, analyzing, and writing led to many teaching jobs while traveling with her Army husband. Ultimately, she built a career as an editor and writer of scientific publications for non-profits and the federal government, including the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. Ms. Crampton became the first geologist to volunteer as a docent in the Minerals department.

On September 21, friends, colleagues, faculty, and students gathered for the unveiling of the Janet Wert Crampton Geology Lab in the Science Center on the Rockville Campus. Margaret Latimer, vice president and provost of the Germantown Campus and Collegewide STEM Unit, lauded Mrs. Crampton for leading the way for other women to follow. "Thanks to pioneers like



Janet, women across the world have more opportunities in scientific fields, mathematics, technical, and engineering fields. We still have work to do, but we have come a long way because of the courage, passion, and the unquenchable curiosity of women like Janet Crampton." Mrs. Crampton summed up her decision to give to the Montgomery College Foundation: "I have had such a fortunate life. I want to give to an institution that is sufficiently large enough to handle such a gift. Just seems to make good sense to me."



Students attend room dedication recognizing the generosity of Janet Crampton (third from left). Also in attendance is Margaret Latimer (third from right), vice president and provost Germantown Campus and collegewide STEM unit and Dr. Ladviga Zhelezinskaia, instructional lab coordinator, Geosciences (second from right).

FOUNDATION FOCUS

Montgomery College Foundation's newsletter is produced by the Office of Advancement and Community Engagement.

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Katie Kumkumian, donor relations director

Pete Vidal, photographer

Montgomery College Foundation, Inc.

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For gifts, contact David Sears, senior vice president for advancement and community engagement, at 240-567-7492 or david.sears@montgomerycollege.edu

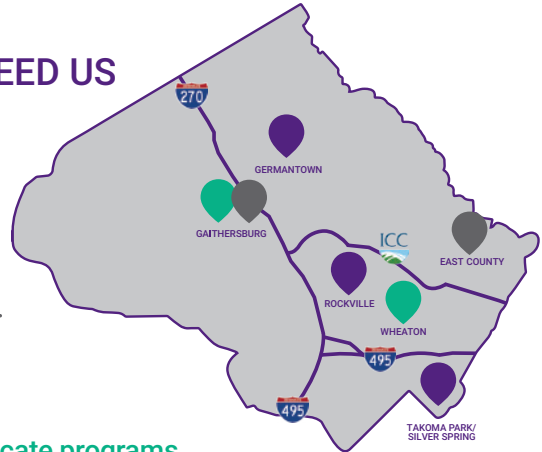
MONTGOMERY COLLEGE BY THE NUMBERS

54,335
Credit and Noncredit
STUDENTS

Maryland's largest
community college

WE'RE WHERE YOU NEED US

- 3 – Campuses
- 2 – Training Sites
- 2 – Community Engagement Centers
- 📶 – Online



1 in 4

MC students who
receive Pell grants
(federal financial aid)

\$20,000

Average household income for
federal Pell grant recipients

117

Degree and certificate programs

From mechanics to engineers and lab bench workers
to scientists: **we fuel the economy**

76.3%

Students of color

Student community
reflects today's
Montgomery County

\$5,178

annual tuition & fees

The most affordable
higher education option
for county residents

51%



Montgomery County Public
Schools graduates who stay
in state for college **attend MC**

9

Faculty members named
Maryland Professor of the Year
quality in classrooms

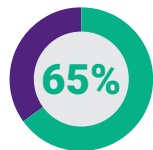
165

Countries represented*



46%

New full-time students who
graduate or transfer within
3 years of entering MC



MC students
who attend
part-time*



25

Average
student age*

OUR MISSION

We empower students to change
their lives, and we enrich the
life of our community. We are
accountable for our results.

**MC MONTGOMERY
COLLEGE**
MAKE YOUR MOVE®

October 2018

*credit students

SAVE THE DATE: SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2019



WHERE STUDENTS AND DONORS MEET. For more information, please call Katie Kumkumian at 240-567-7499