

PRIDE & Joy Newsletter—Scholar Issue

Maryland State Department of Education
Bernard J. Sadusky, Interim State Superintendent of Schools

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Issue 9

Welcome to MSDE * Academic Accolades * Professional Strides * Future Leaders

Buffet of Achievement

Kathleen Waxman, in DSE, is beaming with pride for her son, **Carter Waxman**. *Carter* is entering his senior year at Capitol College majoring in Computer Engineering Sciences. For the third straight year, *Carter* has achieved Dean's List recognition and a 4.0 GPA for the last 5 semesters. *Carter* was recently awarded the 2012-2013 "Avrum Guldesky Scholar Award for Recognition of Academic Excellence" by Lt. Governor Anthony Brown. There's more—*Carter* also enjoys a full-time paid internship with Lockheed Martin, and works with Goddard Space Center's Satellite Operation Institute at Capitol College.

Toni Montoya, in DARI, is pleased to announce that her daughter, **Tensia Montoya**, was voted by her peers as the "Quintessential Student" at St. Mary's College in Southern Maryland. Upon receiving this recognition, *Tensia* spoke at the graduation ceremony in May 2012. She is currently majoring in English Language Arts with minors in Education and Spanish.

Richard Baker, in DBS, is ecstatic about his daughter, **Heather Baker**, graduating from McDaniel College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications.

Miriam Silverman, in DSFSS, has double the reason to celebrate—for her two great-grandsons, **Alex and Andrew Mendez**. *Alex*, who recently became a Marine, is now in the reserves and has completed his first year at the University of Maryland, College Park. While *Andrew* recently graduated from Mt. Hebron High School in Howard County and has been offered a scholarship at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis and scheduled to appear for entrance this month.

Patrick Connolly, son of proud mother **Adele Connolly** in DORS, graduated from the Marine Corps Recruit Training in Parris Island, S.C. *Patrick* now enters Marine Combat Training at Camp Geiger.

Fern Banks' daughter, **Chandra Harris**, is making professional strides. *Chandra* recently received an award from the Maryland Institute for Minority Achievement and Urban Education at the University of Maryland, College Park for her significant contributions to reducing the minority achievement gap and academic achievement of underrepresented minority students. She is a graduate of the University of Maryland School of Social Work, and she holds special interest in providing behavioral health services to adolescents and their families.



Keina Morgan, granddaughter of **Mabel Carter**, in DBS, began on her higher education path at Frostburg University and recently graduated from the University of Baltimore with a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice. *Keina* just purchased her first home and was recently united in Holy Matrimony. She plans to pursue a doctorate and become a judge.

Dawn Gipe, in DECD, is pleased to announce the graduation of her daughter, **Kalina Gipe**, from Hood College. *Kalina* earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communication Arts.

Robert Christian DeWitt, son of **Wanda DeWitt** in DORS, earned an Associate Arts Degree from the Community College of Baltimore County. "*Christian*," as he is affectionately called by family and friends, plans to further his education at Towson University and study Gerontology.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

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Now, more than ever, is an opportune time to nominate our MSDE colleagues for their personal and academic achievements, contributions to public education, and always going the extra mile to serve. Nominate any individual or group that creates and exudes a sense of **PRIDE** at the Department.

“Education is not preparation for life, education is life itself.” ~

John Dewey

Welcome to the MSDE Family!

Karen Booth, DBS
Rebecca Bozarta, DECD
Abbygail Bruns, DECD
Angela Dobrzykowski, DBS
Steven Douglas, DSFSS
Ruth Downs, DOI
Tanya Eubanks, DSFSS
Kanell Johnson, DECD
Judy Koharsky, DSFSS
Sandy Rossi, DECD
Rachel Rotenberg, DECD
Peter Sicilia, Jr., DCCR
Nicola Simpson, DCCR
Monica Taylor, DSFSS
Sara Urban, DECD
Tina Williams, DCCR
Likisha Young, DCCR

A Glimpse at World-Class Students!

Lindsey Armah, daughter of **Miranda Hill-Okojie** in DCCR, will attend Catonsville High School in the fall. Also, Lindsey recently completed leadership training for the Junior National Young Leaders Conference and was a member of the Principal's Advisory Committee at Windsor Mill Middle School. Further, she was interviewed during a “60 Minutes News” broadcast, as they were highlighting Principal Deborah Phelps.

Joyce Jones, in C&A, is so very proud of her nephew, *Marlon Sample*, who graduated from Tench Tilghman Elementary/Middle School. *Marlon* will attend Carver Vocational Technical High School in the fall, where he plans to major in Computer Sciences.

Leyen Joseph Douthard, grandson of **Laura Smith** in DORS, graduated from Cardinal Shehan School. *Leyen*, an accomplished drummer on his school's choir and home church and new uncle, will be attending Baltimore City College in the fall.

Higher Education in the MSDE House!

Nora Perry, Vocational Rehabilitation Technical Specialist in DORS, obtained a Masters in Rehabilitation Counseling from Assumption College in Massachusetts. In addition, she is now a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor through the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification.

Toni March, in DORS, earned a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Baltimore.

Julie Roher, in DORS, obtained her Masters Degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from Assumption College.

“The quality of a person's life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence.” ~ Vince Lombardi, NFL Coach

Annie McCoach, daughter of **Paula McCoach** in DSFSS, was honored at her high school athletic awards assembly for participating in numerous sports—fall soccer, indoor and outdoor track. *Annie* received the “Unsung Hero” Award in soccer. Also, the “Golden Lion Award” for playing a sport during each season in middle and high school. Finally, she received an athletic jacket from Maryvale in honor of her late father, Jim McCoach, who also mentored her coach. *Annie* proudly donned his jacket as she graduated from Maryvale Preparatory—she plans to attend Stevenson University in the fall.

Shout-out to “Goalie” *Tyler Graybill* at Hereford High School Junior Varsity Lacrosse Team and grandson to **John Graybill** in OS, for winning their 5th consecutive Baltimore County Championship.

Moving to the Middle!

Ferne Banks, in DORS, is so very proud of her niece, *Jeannette Heaton* who graduated from Dr. Carter G. Woodson Elementary/Middle School. *Jeannette* received recognition for excelling in Mathematics, Reading, Writing, Athletics, and the Honor Roll, as well as Perfect Attendance!

Please continue to forward “Good News” stories to:
Gail V. Tucker