

# One Maryland

May 19, 2010



## A Message from the Governor

### Fighting for Maryland's Families

Tomorrow, we will take an important step forward in our fight to protect Maryland's middle class from losing their homes. We will sign foreclosure mediation legislation, which gives homeowners the information they need at an early stage in a foreclosure process, and gives every Maryland family the right to have access to their lenders when they feel they are unfairly denied a loan modification or other option. This legislation will help keep more Marylanders in the homes they worked hard to purchase.

With my signature, we will empower our fellow Marylanders, putting them on a more equal footing with mortgage companies that too often can't be bothered to pick up the phone before beginning a foreclosure proceeding against a Maryland family.



Building on our bold foreclosure reforms of 2007, we remain committed to ensuring that those homeowners who are eligible for loan modifications are able to obtain them, and that others can pursue alternatives to avoid foreclosure or lessen its harmful impact.

To date, our Maryland HOPE Network has counseled thousands of Marylanders facing foreclosure, reaching positive outcomes for about 12,000 Maryland families. In addition, we've recruited more than 1,000 attorneys to serve Maryland families in need of free legal counseling.

If you or someone you know is facing foreclosure, the reforms we've put in place may be able to help. A list of HOPE housing counseling agencies is at [www.mdhope.org](http://www.mdhope.org) or by calling the MDHOPE hotline at 877-462-7555.

Martin O'Malley  
Governor

## Governor O'Malley, Local Officials Declare East Baltimore County "Capital for a Day"

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### Maryland Events

#### Arts Festival

May 22-23, Sat 10am-7pm and Sun. 10am-6pm at the National Harbor. Fine arts festival featuring national artists.

#### Pirate Fest

May 22, 11am-5pm at Darnall's Chance House Museum in Upper Marlboro. Get your fill of all things pirate! Period music, food vendors, kids activities.



Yesterday, Governor O'Malley, joined by Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith, Senator Kathy Klausmeier, other local officials and area residents [declared East Baltimore County Maryland's "Capital for a Day."](#) The monthly program brings the State Capital to every corner of Maryland through a series of events across a diverse selection of Maryland cities, towns and communities.

Governor O'Malley began the day touring Middle River Aircraft Systems, a local company at the forefront of scientific design and manufacturing employing more than 800 Marylanders at their Baltimore County location. Following the business tour, Governor O'Malley joined environmental advocates and others at Gunpowder State Park. There, the Governor announced that the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science Bay Health Report Card gives [the Chesapeake Bay its highest overall grade since 2002](#), with conditions improving in eight of ten Bay regions. The Governor then visited Oak Crest Village, a retirement community in Parkville celebrating its 15th anniversary and home to more than 2,100 residents.

Even in difficult economic times, development and progress continues in many parts of East Baltimore County, built on the foundation of a strong partnership with the State. Governor O'Malley's FY2010 budget includes \$617.5 million in K-12 education for Baltimore County, and \$25 million in school construction investments. The O'Malley-Brown Administration has invested more than \$146 million in school construction in Baltimore County, representing a 75 percent increase from the four years prior.

## Governor O'Malley Announces Largest Recovery Transportation Project in the State

Governor O'Malley continued his "Jobs Across Maryland" tour by recently kicking off the [largest American Recovery and Reinvestment Act transportation project in Maryland that will support 200 jobs](#) while providing an important transportation upgrade in Baltimore County. The \$25 million Recovery Act project at the interchange of I-695 and MD 26 (Liberty Road) will replace a 50-year-old bridge, one of four bridge replacement priorities identified for Maryland and addressed by the O'Malley-Brown Administration.



From January to March 2010, the Recovery Act [created or saved 13,821 jobs](#) statewide in key job sectors including health, education, housing and transportation. The Recovery Act continues to build a legacy of moving Maryland forward with projects that reflect a balanced approach to transportation.

### Maryland Heartland Sustainable Living Fair

May 22, 9am-4pm at the Carroll County Farm Museum in Westminster. Learn about green building, renewable energy, sustainable agriculture and healthy living practices. Live music, food, farmers' market.

### 16th Annual Senior Celebration

May 20, 9am-3pm at Governor's Hall at Sailwinds Park in Cambridge. Eastern Shore's largest festival for citizens more than 55 years old. Entertainment, food, health screenings, vendors; rain or shine.

### Related Links

[Office of the Governor](#)

[Office of Community Initiatives](#)

[Read last week's One Maryland](#)

## Governor O'Malley Honored as MBE Leader of the Year



Governor O'Malley was honored last week by the Maryland Washington Minority Contractors' Association as the Most Distinguished Leader of the Year for Minority Business Enterprise.

Governor O'Malley recently addressed more than 300 participants of "MBE University," an initiative the Governor launched to support Maryland's minority- and women-owned businesses and to highlight the state's MBE program. Maryland is home to one of the nation's leading MBE programs, and it has

established the highest minority and women-owned business contracting goals in the nation at 25 percent. In addition, Maryland is one of only 15 states in the nation with MBE goals and one of only a few states with an MBE law in statute. Maryland remains the only state in the nation to collect uniform reporting data including actual payments to MBEs. In Fiscal Year 2009, Maryland state agencies awarded over \$1.6 billion to MBE firms, an increase of 26 percent in one year, and \$1 billion in payment to MBE firms.

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## Register Now for First Lady Katie O'Malley's Garden Lecture Series

The second session of First Lady Katie O'Malley's Garden Lecture Series has reached capacity but there are still many opportunities to learn how to create your own backyard garden and grow your own food! The lecture series, held outside at the Government House garden, began this month and will be held once a month at 10:00 a.m. through October. The next session, Pollinators, will be held on July 17th and [registration is now open](#) for this and upcoming lectures.



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