

NEWS ITEMS OF INTEREST

State Employee Recognition Day



5th Annual State Employees Recognition Day will be held at Warfield Air National Guard Base at the dining hall, 2701 Eastern Blvd, Middle River, Maryland, on June 21, 2012 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Awards are given for years of service and for Notable Employees, Team Spirit, an TAG'S Award of Excellence. All state military department employees are welcome to attend. Please confer with your supervisor if you are planning to be in attendance. Email glennnd@mdmildep.org or call Dave Glenn 410-234-3812 rsvp. Thank you very much for your years of service. [\(click here to view brochure\)](#)

Precautions Against Ticks and Tickborne Diseases



BALTIMORE, MD (May 3, 2012) – With warmer weather and tick season right around the corner, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) reminds Maryland residents that they can protect themselves and their families from tick bites and tickborne diseases, including Lyme disease.

There are several kinds of ticks in Maryland that can transmit disease when they bite people or their pets. These ticks are most commonly found in wooded and brushy areas, shrubs, leaf litter and tall grass - and even in people's backyards. [click here for more information](#)

COMPUTER TIPS

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH



Save a Back

Easy to use secrets for preventing back pain. Work and play the safe way. Make informed choices in your back health care and get rid of that achy back our neck pain yourself. Have a healthy back for the rest of your life! [click here for more information and how to sign up.](#)



The End of the World? Nawwwww!!!!

The oldest-known version of the ancient Maya calendar has been discovered adorning a lavishly painted wall in the ruins of a city deep in the Guatemalan rainforest and contrary to popular myth, this calendar isn't a countdown to the end of the world in December 2012, the study researchers said. [click here to read the entire story](#)

The transit of Venus leads to new Earths



Total eclipses of the sun are stunningly beautiful astronomical events, but let's face it: they are not truly rare. A total eclipse usually occurs somewhere in the world every 18 months or so. The 5th or 5th of June, however, you may have one last chance to take in a genuinely unusual sight that may have been witnessed (and recognized for what it was) only six times before in history.

It is a transit of Venus... [click here to read entire story](#),



How to Recognize Lyme Disease Symptoms

Everyone has heard enough of the Lyme disease but knowing how it is



caused and how serious it can be is also important. It is equally important to know how you can recognize the symptoms of Lyme disease. Here are some of the well-known identification characteristics of Lyme disease that can help you identify the ailment.

[click here fro full story](#)



Welcome to the Bay Bridge Live Web Cams!

These live traffic cameras provide round-the-clock video of Bay Bridge traffic, so you can see for yourself what things look like – before you go!

[\(click here for Bay Bridge Information\)](#)

Get Instant Information on Your Trip to Ocean City

Heading down to OC soon? Get traffic advisories, email alerts and you can even call 1-877-BAYSPAN to find out the best times to travel. The "What's New" section advises you of such thing as what kind of maintenance is being performed on the bridge. [\(for more information click here\)](#)

Maryland State Facts

1. Fort Meade near Laurel became a base because a train engineer delivering soldiers to Meade knew only one Meade, the one in Maryland. He was not aware of Fort Meade, Florida. The confusion happened so often a second base was built in Maryland in an attempt to avoid the confusion.
2. 6.King Williams School opened in 1696 it was the first school in the United States.
3. Since May 30th, 1949 the United States flag has flown continuously over the monument marking the site of Francis Scott Key's birthplace. The flag flies at Terra Rubra Farm, Carroll County, Keymar, Maryland as mandated by a Joint Resolution of Congress.
4. The 1,200 foot Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore is the second longest continuous truss bridge in the nation.

"Items of Importance to State Employees"

Procedures for Release of State Employees Under Emergency Conditions [\(click here\)](#)



Military Department Reg 5-8 Management of MDNG Personnel During Emergencies [\(click here\)](#)

Emergency Essential Employee Acknowledgement Document [\(click here\)](#)

TID BITS

- Federal Holidays for the Year [\(click here\)](#)
- State Holidays - For the Year [\(click here\)](#)

A WORD TO THE WISE

Avoiding Investment Scams



We would all like to think that we could spot a scam easily. Unfortunately, most of us cannot!



Con artists are friendly people. They look professional and appear successful, and they are not always strangers. Some contact us through church groups or ethnic associations. Some are people we know as friends and neighbors. You can lose a lot of money if you fall for an investment scam. How do you avoid having this happen? There are some principles to follow:

1. Buy only from licensed or credentialed financial professionals. Stockbrokers and investment advisers must be licensed to sell you stocks, bonds, and mutual funds, for example. Avoid buying investments from persons who are not licensed to sell those products. See the Resources section, below, regarding checking out financial professionals.
2. Review your account statements. Check all statements when you get them and notice the details, including all changes to your investments. Make sure your correspondence is sent to the investment firm's official address. Ask questions right away about anything that seems incorrect, unauthorized, or unclear. If your investment company's broker or adviser refuses to comply promptly when you ask to withdraw money from your account, does not provide proper statements, or does not give satisfactory answers to your questions, complain in writing to authorities. See the Resources section below for information on how to do this.
3. Buy investment products that you have chosen and checked carefully. Stick to buying investment products that you have sought out yourself and investigated carefully. Buy products you can understand, after you have reviewed written details.
4. Make sure you are buying registered investment products. Most legitimate products have to be registered with the SEC and in the state of sale. Check them before you buy.
5. Ignore spam email and "hot tips." These types of messages are sometimes meant to trap unwary investors. Hot tips can come from people you know, or be left as "accidental" messages on your answering machine. Fake websites and blogs are sometimes set up to provide false information about investments.
6. Be careful if you are invited to invest by phone, at a meeting, or at a social event. Get details about any investment in writing, and be sure to check them out. Never make a snap decision when you are first approached with an investment idea. If someone pressures you to buy quickly, offers to send a messenger to pick up your money, or claims that the offer is only good "right now" - just say no.
7. If the promoter says it's practically a "sure thing" - don't buy it. All investments carry some level of risk. Don't buy into any product if the salesperson says there is no risk to it, even if you like and trust that person. A salesperson can be the victim of a scam, too.
8. Never make an investment payable to the salesperson. Always make your payment to the investment company.

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Funny Quote of the month

"Accept the fact that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue!"
