



# Calvert County NEWS

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Little Protégés Providing a Healthy, Enriching Child Care Experience in Prince Frederick**

**PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – November 6, 2009** – There is probably no more tedious or stress-inducing parenting task than finding safe, reliable and inspirational child care for your infant or child. Of course, all parents want an environment where their children will feel welcomed, encouraged and comfortable. But what if that experience could also foster creativity, espouse healthy nutritional goals, introduce pre-schoolers to the public school curriculum, encourage ambient learning throughout the day and generally help each child flourish to the best of their individual abilities?

That is the philosophy behind Little Protégés Early Learning Centre in Prince Frederick, Md. Opened in June 2009, Little Protégés was created by the husband-and-wife team of Jeff and Judy Phipps based on the experiences they had finding top-quality child care for their two young children after moving to the area in 2003. “We felt helpless knowing that we both had to start work within a few weeks of moving here and had very little time to find a quality child care center for our two children,” says Judy. “We wanted to ensure that other parents in that same situation had an option that provided exceptional care and the level of trust that we sought for our own children. We believe we have accomplished that with Little Protégés.”

In addition to the regular child care activities of playground exercise, napping, reading and arts and crafts, Little Protégés places a unique emphasis on good nutrition, whole-body learning and

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a vibrant and caring environment. “This is not just a babysitting service,” says Judy. In fact, the facility offers a number of unique programs like yoga and Brain Gym®, Hemispheric Synchronization music technology (Hemi-Sync®), sign language instruction for toddlers and Spanish language instruction for children aged two years and older and catered lunches that adhere to the Feingold Program for healthy nutritional guidance.

“We believe very strongly that a good learning environment starts with good physical health,” says Judy. “From our meals that follow the Feingold Program’s diet to eliminate preservatives, artificial colorings and additives to the fact that our facility uses only environmentally safe cleaning products, we do everything we can to ensure that the children in our care are given every opportunity to excel, to succeed and to thrive.”

The licensed facility currently has 10 full-time staff and more than 30 children. It offers programs for infants, toddlers, two-, three- and four-year-olds, pre-kindergarten and before- and after-school care for children in grades K through 6. Additionally, it provides summer programs that include field trips, special activities and classes.

“My whole goal was to create the type of place where parents would want their children to spend the day and where children would be excited to come every day,” said Judy. “I’m a parent of small children myself and I know how important the early years are for developing happy, healthy and well-adjusted children. The consequences are just too important to accept mediocrity. Our children deserve exceptional care and that’s what Little Protégés is all about.”

Little Protégés Early Learning Centre is located at 71 Armory Road in Prince Frederick, Md. Hours of operation are 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. By incorporating custom amenities with innovative and age-appropriate programs, the staff has created an effective and nurturing learning environment for children ages six weeks to 12 years of age. For more information, visit online at [www.littleproteges.com](http://www.littleproteges.com), e-mail [info@littleproteges.com](mailto:info@littleproteges.com) or call 410.535.6553.

For more information about the Calvert County, Md., Department of Economic Development, our visitor sites and attractions and the services available to assist County businesses, call 410.535.4583, 800.331.9771 or 301.855.1880; send an e-mail to [info@ecalvert.com](mailto:info@ecalvert.com), or visit online at [www.ecalvert.com](http://www.ecalvert.com).

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*Calvert County is Maryland’s smallest county in land area with 213 square miles. It is home to approximately 90,000 people and has one of the highest standards of living in Maryland. There are more than 5,000 businesses in the County and a labor force of at least 1.8 million resides within a one-hour drive. Major industries include defense contracting, information technology, tourism, utilities, light manufacturing and administrative services.*