

FitzMalls honored for 40,000th child safety seat inspection

Rockville, MD. May 19, 2011 - WANADA dealer member Jack Fitzgerald and his FitzMalls stores and employees were honored today at a special ceremony to mark the 40,000th child safety seat inspection the company has performed since it began the effort in 1998. On hand for the ceremony at Fitzmall's Buick GMC dealership on Nicholson Lane in Rockville, MD, were National Highway Traffic Safety Administration chief David Strickland, Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), Montgomery County chief executive Isaiah Leggett, representative from Maryland senator Ben Cardin's (D) office, leaders of the Montgomery County Police and Fire and Rescue departments and the county's Safe Kids Program.

In noting Jack Fitzgerald's achievement, administrator Strickland said proper installation of child safety seats has saved at least 9,000 lives while lamenting that nationwide only 70% of parents know how to do the installation properly. "Safety efforts like those of Jack Fitzgerald and his employees are critically important to saving children's lives and avoiding needless injury," he said. County executive Leggett lauded the effort as a great example of a public/private partnership that benefits everyone and highlighted the significance of the achievement by noting that the 40,000 child safety seats inspected by Fitzmall's would fill a line of cars that would circle the Washington Beltway twice. "This is a truly noteworthy achievement," he said.

Emily Crown, the lead trainer for the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue department's Safe Kids Program, presented Mr. Fitzgerald with a plaque in special recognition of the Fitzmall's child safety seat inspection landmark as well as its assistance in having more than 1,000 local auto technicians certified to do the important inspections.



From the left (Rick Reichard, Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD) office, Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), Jack Fitzgerald, Isaiah Leggett, Montgomery County Executive, Tom Manger, Montgomery County chief of police, Doty Fitzgerald, Gerard Murphy, WANADA CEO, and David Strickland, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, administrator.