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White House, EPA Recognize PG County Stormwater Retrofit Among Most Innovative in the Nation

County and Corvias Solutions Launch Clean Water Partnership

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Government

Largo, MD - Prince George's County and Corvias Solutions announce the launch of the nation's first collaboration for a stormwater infrastructure management public-private partnership (P3) initiative called the Clean Water Partnership (CWP). The community-based project will support local job creation, minority business hiring and boost long-term economic growth, and provide career training and mentoring while linking private businesses and companies in meeting the challenges of large scale green urban infrastructure retrofits.

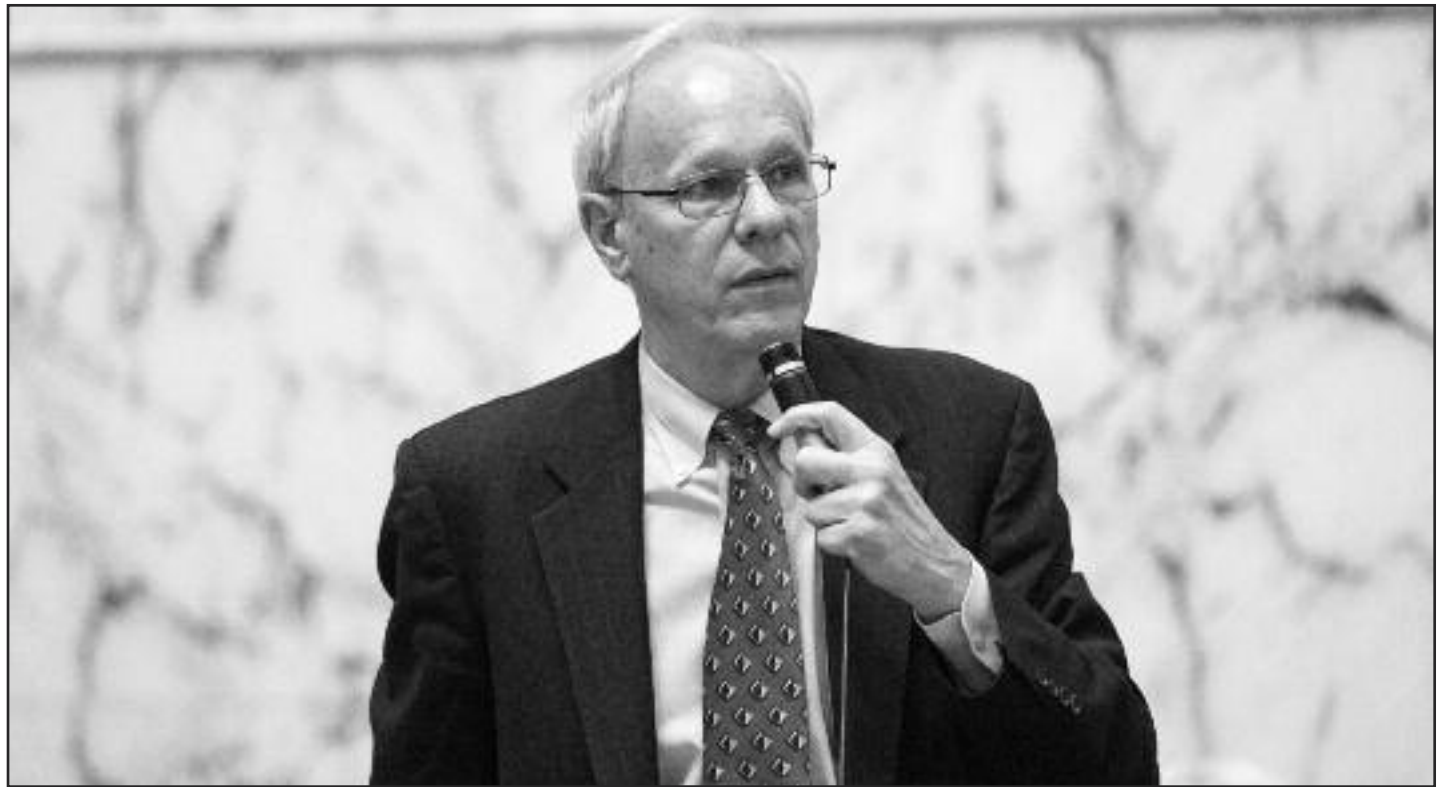
"In order to comply with the federal Clean Water Act to reduce stormwater runoff pollution, Prince George's County implemented an innovative public-private partnership that will improve our environment and our quality of life, as well as create jobs and a new industry for our small and minority business community," said Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. "The Prince George's County Department of the Environment and Corvias Solutions developed a robust program that has been recognized and lauded by the business community, faith organizations, environmental organizations, and even

The White House. In Prince George's County we rise and respond to our obligations and our challenges with smart and practical solutions – this initiative exemplifies our drive to not just follow best practices, but to create best practices."

The White House has commended the County for its leadership and recognized the Partnership as a best practice for other communities to follow. "With this first-of-its-kind public-private partnership for green stormwater infrastructure, Prince George's County is leading the way for communities across the country. The new Clean Water Partnership supports the goals of the President's Build America Investment Initiative by uniting the public and private sectors to invest in a 21st century American infrastructure," said Christy Goldfuss, Managing Director of the White House Council on Environmental Quality. "This innovative approach to managing stormwater has potential to revitalize communities, develop small business and create jobs."

The CWP aligns with President Obama's Build America Investment Initiative to increase infrastructure investment and promote economic growth by creating opportuni-

See **STORMWATER** Page A3



CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTO BY JAMES LEVIN

State Senator Paul Pinsky, D-Prince George's, speaks to the Maryland Senate during the final day of the General Assembly in the State House in Annapolis on Monday, April 13, 2015.

Gov. Hogan Funds State Pension, Continuing Budget Battle With Democratic Legislators

By GRACE TOOHEY
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS -- Gov. Larry Hogan proposed a second amendment to the state budget Thursday afternoon that would restore \$75 million to Maryland State Retirement and Pension System, the latest attempt in a seemingly winless battle between the governor and the General Assembly to fund different priorities.

"While we're not going to get everything we want, the legislature's not going to get everything that they want," said Hogan, a Republican. "I think we're working together in a bipartisan way and I think the taxpayers are going to get what they want, which is the most fiscally responsible budget in decades."

Speaker of the House Michael Busch, D-Anne Arundel, pointedly noted that Hogan's proposal ignores the

legislature's main priorities, like supplemental education funding, Medicaid costs for vulnerable populations and 2 percent pay raises for state employees.

The budget, which passed with bipartisan support in both the House and Senate a few weeks ago, cut \$75 million from planned contributions into the state employees' pension fund to pay for those priorities. Busch emphasized that 176 of the 188 legislators voted in favor of this

budget, a majority of both Republicans and Democrats.

"The members of the House would like to see some kind of indication of the administration, the governor, of their intent to fund the programs that were passed overwhelmingly in the state budget this year," Busch said.

But Hogan is taking authority to protect his agenda, which

See **HOGAN** Page A3

Maryland Legislature Passes State Budget, But Some Spending Uncertainty Remains

By ANJALI SHASTRY
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS -- The Maryland General Assembly passed the state's \$40.7 billion budget hours before the close of the session Monday evening, but left unknown is whether Republican Gov. Larry Hogan will spend more than \$200 million in unallocated funds for supplemental education funding, state employee raises and subsidies for physicians who accept Medicaid, among other social programs.

Over the 90-day legislative session, the Democratic-majority legislature has been at odds with Hogan over the budget, which the first-term governor wanted to keep trim to follow through on his campaign promises of fiscal responsibility and lowering taxes.

The legislature opted to rearrange about \$202 million to pay for supplemental education funding, reinstate state employee raises, and subsidies for physicians who accept Medicaid and other social programs cut in the



CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTO BY JAMES LEVIN

Gov. Larry Hogan, R, speaks to members of the media in front of the State House in Annapolis on Monday, April 13, 2015, the last day of the General Assembly session.

governor's original proposed budget. The bicameral committee representing the legislature's budget interests finalized the spending-plan details on Friday, choosing to disregard the governor's supplemental budgets, which had reversed some of the legislature's spending changes.

The budget passed 10 votes

shy of unanimous in the House and unanimously in the Senate three weeks before, but many Republicans changed their minds after the massive spending proposal went through the bicameral committee on Friday.

See **BUDGET** Page A5

Award-Winning Author to Speak at Prince George's County Library

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCMLS

HYATTSVILLE, Md.—Prince George's County Memorial Library System will hold meet-the-author events with Jason Reynolds on Tuesday, April 28. Events will take place at 1 p.m. at the Hyattsville Branch Library (6530 Adelphi Road in Hyattsville) and at 4 p.m. at the Spauldings Branch Library (5811 Old Silver Hill Road in District Heights).

Reynolds received The Coretta Scott King Book Awards:

2015 John Steptoe New Talent Award for his book "When I Was the Greatest." He graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park, and also wrote "The Boy in the Black Suit."

The events are free and open to the public. For more information, visit the Prince George's County Memorial Library System's website at www.pgcmls.info or call 301-699-3500.

Prince George's County Memorial Library System provides materials and information for study and personal

enrichment, offering strategies for lifelong learning through access to varied media and professional guidance. The library system consists of branches in 19 communities including Accokeek, Baden, Beltsville, Bladensburg, Bowie, Fairmount Heights, Glenarden, Greenbelt, Hillcrest Heights, Hyattsville, Largo-Kettering, Laurel, Mount Rainier, New Carrollton, Oxon Hill, South Bowie, Spauldings, Surratt-Clinton and Upper Marlboro. (www.pgcmls.info)

Hoyer Meets with PG County Council and County Executive Rushern Baker

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of Steny Hoyer

UPPER MARLBORO, MD – Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) visited the County Administration Building in Upper Marlboro today for an informal Meet and Greet luncheon with the Prince George's County Council. During the luncheon, they

spoke about a number of topics including relocating the FBI headquarters to Prince George's County and the county's Fiscal Year 2016 budget. Rep. Hoyer also stopped by Prince George's County Executive Rushern Baker's office.

"I was honored to visit with Chairman Franklin and the Prince George's County Council today, along with County Executive Baker," said Congressman Steny Hoyer. "I will continue to work closely with the Council and Executive Baker to support jobs and opportunities for Prince George's County families. By working together, we will

See **HOYER** Page A6

INSIDE

USDA Sets Goal of Serving 200 Million Summer Meals, Observes Program's 40th Anniversary

Nutrition assistance programs defend against hunger – ensuring the most vulnerable Americans have the energy they need to perform at work and at school. Children are particularly vulnerable to hunger and poor nutrition especially when school is out.

Community, Page A3

Let's Give Child Hunger a Summer Vacation

Their bill would significantly expand summer nutrition programs by lowering the threshold for community eligibility from 50 percent to 40 percent of children in the area eligible for free or reduced price meals. Community eligibility reduces the administrative burden on sites and allows them to serve more children.

Commentary, Page A4

Cardin, Sarbanes, Cummings Dish with Small Businesses in MD's Local Foods Movement

A growing number of Maryland consumers are lending support to the growing movement, spawning a rise in the number of community supported agriculture (CSA) operations, restaurants and shops dedicated to offering local foods.

Business, Page A5

Movie Review: It Follows

Many a horror film has punished them after they have sex, but "It Follows" takes the idea to a new level, using a metaphorical device to conjure all the fears that adolescents have about sex. The result is one of the most original, most intelligently frightening movies to emerge in some time.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

How do environmentalists feel about the concept of ocean fertilization as a form of carbon sequestration?

— Jeffrey Edwards,
Pomfret, CT

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

Sell those extra things at VFW's Outdoor Yard Sale May 9

Got extra things in your house that you'd like to sell? Enjoy making extra cash while downsizing and meeting fun & interesting people who think your trash is treasure? Call 301-967-8377 today.

The VFW Ladies Auxiliary of Post 9619, 6527 Suitland Road, is sponsoring an Outdoor Yard Sale on Saturday, May 9, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The first table or space is \$15; each additional is \$10. Call Karen Rooker at 301-967-8377 to reserve your table.

Fish & chips at Skyline Flea Market, April 25

Come to the Morningside Fire Department for Skyline's Annual Flea Market, on Saturday, April 25, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. For your browsing pleasure, there'll be fish & chips, hotdogs, sodas and dessert for sale.

Tables are \$15. Call 240-838-6412, 301-568-4465, 301-967-1320, or email nursekenney06@yahoo.com. Rain date is Saturday, May 2.

Oxon Hill Food Pantry Walkathon coming up

Walk or run the Henson Creek Trail—two miles up, two miles back—on Saturday, May 2. Register 9 a.m. to noon at Oxon Hill Lutheran Church, 3415 Brinkley Road in Temple Hills.

Walk to help feed the hungry. The walkathon is sponsored by the Interfaith Community Action Council in conjunction with the Feinstein Foundation \$1 Million Dollar Challenge to Fight Hunger. Admission is \$10 or 10 pounds of non-perishable food. For information about participating or sponsoring, call 301-899-8358.

Applause

Congratulations to Oxon Hill Middle School's team, which defeated Kenmore Middle to win its first Science Bowl victory. Team members are: Thomas Panteli, Antonio Sosa, Matthew Mina and alternate, Carmela Sambells.

The Morningside Volunteer Fire Dept., Company 27, has responded to 1,761 runs in the first three months of the year. At this pace, they say, we'll respond to over 7,000 runs this year. Pride runs deep and the runs keep coming—100% Volunteer 100% Of The Time. Interested in joining? Go to Recruitment@MorningsideVFD27.com. Join us and have the experience of a lifetime in no time at all.

Changing landscape

County Executive Baker participated on April 17 in the groundbreaking for a new Dave and Buster's that's moving to Ritchie Station Marketplace in Capitol Heights.

Crazy Grill & Buffet has opened at 5644 Silver Hill Road in District Heights. In addition to the buffet, they have a huge private room available for parties and meetings. Also you can opt for a buffet to go. For information, call 240-788-6334.

Chesapeake Lighthouse Foundation, of Laurel, has filed an application to convert a warehouse into a charter school, at 9822 Fallard Court in Upper Marlboro.

Steve Dameron, guitarist extraordinaire, dies at 58

Steve B. Dameron, 58, longtime Morningside resident, Fannie Mae retiree and much-loved musician, died April 4. If you regularly attended the annual Morningside 4th of July Parade, you saw Steve parading behind a van, serenading with his guitar.

We'll miss him this Independence Day. And he'll be missed at St. Philip's where he played with the Folk Group, St. Joseph's in Pomfret, at many parish funerals, and at any other time when requested. He also taught guitar to St. Philip's children.

Steve was born in Washington and graduated from Suitland High in 1974. At the University of Maryland, he got a degree in business and also studied music. He was a bank teller for about ten years before joining Fannie Mae from which he retired as Senior Programmer Analyst in 2007 after 21 years service.

He enjoyed sports—tennis, bowling, softball and golf.

He was the husband of Lenora; father of Kyle and Kara Dameron; son of Grace Dameron; brother of David and Wayne; and brother-in-law of Norine Gray, also of Morningside. He leaves a score of nieces and nephews and his guitar students at St. Philip's.

He was baptized by Father Charles McCann at St. Philip's on Holy Saturday 1998 and he died on Holy Saturday this year. His funeral mass was concelebrated by six priests—Fathers Edward Hegnauer, Bernard Ihrie, Scott Hahn, Jeffrey Samaha, Thomas LaHood and Kevin Cusick, all in gratitude for Steve's generous sharing of his time and talent.

Tammy Lampert, former Morningsider

Tammy Bowman Lampert, a 1979 graduate of Central High School, died suddenly on April 6 at her home in Plaza, North Dakota. She grew up on Larches Court in Morningside, from 1965 until she married in 1981. She moved with her family to North Dakota in 1997.

Tammy suffered from COPD and had been ill for several years. She leaves her daughter Erin, sons Ron and Marc and four grandchildren, all of North Dakota. Her sister Jody and brother-in-law Larry, formerly of Maryland and now of South Carolina, traveled to Plaza to help with her memorial service. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Edna Lucas, April 24; my friend out in California, Daisy Young, Sue Stine McConkey-Mason, Kenia Spivey and my grandson David McHale, April 25; G.A. DeFelice, April 26; Michael Call, Apr. 27; Rose Tiller, Beverly Gotshall Marquis, DJ Fowler and Jessica Phipps, April 28; Dorothy Lipka, Lael McCune and Morningside Councilman Todd Mullins, April 30.

Happy anniversary to Emanuel and Juanita Chaplin on their 52nd, April 26; and to Jan and Cindy Smith, their 43rd on April 28.

Come and enjoy the stage productions at Prince George's Community College (The Halam Theatre Queen Anne Fine Arts) 301 Largo Road Largo, Maryland 20774. To get tickets visit www.pgcc.edu/go/theatre. If you need information call 301-322-0926.

WOMEN'S DAY 2015

The Women at Westphalia United Methodist Church will be celebrating Women of God Sunday, May 31, 2015 at their 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Service. Rev. Dr. Timothy West, Senior Pastor. The church is at 9363 D'Arcy Road Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20774. Contact information is 703-735-9373 or visit www.westphaliaum.org.

ANNUAL GOSPEL PROGRAM

We will be celebrating our Annual Gospel Program Sunday, April 26, 2015 at Asbury United Methodist Church 3:00 PM. Donation is \$10.00. Church address is 4004 Accokeek Road Brandywine, Maryland 20613.

Groups on the program are Men of Faith, Burning Light, Unity, Jr. & Voices of Harmony and New Hope Fellowship Male Chorus. Hope to see you at the program and thanks for your

support. Sponsored by: Peter A. Gross, Sr. Scholarship/Memorial Fund, Inc. For tickets contact: Michele Chase 240-882-3369 or Ruby Hinnant 301-627-1235.

CHILDREN'S GLOBAL READINESS ACADEMY

Children's Global Readiness Academy is one Language Academy with two great programs and locations. Summer Camp will be offered in two sessions. Session I June 22-July 24 (Language & The City, Session II, July 27-August 21 (Language & Stem). Call 301-842-4056 or visit www.cgrkids.org for more information.

4th ANNUAL BULLDOG GOLF CLASSIC

Register now for Bowie State University's 4th Annual Bulldog Golf Classic hosted by the Bowie State University Department of Athletics Thursday, May 7, 2015 at Woodmoore Club. The address is 12320 Pleasant Prospect Mitchellville, Maryland 20721.

Registration fees are Per Golfer: \$150 and Per Foursome: \$500. Shotgun start is at 10:AM. **Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information: events@bowiestate.edu, 301-860-4300 or www.bowiestate.edu/bulldog-classic.

Neighborhood Events

Edwards Releases First Quarter Numbers

Fort Washington, MD - In just two weeks, Congresswoman Donna Edwards raised over \$335,000 from over 3,700 contributors, reflecting the progressive momentum building around her fight for Maryland's working families.

"The phenomenal number of contributors in the first few weeks of the campaign proves that the grassroots community is mobilized behind Donna as the candidate who will lead the fight for progressive values in the Senate," said Garrick Delzell, Campaign Manager. "With 6,000 people taking action and over 3,700 contributors, Donna is building a campaign that reflects the hard work of Maryland families, that says 'you don't ever have to worry about who your next senator will fight for.'

Total Number of Contributors: Over 3,700

Total Number Raised: Over \$335,000

Doctors Community Hospital Cardiovascular Program Certified by an Industry Leader

Lanham, MD - Doctors Community Hospital is proud to announce the certification of its Cardiac Rehabilitation Program by the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation (AACVPR). The hospital's Cardiac Rehabilitation Program was recognized for its commitment to improving the quality of patients' lives by enhancing standards of care.

Cardiovascular and pulmonary rehabilitation programs are designed to help people who have cardiovascular problems (e.g., heart attacks, coronary artery bypass graft surgery) recover faster and improve the quality of their lives. Both types of programs often include exercise, education, counseling and support for patients as well as their families.

Doctors Community Hospital's Cardiac Rehabilitation Program participated in an application process that required extensive documentation of various practices as part of a certification process. AACVPR Program Certification is the only peer-reviewed accreditation process designed to assess individual programs for adherence to standards and guidelines developed and published by AACVPR and other professional societies. Applications are reviewed by the AACVPR Program Certification Committee, and certification is awarded by AACVPR's board of directors.

AACVPR-certified programs are recognized as leaders in the field of cardiovascular and pulmonary rehabilitation because they offer advanced practices. AACVPR Program Certification is valid for three years.

PGCPS Project to Improve Prioritization of Capital Improvement Projects

UPPER MARLBORO, MD - Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) is working to improve the way school construction and renovation projects are prioritized, and encourages students, families, and community members to share their input through the Master Plan Support Project (MPSP).

"In the past we've prioritized schools based only on their physical condition. The MPSP creates a more compre-



Congresswoman
Donna F. Edwards

hensive evaluation criteria where we look at the condition of our schools in three critical areas - mission, condition, and function," said Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell, Chief Executive Officer for PGCPS. "This new project will help us use our limited resources more effectively and bring transparency to the process."

Over the past few months, staff from the PGCPS Department of Capital Programs has been working closely with project consultants from Brailsford & Dunlavey, Inc. to collect data from schools that not only looks at the physical aspects of the building, but evaluates how school buildings currently meet the academic needs of students and how they can support future PGCPS initiatives. These initiatives include expansion of high-demand specialty programs, implementing a variety of career academies in high schools, and integrating special education programs into neighborhood schools.

"We know how important the condition of our buildings are to parents and students. That's why we are counting on them to be part of the process," said Sarah Woodhead, director of the Department of Capital Programs. "This input will be used in developing our Educational Facilities Master Plan, and subsequently, our annual and six-year Capital Improvement Plans which are the roadmaps for implementing renovations and new school construction."

Over the next several months, PGCPS staff and project consultants will be evaluating the findings from the school building evaluations and incorporating input from stakeholders that is received during three community meetings in March and via email. The final report, to be released in May, will make priority recommendations that support the PGCPS vision and goals, as well as reflect the needs of the community.

Wool and Fiber Day at Old Maryland Farm

UPPER MARLBORO, MD - Have you ever wondered how your favorite wool sweater was made? Visit us at Old Maryland Farm to see the process from the beginning.

Our naturalists will show you how to shear sheep and lambs. They will use that wool to demonstrate how to spin and naturally dye it. There is also a cotton display showing how fibers are made from plants to view at your leisure.

This event is free for all ages. Hayrides are available for \$2.00 per person. Course listings below:

Saturday, April 25, 2015 - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Advanced registration is not required.

Where: 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD

Carol A. Beatty Confirmed as Maryland Secretary of Disabilities

BALTIMORE, MD (March 20, 2015) - Carol A. Beatty was confirmed today as Secretary of the Maryland Department of Disabilities after being appointed by Governor Lawrence J. Hogan Jr. last month. Beatty is the former executive director of The Arc of Howard County, a private, non-profit organization that provides advocacy and support services for more than 750 children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

"With more than 35 years working in the disability community, Carol Beatty brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the Department of Disabilities," said Governor Hogan. "Her experience will provide the Hogan-Rutherford administration with an outstanding advocate on behalf of Marylanders with disabilities and their families."

As Executive Director of The Arc of Howard County, Beatty was responsible for residential, employment and day support for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families in Howard County. In this capacity, she managed a \$13 million budget and 300 employees and was responsible for advocacy efforts on behalf of individuals and their families on a county, state, and national level. Prior to her work at The Arc, Beatty served in an executive-level capacity at Alternative Living, Inc., and Bello Machre, Inc., both dedicated to providing quality services to individuals with disabilities.

Beatty received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Communications and History from Towson University and a Master of Science degree in Special Education from Johns Hopkins University. Over the past 20 years, she has received numerous awards for her work on behalf of individuals with disabilities including induction in the Howard County Women's Hall of Fame in 2012 and selection as one of the Daily Record's 2013 Maryland's Top 100 Women. A strong advocate for individuals with disabilities, Beatty has given numerous presentations at the annual conference sponsored by TASH, an international advocacy organization that promotes full inclusion and participation of children and adults with significant disabilities in every aspect of their community. Beatty has a physical disability as a result of having had polio as a child. She resides in Howard County with her husband Ed and has a 22 year old son who recently graduated from St. Mary's College of Maryland.

"I am humbled by this appointment and grateful to Governor Hogan for giving me the opportunity to serve Maryland citizens with disabilities in this capacity," said Carol Beatty. "I began my career as a direct support staff person and understand how important quality supports and services are to people needing them. I look forward to talking with the Department's talented staff to continue to advocate for the rights of people with disabilities and to work in partnership with government and other entities to create opportunities for empowerment and full community participation."

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

ANNUAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

New Hope Fellowship Parish North Campus: Nottingham Myers Church, South Campus: Christ Church, Reverend Constance C. Smith, Pastor invites you to our Annual Women's Day Celebration "Women Walking in the Beauty of Holiness". Our big celebration is Sunday, May 17, 2015 10:00 AM at Nottingham Myers Church Family Life Center 15601 Brooks Church Road Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772.

Guest speaker is Rev. Loretta Johnson, Jones Memorial United Methodist Church Washington, DC. If you need additional information please contact North Campus: Nottingham Myers Church (301) 888-2171, South Campus: Christ Church (301) 888-1316 or website: thenhf.org. We are looking forward with great expectations as we gather to celebrate womanhood in the life of our parish.

ROMEO and JULIET

The tragic love story Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare will be on stage May 1 at 10:00 AM and 8:00 PM, May 2 at 8:00 PM and May 4 at 10:00 AM. The tragic love story reimagined in an energetic, dynamic stage production is for all ages.

COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Jason Alderman

Affording Fido: A Cost Checklist for a New Pet

Premium food, state-of-the-art veterinary care and creature comforts most humans would envy are now a regular part of life for many American pets. That's why prospective pet owners should consider financial planning before bringing home a dog, cat or other breed of animal.



For those considering purchasing or adopting a pet, do thorough research first about what owning that animal will cost. The wide range of products, services and advanced medical options for American pets have pushed U.S. pet industry expenditures to almost \$60 billion in 2014, nearly double the amount in 2004. With pet ownership tripling since the 1970s according to The Humane Society of the United States, it is no surprise that advanced pet products and services at high price points are making it very easy for many pet owners to overspend.

Prospective pet owners should begin their research with an idea of first-year costs. The ASPCA (<https://www.aspc.org>) publishes an annual estimate for a variety of pets. Purchase and adoption costs may vary based on breed, so read as much as you can about a specific pet choice. Fortunately, virtually every kind of pet has an online presence, including sites for adoption and rescue. It's particularly important to research the pet's behavioral, care and health history and it might also be worthwhile to find a veterinarian who can offer additional insight about home and medical care.

Keep in mind that average pet costs, not counting additional spending for toys, treats or non-routine veterinary care, can be daunting. For example, the ASPCA currently estimates that a large dog may cost roughly \$1,800 in his or her first year and \$780 a year afterward. That doesn't include potential bills for major illness or accident care that might run into the thousands. If that dog lives eight to 10 years, that means spending a minimum of between \$7,260 and \$8,820 over a lifetime. Many experts and pet owners are still debating whether it makes sense to buy pet insurance, (<http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/petinsurance>) and that is an option worth researching as well before a pet is purchased or adopted.

Many homeowners and renters should also check with their insurers for potential pet restrictions that may raise their premiums or risk voiding their coverage. In 2013, the Insurance Information Institute claimed that one-third of all homeowners insurance liability claims came from dog bites alone. Certain types of breeds may be considered higher-risk among some insurers, so before a pet purchase or adoption, prospective pet owners should check their home or rental policies to see how the animal will affect the pricing or availability of coverage.

Finally, certain kinds of pet ownership situations may call for estate planning. Some pet breeds — birds and tortoises among them — may live well in excess of 20 years. If a pet owner becomes disabled or dies, pets at any age may have an uncertain future if there's no plan in place for guardianship, care and ongoing financial support. Estate planners have recognized pet trusts as a potential legal solution for this purpose. Pet owners of advanced age, with disabling illness or living alone might consider leaving such specific instructions for their animals in their will or advance directives.

Bottom line: With the potential costs of veterinary and other forms of care, pet ownership requires its own form of financial planning. It's important to do thorough research on costs related to specific species and breeds before you buy or adopt.

USDA Sets Goal of Serving 200 Million Summer Meals, Observes Program's 40th Anniversary

By PRESS OFFICER
USDA

WASHINGTON, — Continuing USDA's focus on childhood hunger during National Nutrition Month, Food and Nutrition Service Administrator Audrey Rowe today announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) 2015 goal of serving 200 million meals to children and teens in low-income communities this summer — 14 million more than were served in 2014. During the school year, more than 21 million children rely on the nutritious, free and reduced priced meals provided by USDA's National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. USDA's summer meal programs — which are often linked to summer enrichment programs — ensure that low-income children can receive nutritious food when school is out. This helps children stay healthy and be ready to learn when they return to school in the fall.

Nutrition assistance programs defend against hunger — ensuring the most vulnerable Americans have the energy they need to perform at work and at school. Children are particularly vulnerable to hunger and poor nutrition especially when school is out. Through the summer meals program, millions of children and teens get a healthy meal or snack when school meals are not available.

Last summer, USDA set a goal of serving 10 million more meals than in the summer of 2013 through the two programs that comprise USDA's summer meal programs: USDA's Summer Food Service Program and the National School Lunch Program's Seamless Summer Option. With the help of partners, elected officials and community leaders across the country, the goal was exceeded. About 11 million more meals were served for a total of 187 million meals provided in 2014 at over 50,000 sites throughout the summer. This represents a 6 percent increase in meals served nationally.

While the gap between the number of kids receiving free and reduced price meals during the school year and those receiving a meal in the summer has been narrowed, too many American children experience hunger in the summer. To continue to narrow the gap in 2015, USDA has selected 13 states with high levels of food insecurity to provide additional support in order to help improve participation in summer meals programs. These states include: Alabama, Illinois, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, Texas, Arizona, Kansas, Michigan, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Kentucky.

Today, Administrator Rowe was joined by representatives from several faith-based, community, and government organizations to recognize the summer

program's 40th anniversary, lay out plans for reaching the 2015 goal, highlight successful approaches, and call on other community groups to support this vital program. The Administrator was joined by:

- Dr. Michael O. Minor, National Director of the National Baptist Convention
- Kyle Zimmer, President and CEO of First Book
- Kevin Hagan, President of Feed the Children
- Sara Gold, Director of Michigan No Kid Hungry, United Way for Southeastern Michigan
- Carl Merkle, Director of Nutrition Service at Warren Consolidated Schools (Mich.)

"Summer nutrition empowers children to go into the next school year energized and ready to learn. This year, there are tremendous opportunities for new and existing sponsors to get involved," Administrator Rowe said. "USDA provides tools to help community groups learn new and innovative ways to reach eligible children, as well as provide services uniquely tailored to their communities. As we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the summer meals program, we are confident that the program will continue to serve as a fundamental instrument in addressing summer hunger."

Summer Meals programs utilize public-private partnerships, allowing communities to take the

lead role in preventing hunger and focus their efforts in areas with the greatest need. The key to reaching more low-income children during the summer is expanding the number of locations available for feeding children. Community partners are needed to serve as sponsors of sites or to run sites that are accessible to young people for a healthy meal or snack, as well as physical activity and enrichment activities. The deadlines to become a summer meal sponsor vary by state, and begin as early as April 15.

USDA continues to work with First Lady Michelle Obama on the Let's Move! initiative, which is helping to promote healthy eating and physical activity and supports the health of American families. Through the combined efforts of USDA and its partners, the United States is beginning to see progress and improvements in the health of our Nation's children.

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service oversees the administration of 15 nutrition assistance programs, including the Summer Food Service Program, the National School Lunch Program, and other child nutrition programs, that touch the lives of one in four Americans over the course of a year. These programs work in concert to form a national safety net against hunger. Visit www.fns.usda.gov for information about FNS and nutrition assistance programs.

Hogan from A1

he said includes record funding for K-12 education and keeping his election promises to cut taxes and government spending.

"Robbing the pension is not a good idea," Hogan said. "I was elected on a mandate of putting Maryland on a new path, but there are some folks here who don't want to change. There's going to be some natural friction, but I can tell you think no one's worked harder on bipartisanship than me."

Hogan put forward three tax-relief measures in his legislative agenda — one for small-business owners; one for military retirees; and one for fire, rescue and emergency personnel and volunteers. Bills associated with the first two initiatives have passed unanimously in the Senate and have moved to the House, but the third has not emerged successfully from committee.

Senate President Thomas V "Mike" Miller Jr., D-Prince George's, Charles and Calvert, told Senators Thursday that the House could vote on the budget Friday morning, but many delegates and Busch didn't have that expectation.

"I don't think there's any reason to move the supplemental," Busch said, as it doesn't include the priorities the General Assembly worked hard to pass.

But Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot said fully funding the pension is a more responsible long-term plan for the state.

"Kudos to Governor Hogan because that raid on the pension contribution was very bad fiscal policy," Franchot said.

The \$40.7 billion state budget the Senate passed and its companion legislation reinstated about \$62 million for supplemental education funding to 13 jurisdictions, about \$60 million for state employee raises and

about \$45 million for Medicaid subsidies for physicians.

Delegate Ben Barnes, D-Prince George's and Anne Arundel, said Hogan's supplemental budget is irresponsible and now unbalanced.

"If the governor believes additional reductions are warranted, he should have the strength of his convictions and make (specific) reductions," said Barnes, who is a member of the House Appropriations Committee. "If the governor wants to be serious about working with the legislature, this is not the way to go."

Education advocates are also upset the governor still hasn't fully funded education, specifically the supplemental education budget -- known as the Geographic Cost of Education Index -- that Montgomery and Prince George's counties, as well as Baltimore and 10 other jurisdictions, have grown reliant on.

"Educators, students, and parents have been pleading with Gov. Hogan for weeks to release the nearly \$70 million in school funding restored by the General Assembly so we can avoid increased class sizes, educator layoffs, and critical program cuts," Betty Weller, president of the Maryland State Education Association said in a statement Thursday afternoon. "His (latest) supplemental budget proposal continues to ignore the General Assembly's work."

House Judiciary committee member Delegate Brett Wilson, R-Washington, said funding the pension is just smart planning.

"It's refreshing to see people who stand up for what they believe in, and I trust that we'll end up with the best possible result for people," Wilson said.

--CNS correspondents Nate Rabner, Katelyn Newman and Anjali Shastry contributed to this report.

Stormwater from A1

ties for State and local governments and the private sector to collaborate and expand public-private partnerships.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has also recognized the County's unique approach of leveraging a dedicated funding stream for green infrastructure stormwater runoff projects to meet its obligations under the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), a comprehensive "pollution diet" that requires significant reductions in nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment. According to the EPA, approximately \$635 billion is required to finance improvements for aging water-related infrastructure needs throughout the nation. These funds have traditionally been provided by local government funds or stormwater utilities often included on tax bills and

the EPA through its various loan sources.

"The Prince George's County public-private partnership is a great example of the type of activity that EPA's Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center hopes to encourage," says EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. "By providing innovative financing support for sustainable and resilient water infrastructure, this collaboration will help the community improve their drinking water, wastewater and stormwater systems." The Water Finance Center is part of the President's Build America Investment Initiative.

In the 1990s, the County pioneered the use of rain gardens, which are now considered mainstream and used around the world as a stormwater management best practice. Through the CWP, the County and Corvias (a national leader in P3 infrastructure projects) will

work jointly to install rain gardens and other stormwater filter devices such as bioswales, green roofs, rain barrels and permeable pavement to treat 15,000 acres of existing impervious surfaces over the course of the next decade.

Receiving unanimous County Council support, the Partnership will help the County combine to make significant progress in creating clean and healthy communities that positively contribute to the overall well-being of the environment. "The program underscores the resourcefulness of County Government and the Council is particularly pleased with the priority that the program places on the utilization of local and local minority businesses," commented Council Chairman Mel Franklin. "We are leveraging the efficiency of the private sector and connecting that with the knowledge of County employees, businesses

and industry experts to complete a monumental task."

"It's a race against the clock that we are equipped to win," says Adam Ortiz, Director of the Department of the Environment. "The County is unleashing the efficiencies of the private sector for the public good to the Partnership and is dedicating tremendous resources that will result in a state-of-the-art stormwater management center and serve as the benchmark for other Counties, States and Countries trying to accomplish the same."

The County is committed to completing its green infrastructure projects by 2025, as required by the EPA TMDL. During the first phase of the Partnership, the County will invest \$100 million in the initial retrofit phase of 2,000 acres with Corvias to manage the de-

See STORMWATER Page A7



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COMMENTARY

Benjamin L. Cardin

United States Senator for Maryland



Cardin Children's Dental Health Amendment Included in Senate FY2016 Budget

Amendment 364 Establishes Deficit-Neutral Reserve Fund to Improve Oral Health Care for Children and Pregnant Women Under Medicaid

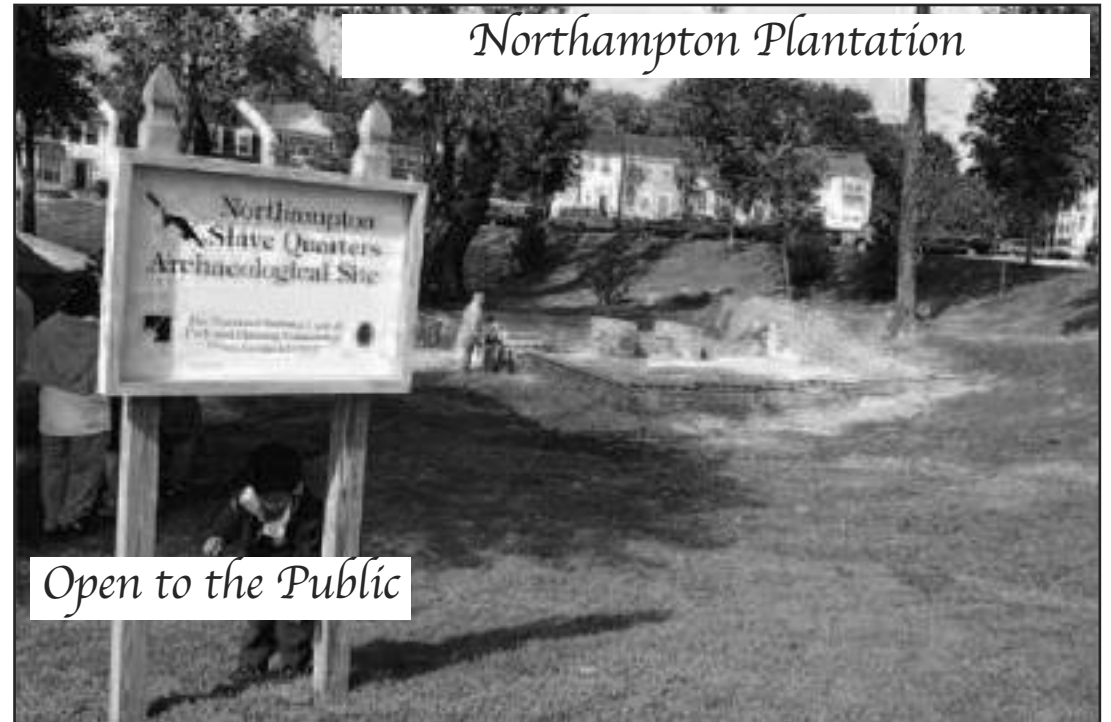
WASHINGTON — U.S. Senator Ben Cardin (D-Md.), a longtime advocate for pediatric dental coverage and member of the Senate Finance Health Care Subcommittee, issued the following statement after his amendment relating to pediatric oral health was included in the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Resolution (S. Con. Res. 11). Amendment 364 establishes a deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve oral health care for children and pregnant women under Medicaid.

"Tooth decay is the single most common chronic childhood disease in America. Bacteria associated with early childhood cavities and tooth decay are often passed from a pregnant woman to her unborn child. Despite our best efforts, 80 percent of dental disease in children is concentrated in 25 percent of the population. Children from low income families face inordinately high barriers to receiving needed care. We know that dental disease can harm a child's performance in school,

we know it can cause other health problems, and, sadly, we know it can be deadly. We also know that dental disease is preventable, and that is why I am glad the Senate adopted this amendment.

"The overall budget was a bad deal for the American people, it fell short on the most basic test of fairness and proportionality. While I did not vote for final passage, I am pleased the Senate has gone on record as being supportive of federal programs designed to improve dental health in expecting mothers and children."

Senator Cardin led the effort in the Senate to ensure that pediatric dental care was an essential health benefit under the Affordable Care Act. In 2007, Senator Cardin began fighting to ensure all children could access quality dental care after a 12-year old boy from Prince George's County, Md., died from complications following an impacted tooth that should have been addressed by basic dental coverage.



Northampton Plantation

Open to the Public

VPHOTO CREDIT: PG PARKS AND RECREATION

NORTHAMPTON PLANTATION

From the 1600's to the mid-1800's, large tobacco plantations dominated the economic and social life of Prince George's County. One of the most prominent plantations in the county was Northampton. Today, all that remains of Northampton are the ruins of the main plantation house, outbuildings, and two slave quarters.

Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



Marc Morial, President and CEO

National Urban League



The State of Black America—By the Numbers: Part 3, Justice

"I am cognizant of the interrelatedness of all communities and states...Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."

— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Letter from Birmingham Jail, April 16, 1963

What is the state of Black America in 2015? In short, and on many fronts, Black America remains in crisis—and we see justice challenged at every turn.

A few weeks before the launch of the 39th annual 2015 State of Black America® report - "Save our Cities: Education, Jobs + Justice," the U.S. Department of Justice released a scathing, and perhaps for some, startling report on the systemic racial bias inflicted upon the African-American citizens of Ferguson, Missouri by the city's police department. The report's tragic catalyst was—and sadly remains—an all-too-familiar story in Black and Brown communities dotted across our nation: an unarmed black male was approached by an armed police officer and lost his life in the encounter.

The National Urban League's analysis of the relevant data told much the same story: the Ferguson narrative could be the narrative of so many U.S. towns, but within that dark cloud we discovered strands of silver linings. Today, fewer African Americans are the victims of violent crimes, there are more Black lawmakers in Congress than ever and the U.S. Department of Justice is actively working to confront police misconduct and improve police-community relations. Yet we cannot easily forget the images of anger and despair we have seen in communities rocked by protests over the killings of unarmed Black males at the hands of law enforcement. These encouraging and necessary strides in our struggle for equality in justice are overshadowed by justice miscarried, with outrage spilling onto our streets as a seemingly endless parade of police officers are not held accountable by grand juries for their actions. We are also witnessing a continual assault upon our voting rights, as several states prepare to pass legislation that would erode access to the ballot box for people of color.

The state of justice in Black and Brown communities is very often a shameful tale of injustice and clear racial disparities in the implementation of the law.

The tragedy of Mike Brown's death in Ferguson, Eric Garner's death in New York, and the deaths of so many others, should underscore a difficult truth that should not sit well with any

American: law enforcement, in too many cases, provides neither equal protection nor equal justice in far too many communities of color. And this is no blanket indictment of police officers. There are, and will always be, good police officers who put their lives on the line to keep law-abiding citizens safe. As the heated debates and protests continue, we know that police officers have become victims of violence, most notably the two officers in New York City late last year and police officers in Ferguson this year. But this should not—and cannot—silence our call to action in communities besieged by police officers who treat the people they are intended to serve and protect as presumptively guilty.

The exoneration of the police officers in those deaths of unarmed men by grand juries signaled that police accountability for the taking of Black and Brown lives was reaching a modern-day low. Attorney Benjamin Crump, who represents the family of Mike Brown, penned an essay in the 2015 State of Black America® report: "It's Time to Pass the Grand Jury Reform Act of 2014." The bill calls for judges to determine if the State should bring criminal charges against police officers who fatally use deadly force and calls for governors to appoint special prosecutors for those hearings. Deciding whether or not to indict would be a judge's decision, not a grand jury's, and the proceeding would remain open to the public, unlike grand juries that are, by law, secret proceedings.

Following the Supreme Court's 2013 decision to strip preclearance from the Voting Rights Act, allowing states to bypass federal approval before changing their voting rules, 40 states are now in line to codify into law new ways to make it difficult for people to vote—laws that would disproportionately affect communities of color. Voting is a powerful tool for any individual or group in a democracy to influence their government and create change. Without this right, you have no voice. The National Urban League and others will continue to press Congress to pass the bipartisan Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2014. This legislative fix would create new rules to determine which states require federal approval before making any changes their voting rules. Truth be told, we cannot maintain our commitment to democracy as a nation while, at the same time, deny the ballot box to so many of our citizens.

There are tremendous challenges ahead of us in what should be our national fight for equality under the law, because to deny justice to one is threaten justice to all, and as long as justice is challenged on any front, we must—as a nation—keep pushing on every front.

Let's Give Child Hunger a Summer Vacation

Many children and families eagerly look forward to the end of the school year and the care-free days of summer, playing outside in the warm sun, splashing and swimming in pools and at beaches, and gathering with family and friends for backyard barbecues. But for more than 17 million children the end of school can be the end of certainty about where and when their next meal will come. While 21.7 million children received free or reduced price lunches during the 2013-2014 school year, only 2.6 million children—12.2 percent—participated in the Summer Food Service Program. This huge participation gap suggests that nearly 9 out of 10 of the children who benefit from free or reduced price lunches during the school year may not be receiving the nourishment necessary for proper physical, cognitive, and social development during the long summer months. Hunger has no vacation.

The good news is that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service operates the Summer Food Service Program that is administered by state agencies to serve these hungry children. Although the program is 100 percent federally financed and can create desperately needed summer jobs for cafeteria workers and others, there is still a severe shortage of school and community programs to serve all needy hungry children. And there are other barriers. Summer food programs sometimes tend to be available at odd hours and for short periods of time and in inconvenient places making it challenging for children to get there, a problem exacerbated by lack of safe transportation to the sites.

Over the last few years, the USDA Food and Nutrition Service has been piloting innovative strategies in diverse communities across the country to help overcome many of these barriers. Some programs have had success using mobile vans to provide meals, especially helpful in rural communities. In other communities without sites, it has allowed the use of electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards—like those used for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Special

Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)—to transfer money to families so they can purchase extra food for their children in the summer. A 2012 evaluation of the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children demonstration found that a \$60 a month a child benefit reduced the percent of children experiencing "very low food security," the USDA's most severe measure of food insecurity, by one-third and helped reduce food insecurity in the household. Sites in Arizona, Kansas, and Ohio in 2011 and 2012 participated in a demonstration program, providing weekend and holiday meals in backpacks for children in the Summer Food Service Program when the program was not serving meals. These sites saw substantial increases not only in the number of meals served but also in average daily attendance rates.

Congress has a role to play in ensuring that countless children do not go hungry during the summer. The Summer Meals Act of 2015 (S. 613) was introduced by Senators Kristen Gillibrand (D-NY) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) both this year and last. Their bill would significantly expand summer nu-

trition programs by lowering the threshold for community eligibility from 50 percent to 40 percent of children in the area eligible for free or reduced price meals. Community eligibility reduces the administrative burden on sites and allows them to serve more children. The bill also simplifies the administration of the program for sponsors, provides funding for transportation grants, and allows sites to serve a third meal. The Stop Child Summer Hunger Act of 2014 (S.2366), introduced by Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) and Representative Susan Davis (D-CA) (H.R. 5242) in the last Congress and expected to be reintroduced in the current Congress, would make permanent the successful EBT demonstration project piloted by the USDA, providing \$150 EBT cards for families for the summer for each child eligible but without access to a summer food site.

There has been progress but it must be increased so children do not suffer hunger. USDA data show that between July 2013 and July 2014, the number of children participating in the Summer Food Service Program increased by

See WATCH, Page A5

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BUSINESS

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Professional Counselors Have A Great Deal To Offer

Yes, the month of April is more than spring showers and blooming flowers. It's also Counseling Awareness Month. Okay, not that exciting, but still a great time to learn more about professional counselors and the services they provide.

Did you know that professional counselors will have earned at least a masters degree, and that many hold doctoral degrees? Or that professional counselors are now licensed mental health providers in all 50 states?

This means that when you turn to a counselor for help, you're working with a highly-educated, trained and experienced professional.

Many people may not realize the wide range of services professional counselors offer. The people with whom most professional counselors work are ordinary people who need a little help, advice and direction. They may be facing family, work or life problems that seem overwhelming, they may be at points in their lives where things "just don't seem right", or they're simply unsure as to what to do next.

"Help" is the main product that professional counselors have to offer. They don't tell someone what to do, but rather help guide the person in understanding and discovering what could make his or her relationships or situation better, or how to explore new paths in life.

Professional counselors today specialize in a variety of areas. While most of us only remember our school counselors, there are many other counselors who focus on children and adolescents, families, substance abuse issues, military, career, employment, retirement counseling and much more.

A professional counselor is a facilitator and a guide. His or her job is to offer suggestions about helpful directions and possible actions. The counselor isn't there to provide answers, but rather to assist the client in growing, learning new things, and the necessary actions for a more satisfying life.

Counseling is meant to be a process that helps people change for the better. When someone is dealing with a loss, relationship issues, child rearing anxieties, anger, depression or any of the numerous issues that all of us can face, that's when it's time to turn to a licensed professional counselor who has been trained to provide needed help.

If you think there are issues in your life that could be helped by talking with a trained professional, you can locate local counselors through the Internet, phone book yellow pages, local mental health agency, or online at the American Counseling Association website, www.counseling.org.

Counseling Corner is provided by the American Counseling Association. Comments and questions to ACAcorner@counseling.org or visit the ACA website at www.counseling.org

Budget from A1

Senate Minority Leader J.B. Jennings, R-Baltimore and Harford Counties, said he was proud to vote for the budget three weeks ago, but was not as happy with it now.

"I'm very disappointed in what's coming from the other chamber," he said.

Hogan said at a news conference Monday afternoon that regardless of what happened with the budget, he considered it a "win" because it "broke the streak of 40 consecutive tax hikes."

He also suggested that if the legislature passed the budget without passing more of his legislative agenda -- including some tax repeals and cuts, the state's public campaign-financing fund and charter school legislation --

he might not approve some of the rearranged funding.

State Senator Richard Madaleno, D-Montgomery, said that after all the negotiations, the "ball is now in (the governor's) court" to choose to fund education, state employee salaries, and all the other social programs.

"We've left it in his hands, and hopefully he won't punish the school children of Maryland because he didn't get all he wanted," Madaleno, the vice chair of the Senate Budget and Taxation committee, said early Monday evening.

The House passed the budget 90 to 49, and the Senate voted for it 33 to 13. Once passed by both bodies, the budget is final without the governor's signature, but Hogan does need to approve and allocate unmandated spending.

MADE in MD: Cardin, Sarbanes, Cummings Dish with Small Businesses in Maryland's Local Foods Movement

Senator, Congressmen Join Farmers, Chefs, Entrepreneurs, Conservationists and Fellow Public Officials to Discuss Value of Commitment to Sustainability From Farm to Table — and into Surrounding Communities

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of Senator Ben Cardin

BALTIMORE — U.S. Senator Ben Cardin led a roundtable discussion with Congressmen John Sarbanes and Elijah Cummings, Maryland Secretary of Agriculture Joseph Bartenfelder (D-All), prominent conservation organizations and Maryland small business owners committed to community-driven agriculture, which centers on the production of local foods for local consumers, on ways that all levels of government can promote their efforts. Hosted by acclaimed chef Spike Gjerde at Woodberry Kitchen, a restaurant at the vanguard of Baltimore's local foods community, an array of farmers, agricultural producers, purveyors and entrepreneurs from across the state shared their perspectives with the federal, state and local officials.

"This region's local foods movement has made incredible recent progress in bringing the most fresh, tasty and nutritious foods to local residents, notching some notable business successes along the way," said Senator Cardin. "Perhaps more impressive is that these small businesses are dedicated to respecting the traditions and integrity

of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. They are proving that it is possible to strive for — and achieve — economic and environmental sustainability at the same time."

"Providing Marylanders with more access to fresh and nutritious homegrown food is a win-win-win for our state," said Congressman Sarbanes. "Creating a local food economy gives a much-needed boost to Maryland's farmers, offers Marylanders healthier and more delicious food options and creates a more sustainable food system that reduces our impact on the environment."

"Local food production sparks a culture of entrepreneurship that creates a strong local economy that benefits us all," said Congressman Cummings. "The health benefits of local foods are countless. When we have access to fresh fruits, vegetables and other healthy foods produced in harmony with the environment, we will have the best chance for a healthy life for ourselves and for generations yet unborn."

"Farmers, chefs, makers, producers, brewers and vintners drive millions of dollars of economic activity in the state, while providing us with delicious and

nutritious food and drink all year round," said Woodberry Kitchen Chef Spike Gjerde, Principal of Foodshed. "It is great that Senator Cardin and Congressmen Sarbanes and Cummings are taking time to connect with Maryland food communities."

"It is great to see the growing number of businesses that are supporting our family farms by buying local agricultural products. We hope to see even more businesses strengthen and increase their commitment to buying local," said Maryland Secretary of Agriculture Joseph Bartenfelder. "Every dollar spent on local agriculture contributes to the economic health of the community, keeps our land in farming, and benefits all Marylanders."

"Agriculture represents Maryland's largest industry and its role in shaping our business and actual landscapes cannot be underestimated," said Senator Cardin. "As we search for ways to maintain the vitality of the region's agricultural producers and ecological health alike, we find the local foods movement working toward both goals."

A growing number of Maryland consumers are lending support to the growing movement, spawning a rise in the

number of community supported agriculture (CSA) operations, restaurants and shops dedicated to offering local foods. Baltimore City alone, for example, now has almost two dozen farmers markets, where it was difficult to find one a couple decades ago.

"Educating people about local seafood options is a great way to promote local seafood businesses and ensure people get fresh, high quality fish, crabs and shellfish," said Eric Schwaab, Chief Conservation Officer at National Aquarium, an event participant. "And by promoting economic values associated with clean water, we build even stronger community commitments to a healthy Chesapeake Bay."

"It's really remarkable just how many locally made products are out there today, and if you take the time to search them out, you frequently also find additional benefits — like a better environment — attached to them," said Senator Cardin. "From cooking oils to Chesapeake oysters, there is real artistry springing forth as a result of the evolving local foods movement. It gives us additional proof that some very special things are being made in Maryland."

Maryland Casinos Generate \$91 Million in Revenue During March

By PRESS OFFICER
MGLCA

(Baltimore) — The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency today announced March 2015 revenue numbers for the state's five casinos — Hollywood Casino Perryville in Cecil County, Horseshoe Casino Baltimore in Baltimore City, Casino at Ocean Downs in Worcester County, Maryland Live Casino in Anne Arundel County, and Rocky Gap Casino Resort in Allegany County. March 2015's combined statewide revenue totaled \$91,030,734.

Hollywood Casino Perryville generated \$6,518,118 from both slot machines and table games in March. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$208.78 for slot machines, \$2,421.28 for banking table games and \$395.38 for non-banking table games. Hollywood Casino's March 2015 revenue decreased by \$1,403,963, or 17.7%, from March 2014. Hollywood

Casino Perryville operates 849 slot machines and 22 (12 banking and 10 non-banking) table games.

Horseshoe Casino Baltimore generated \$24,700,048 from both slot machines and table games in March. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$205.76 for slot machines, \$2,234.89 for banking table games and \$1,464.30 for non-banking table games. Horseshoe Casino Baltimore operates 2,239 slot machines and 159 (134 banking and 25 non-banking) table games. The casino opened to the public in August 2014.

Maryland Live Casino generated \$51,934,173 from both slot machines and table games in March. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$243.79 for slot machines, \$4,229.24 for banking table games and \$1,341.79 for non-banking table games. Maryland Live's March 2015 revenue decreased by \$9,850,986, or 15.9%, from March 2014. Maryland Live Casino operates 4,209 slot ma-

chines and 189 (137 banking and 52 non-banking) table games.

Casino at Ocean Downs generated \$4,022,716 from slot machines in March, and its gross gaming revenue per unit per day was \$162.21. Casino at Ocean Downs' March 2015 revenue decreased by \$136,566, or 3.3%, from March 2014. The Casino at Ocean Downs operates 800 slot machines.

Rocky Gap Casino Resort generated \$3,855,680 from both slot machines and table games in March. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$183.16 for slot machines, \$1,204.42 for banking table games, and \$313.44 for non-banking table games. Rocky Gap Casino Resort's March 2015 revenue decreased by \$128,630, or 3.2%, from March 2014. Rocky Gap Casino Resort operates 577 slot machines and 17 table games (15 banking and 2 non-banking).

In a year-to-year comparison, March 2015 casino revenue in-

creased from March 2014 by \$13,179,903, or 16.9%. In a year-to-year comparison excluding Horseshoe Casino Baltimore, which opened in August 2014, revenue decreased from March 2014 by \$11,520,145, or 14.8%. See attached document (or click HERE) for a detailed breakdown of March 2015's fund disbursement, fiscal year-to-date totals for the individual casinos and combined state total.

The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency (MLGCA) is responsible for all matters relating to regulation of the state's casinos. In this regulatory role, the agency oversees all internal controls, auditing, security, surveillance, background investigation, licensing and accounting procedures for the facilities. To keep Marylanders informed and maintain integrity and transparency in its regulation of the state's casinos, the MLGCA posts monthly financial reports on casino revenue on its website, gaming.mdlottery.com.

Watch from A4

more than 220,000 and 11 million more meals were served to hungry children. Our friends at the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) note in their annual report on summer meals that during this same time period, the number of sponsors and sites across the country also increased. However, while improvements have been made to reduce the participation gap, millions of children continue to go hungry during the summer months. I find it shocking that in 2012-2013, 4.9 million households, including 1.3 million with children, an increase from the previous year, had no cash income and depended only on food stamps (now called SNAP) to stave off hunger. I find it even more shocking that some Republican leaders are trying to cut SNAP when the need is so enormous.

There is a role for all of us in getting food to children during the long food desert of summer months for millions of young children, and right now, we still have time to take action for the coming 2015 summer. I will begin by reaching out to U.S. Department of Education Secretary Arne Duncan and asking him to contact school superintendents all across the country asking them about steps they are taking to ensure that none of their children go hungry during the long summer months and requesting a report back. I hope you will do the same with your local superintendent. Find out how you can help — or how at risk children you know can fully participate in sites already planned for the summer.

Individuals and organizations in communities can help serve the meals, promote the program, provide transportation, volunteer

at summer food sites, and help find sponsors. The USDA has a number of great resources to help sponsors and sites get up and running, including a "Summer Meals Toolkit" that provides information on sponsors, sites, links to state agencies, and much more. And if you know hungry children in your community, you can call 1-866-3-HUNGRY or 1-877-8-HAMBRE to find the nearest summer feeding site. Most importantly, if there are not enough summer feeding sites, ask why not. Urge your schools, congregations and other local programs to continue serving children during the summer months and take advantage of the opportunity to use federal dollars to do it. We are happy that the nearly 13,000 children at our Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools® summer program sites in 28 states and the

District of Columbia will not only get food for their bodies this summer, some with support from the Summer Food Service Program, but food for their minds to stop summer learning loss. Let us work together to give hunger a summer vacation and help all children have a more joyful vacation.

Marian Wright Edelman is President of the Children's Defense Fund whose Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. For more information go to www.childrensdefense.org.

Mrs. Edelman's Child Watch Column also appears each week on The Huffington Post

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OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK

Movie Review

“It Follows?”

It Follows
Grade: A-
Rated R, some harsh profanity,
a lot of nonsexual nudity, some
sexuality, some disturbing
violence
1 hr., 40 min

Many a horror film has punished its randy teenage characters by killing them after they have sex, but “It Follows” takes the idea to a new level, using a metaphorical device to conjure all the fears that adolescents (and other people) have about sex. The result is one of the most original, most intelligently frightening movies to emerge in some time.

The tone is set in the first minutes, when a suburban teenage girl runs out of her house and into the street, pleading for help, terrified of some unseen enemy. As hysterical as she is, the movie is correspondingly calm. The camera pans slowly across the scene, never quickening its pace, even when the girl runs out of the frame temporarily before we catch up to her again. Subconsciously, we get the point: whatever is pursuing this girl, she can't get away from it.

“It,” it turns out, is hard to define. Our protagonist, a girl named Jay (Maika Monroe), learns about it from her new boyfriend, Hugh (Jake Weary), who, like the girl in the opening scene, is petrified of it. When it comes for you, you're the only one who can see it. It takes the form of a human — any human — and walks slowly toward you, never hurrying but never stopping. You can run from it, but it will continue to follow you, and it will eventually catch and kill you.

How do you get on its bad side in the first place? By having sex with someone who's already being followed by it. It is basically a supernatural STD. And the only way to get rid of it, it



After a strange sexual encounter, a teenager finds herself haunted by nightmarish visions and the inescapable sense that something is after her. (C) Radius-TWC

seems, is to pass it on to someone else. (Note: this does not work with literal STDs.)

More than one writer has described “It Follows” as John Carpenter meets John Hughes. I'm hard-pressed to come up with a more accurate or succinct summary, so I'll use it too. The Carpenter connection is overt: the film uses his font (Albertus) in the credits, and has an '80s-inspired synthesizer soundtrack (by Rich Vreeland) that would have been at home in any of Carpenter's output from that decade.

The Hughes comparison comes from the film's focus on suburban teenagers (the parents aren't seen much), and on their angst over whom they should have sex with, and why, and what consequences — social, emotional, or physical — might ensue. Is it just casual sex that's the problem here? Would it make any difference if you're actually in love? Jay sees cool guy Greg (Daniel Zovatto), who lives across the street, as a potential

partner, or at least someone she can pass the curse on to; Paul (Keir Gilchrist), the younger dork who's part of Jay's social circle and has a crush on her, seethes with jealousy. One serio-comic moment has Paul offering to sleep with Jay as a means of “curing” her — so selfless of him! These and other moral dilemmas pop up again and again, conveyed through the cast's naturalistic acting and writer-director David Robert Mitchell's light touch. Apart from the central metaphor, which is obviously, uh, obvious, nothing in the film is overstated or underlined.

This is crucial. What makes the film work so well is its nightmarish matter-of-factness, combined with its dream-like murkiness on certain details, all of which has a surreal, unsettling effect on the mind. There's very little onscreen violence or gore — indeed, barely a hint of how, exactly, It kills its victims. The time period is likewise unclear: there's a cell phone in one scene

and a Kindle-like reading device in another, but other details suggest the '80s or '90s. Everything seems real yet not real, completely impossible yet strangely true-to-life. That includes some of the teens' panicked ideas for escaping or defeating the wraith, logical in their way yet surely destined for failure.

And so the movie is tense, creepy, filled with dread. The “monster” is a universally held existential fear (how might sex screw me up?) made manifest in a haunting, unstoppable enemy that pursues its victims slowly but inevitably. What's interesting to me is that unlike many horror movies, the fear this one produces isn't specific. It's not like a slasher flick, where afterward you check behind the door for knife-wielding maniacs, or “Psycho,” where you're afraid to take a shower. “It Follows” is scary in the bone-chilling way that great horror films are. We're not afraid of what the characters are afraid of. We're just AFRAID.

Hoyer from A1

make certain that Prince George's County is the future home of the new FBI headquarters and that the county continues to grow for future generations of Prince Georgians.”

“The Prince George's County Council was pleased for the opportunity to host our 5th District United States Congressman, the Honorable Steny Hoyer today, for a

“Meet and Greet” luncheon in Upper Marlboro,” said Prince George's County Council Chairman Mel Franklin. “Congressman Hoyer has been a tireless advocate for the issues and interests of the residents of Prince George's County. In particular,

Congressman Hoyer and our entire federal team have led the effort on Capitol Hill to bring the headquarters of the F.B.I. to Prince George's County. We look forward to continuing our di-

alogue about all of the ways we can work together to ‘bring the world to Prince George's County’ and make our great county even greater.”

“Congressman Hoyer epitomizes what it means to have Congress in the community and we are very grateful for his visit today to Upper Marlboro to the County Council and County Executive offices,” said Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. “From attracting to

the FBI in Greenbelt to assisting with impacted residents of a slope failure in Ft. Washington to thousands of issues that his office handles daily for Prince Georgians, Rep. Hoyer and his incredible staff have been and will always be there for the residents of this County. I look forward to working with Rep. Hoyer and his office over the next four years as we take the off ramp from ‘Path of Greatness’ onto the ‘Highway to our Destiny.’”

The Edge of Sports

by DAVE ZIRIN

‘You’re Not a Commodity, You’re a Person.’ How Chris Borland Has Reframed the Football Debate



The news that budding football star Chris Borland left the NFL on basic health and safety grounds is still reverberating, and not just in the sports world. On Sunday, Borland appeared on CBS's Face the Nation and said that he will be returning most of his original signing bonus to the 49ers. He also responded to the league office's reaction to his decision, which was that “the game has never been safer.” Borland said, “I think football is inherently dangerous and that'll never change so long as we have football. Talking about the culture of safety is really irrelevant.”

He spoke about his passion for the “visceral” violence of the sport but also said, “That doesn't mean football players are pieces of meat. I think the most important people to convey that message to is the football player himself. You're not a commodity, you're a person.”

Borland's decision to leave the game has had major ramifications. Most critically, he has reframed the debate about tackle football from the one pushed by so many sports-radio time-fillers and right-wing radio jocks: that what we have is a fight between people who love the game and mollicoddled commie femi-nazis who want to bubble-wrap our children and then ban the sport. Borland has moved the discussion toward what the real debate actually is: on one side, there are people who believe that the NFL should be transparent about the health risks that come with the game, especially as they are now running football clinics around the country for children; and on the other side, we have a multibillion-dollar corporation obfuscating the actual dangers, relying instead on PR-meisters like Frank Luntz to come up with sound bites and action-plans to convince the public that all is well, and it is safe for your children to come out and play.

Borland has been able to reframe this debate by rooting his decision in very direct personal terms. This on its own has started a political dialogue about the league without his looking like he is in any way “grandstanding” or looking for the spotlight. He has done this with purpose. In attempting to figure out how he was going to make and then announce this decision, Borland spoke to many both inside and outside the game, but one such conversation is particularly fascinating, especially for those who know their political sports history: Dave Meggyesy. The one-time Cardinals linebacker played in the 1960s and then, like Borland, became part of that tiny group of players who walked away from the sport while still healthy and in demand. Meggyesy left not over health concerns but because he believed that the league's violence made the country more desensitized to the war in Vietnam, which he vehemently opposed. In 1970 Meggyesy wrote and published the classic sports memoir, *Out of Their League* and went on to become West Coast director of the National Football League Players' Association.

I spoke to Meggyesy this week. He told me that they first met after Meggyesy gave a lecture in one of Borland's history classes at The University of Wisconsin. A group went out to dinner and Meggyesy found him to be “a very sharp, good guy and a person who was really looking at the game: mainly what he would need to succeed in the NFL.”

Before Borland made this decision, Meggyesy and he spoke again. As Meggyesy described it, “We had some e-mail communication back and forth over the past year. Over the phone we've talked a couple of times and at one point, he asked me if I knew how to connect him up with the Fainaru brothers, who wrote the book *League of Denial* that showed how the league has spent decades basically denying that there's any connection or relationship between head trauma and CTE (chronic traumatic encephalopathy, a debilitating brain disease). He was, at that point, in the research phase. I also talked to some friends that connected him to some neuroscientists who are researching this and getting a real good picture of what is going on out there. He really did his homework, and when he was done I don't think he believed he could trust the league to give him the straight skinny on brain injuries. When we talked about a month ago, he told me he had made the decision, and because of these neurological concerns he was going to walk. He of course, asked me to keep it quiet—and I did—and wanted to know what my opinion was. I said I thought it was his decision, but it certainly made a lot of sense. I also said that how you leave the game is very important. I said, ‘If you are able to raise the question of the game's safety for parents and concerned people, that would be a very

See BORLAND Page A7

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
second
NATURE
GREEN INGRAINED

LET'S WORK TOGETHER

Earth Day is April 22nd. Throughout the month, there will be many events in honor of Earth Day and what it represents. Volunteers are needed to support these events and make them successful. If you are looking for a way to get involved and celebrate the 45th anniversary of Earth Day, here are two opportunities that might interest you:

- ▶ Join the Anacostia Watershed Society's Earth Day Cleanup & Celebration on Saturday, April 25, 2015 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. To volunteer, please contact Ann DeSantis at (301) 699-6204, ext. 109 or email info@anacostia.org
- ▶ Volunteer for “Clean Up Green Up” on Saturday, April 25th and beautify your community by coming together with your neighbors for a day of cleaning, weeding, mulching and picking up litter. Sign up by visiting www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/sites/PublicWorks/News/Pages/Clean-Up-Green-Up.aspx and completing the online registration form and e-mailing it to SVenness@princegeorgescountymd.gov by April 17, 2015. For more information, contact County Clerk 3-1-1.

Rushern L. Baker, III
County Executive

ENVIRONMENT
Maryland

Calendar of Events

April 23 — April 29, 2015

Platinum Live: Dallas Black Dance Theatre

Date & Time: Thursday-Friday, April 23 & 24, 2015 11 am
Description: Patrons will watch the incredible Dallas Black Dance Theatre as they make their return with a one-hour program of modern, jazz, and spiritual dance, created especially for seniors.
Cost: \$10/person; \$8/person (groups 20 or more)
Ages: Seniors 60 & better
Location: Publick Playhouse
5445 Landover Road, Landover, 20784
Contact: 301-277-1710; TTY 301-277-0312

Xtreme Teens: Skate Night

Date and Time: Friday, April 24, 2015 7-9 pm
Description: Teens will enjoy an indoor skating party at the community center with their friends. There will be a DJ, so get ready to have fun!
Cost: Free
Ages: 10-17
Location: Glenarden Community Center
8615 McLain Ave, Glenarden 20706
Contact: 301-772-3151, TTY 301-218-6768

Montpelier Festival of Herbs, Tea and the Arts

Date and Time: Saturday, April 25, 2015 10 am-4 pm
Description: Hear live music, stroll among vendors of fine arts, handmade items and more, and see a variety of art exhibits. Online tea tickets can be purchased until midnight on Friday, April 24, 2015.
Cost: Festival is free; tea is \$13/person
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Montpelier Mansion/Historic Site
9650 Muirkirk Road, Laurel 20708
Contact: 301-377-7817; TTY (301)699-2544
montpeliermansion@pgparks.com

Xtreme Teens: Dodgeball vs North Forestville CC

Date and Time: Saturday, April 25, 2015 7-10 pm
Description: Hey teens, have plans on a Saturday night? Bring your competitive edge to play an action-packed game of dodgeball with the teens at North Forestville Community Center. Transportation will be provided from the Center at 6 pm.
Cost: Free
Ages: 13-17
Location: Glenarden Community Center
8615 McLain Ave, Glenarden 20706
Contact: 301-772-3151; TTY 301-218-6768

Spring Stroll

Date and Time: Saturday, April 25, 2015 2-4 pm
Description: Put a spring in your step and a hat on your head and come on over to Marietta for the Spring Stroll. Hats will be judged by a local community leader. Patrons will also have the chance to tour the house and view the exhibit on celebrity hats.
Cost: Free
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Marietta House Museum
5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale 20769
Contact: 301-464-5291; TTY 301-699-2544

Xtreme Teens: Saturday Night Sing Off

Date and Time: Saturday, April 25, 2015 7-10 pm
Description: Bring your friends to a fun night of karaoke. Show off your singing skills and dance to the hottest tunes of the past and today.
Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 10-17
Location: Beltsville Community Center
3900 Sellman Road, Beltsville 20705
Contact: 301-937-6613; TTY 301-445-4512

Vintage Travel Trailer Open House

Date and Time: Saturday, April 25, 2015 1-4 pm
Description: The local chapter of the Wally Byam Caravan Club International will host their Spring Kick-Off Rally at Marietta House Museum. The Club's vintage Airstream travel trailers will be open to the public from 3-5 pm. View Airstream trailers models from 1950 to 1015!
Cost: Free
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Marietta House Museum
5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale 20769
Contact: 301-464-5291; 301-699-2544

Riversdale in Bloom

Date and Time: Sunday, April 26, 2015, 11 am
Description: In partnership with the Brentwood Arts Exchange, we invite you to bring your family to delight in the beauty of spring at Riversdale in Bloom. Relax in the spring garden or be inspired to create art from it.
Cost: Free
Ages: All ages welcome
4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park 20737
Contact: 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544

Seasonal Selections: Spring Feast

Date and Time: Sunday, April 26, 2015, 12 noon-3:15 pm
Description: Using produce harvested from the garden, Riversdale Kitchen Guild members demonstrate 19th century open hearth cooking featuring recipes using fruits and vegetables.
Cost: Free; regular fee applies to house tours
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Riversdale House Museum
4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park 20737
Contact: 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544

Spring Fashion and Talent Show

Date and Time: Sunday, April 26, 2015 4-6 pm
Description: Do you want to see what fashions are hot this summer? Come support your friends at Indian Queen Recreation Center as they model the latest fashions and accessories. Various talents will be showcased throughout the program.
Cost: Resident: \$5; Non-Resident: \$6
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Indian Queen Recreation Center
9551 Fort Foote Road, Fort Washington 20744
Contact: 301-839-9597; TTY 301-203-6030

EARTH TALK ... Seeding Our Seas

Dear EarthTalk:

How do environmentalists feel about the concept of ocean fertilization as a form of carbon sequestration?

— Jeffrey Edwards,
Pomfret, CT

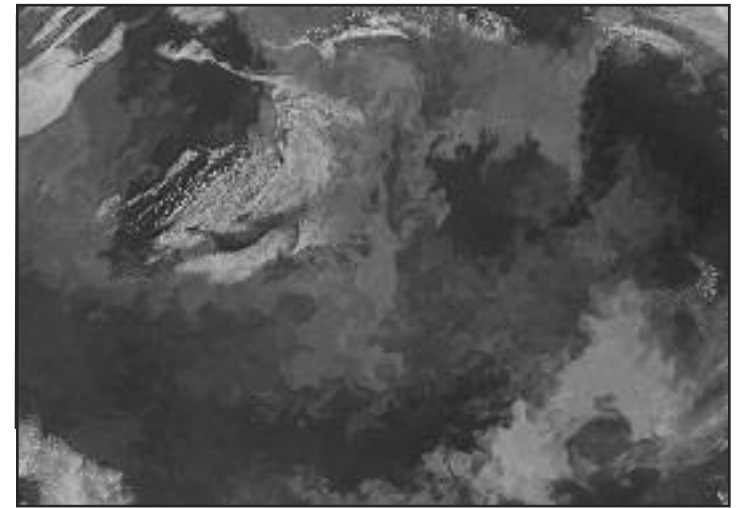
Ocean fertilization is a technique whereby swaths of ocean are "seeded" with iron to promote the growth of phytoplankton (microscopic plants that form the base of the marine food chain), and is one of several promising geo-engineering techniques that could help mitigate global warming. Also known as carbon sinking or ocean seeding, the idea was first suggested in the 1980s by Moss Landing Marine Labs' John Martin, who subsequently conducted experiments off the California coast confirming that phytoplankton growth could be encouraged by dumping ferrous sulfate (iron) into nutrient-depleted areas of the ocean.

More recently, California entrepreneur Russ George has developed ways through his firm, Planktos to use ocean fertilization to help governments and companies meet emissions reduction goals. In 2012 Planktos helped the Haida Gwaii tribe of western Canada spread 100 tons of iron sulphate into the Pacific 180 miles off the coast of British Columbia, which triggered a phytoplankton bloom across 10,000 square miles of

ocean. Juvenile salmon feed on phytoplankton, and salmon runs came back fourfold across the region. The tribe is keen to use ocean fertilization to restore the severely depleted salmon fishery they have depended on for centuries and to generate income from the sale of carbon credits to the Canadian government (a carbon credit—or carbon offset—is a credit for greenhouse gas reductions achieved by one entity that can be purchased and used to compensate (offset) the emissions of other entity).

But some environmental leaders warn that ocean fertilization might be too good to be true as a tool for mitigating climate change. "Many scientists have suggested that the complex interplay between the iron and carbon cycles prevents any direct extrapolation of how much carbon dioxide will actually be removed from the atmosphere following fertilization," says Jackie Savitz, Vice-President for U.S. Oceans at the non-profit Oceana. "This means we will never be able to estimate the benefits, much less verify them well enough to sell carbon offsets based on fertilization."

Savitz adds that "much of the carbon taken up by phytoplankton may simply be re-released when those plants are consumed by bacteria or zooplankton at rates that are impossible to accurately predict." She also worries that large-scale, long-term fertilization could drastically alter marine ecosystems: "Unan-



CREDIT: NASA GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER.

This huge 2010 phytoplankton bloom, visible from space, stretched for hundreds of miles across the Barents Sea between Russia and Scandinavia.

anticipated downsides, like changing the phytoplankton community structure, could cause repercussions throughout the food web, and may disturb key feeding relationships."

Another issue with ocean fertilization is that phytoplankton blooms could release large amounts of other greenhouse gases, like methane or dimethyl sulfide, that are even more potent than the carbon dioxide they are sequestering. Also, the bacterial decay resulting from the die-off of massive iron-induced phytoplankton blooms could create oxygen-free dead zones in the water column that could leave marine ecosystems in worse shape than before.

"Rather than engaging in expensive and uncertain experiments on our oceans," Savitz

concludes, "we should move away from fossil fuels, by stopping subsidies, and stopping expansion of offshore drilling and at the same time, invest in technologies like solar and wind power that are certain to reduce carbon emissions without threatening complex ocean ecosystems."

CONTACTS: Moss Landing Marine Labs, www.mlml.calstate.edu; Planktos, www.planktos.com; Oceana, www.oceana.org.

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(www.emagazine.com). Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

Borland from A6

important thing to do.' And my sense of what he's done, the way he did leave the game, clearly did raise that question. He's done it with a great deal of integrity, a great deal of intelligence, and that's why a lot of players have supported him."

I asked Meggyesy if he believed we should view Borland's decision as a personal or political statement. "Well, it's kind of how you define political," he said. "I think it's

definitely personal, but I think that Chris is a person who has a larger social conscience. So in the sense of it being political, in the sense of moving the larger social consciousness in a positive direction, yes, I think he basically did that. And he's a kind of guy who thinks in those terms. He gets that it's not just about him; it's about what can have a positive impact and move things in a positive direction. I think that really did happen."

As impressed as Meggyesy was with Chris Borland, he

was disgusted beyond words with the response to Borland by the NFL and their immediate pivot toward saying that "the sport has never been safer" as well as their pointing to their own study that states, "Concussions are down 25% over the last three years."

Meggyesy said, "Oh, you shouldn't take those statistics seriously at all. Of course, the league is not going to support him in this. Of course they're going to try to say football's safe. Well, football's not safe. They talk about concussions

when what we're really talking about is brain damage. If you play this game, you're going to walk away damaged. That's why Chris Borland, who loves this game, who was ready to star this season, left."

That last point is what gives the NFL ownership night-sweats above all else. Chris Borland had a golden opportunity at football stardom. But he looked at the NFL Dream, then looked at reports on brain injuries, and decided it just wasn't worth it. He won't be the last.

STORMWATER from A3

sign, construction and long-term maintenance of County property. The benefits of the Partnership will result in a significant cost savings with this long-term project.

"No other stormwater partnership or project has committed to address both the immediate and long-term requirements for sustainable and resilient stormwater infrastructure, which includes the long-term maintenance of all retrofitted improvements," said Greg Cannito, Managing Director for Corvias Solutions. "We absolutely think this is a national game-changer and applaud Prince George's County for taking a lead on this innovative P3."

Roland L. Jones, Director of the County's Office of Central Services adds that this business model will stimulate and expand the County's tax base and increase mentor-protégé networks that will enhance skill levels and participation in the CWP. "This Partnership will provide local, small and minority-businesses the opportunity to compete and secure contracts to help build water infrastructure systems," says Jones. "Through the stormwater management workforce training and minority business development program, the CWP will help create long-term career opportunities in landscaping, construction, engineering and technology."

The educational component of the Partnership includes the Urban Watershed Restoration Contractor Training Course, which is offered at Prince George's County Community College and taught by instructors from the Low Impact De-

velopment Center. The Course provides instruction on the construction, operation and maintenance of stormwater management practices, and will assist in developing a robust workforce to advance the County's stormwater infrastructure.

The Department of the Environment is the lead agency charged with managing the County's Partnership projects and ensuring that the program goals are accomplished in a cost-effective and timely manner.

For more information about this program or to find out how to get involved in workforce and minority business training and job opportunities, please contact the Prince George's County's Supplier Development and Diversity Division at (301) 883-6488.

MULCH madness
A Source Reduction Event

Learn to reduce water usage, prevent soil erosion and reduce the use of herbicides in your home gardens by applying mulch.

SATURDAY APRIL 25 2015
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Prince George's County
Yard Waste Composting Facility
6601 S.E. Crain Highway,
Upper Marlboro
(From Crain Highway, proceed on Maude Savoy Brown Road and follow the signs to the Visitors Center)

For more information, please call County Click 3-1-1

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
is giving away
FREE MULCH
to County citizens, residents and employees

SOURCE REDUCTION TIPS
Use mulch to suppress weed growth and provide nutrients.
Grass Cycle: Use a mulching mower to finely shred your mowed grass and leave it on the lawn.
Start a backyard compost pile.

The quality of the mulch is good. The mulch is primarily derived from the Christmas trees collected after the holiday that have been shredded at our facility. However, the mulch may contain foreign debris, such as small pieces of plastic. Anyone who decides to participate in the giveaway must willingly accept the mulch "as is."

A skid loader is available to load mulch into pickup trucks, or residents may bring their own containers and tools.

This event is restricted to non-commercial vehicles, 3/4 ton maximum weight.