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CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTO BY KATELYN NEWMAN

Staff members also retrieve contact information from the customers. Storeowner Cheryl Wade said in the three months since her store began selling the blue bags, Gather Baltimore's customers have increased from 50 to 200 each weekend, and that number continues to grow.

Maryland Food Recovery: No Meal Left Behind

By KATELYN NEWMAN
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS -- Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the Mill Valley General Store's back refrigerators are filled with stuffed Ikea blue bags.

For \$6, a customer takes home a blue bag containing 25 to 45 pounds of fruit and

vegetables, and sometimes the occasional bag of chips or crackers -- enough to feed a family of four for a week, said Cheryl Wade, owner of the small, family-owned natural foods grocery store.

"We've had folks from every ZIP code in Baltimore City, and some from outside the city even, coming here

every weekend for these blue bags," Wade said.

Wade's store hosts the blue bag initiative for Gather Baltimore, a volunteer-based local food recovery program that sells organic food overflow from local farms, farmers' markets and stores at an affordable price in low-income

neighborhoods at farm stands across the city.

"Literally billions and billions and billions of pounds of just produce are thrown out in this country every year," Wade said. "Americans don't understand, we pay the cost

See **FOOD** Page A6

Educational Systems FCU Recognized for 10 Years of Sponsoring The Prince George's County Spelling Bee

By PRESS OFFICER
EF/FCU

May 13, Greenbelt, MD - Educational Systems Federal Credit Union has been proud to sponsor the Prince George's County Spelling Bee for the past decade. On April 17, Chauka K. Reid of The Gazette and Star-Gazette presented Chris Conway, President/CEO of Educational Systems FCU, with a trophy and certificate of appreciation to recognize the Credit Union for a decade of sponsorship and support of The Prince George's County Spelling Bee.

"Educational Systems FCU is the perfect partner for the Prince George's County Spelling Bee because of their focus on education," remarked Chauka K. Reid. Chris Conway agreed saying, "For us it's an honor to support education. We are proud to be the Title Sponsor of the Prince George's County Spelling Bee and hope to continue our partnership into the future."

The Spelling Bee challenges middle school students to spell words correctly until the competition is narrowed to one winner who then competes in the Scripps National Spelling Bee held this year May 24 to 29 at the Gaylord National Resort at the National Harbor in Prince

George's County. The 2015 Prince George's County Spelling Bee was won by Tanya Matthews from Mount Calvary Catholic School. She won by spelling the word waterzooi, which is a word of Dutch origin meaning fish stew.

Educational Systems FCU (esfcu.org) has proudly served the education community for nearly 60 years. With \$787 million in assets and 12 branches, the Credit Union serves nearly 90,000 members in seven school systems and three community colleges throughout Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's, St. Mary's and Talbot counties.



CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTO BY MELANIE BALAKIT

Chris Conway, President/CEO of Educational Systems FCU is presented a certificate of appreciation by Chauka K. Reid of The Gazette and Star-Gazette for ten years of sponsorship and support of The Prince George's County Spelling Bee.

Celebrate Greenbelt Day with a Bicycle Ride, Lawn Games, and Picnic

By PRESS OFFICER
Greenbelt Museum

GREENBELT, MD, May 13, 2015 -- On June 7, 2015 at 11:30 am, the streets of Greenbelt will be filled with brightly decorated bicycles and the Community Center lawn strewn with picnic baskets and blankets for the 3rd annual Roosevelt Ride. The Greenbelt Museum invites you to celebrate the New Deal-era legacy of this historic community by donning your sporty vintage best, hopping on your decorated bicycle, and joining us for a leisurely cycle through the town. This event is free and open to all!

Riders should gather for bike decorating on the front lawn of the Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Road at 11:00 am. We will have some supplies to decorate bicycles, but we encourage participants to bring their own items such as streamers, paper flowers, and ribbons to personalize their bicycles. The ride will kick off shortly at 11:30. The



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEGAN SEARING YOUNG

The Roosevelt Riders gathered in front of the Greenbelt Community Center.

scenic route explores the historic town and loops back to the Community Center lawn, where riders can gather for post-cycling picnicking, socializing, and—new this year—family-friendly lawn games. Vintage bikes and clothing are encouraged, but certainly not required. The Greenbelt Museum's historic house is right across the street and will be offering

free tours for participants beginning at 1:00 pm. Bring your own food (sorry, no alcohol allowed) or grab something delicious from the Greenbelt Farmer's Market. Non-cyclists are welcome to join us for the picnicking and lawn games.

This event is organized by the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum. In the event of rain the Ride will be cancelled.

About the Greenbelt Museum

Greenbelt, Maryland is a National Historic Landmark planned community built in 1937 as part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal. Greenbelt was designed as a cooperative garden suburb that would be a model of

See **GREENBELT** Page A3

College Park Academy Winners Going to Space Camp

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCPS

UPPER MARLBORO, MD -- The "Solar Phoenix" team from Prince George's County Public Schools' (PGCPS) College Park Academy are winners of the Patriots Technology Training Center's Solar System Competition, Mission to Mars Countdown to Launch 2015. As a result, students Charis Houston (Grade 8), Robert Allsbrooks (Grade 8), and Bryce Stephens (Grade 6) will attend

an all-expenses-paid week at astronaut training Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama this summer.

"We are very proud of this talented group of students from College Park Academy," said Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell, Chief Executive Officer for PGCPS. "They have demonstrated mastery in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) subjects, as well

See **SPACE CAMP** Page A5

Council Approves Legislation Prohibiting the Use of Styrofoam Food Service Products

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Council

The Prince George's County Council, during Council session in April, approved Council Bill 5-2015, legislation prohibiting the sale and use of certain polystyrene products, commonly known as Styrofoam, in Prince George's County.

Under the legislation, Council Bill 5-2015 would prohibit the sale of certain expanded polystyrene food service products and loose fill packaging. The foam form of expanded polystyrene is commonly used to make disposable plates, hot and cold

See **STYROFOAM** Page A5

INSIDE

Next Year's Election For Mikulski's Seat Is A Potential 'Land Rush'

Rascovar's initial favorite for the position was former Gov. Martin O'Malley, a Democrat, who announced Tuesday morning that he would not seek Mikulski's spot in the Senate. O'Malley is exploring a run for U.S. President.

Community, Page A3

Criminalizing Poverty

The United States legally ended the practice of debtor's prisons in 1833, and the Supreme Court ruled in Bearden v. Georgia (1983) that it is unconstitutional to imprison those who can't afford to pay their debt or restitution in criminal cases, unless the act of not paying debt or restitution is "willful."

Commentary, Page A4

National Park Tourism in Maryland Creates \$293.4 Million in Economic Benefit

The study, a peer-reviewed visitor spending analysis, was conducted by U.S. Geological Survey economists Catherine Cullinane Thomas and Christopher Huber, and economist Lynne Koontz of the National Park Service.

Business, Page A5

Movie Review: "Hot Pursuit"

Rose Cooper, an overeager, straitlaced San Antonio cop who's a stickler for rules, speaks in police lingo, and isn't good at jokes. She's sent with a federal marshal to escort a drug lord and his preposterously Colombian wife to Dallas to testify against the cartel, but the cartel strikes first.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

What is the best way to measure how close we are to the dreaded "point of no return" with climate change? In other words, when do we think we will have gone too far?

—David Johnston,
via EarthTalk.or

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

Hear ye, hear ye!

Experience the 18th century at Darnall's Chance

Darnall's Chance House Museum, in Upper Marlboro, is hosting a colonial-style festival and picnic, complete with colonial food, costumed re-enactors, and entertainment, on Saturday, June 13, 1 to 4 p.m.

There'll be colonial militia; 18th century entertainment; re-enactors; blacksmith, gunsmith, woodturner and spinning demonstrations; hands-on activities; organic gourmet ice cream; live animals; walk-through tours of the historic house; a photo exhibit, and the gift shop.

You can join them to experience the 18th century firsthand. Bring a picnic lunch or purchase a food ticket for traditional southern barbeque.

General admission is \$4 per person; free for 4 & under. Food ticket, \$16 per person. Advance discount tickets will be sold through midnight Sunday, June 7, at the Museum or E-Store at www.pgparcs.com. After June 7, tickets will be available only at the event.

Darnall's Chance is at 14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive. For information, call 301-952-8010.

Morningside election wrap-up

Morningsiders went to the polls May 4 to fill two Council seats. Winners were incumbent Todd Mullins, with 63 votes, and Bradley Wade, with 48 votes. They were sworn in on May 18. They now administer the Town along with Mayor Kenneth "Chrys" Wade, Vice-Mayor Benn Cann and Council Member Sharon Fowler.

Other votes cast were for Sheila Scott, 41 votes; Dakota Tyree, 29; and a write-in for Elias Wade.

In the Morningside Sun, thanks were issued for the Election Board Judges: David Chambers, Karen Rooker and Katie Frostbutter. A special thank-you went to Mr. Isenberg who provided refreshments for the election.

Neighbors

Prince George's County honored its citizens 100 years

old and older at their 18th annual Centenarian Celebration on May 8. Among those from our greater area were Anna Buck, 101, of Upper Marlboro; Eleanor Crockett, 102, of Mitchellville; and Mary Thomas, 101, of Forestville. The luncheon was held at the Laurel-Beltsville Senior Activity Center and was attended by ten county residents 100 and older and several dozen residents 90 and older, and their families.

Jim Peyton, formerly of Morningside, and Rit Taylor have been elected to the St. Philip's Parish Pastoral Council.

Gemma Puglisi, formerly of Berkshire and a 1974 graduate of La Reine High School in Suitlandland is now a communications professor at American University in Washington.

Coming up

"The Civil War: Why the North Won and the South Lost" will be discussed by Dr. Tom Jarvis at a free lecture June 6, 4 p.m., in the Surratt Society's Hall Research Center, in Clinton. Info: 301-868-1121.

Yard Sale hosted by Clinton United Methodist Women will be held June 6, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the church, 10700 Brandywine Road in Clinton. To reserve a table (\$15), call 301-868-1288.

Meet live animals, including reptiles, amphibians and birds of prey on Saturday, June 6, 10-11 a.m. at Watkins Park in Upper Marlboro. For ages 2 & up. Fee, \$2.

Changing landscape

What do you think about it? The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration has announced that parallel parking is no longer part of the driver's license test in Maryland.

A site plan has been approved for 275 townhouses and condominium units on the north side of Route 4 and Presidential Parkway. They call that Upper Marlboro, but I consider it Forestville.

A site plan was submitted to add Dave & Busters, Famous Footwear, DSW (formerly Designer Shoe Warehouse), Ashley Furniture and Popeye's to Ritchie Station

Marketplace, in the southwest quadrant of Ritchie Marlboro Road and the Beltway.

May they rest in peace

Chief Petty Officer Crisogono "Cris" Mayo (retired), 92, of Clinton, died May 14. He was a native of Baguio City, Philippines. He made a career of the Navy, beginning in 1945 in Subic Bay, Philippines, continuing in England, Hawaii, California, Virginia, The Azores, and Maryland, before retiring 30 years later at the Naval Air Station in Washington. He served on a number of ships and earned a number of medals. Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Faustina Gacad Mayo; children, Victoria Francis, Patricia Nibert and Michael Mayo; and sister, Cornelia Mayo. He also leaves six grandchildren and two great-grandsons. Mass of Christian Burial was at St. John's with interment later at Arlington Cemetery.

Alfred J. Babecki, 89, former Post Chaplain of VFW 9619, Morningside, died last January 17. He had also been President of the Birchwood City Civic Association and President of the Southern Prince George's County Congress of Civic Associations.

Harry J. Cheseldine, 88, longtime resident of District Heights, died March 11. He was preceded in death by his wife Althea Cheseldine and his brother Bernard. Survivors include his children, Michael Cheseldine, Brenda Basile and Lynn Street; five grandchildren, two great-grandsons, and his brother Joseph.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Teddy Burke and Kevin Nichols, May 30; Ruth Garner, Aiyana Poe, John Tierney and my granddaughter Sarah McHale, May 31; Benny Nagro and Kathleen Stahl, June 1; Paul Elborne and Jacob Cook, June 2; and Darius Nalley-Stoddard, June 3.

Happy anniversary to Tyonda Simms-Taylor and Michael Taylor, their 20th on June 1; and to Carol (Kline) and Tom DeGraba, their 21st on June 4.

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

STAGE PLAY

Alexandria Chapel United Methodist Church (Rev. Kermit C.C. Moore, Pastor) in association with JM Entertainment presents a Stage Play "Conversations in Faith" Saturday, June 13, 2015 at Asbury United Methodist Church. The church address is 4004 Accokeek Road Brandywine, Maryland 20613. Rev. Gladman Kapfumvuti is the Pastor. Tickets cost \$15 (General Admission). Doors open at 1:00 PM. Play starts at 2:00 PM. For more information: www.JMEntertainment.info.

LOCAL ALUMNUS

Local alumnus McKinley Hayes, class of 1972, was recognized for devoting 25 years to organizing the Washington Metro Area Alumni Chapter's annual spring recruitment fair for prospective students. The event introduces Washington D.C. area juniors and seniors to UMES in the convenience of their locale.

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.

THE GATEWAY ENRICHMENT "STEM"

A Math Summer Program is being offered at James Madison Middle School this summer. The program is open to all rising 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM-12 noon. The program will begin Monday, July 6, 2015 and end Friday, July 31, 2015. The program features student teacher ratio of 12:1.

If you are interested in your child participating in the program, please complete the online registration by Monday, June 1, 2015. Register online at www1.pgcps.org/jamesmadison/ click on the GATEWAY Logo. Please contact Ms. Djuana Wilson at djuana.wilson@pgcps.org for more information/questions.

WORLDVIEW SUPER SUMMER CAMP

Worldview Super Summer Camp will be open 6:30 AM-6:30 PM for ages 3-14 at a cost

of \$115/weekly. There are four locations in Brandywine, Clinton, Waldorf and Temple Hills. The Camp offers field trips every day, academics, devotion, sports and clubs. Visit www.worldviewchristiancenter.com/summer-camp/ for more information.

READ TO ROVER

Read to Rover at Baden Memorial Library Wednesday June 24, 2015 at 4:00 PM. Each child will read for 15 minutes. Bring book because therapy dog will be glad to listen. Registration is required. Call Baden Library Branch Brandywine, Maryland 20613 at 301-888-1152 for details.

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.

Neighborhood Events

Two PGCPS Seniors Receive Natinal Achievement Scholarship

UPPER MARLBORO, MD – Two Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) students are winners in the 2015 National Achievement Scholarship Program. Obichi Onwukwe from Parkdale High School along with Kameron Sheppard, from Eleanor Roosevelt High School, will both receive \$2,500 scholarship awards.

"Congratulations to these outstanding students," said Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell, CEO, Prince George's County Public Schools. "Our students continue to excel and prove that hard work pays off."

Obichi is an International Baccalaureate Program candidate. She is an honor roll student with a cumulative GPA of 4.26. She has been accepted to many colleges and university including Duke University, Johns Hopkins University, Howard University, Washington University, and University of Maryland Baltimore County. She plans to major in neurobiology or neuroscience.

Kameron is a honor roll student and has taken numerous advanced placement (AP) classes including physics B, physics C, chemistry, government, world history, English, English literature, calculus BC and computer science. Kameron is a member of the swim team and enjoys playing the piano. He plans to attend the University of Maryland College Park, where he will major in computer engineering.

More than 160,000 African American high school seniors competed for the National Achievement Scholarships, and 800 finalists will share awards totaling over \$2 million.

County Council Vice-Chair Derrick L. Davis Welcomes Dave & Busters to Prince George's County

Groundbreaking for Restaurant and Entertainment Giant Headlines Shopping Center Expansion

Prince George's County Council Vice-Chair Derrick L. Davis (D)-District 6, is joined community partners for the Dave & Buster's Ground-breaking Ceremony at Ritchie Station Marketplace in Capitol Heights, on Friday, April 17, 2015.

In addition to the indoor arcade and restaurant destination, the event will also celebrate the Phase III Development of the retail center located at the Capital Beltway and Ritchie-Marlboro Road. The expansion, expected to cost more than \$20 million, will include shoe retailer DSW and an Ashley Furniture showroom among several smaller retail spaces, according to the Lanham-based project developer, NAI Michael. Dave & Buster's is expected to open in 2016, while the expansion stores are projected to open at the end of this year.

Participating in the groundbreaking, Council Vice-Chair Davis says the new development will have a significant impact on economic development initiatives.

"The construction of the newest Dave & Buster's location is a major economic development accomplishment,

creating crucial job opportunities and affirming that Prince George's County is fast becoming a premier entertainment destination for County residents and visitors."

The new Dave & Buster's location will join anchors BJ's Wholesale Club, Bed Bath & Beyond and Pohanka's Hyundai and Volkswagen, as part of a growing retail, restaurant, and commercial hub of activity located on I-95 South. Ritchie Station Marketplace developers agree the new Dave & Busters will inspire even more entertainment and restaurant tenants for the Ritchie Station Marketplace location. Leases are currently available for two in-line restaurant sites and additional stand-alone pad sites.

Doctors Community Hospital Offers Free Health Lectures, Screenings and Support Groups

Lanham, MD – Throughout calendar year 2015, Doctors Community Hospital will provide various healthcare opportunities to help people improve their health and the quality of their lives.

Free Bariatric Surgery and Weight Loss Lecture

Presenter: Dr. Hitesh Amin, medical director, Bariatric and Weight Loss Center

Fridays, July 10, August 14, September 11, October 9, November 13 and December 11 9:00 a.m.

Doctors Community Hospital 8116 Good Luck Rd. Professional Office Bldg., Suite 210 Lanham, MD 20706

Obesity is often linked to diabetes, sleep apnea, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, arthritis and other conditions. In many cases, losing weight reduces or eliminates the need to use some of the medications taken to manage such conditions.

Doctors Community Hospital's free bariatric surgery and weight loss lectures are presented by Dr. Hitesh Amin, MD, board-certified surgeon and medical director, Bariatric and Weight Loss Center. In addition to general information about weight management and behavior modification, Dr. Amin educates people about advanced surgical procedures that are covered by most insurance plans. One such bariatric surgery procedure uses the daVinci® robot, which may result in reduced pain, shorter hospitalization and faster recovery.

Registration is required by calling 301-DCH-4YOU (301-324-4968).

Free Colorectal Screening

Colorectal cancer is often preventable and curable. However, it is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in Maryland. To help improve the health of residents, Doctors Community Hospital and the Prince George's County Health Department have partnered to provide free colonoscopies. All colonoscopies are performed by experienced gastroenterologists at Doctors Community Hospital.

Community members may qualify for free colonoscopies if they meet specific program requirements:

- Prince George's County residents
 - Ages 50 or older
 - Ages 50 or younger with a family history of colorectal cancer
 - Income eligibility
- Registration is required by calling 301-883-3526 or 240-542-3380.

Free Digital Mammogram Screening

Breast cancer is a disease in which malignant (cancerous) cells develop in breast tissue. Though early-stage breast cancer does not always have symptoms, some may develop as the tumor grows.

- A painless lump in or near the breast
- A change in breast size or firmness
- Nipple itching, burning, rash, turning inward or discharge
- A warm area in the breast
- Breast skin changes such as dimpling, a sore or a rash
- Swelling in the armpit

Upon experiencing any of these symptoms, women should contact their physicians immediately. Also, women should get regular screenings to help detect breast cancer early – when it is most treatable. Women should be screened for breast cancer at:

- Ages 40 and older – have mammograms and clinical breast exams yearly
- Ages 20s and 30s – have clinical breast exams as part of regular health assessments at least every three years
- Ages 20 and older – perform breast self-exams and notify doctors of any changes immediately

Community members may qualify for a free screening mammogram. Also, they can learn about programs for low income and underinsured women who have high deductibles

For more information or to request a free breast care educational brochure, call 301-DCH-4YOU (301-324-4968).

FREE Breast Cancer Support Group

Third Tuesday of each Month 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Doctors Community Hospital 8100 Good Luck Rd. North Bldg., 4th Floor, Rm 415 Lanham, MD 20706

From managing the side effects of treatments to coping with body image anxieties, women who are diagnosed with breast cancer sometimes encounter physical and emotional challenges. However, they don't have to face that battle alone!

Doctors Community Hospital's breast cancer support group was designed to empower women within a nurturing and compassionate environment. At monthly meetings, women are encouraged to:

- Share their experiences – providing hope and encouragement to others
- Learn about the latest healthcare innovations – becoming well-informed survivors
- Develop friendships – creating comradeship among those who have similar experiences

To register or request a free breast care educational brochure, call 301-DCH-4YOU (301-324-4968).

COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Jason Alderman

A First-Year Money Management Guide for the New College Grad

A young adult's first months out of college are about personal freedom and finding one's path as an adult. Building solid money habits is a big part of that.

Most grads are managing money alone for the first time — finding work, places to live and if they're in the majority, figuring out how to pay off college loans. For many, these are daunting challenges. If you are a young adult — or know one — here are some of the best routines to adopt from the start:



Budgeting (<http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/budgeting/>) is the first important step in financial planning because it is difficult to make effective financial decisions without knowing where every dollar is actually going. It's a three-part exercise — tracking spending, analyzing where that money has gone and finding ways to direct that spending more effectively toward saving, investing and extinguishing debt. Even if a new grad is looking for work or waiting to find a job, budgeting is a lifetime process that should start immediately.

A graduate's first savings goal should be an emergency fund to cover everyday expenses such as the loss of a job or a major repair. The ultimate purpose of an emergency fund (<http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/emergencycalc>) is to avoid additional debt or draining savings or investments. Emergency funds should cover at least four to seven months of living expenses.

Retirement may seem a distant spot on the horizon after graduation, but success depends on saving and investing as soon as possible. New grads can benefit from the IRS's Withholding Calculator (<http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/IRS-Withholding-Calculator>) to determine the right amount of tax is being withheld from weekly paychecks. From there, he or she can evaluate personal retirement savings options and employer's plans as well — both will be necessary to retire effectively. Signing up for automatic deposits into retirement accounts and personal savings allows money to grow without the temptation of spending it first.

Insurance is crucial. Renter's insurance is important not only to cover personal belongings that are lost, stolen or damaged, but most policies cover living expenses in an emergency and offer liability and medical coverage if someone gets hurt at one's apartment. Auto insurance is the law in many states, and even though disability coverage may be available at work, it is important to determine whether additional individual coverage should be purchased. Finally, the Affordable Care Act has made health coverage a must for young adults. New graduates may stay on a parent's plan until the age of 26 even if they have the option for health coverage at work. After age 26, health insurance can be bought privately or through federal and state exchanges.

Young adults should get into the habit of tracking their credit reports from the beginning. By law, everyone has the right to receive all three of their credit reports for free (<https://www.annualcreditreport.com>) each year, and it is important to stagger requests from the three credit bureaus — Experian, Equifax and TransUnion — to better check for inaccuracies and potential identity theft.

Finally, for those still having trouble making ends meet, moving home for a limited time period could be an option. New grads should negotiate an affordable rent on a fixed timetable and use those savings to create investment accounts that can pay for major goals like a home, a wedding or graduate school. If you're working with a financial advisor already, ask them to weigh in with additional ideas.

Bottom line: The first year out of college, young adults encounter a range of financial challenges that will shape their money behavior for a lifetime. Embracing budgeting, saving and investing is crucial even with the smallest of amount of resources.

Greenbelt from A1

children, and walking tours of the historic town. The Greenbelt Museum's historic house is open for tours on Sundays from 1pm to 5pm except for major holidays. The Museum is open by appointment only in January. For more information, visit greenbeltmuseum.org.

modern town planning in America. The Greenbelt Museum allows visitors to experience Greenbelt's beauty and rich history through tours of an historic home, award-winning exhibits, public lectures, educational programs for



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Next Year's Election For Mikulski's Seat Is A Potential 'Land Rush'

By ANJALI SHASTRY AND GRACE TOOHEY
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS -- As Maryland's senior Senator Barbara Mikulski prepares to finish up her last term in the U.S. Senate, politicians across the state are gearing up to run for her seat in what has been called a political "land rush."

Sitting Maryland representatives in the U.S. Congress would have to give up their seats to run to replace Mikulski, a Democrat, who announced Monday she would not run in 2016 after 38 years in Congress.

Rep. Chris Van Hollen, D-Kensington, is "very likely to run," an aide said. Both Reps. John Delaney, D-Potomac, and Rep. C.A. "Dutch" Ruppersberger, D-Cockeysville, have confirmed they are planning on exploring a campaign, while Rep. Andy Harris, R-Cockeysville, and Rep. John Sarbanes, D-Towson, both said they were giving the run "serious consideration."

Van Hollen, with nearly \$1.7 million, and Ruppersberger, with nearly \$1.1 million, at the end of 2014 had the largest campaign accounts among the Maryland delegation to the House of Representatives.

As Congressional seats become vacant, they tend to be filled from the ranks of the General Assembly. Those seats would, in turn, need to be filled.

"This is going to affect the entire political food chain in Maryland," political commentator Blair Lee IV said. "Every 20 or 30 years, it's like musical chairs -- some are sitting down and some are standing up when the music stops playing."

"There's going to be a lot of new faces and new jobs," Lee said. "2016 in Maryland is going to be historic, not a boring election year."

Lee said if he had to put money on a candidate, he would put it on Rep. Donna Edwards, D-Fort Washington.

For the last 30 years, both U.S. senators have come from Baltimore, which, Lee said, has created a power shift that will favor candidates beyond that area.

He also emphasized gender and race as important factors, saying that Edwards, as an African-American woman, checks off a lot of boxes that make her a potentially winning candidate.

"How long can you tell African-Americans it's not their turn yet?" Lee said.

Edwards's office on Tuesday declined comment on whether she would run for the Senate seat.

But for Barry Rascovar, a political commentator who worked at the Baltimore Sun for more than 20 years, it will be the incumbents and recognizable names who will have the best shot at filling Mikulski's big shoes.

"I think those are the ones that are going to be polling the best," Rascovar said. "There will be other names in the race, but I don't think they'll be the favorites."

Many Maryland congressional members may be considering running at this moment, but once one of them announces they're officially running, the others will probably back off, Rascovar said.

Rascovar's initial favorite for the position was former Gov. Martin O'Malley, a Democrat, who announced Tuesday morning that he would not seek Mikulski's spot in the Senate. O'Malley is exploring a run for U.S. President.

With O'Malley out, Rascovar named Van Hollen as the favorite to run.

Reps. Elijah Cummings, D-Baltimore, and Steny Hoyer, D-Mechanicsville, did not comment on their plans.

Mileah Kromer, a professor of political science at Goucher College, said this senatorial race could show just how Demo-

cratic Maryland is -- a state that boasts a two-to-one Democratic majority over Republicans -- despite the recent win by Republican Gov. Larry Hogan.

"It'll be interesting to see if Hogan does a good job and wins public approval, if that can help carry a Republican into the Senate," Kromer said.

But since 2016 will be a presidential year, Lee said, he expects Marylanders to vote as a strong blue state, since presidential elections tend to turn out the African-American communities and the youth vote, which are both largely Democratic.

Rascovar said that the "land rush" is an unlikely possibility.

"These people have worked hard to win their congressional seats, and they're not going to give it up lightly," he said. "It's probably a long shot that we're going to have a stampede of congressional incumbents giving up their seats to get a shot at the Senate."

But deciding to run for Senate is more complicated than a single-focused "land rush," Kromer said, because these politicians' radars span beyond one office.

"It's not just a Senate race, but also a governor's race," Kromer said. "So it's a land rush not all at once, but over the next four years."

Maryland Casinos Generate \$89 Million in Revenue During April

By PRESS OFFICER
Maryland Gaming Resources

(Baltimore) — The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency today announced April 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. April 2015's combined statewide revenue totaled \$88,982,816.

• Hollywood Casino Perryville generated \$6,875,184 from both slot machines and table games in April. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$225.82 for slot machines, \$2,783.83 for banking table games and \$381.74 for non-banking table games. Hollywood Casino's April 2015 revenue decreased by \$821,463, or 10.7%, from April 2014. Hollywood Casino Per-

ryville operates 850 slot machines and 22 (12 banking and 10 non-banking) table games.

• Horseshoe Casino Baltimore generated \$22,941,879 from both slot machines and table games in April. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$185.41 for slot machines, \$2,170.59 for banking table games and \$953.87 for non-banking table games. Horseshoe Casino Baltimore operates 2,193 slot machines and 179 (154 banking and 25 non-banking) table games. The casino opened to the public in August 2014.

• Maryland Live Casino generated \$50,943,770 from both slot machines and table games in April. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$264.73 for slot machines, \$4,193.44 for banking table games and \$1,264.48 for non-banking table games. Maryland Live's April 2015 revenue decreased by \$5,554,998, or 9.8%, from April 2014. Maryland Live Casino operates 3,996 slot machines and 189

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

• Casino at Ocean Downs generated \$4,294,554 from slot machines in April, and its gross gaming revenue per unit per day was \$178.94. Casino at Ocean Downs' April 2015 revenue increased by \$667,587, or 18.4%, from April 2014. The Casino at Ocean Downs operates 800 slot machines, and does not have table games.

• Rocky Gap Casino Resort generated \$3,927,429 from both slot machines and table games in April. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$191.12 for slot machines, \$1,334.80 for banking table games, and \$308.70 for non-banking table games. Rocky Gap Casino Resort's April 2015 revenue increased by \$292,222, or 8%, from April 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, April 2015 casino revenue increased from April 2014 by

\$17,525,228, or 24.5%. In a year-to-year comparison excluding Horseshoe Casino Baltimore, which opened in August 2014, revenue decreased from April 2014 by \$5,416,651, or 7.6%. See attached document (or click HERE) for a detailed breakdown of April 2015's fund disbursement, fiscal year-to-date totals for the individual casinos and combined state total.

The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency (ML-GCA) 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 ML-GCA posts monthly financial reports on casino revenue on its website, gaming.mdlottery.com.

Motorists and Farmers Can Share the Road Safely

Agriculture Secretary Encourages Motorists to be Patient and Cautious

By PRESS OFFICER
MDA

ANNAPOLIS, MD — Spring is finally here and the planting season is starting throughout much of Maryland. That means motorists traveling Maryland highways and rural roads may find themselves sharing the road with the large, slow-moving farm equipment from one of Maryland's 12,300 farms.

"Farmers are legally allowed to operate farm equipment on public roadways and there are times when farm vehicles must operate on highways to move between farm and field," said Agriculture Secretary Joe Bartenfelder. "I encourage all motorists to be patient when traveling on roads near Maryland farms and drive with caution to ensure the safety of motorists and farmers."

A farmer understands that your trip is being delayed, so he or she will pull off of the road at the first available safe location to allow you to pass. Do not assume that the farmer can immediately move aside to let you pass. Road shoulders may be soft, wet or steep, and this can cause a farm vehicle to tip, or the shoulder may be unable to support a heavy farm vehicle.

The following tips will help ensure the safety of motorists, passengers, and operators of slow-moving equipment:

- If a farmer has pulled off the road to allow you to pass, or if he or she cannot pull off the road and you feel you must pass, do so with caution.
- Be watchful of vehicles behind you that may also try to pass.
- If you must enter the oncoming lane of traffic, do not



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

pass unless you can see clearly ahead of both you and the vehicle you will pass.

• If there are any curves or hills ahead that may block your view or the view of oncoming vehicles, do not pass.

• Do not pass if you are in a designated "No Passing Zone" or within 100 feet of any intersection, railroad grade crossing, bridge, elevation structure, or tunnel.

• Do not assume that a farm vehicle that pulls to the right side of the road is going to turn right or is letting you pass. Due to the size of some farm implements, the farmer must execute wide left-hand turns. If you are unsure, check the operator's hand signals and check the left side of the road for gates, driveways or any place a farm vehicle may turn.

For more information, visit: www.mda.maryland.gov.

COMMENTARY

Cong. Chris Van Hollen House Democratic Minority Whip



Van Hollen, Price, Udall Introduce EMPOWER Act to Modernize Presidential Campaign Public Financing System

Much-Needed Reform Increases Federal Match to 6:1, Restores Power to Small Donors, Ensures Candidates Can Compete Despite Citizens United

Washington, DC — Today Maryland Congressman Chris Van Hollen, along with U.S. Senator Tom Udall (D-N.M.) and Congressman David Price (D-N.C.), announced that they have introduced legislation to reduce the influence of money in presidential elections by empowering candidates who decline support from wealthy special interests. With mega-donors exerting increasing influence on elections and increasing public disgust for out-of-control special interest electioneering, the Empowering Mass Participation to Offset the Wealthy's Electoral Role (EMPOWER) Act would modernize the presidential public financing system to help publicly funded candidates compete. By increasing the government's match for small donations to 6:1, increasing the ability of political parties to financially support candidates and taking other important steps, the bill would help restore the public's trust that they - not a few wealthy donors - can affect the outcome of our presidential elections.

The presidential public financing system is one of the country's most significant post-Watergate campaign finance reforms. It offers public matching funds to candidates who demonstrate their viability by raising small contributions. In exchange, participating candidates must abide by voluntary limits on private fundraising. Public financing has helped level the playing field for lesser-known presidential candidates, funding almost every pres-

idential campaign for more than two decades. One of the original champions in Congress of public financing legislation was former U.S. Rep. Mo Udall (D-Ariz.), who ran for president in 1976. Several candidates have benefited, including President Ronald Reagan. But the program has not been updated since 1974, and it has become increasingly inadequate for modern, post-Citizens United presidential campaigns.

"With secret special interest spending reaching epic proportions in our electoral process, it is more important than ever to have a system that gives individual voters a voice," Congressman Van Hollen said. "We will keep fighting to make our democracy more accountable to the American people, not well-heeled special interests."

"With the 2016 campaign already getting started, we urgently need a comprehensive plan to roll back big money in politics, which is why I'm leading the push to amend the Constitution to overturn Citizens United. But meanwhile, Congress must act to fix the presidential campaign financing system so it works for today's candidates and grassroots donors," Senator Udall said. "Our democracy should be built on the power of ordinary citizens, not a few billionaires with huge checkbooks. But when it comes to presidential

See FINANCING Page A5

Marc Morial, President and CEO National Urban League



To the Class of 2015

"Life for me ain't been no crystal stair. / It's had tacks in it, / And splinters, / And boards torn up, / And places with no carpet on the floor—Bare. / But all the time / I've been a-climbin' on, / And reachin' landin's, / And turnin' corners, / And sometimes goin' in the dark / Where there ain't been no light. / So, boy, don't you turn back."

— Langston Hughes, "Mother to Son," 1922

If you are disposed to using the Internet as your guide, a diploma will generally be described as the proof of your successful completion of a course of study, or the bestowal of an academic degree. Speaking from personal experience, I can tell you that diploma in your grasp, occupying a prominent space on a wall or waiting to be pressed into your eager hand is so much more than the sum of your years-long efforts to be where you are today. Your degree is a key that opens a new door, a new phase of life and a new set of challenges.

Your life's journey—and its achievements—does not end here. Celebrate, because you've earned it; bask in your well-earned feeling of accomplishment today, because tomorrow you will find that there is much work to be done.

On the other side of that new door is a staircase, and that staircase may not be the kind fashioned from crystal with smooth, reliable, clear-cut steps. Obstacles may slow or impede your climb. There may be tacks, broken floorboards and torn up carpet that would trip, or at worst, defeat someone without the training you have been so fortunate to attain. There is no shortcut here, no elevator, or bypassing of these difficult steps and turns. There is, however, the choice to apply the perseverance and commitment to excellence you have already shown in your higher education journey.

On the one hand, there is much to celebrate in our country when it comes to academic achievement in African-American communities. Today, we enjoy the highest high school graduation rates in history. More students of color are in college and dropout rates are at historic lows. But the wealth and unemployment gap between Blacks and whites remains wide. While the Black unemployment rate has finally dipped into the single digits, it stubbornly remains more than twice as

high as the jobless rate for whites. As our country's economy continues to make steady gains after the debilitating 2008 recession, millions in Black and Brown communities are being left behind. In this country—founded largely on the principle of economic progress through hard work—the American dream of upward mobility remains only a dream for too many of its citizens.

Your education, drive and diploma, may likely shield you from the harsh economic realities experienced throughout communities of color across our nation, but it does not strip you of an obligation to be an actor, rather than a spectator, in our country's struggle to create one nation with liberty, justice and economic opportunity for all.

No one gets to where they are on his or her own. You have parents, grandparents, friends and family members who invested in your future success, put you on this path and made sure you stayed the course. How will you repay their commitment to you? Whether your ancestors came here by plane, by train, by ship or shackled underneath the hull of a ship; whether the continent they called home was Asia, Europe or Africa, what they did when they reached the shores of our nation, what they sacrificed—all of it is debt incurred. How will you choose to compensate them for their struggles?

Among you are the teachers who will lift the standard of education in poor communities and begin to close the achievement gap; among you are the preachers who will heal the wounds of communities torn apart by violence; among you are the elected officials who will institute laws and policies that promote social and economic fairness for all of America's citizens. Herein lies the answer. The answer our nation has been searching for is you and your talent, put to a higher purpose.

I cannot promise you that your climb to success in this life will be a crystal stair. You may very well encounter dark corners and obstacles. What I can promise you is that you have been prepared to meet these challenges head on. And more than meet these challenges, you have also been prepared to be an actor in solving so many of the longstanding issues and inequities facing our nation, so "don't you turn back."

Belair Mansion



Open to the Public

BELAIR MANSION

This magnificent structure represents the history of Bowie circa 1745. The beautiful five-part Georgian plantation house was once the home of Samuel Ogle, provincial governor of Maryland. Enlarged in 1914 by the New York architectural firm of Delano and Aldrich, the mansion was also the home of William Woodward, a famous horseman in the first half of the 20th century. Restored to reflect its 250-year-old legacy, the mansion is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Open Tuesday through Sunday 12 noon to 5 p.m. Tours for groups of 10 or more are available by appointment. Admission is free; donations are welcomed. For more information call 301-809-3089.

Child Watch by Marion Wright Edelman



Criminalizing Poverty

"Held captive." It was how one 13-year-old described the feeling of growing up poor in our wealthy nation, and for more and more Americans living in poverty, this feeling isn't just a metaphor. The recent Department of Justice report on police and court practices in Ferguson, Missouri put a much needed spotlight on how a predatory system of enforcement of minor misdemeanors and compounding fines can trap low-income people in a never-ending cycle of debt, poverty, and jail. In Ferguson this included outrageous fines for minor infractions like failing to show proof of insurance and letting grass and weeds in a yard get too high. In one case a woman who parked her car illegally in 2007 and couldn't pay the initial \$151 fee has since been arrested twice, spent six days in jail, paid \$550 to a city court, and as of 2014 still owed the city \$541 in fines, all as a result of the unpaid parking ticket. The Department of Justice found each year Ferguson set targets for the police and courts to generate more and more money from municipal fines. And Ferguson isn't alone. The criminalization of poverty is a growing trend in states and localities across the country.

The investigation of Ferguson's practices came after the killing of unarmed 18-year-old Michael Brown by a police officer, and last month the practice of criminalizing poverty made headlines again after Walter Scott was killed in North Charleston, South Carolina. Scott was shot in the back by police officer Michael Slager on April 4 as he ran away after being pulled over for a broken taillight. Scott had already served time in jail for falling behind on child support, and on the day he was stopped there was a warrant out for his arrest for falling behind again. His family believes his fear of going back to jail caused him to run from the broken taillight stop. His brother told The New York Times that Walter Scott already felt trapped: "Every job he has had, he has gotten fired from because he went to jail because he was locked up for child support," said Rodney Scott, whose brother was most recently working as a forklift operator. "He got to the point where he felt like it defeated the purpose." A

2009 review of county jails in South Carolina found that 1 in 8 inmates was behind bars for failure to pay child support. Rodney Scott remembered his brother trying to explain to a judge that he simply did not make enough money to pay the amount ordered by the court: "And the judge said something like, 'That's your problem. You figure it out.'"

The Institute for Policy Studies recently released a groundbreaking new report highlighting the policies and practices that have led to increased criminalization of poverty, and that report and similar studies are finally shining a light on the way some municipalities are criminalizing poor people just for being poor. The United States legally ended the practice of debtor's prisons in 1833, and the Supreme Court ruled in *Bearden v. Georgia* (1983) that it is unconstitutional to imprison those who can't afford to pay their debt or restitution in criminal cases, unless the act of not paying debt or restitution is "willful." But poor people are being increasingly targeted with fines and fees for misdemeanors and winding up in illegal debtors' prisons when they can't pay—and in some cases, then being charged additional fees for court and jail costs. A recent investiga-

tion by National Public Radio, the New York University Brennan Center for Justice, and the National Center for State Courts cited a study estimating between 80-85 percent of inmates now leave prison owing debt for court-imposed costs, restitution, fines and fees. In some jurisdictions defendants are charged for their room and board during lockup, probation and parole supervision, drug and alcohol abuse treatment, DNA samples, and even their constitutional right to a public defender. When poor people can't pay those fees either, the cycle of debt and jail time continues.

The private companies providing probation services in more than half of the states are some of the biggest winners when poor people are targeted. If people on probation can't afford the fees they are charged, they breach their probation contract; this can result in more jail time, making it even less likely that they'll be earning the money they need, and people under the supervision of these private probation companies often become liable for charges exceeding the initial cost of their ticket or fine. Federal law also prohibits peo-

See WATCH, Page A12

The Prince George's Post

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BUSINESS

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Handling The Stress Of Driving Today

Most people's lives would be very difficult without their cars. But it's also true that our automobiles can be a consistent source of stress and frustration in our lives.

The problem, of course, is all those other people on the road. Not that you or I ever do anything wrong behind the wheel, but those drivers going slow in the fast lane, turning without signaling, switching from lane to lane, playing with their cell phones... well, we've all seen their mistakes.

Then, for more frustration, there are traffic jams, construction slow-downs, flat tires, overheated engines and lots more. No wonder we end up angry behind the wheel. But that's something we need to control, and that we can control.

Frustration or anger, even at fairly low levels, has been shown over and over to impair our driving skills. When angered our blood pressure rises, our muscles tighten and we become focused on the source of our frustration rather than on the safe driving we should be doing.

So how can we reign in our frustration and improve our driving skills? One important step is simply to recognize that whatever is making us mad is beyond our control. Being angry won't make traffic jams disappear. Making faces, swearing or making obscene gestures really doesn't make us feel better, and certainly won't improve the driving skills of the person who just cut us off.

Experts suggest that we instead channel our energies into things within our power to control and that will help keep us calmer and driving safer. A first step is to fight the physical reaction to frustration by simply taking several deep breaths. And yes, slowly counting to ten really does help.

It also helps to get our minds refocused off whatever made us angry. Turn on the car radio or CD player and listen to the news or some favorite music. When we focus on what we're hearing, rather than that bad driver or that traffic jam, we're able to think more calmly and avoid the unsafe physical changes that anger can bring.

Our goal with these simple actions is to refocus our attention from that source of our anger. We can't change whatever it was so instead we change ourselves. When we relax it helps us stay alert and ready to respond to traffic. And ready to finish our trip safely and less stressed.

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

Space Camp from A1

as the exceptional writing and presentation skills it takes to win this competition."

Eight teams of students from middle schools in Maryland and Washington, DC gathered at the NASA Goddard Space Visitor's Center to share their research projects, describing challenges and solutions regarding human exploration to Mars to a panel of industry professionals. The teams also completed a computer programming challenge using the Mars Game, a 3-D video game that required teams to work through mathematical and programming

problems to assist a rover in navigating its environment, repairing its systems, and regaining contact with a team of human explorers after crash landing on Mars.

To prepare for the competition, team Solar Phoenix interviewed an astronaut and a geochemist from NASA. During the competition, the students presented their research and an original solution to use resources currently found on Mars to grow plants that would thrive in volcanic soil. The team received high marks in all judging categories and bonus points for Exemplary Effort, Creativity, Teamwork, and Promising Solution.

Styrofoam from A1

beverage cups, bowls and other items.

Council Members Mary Lehman (D) – District 1, Deni Taveras (D) – District 2 and Dannielle Glaros (D) – District 3, proposed CB-5-2015 in response to the adverse environmental impact of polystyrene in Prince George's County communities and on waterways.

"Trash pollution in our neighborhoods and rivers drives down property values, burdens communities and deters economic development," said Council Member Lehman. "By passing this legislation, the Council sends a message that protecting our environment and natural resources is a legislative priority. The quality of our living environment directly impacts the quality of life for our residents."

"On Saturday, April 25, thousands of Prince Georgians demonstrated their commitment

to our environment by volunteering for 'Clean Up Green Up,' Earth Day and Christmas in April," said Council Member Glaros. "This legislation will further those efforts by significantly decreasing the use of Styrofoam in our County and keeping it out of our streams where it causes great harm."

"The County Council is serious about promoting environmentally sustainable business practices," said Council Member Taveras. "From start to finish, we have listened to our small businesses and taken their concerns to heart. Eliminating Styrofoam packaging actually helps our small businesses remain competitive with larger chain operations."

The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that less than one percent of all polystyrene produced in the United States is recycled. Polystyrene is not commonly recycled because of food contamination concerns and its high

National Park Tourism in Maryland Creates \$293.4 Million in Economic Benefit

New report shows visitor spending supports 3,171 jobs in Maryland

By PRESS OFFICER
US National Park Service

WASHINGTON – A new National Park Service (NPS) report shows that 6,815,197 visitors to national parks in Maryland spent \$223.1 million in 2014. This spending resulted in 3,171 jobs and had a cumulative benefit to the state's economy of \$293.4 million.

"The national parks in Maryland attract visitors from across the country and around the world," Regional Director Bob Vogel said. "Whether they are out for an afternoon, a school field trip, or a family vacation, visitors come to have a great experience, and end up spending a little money along the way. This new report shows that national park tourism is a significant driver in the national economy - returning \$10 for every \$1 invested in the National Park Service - and a big factor in Maryland's economy as well."

The following national parks in Maryland were included in the study: Antietam National



COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS BY PUBDOG
Langley Park Mansion, Langley Park, MD, September 2010

Battlefield, Assateague Island National Seashore (MD, VA), Catocin Mountain Park, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park (MD, DC), Clara Barton National Historic Site, Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine, Fort Washington Park, Greenbelt Park, Hampton National Historic Site, Monocacy National Battlefield, National Capital

Parks – East (MD, DC), Piscataway Park and Thomas Stone National Historic Site.

The study, a peer-reviewed visitor spending analysis, was conducted by U.S. Geological Survey economists Catherine Cullinane Thomas and Christopher Huber, and economist Lynne Koontz of the National Park Service. The report shows \$15.7 billion of direct spending

by 292.8 million park visitors in communities within 60 miles of a national park. This spending supported more than 277,000 jobs nationally, with more than 235,600 jobs found in these gateway communities, and had a cumulative benefit to the U.S. economy of \$29.7 billion.

According to the 2014 report, most park visitor spending was for lodging (30.6 percent) followed by food and beverage (20.3 percent), gas and oil (11.9 percent), admissions and fees (10.2 percent) and souvenirs (9.9 percent).

To download the report visit <http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/economics.cfm>.

The report includes information for visitor spending by park and by state.

To learn more about national parks in Maryland and how the National Park Service works with Maryland communities to help preserve local history, conserve the environment, and provide outdoor recreation, go to www.nps.gov/Maryland.

Financing from A4

elections, one look at recent headlines shows that's no longer the case. By empowering voters to impact elections, we can restore faith in our democracy and encourage even more people to participate. My uncle Mo Udall was a champion for public campaign financing in the wake of the Watergate scandal, and I'm proud to follow in his footsteps by pushing for this reform."

"Presidential public financing was a landmark post-Watergate reform, but the system needs modernizing for the Super PAC era, when a few wealthy donors outspend millions of ordinary citizens," Congressman Price said. "Empowering small-dollar donations with a matching system would be an important first step in taking our elections back from billionaires and corporations."

The EMPOWER Act would modernize the public financing system by increasing public matching funds available to candidates and enhancing the role of donors who contribute \$250 or less by increasing the match to 6:1 (from 1:1). The bill would also eliminate spending limits on participating candidates, require publicly funded candidates to agree to accept

contributions of no more than \$1,000, empower national parties to compete alongside Super PACs by allowing them to make unlimited expenditures for publicly funded candidates, ensure candidates have broad support to qualify for public financing by requiring them to first raise a minimum amount to qualify for the program, and increase funding for the program through the voluntary income tax "check-off."

Several leading campaign finance reform organizations support the legislation, including Brennan Center for Justice, Campaign Legal Center, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, Common Cause, Democracy 21, Issue One, League of Women Voters, People For the American Way, and Public Citizen. The New York Times editorial board has endorsed several ideas to reform the presidential public financing system, many of which are incorporated into the bill.

Core Provisions of the Empowering Mass Participation to Offset the Wealthy's Electoral Role (EMPOWER) Act

- Eliminates spending limits on participating candidates: Candidate spending limits are no

longer viable in the wake of Citizens United since outside groups can now make unlimited expenditures funded by unlimited contributions to oppose candidates. There would be a limit on the total amount of matching contributions available to a presidential candidate, to avoid draining public funds.

- Increases the amount of matching funds for participating candidates: The first \$250 of contributions by individuals to presidential candidates would be matched with public funds at a 6:1 ratio, increased from the current 1:1 match. For example, a candidate participating in the system would receive \$1,500 in public funds for a \$250 contribution, and would end up with a total of \$1,750. This would provide important new incentives for citizens to give and for candidates to seek small donations from supporters.

- Requires participating candidates to agree to accept contributions of no more than \$1,000: The current individual contribution limit of \$2,700 per donor, per election, would be reduced to \$1,000 per donor, per election, for candidates who participate in the system. The present contribution limit would remain unchanged for candi-

dates who do not participate in the system.

- Empowers national parties to compete alongside Super PAC dollars: In order to allow candidates to respond to a deluge of Super PAC dollars, national parties could make unlimited expenditures in coordination with candidates participating in the system, provided the unlimited expenditures were made from a pool of contributions raised by the party that was limited to \$1,000 per donor, per year.

- Ensures candidates have broad support to qualify for public financing: To qualify for public financing, a presidential candidate would have to raise a threshold amount of individual contributions - totaling \$25,000 in each of 20 states - counting only the first \$250 of any individual contribution toward the threshold.

- Increases funding for the presidential campaign financing system: The bill would increase the current voluntary income tax "check-off" amount from \$3 to \$20 per individual and from \$6 to \$40 for a married couple, and index these amounts for inflation. Additionally, the bill would allow Americans, through their taxes, to donate to the public financing system fund.

last Saturday thank the Council for reducing their future cleanup burden!"

– Anacostia Watershed Society
Director of Policy and Advocacy **Dan Smith**

"We commend the Council for adopting this visionary and important legislation. As we work with partners to conduct the annual 'spring cleaning' of the Potomac River, Styrofoam is, sadly, always in great abundance. We look forward to seeing a significant reduction in Styrofoam in future years, just as we've seen a reduction in plastic bags as a result of those jurisdictions that have enacted legislation to address that problem. These policies DO work!"

– Alice Ferguson Foundation
Executive Director,
Lori Arguelles

"We applaud the Prince George's County Council for joining a regional solution to blight on communities by ban-

ning polystyrene food packaging. Out in our neighborhoods we hear time and again how frustrated people are by pervasive litter."

– Clean Water Action,
Chesapeake Regional
Director, **Brent Bolin**

"We are delighted that Prince George's County is joining DC and Montgomery County in a regional approach to reducing trash pollution. Banning foam food packaging is a major step forward in cleaning up our neighborhoods and waterways, and creates a level playing field for businesses across the area."

– Trash Free Maryland
Director, **Julie Lawson**

"This bill is a win for the quality of our waterways, for public health, and for the beauty of our County."

– Prince George's County
Sierra Club,
Martha Ainsworth

"This legislation is critical not only for our environmental and human health, but also to ensure that Prince George's County proves itself to be just as forward-thinking as Montgomery County and the District of Columbia. Needless consumption and resource waste is one of the driving factors behind the impending threat of climate change, and the sooner we eliminate polystyrene, the better."

– University of Maryland
SGA, Student Sustainability
Committee Director of
City Affairs, **Annie Rice**

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OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK

Movie Review "Hot Pursuit"

Hot Pursuit
Grade: D+
Rated PG-13, a little profanity,
mild violence, a little innuendo
1 hr., 27 min

"Hot Pursuit" is beneath Reese Witherspoon, just about right for Sofia Vergara, and bad for us all. It's one of those comedies about supposedly ordinary people of at least average intelligence who nonetheless spend the entire movie being frantic, bumbling morons who can't do anything without breaking something. One of them can't talk on the phone and drive at the same time, so she hands the phone to the other one, who drops it out the window. That sort of thing.

Witherspoon plays Rose Cooper, an overeager, straitlaced San Antonio cop who's a stickler for rules, speaks in police lingo ("I am announcing my entrance into your private domicile"), and isn't good at jokes. She's sent with a federal marshal to escort a drug lord (Vincent Laresca) and his preposterously Colombian wife (Vergara) to Dallas to testify against the cartel, but the cartel strikes first, and now Cooper and Mrs. Riva (as she consistently calls her) are on the run! What's more, there are dirty cops involved, and they've made it look like Cooper and Riva are the bad guys, so they are fugitives, must hide in bushes, wear disguises, whisper-shout at each other, etc. Riva, of course, is wearing high heels and dragging a suitcase most of the time, for comedy.



In "Hot Pursuit," an uptight and by-the-book cop (Reese Witherspoon) tries to protect the sexy and outgoing widow (Sofia Vergara) of a drug boss as they race through Texas, pursued by crooked cops and murderous gunmen. -- (C) New Line

It may sound like the female version of "Midnight Run," but don't forget, "Midnight Run" was funny. Written by sitcom scribes David Feeney ("New Girl") and John Quaintance ("Whitney"), and directed by rom-com veteran Anne Fletcher ("27 Dresses," "The Proposal"), "Hot Pursuit" is shrill, broad, and nonsensical, full of dumb details like Cooper, a lifelong Texas girl, not recognizing a longhorn when she sees one. There's a recurring motif of the women turning male sexism

back against them as a weapon: Riva displays her cleavage to focus a cashier's attention; they pretend to be lesbians to distract a redneck; they talk graphically about their periods so their captors will let them go to the bathroom (and escape). The movie's on to something here, but like everything else, doesn't develop it or follow through with it.

Vergara is playing up her "Modern Family" persona in a way that makes me remember why I stopped watching "Modern Family" a few years ago,

though it might have a different effect on current fans. Her loud, open-mouth crying, Lucy Ricardo-style, is not one of her finer moments. Witherspoon is wholly, admirably committed to the garbage screenplay, most notably in a sequence where she's dosed with cocaine (yes, it's the kind of movie where someone accidentally gets high) and earns laughs by cranking her already intense personality up to 11. Otherwise, this sloppy, half-baked idiosyncrasy is basically a disaster.

Food from A1

of the produce we throw away in the prices we pay at the supermarket -- we ought to put it to good use."

Fifteen percent of Maryland's municipal waste consists of food, according to Maryland's Department of Environment. At the same time, 757,430 people are food-insecure in Maryland, with the highest level of food-insecure homes in Baltimore City at about 23 percent, according to Feeding America, a domestic hunger relief organization.

To address the national food distribution and waste problem, organizations across Maryland are taking the initiative and going straight to the source of extra, edible food: supermarkets, farms and colleges.

Arthur Morgan, founder of Gather Baltimore, said that he takes unsold vegetables, fruit and bread from Baltimore City's farmers' market and local grocery stores like Wade's and redistributes the surplus to meal programs, faith communities and others in need. The blue bag initiative, just over 3 months old, is the



Known among friends and customers as "Ms. Cheryl," Mill Valley General Store owner Cheryl Wade, 61, said she opens her store to Gather Baltimore volunteers Thursday through Sunday to prepare the blue bags for the weekend, storing gathered food in her extra refrigerators during the week.

newest installment.

"There's so much extra food, and people are hungry and don't have food," Morgan said. "I'm just trying to eliminate a lot of the food waste and feed some of these people that are hungry."

Morgan's organization's outreach mainly spreads by word-of-mouth, Wade said, allowing Morgan to keep up with the demand. Even so, the number of bags sold at her store has increased from 50 to 200 since it

began early this year -- and that number grows every weekend. Anyone may purchase the produce, and the store offers a sign-up sheet for recipes and updates on what will be in the bags on a given week.

"We have not found anyone else in the Baltimore area that does what Arthur does, which is actually get fresh fruit and vegetables into people's hands," said Wade, whose store is in the Jones Falls area of Baltimore.

In its 2014 Zero Waste Plan, the state set an interim goal of 15 percent food waste reduction by the end of 2015, but it's not yet known whether the state will reach this goal, said Jay Apperson, communications director for Maryland's Department of Environment.

As of 2013, the state had recycled 10.7 percent of its food scraps primarily through composting and animal feed according to the state's environment department. Apperson said the state does not take into account source reduction programs like Gather Baltimore or Food Recovery Network when calculating its food scrap reduction, but completely supports their efforts.

"The Zero Waste Plan included some strategies for (Maryland's Department of Environment) to support and enhance these existing food donation activities," Apperson said, such as surveying large food generators to determine quantities and locations of available food and connecting them to food banks, kitchens, pantries, shelters and organizations.

See **FOOD** Page A7



Friday through Sunday, customers come to Mill Valley General Store and pickup a 25-to-45-pound IKEA blue bag full of donated produce and snacks for \$6. Gather Baltimore owner Arthur Morgan started selling the blue bags at this store about three months ago, said owner Cheryl Wade.



CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTOS BY KATELYN NEWMAN

The Edge of Sports by DAVE ZIRIN

Baltimore Oriole Adam Jones and the Power of Seeing Pain



On Wednesday, I gave a lecture at the Community College of Baltimore County on the topic of sports and social change. It had been planned for months, but this morning, with encouragement from the terrific professors on campus, I changed my talk from one about the history of sports to one about the history being made a short ride from campus. Instead of talking about Muhammad Ali, Billie Jean King and the movements that shaped their desire to use sports as a political platform, we talked about the police killing of Freddie Gray. Instead of a "lecture," we had a conversation.

We talked about the marches and curfews in Baltimore City. We talked about why demonstrators took their anger to Camden Yards and why police seem to see the protecting of sports arenas—and protecting each other—as more important than finding justice for Freddie Gray. We talked about the Baltimore athletes who have been in the streets helping the struggle and the ones who have been silent. My one regret from the day is that I spoke with sadness that Baltimore Orioles COO John Angelos has made more important and more relevant comments about the city's upheaval than any current Oriole players. It wasn't a knock against Angelos's words, but a statement that it should be the players, not the owners, stepping up at this time. That dynamic, however, changed later in the day, when Adam Jones, one of just two African-American starters on the team, took the time in a press conference to speak with love, support, and concern for the black youth in Baltimore and the future of the city. Unfortunately, the "shareline" sent out by the Baltimore Sun about his remarks bleated, "Adam Jones can relate to frustration of Baltimore's youth, but says the actions are unacceptable." This is damn-near a satirical microcosm of everything the media get wrong about everything. Jones's comments were not at all centered around youth actions; being "unacceptable." They were an aside in what was a beautiful statement. Here is an excerpt of his remarks (transcription by me):

There's been a lot of good protesting, there have been a lot of people standing up for the rights that they have ... The youth are hurting ... It can look like no one's fighting for you but there are people like myself. I say to the youth, your frustration is warranted. It's understandable, understood. The actions I don't think are acceptable but if you come from where they come from, you understand ... This is their cry ... They need hugs. They need love. They need support

I feel the pain of these kids. Let's remember I grew up on similar tracks as them ... It's just not easy seeing a community [where] you are trying to affect change in, seeing these kind of things, but it's understandable because these kids are hurt. And these kids have seen the pain in their parents' eyes, the pain in their grandparents' eyes over decades and this is their way of speaking on behalf of their parents and behalf of their grandparents and people who have been hurt.

As the porcine know-nothings on cable news exploit this moment to stoke and stroke the fears of their audience, the words of Adam Jones have the power to not only resonate with Baltimore protesters but to reach those Orioles fans who are hard-wired to hate them. The power of his words is rooted in the fact that Adam Jones actually "sees" the young people who are self-organizing against police violence and poverty. In this climate, just "seeing" them and granting them their inalienable humanity is in itself a radical act.

Adam Jones's comments reminded me of an exchange at the Community College of Baltimore County when a student asked if we should be concerned that people would now identify Baltimore with riots and fire. We responded by saying that the problem is not what people are seeing in Baltimore right now. The problem is that before the last week, people didn't "see" the whole of Baltimore at all. The problem is that people thought of Baltimore and saw the Inner Harbor, Camden Yards, the Ravens, and perhaps Little Italy, leaving the rest of the city, the rest of the people, and the entirety of their pain, in a state of invisibility. Getting all hot and bothered by binge-watching *The Wire* and quoting Stringer Bell in your corporate mission statements is not the same thing as "seeing" Baltimore.

Many this past week have quoted Dr. King's famous phrase that rioting is the language of the unheard. It's quoted so much because it's so true. So many of people who live, work, and die in Baltimore have been unheard, unseen, and unacknowledged ... until now. The way our current system operates, no one sees and hears the pain of the poor until they fight to make themselves seen and heard. Adam Jones sees them. Adam Jones hears them. At the very least, we all have to meet that standard.

Calendar of Events

May 28 — June 3, 2015

Movie Night

Date and Time: Friday, May 29, 2015 8 pm
 Description: Come relax with us during our outdoor movie nights. Popcorn will be provided; the movie starts at dusk.
 Cost: Free
 Ages: All ages welcome
 Location: Mount Rainier Nature and Recreation Center
 4701 31st Place, Mount Rainier, MD 20712
 Contact: 301-927-2163; TTY 301-699-2544

Seniors: Larriland Farm

Date & Time: Friday, May 29, 2015 10 am-3 pm
 Description: It's just about harvest time. Seniors will travel to scenic Woodbine, MD to the renown Larriland Farm to pick locally sourced in-season produce. Afterward, you'll take a pumpkin ride through the farm. Trip will depart the Langley Park Senior Activity Center via M-NCPPC vans. Meals will be provided at your own expense.
 Cost: Resident: \$10; Non-Resident: \$12
 Ages: 60 & Better
 Location: Langley Park Senior Activity Center
 1500 Merrimac Drive, Hyattsville 20783
 Contact: 301-408-4343; TTY 301-446-3402

Xtreme Teens: Teen's Choice Night

Date and Time: Friday, May 29, 2015 7-10 pm
 Description: Enjoy a full night of fun, because it's your choice. That's right, whether it's a movie in the gym, games in the lobby, or arts and crafts, it's YOUR choice.
 Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
 Ages: 10-17
 Location: Columbia Park Community Center
 1901 Kent Village Drive, Landover 20785
 Contact: 301-341-3749; TTY 301-455-4512

Marietta Wine Festival

Date and Time: Saturday, May 30, 2015 11 am-6 pm
 Description: Join us as we celebrate Prince George's County and Maryland wines! General admission includes a wine sampling glass and samples of all featured wines. The festival also includes food and craft vendors, music and a wine education class.
 Cost: \$20/person
 Ages: 21 & up, ID required
 Location: Marietta House Museum
 5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale 20769
 Contact: 301-464-5291; TTY 301-699-2544

Xtreme Teens: Bikes & Boats

Date and Time: Saturday, May 30, 2015 2-5 pm
 Description: Spend the afternoon at Bladensburg Waterfront Park bike riding through the Anacostia Tributary Trails or enjoy an afternoon paddle boat riding down the beautiful Anacostia River.
 Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
 Ages: 10-17
 Location: Bladensburg Waterfront Park
 4601 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg 20710
 Contact: 301-445-4500; TTY 301-445-4512

Special Olympics Horse Show

Date and Time: Saturday, May 30, 2015 9 am
 Description: The Prince George's Equestrian Center will host the Special Olympics Horse Show.
 Cost: Free for spectators
 Location: The Show Place Arena
 14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro, MD
 Contact: 301-952-7900; TTY 301-952-7998

Xtreme Teens: Dave & Buster's

Date and Time: Saturday, May 30, 2015 7-10 pm
 Description: Travel with us to Dave & Busters for a night of epic fun. Enjoy a variety of games, prizes, food and fun. Departure is at 6:30 pm, with a return time of 10 pm. To attend, teens are required to have their permission slips signed by a parent/guardian. Bring extra money for food and games.
 Cost: Resident \$20; Non-resident \$20
 Ages: 10-17
 Location: Prince George's Plaza Community Center
 6600 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville 20782
 Contact: 301-864-1611; TTY 301-445-4512

Maryland Challenged Horse Trials

Date and Time: Sunday, May 31, 2015 8 am
 Description: The Prince George's Equestrian Center will host the Maryland Challenged Horse Trials Show.
 Cost: Free for spectators
 Location: The Show Place Arena
 14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro, MD
 Contact: 301-952-7900; TTY 301-952-7998

Youth Baseball Clinic

Date & Time: Tuesday, June 2, 2015 6-8 pm
 Description: The baseball clinic will be presented by Giant Food and Ripken Baseball. Clinics will be conducted by local high school coaches; don't forget to bring your baseball equipment.
 Cost: Free
 Ages: 7-15
 Location: Baysox Stadium
 4101 NE Crane Highway, Bowie, MD 20716
 Contact: 301-446-6800; TTY 301-446-6802

Toddler Time

Date and Time: Thursdays, May 7, 14, 21 & 28, 11 am-12 pm
 Description: Parents and their toddlers can enjoy time at the nature center with hands-on treasures, crafts, stories, soft play, and much more.
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: 2 & up
 Location: Mount Rainier Nature and Recreation Center
 4701 31st Place, Mount Rainier, MD 20712
 Contact: 301-927-2163; TTY 301-699-2544

EARTH TALK ... Are We Past the Point of No Return on Climate Change

Dear EarthTalk:

What is the best way to measure how close we are to the dreaded "point of no return" with climate change? In other words, when do we think we will have gone too far?

— David Johnston,
 via EarthTalk.org

While we may not yet have reached the "point of no return"—when no amount of cutbacks on greenhouse gas emissions will save us from potentially catastrophic global warming—climate scientists warn we may be getting awfully close. Since the dawn of the Industrial Revolution a century ago, the average global temperature has risen some 1.6 degrees Fahrenheit. Most climatologists agree that, while the warming to date is already causing environmental problems, another 0.4 degree Fahrenheit rise in temperature, representing a global average atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide (CO₂) of 450 parts per million (ppm), could set in motion unprecedented changes in global climate and a significant increase in the severity of natural disasters—and as such could represent the dreaded point of no return.

Currently the atmospheric concentration of CO₂ (the leading greenhouse gas) is approximately 398.55 parts per million (ppm). According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration (NOAA), the federal scientific agency tasked with monitoring the health of our oceans and atmosphere, the current average annual rate of increase of 1.92 ppm means we could reach the point of no return by 2042.

Environmental leaders point out that this doesn't give us much time to turn the tide. Greenpeace, a leading environmental advocacy group, says we have until around 2020 to significantly cut back on greenhouse gas output around the world—to the tune of a five percent annual reduction in emissions overall—if we are to avoid so-called "runaway" climate change. "The world is fast approaching a 'point of no return' beyond which extremely dangerous climate change impacts can become unavoidable," reports the group. "Within this time period, we will have to radically change our approach to energy production and consumption."

In a recent lecture at Georgetown University, World Bank president Jim Yong Kim reported that whether we are able to cut emissions enough to prevent catastrophe likely depends on the policies of the world's largest economies and the widespread adoption of so-called carbon pricing systems (such as emissions trading plans and carbon taxes). International negotiators meeting in Paris next December are already working to hammer out an agreement mandating that governments adopt



CREDIT: GREGORY "SLOBIRD" SMITH, FLICKRCC

If we don't get our carbon emissions in check soon, it could be too late for the polar bear and many other species impacted by global Credit: Gregory "Slobird" Smith, FlickrCC

these types of systems to facilitate emissions reductions. "A price on carbon is the single most important thing we have to get out of a Paris agreement," Kim stated. "It will unleash market forces."

While carbon pricing will be key to mitigating global warming, Greenpeace adds that stemming the tide of deforestation in the world's tropical rainforests and beyond and adapting our food systems to changing climatic conditions and increasingly limited resources will also be crucial to the health of the planet.

"Without additional mitigation, and even with adaptation, warming by the end of the 21st century will lead to high to very high risk of severe, widespread and irreversible impacts globally," reports the Intergovern-

mental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), an international group of leading climate experts convened by the United Nations to review and assess the most recent scientific, technical and socio-economic information on global warming. Indeed, there's no time like the present to start changing our ways.

CONTACTS: NOAA, www.noaa.gov; World Bank, www.worldbank.org; Greenpeace, www.greenpeace.org; IPCC, www.ipcc.ch.

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Food from A6

"Surplus edible food that cannot be prevented should be donated for human consumption," Apperson said.

For Ben Simon, co-founder and executive director of the startup Food Recovery Network at the University of Maryland, College Park, the idea to transfer excess meals from college campuses came from seeing how much was left over at the university's dining halls and after big sports games.

"It really came out of that need of seeing hungry people in Prince George's County and Washington, D.C., and also seeing the surplus at the same time and connecting the dots," Simon said.

The nonprofit organization, which started in September 2011, now extends nationwide to 129 college campuses and is completely student-led, delivering meals that were going to be thrown away to local homeless shelters, transitional homes and women's shelters, said Mika Weinstein, a Food Recovery Network staff member.

"In the United States, almost 40 percent of the food that's produced ends up in a landfill," Weinstein said. "Some of that is actually food scraps, like banana peels, but a lot of it is perfectly good food."

Weinstein said that the whole organization has collected 731,145 pounds of food since it began, with about 117,708 of that amount collected in 2015 alone. The University of Maryland chapter has recovered 116,115 pounds of food since its launch.

Pastor Ben Slye from the Christian Life Center in Riverdale said his center receives 25 to 30 trays of meals three times a week from the Food Recovery Network—enough to feed between 50 and 75 people per meal—as well as 10,000 pounds of fresh produce each week from national food processor Taylor Farms, and Coastal Sunbelt, a mid-Atlantic food distributor.

Slye said his organization also receives college sports games' leftovers that could feed up to 500 people at a time. His center redistributes the free food to local soup kitchens, recovery programs and other ministries, only paying for transportation costs.

"We always say that it's not a food shortage problem in our nation, there's a food distribution problem in our nation -- so we're trying to solve that problem," Slye, 53, said. "We're grateful to be a part of something that's going to become huge."



CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTOS BY KATELYN NEWMAN

At the Mill Valley General Store, customers can buy one of Gather Baltimore's \$6 blue bags full of recovered organic fruits, vegetables and snacks between 1 and 5 p.m. every Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTOS BY KATELYN NEWMAN

Mill Valley General store sign at front door.

GREENING YOUR LAUNDRY

How you handle washing and drying your clothes every week affects your energy, water use, air quality and health. When it's time to wash, here are a few scrub-a-dub tips to consider.

- ▶ Use eco-friendly, natural or consider making your own detergents. Your clothes will come out just as white, bright and smelling good.
- ▶ Using hot water for both washing and rinsing uses three and half times more energy than washing in warm water and rinsing in cold, so think of using warm water.
- ▶ By lowering your water heater's temperature to 120 degrees you can cut your energy costs by a considerable amount.
- ▶ Check your outside dryer vent to make sure it's clean and closes properly.
- ▶ Wash one big load rather than two smaller ones making sure not to overload the machine.
- ▶ Reduce the need for ironing by taking clothes out of the dryer slightly damp and letting them air dry on a clothes line to save on your energy costs.

Photo courtesy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Quality and Compliance, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency