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Rushern L. Baker, III Vetoes PG County Council's Approval of a Property Tax Increase

By Press Officer
PG County Government

Upper Marlboro, MD – Today, Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III conducted a press conference at the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) Southern Regional Technology and Recreation Complex in Fort Washington, MD to announce his vetoed CB-31-2015 - the Prince George's County Council's recent approval and passage of a 1.5 cents increase on the property tax for parks, recreation and planning as part of their FY 2016 Budget.

"I just don't believe that we need to invest our tax dollars where we won't get the greatest return. It is not fiscally prudent. It is not necessary. It is not practical, strategic or visionary," stated County Executive Baker. "So today, I am vetoing this tax increase of 1.5 cents towards the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission tax because if we are going to increase taxes, we should increase them to invest in education. I am vetoing this tax increase because it was never discussed as an option for the taxpayers to scrutinize. This is an important time for this County and I am still reviewing the rest of the budget. I want the citizens of Prince George's County to know that whatever I decide, the people of this great County and their welfare today, and into the future will drive my decision."

Text of Veto Letter Sent to Prince George's Council Chair Mel Franklin

June 8, 2015

The Honorable Mel R. Franklin
Chairman

Prince George's County Council
County Administration Building
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Dear Chairman Franklin:

Pursuant to Section 18-107 of the Land Use Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended ("Land Use Article"), I am exercising my authority to veto certain items in CB-31-2015, a bill approved on May 28, 2015, by the Prince George's County Council that, among other things, approved a tax rate increase for Fiscal Year 2016 for the Prince George's County portion of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, ("M-NCPPC") pursuant to the provisions of Section 18-106 of the Land Use Article. For reasons discussed in more detail below, I am vetoing certain items in CB-31-2015 and returning it with the attached Executive Order because: 1) it is my firm belief that given scarce County resources, it would be inappropriate for the governing body of the County to approve a tax increase for the nationally-recognized Commission at a time when the un-

See **BAKER** Page A5



CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTO BY JAMES LEVIN

Ruppensberger Ponders Senate Race, Stresses Bipartisan Approach

Ruppensberger Ponders Senate Race, Stresses Bipartisan Approach

By ANIKA REED
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON—There may be a U.S. Senate campaign in Rep. Dutch Ruppensberger's future. Then again, there may not. "Too soon," the Cockeysville Democrat told Capital News Service. "We're all surprised with [Sen. Barbara] Mikulski. We didn't know it was coming." Mikulski, D-Md., announced in March that she would retire

from the Senate when her term ends in 2017, sending shock waves through the political arena.

Two of Ruppensberger's colleagues in the Maryland House delegation, Reps. Chris Van Hollen, D-Kensington, and Donna Edwards, D-Fort Washington, quickly jumped into the Democratic primary field. Both are from the Washington suburbs.

Their candidacies have left the three Democratic congressmen from the vote-rich Balti-

more area—Ruppensberger, Elijah Cummings and John Sarbanes—mulling their prospects in the race.

"My popular polling is very high in the Baltimore area," said Ruppensberger, characterizing himself as a moderate Democrat. "If I'm the only one from Baltimore, I'll consider it."

"I'm not afraid to take a risk, believe me," added the seven-term congressman, 69, who said he is likely to make

a decision by the summer. His House seat is considered relatively secure.

Ruppensberger discussed a possible Senate campaign plus a wide range of issues—including cybersecurity threats, the death of Freddie Gray and infrastructure investments—in an exclusive interview with Capital News Service late last month.

See **SENATE RACE** Page A3

WSSC Strikes Gold in California

Production Team Takes Home Top Prize in National Competition

By PRESS OFFICER
WSSC

Laurel – Eight impressive regional wins, but never a national title, until NOW! It was stressful, down to the wire at the American Water Works Association's (AWWA) Annual Conference in California, but Team WSSC, representing the Chesapeake Section of the AWWA pulled it out yesterday, clinching the Top Ops National Championship.

Tops Ops is the "college bowl" of the water industry. Teams from around the country, comprised of water distribution operators go head to head, answering jeopardy-style questions, often technical in nature – such as, "If air is used to generate ozone, what percentage of air is converted to ozone?"

Months of prep, peppering one another with questions, flash cards and white boards full of facts and it all paid off—finally! Dinesh Bahadursingh, Mark Proctor, Ronnell High and John Luu, all members of WSSC's Production Team nailed the regional competition



PHOTO COURTESY WSSC

in Ocean City last summer, earning WSSC a spot at the national level.

Team WSSC is no stranger to winning the regional competition. They went to nationals in 2002, 2004, 2005, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011, but always left empty handed. The team finished second in 2010 and fourth in 2011.

"They weren't coming home without gold this year,"

said Richard Tripp, Patuxent Plant Chief Water Operator. "They were determined and they did it!" This is the first year a team representing the Chesapeake Section of AWWA has claimed victory at the national level.

The trophy hasn't even made its way back to Maryland from

See **GOLD** Page A3

County Council Overrides Executive Veto of County Portion of M-NCPPC Budget

Override Avoids Higher Taxes for Residents in Fiscal Year 2017

By Press Officer
PG County Council

The nine-member Prince George's County Council voted unanimously during session today to override the County Executive's veto of the County's portion of the FY 2016 budget for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning (M-NCPPC) ("Park and Planning"), which delivers vital programs for tens of thousands of County youth, seniors, and residents of all ages each year. The agency

is facing a structural deficit of recreation and planning expenses exceeding revenues on an annual basis.

Council Chairman Franklin delivered this statement following the Council's vote:

"On May 28, the County Council in its adopted budget reduced the County Executive's proposed 15.6% property and other tax increases by over 70%. We concluded that a 15.6% increase in taxes is unaffordable for residents still recovering from the housing crisis, and for

businesses just starting to get their footing in the new economic opportunities beginning to emerge in our County. Instead, with our adoption of this budget, the Council committed to put the County's fiscal house in order by finally addressing our structural deficits, promoting a government that lives within its means, and creating a path of fiscal sustainability for Prince George's County.

See **BUDGET** Page A5

71 Student-Athletes, Cheerleaders and Staff Graduate During the 2014-15 Academic Year

By Press Officer
Bowie State University

COLLEGE PARK, Md. – Seventy-one current and former student-athletes and cheerleaders were among Bowie State University graduates who received degrees during the 2014-15 academic year. Forty-one of those mentioned were awarded degrees during the

2015 Spring Commencement on Saturday, May 23rd at the University of Maryland's Xfinity Center, while the other 30 earned degrees during the 2014 Winter Commencement.

Congressman Elijah E. Cummings delivered the commencement address to the graduates. Cummings (D-Md.) challenged nearly 700 Bowie State University graduates urging them to

avoid becoming satisfied with earning a degree and getting a good job, but to also consider the "plight of our people" as they pursue their career paths. "I was the one who was put in special ed as a child, to be there for six years, to be thrown away. I'm the one. I'm the one who they

See **GRADUATES** Page A3

INSIDE

Plastic Bags Are No Longer Accepted with Bowie's Residential Recycling Program

By reducing the number of disposable products used, we can help reduce litter and keep these items out of Bowie's waste and water streams. This includes plastic bags from grocery stores, drug stores and other retail shops.

Community, Page A3

End All Youth Detention and Torture at Riker's Island Now

The suicide of 22-year-old Kalief Browder on June 6, barely two years after his release and return home, was the final horror in his tragic and brutal journey into the depths of the adult criminal justice system in New York City and state.

Commentary, Page A4

June is National Dairy Month

National Dairy Month celebrates the value of milk and dairy products as part of a well-balanced diet for every American, as well as the importance of milk production to the agricultural industry. There are 455 dairy farms which accounted for \$243 million in sales in 2014, according to USDA's National Agriculture Statistics Service.

Business, Page A5

Movie Review: "San Andreas"

In "San Andreas," the Golden Gate Bridge collapses in the background of another scene. Tall metropolitan buildings, full of thousands of workers, crumble left and right, and the only time the movie ever shows any interest is if one of three specific characters happens to be in the building at the time.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

Where will be the best places to live if global warming gets the best of us?

— Billy Alexander,
Macon, GA

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

Gazette newspapers shut down

The last issues of the Prince George's and Montgomery Gazette newspapers, part of the Post Community Media, came out last week. They've been publishing for 55 years. This is a great loss! It follows the demise of the Washington Star and the Prince George's Journal, not to mention smaller papers like the South County Times (which used to carry my column).

I talked to a librarian at Surratts Library last week. She said the Gazette is very popular. The library gets a huge stack every week, but they have to hide them and dole out a handful at a time or they'd be gone almost immediately.

I'm glad we still have the Prince George's Post and the Prince George's Sentinel and the Enquirer-Gazette.

Prince George's County has a population of 890,081. We need extensive news about our county. Who's going to do it?

Neighbors

Morningside's annual 4th of July Parade kicks off about 11 a.m. from the Morningside Firehouse. Look for me, waving a flag and cheering from beneath the big tree at the Suitland Road Baptist Church.

And remember: there'll be great fireworks at dusk!

Agnes Koch, formerly of Morningside and Suitland, is now 101 and has moved to an assisted living community. She had lived on her own in Bothell, Wash., until three or four years ago and then with her daughter Julie. I miss her annual visits to Maryland when a number of her local friends met her at a restaurant to visit and lunch. Agnes was one of my first friends when I moved to Skyline in June of 1958.

Two of my children retired the first week of June: Therese from the University of Texas/Brownsville and Brian retired from Boeing.

Applause

Ange and Marlyn Meoli, formerly of Auth Village, have two grandchildren graduating:

Mary Maxine Lubber, daughter of Vicki (Meoli) and Cliff Lubber of Camdenton, Mo., graduated from William Jewel College in Liberty, Mo. She's starting her post-grad life as the

Refugee and Immigrant Services Outreach Coordinator at the Kansas City Public Library.

Christian Patrick Meoli, son of Peter and Donna Meoli of Elkridge, graduated from Long Reach High School in Columbia. He'll attend Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg in the fall.

Reunions

Central High Class of 1975 is holding its 40th class reunion on Saturday, Sept. 12, from noon to 6 p.m. at Cameron Run Park in Alexandria Va. Go to www.myreuniondb.com or email Jody at nyersjo1022@yahoo.com for more info. Classmates from 1974, '75 and '76, as well as Foulis classmates from 1969 to 1972 are invited. Spread the word.

La Reine High, Class of 1965: Sept. 25-27. Contact Terry Hoffmann at thoffmann1@verizon.net.

La Reine High, Class of 1975: Aug. 1. Contact the Reunion Committee at l4hs75@hotmail.com.

Farmers Market

Branch Avenue in Bloom is back at the Iverson Mall parking lot, 3737 Branch Ave., Saturdays (until November), 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For information: Fleming Thomas, 301-702-2250.

Two Vacation Bible Schools

Suitland Road Baptist Church is hosting its annual Vacation Bible School July 6-10, each night from 7 to 9 p.m. Pre-Registration will be Saturday, July 4, beginning at 10 a.m. in the Community Outreach Prayer Tent. There'll also be free food, clothing and more.

Clinton United Methodist Church, 10700 Brandywine Road, will be holding Vacation Bible School, July 6-10, 9 a.m. until 12:00 noon. This year's program is SonSpark Labs, a week of laboratory adventures and fun! Through their adventures children will discover God's Big Plan: "2 MAKE Us, 2 BE WITH Us. 4 Us 2 KNOW Him, 2 SAVE Us and 2 LOVE Us 4-ever." Registration, 8 a.m. on July 6 or pre-register your child or children by calling 301-868-1281, M-F, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., beginning June 29.

Changing landscape

Royal Farms opened for business on June 15 at the intersec-

tion of Allentown Road and Old Branch avenue. I understand their fried chicken is great—I'll have to check it out.

Patient First Urgent Care is due to open this summer at 9000 Woodyard Road in Clinton.

By 2020 there'll be an American woman on the \$10 bill, replacing Alexander Hamilton. Who will she be?

May they rest in peace

Bryan J. Bronson, 54, a 1978 graduate of Surrattsville High School and lifelong resident of Clinton, died June 6. He married his high school sweetheart, Carol Mittan, on April 19, 1980, at Andrews AFB. He worked for 27 years with Piedmont/US Airways, and later as a security officer for the County Sheriff's Department. He was a longtime Civil War re-enactor, and loved walking the battlefields. Survivors include his wife Carol, son Donald, daughter Carolyn, and two grandchildren.

Ron "Pop" Tucker, 70, of Clinton, Census Bureau retiree, died May 25. A native of Boise, Idaho, he moved to Maryland when he was a senior in high school and graduated from Suitland High and then from the U. of Maryland with a degree in business. He worked for Census for 30 years and played with the Census golf program. He was the husband of Frances, father of Kimberly Bellosi and Stephanie Jackson; grandfather of six.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Angela Booth and Mable Hemmes, June 26; Charles "Chuckie" Henry, Rose Hoffman, Veda Curcio, Shawn Kumra and Cathryn Cordero Pracht, June 27; Shiloh Bell, Mike Dudding, Juanita Eppard, Erica R. Webb, EvaMarie Anthony and my granddaughter Leah Katherine Mudd, June 28; Faith "Dycki" Brown, Alexis Schuler and my great-grandson Wesley McHale, June 29; Karen Ellis and Barbara Harris, June 30; Ruth LaBelle and Jordan Foster, July 1; Sharon Simms, Matthew Clark and Megan Frostbutter, July 2.

Happy anniversaries to Jack and Kimberly Hay, their 29th on June 28; Carl and Sue (Stine) Mason, their 30th on June 29; and Vincent and Carolyn Glee, June 29.

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

CARRY OUT DINNERS

St. Philip's Church, Baden Parish will have carry out dinners on Saturday, June 27, 2015 12:00 Noon until all dinners are sold. The church is located at 13801 Baden Westwood Road Brandywine, Maryland 20613. Call (301) 888-1536 (day of event). Call (301) 888-2510 or (301) 888-1475 (prior to eve of event).

Pre-orders accepted and appreciated. Chicken Dinner cost \$11.00, Barbeque Spare Ribs Dinner cost \$13.00, Fish Dinner cost \$13.00, and Pig Feet Dinner cost \$13.00. Combination Dinner (any two meats) cost \$18.00. Drinks will be on sale. All dinners include potato salad, sweet potatoes, macaroni and cheese, green beans, cake and bread. Benefit: Peter A. Gross Sr. Scholarship Memorial Fund Inc.

FARMERS MARKET

Farmers Market at St. Thomas Church hours of operation will be Saturday 8:00 AM to noon June 20-September 28. The church is located at 14300 St. Thomas Church Road, Up-

per Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Telephone number is 301-627-8469.

At the Market you will be able to buy vegetables, fruits, wine, specialty products, meat/fowl, herbs, grains & forage, flowers. The Market will also have all types of vendors. So please stop by one afternoon.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGSS

Happy Birthday to Glen Brown, Jeremy Hall, Ron Jackson, Alicia Johnson, Bradley Johnson, Wendell Lee, Kevin Millard, Tameka Pinckney, Valerie Pinkney, Rosalind Pinkney, Corwayne Pyle, Angela Simms, Gynell Simms, Leisha Singleton and Rhoda Slade who are celebrating their birthdays during the month of July.

JAZZ CAFÉ CONCERT

Come out and join members, families and friends Saturday, July 18, 2015 from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM. Chuck Brown, Van Dorn and New Phase Band will entertain you with a night of Jazz at Nottingham Myers Church's Family Life Center.

Nottingham Myer's Church Family Life Center is located at 15601 Brooks Church Road. Please call 301-888-2171 for directions. Donation is \$30.00 (You are welcome to pay at the door).

CHILDREN'S GLOBAL READINESS ACADEMY

The Academy will offer two summer camps this summer. Session I will be June 22- July 24 Language and the City. Session II will be July 27-August 21 Language and Stem. Visit www.cgrkids.org or call 301-842-4056 for more information.

CARNIVAL

Nottingham Myers will be hosting their 1st Carnival August 22, 2015 from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. We welcome our church family, friends and the community to join us. The church is located at 15601 Brooks Church Road Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. There will be more information at a later date. Church telephone number is 301-888-2171. Pastor Constance Smith is our Pastor.

Neighborhood Events

Edwards Statement on Fast Track and TAA Votes

Washington, D.C. – Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards (MD-4) today issued the following statement regarding her vote against H.R. 1314, the Trade Act of 2015. The House defeated the Trade Adjustment Act portion of that bill by a vote of 126-302, while approving the Trade Promotion Authority (Fast Track) part by a vote of 219-211.

"I started out this process about a year and half ago seeking to support a trade bill with strong workers' and human right protections, environmental standards, food safety standards, and one that would create and retain American jobs by protecting government procurement and Buy American provisions," Edwards said. "I commend Leader Nancy Pelosi's efforts to 'find a pathway to yes' in an increasingly changing global economy."

"Unfortunately, as this process has unfolded, I have concluded that delegating Congress' role through Fast-Track legislation will not enable me to help the 70,000 Marylanders who have lost jobs since the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was implemented and since the World Trade Organization was established in 1995. That is why I offered three amendments earlier this week that would have ensured this agreement included food safety standards, human rights and labor protections, and Congressional input if the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) expands to other nations.

"It's time to restart the trade debate with the full participation of Congress and robust support of American workers and small and medium businesses," Edwards said. "Further, while I have long supported the Democratic-led Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program, which provides training for those who have lost jobs due to foreign trade and globalization, I cannot support weak funding for workers displaced by the global economy with cuts to Medicare. And lastly, today's TAA legislation also does not include protection for public sector workers. I cannot support a program that leaves them out."

PGCPS Has Ratified SEIU Local 400 Union Contract

UPPER MARLBORO, MD – Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) has successfully negotiated an agreement with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 400 representing employees in the school system. Negotiating teams for SEIU Local 400 and the Board of Education reached a three year agreement covering July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018. The newly-ratified union contract represents a major collaborative effort.

"It is important to the success of PGCPS to retain qualified staff," said Dr. Kevin Maxwell, Chief Executive Officer for PGCPS. "These contracts ensure that PGCPS can offer a competitive salary and benefits package to attract and retain talented employees."



Congresswoman
Donna F. Edwards

The contract includes compensation increases to offer a one percent COLA improvement in the salary table effective July 1, 2015; a step increase effective March 1, 2016; a three percent COLA improvement in the salary table effective July 1, 2017; and a step increase effective July 1, 2017.

The Office of Central Services presents its NEW Agency Newsletter: The Central Connection

LARGO, MD - The Office of Central Services (OCS) is proud to present its Agency newsletter. This informative newsletter is designed to bring awareness to OCS' crucial role in the operations of County government as well as to highlight some of the Agency's significant accomplishments.

Presented in an easy to read format, the OCS newsletter is filled with pertinent information on best practices on partnering with OCS to complete important tasks as well as insight helping our audience to gain a better understanding of exactly what responsibilities fall under the OCS umbrella.

It is with great pride that OCS presents this first issue. The OCS quarterly newsletter will be a great tool in the telling of the OCS story with relevant and up to date information.

Edwards Campaign Announces Support of J Street

FORT WASHINGTON, MD - Today, Congresswoman Donna Edwards announced the support of J Street, an organization that stands for policies to advance shared US and Israeli interests and Jewish and democratic values. J Street highlighted their longstanding support for Congresswoman Edwards' and her commitment to Israel security and to resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through a two-state solution.

Congresswoman Edwards

"I am thrilled to receive the support of J Street in my fight to become Maryland's next United States Senator. Together, we have traveled throughout Israel, fought for the critical issues relating to her peace and security, and advocated for the bold American leadership required to make a two-state solution a reality. We will build on these efforts in the United States Senate, and I look forward to continuing our lasting partnership."

Jeremy Ben-Ami, Founder and President of J Street

"JStreetPAC is honored to recognize Representative Donna Edwards as a Congressional pro-Israel, pro-peace champion by placing her "On

the Street" and allowing our supporters to donate to the next step in her political career through the PAC.

A member of J StreetPAC's first class of endorsees back in 2008, Representative Edwards has been a leader in the fight for peace and security for the Israeli and Palestinian peoples. Through our two trips together to the region and in her work with J Street activists here at home, I have seen her commitment to resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict grow.

Unswerving in her belief that Israel's future as the democratic homeland of the Jewish people depends on the establishment of a Palestinian state alongside it, JStreetPAC is grateful that she has been willing to buck political tides to stand up for the national aspirations of both peoples."

Maryland Commits First Loan to Help a Baltimore Small Business Rebuild After Civil Unrest

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Larry Hogan and Secretary Kenneth Holt today announced that the first loan has been committed to a small business in Baltimore City affected by the civil unrest last month. The loan from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development is through the state's Neighborhood BusinessWorks program and was awarded less than two weeks after the governor launched the special effort to assist Baltimore small businesses.

Another 15 applications are under review.

"Our goal is to get as many of the more than 300 small businesses in Baltimore that have experienced losses back in business," said Governor Hogan. "The Department of Housing and Community Development and every agency in State Government are acting as quickly as possible to help the affected areas in the city."

Through the Maryland Business Recovery Loan program, businesses can receive zero interest loans up to \$35,000 through DHCD's Micro-Enterprise loan program or up to \$500,000 through the Neighborhood BusinessWorks program. Learn more about DHCD's resources for small businesses.

Meanwhile, DHCD worked with the federal Internal Revenue Service to reallocate federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits to help rebuild the Mary Harvin Transformation Center, which was destroyed on April 27th, just months before its scheduled opening.

The Mary Harvin Center, was about 45 percent completed and scheduled to open in November, when it was burned to the ground at the time of the protests. DHCD's investment includes nearly \$1.2 million in tax credits, equating to approximately \$12 million in equity.

"We are grateful that the tax credits for the Harvin Center will be applied to this year," Secretary Holt said. "This is a great project that meets a definite need in Baltimore, and we are proud to continue to support it."

COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Jason Alderman

Your Midyear Financial Checkup

Setting a few hours aside for a midyear financial checkup in June or July can help you review how you're doing with savings, investing, spending and debt. It can give you the opportunity to spot irregularities and adjust your budget well in advance of year-end.

If you already work with a qualified financial or tax advisor, consider discussing this review process with them so they can guide you to any specific money issues you should be tracking.

Start by requesting at least one of your three credit reports. The idea is to make sure your credit balances are accurate and to check closely for any irregularities that might signal identity theft. Federal law requires that each of the major credit agencies — Experian, Equifax and TransUnion — give you your most recent credit reports for free (<https://www.annualcreditreport.com/index.action>) once a year.

If you discover unusual charges or accounts you didn't open, alert your advisors, take any steps they recommend and otherwise follow the U.S. Federal Trade Commission's step-by-step identity theft guide (<http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0014-identity-theft>) to help you take action. Remember to stagger receipt of each of your credit reports throughout the year so you have the opportunity to catch potential irregularities every few months.

Next, turn to your budget or start one if you've never made one before. The midyear review should focus on whether adjustments can be made to save or invest more or pay off more debt if more money is coming in from a raise or other resources. If spending is up by midyear, it's always important to know why and whether funds can be reallocated to better purpose.

Review your retirement and whether you're maximizing your contributions at work or in your own personal retirement accounts. Those who reach age 50 by the end of the calendar year will be able to take advantage of additional catch-up contribution allowances to beef up their balances as they approach retirement.

Midyear is also a good time to check the adequacy of one's emergency fund (<http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/calculators/emergency>). Emergency funds help keep you from tapping your credit or savings balances in a sudden cash emergency. The amount of money you keep in your emergency fund should fit your needs, but consider a balance of four to seven months of everyday expenses in case there's a short-term job loss or an emergency repair. Consider keeping a year-round list of potential home, car or personal expenses and decide whether your emergency fund is adequate or you might need to set up other savings accounts to address bigger needs.

Make sure your tax withholding levels are correct. This is particularly important if your income has changed during the first six months of the year and you might be closing in on a higher or lower tax bracket. Consult your tax advisor for assistance, and the IRS features its own withholding calculator (<http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/IRS-Withholding-Calculator>) to help you decide.

Finally, make sure all your recordkeeping is up to date. Midyear is a good time to look over all your spending, saving and investment records to make sure all the numbers add up and underlying paperwork is in order. Also consider online banking, investing and bill payment as a way to save more time and money.

Bottom line: Taking a midyear break to review your finances gives you a thoughtful opportunity to spot errors, adjust your budget and save on taxes.

Gold from A1

California and Tripp is already focused on next year. Team WSSC automatically advances to the national competition next year and Tripp says he's working with what he calls the "B" team to win regionals next year in hopes of having two WSSC teams facing off in the nationals. "We've won it now, we're not letting it go," said Tripp.



PHOTO COURTESY BOWIE CITY GOVERNMENT

Plastic Bags Are No Longer Accepted with Bowie's Residential Recycling Program

By PRESS OFFICER
City of Bowie Maryland

Recycle, Reuse, Repurpose

Plastic bags are everywhere. You receive them at the grocery store, for your carryout food, and at most other places you shop. Unfortunately because they are so light, they also can easily blow away and become litter along our roadways.

It's very easy to collect a lot of plastic bags quickly. To avoid this, consider taking reusable bags with you when you do your grocery or other shopping. By reducing the number of disposable products used, we can help reduce litter and keep these items out of Bowie's waste and water streams. This includes plastic bags from grocery stores, drug stores and other retail shops.

A Prince George's County Sierra Club survey completed in 2014 of Bowie residents found that only 8% of shoppers



PHOTO COURTESY BOWIE CITY GOVERNMENT
Various types of reusable shopping bags.

use reusable bags. Generally, reusable shopping bags are sturdy, easy-to-carry and available for a small fee at most retailers. Some retailers even provide a credit on your bill for each reusable bag filled. You just need to remember to take the reusable bags into the store each time you shop! You can

also reuse the plastic bags you do receive around your house in various ways.

Disposing of Plastic Bags

Until 2015, the City of Bowie collected plastic bags with household recycling. However because of a change at the facility where Bowie re-

cycling is taken, we are no longer able to accept plastic bags with recycling and in fact are now penalized when a recycling load contains plastic bags in it. Plastic bags were causing problems for their processing equipment and blowing away and into the neighborhood near the facility.

Fortunately, we have found several places in Bowie where you can take your plastic bags to be recycled.

- Best Buy
- Giant
- Home Depot
- Kohl's
- Lowe's
- Macy's
- Mom's Organic Market
- Safeway
- Target
- Walmart

Some of these establishments also accept batteries, CFL light bulbs, and other items that should not be included with household trash.

Senate Race from A1

A recurring key value was Ruppersberger's emphasis on the importance of forging bipartisan relationships and working across the aisle.

"Compromise is not a dirty word," he said.

Cybersecurity threats

A former Ranking Member of the House Intelligence Committee, Ruppersberger targeted cybersecurity during his time on the panel, pegging that as an issue of major importance long before the high-profile hacking incidents at Target and Sony.

"The Sony attacks are the first destructive attacks," Ruppersberger said. "There are several thousand people in this country that can do the same as Sony. What worries me is al-Qaeda and those groups hiring people in those type of attacks."

Ruppersberger worked closely with the Intelligence Committee chairman at that time, former Rep. Mike Rogers, R-Mich., on a bipartisan bill, the Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act (CISPA), which would have established a system for information sharing between the public and private sectors. The bill passed the House but stalled in the Senate.

"Mike Rogers and I decided ... that we'd be bipartisan," Ruppersberger said. "Before we came to leadership, for years we couldn't get a bill passed in the Intelligence Committee."

That kind of cooperation comes naturally to him, Ruppersberger said.

"I kind of grew up as a [Baltimore County] councilman in a more Republican district, so I've always been very bipartisan," he explained.

On the day of his interview with Capital News Service, Rup-

persberger voted for and helped pass the Protecting Cyber Networks Act in a bipartisan vote of 307-116. The bill, much like CISPA, would set up a voluntary system of information sharing between the public sector and private entities.

Transparency and the Freddie Gray case

Protests and public outcry have enveloped Baltimore following the death of a black man in police custody.

Freddie Gray sustained a fatal spinal cord injury after police arrested him on April 12 and he died a week later. On May 1, Baltimore City State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby announced the charges—including second-degree murder and manslaughter—against six officers involved in the arrest. Mosby also said the medical examiner had ruled Gray's death a homicide.

"If you have a pattern of situations that occur like this, you have to reach out and you have to be more transparent," Ruppersberger said in the April 22 interview. "I'm a big believer of police departments working community relations."

Baltimore erupted after rioting overtook peaceful protesting, which resulted in some burning and looting of businesses and destruction of cars and other property. To help restore order, Gov. Larry Hogan activated units of the National Guard, and Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake instituted a citywide curfew.

On May 5, Ruppersberger met with Attorney General Loretta Lynch, community faith leaders, Mikulski, Sen. Ben Cardin, and Reps. Cummings and Sarbanes to discuss the next steps in rebuilding Baltimore.

Ruppersberger's concerns were also affirmed in a letter that he, Mikulski, Cardin, Cummings and Sarbanes sent to then-Attorney General Eric Holder before the peak of the protests and riots. The same lawmakers also wrote a letter to Lynch requesting a "pattern or practice" investigation into the Baltimore City Police Department.

"We need to handle this in a way that it doesn't get like it was in Ferguson, and the way you deal with that is to gain trust—public trust," Ruppersberger said.

The workforce

"It's giving back both ways, understanding that the people who work for you have families, they have needs, they have mortgage payments or rent payments," Ruppersberger said.

"You have to hire professional people, and loyalty goes both ways," he said. "You have to understand that if you want competent people, you have to do whatever you can to help them with their family life, too, and included in that is birth, and not only birth but after the baby is born."

Ruppersberger offers staff members eight weeks of paid maternity leave and three weeks of paid paternity leave, with the option of taking more time for sick and vacation leave.

"You're only as good as your people," he said.

Infrastructure improvements

For Ruppersberger, infrastructure improvements need to be reinforced through better funding.

Long-term funding for transit is crucial in terms of creating jobs and boosting infrastructure, Ruppersberger said.

"I think one of the most important things we can do from a

funding perspective, other than repealing sequestration, is start improving and investing in an infrastructure," Ruppersberger said. "It creates jobs. But if you look at our country, our infrastructure is starting to fail. So it's not only about creating jobs, it's about doing the right thing and making sure that we can move people."

For Ruppersberger, his daily commute is one example of the region's need for more and better transit options.

"I live in Cockeysville, north of Baltimore, [and it] takes me two and a half hours to come to work in the morning, one hour to go home at night," he said of his typical drive to and from his quarters in the Rayburn House Office Building.

Congress has passed short-term funding for transit projects, but Ruppersberger said short-term contracts prevent proper planning and are not conducive to job growth.

"You can't have a one-year contract every year," Ruppersberger said. "You can't plan for what you need to do to get our infrastructure on par."

The need for better infrastructure became even more urgent for Ruppersberger following this week's fatal Amtrak crash in Philadelphia.

"Investing in infrastructure is one of the smartest things we can do to create jobs, increase the competitiveness of American businesses and ensure thousands of commuters get to work safely," he said in a statement released after the crash. "We must pass a multi-year transportation funding bill that increases — not decreases — federal investment in highway, transit and rail programs before another disaster occurs."

Graduates from A1

said would never be able to read or write. I'm the one. I'm the one who they said would never go to college ... We cannot throw any of our children away."

"There is no greater event in the collegiate environment than commencement. Having attended my first Bowie State University commencement I was profoundly impressed by the strong sense of spirit and accomplishment that filled the arena. Our featured speaker, the Honorable Elijah Cummings, rendered a rousing and passionate message that resonated with a strong sense of purpose with the audience, especially the graduates. I am extremely

proud of the 64 student-athletes, cheerleaders, managers and student trainer that completed their degrees and walked proudly across the stage to accept their degrees. As Congressman Cummings stated 'you started something and you finished'. You finished Bulldog strong. I would also like to personally recognize Cassandra Clayborne and Haley Flint (Summa Cum Laude), Channae Manning and Paige McIntosh (Magna Cum Laude) and Iyabode Sodipo (Cum Laude) for their outstanding academic honors and personal achievement. Good luck and continued success in all of your futures endeavors.," said Athletic Director Clyde Doughty, Jr.

Latin Honors

SUMMA CUM LAUDE (3.85 – 4.00) - Cassandra Clayborne,

Haley Flint

MAGNA CUM LAUDE (3.65 – 3.84) - Channae Manning,

Paige McIntosh

CUM LAUDE (3.50 – 3.64) - Iyabode Sodipo

Current Student-Athletes

Daniel Ballah – B.S. Biology – Men's Cross Country / Track and Field Track

Ambrianna Bankston – B.S. – Elementary Education – Women's Bowling

Alisha Burley – B.S. Psychology – Women's Basketball

Cassandra Clayborne – B.S. Biology - Softball

Crishonda Coffey – B.S. Criminal Justice – Women's Cross Country / Track and Field

Nigel Cross – B.S. Criminal Justice – Football (December 2014)

Haley Flint – B.S. Business Administration – Softball (December 2014)

See GRADUATES Page A5

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COMMENTARY

Barbara A. Mikulski

United States Senator for Maryland



Mikulski, INHOFE Introduce NDAA Amendment to Protect Military Commissaries

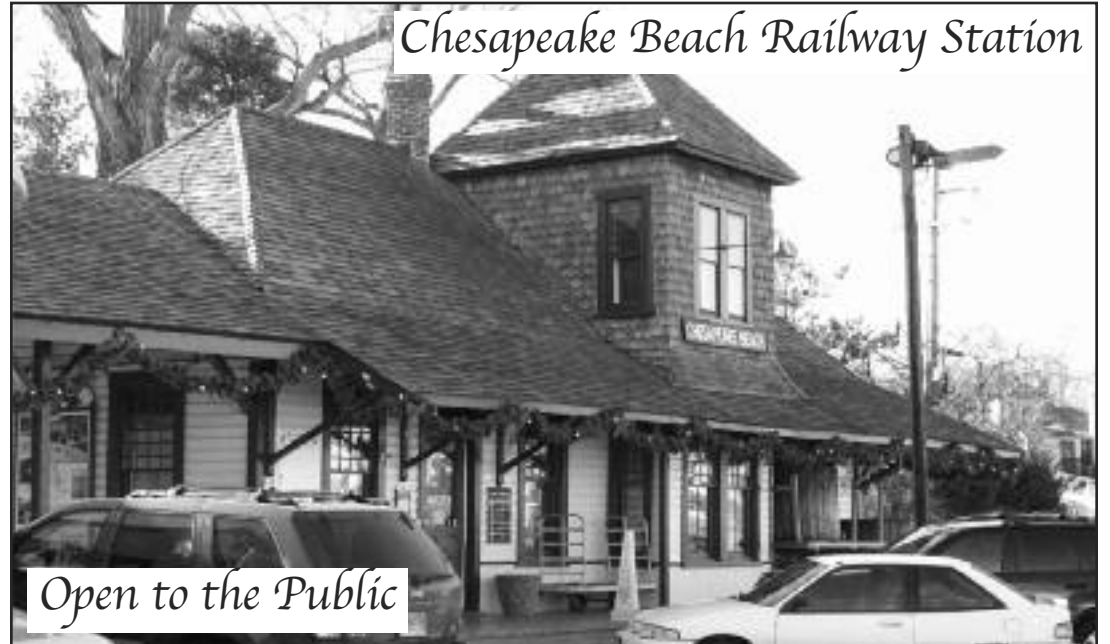
WASHINGTON — U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md.), today announced she, together with Senator Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.), introduced an amendment to the fiscal year (FY) 2016 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that would prevent the Department of Defense (DOD) from privatizing commissaries at five major installations next year and instead require the DOD to first conduct an assessment for the purpose of reporting to Congress the potential costs and benefits of privatizing commissaries. U.S. Senators Tim Kaine (D-Va.), Thom Tillis (R-N.C.), Mike Rounds (R-S.D.), Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii), Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii), Jeff Sessions (R-Ala.), Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), John Boozman (R-Ark.), Mark Warner (D-Va.), Bill Nelson (D-Fla.), Edward Markey (D-Mass.), Robert Casey (D-Pa.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) also cosponsored the amendment at the time of introduction.

"The commissary is one of the most important tools we have to support and promote the health and well-being of our military families in this country," Senator Mikulski said. "At a time when thousands of junior troops and families use food stamps, it's wrong to make changes that could increase costs at the check-out line. These families face enough stress. Before we make drastic changes like privatizing commissaries, we need to fully evaluate what it would mean for our military families. I want to keep commissary doors open to provide low-cost, high-quality, healthy food to our service members and their families until we're certain there's a better alternative."

"Our commissaries are the most utilized service by our nation's military members and their families," Senator Inhofe said. "When surveyed last year, 95 percent of service members were accessing the commissaries in order to purchase household goods to achieve needed savings in their family budgets. The Senate NDAA would begin the process of privatizing the commissaries without a proper assessment of the impacts of reforming this popular benefit, which is currently saving military families money. This is unfortunate, because once a commissary is privatized, it will be nearly impossible for such an action to be reversed if the results negatively impact our military members' budgets and way of life. By privatizing commissaries at five installations next year, it starts the domino effect for all the others across the nation. Also of concern, the legislation ignores recommendations made by the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission in January. My amendment would put the breaks on privatizing the commissaries, and first request an assessment be completed and reported to Congress before any further action is taken."

On June 3, the White House issued a statement of administration policy that stated the administration's concern with commissary privatization. The statement highlighted an independent study is currently under way on this issue, and the administration requested that any action to privatize the commissaries is de-

See Mikulski, Page A7



Chesapeake Beach Railway Station

Open to the Public

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS PHOTO BY: PUBDOG

CHESAPEAKE BEACH RAILWAY STATION

The Museum offers a wide variety of objects and artifacts, both original and best representations of the era. The Museum brings the railway and amusement park to life with pictorial displays, postcards, oral histories and memorabilia. Our exhibits range from railroading lanterns to a Dentzel carousel kangaroo from the park as well as authentic period bathing suits. Visitors may also enjoy our diorama showing the train depot and boardwalk as it appeared in the early 1900's. In addition, the Museum also offers a DVD presentation of the history of the Chesapeake Beach Railway which includes oral histories of the amusement park that was part of the resort area. The Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum is home to the last known railcar, The Dolores, which is located behind the Museum. Admission is free, Mid-March - March 31, weekends only - 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.; April 1 - October 31, weekday and weekend hours - 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.; November 1 - 30, weekends only - 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information call 410-257-3892.

Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



End All Youth Detention and Torture at Riker's Island Now

"Solitary confinement is pretty horrible for anybody, but it's especially horrible for a child. It is psychological torture."

— Bryan Stevenson, Founder and Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative, author of *Just Mercy*

"When you go over the three years that he spent [in jail] and all the horrific details he endured, it's unbelievable that this could happen to a teenager in New York City. He didn't get tortured in some prison camp in another country. It was right here!"

— Paul V. Prestia, Kalief Browder's lawyer [to *The New Yorker*]

"Before I went to jail, I didn't know about a lot of stuff, and, now that I'm aware, I'm paranoid. I feel like I was robbed of my happiness."

— Kalief Browder to Jennifer Gonnerman, staff writer for *The New Yorker*

Nobody of any age should be held in jail without a trial for three years. No child or adolescent should be held in an adult jail. No child or youth should be housed in facilities where those entrusted to care for them violently assault them. Yet a 16-year-old accused of stealing a backpack was kept in one of the most violent adult jails in the United States, Riker's Island in New York City, for three years without a trial. This was morally scandalous and inhumane. Even worse, he spent more than two years of that time in solitary confinement, locked up alone except to go to the shower, the recreation area, the visit room or the medical clinic. This was torture. The suicide of 22-year-old Kalief Browder on June 6, barely two years after his release and return home, was the final horror in his tragic and brutal journey into the depths of the adult criminal justice system in New York City and state.

At Riker's, Kalief was cruelly beaten by juvenile gangs, and beaten by a guard as he was calmly walking from solitary confinement to the shower. This violent abuse was caught on video and made public in April by an investigative reporter from *The New Yorker*. Other alleged abuses were not: the cruel guards who denied him meals, medical care, trips to the shower and extended his time in

solitary confinement by making up disciplinary problems.

It should surprise no one that a teenager subjected to this continuous torture; a teenager who maintained his innocence and just wanted his right to a day in court to prove it; a teenager who turned down plea deals repeatedly although it would have meant he could go home immediately; a teenager with no history of mental illness before Riker's Island tried to commit suicide while held in solitary confinement for two of his three years there. It is beyond shameful that he was held without a trial, without being proven guilty and because he was a poor young Black male. This travesty was and is preventable and must be prevented for all youths at risk of such abuse.

If New York Governor Andrew Cuomo and state legislators act immediately before this state legislative session ends June 17, 2015 to raise the age of criminal responsibility, as 48 states have done, more tragedies and suffering like Kalief Browder's might be avoided. And youths still at Riker's might have reduced suffering and pain.

Kalief Browder's cruel and unjust treatment began May 15, 2010, when he was picked up with a friend in the Bronx. He shared his story later with a re-

porter from *The New Yorker* to make sure this would never happen to anyone else. Kalief was stopped for allegedly stealing a backpack earlier that evening. According to the report, he maintained his innocence and offered to let the police search his pockets. The only evidence against him was the testimony of the alleged victim he never got the chance to confront. Eyewitness identification is notoriously unreliable.

Kalief Browder was immediately funneled into the adult criminal justice system because of the unjust lottery of geography and poverty. New York remains one of only two states in our country that still automatically treats 16- and 17-year-olds as adults. More than a century ago, states began to legislate that children should be treated as children to prevent the inhumane, dangerous, and ineffective practice of putting them in adult jails. New York and North Carolina should end this practice immediately. Not one more young life should be ruined or tragically lost to Riker's preventable torture and violence.

We have long known that putting children in adult jails puts them in harm's way. The Chil-

See WATCH, Page A6

Marc Morial, President and CEO

National Urban League



Summer Jobs Pay Future Dividends to Our Nation

"Your first job brings you more than just a steady paycheck — the experience teaches young people life and work skills that serve them long after the job is done. But as our nation continues to recover [from] the deepest recession since the Great Depression, American youth are struggling to get the work experience they need for jobs of the future."

— White House, "We Can't Wait Initiative" Statement Release, January 2012

I can still remember my very first job—and the valuable lessons I learned from it that continue to inform my career to this day.

I got my first taste of entrepreneurship as one-third of a three-man janitorial company I started with two childhood friends. We mowed lawns, washed cars and cleaned windows. If it needed fixing or cleaning, we were the ones to call. At the age of 15, I earned my first steady paycheck as a copy boy for a local newspaper. Like so many millions of teens before and after me, I had the chance to be exposed to the world of work at an early age. And I earned more than money from the experience. With work came important lessons about responsibility, effective communication, time management, interpersonal skills and more. Today, as our nation continues to recover from the crippling impact of the Great Recession on our economy and job market, the ability of teens to jump-start their future careers, as they were once able to, remains in jeopardy.

Not only did jobs disappear during our nation's economic downturn, summer jobs—widely acknowledged as the traditional means of entry into our nation's workforce for teens and young adults—became scarce. Competition from older workers for those entry-level jobs once reserved for teens increased as the labor market weakened, and with states slashing budgets to make ends meet, state and federally funded summer jobs placement programs were either underfunded or cut. But teen employment matters for their future and for our nation's. It not only gives young people something productive to do during the summer months, that job in the retail store, library or the local newspaper is money in their pocket and money being spent within the community. Studies have also shown that those who work when they are young are more likely to be employed in the future and will earn higher salaries.

After a high of 27.2 percent teen unemployment in 2010, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, unemployment for workers ages 16-19 is now down to 17.9 percent. As is the case with adult workers, teens are beginning to find jobs as the market recovers, but unemployment remains high for young people—disproportionately affecting low-income youth and Blacks and Hispanics. The national unemployment rate stands at a staggering 30.1 percent for Black teens and 19.2 percent for Hispanic teens. The groups of teens who need the work most in order to help themselves, and very often make a significant contribution to their family's budget, are not finding the jobs.

Our nation's answer to this dilemma has been a fractured portrait of private and public initiatives and success. Cities and states have cobbled together money—when it's in the budget—and have funneled it to local groups or agencies that connect youths to jobs or job training. In 2012, the White House launched Summer Jobs+ as part of the "We Can't Wait" initiative. The project brought together the federal government and the private sector to create 180,000 employment opportunities for low-income youth. At the National Urban League, we work with at-risk youth to introduce them into the workforce through a comprehensive set of services through the Urban Youth Empowerment Program. While all of these efforts are laudable and have changed many lives and communities for the better, it is not enough. Our nation needs to expand summer job programs and create year-round employment for our young people. We need a commitment that says yes to teens and to their future. Our nation needs a comprehensive jobs solution for young people, because piecemeal solutions will only deliver far-flung pockets of success.

Investing in our young people is an investment in the continued strength of this great nation and its workforce. Young people need the formative workplace skills they can get in those entry-level jobs to move on to greater career success and higher salaries in the future. Our nation, and its local economies, benefit when teens spend their disposable income. Surely there are tax loopholes, corporate or otherwise, that can be closed, bringing additional dollars to the table to invest in our young people. The financial cost of not investing in teens, not creating opportunities for future success, is what will cost this country, and our future in the fast-paced global economy, the most.

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email: pgpost@gmail.com
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Publisher Legusta Floyd	Subscriptions/Legals Liz Brandenstein
General Manager/ Legal Advertising Manager Brenda Boice	Senior Editor Legusta Floyd
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BUSINESS

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Minimizing The Stress Of That Family Summer Vacation

Summer vacation season is upon us and as you make plans you may see this as your escape from work, or the demands of school, or just a time to be able to relax and temporarily forget the stresses of daily life.

Unfortunately, many summer vacations don't work out quite that way. Most of us have commented after a time away, "Now I need a vacation to recover from my vacation." It may be said jokingly, but usually indicates that the needed rest and relaxation never really happened.

So, how to escape the problem? Start by being realistic about your work obligations. With cell phones and Internet access just about everywhere, some people find they can't leave the office behind. This usually doesn't lead to much relaxation, but can create real family tension.

If you really can't totally escape work duties, don't worry all day about work or be constantly calling for messages. Instead, schedule specific work time as part of your vacation. Maybe it will be two afternoons when you focus on job-related issues while the family goes off to enjoy themselves. Then, when the work responsibilities are met, turn off the office demands and relax yourself.

Another problem that often causes stress for vacations is simply trying to do too much. Every minute doesn't have to be planned. Every attraction or historical site doesn't have to be visited. Experts advise staying in fewer locations but for longer periods of time. That gives you the chance to enjoy what the place has to offer and to relax as well. They also say that while it's fine to plan and schedule, there should be lots of open time, sometimes to discover a new or interesting attractions, or sometimes just to sit back and do nothing.

Vacations are also more relaxing when the whole family is enjoying it, rather than complaining and fighting. Plan ahead to include activities that will meet at least some of the needs for each family member. Kids can understand that there has to be trade-offs. Let them know there will be some activities included especially to keep them happy, but that there will also be other activities because Mom and Dad deserve to be happy, too.

Keep your vacation plan simple, flexible and under-scheduled and you increase the odds that you all will come back refreshed and relaxed.

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

Graduates from A3

Khari Lee – B.S. Business Administration – Football (December 2014)
Shayla Lightfoot – B.S. Sports Management – Women's Bowling
Channae Manning – B.S. Early Childhood Education / Special Education – Women's Tennis
Jasmine McIntosh – B.S. Communications – Women's Basketball
Paige McIntosh – B.S. Communications – Volleyball and Softball
Donia Naylor – B.S. Communications – Women's Basketball / Track and Field
Keira Phipps – B.S. Communications – Women's Basketball
Phillip Quarrie – B.S. Sociology – Football (December 2014)
Paxton Queen – B.S. Business Administration – Football (December 2014)
Eric Walters – B.S. Communications (December 2014)
Kayla Watson – B.S. Criminal Justice – Women's Cross Country / Track and Field

Former Student-Athletes

Jynnea Campbell – B.S. Business Administration – Track and Field
Ernest Cooper – B.S. Criminal Justice - Men's Track and Field (December 2014)
Mario Diaz-Aviles – B.S. Elementary Education - Football
Omar Fahnbulleh – B.S. Business Administration – Football (December 2014)
Brylyn Finley – B.S. Sociology – Women's Volleyball / Women's Track and Field (December 2014)
Joseph Flood – B.S. Criminal Justice – Track and Field
Alessandra Flores – B.S. Business Administration – Women's Basketball
Michael Gagne – B.S. Mathematics - Football
Ray Gatling – B.S. Communications – Men's Basketball
Anthony Gary – B.S. Business Administration – Football (December 2014)
Moriah Goodman – B.S. Computer Technology – Women's Basketball
Andrew Hairston – B.S. Criminal Justice – Men's Track and Field (December 2014)
Jonathan Harper – B.S. Biology – Cross Country / Track and Field
Juanzel Harris – B.S. Theater Arts - Football
Cordell Hawkins – B.S. Psychology – Football (December 2014)
Jasmine Jacobs – B.S. Psychology – Women's Basketball (Summer 2014 Completion)

See GRADUATES Page A6

June is National Dairy Month

Enjoy Healthy and Nutritious Dairy Products this Month and All Year Long

By PRESS OFFICER
MDA

ANNAPOLIS, MD – June is National Dairy Month, and the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) encourages Marylanders to celebrate by enjoying healthy and nutritious dairy products this month and all year long. National Dairy Month celebrates the value of milk and dairy products as part of a well-balanced diet for every American, as well as the importance of milk production to the agricultural industry. There are 455 dairy farms which accounted for \$243 million in sales in 2014, according to USDA's National Agriculture Statistics Service.

"Dairy farming is a vital part of Maryland's agriculture, generating 10 percent of all farm cash receipts," said Agriculture Secretary Joe Bartenfelder. "Dairy farms provide us with milk, ice cream, yogurt, cheese and many other nutritious foods. I encourage Marylanders to support our dairy farmers."

National Dairy Month was established in 1937 and initially supported by the National Dairy Council to celebrate the dairy industry and to help stabilize dairy



PHOTO BY EDWIN REMSBERGT

Chapel's Country Creamery Dairy Cow.

demand during periods of peak production. Originally called National Milk Month, the celebration is now led by the American Dairy Association and has broadened over the years to promote the greater use of dairy products through sales promotion programs and marketing campaigns.

There are many great ways to celebrate National Dairy Month:

- Include milk – Maryland's official state beverage – in your diet. Maryland dairy farmers supply about 114 million gallons of milk to several dairy cooperatives whose milk ends

up on grocery store shelves in the region

- Buy cheeses produced by Maryland farmers. Fourteen farms in the state either produce cheese on their farms or have it produced off-farm with unique recipes.

- Experience Maryland's dairy farms first-hand on the Maryland's Best Ice Cream trail, which features eight dairy farms that produce farm fresh ice cream and sell it directly to consumers on the farm. Anyone who visits each of the eight creameries before Sept. 23 will have a

Budget from A1

The M-NCPPC ('Park and Planning') is facing a structural deficit of recreation and planning expenses exceeding revenues on an annual basis. After multiple public sessions where, contrary to the County Executive's implications yesterday, the County Executive's staff were fully present, the Council authorized a one and half cent rate increase in order to support and sustain many of the existing critical youth and senior

programs and projects. This is approximately half of what Park and Planning indicated it needed to maintain existing and future projects, which means Park and Planning must also tighten its belt, particularly regarding planned new recreation projects and planning administration.

Park and Planning staff indicated that resolving the department's structural deficit would be significantly more expensive for County residents in next year's budget if it is not addressed in this

year's budget since their structural deficit would grow. In other words, 1.5 cents today would be double or triple that next year for taxpayers if we put it off a year. Yesterday, the County Executive decided to veto the Park and Planning budget because he wants to do just that – to wait until next year to address a rate increase for the agency. With all due respect to our County Executive, with whom we have worked together on a variety of issues and for whom we have great respect, this

Baker from A1

met needs in our Prince George's County Public School System ("PGCPS") dictate that any additional taxes we request from our residents should be directed to improving our public schools; (2) the Prince George's County Council did not sufficiently inform the public that it sought to pursue a tax increase for the Commission for FY 2016, nor did it publicly engage our citizens on the propriety of such an increase; and 3) a tax increase for the Commission was not formally requested by the Commission and is not needed to continue operations in FY 2016.

I do not believe it is appropriate for the Council to prioritize funding for parks and recreation facilities and programs that have had sustained investments over the past 40 years when our public school system has been chronically under-funded during the same time period. Earlier this year, the M-NCPPC was named a finalist for an unprecedented sixth "gold medal" award from the National Recreation and Parks Association, which is awarded to communities in the United States that demonstrate excellence in park and recreation management. This recognition is a testament to the high caliber programs and services that the agency has provided throughout its 88 year history. In fact, it is one of the only agencies in the country to win this prestigious award five times. In addition, M-NCPPC was recently named the "Best of the Best" by the Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies, another prestigious indicator of the agency's excellence.

The continued investment and commitment the County

has made to fund the Commission has allowed it to reach and maintain this award winning distinction. Since 1978, the Prince George's County Council has approved 13 increases in the dedicated property tax rate for County recreation programs and park and planning facilities. This is an increase of nearly 100% in the tax rates.

Another reason I am vetoing CB-31-2015 is because the Prince George's County Council did not provide the residents of the County any notice that it intended to raise the portion of their property taxes that goes to the Commission. In stark contrast to the numerous forums my office recently held throughout the County to discuss my proposed increase specifically for education, the Council did not indicate to residents before voting its intent to raise park and planning taxes. Further, the Council has not explained why it decided to prioritize funding for parks and recreation facilities over education, particularly when residents and officials agree that our schools have more urgent needs.

As public officials, we often make tough choices that our constituents may or may not agree with, and I strongly believe that our most important obligation is to provide a sufficient level of public scrutiny for the actions we take. The reason I held numerous forums around the County was to allow residents to express their concerns to my proposal to invest an additional \$133 million in our public schools. It is unfortunate that the Council did not extend that same courtesy to our property owners in decid-

ing to approve a property tax increase for the Commission.

In addition to the lack of public notice and debate on the increase, the Council has taken an action that was not requested by M-NCPPC nor is it needed at this time. I was assured by the Chairman of the Prince George's County Planning Board that the agency did not need a tax increase for FY 2016, nor did the agency request an increase in the budget it submitted to the Council earlier this year. It is unclear to me how the Council came to the conclusion that the property tax should be raised when the agency did not request an increase. Almost all public officials and residents alike would agree that there are more pressing needs, like our County's public school system, to which additional funding could be directed.

While we should all take pride in the extraordinary accomplishments of the Commission and the contribution it makes to improving the quality of life for our residents, we should also take an important lesson from the sustained, continued investment our citizens have made in funding the agency and the resulting high quality of its programs and services as we make priorities and choices going forward. The lesson is that committed, focused investment is an important and significant factor in making our institutions and services of high quality. As we seek to be on par with other jurisdictions in this region, I firmly believe that we must strive to make our entire County, like our park and planning commission, a "gold medal", "best of the best" ju-

chance to be named Maryland's Best 2015 Ice Cream Trailblazer and win assorted prizes. For more information about the trail: <http://news.maryland.gov/mda/press-release/2015/05/29/marylands-best-ice-cream-trail-blazer-opens-for-2015/>

- Find local Maryland dairy products near you at www.marylandsbest.net

Fast Facts about Maryland Dairy

- There are 455 dairy farms in Maryland.
- The most popular dairy breed in our state is the Holstein.
- Milk is Maryland's official State Beverage.
- Maryland's dairy industry accounted for nearly \$243 million in sales in 2014.
- Maryland's top three dairy producing counties are: Frederick, Washington and Carroll.
- Maryland dairy cattle are routinely judged among the best in the world at competitions.
- Washington County dairy farmer Mary Creek was chosen Dairy Woman of the Year at the 2012 World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin.
- There are about 51,000 dairy cows in Maryland.

veto is disappointing and fiscally irresponsible. An even larger rate increase next year for Park and Planning is just as unacceptable to taxpayers as the County Executive's proposed 15.6% tax increase is for this year's budget. "

Today's Council decision prevents the closure of six community centers and preserves programs essential to building stronger and healthy youth and communities, including the Safe Summer program at 24 centers around Prince George's County.

In contrast to the nearly 100% increase since 1978 in park and planning taxes that go to fund those programs and facilities, the property tax rate that generates the revenues to fund the school system and other County services has decreased by 27% since 1978. Though PGCPS labors admirably in the context of the chronic under investment that has been made over the last 37 years, I wonder what it would look like today if we had made equal investment over the last 4 decades as we have made in our "gold medal", "best of the best" park system. Example after example has shown that the level of investment that a jurisdiction makes in its public schools generally leads to higher performing students and higher academic results.

I believe that any tax increase that would give our taxpayers the best bang for their buck would be one that is best accomplished by targeting the sacrifices we are asking of our citizens toward improving our education system. We need to generate additional revenue to improve our public schools. At this time, I cannot in good conscience sign a bill that would allow an increase in the park and planning property tax to go into effect, particularly when that increase was not announced to, explained and debated with our residents. For the reasons outlined above and what I believe to be in the best interest of our residents and taxpayers, I am vetoing CB-31-2015.

Sincerely,

Rushern L. Baker, III
County Executive

OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK

Movie Review "San Andreas"

San Andreas

Grade: B

Rated PG-13, some profanity, a lot of destruction, no graphic violence

1 hr., 54 min

Let me tell you up front that I held my breath and gripped my armrests during most of the action scenes in "San Andreas," just like the movie wanted me to. I had fun with it. The Rock is a high-wattage movie star, and the special effects are perilously convincing. But at the same time ... here's the thing:

In the old days, you could make an entire film about the collapse of a single skyscraper, or the destruction of the Golden Gate Bridge. Those were huge, grave events. But now that computers have made it easy and cheap (relatively speaking) to depict such catastrophes, one movie might have dozens of them, tossing off devastation casually, with all the import removed. In "San Andreas," the Golden Gate Bridge collapses in the background of another scene. Tall metropolitan buildings, full of thousands of workers, crumble left and right, and the only time the movie ever shows any interest is if one of three specific characters happens to be in the building at the time.

Focusing on a few individuals is really the only way to make a disaster movie work, of course. It's hard to make audiences feel an emotional investment in "the whole city" or "all of humanity." I don't fault (HA!) "San Andreas" for that, especially not when the people it focuses on are an appealing and chesty family consisting of Dwayne Johnson, Carla Gugino, and Alexandra Daddario.

The problem isn't that the movie only cares about them. The problem is that THEY only seem to care about them, too. The Rock



Journey 2: The Mysterious Island's Brad Peyton steps into disaster movie territory with this 3D film surrounding an earthquake that hits the West Coast. Carlton Cuse provides the script. ~ Jeremy Wheeler, Rovi

plays Ray, a Los Angeles Fire Department helicopter pilot and rescuer who's the best of the best. Not a great employee, though. When The Big One hits L.A. and is felt in San Francisco, where his daughter, Blake (Daddario), is, Ray commandeers an LAFD chopper and flies north to rescue her himself—never mind that he and the chopper are needed here at the epicenter, and that, you know, San Francisco has a fire department too.

Along the way, Ray picks up his soon-to-be-ex-wife, Emma (Gugino), from the roof of a high-rise. She was having lunch at an upper-story restaurant and was the only person there with the good sense to get a phone call from her husband telling her to go to the roof rather than downstairs. The lunch companion who was rude dies; the waitress who was nice lives. That pattern continues throughout the film: anyone who dies after having had a speaking role will have somehow deserved it, with the exception of one person who dies heroically

while saving someone else.

Most of the deaths are quite anonymous, though, and are not remarked upon. A casual glance at the massive destruction shown onscreen would suggest casualties in the hundreds of thousands; thankfully, nobody ever hazards a guess at the death toll, as this would be a serious buzzkill. Only Paul Giamatti, playing a seismologist who discovered a way to predict earthquakes exactly one scene after declaring his desire to do so, is concerned about the big picture. To Giamatti falls the thankless task of expounding all of the movie's science and uttering lines like "We've got to act before it's too late," "God help us all," etc. Giamatti is always good, even in hammy roles like this.

The film ends exactly as you'd expect it to, despite director Brad Peyton's Herculean efforts to introduce suspense into the matter of whether or not The Rock will save his daughter's life. (I'll give you a hint: Ray and

Emma had another daughter who died a few years ago, in a situation much like the one Blake eventually finds herself in.) Actually, there was one unexpected moment: the introduction of a glorious American flag unfurling in the breeze, apropos of nothing, as Ray looks out over the now-calm scenes of devastation and says, "Now we rebuild." It's like they suddenly remembered that they'd forgotten to make the film patriotic, as disaster movies sometimes are, and crammed a flag in at the last minute.

None of which changes the fact that, as I said, I got a kick out of most of it. You can make a smart, logical disaster movie that's also really fun (probably; I can't think of any off the top of my head), but that's not "San Andreas." "San Andreas" is the dumb kind—visually well-executed, shiny and seat-rattling, and completely useless otherwise. It does the one thing it set out to do, though, and so here we are.

Graduates from A5

- Kyle Jackson – B.S. Sports Management - Football / Men's Track and Field (December 2014)
- Jeffery Jean-Baptiste – B.S. History and Government – Football (December 2014)
- Channing Johnson – B.S. Visual Communication Digital and Media Arts
- Kammera Johnson – B.S. Communications – Women's Basketball (December 2014)
- Urijah Johnson – B.S. Sociology – Football (December 2014)
- Jared Johnston – B.S. Criminal Justice – Football (December 2014)
- Anthony Kees – B.S. Communications - Football
- Oladimeji Layeni – B.S. Business Administration – Football (December 2014)
- Freeman McGaw – B.S. Communications – Track and Field
- Prince Onuoha – B.S. Business Administration – Football (December 2014)
- Brandy Peat – B.S. Business Administration – Track and Field
- Vernese A. Quickley – B.S. Criminal Justice – Cross Country / Track and Field
- Kendall Reynolds – B.S. Psychology – Women's Cross Country / Track and Field (December 2014)
- Dana Smothers – B.S. History and Government – Men's Cross Country / Track and Field (Summer 2014 Completion)
- Iyabode Sodipo – B.S. Criminal Justice – Women's Tennis (December 2014)
- Jasmine Street - B.S. Business Administration - Women's Track and Field (December 2014)
- Akinola Vaughan – B.S. Biology – Men's Track and Field (December 2014)

- Kiara Washington – B.S. Sports Management – Softball (December 2014)
- Delante White – B.S. Sociology – Football (December 2014)
- Brittany Williams – B.S. Biology – Cross Country / Track and Field
- Bryan Williams – B.S. – Biology – Cross Country / Track and Field
- Julian Williams – B.S. Business Administration – Men's Basketball (December 2014)

Cheerleading

- Marecyia Burton – B.S. History and Government
- Ramzeh Deen-Sie – B.S. Criminal Justice
- Monet Delaney – B.S. Psychology
- Joseph Flood – B.S. – Criminal Justice
- Aleisha Gillison – B.S. Biology
- Angel Key – B.S. Criminal Justice
- Sharish Matthews – B.S. Communications
- Kennisha Nelson – B.S. Child and Adolescent Studies
- Talaya Payne – B.S. Nursing
- Victoria Reaves – B.S. Sociology
- Tyriq Simmons – B.S. Psychology
- Shaunice Yearwood – B.S. Computer Science (December 2014)

Managers

- Iesha Lee – B.S. Sports Management – Football (December 2014)
- Jasmine Smith – B.S. Communications - Football

Student Trainers

- Jakaya Wilson – B.S. Biology

Watch from A4

dren's Defense Fund (CDF) first documented and began advocating for changes to end these harms nearly 40 years ago after visiting 500 jails across America and publishing in 1976 our deeply disturbing findings in a report on Children in Adult Jails. We found children incarcerated with adults suffered increased rates of physical abuse, like Kalief did. Today they are 36 times more likely to

commit suicide than those in juvenile facilities. In light of this evidence, it is outrageous that any state today would subject its teenagers to any adult jail especially like Riker's Island whose culture of violence is notorious. New York must stop right now.

The unjust criminalization of the poor is another reason Kalief Browder ended up at Riker's Island. His family could not afford to hire an attorney or pay the \$3,000 bail to keep him home to

await a trial that never took place over three long years. Being poor, Black and male, the odds were high that he would end up in the Cradle to Prison Pipeline™ and suffer preventable death.

Dr. Sean Joe, the Benjamin E. Youngdahl Professor of Social Development at the Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis, and an authority on suicidal behavior among African American males, says that among Black Americans, Black

males between the ages of 15 to 24 are most likely to commit suicide. "The suicide of Kalief Browder highlights the glaring gap between the alarming psychiatric needs of black boys and men and the absence of effective treatments; a justice system that enacted psychological torture because a putative stolen backpack mattered more than the life and future of a

The Edge of Sports

by DAVE ZIRIN

Israel and Palestine Agree: Keep Politics Out of Soccer



We have before us a point of agreement between Netanyahu's Israel and the militarily vivisected area of land at times referred to as the Palestinian territories: the idea that sports and politics should not mix. Tragically—not unlike words such as "life," "liberty," and that whole "pursuing happiness" thing—the phrase means far less as it journeys from abstraction to reality. Israeli Football Association Chairman Ofer Eini and Chief Executive Rotem Kamer traveled to Zurich, Switzerland, last week to meet with reptilian FIFA chief (and self-described women's soccer "godfather") Sepp Blatter. Their mission? To change a meeting agenda item. The Palestinian Football Authority is scheduled to propose having Israel banned as a FIFA member country at the May 29 meeting of the organization's global congress. Eini and Kamer want to get that proposal and all debate on the subject removed, with Eini describing the vote as "a flagrant move that seeks to mix politics with sport—something that is completely contrary to FIFA's vision." (For brevity's sake, we will leave aside unpacking how "not mixing politics with sport" has about as much in common with "FIFA's vision" as a KFC bucket of extra crispy has with "PETA's vision.")

Then there is Jibril Rajoub, the head of the Palestinian Football Authority. Rajoub says that he is pushing this proposal for the same reason that Israel is trying to prevent it from coming forward. "What I am trying to do is separate completely football and politics," said Rajoub in an interview with Middle East Eye. "Sport is a tool to bridge gaps, to build bridges with all people all over the world."

Rajoub wants Israel sanctioned because he believes that the travel restrictions and checkpoints, imposed by the Israeli government on the Palestinian Territories—not to mention the militarized separation of the West Bank and Gaza—has made the development of Palestinian soccer nearly impossible (this despite their recent historic qualification for the 2015 Asian Cup). Rajoub also plans on citing the detention and mistreatment of Palestinian national players by the Israeli Defense Forces, as well as the recent comments by Beitar Jerusalem coach Guy Levi, who said on the radio last month that their team would "never" sign an Arab player.

"The Israelis are enjoying the status afforded by being part of FIFA, while depriving a neighbouring administration of their rights to play football," said Rajoub. "For years we have asked confederations in Asia and Europe to interfere and stop the suffering of Palestinian footballers.... When that didn't work, we decided to go directly to FIFA's general assembly."

The PA would need 75 percent of the 209 global associations, which is unlikely, but if it passes, Israel, in the words of Kamer, would see "all its international activities... come to a halt." It would also be an isolating public relations nightmare for Netanyahu's already beleaguered government. Just as the prime minister has been trying to get the stink of a highly racialized re-election campaign off his body, he has been under fire for the treatment by Israeli troops of Ethiopian Jews staging their own unprecedented #BlackLivesMatter protests against state violence. Israel and Netanyahu have also been waging a furious public relations campaign against the accusations of the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement that they are an apartheid country not unlike South Africa. If FIFA suspends Israel, it would become the first country banned by the soccer federation since—yikes!—apartheid South Africa.

Both sides want to keep sports and politics separate, which makes this a fascinating look at what people mean when they make that kind of a plea. In sports it is very common to hear this sentiment from owners, media, and fans but it is rarely if ever used to critique the hyper-militarization of sporting events or the use of public funds to build stadiums (or, in a recently exposed synthesis, the use of public funds to celebrate the military). In other words, it is not sports and politics that they want to keep separate but sports and a certain kind of politics. "Keep sports and politics separate" morphs into code for "just shut up and play."

In this case, the Israeli Football Association is saying, "Do not use sports as a way to argue for statehood. Sports is not the place for that kind of rhetoric." The Palestinian FA is saying, "We can't compete because the politics of the Israeli occupation makes developing soccer a near-im-

See SOCCER Page A7

See WATCH, Page A12

Calendar of Events

June 25 — July 1, 2015

Xtreme Teens: Flag Football - Teens v. XT Staff and Parents

Date and Time: Friday, June 26, 2015 7-10 pm
 Description: Tonight teens are competing against the Xtreme teens staff and parents in a flag football game. See who has the best plays and can effectively lead their team to victory.
 Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
 Ages: 10-17
 Location: Kentland Community Center
 2411 Pinebrook Avenue, Landover 20785
 Contact: 301-386-2278; TTY 301-445-4512

A Proper Tea: Lecture and Afternoon Tea

Date and Time: Saturday June 27, 2015 2 pm
 Description: Participants will learn how to give a proper afternoon tea. They'll learn proper tea etiquette, tea finger food recipes, how to prepare tea, and of course enjoy an afternoon tea time of their own.
 Reservation are required as space is limited.
 Cost: \$25/person
 Ages: 12 & up
 Location: Marietta House Museum
 5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale 20769
 Contact: 301-464-5291; TTY 301-699-2544

Xtreme Teens: Giant Jenga

Date and Time: Saturday, June 27, 2015 7-10 p
 Description: Tonight, teens will play a game of Giant Jenga. Use both hands to pull out your pieces, the player that makes the tower fall loses.
 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

Xtreme Teens: Safe Summer Block Party

Date and Time: Saturday, June 27, 2015 9 pm-12 midnight
 Description: Enjoy refreshments and live music as we kick off the annual safe summer program. There will be a dance contest, a skate mobile, and outdoor activities.
 Cost: Free
 Ages: All ages welcome
 Location: Glassmanor Community Center
 1101 Marcy Avenue, Oxon Hill 20745
 Contact: 301-567-6033; TTY 301-203-6030

Xtreme Teens: North Bay Beach

Date and Time: Saturday, June 27, 2015 7-10 pm
 Description: Teens will spend the day at the beach in Chesapeake MD. Departure is at 9:30 am with a return time of 6 pm. All teens who wish to attend must return their permissions slips signed by a parent/guardian. Please bring your own lunch or money for lunch.
 Cost: Resident \$5; Non-Resident \$5
 Ages: 10-17
 Location: North Brentwood Community Center
 4012 Webster Street, North Brentwood 20722
 Contact: 301-864-0756; TTY 301-445-4512

Xtreme Teens: Computer Lab - Photo Editing

Date and Time: Saturday, June 27, 2015 7-10 pm
 Description: Tonight teens will learn different ways to edit photos using computer programs, such as Adobe Photoshop. So, come out and take your photo editing skills to the next level.
 Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
 Ages: 10-17
 Location: Langley Park Community Center
 1500 Merimac Drive, Hyattsville 20783
 Contact: 301-445-4508; TTY 301-445-4512

Arts on the Waterfront: Laura Sosa & Pa' Gozar Latin Band

Date and Time: Sunday, June 28, 2015 6-7:30 pm
 Description: Enjoy the Latin Jazz, Salsa, and Merengue style of Laura Sosa & Pa' Gozar Latin Band.
 Cost: Free
 Ages: All ages welcome
 Location: Bladensburg Waterfront Park
 4601 Annapolis Rd, Bladensburg, MD 20710
 Contact: 301-779-0371; TTY 301-699-2544

Seniors: 2015 Club 300 Summer Group Walk

Date and Time: Monday, June 29, 2015 at 8:30 am
 Description: Meet other Club 300 members and keep those feet moving as we explore some of the wonderful trails in our area. For those who are interested, Club 300 group walks will be scheduled and posted on the Club 300 webpage. We are bringing a new dimension to our Club 300 group walks! A doctor/health care practitioner will be sharing a health tip and leading our group walk! Don't miss out on this great opportunity to Walk and Talk with the Doc.
 Cost: Free
 Ages: Any Prince George's County senior (age 60 & better) or pre-senior (age 50-59)
 Location: Watkins Regional Park
 (Meet at Central Area Office/Tennis Bubble parking lot)
 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD
 Contact: 301-446-3400 (Special Programs Division) or 301-446-3444 (Club 300 voicemail)

Seniors: Arts on a Roll Improvisational Theatre Series

Date and Time: Wednesday, July 1, 2015 10:30-11:30 am
 Description: In this performing arts series, participants will learn the basic "rules" of improvisation. Afterward, they'll create humorous or dramatic improvised scenes through a series of engaging theater games.
 Cost: Free
 Ages: 60 and Better
 Location: Langley Park Senior Activity Center
 1500 Merrimac Dr, Hyattsville, MD 20783
 Contact: 301-408-4343; TTY 301-446-3402

EARTH TALK ... Where Should Climate Refugees Go?

Dear EarthTalk:

Where will be the best places to live if global warming gets the best of us?

— Cynthia McIntosh, Jasper, WY

If temperatures around the globe continue to rise in the face of human-induced climate change as climatologists expect, some of the world's most populous areas could become uninhabitable. Rising sea levels will flood out coastal areas, while increasing drought will make survival in already arid areas difficult at best. While we may have at least a few decades of runway to prepare ourselves for the worst, advance planners might want to think carefully about where to put down roots now.

According to the Notre Dame Global Adaptation Index (ND-GAIN) that measures and ranks 175 countries based on vulnerability and readiness to adapt to climate change, Scandinavian countries—Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark—just might be the safest spot in the carbon-compromised world of the future.

ND-Gain researchers stress that residents of just about any developed country (including the U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Russia, China and most of Europe) will likely be fine staying put given the fact that better-heeled govern-

ments are already gearing up to adapt to warmer temperatures, more intense storms, rising sea levels and other expected changes. On the flip side, the worst places to be may be mid-latitude developing countries, including most of Africa and South Asia. The countries ND-GAIN predicts will be hardest hit by climate change include Chad, Eritrea, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Central African Republic, Sudan, Niger, Haiti, Afghanistan and Guinea Bissau.

Americans looking for the best place to live domestically as the world warms should also look north. Alaska and the Pacific Northwest, both blessed with plenty of water and plenty of terrain well above sea level, are generally acknowledged to be the best parts of the country to be in under a new climate regime. In fact, University of Washington atmospheric science professor Cliff Mass believes the Pacific Northwest will be "a potential climate refuge" in coming decades. He writes in his popular weather blog that Washington State could soon become the nation's premiere wine production region as California's vineyards continue to be slammed by years and years of drought.

Meanwhile, UCLA environmental economics professor, Matthew Kahn, says that otherwise fading cities like Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Detroit



CREDIT: HOWARD IGNATIUS, FLICKRCC

Some consider Seattle and the rest of the Pacific Northwest to be a potential refuge for Americans looking to escape drought-stricken southern states.

will become more and more attractive as their counterparts to the south (Miami, Phoenix, Los Angeles, San Diego) take the brunt of global warming's fury. In his 2010

book, *Climatopolis*, Kahn predicts that Detroit will be one of the nation's most desirable cities by 2100. Other climate change winners could include Vermont, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Colorado.

Not everyone agrees that Detroit will be the golden city of our future world. Author Giles Slade contends in his 2013 book, *American Exodus*, that we all may be heading for northern Canada when global warming's fury really starts to kick in. "The safest places will be significant communities in the north that are not isolated, that have abundant

water, that have the possibility of agricultural self-sufficiency, that have little immediate risk of forest fires, that are well elevated, and that are built on solid rock," he writes. "Our northern lands are our Noah's ark—a vital refuge against the moment of mankind's greatest need."

CONTACTS: Notre Dame Global Adaptation Index (ND-GAIN), www.gain.org; Cliff Mass Weather Blog, cliffmass.blogspot.com.

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Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

BE ENERGY EFFICIENT

As you leave your workspace at the end of the day, please take a moment to look around your desk and see what may need to be turned off and/or unplugged; including lamps, radios, computer monitors and cell phone chargers.

Did you know...?
 Cell phone chargers consume energy even when they are plugged into an outlet but not connected to a cell phone.

Mikulski from A4

layed until the report is completed and the results are available for consideration.

The following organizations are opposed to the privatization language currently in the bill:

- Air Force Sergeants Association
- American Federation of Government Employees
- American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations Teamsters
- American Logistics Association
- American Military Retirees Association
- American Military Society
- American Retirees Association
- American Veterans
- Armed Forces Marketing Council
- Army and Navy Union
- Association of the United States Army
- Association of the United States Navy
- Fleet Reserve Association
- Gold Star Widows
- International Brotherhood of Teamsters
- Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America
- Military Officers Association of America

- Military Order of Foreign Wars
- Military Order of the Purple Heart
- National Association for Uniformed Services
- National Defense Committee
- National Guard Association of the United States
- National Military Family Association
- National Military and Veterans Alliance
- Military Partners and Families Coalition
- Military Officers Association of America
- National Association for Uniformed Services
- Society of Military Widows
- The American Military Partner Association
- The Coalition to Save Our Military Shopping Benefits
- The Flag and General Officers Network
- The Retired Enlisted Association
- Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors
- The Retired Enlisted Association
- Uniformed Services Disabled Retirees
- United States Army Warrant Officers Association
- Veterans of Foreign Wars
- Vietnam Veterans of America

Soccer from A6

possibility." This is a very tough argument for the Israeli FA to win. If sports and politics were truly kept separate, then the Palestinian Football Authority would be able to travel freely, receive foreign visitors, and enter international tournaments without the fear of not being able to show up. As I've argued here many times, attacking the ability of Palestinian soccer to develop is also about attacking fun, play, and hope. While the Palestinian FA has facts on their side, no observer expects them to win 75 percent of the vote. But if Blatter even prevents this

from even being raised on May 29, it would be an ugly gesture from an ugly individual. FIFA is hardly a moral force in this world, but soccer certainly can be. It is the closest thing we have to a united global obsession that links every country. FIFA's sole organizational obligation is to make sure that everyone has a chance to play. What worries Netanyahu is that discussing this issue in soccer then becomes like pulling a thread on a sweater. If soccer is warped by occupation, then what about education, health-care, or basic staples of civil society? That's a question the Israeli FA is now scrambling to see unasked.

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