

The Prince George's Post



A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY Since 1932

Vol. 83, No. 27 July 2 — July 8, 2015

Prince George's County, Maryland

Newspaper of Record

Phone: 301-627-0900

25 cents



PHOTO COURTESY OF WITNESS TO INNOCENCE

DNA evidence helped Kirk Bloodworth, a former Marine and waterman from Maryland's Eastern Shore, become the first person in the United States to have been exonerated of all charges after being sentenced to death.

DNA Evidence Brings Hope, Truth - But Only If Tested; Some Maryland Jurisdictions Slow to Report Findings

By DEIDRE MCPHILLIPS
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS — Half of a cell can free a man sent to death row, but sometimes, that cell remains untouched, untested, and — in one case — forgotten in a closet for years.

Kirk Bloodworth, a former Marine and waterman from

Maryland's Eastern Shore, was on death row in 1984, convicted of the rape and murder of a 9-year-old girl. In 1993, after nine years in prison, Bloodworth became the first person in the United States to have been exonerated of all charges after being sentenced to death.

Now, he walks free — because of DNA evidence and

his own extraordinary efforts to get it tested.

Maryland now mandates that its police departments test, track and report DNA crime-scene evidence, but one year after a deadline, not all jurisdictions have sent the state their results. Of the two largest jurisdictions, one was more than a year late and the

other still hadn't reported as of Tuesday afternoon.

Bloodworth said it was fate that brought him "The Bleeding," a book by Jason Wambaugh that details the account of the first time DNA evidence was used in a crim-

See DNA Page A3

Hoyer Delivers Remarks at PG County 2015 Housing Fair

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of Steny Hoyer

LANDOVER, MD — Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) delivered remarks on June 13, 2015 at the Prince George's County Department of Housing and Community Development 2015 Housing Fair, entitled, "Prince George's County: A Great Place to Live." The housing fair was open to homeowners and those looking to purchase a home. Participants had an opportunity to attend a panel discussion with housing experts and meet with housing industry professionals such as mortgage lenders, realtors and housing counselors.

"There is nothing more fundamental to the American Dream than homeownership," said Congressman Steny Hoyer. "Here in Prince George's County, the state, federal, and local governments have partnered to help make the goal of homeownership more attainable. This is an exciting time for Prince George's County, and the relocation of the state Department of Housing and Community Development to New Carrollton in April is a sign of the attention we're getting as a county that's growing and on the move."

"Our housing recovery continues to move forward, but many people are still finding themselves underwater or

struggling to afford payments," continued Congressman Hoyer. "Prince George's County was hit hard by the housing downturn with more than 50,000 homes going into foreclosure since 2007. We're doing much better today, but for those still facing difficulty, it does not feel like a recovery yet. I'm working hard to attract the new FBI Headquarters here, and I've made it a major priority to help show businesses the merit of moving here and creating good jobs here. Every day, more and more people are realizing that Prince George's County isn't just 'a great place to live,' but a great place to invest as well. I look forward to continuing to work with state officials and with my colleagues in the Maryland Congressional Delegation to ensure that homeowners and homebuyers seeking to put down roots here and stay in their communities have the tools necessary to do so."

Prince George's County's first Net-Zero Energy Home was also open today for attendees to view. The remodeled, century old home was designed to provide superior energy savings, water efficiency and a healthy living environment. The home is an example of how even the oldest homes in the county can be made more energy efficient and achieve savings for homeowners.

PG County Library Receives Grants for Early Literacy Events

Library Café events show parents how to prepare their children to learn to read

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCPS

LAUREL, MD.—Prince George's County Memorial Library System received two \$500 grants supporting its Library Cafés, events designed to educate parents and caregivers about simple, everyday practices that promote early literacy skills. Upcoming Library Cafés will reach 80

families in high-need areas of Prince George's County.

The grants came from the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation and the Defending the Early Years project. The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, named after the children's book author, supports arts and literacy in public schools and

See GRANTS Page A6

County Council, Overrides County Executive Veto

Override Avoids a 15.6 Percent Increase in Property Taxes in Fiscal Year 2016

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Government

This evening the County Council voted to override the County Executive's budget veto, preventing a double-digit property tax increase. Residents and businesses have said this double-digit tax increase is unaffordable, and hurtful to our economic recovery.

The County Council, as the Legislative Branch of government, has the legislative authority to override the County Executive's veto of this lawfully enacted budget. Tonight, we have exercised our authority to do so, preserving the balance of new investment in ed-

See VETO Page A5

WSSC, Prince George's County Public Schools Launch New Fats, Oils and Grease Curriculum

Students Use Hands-On Approach to Learning About the Harmful Effects Fats, Oils and Grease Have on Sewer Systems

By PRESS OFFICER
WSSC

Laurel — WSSC and Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) celebrated the launch of a countywide curriculum-approved Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) lesson that teaches students about the sewer system and the harmful effects FOG can have when poured into the sewer pipes. County and WSSC officials gathered at Walker Mill Middle School on Friday, June 5 as 24 students took part in their first FOG science lesson.

PGCPS sixth graders will be taking an up-close look at the causes and consequences of FOG. The new lesson uses the five E's model for teaching — engagement, exploration, explanation, elaboration and evaluation. Through hands-on activities students explore the environmental impact of FOG and how solutions can help keep the Chesapeake Bay and waterways clean and sewer pipes free of FOG.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WSSC

Walker Mill Middle School sixth graders test and compare the water flow rate of clear and clogged pipes.

"This is an exciting opportunity that not only helps promote STEM education at a young age but also encourages and empowers kids to join the

fight against FOG" said Wayne Ludwig, WSSC Fats, Oils and Grease Program Unit Coordinator. "Showing kids how their family's every day

cooking can create contaminants that can clog pipes and

See WSSC Page A5

INSIDE

Bowie EDC Gives 8th Annual Business Recognition Awards

Bowie EDC Gave its 8th Annual Business Recognition Awards — During a breakfast ceremony on Wednesday May 13, the City's Economic Development Committee, in partnership with the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce, conducted their 8th Annual Business recognition Awards Breakfast. Community, Page A3

Charity is Not a Substitute for Justice

Even those who are lucky enough to get a job now might not be lucky enough to be paid a fair or living wage. And we have the unbelievable spectacle of 21 states denying their citizens tens of billions of dollars in desperately needed health care and jobs under the Affordable Care Act. Commentary, Page A4

USDA Invests \$6.7 Million in 544 Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Projects Nationwide

REAP was created by the 2002 Farm Bill. REAP funding has helped farmers expand renewable energy use in recent years. The new Census of Agriculture shows the number of farms utilizing renewable energy production has doubled in the last five years. Business, Page A5

Movie Review: "Entourage"

The much-anticipated big-screen version of the award-winning hit HBO series, reunites the show's original cast, Eric, Turtle and Johnny, with super agent-turned-studio head Ari Gold. Some of their ambitions have changed, but the bond between them remains strong as they navigate the capricious and often cutthroat world of Hollywood. Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

It seems like I'm getting more junk mail than ever these days. How can I stop the deluge?

— Billy Alexander,
Macon, GA

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

100 firefighters battle suspicious blaze at popular restaurant

Tucker's Restaurant and Lounge, on Old Marlboro Pike, was destroyed by fire early June 17 after a 911 caller reported smoke coming from the roof. Damage is estimated at \$2 million and the cause is "suspicious." Here is the report from the Morningside VFD's website: "At approximately 3:30 AM on Wednesday, June 17th, a Box Alarm was sounded for Tucker's Restaurant..."

"Engine 27 arrived as the second due engine shortly after the first arriving officer confirmed the working fire in a one-story strip mall.

After securing the first due engine's water supply, the crew of Engine 27 deployed a back up line to assist Engine 23 with a fire in the attic/roof area of the structure. After approximately 30 minutes, the Incident Commander sounded evacuation tones due to an imminent collapse hazard...

"A Second and Third alarm was sounded, bringing approximately 100 Firefighters and support personnel from throughout Prince George's County; as well as mutual aid from Calvert County, Fairfax County, VA, Arlington, VA, and the District of Columbia. The bulk of the fire was knocked down at approximately 5:30 AM. Despite the size of the fire and the collapse of the roof, there were no injuries. The fire remains under investigation and has been ruled incendiary by the Prince George's County Fire Marshal's Office."

Tucker's Restaurant first opened its doors back in 1969 and, as County Fire/EMS Department spokesman Mark Brady said, "It certainly will be missed by a lot of people in Prince George's County."

Celebrate the 4th in Morningside

The annual Morningside Independence Day Parade will kick off from the firehouse at 11:30 and march or cruise up Suitland Road to the VFW. I'll be under the big tree at the Suitland Road Baptist Church. Wave as you go by.

For a perfect ending to your July 4th celebration, come and enjoy the always-excellent Morningside fireworks at dusk.

Off to Ocean City

Morningside officials spent this week in Ocean City at the annual Maryland Municipal League Convention. They included: Mayor Kenneth Wade; Vice Mayor Bennard Cann; Council Members Sharon Fowler, Todd Mullins and Bradley Wade; Clerk-Treasurer Janice Diggs, Chief of Police Amos Damron and Lt. Wesley Stevenson.

Farmer's market

National Harbor Farmer's Market is open every Saturday and Sunday for fresh produce, baked goods, flowers and seasonal displays from Miller Farms of Clinton. For information go to www.nationalharbor.com.

Memories

My first Morningside/Skyline column ran in the July 8, 1976 issue of the Enquirer-Gazette, 39 years ago this week.

I wrote about the Summer Playground at Morningside School where leaders were Sharon Hoffman, Ann Marie Morgan and Paul Curry. At Skyline School, leaders were Jan Eggers, Walter Geissdorfer and my daughter Elaine.

Mayor Glaubitz was headed for the Maryland Municipal League Convention with Councilmen Lester Ryan, Harry Musser, Charles Kiker and Bert Etienne; Clerk Rebecca Capps; Town Engineer John D. Emler; Town Attorney, Harry E. Taylor Jr.; and Morningside Chief of Police Matt Rosch.

Rita Tewell was the newly-elected president of the Skyline Homemakers. Other officers were Ann Gardner, Betty Rayle and Barbara Graves. One of the members, Dot Burgess, suggested putting out a Skyline cookbook.

The Morningside Seniors planned a picnic July 10 at Bernice Burdette's house. Morningside Baptist Church had Summer Bible School coming up. The Bookmobile would be at Randolph Road Circle on Thursday. And Frank Brizzi, of Skyline, had just returned from a hunting trip, with a bear.

May they rest in peace

Keith William Neale, 57, of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., formerly of Morningside, died at home on June 17. He was born in Washington, son of Robert and Edythe

Neale, and grew up on Poplar Road. He attended Morningside Elementary, Foulis and Crossland, and, his brother Wayne remembers that Keith bagged groceries at G. I. Market. Later, he lived in Washington where he was program analyst for the Naval Facilities Engineering Command. He retired in 2000 and moved to Fort Lauderdale. He did volunteer work in Rehoboth Beach, particularly for the Sundance fundraiser for Camp Rehoboth. Survivors include his husband and partner of 32 years, Arthur Dochterman; and brothers Bruce (Patricia), Wayne (Sherrill), and Lance (Sandra); four nephews and a niece.

Alberto Joseph "Al" DiPompo, 67, of West River and formerly of Temple Hills, died at home on June 8. His parents emigrated from Italy in 1950 to Argentina and later to Washington. Al graduated from St. Francis Xavier School in SE Washington, John Carroll High School and the U. of Maryland. He served 34 years with the Department of Veterans Affairs, retiring in 2004 as an Assistant Director, and then became a substitute teacher for the Anne Arundel Schools. Al had a second career as a barber, his home base being the Esquire Barber Shop in Marlow Heights. He was preceded in death by his brother, Luke. Survivors include his wife of 30 years, Deborah; son and daughter-in-law, Joseph and Jeannine DiPompo.

Milestones

A special greeting for St. Mary's Church in Piscataway on their 375th anniversary.

Happy birthday to Gloria Grapevine, Pat Richardson Conlon, Sarah Booth and Jack Hay II, July 3; Grace Carruth, Matthew Ryan White and Nya Nichols, July 4; Jean Ihrig and Timothy Hollowsky, July 5; Chrissy Bennett and Marie Golihek, July 6; Father Kevin Cusick, Charles "Tony" Haley, Rev. Dr. Kelvin McCune and Jimmy Gromen, July 8; Anthony Curcio-Bobbitt, July 8; Karlyn Davis, John Anthony III, July 9 (1983); my grandson Zak Seidman, on July 9, and his mom, Elaine (McHale) Seidman, July 10.

Happy 4th of July to my readers, and God bless America!

Neighborhood Events

Edwards Offers Bipartisan Senate Compromise as Amendment to SPACE Act

Washington, D.C. — Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards offered a substitute amendment to H.R. 2262, which would have replaced the text with that of S. 1297, the bipartisan Senate compromise measure introduced by Sens. Ted Cruz (R-TX), Bill Nelson (D-FL), Cory Gardner (R-CO), and Gary Peters (D-MI).

"I think most of us on both sides of the aisle share in the excitement about the commercial space industry and want it to succeed," Edwards said. "Indeed, since the very beginning, the federal government has supported the private space industry, at both the state and federal level, with funding, data, and guidance with best practices. Who knows what developments will occur in the coming years. What we do know is that it won't just be commercial cargo transported into space, it will also be people.

"That is why it is up to Congress to develop responsible commercial space policies that both encourage the commercial space industry and protect those who will participate as the users of industry's services and activities. I offered this substitute amendment because I think we have a unique opportunity this week to pass bipartisan commercial space legislation that actually stands a chance of becoming law. Pursuing House passage of a bill that is going nowhere in the Senate seems to me to be the ultimate exercise in futility, and one that does a real disservice to the commercial space launch industry that we all are trying to help succeed."

The Senate bipartisan bill has garnered significant support from the commercial space industry, including the Commercial Spaceflight Federation, the National Space Society, Students for the Exploration and Development of Space, SpaceX, Blue Origin, and Virgin Galactic, among others. Provisions in the legislation address key issues facing the commercial space industry:

- Extends the "learning period" another 5 years;
- Extends the 3rd party liability and indemnification regime another 4 years;
- Provides commercial space launch licensing and experimental permit flexibility;
- Provides a NASA-sought definition of "Government Astronaut";
- Provides a path for streamlining commercial space launch activities;
- Provides for a review of issues related to commercial activities in space and space situational awareness;
- Provides encouragement for the FAA and the industry to work together to facilitate the development of voluntary consensus standards; and
- Ensures that the International Space Station can remain a viable and productive facility through 2024.

Edwards' amendment was intended to give the House an opportunity to pass bipartisan legislation supporting



Congresswoman
Donna F. Edwards

the commercial space industry. The amendment failed to pass the House by a vote of 173-236.

Shaffer Named MDE Communications Director

BALTIMORE, MD — Veteran journalist and environmental communicator Mark Shaffer has been selected communications director for the Maryland Department of the Environment.

Shaffer was communications and media relations director for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) in Phoenix for the past eight years, where he served under MDE Secretary Ben Grumbles, the former director of ADEQ.

In addition to his communications role, Shaffer specialized in forming public-private partnerships that resulted in environmental good, most notably staging free electronic waste recycling events throughout the state that collected more than 2.5 million pounds of discarded electronics. Shaffer also served as a facilitator for ADEQ in instituting the Lean workplace efficiency program and modernizing other work processes for the agency. Shaffer will also use his Spanish language skills to expand MDE's outreach efforts.

Prior to his public service, Shaffer was a senior reporter and editor for The Arizona Republic newspaper in Phoenix for 27 years, where he reported on the environment, immigration, Native American and public land issues. He also was director of the paper's Mexico bureau in Mexico City and Northern Arizona bureau in Flagstaff. OF

Shaffer spent many of his formative years on a ranch in central Texas and received his bachelor of arts degree in journalism, history and political science from Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas. He attended graduate school at the University of Wyoming in Laramie, where he also was assistant sports information director for the university.

Storms, Hurricane Season Remind Residents to Prepare

BALTIMORE — This year's start of hurricane season came with a brutal reminder that flash floods, fallen trees and power outages can affect Marylanders even when a storm system isn't tropical. Natural disasters, however, do not need to turn into insurance disasters. Know what your policies cover — and what they don't cover — before your property is damaged.

"One of the most important steps a renter or homeowner can take is to inventory their

homes," says Insurance Commissioner Al Redmer, Jr. "Use our inventory form, or take photos or videos, and then store these off-site." The National Association of Insurance Commissioners offers a home inventory app for iPhones and Androids, which can be found at www.insurance.maryland.gov.

Redmer also advises consumers to consider whether they should purchase flood insurance. Most homeowners policies do not cover damage from floods. The National Flood Insurance Program and some private insurers offer policies for flood damage. There is usually a 30-day waiting period before new policies take effect. Visit www.FloodSmart.gov or call 1-888-379-9531 for more information.

Some other tips to help prepare for disasters include:

- Keeping your policy information in a waterproof, fireproof safe or off-site, such as in a safe deposit box, or scan it and save it to a flash drive that you keep in an emergency kit.
- Determining if your home is insured to its full replacement cost.
- Putting all your essential insurance data in your wallet using an Insurance Information Card, available for free download from www.insurance.maryland.gov.

Comptroller Franchot Reports \$5.6 Million Rebate from State Purchasing Card Program

79 State Agencies Account for \$274 Million in Small Purchase Buys
ANNAPOLIS, Md. (June 10, 2015) — Comptroller Peter Franchot today announced that the State of Maryland has received a \$5.6 million rebate from U.S. Bank. The rebate is the result of 79 state agencies spending more than \$274 million on small purchases through Maryland's Corporate Purchasing Card program for the period of April 26, 2014, through April 25, 2015.

"Taxpayers expect us to do everything we can to save them money and this is one way our office does that each and every day," said Comptroller Franchot. "Maryland's Corporate Purchasing Card program is an efficient and effective way for state agencies to make small purchases, to provide for better accountability and to allow vendors to receive payments in a timely manner."

Under the program, the Comptroller's Office issues one payment each month to U.S. Bank for all card purchases made during the previous month. Merchants are paid directly by VISA, usually within two business days of the purchase, which is much sooner than the typical 30-day payment cycle. U.S. Bank pays a rebate when the state reaches pre-set purchase volumes. This contract for Purchasing Card services was approved by the Board of Public Works in 2013 with the new vendor U.S. Bank at a higher rebate percentage than the previous contract.

The State of Maryland first began using the VISA corporate purchasing card program in March 1997. Since then, the state has purchased \$3.5 billion worth of goods and services, while earning \$45.6 million in rebates.

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

GOLFING FOR EDUCATION TOURNAMENT

Excellence in Education Foundation for PGCPs, Inc. 5th Annual Golfing for Education Tournament was held Thursday, June 18, 2015 at the Country Club at Woodmore, Mitchellville, Maryland. More than 94 business leaders and community partners participated in the Annual Golfing for Education Tournament hosted by the Excellence in Education Foundation for PGCPs Inc.

The Foundation was established in September 2012. The primary purpose of the Foundation is to promote and enhance the quality of Prince George's County Public Schools. The Foundation seeks the financial support, business experience and expertise of the private sector to improve student learning and to ensure that PGCP students are equipped with the requisite knowledge, skills and resources to become college and career ready.

Proceeds from the tournament support scholarship and other education-related programs for Prince George's County public school students. The Foundation

awarded scholarships totaling \$151,000 to 40 deserving PGCPs graduates. The Foundation has awarded scholarships totaling \$345,000 to 132 graduating seniors since 2012.

FREE SUMMER MEALS PROGRAM

A free summer meals program will be offered for all children aged 18 and under at various Prince George's County Memorial Libraries while school is out for summer break. Locations, hours, addresses and phone numbers are listed for these branches on the website www.pgcmils.info.

SKC EARLY EDUCATION CENTERS

SKC Early Education Centers offers a summer program for Pre-K Program, toddlers, infants, before & after care summer program. Watkins Park Center located at 70 Watkins Park Drive Upper Marlboro, Maryland, 20774 is now open. Center hours are Monday thru Friday 6:30 AM-6:30 PM. Register now because spaces are filling fast. For more information call 301-249-5431 or visit www.SKCCENTERS.com.

SKC creates an environment that fosters opportunities for the development of the child in the areas of spirituality, self-confidence, curiosity, sensory-motor skills, inner security, initiative and persistence, social skills and skill development.

PGCPS SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Prince George's County Public Schools is operating on a four day work week schedule from Monday, June 22, through Friday, August 21. Schools and offices will be open Monday through Thursday with extended hours to provide students, parents, and employees more flexibility during the summer months. Core business hours are from 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM. Contact the school or office before visiting to verify hours.

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COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Jason Alderman

Money Management for the “Boomerang” Household

Due to recent economic realities, multi-generational living has been on the rise for many families.

A 2014 Pew Research Center analysis (<http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2014/07/17/in-post-recession-era-young-adults-drive-continuing-rise-in-multi-generational-living/>) showed that a record 57 million Americans, equal to a little over 18 percent of the U.S. population, lived in multi-generational family households in 2012 — double the number in 1980. The major driver was young adults aged 25-34. According to Pew, nearly 24 percent of these older millennials lived in multi-generational households, increased from nearly 19 percent in 2007 and 11 percent in 1980.



It's possible the “boomerang” family trend will remain in place for some time to come. For homeowner parents who may also be juggling the “sandwich” responsibilities of caring for older relatives, paying attention to the financial and behavioral details of taking in family is critical. Here are some suggestions to consider:

Your finances come first. Operating a full house means higher utility and food costs and additional wear and tear on the property. Taking in family also shouldn't derail a parent's career goals or retirement planning, nor should it diminish other necessary financial objectives like maximizing savings or eliminating debt. That's why dual- or single-parent households might begin with a complete financial assessment before welcoming kids or elders back home. A discussion with qualified financial and tax advisors might be worthwhile to determine how much expense you can take on. For arrangements that go beyond free lodging to direct cash support of family members, gift tax issues should be explored.

Make a real agreement. A home is stability and therefore something of significant value. That is why it is appropriate to consider rent or request in-kind services in exchange for room and board. Young adults — particularly those who were fully under parental support in college — need to learn this important lesson even if they are moving home to save money to pay off loans, to buy a car or put a down payment on a home. Ask trusted advisors about what makes sense in your situation. If you decide to accept rent, know there are potential tax issues (<http://www.irs.gov/taxtopics/tc415.html>) based on the structure, timeframe and expenses related to such an agreement. Legal paperwork may be required, but there also may be rental expenses you can deduct.

Establish timelines. In the real world, financial arrangements are rarely open-ended. Depending on the financial, tax and legal advice you receive as well as local tenant law and personal preferences, you may be signing an official lease for your family member's stay with a specific timeline of months or years. Whatever the requirements, make sure you have an effective framework that sets specific financial and behavioral rules you want met.

Start with a family meeting. Before moving trucks arrive, family members should meet for a discussion about the impending move. Start by letting your child or family member talk through why they want to move in, whether they have financial goals tied to the living arrangement and how long they plan to stay. Share the structure you envision, including the payment details you would consider. No matter how agreement is struck, it should begin with a full discussion of needs, preferences, financial terms, and most of all, ways to make the arrangement successful and smooth. Once the move happens, regular conversations should continue about the living arrangement. After all, boomerang families have unique, ongoing financial issues that will require discussion.

Prepare to track expenses. Once agreed, retrofit your household budget to keep track of higher food, utility and related expenses for cost-sharing and potential tax purposes. Having people you love living with you will hopefully have many rewards that go beyond simple dollars, but always know what the arrangement is costing you.

Bottom line: Opening your home to returning family members is a real financial commitment. Think through money, tax and household issues before you say yes.

Bowie EDC Gives 8th Annual Business Recognition Awards

By PRESS OFFICER
City of Bowie

During a breakfast ceremony on Wednesday May 13, the City's Economic Development Committee, in partnership with the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce, conducted their 8th Annual Business Recognition Awards Breakfast. Brien [this is correctly spelled with the 'ie'] Poffenberger, the CEO of the Maryland Chamber of Commerce provided the keynote remarks. These six Bowie businesses were recognized:

Incubator Business of the Year — This award is for a growth oriented professional service firm or technology company in Bowie, with existing clients, who is a member of the Bowie Business Innovation Center (Bowie BIC) program and whose business has demonstrated a commitment to increasing company revenues & hiring employees.

2015 Honoree: Avant Garde Engineering Technology
Marcellus Major

An information technology services company that provides technical solutions and personnel to the private and public sector, Avant Garde Engineering has demonstrated a commitment to increasing company revenues through new contracts and the launch of a new cloud computing product, as well as engaging additional staff over the previous 12 months. The company is already upgrading its current IT infrastructure to support large federal contracts and developing a sales and technical training program to support cloud computing offerings. Over the last year, company founder and CEO, Marcellus Major, was admitted into the U.S. Small Business Administration's 8A program, awarded a county-based business certification, and was included under a \$50 million contract as a subcontractor to G2, supporting the Intelligence Community. Avant Garde Engineering is truly a new leader in the business community.

Entrepreneur of the Year — This award is for the Bowie business entrepreneur who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and tenacity in managing all facets of business to include growth in profit and employee numbers coupled with such factors as degree

of innovation, development of a creative and ingenious product or service, exceptional selling techniques, and extent of expansion into local markets.

2015 Honoree: Christina Garvey Berman of Gateway Title Company

With more than 20 years of leadership in the title insurance industry, Gateway Title has been providing residential and commercial title services for realtors, lenders, developers and investors. They have been praised for providing customers with the best choice and industry expertise for title searches and insurance, escrow and settlement services. With innovative technology and a leading edge title insurance, and with business leaders such as Garvey making it all happen, she and her organization work hard to help you keep up and succeed in an ever-increasing, fast-paced business world.

Small Business of the Year — This award is for a Bowie-based small business that has demonstrated the qualities that make for a prosperous and growing organization in Bowie.

2014 Honoree: Diplomat Cleaners

Fred and Erika Policelli started Diplomat Cleaners in 1970 at Free State Mall. When the shopping center was redeveloped, he stayed and thrived and relocated to the front section of the new center. Why did Diplomat Cleaners survive? As generations of customers will tell you, it's their professionalism, friendliness and commitment to service. For 45 years, this small, family-owned business has grown and has been successful through economic downturns and center redevelopment. Along with his wife Erika, and two of their sons, Tony and Danny, Fred continues to serve the Bowie community with excellent customer service and family pride.

Community Service Award — This award is for the Bowie or vicinity business that has demonstrated throughout the year a strong record of involvement in the Bowie community.

2015 Honoree: Byrd & Byrd LLC, Jackie and Toby Byrd

The law firm of Byrd & Byrd LLC is a six-attorney firm combined with unique legal experi-

ence of more than 50 years. In addition to a significant focus on elder law issues, the firm is also an effective general practice office that manages issues of personal injury, family law, real estate, construction, wrongful death and medical malpractice. Byrd & Byrd has been known for building strong, long-term relationships with its clients, as well as the community at large. For example, for more than 20 years, Jackie Byrd wrote “Senior Moments,” an award-winning, weekly column for the Bowie Blade-News. She has also published two books based on those columns. To name just a few of her honors, Jackie is the recipient of the President's Award from the Prince George's County Bar Association for outstanding contributions to the Bar and to the community, and has been named four times in Washingtonian Magazine's list of Top Washington Elder Law attorneys. Byrd was recently appointed by Prince George's County Executive Rushern Baker to the Advisory Commission on Aging, and also serves on the Bowie Health Center's institutional Board of Directors, all while serving various local organizations as a guest speaker. We are so pleased to present this award to Byrd & Byrd LLC.

Green Business of the Year — This award is for a company with a Bowie presence who has demonstrated their commitment to environmentally sustainable practices such as energy and water savings, recycling, renewable energy, reduced chemicals or packaging, or employee carpooling/telework.

2015 Honoree: The Pink Orchid, Carmina Reynolds

Carmina Reynolds, owner and operator of The Pink Orchid in Old Town Bowie, certainly knows how important it is to be green. Customers say over and over again that her business exemplifies green because she is a total “green advocate.” Her appreciation and dedication to caring for nature was born early in her childhood as she worked and learned from her father as he grew food and flowers for the family. Some of her Pink Orchid examples of carrying on this green tradition include: her unique use of compost, left over from her metic-

ulously prepared and esthetically designed floral arrangements; continually recycles vases that people give her, and in turn, uses them to help others with their floral needs, volunteers to do hands-on demonstrations at schools to show children how all living things are connected and need to be cared for, and above all, she never uses herbicides or pesticides. Baking soda is her secret weapon! Carmina's passion for protecting and caring for the earth is contagious, inspiring customers and visitors to go green.

Business of the Year — This award is for a Bowie company that has demonstrated high-level accomplishments that are a benchmark for other businesses that include financial success, visible community involvement, professional employee work environment, and will excel in customer satisfaction, strategic planning, and business development.

2015 Honoree: Power Solutions, Jon Eugenio

Power Solutions is a full service 24/7 electrical contractor headquartered in Bowie. Since 1998, Power Solutions has been providing, among other services, electrical construction and maintenance, mission critical facility maintenance, emergency power systems, life system systems, and data communications to name just a few. Their Life Safety Division has been hailed for their high professionalism and dedication to providing clients with unsurpassed quality and service to meet their fire alarm safety needs. Power Solutions is known for its quality and consistency, and ability to work successfully in the most sensitive construction settings, such as hospitals, laboratories and secure government facilities. And they do their job in the safest, most timely manner possible. Over the past several years, Power Solutions has successfully completed thousands of projects from basic electrical maintenance work to the construction of multimillion dollar hospitals and data centers. While they work they do may be extremely difficult, their mission and goal on every project is simple: to deliver work of the highest quality, on time, and to the complete satisfaction of their customers.

DNA from A1

inal case in England, through the prison's library exchange program. It inspired him to write a letter convincing the prosecutor to allow DNA evidence testing in his case.

The prosecutor told him that the evidence had been inadvertently destroyed, he said, but Bloodsworth thought that just because no one had seen it, did not mean it didn't exist.

Bloodsworth said he kept pushing and the evidence was eventually found in a cardboard box, sitting in the closet of Maryland Circuit Court Judge James T. Smith, who had reduced Bloodsworth's sentence to life in prison after a second appeal back in 1987. Once found, it was shipped off to California, home to one of two DNA labs in the country at the time.

It took a year for the results to come back, Bloodsworth said, a year of hopeful anticipation. And when the results came, he said, there was finally truth in his case — his DNA was not a match.

DNA evidence testing has seen great advancements since the '90s.

The average turnaround time for analysis of crime scene DNA evidence in Maryland was 110 days in 2011, according to a 2012 audit by the state's Office of Legislative Audits — much less than the year it took for Bloodsworth's results to come back.

There were 3,239 cases with untested data in Maryland during a 2011 spot-check of 135 local law enforcement agencies, according to the 2012 audit.

Data from a 2013 DNA evidence collection and analysis was due in to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention for review by April 2014, but 33 of the state's 133 local law enforcement agencies did not submit their data to the state before the deadline, despite a legal mandate to do so. (There were two fewer Maryland law enforcement agencies in 2014 due to some agency restructuring at the local level.)

The data from 31 of the non-reporting local law en-

forcement agencies in 2014 would have a minor effect on overall state statistics, as those agencies collected zero or very few DNA evidence samples, according to a special report by the Office of Legislative Audits released in April.

But missing data from the other two — Baltimore City and Prince George's County — would “likely have a significant effect on the overall data,” according to the special report.

In 2012, Baltimore City and Prince George's County Police Departments accounted for 80 percent of cases with untested DNA, with 1,349 and 1,244 untested cases, respectively.

This noncompliance frustrates Bloodsworth, who has become an advocate for the abolishment of the death penalty since his release.

“We need transparency and we need people to get their work done in regard to the criminal justice system. Scientists, prosecutors, police officers — they need to play by the rules,” he said. “I take the criminal justice system seriously — I'll put it that way — and so should they. You

can't skirt around the truth.”

Any delay in testing DNA evidence — whether it be years sitting in a closet or months waiting for police departments to get through their overwhelming load of cases — is a threat to the justice system, Bloodsworth said.

According to a July 2013 report by the United States Government Accountability Office, about \$442 million was given to state and local governments by The Department of Justice's National Institute of Justice to reduce the DNA evidence testing backlog from fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

Maryland is one of 14 states — including Virginia — that has enacted statewide reforms to reduce the backlog in rape kit testing, according to data collected by The Accountability Project, a group dedicated to ending the backlog of rape kit DNA testing. Nine others — including Pennsylvania — have proposed similar reforms.

Thomas J. Barnickel III, legislative auditor with the De-

See DNA Page A5

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COMMENTARY

Cong. Chris Van Hollen House Democratic Minority Whip



Van Hollen to OPM: My Constituents Deserve Answers on Data Breach

Tens of Millions of People Potentially Affected as Known Extent Grows

Washington, DC — Maryland Congressman Chris Van Hollen released a letter to Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Director Katherine Archuleta requesting more information about OPM's efforts to protect the federal workers made vulnerable by a recent data breach, which is now reported to have been much larger than initially disclosed by OPM on June 4.

"This new information raises the number of those current and former federal employees potentially affected by the breach from 4 million to tens of millions," Congressman Van Hollen said. "I am writing this letter on behalf of the thousands of current and former federal employees I count among my constituents and millions more around the country who are potentially affected by this breach. We want to know what immediate steps OPM is taking to facilitate the answering of the many questions we have regarding this matter."

Specifically, Congressman Van Hollen raised concerns about constituents frustrated over the lack of sufficient information coming out of OPM and not being able to reach staff at the agency. He also inquired if the \$1 million in liability protection offered to those affected by the breach would be extended to all who are potentially impacted, including annuitants and their families, current and former job applicants, those seeking clearances, and contractors.

The full text of the letter is follows:

Director Archuleta:

I am writing as a follow up to my letter to you dated June 8, 2015, in light of new developments regarding the data breach.

In recent days media reports have emerged indicating that the breach announced in OPM's

June 4th press release was actually two breaches: one impacting the data of federal employees and a second breach specifically affecting applicants for security clearances. Additionally, these reports strongly suggest that the personal data of employment applications going as far back as the 1980s may have been exposed in the breach. This new information raises the number of those current and former federal employees potentially affected by the breach from 4 million to tens of millions.

My constituents have been contacting my office to express their frustration about the lack of sufficient information coming out of OPM on this highly pressing matter. They have shared their concerns about the difficulty of being able to reach someone at OPM to answer their urgent questions.

I am writing this letter on behalf of the thousands of current and former federal employees I count among my constituents and millions more around the country who are potentially affected by this breach. We want to know what immediate steps OPM is taking to facilitate the answering of the many questions we have regarding this matter.

In that regard, the June 4th OPM press release indicated that a year of free credit monitoring and up to \$1 million in liability protection would be provided to those affected by the breach. Will the same protections be extended to all who are potentially impacted including annuitants and their families, current and former job applicants, those seeking clearances and contractors?

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely yours,
Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress

Marc Morial, President and CEO National Urban League



Making Certain Every Child Achieves

"By passing this bill, we bridge the gap between helplessness and hope for more than 5 million educationally deprived children. We put into the hands of our youth more than 30 million new books, and into many of our schools their first libraries. We reduce the terrible time lag in bringing new teaching techniques into the Nation's classrooms. We strengthen State and local agencies which bear the burden and the challenge of better education. And we rekindle the revolution—the revolution of the spirit against the tyranny of ignorance."

— President Lyndon B. Johnson, on the signing of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, April 11, 1965

In a matter of weeks, our nation's senators will decide whether to improve access to this country's promise of opportunity for every child through quality education, or deny our most vulnerable children—many from historically disadvantaged groups—equity, excellence and accountability in our public school system, and along with that, a proven path to future opportunity and success in this country.

If the Every Child Achieves Act of 2015 passes in its current, deficient form, children in low performance schools, children of color, children with disabilities, and those born into poverty and poor neighborhoods are sure to be left behind.

The ESEA is the U.S. Senate's bipartisan reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, also commonly known as No Child Left Behind. The ESEA was signed into law 50 years ago. It was a landmark piece of federal civil rights legislation that became a critical cornerstone of President Lyndon Johnson's "War on Poverty" initiative designed to close the education achievement gap between lower- and higher-income children. Fifty years later, with Congress currently considering a

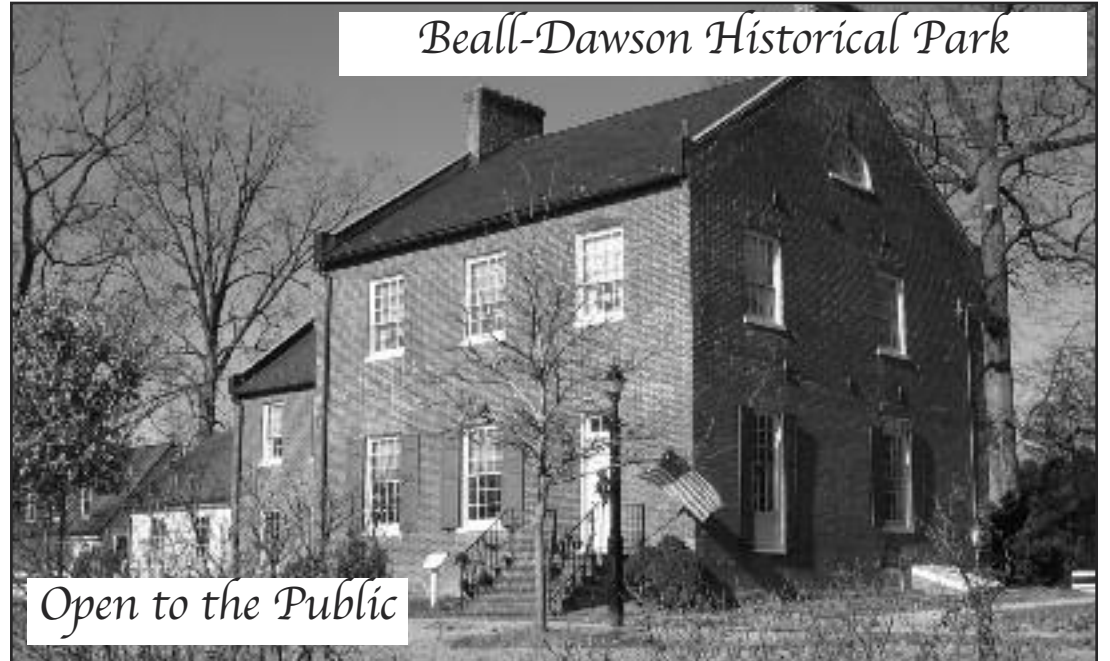
vote on the ESEA reauthorization bill, the gap in educational opportunity, achievement and funding has only grown wider and the promise of equity in education for all of our nation's students will be betrayed by a bill that does not provide additional support and opportunities for disadvantaged students.

For the first time in our nation's history, students of color are the majority of the U.S. student body. And according to a recent survey by the Southern Education Foundation, a majority of all public school students come from low-income homes. The continued success of our nation on the domestic front and the international playing field will be in large part determined at the intersection of civil rights and education.

A nation fully committed to the future success of all of its children and, by extension, its own future, must pass a reauthorization bill that holds schools and districts accountable in every instance and manner that leaves no vulnerable students behind. We must spend our education dollars and resources where the need is greatest. Without strong federal oversight and the ability to course correct when necessary, the practice of understaffing and underfunding schools in our most vulnerable communities will continue unchecked. The practice of not requiring school districts to provide equitable resources, or to close the comparability loophole in all its schools, for vulnerable student subgroups like English language learners or students with disabilities, will only serve to perpetuate the very inequality the original bill sought to make the stuff of history in our modern-day schoolroom textbooks. We all know knowledge is power, therefore the reauthorization bill also needs to provide the transparency, data and reporting families and communities need

See ECA Page A5

Beall-Dawson Historical Park



Open to the Public

PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

BEALL-DAWSON HISTORICAL PARK

The Beall-Dawson House was built circa 1815 for Upton Beall and his wife and daughters. Beall, from a prominent Georgetown family, was Clerk of the Court for the county, and he wanted a home that would reflect his wealth and status. Beall's large brick Federal-style home, built overlooking Commerce Lane (now West Montgomery Avenue), was designed to impress both inside and out. It is a 2 1/2-story Federal house, three bays wide by two deep, constructed of Flemish bond brick on the front facade and common bond elsewhere. Outbuildings on the property include an original brick dairy house and a mid-19th century one-room Gothic Revival frame doctor's office which was moved to the site for use as a museum. Located at 103 West Montgomery Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, Hours of operation are; Wednesday – Sunday, 12 noon to 4 p.m.. Admission is Adults \$5, Students and Seniors \$3, and Children under 6 are free. For more information, call 301-340-2825.

Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



Charity is Not a Substitute for Justice

"I sit on a man's back, choking him and making him carry me, and yet assure myself and others that I am very sorry for him and wish to ease his lot by all possible means—except by getting off his back."

— Leo Tolstoy, from *What Then Must We Do?*

"Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice."

— Nelson Mandela

"A true revolution of values will soon cause us to question the fairness and justice of many of our past and present policies. On the one hand we are called to play the Good Samaritan on life's roadside, but that will be only an initial act. One day we must come to see that the whole Jericho Road must be transformed so that men and women will not be constantly beaten and robbed as they make their journey on life's highway. True compassion is more than flinging a coin to a beggar. It comes to see that an edifice which produces beggars needs restructuring."

— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

When Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke these words on April 4, 1967 at New York City's Riverside Church—a year to the day before his assassination in Memphis—he was describing something my friend Dr. David Hilfiker shared in a thoughtful Sunday sermon at The Church of the Saviour called "Justice and the Limits of Charity."

In his speech the night before his murder Dr King repeated the Biblical parable of the Good Samaritan who stopped and helped the desperate traveler who had been beaten, robbed, and left half dead as he journeyed along the road from Jerusalem to Jericho. The Good Samaritan is traditionally considered a model of charity for his willingness to treat a stranger as a neighbor and friend. Dr. King agreed that we are all called to follow his example and serve those around us who need help. But he reminded us that true compassion—true justice—requires also attacking the forces that leave others in need in the

first place.

If travelers are being assaulted on the Jericho Road, we should help bind their wounds, but also work to make the road a safe passageway. If our communities have poor, homeless, and hungry children and families and we volunteer at homeless shelters or donate to food pantries and think we've done our part, we are only half right. We have done an important part. But we are not finished if we are not also fighting to prevent and eliminate the violence of joblessness, poor education, poverty, and hunger and the inequalities and injustices that feed and accompany them and unjust systems that create them.

Our great prophet Dr. King understood this. Many of the cracks in America's edifice he identified over a half century ago are deeper today. CEO compensation and corporate greed and welfare have skyrocketed to morally obscene levels while middle class and minimum wage workers and people seeking work have been left behind. In 2012–2013, 4.9 million American households, including 1.3 million with children, had no cash income, relying only on the Supplemental

Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, or food stamps) to stave off the wolves of hunger—a program Republican majorities in both houses of Congress seek to shred while increasing government welfare to the wealthiest individuals and corporations. Countless Black, Latino, and Native American youths see no hope for the future because there are no jobs for them and our schools are not preparing the majority of them for the jobs of the future. Racially unjust profiling and sentencing policies feed Black and other non-White youths and men into a mass incarceration system too often driven by profit. Government safety net programs have lifted many millions but not all children out of poverty. Investments in nine federal programs that help make work pay, increase employment, and meet children's basic needs could lift 60 percent of our 14.7 million poor children out of poverty now; instead these programs are under systematic attack today and we must reject proposals that treat our children so unfairly

See WATCH, Page A7

The Prince George's Post

The Prince George's Post
P.O. Box 1001 15207 Marlboro Pike
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3151
Phone 301-627-0900 Legal Fax • 301-627-6260
email: pgpost@gmail.com
Contents © 2015, The Prince George's Post

Publisher Legusta Floyd	Subscriptions/Legals Liz Brandenstein
General Manager/ Legal Advertising Manager Brenda Boice	Senior Editor Legusta Floyd
Legal Advertising Assistant Robin Boerckel	Editor Michal W. Frangia
	Web Manager Kyler Quesenberry

Prince George's County, Md. Member National Newspaper Publishers Association, and the Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia Press Association. The Prince George's Post (ISSN 10532226) is published every Thursday by the New Prince George's Post Inc., 15207 Marlboro Pike, Upper Marlboro, Md. 20772-3151. Subscription rate: 25 cents per single copy; \$15 per year; \$7.50 senior citizens and students; out of county add \$1; out of state add \$2. Periodical postage paid at Southern Md. 20790. Postmaster, send address changes to Prince George's Post, P.O. Box 1001, Upper Marlboro, Md. 20772-3151.

BUSINESS

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Suggestions For Raising Respectful Children

Every parent enjoys hearing comments about how polite and respectful their children are. Unfortunately, especially at home, too many kids seem to have missed that lesson on politeness. The good news is that this situation can be fixed. The bad news is that we usually have to change ourselves in order to see it fixed.

While most of us would never think of shouting or cursing at our friends, neighbors or co-workers, this often isn't true when we're communicating with our children. Too often parents find themselves yelling, shouting orders and being sarcastic with the kids.

When angry or frustrated, we parents may find we are raising our voices, making demands, and generally being unwilling to listen to whatever excuses or explanations our child may be trying to offer. Would we do that with a friend?

According to the experts, the best way to improve our kids' respectfulness is simply to set an example ourselves and show our children more respect.

It really isn't that hard to do. It isn't reasonable to expect that we'll never get upset and angry with our children, but how we act when upset will help teach our kids respect, and that will make a big difference in the quality of family relationships for years to come.

So how do you communicate with your children to help foster a more respectful environment?

- Eliminate shouting, name-calling and sarcasm. These all destroy respect and just encourage resentment and more conflict.

- Communicate honestly and calmly with your children when their behavior has left you feeling hurt, scared or angered. You'll be surprised how well they listen to real, meaningful communication as opposed to an angry tirade.

- Give your children choices in how responsibilities are handled. Rather than just commanding "Get in that shower now!" try asking "What time would you prefer to take your shower - 8 or 8:30?"

- Expect and require respectful behavior from all members of your household, not just your children. Simple rules such as, "Don't interrupt when others are speaking," or, "We always say please and thank you," make acting respectfully a natural way of family life when both adults and children follow those rules.

We all want our children to be polite, well-mannered, and respectful. The way to make that happen is to be good examples of such behaviors ourselves, especially in the relationship we have with our children.

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

WSSC from A1

potentially result in messy, stinky sewer backups and overflows can help reach adults and encourage them to can the grease instead of pouring it down the drain."

"The students' parents sent emails saying how they never knew they couldn't pour grease down the drain," said Nadine Gaujean, sixth grade teacher at Walker Mill Middle School. "Their kids told them how important it is to can the grease instead. They didn't know until they learned it from their kids."

The new FOG lesson is aligned to meet Maryland state standards and was approved by the PGCPs Board of Education in 2014. PGCPs

teachers began rolling out the new lesson in February. WSSC and PGCPs worked side by side throughout development of the lesson curriculum, which included technical expertise and training from WSSC's FOG experts.

To learn more about WSSC's FOG program visit our Can the Grease page at wsscwater.com/canthe grease.

WSSC works with Prince George's and Montgomery County schools throughout the year. For schools interested in learning more about WSSC's school-specific programs and other opportunities visit our Education and Recreational Activities page or call the Communications Office at 301-206-8100.

ECA from A4

to effectively advocate for their children and schools.

Without critical provisions like these, like so many families, government officials and advocacy groups, the National Urban League will stand firm in its opposition to the current incarnation of the ECAA and demands that Congress revisit and recommit to the original vision of ESEA when it was first signed into law 50 years ago.

This week, we were joined in our opposition and fight to revise the bill by 84 members of the Congressional Tri-Caucus—a group composed of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, the Congressional Black Caucus and the

Congressional Hispanic Caucus. The group sent a letter to the education committee in the Senate acknowledging the flaws in current law the bill has remedied, but they also maintained "the bill in its current form does not do enough to protect the historically disadvantaged and vulnerable students the ESEA is intended to serve."

We commend the Tri-Caucus for standing on principle and opposing the bill. We also look forward to working in partnership to craft an ESEA reauthorization bill that will prepare all children for college, work and life—no matter their family income, race or zip code—allowing every child the opportunity to realize and act on their full potential.

USDA Invests \$6.7 Million in 544 Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Projects Nationwide

Grants for Renewable Energy and Conservation Will Cut Energy Costs, Create Jobs, Promote Energy Independence

By PRESS OFFICER
USDA

WASHINGTON, — Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced during a visit to the Snake River Brewing Company, in Jackson, Wyo. The company received a \$13,810 USDA Rural Development Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) grant to install a solar panel to generate energy for the business.

Secretary Vilsack made the announcement during a visit to the Snake River Brewing Company, in Jackson, Wyo. The company received a \$13,810 USDA Rural Development Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) grant to install a solar panel to generate energy for the business.

"These grants will help farmers, ranchers and small business owners use more renewable energy, which cuts

carbon pollution, reduces our dependence on foreign oil, saves businesses money on their energy bills and creates American jobs," Vilsack said. "All of these are crucial components to developing healthier, more economically vibrant rural communities."

REAP was created by the 2002 Farm Bill and was reauthorized by the 2014 Farm Bill. REAP funding has helped farmers expand renewable energy use in recent years. The new Census of Agriculture shows the number of farms utilizing renewable energy production has doubled in the last five years.

Since 2009, USDA has awarded \$545 million to support more than 8,800 REAP projects nationwide. This in-

cludes \$361 million in grants and loans for almost 2,900 renewable energy systems. For the remaining 5,900 projects, USDA provided \$184 million to help rural small businesses and agricultural producers make energy efficiency improvements such as lighting; heating, ventilation and cooling; irrigation; insulation and motor replacements. When fully operational, these projects are estimated to generate and save 7.3 billion kilowatt hours of electricity annually — enough to power more than 660,000 homes for a year.

Eligible agricultural producers and rural small businesses may use REAP funds to make energy efficiency improvements or install renewable energy systems, including solar, wind, re-

newable biomass (including anaerobic digesters), small hydroelectric, ocean energy, hydrogen and geothermal.

The awards list announced on June 5, 2015 is contingent upon the recipients meeting the terms of the grant agreement. The list is available online at http://www.rd.usda.gov/files/RDR_EAPGrantAwards_06_10_15.pdf

President Obama's historic investments in rural America have made our rural communities stronger. Under his leadership, these investments in housing, community facilities, businesses and infrastructure have empowered rural America to continue leading the way — strengthening America's economy, small towns and rural communities.

Veto from A1

education; affordability for working families and small businesses; and fiscal accountability for existing spending.

The County Executive, aided by the County Attorney, has raised the possibility of litigation. This is an effort to force this Council to impose a double-digit tax increase on working

families. The stunning prospect of the County Executive essentially suing this Council, and thus the nearly 900,000 residents we represent, would be self-destructive, self-defeating and irresponsible, especially given the major economic opportunities this County is pursuing.

The instability at the top of our government demonstrated by such litigation could seriously

imperil key opportunities for this County and its residents, including securing the FBI headquarters and building a new Regional Medical Center. The County Executive and County Attorney's interpretation of the law is wrong; would unconstitutionally erode our system of checks and balances; and give the County Executive the near unlimited power to raise taxes.

This Council will not allow that to happen. We are confident the budget we adopted represents the best plan for measured investment with fiscal accountability to move our County forward.

The members of this body take our responsibility as stewards of the taxpayers' money seriously, and we always seek to work prudently in the best interests of the County and its residents.

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DNA from A3

partment of Legislative Services, said the backlog of DNA evidence samples and the timeliness of the information analyzed is of historical concern for lawmakers in Maryland.

"This is information the legislators wanted, and it's in law to collect," he said.

A bill signed into law in 2008 requires all law enforcement agencies and the Department of State Police to report to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention bi-annually on the collection and analysis of DNA evidence from crime scenes. Data is to be reported on the numbers and types of cases for which crime scene DNA evidence samples were collected, the average turnaround time for analysis of the DNA evidence, and the number of outstanding cases that have DNA evidence samples submitted but not yet tested.

Maryland's Attorney General Brian E. Frosh was a state senator in 2008 and voted in favor of the bill that added the reporting requirement.

"Any breakdown in the system means delays in trials and delays in the resolution of cases — with serious consequences for those accused of crimes, as well as the victims of crimes," he said. "We must look for ways for local law enforcement to have the resources they need to do their jobs."

This breakdown was a lapse in communication, said Chris Shank, executive director of the Governor's Office of

Crime Control and Prevention, the organization tasked with collecting the data.

The local law enforcement agencies submit their reports on crime scene DNA evidence collection through an online database, a process that has been reworked over the years to resolve various reporting errors and inconsistencies.

The DNA evidence data is due from the local law enforcement agencies to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention by April 1 of each even-numbered year by law. The Office of Legislative Audits then collects the data from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, which, for this reporting cycle, happened in mid-October 2014. Shank took office in January 2015.

"There's no conspiracy here. It's all very simple. It was a lack of follow-up, and we are in the process of remedying that now," he said.

A spokesman for the Prince George's County Police Department said that the department did not receive a request for the information until April 16, 2015 — more than one year later than the data was due to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention and 10 days after the report was released by the Office of Legislative Audits. The Baltimore City Police Department could not be reached for comment.

The Baltimore City Police Department has recently submitted their statistics to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, and data from the Prince George's

County Police Department is expected soon, said a spokeswoman for the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention.

Once complete results are compiled, the information will be posted to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention's website, Shank said Tuesday morning.

The 2015 legislative session of Maryland's General Assembly, which concluded this month, was riddled with bills related to DNA evidence.

Some — including one bill that would require the appropriate law enforcement agency to notify the victim of a crime or their representative of updates to a DNA profile in the case if requested, and another that expands the types of crimes that are eligible for postconviction DNA testing — were passed by the General Assembly and were signed by Gov. Larry Hogan Tuesday.

Another — a bill that would require additional testing to confirm a DNA match with a database entry before it is admissible in trial — did not.

For Gale Seaton, DNA evidence is about hope.

"It's tangible, physical evidence when all else fails," she said. "It's DNA — you can't refute DNA."

Seaton's daughter, Stacey, was murdered in Bowie in Prince George's County in 2005. But it wasn't until 2009 that the cigarette butt found next to Stacey's head was tested for DNA evidence.

Leaving DNA samples untested is a problem across the country, said Russell But-

ler, executive director and litigator for the Maryland Crime Victims Resource Center.

"Police are the ones investigating. Prosecutors are the ones litigating. If no one is pushing, they'll have other unsolved crimes and new cases to focus on. But for victims and survivors, knowledge is power. They can help their case get noticed," he said.

Seaton said investigators promised her an answer by the time of her daughter's funeral, but instead didn't recognize her name when she called.

When the police department called two months later to say there was nothing else they could do, Seaton said, she took it upon herself to keep the case moving.

A 2009 article in a local newspaper, The Bowie Blade, about the unsolved case grabbed the police department's attention, and they made an arrest within two weeks, Seaton said.

McDonald Abraham III was sentenced to 15 years in prison and five years of supervised probation in connection with the murder of Stacey Seaton, but it was not his DNA on the cigarette butt found near the scene of the crime. The DNA matched that of a man Abraham said he paid to kill Seaton. That man was found not guilty.

But, for Seaton, knowing was enough. The DNA evidence test results brought her a sense of peace, she said.

"My belief system was shattered after Stacey's death.

OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK

Movie Review "Entourage"

Entourage

Grade: D+

Rated R, pervasive harsh profanity and vulgarity, a lot of nudity and strong sexuality

1 hr., 44 min

I never watched HBO's "Entourage" series, and seeing the movie does nothing to make me want to go back and catch up. Of course, the movie was intended to satisfy current fans, not woo new ones, and maybe those fans will enjoy it. Who knows? All I can do is report that it produced maybe two or three mild chuckles from me, and that I didn't find any of the characters likable, sympathetic, relatable, funny, or interesting.

My understanding is that the TV show was once a satiric inside look at the nuts and bolts of the Hollywood system. The movie, which picks up right where the series ended and has Vince (Adrian Grenier) directing and starring in an adaptation of "Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde," is less concerned about finding comedy in the Hollywood machine than it is about extending the life of these characters. Vince's friend and manager, Eric (Kevin Connolly), is about to become a father and has other female-related troubles. Johnny Drama (Kevin Dillon), Vince's half-brother and full-idiot fame barnacle, wants to be taken seriously as an actor. Turtle (Jerry Ferrara) has the hots for fighter Ronda Rousey (as herself). Agent-turned-studio-head Ari Gold (Jeremy Piven) has to wrangle



ROTTENTOMATOES

"Entourage," the much-anticipated big-screen version of the award-winning hit HBO series, reunites the show's original cast, led by Kevin Connolly, Adrian Grenier, Kevin Dillon, Jerry Ferrara and Jeremy Piven. Movie star Vincent Chase (Grenier), together with his boys, Eric (Connolly), Turtle (Ferrara) and Johnny (Dillon), are back ... and back in business with super agent-turned-studio head Ari Gold (Piven). Some of their ambitions have changed, but the bond between them remains strong as they navigate the capricious and often cutthroat world of Hollywood. © Warner Bros.

more money from "Hyde's" financiers, a father and son pair of Texas millionaires played by Billy Bob Thornton and Haley Joel Osment.

Also, Ari's ultra-gay former assistant, Lloyd (Rex Lee), is getting married and wants Ari to give him away. It was nice of the "Entourage" producers — and fitting for the show's theme, I suppose — to let Lloyd tag along with the movie despite the

movie having no use for him. The same could also be said for most of the blink-and-you-miss-them celebrity cameos, which serve only to slow down what little momentum the story has. (Oh, hey, it's Ed O'Neill! Anything to add, Ed? A joke, maybe, or something to advance the story? No? Nothing? Just stoppin' by? Well, OK.)

Written and directed by series creator Doug Ellin, this

"Entourage" movie is aimless and inert. If it's a Hollywood satire, it's toothless. If it's a character-based comedy, it's a failure for not coming up with anything particularly funny for the characters to do. If it's just fan service, meant to give the show's viewers another 104 minutes with their beloved crew, well, I guess it's good at that. But it's bad at being a movie.

Grants from A1

libraries and recognizes new children's book authors. Similarly, Defending the Early Years seeks to rally educators to take action on policies that affect the education of young children.

"We're delighted to receive funding from two generous organizations that share our goal of developing early literacy skills in young children," said Kathleen Teaze, CEO of Prince George's County Memorial Library System. "Our Library Cafés work toward this goal, preparing children to read in elementary school and laying the foundation for success later in life."

Prince George's County librarians begin Library Café events with brief presentations showing parents and caregivers how to integrate talking, singing, reading, writing and drawing into everyday activities with their children. Refreshments are provided. Afterward, families cycle through five stations of simple, developmentally appropriate activities illustrating these skills. Each family receives a bag of early literacy resources, educational toys and a children's book following the event.

"Our hope is that each family will see that daily reading, nurturing interactions and playing are the most important activities that parents can pro-

vide for their children during their early years to prepare them for school and life," said Rachel Zukowski, youth services coordinator for Prince George's County Memorial Library System. Zukowski organizes the Library Café events with Pam Hamlin, family literacy specialist for the library system.

"Through the cafés, we hope that parents and caregivers will strengthen their relationships with each other and see the library as a part of their support system," Zukowski said.

Prince George's County Memorial Library System will hold Library Café events this fall.

For more information, visit www.pgcmcls.info.

Prince George's County Memorial Library System provides materials and information for study and personal enrichment, offering strategies for lifelong learning through access to varied media and professional guidance. The library system consists of branches in 19 communities including Accokeek, Baden, Beltsville, Bladensburg, Bowie, Fairmount Heights, Glenarden, Greenbelt, Hillcrest Heights, Hyattsville, Largo-Kettering, Laurel, Mount Rainier, New Carrollton, Oxon Hill, South Bowie, Spauldings, Surratts-Canton and Upper Marlboro. (www.pgcmcls.info)



PHOTOS COURTESY PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY SYSTEM
Library Café at Spauldings Branch Library.

DNA from A5

I believed everything worked right, but I grew distrustful of the police — it almost killed me," she said. "Now I have to believe that everybody gets justice in the end — whether it's karma or God, I truly believe that there's justice."

Bloodsworth has also been

able to feel a sense of relief.

Ten years after DNA evidence proved he wasn't guilty and nearly 20 years after the crime was committed, Bloodsworth learned that the true killer had been found. The DNA evidence that remained untouched until Bloodsworth's prompting — semen found on underwear at the scene of the

crime — matched that of Kimberly Shay Ruffner, a known sexual criminal who had just been released from prison at the time of the 1984 murder. Ruffner pleaded guilty in a 2004 trial.

Bloodsworth now lives in Pennsylvania, where he enjoys a spending time with his girlfriend and silversmithing his

own jewelry, a life afforded to him by what he calls luck.

"I read the book that came to me in the mail and had one of the best genetic scientists test my evidence. The only thing that separated me from freedom was half of one cell," he said. "That half of one cell cleared me of everything. That half of one cell caught

The Edge of Sports

by DAVE ZIRIN

Having a Wedding? A Sweet 16? Consider One of Brazil's World Cup Stadiums!



In Brazil, a debate raged throughout 2013 about whether two plus two equals four, or if in fact the correct answer was five. Those arguing that two and two was four were the millions of workers, students, academics, and citizens who said that spending billions on building new stadiums for the 2014 World Cup was a criminal use of resources. They said that every shred of data we have shows that mega-events require mega-spending, which leads to mega-debt, mega-displacements, and mega-militarization. The other side said that the World Cup would be a glorious affair providing not only international acclaim but an economic tide that would lift all boats.

But the resisters would not be mollified by slick ad campaigns, bright billboards, and celebrity spokespeople. They took to the streets to argue that this was not a battle of contrasting opinions or ideas. It was facts vs. faith: obvious blaring facts vs. cynical profiteering masquerading as faith. In the end it didn't matter that the history of hosting these events painted a picture of the future so vividly bleak, Marley's Ghost might as well have been standing there, chains rattling, imploring the faith-based World Cup boosters that this endeavor would fail. But all the logic, mass demonstrations, and counterexamples dotting the earth—like places destroyed by the mega-event monorail—didn't matter. From the rotting Bird's Nest stadium in Beijing to the 2004 Olympic structures sheltering the homeless of Greece, facts were not only reframed as conjecture, but also met with tear gas, truncheons, and tanks. That's what happens when the government, the arms industry, the real estate barons, and the construction magnates reach their own consensus that this is good for them. Might makes right and if they believe that two and two equals five, then people better just get with the new math.

Now, as NPR has reported, all the predictions made in the streets of Brazil have proven true, expressed in a Jackson Pollock splatter of tragedy and farce across the country (which is a more erudite way of saying "we can now see that FIFA vomited all over Brazil"). All the tragedy people were assured would be minimal—the displacements, the eradication of favela communities, the endless debt amidst austerity—have been super-sized.

But then there is the farce. All the new stadiums—festooned with their FIFA-quality bells and whistles—have become punch lines. As NPR reported last week, they now seem to exist as satirical props. In Brasilia, the \$550 million stadium is now being used as a "parking lot for buses." In Natal, the soccer field—again built with public funds—can be rented out for weddings and kids parties. In Manaus, the Amazon's much publicized new arena has been suggested by politicians as a possible open-air prison. In Curitiba at their new stadium, it was found that the locker rooms had been broken into and were being used by the homeless. This proved, if nothing else, that at least some folks in Brazil aside from the dissenters, learned from the Olympic disaster in Greece.

My one problem with the NPR report is that it describes what is happening in Brazil as a "World Cup hangover." That implies a party where people drink heedlessly and pay a price. This is more like a populace being forcibly strapped down and given medication "for their own good," only to have an intense allergic reaction.

I spoke to Joao, a street merchant I became friendly with when in Rio, and he said, "We were angry in 2013 because no one wanted this. I want to say people are angry now and they are. I want to say that anger is going towards resisting austerity, but I cannot. Dilma and the Workers Party are seen as the left wing, and people are scared that challenging them will open the door even further for a right—a fascist right—I haven't seen so confident in years. In 2013 it looked like a new movement could emerge. Now the right is banging their pots. The anger is real, and they are answering it even though their solutions don't address any of the problems the World Cup brought."

Rio is a particularly perilous place at the moment, because even as people are still reeling from their World Cup sickness, the 2016 Olympics are right around the corner.

Displacements and police violence, centered on the favelas, continue. The favela I reported from, Vila Autodromo, has been nearly eradicated.

The 2016 Rio Olympics—with all of their hidden and attendant costs—now present an irony for Brazil too

See STADIUMS Page A7

Calendar of Events

July 2 — July 8, 2015

Safe Summer: Pre-Independence Day Cookout

Date and Time: Thursday, July 2, 2015 10 am-12 noon
Description: Teens will enjoy an Independence Day cookout full of delicious food, games and activities.
Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 12-17
Location: Bladensburg Community Center
4500 57th Avenue, Bladensburg 20710
Contact: 301-277-2124; TTY 301-445-4512

Seniors: Washington Cardiovascular Institute

Date and Time: Wednesday, July 3, 2015 10 am-12:30 pm
Description: A clinical Vascular Specialist will be onsite to conduct a comprehensive evaluation using "duplex scanning," a method that combines sonogram and ultrasound to provide images of the arteries to determine if a patient has peripheral artery disease (PAD). Following the evaluation, the Specialist will discuss the outcome in private with the participant.
Cost: Free
Ages: 60 & better
Location: Langley Park Senior Activity Center
1500 Merrimac Drive Hyattsville, MD 20783
Contact: 301-408-4343; TTY 301-446-3402

Arts on the Waterfront: The Kim Reynolds Quartet

Date and Time: Sunday, July 5, 2015 6-7:30 pm
Description: Come experience the smooth instrumental jazz of the Kim Reynolds Quartet.
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, July 6, 2015 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.
Walk led by Dr. Katina Miles, Dermatologist.
Cost: Free
Ages: Any Prince George's County senior (age 60 & better) or pre-senior (age 50-59)
Location: Meet at the entrance to Lake Artemesia, 5400 Block Berwyn Rd at Ballew Ave., Berwyn Heights
Contact: 301-446-3400 (Special Programs Division) or 301-446-3444 (Club 300 Voicemail)

Safe Summer: Skate Party

Date and Time: Monday, July 6, 2015 10 pm-12 am
Description: Teens will enjoy an indoor skating party at the community center with their friends. DJ Richard will be there, so get ready to have fun.
Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 12-17
Location: Bladensburg Community Center
4500 57th Avenue, Bladensburg 20710
Contact: 301-277-2124; TTY 301-445-4512

Seniors: Hearing Screening

Date and Time: Tuesday, July 7, 2015 1-2 pm
Description: Many people experience hearing loss at some point in their lives. If you think you may have experienced some hearing loss, please sign up at the center's front desk. Space is limited, so sign up early.
Cost: Free
Ages: 60 and Better
Location: John E Howard Senior Activity Center
4400 Shell Street Capitol Heights, MD 20743
Evelyn Cole Senior Activity Center
5720 Addison Road Seat Pleasant, MD 20743
Contact: 301-735-2400; TTY 301-446-3402

Safe Summer: Basketball Clinic

Date and Time: Tuesday, July 7, 2015 10 pm-12 am
Description: Let's play ball! Tonight, teens will learn general basketball skills. After the game, join us for a giant Jenga showdown. Finally, get your game faces on for the end of the day game night on the Play Station 4.
Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 12-17
Location: Bladensburg Community Center
4500 57th Avenue, Bladensburg 20710
Contact: 301-277-2124; TTY 301-445-4512

Jazz on the Lawn: Bruce Ewan

Date and Time: Wednesday, July 8, 2015, 7 pm
Description: Bring a blanket or lawn chair, and enjoy Jazz on the Lawn—Riversdale's summer jazz series. In case of rain, the concert moves inside. This evening patrons will be treated to music by Bruce Ewan.
Cost: Free
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Riversdale House Museum
4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park 20737
Contact: 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544

Seniors: Arts on a Roll Improvisational Theatre Series

Date and Time: Wednesday, July 8, 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 ... How Can I Stop the Deluge of Junk Mail the Mail Man Drops Off?

Dear EarthTalk:

It seems like I'm getting more junk mail than ever these days. How can I stop the deluge?

— Grace Dixon,
Houston, TX

First of all, you're probably right! Junk mail has increased to a massive scale in recent years, with the average American receiving 16 pieces each week. While this might not seem like much, it adds up to weigh an estimated 41 pounds each year, according to leading anti-junk mail organization, 41pounds.org.

What's more, 44 percent of it is never opened, though the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates only about 40 percent is recycled properly. This enormous waste of paper has triggered the U.S. Postal Service to install over 4,000 postal recycling stations around the country. From a financial perspective, nearly \$320 million of local tax money is used to dispose of and recycle of junk mail each year.

However, junk mail has environmental repercussions on a larger scale than individual inconvenience or waste of tax money. The paper for these mailings comes from more than 100 million trees each

year. Not only does this cause deforestation and other direct problems to the local environment, it also creates an imbalance of the planet's carbon levels. While forests usually act as "carbon sinks" to maintain constant levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, chopping down these trees and converting them into paper emits this stored carbon prematurely back into the atmosphere. On top of that, according to 41pounds.org, the carbon emissions from junk mailings each year are roughly equivalent to those of nine million cars.

ForestEthics.org, another leader in the charge against junk mail, estimates that junk mail produces 51.5 million metric tons of greenhouse gases each year. Ciara O'Rourke reports in *The New York Times* that this is roughly the same amount of emissions produced by heating 13 million homes in the winter. ForestEthics' report, "Climate Change Enclosed," likens junk mail's carbon burden to 2.4 million cars idling 24/7 year-round.

Another negative impact of junk mail is the water waste it creates. As drought becomes an increasingly important problem across the country, Americans continue to waste upwards of 28 billion gallons of water on junk mail production and recycling every year.



CREDIT: LALI MASRIERA, FLICKRCC

Consumers inundated with growing amounts of junk mail can sign up for services that take their names and addresses "off the list."

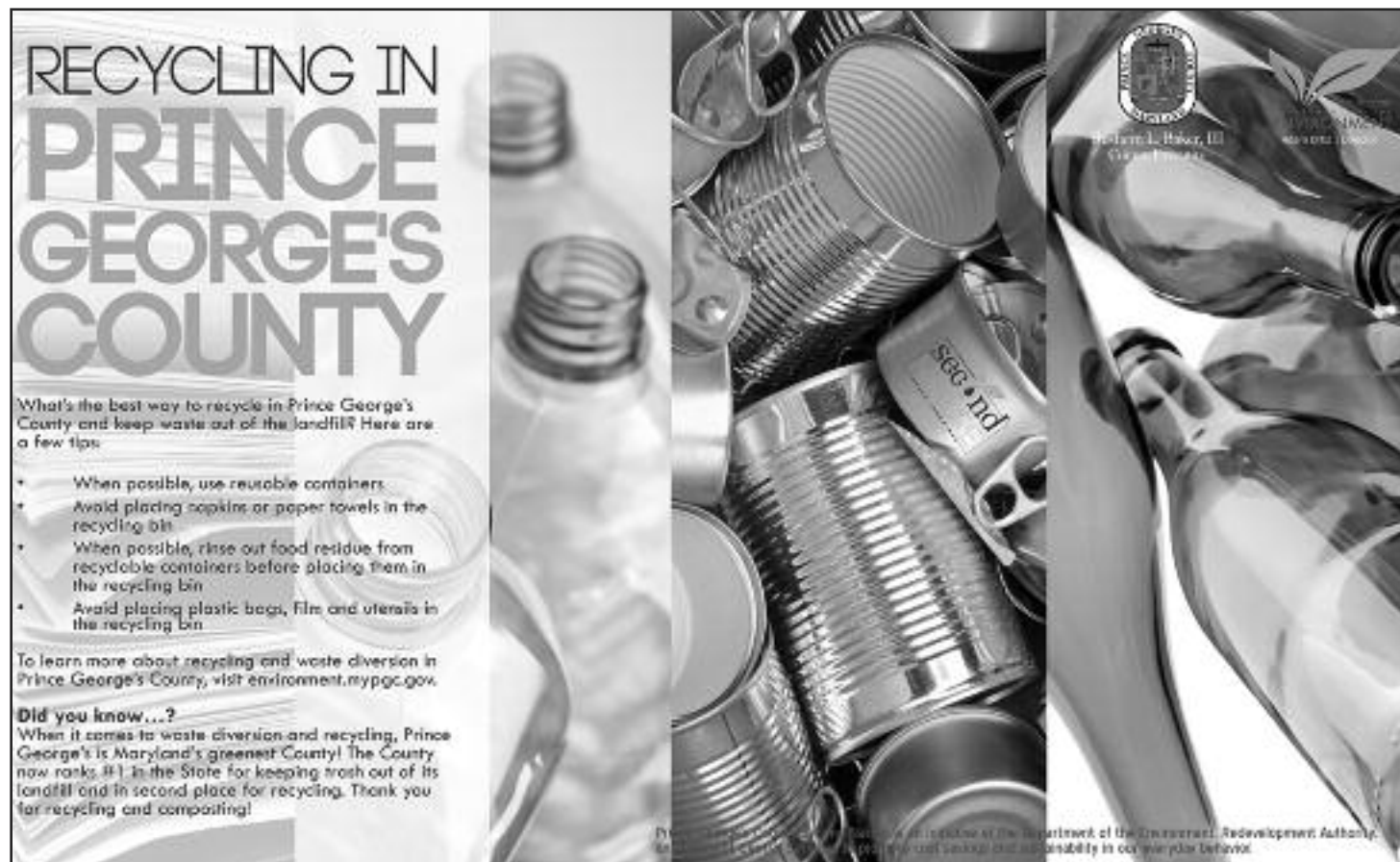
Thankfully, these enormous environmental costs can easily be reduced by taking basic steps to get off mailing lists. By registering at 41pounds.org, junk mailings can be reduced by 80-95 percent for \$41. Similar to a no-call list for telemarketers, you can also opt out of these mailing lists at catalogchoice.org. By contacting dozens of these mailers directly, these organizations aim to eliminate junk mail waste.

After five years, 41pounds.org estimates "you'll conserve 1.7 trees and 700 gallons of water, and prevent global warming emissions—and you'll gain about 350 hours of free time." Though readers should note you must re-

register every five years, this simple action can make a huge impact in stopping the torrent of junk mail being crammed into your mailbox each week.

CONTACTS: 41pounds.org, www.41pounds.org; Catalog Choice, www.catalogchoice.org; Forest Ethics' "Climate Change Enclosed," donotmail.org/downloads/ClimateReport.pdf.

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Watch from A4

while others lavish tens of billions on the powerful and rich. Even those who are lucky enough to get a job now might not be lucky enough to be paid a fair or living wage. And we have the unbelievable spectacle of 21 states denying their citizens tens of billions of dollars in desperately needed health care and jobs under the Affordable Care Act.

With true structural change there would be far less need for charity; without it the very best charitable efforts will never be enough. How many private foundations could make up for the denial of Medicaid or for the looming cuts in food stamps and other safety net programs? Yet like so many other prophets Dr. King's voice was often at odds with leaders or conveniently left unheard by citizens in his own land.

During Dr. King's lifetime, President Lyndon Johnson's great War on Poverty attempted to ad-

dress some of the inequalities in the United States that needed redressing and restructuring. But Richard Nixon sent a very different message as he accepted the Republican presidential nomination in August 1968 already criticizing President Johnson's new anti-poverty efforts, saying: "For the past five years we have been deluged by government programs for the unemployed, programs for the cities, programs for the poor ...

America is a great nation today not because of what government did for people, but because of what people did for themselves." Candidate Nixon had a different vision for government's role: "Let government use its tax and credit policies to enlist in this battle the greatest engine of progress ever developed in the history of man—American private enterprise. Let us enlist in this great cause the millions of Americans in volunteer organizations who will bring a dedication to this task that no amount of money can ever buy." Instead of worrying about restructuring the edifice that had produced Amer-

ica's beggars, he thought giving the edifice more power would help; instead of worrying about transforming the Jericho Road, he recommended relying on millions more Good Samaritans.

When Ronald Reagan ran for president in 1980, he gave a similar message about letting people take care of themselves—all the more charged because he chose to deliver it at an appearance at the Neshoba County Fair in Philadelphia, Mississippi, the county where three young civil rights workers—James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner—were murdered in June 1964 while seeking to ensure the right to vote for Black citizens in Mississippi's closed society. It was a shameful signal to the White Jim Crow, states' rights South. Shockingly he did not say a word about the racist violence that took these three young lives but rather told his Southern audience he believed in states' rights and "in people doing as much as they can for

themselves at the community level and at the private level." Like Nixon, Reagan said he thought we needed to recognize "that the people of this country can solve the problems, that we don't have anything to be afraid of as long as we have the people of America." In fact, Reagan said as governor of California he had learned many people were poor because the government "bureaucracy" there to help them "has them so economically trapped that there is no way they can get away." His first budget as president sought to eradicate virtually the entire federal safety net and replace it with block grants and billions of budget cuts.

The same familiar accusations and policies are back from some leaders today who believe government's safety net is responsible for putting poor people in a "poverty trap," and they will only be able to escape it if

See WATCH, Page A12

Stadiums from A6

wearying to contemplate but too engaging to ignore. Ninety percent of this recently built World Cup infrastructure won't be worth a damn for the Olympics, since the World Cup is a national operation, with stadiums splayed out across a country larger than the continental United States. The Olympics, of course, are

all about Rio, with the infrastructure projects, dislocation, displacement, and militarization falling upon one city. This outmoded style of organizing the games should have the effect of muting national protest against the Olympic monolith by confining the social disruption to the Rio coast, even though the entire country—once again amidst austerity—will be financing it, its future

tied to public works projects that will become the squatter shelters, wedding party backdrops, and parking lots of tomorrow.

As we speak, another team of business leaders, former politicians, and star athletes are attempting to use their combined charm and resources to convince the people of Boston that two and two equals five, and their city

should host the 2024 Olympics. Yet people in Boston are fighting back. As those in Brazil have learned, when dealing with the Olympic vultures, being right is never, ever enough. Keeping the Olympics out of your city isn't a "battle of ideas" on a level playing field, but it is in fact a battle. To win, you can't just raise arguments, you have to raise hell.