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Leadership Changes in PG County Government

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Government

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—Today, Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III announced leadership changes in the Office of the County Executive and within the Prince George's County Police Department and Department of Homeland Security. County Executive Baker announced that Barry Stanton, previously Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (DCAO) for Public Safety, will now become Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Public Infrastructure, Thomas Himler, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Budget, Finance and Administration will assume responsibilities

for Economic Development, Retiring Prince George's County Police Department Chief Mark A. Magaw will become County Executive Baker's DCAO for Public Safety. County Executive Baker also announced that Deputy Police Chief H.P. "Hank" Stawinski, III will become Acting Chief of the Prince George's County Police Department (PGPD) and Deputy Police Chief Gevonnia R. Whittington will be the Acting Director of the Prince George's County Department of Homeland Security.

DCAO Barry Stanton will now have oversight for the Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPW&T), De-

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Council Leadership Supports Renaming Football Stadium

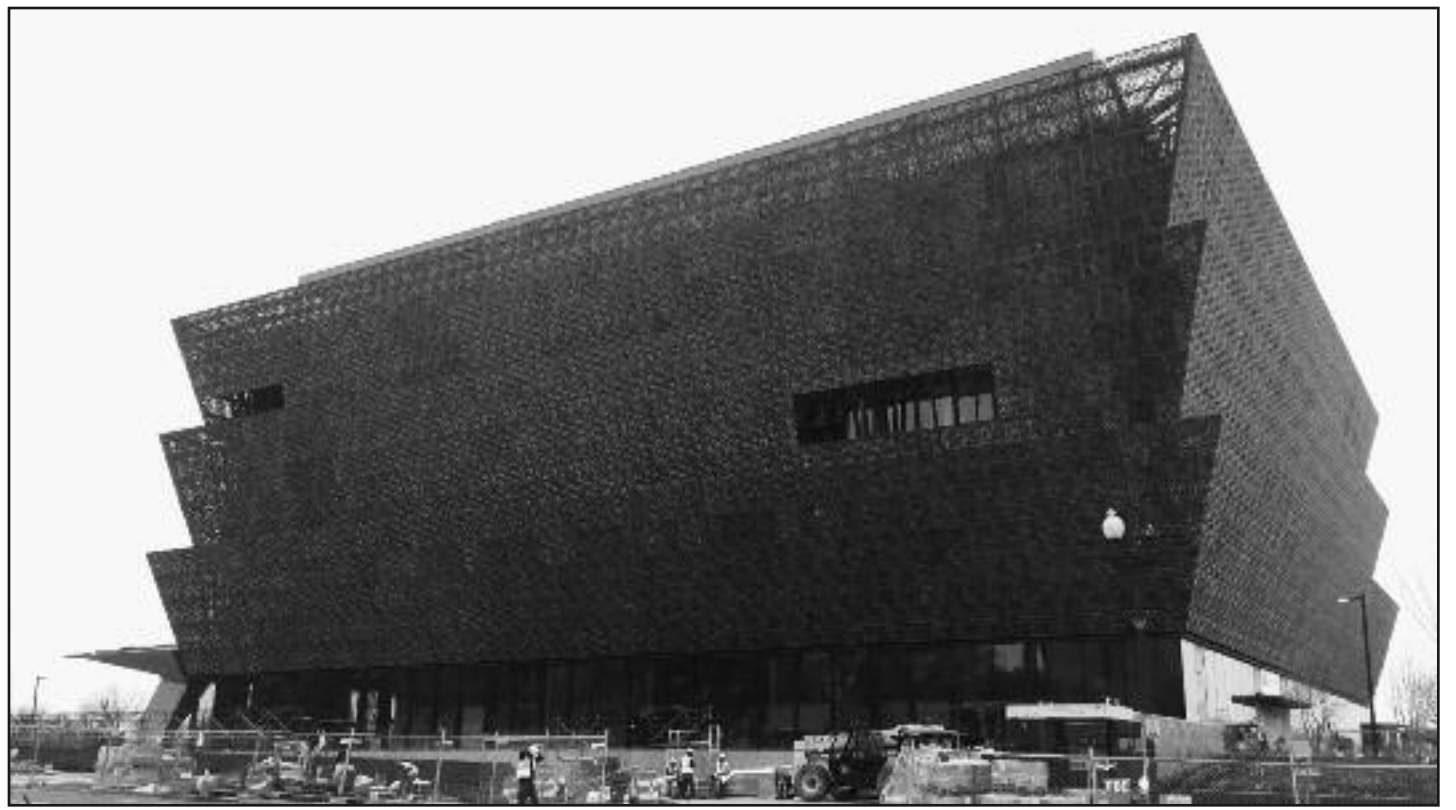
By PRESS OFFICER
PGCPS

Prince George's County Council Chair Derrick L. Davis (D)—District 6, and Vice-Chair Dannielle Glaros (D)—District 3, have expressed support for University of Maryland President Wallace Loh and student advocates calling for a change in the name of the university's football stadium. Byrd Stadium, with a capacity of more than 50,000, is home to the Maryland Terrapins football

team. The stadium name honors the legacy of H.C. "Curly" Byrd, who served as university president for 43 years, retiring in 1954.

In a letter to the University of Maryland Board of Regents, the governing body with authority to effect a name change, President Loh says former President Byrd "dramatically increased enrollment, faculty, funding and the size of the cam-

See DEBATE TEAM Page A7



CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTO BY ALESSIA GRUNBERGER

The National Museum of African American History and Culture is expected to open in the fall of 2016.

African American Museum Kicks Off Countdown to 2016 Grand Opening

By ALESSIA GRUNBERGER
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Lined with transcendent museums and monuments that are equally impressive in architecture and history, the National Mall is the symbolic epicenter of American pride and achievement.

But these iconic structures, particularly the United States Capitol and the White House, might not have existed if it weren't, in part, for the uncredited work of both enslaved and

free African Americans.

Now, the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture, a three-tier Yoruban-inspired structure, is being built to commemorate these unsung laborers as well as the rest of the African American community. And that museum, which is expected to open in the fall of 2016, is on the Mall—just steps from the Washington Monument.

To kick off the year-long countdown to its grand opening, the museum hosted a three-night

event last month to celebrate the anniversaries of three major milestones in African American history: the ratification of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, which abolished slavery 1865; the passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965; and the end of the Civil War in 1865.

Lonnie Bunch, the founding director of the museum, called it "a dynamic event for the entire community." Titled "Commemorate and Celebrate Freedom," the free festivities drew hundreds of spectators and evoked visceral reactions.

Couples cupping hot beverages and young families toting blankets congregated on a mound just yards from the museum to snag the best seats on the knoll. Evening joggers and bikers also stopped in their tracks to marvel at the striking display.

"I saw the structure, the corona. I was floored and I teared up," Sharon Pendana, the author of *Secret Washington D.C.* said. "I mean, to think that this is coming and it's a stone's throw

See MUSEUM Page A5

EDC President Coleman Announces 116 New Jobs Available in PG County

By MONICA BRISCOE
PGCEDC

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—In November, Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation President Jim Coleman announced that there are 116 new jobs available to Prince George's County residents. The announcement was made at the monthly Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development (PZED) Committee meeting. The wide-range of jobs include Computer Systems Analyst, Software Developer, Technical Architect, Banquet Cook, Retail Associate, Delivery Driver and more. Companies hiring include

L-3 Communications, Inovalon, AMDEX Corporation, University of Maryland, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, Macy's, Papa Johns and more, at locations around the County such as Laurel, College Park, Bowie, Brandywine, Oxon Hill and Suitland. With salaries ranging from \$21k to \$105K, these new positions represent an estimated payroll of \$5 million. Coleman



PHOTO COURTESY PGEDC

Councilmember Andrea Harrison, PZED Chair (pictured left), EDC President Jim Coleman (pictured right) with Elizabeth Williams, EDC Director of Workforce Services & Jeffrey Swilley, EDC Deputy Director of Workforce Services.

also announced Prince George's County gained 4,800 jobs over the past year, according to the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation.

"Our employers are hiring daily and that shows they are

committed to Prince George's County," said EDC President Jim Coleman. "We are doing everything we can to get the word out about these new positions, so we can fill these jobs as quickly as possible."

The Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation's Workforce Services Di-

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Take "Stocks" in Your Business

EDI Fund Manager Ebony Stocks Helps Businesses of All Sizes

By MONICA BRISCOE
PGCEDC

The Prince George's County Economic Development Incentive (EDI) Fund road show, led by EDI Fund Manager Ebony Stocks, made a stop at County Connections, a business event hosted by the Prince George's County Supplier Development & Diversity Division to connect local businesses with Berman Enterprises' contracting opportunities. Stocks engaged more than 50 attendees on how the EDI Fund is an important incentive tool, providing businesses loans starting at \$250,000 for land and building acquisitions, building construction and improvement, equipment and working capital. The \$50 million EDI Fund was created to help support all types of businesses including small, local, and minority firms, promote development and redevelopment projects, transit-oriented development and growth of key industry sectors. Berman Enterprises recently broke ground on its New Carrollton Station project thanks to \$2.25 million in EDI



PHOTO COURTESY PGEDC

Ebony Stocks,
EDI Fund Manager

Fund support; however, the incentive is available for businesses, large and small.

"If your company is expanding and you see rapid growth in your horizon, I'm the person to call," said Ebony Stocks, EDC EDI Fund Manager. "The EDI Fund supports projects that have a significant economic impact in Prince George's County and we have financing resources to bring your project to fruition."

Currently, there are a total of 28 deals in the EDI Fund pipeline over the next 12 months, totaling \$20 million in

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INSIDE

Maryland Urges Residents to Avoid Use of Synthetic Marijuana, Other Illicit Drugs

Some of the side effects of synthetic cannabinoids include nausea, extreme vomiting, profuse sweating, hallucinations, agitation, seizures, high blood pressure, dizziness, anxiety, headache, slowed speech and confusion.

Community, Page A3

The Education Inequality Struggle

It is nation-threatening when we look at how our children in public schools are performing in the fourth and eighth grades in 2015 and see more than 75 percent of lower income children, more than 80 percent of Black children and more than 73 percent of Latino children cannot read or compute at grade level.

Commentary, Page A4

USDA Announces \$210 Million to be Invested in Renewable Energy Infrastructure

The report, titled *U.S. Ethanol: An Examination of Policy, Production, Use, Distribution, and Market Interactions*, brings clarity to the complex interaction of ethanol production with agricultural markets and government policies.

Business, Page A5

Movie Review: Creed

Adonis Johnson never knew his famous father, world heavy weight champion Apollo Creed, who died before he was born. Still, there's no denying that boxing is in his blood, so Adonis heads to Philadelphia, the site of Apollo Creed's legendary match with a tough upstart named Rocky Balboa.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

The holidays can be so wasteful. What are some ways we can green our celebrations this year?

—Belinda McHugh,
Los Angeles, CA

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

Mary Leonard Dies (Used to Play the Piano on the Radio)

Mary Antoinette "Puddin" Leonard, one of Skyline's original residents and my dear neighbor, died Dec. 6. She was 91.

She was born in Capitol Heights, the youngest and only daughter of the four children of Antonia and Theodore Evans. She attended Bradbury Heights Elementary and graduated from the old Maryland Park High School, where met her future husband, Calvin Leonard.

They were married June 10, 1950, at St. Matthias Church in Capitol Heights. Cal was not only Mary's high school sweetheart but also a Navy Air Force veteran of World War II. In 1954 they moved into a brand new house on Clayton Lane in Skyline. Mary lived there the rest of her life and was an always a generous supporter of the Skyline Citizens Association.

One of her early jobs was playing the piano for radio shows. Later Mary worked for the D.C. Department of Finance and Revenue.

The Leonards had a second home, at Cobb Island, where they enjoyed fishing and boating.

Cal, who had retired from the Washington Gas Light Company, died in 1996. Mary's three brothers, Harry, George and Lester, also predeceased her. Survivors include her sons Keith and his wife Pam, Kenneth and his wife Sharon, grandsons Ryan, Dalton and Vance Leonard, and her cherished kitty, Little Mama.

During the service at Lee Funeral Home, grandson Vance read a poem, "My First Christmas in Heaven." It was appropriate because Mary will most be remembered for her big annual Christmas Eve party. I will be sad to miss it this year.

Changing landscape

The Tender Rib, a soul-food carryout, opened in Andrews Manor Shopping Center on Dec. 17. I checked with the window washer, getting the place ready to open. He filled me in on the cuisine—ribs, mac 'n cheese, collards and more. He didn't have

to say anything else. I'll be checking out this place soon.

Cardinal Donald Wuerl consecrated a new altar this summer at St. John the Evangelist Church in Clinton. The altar, a new podium and baptismal font are gifts to the parish as a bequest from the late Fr. Thomas Pollard, former pastor of St. John's. Among those participating in the ceremony was the current pastor, Fr. Jaime Hernández.

Joint Base Andrews held its annual Christmas Tree and Menorah Lighting ceremony on Dec. 2. I love to see them lit up as I drive Allentown Road at night.

Applause

Andrews Federal Credit Union, on Allentown Road, recently received the Stars & Stripes Reader's Choice Award. Out of more than 5,000 entries received, it was chosen as the top financial institution.

Bishop McNamara High School has been awarded the Prince George's County Beautification Award for their Memorial Garden. The garden was founded in honor Terrell Edelen, a McNamara senior who died suddenly last year.

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) recently won the prestigious 2015 National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Parks and Recreation Management—the highest award given to parks and recreation agencies.

Christopher Page and Rosa Gonzales, employees at the McDonald's in Fort Washington, have been recognized for outstanding service—for being "what a McDonald's employee is all about"—by The McDonald's Family Restaurants in Washington, D.C. They are now featured in two 30" x 30" plaques which are displayed in McDonald's restaurants in Ft. Washington, Clinton, Hyattsville, College Park, Suitland and Landover.

Go to YouTube to enjoy the U.S. Air Force Band in a recent World War II Flashback at Union Station on Dec. 3. The event was in honor of the 70th

anniversary of the end of World War II.

At Clearwater Nature Center in Clinton

Family Campfires: Enjoy an afternoon nature program while roasting marshmallows. Roasting sticks and marshmallows will be provided. You may bring your own hotdogs and drinks if you like. Saturdays, Jan. 16 and Feb. 20, 1 to 2:30 p.m. The fee is \$3.

Live Animal Shows: Meet some of the nature center's live animals up close. Touch a snake, turtle, toad and more. Saturdays, Jan. 2 and Feb. 6, 10 to 11 a.m. Fee \$3.

Basket Weaving Classes: For students of all skill levels, ages 13 and up. Saturdays, Jan. 23 (fancy bread basket) and Feb. 20 (philodendron basket), 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fee, \$30. Materials will be supplied by the instructor.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Jeffrey Norton and Michael Nichols, Dec. 26; Virginia Simms, Carolyn Jeffcoat and Kirra Starr Mears, Dec. 27; Christopher Garris, Anne Lucas, Patsy Anderson and my granddaughter Samantha McHale, Dec. 28; Brayden Proctor, Dec. 29;

Amy Anthony and Robert Tretler, Dec. 30; Pat Spry, Dec. 31; Sister Haimanot, Dorothy Cullinan and Bridget Vilky, Jan. 1.

Happy anniversary to Gerald and Arvilla Atkinson, their 61st on Dec. 27; Nola and Bruce Thomas, their 38th on Dec. 27; and my grandson David and Nina McHale, their 15th on Dec. 30.

And to my readers...



Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday to Charles Dorsett, Irena Stammer, Taylor Terry, Shawnee Hendricks, Nurbert Hughes, Anthony Bell, Elvin Falby, Valentine Grant II, Ronald Crawford, Sr., Doris Mackall, Lilly Jalloh, Somto, John Stahl, Alaya Bell, Jahmaiyah Dorsett, Elijah Kerrick, Carolyn Woodard, Donald Hill, Theodore (Ted) Mosley, Sandra Jefferson, Carol Hughes, Kienel Peralta, Ikechi (Ike), Latsha Bell, Betty Rivers, Wendell Wallace, Ky Panda-Massey, Paula Carter and Luz Knight who are celebrating their birthdays during the month of December 2015.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Happy wedding anniversary to Ronald and Sandra Jones, and Ikechi (Ike) and Chidinma (Chiddi) Mbakwe who are celebrating their wedding anniversaries during the month of December.

NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION

You are invited to attend our New Year's Eve Celebration Thursday, December 31, 2015 at 10:00 PM. The service is at Westphalia Church Rev. Dr.

Timothy West, Senior Pastor located at 9363 D'Arcy Road, Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

CONGRATULATIONS

A dozen youth tap dancers (Jam Youth Project) performed on WUSA Channel 9 "Great Day Washington" Tuesday, December 15, 2015. Congratulations to Makayla Eugene, the daughter of Curtis and Stephanie Eugene, who reside in Brandywine, Maryland. Everyone did an excellent job.

CEDARVILLE STATE FOREST FIRST DAY HIKE

Join the Friends of Cedarville State Forest on a steady winter hike in the forest January 1, 2016 at 1:00 PM. Families will meet at Cedarville State Forest—10201 Bee Oak Road, Brandywine, Maryland. Hot chocolate and refreshments will be provided after the hike in the headquarters. Families are encouraged to call Cedarville State Forest at 301-888-1410 to register.

BURNS NIGHT SUPPER

Come and dine with us at Darnall's Chance House Museum Saturday, January 30, 2016 from 6:00 PM–8:00 PM. You will experience the flavor and at-

mosphere of one of Scotland's oldest and most cherished traditions. Celebrate the life and works of Robert Burns, Scotland's National Poet. Program includes music, poetry, bagpipes, dinner, history and fun. Advance reservation and payment are required. Ages 21 & up—Fee: Resident \$45; Non-Resident \$54. Telephone number 301-952-8010; TTY 301-699-2544.

29th ANNUAL WINTER FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Come and see the spectacular holiday drive-through event at Watkins Regional Park Thursday, December 17 thru Friday, January 1, 2016 from 5:00 PM–9:30 PM (Daily). This year there will be more than one million lights.

Fee is cash only—\$5 for cars and vans; \$15 mini-buses and limos; \$25 buses; \$10 multi-visit passes for cars and vans. There is no cost December 25. Please bring a canned good to donate to local food banks. Visit www.pg-parks.com/Festivals.htm for details. Telephone number is 301-699-2456; TTY 301-699-2544.

Merry Christmas to Everyone

Neighborhood Events

Edwards' Provisions Included in Final Transportation Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards (MD-4), who was appointed by Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi to the conference committee, had several provisions she championed included in the final transportation reauthorization. These provisions include adding stormwater mitigation language, increasing transit-oriented development opportunities, boosting funding for bus programs and Amtrak, and increasing safety oversight for WMATA and other rail systems nationwide. The Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act), is a bipartisan, 5-year transportation reauthorization that will create good-wage jobs, improve the nation's aging infrastructure, and boost the economy. The FAST Act also includes the long-overdue reauthorization for the Export-Import Bank, which will protect and create jobs by helping American businesses compete in the global economy. The legislation passed the House 359-65.

"America is literally falling apart," Edwards said. "The United States now ranks just 16th in infrastructure, according to the World Economic Forum. And according to the American Society of Civil Engineers, the overall assessment of our nation's infrastructure ranks the U.S. at a D-plus. That is why I support the FAST Act, a bipartisan, bicameral long-term reauthorization to fund highway, transit, highway safety, motor carrier safety, hazardous materials safety, and even passenger rail programs and projects. It provides state and local governments in Maryland and across the country with the necessary certainty to undertake large-scale, complex transportation projects for the first time in years.

"Now let me be clear, the FAST Act is not the bill I would have written and it is definitely not perfect, including some irresponsible pay-fors. However, it is a fair, bipartisan compromise that will provide certainty, invest in America's infrastructure, and create good-paying American jobs.

"I am grateful that by working in a bipartisan manner with my colleagues in the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, on the floor, and in conference, I was able to include several important policy provisions that will benefit both Maryland and the nation. I thank Chairmen Shuster (PA-9) and Graves (LA-6), Ranking Members DeFazio (OR-4) and Norton (DC), and their staffs for their leadership and efforts through the Thanksgiving holiday weekend to get us to this 5-year reauthorization."

Below are several of the provisions championed by Rep. Edwards that were included in the final legislation:

WMATA Oversight: Bipartisan effort with Reps. Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC) and Barbara Comstock (VA-10) to provide new and direct federal oversight of Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority (WMATA) Metro. Also, Rep. Edwards worked with Rep. Comstock to include bipartisan amendment that transfers Metro board appointments to the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT).



Congresswoman
Donna F. Edwards

Restores High Density States Funding: Worked with several Members to restore funding for the High Density States program, which will specifically help Maryland, Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, and Rhode Island. The program will allow transit, and specifically bus, systems to maintain jobs, service, and service frequency, helping those who most rely on public transportation.

Stormwater Mitigation Language: Rep. Edwards was able to include the following stormwater language in the conference report: "improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation." This will help protect the environment, improve water quality, and reduce costs.

Transit-Oriented Development: Amendment increases transit-oriented development (TOD) opportunities by making TOD projects eligible for funding through the federal Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA), and lowers the \$50 million threshold that TIFIA currently requires. This will help provide an economic catalyst around metro stations in Prince George's County and throughout the region.

Increased Bus Funding: The FAST Act injects a total of \$3.7 billion over five years into the bus program, which is a 75 percent increase over current funding levels. This critical funding will help alleviate traffic and provide local agencies with the money they need to buy additional buses and expand operations to better connect communities.

Increased Amtrak Funding: Provides \$8 billion over the next five years for Amtrak and \$2.2 billion for three new grant programs: a state-of-good-repair program (\$1 billion); a competitive rail safety and infrastructure grant program (\$1.1 billion); and a program to provide operating assistance to passenger rail providers to initiate or restore rail service (\$100 million). It also increases the liability limit for rail passenger accidents to \$295 million, retroactively applies the limits to Amtrak's May 2015 derailment in Philadelphia, and indexes it to inflation every five years.

Maryland Health Care Commission awards \$90,000 in Telehealth Grants

BALTIMORE, MD—The Maryland Health Care Commission announces the award of \$90,000 in grants to assist three under-served communities in using telehealth to deliver primary and specialty care services for managing chronic illnesses.

The three grantees are Associated Black Charities of

Dorchester County in partnership with Choptank Community Health Systems; Gerald Family Care in partnership with Dimensions Health System in Prince George's County; and Union Hospital of Cecil County. All three grantees will use the funds to enable providers to connect with patients in real time, with two of the projects using mobile tablets to connect with a patient in his or her home.

Telehealth is the use of such electronic information and telecommunications technologies as video conferencing, image capturing and use of remote examination tools to support clinical health care, patient and professional health-related education, public health, and health administration. Expanding telehealth capabilities to provide primary and specialty services can reduce hospital emergency department visits, inpatient admissions, and readmissions; can enable the provision of appropriate treatment in the patient's own community; and can reduce health care costs for patients and payers.

The grantees are required to implement the technology in a meaningful way, including developing clinical protocols to demonstrate improved outcomes. Grantees also must use an electronic health record and the services of the State-Designated Health Information Exchange, the Chesapeake Regional Information System for our Patients (CRISP). Each grantee is required to match State funds, 2:1, from other sources to demonstrate commitment to creating a program that has the possibility to be self-sustaining at the end of the grant period.

WSSC Extends Winter Trail Pilot Program

LAUREL, MD—WSSC is extending its Winter Trail Pilot Program allowing the Triadelphia Access Road along the Triadelphia Reservoir to remain open for multipurpose use during the 2015-2016 winter months. Effective December 1, horseback riders, bird-walkers and hikers will be able to enjoy use of the Access Road through the winter as well as spring, summer and fall seasons.

The Pilot Program opens the 4.5 mile Triadelphia Access Road that traces the southern boundary of the reservoir in Montgomery County as a year-round multi-use trail. The blue stone parking lot, located on Triadelphia Lake Road, will be the only entrance to the Access Road during the winter. This lot provides ample parking space for six to eight horse trailers. Once the reservoir reopens to all visitors on March 15, 2016, the upper parking lot at Green Bridge Recreational Area will open to horse trailers as well, providing entrance to the Access Road from both ends. There will be no other trail entrances between the Triadelphia Lake Road and Green Bridge Recreational Areas.

The Pilot Program applies to land activities on the Access Road only. All other areas of the reservoir will close for the season on November 30. All fishing or boating activities will resume on March 15, 2016 (weather permitting) for the 2016 season.

COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Nathaniel Sillin

Leasing vs. Buying Your Next Car

According to Edmunds.com, more than 25 percent of new American cars are now financed by lease instead of loan, and most of the people making that choice are under age 35.

It's all about the lowest possible monthly payment.

Yet for drivers young and old, leasing has grown substantially because it can also be done with little or no money down and the chance to get a newer, better car for less money overall.

The main disadvantage? You won't own the car unless you buy it at the end of the lease, which may or may not be a good deal.

Experian Automotive—a division of the major credit reporting service—reported in mid-2015 a nearly \$100-a-month savings for those who lease cars versus those who buy their cars by loan. Their numbers showed the average monthly payment for a brand-new leased vehicle was \$394 a month against \$483 for a new vehicle purchased by loan.

So would leasing be a good deal for you? Don't decide without research, qualified advice and a thorough look at your finances. Start with the major pros and cons:

Leasing:

Pros: Lower down payments and monthly payments than required with a conventional auto loan; low repair costs thanks to factory warranties typically tied to the term of the lease (usually three years); easy drop-off or trade-in once the lease expires; and lower sales tax expense because the lease is based on only three or four years of use.

Cons: You're essentially renting a car, not buying it—payments are cheaper because you're really only paying interest and depreciation expense and not receiving any equity in the vehicle; annual mileage caps (usually 12,000–15,000 miles) come with stiff penalties if you exceed those limits; and potentially steep fees for excessive wear-and-tear on the car or early termination of the lease.

Buying:

Pros: Freedom to put as much or as little mileage, wear-and-tear and modification on the vehicle as you choose; long-term (100,000 miles or over) car ownership with good maintenance can be much more economical long term; and because you own the car, you can sell at any time.

Cons: You'll generally require a higher down payment than a lease; monthly loan payments are generally higher because unlike leasing, you'll be taking ownership of the car once it's paid off; once factory warranties expire, you'll take on full maintenance costs for an aging car that may or may not be expensive; and you'll have more cash tied up in a depreciating asset for as long as you own the car.

All these positives and negatives aside, it's important to know that with loans and leases most details are negotiable, so it's important to do your research. Start by estimating how much car you can actually afford (<http://www.practical-moneyskills.com/HowMuchCarCanYouAfford>) and seek out qualified financial and tax advice to shape how you'll approach the best possible deal for your financial situation.

For many, leasing requires more extensive study because this form of financing is relatively new to most drivers and the terminology (<http://www.cars.com/advice/>) can be daunting. But generally, the best deals depend on two major factors—negotiating the lowest price on the vehicle going in and making sure it's a vehicle that has a high estimated post-lease value. In short, the lessor's ability to keep making money on a high-value leased vehicle allows a lower monthly payment at the start.

Bottom line: If you need a vehicle, it pays to evaluate whether lease or purchase makes the most sense for you. Know your needs and get advice so you can make the most affordable choice for you.

Stocks from A1

EDF Fund requests. If approved, these deals will result in \$670 million in capital investment in Prince George's County and the retention and creation of more than 9,500

jobs, not including construction jobs.

To learn more about the EDF Fund and how it can assist your business, contact Ebony Stocks at 301-583-4650 or visit www.pgcedc.com/edfund/



Maryland Urges Residents to Avoid Use of Synthetic Marijuana, Other Illicit Drugs

Lab-Manufactured Products Often Debilitate or Kill, Are Sold as Harmless Household Items

By PRESS OFFICER
DHMH

BALTIMORE, MD—The State of Maryland is urging residents to not use manufactured products known as synthetic cannabinoids—often called synthetic marijuana or the street names “Spice” and “K2”—or other illicit drugs. The substances have factored into a number of often-tragic incidents across the state.

“Maryland continues to see cases involving health crises that stem from the use of harmful substances like synthetic marijuana,” said Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Deputy Secretary of Public Health Services Dr. Howard Haft. “These drugs often are marketed as safe alternatives to other drugs but, like we’ve seen with illegal bath salts, they can be deadly. We urge Marylanders to avoid using these and other illicit drugs.”

According to the National Institutes of Health, synthetic cannabinoids are a growing number of man-made, mind-altering chemicals that either are sprayed on dried, shredded plant

material so they can be smoked (herbal incense) or are sold as liquids to be vaporized and inhaled in e-cigarettes and other devices (such as liquid incense). Synthetic cannabinoids are found in smoke shops, convenience stores and online.

These chemicals are called cannabinoids because they are related to chemicals found in the marijuana plant. Synthetic cannabinoids act on the same brain cell receptors as delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the mind-altering ingredient in marijuana. Because of this similarity, synthetic cannabinoids are sometimes misleadingly called “synthetic marijuana” (or “fake weed”), and they are often marketed as safe, legal alternatives to that drug. In fact, they might affect the brain much more powerfully than marijuana; their actual effects can be unpredictable and, in some cases, severe or even life-threatening.

Some of the side effects of synthetic cannabinoids include nausea, extreme vomiting, profuse sweating, hallucinations, agitation, seizures, high blood pressure, dizziness, anxiety,



PHOTO COURTESY U.S. MILITARY OR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
A bag of Spice brand herbal incense.

headache, slowed speech and confusion. But because the makers of the drugs constantly change the formulas of the chemicals used to treat the plants in order to avoid detection by law enforcement,

Users of the drugs never know what they are ingesting and what the potential side effects could be. Users usually smoke the dried plant material sprayed with synthetic cannabinoids.

According to the American Association of Poison Control Centers, in 2015 poison control centers have received calls about 6,949 exposures to synthetic cannabinoids so far, compared with 3,680 exposures in all of 2014, and 2,668 calls in 2013.

Marylanders who need help finding substance abuse treatment resources near them should visit <http://goo.gl/OzZG2m> for a location-based search engine.

Leadership from A1

partment of Environment (DOE), and the Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement (DPIE), a role he has been filling since earlier this year, in addition to having oversight for public safety during that time.

Thomas Himler, DCAO for Budget, Finance, Administration, will add oversight for Economic Development agencies, including the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation (EDC), the Conference and Visitors Bureau (CVB), and the Prince George's Financial Services Corporation (FSC First). Mr. Himler has been acting in this capacity since the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Economic Development and Public Infrastructure position became vacant last year. Mr. Himler also has oversight of the Office of Management and Budget, the Office of Finance, the Prince George's County Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), the Office of Central Services, and the Prince George's County Revenue and Redevelopment Authorities.

“Over the last five years, one of the biggest accomplishments Prince George's County has seen is our unprecedented drop in overall crime,” said Prince George's County Executive Rushern Baker, III. “For the remainder of my term as County Executive, there will be ongoing public safety challenges. I believe this new public safety leadership re-alignment will continue our success and offer professional experience, excellent expertise and innovative approaches to protecting our citizens.”

At the announcement, held in the Office of County Executive at the County Administration Building in Upper Marlboro, County Executive Baker highlighted the public safety success of Prince George's County under the leadership of Chief Magaw. Over the past 5 years, Prince George's County has reduced crime nearly 40% as well as seeing violent crime drop nearly 30%. County Executive Baker attributed this success to improved communications and community policing practices of the Prince George's Police Department, use of data an-

alyzing crime trends as well as engagement and utilization of the County's innovative Transforming Neighborhoods Initiative.

“With Chief Magaw's departure, I am proud to announce Hank Stawinski has been selected as the Prince George's County Police Department Acting Chief,” said County Executive Baker. “Deputy Chief Stawinski is a 23 year veteran of the PGPD and has served admirably, commanding the Bureau of Patrol as well as being responsible for PGPD's crime data, directing of PGPD's community policing, public relations, and communications efforts and serving as the top PGPD liaison and public safety leader to our Transforming Neighborhood Initiative. His diversity of talents and abilities will continue the transformation of PGPD as one of the nation's premier police departments.”

“I am very excited to also announce PGPD Deputy Chief Gevonnia Whittington, a 22 year veteran of our police department, as our Acting Director of Homeland Security,” said County Executive Baker. “Deputy Chief Washington is one of the most respected commanders within the police department and incredibly popular within the community. These skills will be critical to preparing, and helping Prince George's County prevent as well as respond to major disasters, including potential terrorist attacks, and to strengthening our public safety communications. I also want to commend and thank Brian Moe for his five years of service as our Director of Homeland Security.”

As Prince George's County Department Directors, both Acting Chief Stawinski and Acting Director of the Department of Homeland Security Whittington will need Prince George's County Council confirmation prior to being named permanent heads of their respective agencies. The Office of County Executive will send these appointments to the Prince George's County Council when they reconvene next month.

Text of County Executive Baker's Announcement

“Good morning. I want to thank you for being here today.

I am proud of the success that we have had over the last 5 years

and the people who have helped to advance the goals of my administration and this County. As a result of their work, we have significantly reduced overall crime, spurred economic development and improved the overall quality of life in Prince George's County. Last week, I was honored by *Governing Magazine* as one of their 2015 Public Officials of the Year. As I said in my acceptance speech, this honor was not about me but was a testament to the County's success and, specifically, the success of the leaders I selected to lead the nearly 6,000 dedicated employees of this County Government. Although we have a lot to celebrate as a County, many challenges remain and over the last three years of my tenure as County Executive, I am as dedicated to accomplishing as much as we have during the first 5 years.

Today, I am here to announce some changes I will be making in my leadership team that will not only continue our progress, but accelerate it. Despite our unprecedented drop in crime, our citizens safety remains our top priorities. We are fortunate to have a strong public safety team that has worked together over the past five years.

One of the key contributors to our success has been Barry Stanton. Barry has served as my Deputy Chief Administrator Officer for Public Safety and led our team of police, fire, corrections and homeland security professionals. Barry is a trusted advisor, who has provided vision and leadership that has made us successful. In addition, Barry has helped us fill a gap in the area of Public Infrastructure after we lost the Deputy Chief Administrator who occupied that position. Barry has taken on additional responsibility overseeing the Department of the Environment, Department of Public Works and Transportation and Department of Permits, Inspections and Enforcement. So I have asked Barry to make a change and serve as my DCAO for Public Infrastructure. Previously Barry served as County Manager for Fredrick County, so he has experience running a government. Barry will bring that knowledge and expertise to his new role and he will

remain a key player on my leadership team.

I have also asked Thomas Himler, who serves our DCAO for Budget, Finance and Housing Administration to take on the additional responsibility of leading our economic development efforts. Like Barry Stanton, Tom has been filling a gap and overseeing economic development for several months. He has done a great job and I am confident his leadership will continue to be an asset as we grow our economy. As a result of Barry moving into this new role, I needed to find someone who could take over as my DCAO for Public Safety.

So I looked to another key player of my public safety team, our very own, Chief of Police Mark Magaw. His leadership and commitment has made a significant difference in how we address crime in this county. By focusing on community policing, outreach and engagement, I believe our police department is becoming one of the best in the nation. So I have asked the Chief to serve as my new DCAO for Public Safety. I am confident that with his leadership, we will continue to enhance public safety in this county and improve the quality of life for all our residents. With Chief Magaw's retirement from PGPD, this leaves a vacancy to lead our police department.

I have asked Deputy Chief Hank Stawinski to fill this important role. He will become our Acting Chief of Police until confirmation by Council. Hank Stawinski has lived in Prince George's County all his life. He is a 23 year veteran of the department and has served admirably as Deputy Chief under Chief Magaw. He is commander of the Bureau of Patrol, PGPD's chief crime data analyst, director of PGPD's community policing, public relations, and communications efforts. In addition, Deputy Chief Stawinski has served as the top liaison from the police department and public safety leader for our Transforming Neighborhoods Initiative. Deputy Chief Stawinski is a graduate of Boston College and holds a graduate degree from Johns

See LEADERSHIP Page A6

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COMMENTARY

Benjamin L. Cardin

United States Senator for Maryland



Cardin and Becerra Introduce Plan to Protect Taxpayers' Rights

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD), a member of the Senate Finance Committee, and U.S. Representative Xavier Becerra (D-CA), the House Democratic Caucus Chairman and a member of the House Ways & Means Committee, today introduced in both the Senate and the House of Representatives the Taxpayer Rights Act of 2015 (S. 2333/H.R. 4128). The Act aims to improve Internal Revenue Service (IRS) services and procedures and to protect the rights of all U.S. taxpayers. The *Taxpayer Rights Act* codifies 10 primary taxpayer rights; strengthens programs and other rules related to the preparation of tax returns; improves IRS lien and levy procedures, including procedures related to retirement accounts; and enhances the ability of the Office of the National Taxpayer Advocate to further aid and protect taxpayers.

The provisions of the *Taxpayer Rights Act* are drawn from recommendations included in the National Taxpayer Advocate's Annual Reports to Congress. The Act also builds on the Portman-Cardin *Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998*, which, among other things, created the National Taxpayer Advocate and improved the IRS's lien and collection practices to better protect taxpayers.

"Americans of all income levels deserve to know their basic rights as taxpayers and that the federal government, including the IRS, is protect-

ing those rights," said Senator Cardin. "Our current tax system is complicated and the Taxpayer Rights Act will ensure that U.S. households with modest means have access to quality return preparation, along with the same knowledge and protection of their rights as other U.S. households. We have an obligation to strengthen the financial security and privacy of taxpayers."

"Any discussion of tax reform needs to include ideas to boost access to IRS service and information, especially for modest income Americans, to help taxpayers complete one of their most important financial transactions of the year," said Chairman Becerra. "Our bill will increase access to quality tax preparation, help ensure taxpayers know their rights, and improve taxpayer services at the IRS."

Nina Olson, the National Taxpayer Advocate praised the bill, saying: "The *Taxpayer Rights Act* of 2015 incorporates many proposals I have made and would substantially benefit our nation's taxpayers. It would establish in law a fundamental Taxpayer Bill of Rights; enable the IRS to create minimum standards for unenrolled tax return preparers; expand tax return and representation programs for low income taxpayers; protect taxpayers from unwarranted lien-filings and levies, including levies on retirement account assets; and strengthen the independence of the Office of the Taxpayer Advocate."

Oxon Cove Park and Oxon Hill Farm



Open to the Public

PHOTO CREDIT: NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

OXON COVE PARK AND OXON HILL FARM

Part of the National Park Service, Oxon Cove Park is a historic district with buildings dating back to the early 1800's and a living farm museum. Learn about the property's evolution from a plantation to a hospital farm, to the park it is today and explore the history of Maryland and farming through the park's variety of hands-on activities, including living history programs. The park, including Oxon Hill Farm, is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (except on January 1, Thanksgiving Day, and December 25). Admission and activities are free, though groups of 5 or more require a reservation for participating in programs. Call 301-839-1176 for more information. Oxon Cove Park is located at 6411 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill, Maryland 20745.

Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



The Education Inequality Struggle

This has been a hard year for poor children and children of color in a gridlocked and cantankerous Congress. The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) replacing the No Child Left Behind Act was enacted after gutting a strong federal role in education policy designed to protect these children and jeopardizing their opportunity for a fair and adequate education to prepare them for work in our globalizing economy. Over the past 50 years under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act too many states violated their responsibility to serve their poor and non-White children equitably, did not comply with the law and misused huge amounts of the funds intended for poor children for other purposes. With the loss of federal accountability in the new Act, I hope we will not see the mistakes of the past repeated and poor children fall further behind.

In 1969 the Children's Defense Fund's parent body the Washington Research Project and the Legal Defense Fund conducted a thorough study of how funds from Title I of the landmark Elementary and Secondary Education Act were being spent through on-the-ground monitoring and examination of federal audit reports from states. In our report, *Title I ESEA: Is It Helping Poor Children?*, we answered a resounding "no" as states widely used federal money as general state aid for all their children without targeting it to eligible children most in need, sometimes to maintain still segregated and unequal schools, and squandered money intended to lift achievement levels of poor children on things like swimming pools in suburban White schools.

Massive and continuing state and local violations of accountability and poor achievement levels for the neediest children resulted in passage during the George W. Bush Administration of the No Child Left Behind Act with bipartisan support including Senator Ted Kennedy and Congressman George Miller—which attempted to build in a much needed stronger federal ac-

countability role. The new Every Student Succeeds Act begins a new era but without needed federal accountability and relying on hopes that all states will fulfill their crucial responsibility to educate all their children fairly and prepare them for work and life. To ensure we do not repeat the mistakes of the past, all of us—every parent, child and community advocate who cares about our nation's future—will have to work very hard.

It is nation-threatening when we look at how our children in public schools are performing in the fourth and eighth grades in 2015 and see more than 75 percent of lower income children, more than 80 percent of Black children and more than 73 percent of Latino children cannot read or compute at grade level. What is a child going to do in a competitive globalizing world if he cannot read and compute at very basic levels, is unable to graduate from high school, or is shunted into a Cradle to Prison Pipeline™ accelerated by unjust zero tolerance school discipline and misdirected special education policies?

There is some good news in the new Act. Thanks to the

leadership of Senator Patty Murray and Representative Bobby Scott, working with Senator Lamar Alexander and Representative John Kline, some of the most harmful proposals were excluded including one that would have diverted Title I funds from high poverty to low poverty schools—the portability provision. The new law requires states to continue to track the performance of all children and subgroups of children by race, ethnicity, disability, and English language learners, with data breakdowns by gender. While states will set their own goals and timelines for academic progress, their plans will require federal approval. States will be required to help fix schools where student test scores are in the lowest five percent, where achievement gaps are greatest, and in all high schools where fewer than 67 percent of students graduate on time using evidence-based programs approved by the U.S. Department of Education.

The Act takes significant positive steps to help students in foster care who have not

See WATCH, Page A5

Marc Morial, President and CEO

National Urban League



Lies and Coverups in Chicago

"Because a body of men, holding themselves accountable to nobody, ought not to be trusted by anybody."

—Thomas Paine, *Rights of Man (Part One)*, 1791

A day after the city of Chicago released the dash-cam video showing the cold-blooded murder of 17-year-old Laquan McDonald at the hands of a Chicago Police Department officer, the Chicago Urban League, supported by the National Urban League, formally requested that the Department of Justice initiate a "pattern and practice" investigation into the CPD.

Based upon the disturbingly stark difference between official police accounts of the October 2014 shooting of the Black teen and what is seen on the video, our nation's second largest police department is now under a wide-ranging federal investigation that will examine whether the department engages in a pattern or practice of violations of the Constitution or federal law while policing.

Police claimed McDonald moved toward the officers just before the shooting. The video shows McDonald jogging away from the police. Police claimed McDonald continued moving toward the officers even after he fell. The video shows Van Dyke firing shots into McDonald's motionless body. Police claimed the knife McDonald held was in the open position. State's Attorney Anita Alvarez said the blade was closed.

In other words, the police lied.

This long sought-after probe will investigate the CPD's use of force (including deadly force), racial and other disparities in its use of force, and scrutinize the department's ability to handle allegations of misconduct and effectively discipline rogue officers. The video of Laquan being shot repeatedly as he walked away from the police officer, and the conspiracy to conceal the truth of what happened that night with a concocted account that painted the teenage victim as an aggressor, speaks to a long-standing grievance, particularly among the city's African-American communities, that too many police officers believe they are above the communities and laws they are sworn to protect and serve.

Officer Jason Van Dyke, who shot 16 bullets into Laquan—many of them while he was already lying on the ground—had 18 citizen complaints filed against him, but he had never been disciplined. According to the *New York Times*, from

2011 to 2015, in 97 percent of citizen complaints filed, not one officer was punished. Laquan's unnecessary and tragic death has pushed aside the dark veil of police department unaccountability. The investigation must usher in an era where the beams of transparency brings sweeping changes and reforms to the CPD.

Enough is enough. Lies and coverups can neither appear to be nor be the norm in any of our nation's police departments. No one is served when the police and citizens look at each other with distrust, fear and hostility. To effectively fight crime, citizens and police officers must be partners in that effort, and that can't happen if suspicion and anger stand in between that vital, life-saving partnership.

The Chicago Urban League was, and remains, at the forefront of those demanding broad and bold reform within the CPD. I applaud both the swift work of the Chicago Urban League on this pressing issue and the Justice Department's decision to open the investigation.

We need to not only understand how the police handled this specific case of a 17-year-old boy shot dead by a police officer, but we also need to know if this points to a pattern of systemic abuse and lies. "The mixed-message of purported concern yet muted response—or even denial—we've seen from CPD's top management highlights the lack of transparency and due process when it comes to officer-involved shootings. It is imperative that the Department of Justice step in and correct this conduct before there is any more loss of life," said Shari Runner, interim president and CEO of the Chicago Urban League.

This week, the Chicago Urban League is sponsoring "Truth and Justice for All: Advancing Police and Community Accountability," a community forum that will begin the conversation about strategies to heal the rift caused by decades of mistrust between the police and the city's residents. Leading voices on social justice and legal issues will examine the need for improved policing practices and discuss how the CPD can be reformed. If fair policing and justice for all—not some—matters to you, add your ideas and your voice to this vital conversation. As long as organizations, community groups and the citizens of Chicago (and beyond) continue to demand that police departments respect and protect the civil rights of everyone it protects and serves, the days of unchallenged lies and shameful coverups in the CPD—or otherwise—are numbered.

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BUSINESS

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Tips for Keeping Control of the Holidays

The holiday season is a period when lots of us feel overwhelmed by all the stress, tension and pressure it can bring. While the holidays usually hold great joy for many people, for some of us this time of year can leave us feeling overcome by the expectations that the world, and we ourselves, put upon us.

One way to reduce holiday stress is to recognize that the "ideal" holidays we are constantly bombarded with through advertising, TV shows, magazine stories, social media and more, simply aren't real. No matter how hard we try, it's pretty much impossible to have a perfect Martha Stewart or Norman Rockwell holiday.

Instead of feeling inadequate for not reaching those make-believe standards, accept that you only have to do the best you can, just the amount that makes you feel comfortable, to have a holiday season you'll enjoy. You don't have to meet the expectations of others, especially when they're not real.

One place to exercise that control is with holiday events. You don't need to go to every office party or social gathering. If it's something you'll enjoy, then do it. If it's something that fills you with dread, either make an excuse not to attend, or if you feel you must go, show up, stay just a short while, and politely excuse yourself.

The same strategy can work with family events. If getting together with family members is more depressing than wonderful, find ways to minimize the exposure. If saying "no" isn't an option, consider going for just a short visit and making an effort to avoid those people who cause you problems.

And be smart about taking control if you do attend a business, social or family event. Dress appropriately so you'll feel comfortable. Don't drink or eat to excess, both bound to cause problems. Remember that holiday events are never, ever the place to tell someone you don't like exactly what you think of them.

For some people, the holidays can actually bring severe depression. If that is how the season affects you, consider seeing a professional counselor to get needed assistance.

But if your holiday issues are simply too much stress and busy times, take a step back and look at how you can control the holidays, do things at own your pace, and stop worrying about others' expectations.

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

Watch from A1

had targeted attention before by state and local education agencies. Although public child welfare agencies have had obligations for ensuring educational stability for these children for a number of years, the new law helps ensure their school stability and educational success. This should help prevent students from needlessly changing schools — falling further and further behind with each move. It ensures they can remain in their same school when they enter foster care and change placements unless it is not in their best interest. It also requires these children be immediately enrolled in a new school without the typically required records when a school change is necessary to eliminate gaps in their education, and encourages the prompt transfer of records when a child in foster care enters a new school. Both school districts and child welfare agencies must have reciprocal points of contact for students in foster care, and both systems

must have a point of contact for them at the state level. Local education and child welfare agencies also must collaborate to develop and implement a plan for transportation for those students who will need it to remain in their school of origin. New data on high school graduation rates for students in foster care will help track their progress.

There are important improvements in the Act for more than 1.3 million children and youth experiencing homelessness also focusing on school stability and success. State and local education agencies must ensure their Title I plans promote identification, enrollment, attendance and school stability of these children. Local education agencies must reserve a portion of their education funding to support homeless children. State report cards must include disaggregated information on graduation rates and other achievement measures for these children.

See WATCH, Page A12

New Jobs from A4

vision connects employers with qualified candidates and provides training to enable residents to secure higher wage jobs.

"We encourage our jobseekers to first get a job; then, secure a better job; and, finally get a career," said Elizabeth Williams, Director of the EDC's Workforce Services Division. "We believe these open positions provide a gateway to all three."

Four of the open positions are with the Prince George's

County Economic Development Corporation: Director of International Business, International Business Development Specialist, Information Specialist, and Development Director. To learn more about these positions and to apply, contact Cheryl Hills at careers@pgcedc.com

To find out more about all available job opportunities and how to apply, contact the Prince George's One-Stop Career Center, located at 1801 McCormick Drive, Suite 120, Largo, MD, or call 301-618-8400.

USDA Announces \$210 Million to be Invested in Renewable Energy Infrastructure Through the Biofuel Infrastructure Partnership

21 States and Private Partners Match Federal Funds to Expand Infrastructure and Increase Fuel Options for Consumers

By PRESS OFFICER
USDA

KISSIMMEE, FL—Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is partnering with 21 states through the Biofuel Infrastructure Partnership (BIP) to nearly double the number of fueling pumps nationwide that supply renewable fuels to American motorists. In May 2015, USDA announced the availability of \$100 million in grants through the BIP, and that to apply states and private partners match the federal funding by a 1:1 ratio. USDA received applications requesting over \$130 million, outpacing the \$100 million that is available. With the matching commitments by state and private entities, the BIP is investing a total of \$210 million to strengthen the rural economy.

"This major investment in renewable energy infrastructure will give Americans more options that not only will suit their pocketbooks, but also will reduce our country's environmental impact and bolster our rural economy," said Vilsack. "The Biofuel Infrastructure Partnership is one more example of how federal funds can be leveraged by state and private partners to deliver better and farther reaching outcomes for taxpayers. The volume and diverse geographic locations of partners willing to support this infrastructure demonstrate the demand across the country for lower cost, cleaner, American-made fuels. Consumers will begin to see more of these pumps in a matter of months."

The 21 states participating in the BIP include Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland,

Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. The amount awarded to each state is available at: www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/energy-programs/bip/index. The final awards being announced today are estimated to expand infrastructure by nearly 5,000 pumps at over 1,400 fueling stations.

A typical gas pump delivers fuel with 10 percent ethanol, which limits the amount of renewable energy that consumers can purchase. The new partnership will increase the number of pumps, storage and related infrastructure that offer higher blends of ethanol, such as E15, E85, and even intermediate combination blends.

USDA's Office of the Chief Economist just released a com-

prehensive report on ethanol. The report, titled *U.S. Ethanol: An Examination of Policy, Production, Use, Distribution, and Market Interactions*, brings clarity to the complex interaction of ethanol production with agricultural markets and government policies. The corn ethanol industry is the largest biofuel producer in the country, with production increasing from about 1.6 billion gallons in 2000 to just over 14 billion gallons in 2014, stimulating economic activity in rural communities. Visit www.usda.gov/oce/reports/energy/EthanolExamination102015.pdf to read the complete report.

BIP is administered by the USDA Farm Service Agency. For more information, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/energy-programs/index.

Museum from A1

from the Washington Monument is pretty incredible—it's remarkable."

"Our stories have been, sort of, tamped down and it's time that our stories are shared on a global level," the Washington, D.C., native added.

But how can a museum evoke so many emotions if its interior is still under construction? The Smithsonian worked with what it had: a completed exterior.

"We were able to engage the public with the museum without them actually being able to enter the museum just yet," said Tasha Coleman, the museum's senior manager of donor and council relations. "We were excited to be able to actually do that, especially given the museum's irregular facade."

The museum's western and southern facades were transformed into a one-block-long 3-D canvas and projected seven minutes of images from moments in black history. The visual display ran continuously for all three nights.

"These are important milestones, I think not only in the African American experience, but

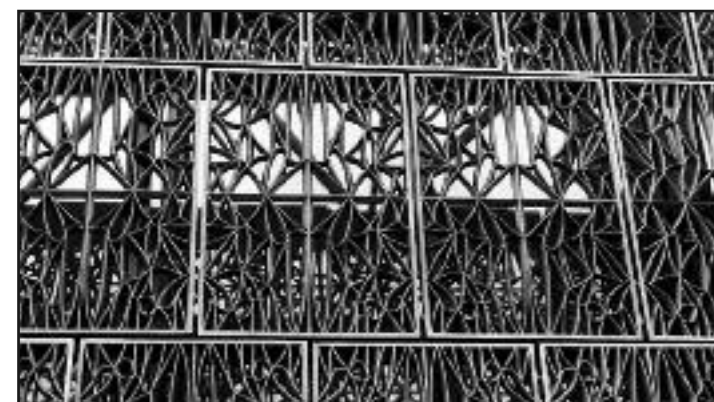
also just the American story at large," said Coleman. "I think that these milestones speak to the notion of freedom for all and the notion that should really be celebrated and brought to the forefront of our consciousness whenever possible. I know that this museum anticipates being a place that can facilitate that type of action."

In addition to the colossal visual display, the event featured a live musical program, performances and poetry and remarks by Washington Mayor Muriel Bowser, Bunch and the city's representative in the Congress, Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton.

"Everything about this is quite moving and my parents are both gone—they've deceased — and they would be so proud to know that this is here so that also made it particularly special for me," Pendana said.

The 400,000-square-foot, \$540 million museum will be home to three chronologically-organized history galleries, four community exhibitions that highlight African American trailblazers and four galleries that will celebrate African American culture and tradition.

Artifacts on display will include a restored Pullman railroad



CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTO BY ALESSIA GRUNBERGER
Paneled filigrees cover the exterior of the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

car from the segregation era to show how white and black passengers in the South were kept separated; and a guard tower and a cell from the Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola, whose convict population at one time was predominantly African American and was abused and exploited.

Also on display will be more uplifting mementos, like an open-seat biplane used to train African American pilots in World War II who became known as the "Tuskegee Airmen." Louis Armstrong's horn, Harriet Tubman's hymn book and protective headgear for firemen developed by an African American inventor.

"At the core of this museum, there's this notion of dialogue, and healing, and reconciliation," Coleman said. "While this museum will remember the past, I think it's also going to serve as a place that's going to document and surface current issues."

"It's also really going to be a hub of discourse, dialogue and conversation about relevant, present moments," she added. "The African American experience didn't stop at a certain point, it continues and this museum, while this is a history museum, is also a museum of community and it is also a museum of culture."

RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE

The Prince George's County Department of the Environment is making it easy for residents to recycle cut Christmas trees (no artificial trees) by offering convenient drop-off locations and curbside pick up.

Beginning December 28, 2015 through January 29, 2016, residents with Yard Waste Collection may place their undecorated, unbagged, live Christmas trees at the curb by 6:30 a.m. on their regularly scheduled yard waste collection day.

*Please remove all plastic bags, tinsel and decorations
No artificial trees

Residents may also bring unadorned trees, free of charge, to the following locations for recycling:

<p>BROWN STATION ROAD PUBLIC CONVENIENCE CENTER 3501 Brown Station Road Upper Marlboro, Maryland Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.</p>	<p>PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY YARD WASTE COMPOSTING FACILITY 6601 Southeast Crain Highway Upper Marlboro, Maryland Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.</p>
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SOURCE REDUCTION TIP:
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OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK
Movie Review
Creed

Creed
Grade: A-
Rated PG-13, a little profanity,
brief mild sexuality, a lot of
boxing
2 hr., 12 min

Some of the sequels make this easy to forget, but the original *Rocky* was a sweet, inspiring little drama without much showiness. It followed a formula, but only partially (a formula wouldn't have let Rocky lose at the end), and it was about the characters more than it was about the boxing.

The sixth film in the series, *Rocky Balboa*, came closest to recapturing that spirit after parts III, IV, and (especially) V had turned the franchise into a light-weight parade of crowd-pleasing but derivative clichés. That return to form continues in *Creed* a winning, heartfelt story about the son of Rocky's opponent-turned-friend, who coaxes the Italian Stallion back from the pasture to train him. It's the best Rocky film since the first one.

Adonis "Donnie" Johnson (Michael B. Jordan) is Apollo Creed's illegitimate son, born shortly after his father's death in the ring in *Rocky IV*. After a rough childhood of fist fights, foster homes, and juvenile detention, Donnie was adopted by Apollo's wealthy widow, Mary Anne (Phylicia Rashad), an act of compassion that could fill a movie by itself. She has raised him well, and he has an unspecified perfectly suitable white-collar job, but what he really wants to do is wear shorts and punch guys for money.

Having gotten some ring experience winning unlicensed fights in Tijuana (as one does), Donnie heads to Philadelphia, where Rocky (Sylvester Stallone) is happily shuffling around his restaurant and enjoying being old. He has no interest in training anyone, but it's hard to say no



ROTTENTOMATOES
Adonis Johnson never knew his famous father, world heavy weight champion Apollo Creed, who died before he was born. Still, there's no denying that boxing is in his blood, so Adonis heads to Philadelphia, the site of Apollo Creed's legendary match with a tough upstart named Rocky Balboa. Rocky sees in Adonis the strength and determination he had known in Apollo - the fierce rival who became his closest friend.

to Apollo Creed's son, Donnie, for his part, has inherited some of his father's strength and agility but not his ego. Nothing has come easily for him. He refuses to fight under the name Creed because he doesn't want any special treatment ... or any unreasonable expectations.

There is a formula at play here—nobody will accuse *Creed* of reinventing the boxing movie—but it's elegantly used, with little touches that add flavor to the familiar recipe. Directed by Ryan Coogler (who made Jordan's *Fruitvale Station*) and written by him and Aaron Covington, *Creed* is, at its center, an underdog story about a self-taught boxer facing a seasoned pro, in this case a Liverpoolian hothead named Ricky Conlan (played by real fighter Tony Bellew). That's the same outline as Rocky.

But *Creed* has the benefit of taking place 40 years and six movies later, so it's also about the burden of legacy, living up to your potential, and the inevitable decay of our human bodies. Adrian is gone. Paulie is gone. Rocky's no spring chicken. Even Donnie's beautiful young girlfriend, Bianca (Tessa Thompson), a singer, has progressive hearing loss. (This romantic subplot and a health scare with Rocky, while thematically appropriate, are the two elements that make the movie feel slightly overlong.)

Coogler acknowledges our history with these characters without any winking self-awareness. When there are specific references to past films, they arise naturally, not because Coogler has wedged them in. And Coogler adds his own flourishes, too, including a great match between Donnie and an

early opponent that's captured all in one unbroken take, the camera bobbing around the ring like a third fighter. The match that ends the film is suitably thrilling and brutal.

Not that it's a contest, but Jordan, who is a better actor than Stallone, gives more emotional weight to Donnie than Stallone ever did to Rocky. (I won't spoil it, but there's a particular line Jordan delivers that made me burst instantly into tears.) That said, Stallone is endearingly vulnerable, the most human he's been in years. If there is to be a new franchise, with Rocky as the crusty old trainer and Donnie as his protégé, it's off to a good start. I just hope the filmmakers, like the characters, learn from the mistakes of the past. That means not casting The Rock as the opponent in *Creed III*, fella. Trust me.

Leadership from A3

Hopkins University. His father was a member of Prince George's police department as well. I am confident that Deputy Chief Stawinski's diversity of talents, abilities and experience will continue PGPD's success.

Recently, we have all been impacted by the rise in mass shootings and terrorist acts that have taken place around the country. It is important that we enhance our efforts to keep our citizens safe. We must improve coordination and collaboration that must take place within the County as well as with our regional neighbors, the State of Maryland and the federal government.

Additionally, Brian Moe submitted his resignation as Director of Homeland Security, so I am appointing Genovia, "Gee-Gee" Whittington, Deputy Police Chief for Administration and Training to serve as Acting Director of Homeland Security. She, too, will need to be confirmed by the County Council. She will ensure that Prince George's County is best prepared for any emergency whether it is natural disaster or an act of terror. Deputy Chief Whittington is one of the most respected commanders within the police department and incredibly popular within the community. She brings 22 years of experience and a connection to the community that will be critical as we

work to ensure that Prince George's County is ready to respond to major disasters, including potential terrorist attacks. Deputy Chief Whittington has worked for the Prince George's Police Department since she was 19 years old. She started as a police clerk in 1989 and became an officer in 1993. Deputy Chief Whittington is a graduate of Mountain State University and is currently working on her Masters Degree at Seton Hall University. And by the way, she is a graduate of Bladensburg High School.

I want to thank each these leaders for accepting these new assignments. I look forward to working with each of them. They will all move into their new posi-

tions at the beginning of the New Year ... January.

Five years ago, I had to rely on faith, optimism and confidence that I was choosing the right leaders for this County. And in hindsight, I couldn't have chosen a better team. Today, we are changing some leadership positions, but we aren't losing any of the talent, wisdom, experience, and, most importantly, success that our residents expect and deserve. We have come a long way and with the addition of the people I have tapped to take on these new responsibilities, Prince George's County will continue to move closer to our destiny.

Thank you!"

County Council Approves Legislation Establishing Renters' Property Tax Relief Supplement

Qualified Renters to Receive 50% Tax Supplement from Prince George's County

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Government

The Prince George's County Council, during the final Council session for Legislative Year 2015 on Tuesday, November 17, unanimously approved CB-95-2015, legislation establishing a Renters' Property Tax Relief Supplement for qualifying County residents.

Council Member Dannielle M. Glaros (D) – District 3, proposer of the legislation, says CB-95 will provide additional

financial assistance for low-income renters.

"With the passage of CB-95, renters who are most in need will have an opportunity to apply for a County tax supplement. Residents eligible for the Maryland Renters' Tax Credit, which is available to those 60 and older or 100% disabled based on income, can receive an additional 50% of their State tax credit in the form of a County supplement. I urge all Prince George's County residents to share this

information with their family, friends and neighbors."

Council Member Todd M. Turner (D) – District 4, co-proposer of the legislation, says CB-95 offers additional financial relief for low-income renters, which is especially important for the County's senior and disabled residents who may live on a fixed income.

"Residents who qualify for the State's Renters' Tax Credit Program, are already stretched very thin financially," said Council Member Turner. "With the

adoption of CB-95-2015 today, and CB-59-2015 earlier this month, the County Council continues to provide additional relief and tools for our residents, especially seniors, to maintain their residency in the County."

Under the legislation, Prince George's County will pay a Renters' Property Tax Relief Supplement to each resident who qualifies to receive a payment under the State property tax relief program. The County Supplement will be 50% of the State payment made to the resident.

The Edge of Sports

by DAVE ZIRIN

The Missouri Tigers and the Hidden History of Black College Football Activists



In 1966, Calvin Hill was preparing to play football at Yale University. Hill, an African American, was a star quarterback at his high school. But upon arriving at Yale, his coaches told him that he would be playing running back instead. One day a group of black student activists showed up at his dorm room and asked him to lunch. As Hill remembered in 1988, they said to him, "How would you feel about us picketing the offices because they shifted you from quarterback?" I'd [just] been there four or five days ... What the hell was happening at Yale?"

This is one of many stories from the 1960s of campus activists trying to connect with student athletes. These groups were traditionally rivals, but the black freedom struggle and the fight against the Vietnam War had created a common generational cause. These struggles also inspired many players to take actions of their own.

This largely forgotten history has taken on a new urgency following the Missouri Tigers football strike against racism, which ended after University of Missouri President Tim Wolfe resigned. Some commentators have called these actions unprecedented, but they're not. In addition to recent examples of restive college football players, which includes the recent union battle at Northwestern and the 2013 players strike at Grambling, there is also an extensive history of student-athlete activism from the late 1960s. It's a history worth knowing, one that could tell us something about our own future.

Some examples:

- In 1967, 35 black players on the University of California, Berkeley football team boycotted spring practice until more black coaches were hired. John Erby was soon named as the first black assistant coach at UC.
- In 1968, players at Michigan State delivered a list of demands to athletic director Biggie Munn. They refused to play unless a search was conducted for a black coaches, trainers, and cheerleaders. Munn refused to even take their demands to the school president. Twenty four players walked out of spring practice and two more were purposefully disrupted and cancelled. They won.
- At the University of Washington, athletes won a study of racism in the athletic department after accusing the football trainer of making racial slurs and providing inadequate treatment for injuries.
- In 1972, the Huskies refused to take the field for the second half of a game on homecoming weekend, unless a statement was read by the stadium sound system against the war in Vietnam.
- In May 1969, athletes and coaches at Howard University threatened to quit unless athletic director Samuel Barnes was removed. They also wanted "better food, more medical attention, streamlined means of transportation, more equipment, better living conditions and a full-time sports information director." Student assembly president Ewart Brown Jr., a member of the track team, burned his Howard varsity sweatshirt. As it went up in ashes, football player Harold Orr said, "This is what we think of the athletic program. [We need a] cremation of the old system."
- At Syracuse, nine black players, the "Syracuse Nine," walked out of spring practice because their coach, Ben Schwartzwalder, reneged on a promise to hire a black coach. The school president ordered Schwartzwalder to hire one black coach and he did, but the coach also kicked all the players off the team. By the 1970 season, Syracuse had a black coach, and no black players.

Up until this era, sports were used to differentiate the "disgusting hippies" from the "All-American" majority. As then congressman—and former football star—Gerald Ford said: "Personally, I'm glad that thousands of fine Americans can spend this Saturday afternoon 'knocking each other down' in a spirit of clean sportsmanship and keen competition instead of assaulting Pentagon soldiers or policemen with 'peace' placards and filthy words."

But soon the line between "the clean" and "the filthy" was not so clear. The cascade of protest continued. Brigham Young—the school Mizzou will play against this weekend—became a particular lightning rod for controversy. BYU was affiliated with the Mormon Church, which denied leadership positions to people of African descent, claiming that their dark skin was "the mark of the curse of Ham." Fourteen African American players were dismissed from the Wyoming football team on October 14, 1969, for wearing black armbands the evening before the team was scheduled to play BYU. They

Calendar of Events

December 24 — December 30, 2015

Exhibition: Jordan Shackelford—To Be Young

Date & Time: Now through Saturday, January 9, 2016 (Daily)
Description: You're invited to view the artwork of Cheverly-native and Suitland High alumnus, Jordan Shackelford. His drawings, oil paintings and mixed media works on wood depict carefree childhood.

Cost: Free
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Publick Playhouse Cultural Arts Center
5445 Landover Road, Landover, MD
Contact: 301-277-1710; TTY 301-699-2544

Holiday Tours

Date and Time: Thursday-Tuesday, December 24-31, 2015,
11 am-3 pm (closed Wednesdays)
Description: Tour the mansion and see it decorated for the holidays by local garden clubs. While there, feel free to shop for handmade, artistic ornaments at the 4th Annual Ornament Emporium.

Don't forget to browse the Montpelier Museum Shop, with books, music, old-fashioned toys, Montpelier memorabilia and more.
Cost: Free to enter Ornament Emporium.
Regular fees apply to tours.

Ages: 18 & up
Location: Montpelier Mansion/Historic Site
9650 Muirkirk Road, Laurel, MD
Contact: 301-377-7817; TTY 301-699-2544
montpeliermansion@pgparks.com

Xtreme Teens: T-Shirt Design

Date and Time: Saturday, December 26, 2015, 7-10 pm
Description: Bring your own tee and create a unique design on it to show off your skills.

Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 10-17
Location: Prince George's Plaza Community Center
6600 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD
Contact: 301-964-1611; TTY 301-699-2544

Xtreme Teens: Festival of Lights

Date and Time: Saturday, December 26, 2015, 7-10 pm
Description: Travel with us to Watkins Parks for the annual Festival of Lights. Bring a friend and enjoy this extraordinary holiday light display. We will depart at 7 pm and return by 9 pm. A signed specialized permission slip is required.

Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 10-17
Location: Bladensburg Community Center
4500 57th Avenue, Bladensburg, MD
Contact: 301-277-2124; TTY 301 445-4512

Xtreme Teens: Teen Holiday Dance Party

Date and Time: Saturday, December 26, 2015, 7-10 pm
Description: Here's a fun way to ring in the holiday season! Bring a friend to enjoy the Teen Holiday Dance Party.

Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 10-17
Location: Deerfield Run Elementary School Community Center
13000 Laurel-Bowie Road, Laurel, MD
Contact: 301-552-1093; TTY 301-699-2544

Xtreme Teens: New Years Teen's Choice Night

Date and Time: Saturday, December 26, 2015, 7-10 pm
Description: Ring in the New Year with a special Teen's Choice Night! Teens will choose the activities for the night, because it's their choice.

Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 10-17
Location: Good Luck Community Center
8601 Good Luck Road, Lanham, MD
Contact: 301-552-1093; TTY 301-699-2544

Xtreme Teens: 3-on-3 Volleyball Tournament

Date and Time: Saturday, December 26, 2015, 7-10 pm
Description: Bring a friend and join us in the gym for a volleyball tournament.

Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 10-17
Location: College Park Community Center
5051 Pierce Avenue, College Park, MD
Contact: 301-441-2647; TTY 301-699-2544

Kwanzaa—It's Kujichagulia!

Date & Time: Sunday, December 27, 2015, 4-6 pm
Description: Join in the traditional storytelling, song, and ceremony in a joyous Kwanzaa celebration presented by Queen Nur.

Cost: \$20/person (general admission) \$15/person (students, seniors, and groups of 20 or more)
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Playhouse Cultural Arts Center
5445 Landover Road, Landover, MD
Contact: 301-277-1710; TTY 301-699-2544

Riversdale by Candlelight

Date and Time: Wednesday, December 30, 2015, 6 pm
Description: Residents from three eras of Riversdale's history welcome guests to the candlelit museum for tours, refreshments, live music, and children's activities.

Cost: Adult: \$5; Children under 12 are free accompanied by an adult.
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Riversdale House Museum
4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park, MD
Contact: 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544

G.E.A.R.: Ladies Night at the Rec

Date and Time: Wednesday, December 30, 2015, 7-10 pm
Description: This is ladies night! Enjoy games, prizes, music as we take over the rec center.

Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 10-17
Location: North Brentwood Community Center
4012 Webster Street, North Brentwood, MD
Contact: 301-864-0756; TTY 301-699-2544

EARTH TALK ... How Can We Green Our Holiday Celebrations This Year?

Dear EarthTalk:

The holidays can be so wasteful. What are some ways we can green our celebrations this year?

—Belinda McHugh,
Los Angeles, CA

Sipping eggnog, listening to carols by the fire and enjoying the beauty of colorfully decorated homes are all warm memories the holiday season conjures. Yet with the rising popularity of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, millions of people are now increasingly absorbed in the season's commercialism. The National Retail Federation estimates that holiday sales this year will add up to \$630.5 billion. All of this shopping generates a lot of trash. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Americans throw away approximately one million extra tons of trash between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day.

"Simplify the Holidays," an e-booklet from the Center for a New American Dream (CNAD), reports that nine in 10 Americans believe holidays should be more about family and caring for others, not giving and receiving gifts, yet the average U.S. consumer plans to spend more this year—about \$805—on holiday shopping than last year. To help provide meaningful ways to have fun with less stuff this season, "Simplify the Holidays" in-

cludes ideas for simple gifts, low-waste wrapping, ways to connect with your children during the holidays, and more. Readers are asked to "consider creating holidays that instill more meaning into the season and encourage more sharing, laughter, creativity and personal renewal."

"It's not about depriving yourself of things during the holiday season," Wen Lee, director of online media and engagement with CNAD, emphasizes. "It's about refocusing on things that really matter, and reducing stress."

Additional easy, stress-free ways to respect the environment during the holidays include carrying reusable totes when shopping for gifts, and using LED lights, which last 20–30 years and require 1/50th the electricity of conventional lights for decorating your tree or home. According to CalRecycle, the 2.6 billion holiday cards sold each year could fill a football field 10 stories high—fortunately, the multitude of e-cards available on the web today provide a no-waste alternative.

Further, the 33 million Christmas trees the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates are sold in North America each year don't have to end up in landfills—some areas have recycling programs that turn Christmas trees into wood chips and mulch, and some companies will home-deliver full-



CREDIT: PAUL BARROWS, FLICKRCC

LED lights use 1/50th the electricity of conventional holiday lights and can last for three decades.

size, potted live trees and pick them up after New Year's and re-plant them. And with nearly 60 percent of Americans admitting they receive unwanted gifts during the holidays, asking friends and family what gifts they really need or want is an easy way to save waste and minimize time-consuming returns.

Greening your holiday season certainly helps the environment, but research shows it is also good for personal and family well-being. The 2002 study, "What Makes for a Merry Christmas?" by psychologists Tim Kasser and Kennon Shel-

don concluded that "family and religion provided the greatest benefit to holiday well-being." Kasser recently told the American Psychological Association (APA): "[Our study] found that to the extent people focused their holiday season around materialistic aims like spending and receiving, the less they were focused on spiritual aims...we also found people reported 'merrier' Christmases when spirituality was a large part of their holiday, but reported lower Christmas well-being to the extent that the holiday was dominated by materialistic aspects."

CONTACTS: CNAD, www.newdream.org; EPA, www.epa.gov; APA, www.apa.org.

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Debate Team from A1

laying the foundation for the university's current achievements and earning him a place in the institution's history.

Noting that former President Byrd was also an "ardent proponent of racial segregation and discrimination," against African-Americans however, President Loh recommends a name change

for Byrd Stadium, memorializing the former president's legacy in one of the campus' main libraries instead.

Chair Davis says he favors the recommendation for a new stadium name.

"In Prince George's County, our diversity is our strength. I firmly stand in solidarity with President Loh and the students who want to see the name

changed to reflect our community's unity, rather than honor division, especially on the campuses of our institutions of higher learning."

Vice-Chair Glaros, whose constituent area includes the University of Maryland, says President Loh and student community are doing the right thing.

"If we are to value our rich diversity, and address the deep

wrongs of the past, we must acknowledge all of our history. Mr. Byrd deserves recognition but the stadium name should be replaced to reflect our community's inclusiveness."

The University of Maryland Board of Regents is scheduled to consider the matter of renaming Byrd stadium during a meeting on Friday, December 11, 2015.

Activists from A6

called themselves the Black 14. Less than two weeks later, BYU played against San Jose State. The entire San Jose State football squad wore black armbands to support the 14. After similar rumblings rose at Stanford University, President Kenneth Pitzer announced in November of 1969 that he would honor what he called an athlete's "right of conscience." It would allow athletes to boycott schools or event that he or she deemed "personally repugnant." It made a serious impact.

Oklahoma State and US Olympic basketball coach Hank "Mo" Iba told *Sports Illustrated* in the summer of 1969: "We are facing the greatest crisis in sports history. In the next eight months we could see sports virtually destroyed. Nobody seems to realize how critical the situation is."

Chop this quote from Hank Iba down to 140 characters and it would sound like just one of many hysterical tweets from the past week, after the Missouri Tigers went on strike and helped topple a school president.

Mark Twain is often quoted as having said that "history doesn't repeat itself, but it does rhyme." In college sports, 2015 resembles 1969 about as much as an SUV resembles a ten-speed bike. NCAA football is now a multibillion-dollar business. The campus lives of players are unrecognizable by comparison. In the effort to compete for the best high-school talent, schools today invest heavily in separate dorms, separate cafeterias, separate study halls, and, superficially, a separate, superior existence. But unlike in 1969, student athletes also have to travel more, study playbooks more, and sacrifice classes they

might actually want to take. And as players get bigger, stronger, and faster, they face a greater risk for injuries that could saddle them with healthcare costs or even brain damage for the rest of their lives. Today's players are also more likely to be black, to come from a tough economic background, and to therefore have a set of life experiences that alienates them from their classmates and distinguishes them from the student athletes of 50 years ago.

But the lessons of the 1960s still rhyme. You cannot wait for the athletes to lead the struggle. But if you build a clear, united, and cacophonous movement off the field, as the Black Lives Matter movement has done, it can breach the walls that separate the jocks from the rest of the campus.

Right now, campus activists should be strategizing about how to connect with these so called

"student athletes," how to tell them about the issues that plague their campus, and most importantly to listen to the grievances of the student athletes, to try to create common cause.

The current neoliberal, for-profit higher-education model has sunk fortunes into football as a (largely ineffective) way to drag the entire university system out of financial crisis. School presidents need football to be a hub of economic, social, and even psychological life on campus. Their addiction to cable television money has given these so-called student athletes a remarkable amount of social power, far more than the previous generation. If they flex that power in concert with the demands of a broader student body, if they refuse to work unless their fellow students are heard, then campus politics—not to mention sports—will never be the same.



LEFTOVER COOKING OIL

Large holiday meals may generate cooking grease from turkey fryers, along with other cooking byproducts like fats and oils. These products should never be disposed of down your kitchen or other drains. Here are some tips for disposing or recycling leftover cooking oil or grease.

- ▶ Scrape food and grease from dishes and pans prior to washing, rather than using a garbage disposal for greasy scraps;
- ▶ Let the oil cool down and filter using a cheese cloth over a funnel or food strainers to remove food particles;
- ▶ Pour cool, filtered cooking oil and grease into a sealable container and store in a dry and dark place or freeze and then dispose with your household garbage;
- ▶ Before reusing cooking oil or grease, check to make sure it hasn't separated or smells bad. If so, then you'll need to start with a new batch or
- ▶ Dispose large quantities of cooking oil and grease at the Prince George's County Household Hazardous Waste Facility: 11611 White House Road, Upper Marlboro. The Facility is open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and is FREE for County residents.

Courtesy of ashgreen.org/fats-oil-grease-disposal/