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CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTO BY TOM HAUSMAN

Sen. Ben Cardin, D-Md., speaks at a Choose Clean Water Coalition luncheon in the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, April 5, 2017.

Lawmakers Blast Trump Budget That Would Cut Chesapeake Bay Cleanup

By BRIANA THOMAS
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Lawmakers from states surrounding the Chesapeake Bay on Wednesday expressed bipartisan criticism of President Donald Trump's proposal to end federal support for cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay.

"The president's budget that would zero out the Chesapeake Bay Program is outrageous," Maryland Sen. Ben Cardin, a Democrat, said at a Capitol Hill meeting with members of the Choose Clean Water Coalition. "It's dead on arrival."

Rep. Rob Wittman, R-Va., said cutting investments for the bay clean up will not help the economy.

"Our Chesapeake Bay is an economic engine and the

cleaner it is the more it produces economically," he said.

The nonprofit coalition hosted its fifth annual lobbying day, centered around saving the federally funded Chesapeake Bay Program after Trump last month proposed a "skinny budget" that would eliminate the \$73 million bay restoration project.

The Environmental Protection Agency provides the pro-

gram with monetary support to restore the bay's ecosystem and reduce pollution.

Started in 1983, the program is conducted under a six-state partnership with Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York and the District of Columbia.

See BAY CLEANUP Page A3

Bowie State Track and Field Have Solid Performances

By PRESS OFFICER
Bowie State University

FREDERICKSBURG, VA—The Bowie State University women and men's track and field team had another solid showing last weekend as they competed in the Battleground Relays hosted by the University of Mary Washington.

On the women's side, the 4x800 meter relay team consisting of Zuwena Johnson, Kayla Tucker, Jimmica Yarbrough and Kyaja Williams placed first with a time of 10:11.39. The Bowie State women's sprint medley relay team made up of Johnson, Tucker, Jasmyne Sanchious and

Jazmine Simms finished second with a time of 4:20.56. The Bulldogs also competed as a team in the 4x100 meter relay consisting of Sanchious, Simms, Kyrstal Simpson and Amel Duggins placed third with a time of 49.59.

The women's team also had some solid individual performances. The top individual finisher for the women was Simpson who finished first in the 100 meter finals with a time of 12.56. Sanchious was right behind Simpson in the same event, crossing the finish line of 12.69.

See BOWIE STATE Page A5

Hyattsville Furniture Store Helps PGFD Medics Improve Living Conditions for Patient

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Fire/EMS

LARGO, MD—The Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department continues their innovative approach in assisting citizens with their healthcare needs. The program, titled Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH), focuses on linking our residents with available healthcare agencies throughout the county and region. Through the utilization of community based paramedics and nurses, the program brings healthcare providers to a citizens home to assess and coordinate their health needs.

Based on the complexities of the current healthcare system, many citizens utilize the 911 system as their primary means of healthcare. This innovative approach ensures our citizens are connected with the best healthcare resources available in the region.

The MIH Team initially focuses on those citizens that have accessed the 911 system frequently. Once identified, the team meets with patients in the comfort of their home to discuss and identify healthcare needs. During these home visits, the pa-

See PATIENT Page A6

Results of District Heights Elementary Indoor Air Quality Test Released

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCPS

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—Ten areas in District Heights Elementary School that were tested last week for air quality did not show significant evidence of toxic mold in the building, but indicated inadequate air supply to some classrooms.

Elkridge-based Tidewater, Inc., an independent vendor, conducted an indoor air quality assessment March 30 and March 31 to establish baseline measurements. The areas tested included two offices, six classrooms, media room and storage room. Results are still pending for a dust analysis taken as part of the assessment.

While there are no federal or state standards for mold spores, indoor counts should generally be lower than those found outdoors.

According to the results, the total indoor mold spore counts at District Heights ranged from 130 to 1,250 spores per cubic meter; the outdoor mold spore count was 990. All but one class-

room area were well below the outdoor count. The classroom with the moderately elevated—but not toxic—mold spore count was relocated as a precaution.

The report stated, "The spore trap air sample (non-viable) results do not indicate the presence of a significant indoor source of fungal contamination that would adversely affect indoor air quality within the assessed areas of the building."

A second indoor air quality assessment began Wednesday on the entire building.

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Building Services staff found inadequate ventilation throughout the school due to several inoperable exhaust fans and low-functioning HVAC units. Work has been underway to repair and replace those items:

- 23 out of 25 exhaust fans have been repaired.
- 11 out of 26 classroom unit ventilators have been cleaned and services.

See AIR QUALITY Page A5

EDC Partners With TechBreakfast and Serves Up Networking Opportunities For a Byte of Innovation

More Than 100 Local Tech Entrepreneurs Show-and-Tell Their Latest Products to County Investors: Coleman Says, "Forget Disneyworld, I'm Opening My Biz in Downtown Prince George's County!"

By LORI C. VALENTINE
PGCEDC

OXON HILL, MD—On March 19, techies, developers, designers, and entrepreneurs gathered in National Harbor for Prince George's County's first TechBreakfast event. Hosted by the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation (EDC), in partnership with TechBreakfast, founded by Ron Schmelzer, TechBreakfast's "Chief Event Wrangler," well over 100 tech industry professionals and investors filled the conference room at Spartan Business & Technologies as four tech entrepreneurs pitched their products. EDC President and CEO Jim Coleman was extremely pleased with the outcome of the event.

"Today was monumental in the life of Prince George's County's tech community. We are happy to provide the platform for up and coming tech gurus to showcase their inventions and services," said Cole-



PHOTO COURTESY LORI C. VALENTINE

EDC President and CEO Jim Coleman connecting local tech entrepreneurs to outstanding opportunities in Prince George's County.

man. "This is just the beginning of a technology boom that starts right here in Prince George's County. We witnessed some innovative products that we can't wait to come to market. Getting

the inside scoop in front of potential investors is what it's all about. One presenter garnered interest for her social clothing platform on the spot and she's going to be a billionaire in the

next 5 years. Forget about Disneyworld, I'm going to downtown Prince George's County!"

See INNOVATION Page A5

INSIDE

New AAA Foundation Study Reveals 88 Percent of Young Millennials Engage in Risky Behaviors Behind the Wheel

"Alarming, some of the drivers ages 19-24 believe that their dangerous driving behavior is acceptable," said Dr. David Yang, AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety executive director.

Community, Page A3

A Time to Break Silence

Every nation must now develop an overriding loyalty to mankind as a whole in order to preserve the best in their individual societies. This call for a worldwide fellowship that lifts neighborly concern beyond one's tribe, race, class, and nation is in reality a call for an all-embracing and unconditional love for all mankind.

Commentary, Page A4

Youth CareerConnect Students Compete For Summer Internships

Students from Fairmont Heights, Bladensburg, Potomac and Parkdale high schools had the opportunity to meet with employer partners such as: Peppo Holdings, CVS Health, Dimensions Healthcare Systems, NASA Goddard Space Center, SSAI, and the National Institutes of Health.

Business, Page A5

Movie Review: Kong: Skull Island

There is a certain kind of moviegoer who wants to see huge monsters squash humans and fight each other, and *Kong: Skull Island* is happy to indulge them, not even bothering to play coy about revealing the beasts. We get a good, clear look at Kong before the movie's two minutes old.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

What is meant by "environmental justice" and how is it under assault in the new Trump administration?

—Mike Garner, New Orleans, LA

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

Jet crash reminiscent of 1951 crash in Morningside

A fighter jet took off from Andrews Wednesday morning, April 5, had mechanical problems within minutes, and crashed in Clinton. The D.C. Air National Guard pilot is considered a hero for aiming the flaming plane away from homes near a cul-de-sac off Temple Hill Road, near Piscataway Road.

The F-16 plunged into woods about 200 yards from homes on Woodelves Way. The pilot parachuted to safety and was briefly hospitalized. No people, or buildings, on the ground were damaged but debris was found miles from the site.

The crash brings memories of another crash with much different results.

Back on April 8, 1951, a B-25 took off from Andrews, developed landing problems, and the pilot aimed the plane at the Chesapeake Bay and parachuted to safety. The plane flew low over the I.C.E. Club (now VFW), crossed Suitland Road, and plowed into the home of Samuel and Dorothea Snyder at 302 Lombardy (now, Poplar) Road.

The Snyders' two daughters, 6-year-old Kay and 8-week-old Rene, died in the fire, along with their uncle Irvin Guyer, visiting from Cranford, NJ to see the cherry blossoms and his new niece.

Morningsiders held angry meetings. The house was rebuilt. The Snyders moved away. They never had more children. On April 13, 1951, a County grand jury indicted the pilot for manslaughter. I've never heard the outcome.

John Wilkes Booth's escape route

On April 14, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated at Ford's Theatre by John Wilkes Booth. You can follow Booth's escape route—from Ford's Theatre to the site of Garrett's barn in rural Virginia—by joining one of the tours offered by the Surratt House in Clinton. They are now taking reservations. Call 301-868-1121.

Historic Rich Hill, in Bel Alton, MD, is also on the Booth Escape Route. The Friends of

Bel Alton are hosting a free Open House at Rich Hill on April 23, with costumed re-enactors, Civil War encampments, archaeological digs and more. The hours are 10am to 4pm. For more information go to rich-hillfriends.org.

Good Friday Way of the Cross

The Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Washington invite you to walk Jesus' Way of the Cross on Friday, April 14.

One of the cemeteries is Resurrection, 8000 Woodyard Road in Clinton, where Father Thomas Gude, Pastor of St. Michael's Baden and St. Dominic Mission Aquasco, will lead the Stations of the Cross. For information about time, call 301-868-5141.

People

Harry Ritter Jr. was recently honored by the Accokeek Volunteer Fire Department as their oldest living member. Now at 92, he has served for a record 76 years. Harry is believed to be the most senior fire department member in Prince George's County.

Eighth-graders David Perez and Meghann Peralta, of St. Philip's School, and Anastazio Caballero, of St. John's in Clinton, have been awarded Moreau Scholarships by Bishop McNamara High School.

Changing landscape

The canvasback duck has been proposed as Maryland's State Waterfowl. Proponents are asking their legislators to vote for House Bill 1037.

The last remaining Kemp Mill Music store closed March 17 when it lost its lease at 3743 Branch Ave.

The Greatest Show on Earth, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, opened its final Washington show April 1 at the Verizon Center. Feld Entertainment, which has owned Ringling Bros. for the past 50 years, announced the circus will shut down—forever!—in May.

May they rest in peace

Ann Marie Goldsmith, 100, a Life Member of American Legion Post 206 in Chesapeake Beach and a longtime member

of the Marlboro Meadows Civic Association, died April 4. A native Washingtonian, she graduated from Eastern High in 1936, worked for C & P Telephone, the Register's office at the University of Maryland, the U.S. Justice Department, and retired in 1986 from John M. Myers Feed Company in Upper Marlboro. She was predeceased by her husband of 74 years, Willard Leroy Goldsmith Jr., and siblings, Helen, Francis and Harry. Survivors include her children, Willard, Francie and Elizabeth, 10 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, and 8 great-great-grandchildren.

Viewing will be Tues. April 18, 2-4 pm and 6-8 pm at Lee Funeral Home. Mass of Christian Burial is April 19, 11am at St. Mary's in Upper Marlboro where she had been a longtime parishioner.

Nancy Faye Pettit Gallagher MacDonald, 83, a 1952 graduate of Suitland High, died March 30. A Washington native, she grew up in Seat Pleasant. She met her first husband, Richard "Butch" Gallagher, in high school and they wed in 1958. Butch died in 1972. She was married again in 1986 to Jim MacDonald, now deceased. Until just before her death, Nancy enjoyed taking almost daily trips to Traders to play the slots. Survivors include three children from her first marriage, John, Deborah and Daniel, and five grandchildren. Her memorial Mass was at Jesus the Good Shepherd in Owings.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Bill Ward, Eva Hay and Les Bornman, April 15; Tara Destiny Proctor, Edna Ducote and Wanda Brooke, April 16; Eloise Carnes, Ruby Cunningham and Veronica Frostbutter, April 17; Cameron Trexler, April 19; and Devaughn Branham, April 20.

Happy 43rd anniversary to Jim and Pat Conlon on April 20; to John and Emily Tierney on their 67th (!), April 15; Edward and Jane (Martin) Talbert, their 68th (!) on April 16; and to Larry and Jody (Bowman) Nyers, their 37th on April 18.

*A Blessed Easter
to all my readers!*

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

SEAFOOD DINNER

New Hope Fellowship Christ Church will sponsor their Fish Fry Dinner April 14, 2017 at 11:00 AM until. The address is 22919 Christ Church Road, Aquasco, Maryland 20608. Call (301) 888-1316 on April 14 to place your order. The seafood dinner is sponsored by Christ Church Men, Pastor Constance Smith. Chairpersons are Billy Stewart and Ronald Banks.

All dinners come with green vegetable, potato salad, sweet potatoes, bread and cake. Dinners are Bone Fish \$12.00, Fillet Fish \$12.00, Crab Cake \$16.00, Combination \$18.00, Crab Cake Sandwich \$8.00 and Fish Sandwich \$6.00.

BARNYARD EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Join us Monday, April 17, 2017 from 10:00 AM-12 Noon for a Barnyard Eggstravaganza (ages 2-10). You will be able to enjoy a barnyard-themed family friendly event including face painting, pictures with the Bunny, games, bounce house and many more activities. Bring your own basket for the Egg Hunt. Advance tickets cost \$3.00 for resident and \$5.00 for non-

resident and can be purchased at Upper Marlboro Community Center. Day of the event resident pay \$5.00 and non-resident pay \$7.00 at Darnall's Chance Museum. To purchase tickets online, go to www.pgparcs.com (PLU#5638-Residents and PLU#5639 Non-residents. The event will be at Darnall's Chance House Museum, 14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 301-627-2828; TTY 301-699-2544.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Happy anniversary to Ron & Beth Davis, Lloyd & Shirley Brown, Trevor & Denise Bourne, Norman & Jean Noel, Clarence & Dorothy Reid, Eddie & Ruth Wilson, Leon & Louise Gordon, George & Karen Taylor, Cosmus & Stephanie Samuel who are Clinton United Methodist Church members celebrating a wedding anniversary in April.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Happy birthday to Jaselle Dyson, Maudie Goodrum, Glenna Graves, Cosmus Samuel, Eric Knight, Barron Neal, Samuel Bell, Patrice Perkins, Leon Gordon, Lindsey Joiner, Roy Sedgwick, Claudette

Oghogho, Nadia Long, Veronica Thomas, Charmaine Grant, Sarita Georges, William Stroman, Gerald Brown, Alexander Stammer, Nathaniel Holmes and Jameel Hinton who are Clinton United Methodist Church members celebrating their birthdays in April.

WORLD VIEW CLUB HOUSE

World View Clubhouse after school sports and academics has been providing quality child care services for 20 years. Locations are in Brandywine, Clinton, Temple Hills, Waldorf, open from 6 AM-6:30 PM. Transportation provided, homework assistance and care when school is closed. Contact 301-372-0053 or www.worldviewchristiancenter.com for more information.

A RAISIN IN THE SUN

New Hope Fellowship Christ United Methodist Church Aquasco, Maryland is sponsoring *A Raisin in The Sun* at Arena Stage April 29, 2017. Showtime is 2:00 PM. The address is 1101 6th Street SW, Washington, D.C., 20024. Contact Phyllis Slater (301) 653-7345 or Crystal Washington (240) 299-1439 for more information.

Neighborhoods

Comptroller Peter Franchot Announces New Office in Greenbelt

ANNAPOLIS, MD—Following approval today by the Board of Public Works, Comptroller Peter Franchot announced the July opening of a new branch office in Greenbelt. This location will replace the Landover office, currently located in the Treetops Building at Professional Place.

The Board of Public Works, made up of Lt. Gov. Boyd Rutherford who was filling in for Gov. Larry Hogan, Treasurer Nancy Kopp and Comptroller Franchot, approved a 10-year lease to make the move possible. The new location will provide more space to serve taxpayers, better signage as well as convenient parking and access to transit lines.

"Our Greenbelt office will allow us to broaden the range and scope of taxpayer services we provide and give us additional room to grow to accommodate increased customer demand in the future," Comptroller Franchot said. "This new office will allow my team of professionals to continue to provide quality services focused on helping Marylanders with their tax questions and concerns."

The new office will be located at Triangle Centre at 6401 Golden Triangle Drive, Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770. A July opening is expected.

EcoDistrict Kick-off Project Seeks Community Input to Identify Problem Areas

BLADENSBURG, MD—The Port Towns Community Development Corporation (PTCDC) and the Low Impact Development Center (LIDC) announces the commencement of its first Port Towns EcoDistrict kick off project: The Port Towns EcoDistrict Stormwater Project. The Port Towns EcoDistrict is a collaborative project of the PTCDC, the Towns of Bladensburg, Colmar Manor, Cottage City, Edmonston, and many local community groups, businesses, and residents.

The Port Towns EcoDistrict aims to foster neighborhood scale sustainable development that promotes and sustains thriving green businesses, develops sustainable energy infrastructure improvements, encourages enhancement of natural resources and advances greater health and livability for the community.

Due to historic problems of storm water flooding in the Port Towns, industrial runoff and the close proximity of the tributaries of the Anacostia River, the Port Towns EcoDistrict Stormwater Project goal is to prepare a stormwater concept plan/study identifying sites with stormwater problems within the Port Towns. This is the first step to develop an integrated stormwater strategy that will minimize the impact of stormwater runoff. The plan will provide guidance to the PTCDC, local government and organizations in addressing runoff, flooding, water quality while integrating stormwater management and green infrastructure practices into local remediation projects. Ultimately the plan will help develop projects that will enhance and improve the local environment for the wellbeing and health of local residents.

The PTCDC is seeking to engage residents, community groups, businesses, municipal representatives, nonprofits, and other interested parties to help guide identification, selection, and prioritization of sites within the bounded area. If you have information that you would like to share, please contact our outreach coordinator, Abel Olivo at 301-807-0711 or email at outreach@porttowns.org.

Funding for this project has been made possible by the Prince George's Department of the Environment through the Chesapeake Bay Trust through June 2017 and is a partnership of The Low Impact Development Center and the Port Towns Community Development Corporation.

Prince George's County and Baltimore County High School Students Win State Culinary & Management Championships

Will Represent Maryland in National Competition in April

COLUMBIA, MD—Maryland's top high school culinary and foodservice management students competed in the Maryland ProStart Student Invitational (MPSI) on March 24th at the Hyatt Regency in Baltimore. Teams competed for scholarship money and the opportunity to represent the State of Maryland at the national competition in Charleston, SC. This statewide championship is hosted by the Restaurant Association of Maryland Education Foundation (RAMEF).

Bowie High School in Prince George's County won the culinary competition and George Washington Carver Center for the Arts & Technology in Baltimore County won the management competition.

Each culinary team planned and cooked a three-course meal that was scrutinized by a panel of judges. They had one hour to prepare an appetizer, entrée and dessert from scratch. Judges scored on proper food safety and sanitation procedures, cooking methods, food taste, teamwork and menu difficulty.

In the management competition, students created a business proposal for a brand new restaurant. The proposal consisted of a defined restaurant concept, accompanying menu, restaurant layout, employee organization chart and a marketing plan to promote their new restaurant. Teams presented their concept to a panel of judges who scored them on their understanding of the restaurant industry, creativity, restaurant management knowledge and overall business acumen.

"Each of the students that competed is to be commended for their hard work to be here today. Culinary arts and foodservice management are intense and highly skilled professions and these students showed that they are just as skilled as adult professionals," said Will Robinson, Chairman of the Board for the Restaurant Association of Maryland Education Foundation.

Participating teams are all a part of the nationwide ProStart® program implemented by more than 60 schools in Maryland. RAMEF, in partnership with the National Restaurant Association,

established the program to prepare high school students for careers in the foodservice and hospitality industry.

The winners of the 2017 Maryland ProStart Student Invitational:

Culinary Competition Winners

1st Place:
Bowie High School

2nd Place:
Annapolis High School

3rd Place:
Arundel High School

Management

Competition Winners

1st Place:
George Washington Carver Center for the Arts & Technology

2nd Place:
Bowie High School

3rd Place:
DuVal High School

More information can be found by visiting the website at marylandrestaurants.com.

Maryland Judiciary Launches Comprehensive Attorney Information Database (AIS)

ANNAPOLIS, MD—The Maryland Judiciary is launching the Attorney Information System, a new comprehensive database that brings together information about Maryland attorneys maintained by the court-related agencies that support the Court of Appeals in its role regulating the legal profession in Maryland. AIS also will provide a single portal for lawyers to update personal information, obtain disciplinary history and status, and file mandatory reports annually.

Initially, attorneys will use AIS to update their information maintained with the Court of Appeals, the Client Protection Fund, and the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Attorneys are required to identify a primary address and may designate any address as confidential. Further, attorneys may obtain information about their status, including past administrative and disciplinary actions, whether those actions have been cured, relevant court orders, and whether they have been restored to good standing. The capacity to file required reports will be added in the next implementation phase expected later this year. In the future, attorneys will be able to use AIS to pay their annual Client Protection Fund assessments online.

"The Attorney Information System represents a significant investment by the Judiciary to improve the internal management of attorney records and to facilitate for attorneys both the reporting of required information and access to their status history," said Mary Ellen Barbera, Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. "From concept to reality, AIS required intensive collaboration within the Judiciary. I congratulate my colleagues on their vision and good work on this project."

In April 2017, each Maryland attorney will receive a letter from the Maryland Judiciary by regular mail with information about the AIS and how to activate an account. Attorneys will need an email address to activate their accounts and update information online.

COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Nathaniel Sillin

What Does Retirement Look Like If You Haven't Saved?

The picture of retirement that many of us have is a post-work period filled with travel and plenty of relaxation. It's a time when you can finally take up a new hobby, sink into the pile of books and enjoy more time with family and friends.

The reality is that many haven't been able to save enough money to enjoy this idealized retirement. What might their retirement look like?



You may be working for longer than you expected. Many people undergo a period of "phased retirement" and either reduce their hours or start a new part-time job after retiring from a full-time schedule. Even those who don't have a financial need may find that they value the activity and connections work brings to their lives. Without savings, continuing to work might not be a choice, but you can still look for fulfilling opportunities.

Continuing within the same profession part-time or taking on related consulting work could be the most financially rewarding route, if it's an option. Alternatives such as customer service positions with a retailer are popular among some retirees. There are also Internet-based jobs that allow you to work from home.

Social Security could be your sole source of income. Retirees who don't have a pension or savings and stop working may find that Social Security is their only income.

Your Social Security benefit depends on when you were born, how much you've paid into the program, when you start to take benefits and whether or not you're eligible for a government pension.

Once you start receiving benefits, you'll lock in your monthly amount, although it will adjust to account for inflation. Therefore, deciding when to start taking Social Security benefits is important, as it can impact your income for the rest of your life.

Claiming benefits once you reach your full or normal retirement age, 65 to 67 depending on when you were born, is when you'll receive 100 percent of your monthly Social Security benefit. Taking benefits early can lock in a lower rate, while waiting can increase the monthly benefit.

In 2017, if you're eligible for the maximum benefit and start claiming at 62, you'll receive about \$2,153 per month. If you waited until you were 70 this year, you'll receive about \$3,538 per month.

You can use the SSA's Retirement Age Calculator to see how taking Social Security early, or waiting, can affect your benefit.

You might have to downsize and make lifestyle changes. Moving to an area that has a significantly lower cost of living could mean the difference between living with financial challenges and having a comfortable retirement. Some people look for less expensive areas close to family members or even an expat community in a different country.

If you decide to stay in the same area, a smaller home can lower your property taxes and maintenance costs. You can also take any profits from the sale of a larger home and pay off debts or build an investment portfolio.

Housing aside, there are many ways to downsize your lifestyle, such as selling a vehicle, shopping at secondhand stores and cutting back on monthly entertainment expenses.

One helpful part of aging is you'll be eligible for all sorts of new discounts and benefits. Look online for lists of stores or organizations that offer senior discounts. You can use the National Council on Aging BenefitsCheckUp to see which benefits you might be eligible for based on your ZIP code and personal information.

Bottom line: Many aging Americans don't have enough savings to fund their lifestyle through retirement. Deciding when to take Social Security benefits and where to live are two of the most pressing questions on the horizon. No matter what you choose, you may need to supplement your income with part-time work and look for ways to significantly lower your cost of living to enjoy retirement.

New AAA Foundation Study Reveals 88 Percent of Young Millennials Engage in Risky Behaviors Behind the Wheel

By PRESS OFFICER
AAA Mid-Atlantic

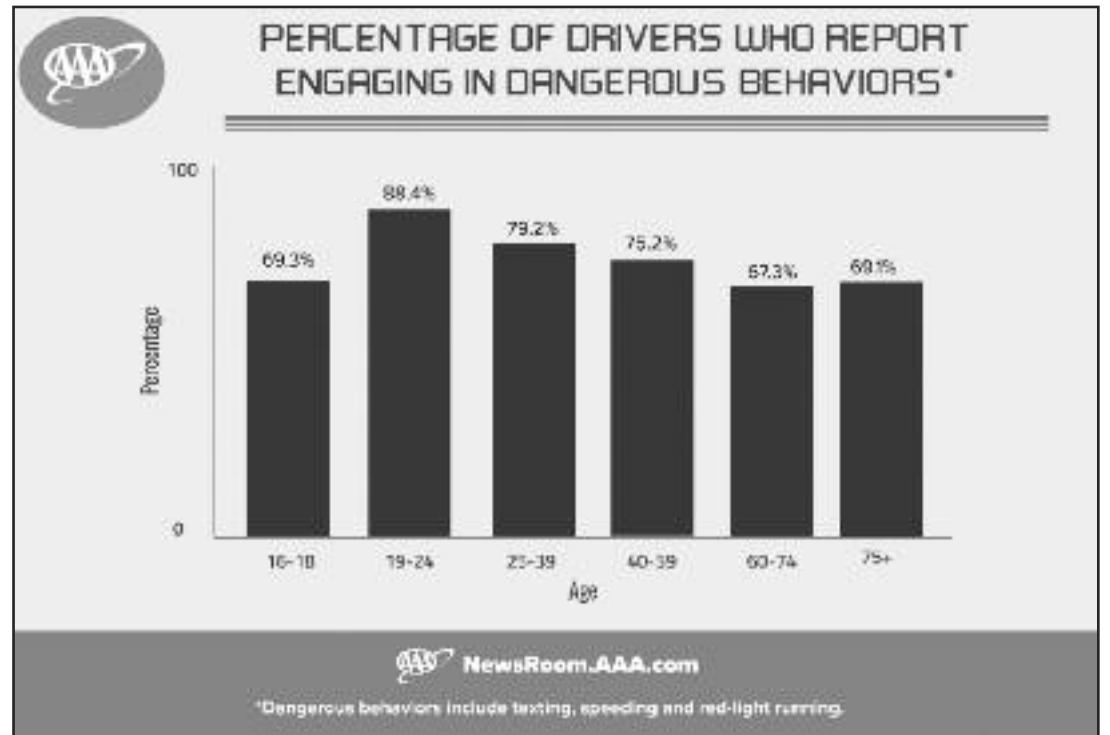
WASHINGTON, D.C.—It might come as a big surprise to fretful parents. Rookie teen drivers, as it turns out, are not the worst behaving and acting drivers on the roadways or in families today. It is their slightly older, college-aged brothers and sisters—young millennials—who are the least likely to obey the rules. As proof, 88 percent of young millennials engaged in at least one risky behavior behind the wheel in the past 30 days, a new report from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety finds. It gives young millennials the dubious distinction of earning the top spot of worst behaved U.S. drivers.

When it comes to not toeing the line, these dangerous behaviors—which increase crash risk—include texting while driving, red-light running and speeding. In fact, half (50 percent) of the young millennials confessed they'd driven straight through a red light in the past month. More worrisome, the new report from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety finds that young millennials are the riskiest drivers—but none of us is really setting a good example. These findings come as U.S. traffic deaths rose to 35,092 in 2015, an increase of more than 7 percent, and the largest single-year increase in five decades.

"Alarming, some of the drivers ages 19–24 believe that their dangerous driving behavior is acceptable," said Dr. David Yang, AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety executive director. "It's critical that these drivers understand the potentially deadly consequences of engaging in these types of behaviors and that they change their behavior and attitudes in order to reverse the growing number of fatalities on U.S. roads."

In contrast, in the District of Columbia, drivers within the 21–35 age group are more likely to misbehave and get caught up in crashes involving impaired driving, aggressive driving and driving about unbuckled. Remarkably, the number of younger driver-related fatalities has not exceeded two per year in the District since 2009, notes the 2017 Highway Safety Plan from the District Office of Highway Safety (HSO).

"If you spot young drivers texting, speeding or running red lights, don't be surprised. However, before you start finger pointing, look in the mirror. The study finds the majority of drivers of all ages have also engaged



SOURCE: AAAFTS 2016 SURVEY OF LICENSED DRIVERS WHO REPORTED DRIVING IN THE PAST 30 DAYS

in the same risky behaviors in the last 30 days," said John B. Townsend II, AAA Mid-Atlantic's Manager of Public and Government Affairs. "What is surprising is the fact that young millennial drivers are the ones are taking most chances, the AAA Foundation's latest study shows, and they should know better and so should we. The percentage of drivers who texted, sped or ran red lights was lower for other age groups."

Who is the biggest cut-up behind the wheel? By rank and by age group, the percentage of drivers who reported engaging in speeding, red light running or texting behind the wheel in the past 30 days include:

- Drivers ages 19–24: 88.4 percent.
- Drivers ages 25–39: 79.2 percent.
- Drivers ages 40–59: 75.2 percent.
- Drivers ages 1–18: 69.3 percent.
- Drivers ages 75+: 69.1 percent.
- Drivers ages 60–74: 67.3 percent.

Texting While Driving

• Drivers ages 19–24 were 1.6 times as likely as all drivers to report having read a text message or e-mail while driving in the last 30 days (66.1 percent vs. 40.2 percent).

• Drivers ages 19–24 were nearly twice as likely as all drivers to report having typed or sent a text message or e-mail while driving (59.3 percent vs. 31.4 percent).

Speeding

• Drivers ages 19–24 were 1.4 times as likely as all drivers to

report having driven 10 mph over the speed limit on a residential street.

• Nearly 12 percent of drivers ages 19–24 reported feeling that it is acceptable to drive 10 mph over the speed limit in a school zone, compared to less than 5 percent of all drivers.

Red-Light Running

• Nearly 50 percent of drivers ages 19–24 reported driving through a light that had just turned red when they could have stopped safely, compared to 36 percent of all drivers.

• Nearly 14 percent of drivers ages 19–24 reported feeling that it is acceptable to drive through a light that just turned red, when they could have stopped safely, compared to about 6 percent of all drivers.

Washington, D.C. witnessed an 18 percent increase in the overall number of younger drivers from 7,257 persons in 2015 to 8,564 persons in 2016, notes the District Office of Highway Safety (HSO). As of May 31, 2016 the District of Columbia boasted 457,283 residents with active driver's licenses. However, of that tally, only 20,957 active licensed drivers in the nation's capital were classified as young millennials between the ages of 21–24, and the city only has 8,564 active licensed drivers ages 20 and under. The HSO has a snapshot of the most misbehaving drivers, by age, in the District:

Who drives impaired in the Nation's Capital by Age? Drivers within the 21–35 age group in the District accounted for nearly half—49.4 percent—all impaired-related crashes, with those ages 21–25 comprising 15.7 percent of that total.

Who drives aggressively in Washington, D.C.? Drivers within the 21–34 year age group accounted for 35.9 percent of all aggressive driving-related crashes in the city, with drivers ages 21–25 comprising 11.3 percent of the total.

Occupants who are unrestrained by age groups. Overall, drivers within the 21–35 age group accounted for 43.4 percent of all unrestrained-related crashes. Young millennials, ages 21–25, accounting for 9.3 percent of the number of driver age groups with the highest involvement in unrestrained crashes in the District.

The new survey results are part of the AAA Foundation's annual Traffic Safety Culture Index, which identifies attitudes and behaviors related to traffic safety. The survey data are from a sample of 2,511 licensed drivers ages 16 and older who reported driving in the past 30 days. The AAA Foundation issued its first Traffic Safety Culture Index in 2008, and the latest report is online at www.AAAFoundation.org.

AAA provides automotive, travel and insurance services to 57 million members nationwide and nearly 78,000 members in the District of Columbia. AAA advocates for the safety and mobility of its members and has been committed to outstanding road service for more than 100 years. The not-for-profit, fully tax-paying member organization works on behalf of motorists, who can now map a route, find local gas prices, discover discounts, book a hotel and track their roadside assistance service with the AAA Mobile app for iPhone, iPad and Android. For more information, visit www.AAA.com.

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Bay Cleanup from A1

Advocates from each state attended the meeting with several lawmakers.

"We know how important the Chesapeake Bay is for the entire region," said Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger, D-Md. "We are going to fight harder and harder and harder."

Ruppersberger said the bay generates more than \$1 trillion annually and the restoration of oysters, tributaries and streams is a project that needs to be continued.

The bay is a source of drinking water for 75 percent of the region's 17 million residents, according to the Choose Clean Water Coalition.

The Chesapeake is also the largest estuary in the United States serving as a place for recreational water activities, as well as a workplace for the commercial fishing and crabbing industry.

Made up of 225 local, state, and national groups, the Choose Clean Water Coalition has been advocating for a healthy Chesapeake watershed since 2009.

"The Coalition will work to continue to push back on the president's proposed budget, and secure the essential funding that is necessary to return clean water to the Chesapeake Bay," coalition spokeswoman Kristin Reilly said in a statement Wednesday.

Members of the House and Senate were pleased to have bipartisan support for clean water.

"The Chesapeake Bay is the perfect thing to come together around and serve energetically," said Virginia Sen. Tim Kaine, last year's Democratic vice presidential nominee.

He said everyone has to work together to make sure checks and balances are implemented.

"We have an EPA administrator who doesn't accept science. If you don't accept climate science, it's a fair question to ask if you accept science," Kaine said, referring to Scott Pruitt, head of the EPA.

Trump signed an executive order last week to shut down the Obama administration's Clean Power Plan, a program aimed at reducing climate change by cut-

ting carbon emissions from power plants.

"We are faced with a tough budget battle, but an attitude from the EPA that says we can ignore science," Kaine said.

The bay is a valuable natural resource and if Trump wants more jobs, then he should work to rehabilitate the bay, Wittman said.

The congressman said he was deeply concerned about Trump's budget plan and wrote a letter to the administration asking to restore resources to the bay.

Wittman wants more money to help revitalize wetlands.

"Our wetlands are the nursery for everything that lives in those ecosystems ... mother nature is the sponge that absorbs what man puts in it," he said.

COMMENTARY

Benjamin L. Cardin

United States Senator for Maryland



Cardin Votes Against Gorsuch Nomination

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Senator Ben Cardin (D-Md.), the Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and member of the Environment & Public Works, Small Business and Finance committees, voted Friday against the nomination of Judge Neil Gorsuch to fill the vacancy on the Supreme Court of the United States. Video of Senator Cardin's floor statement on the Gorsuch nomination can be downloaded here.

"Advice and Consent of a Supreme Court nominee—someone who could serve for a generation and have a profound impact on the lives of all Americans for decades to come—is one of the most important constitutional responsibilities we have in the Senate. I have tried to understand as much as I can about Judge Gorsuch before voting on this lifetime appointment. I looked for whether he could bring about more consensus on the Supreme Court, which is tasked with addressing some of the most complicated legal problems and questions in our nation. A nominee should represent the values of our Constitution in such a way that allows us to expand, not restrict, the civil rights of all Americans and keep powerful special interests and corporations in check. A justice must live up to his or her judicial oath to 'administer justice without respect to persons, and do equal right to the poor and to the rich.' After meeting with Judge Gorsuch and thoroughly reviewing his record, I am deeply troubled by his nomination and his potential impact on the Supreme Court.

"Judge Gorsuch's extensive legal record is peppered with examples of putting corporate interests before working Americans, showing hostility to agency decisions that protect our environment, disregard for women's health, marginalizing students with disabilities and many more troubling decisions. His ideology could move the country backwards on guaranteeing equal justice under the law for all Americans, putting powerful special interests above individual rights. His activist views and opinions as a judge make it difficult for me to believe he can separate his political views from his legal analysis. He said little of substance at his confirmation hearing that could demonstrate that he would serve as an independent check on this president, who has tested the limits of the Constitution and the separation of powers. And unlike Judge Merrick Garland, who was considered by almost all independent judicial scholars as mainstream, Judge Gorsuch does not enjoy a similar evaluation.

"There is no equivalency between the nomination of Judge Garland, who received the ultimate partisan filibuster from Republicans by not even receiving a hearing or a vote, and Judge Gorsuch, who has been placed onto the Supreme Court only after a Senate rules change, causing lasting damage to the future of the Senate. I therefore could not support this nominee to be an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, and was compelled to vote against his nomination."

Marc Morial, President and CEO

National Urban League



Supreme Court Nominee Gorsuch Has Not Met The Civil Rights Standard to Earn Our Support

"Overall, we conclude that there is an inadequate record to determine if Judge Gorsuch has a commitment to protecting and safeguarding civil rights and, therefore, we do not believe he satisfies the second prong of our requirement for endorsement. Based upon our review of Judge Gorsuch's record, we have concerns that he has a narrow view of rights that are protected by the Constitution, as well as a skeptical view about the importance of protecting those rights in the courtroom. In short, Judge Gorsuch's record does not allow us to support his nomination for the Supreme Court at this time."

—Lawyer's Committee on Civil Rights, Report on the Nomination of Judge Neil M. Gorsuch as an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court

The importance of a Supreme Court Justice's commitment to protecting civil rights cannot be overstated. Much of the progress this nation has made on issues of equal opportunity are due to Supreme Court rulings such as *Brown v. Board of Education*, *Loving v. Virginia*, *Obergefell v. Hodges* and *Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs v. The Inclusive Communities Project, Inc.*

The Supreme Court has also regressed on civil rights, as with *Shelby County v. Holder*, which struck down a key provision of the Voting Rights Act and led to a proliferation of racially-motivated voter suppression laws throughout the nation.

More than most other communities, the future of African Americans' rights and opportunities hang on the confirmation of a Supreme Court justice.

That's why the National Urban League cannot support the nomination of Judge Neill Gorsuch.

Beyond the level of scholarship and judicial

experience required of a Justice, which Judge Gorsuch does appear to meet, a Supreme Court Justice must have demonstrated what the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights called "a profound respect for the importance of protecting the civil rights afforded by the Constitution and the nation's civil rights laws based on a large body of civil rights opinions or comparable information from statements and activities other than service on the bench."

We see no such respect demonstrated by Judge Gorsuch.

As I have maintained since the announcement of his nomination, what I find most troubling in the record of Judge Gorsuch is his apparent criticism of those who have sought advancement of individual rights through the courts.

He consistently has ruled against the rights of workers and consumers who were harmed by employers and corporations, and against disabled students pursuing their right to a meaningful education.

In fact, even as he sat before the Senate Judiciary Committee this week, the Supreme Court overwhelmingly rejected his opinion that a school district complies with the law so long as they provide educational benefits that "must merely be 'more than de minimis.'" In other words, according to Judge Gorsuch, a school district can meet its obligation to disabled students with little more than nothing.

Of course, no serious discussion of Judge Gorsuch's confirmation can ignore the fact that his nomination was the result of an egregious dereliction of duty by the Senate, who refused to give President Obama's nominee, Merrick Garland, the hearing he was due. The Senate's failure with regard to that nomination does not bode well for its ability to keep partisanship from tainting the process.

Open to the Public



Prince George's Equestrian Center

PHOTO CREDIT: ANONYMOUS

PRINCE GEORGE'S EQUESTRIAN CENTER

Whether you're looking for space to hold a championship game with thousands of avid fans, or a dignified setting for your next board of directors meeting, The Show Place Arena in Upper Marlboro, Maryland has everything you need to make your next event an unqualified success—hospitality, location, space, and versatility. No matter what type or what size of event you're holding, The Show Place Arena offers you and your guests convenience, comfort, and a place you all want to come back to—again and again. The Show Place Arena and Prince George's Equestrian Center are facilities of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation/Prince George's County, Maryland. For information on other facilities, classes and parks, visit www.pg-parks.com.

Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



A Time to Break Silence

Fifty years ago on April 4, 1967, our prophet Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. gave the historic speech "Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence" at New York City's Riverside Church. It was his first major public anti-war speech and a powerful warning that a rise in racial hatred, militarism and violence could destroy America.

In his essay "The Land Beyond," originally published in *Sojourners* magazine in 1983, Dr. Vincent Harding, the brilliant historian and theologian and close King friend who helped draft the speech, wrote: "Even now it would be tempting to take this cry from the heart of a driven, searching, magnificent brother and file it away as a document for museums and other honorable places. But neither the fiery signals rising from some of our latest potential Vietnams in Central America, South Africa, or the Middle East, nor the mounting anguish of the betrayed and disinherited of our own land will allow us to escape the unresolved issues of the past or avoid the costly and accurate vision of our comrade in the faith. The speech not only requires us to struggle once more with the meaning of King, but it also presses us to wrestle as he did, with all of the tangled, bloody, and glorious meaning of our nation (and ourselves), its purposes (and our own), its direction (and our own), its hope (and our own)." Dr. Harding was writing on the speech's fifteenth anniversary—yet his instructions for how we should reread the speech are even more searing today on its fiftieth.

Dr. King was speaking out against the Vietnam War specifically but also arguing that "the war in Vietnam is but a symptom of a far deeper malady within the American spirit" and that it was time for our nation to undergo "a radical revolution of values": "When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights, are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, extreme materialism, and militarism are incapable of being conquered ... A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift

is approaching spiritual death." President Trump's very first budget blueprint, which proposes an increase in defense spending for 2018 of \$54 billion (a 10 percent increase) with \$54 billion in cuts to programs serving the poor and vulnerable and addressing basic needs and other non-defense discretionary spending to pay for it, plainly shows Dr. King's message is not being heard or heeded.

Just as starkly and presciently, Dr. King went on to say the revolution in our national values must reject nationalism and hate: "A genuine revolution of values means in the final analysis that our loyalties must become ecumenical rather than sectional. Every nation must now develop an overriding loyalty to mankind as a whole in order to preserve the best in their individual societies. This call for a worldwide fellowship that lifts neighborly concern beyond one's tribe, race, class, and nation is in reality a call for an all-embracing and unconditional love for all mankind. This oft misunderstood, this oft misinterpreted concept, so readily dismissed by the Nietzsches of the world as a weak and cowardly force, has now become an absolute necessity for the survival

of man ... We can no longer afford to worship the god of hate or bow before the altar of retaliation. The oceans of history are made turbulent by the ever-rising tides of hate. History is cluttered with the wreckage of nations and individuals that pursued this self-defeating path of hate."

Headlines around the world show many nations are teetering on the precipice of this path right now—including our own. So how far down will we let our leaders go without speaking and standing up to intolerance? Dr. King reminded: "We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there is such a thing as being too late." "We must move past indecision to action ... If we do not act, we shall surely be dragged down the long, dark, and shameful corridors of time reserved for those who possess power without compassion, might without morality, and strength without sight."

Exactly one year after "Beyond Vietnam," on April 4, 1968, Dr. King was assassinated in Memphis. In the decades since, our nation has continued

See WATCH, Page A24

The Prince George's Post

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BUSINESS

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Making Your Point Without Having to Argue

We all face problems that crop up again and again. Most of us have probably yelled, "How many times have I told you?" and yet the behavior that drives us crazy continues to occur.

The reason for our frustration may be that we talk when we really ought to be acting. You've heard the expression, "Actions speak louder than words," and in our personal relationships that often can be true.

For example, perhaps there's a toddler in your house who thinks dinner time is a perfect time to play with his food rather than eat it, no matter how many times you reprimand him. Instead of constantly repeating that command to eat, try smiling at him, removing his plate, and saying calmly, "I see you're done with your dinner."

Will he protest? Most likely, and probably loudly. But the act of having his dinner disappear, along with your explanation of why, is likely to be more effective than simply ordering him to eat.

A similar situation might be if you have a spouse who tends to drink too much at social events. You find it embarrassing and have expressed your displeasure numerous times, all to no avail. Next time, instead of more complaining, simply take action by picking up the car keys, handing him or her ten dollars for that cab ride home, and walking out to your car and driving home.

There are numerous situations, from dealing with a parent who calls daily in order to criticize you, to a teen who refuses to heed family curfew hours, when arguing with the person doesn't result in a change in behavior but probably does give you a headache.

Instead of more arguing, take action. Inform your mother that if she criticizes you again you're going to hang up. Then follow through and do it if she can't stop herself.

See how your teen reacts if instead of arguing with him or her another time, you simply inform them of your planned action (such as withholding an allowance, or cutting off their cell phone), carry it out, then make it clear they brought the action on themselves.

It's important to take action with a positive, calm attitude. Yes, there will be protests, and yes, you will want to explain calmly what is happening and why, but the bottom line is that actions are much harder to ignore than simple words.

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

Innovation from A1

Created in 2011 in Baltimore's Emerging Technology Center, TechBreakfast is an innovative monthly forum that allows entrepreneurs, techies, developers, designers, and business people the opportunity to present cool new technology in a demo 'show and tell' format, and to interact with each other. It is also a platform for investors to identify new investment opportunities that brings diversity to the region. TechBreakfast has now expanded across the greater Washington Metropolitan area, with more than 7,000 members and has become the hip place to showcase the latest in innovation to a live audience.

"We are delighted to be a part of the tech ecosystem and

bring some great innovations to life here in Prince George's County," said Schmelzer. "Our job is to bring the tech community together to help grow great businesses here. Can't wait to come back for our next TechBreakfast."

Today's event was graciously sponsored by Spartan Business and Technology. The EDC also recognizes Exelon, BB&T Bank, JGL Law, and Big Frog for their generous sponsorship of this fantastic event.

The next TechBreakfast in Prince George's County will take place on June 27th. To register for this upcoming event, contact Nicole Edwards at 301-583-4650 or naedwards@co.pg.md.us today or visit the website at www.pgcedc.com/events.

Bowie State from A1

The Bulldog women had two top five finishers in the 400 meter as Tucker and Williams placed second and third respectively with times of 59.24 and 59.64.

Bowie State's Duggins finished second in the triple jump (10.85m) and third in the long jump (5.09m).

In the women's shot put, De'Sha Manago led Bowie State with a third place finish (11.24m) while Jordan McDonald was fifth with a throw of 10.91m.

Alicia Grant was Bowie State's top finisher in the javelin with a throw of 31.49m.

Bowie State men's sprint medley relay team consisting of Jarius Brooks, Bashir Lamptey, DeAndre Watson and Robert Thomas crossed the finish line first with a time of 3:35.75.

Lamptey and Brooks were Bowie State's top finishers in

the 100 meter, placing third and fourth with times of 11.18 and 11.26 respectively.

Vidal Adams, O'shai Powers, Brooks and Lamptey made up the Bulldogs 4x100 relay team that placed second with a time 43.66. The Bulldogs 4x800 relay team (Thomas, Markese Miller, Ikpefua Olumese and Indeo Ragsdale) had a second place with a time of 8:20.08.

Individually, Adams came in first place in the long jump with a distance of 6.55m.

DeAndre Watson finished third in the men's 400 meter with a time of 51.21 while William Edmond placed fifth in the shot put (12.91m). Frank Bailey rounded out Bowie State's top five finishers placing fifth in the 200 meter with a time of 22.77.

The Bulldogs return to competition on Saturday (April 8th), hosting the Bowie State Classic / Alumni Invitational beginning at 10 a.m.

Youth CareerConnect Students Compete for Summer Internships and Prepare for the Future

Federal STEM Grant Program Brings Record Number of County Students to Participate in Job Fair

By LORI C. VALENTINE
PGCEDC

BOWIE, MD—Today was the first day of summer for several Prince George's County Youth CareerConnect Program (YCC) students. More than 200 students filed into the Student Center at Bowie State University for an exclusive Job Fair. Over 25 employer partners and exhibitors came out to meet and interview YCC students who are excited about getting a jump-start on their careers. After a rousing pep talk from Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) President and CEO Jim Coleman and YCC Program Director Yolanda Tully, students were given the chance to put their interview skills to the test.

"Three years ago, former President Barack Obama delivered \$7 million to County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III to create the YCC program for County youth to get a leg up in the fields of information technology and healthcare," said Coleman. "Today, Yolanda Tully and her team are changing the lives of over 700 of our youth. I'm so proud of not only her, but especially our students who are absorbing what they are being taught and putting it into practice. I'm confident that I just shook hands with future CEO's and leaders who will take our world to new heights."

Mr. Coleman served as one of the workshop facilitators' at the job fair who spoke to the students on how to "Interview Like a Pro". Other workshops included "On the Job Success," "How to go to College for Free", and a simulated Zone Triage Center pharmacy sponsored by CVS Health.

"I am very appreciative of the YCC Program and the Economic Development Corporation Program for planning this career fair for our students," said Lateefah Durant, Officer for College and Career Readiness and Innovative Programs, Prince George's County Public Schools. "Through the program, the stu-



PHOTO COURTESY LORI C. VALENTINE

EDC President & CEO Jim Coleman (center) gives a pep talk to Youth CareerConnect Program students at Job Fair.

dents have been able to get the training that they need, interview skills, head shots, college financing and most importantly, what they need to get that summer job. I am also appreciative of Prince George's Community College and The Maryland Center at Bowie State University for hosting today's job fair and giving our student real-life experience of participating in a job fair."

Today's YCC Job Fair is the first of this magnitude for the program. Students from Fairmont Heights, Bladensburg, Potomac and Parkdale high schools had the opportunity to meet with employer partners such as: Pepco Holdings, CVS Health, Dimensions Healthcare Systems, NASA Goddard Space Center, SSAI, and the National Institutes of Health. This program has had many successes in just three years. Many of the YCC graduates attend local colleges and universities such as YCC partner Bowie State University. Misael Bonilla Escobar, a YCC Program Graduate from Fairmont Heights talked to the attendees about how the program changed his academic life and gave him real life work experience.

"The YCC program has changed me from a student with a 1.5 grade point average who

didn't want to go to school or continue on a college path to becoming a freshman at Bowie State with a 3.5 grade point average," said Bonilla-Escobar. "I learned how to apply for college, prepare for job interviews, and keep pushing for what I believe I can do. Now I have a FEMA public trust security clearance, and look at life differently. I'm pushing myself to be successful."

It is the mission of the YCC to cultivate home-grown talent in the STEM fields that will be ready to enter the workforce upon their high school graduation. Through the support of the YCC partners, students are provided with skills training, tutoring, mentoring, college preparation and college credits, job readiness training and work-based learning opportunities, internships and job placements. Program Director Yolanda Tully was ecstatic over the students' progress in the program.

"We exist to serve students like Misael," said Tully. "We know that the youth in Prince George's County are the untapped intellectual talent employers are looking for. Through our partnerships, we help students gain competencies to compete in the real world."

Many of the employers were

impressed at the level of preparation the students displayed during their interviews. Several of the students were offered summer employment on the spot. The students were well-dressed, professional, and showed they were well prepared by demonstrating their research about the companies they interviewed with. One of the higher education partners, The Maryland Center at Bowie State University, who hosted today's job fair, expressed their pleasure in being a part of such a rewarding program.

"We are happy to partner with the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation on behalf of the Youth CareerConnect Program," said Terry Lawlah, Executive Director of the Maryland Center at Bowie State University. "I am excited for what the opportunities will mean for the students."

Students will be notified of their work assignments by April and will begin their internships in July. Companies interested in partnering with the Prince George's County Youth CareerConnect Program for summer job opportunities, internships or mentoring contact Yolanda Tully, YCC Program Director at (yttully@co.pg.md.us) or call 301-618-8439.

Air Quality from A1

- Air filters have been cleaned and replaced.
- Ventilation system undergoing a check and cleaning to increase airflow.

In addition, plans have been expedited for a capital improvement project this summer to replace rooftop HVAC units and chillers. That work will now begin in late April with a target June completion date.

Visit the website at <http://tinyurl.com/19h7ps4> to view the 15-page report. A timeline of additional air quality improvements with projected completion dates is below.

District Heights Elementary School Air Quality Improvements Timeline
Projected Completion Dates

Work completed by April 7

- Heat Pumps—Modular
- Addition: Six heat pumps in classrooms 19, 20, and 21 to be installed

Work completed by April 10

- Indoor Air Quality Assessment: Results from entire building expected

Work completed by April 13

- Classroom Unit Ventilators: 15 ventilators to be serviced after school hours

See AIR QUALITY Page A8

TOWN OF CAPITOL HEIGHTS, MARYLAND NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Mayor and Common Council of Capitol Heights, Maryland proposes to increase real property taxes.

1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2017, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by %.04208, from \$252,765,207 to \$263,402,409.
2. If Capitol Heights maintains the current tax rate of \$0.4455 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by .04208% resulting in \$47,388.73 of new real property tax revenues.
3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$0.4275, the constant yield tax rate.
4. The Town of Capitol Heights is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The town proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$0.4455 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 0.04211% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$47,388.73 in additional property tax revenues.

Public hearings on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 10:00 AM on April 15, and at 6:00 PM on April 24 at Vivian Dodson Municipal Center, 1 Capitol Heights Boulevard, Capitol Heights, Maryland.

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged. Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call (301) 336-0626 for further information.

OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK

Movie Review

Kong: Skull Island

Kong: Skull Island

Grade: B

Rated PG-13, a lot of action violence, some of it fairly graphic, plus a little profanity
1 hr., 58 min

Kong: Skull Island is about people barging into a place they've never been before, dropping bombs to see how solid the land is, then acting indignant when the local wildlife responds defensively. It's about humans punishing nature for being nature, and about bureaucrats embarking on research expeditions motivated by revenge.

Fine, fine. It's also about giant animals, notably an ape of unusual size. A quasi-reboot of *King Kong* (minus the New York parts), *Skull Island* is a fleet-footed adventure movie with breathless action sequences punctuated by horror. Directed by Jordan Vogt-Roberts (*The Kings of Summer*) from a much-rewritten screenplay credited to three other guys, its creaky dialogue and questionable story are counteracted by visceral, thrilling scenes of zoological mayhem. There is a certain kind of moviegoer who wants to see huge monsters squash humans and fight each other, and *Kong: Skull Island* is happy to indulge them, not even bothering to play coy about revealing the beasts. We get a good, clear look at Kong before the movie's two minutes old.

After a brief 1944 prologue, the year is 1973, as attested by the generic early-'70s rock soundtrack (*Ziggy Stardust*, *White Rabbit*, a few Creedence Clearwater Revival tunes, Black Sabbath's *Paranoïd*—all the usual suspects). New satellite images have revealed a previously unexplored island in the South Pacific, just waiting to be mapped, surveyed, and exploited (that part isn't said aloud) by whoever gets to it first, which the men in Washington, D.C. hope will be America. The geological team sent by the Feds is joined by Bill Randa (John Goodman), a government scientist with crackpot theories about What's Out There, theories whose pots will shortly seem uncracked indeed.

To help with the expedition, Randa recruits a tracker, Conrad (Tom Hiddleston), the best in the business, etc., the kind of cocksure adventurer who can only be



ROTTENTOMATOES

Warner Bros. Pictures and Legendary Pictures' *Kong: Skull Island* reimagines the origin of the mythic Kong in a compelling, original adventure from director Jordan Vogt-Roberts (*The Kings of Summer*). In the film, a diverse team of explorers is brought together to venture deep into an uncharted island in the Pacific—as beautiful as it is treacherous—unaware that they're crossing into the domain of the mythic Kong.

found in seedy bars in the Orient. The group also needs a military escort and expert pilots to get through the daunting weather system that surrounds the island, so they swing by Vietnam to pick up Lt. Col. Preston Packard (Samuel L. Jackson) and his squadron of jocular helicopter bros, who sass one another in the manner of war movies before most of them are gruesomely (spoiler alert) killed. Finally, there's Mason Weaver (Brie Larson), a respected photojournalist who's tagging along because she suspects this is more than an ordinary surveying mission, and because what's a Kong story without a blonde?

Everyone gee-whizzes as the choppers carry them over lush green forests and primeval lagoons, dropping "harmless" seismic bombs to get geological readings. And then the nightmare begins! Kong, strikingly posed against a hellish orange sunset, arrives and, in a marvelously scary sequence, starts batting choppers out of the sky. (Part of this is filmed from a fixed point of view inside one of the helicopters, our vision of what's going on limited to what the pilots can see—which, for several seconds, is nothing but a few giant brown fingers.) This act of self-defense by Kong is all the excuse needed by everyone in the party

—the military, the scientists, the photographer, the tracker, and the bureaucrats—to declare war on him. Later in the film, a few people raise the issue of "hey, he was defending himself, we're the intruders here, maybe we should chill out." But at this key moment early on, not a word is spoken in support of simply staying out of the animals' way.

And you think: Well, all right. You get what you deserve, then.

Packard, a warmonger frustrated by the non-victory in Vietnam, takes Kong's hostility as a personal affront and vows to avenge his fallen fellow-soldiers—finally, a war he can win. Most of the other survivors of the initial skirmish, separated into smaller groups in the chaos, are focused on reaching the rendezvous point where a ship is scheduled to pick them up. One group, the contingent with Conrad the tracker and Weaver the photographer, runs into a native tribe that semi-peacefully co-exists with Kong and has a guest of its own: Hank Marlow (John C. Reilly), a WWII pilot who was shot down in 1944 and has been on the island ever since, getting more squirrely with each passing year. Reilly and his antic silliness are a welcome boost of comic relief, not to mention the character's utility as an explainer of Kong lore.

Now, the nice thing about the characters splitting up is that it means more opportunities to encounter the island's super-sized fauna, which include massive spiders, insects, water buffalo, and assorted monstrous reptiles. And the nice thing about having too many characters in the first place (there must be 25–30 in the original landing party) is that the movie can afford to kill a lot of them. The movie does this with gusto, skirting the edges of the PG-13 rating by not showing much blood even as people are impaled, torn asunder, devoured, or otherwise exterminated. I wasn't surprised to find that the screenwriters' past work includes *Jurassic World* and *Godzilla* (2014), both of which came to mind more than once. (Is there a post-credits scene teasing a sequel? Do giant apes poop in the woods??)

Vogt-Roberts and his technicians have used immersive special effects and old-fashioned things like "good editing" to create exhilarating confrontations with truly fearsome animals, but they go soft on the element that ought to be at the heart of a *King Kong* story: an emotional connection to Kong himself. With more humanity and compassion and a sturdier plot, this could have been a great blockbuster instead of merely a fun one.

Patient from A1

tient is assessed for any acute medical problems, have their medical history and current medications reviewed, and the team will also perform a full home safety assessment. This home safety assessment ensures that any potential hazard can be identified and corrected. The overall goal of these home visits is to connect the citizens with services that meet their specific needs, whereas an ambulance transport to the emergency room may not always be the appropriate solution.

So it was that the MIH Team was visiting a patient at his apartment in Hyattsville when

they noticed the man's bed and bedroom furniture were missing. The man, in his 70's, explained that the apartment complex management removed the bed due to an infestation of bed bugs. The responsibility to replace the bed is that of the resident. This patient suffers from multiple chronic conditions that caused him to be transported to the hospital over 20 times in 2016. Since the MIH Team has been working with him (approximately 90 days), he has made only one return trip to the hospital and his health is steadily improving. The patient is a man of little means and spends most of his income on his medications. Replacing the

bed was not a viable option for him financially.

The patient had to sleep in his living room on a love seat and the MIH Team feared that this sleeping arrangement might have an adverse impact on his health. Their fears were verified when the gentleman was soon transported to a hospital for medical treatment.

The MIH Team went above and beyond the call to duty and sought to rectify the problem on behalf of their patient. They visited a nearby Bobs Discount Furniture Store in Hyattsville and explained the situation to the store manager. Without hesitation the store agreed to donate a bed to the man, deliver and set

it up. Hopefully, with new sleeping arrangements the man can return to a more normal and healthy way of life.

The Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department would like to acknowledge the generosity and willingness to help someone in need. "As firefighters and medics we accept the responsibility to help people in need," said Fire Chief Benjamin Barksdale. "Bobs Discount Furniture has no such obligation but agreed to help, without hesitation or reservation, and resolve an adversity for a total stranger."

Bobs Discount furniture was scheduled to deliver and set up a new bed today just in time for the patients return from the hospital.

A Little This, A Little That

Thinking Outside the Coop: 8 Common Myths About Raising Backyard Poultry



(BrandPoint)—From fresh egg production to natural garden fertilizer, there is no shortage of benefits in raising backyard poultry. But even as families become more familiar with sustainable living and keeping chickens, several poultry myths still exist.

Here to set the record straight for our feathered friends is poultry expert Lisa Steele, creator of the renowned Fresh Eggs Daily brand and author of three top-selling books on the subject. Steele is also a consultant with Tractor Supply Company, the rural lifestyle retailer now celebrating Chick Days with live chicks and ducklings at its stores nationwide.

Here are Steele's eight most common myths surrounding backyard flocks:

Myth 1: Chickens are difficult to care for.

"There is, of course, a certain level of responsibility required to properly care for any living animal. However, when it comes to backyard poultry, the time commitment is fairly minimal—maybe 30 minutes daily," Steele says. Here's what you can expect: In the morning, chickens will need to be let out and fed; waterers will need to be filled. At some point, eggs will need to be collected. Then, around dusk, after the chickens have wandered back to the coop, the door needs to be locked to protect from predators.

Myth 2: Chickens (and coops) smell.

"Chickens themselves don't smell, nor does a well-maintained coop," Steele says. "On average, a chicken produces about 1.5 ounces of manure a day, which is far less than the average dog—not to mention, when composted, it makes wonderful nitrogen-rich fertilizer for a garden."

Myth 3: Chickens are noisy.

"Despite what you may have heard, chickens are pretty quiet. In fact, a clucking chicken tends to be on par with normal human conversation (60–65 decibels). In other words, it's a lot quieter than your neighbor's barking dog, lawn mower or car alarm," Steele says.

Roosters are a different story, and some areas prohibit them for that very reason. Be sure to check your local ordinances about keeping backyard poultry!

Myth 4: You need a rooster to get eggs.

Chickens will lay eggs regardless of whether or not there is a rooster in the flock. A male chicken is only needed to fertilize an egg, meaning eggs laid by hens in a rooster-less flock can never hatch into baby chicks. And while there are some benefits to having roosters, they aren't necessary for your hen to produce a basket of delicious, fresh eggs.

Myth 5: A chicken lays an egg every day.

Fresh eggs to eat and share with friends are one of the best benefits of raising poultry, but Steele says not to expect your hen to lay an egg every day. "The average chicken will produce four to five eggs a week, but that will vary depending on the chicken's age, breed, health and environment. Shorter days, extreme temperatures, molting (growing in new feathers) and other stressors, such as the presence of predators, can all affect egg production," Steele says.

Myth 6: Brown eggs are more nutritious than white eggs.

"The nutrient content of an egg is based largely on a hen's diet, not the color of its egg, which is determined solely by the chicken's breed," Steele says. According to a study conducted by *Mother Earth News* magazine, a free-roaming chicken that consumes grass and bugs will lay eggs with less cholesterol and saturated fat and more Vitamin A and E, beta-carotene and Omega-3s than a chicken fed purely commercial corn/grain-based foods.

Myth 7: Chickens carry disease.

"Chickens don't carry any more risk of disease than a dog or cat. In fact, they love to eat ticks and other pesky critters known to transmit diseases like Lyme disease, tapeworm and heartworm," Steele explains. "While salmonella can be transmitted to humans through poultry dander and feces, simply washing hands after handling the chickens keeps the risk of infection minimal." The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also cautions against live poultry inside the home and against letting children younger than 5 years old handle poultry.

Myth 8: Chickens attract rodents and predators.

"Wild predators are not any more attracted to chickens than they are to wild birds, rabbits, squirrels and other small animals," Steele says. "The truth is, predators are likely already

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See CHICKENS Page A8

Calendar of Events

April 13 — April 19, 2017

Smooth Sounds for Seniors: Denyse Pearson and Her Gentlemen of Distinction

Date and Time: Thursday, April 13, 2017, 12 noon
Description: Full of enthusiasm and reverence for America's original art form known to the world as jazz, this ensemble of longtime friends and performers have each made their respective impressions and contributions to the world of jazz music at home and abroad for three decades.

Cost: \$12/person
Ages: Ages 60 & better
Location: Montpelier Arts Center
9652 Muirkirk Rd., Laurel, MD
Contact: 301-377-7800; TTY 301-699-2544

Excellent Eggs

Date and Time: Friday, April 14, 2017, 2–3 pm
Description: Explore eggs by finding out where they come from and what is inside.

Cost: Resident: \$4; Non-Resident: \$6
Ages: Ages 2 & up
Location: Old Maryland Farm
301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD
Contact: 301-218-6770; TTY: 301-699-2544

Friends of Montpelier Lecture

Date and Time: Saturday, April 15, 2017, 4–5 pm
Description: Attend this annual spring lecture, sponsored by the Friends of Montpelier. Speaker and topic to be announced.

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

Family Discovery Hike

Date and Time: Saturday, April 15, 2017, 10–11 am
Description: Take a hike! Enjoy the sights and sounds of nature. Parents/chaperones of children attending family programs must also be registered for the program as well.

Cost: Resident: \$3; Non-Resident: \$4
Ages: Ages 4 & up
Location: Watkins Nature Center
301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD
Contact: 301-218-6702; TTY: 301-255-2544

Wellness: Get Fit Mobile: Basketball Clinic Pop Up

Date and Time: Saturday, April 15, 2017, 11 am–1 pm
Description: Come out and improve your basketball skills with us by participating in ball handling, shooting, defensive, rebounding, conditioning and agility drills!

Cost: FREE
Ages: 7–16
Location: Bladensburg Community Center
4500 57th Avenue Bladensburg, MD
Contact: 301-277-2124; TTY 301-699-2544

3rd Annual Aqua Egg Hunt

Date and Time: Saturday, April 15, 11 am–4 pm
Description: Join us for a fun afternoon of swimming, crafts, and an egg hunt in the water! Enjoy the Wibit for an additional \$3 (must be 8 years and older to get on the Wibit). The first 25 to register will receive a FREE pass for a future visit to Fairland's pool (up to a \$6 value). Adult supervision from the poolside is required for all children ages 6–11. Adult supervision in the pool, at arms lengths, is required for children ages 5 & under.

Cost: Resident \$10; Non-Resident \$13
(Children's fee includes admission for 1 adult.)
Ages: 3–12
Location: Fairland Sports and Aquatics Complex
13820 & 13950 Old Gunpowder Road, Laurel, MD
Contact: 301-362-6060; TTY 301-699-2544

Spring Greening Fair

Date and Time: Saturday, April 15, 2017, 12 noon–5 pm
Description: Designed to educate the community about environmentally-friendly practices and sustainable living. Program will feature children's activities, demonstrations, workshops, crafts and food vendors, and live entertainment.

Cost: FREE
Ages: All ages
Location: Mount Rainier Nature Recreation Center
4701 31st Place, Mount Rainier, MD
Contact: 301-927-2163; TTY 301-699-2544

Barnyard Eggstravaganza

Date and Time: Monday, April 17, 2017, 10 am–12 noon
Description: Search for Easter eggs in a barnyard-themed egg hunt. This family-friendly event also includes games, petting zoo, and spring crafts for the kids (while supplies last). Bring your own basket. No reservations required.

Cost: Residents: \$3; Non-residents: \$5
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Darnall's Chance House Museum
14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive,
Upper Marlboro, MD
Contact: 301-952-8010; TTY: 301-699-2544

Resurrection Sunday

Date and Time: Sunday, April 16, 2017, 6:30 am, 9:00 am, and 11:30 am
Description: The Worship and Arts Ministry presents a musical production entitled *Truly This Was*. Come out and bring a friend for this awesome celebration!

Cost: Free
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Mt. Ennon Baptist Church
9832 Piscataway Rd, Clinton, MD 20735
Contact: 301-856, ext. 104

EARTH TALK ... Trump Calls For Drastic Environmental Justice Cuts

Dear EarthTalk:

What is meant by “environmental justice” and how is it under assault in the new Trump administration?

—Mike Garner,
New Orleans, LA

Environmental justice is defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as “the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin or income, with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies.” In layperson's terms, it means making sure specific groups of people don't bear a disproportionate burden from potential and existing environmental threats.

Traditionally, we think of situations like the siting and construction of a pollution-spewing factory in or near a low-income minority community as an example of an environmental injustice. Some recent examples ripped from the headlines include the lead contamination of the water supply of predominantly African-American Flint, Michigan, and the siting of the potentially hazardous Dakota Access Pipeline adjacent to sacred and ecologically sensitive Standing Rock Sioux tribal land.

“The federal government has recognized for decades that air and

water quality are especially poor in low-income areas and communities of color, and some of that imbalance stems directly from government permitting decisions, such as where to allow the dumping of toxic materials,” reports the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), a leading environmental advocacy non-profit.

Environmental justice has been a hot topic lately as it relates to who bears the brunt of climate change impacts. According to EPA research, city dwellers and the poor are among the Americans most likely to suffer from climate change. NRDC points out that 24 to 27 percent of urban African-Americans, Latinos and indigenous people in the U.S. are now living below the poverty line, compared with only 13 percent of urban whites—meaning that minority groups are at the greatest risk from the heat waves, bad air, stronger storms and other negative consequences of a warming climate.

The federal government has been working on environmental justice issues since at least 1992 when then-President George H.W. Bush created a White House office dedicated to “environmental equity.” Bill Clinton took up the mantle when he assumed the presidency in 1994 and issued Executive Order #12898 calling for the federal government to identify and address “disproportionately high and adverse human health or en-



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Some consider the lead contamination of the water supply of predominantly African-American Flint, Michigan to be an environmental justice issue.

vironmental effects of its programs, policies and activities on minority populations and low-income populations.” Clinton's order created the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice to coordinate and oversee implementation of the rule across different federal agencies, and spawned the Environmental Justice Small Grants Program, which has awarded upwards of \$24 million since then in funding to more than 1,400 community-based and tribal organizations working in communities facing environmental justice problems.

But that all is likely to change now that Donald Trump has proposed slashing the EPA's overall budget by \$2 billion and cutting funding for environmental jus-

tice programs specifically by 78 percent, from \$6.7 million to just \$1.5 million. “These cuts are a direct attack on low-income communities and communities of color everywhere who are on the front lines of toxic pollution,” says NRDC's environmental justice head Al Huang.

CONTACTS: EPA Environmental Justice, www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice; NRDC, www.nrdc.org.

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