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CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTO BY HELEN PARSHALL/

Jose Aguiluz, 28, was one of several hundred people gathered outside the White House awaiting the administration's decision on Tuesday, September 5, 2017.

Maryland's Undocumented Immigrants: In Their Own Words

By HELENE PARSHALL and CHRIS MILLER
Capital News Service

COLLEGE PARK, MD—While reports circulate that the Trump administration is closer to resolving questions left after the immigration announcement made in the beginning of September, Maryland's undocumented residents are uncertain of what comes next.

In conversations following the White House announcement, three of Maryland's "dreamers," as they are often called, told Capital News Service they are worried about their future without the legal protections of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, known as DACA.

"When you're undocumented, the only thing you can rely on is your community,"

said Nathaly Uribe Robledo, 22, of Glen Burnie, Maryland. "For a lot of us, this will be the first time that we will be living undocumented as adults with adult responsibilities."

Robledo arrived with her mother from Chile 20 years ago on tourist visas, she told Capital News Service.

"I've been here since I was 2 years old, and I have very little memory—if any—of Chile,"

she said. "All of my life and my memories, all of my special life events, have occurred here in the U.S."

"The main reason my parents decided to come to the U.S. was the lack of opportunity in Chile," Robledo continued. "There was so much economic instability in Chile, and coming

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Prince George's Community College and WUSA 9 Cares Join Forces to Help Victims Of Hurricane Irma

By PRESS OFFICER
PG Community College

LARGO, MD—On Saturday, September 23 Prince George's Community College (PGCC) joined forces with WUSA 9 Cares to host a supply drive for victims of Hurricane Irma. Along with PGCC employees and WUSA 9 employees, volunteers from the Prince George's County Alumnae chapters of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. and The Links, Inc., helped unload vehicles full of diapers, cleaning supplies, bottled water

and much more. The supply drive offered community members and organizations the opportunity to serve others.

"We serve the community," said Richard Dyer, general manager and president of WUSA 9. "And one of our charges is not only to be a part of the community but to make a difference and this is one of the ways we can make a difference."

Dr. Charlene Dukes, president of Prince George's Com-

See VICTIMS Page A5

Prince George's County Hosts Fall 2017 'Clean Up, Green Up'

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Government

LARGO, MD—Prince George's County invites community organizations, schools and businesses to join us for the annual Countywide Fall 'Clean Up, Green Up' on Saturday, October 28, 2017.

"'Clean Up, Green Up' is an opportunity for residents to beautify their neighborhoods by coming together for a day of cleaning, weeding, mulching and litter removal," said Darrell B. Mobley, Director of the Department of Public Works and Transportation

(DPW&T). "This event provides residents, schools and businesses with an opportunity to partner with Prince George's County Government, the Neighborhood Design Center, Keep Prince George's County Beautiful, Prince George's County Public Schools and the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission to help keep Prince George's County clean and green."

The Department of Public Works and Transportation will

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Oxon Hill Native Earns Coveted Title of Navy Chief Petty Officer

By PRESS OFFICER
Navy Office of
Community Outreach

MILLINGTON, TN—Navy Chief Hospital Corpsman Erica Strausbaugh from Oxon Hill, Maryland, was recently promoted to chief petty officer, an accomplishment that only one in five eligible sailors achieve each year.

Chief Strausbaugh, a 1998 Suitland High School graduate, is currently serving with Carrier Strike Group Ten.

"Being selected for chief petty officer means that my peers and superiors saw something worthy in me and my work," said Strausbaugh. "It also means that my sacrifices haven't gone unnoticed."

Achieving the title of 'Navy Chief' is a major honor and milestone. According to Navy Personnel Command, there are only 8.5 percent of sailors currently serving at the chief petty officer rank.

To be selected for this promotion, sailors must be a petty officer 1st class, and success-



PHOTO COURTESY THE NAVY OFFICE OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Chief Petty Officer Erica Strausbaugh from Oxon Hill, Maryland is currently serving with Carrier Strike Group 10. This sailor is one of only 4,400 sailors who were advanced out of 22,000 eligible this year.

fully navigate through two qualifying factors: a job-based exam and a selection review board. A sailor's record can only proceed

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National Association of Black Journalists Celebrates Excellence in Journalism

By PRESS OFFICER
NABJ

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—On August 16, 2017, The National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) bestowed more than 100 awards at its 42nd Annual Convention and Career Fair from August 9–13 in New Orleans, Louisiana. NABJ inducted four veteran journalists into its 2017 Hall of Fame on Friday and announced the winners of the NABJ Salute to Excellence (STE) and Special Honors awards on August 12.

April Ryan, American Urban Radio Network correspondent and White House Press corps icon, was among the honorees and recognized with the 2017 NABJ Journalist of the Year Award at the STE ceremony.

"I think of Shirley Chisholm and what she said. 'If you don't have a seat at the table, bring a folding chair.' I am so thankful every day I have a folding chair in that briefing room," Ryan said. "I need each and every one of you not to hug me, but to pray



PHOTO COURTESY NABJ

April Ryan named 2017 NABJ Journalist of the Year Award

for me. When I'm under attack it's not just me, it's all of us."

Yvette Miley, senior vice president for MSNBC and NBC News, received the association's Chuck Stone Lifetime Achievement Award. "This lifetime achievement award

doesn't happen without people like you. It is not just about me, it about us," she said upon accepting her honor.

Miley was preceded by New York Times columnist Charles Blow, who delivered the evening's keynote address. He

emphasized the significance of an organization like NABJ and the journalists it honors.

"Don't let this industry tell you that being unapologetically

See NABJ Page A7

INSIDE

Many Consumers Won't Have the Foggiest Notion They are Buying A Car Damaged by Harveys Floodwater

Wreaking havoc, Harvey reportedly damaged between 300,000 to 500,000 individually owned vehicles in the Houston area, which has one of the highest percentage and rates of vehicle ownership in the nation, estimates suggest.

Community, Page A3

As Students Head Back to School, The Urban League Supports Their Plans for Success

ESSA is an opportunity for states to close opportunity and achievement gaps by increasing access to effective teachers and advanced coursework, closing funding gaps, supporting English learners and addressing students social and emotional needs.

Commentary, Page A4

Technology Gurus Fill Voids in Health, Branding and Innovative Workspace

Bob Blonchek of Digital Health Innovations, Sarah Hostyk who has developed the 'Place Tempo' phone application and Hector Del Castillo of V-Sense also presented their newest innovations to an excited audience.

Business, Page A5

Movie Review: Detroit

It's set a half-century ago, in 1967, when the black neighborhoods of Detroit (and other American cities) felt oppressed by the heavy-handed tactics of the mostly white police force, and long-simmering racial tension came to a boil. (Hard to imagine anything like that happening today, right?)

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

I'm finally ready to join the 21st century and commit to putting solar panels on my roof. Where do I start?

—Henry Hughes,
Washington, DC

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

It's October!

Time for hayrides and mazes

Montpelier Farms invites you to find your way through the maze—with games to play while you're in the maze. To honor first-responders there's also a firetruck, an ambulance and a police car. And for the small fry, there's an even smaller maze.

Admission includes rides on a 100-foot hill slide, hayrides, pedal carts, roping range, moon bounce, crafts and bonfire. Admission: \$12 (2 & under, free).

When: Until November 30. Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

And Friday evenings in October. Where: 1720 Crain Highway North, Upper Marlboro. Info: 410-320-0464 or montpelierfarms.com.

Countywide "Clean Up, Green Up" Program

Your neighborhood or your organization is invited to participate in "Clean Up, Green Up" Prince George's County on Saturday, Oct. 28.

The County (through Pubic Works & Transportation) and the Neighborhood Design Center will work with you and provide landscaping ideas, planting materials, proper planting instructions for trees, shrubs and flowers, as well as litter collection supplies.

For information on registering your neighborhood or organization, call Regina Ford at 301-499-8523 or go to RBFord1@co.pg.md.us. You must apply by Oct. 16.

People

Sister Haregu, of the Daughters of St. Anne, has her parents visiting from their native Eritrea, in eastern Africa. They speak no English, so I've been practicing my few phrases in Tigrinya, their language. Sister lives at a convent (formerly the home of Dante and Pauline Ross) in Skyline.

Former Morningsider Jody (Bowman) Nyers and husband Larry recently traveled to Fairbanks, Alaska, for a family re-

union (of Larry's relatives). They enjoyed the Chena Hot Springs, the Ice Museum and Denali National Park. The weather was wonderful; temperatures ranged 35-55, which was a welcome relief from the heat and humidity of South Carolina where they now live.

My great-nephew Patrick Sexson has been staying with me while he gets started in a new Washington job. But he's had a traumatic couple of weeks, driving to Indianapolis to sit at the bedside of his dying father and then to Springfield, MO, for the birth of his second daughter, Ruby Marie, on Sept. 12. In a couple of weeks he'll fly home and drive his family here, to a house he's rented in Pinefield, Charles County.

Changing landscape

The centuries-old Addison family cemetery is located only yards from the MGM National Harbor casino. It's the final resting of the colonial family who settled on the banks of the Potomac in the 1600s. Now, in the midst of legal wrangling, at least 36 bodies, buried hundreds of years ago, are being exhumed and moved to St. John's Episcopal Church Cemetery in Broad Creek.

Catholic Charities officially opened the Susan D. Mona Center with Ribbon-Cutting on Oct. 3. The new facility features a full-service medical and dental clinic, legal services, as well as nutrition and wellness programming. The Center is at 5859 Allentown Way in Temple Hills.

Construction is underway to relocate and realign the Rena Road intersection with Forestville Road. The purpose is to improve traffic safety and roadway capacity. The project will widen the Beltway off-ramp approach to two lanes, and widen Forestville Road to provide a left-turn lane.

Morningside Memories: 1987

Thirty years ago this autumn, Audrey Cook won two elections in one week. In a

special election, she won the Town Council seat vacated by Walt Sienkiewicz who had retired and moved to Florida. And then the Morningside Senior Citizens chose her to be their president. Other newly-elected officers were: Jean Davis, vice president; Alvina Beardmore, secretary; and June Nicholson, treasurer.

Ruth Pyles, known for her shamrocks

Ruth Catherine (Roylance) Pyles, 87, of Solomons, a C & P Telephone Company retiree, died Sept. 27. Born in Capitol Heights, she grew up in Clinton, and married Calvin C. "Hap" Pyles at Bells United Methodist Church.

They moved to Camp Springs where she was a member of Corkran UMC. She worked for C & P Telephone (later Verizon) for 41 years and was a member of the Telephone Company Pioneers and the Temple Hills Homemakers.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and two brothers. Survivors include daughter Niki Hutzler, two granddaughters and her sister, Mary M. Gerard. Services were at Huntingtown UMC with burial at Cheltenham.

Ruth was an accomplished seamstress and crafter, basket weaver and gardener, known for her shamrocks and her uncanny ability to spot four-leaf clovers.

George Walker, longtime poll-worker

George Edward Walker, Jr., 81, of Skyline, a Navy veteran, died June 15. He was born in Charlottesville, Va., son of George and Mildred Walker, and married his beautiful wife Geraldine. They moved to Lucente Avenue in Skyline in 1985. After the Navy years, he continued to work for the federal government, finally retiring from Andrews AFB.

George enjoyed spirited conversation and telling stories

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Neighborhoods

Hospital Hosts Event to Kickoff Breast Cancer Awareness Month

LANHAM, MD—On October 6, 2017, Doctors Community Hospital will hold its Pink Ribbon Rally to educate community members and its employees about breast health as well as the importance of annual mammogram screenings and clinical breast examinations.

According to the American Cancer Society, an estimated 246,660 women were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2016, surpassing lung cancer among new cancer cases in the United States for the second year. With 40,450 women dying from this disease, it is ranked as the second leading cause of cancer deaths. In Prince George's County, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene reported that when compared to other jurisdictions in Maryland, Prince George's County has one of the highest mortality rates.

"My team is regularly in the community educating people about the importance of annual mammogram screenings that save lives. We frequently hear from some women who state that they are more focused on ensuring that their loved ones receive regular health screenings. However, that same level of emphasis is not always given to maintaining their personal health. When combined with access barriers and screening anxieties, many are not getting this and other preventative health services," stated Terrie Trimmer, director of the Center for Comprehensive Breast Care at Doctors Community Hospital. "That's why the Pink Ribbon Rally and other types of community outreach initiatives are so important in improving people's health and saving lives."

On Friday, October 6, 2017, Doctors Community Hospital will host its Pink Ribbon Rally from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 8118 Good Luck Road, Lanham, MD 20706. This year's festive rally incorporates both breast health awareness and motivation for women to take charge of their overall health. This event will educate women and their families about best practices to reduce the mortality rate and onset of breast and other cancers. In addition to screening mammograms and clinical breast exams, this event will offer music, games, wellness lectures, Zumba classes, healthy snack demonstrations by Wegmans—Woodmore, survivor testimonials and a "Ask the Doctor" component presented by a variety of healthcare providers. Also, the hospital's Wellness on Wheels mobile health clinic will provide health screenings for men and women.

This year's partners are Mikea Turner of WUSA Channel 9, Wegmans-Woodmore, Tanger Outlets National Harbor, the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department and the Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.—all dedicated to advancing breast health awareness.

Breast Screening Recommendations

Women should get regular screening mammograms to help detect breast cancer early—when it is most treat-

able. Women should be screened for breast cancer at:

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

About Breast Cancer

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

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

Upon experiencing any of the above symptoms, women should contact their physicians immediately. To schedule an annual mammogram screening or request a free breast health brochure, call the Center for Comprehensive Breast Health at 301-552-8524.

Celebrate Library Card Sign-up Month

Activate Your Student LINK Account Today!

LARGO, MD—Celebrate Library Card Sign-up Month 2017, by activating your Prince George's County Memorial Library System LINK student account today. Throughout the school year, PGCMLS staff will assist parents and caregivers by demonstrating all our free educational resources and services for students.

Enjoy free access to online tutoring with Brainfuse's HelpNow, homework assistance programs/activities, educational apps, free online 24/7 access to reference resources, computers, educational SmartSpot (WiFi at your fingertips), My PGCMLS Librarian (by appointment) and AskUsNow (24/7 Library staff assistance). Your LINK student account / library card is one of the most cost effective back to school supplies available. Use our library value calculator and watch your savings add up.

Be your own superhero! Activate your PGCMLS LINK account for students in Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS), or get a student library card for those not in PGCPS at one of our 19 branches. You are a PGCMLS student superhero, when you become enriched, engaged and educated at your Library this school year.

About Prince George's County Memorial Library System

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS), consisting of 19 branches, offers strategies for lifelong learning. Skills development library resources include: Rosetta Stone Library Solution, Lynda.com, Brainfuse's HelpNow and Job-

Now, ArtistWorks for Libraries and Learning Express Library. Early literacy resources are: Ready 2 Read Centers, Ready 2 Read Back-packs, ABCmouse, AWE Early Literacy Stations, Beanstack, Playaway Launch-pads and PebbleGo. All these services are free with your PGCMLS library card. Also, enjoy Minecraft, 3D printing, DREAM (Digital Resources for Electronic Applications in Media) lab, chess clubs and MAC (Manga and Anime Clubs) free at your library. Engage with us on social media: Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, Pinterest, Instagram and YouTube. Check out our mobile apps! Learn more about what your Library has to offer at www.pgcls.info.

PGCPS First in State to Host Two P-Tech Schools at One Location

Innovative Health and Hospitality Career Schools Launch at Frederick Douglass High School
UPPER MARLBORO, MD—Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Chief Executive Officer Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell announced this last month that the school system is the state's first to offer two new Pathways in Technology Early College High Schools (P-TECH) schools at one location.

On the first day of the 2017-18 school year, Dr. Maxwell was joined by partners from Prince George's Community College (PGCC), MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital and Marriott to launch two pathways for Frederick Douglass High School students into postsecondary education and careers in Health Information Management and Hospitality Services Management.

The 60 students in the two P-TECH cohorts will gain in-demand career skills. Students on the Health Information Management track will learn skills including medical billing and computer coding. Students in the Hospitality Services Management program can earn industry certifications in food safety training, hotel management and meeting and event planning.

"With the support of our community college and local businesses, we are equipping students with skills for high-wage, high-demand career fields," Dr. Maxwell said. "It is exciting to know our students can leave high school with a diploma, a degree and the skills to be first in line for employment consideration."

"The college is thrilled to once again partner with PGCPS in a new opportunity for students to achieve their dream of higher education and gainful employment in health information management and hospitality services management," said Dr. Charlene Dukes, president of Prince George's Community College. "To recognize that in just four years these young people will walk across the stage with both a high school diploma and an associate degree is why we all do the work we do each day."

Students have up to six years to complete P-TECH, which includes paid internships and mentoring.

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SYSTEM

Community Support Systems (CSS), a private, non-profit social service agency serving South Prince George's and Northern Charles Counties will sponsor A Big Sale (yard sale/flea market) Saturday, October 7, 2017. Hours are 8:00 AM-1:00 PM. Spaces for rent cost \$15. There will be refreshments on sale. The address is 14070 Brandywine Road, Brandywine, Maryland 20613 (Chapel of the Incarnation). Please call 301-372-1491 for more information. Website is www.Community-SupportSystems.org.

5K HONORING ARMED FORCES & VETERANS

Join us for the 5K Honoring Armed Forces and Veterans at National Harbor October 7, 2017 sponsored by M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation. On-site registration the day of the race will be from 6:30 AM-7:30 AM. The race begins at 8:00 AM. On-site registration is \$25 for runner or walker. A performance t-shirt is included for all pre-registered participants. Participants must be present on race day to receive performance t-shirt. If quantities remain, performance t-shirts will be available for on-site race

day registrants on a first-come, first-registered basis.

Location for the event is Woodrow Wilson Bridge Trail, 7200 Harborview Avenue, Oxon Hill, Maryland 20745. A portion of the proceeds will support M-NCPPC's Healthy Minds Healthy Bodies initiatives throughout Prince George's County.

THEATER AND LUNCH TRIP TO LANCASTER, PA

Christ United Methodist Church Outreach Ministry 22919 Christ Church Road, Aquasco, Maryland 20608 is sponsoring a Theater and Lunch Trip to Lancaster, Pa. Rev. Constance Smith is their Pastor.

Trip includes travel on a deluxe motor coach bus, continental breakfast served on the bus, buffet lunch at Shady Maple Smorgasbord, ticket to see the new production of the play *Jesus* at the Millennium Theatre; shopping at Rockvale Outlets; afternoon snack; games and door prizes.

Itinerary: departure; April 21, 2018 at 8:30 AM, return; TBD (Clinton Park & Ride), with a Continental breakfast. Showtime for the Play is 11:00 AM and lunch 3:00 PM, followed by shopping at Rockvale Outlets.

Cost is \$160.00 for adults, \$115 for children 3-12. A deposit of \$30 (Non-Refundable) is due October 15, 2017. Final payment is due March 26, 2018. For more information, please contact Phyllis Slater (301) 653-7345, Grace Bryant (703) 915-6462, Deborah Proctor (301) 275-2544 and Beverly Cole (240) 419-7258.

OUR HISTORY HIS STORY

Nottingham Myers is preparing to celebrate their 150th Church Anniversary in November. Leading up to the anniversary we will be showcasing our males of our great church with a fashion show, "Male Extravaganza" on October 7th at 5:00 PM. Ticket cost \$50.00. Contact the church office 301-888-2171 for more information.

RUN FOR WILDLIFE

Don't miss the 22nd Annual Jug Bay 10K/5K Run for Wildlife and 3K Fun Walk hosted by the MNCPPC Park Rangers, Saturday, November 4, 2017 at Patuxent River Park. The address is 16000 Croom Airport Road, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Information number is 301-627-7755 and TTY 301-699-2544.

COMMUNITY

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Volunteering As A Way To Reduce Senior Stress

As we age, few of us are going to be one of those smiling, gray-haired, fictional people that advertisers love to show. The reality is that many older Americans find themselves facing a variety of issues and problems that can bring substantial amounts of stress to their senior years.

While any one of us can feel stress at any age, most stress-inducing events have a set deadline after which they end. A student might be anxious about an upcoming test, or a businessman worried about a presentation, but once the events pass they're over. And, for such stress, it's possible to take actions, like more studying or extra presentation rehearsals, that help address the problem.

But for an older person facing problems such as deteriorating health, caring for an ill spouse, a possible loss of independent living, or waning financial resources, the stress levels can be high, ongoing and often impossible to eliminate. The result can be serious depression, one of the most common health problems facing older Americans today.

While such stress-inducing issues don't just disappear, there are ways to manage stress and reduce the negative effects it can have on one's life.

The most common advice is to live a more active life. That usually translates as more physical activity and a more active social life.

Increased exercise may require dedication, but isn't difficult to achieve. Creating a more extensive social life, however, can be a challenge for many people. And that's where volunteering can make a difference.

From big cities to small towns there are always numerous volunteer opportunities. Some may call on past skills, talents and work experiences, while others might allow you to learn new skills. Often it simply means being a helpful body when assistance is needed. But in all cases volunteering provides an opportunity to meet new people, help others, and feel more positive about yourself—all great stress reducers for anybody.

While getting started can seem difficult, when it comes to volunteering it's usually easy. A call to your local school, hospital, YMCA, Red Cross, animal shelter or other non-profit will usually provide plenty of opportunities or suggestions. And there are online services, such as www.VolunteerMatch.com, that link volunteers to local non-profit needs.

Volunteering is a great way to stay active, be more involved, and reduce stress, regardless of your age. Find out who needs your help today.

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

Navy from A1

to the review board after they score high enough on the exam. Once the exam is passed, their records are reviewed by a panel of senior navy leaders who meet for six weeks to determine if the individuals meet the standards for selection as a chief petty officer. A sailor's performance is evaluated for at least five years, and each sailor attributes different experiences for their selection.

"Consistency, hard work and dedication are the things I strove for throughout my career," said Strausbaugh.

During the ceremony, the honored sailors invite friends and family members to pin on the two gold anchors that adorn the newly appointed chiefs' uniforms, while the sailor's sponsor places the combination cover on their heads.

"To my P.G. county family who helped mold me and my parents, thank you for everything," said Strausbaugh.

Morningside from A2

he made everyone believe. He enjoyed sports, particularly Georgetown basketball. And he loved reading the Bible and attending church. He's survived by Geraldine, his wife of 32 years; children, Laverne Walker, Doreen Wells (Larry) and Brian Seller (Kelly); four grandchildren, five great-grandchildren; three brothers and two sisters. His funeral was at Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church

For years George and Geraldine both worked as judges at the election polls. Geraldine

says she'll continue, even without George.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Sue Gilmore and Muriel Ireson, Oct. 5; Rory Lohman, Carmen Buffington and George Nixon, Oct. 6; Dr. Alvin Thornton and Kam'Ron Blade, Oct. 7; Greta Chambers, Oct. 9; Mary Deans, Oct. 11; and Tj Foster, Oct. 12.

Happy 28th Anniversary to our daughter Elaine and Luke Seidman, on Oct. 7.

Happy Columbus Day to all my readers!

Many Consumers Won't Have the Foggiest Notion They are Buying a Car Damaged by Harveys Floodwaters

Let The Buyer Beware: Tips For Spotting Flood-Damaged Vehicles

By PRESS OFFICER
AAA Mid-Atlantic

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Up to one million vehicles were submerged, soiled and spoiled by Hurricane Harvey's catastrophic floodwaters. That is twice the number of vehicles despoiled by Hurricane Katrina and destroyed by Superstorm Sandy combined. Even more vehicles could be ruined in the storm surge of Hurricane Irma, which is rapidly approaching Florida and the Southeast U.S. coast. Whenever a major hurricane triggers flooding, tens of thousands of vehicles, which have been totaled by auto insurers, are slipped out of an impacted area. In so many instances, flood-damaged vehicles end up on the used car market. Often the buyer is unaware the vehicle has a "salvage title," or the title has been "washed."

Many of those vehicles damaged by the back-to-back cyclones may soon end up for sale in other parts of the country, all the way up to the Washington metro area, AAA Mid-Atlantic and the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) are warning. Once the deluged autos are meticulously dried out, scoured, and scrubbed, and the title is "washed," they are sold in other states by unscrupulous sellers and fly-by-night operators. AAA is warning potential buyers to "always physically inspect the vehicle's paper title before you buy."

"Use your five senses to detect telltale signs a vehicle has been flooded. Then use your sixth sense," said John B. Townsend II, AAA Mid-Atlantic's Manager of Public & Government Affairs. "Look for a waterline under the hood, undercarriage and bumpers; for mud and debris inside the cabin and trunk; for signs of rust, and for fogging inside the headlights and taillights. Use your sense of smell to detect the scent of disinfectants or cleansing agents used to cloak musty smells or mold or mildew. Touch the carpet or floor mats for residual

traces of wetness or for signs that the carpets, seats and interiors were recently shampooed."

"Listen to the engine to check if it runs smoothly, or runs rough, or makes abnormal noises as it runs. Also listen to the sound system, to check if the electronics are working properly, because some mechanical and electronic components don't survive flooding," Townsend added. "Curiously, the term 'lemon,' a slang first used to describe a 'worthless thing' and then 'a defective car,' stems from a metaphor for 'something that leaves a foul or bad taste in your mouth.' That could happen to you if you buy a flood-damaged vehicle."

"Then rely upon your intuition, instincts, and 'mother wit.' Flooded cars are not always totaled and 50 percent are eventually resold. But most of all, use your common sense, and always purchase a vehicle history report or obtain a free VIN report for any vehicle suspected of having a watery past," said Townsend.

Before buying, check to see if the vehicle was flooded, using VINCheck at www.nicb.org. The trouble is most unsuspecting car buyers don't know the "difference between a 'salvage title' and a 'flood title,'" warns the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). It can make all the difference in the world. The FTC describes the difference this way: "A 'salvage title' means the car was declared a total loss by an insurance company because of a serious accident or some other problems. A 'flood title' means the car has damage from sitting in water deep enough to fill the engine compartment. The title status is part of a vehicle history report."

"Let the buyer beware" (caveat emptor) is the age-old watchword for consumers to abide by when they find deals too good to be true on used or new vehicles for months to come. Consumers should also be wary of websites that allow car buyers to bid on salvage flood damage vehicles. Here is a word to the wise: Carfax esti-

mates 275,000 "flooded cars" were back in use across the USA" last year. The title is often "laundered" across state lines. Chances are you probably won't know a car is flood-damaged until you have it checked by a mechanic you trust, warns AAA Mid-Atlantic Automotive. That is the first thing you should do.

"The car's electrical system is particularly vulnerable to flood water damage," warned James Spires, the Regional Manager of AAA Mid-Atlantic Car Care Centers. "Engine computers, sensors and other electrical devices can sometimes be salvaged but unless they are thoroughly cleaned and dried, problems caused by corrosion and oxidation may occur months after a flood."

In a six day period, it is estimated Harvey dumped "27 to 33 trillion gallons of rainfall" over Texas and Louisiana, and other states. Wreaking havoc, Harvey reportedly damaged between 300,000 to 500,000 individually owned vehicles in the Houston area, which has one of the highest percentage and rates of vehicle ownership in the nation, estimates suggest. It remains to be seen how many vehicles will be destroyed by Irma.

Thousands of hurricane-ravaged vehicles are being totaled by insurance companies and will end up at the scrap yard. Untold numbers of flood-damaged vehicles will turn up on the auction block. When Harvey hit, a third of car owners in the Houston area did not have comprehensive auto insurance, says Consumer Reports. Those who didn't, have little hope of recovering the loss of their flood-ravaged vehicles.

Here are some tips:

- Obtain a CARFAX Vehicle History Report – This report can potentially reveal if the vehicle has been involved in a flood, major crash, fire, or uncover odometer fraud.

- Conduct a title search of the vehicle. Check the VIN number at VINCheck.

- Check the vehicle's VIN with appropriate government agencies or your state bureau of motor vehicles.

- Analyze the ownership pattern for any new or late model vehicle with no lien holder.

- Be careful about purchasing a used vehicle from an individual running a newspaper ad and using a cell phone number. Check for title or registration histories indicating the car was in a flood area.

- Look for information from a vehicle's current title, including the vehicle's brand history. "Brands" are descriptive labels regarding the status of a motor vehicle, such as "junk," "salvage," and "flood" vehicles.

- Look for any reports of the vehicle being transferred or sold to an auto recycler, junk yard, or salvage yard. Select a reputable car dealer when buying a used vehicle in the aftermath of disasters.

- Look for the latest reported odometer readings to detect odometer tampering or fraud.

- If possible, have your insurer check to determine if the vehicle was previously insured in a flooded area.

- Trust your instincts. If you don't like the answers or the deal sounds too good to be true, walk away!

In the wake of Harvey, hundreds of thousands more vehicles were reportedly ruined on bona fide car dealership lots in the region, according to the Black Book. In contrast, Hurricane Katrina, which occurred 12 years ago, is thought to have destroyed 200,000 vehicles. After Super Storm Sandy, it was estimated a quarter of a million vehicles were flooded and subsequently scrapped. Will Irma wreak havoc on this scale? Harvey is said to have dropped enough rain, 30 inches or more, to cover an area the size of the state of Maryland. Always have a vehicle inspected by a quality repair facility, such as a local AAA Car Care Center or a nearby AAA Approved Auto Repair facility. This could save you considerable money and heartache down the road.

Immigrants from A1

to the U.S. meant a better opportunity for a better life."

DACA was created in 2012 under an executive order issued by President Barack Obama shielding young undocumented immigrants from deportation and granting them two-year renewable work permits.

Since the program began, almost 800,000 people have been approved. To be eligible, immigrants had to be between the ages of 16 and 31 as of June 25, 2012. They also had to have lived in the United States since 2007, according to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

Robledo applied for her first permit in 2012 and again when the program was briefly expanded to three-year stays in 2014. She applied most recently in July.

President Donald Trump on September, 5 gave Congress six months to find a legislative solution to address the program. New DACA applications will no longer be accepted but undocumented immigrants who are already covered can still apply for renewal, as long it is by October 5.

"I can personally say that (with DACA) I finally felt like an average, normal American teenager," Robledo said.

She attended the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, until financial struggles forced her to withdraw in 2014. Robledo was pursuing a double major in biology and political science with dreams of becoming a representative in Congress. She now works at an insurance agency in Baltimore.

"I'm very lucky, in a way, and privileged—which is kind of an oxymoron—to be in a situation where my friends are very supportive of me and my employer is very supportive," Robledo said. The decision, while anticipated, felt "devastating" for Robledo.

"I know my parents have made it 20 years undocumented, and I know that I can make it if I try, but it will be hard," she said.

"I'm just so scared of the unknown because my whole life being undocumented so far has been while I was in school," she added. "It's already scary enough knowing that these are the years where you're supposed to set everything in motion for the rest of your life."

A coalition of leaders across the country has signed a pledge

supporting the DACA recipients. Among those are many Maryland politicians, including 12 state senators and four mayors.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said in a joint statement Wednesday that Trump "agreed to enshrine the protections of DACA into law quickly, and to work out a package of border security, excluding the wall, that's acceptable to both sides."

Trump disputed the account on Twitter, saying that "no deal was made last night on DACA."

"We cannot let the Trump Administration get away with tearing apart innocent families and wreaking havoc on our economy in Maryland," Sen. Chris Van Hollen, D-Maryland, said in a September 5 statement.

As of March, there were roughly 9,700 Marylanders enrolled in the DACA program, according to data from USCIS.

In Maryland, DACA-eligible dreamers are mainly found in three counties, based on 2016 data released by the Migration Policy Institute: Montgomery (roughly 8,000), Prince George's (6,000) and Baltimore (3,000).



PHOTO PROVIDED TO CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE BY NATHALY URIBE ROBLEDO
Nathaly Uribe Robledo, 22, came to the United States from Chile, and has spent much of her time advocating for her community through work with CASA and other organizations.

The DACA-eligible population in Maryland accounts for about 9.5 percent of the state's total unauthorized population, said Jeanne Batalova, senior policy analyst at the Migration Policy Institute.

The majority of DACA applicants in Maryland come from four countries: El Salvador

See IMMIGRANTS Page A5

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COMMENTARY

Benjamin L. Cardin United States Senator for Maryland



Cardin, Klobuchar Introduce Resolution Recognizing National Voter Registration Day

The Resolution Encourages Each Eligible Citizen to Register to Vote; Verify With the Appropriate State or Local Election Official That the Name, Address, and Other Personal Information on Record is Current; and to Go to the Polls on Election Day

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Senators Ben Cardin (D-M.) and Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) today introduced a resolution recognizing September 26, 2017, as National Voter Registration Day. The resolution encourages each eligible citizen to register to vote; verify with the appropriate state or local election official that the name, address, and other personal information on record is current; and to go to the polls on election day.

"In the United States, voting is a right, not a privilege for all Americans. We need to make sure that every eligible American has the opportunity to exercise that right unfettered. It all starts with registering to vote," said Cardin. "On this annual Voter Registration Day, each of us should confirm our own voter registration and encourage a new voter to register. Today and throughout the year, we will remain vigilant to efforts to deny or infringe upon the rights of all Americans to vote."

"We need to make sure all those eligible to vote can make their voices heard," said Klobuchar. "The right to vote is the foundation of our democracy and we should be doing all we can to strengthen that right. That's why I am encouraging people to register today and will continue fighting to pass legislation that makes it easier to vote."

Throughout their time in the Senate, Klobuchar and Cardin have been fighting to protect voting rights for all Americans.

In June, Klobuchar and Senators Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and Dick Durbin (D-IL) introduced the Automatic Voter Registration Act of 2017, which would require states to automatically register eligible voters when they interact with certain state and federal agencies, unless those people decline. The legislation would streamline the voter registration process and allow citizens to register online, making it easier for people who move to update their information and be able to exercise their right to vote. It also includes important privacy protections, and makes it clear that the information used to automatically register voters will remain secure.

A long-time champion of National Voter Registration Day, Senator Cardin is the author of the "Democracy Restoration Act" that would strengthen American communities by restoring voting rights to individuals after they have returned to their communities after being released from incarceration. He also has led the effort to protect voters through the "Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation Prevention Act" that aimed to toughen criminal and civil penalties for those who create and distribute this type of false and deceptive literature.

The full text of the resolution is available below:

Whereas the right to vote is a fundamental right that—

- (1) is guaranteed to the people of the United States; and
- (2) constitutes the core of the democracy of the United States;

Whereas countless people of the United States have struggled to obtain and protect the right to vote;

Whereas each eligible United States citizen who would like to vote should be able to do so without encountering unnecessary barriers to the ballot box;

Whereas eligible United States citizens who are 18 years of age or older have the legal rights—

- (1) to register to vote; and
- (2) to vote;

Whereas the Bureau of the Census estimates that over 20 percent of eligible United States citizens are not registered to vote;

Whereas many United States citizens are not aware that they must register to vote before they may cast a ballot;

Whereas, because United States citizens must register in order to vote, many political campaigns,

See **VOTER REGISTRATION** Page A7



Surratt House

Open to the Public

PHOTO COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Surratt House

Surratt House, located at 9118 Brandywine Road Clinton, MD, is open to the public mid-January thru mid-December. Walk-in tours are available with costumed guide on Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays from 11 am-3 pm and on Saturdays and Sundays from 12 noon-4 pm. Weekday group tours for 10 or more are available by appointment by calling 301-868-1121. Surratt House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Admission is \$3 per adult, \$2 for Seniors, \$1 for children ages 5-18, and free to children 4 and under

Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



The Continuing Mean Assault on Our Children's Health

It's back. The assault on our children's health coverage has been resurrected for a final last-minute attempt at passage and is even more dangerous and cruel than ever. The latest Graham (R-SC)-Cassidy (R-LA) revision of the health repeal bill feels like a Halloween movie cliché with a zombie-like villain that refuses to die if its threats to children, seniors, and more of America's most vulnerable weren't so deadly serious.

It almost defies belief that after repeated failed attempts Republican Senators are trying once again not only to take away the benefits to children, families, other adults and seniors included in the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which has helped insure nearly 20 million people, but they are reaching beyond the ACA to dismantle Medicaid. Medicaid's safety net has been in place for 50 years under presidents of both parties and is a lifeline for 37 million children, covering almost half of all births and more than 40 percent of children with special health care needs. It also ensures coverage for low-income adults including those with disabilities and covers two out of three nursing home beds. Over these many months, even the most rabid "repeal and replace" politicians didn't campaign on getting rid of the ACA and its protections without replacing it and even President Trump vowed there would be no cuts to Medicaid. But like the earlier "repeal and replace" health bills that failed to pass, this bill repeals the ACA without replacing it, dismantles Medicaid and is even more egregious than its harsh predecessors.

Some of these Republican Senators seem to never stop trying to do bad and hurt our most vulnerable. What drives them? Do they ever think about what it would mean for one of their children to suddenly lose coverage for treating a serious disability? Who do they worship and what do they believe in? Certainly not a God who tells us to protect the least among us. And my disbelief in these leaders' bold and persistent callousness extends to the House of Representatives because we know that should this horrible new bill pass the Senate it would immediately move to the House. If you believe House Speaker Paul Ryan, it would be approved and sent for signing by the President. Sadly, politics so often trumps sound policy, moral de-

centy, and a sense of responsibility for the next generation and the nation's future.

Here are some ways the cruel Graham-Cassidy repeal bill threatens children, parents, other adults and seniors:

- It ends Medicaid as we know it with a massive cost shift to states by imposing a per person cap on federal spending, regardless of need or unexpected costs like the opioid epidemic, rising drug prices, or recent hurricanes or other natural disasters. States would have to pay all costs in excess of the cap, or more likely—since it would become increasingly impossible for states to fund the gap that grows bigger and bigger over time—make huge cuts in eligibility, benefits, and provider payments that will most certainly leave children and other vulnerable populations worse off. Education agencies will be left with many fewer Medicaid dollars to help school systems assist children and youths with disabilities and child welfare agencies will have to struggle to ensure health care for children and youth in foster care who have the state as parent and child with special needs adopted from foster care.
- Replaces the ACA's marketplace subsidies and Medicaid expansion with a block grant funded well below current levels. These

federal funds would end altogether after 2026 resulting in more people losing coverage. States would have broad authority to spend block grant funds on any health care expenses with no requirement that dollars help low- and moderate-income Americans get health coverage.

- Allows states broad waiver authority to exclude coverage of essential health benefits including mental health, substance abuse treatment and maternity care. It also allows states to return to the day when insurance companies were allowed to charge higher premiums based on health care status, allowing again discrimination against children and adults with pre-existing conditions.
- Destabilizes the individual insurance market in the short run by ending the mandate that all adults purchase coverage and eliminating the ACA's subsidies to purchase individual coverage. In the long run, such changes are likely to lead to the collapse of the individual insurance market.
- Derails bipartisan efforts to extend federal funding before September 30th, 2017 for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which ensures affordable, comprehensive health coverage for nine million children.

With only eight days left until September 30th, the deadline after which the Senate can no longer try to pass a health care bill with only 50 votes (with Vice

See **WATCH**, Page A8

Marc Morial, President and CEO National Urban League



As Students Head Back to School, The Urban League Supports Their Plans for Success

"Education then, beyond all other devices of human origin, is the great equalizer of the conditions of men, the balance-wheel of the social machinery."

—Horace Mann

New pencils, new books, an apple for the teacher, and unlimited hope for a boundless future—it's back to school time across the country. And whether their children are boarding a school bus on a country road or a subway heading across the city, parents are united in their hopes and aspirations for their children. And the Urban League Movement shares those dreams.

A high-quality education is a civil and human right. One of the National Urban League's empowerment goals is that every American child is prepared for college, work and life. In 2015 when ESSA was signed into law, we worked to ensure that there were strong regulations that would provide necessary safeguards for students and families. With a different administration, we have redoubled our efforts—supporting national and state advocacy, engagement and education reform actions throughout the Urban League Affiliate Movement and with other civil rights organizations.

ESSA is an opportunity for states to close opportunity and achievement gaps by increasing access to effective teachers and advanced coursework, closing funding gaps, supporting English learners and addressing students social and emotional needs.

Equitable implementation is key to ensuring the promise of ESSA for all children.

Our goal within the Urban League Movement is to advance equity in education. We make it plain: equity does not end at access to education, but rather it is evidenced by successful completion. For we know that students who receive a high-quality K-12 education are likely attend college, achieve professional success and become engaged members of their communities.

It's no coincidence that the cornerstone of President Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty was the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. He called education "the only valid passport from poverty" when he signed the Act in 1965, a year that also saw the creation of other Great Society initiatives like Head Start and Upward Bound.

In the 10 years after the creation of those programs, the poverty rate in America declined significantly. We know that a commitment to educational equity and excellence yields dramatic results. We won't forget it, and we won't let the decision-makers in Washington or state capitols or city halls forget it, either.

We are all familiar with the United Negro College Fund's slogan, "A mind is a terrible thing to waste." But it's not only a waste for the individual whose potential is untapped, it's a waste for the entire nation. As former Oklahoma governor Brad Henry said, "No other investment yields as great a return as the investment in education. An educated workforce is the foundation of every community and the future of every economy."

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BUSINESS

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty — IRMAA and Medicare Premiums

Dear Rusty: Due to my adjusted income in 2015 my wife and I (70 & 66) now have over \$400 taken from our monthly Social Security fixed income to pay for our share of Medicare. I was let go from my last company of 27 years while I was on medical leave. I had to pull out money from my 401k to live on and that showed as an increase to my 2015 income. Why do seniors get punished for trying to survive and not lose all they have worked for? I never heard of this type of action taken against retired seniors before. Was it an ACA (Obamacare) regulation so the government can steal from the elderly?

Signed: Frustrated

Dear Frustrated: Well, no, it's not some kind of Government conspiracy against senior citizens, but rather it's a consequence of the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 (which took effect in 2007) affecting Medicare Part B premiums, and of the ACA, which took effect in 2011 affecting Part D premiums. Both of these laws targeted higher income beneficiaries by causing them to pay higher Medicare Part B and Part D premiums, depending upon their filing status and income level. I'm afraid what you have come up against is something called "IRMAA", or the Income Related Medicare Adjustment Amount. And since Medicare premiums are usually deducted from Social Security benefits, those affected see their benefit check get smaller.

Without getting into all the different income levels and higher premiums for each filing status, I'll just focus on your personal situation. Since you are married and, I presume, filing jointly on your income taxes, as long as your combined Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) is under \$170,000 there is no surcharge to either your Part B premium or your Part D premium. If your MAGI is more than \$170,000, your Part B premium increases to anything from \$187.50 monthly to \$428.60 monthly depending upon your income level, and a supplement of from \$13.30 to \$76.20 is added to your Part D premium (all dollar values are for 2017). It sounds as though the 2015 withdrawals from your 401(k) were enough to push you over the income limit, causing Medicare premiums for both you and your wife to increase for 2017 (Note that Medicare reviews tax returns from two years prior to make the income determination).

Now for a little light at the end of the tunnel: Medicare recognizes that beneficiaries sometimes have a major "life-changing event" which can cause their income level to be unusually high for a given year, thus activating Medicare's IRMAA clause. You can request that Medicare review your situation and base your Medicare premium on a subsequent year's lower income (e.g., 2016), but you will need to prove to Medicare that your IRMAA should be less. To do this, you may start by using Form SSA-44 found at <https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ssa-44.pdf> or you can make an appointment at your local Social Security office and request reconsideration of your IRMAA amount in person. Even if the initial review results in rejection, you have several appeal options available to you, starting with submitting form SSA-561 "Request for Reconsideration" which can be found at <https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ssa-561.pdf>, and continuing if necessary to a review by an Administrative Law Judge, by the Medicare Appeals Council, and even by the Federal District Court, if necessary. And if you are successful, you might be getting a letter from Social Security notifying you that you'll be getting a refund of the excess of those higher IRMAA-related Medicare premiums which you've been paying.

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Clean Up from A1

If you have any questions or need more information, please call DPW&T's Office of Highway Maintenance at (301) 499-8523 or e-mail Regina Ford at RBFord1@co.pg.md.us

WHAT: Clean Up, Green Up—Fall 2017

WHEN: Saturday, October 28, 2017

WHERE: County-wide in Prince George's County

WHO: Community Organizations
Schools
Businesses
Volunteers

provide registered participants with plastic gloves, trash bags, safety vests, and a maximum of ten bags of mulch and litter grabbers for the 'Clean Up, Green Up'. The registration deadline is Monday, October 16, 2017. We urge you to join in with your community for the Fall 2017 'Clean Up, Green Up'.

Students who participate in the 'Clean Up, Green Up' will receive community service credits. Verification forms for community service are available at the schools.

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Technology Gurus Fill Voids in Health, Branding and Innovative Workspace

TechBreakfast in Prince George's County Introduces Crowd to Game-Changing Technology!

By R. JOSHUA REYNOLDS
PGCEDC

OXON HILL, MD—On Wednesday, September 22, 2017, four entrepreneurs shared their newest innovations with the local business and technology community at Prince George's County's September 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', tech industry professionals gathered at Spartan Business & Technology to learn about amazing new products. EDC President and CEO Jim Coleman was extremely pleased to provide a platform for entrepreneurs and tech enthusiasts to meet and greet.

"We are happy to keep providing a stage for up and coming tech geniuses to showcase their inventions and products," said Coleman. "Today, we witnessed some innovative products that are making a positive change to the way we work, live and care for each other. Hearing directly from the inventors and innovators gives our audience a chance to be an early adaptor for groundbreaking technology. Making connections and helping bring

awareness to great innovations is what it's all about for us. We're thrilled to maintain our relationship with TechBreakfast and can't wait to see these gurus continue to grow and change the world!"

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."

Technology gurus were also excited at the opportunity to



PHOTO COURTESY R. JOSHUA REYNOLDS
Left to right: Jim Coleman, EDC President & CEO; Hector Del Castillo, CTO at V-Sense; Patrick Rife, Founder at Pixilated; Sarah Hostyk, Place Tempo App Developer; Bob Blonchek, Digital Health Innovations; Ron Schmelzer, Founder of TechBreakfast

demo their products in front of a live audience.

"Today I demoed a new product we have called WallPixi," said Patrick Rife, founder of Pixilated. "This is a smart wallmounted photo-booth kiosk. Businesses can take photos with their branding which are easily made available for their clients. Photos are accessed via text message and email to be used for marketing purposes."

Bob Blonchek of Digital Health Innovations, Sarah Hostyk who has developed the 'Place Tempo' phone application and Hector Del Castillo of V-Sense also presented their

newest innovations to an excited audience.

Wednesday's event was graciously hosted by Spartan Business and Technology. The EDC was also appreciative of the support from 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 December 19th at Spartan Business and Technology. 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.pgcdec.com/events.

Immigrants from A3

(about 7,000 recipients), Mexico (5,000), Guatemala (4,000) and South Korea (2,000), per data from the institute.

More than just Latinos

Cindy Kolade, 24, arrived in Baltimore shortly after her twelfth birthday with her mother from the Ivory Coast. Kolade said she will remain covered by DACA through February 2019.

"DACA gave me a little bit of the American dream because I was able to provide for myself and provide for my family," Kolade said. "With DACA, I'm able to help my mom with the bills."

She and her mother came straight to Maryland because "it's the only place I have family."

"Baltimore shaped me into the person I am today," she said. "I'm able to survive on my own and take care of myself."

Kolade works as a clinical lab assistant at the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore. In 2014, she transferred to Towson University from Baltimore Community College. She is still in school, majoring in molecular biology.

Kolade is registered under Maryland's DREAM Act and also under DACA, and received her first DACA work permit in October 2012.

In 2012, Maryland passed its own DREAM Act to make in-state tuition accessible for its undocumented residents, provided they attended previous schooling in Maryland.

"With DACA, I really thought I had it all for a minute," Kolade said. "But even though DACA doesn't give us the whole Ameri-



PHOTO PROVIDED TO CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE BY CINDY KOLADE./

Cindy Kolade, 24, originally from Abidjan in the Ivory Coast, West Africa, came to Baltimore with her mother when she was 12 years old

can dream ... at least it gave us a chance to go to school, work, and be part of the American society."

Trump's announcement has changed Kolade's thinking.

"You've given us something and you've taken it away from us," she said. "You still have to worry about what happens next. It doesn't matter if it's going to stop in March or two or three years from now. It's really devastating because you don't know how you're going to survive for yourself."

Kolade believes the administration's decision to rescind DACA is a sign that Trump doesn't understand that communities other than Latinos depend on the legal protections.

"Although (African populations) are a small minority, we still depend on DACA and still feel protected by it," Kolade said.

Brian Frosh, Maryland's attorney general, announced Monday that Maryland will join Minnesota, California and Maine in a lawsuit against the decision to end DACA.

"The callous and cavalier action taken by the Trump Administration will destroy the lives of many immigrants who were brought here as infants and toddlers, who love the United States of America, who pay taxes and abide by the law," Frosh said in a statement. "Ending the program would constitute a \$509.4 million loss to the state's annual GDP."

Strength in Community

"When I graduated from community college in Maryland in 2011, there was no DACA," said Jose Aguiluz, 28, a registered nurse from Silver Spring, Maryland, who arrived from Honduras when he was 15.

"I had an associate's degree in nursing, but I was working as an electrician to pay my bills because it was the only job I could get," Aguiluz said. "Then DACA came along and changed my life completely within the span of four months."

Upon receiving his Social Security number and work permit, Aguiluz told Capital News Service, he found work in his field almost immediately.

"I went from being an electrician to having a job as an RN," he said. "After being able to work legally, I went back to school and got my bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Maryland University College."

Aguiluz had plans to continue his education, but is now at a loss because "pretty much everything has been placed on hold."

Victims from A1

munity College, echoed Dyer's sentiments saying "I think it is important for us because it sends a message to the community in which the College is located and the students that we serve that there is always an opportunity to give and that is who we are as people, wanting to ensure that we are taking care of others."

More than 100 volunteers sorted, loaded and packed over 450 boxes totaling 19,400 pounds of donations. Hurricane Irma devastated Florida early September with torrential rain, flooding, and massive power outages.

Pilot Flying J, the largest operator of travel centers in North America, and Hilldrup Moving & Storage, a moving company with headquarters in

Stafford, Virginia, will transport the donated supplies to Jacksonville, Florida. In addition to transporting the supplies, Hilldrup Moving & Storage employees helped pack boxes and load the tractor trailer. The Salvation Army was also available to collect supplies not on the approved donation list. The trailer will leave for Jacksonville, Florida Tuesday.

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OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK
Movie Review

Detroit

Detroit
Grade: C+
Rated R, pervasive harsh
profanity, a lot of moderately
graphic violence
2 hrs. 23 min.

Detroit is about one of the more unpleasant things to have happened in a city where so many unpleasant things have happened that you can elicit a feeling of despair just by naming your movie after it. ("Wanna go see *Detroit*?" "No, that sounds depressing.") Directed with well-placed outrage by Kathryn Bigelow from a screenplay by her *Hurt Locker* and *Zero Dark Thirty* scribe Mark Boal, the overlong film bristles with anger but is undermined by a meandering, repetitive story that doesn't come together well enough to make the arduous experience worthwhile.

It's set a half-century ago, in 1967, when the black neighborhoods of Detroit (and other American cities) felt oppressed by the heavy-handed tactics of the mostly white police force, and long-simmering racial tension came to a boil. (Hard to imagine anything like that happening today, right?) The result was a five-day riot that left more than 40 people dead. On-screen titles summarize how the city came to be such a tinderbox, but the movie isn't about the history of Detroit, or even the 1967 riot. It's about a specific ugly incident that happened during the riot, involving racist cops and black civilians at the Algiers Motel. Since the film presumes unfamiliarity with it (a safe bet), and since the incident doesn't occur until the second half of the movie, I won't spoil it.

Before we get there, the film introduces us to numerous unrelated people and lets us follow them around without a sense of where it's all headed. The Detroit cops include blatantly racist Krauss (Will Poulter, with sinister eyebrows) and his com-



ROTTENTOMATOES

From the Academy Award winning director of *The Hurt Locker* and *Zero Dark Thirty*, *Detroit* tells the gripping story of one of the darkest moments during the civil unrest that rocked Detroit in the summer of '67.

plicit cohorts Demens (Jack Reynor) and Flynn (Ben O'Toole). Early on, Krauss is reprimanded for over-aggressive policing (to put it mildly). "We're not supposed to shoot the looters," a colleague tells him. "Then how the hell are we supposed to stop them?" asks Krauss, putting his finger on the problem without realizing it.

Among the civilians, there's Larry (Algee Smith), who's part of a quintet of black singers on the verge of being discovered by Motown, and Fred (Jacob Latimore), the younger brother of one of the other group members. There's also Melvin Dismukes (John Boyega), straddling the line between law enforcement and civilian as an armed security guard who's disrespected by cops for not being white and by black men for being a sellout.

Riot scenes are interspersed with real news footage, giving the docudrama an air of authenticity while underscoring Bigelow's skill at making the recreations match the originals.

All of this is fitfully engaging, but the narrative feels like it's wandering. Bigelow's tactics change when we finally get to the Algiers Motel, a seedy flophouse where Krauss & co., looking for a sniper, subject every innocent guest—mostly black men (including those already named plus Anthony Mackie, Nathan Davis Jr., and Jason Mitchell), plus two white girls (Hannah Murray and Kaitlyn Dever)—to manhandling, abuse, and worse. Now the real news footage goes away and we're trapped for what feels like an eternity in this frustrating nightmare scenario. At last it becomes clear that this was what the movie was all about, and we're left to wonder why all that exposition wasn't abbreviated.

The Algiers sequence occupies a significant chunk of the film. It's tense and often terrifying, the Detroit cops joined by National Guard and State Police while chaos reigns outside, but those returns diminish the longer it drags on. After a while the movie becomes more of a

grueling punishment than an artistic experience, an "eat this, it's good for you" film that might not even be that good for you. The commentary on police brutality, while duly enraging, is reduced to platitudes and on-the-nose declarations ("What kind of animal would do this?" says a good cop upon finding a victim). But even if it were eloquent and nuanced, at what point does this display of misery and injustice stop being nutritional—something to spur us to action—and start discouraging us? We know there is mud. How much must we wallow in it?

The performances are good, even with Poulter's racist cop being written so one-dimensionally. Algee Smith's young crooner is an emotional anchor, and the way the experience affects him is an interesting thread that should have gotten more attention. But as noble as Bigelow and Boal's intentions must have been, the film generates more heat than light, stirring up anger without channeling it into something productive.

Music—Many Benefits

Academic Success Could Involve Music To Your Ears

(NAPSI)—Here's an idea many families may be wise to note: Research shows letting your kids learn music can help them do better in other subjects and enhances skills they'll need in other areas.

Lend An Ear To Expert Advice

"The development of language over time tends to enhance parts of the brain that help process music," explains Dr. Kyle Pruett, clinical professor of child psychiatry at Yale School of Medicine. "Language competence is at the root of social competence. Musical experience strengthens the capacity to be verbally competent."

What's more, a study by E. Glenn Schellenberg at the University of Toronto at Mississauga, as published in Psychological Science, found an increase in the IQs of 6-year-olds who were given weekly voice and piano lessons.

Another study, led by Ellen Winner, professor of psychology at Boston College, and Gottfried Schlaug, professor of neurology at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School, found children who had just 15 months of weekly music instruction and practice had improved sound discrimination and fine motor tasks.

According to many music teachers, the piano can be a great first instrument. There are several reasons. First, pianos are simple to play; children can begin their music studies as soon as their fingers can reach all the keys. In addition, a piano can help students learn to read music because it's easy to see the relationships between pitches in both melodies and chords and the way they look written out on the staff.

Regular piano playing sharpens fine motor skills and improves hand-eye coordination in the young. Plus, studying piano has been shown to improve memory and build good habits such as focus and perseverance, diligence and creativity.

Keys to Piano Success

If you're considering investing in music education for your child and purchasing a piano, there are three things you should learn first.

1. Invest in a good acoustic piano. Look for a high-quality tone, not tinny or shallow, but round and warm that fills the room with vibrations. An acoustic piano can last longer, have more aesthetic appeal, and provide a better music educational experience. For example, touch sensitivity of an acoustic piano lets you play the more subtle musical expressions and dynamics required in most musical genres.

As one professional music teacher put it: "Learning to play on an acoustic instrument offers a range of dynamics, responsiveness, tone color and action that a digital piano cannot match."

Although acoustic pianos tend to be more expensive than digital, the Boston and Essex piano models designed by Steinway bring the world-class tone within financial reach. Furthermore, should your child become more serious about his or her piano studies, you can trade in the instrument toward a more expensive Steinway piano. If you think you can't afford a piano at this time or you're not sure you and your child want to commit to the instrument, consider renting a piano—a smart option provided by authorized Steinway dealers.

2. Even more important than the quality of the piano is the quality of the teacher. It's important to find someone who is the right fit for your child and willing wholeheartedly to invest in your child's success. One way to find a good teacher is to reach out to your Steinway dealer for suggestions.
3. Finally, the best teacher and the best piano can't help your child learn to play if he or she doesn't practice. Consistency is key, and a daily routine is by far the most effective practice structure.

You can learn more about affordable piano rental options at www.steinway.com/rental.



PHOTO COURTESY NAPSI

For families looking to buy a piano, experts advise: Get the best one you can afford—it'll sound better, longer.

University of Maryland Launches Coalition Application to Improve College Access

By PRESS OFFICER
University of Maryland

COLLEGE PARK, MD—The University of Maryland has launched a new application process that includes a free platform of online tools to streamline the experience of planning for and applying to college, developed by the Coalition for Access, Affordability, and Success. The Coalition is a diverse group of public and private colleges and universities from across the country with the goal of improving the college admission application process for all students.

"The University of Maryland is committed to making college attainable and affordable for all students," said Shannon Gundy, UMD's director of undergraduate admissions. "It's never too early for students to ensure that they are building the foundation that will allow them prepare for college. This new suite of tools will provide earlier awareness of the college application process to low-income, underrepresented, and first-generation students, and

ensure that all students have the support networks they need to be successful in the college application process."

The Coalition's college planning and application tools—the Locker, a Collaboration Space, and an Application Portal—are designed to assist students no matter where they are in the college exploration or application process, and help students create a narrative of their high school career well in advance of filing an application.

The Coalition platform includes:

- Locker: a private space for students to collect and organize materials throughout their high school career that can later be used to support their college applications, including writing samples, letters of support, records of activities, awards and more.

- Collaboration Space: an interaction tool where counselors, teachers and mentors can support the student's college search and application through sharing of materials, review, feedback and editing.

- Application: a platform for applying to schools in the Coalition, which features a modern, intuitive interface that adapts to a student's life.

The Coalition application enhances UMD's holistic approach to the admissions process, considering 26 unique factors. This process considers all aspects of each applicant's qualifications and offers admission to the most competitive applicants in order to build a vibrant class of first-year students.

The University of Maryland joined the Coalition for Access, Affordability, and Success in 2015 with the goal of recasting the college admission process from something that is transactional and limited in time into a more engaged, ongoing and educationally reaffirming experience. The Coalition represents more than 90 American higher education institutions that share a commitment to providing students with the best possible college experience, beginning with the college application process. Coalition schools provide substantial

support to lower-resourced and underrepresented students, offer responsible student financial aid support, and demonstrate a commitment to student graduation.

For more information, visit <http://coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/>.

About University of Maryland

The University of Maryland, College Park is the state's flagship university and one of the nation's preeminent public research universities. A global leader in research, entrepreneurship and innovation, the university is home to more than 37,000 students, 9,000 faculty and staff, and 250 academic programs. Its faculty includes three Nobel laureates, three Pulitzer Prize winners, 56 members of the national academies and scores of Fulbright scholars. The institution has a \$1.9 billion operating budget, and secures \$560 million annually in external research funding. For more information about the University of Maryland, College Park, visit www.umd.edu.

Calendar of Events

October 5 — October 11, 2017

Hispanic Heritage Month Fest

Date and time: Friday, October 6, 2017, 11:00 am–2:00 pm
 Description: Celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month with games, music and other activities influenced by Hispanic heritage. Marlow Heights, William Beanes, Suitland and Hillcrest Heights Community Centers have partnered with William Beanes Elementary School to educate the community on this rich culture.
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: All ages are welcome
 Location: William Beanes Community Center
 5108 Dianna Drive, Suitland, MD
 Contact: 301-568-7719; TTY 301-699-2544

ManCore Leadership Program: Helping Boys Become Men

Date and time: Friday, October 6, 2017, 6:30 pm–7:30 pm
 Sessions are held every Friday, September 5 to October 27, 2017. Attendance at each session is not mandatory but is highly encouraged.
 Description: This eight-week partnership with the ManCore leadership program emphasizes developing personal positive traits and characteristics in young men. A series of carefully selected real-life applicable topics provide key life skills for job interviews and money management, in addition to wellness topics such as image building, health, and education. Don't miss this opportunity to get a great head start on a productive life!
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: 10–17
 Location: South Bowie Community Center
 1717 Pittsfield Lane, Bowie, MD
 Contact: 301-249-1622; TTY 301-699-2544

Future Endeavors

Date and time: Friday, October 6, 2017, 7:00 pm–10:00 pm
 Description: College may not be for everyone. Have you ever wondered about other options available for your future? Come hear about different paths you can take to success! There's more than one way to fulfill your dreams—"don't give up ... don't ever give up!"
 Cost: FREE with appropriate ID
 Ages: 10–17
 Location: Cedar Heights Community Center
 1200 Glen Willow Drive, Seat Pleasant, MD
 Contact: 301-773-8881; TTY 301-699-2544

Xtreme Teens: Human Pacman

Date and time: Friday, October 6, 2017, 7:00 pm–10:00 pm
 Description: Join us as we play an exciting, interactive game of the legendary video game, Pacman—but, this time it's Human Pacman! One person is Pacman, everyone else is ghosts Inky, Blinky, Pinky and Clyde and must avoid Pacman. Will you survive?
 Cost: FREE with M-NCPPC Youth ID
 Ages: 10–17
 Location: Beltsville Community Center
 3900 Sellman Road, Beltsville, MD
 Contact: 301-937-6613; TTY 301-699-2544

Xtreme Teens: Minute to Win It!

Date and time: Friday, October 6, 2017, 7:00 pm–10:00 pm
 Description: Come out and participate in, seemingly, easy activities like in the hit game show "Minute to Win It." Your events may include pulling all tissues out of a box with one hand or stacking golf balls. Sounds easy, right? Don't worry, the difficulty of the game progressively increases as you move forward to the next levels.
 Try your best to conquer various activities in 60 seconds ... the clock is ticking!
 Cost: FREE with appropriate ID
 Ages: 10–17
 Location: Rollingcrest/Chillum Community Center
 6120 Sargent Road, Chillum, MD
 Contact: 301-853-2005; TTY 301-699-2544

College Park Day

Date and time: Saturday, October 7, 2017, 11:00 am–4:00 pm
 Description: Don't miss the awesome display of helicopters flying in today! Meet the crews and learn about their mission during this festival celebrating all the city of College Park offers. The event also features live music, food trucks, family friendly games & entertainment, and performances by local dancers and acrobats.
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: All ages are welcome
 Location: College Park Aviation Museum
 1985 Corporal Frank Scott Drive, College Park, MD
 Contact: 301-864-6029; TTY 301-699-2544

Riversdale Chamber Music Society

Date and time: unday, October 8, 2017, 2:30 pm
 Description: The first FREE chamber concert of the season features musicians from the University of Maryland and friends. Mingle with the performers at a reception after the show.
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: All ages are welcome
 Location: Riversdale House Museum
 4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park, MD
 Contact: 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544

Smithsonian Discovery Associates Theater on Tour: African Roots/Latino Soul

Date and time: Tuesday, October 10, 2017, 10:15 am
 Description: This vibrant play explores what it means to be Latino, African-American, and proud, growing up in the heart of the American melting pot. How many cultures can we be? Why not all of them? Celia Cruz, Mama's kitchen, and a crowded subway make for lots of laughs and surprises. Written with the Young Playwrights' Theater, Latino Soul is a look into the triumphs of today's multicultural kids.
 Curriculum Connections: Character Education, Language Arts, Social Studies, World Cultures, World Languages.
 Cost: \$8/person; \$6/person in groups of 20 or more
 Ages: Recommended for grades 1–2
 Location: Publick Playhouse
 5445 Landover Road, Cheverly, MD
 Contact: 301-277-1710; TTY 301-699-2544

EARTH TALK ... Rooftop Solar: Now's the Time to Get Started

Dear EarthTalk:

I'm finally ready to join the 21st century and commit to putting solar panels on my roof. Where do I start?

—Henry Hughes, Washington, DC

Good things may in fact come to those who wait. There's never been a better time to go solar, given how much prices for panels have come down while efficiency in converting sunlight to electricity—even in less-than-sunny locales—has risen dramatically. Of course, you can't just snap your fingers and get panels on your roof. First you have to navigate a confusing maze of regulations, incentives and installers before anyone even looks your roof over for feasibility.

The first place to start is to find out which federal, state and local incentives may be available in your neck of the woods for going solar. Check out the free online Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency (DSIRE), a comprehensive information resource that's updated by North Carolina State researchers working off a U.S. Department of Energy grant.

How does solar work? Is my home suitable for solar panels? Will I save money by going solar? Can I get financing? How will solar impact my home's resale value? If you're looking for

answers to questions like these, the Department of Energy's Homeowner's Guide to Going Solar has you covered.

Trying to figure out if it's better to lease or buy your solar panels? You're not alone, and it's hard to do the math given the apples/oranges scenario. Luckily, the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) spells it all out clearly—not just whether to lease or buy but also how to get multiple bids to save money and which questions to ask before entering into an agreement with an installer—in its recently updated Residential Consumer Guide to Solar Power.

Given how new the solar industry is, it's often hard to know whether a given installer is going to be reputable, let alone be able to survive the next economic downturn. Angie's List offers several pearls of wisdom—how the cheapest bid may not be the best deal, why extended warranties may not be worthwhile, how to save yourself from death by paperwork—in a recent article on the topic.

When you're finally ready to find an installer, check out the "Find a Certified Professional" page on the website of the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP), a trade group that offers the "gold standard" in professional certification and company accreditation programs to renewable energy professionals.



CREDIT: CHRIS KANTOS, FLICKRCC

There's never been a better time to go solar, given how much prices for panels have come down while efficiency in converting sunlight to electricity—even in less-than-sunny locales—has risen dramatically

If you're a quote-comparing type, you'll also want to check out Energy Sage, a website that lets you compare quotes from solar installers in your area. This free service is maintained by the Department of Energy's (DoE's) SunShot Initiative, a national effort to support solar energy adoption by making solar energy affordable for all Americans.

While you can't go wrong with a highly touted local in-

staller, there are also benefits to choosing one of a handful of companies leasing or selling solar panels on a larger scale across the country and beyond. SolarCity/Tesla, Vivint, Sunrun, Sunnova and SunPower are a few of the leaders, each offering solar installs in California and several other states including New Jersey, Massachusetts, Arizona and Hawaii.

CONTACTS: DSIRE, www.dsireusa.org; NABCEP, www.nabcep.org/certified-installer-locator; Energy Sage, www.energysage.com; Angie's List, www.angieslist.com/articles/how-hire-solar-panel-installer.htm; SEIA, www.seia.org; DoE, energy.gov/eere/sunshot/homeowner-s-guide-going-solar.

EarthTalk® is written and edited by Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss and is a registered trademark of E - The Environmental Magazine (www.emagazine.com). Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

NABJ from A1

black narrows your worldview. NABJ, the world needs you," Blow said.

NABJ gave awards in more than 100 categories across six segments including digital media, magazine, newspaper, photojournalism, television, and radio at the STE gala. Collegiate journalism and public relations work was also recognized. Through the gala, NABJ recognizes journalism that best covered the black experience or addressed issues affecting the worldwide black community during 2016. The competition is open to all media organizations and individuals involved in

print, broadcast and/or online journalism media.

The Hall of Fame is NABJ's highest recognition. The 2017 NABJ Hall of Fame class includes: Michael Days, former newspaper writer and author of "Obama's Legacy: What He Accomplished as President"; Rev. Aisha Karimah, prize-winning television producer; John Jenkins, veteran photographer and television executive; and Garth C. Reeves, Sr., Publisher Emeritus of the Miami Times.

The Legacy and Ida B. Wells Awards were also presented during the Hall of Fame luncheon. Ron Thomas, former sports reporter and current head of the Journalism and Sports Program

at Morehouse College in Atlanta, was honored with this year's Legacy Award, calling it his "personal Pulitzer." Detroit Free Press Columnist Rochelle Riley was the recipient of the Ida B. Wells Award. Riley was met with a standing ovation as she issued a challenge to journalists in the audience.

"The people are demanding more of us journalists so we must rise and give it to them. We must train new generations to continue to tell our story," Riley said.

Each year, NABJ pays homage to legendary black journalists, authors, educators, and activists who have made outstanding contributions to both

their industry and the black community across the diaspora.

"NABJ is proud to recognize these exemplary journalists," says Sarah Glover, NABJ national president. "We will continue to ensure that outstanding journalism that provides perspective on black life is elevated and that black journalists are appreciated and praised for their excellent work."

NABJ is great appreciative the support from our Hall of Fame partners Al Jazeera and Gift of Hope and Salute to Excellence partner FedEx.

Inquiries and interview requests may be directed to Tanzi West Barbour at tanzivestbarbour@gmail.com.

Voter Registration from A4

nonprofit organizations, religious organizations, and other groups conduct voter registration drives;

Whereas despite the efforts to register United States citizens to vote, the Pew Charitable Trusts have found that more than 60 percent of adult United States citizens have never been asked to register to vote;

Whereas, while some States allow same-day voter registration, many other States require registration as many as 30 days before the date of the election in which a person seeks to vote;

Whereas if a voter has changed names, moved, or not voted in recent elections, the voter registration of the voter must be updated;

Whereas 1 of 9 United States citizens moves each year, rendering outdated the former voter registration of the individuals who have moved;

Whereas updating voter registration ensures an easier experience at the polls on election day;

Whereas increased voter registration may lead to a higher participation rate in elections, which would strengthen the democracy of the United States; and

Whereas the many organizations and individuals who encourage voter registration and civic participation have promoted National Voter Registration Day on the fourth Tuesday of each September, which in 2017 falls on Tuesday, September 26: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) recognizes September 26, 2017, as "National Voter Registration Day"; and
- (2) encourages each voting-eligible citizen of the United States—
 - (A) to register to vote;
 - (B) to verify with the appropriate State or local election official that the name, address, and other personal information on record is current; and
 - (C) to go to the polls on election day and vote if the voting-eligible citizen would like to do so.

LOOK GOOD AND BE ECO-FRIENDLY

With the first day of school just around the corner, consider adding some eco-friendly fashion to your wardrobe.

Go green while back-to-school clothes shopping and reduce your carbon footprint by looking for sustainable clothing made from plastic bottles, wood pulp, post-consumer textiles and other recyclables. Local retailers including Nike, JCPenney, H&M and Target sell sustainable clothing such as shirts, jeans and shoes.

To learn more about sustainable clothing and businesses focused on reducing environmental impact, visit the Sustainable Apparel Coalition at ApparelCoalition.org.

Prince George's County Second Nature is an initiative of the Department of the Environment, Planning and Public Works, and Office of Green Services to promote eco-friendly and sustainable choices for our residents.