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3D, Tactile Storybook Walk, Now @ Laurel Branch Courtyard!

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCMLS

LAUREL, MD—The Laurel Branch of the Prince George's County Memorial Library System is the first in the County to use its 3D printer for a library customer design project to create a tactile storybook of *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin, Jr. The project was a part of the Laurel Branch Library's Children's Book Week celebration. More than 800 libraries, schools and bookstores nationwide are participating in the 99th Annual Children's Book Week events.

This past Children's Book Week: 3D Storybook Walk project involved five phases:



PHOTO COURTESY PGCMLS
Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?

See **STORYBOOK** Page A8



PHOTO COURTESY MDDNR

Chesapeake Bay Blue Crab

Survey Shows Chesapeake Bay Blue Crab Population Healthy

By PRESS OFFICER
MDDNR

ANNAPOLIS, MD—The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has released the results of the 2018 Blue Crab Winter Dredge Survey, which shows that the population of blue crabs remains healthy and sustainable.

While this year's cold weather and ice cover took a toll on the adult crab population, causing an estimated 35 percent mortality of adult females wintering in state waters, the number of young crabs that returned to Chesapeake Bay this year increased 34 percent. Blue crabs spend the first part of their lives in the Atlantic

Ocean before returning to the bay to grow and mature.

"Despite the cold, hard winter, which extended well into the spring, the blue crab population remains healthy, resilient and sustainable," Maryland Natural Resources Secretary Mark Belton said. "Even with the erratic weather, which included snow in April, the blue

crab population remains well within parameters, showing that the state and our partners are managing the species well."

The survey indicates a bay-wide crab population of 371 million, a decrease from last year's estimate of 455 million,

See **BLUE CRABS** Page A3

Students Win Awards at Maryland History Day

By PRESS OFFICER
Maryland Humanities

BALTIMORE, MD—Nearly 700 middle and high school students gathered to display their extensive historical research at the 2018 Maryland History Day competition. The competition, held on April 28 at University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), is the culmination of a year-long program presented by Maryland Humanities that

saw more than 27,000 students participate at the school level.

Working solo or in small groups, students create original documentary films, exhibits, performances, research papers, or websites exploring a historical topic of their choice on an annual theme. 2018's theme is "Conflict and Compromise in History." Maryland History Day sparks

See **AWARDS** Page A3

Prince George's County Based Women-Owned Business to Receive Top Economic Development

Susan Gage Caterer, Inc. Named 2018 Maryland Economic Development Association's Economic Development Project Awardee

By LORI VALENTINE
PGCEDC

LARGO, MD—On April 30, 2018, FSC First and Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation (PGCEDC) congratulate Susan Gage Caterer, Inc. (Susan Gage), a woman-owned business headquartered in Hyattsville, MD, on receiving the 2018 Maryland Economic Development Association's (MEDA) Large Community Development Project Award. Susan Gage accepted this prestigious award at MEDA's Annual Awards Dinner at the Hyatt Regency, Chesapeake Bay.

"Congratulations to the Susan Gage Caterer, the recipient of the EDI Funding from Prince George's County," state Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. "We are excited to know that this outstanding company is receiving statewide recognition at the MEDA Annual Conference. The EDI Fund is one of the reasons

we've been able to leverage \$36 million in public dollars into \$1 billion in private investment."

From humble beginnings, Susan Gage started her business in her garage in Fort Washington, MD and has grown to one of the best full-service catering companies in the region. To meet the demands for growth and expansion, Susan Gage launched a \$4.6 million redevelopment project, partially funded by Prince George's County's Economic Development Incentive Fund (EDI Fund), which resulted in the build-out of a vacant 31,000 square foot warehouse flex space inside the Capital Beltway in Hyattsville, MD. This eco-friendly facility includes tasting rooms, commercial kitchen, warehouse, office space, and a charging station for electric delivery vehicles.

"Susan Gage is a fine example of how an entrepreneur can be successful in Prince George's County," states Jim Coleman, President and CEO of the



PHOTO COURTESY LORI C. VALENTINE

Center, Chapell Gage, President of Susan Gage Caterer; Jim Coleman, President and CEO, PGCEDC; David Iannucci, Asst. Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Prince George's County; Shelly Gross-Wade, President and CEO, FSC First; Ebony Stocks, Financial Services Program Manager, PGCEDC; Dawn Medley, Vice President of Business Finance Programs, FSC First.

Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation. "This woman-owned company not only brings high quality hospitality to the County, it has also brought jobs and innovative green catering

practices to the industry. For these reasons, we were delighted to nominate Susan Gage for this year's Large Commu-

See **EDC AWARD** Page A6

Secretary of State John Wobensmith Announces Details of Maryland-Anhui Promotion Week

Business, Education, Art, and Cultural Events Will Mark Longtime Sister State Relationship Between Jurisdictions

By PRESS OFFICER
State of Maryland

ANNAPOLIS, MD—On May 3, 2018, Maryland Secretary of State John Wobensmith announced that the Maryland's Office of the Secretary of State's International Division, which directs the Maryland Sister States Program, is partnering with the Sister States of Maryland, Inc., Maryland-Anhui Sister State Committee for Maryland-Anhui (China) Promotion Week, which will be held May 29 to June 1.

"Maryland-Anhui Promotion Week is the outcome of a meeting between Governor Larry Hogan and Anhui Party Secretary Li Jinbin last summer," Secretary Wobensmith said. "During that meeting, the governor and Party Secretary agreed that the 38-year-old Sister State relationship between Maryland and Anhui, estab-

lished in 1980, is deserving of a focus, a celebration, and a recommitment to the deep and significant economic, trade, educational, and cultural relationships between Maryland and Anhui Province."

More than 150 delegates from Anhui Province, China are expected to travel to Maryland. With most of its key events held at the Hilton Rockville, Maryland-Anhui Promotion Week will include business discussions, with a particular emphasis on opportunities for cooperation and investment in biopharmaceuticals, agriculture, tourism, trade, and transportation. Maryland Promotion Hall will feature displays and information on Maryland businesses and agencies across a number of sectors.

Other Maryland-Anhui Promotion Week meetings will in-

See **CHINA** Page A6

INSIDE

A New \$30 Million Rehabilitation & Wellness Center Opens in Prince George's County

Construction on FutureCare Capital Region began in late 2016 and is now complete; they accepted their first admission on Monday April 23rd. The building is the first new free standing rehabilitation facility in Prince George's County for more than 20 years.

Community, Page A3

State of Black America® Finds African-Americans Drastically Underrepresented in Tech Industries

While African Americans with doctoral degrees in science and engineering don't have the same outcomes as their white counterparts, they are closer to parity than the average worker—almost 93%.

Commentary, Page A4

Hundreds Vie for Limited Spots in PG County's 2018 Nigeria Trade Mission Delegation

Within the past few years, the EDC has led successful trade missions to China, Korea and Cuba. This year's Trade Mission will be the first in the continent of Africa in several years and there are plans to soon explore South Africa.

Business, Page A5

Movie Review:

Pacific Rim Uprising

The thrill of giant things fighting each other is still here, but it's reduced by familiarity (we saw this already) and by the film's lack of it. This movie about huge robots fighting monsters doesn't have enough robots, fighting, or monsters in it.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

Is there proof that fracking for oil and natural gas can by itself cause earthquakes?

—James Mitchell, Hauppauge, NY

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

From Eritrea and Italy, Sister came to work with children and master English

Sister Anna Haregu Teclebrhan, who moved from Italy to a convent in Skyline in 2009, died of cancer April 25. She was 46. Her funeral was at St. Philip's Church where eight priests concelebrated Mass in Ge'ez and the choir sang in Tigrinya, the language of Sister's native Eritrea.

Sister was born in the village of Adekontsi, Eritrea, in what is known as The Horn of Africa, on the Red Sea. After elementary school, she entered the congregation of the Daughters of St. Anne. In 1997 she professed her first vow; her final vow in July 2002.

Sr. Haregu taught school in Keren and in Massawa, in Eritrea, before assignment to Italy where she worked among the sick and elderly sisters of St. Anne's congregation in Piacenza. It was in Piacenza that, in 1866, a widow, Mother Rosa Gattorno, founded the Daughters of Saint Anne with a mandate to work with the sick and the poor.

In November 2009, Sister moved to the United States. For five years she dedicated herself to the family daycare center of St. Anne and later served as teacher's aide in St. Philip's School. The convent where Sister lived is just around the corner from me and she often rode with me to Mass at St. Philip's, three miles away in Camp Springs. I came to know her as a delightful friend who had a deep relationship with God. And her English just got better and better.

Her parents came from Eritrea to be with her in her final weeks at a Baltimore hospice. Most of her siblings are in Eritrea or Italy, but a brother flew in from California and a sister

came from Canada for the funeral. Sister Haregu is now buried at Resurrection Cemetery, near a statue of Jesus.

People

Teddy Burke grew up next door to the McHales and often played with my kids, including daughter Therese. Years ago, Teddy moved to Delaware. Therese settled in Brownsville, Texas. Recently, while birding at Estero Llano Grande State Park in South Texas, Therese observed a woman intently studying a small bird. She went to check, and it was Teddy. They met several more times to visit other bird havens and chat about old times.

Morningsiders Dean Woods and Charlie Mickey have taken up trail-biking in Virginia. They started on the W&OD Trail, along the right-of-way of the now-defunct Washington & Old Dominion Railroad. At one stop, they came to a park with a vintage caboose.

Racheal Spruill, of Skyline, is majoring in biology at UMBC. Her brother Johuaan Spruill is working at the Patuxent Nursery in Bowie but hopes to go on to a career in carpentry. Both graduated from Dr. Henry A. Wise, Jr. High School.

I will be pleased to announce your graduate in my column. Call me at 301-735-3451 or email muddmm@aol.com. Let me know his/her school and plans for the future (college, military service, travel, Disney World, etc.).

Changing landscape

I travel daily up Suitland Road to Allentown Road. On May 10, as I drove under the Beltway bridge, I looked up and saw that girders of a new bridge had been installed. Before long the two existing bridges over

Suitland Road will be demolished, and the new bridge will go into use.

Morningside Memories: 1978

Forty years ago this week the Morningside Senior Citizens elected their new officers: Claude Shaffer, president; Jesse Holmes, vice president; Louise Rousseaux, treasurer; and Mrs. Black, secretary.

May they rest in peace

Harry Fleming, 98, my neighbor on Skyline Drive, died April 15 in Silver Spring. He grew up in Waynesboro, Va. He worked at the Pentagon, was a chauffeur and drove a cab for 60 years, to age 96. His wife Naomi died at 48. Survivors include his children, DeWitt, Harry and Darlene Fleming and Eva Fleming-Foster, six grandchildren and many great-grands. Eva told me that Harry loved the cherry blossoms. I'm sure he showed them off to his passengers every spring.

Joseph William "Joey" Abbott, 59, of Annapolis and previously of Dunkirk, proprietor and manager of Abbott's Automotive, died of cancer March 12 at his home. He was born in Brownsville, Pa., to Joseph and the late Nancy Yoders Abbott. He's survived by his wife, Diane Carmela Abbott; two children, Joseph W. Abbott, Jr. and Jennifer Farmer; two grandchildren, and his sister, Marcia Yodichkas. Abbott's Automotive is in Penn Western Court (near the Forestville Fire Department). Joey was my mechanic, a great guy who has kept my 2000 Olds Intrigue running. I miss him a lot! But his son Joey Jr. has taken on the business; I bet Joey Sr. taught him well.

See MORNINGSIDE Page A8

Neighborhoods

PGFD Firefighters Take Action After WTOP Radio Report

LARGO, MD—WTOP Radio William Vitka recently aired a story on the District of Columbia Boundary Stones. In the story Vitka states, "D.C.'s 40 boundary stones were set in place at the behest of President George Washington in 1791 to designate the border of the nation's capital. Like everything in America, there's a story to the boundary stones. And, like everything in Washington, it's a precarious, convoluted mess of politics, money and geography." Firefighters added one more story to one stone in particular.



PHOTO COURTESY PGC FIRE/EMS

Working on the finishing touches.



PHOTO COURTESY PGC FIRE/EMS

Condition of Boundary Stone "NE3" when firefighters from 844-D shift arrived.

During the story mention was made of one boundary stone, "NE3" that caught the interest of Prince George's County Firefighters. This boundary stone is located 144 feet northwest of Eastern Avenue and Chillum Road at the edge of a commercial parking lot on the Maryland side of Eastern Avenue, just south of New Hampshire Avenue in Prince George's County.



PHOTO COURTESY PGC FIRE/EMS

Clean-up begins at the Boundary Stone.

Firefighters that work at the nearby Chillum Fire/EMS Department 844 made note of the mention the area around the stone was cluttered with trash and in a state of disrepair. The crew



PHOTO COURTESY PGC FIRE/EMS

Clean-up completed

- Obey speed limits—In 2015, speeding was a factor in more than 30 percent of motorcycle crashes.
 - Wear proper protective clothing, especially a helmet—Wearing a helmet is the law in Maryland. Violators could be fined up to \$500.
 - Allow for proper space for emergency breaking on the road
 - Don't drive aggressively
- Here are some basic tips for general motorists:
- Be alert for motorcyclists.
 - Motorcyclists have the same rights and privileges on the road as any other driver
 - Yield the right-of-way to an oncoming motorcycle when turning left
 - Give motorcycle riders plenty of space
 - Use care when driving near a group of motorcyclists.

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

GOSPEL COMEDY

Join us Friday, June 1, 2018, 11:00 AM for a Platinum Series Gospel Comedy with Ms. Gayle at Prince George's Publick Playhouse, 5445 Landover Road, Cheverly, Maryland. A favorite at military and corporate shows, Christian Comedian, Ms. Gayle will have you rolling in the aisles with her uproarious, but clean, commentary. Tickets cost \$10 for seniors 60 and better.

SCHOOL NURSE JOB FAIR

Prince George's County Public Schools are having a School Nurse Job Fair May 23, 2018. The Job Fair will be held at the Green Valley Administrative Offices, 2215 Chadwick Street, Temple Hills, Maryland. Visit the website at www.princegeorgescountypublicschools.org.

TRANSITION TO KINDERGATEN SCHOOL READINESS

The Early Childhood Office will offer a summer program for students who were enrolled in Pre-kindergarten during the 2017-2018 school year and will be transitioning to Kindergarten. The summer program aims to provide high-quality academic learning opportunities to children working to master essential skills in language, literacy, math and social emotional development in order to demonstrate school readiness upon entry to kindergarten.

Students who were enrolled in Prekindergarten during the 20107-2018 school year that will be transitioning to Kindergarten

working to master essential skills should apply. Students will receive invitations from the Early Childhood Office via their classroom teachers. Contact information is Andrea Searcy at andrea.searcy@pgcps.org, email: andrea.searcy@pgcps.org.

2018 STUDENT BUILT HOUSE

Prince George's County Public School students unveiled a 2018 Student Built House Thursday, May 3 at 7806 Lusby's Turn, Brandywine, Maryland. Students in the Foundation for Applied Construction Technology Students (FACTS) program have spent this year building and designing this brand new home. The students received scholarship awards for their outstanding efforts. Students, instructors and other special guest dedicated the 2018 Student Built House to celebrate student achievement.

CENTRAL GARAGE CAREER FAIR

Prince George's County Public Schools is looking to hire automotive service attendants, trades helpers and mechanics. If you like to work on vehicles and you care about children's safety, this job is for you. Join us at our Central Garage Job Fair on Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 9:00 AM-4:00 PM at Skyline, 6311 Randolph Road, Suitland Maryland. Pre-registration is required. For more information, call 301-780-2191 or visit <http://www.pgcps.org/career-fairs/>.

2018 COLLEGE GRADUATE

Congratulations to Darrell Lewis, Jr. (DJ) for successfully obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Nuclear and Radiological Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. He left for college as a young adult who could and returns with a degree as a man who will. Words from his parents Darrell and Cecelia Lewis "Your love, prayers and encouragement provided a continuous network of support that helped him achieve this goal. "We've like to wholeheartedly thank you for being part of his story".

BE A GUEST ANNOUNCER

Win a chance to be a guest announcer and receive the "Explore the Arts" brochure filled with auditions, exhibitions, and concerts. Send an e-mail to public.affairs@pgparks.com and put "Guest Announcer" in the subject line. Include your mailing address and you will be entered into a contest to be a guest announcer at one of our arts venues. Contest runs through June 2018. Enter today by visiting www.arts.pgparks.com for more information and contest rules.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Happy Birthday to Joan Falby, Janet Smalling, Joshua Jackson, Nana Smalling, Abena Smalling, Andrea Johnson, Angela Williams, Doris Hill, De'Andre

See BRANDYWINE Page A3

MSP Stresses Safety During Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

PIKESVILLE, MD—With springtime comes warmer weather and more motorcycle riders out on the road, along with a reminder from Maryland State Police to be safe during Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month.

According to the National Safety Council, 4,976 motorcycle riders and passengers died and 88,000 other were injured in 2015. Although motorcycles make up just three percent of all registered vehicles and only 0.7 percent of all vehicle miles traveled in the U.S., motorcyclists accounted for 14 percent of all traffic fatalities, 17 percent of all occupant fatalities and four percent of all occupant injuries in 2014, the National Safety Council reports.

In Maryland, an average of 70 traffic fatalities and 1,400 injuries associated with motorcycles are reported each year, with 82 such fatalities in 2017 alone, according to the Maryland Department of Transportation Highway Safety Office. Common factors associated in motorcycle crashes include alcohol impairment, lack of helmet use and aggressive driving.

Here are some basic tips for motorcycle riders:

- Get trained and properly licensed—A motorcycle license is required to ride on the roads in Maryland. There are also Basic Rider Training courses riders can take in Maryland prior to testing for the license.
- Stay sober—Nearly one-third of riders who died in a motorcycle crash in 2014 were alcohol-impaired.

COMMUNITY

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Staying Active For Better Mental Health

While the groundhog's prediction this year of six more weeks of winter was right on target for many parts of the country, now that we're firmly into spring it's a great time to start thinking about being more active.

When most of us think of exercise it's for the physical benefits it can provide, and there are many. Regular physical exercise can help trim your waistline, increase aerobic capacity, build muscle size, improve your sex life and even add years to your life.

But if that's not enough to get you up and motivated to start getting more exercise, then you should also consider the mental health benefits being active can also bring. People who exercise on a regular basis report feeling more energetic during the day, sleeping better at night, having sharper memories and feeling more relaxed and positive about themselves and their lives.

Exercise has also been shown to help with some specific mental health issues. Studies have found that an exercise program can often be a way to treat mild to moderate depression. Researchers find that in many cases it is as effective as antidepressant medication but without the side-effects that medications can bring.

Other studies have shown that staying physically active is an easy and very effective way to reduce anxiety and stress. When you're paying attention to exercising you're able to interrupt the flow of worries that too many of us have running through our brains throughout the day. At the same time, it's been shown that when you're active, your body is releasing endorphins in the brain, those natural hormones that help you feel better.

Even if you don't have the time or inclination or ability to turn into a gym rat or a long distance runner, it doesn't mean you should give up on the idea of being more physically active. While most studies recommend about 30 minutes of exercise a day for the best benefits, research also shows that even small amounts of physical activity are better than none.

Taking a 5 or 10 minute walk is a great way to start, and as you begin to do that regularly you'll feel better both physically and mentally.

Yes, it's easy to make excuses not to get more active, but get yourself started, even in small ways, and you'll find the benefits far outweigh those excuses.

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

Blue Crabs from A1

driven largely by a decrease in the number of adult crabs. In 2018, the spawning female stock decreased 42 percent from 254 to 147 million, dropping below the target level of 215 million, but remaining well above safe levels. This year's adult female abundance remains among the 10 highest of the nearly three decade old survey. Adult male crab abundance declined 23 percent from 76 to 59 million. The juvenile crab population increased 34 percent over last year, reaching 167 million.

"Although the number of spawning-age females is down from last year, we are pleased to see that their abundance is well above the minimum safe number even with the winter weather and lackluster reproduction last year," Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Committee Chair Glenn Davis said. "Last year we had very few young crabs entering the bay. Those juveniles grew through 2017 and endured this year's cold winter to become the 2018 class of spawning adults."

The decline in numbers of adult crabs in the bay may lead to a slow start to the early har-

vest season, but as young crabs enter the fishery and increase their abundance in midsummer, Maryland may see an improved late season. The 2017 bay-wide crab harvest decreased slightly in 2017, from 60 to 54 million pounds, but continued to operate at sustainable levels, especially for female crabs.

"This year's results give us optimism that our management approach is effective at conserving adequate numbers of crabs even when the number of juveniles is low and winter mortality is high," Maryland Fishing and Boating Services Director David Blazer said. "We will continue our conversations with industry and partners throughout the season to ensure a successful and sustainable harvest."

The Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Committee will release a full analysis this summer.

The annual Winter Dredge Survey has been conducted by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Virginia Institute of Marine Science since 1990. In the survey, biologists use dredge equipment to capture, measure, record and release blue crabs at 1,500 sites throughout Chesapeake Bay from December through March.

Brandywine from A2

Bowden, Theresa Joiner, Kolbi M. Dee, Agatha Jalloh, Ihuoma Mbakwe, Blair Stephens, Cameron Barron, Mia Kerrick, Carolyn Glee, Ricky Thomas and Dacinth Dorsett who are Clinton United Methodist Church Members celebrating birthdays in May. Hope that everyone will have a special and wonderful birthday celebration.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Sending Sincere congratulations to Valentine and Charmaine Grant, Marcus and Nadia Long who are Clinton United Methodist Church Members celebrating Wedding Anniversaries in May. Cherish the beautiful bond that you have created over the years as a couple and enjoy your Wedding Anniversary on your special day.

A New \$30 Million Rehabilitation & Wellness Center Opens in Prince George's County

FutureCare Capital Region in Landover, Adjacent to the New University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS) Hospital Will Bring 220 New Jobs to the Area as Well as Offering 150 Beds to Patients in Need.

By PRESS OFFICER
Sara Rose Public Relations

LANDOVER, MD—FutureCare Health & Management is thrilled to announce the opening of FutureCare Capital Region, its new, \$30 million state-of-the-art rehabilitation center in Landover, Maryland that features VitalStrong Rehabilitation, FutureCare's innovative short-stay rehabilitation programs. Construction on FutureCare Capital Region began in late 2016 and is now complete; they accepted their first admission on Monday April 23rd. The building is the first new free standing rehabilitation facility in Prince George's County for more than 20 years. With that it brings 150 new beds to patients in need of short-term rehabilitation or long-term care.

The privately funded project also will bring 220 new jobs, both professional and non-professional, to the County. Positions available include jobs in the fields of medicine, nursing, rehabilitation, respiratory therapy and social work as well as housekeeping, environmental and food services.

The facility has 82 spacious private rooms and 34 large semi-private rooms, with private bathrooms, showers and oversized beds for sleeping comfort. The building has a hotel and spa like feel with the following features:

- Beautiful Entrance Foyer
 - Beauty Salon and Spa
 - Second-Level Concourse Patios
 - Two Landscaped Courtyards
 - Flat Screen TV's and WiFi
 - Interconnectivity throughout the building
 - Media Room, Library and Meeting Spaces
 - Two gyms, including a 4,500 square foot Rehabilitation Gym
- The state-of-the-art Rehabilitation Gym has the most ad-



PHOTO COURTESY SARAH ROSE PUBLIC RELATIONS, LLC

Artists rendering of the newly opened FutureCare facility located at 1051 Brightseat Road, Landover, Maryland.

vanced equipment available. Examples include the AlterG Anti-Gravity Treadmill, a new piece of technology developed with input from NASA that allows therapists to bring a patient's body weight down to 20% on the treadmill. The Biodes Balance Retraining System, which helps retrain bodies and minds for balance and core muscle engagement is also available at FutureCare Capital Region.

Services and Specialty Programs that are offered in the facility include:

- VitalStrong Rehabilitation Therapy (Physical, Occupational and Speech Modalities)
- HeartStrong Cardiac Rehabilitation (comprehensive cardiac rehabilitation, skilled clinical oversight and education)
- WalkStrong (comprehensive orthopedic rehabilitation program)
- 24-bed ventilator unit called the Progressive Pulmonary Care Unit (P²CU), which provides pulmonary assistance to residents who need tracheostomy care, ventilator care and weaning.
- 10-patient Dialysis Suite

- Wound Care
- Care for Infectious Disease and Conditions
- Digestive Disorders and Nutritional Support
- Medical Device Operation and Monitoring
- Renal Failure and Dialysis Care
- Diagnostic Exams and Work-Up Space

Located on Brightseat Road in Landover, Maryland, FutureCare Capital Region is adjacent to the new University of Maryland Capital Region Health hospital, which provides a world-class setting for residents to receive needed health care services.

According to the State's Department of Planning, between 2015 and 2025 the population of people 65 and older in the Prince George's County area is expected to grow an additional 24.3%. The Maryland Health Care Commission determined that there is a need for additional rehabilitative and skilled nursing services in this area. In order to meet the growing demand, FutureCare was awarded the first Certificate of Need (CON) in Prince George's County in 20 years.

"We are looking forward to providing Prince George's

County residents with a state of the art Rehabilitation and Wellness Center", stated Gary Attman, President and Chief Executive Officer of FutureCare. "This rehabilitation and wellness center is the finest of its kind in Maryland, and offers futuristic thinking in layout, privacy, technology and care delivery models. We will provide a holistic approach to care, remembering that the patient and their family members are our primary focus." FutureCare Capital Region is FutureCare's 15th rehabilitation center in the Baltimore/Washington, D.C. area.

About FutureCare

Founded in 1986, FutureCare is Maryland's premier rehabilitation and skilled nursing provider. FutureCare owns and operates 14 rehabilitation and skilled nursing centers throughout the Baltimore/ Washington area. FutureCare is consistently ranked as a top employer in the region and one of the top 50 Post-Acute Companies in the country. For more Information, visit FutureCare.com. To learn about career opportunities, contact Karen Balonis at balonisk@futurecare.com or go to futurecarecareers.com.

Awards from A1

critical thinking and helps develop skills in research and analysis, writing, and public speaking. The program is open to public, private, parochial, and homeschool students in grades 6 through 12.

Competitors at Maryland History Day have already won first or second place in their category at school and district levels. Students from sixteen Maryland counties and Baltimore City received special awards, designated for outstanding Maryland History Day projects that cover specific themes.

Students from seven Maryland counties and Baltimore City will represent Maryland at the National History Day competition, where they will compete among 3,000 participants from across the country and beyond. National History Day is June 10-14, 2018 at the University of Maryland in College Park. The competition involves students from all 50 states plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and international schools in China, Korea, and South Asia. Maryland History Day is an affiliate of National History Day, a non-profit education organization that promotes an appreciation for historical research among middle and high school students through multiple annual programs, including the National History Day Contest.

Support for Maryland History Day is provided by the State

of Maryland through the Maryland State Department of Education, The Alvin & Fanny B. Thalheimer Foundation, Jerome S. & Grace H. Murray Foundation, Columbia Gas of Maryland, Kinder Morgan Foundation, and Wegmans.

Maryland Humanities is pleased to name Thomas Crise and Samuel Spinder as the Maryland History Day Middle and High School Teachers of the year, respectively. Crise teaches at Stevensville Middle School in Queen Anne's County and Spinder teaches at North Hagerstown High School in Washington County. Maryland Humanities has also nominated Crise and Spinder for the James F. Harris History Teacher of the Year Award, facilitated by National History Day. A committee of teachers and historians selects one middle school teacher and one high school teacher for the \$5,000 national award.

Crise has taught middle school in Maryland for over a decade. He has years of experience in curriculum development, has led professional development initiatives for his colleagues, and organized History Day for Queen Anne's County Public Schools. Spinder has taught at North Hagerstown High School for fourteen years and has served as the History Day faculty advisor for AP World History students since 2007. He also has experience as the Social Studies Depart-

ment Chairman at Stemmers Run Middle School.

Another Maryland History Day teacher, Amie Dryer, has been selected as one of eighteen middle and high school educators nationwide to participate in in Memorializing the Fallen: Honoring those Who Served. The nine-month professional development program is based on a partnership between National History Day®, the National Cemetery Administration (NCA), and the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC).

Dryer will travel to Hawaii to study the Korean War. Memorializing the Fallen: Honoring those Who Served provides those accepted into the program the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of history as they travel to one of 18 national Veterans' cemeteries. Teachers will

also visit some sites associated with the period and then develop a lesson activity connecting one element of WWI or the Korean War with a local national, state, or tribal Veteran's cemetery. Activities are designed for use by school or community groups who visit the cemetery.

Dryer teaches at Calvert High School in Calvert County. She has participated in Maryland History Day for nine years. A pair of Dryer's students, Kayla Bevard and Vina Vo, won the Special Prize in Women's History this year for their website on Julia Ward Howe. In past years, Dryer has volunteered her time as a Maryland History Day Judge. Learn more about National History Day and Memorializing the Fallen: Honoring those Who Served.

Prince George's County Special Award Winners:

Student: Daniel Bates

Award: Special Prize in African American History, sponsored by the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture

Topic: The Harlem Globetrotters: Champions of Equality

Category: Documentary

School: Trinity Home School Academy

Teacher: Robin Bates, Wendell Bates

Student: Ernest Ntangu

Award: Senator Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr. Award for Excellence in Government History

Topic: The Bretton Woods Conference: A World Economic Solution

Category: Documentary

School: Duval High School

Teacher: David Kosloski

COMMENTARY

Cong. Chris Van Hollen United States Senator for Maryland



Van Hollen, Richard Durbin Urge Congress to Support NIST

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Senators Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) and Richard Durbin (D-Ill.) have led a letter urging Congress to fully fund the National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST). NIST is headquartered in Gaithersburg, Maryland and supports research and development across the country.

The Senators write, “NIST research programs work at the frontiers of measurement science to ensure that the U.S. system of weights and measures is firmly grounded in sound scientific and technical principles.”

The Senators pointed to a number of critical programs, including the NIST Scientific and Technical Research Services, the Industrial Technology Services’ Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership, the NIST National Cyber Security Center of Excellence, and their work on forensic science methods.

They closed the letter noting, “As new technologies emerge, NIST remains central to our national defense, homeland security, trade, and innovation. Increasing funding for Scientific and Technical Research Services and maintaining current funding for Industrial Technology Services is a national security imperative, fosters innovation, and strengthens American competitiveness. For these reasons, we urge you to make strong and sustained funding for NIST one of your highest priorities.”

The Senators requested that the NIST Scientific and Technical Research Services receive at least \$775 million and that the NIST Industrial Technology Services receive \$155 million for FY 2019. Senators Van Hollen and Durbin were joined in signing the letter by Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.), Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii), Michael Bennet (D-Colo.), Ben Cardin (D-Md.), and Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.).

As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator Van Hollen actively fights for Maryland interests and works to negotiate the details of each bill. He has teamed up with his colleagues to join and lead a series of letters on particular areas of interest.

The letter can be found here and below.

Dear Chairman Shelby and Ranking Member Shaheen,
As you begin work on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Legislation, we write in support of the National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST) and several of its critical missions. We request that the NIST Scientific and Technical Research Services re-

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Marc Morial, President and CEO National Urban League



State of Black America® Finds African-Americans Drastically Underrepresented in Tech Industries

“It is our hope that this document will pierce the dark veil of neglect that has thus far smothered efforts to right the wrongs of the past and present. It is presented as an alternative to failed public policies. I hope that it will be read closely in the White House and in the Congress and that it may influence decision-makers to open their eyes to the plight of black Americans. I hope it will be read by all of the candidates in both parties, whose campaigns thus far largely exhibit a refusal to grapple with real issues and with the concerns of black citizens. And I hope it will be read closely by the press and the electronic media, whose neglect of black interests and black concerns in 1975 was as pervasive as Washington’s. And I know it will be read by black Americans, in order that they may document their grievances and understand the terrible dilemma they face.”

—Vernon E. Jordan,
State of Black America, 1976

A nationwide assessment of the digital economy has found that Black Americans are overrepresented as tech consumers, but drastically underrepresented as tech employees, according to the 2018 State of Black America®.

The State of Black America, the National Urban League’s seminal annual publication, has become one of the most highly-anticipated benchmarks and sources for thought leadership around racial equality in America across economics, employment, education, health, housing, criminal justice and civic participation.

The report is available on www.StateOfBlackAmerica.org

This year’s report, *Save Our Cities: Powering the Digital Revolution*, set out to answer the question, “Are the new job, business and educational opportunities created by increased digitization of our world being equally shared?”

African Americans make up less than 5% of the workforce at social media and technology companies, vs. more than 50% for whites. Less than 6% of total Black employment in 2017 was in the tech industry, vs. 8.5% for whites.

Historically, while great industrial breakthroughs have profited our nation, African Americans have often been exploited, rather than elevated by these advancements. Fortunately, the digital revolution is still in its youth—and ripe with potential for Black Americans. While it has positioned itself such that the barriers of entry are few and low, the findings of the National Urban League’s 2018 Digital Inclusion Index are unambiguous: we must separate the signal from the noise.

The Digital Inclusion Index is a brand-new iteration of the report’s traditional Equality Index™—a mathematical representation of the relative social and economic status of Black Americans relative to whites. The 2018 Equality Index remains 72.5%, unchanged from 2017, while the Digital Inclusion Index is slightly higher at 74.1%. An index of 100% would represent full equality.

Inspired by the Three-Fifths Compromise of the 1787 United States Constitutional Convention, the Equality Index is calculated using an array of statistics in five categories: economics, health, education, social justice and civic engagement. The Digital Inclusion Index is calculated based upon digital skills and occupations, digital access and digital policy.

The report includes the commentary and analysis of more than 50 thought leaders in business, government, science and the arts.

Technology is a study in contrasts for Black America. Black families continue to remain less likely than white families to have dedicated internet access at home, yet African Americans are the second-largest multicultural group, after Asian Americans, for mobile device ownership, with 91% owning smartphones. Black millennials are influential, leading users of mobile technology and platforms, and voracious consumers and creators of digital content, but lag behind in tech employment.

The report found some areas of above-average digital equality. Although African Americans were

See URBAN LEAGUE Page A6

Riversdale House Museum



Open to the Public

PHOTO CREDIT: PG PARKS & RECREATION

RIVERSDALE HOUSE MUSEUM

Riversdale was one of the most distinctive homes in the region during the early Federal period. Today, the central portion of the house serves as a museum interpreting the lifestyle of an affluent family. The rental areas include a large carpeted ballroom in late 19th century decor as well as a smaller meeting/banquet room and catering kitchen. Riversdale House Museum and the Museum Shop are open to the public Fridays and Sundays from 12 noon - 3:30 pm year round. Riversdale is available for weddings, receptions, and meetings. For fees and availability, and to view contracts, please call 301-864-0420 for more information.

Child Watch by Marion Wright Edelman



Dr. James Cone

“The lynching tree interprets the cross. It keeps the cross out of the hands of those who are dominant. Nobody who is lynching anybody can understand the cross. That’s why it’s so important to place the cross and the lynching tree together, because the cross, or the crucifixion, was analogous to a first-century lynching. In fact, biblical scholars, when they want to describe what was happening to Jesus, many of them say it was a lynching.”

“And all I want to suggest is, if American Christians say they want to identify with that cross, they have to see the cross as a lynching. Any time your empathy, your solidarity, is with the little people, you’re with the cross. If you identify with the lynchers, then, no, you can’t understand what’s happening ... Power in the powerless is not something that we are accustomed to listening to and understanding. It’s not a part of our historical experience. America always wants to think it’s going to win everything. Well, Black people have a history in which we didn’t win. We did not win. See, our resistance is a resistance against the odds. That’s why we can understand the cross.”

The Rev. Dr. James Cone passed away on April 28, two days after the opening of the Legacy Museum and National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama created by the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI), which remembers victims of lynching and racial terror in America who were at the core of Dr. Cone’s teachings.

James Cone, the founder of Black liberation theology, was an ordained elder in the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) church; a distinguished professor of systematic theology at Union Theological Seminary where he taught for nearly 50 years; and a tireless crusader against racial terrorism and other forms of injustice including mass incarceration beginning with what the Children’s Defense Fund (CDF) calls America’s Cradle to Prison Pipeline® crisis. He authored a dozen groundbreaking, history making, and movement shaping books. They include *Black Theology and Black Power*, *A Black*

Theology of Liberation and God of the Oppressed. Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X, he pulled the academy and theology into the struggles against oppression in the wake of the Civil Rights Movement. As a theologian his central message was that the God of the gospels must be understood as a God of the oppressed who is most concerned with the poorest and most vulnerable members of society—a message with radical implications for American Christianity and all faiths and for our nation and world.

We were blessed with his presence at CDF-Haley Farm’s Samuel DeWitt Proctor Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry four years ago. The quote at the beginning of the column is from an interview Dr. Cone gave four years before the release of *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*, a book he told us he had been writing his entire life and would not finish until he drew his last breath. Every July the Proctor Institute brings together “Great Preachers and Great Teachers” like Dr. Cone with clergy, seminarians, religious educators, community organizers, young adult leaders and a range of faith-based advocates in an intergenerational, interracial, multi-eth-

nic, ecumenical community pursuing justice for our nation’s children. In 2014 he taught two Theology and Child Advocacy Bible study sessions and shared how his beliefs were shaped:

“I left graduate school during the high water mark of the Civil Rights Movement and the rise of Black Power in the 1960s. I was a theologian obsessed with civil rights and Black Power, since both of these movements helped me to see that God is found in the midst of the oppressed, fighting for dignity, justice, and respect ... The heart of the Christian faith is the cross of Jesus, the one who shed his blood as a crucified victim in Jerusalem ... No one can understand this Jesus ... without seeing Jesus through the experiences of crucified peoples today. No people can understand the transforming power of Jesus except through the solidarity with the poor and the wretched among them,” adding: “God is always found where we least expect to find God, like in a manger in Bethlehem, on the cross in Jerusalem, or hanging from a lynching tree in America.”

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The Prince George’s Post

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BUSINESS

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty — Optimum Time for Wife's Benefits

by Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I would like some advice on the optimum time for my wife to start drawing her Social Security. Pertinent facts are: I am 11 years older than her (born in 1949) and waited until my full retirement age to start my own Social Security. She made significantly less money than I did so I understand she will be able to file based on my record instead of hers. If that is true then I would like to know how to maximize her monthly benefit by starting at the best age for her. I am not concerned about lifetime benefits as we both have a good chance to live long lives. Also, I read she will be able to continue my benefit after my death but that doesn't make sense so am skeptical of that. Please clarify and also advise if she should start at FRA or wait until 70. **Signed: Need to Know**

Dear Need to Know: If your wife is 11 years younger than you, I assume her birth year is 1960, which would make her full retirement age 67. Since your wife "made significantly less money" than you, she should first look at the value of ½ of your benefit and also what her own retirement benefit would be at age 67. If the difference is substantial and she wouldn't make more by delaying past her full retirement age, even up to age 70 and earning delayed retirement credits on her own benefit, then her focus should be on optimizing her spousal benefit.

If you're financially able and her health is good, waiting until she reaches age 67 will yield your wife her highest spousal benefit amount. Her full retirement age is when she will get the full 50% of your "primary insurance amount" (or "PIA" — the amount you are entitled to at your FRA plus any COLA increases). If she claims benefits any earlier, they will be reduced to as little as 32.5% of yours if she claims as soon as she is eligible at age 62. Please note that her benefit will be comprised of two parts — the first part being her own retirement benefit, and the 2nd part being a supplemental amount to bring her up to the spousal

See ASK RUSTY Page A7

Hundreds Vie for Limited Spots in PG County's 2018 Nigeria Trade Mission Delegation

Economic Development Corporation Hosts Information Session On the Next on the Horizon—Nigeria

By LORI C. VALENTINE
PGCEDC

LARGO, MD—On May 2, 2018, the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) hosted the 'Nigeria Trade Mission Information Session' in anticipation of a Trade Mission taking place August 13th through August 19th. Over 100 Prince George's County based business leaders were in attendance to learn how to do business in Nigeria, collaborate with potential business delegates, learn about business to business opportunities and get vital information about the 'Networking with the USA Conference'. Attendees heard from Carey Arun, Commercial Officer with the U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Export Assistance Center, Brian Castleberry, Regional Manager for Africa with the Maryland Department of Commerce, and Nicole Woods, Business Development Specialist with EXIM Bank about the resources their respective entities can provide to help small businesses thrive in international markets. Jim Coleman, the EDC's President and CEO is elated to kick off the journey to Nigeria.

"We're headed home as the V.P. of Sales and Marketing for



PHOTO COURTESY LORI C. VALENTINE

Jim Coleman, President and CEO, PGCEDC (C) left to right: Eric Henderson, Board Member, PGCEDC; Nicole Woods, Business Development Specialist with EXIM Bank; Martin Ezemma, Director of International Business Development, PGCEDC; Carey Arun, Commercial Officer with the U.S. Department of Commerce; Sangrea Watkins, Executive Assistant to the President, PGCEDC with interested potential delegates to the Nigerian Trade Mission)

our local companies," said Coleman. "We couldn't be more excited about traveling to Nigeria to cement business relationships with our 'cousins' in the gateway to the continent of Africa. At the EDC, we pride ourselves in providing County business leaders with every resource possible to increase their bottom line; and that's exactly what we're doing with this Trade Mission. With our part-

ners from the U.S. Department of Commerce and Maryland Department of Commerce along with other financial institutions who can help defray some of the Mission costs, my team has been able to put together a first-class package that we're confident will position County business leaders for success."

During the information session, potential trade delegation members heard about the hottest

sectors in Nigeria and why they should consider investing in its booming economy. Attendees were also informed about specialized resources such as the ExportMD Program available through the Maryland Department of Commerce that can reimburse up to \$5,000 for international marketing expenses to qualified applicants, and the

See DELEGATION Page A7

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MEMBER
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OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK

Movie Review

Pacific Rim Uprising

Pacific Rim Uprising
Grade: C
Rated PG-13, a little profanity,
the usual destruction violence,
nothing serious?
1 hr., 51 min

You remember, of course, how a breach at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean produced a gateway through which extra-dimensional Godzillas entered our universe and wrecked our cities, and the only way to stop the destruction was to build giant Transformers to fight them. (It is by the same logic that some want Oprah to run against Trump.) *Pacific Rim* (2013) ended with brave heroes sacrificing themselves to seal the breach and kill the remaining monsters. Now, five years later, 10 years have passed. There have been no further incidents, but here's a sequel called *Pacific Rim Uprising*, so ...

The first movie was shallow but enthusiastic, buoyed by director Guillermo del Toro's imagination and writer Travis Beacham's no-frills script that delivered what viewers wanted: giant things fighting each other. In contrast, the sequel, from first-time director Stephen S. DeKnight, with a screenplay credited to him and three others (del Toro is onboard as producer), is weak, aimless, and noisy. The thrill of giant things fighting each other is still here, but it's reduced by familiarity (we saw this already) and by the film's lack of it. This movie about huge robots fighting monsters doesn't have enough robots, fighting, or monsters in it.

Our hero is one Jake Pentecost (John Boyega), son of the Idris Elba character from the other movie but no chip off the old block. Jake is a thief and a rascal who fizzled out of pilot training, forced to either re-enlist or go to prison when he and a plucky teen girl, Amara (Cailee Spaeny), are caught operating an unlicensed Jaeger (that's what the robots are called) that Amara built from scrap parts. Both are sent to



John Boyega (*Star Wars: The Force Awakens*) stars as the rebellious Jake Pentecost, a once-promising Jaeger pilot whose legendary father gave his life to secure humanity's victory against the monstrous "Kaiju." Jake has since abandoned his training only to become caught up in a criminal underworld. But when an even more unstoppable threat is unleashed to tear through our cities and bring the world to its knees, he is given one last chance to live up to his father's legacy by his estranged sister, Mako Mori (Rinko Kikuchi)-who is leading a brave new generation of pilots that have grown up in the shadow of war. As they seek justice for the fallen, their only hope is to unite together in a global uprising against the forces of extinction. Jake is joined by gifted rival pilot Lambert (*The Fate of the Furious*' Scott Eastwood) and 15-year-old Jaeger hacker Amara (newcomer Cailee Spaeny), as the heroes of the PPDC become the only family he has left. Rising up to become the most powerful defense force to ever walk the earth, they will set course for a spectacular all-new adventure on a towering scale. *Pacific Rim Uprising* is directed by Steven S. DeKnight (Netflix's *Daredevil*, STARZ's *Spartacus*) and also stars Jing Tian, Burn Gorman, Adria Arjona and Charlie Day.

Jaeger Academy, where Amara joins the cadets and Jake rejoins an old friendly rival, Nate Lambert (Scott Eastwood), as the pilots who instruct them.

We still have the Jaeger program, by the way, in case the Kaiju (monsters) come back, but in the meantime they mostly do police work. Jake and Nate are co-piloting a Jaeger—which involves mind-melding, you'll recall—at a meeting of international importance in Sydney when a rogue Jaeger emerges from the sea and wreaks havoc. Who's controlling it? And what does Li-wen Shao (Tian Jing), head of possibly evil Shao Industries, have to gain by it? Shao has been developing drone Jaegers that can be operated remotely rather than having the pilots climb inside the robot's head,

and which could have averted tragedy in Sydney if they'd been in use, she's just sayin'. Comic-relief manic scientists Newt (Charlie Day) and Hermann (Burn Gorman) are back, feverishly developing the new tech for Shao.

Despite everyone but Scott Eastwood's charisma, none of the characters ever come to life except in brief bursts, and the human villain or villains never get a proper payoff. Everything else is strictly by the numbers. Jake must learn to be a hero. Nate must stop squinting and growling at him and forgive whatever it is that happened before (it was between the movies, we didn't see it). Amara, a Jaeger fangirl who knows the names of the Jaegers and their pilots, has to overcome her junkyard background and prove

herself to her haughty fellow cadets, an international mix of teens who seem like a desperate attempt to establish "the next generation" even though this is only the first sequel.

Most of the film has the Jaegers intermittently fighting the rogue Jaeger, pilot unknown, in some perfunctory robot-on-robot violence. That mystery is solved with a lot of time left, so then we spin our wheels until the finale that will surely have all the Jaeger pilots and cadets fighting the Kaiju that will have inevitably gotten loose. Said finale delivers the goods, but it's 20 minutes of enjoyable CGI mayhem after 90 minutes of so-so horsin' around. What they tease for part 3 sounds like we should have gone straight there and skipped this water-treading middle episode.

EDC Award from A1

nity Development Award in partnership with FSC First."

Through its expansion into Hyattsville, Susan Gage was able to retain its 110 employees and hire an additional 189 employees while shifting the business to a site inside the Capital Beltway with immediate access to the Metro and within the employees' home communities.

"Prince George's County Economic Development Incentive Fund (EDI Fund) is designed to provide businesses with the funding needed for growth and expansion," states Shelly Gross Wade, President and CEO of FSC First. "Through Susan Gage's expansion into Hyattsville, she has created more than 180 jobs and generated \$200,000 in commercial property taxes in the County. The success of this type of project is what County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III envisioned when he created the EDI Fund."

Today, Susan Gage has incorporated green sustainability practices into every aspect of its operations and is fully committed to being a responsible environmental steward while delivering the highest level of catering services. While the sector is not new, Susan Gage's approach to

catering is new and improved. Susan Gage should become a model for how catering businesses can reinvent themselves, be more responsible community citizens, and still remain relevant and profitable.

For more information and additional details on the EDI Fund, please contact Dawn Medley at drmedley@fscfirst.com or Ebony Stocks at epstocks@co.pg.md.us.

Chins from A1

clude exchanges between Anhui education representatives and Maryland K-12 and higher education officials, and traditional Chinese medicine experts and University of Maryland Baltimore's Center for Integrative Medicine.

"Given May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, we hope these events will help bring the unique Chinese arts and culture to Maryland in celebration of the commemorative month," said Secretary Wobensmith.

Two Maryland-Anhui Promotion Week events will be open to the public. The events are:

- Anhui Art & Culture Exhibit, May 30 and 31 (10:00 AM-4:00 PM) at the Hilton

Rockville, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD—Featuring Anhui art and cultural exhibits and demonstrations. Admission is free.

- Huangmei Opera, May 30 (8:00 PM) at the Cultural Arts Center of Montgomery College, 7995 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD—A performance of a traditional Chinese opera by Anhui's most notable opera company. Admission will be \$10 (children 12 and under free).

For updates and more information on Maryland-Anhui Promotion Week, visit <http://maryland-anhui.com/> or contact: Ms. Mary Nitsch, Director of International Affairs, Office of the Secretary of State 410-260-3865, mary.nitsch@maryland.gov

Mr. Steve Drake, Vice Chair, Maryland-Anhui Sister State Committee 301-602-4766, sdrake@verizon.net

About the Maryland Office of the Secretary of State and Sister States of Maryland, Inc.

Maryland's Office of the Secretary of State has a number of responsibilities, including certification and authentication of documents, registering Notary Publics, administering the Safe at Home program for victims of domestic violence, and registering, regulating and renewing charitable organizations which solicit from Maryland residents. The staff of the International Division administers the Maryland Sister States Program, which

was established in 1980 and currently includes 20 relationships in 17 countries.

The Sister States of Maryland, Inc., a private, not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of Maryland, partners with the Maryland Sister States Program and seeks to have an impact in the promotion of partnerships and relationships that enhance the overall quality of life of the citizens of Maryland and of its Sister States. The board of directors comprises the chairs and vice chairs of each of the Sister State committees and focuses its projects on the following objectives: promoting trade and business, increasing educational opportunities, exchanging cultures, improving health and human services, and promoting tourism.

Gardening Tips & Tricks

The Art of Waterwise Gardening

By MELINDA MYERS

Making a few changes in your garden care can yield great benefits. Less time and water wasted means more time for you to relax or entertain friends and family in your beautiful landscape. Water is critical throughout the life of a plant, but deciding when and how much water to provide each plant can be a bit overwhelming. Make this task easier and conserve moisture with these simple strategies.

Start by matching plants to your growing conditions. Selecting plants suited to your climate, soil moisture and average rainfall means healthier, better-looking plants and productive gardens with less supplemental water.

Incorporate organic matter such as compost into the soil prior to planting. This helps the soil more efficiently absorb rainfall and irrigation water. Less runoff means less water wasted. Adding organic matter also increases the ability of fast-draining soil to hold moisture, extending the time between watering.

Mulch the soil with organic materials such as shredded leaves, evergreen needles or woodchips. Mulching helps conserve moisture while suppressing weeds and improving the soil as it decomposes. Plus, you'll be recycling landscape trimmings back into the landscape and the environment. It's green gardening!

There will still be times you need to lend nature a hand. Sprouting seeds, young seedlings and new transplants need consistent moisture to grow and establish a root system. Most annual flowers and vegetables also need consistent moisture throughout the season.

Newly planted perennials, trees and shrubs also need more attention and water than established plants with deeper roots able to absorb more moisture. During extended dry periods, even established plants will need supplemental water.

Providing the right amount of water at the right time can be a challenge. Doing it efficiently to avoid wasting time or water can help ensure your gardening success.

Take the guess work out of watering with a drip irrigation system like the DIY WaterWell Irrigation System Drip Line Kit (gardeners.com). Drip irrigation systems allow you to apply water to the soil right above the plant roots, exactly where it's needed.

Run a line next to each row of plants—or every 18" in planting beds. The water slowly seeps through the holes and into the soil below. The slow, steady flow moistens the root zone, encouraging the development of deep, drought-tolerant roots.

Just turn on the faucet, set the timer and let the irrigation system do the work. This reduces the risk of frequent, ineffective watering which leads to shallow roots growing just below the soil surface where they dry out quickly. High temperatures or missed irrigation can stress shallow rooted plants, reducing their beauty and productivity.

The use of appropriate irrigation, mulching and organic matter can make a huge difference in the quality of your landscape—and your enjoyment of your garden!



PHOTO CREDIT: GARDENER'S SUPPLY COMPANY

Drip irrigation systems allow you to slowly apply water right above the plant roots, encouraging the development of deep, drought-tolerant roots.

Melinda Myers has written over 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening* and *the Midwest Gardener's Handbook*. She hosts *The Great Courses* How to Grow Anything: Food Gardening For Everyone DVD set and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment TV and radio segments*. Myers is also a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by *Bonnie Plants* for her expertise to write this article. Myers' website is www.melindamyers.com.

Urban League from A4

less likely, in general, than whites to receive degrees in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), one kind of STEM degree actually is more common among African Americans—computer and data science. In 2015–2016, 2.8% of African Americans, vs. 2.6% of whites earned such degrees.

While African Americans with doctoral degrees in science and engineering don't

have the same outcomes as their white counterparts, they are closer to parity than the average worker—almost 93%.

The report also includes a Hispanic-White Equality Index which calculates the same categories as the Black-White Index. This year's index is 79.3%, a slight gain over the 2017 index of 78.5%. Both the Black-White Index and the Hispanic-White Index reflect slight gains in household income, graduation rates and college enrollment.

Calendar of Events

May 17 — May 23, 2018

Xtreme Teens: Black-Light Zumba

Date and time: Friday, May 18, 2018, 7:00 PM–10:00 PM
Description: Exercise while you party! Come make this a night you will remember and engage in a fun fitness activity. A night to show your dance moves and have a groovy fun time with one of the best Zumba instructors around. Grab your best friend, pal, or sibling and we'll see you here!
Cost: FREE with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 10–17
Location: Prince George's Plaza Community Center
6600 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD
Contact: 301-864-1611; TTY 301-699-2544

Xtreme Teens: Jeopardy™

Date and time: Friday, May 18, 2018, 7:00 PM–10:00 PM
Description: Work with your team as you try to answer as many questions as you can on various topics. Winning team will earn a prize.
Cost: FREE with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 10–17
Location: Good Luck Community Center
8601 Good Luck Road, Lanham, MD
Contact: 301-552-1093; TTY 301-699-2544

Xtreme Teens: Water Balloon Games

Date and time: Friday, May 18, 2018, 7:00 PM–10:00 PM
Description: It's a race against the clock! You and a friend are working in tandem toward a mad dash to the finish line. As a chasm grows between you, your eyes lock and your movements become more exaggerated. You're trying desperately not to drop that ... water balloon?! Come join us to find out if you can finish the race without getting "all wet!!"
Cost: FREE with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 10–17
Location: Kentland Community Center
2413 Pinebrook Avenue, Landover, MD
Contact: 301-386-2278; TTY 301-699-2544

Prince George's Youth Lacrosse League Season Finale Celebration

Date and time: Saturday, May 19, 2018, 9:00 AM–4:00 PM
Description: Prince George's Youth Lacrosse League (PGYLL) season finale celebration event will help conclude our inaugural season. On this day teams will play their final games, as well as receive team recognition, awards and "swag bags". This will also be the final opportunity for participants to mingle and interact with our local sponsors at their booths.
Cost: FREE
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: Walker Mill Regional Park
8001 Walker Mill Road, Capitol Heights, MD
Contact: 301-446-6816

Annual Spring Fitness Frenzy!

Date and time: Saturday, May 19, 2018, 11:00 AM–1:30 PM
Description: Spring has sprung! Come rejuvenate your fitness goals by joining us at The Palmer Park Community Center Annual Fitness Frenzy! Activities to help promote fitness and fun to include: 12 Fitness stations with Wallace of You-Be-Fit; Yoga with Dianne; and Line Dancing with Denise of Music2yourfeet.
Cost: FREE with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 18 and older
Location: Palmer Park Community Center
7729 Barlowe Road, Palmer Park, MD
Contact: 301-773-5665; TTY 301-699-2544

Waterfront Art Festival

Date and time: Saturday, May 19, 2018, 12:00 AM–6:00 PM
Description: Get in touch with your left brain and visit this year's festival! Amid the scenic atmosphere of an urban waterfront park, enjoy an afternoon of art and imagination! This outdoor gallery and market will have extraordinary art from local artists: paintings, sculptures, jewelry, ceramics, photography, and a fun Kids Creative Zone! Featuring live performances from The Crowdies, Kim Reynolds Trio, and Strike Force Drumline! plus art workshops and demonstrations, free boat tours, tasty food, and more! Don't miss this family-friendly and fun time!
Cost: FREE
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: Bladensburg Waterfront Park
4601 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg, MD
Contact: 301-779-0371; TTY 301-699-2544

Xtreme Teens: Girls vs Boys Obstacle Course

Date and time: Saturday, May 19, 2018, 7:00 PM–10:00 PM
Description: Come join us for an event that is sure to test your skill, will, agility and dexterity! Our young women and men will battle it out on a manufactured obstacle course. Will the gentlemen reign supreme, or will the ladies crush their dreams? Come out to participate or cheer for your favorite team!
Cost: FREE with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 10–17
Location: Kentland Community Center
2413 Pinebrook Avenue, Landover, MD
Contact: 301-386-2278; TTY 301-699-2544

Classical Recital: Ava Oaxaca and Teodora Adzharova

Date and time: Sunday, May 20, 2018, 3:00 PM–4:30 PM
Description: American saxophonist Ava Oaxaca, an "accomplished soloist" and praised for her "sweetly mournful melodies" by *The Washington Post*, aims to bring enjoyable music of all time-periods to her audiences. Accompanist Teodora Adzharova received her Master's and Doctoral degrees from Peabody Conservatory of Music where she currently is Accompanying Coordinator at the Peabody Institute, a member of the Peabody Preparatory faculty, as well as an Associate Faculty at the Peabody Conservatory.
Cost: Free, \$5 donation is appreciated
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: Montpelier Arts Center
9652 Muirkirk Road, Laurel, MD
Contact: 301-377-7800; TTY 301-699-2544

EARTH TALK ... Man-Made Earthquakes: Another Negative Legacy of Fracking

Dear EarthTalk:

Is there proof that fracking for oil and natural gas can by itself cause earthquakes?

—James Mitchell, Hauppauge, NY

Geologists used to believe that "fracking"—or hydraulic fracturing, the process of drilling down into the earth and injecting water, chemicals and sand at high-pressure to release and capture the gas or oil contained in the rock—couldn't actually cause earthquakes. But conventional wisdom started to change in 2009 when the ground started shaking across Oklahoma in the wake of that state's new fracking boom. Today it is not uncommon for upwards of 1,000 magnitude 3.0 or higher earthquakes to rock the Sooner State during a given year—and no one doubts that they are a result of fracking and related activities.

According to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), earthquakes in Oklahoma are now hundreds of times more common than just a decade ago. Meanwhile, seven other midwestern and southern states have experienced similar rises in the incidence of earthquakes since fracking commenced in recent years. "These earthquakes are occurring at a higher rate than ever before and pose a much greater risk to people living nearby," says Mark Petersen, a Ph.D. and

a national regional coordinator for USGS.

Defenders of fracking insist that it's not so much the fracking that's to blame as it is the wastewater disposal activities that come afterwards. "Wastewater disposal wells typically operate for longer durations and inject much more fluid than hydraulic fracturing, making them more likely to induce earthquakes," reports USGS, adding that less than two percent of the earthquakes in Oklahoma can be directly linked to fracking itself. "The remaining earthquakes are induced by wastewater disposal."

But environmental leaders take little comfort in that distinction, especially given that most of the dangerous wastewater disposal going on across Oklahoma is a result of fracking operations. And in other areas with different geologic composition, fracking itself has been linked to increased seismic activity.

"In Ohio, some of the larger earthquakes are from fracking itself," report Miami University geologists Michael Brudzinski and Brian Currie, who are trying to pinpoint causation on fracking-related seismicity across the central U.S. "Fracking by larger, older, deeper fault lines has a higher risk of triggering bigger earthquakes, like the 4.0 quake around Youngstown in 2011." By studying the "fingerprint" of



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Fracking activity is causing "swarms" of man-made earthquakes across Oklahoma and other parts of the Midwest and South.

these quakes, Brudzinski and Currie, whose recent findings were published in the peer-reviewed journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*, hope to help prevent future quakes and minimize the damage from ones they can't prevent.

Brudzinski and Currie would like to see more research dollars funding earthquake detectors that are sensitive down to a

"smaller, earlier threshold" (such as 1.6 magnitude): "If companies can monitor events at smaller levels, they can detect problems earlier before they get big." Such funding could be money well spent, given that some 3.5 million Americans, primarily in Oklahoma and southern Kansas, live in areas, according to USGS, vulnerable to significant damage from man-made earthquakes.

CONTACTS: USGS' Induced Earthquakes: Myths & Misconceptions, earthquake.usgs.gov/research/induced/myths.php; PNAS "Maturity of nearby faults influences seismic hazard from hydraulic fracturing," www.pnas.org/content/early/2018/01/30/1715284115.

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.

Ask Rusty from A5

benefit she is entitled to. Whenever she files, she will be deemed to be filing for both her own benefit and her spousal benefit, and since spousal benefits don't grow beyond one's full retirement age, she need not wait any longer than that to apply.

As to your second question, if you should predecease your wife, she will indeed be eligible to collect 100% of the amount of your benefit at your death, provided that is more than her own benefit, and provided she has reached her full retirement

age when she applies for the widow's benefit (she doesn't have to take it immediately upon your death). In the event of your untimely early death, survivor's benefits can be taken before your wife reaches FRA — as early as age 60 — but they will be reduced to less than 100% of the benefit you were receiving (the reduction amount would depend on her age when she takes her widow's benefit). Please note that the widow's benefit would replace her spousal benefit; it's not in addition to it. Lastly, for widow's benefit purposes, her full retirement age

would be 4 months earlier than her normal retirement age, in other words 66 + 8 months rather than age 67. This is due to a special Social Security provision, which benefits a worker's surviving spouse.

The information presented in this article is intended for general information purposes only. The opinions and interpretations expressed are the viewpoints of the AMAC Foundation's Social Security Advisory staff, trained and accredited under the National Social Security Advisors program of

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Delegation from A5

Gold Key Service (customized scheduled appointments with fully vetted potential foreign partners) that U.S. Commercial Services Office provides to assist companies in establishing relationships with potential overseas agents, distributors, sales representatives and strategic business partners before they land. The attendees also learned about the pre-export financing and post-export financing that the EXIM (Export-Import) Bank to ensure that companies have the working capital they need to fulfill their

exporting business transactions.

"Maryland is the #1 exporter to Nigeria and represents the best prospects for U.S. exporters," said Carey Arun, with U.S. Department of Commerce. "Our organization specializes in assessing the export potential and understanding the needs of businesses looking to export their goods and services, and helping them to achieve their exporting goals. We have a lot of people working with us in a variety of countries around the world who can help local exporters with commercial diplomacy, advocate on their behalf with public sector

procurements, and help translate the language and business culture. In essence, we will hold their hand and skip down the road to success with them; and we get results!"

The Trade Mission to Nigeria will also include access to the "Annual Networking with USA Conference", sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service. During the conference, participating companies will be able to meet with over 400 vetted companies who are looking for U.S. suppliers and partners.

Within the past few years, the EDC has led successful trade

missions to China, Korea and Cuba. This year's Trade Mission will be the first in the continent of Africa in several years and there are plans to soon explore South Africa. Future trade missions are also being developed to connect local business leaders to Canada, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands.

Deadline for the Trade Mission to Nigeria is June 1, 2018. Please contact Martin Ezemma, at muezemma@co.pg.md.us or Sangrea Watkins at swatkins@co.pg.md.us for more information.

Seats are limited.

NIST from A1

ceive at least \$775 million and that the NIST Industrial Technology Services receive \$155 million for FY 2019.

NIST research programs work at the frontiers of measurement science to ensure that the U.S. system of weights and measures is firmly grounded in sound scientific and technical principles. For example, NIST scientists built the first atomic clock in 1949. Today, atomic clocks help the world keep time to within a billionth of a second. This level of accuracy enables Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers to instantaneously calculate their position. It would be impossible to have a functioning GPS system without innovations from NIST researchers.

Funding for NIST Scientific and Technical Research Services is critical to maintaining partnerships with universities across the

country that enable NIST to fulfill its mission, leverage expertise, and train a robust scientific workforce. For example,

- **JILA**, a joint institute between NIST and the University of Colorado Boulder, explores physics, nanoscience, precision measurement, and quantum information.

- **The Joint Quantum Institute** brings together scientists from the University of Maryland, NIST, and the Laboratory for Physical Sciences to better understand how to leverage quantum systems for information science and technology.

- **New Materials for Logic, Memory, and Interconnects (NEW LIMITS)** is a consortium led by Purdue University with the University of Texas at Dallas, Penn State University, University of Michigan, and Stanford University focused on the development of new materials for novel computing and storage technologies, enabling U.S.

semiconductor producers to remain on the cutting edge.

In addition, NIST hosts high school and undergraduate students as summer researchers to help inspire and train the next generation of scientists and engineers.

NIST also performs groundbreaking research in forensic science methods through its federal innocence and forensic science programs, which increase the accuracy and fairness of the criminal justice system, provide the strongest possible tools to stakeholders, and lead to greater public safety.

The Industrial Technology Services' Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) enhances the productivity and performance of U.S. manufacturing by partnering with state and local governments and the private sector to provide expertise and resources to manufacturers to solve problems, increase productivity, and improve their economic competitiveness.

We appreciate the support in FY 2018 for expanding NIST's National Cyber Security Center of Excellence (NCCoE), which addresses businesses' most pressing cybersecurity problems with practical, standards-based solutions using commercially available technologies. We request that this support continue so that NCCoE can continue to enhance cybersecurity and protect national information systems.

As new technologies emerge, NIST remains central to our national defense, homeland security, trade, and innovation. Increasing funding for Scientific and Technical Research Services and maintaining current funding for Industrial Technology Services is a national security imperative, fosters innovation, and strengthens American competitiveness. For these reasons, we urge you to make strong and sustained funding for NIST one of your highest priorities.

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Watch from A4

The Cross and the Lynching Tree, he said, "is my prayer, my invocation to God, on behalf of Black people, in the hope that the nearly four centuries of Black suffering will be redemptive for our children and grandchildren, revealing to them the beauty in their tragic path, and also empowering them to continue to fight, to resist the violence of White supremacy. It is also my hope that Whites, too, will be redeemed from their blindness, and made to open their eyes to the terror of their deeds, so they will know that we are all of one blood, and what we do to others we do to ourselves." He continued: "Literally and symbolically, biologically, and spiritually, Blacks and Whites and others are brothers and sisters. We need to start acting like that ... Let us hope that we, through God's grace and our struggle, we will be able to overcome our prejudices and hate that separate us, and thereby empower us to become the one people God created us to be."

The new lynching memorial and museum created by EJI led by the wonderful Bryan Stevenson remind us of progress made and how far our nation must still go to acknowledge, understand,

and end the ugly legacy of the lynching tree in America which has morphed into new forms including police killings and massive gun deaths enabled by the insane proliferation of guns in civilian hands no other nation permits. It is indefensible that there have been 16 times more Black children and teens killed by guns than all the recorded lynchings of Black people from 1877-1950. Let's hope the horrible truth about our history enables us to hear Dr. Cone's message and repent. Only then can we become the one nation under God we profess to want to be. Dr. Cone said that must happen before we can be historically, culturally, and spiritually free. He never lost hope or stopped struggling and neither must we.

Marian Wright Edelman is President of the Children's Defense Fund whose Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. For more information go to www.childrensdefense.org.

Mrs. Edelman's Child Watch Column also appears each week on The Huffington Post.

Storybook from A1

1. CAD designing
2. 3D printing
3. Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? storytime by a staffer dressed up as a bear in preparation for the walk

4. Creating the Storybook Walk, and
5. The Grand Finale of visiting the *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* Storybook Walk in the courtyard of the Laurel Branch Library's.

Morningside from A2

Milestones
Happy birthday to Morningside Mayor Benn Cann and Patti Parco Grey, May 18; Kaylin Barbour, Otis Jones, Ellen Ashby and Aidan Kilbride, May 20; Crystal Foster, Juanita Hood, David Sanford and Linda Holsonbake, May 22; Ricci Lee Jr., Betty

Call, L. Dorothy Jones, Nancy Sawyer, Dory Babecki and Chester Lanehart IV, May 23; Edna Lucas and former Morningside Councilman Harry Messer, May 24.
Happy anniversary to Aidan and Mary Kilbride on their 55th, May 18; Dennis and Leigh D'Avanzo, their 29th on May 20; and Ronnie and Karen Ellis, their 52nd on May 20.

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