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Clayborne Nominated for the NCAA Woman of the Year Award

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Executive Office

BOWIE, Md. — Former Bowie State University softball player Cassandra Clayborne is among 480 female student-athletes nominated for the 2015 NCAA Woman of the Year award. The 480 is the most ever nominated in the history of the program. Of the nominees, 207 competed in Division I, 93 competed in Division II and 180 competed in Division III athletics.



PHOTO COURTESY BOWIE STATE
Cassandra Clayborne

career ambition of becoming a rheumatologist. She is a two-time

Clayborne, a 2015 Summa Cum Laude graduate of Bowie State University, is a three-time All-CIAA Softball First Teamer (2012, 2013 and 2015) and has a

See AWARD Page A5

Deerfield Run Educator Named 2015 Christa McAuliffe Outstanding Teacher

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCPS

UPPER MARLBORO, MD — Takisha Webb, fourth-grade science teacher at Deerfield Run Elementary School in Laurel, was recently selected as recipient of the 2015 Christa McAuliffe Outstanding Teacher Award. Webb was selected for this honor by a committee of her peers from Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS).

"Ms. Webb has demonstrated outstanding instruction and creativity in her classroom," said Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell, Chief Executive Officer for the STEM subjects truly makes her a perfect fit for all that our Christa McAuliffe award stands for."

The Prince George's County Board of Education and school system administra-

See TEACHER Page A5



Maryland Live's Poker room.

PHOTO COURTESY MARYLAND LIVE

Maryland Live Casino Steady In Face Of New Baltimore Competitor

By SISSI CAO
Capital News Service

COLLEGE PARK — Maryland's casino industry has been growing at a double digit pace since casino table gaming was legalized in 2012. But for casino operators, surviving and prospering becomes increasingly challenging in a climate of fierce competition.

Maryland Live, the largest casino in the state, accounted

for 76 percent of the state's total casino business in 2014, with its 4,200 slot machines and 189 gaming tables, according to the Maryland State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency.

Maryland Live's market dominance was challenged by Horseshoe Baltimore, a similar-sized gaming facility opened 13 miles away in downtown Baltimore in August 2014. In the past ten months, Maryland Live's market share has dropped to 60 percent.

With the opening of the MGM National Harbor in Prince George's County in 2016, the competition will get even more intense. MGM is expected to take 7 percent of Horseshoe's business and 16 percent of Maryland Live's in 2019, according to a December 2013 study by Cummings Associates, a consulting company commissioned by the Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency.

"Maryland has too many casinos in too close an area,"

said Alan Woinski, president of Gaming USA Corp., which publishes an industry newsletter.

Maryland currently has five casinos, three of which are in rural locations. The main urban casinos are Horseshoe and Maryland Live, which own 74 percent of state's total slot machines and almost all the gaming tables. Despite a decline in business in other states,

See CASINO Page A6

Hoyer Announces Appointments to the United States Service Academies

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of Steny Hoyer

WASHINGTON, DC — Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) today announced the names of 12 Fifth District Students appointed to the United States Service Academies. The students, nominated by Rep. Hoyer, have accepted offers to the Air Force Academy, the Merchant Marine Academy, the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and the Naval Academy, which all require a nomination from an authorized nominating source. Rep. Hoyer hosted an Academy Tea Reception in their honor today at the Library of Congress in Washington, where five of the 12 students attended. The Air Force Academy appointees departed yesterday to the Academy in Colorado.

"One of the greatest privileges I have as a Member of Congress is to nominate talented young people from the Fifth Congressional District



PHOTO COURTESY THE OFFICE OF STENY HOYER
Pictured from Left to Right: Jay Wallen, Jordan Veal, Jordan Hinkle, David Escalera, and Anthony Cable.

to our service academies each year," said Congressman Steny Hoyer. "The students who have accepted appointments have an exciting journey ahead of them, and I have no doubt that their time at the academies will prepare them to do great things in the future. I am confident that they will represent the Fifth Dis-

trict and the state of Maryland with honor and distinction for years to come."

The following Fifth District students received appointments:

Air Force Academy

Kolbi Holmes, St. Mary's County, St. Mary's Ryken High School

Kathryn Kampsen, Calvert

County, Northern High School
Mai-Lin Quinto, Charles County, Lackey High School

Merchant Marine Academy
Joseph Springer, Prince George's County, Archbishop Spalding High School

Naval Academy
Anthony Cable, Charles County, La Plata High School
John Caniban, St. Mary's County, St. Mary's Ryken High School

David Escalera, Anne Arundel County, South River High School

Jordan Hinkle, Prince George's County, Bishop McNamara High School

Jay Wallen, Prince George's County, Rockbridge Academy

West Point
Jade Jamison, Charles County, Westlake High School
Sean Poiani, Prince George's County, Archbishop Spalding High School

Jordan Veal, Prince George's County, Bowie High School

Chillum Fire/EMS Station 844 Awarded Charmin Prize After Sincere Citizen Nomination

The Charmin Relief Project "Butts That Save Our Butts" Campaign

By PRESS OFFICER
PG County Fire/EMS

For the second consecutive year, a Prince George's County Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department (PGFD) station has been awarded a year's supply of Charmin toilet paper.

Last year's recipients, Chillum-Adelphi Fire/EMS Station 834, was kind enough

to share their years supply with their neighboring station, Chillum Fire/EMS Station 844.

This year it is the Chillum Fire/EMS Station 844 that is the 2015 "Butts That Save Our Butts" winner of a year's supply of Charmin toilet paper. In keeping with the high standard

See PGFD Page A3



PHOTO COURTESY PG COUNTY FIRE/EMS

Firefighter/Medics assigned to Chillum Fire/EMS Station 844 show their appreciation to Charmin for selecting them to receive a year's supply of toilet paper.

INSIDE

DHCD's Small Business Lending Team Reaches Out to Hispanic and Korean Business Owners

The effort is part of the governor's comprehensive response to the destruction that rocked the city. More than 200 businesses, many minority owned, were destroyed and many others sustained significant losses.

Community, Page A3

One Nation, One Flag

The campaign will support the efforts of South Carolina's legislators to end public displays of the Confederate flag in its state; it will advocate for the removal of the Confederate flag from all public spaces around our nation; and it will promote the United States flag as a symbol of unity, tolerance and justice.

Commentary, Page A4

USDA Announces Funding to Assist with Organic Certification Costs

During this Administration, USDA has signed four major organic trade arrangements and has helped organic stakeholders access programs that support conservation, provide access to loans and grants, fund organic research and education, and mitigate pest emergencies.

Business, Page A5

Movie Review: "Jurassic World"

What "Jurassic World" the movie and Jurassic World the theme park have done to re-arouse our interest is to create a new dinosaur, the Indominus rex, made from T. rex DNA and a secret, proprietary blend of other dinos' genetic herbs and spices.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

Summer is near and I am planning a big road trip. Do you have any tips for boosting my car's fuel efficiency on long, hot drives?

— Esther McCoy,
Burlington, VT

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

Plastic bags and coal tar bans now countywide

Two new laws went into effect in Prince George's County on July 1 — a ban on plastic bags in the Curbside Recycling Program and a ban on selling or using coal tar pavement products on property in the county.

Plastic bags of any color, size or shape, and plastic film, pose a problem with the sorting process and clog machinery causing costly maintenance. So, now you are encouraged to take clean plastic bags to local grocery stores and other retailers that have plastic bag recycling collection programs. Collection boxes are usually located near a store's main entrance.

Coal tar pavement products are commonly used to seal asphalt driveways and parking lots, but they contain high levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) known to cause cancer in humans. Disposal of a coal tar product can be made at the County Household Hazardous Waste Acceptance Site on Brown Station Road. Use of the product can be subject to a \$1,000 fine.

Free lunch for kids & teens at some libraries

Summer meals for kids and teens are now being served at six county libraries. The schedule is: Beltsville (2 p.m.), Surratts-Clinton (1 p.m.), Spauldings (1 p.m.), Oxon Hill (12 p.m.), Hyattsville (12 p.m.) and Fairmont Heights (12 p.m.). Open to all kids. There's no enrollment and no charge, and continues through August 21.

Neighbors

Audrey Pridgen-MacLean, of Skyline, children's librarian at Surratts Library fractured her foot reading to toddlers. How could that happen? Well, she said she was trying to enliven the story by skipping around and came down wrong on her foot. But the injury paid off on a flight to visit her dad in San Antonio. When the attendant noticed her soft boot, Audrey was moved to first class, and a wheelchair was awaiting her on landing.

Wayne Neale, formerly of Morningside, has retired from Neale Architects in Old Town

Alexandria. His firm was founded in 1979.

Rose Hoffman, formerly of Morningside, celebrated her 90th birthday June 29. Daughter Donna and her husband Larry Bivens, came from Fredericksburg, Va., to take her to the Moose Lodge in Upper Marlboro for some hand dancing.

I called Dee Curcio Brown out in Wenatchee, Wash., after I saw TV coverage of wildfires raging there on June 28. Thirty homes had already been destroyed. Dee and her husband Bruce live about a mile from the fire but she assured me they were not in danger. She used to be my neighbor on Skyline Drive, the daughter of Joe and Dot Curcio.

Changing landscape

The Air Force has announced it will award Boeing the contract to build the next Air Force One. The contract won't be competitive because Boeing's 747-8 is the only plane made in the U.S. that meets the requirements for the presidential aircraft. You can watch for it at Joint Base Andrews in about two years.

A project-management firm helping the Prince George's Schools develop its master plan has recommended the closure of 29 county schools! The public will be able to give feedback. The final draft will be presented in early 2016.

The West Wing of the 1st floor of the Museum of American History has reopened with nine new exhibitions revolving around business, commerce and innovation. The grand opening featured a building with Lego bricks, music from the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra Quintet, and DJ Will Eastman.

Morningside memories

Morningside Elementary had new PTA officers ready for the 1960-61 school year: John McAllister, president; Jack Schoen, vice-president; Rebecca Howard, treasurer; Ruth Sapp, secretary; and Patricia Leary, recording secretary. Committee chairman were Rose Bookhultz, Mrs. Larsen, Anna Patterson, Shirley Salisbury, Dot Curcio, Florence Jones and Ruth Spaid.

May they rest in peace

Jane Ellen Haller Wencel, longtime resident of Camp Springs, died June 25. She was the wife of the late Paul "Jake" Wencel, mother of John P. Wencel and the late Jeffrey D. Wencel. Survivors include many nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. Mass of Christian Burial was at St. Philip's with burial at the Maryland Veterans Cemetery in Cheltenham.

Richard J. Schumacher, 96, past president of the Clinton Lions Club, died May 2 in Leonardtown. He was an engineer for the Navy and enjoyed solving problems and designing solutions, including solar experiments that flew in NASA's Skylab program. He was an avid gardener. Survivors include his wife of 74 years, Evelyn, five children, two sisters, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Condolences to my son-in-law John Mudd on the death of his uncle, William Paul Mudd, 82, of Waldorf, on May 29. He was a propellant maker with the Naval Ordnance Station in Indian Head for 43 years, and a lifetime member of St. Peter's Church in Waldorf. His wife Diane and sister Amelia preceded him in death. Survivors include son Michael, daughter Edyie McGann, grandson Justin Norvell, and his brother Gwynn Mudd. Paul, as most knew him, was my 2nd cousin, once removed.

Milestones

Happy birthday to former Morningside Councilman Kevin Kline, Nicole Wade, Dee (Curcio) Brown and Dave Williams Jr., July 11; Kenard Simms, July 13; Laverne Peggy Simms, Krista Lanehart and Laura Thompson Hoffmann, July 14; Dessirae Johnson and Helen Jurney, July 15; Norma Wright and Gary Lewis, Jr., July 16.

Happy anniversary to Dave and Carolyn Williams on their 40th, July 11; and to former Morningside Vice Mayor James Ealey and his lovely wife Selaine who'll celebrate their 56th anniversary on July 15.

Neighborhood Events

Edwards Joins National Capitol Congressional Delegation on Proposal to Reduce Federal Funding for Metro



Congresswoman
Donna F. Edwards

Washington, D.C. — Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards (MD-4) joined Reps. Gerald E. Connolly (VA-11th), Donald S. Beyer Jr. (VA-8th), Barbara Comstock (VA-10th), Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5th), Chris Van Hollen (MD-8th), John P. Sarbanes (MD-3rd), John K. DeLaney (MD-6th), and Eleanor Holmes Norton, (DC-At-large) on a bipartisan amendment that would have fully restored the federal commitment to the local-state-federal partnership for Metro funding.

"We are deeply disappointed that the House of Representatives has chosen to cut \$50 million from Metro and not fulfill the long-standing federal commitment critical to rider safety improvements.

"Reducing this funding breaks the 10-year federal commitment and jeopardizes the successful local, state and federal partnership. Millions of Americans — not just from the DC region, but from across the nation — depend on Metro, which is why Congress and the federal government have a responsibility to the operation, oversight, and safety of the system.

"We will work with our House and Senate colleagues to restore this vital funding for Metro safety upgrades as the appropriations process moves forward."

Background:

For the past six years, Congress in a bipartisan fashion has provided \$150 million for Metro safety upgrades, as authorized under the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008. It is not like traditional transportation funding as the law requires the federal funding to be matched dollar-for-dollar with \$50 million each from Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia.

H.R. 2577, the funding bill for the Department of Transportation under consideration in the House, cuts that amount by \$50 million. The regional delegation jointly offered an amendment to restore that funding, but it was ruled out of order during debate on the House floor Wednesday night.

This partnership is funding critical safety improvements throughout the system identified by Metro itself, the National Transportation Safety Board, and the Federal Transit Administration following the tragic 2009 Red Line accident and the recent tragedy on the Yellow Line this past January. The most visible improvement is the purchase of new 7000 series railcars with advanced crash-resistant technology to replace the oldest cars in its fleet.

New Report Finds that Participation in Summer Meals in Maryland Increased in 2014

Baltimore, MD — Maryland made significant strides in its efforts to reach more low-income children with summer meals in 2014, according to Hunger Doesn't Take A Vacation (pdf), a report released annually by the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC). 59,705 low-income children were served summer meals on an average day in July 2013, an increase of 17.3 percent from last year. Summer meals reached 21.6 students for every 100 low-income children who

About the report:

Data for Maryland comes from the 2014 version of the annual report released by the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), the lead advocacy organization working to end hunger in America through stronger public policies. The FRAC report, Hunger Doesn't Take A Vacation, gives data for all states and looks at national and state trends. FRAC measures national summer participation during the month of July, when typically all children are out of school throughout the month and lose access to regular school year meals. The report is available online at www.frac.org.

Edwards Joins Dingell, McCollum by Proposing an Amendment to the TPP

Washington, D.C. — Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards, along with Reps. Debbie Dingell (MI-12), and Betty McCollum (MN-04), proposed an amendment today to require congressional approval for China or any other country to join future trade agreements. This comes as the full U.S. House of Representatives prepares to consider legislation to grant President Obama Fast Track authority for trade agreements and just days after the President indicated that China is "putting out feelers" about joining the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP).

"Congresswomen Dingell, McCollum and I have serious concerns about an agreement that would welcome countries with a history of currency manipulation, intellectual property theft, and failure to abide by existing global trade norms without prior congressional approval and oversight," Edwards said.

"Without clear-cut language, prohibiting the entry of nations that do not abide by norms respecting human rights and worker rights this Administration or the next could expand TPP to include China and other countries — all without Congressional input. Maryland working families deserve Congressional oversight when our nation is debating an agreement as expansive as the proposed TPP — where the countries account for 40 percent of the world's GDP."

"It is important that Congress look at the details of any agreement that would allow China, the world's second largest economy and a known currency manipulator, to enter a trade agreement," Dingell said.

"China has a long history of issues of concern to the U.S. — from currency cheating to human rights abuses, environmental offenses and intellectual property theft. Their actions are already hurting America's economy and, more importantly, the working men and women we represent. Congress has a responsibility to ensure trade agreements protect our economy and our workers."

U.S. negotiators have indicated that the final TPP agreement could include a docking provision that could allow countries to enter the agreement in future years. The amendment proposed by Dingell and Edwards would require a vote in Congress if any other nation decides to join the TPP.

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

SUMMER NIGHT GOSPEL FEST

Brother's Forever brings their Summer Night Gospel Fest to Show Place Arena located at 14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro, Maryland Saturday, July 11 at 7:00 PM. This concert will feature Deitrick Haddon, John P. Kee & the New Life Choir, Le'Andria Johnson and Kierra Sheard. You can purchase your tickets at the Show Place Arena box office, Ticketmaster or any Ticketmaster outlet.

JUMPING THE BROOM

There is a call for participation. Banneker-Douglass Museum presents jumping the Broom: Celebrating African American Weddings in Maryland May 2016-November 2016. You must be Maryland State Resident. Both spouses must identify as African American, married for 50 years or more, both husband and wife must still be living. You must have photographs that document the wedding and 50th anniversary.

If you would like the chance to participate in this inspira-

tional exhibition, please submit a brief narrative explaining when/where the couple met and the dates of their marriage. If you are interested in showcasing your love story in Jumping the Broom, please contact BDM Curator of Exhibitions Shakia Gullett@maryland.gov by July 20, 2015.

SCHOOL FAIR

PGCPS 2015 Back to School Fair will be Saturday, August 8, 2015 from 10:00 AM-1:00 PM at Show Place Arena. The address is 14000 Pennsylvania Avenue Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Come learn about all the programs and services available in PGCPS. You will be able to visit vendors and sign up for free and reduced-price school meals. Children who attend the fair will receive a free backpack stuffed with school supplies. Health professional will be on hand to provide immunization free of charge to children who need immunizations. To get information please call 301-952-6001 or e-mail clandis@pgcps.org.

THE SENSATIABLES

The Sensatiables is a professional Recording Group that you can schedule for special & Gospel events. Call (301) 437-5919 or visit: TheSensatiables@verizon.net.

SKC EARLY EDUCATION CENTERS

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

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

COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Jason Alderman

Ways to Save Money on a Last-Minute Summer Trip

If you, your partner or your family want — or need — to get out of town right now, how do you improvise a great last-minute trip without breaking the bank?

Planning is essential. Embrace travel as a hobby — look for tricks, techniques and current online resources to keep abreast of the best last-minute deals.

Compromises will be necessary. You'll likely need to travel at off-peak hours (either the first flight out in the morning or the last one at night, usually on weekdays) and stay at hotels or venues off the beaten path.

Here are some quick tips to save money on last-minute travel:

Travel light, move fast. Traveling last-minute isn't for the indecisive. Dedicated travelers are minimalists — they know what to pack, organize their paperwork and payment options and have the mental preparation to deal with problems and challenges along the way. Also realize that last-minute travel can increase risk and other costs. If you're planning a trip that requires travel insurance, (<https://www.insuremytrip.com/learn/travel-insurance-basics/when-to-buy.html>) you may not get coverage approval in time.

Build the right online resources. The Internet has revolutionized most forms of purchasing goods and services, but for travel, it has offered unprecedented speed and customization. Use top travel sites that have a tested track record and broad listings of various travel products, but be on the lookout for new travel websites and apps launch every day. Some airlines now offer their own last-minute fare sites, but try to sign up for email alerts and social media feeds from a variety of travel resources so you won't miss a deal on air, hotel or ground transportation. Also, layovers are good to build into your itinerary as long as you don't have to pay for a hotel and take a moment to compare the price of two one-way tickets — possibly from competing carriers — against round-trip tickets at single carriers. You might save.

Test new lodging options. The new generation of apartment and spare-bedroom sharing sites and longtime online vacation home rental services offer last-minute and in some cases "day-of" lodging possibilities, but keep in mind that online scammers (<http://www.practical-moneyskills.com/rentalscams>) have entered this territory and all transactions should be verified independently. Staying in hostels is not just for students and backpackers anymore; there are hostels that aim for older travelers as well. Getting on the phone also works in the hotel industry — check online prices against what you can find by calling up the hotel's booking number and ask if there is a lower corporate rate or special for the period of your stay.

Compare ride-share with car rental. If you think you're going to need to drive at your destination, check car-rental rates against leading ride-share companies available at the touch of a smartphone screen. Many ride-share companies allow you to get advance pricing estimates in advance. Also keep in mind what it might cost to park the rental car in your destination city — ride-share will help you avoid that expense.

Finally, evaluate every membership connection you have. Start by looking at all the plastic you have in your wallet. From your credit cards to the membership card for your main professional networking group and even to the auto club that tows your car, can you take advantage of any travel benefits you can leverage on a last-minute trip? Take some time to review those benefits — or look at them for the first time.

Bottom line: Last-minute travel is almost always possible as long as you're willing to do a little homework and improvise.

PGFD from A1

set last year, Station 844 is splitting the prize with Station 834.

Chillum Fire/EMS Station 844 was selected as a winner after being nominated by a Chillum resident. In her nomination the citizen stated;

"I have a neighbor who has been ailing with cancer for the past six years. These fire fighters in this firehouse have been to my neighbor's house all the time to assist him no matter what time or under which kind of weather they always here in time. I also live in a flood zone area and whenever there is danger or flood warning or any kind threat they would arrive to assist with a smile on their



PHOTO COURTESY MDHCD

DHCD's Small Business Lending Team Reaches Out to Hispanic and Korean Business Owners

By PRESS OFFICER
MDHCD

Columbia, MD - Members of DHCD's small business lending team met with Korean and Hispanic business and community leaders Tuesday to acquaint them with the Maryland Business Recovery Loan program, Governor Hogan's initiative to help Baltimore businesses hurt by the recent civil unrest cut through the red tape and obtain rapid access to the financing they need to rebuild. The effort is part of the governor's comprehensive response to the destruction that rocked the city. More than 200 businesses, many minority owned, were destroyed and many others sustained significant losses.

Through the Maryland Business Recovery Loan program, businesses can receive zero-interest microenterprise loans of up to \$35,000 for a

term of between one to five years. Businesses with greater losses might qualify for flexible gap financing through DHCD's Neighborhood BusinessWorks program. Learn more about DHCD's resources for small businesses.

In addition, DHCD is providing Korean and Spanish translation services to ensure that language will not be a barrier. The Hispanic and Korean business communities were severely hit and DHCD is on the forefront with helping those businesses as they try to rebuild.

Governor Hogan has activated the resources of state government to ensure that Baltimore comes back better and stronger than ever from the disturbing events of the past week.

"I have been heartened by the tremendous outpouring of support for the rebuild efforts, not only from city residents but from caring people all across the country," Governor Hogan said.



PHOTO COURTESY MDHCD
First Lady Yumi Hogan joins Korean business owners in Columbia during a presentation on resources available through DHCD's small business lending programs.

"And I have asked my Cabinet Secretaries to work together with Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake to provide whatever the City of Baltimore needs to respond to this emergency."

DHCD staff met with Hispanic business owners at the Latin Palace in Baltimore and Korean business owners at the Gyung Hyang Garden Korean Church in Columbia to answer questions and begin taking loan applications.

In Columbia, Assistant Secretary Carol Gilbert joined First Lady Yumi Hogan, Special Secretary Jimmy Rhee of the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs, and others at the Gyung Hyang Garden Korean Church.

Speaking before an intensely interested, standing-room-only audience, Gilbert said the loans can be used for items such as renovations, repairs to security systems, inventory replacement and other costs associated with recovery and reopening.

Addressing the audience in Korean, Mrs. Hogan assured the audience of the Hogan adminis-

tration's commitment to restoring their businesses.

"DHCD is committed to putting the resources that are available through our small business lending programs to ensure that the hardworking business owners in the affected communities have access to the capital they need to recover, rebuild and grow," said Secretary Holt.

Secretary Holt has made small business lending a DHCD priority, with a goal of growing the agency's efforts from \$5 million to \$50 million.

"DHCD will play a unique role in meeting the mandates of the Hogan administration to change Maryland for the better because of the vast portfolio of the department," Holt said. "DHCD has the broadest reach of any state agency and the ability to positively impact our economic growth by focusing on our customers and how we can best serve them," the secretary continued. "DHCD can improve lives and families while strengthening our communities and building a stronger economy."



PHOTO COURTESY MDHCD
A business owner examines a Korean translation of the small business loan application.

Children Should Never, Without Exception Be Left Alone in Vehicles

Risks Include Heatstroke, Increased Risk Of Injury, Abduction

By PRESS OFFICER
AAA Mid-Atlantic

WASHINGTON, D. C. — It is summer way too soon. On Monday, Washington, D.C. was the hottest spot in the USA with temperatures climbing to 89 Fahrenheit and the heat index hitting 94 F. Such temperatures will also increase the risks for deaths of children left unattended in vehicles, which claimed the lives of 30 children in 2014, including three children in Maryland and one in Virginia, according to research by San Jose State University's Department of Meteorology & Climate Science. Two children, one in Arizona and one in Florida, have died in 2015 as a result of vehicular heatstroke. While the majority of the children are confirmed heatstroke deaths, contrary to prevalent view, it doesn't have to be extremely hot outside for heatstroke to set in, warns AAA Mid-Atlantic.

For example, even on a day in May with 72 degrees Fahrenheit, the temperature inside a car can increase by 30 to 40 degrees in an hour, and 70 percent of that increase occurs in the first 30 minutes, medical experts warn. A 2014 survey showing that parents are willing to leave children unattended in vehicles is concerning, says AAA Mid-Atlantic. Fourteen percent of parents surveyed have intentionally left their children under kindergarten age alone in a vehicle while 23 percent of parents of children age three and under have done so. The survey was conducted by Public Opinion Strategies of Washington, D.C.

"Young children who cannot escape the vehicle on their own are at higher risk for injury when left alone," said John B. Townsend II, AAA Mid-Atlantic's Manager of Public and Government Affairs. "Aside from heatstroke,

there are the risks of accidental injury and the risk of child abduction. The internal temperature of a vehicle can rise by 19 degrees in only 10 minutes and can easily reach 200 degrees."

Heatstroke is the leading cause of non-crash vehicle deaths for children under the age of 14, representing 61 percent of non-crash related fatalities in this age group, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Since 1998, there have been at least 638 heatstroke deaths of children left in cars, according to San Francisco State University's Department of Meteorology & Climate Science. The same research states that on average, 37 children die each year, or one approximately every 10 days. The University's department review of media reports shows that 95 percent of the children who died of heatstroke from 1998-

2013 were age five and under. Prevention is the best way to keep heatstroke at bay. Just remember to ACT.

- Avoid heat stroke-related injury and death by never leaving your child, even for a minute.
- Create reminders and habits that give you and any caregivers a safety net. Leave an item needed at your next stop in the back seat so you don't forget about your loved one.
- Take action if you see an unattended child or pet in a vehicle. Dial 911 and follow the instructions of emergency personnel.

NHTSA offers additional tips on keeping children safe at [safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov). Spanish language materials regarding hyperthermia are available at <http://www.safercar.gov/parents/hipertermia.htm>.

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COMMENTARY

Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator for Maryland



Cardin Statement on Administration Announcement of Plans to Open a U.S. Embassy in Havana

WASHINGTON — U.S. Senator Ben Cardin, Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, issued the following statement regarding the Administration's announcement to continue normalizing relations with Cuba and open embassies in Washington, DC, and Havana.

"This announcement is another step forward in a common sense approach to Cuba. A U.S. Embassy in Havana will strengthen our ability to engage the Cuban people, advance our national interests, and advocate for fundamental freedoms.

"Though today's announcement is significant as we work toward establishing a more hopeful

chapter in U.S. — Cuban relations, for a full normalization of relations to occur, the Cuban government must recognize that it is out of step today with the international community on human rights issues. Arrests and detentions of dissidents must cease and genuine political pluralism is long overdue.

"As the United States government is changing with the times, so to must the Cuban government to address the needs of the Cuban people. Reform will not come to Cuba overnight, but we are moving in a more hopeful direction."

Senator Cardin traveled to Cuba this past weekend with Senators Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and Dean Heller (R-NV).



Fort Frederick State Park

Open to the Public

PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

FORT FREDERICK STATE PARK
 Located in the Cumberland Valley, the 585 acre park features a unique stone fort that served as Maryland's frontier defense during the French and Indian War. The Fort's stone wall and two barracks have been restored to their 1758 appearance. Historic exhibits are in the Fort, barracks, CCC Museum and Visitor Center. The park annually holds programs such as artillery firings, junior ranger, colonial children's day and the 18th Century Market Fair. The park borders the Potomac River, and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal passes through the park. The park also features a boat launch, campsites, camp store, fishing, flat water canoeing, a hiking trail, interpretive and educational programs, picnicking, a playground, and a shelter. Hours of operation are: April — October, 8 a.m. to sunset and November — March, 10 a.m. to sunset. For more information call 301-842-2155.

Marc Morial, President and CEO
National Urban League



One Nation, One Flag

"A house divided against itself cannot stand... I do not expect the Union to be dissolved—I do not expect the house to fall—but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become all one thing or all the other."

— President Abraham Lincoln, *House Divided Speech, June 1858*

During a South Carolina gubernatorial debate last year, when the topic of the Confederate battle flag on the State Capitol grounds came up, Governor Nikki Haley insisted there was no need to remove the flag. Eight months later, in the aftermath of last week's racism-fueled, shooting massacre of nine innocent people at the Emanuel A.M.E. Church in Charleston by a white supremacist seen in pictures posing with the same flag that flies at full-staff on statehouse grounds, Governor Haley finally called for the flag's removal:

"We know that bringing down the confederate flag will not bring back the nine kind souls that were taken from us, nor rid us of the hate and bigotry that drove a monster through the doors of Mother Emanuel that night. Some divisions are bigger than a flag ... But we are not going to allow this symbol to divide us any longer. The fact that people are choosing to use it as a sign of hate is something that we cannot stand. The fact that it causes pain to so many is enough to move it from the Capitol grounds. It is, after all, a Capitol that belongs to all of us."

I applaud Governor Haley's swiftness and resoluteness in calling to remove the flag—a powerful symbol and reminder of a dark time in our shared American history—from Capitol grounds. Already, South Carolina lawmakers have agreed in large numbers, and across the aisle, to debate the removal of the flag this summer. This is an important step, but it is only a first step.

We know that our work on this pressing issue will not be done until the flag comes down. That is why the National Urban League and its South Carolina affiliates have launched the "One Nation, One Flag" campaign. The campaign will support the efforts of South Carolina's legislators to end public displays of the Confederate flag in its state; it will advocate for the removal of the Confederate flag from all public spaces around our nation; and it will promote the United States flag as a symbol of unity, tolerance and justice. Our campaign has adopted the social media hashtag #OneNationOneFlag as a companion to #TakeItDown, and we are

also urging like-minded people to sign the petition for the flag's removal at IAmEmpowered.com.

National debate and division over this flag is nothing new and it has been re-ignited in the wake of this shocking and tragic hate-crime. The flag—born from the violence of division as southern states fought to secede from the United States—was first raised atop South Carolina's Capitol dome in 1962, ostensibly as commemoration of the centennial anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War. But many historians agree that the flag was raised in to demonstrate South Carolina's defiance of desegregation and the Civil Rights movement.

Still, there are those who revere the flag as a symbol of the unique heritage of the southern states and a symbol of the battle for states' rights, but for many others—the flag flown as a preeminent symbol for slave-holding states—it is a vestige of human bondage, brutal oppression, racial hostility and the ideology and violence of white supremacy. The public sanction of any symbol of hatred and torture will serve only one purpose: to keep our nation—our house—divided. Now is the time for reconciliation. Now is the time for the flag, and all flags that do not promote unity, to come down.

Public officials and lawmakers across the South are adding their voices to the growing chorus of those calling for the removal of these Civil War vestiges from their capitals and public spaces. In Alabama, its governor has ordered Confederate flags to be taken down from the State Capitol grounds. In Mississippi, a Republican legislator has publicly called for the removal of the Confederate emblem from the state flag. Major retailers across the country (Walmart, Amazon, eBay and Sears) have announced bans of the sale of any merchandise displaying the confederate flag. An eBay spokesperson explained it was banning the sale of the Confederate flag and items with its image because the flag has "become a contemporary symbol of divisiveness and racism."

If you believe symbols of hate and division have no place in our public spaces: take action. If you believe that right now—through horrible circumstances—we have a meaningful opportunity to make those nine lost lives matter and to unite our divided house and form that elusive "more perfect union:" take action, join our campaign. The National Urban League will not rest until the final vote is taken in South Carolina's statehouse. We will not rest until these vestiges of slavery become our nation's past and stop dividing us in the future.

Child Watch
 by Marion Wright Edelman



For Our Rainbow Children

"Though I do not believe that a plant will spring up where no seed has been, I have great faith in a seed. Convince me that you have a seed there, and I am prepared to expect wonders."

— Henry David Thoreau

"A little boy planted a carrot seed. His mother said, 'I am afraid it won't come up.' His father said 'I'm afraid it won't come up.' And his big brother said, 'It won't come up.' Every day the little boy pulled up the weeds around the seed and sprinkled the ground with water. But nothing came up. And nothing came up. Everyone kept saying it wouldn't come up. But he still pulled up the weeds around it every day and sprinkled the ground with water. And then, one day, a carrot came up just as the little boy had known it would."

— The Carrot Seed, by Ruth Krauss

This is the Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools® program's twentieth anniversary. Since the program began more than 135,000 children across the country have had an enriching CDF Freedom Schools summer or after-school experience and more than 15,000 college students and recent graduates have been trained to teach the integrated reading curriculum whose books reflect the lives of the K-12 children and youths, and give them hope. The program is a servant leadership incubator sowing seeds for two generations—the children served and the "servant leaders" who teach and serve them.

The college students most often come from the communities they serve and are role models for the children. It is hard to be or dream of what you can be if you don't see it. Recently five of the program's veteran Ella Baker Trainers, some of the best and most experienced servant leaders selected to teach younger servant leaders in our "train the trainer" model how to effectively deliver the Freedom Schools curriculum, spoke about the transformative impact CDF Freedom Schools has had on their own lives.

La'Mont Geddis was a member of the very first class of servant leaders in 1995. Dr. Maya Angelou spoke to that small but eager group as they finished their

training and participated in the first Freedom Schools graduation. She engulfed them with her passion and confidence in them: "Let me tell you who you are. You are the rainbow in the clouds for people whose faces you have not seen yet, whose names you don't know yet, whose histories you haven't been told yet. And you are, each one of you, individually, privately, each one of you is a rainbow chosen to be in the clouds for somebody."

La'Mont was already studying education at Howard University when he got involved with Freedom Schools, but says much of what he knows about how to care for and reach children and be a rainbow in their clouds comes from the Freedom Schools: "My long list of what I learned through Freedom Schools began with understanding poverty. I thought, initially, that poverty only had something to do with money or the lack of. I found out there is an emotional poverty, a love poverty, mental poverty, social poverty, and that's what is comprised in our inner-city schools, impoverished children. These children are victims of poverty, and sometimes hurt people hurt people. So how do you help them and not exclude them? You know how? I learned it in Freedom

School. You give them a voice. That's what Freedom Schools help us to understand." Today La'Mont is the principal of Malcolm X Elementary School located in one of the poorest neighborhoods in Washington, D.C. and is one of the founders of the Omega Freedom School.

Barbara Cornejo, an immigrant from Chile, left college the semester before she became a Freedom Schools servant leader because of financial problems, but the experience of teaching so many children about the importance of education helped inspire her to find a way to finish her own and become a public school teacher serving at-risk children. Barbara eventually enrolled in a master's program in Education, Administration, and Policy and is now about to pursue a doctorate in curriculum and instruction. She says, "Freedom Schools taught me to believe that there was something inside of me so strong. I knew I could make a difference in myself, in my familia, in my community, my countries, my world, with hope, education, and action."

Brandi Brown, the executive director of the longest standing

See WATCH, Page A12

The Prince George's Post

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BUSINESS

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Is Online Counseling An Effective Means Of Help?

Today, just about any product, service or information is available on the Internet. Yet many people aren't aware that professional counseling is also a well-established and respected online service.

Various forms of therapeutic communication and help go back to the 1980s, but it really was the mid-1990s when online counseling became more established. By the 2000, a clearinghouse for mental health websites listed some 250 websites of private practices, and more than 700 online clinics through which a therapist could be contacted. Today those numbers are much, much larger.

In response to the many qualified professional counselors now offering online services, professional organizations, such as the American Counseling Association, have developed strong ethical standards to provide online counselors with clear guidelines that protect the consumers they serve.

Online counseling, or "cybercounseling" as it's commonly known today, offers special benefits to people for whom a traditional visit to a professional counselor's office would be difficult or impossible. For someone suffering from a fear of crowds or of being outdoors, or for a person who is ill or homebound for other reasons, these online counseling services provide a very clear benefit.

But cybercounseling today can offer benefits to almost everyone, in part due to the many advancements in technology. The majority of homes now have high speed Internet connections which make possible video chat sessions between a professional counselor and a client. These face to face sessions are especially helpful for someone in need of counseling in a rural area where it may some distance to the nearest mental health professionals.

But is online counseling effective? It's a question that many people ask, but studies have found that online therapy almost always produces treatment outcomes that are at least equal to traditional in-office settings. Some studies have suggested that online sessions can sometimes be more effective, since the client is usually at greater ease in his or her home setting, and less intimidated than they might feel in the counselor's office.

Cybercounseling may not be the right approach for every person or problem, but it can be a valuable resource for many. If you think it might have potential for you, a simple online search will bring up a long list of possibilities. Then check carefully. Professional counselors websites should list their degrees, licenses and certifications, as well as the fields they specialize in and their experience and expertise.

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

Award from A1

Capital One Academic All-District II (2013 and 2015) recipient and was selected to the 2015 member of the CIAA All-Tournament Team. The Lady Bulldogs Most Valuable Player [2015] was the 2012 CIAA Rookie of the Year. She finished the 2015 season with a team-high .368 batting average, .566 slugging percentage and .969 fielding percentage. The outfielder scored a team-best 34 runs, had 39 hits which included five doubles, two triples and a

team-high four homeruns. She was also responsible for 17 RBI.

Now in its 25th year, the Woman of the Year award honors graduating female college athletes who have exhausted their eligibility and distinguished themselves throughout their collegiate careers in academics, athletics, service and leadership.

The 2015 NCAA Woman of the Year winner will be announced, and the Top 30 honorees celebrated, at the annual award ceremony Oct. 18 in Indianapolis.

USDA Announces Funding to Assist with Organic Certification Costs

By PRESS OFFICER
USDA

WASHINGTON, — The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) announced today that approximately \$11.9 million in organic certification assistance is available through state departments of agriculture to make organic certification more affordable for organic producers and handlers across the country.

"The organic industry saw record growth in 2014, accounting for over \$39 billion in retail sales in the United States," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "The organic certification cost share programs help more organic businesses succeed and take advantage of economic opportunities in this growing market."

The funding is provided on a cost share basis and certification assistance is distributed by two programs. Through the National Organic Certification Cost Share Program, \$11 million is available to organic farms and businesses nation-

wide. Through the Agricultural Management Assistance Organic Certification Cost Share Program (AMA), an additional \$900,000 is available to organic producers (crop and livestock operators only) in Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

Funded by the 2014 Farm Bill, these programs provide cost share assistance to USDA certified organic producers and handlers, covering as much as 75 percent of an individual applicant's certification costs, up to a maximum of \$750 annually per certification scope. In 2014, USDA issued nearly 10,000 reimbursements totaling over \$6 million, providing critical support to the organic community.

To receive cost share assistance, certified organic producers and handlers should contact their appropriate state agencies via the contact information on the National Organic Program's (NOP) cost share web-

site: www.ams.usda.gov/NOP-CostSharing. Each state has its own guidelines and requirements for reimbursement, and NOP assists states to successfully implement the programs. Applicants for cost share assistance through the AMA program are encouraged to apply early, as these funds are only available through Sept. 30, 2015.

USDA connects organic farmers and businesses with resources that will ensure the continued growth of the organic industry domestically and abroad. During this Administration, USDA has signed four major organic trade arrangements and has helped organic stakeholders access programs that support conservation, provide access to loans and grants, fund organic research and education, and mitigate pest emergencies. The NOP upholds the integrity of the organic label and has helped the sector grow to include over 27,000 businesses around the world.

Today's announcement was made possible by the 2014 Farm Bill, which builds on his-

toric economic gains in rural America over the past six years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for the taxpayer. Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit www.usda.gov/farmbill. Additional information is available on the NOP's website at www.ams.usda.gov/NOPCostSharing.

The NOP is responsible for ensuring the integrity of USDA organic agricultural products in the United States and throughout the world. Find out more about organic certification by visiting

Teacher from A1

tors will honor Webb during the annual Employee Recognition Dinner on May 28 at Martin's Crosswinds in Greenbelt. In addition, folks can view a plaque with her name displayed in the Board of Education Meeting Room at the Sasser Administration Building in Upper Marlboro.

Since 2004, Webb has spent her entire career teaching elementary school students at Deerfield Run. She served fifth-graders for four years, sixth-graders for two, and currently serves as fourth-grade level chair teacher. School staff nominated her for the award not only for her effectiveness in the classroom, but also for her dedication to the educational profession and her

ability to create exemplary STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) curriculum and programs.

"Ms. Webb is deserving of this award because of her superb dedication to the education profession," said principal Mary F. Wall. "Not only is she an excellent classroom teacher, she is also a great instructional leader to her colleagues."

A leader in the STEM field, Webb is her grade-level chair, member of the School Based Management Team (SBMT), and the school's Framework for Teaching Facilitator. She also serves as the STEM Fair Committee Chairperson, hosts STEM workshops four times a year for students and parents to encourage them to complete STEM projects, and coordinates a National Moon Obser-

vance Night for families and the community. She has also presented professional development workshops to staff on best practices in implementing technology in the classroom.

Webb is an avid learner who is committed to staying abreast of the latest educational advancements, diversifying her instructional skills, and improving her level of professionalism. She earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland. She went on to earn a master's degree in mathematics education from Ashford University in Clinton, Iowa. In 2009, she earned her Maryland Advanced Professional Certificate in Human Growth and Development.

The Christa McAuliffe Award honors an outstanding educator based on competitive standards of excellence established by other teachers. The award is a tribute to McAuliffe, America's Teacher-In-Space, who was lost in the January 1986 explosion of the Space Shuttle Challenger. McAuliffe taught in Prince George's County from 1971 to 1978.

The following teachers joined Webb as nominees for this year's award:

- Hanaphia Dimagiba, Cool Spring ES
- Nadine Gaujean, Ed.S., Walker Mill MS
- Jennifer Palo, Mt. Rainier ES
- Tanisha Wood, Magnolia ES

USDA Seeks Applications for Grants to Help Socially-Disadvantaged Producers

By PRESS OFFICER
USDA

WASHINGTON, - Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is now accepting applications to provide technical assistance to socially-disadvantaged groups in rural areas.

"These grants will help socially-disadvantaged business owners develop the tools and skills they need to grow their enterprises and succeed at creating jobs and expanding economic opportunities in rural areas," Vilsack said. "American agriculture is becoming increasingly diverse in many ways, with more minorities and women seeking to enter the field, as well as greater diversity in the age of farmers, the size of operations, in production methods, and in the types of crops being grown. All of these forms of diversity help strengthen U.S. agriculture for the future."

Funding will be made available through USDA's Socially-Disadvantaged Groups Grant

Program (formerly the Small, Socially-Disadvantaged Producer Grant Program), which assists organizations that provide technical assistance to socially-disadvantaged groups in rural areas. Examples of technical assistance are conducting feasibility studies, developing business and strategic plans, and providing leadership training.

USDA plans to make up to \$3 million in grants available. The maximum award under this notice is \$175,000. More information on how to apply can be found on page 28937 of the May 20 Federal Register. Applications submitted by mail must be postmarked by July 20, 2015. Electronic applications must be submitted at www.grants.gov no later than midnight Eastern Time July 14, 2015.

Eligible applicants include groups of cooperatives, cooperative development centers and individual cooperatives that serve socially-disadvantaged groups. The cooperatives or centers can be located in any area, but the groups assisted must be located in an

eligible rural area. Also, the majority of the governing body of the organization must be comprised of individuals who are members of socially-disadvantaged groups.

USDA Rural Development is encouraging applications for projects in census tracts with poverty rates of 20 percent or higher. All grants are awarded through a national competition.

The program is making a difference in many rural areas. For example, in 2013, the Southern California Focus on Cooperation (SCFC) received a \$200,000 Small, Socially-Disadvantaged Producer Grant to provide technical assistance to help 95 refugee immigrant and minority farmers improve their productive capacity, increase revenue, and strengthen their ability to govern and manage their cooperative businesses.

Many of the farmers benefiting from the project had little or no access to formal schooling and had been persecuted and oppressed for years in their native land. The

International Rescue Committee (IRC), in concert with SCFC, developed marketing channels including various farmers markets and restaurants where the refugee farmers could sell their produce. Farmers have learned how to manage these marketing channels themselves, without assistance from IRC, and have gained new clients. They have also increased the level of cooperation among Hispanic, Korean and African farmer groups. These groups are working toward merging their efforts to form a single cooperative. The technical assistance provided by SCFC has enabled these farmers to build skills that have truly been life changing.

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



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OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK

Movie Review

“Jurassic World”

Jurassic World
Grade: B-
Rated PG-13, a lot of moderately graphic dinosaur-related violence and scariness, a little profanity
2 hrs., 4 min

I have no problem believing that the theme park John Hammond envisioned in the original “Jurassic Park” would eventually open despite what happened in “Jurassic Park.” Sure, you’d think they’d have learned their lesson — but no, actually, you wouldn’t think that. As a society, we don’t learn lessons very quickly, especially not when there’s profit to be made from not learning.

So I buy the existence of Jurassic World in “Jurassic World,” set on the same island near Costa Rica 22 years after the original events. (The sequels aren’t referenced, but they aren’t contradicted, either, as far as I can tell.) The theme park has been open for some time when we join the action, long enough for patrons to have become blasé. “No one’s impressed by a dinosaur anymore,” says park executive Claire (Bryce Dallas Howard). People want “bigger, louder, more teeth.”

This, of course, is an unsubtle reference to us, the audience, and our unending thirst for diversion. Sure, we were dazzled by Steven Spielberg’s dinosaurs back in 1993. But we’ve seen so much since then, so many computer-generated lizards and monsters and superheroes. It takes a lot more than a realistic-looking Tyrannosaurus rex to impress us these days.

What “Jurassic World” the movie and Jurassic World the theme park have done to re-arouse our interest is to create a new dinosaur, the Indominus rex, made from T. rex DNA and a secret, proprietary blend of other dinos’ genetic herbs and



ROTTENTOMATOES

Steven Spielberg returns to executive produce the long-awaited next installment of his groundbreaking Jurassic Park series, *Jurassic World*. Colin Trevorrow directs the epic action-adventure based on characters created by Michael Crichton. The screenplay is by Rick Jaffa & Amanda Silver and Derek Connolly & Trevorrow, and the story is by Rick Jaffa & Amanda Silver. Frank Marshall and Patrick Crowley join the team as producers. © Universal

spices. It’s basically a T. rex with better arms, higher intelligence, and with other capabilities that emerge one by one. Every time it does something new, they go and tell the head scientist, Dr. Henry Wu (BD Wong), and he says, “Ah, that must be from the such-and-such DNA we used.” He’s always surprised and delighted to learn about the unforeseen results of his God-playing. Don’t worry about the Indominus rex, though. It may be bigger, meaner, and smarter than a T. rex, but it’s safely locked in a paddock from which there is no way it could possibly escape—AW, SON OF A BEE! NOT AGAIN!

Our principal humans are the aforementioned Claire; her visiting nephews, Zach (Nick Robinson) and Gray (Ty Simpkins), about 16 and 12; and

Owen (Chris Pratt), an ex-Navy man who now trains velociraptors, which it turns out is possible. These are the four people the movie is most concerned about, which means they are the four who are least likely to die. Everyone else is fair game. The body count is in the high teens, including one death that’s weirdly cruel and prolonged. Otherwise, though, it’s all fun and games.

Except that unlike the original film (and even its sequels), the characters here aren’t well developed or interesting. Chris Pratt is all action hero, very little personality: anyone could have given this performance. The screenplay (attributed to four people) defines Bryce Dallas Howard’s character too inconsistently. The boys are all right,

but the subplot about their parents’ impending divorce feels laughably tacked on and unnecessary, like it was thrown in as a Spielberg homage or something.

Directed by indie up-and-comer Colin Trevorrow (“Safety Not Guaranteed”) in his first shot at the big-time, “Jurassic World” offers modest adventure, mid-level thrills, and sensibly paced action. In many ways, it’s exactly the kind of awesome-but-we’ve-seen-this-already spectacle that audiences (and park-goers) have gotten used to. There’s little magic in seeing people pretend to interact with yet another menagerie of CGI lizards, even when it’s competently put together. But still, let’s not kid ourselves. Dinosaurs on the loose will always be cool.

Casino from A1

Maryland’s casino industry is expected to continue growing in 2015 and 2016, according to a October 2014 forecast by Moody’s Investors Service, a credit rating agency.

In a somewhat overcrowded battlefield, Maryland Live remains a stronger player compared with Horseshoe, bringing higher revenue than state officials initially estimated. In November 2013, Cummings Associates projected the opening of Horseshoe would cause Maryland Live’s revenue to decline 15 percent in 2015.

Maryland Live currently takes in an average of \$51.5 million per month, more than doubling the Horseshoe’s \$22.4 million per month, according to their monthly financial reports to the Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency. In April, Maryland Live reported revenue of \$51 million, a 10 percent decrease compared with the same month one year ago. It is on target to meet the state’s annual revenue forecast for fiscal year 2015, which ends June 30.

In June 2014, the Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency projected Horseshoe would generate \$354 million in

revenue for the full 2015 fiscal year. It’s now expected to generate much less, \$232 million, said Andrew Schaufele, the Maryland Bureau of Revenue Estimates director. The \$232 million forecast is based on a slightly shorter time period, since Horseshoe opened in August 2015, 1.5 months into the new fiscal year. Despite the 1.5-month difference, the new forecast is still a lot lower than original and shows that Horseshoe isn’t doing as well as expected.

The two casinos’ performance saw the biggest gap in table game revenue. With about the same number of gaming tables, an average Maryland Live table generates \$101,973 per month, almost 40 percent more than Horseshoe’s \$63,775 per table, according to the Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency.

Industry analysts said the two casinos’ success and failure boiled down to the old real estate agents’ mantra: location, location, location.

Maryland Live is in the Arundel Mills mall, the second-largest mall in the state, located halfway between Baltimore and Washington, and just south of BWI Airport. It is directly off the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, a major highway between the two cities. “They have a built-in

clientele in the mall. The casino itself is also huge,” Woinski said.

Part of Maryland Live’s success is it opened two years earlier than Horseshoe. Chris Jones, a senior gaming industry researcher at the Union Gaming Group, said casinos usually need one to three years to connect to local customers. Jones also noted the better casino customers are suburban residents who Maryland Live’s marketing resonated with. By contrast, Woinski said Horseshoe’s urban location puts the business at disadvantage. “I never believe in the idea of ‘city casinos,’” he said. Studies of other cities show urban residents have gambling alternatives nearby.

Horseshoe Baltimore is next to the M&T Bank Stadium, home of the Baltimore Ravens. State officials originally thought the 2014 football season would boost the casino’s business, but it proved otherwise.

“It can be the traffic in the area (I-95 and I-295) that drew more customers to Arundel Mills. Or it can be football itself,” said Schaufele. “Football is so popular in Baltimore. People stay at home watching Washington football games instead of going to casinos.”

Jones said the stadium business itself had a negative impact

on the casino business. “During weekends and peak hours, traffic and high event parking charges will drive customers away from the casino,” he said. Maryland Live and Horseshoe didn’t respond to email and telephone messages requesting comment.

Both Maryland Live and Horseshoe can expect competition from the \$1.25 billion MGM resort casino in National Harbor, about 10 miles south of downtown Washington, D.C., which is expected to open in mid-2016. The MGM casino will have 3,300 slot machines and 160 gaming tables, comparable to the casino scale at Maryland Live and Horseshoe. In 2019, MGM is expected to bring in an additional \$575 million in casino revenue to the state.

But unlike Maryland’s five existing casinos, MGM is positioning itself as a “destination” casino. Cummings Associates estimates MGM will attract 70 percent of its business from outside Maryland. “Our mix of resort and entertainment amenities will be unique to the market,” said Gordon Absher, a spokesperson for MGM Resorts International. “Our resort will offer customers a higher level experience than our competitors are able to deliver.”

The Edge of Sports

by DAVE ZIRIN

The People of Oakland Need to Occupy Their Sports Teams



I had the thrill to spend this past weekend in Oakland, and the sheer wide-eyed joy over the long-awaited arrival of the Golden State Warriors in the NBA Finals was everywhere. T-shirts, buttons, baseball caps, even flashing messages on the city buses: It was a “Dubs Nation” festival of awesomeness.

There was also a rumbling sense of unease beneath the joy. The Warriors have called Oakland home since 1971, yet the team will almost certainly move to San Francisco by 2018, for a new stadium and a massive parcel of land. Yes, San Francisco is just across a bridge, but if you know the history of the SF and Oakland divide—and how deeply that divide has been symbolized by the cities’ sports rivalry—then you know that bridge crosses a moat more than a bay. Joe Lacob, the venture capitalist who has owned the Dubs for less than five years, sees that sweet stadium land and any sense of history flies out the window. Real estate in San Francisco is the new gold rush. It’s 1849 on BALCO steroids, and Joe Lacob is a crusty old prospector in a nicer suit.

If only it were just the Dubs. This seminal sports town is having its franchises bled out by owners who seem to care little about the deep, near-religious connections between teams and city residents.

Few franchises are more iconic than the Oakland Raiders, the legendary silver and black. When late owner Al Davis absconded with the team to Los Angeles in 1981, no one foresaw that he would return the Raiders in 1995 with a vengeance. Davis and city leaders delivered a notoriously awful deal for the people, even by sports-standards. The Raiders have soaked \$400 million out of the city amidst deep cuts to social services and the treasury continues to pay \$12 million a year until 2026 for stadium upkeep according to USA Today. Now his son, Mark Davis, wants to relive this history. He is salivating over moving the team to a \$1.7 billion stadium in Carson, California outside of LA. The best hope for keeping the Raiders in Oakland rests not in a stadium deal but in that the greed of NFL owners collectively may overpower the rapaciousness of the Davis clan. NFL owners love a Los Angeles without pro football. The LA Market has boundless value for the league as a stalking horse, a living threat for other cities that if they don’t pony up, their team will go to La La Land. People in the Twin Cities can attest how that very threat was used by Vikings owner Zygi Wilf to secure his status as the Welfare King of Minnesota.

And then there are the A’s. The Oakland Athletics, the team of Moneyball, the Bash Brothers, and the greatest mustaches of the 1970s, has been attempting to escape Oakland for years. They are owned by 80-year-old real estate tycoon Lew Wolff, whose love for Oakland is so deep, he lives in Los Angeles. Wolff could not be more appropriately named. Six years ago, he attempted to take the team out of Oakland to Fremont. More recently, he tried to get them to San Jose, where Wolff effectively owns much of the city. Now the discussion is for, altogether now, public subsidies to refurbish the stadium they currently share with the Raiders.

What is so particularly noxious about all of this is that sports franchises don’t even pretend anymore to make the 1990s-era argument that public subsidies are necessary for their survival. We all see it in the skyrocketing salaries, the multibillion-dollar television deals, and the ballooning costs for franchises: The money is there. The NFL, Major League Baseball, and the NBA could build new stadiums for all of these Oakland institutions and not even blink at the costs. But it’s not about giving back for Lacob, Davis, Wolff or the leagues. The entire state of affairs direly reflects a country where the desires of the “haves” violently out-prioritize the needs of the “have-nots.”

The people of Oakland with whom I spoke are anxious but are also adamant about not being screwed over again. They love their teams, but won’t sacrifice their city for the privilege. It’s admirable, and in this climate it’s a recipe for merciless defeat. Lacob, Davis, and Wolf are simply absent of shame. The great people of Oakland deserve better. They also, not unlike their basketball team at the moment, need to get out of their defensive stance and start lighting it up on offense.

See OAKLAND Page A7

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Calendar of Events

July 9 — July 15, 2015

A Sailor's Life: The War of 1812

Date and Time: Thursday, July 9, 2015 1-2 pm
Description: Recounting of a sailor's life during the War of 1812.
Cost: Free
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Bladensburg Waterfront Park
4601 Annapolis Rd, Bladensburg, MD 20710
Contact: 301-779-0371; TTY 301-699-2544

Blast-in-the-Past: A Hands-On History Playground

Date and Time: Thursday-Saturday, July 9-August 8, 2015
11 am-4 pm
Description: The Montpelier grounds will be transformed into a kid-sized colonial village! Young visitors can "camp out" in the wilderness, design a hat at the milliners, get "water" from the well, and much, much more. A variety of activities will be available daily. Come for an hour or stay for the day. Drop-ins welcome, no reservations required. House will be open for self-guided tours for additional fee.
Cost: Resident: \$2; Non-Resident: \$3
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Montpelier Mansion/Historic Site
9650 Muirkirk Road, Laurel 20708
Contact: 301-377-7817; TTY 301-699-2544
montpeliermansion@pgparks.com

Safe Summer: Chase Your Dreams Basketball Clinic

Date and Time: Friday, July 10, 2015 10 pm-12 midnight
Description: This Friday, get ready for a night of basketball fun with this clinic run by Sonia Chase. Teens will learn the fundamentals of basketball from ball handling to shooting skills.
Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 12-17
Location: Good Luck Community Center
8601 Good Luck Road, Lanham 20706
Contact: 301-552-1093; TTY 301-445-4512

Safe Summer: Cafe' Blade

Date and Time: Friday, July 10, 2015 10 pm-12 am
Description: Tonight teens will enjoy a fun night at Cafe Blade with great food, games, company and music by DJ O.
Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 12-17
Location: Bladensburg Community Center
4500 57th Avenue, Bladensburg 20710
Contact: 301-277-2124; TTY 301-445-4512

Hey! Let's Go Fishing

Date and Time: Saturday, July 11, 2015 9-11 am
Description: This program, held at an eight-acre, catch and release bass pond, is for beginners. Equipment is provided; an adult must accompany children.
Cost: Resident: \$5; Non-Resident: \$6
Ages: 6-10
Location: School House Pond
14100 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro
Contact: 301-627-6074; TTY: 301-446-3402

Arts on the Waterfront: Nature Jams

Date and Time: Sunday, July 12, 2015 6-7:30 pm
Description: Nature Jams will get children of all ages singing, dancing, and playing musical instruments along with them, in an educational family-friendly concert!
Cost: Free
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Bladensburg Waterfront Park
4601 Annapolis Rd, Bladensburg, MD 20710
Contact: 301-779-0371; TTY 301-699-2544

Safe Summer: Game Night

Date and Time: Wednesday, July 15, 2015 10 pm-12 midnight
Description: Tonight teens will challenge their peers in multi-player games and compete for bragging rights with a variety of games from UNO, Hungry Hippo, volleyball, to name a few.
Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 12-17
Location: Bladensburg Community Center
4500 57th Avenue, Bladensburg 20710
Contact: 301-227-2124; TTY 301-445-4512

Seniors: Classic Car Show

Date and Time: Thursday, July 16, 2015 11 am-2 pm
Description: Take a "ride" down memory lane by viewing the beautiful classic cars of yesteryear in the back lot of our center. A '56 Chevy, '56 Chevy Hard Top and a '64 Thunderbird are scheduled to be a part of the show. Hotdog lunches will be available for purchase for \$2.
Cost: Free (please bring your M-NCPPC Senior ID card)
Ages: 60 and Better
Location: Camp Springs Senior Activity Center
6420 Allentown Rd, Temple Hills, MD 20748
Contact: 301-449-0490; TTY 301-446-3402

Xtreme Teens: Jewelry Making

Date and Time: Thursday, July 16, 2015 4-6 pm
Description: Tonight, teens will participate in a jewelry making workshop where they will use recycled materials to make earrings and bracelets.
Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 10-17
Location: Mt. Rainier Nature Center
4701 31st Place, Mt. Rainier 20712
Contact: 301-927-2163; TTY 301-445-4512

Safe Summer: Basketball & Pic Eating Contest

Date and Time: Thursday, July 16, 2015 10 pm-12 am
Description: Tonight, teens will compete in a 5-on-5 basketball game. After the game, they'll participate in a pic eating contest with fellow teens.
Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 12-17
Location: Bladensburg Community Center
4500 57th Avenue, Bladensburg 20710
Contact: 301-227-2124; TTY 301-445-4512

EARTH TALK ... What Can I Do to Boost My Fuel Efficiency and Help My Car Run Better on My Upcoming Summer Road Trip?

Dear EarthTalk:

Summer is near and I am planning a big road trip. Do you have any tips for boosting my car's fuel efficiency on long, hot drives?

— Esther McCoy,
Burlington, VT

Ah, the summer road trip, that classic American experience. But long drives through steamy weather can burn through a lot of gas and cause untold wear and tear on your car's engine and systems while putting you at risk for overheating. Doubling down on tactics to help your car run better will not only improve fuel efficiency, but could also help you avoid spending a large chunk of your vacation time in the breakdown lane waiting for a tow.

According to the American Automobile Association (AAA), there are lots of ways to conserve fuel on hot weather road trips that also will help prolong the life of your car. "In summer, drive during cooler parts of the day," reports the group. "Cooler, denser air can boost power and mileage."

While it may seem counterintuitive, using your car's air conditioning is actually a smart idea in hot weather. "Today's air con-

ditioners create less drag on the engine than driving with the windows open," says AAA. Meanwhile, if you have a hybrid, pre-cool it before you get in so it can devote more electricity to driving when you are out on the road. But don't warm-up (or pre-cool) a conventional car, as the extra idling doesn't do the car any good and just wastes fuel and creates extra heat. Another key tip for hot weather driving is to park in the shade when you can.

The Green Car Reports website suggests utilizing cruise control and overdrive features on cars that offer them on long summer roads trips; these features help normalize the energy demands of the engine which in turn helps conserve fuel.

According to AA1car.com, a leading online information resource on auto repair and maintenance, placing a sunshade under the windshield and cracking the windows when parked can help keep the interior cool between drives. This can also "lighten the cooling load on the air conditioner when the vehicle is first started." The website also reports that changing old dirty motor oil with a fresh higher viscosity one will help keep your car's engine lubricated and running smoothly on those summer road trips. "For example, you might want to change from 5W-



CREDIT: KAI BRINKER, FLICKRCC

If you take good care of your car this summer, it will take better care of you on your big summer road trip.

30 to 10W-30, 10W-40 or 20W-30 for hot weather driving," reports AA1car.com. "Synthetic motor oils are even better for high temperature protection."

Of course, some fuel saving tips apply any time of year. For instance, jackrabbit starts are a big no-no; drivers should always try to accelerate gradually. Taking your foot off the gas as early as possible when approaching a red light is another way to save gas. Keeping filters clean, maintaining recommended tire pressure and driving at the speed limit are additional ways to conserve fuel, reduce emissions and treat your ride nicely.

Of course, summertime road trips can also be hard on drivers

and passengers, so pack plenty of sunscreen—especially if you plan to have the windows open (or top down)—and bring along a cooler with healthy drinks so everyone can stay hydrated.

CONTACTS: For more information on AAA, www.aaa.com; Green Car Reports, www.greencarreports.com; AA1car.com, www.aa1car.com.

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Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

Conserve Time and Water While Growing Beautiful and Productive Gardens

By Melinda Myers

Reduce your workload, increase productivity and be water wise, whether you are planning, planting or already harvesting produce or enjoying beautiful floral displays from your garden.

Container gardeners may want to invest in self-watering pots. These containers have built-in reservoirs to reduce watering frequency. Commercial and homemade self-watering devices can also reduce watering frequency. Just make sure to test their effectiveness before leaving town. Or consider a one-time investment in a drip irrigation system designed for container gardens.

Drip irrigation and soaker hoses are also a great way to water in-ground plantings. These irrigation systems apply the water directly to the soil which re-

duces water lost to overspray, evaporation and runoff. They also reduce the risk and spread of disease by preventing water from settling on the leaves of the plants.

Opt for a micro irrigation system if your water has a high mineral content. These minerals can build up and clog soaker hoses. Micro irrigation systems experience fewer problems and the nozzles can be cleaned to prevent clogs. Because the nozzles can be clipped onto stakes, tomato towers or other supports, this system makes it easy to deliver water right to the plants.

Raised bed gardens will also benefit from irrigation systems. Elevated gardens often dry out more quickly than their in-ground counterparts and need more frequent watering. Some, like the Raised Bed Snip-n-Drip soaker system (gardeners.com),

are easy to assemble and allow you to water when needed. Further save time by using pre-formed corners with built-in spigots when constructing raised beds. Simply slide the boards into the metal corner pieces to create the raised bed. Some corner systems, like Aquacorn, have built-in spigots to make irrigation even simpler.

Correctly installed irrigation systems can help conserve water by ensuring you water properly and only when needed. Plus, using a timer and an irrigation system allows you to apply water at the best time for the plants. Just set the timer for early in the morning — when less water is lost to evaporation — and the plants will be watered even if you are not home.

Always water thoroughly and only as needed to encourage plants to develop deep root sys-

tems that are more drought-tolerant. Be sure to avoid high nitrogen, fast release fertilizers that promote lush succulent growth which needs more frequent watering.

Further conserve water and time spent watering by grouping moisture-loving plants together. You can provide needed water more efficiently and avoid overwatering nearby drought-tolerant plants.

And remember to mulch your garden. A thin layer of shredded leaves, evergreen needles or other organic matter helps conserve moisture and reduces erosion. As the mulch breaks down, it helps improve the soil, while decreasing its' water needs.

So make this the year you take a break from watering, while continuing to enjoy beautiful and productive gardens.

Oakland from A6

This is Oakland: the city of the Black Panthers, Berkeley, the Brown Berets, and Boots Riley. It is almost shocking that there is not a public campaign to demand at least a partial public seizure of these teams, given the public expenditure already invested. I asked a slew of

people this past weekend why this campaign has yet to cohere, and the answers ranged from it's being unrealistic to there being "more pressing campaigns" than trying to untangle sports-league bylaws. But the mega-profits being produced by today's leagues could actually aid those campaigns, providing new revenue

streams for cash-strapped schools and hospitals. Here is where the city could take something from the history of the once-fearsome Raiders: Sometimes scaring the piss out of an opponent can be a very effective tactic. Occupy these Oakland franchises and demand that these owners acknowledge that the teams of the East Bay were

yours long before these owners arrived for the great plunder. They can share the wealth or they can spend their own money or they can sell out. But the teams remain. As a T-shirt I saw this weekend said, "Oakland: the people that lead the world." When it comes to turning the table on sports owners, it's time for Oakland to lead.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF HOME GARDENING

Home gardening helps the planet in many ways. If you grow your food organically, without pesticides and herbicides, you'll spare the earth the burden of unnecessary air and water pollution.

You'll also reduce the use of fossil fuels and the resulting pollution that comes from the transport of fresh produce from all over the world (in planes and refrigerated trucks) to your supermarket.

Prince George's County Senior Center is an initiative of the Department of the Environment, Recreation and Office of Central Services to promote our seniors and maintain an active lifestyle.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION CENTER