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Miss Clinton Wins 2015 National American Miss Maryland Title

By CHRISTINA WILLIAMS
Prince George's Post

Clinton resident, Danielle Hardy, reigned in the crown for 2015 National American Miss Maryland. The pageant focuses on inner beauty as well on poise and presentation. Hardy will compete for the title of All American Miss in November.

Hardy will be a senior at St. John's University in New York in the fall working towards eventually getting her law degree down the road. She wanted to compete in the pageant because it allowed her to show off her talent, public speaking, and emphasized on academic achievement



PHOTO COURTESY DANIELLE HARDY
Danielle Hardy, 2015 National American Miss Maryland.

and community service, things very important to her.

See DANIELLE Page A7

PGCPS Student Among Top Ten in National Esthetics Competition

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCPS

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—Zoey De Los Santos, a graduating senior at Laurel High School, placed 9th at the 51st Annual SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Louisville, KY.

De Los Santos competed in the esthetics competition, where she was tested in four areas, including an oral skin consultation; a written exam covering the fundamentals of

skin care, sanitation, skin analysis; a hands-on basic facial demonstration; and a day time and fantasy make-up application.

"Being able to participate in a national competition was such an exciting and rewarding opportunity for me," said De Los Santos. "I placed in the top ten, which was a personal goal of mine, and became more confident in my

See ESTHETICS Page A3



PHOTO COURTESY MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Secretary Holt joins Baltimore officials for the groundbreaking of Mulberry at Park Apartments, a 68-unit complex that will provide affordable rental housing for Baltimore families.

Groundbreaking for Affordable Housing Shows Governor Hogan's Commitment to Baltimore City's Revitalization

By PRESS OFFICER
MDHCD

New Carrollton, MD, July 29—New affordable rental housing near downtown Baltimore will help revitalize the city's West Side and change things for the better for families and individuals with special needs, Governor Larry Hogan said today.

"Baltimore City residents will benefit because of the investments we are making to ensure Maryland has more affordable housing options," the governor said.

DHCD Secretary Kenneth Holt on Tuesday joined Baltimore City Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, local officials and development leaders to celebrate the groundbreaking of

Mulberry at Park Apartments, a 68-unit affordable apartment complex in the Bromo Tower Arts & Entertainment District of West Side Baltimore.

The Hogan administration helped finance the project with more than \$1.5 million in 9% Federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits and a \$1.4 million Rental Housing Program loan.

During the ceremony, Secretary Holt highlighted the administration's commitment to supporting affordable rental housing development as an economic catalyst and job-creation engine in Maryland. Mayor Rawlings-Blake announced the unveiling of Leveraging Investments in

See HOUSING Page A5

Prince George's County Announced as 1 of 6 National Communities to Pilot Dementia Friendly America Initiative

First-of-its-kind national effort announced at yesterday's White House Conference on Aging. Communities pledge to support people with dementia and foster quality of life for them and their caregivers.

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCG

Camp Springs, MD—In a groundbreaking national effort, a pledge for communities to provide supportive options and foster the quality of life for person with living with Dementia, called the "Dementia Friendly America Initiative," was announced yesterday at the White House Conference on Aging. The Dementia Friendly America (DFA) initiative is a cross-sector, national effort leveraging tailored resources and tools to equip all community sectors to support those with dementia and their caregivers and families. Prince George's County is 1 of 6 communities, nationwide, to pilot the dementia friendly initiative. Other communities include: Tempe, AZ; Santa Clara County, CA; Denver, CO; Knoxville, TN; and the state of West Virginia. Led by DFA, the

communities are taking action by leveraging tailored resources in business, community-based services and supports, faith communities, health care communities, legal and financial services, local government and residential settings.

"As a member of a family who is impacted by Alzheimer's, I know firsthand the needs of both those who suffer from the disease and their loved ones who become critical caregivers," said Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. "As a local government leader, I believe that all levels of government should do more on this issue by working in collaboration with the non-profit, faith, social services and science communities to assist our fellow residents who need support and assistance. I want to thank President Obama and the White House for hosting this important conference. Prince George's County is proud to partner with DFA in their



PHOTO COURTESY PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

efforts to raise awareness about Alzheimer's and related dementias. We are committed to effectively meeting the needs of our citizens by helping to provide the best quality of life for those living with this illness."

The objective of the Dementia Friendly America Initiative is to foster dementia friendly

See INITIATIVE Page A3

Corporal Cicale and K-9 Partner Top Performers at 2015 World Police and Fire Games

By PRESS OFFICER
PGPD

Prince George's Police Department is proud to announce that Corporal Cicale and his K-9 partner put on a stellar performance at the 2015 World Police and Fire Games. The World Police and Fire Games are held every two years. Please join us in congratulating Corporal Cicale on a job well done.

Corporal Cicale 2015 World Police & Fire Games Results

Police Service Dogs - Explosives Detection Competition - Building Search Final Results 3rd place

Police Service Dogs - Explosives Detection Competition - Vehicle Search Final Results 2nd place

Police Service Dogs - Narcotics Detection Competition - Building Search Final Results 1st place

Police Service Dogs - Narcotics Detection Competition - Luggage Search Final Results 1st place



PHOTO COURTESY PG PD

Corporal Cicale and his K-9 partner.

Police Service Dogs - Narcotics Detection Competition - Overall Final Results 1st place

Police Service Dogs - Narcotics Detection Competition - Vehicle Search Final Results 1st place

INSIDE

Educators Gather at the White House to Rethink School Discipline

School Districts across the country have already made progress transforming policies and school climate to support student learning including the following districts attending the conference: Oakland, Los Angeles and Vallejo City, (CA); Baltimore (MD); Broward County (FL); Syracuse and Buffalo (NY).
Community, Page A3

Ten Rules to Help Black Boys Survive

Our children want to grow up. Our children deserve to grow up. And it is the responsibility of every adult in every sector to see they grow up safely and respected and seen and are not subject to "othering"—as someone less than or apart from ourselves.
Commentary, Page A4

Obama Administration Assists Communities in Building Local Food Systems

As part of today's announcement, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) released an updated state-by-state "Made in Rural America" report illustrating the impact of USDA's investments in rural communities, including local food.
Business, Page A5

Movie Review: "Magic Mike XXL"

Picking up the story three years after Mike bowed out of the stripper life at the top of his game, "Magic Mike XXL" finds the remaining Kings of Tampa likewise ready to throw in the towel. But they want to do it their way: burning down the house in one last blow-out performance in Myrtle Beach.
Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

Is California's epic drought really the result of too much meddling by environmentalists like some conservatives have suggested?

—Betsy Martin,
Butte, MT

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

After 150 years 80 Mudds return to prison to honor Dr. Mudd

One hundred and fifty years ago, July 24, 1865, Dr. Samuel A. Mudd set foot on an island in the Gulf of Mexico to begin what he thought would be the rest of his life in the prison at Fort Jefferson. He had been arrested after setting the broken leg of President Lincoln's assassin, John Wilkes Booth.

On July 24, 2015, eighty Mudds returned to the Dry Tortugas, all wearing lime-green Free Dr. Mudd T-shirts. I was there. The Yankee Freedom ferry sailed 2-and-a-half hours to reach the island. The skies were clear, the water calm, dolphins and sea turtles passed us by, and the six-sided prison, rising up on the horizon, was awesome. A seaplane bearing media landed the same time we did, and cameramen began filming our disembarking and crossing the moat.

The four hours we spent at the island allowed for tours of the prison, snorkeling, swimming in crystal-clear water, and breakfasting and lunching on the ferry.

Sobering, though, was the visit to Dr. Mudd's prison cell, which contains a plaque honoring him for his treatment of prisoners and guards during a yellow fever epidemic. He was pardoned by President Andrew Johnson in 1869 and returned to his Southern Maryland home. But a pardon infers guilt—the Mudds want his name cleared.

As we boated back to Key West, we all sang out a song composed by my son Brian, the refrain: "We are Mudds, We are family, We have come to free the doctor. Free Dr. Mudd! Free Dr. Mudd!"

I spent the rest of the week in Key West, a lively island filled with restaurants, bars, unique shops, museums, tropical trees, flowers and birds, chickens, lizards and Earnest Hemingway's House (with the six-toed cats). All my children (except Brian who is seriously ill), grandchildren and great-grandchildren were there, in condos all around me. Also there, my sisters Rosie and Stella, brother Tom, and lots of nieces, nephews and cousins. It was a wonderful family reunion,

even if we didn't manage to free Dr. Mudd.

Coming up

Bell's Crab Feast, Aug. 29, 3-6 p.m. All-you-can-eat crabs, roasted hot dogs, burgers, and corn-on-the-cob, baked beans, potato salad, sweet tea and lemonade. Prices range from \$20 to \$40. Advanced sales only! For tickets, call Pat, 240-472-4823; Claire, 301-868-4154; Renee, 703-309-8658; Will, 310-922-2368; or Patrice, 202-841-2367. Bell's UMC is at 6016 Allentown Road, next to Joint Base Andrews.

Hospice of the Chesapeake representatives will discuss hospice care, Aug. 18, 7-9 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus, 3611 Stewart Rd., in Forestville. All are welcome and there is no cost. RSVP by Aug. 11 to KofC-2015-A@comcast.net.

"United States Colored Troops to the Rescue," presented by renowned historian Dr. Edna Green Medford of Howard University at the Surratt House Museum, 9118 Brandywine Road in Clinton on Aug. 4 at 4 p.m. Free.

Yoga in the Park, at Watkins Regional Park in Upper Marlboro, Thursdays through Sept. 28, 9 to 10 a.m. All ages. Call 301-218-6700 more for information.

The Morningside Town Meeting, at the Town Hall, Tuesday, Aug. 18, at 7 p.m.

Changing landscape

The new, much-awaited District VII Police Station in Fort Washington is almost ready to open. But it won't. There is now no set date because of budget cuts. Some of our legislators have rallied to the cause, demanding that it open.

County Executive Rushern Baker and Fire Chief Marc Bashoor delivered remarks at the Ribbon-Cutting for the relocated Brandywine Fire/EMS Station on July 29.

Walker Mill Regional Park, in District Heights, now boasts a skatepark. Skateboarders and BMX bikers have been testing it. The grand opening was July 10.

All evidence of the big Murry's Steaks building is gone—it's just one big field.

Thompson Creek Windows will eventually fill that field.

May they rest in peace

Jerry Stubbs, a 1964 graduate of Suitland High School, died July 18, along with his wife Diane and two others, when their plane crashed in Wyoming. I'll write about this tragedy in next week's column, after I get more information.

Jean Brown, 75, of Morningside, died July 19. Her husband Willard Brown, son Steven, siblings Betsy, Dottie, Josie, Ann, Brian and Fred predeceased her. Survivors include sons Douglas (Terry) and Brian (Yong Mi), daughter Terry Nelson (Charles), seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and brothers Arthur, Ben, John and Ron of Warrington, England.

Teresa Ann (Urman) Buckoski, 64, a graduate of Crossland High School and Alliance College, Cambridge Springs, Pa., died July 15 in Washington. She retired from the U.S. Federal service after 38 years and was the first female supervisor of personnel investigations in the history of the OPM. She was active in the Polish National Alliance, holding national and local offices. Survivors include her husband of 36 years, Lt. Col. Brian Buckoski, retired, two sisters and a brother.

Robert C. Bennett Sr., past commander and honorary life member of Clinton American Legion Post #259, was buried from the Post on July 24.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Carolyn Dade, Aug. 1; Chris Webb and Samantha Wade, Aug. 3; Victoria Levanduski, Laura Cook and Sallee Bixler, Aug. 4; Miss Bailey Sparks, GeGe Feeney, Diane Ruby and my granddaughter Rose Seidman, Aug. 5; Mark-eyce Herring and Connie Kimbles, Aug. 6; Mary Dean and Mary Leonard, Aug. 7; Maxmilian "Max" Howard, Ruth Sanford and William Billy Stewart, Aug. 8; and Savannah Foster, Aug. 11.

Happy anniversary to Sharon and Mike Fowler, their 36th on Aug. 11; William and Orva Heissenbittel, their 68th (!), Aug. 3; and Denis & Donna Wood, Aug. 7.

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

PRINCE GEORGE'S FAMILY & FRIENDS DAY

Council Chairman Mel Franklin presents the 5th Annual Prince George's Family & Friends Day August 30, 2015 from 3:00 PM-6:00 PM at Show Place Arena. The address is 14900 Pennsylvania Avenue Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772.

Join Council Member Franklin at this annual showcase of our county's local business and non-profit community featuring F.A.M.E Performers: Chelsey Green, Verna Varela and Virtuoso Horns. There will be food, live entertainment, games, live music, DJ, clowns, and a good time for the whole family.

ROLLING ADMISSION

ST. Philip the Apostle Catholic School is now offering rolling admission. Schedule a visit with us! Tours available weekly Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 AM-11:00 AM. Call 301-423-4740. See for yourself why so many parents consider St. Philip the Apostle a "hidden gem" in Prince George's County. The school is located at 5414 Henderson Way Camp

Springs, Maryland 20746. Visit <http://www.stphiliptheapostlemd.org> for more information.

CLINTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

On Sunday, August 16 Clinton United Methodist Church will be celebrating "Family & Friends Day" at the 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM services. The Men's choir will render musical selections at the 8:00 AM service and the Gospel Choir will sing at the 10:30 AM service.

The church is located at 10700 Brandywine Road Clinton Maryland 20735. Church Office telephone number is 301-868-1281. Rev. Dorothea Belt Stroman is the Pastor.

OLD MARYLAND FARM

Old Maryland Farm is located just a short walking distance from the miniature train station in Watkins Regional Park. The farm is an agricultural farm open to the public. Hours of operation are Tuesday-Friday 9:00 AM-4:00 PM, Saturdays 9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Sundays & Holidays: 11:30 AM- 4:30 AM. The farm is closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Please note that the farm is not a petting zoo. The agricultural exhibits, livestock, and display gardens provide a farming experience to visitors. Interpretive programs for students visiting the farm are correlated. Old Maryland Farm offers opportunities for birthday parties, hay rides, and farm demonstrations. The Farm is located at 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20774. Telephone number is 301-218-6770.

SPORTS HALL OF FAME CRAB FEAST

Bowie State University National Alumni Chapter will sponsor an all you can eat Crab Feast Sunday, August 22, 2015 from 4:00 PM-8:00 PM at Bowie State University Goodloe Alumni House. The address is 9300 Laurel Bowie Road/Bowie, Maryland 20715. Cost is 65.00. A portion of the proceeds to benefit BSU student Scholarship Fund. Partners of Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving BSUNAA Alumni Chapters. Contact person is Ricardo Mitchell at 301-860-4327 or visit

Neighborhood Events

Edwards Remembers Officers on 17th Anniversary of Their Deaths

Washington, D.C.—Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards (MD-4) issued the following statement today, the 17th anniversary of the attack in the U.S. Capitol that killed Officer Jacob Chestnut and Detective John Gibson.

"It is with a heavy heart that today we recognize the 17th anniversary of the senseless attack that took the lives of Officer Jacob 'JJ' Chestnut and Detective John Gibson. Officer Chestnut, who was a resident of Fort Washington, Maryland, was an 18-year veteran and on the verge of retirement. Their tragic passing continues to resonate with members of the U.S. Capitol community who understand and appreciate the daily service and sacrifice of the Capitol Police on our behalf. My thoughts and prayers are with the families of Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson as they remember their loved one."

Doctors Community Hospital Wins 20 Marketing and Communications Awards

Lanham, MD—In the 2015 Communicator Awards, Hermes Creative Awards, Apex Awards and Telly Awards competitions, Doctors Community Hospital received a total of 20 recognitions for its various educational brochures, campaigns, videos, newsletter and website.

"The hospital has been committed to developing programs and educational materials to help community members maintain or improve their health. With many of our newer brochures and communications tools, we've incorporated more educational information to help people make better informed healthcare decisions while supporting population health objectives. At the same time, our marketing director, Angela Wilson, led the hospital's shift to a unified branding approach that focused on elevating messaging, design and logo consistency," stated Paul Grenaldo, chief operating officer, Doctors Community Hospital. "We are proud to know that these efforts have been well received by residents as well as designated as award-winning materials by industry professionals."

Doctors Community Hospital won 20 awards during four 2015 competitions.

The Communicator Awards honors creative excellence for communications professionals. This national and international competition received more than 6,000 entries that were judged by the Academy of Interactive and Visual Arts. The hospital won seven silver awards of distinction in the following categories: website copy or writing (DCHweb.org); website structure and navigation (DCHweb.org); integrated campaign, promotion/branding (breast care campaign); integrated campaign, non-profit (joint pain campaign); integrated campaign, not-for-profit (diabetes campaign); integrated campaign, promotional/branding (diabetes campaign); and integrated campaign, promotional/branding (sleep apnea campaign). "The work entered in the 21st Annual Communicator Awards serves as a true testament to the innovative ideas and capabilities of communications and marketing



Congresswoman
Donna F. Edwards

professionals around the world. Each year our entrants continue to amaze by reinventing the ways we communicate and market in an ever-changing industry," noted Linda Day, executive director of the Academy Interactive and Visual Arts.

Hermes Creative Awards is an international competition that recognizes outstanding work while promoting the philanthropic nature of marketing and communications professionals. Among Hermes' 6,000+ entries, the hospital won eight awards in the following categories: medical category, platinum winner (DCHweb.org); nonprofit category, platinum winner (philanthropy video); integrated marketing campaign, gold winner (diabetes campaign); consumer brochure, gold winner (wound care brochure); newsletter, gold winner (employee newsletter); brochure, honorable mention (primary care brochure); integrated marketing campaign, honorable mention (joint pain campaign); and direct mail, honorable mention (community health mailer). Hermes Creative Awards is administered and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals.

Apex Awards is an international competition that recognizes outstanding publications. According to the APEX 2015 judges, "The awards are based on excellence in graphic design, quality of editorial content and the success of the entry in conveying the message and achieving overall communications effectiveness." Among Apex's nearly 1,900 entrants, the hospital earned three awards of excellence: campaigns, programs and plans, health and medical (diabetes campaign); campaigns, programs and plans, health and medical (joint pain campaign); and print media, organization capability and identify materials (capabilities brochure).

Telly Awards honors outstanding local, regional and cable television commercials and programs; video and film productions; and web commercials, videos and films. This national and international competition receives 12,000+ entries annually. Doctors Community Hospital won two bronze awards: commercial—outdoor, environmental or other (movie theater commercial) and film/video—non-broadcast productions, charitable/not-for-profit (philanthropy video).

Angela Wilson, director of the hospital's Marketing and Communications Department, stated, "I work with an exceptional team of professionals who value the importance of providing our community with reliable and useful healthcare

information. From internal medical professionals who collaborated to develop educational content to consultants like AOTA Creative Group in Temple Hills, MD, that produced compelling videos, these awards are the result of a team of knowledgeable, committed and talented individuals."

About Doctors Community Hospital

Doctors Community Hospital is a premier medical and surgical hospital located in Lanham, Maryland. With a mission of being dedicated to passionately caring for the health of patients and the community, the hospital has provided high-quality as well as comprehensive health care to residents of Prince George's County and the region for nearly 40 years.

A non-profit and 182-licensed bed facility, Doctors Community Hospital has a wide range of specialty programs and services.

For more information, please visit DCHweb.org or call 301-DCH-4YOU (301-324-4968).

Maryland Judiciary Warns of New Court Case and Warrant Scam

The Maryland Judiciary is warning the public about a new telephone and email scam that seeks to extort money from people by convincing them that they are the subject of an impending lawsuit. The scam has so far been reported in Harford County and the caller or email requests a specific dollar amount to assist with resolving the matter, including a promise to provide a copy of a warrant for arrest, which has the fraudulent signature of a judge or other court official.

Anyone receiving a suspicious call or email that says, "U.S. Legal Services is pressing charges against you and holding in regards to three serious allegations: 1) violation of federal banking regulations, 2) collateral check fraud, and 3) theft by deception," should not provide any personal information, credit card or bank information. Anyone receiving such a call should hang up immediately. Anyone receiving an email to this effect should delete it without responding.

The Maryland Judiciary has notified the Harford County State's Attorney's Office affected by this scam. People affected by this scam can contact the Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division, 410-528-8662 or toll free 888-743-0023, and may contact local law enforcement.

Courts do not call or email people to obtain payments or personal information. Courts do not request credit card or Pay Pal payments by email or telephone. If you have received a call or email about a court case or a warrant for arrest, contact the District Court or Circuit Court in your jurisdiction. Contact information for courts is available on the Maryland Judiciary website's courts directory.

For more information about jury duty and other types of state and federal court scams, go to www.mdcourts.gov and see the news release entitled, "Maryland Judiciary Warns of New Jury Duty Scam."

COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Nathaniel Sillin

Make Sure Your Freshman Gets a Money-Smart College Start

Does your college-bound freshman know how to handle money at school?

Campus life can test even the most disciplined young adults on money matters. In the final weeks before you help your student pack up for the dorm, it's a good time to pack in some money lessons as well.

Start with what college will cost. On average, the Class of 2015 graduated with a little over \$35,000 in student loan debt, according to Edvisors (<http://blogs.wsj.com/economics/2015/05/08/congratulations-class-of-2015-youre-the-most-indebted-ever-for-now/>). Depending on your financial situation and how you've planned for your child's college education, start with an overview of how your student's college costs will impact your finances now and after graduation.

If your child will be paying off personal or student loans once they graduate, discuss how that reality should define financial choices throughout college. That doesn't mean saving every penny and having no fun at all, but such a talk should reinforce how handling money intelligently, setting priorities and getting a jump on savings can position your child for a much stronger financial start upon graduation.

Train them to budget. If your child hasn't learned budgeting skills (<http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/budgeting/>), it's time for a crash course. Budgeting is the first essential skill in personal finance. Teaching children to budget now gives them a head start on dealing with post-graduation debt or long-term goals like affording a home or car. Because teens often live their lives on smartphones, familiarize yourself with the growing range of budgeting apps (<http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2015/04/27/budgeting-apps-affect-spending-habits/26190991/>) to keep their money management on course.

Talk through on-campus banking and credit needs. Many parents start their kids with custodial savings and checking accounts at their local bank when they are younger. If your bank has branches in the teen's college town, that relationship can easily continue. Responsible credit card use is also wise to start in college. Keep in mind that The Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility and Disclosure (or Credit CARD) Act of 2009 requires that anyone under 21 without independent income have a co-signer to qualify for a card. As such, you'll be able to keep track of your child's credit use. However, if they default, you'll be on the hook—so monitor your child's bank and credit relationships closely until you agree they're ready to manage them on their own.

Cover credit monitoring and identity theft. With smarter online thieves emerging every day, your child is at risk of identity theft from the minute he or she is assigned a Social Security number. While most teens generally don't have a credit report until they start earning a paycheck at age 16, be on the lookout for fraudulent activity earlier (<http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0040-child-identity-theft>) and make sure they get in the habit of ordering the three free credit reports (<https://www.annualcreditreport.com/index.action>) they are entitled to each year. Throughout college, consider sitting down with children so you can review their annual credit reports together.

Bottom line: There's plenty to do in the final weeks before your kids leave for college. Don't forget to reinforce important money lessons before they go.

Esthetics from A1

skills and decision to pursue a career in cosmetology."

De Los Santos was one of only two PGCPs students to win the SkillsUSA Esthetics State Competition in February. De Los Santos, along with fellow Laurel High School senior Nohelia Valentin, focused on a fantasy look inspired by Snow White. She created the illusion of a perfect face being peeled away to reveal a wicked witch. Valentin designed Snow White coming out of the snow. De Los Santos won first place and Valentin won third place.

"We are extremely excited with Zoey's accomplishments," said Gina Simpson, Laurel High School Cosmetology Teacher. "This was the first year that a PGCP student participated in the SkillsUSA nationals competition and she did an exceptional job representing Laurel High School. She is an example to how committed our students are to learning and developing the career skills needed for successful futures."

SkillsUSA is a national organization that serves teachers, high school, and college students preparing for careers in technical, skilled and service occupations.



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Educators Gather at the White House to Rethink School Discipline

U.S. Department of Education Announces New Tools to Help Schools Rethink Discipline

By PRESS OFFICER
 U.S. Department of Education

The U.S. Departments of Education and Justice hosted teams of superintendents, principals, and teachers from across the country on July 22, for "Rethink Discipline," a day-long conference at the White House on creating positive school climates and implementing effective discipline practices. The conference seeks to advance the national conversation about reducing the overuse of unnecessary out of school suspensions and expulsions and replacing these practices with positive alternatives that keep students in school and engaged in learning, but also ensure accountability.

"Creating and sustaining safe, supportive schools is absolutely essential to ensuring students can engage in the rich learning experiences they need for success in college, work and life—that's why rethinking school discipline is critical to boosting student achievement and improving school outcomes. Today's conference shows that there are leaders across the country who are committed to doing this work. We are proud to stand as partners with these educators to say that we have to continue to do better for all of our students," said U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan.

According to data from the Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC), the number of students losing critical learning time due to out of school suspensions and expulsions is staggering. Over 3 million students are suspended or expelled every year.

At the event, the Department of Education released new maps based on the CRDC data illustrating out-of-school suspensions across the country to help educators and communities understand the extent of this practice. The maps highlight how southeastern school districts have the highest rates of out of school suspension in the nation. The maps also clearly demonstrate the widespread and frequent use of out-of-school suspension among students with disabilities. The following maps are being released today:

- Percent of all students who have received one or more out-of-school suspensions by district Map and Data Table
- Percent of students with disabilities who have received one or more out-of-school suspensions by district Map and Data Table

Initiative from A1

communities across the United States that will support those living with dementia and their caregivers and families. A dementia friendly community is informed, safe and respectful of individuals with dementia and their families, provides supportive options, and fosters quality of life. The work toward dementia friendliness will involve:

- Raising awareness about dementia and transforming attitudes;
- Having supportive options that foster quality of life;
- Supporting caregivers and families touched by the disease;
- Promoting meaningful participation in community life and
- Reaching those who are underserved.

"Alzheimer's disease and other dementia impact our entire community," said Department of

Family Services Acting Director, Theresa Grant. "This is especially significant with the aging of our community. We have over 900,000 residents in our county, of which 144,000 are 60 years of age and older - and over 9,655 are over the age of 85. While we have seen Alzheimer's and related dementia in older adults, we must not forget that many are diagnosed much younger, today. One of our primary goals is to increase the number of older adults receiving home and community-based services and help them age in place, with dignity and respect."

The Prince George's County, Department of Family Services, Aging and Disabilities Services Division, has already begun to implement programs and services that achieve objectives of the Dementia Friendly American Initiative. In 2013, under the direction of County Executive Baker, a caregiving collaborative was formed by the Department of Family Services, Department of

Social Services, Health Department, AARP of Maryland, and the Alzheimer's Association National Capital Area Chapter. The implementation of this project provides educational sessions about the different stages in Alzheimer's disease and helps family caregivers navigate the long term care services and support system—a screening process that identifies persons who may be eligible for Long Term Care Medicaid Services. The purpose of the caregiving collaborative is to bring together nonprofit and governmental senior service providers who are committed to effectively meeting the needs of our aging community through ongoing coordination to achieve the following goals:

- Provide public education and awareness programs for family caregivers to help them successfully navigate needed resources and services;
- Operationalize a comprehensive case management program for family caregivers to

an action plan to address the roots causes of discipline disparities. The Guide includes a Disciplinary Disparities Risk Assessment Tool to aid in data gathering and analysis, templates to help plan and facilitate communication among stakeholders, real world examples from schools and districts already experiencing success and much more tools and information.

• **Rethink School Discipline: Resource Guide for Superintendent Action:** This Resource Guide offers a set of seven potential action items to help school leaders implement safe, supportive school climate and discipline by engaging stakeholders, assessing the results and history of existing school climate and discipline systems and practices; implementing reform; and monitoring progress. Also included in the Resource Guide are links to federal guidance and resources as well as postcard templates that districts may use to support local educator and parent and family engagement in the district's school discipline reform efforts.

• **Support for State and Local Educational Leaders and Partners from Other Systems:** On July 27, the U.S. Department of Justice is launching the National Resource Center for School Justice Partnerships to advance school discipline reform efforts across the nation. In addition to serving as a dynamic resource hub, the center will also serve as a training and technical assistance portal for juvenile courts, schools, law enforcement agencies, and others to support school discipline reform efforts at the local level. Among its many responsibilities, the Center will support the Supportive School Discipline Training and Technical Assistance Collaborative, an effort by the U.S. Departments of Justice, Education, and Health and Human Services to coordinate resources and provide strategic support to schools and school communities in areas such as building safe and supportive learning environments and addressing disparities in discipline for students of color and students with disabilities.

• **#RethinkDiscipline Public Awareness Campaign:** In the weeks and months following the conference, the U.S. Department of Education will continue to use social media events, blogs, and other approaches to engage the field about new tools and resources to help school commu-

nities to improve school climate and discipline.

The White House Rethink Discipline conference builds on the work of the President's My Brother's Keeper Initiative (MBK), the White House Council on Women and Girls, and the Supportive School Discipline Initiative—a collaboration between the U.S. Departments of Education and Justice launched in 2011 to support the use of school discipline practices that foster safe, supportive, and productive learning environments while keeping students in school. Highlights from the Initiative's work this past year include:

• At the White House Summit on Early Education, Secretaries Burwell and Duncan announced the release of a policy statement on expulsion and suspension practices in early learning settings. The effort, part of MBK, encourages states, early childhood programs, and families to partner in preventing, reducing, and eventually eliminating the expulsion and suspension of young children from early learning programs.

Education and Justice jointly released a School Climate and Discipline Guidance Package to provide schools with a roadmap to reduce the usage of exclusionary discipline practice and clarify schools' civil rights obligation to not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national origin in the administration of school discipline.

Educators at the conference have already started to implement the School Climate and Discipline Guidance and will share challenges they have faced and best practices they have identified. Additionally, participants in the conference have committed to improving school climate with the goals of ultimately, avoiding disruptions in instructional time and boosting student achievement. At the end of the conference, they will identify next steps for action on school discipline so as to deepen implementation of the School Climate and Discipline Guidance.

• Education released the results of the 2011-2012 Civil Rights Data Collection, which includes school discipline data from most every school in the country and certain juvenile justice facilities.

For more information about the Administration's work on school climate and discipline go to www.ed.gov/rethinkdiscipline.

support the navigation of needed resources and services.

Today, there are an estimated 99,000 Marylanders living with Alzheimer's, the most common form of dementia, and the number is projected to rise to 130,000 by 2025. In 2014, there were 289,000 Alzheimer's and dementia caregivers in the state, generating \$329 million hours of unpaid care. Across the United States, an estimated 5.1 million people age 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's disease and the number is expected to reach 7.1 million in the next decade. Nearly 60 percent of people with dementia live in their own communities, and one in seven live alone, creating an urgent need for communities to support people with dementia and their caregivers.

"Alzheimer's disease and dementia can be devastating to American families, but we are not powerless to support those living

COMMENTARY

Barbara A. Mikulski

United States Senator for Maryland



Mikulski, Cardin Announce \$18,715 in Federal Funds to Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department in Prince George's County

WASHINGTON—U.S. Senators Barbara A. Mikulski and Ben Cardin (both D-Md.) today announced that the Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department (RVFD) will receive \$18,715 in federal funding through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program (AFG) to purchase personal escape equipment. As Vice-Chairwoman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator Mikulski fights each year to increase federal funding for the fire grants program. Senator Cardin is a member of the Finance Committee.

"Firefighters and their families already understand the hazards of being on the job, whether it is rushing into a burning building or suffering from physical exhaustion and injury. These funds in the federal checkbook are crucial to providing training to protect our protectors," Senator Mikulski said. "First responders protect our homes and communities, and the federal government has a responsibility to protect them by providing them with the tools and training they need to do their jobs safer and smarter. I will continue to fight for the training, equipment and staffing our protectors and communities deserve."

"When others are running away from danger, the men and women of the Prince George's County Fire Department are running towards it," said Senator Cardin. "I am proud to fight for the federal investments that help make sure the first responders safeguarding our families make it home safely to their own. It is a matter

of national security that the federal government is a strong partner with municipalities to ensure public safety for our local communities."

RVFD will use this federal funding to emergency purchase personal escape equipment for emergency escape from burning buildings when exit routes have been blocked and firefighters must exit quickly out the nearest window. The equipment includes emergency ropes for propelling down the side of a building when necessary. For more information, please contact John Lamphier at 301-883-7707.

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is an important component of the larger, coordinated effort to strengthen the Nation's overall level of preparedness and ability to respond to fire and related hazards. Since 2001, the AFG has provided approximately \$6.1 billion in grants to first-responder organizations to obtain much-needed emergency response equipment, personal protective equipment, firefighting and emergency vehicles, and training. During fiscal year (FY) 2014, the AFG will award \$304.5 million to first-responder organizations that need support to improve their capability to respond to fires and emergencies of all types.

Since 2001, Maryland fire departments and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) units have received just over \$162 million in fire grant funding, of which more than \$28 million has been awarded to fire departments in Prince George's.

Marc Morial, President and CEO

National Urban League



Save Our Cities: The 2015 National Urban League Conference

"You can holler, protest, march, picket and demonstrate, but somebody must be able to sit in on the strategy conferences and plot a course. There must be strategies."

— Whitney M. Young, National Urban League President, 1961-1971

America faces tremendous challenges today and tomorrow. As a nation, we are experiencing what may be the most intense focus in decades on economic inequality, educational equity, racial justice—and injustice.

In a moment of perhaps the greatest social and economic upheaval in a generation, thousands of people from all walks of life and manner of profession will convene in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to do more than recite our country's familiar litany of challenges; more than march and raise our voices in rightful and outraged unison; and more than debate within the narrow confines of our individual communities. For four power-packed days, we will discuss and debate the state of our cities. We will become the architects of new solutions to old, entrenched problems and well thought out strategies to save our embattled cities.

This year's National Urban League Conference theme, "Save Our Cities: Education, Jobs + Justice," is a unique opportunity for mission-oriented conversation and action on policies and issues affecting African-Americans and urban communities. As in years past, our nation's most influential community leaders, top policy makers, political and business leaders, and so many more, will join in our continuing efforts to make a real difference for our cities.

Following a long-standing tradition of major-party presidential candidates addressing the conference, the National Urban League counts several 2016 presidential hopefuls—Republicans and Democrats alike—as invited guests. The candidates, including former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley and retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson, will share their respective visions for a more equitable and inclusive America in the candidates' session, "Off to the Races: The 2016 Presidential Candidates' Plenary."

It is vital that those contending for the highest office in the land not only listen to our concerns, but be a part of its discussion and offer up their unique strategies and solutions for consideration to the very people who may one day move them into that coveted white house at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

The chance to engage in thoughtful dialogue and interact with national leaders and luminaries is one of many unique opportunities being offered at the conference. The National Urban League has also developed quality programs, events and forums to inform and inspire attendees and motivate them to continue empowering themselves, and by extension, their communities and the nation.

The Expo Hall will feature hundreds of exhibitors; a career & networking fair; a Health Zone where attendees can enjoy workshops and get free health screenings for the entire family; an Empowerment Stage with celebrity-filled sessions and local entertainment; a college fair with colleges, universities, and scholarship organizations; and a marketplace of local small businesses. In a nod to these modern times and this generation's methods of mobilizing around issues of social justice in the digital era, the National Urban League, in partnership with Digital Grass, is hosting "Tech-Connect: Hack-A-Thon for Social Justice," presented by Comcast NBCUniversal. The two-day hack-a-thon is a call to action for tech-savvy innovators to design original applications to alleviate the most pressing social issues of our day, particularly in the areas of education, jobs and justice.

There are many reasons to register and become a part of this singular, unprecedented opportunity. Besides the unmatched professional and civic engagement, business development and networking opportunities, this conference is stronger, more inclusive and more reflective of the diversity of thought around the areas of economic and social justice as the number of voices and opinions added to the discussion grows. The benefit of your presence is another noteworthy addition to this conference that only you can decide to include in what promises to be an enriching and inspiring experience.

I look forward to meeting you in South Florida.

Captain Salem Avery House



Open to the Public

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS PHOTO BY: PUBDOG

CAPTAIN SALEM AVERY HOUSE

The Capt. Salem Avery House is a historic home and museum at 1418 East West Shady Side Road, Shady Side, Maryland. It is a two-story frame building, located on a 0.75-acre rectangular lot, overlooking the West River and Chesapeake Bay. The two-story house consists of the original residence, constructed about 1860, which was later expanded in the 19th century and in the 1920s, by the National Masonic Fishing and Country Club. There is also a modern boathouse built in 1993, featuring the locally built EDNA FLORENCE, a 1937 Chesapeake Bay deadrise workboat. Open Most Sundays, 1 - 4 pm from April through November, except major holiday weekends. Outdoor exhibits are open daily from dawn to dusk. For more information call 410-867-4486.

Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



Ten Rules to Help Black Boys Survive

Democracy cannot breathe, and will die, if those enjoined to protect and uphold the law snuff it out unjustly and without consequence. Justice cannot breathe when Black men and boys and women and girls are routinely profiled, abused, arrested, and killed with impunity by police officers. We must stop this. We must protect the lives of our young people—all of them. God did not make two classes of people or children and America continues to do so at its peril.

Like so many I have been deeply disturbed by the senseless loss of Black male lives at the hands of law enforcement officials. I was particularly affected by Tamir Rice's senseless death—a 12-year-old sixth grader who loved drawing, basketball, playing the drums, and performing in his school's drumline. Sometimes his teacher had to remind him not to tap a song on his desk with his fingers. When Tamir, a mere boy child, was shot and killed last November, who was there to protect him?

Not Cleveland police officer Timothy Loehmann—the man who shot him. Tamir was sitting outside a recreation center near his home holding a friend's toy gun when Loehmann careened up in his squad car with his training officer. The surveillance video shows Loehmann took less than two seconds between getting out of the barely-stopped car and shooting Tamir. Worse, this child was left mortally wounded on the ground in agony for nearly four minutes while neither Loehmann nor his trainer Frank Garmback administered any first aid. An FBI agent who happened to be nearby responded to the police activity and was the first one to try to give Tamir help. When Tamir's 14-year-old sister ran to see and comfort him she was tackled by a police officer, handcuffed, and put in the back of a squad car unable to comfort her stricken brother. When Tamir's mother arrived at the same time as the ambulance the police wouldn't let her get close to her son and she said they threatened to handcuff and arrest her too if she didn't calm down. She was then denied entrance to the back of the ambulance to ride with or hold the hand of her son on the way to the hospital. I can only imagine the deep terror of both mother and child isolated

from each other. Tamir died from his injuries the next day.

Who was there to protect Tamir? Not the Cleveland Police Department, who supposedly hired Officer Loehmann and put him out on their city's streets before fully reviewing his previous record as a police officer. His personnel file from the Independence, Ohio Police Department shows he resigned in December 2012 just five months after he started training when he learned a disciplinary process of separation had already begun—appearing to have quit before he was fired. His previous supervisors said he displayed "a pattern of lack of maturity, indiscretion, and not following instructions," a "dangerous loss of composure during live range training," and an "inability to manage personal stress." These red flags for the Independence Police Department should have been warning signs for Cleveland or any police department in assessing fitness for service. The Cleveland Police Department has a long history of bad policing that harms Black boys and men and those with mental illness. Just days after Tamir was killed the U.S. Department of Justice released harshly critical results of a civil rights investigation on overuse of force by the Cleveland police department and called for massive reforms.

The scene that unfolded in the minutes Tamir lay on the ground bleeding without comfort from anyone is perhaps the hardest part to understand. What kind of human beings and responsible law enforcement officials would act this way? Gunning down a 12-year-old, threatening his distraught sister and mother, and standing by watching a child just shot lying on the snowy ground dying?

Who was there to protect Tamir? In the end, no one. Now a child who might have become a musician or an artist or anything else he wanted to be is dead, and his mother has joined a long, long list of Black mothers crying out for justice. A few weeks after Tamir's death she stood at a Washington, D.C. rally with Trayvon Martin's mother and the families of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, and other unarmed Black boys and men killed by police and told the crowd: "I have one thing to say to the police force: Don't shoot. Our children want to grow up."

Our children want to grow up. Our children deserve to grow up. And it is the responsibility of every adult in every sector to see they grow up safely and re-

See WATCH, Page A12

The Prince George's Post

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BUSINESS

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Not Letting Your Kids Push Your Anger Button

We all love our kids. And we all have moments when they drive us crazy. That's perfectly normal. What isn't normal is to react to such incidents with out-of-control anger.

Parents soon learn that their children, even when very young, will try their patience and get them upset at times. But being upset or frustrated isn't the same as real anger, an emotional response that can only cause problems.

Anger raises your blood pressure, supplants rational thought and has you acting in ways that accomplish no good and solve no problems, such as yelling, swearing, insulting, shaking and hitting. Anger can actually do real harm.

It's vital to realize that anger can be controlled. It's not an outside force, but rather something we manufacture on our own. You, not someone else, are responsible for your anger.

It helps to understand why we get angry. It's usually connected to a loss of control. When a toddler isn't listening to you, or a teen comes home past curfew, we can feel that our authority and control over our children has been seriously undermined.

A first step in managing anger is to give up some of that need to control. While we certainly need to set limits and teach our children, we also have to acknowledge that they will often make mistakes. Accepting that, and using the mistake to teach a lesson, is a positive response. Becoming angry and violent is not.

It also helps to look at your angry response from your child's point of view. Experiencing an angry tantrum from a parent isn't going to fix the problem or change that past behavior. Instead, it's more likely to truly threaten, scare and traumatize a young child, and bring about a negative, angry, rebellious response from an older child. Either response makes it harder to learn a lesson from the mistake that was made.

One method for controlling an angry response is not to react immediately. Yes, counting to ten and taking deep breaths does work. So does pausing to consider what your child will experience if you fly off the handle. Will your anger do any good, or just set a bad example for your child to model?

If controlling your anger is difficult for you, talk to a professional counselor. A counselor specializing in anger management can offer a variety of ways for getting anger under control.

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

Housing from A1

Neighborhood Corridors Strategy, a development initiative aimed at improving five of Baltimore's major corridors.

Mulberry at Park Apartments consists of 34 one-bedroom, 27 two-bedroom and seven three-bedroom apartments, with 11 of the units serving individuals with disabilities. The apartment complex features numerous energy-efficiency and environmental measures, which meet LEED Silver standards and Enterprise Green Communities Criteria.

Residents will also have access to a multipurpose cyber-café room, study room, fitness center and outdoor terrace area.

The project, which is slated for completion in 2016, will

also benefit from a Housing Assistance Payment contract with the Housing Authority of Baltimore City for 19 units.

Additional funding included loans of \$2,653,000 from Bank of America, \$870,000 from Baltimore City, \$500,000 from the Federal Home Loan Bank and a deferred developer's fee.

This new apartment community will serve a tremendous need in Baltimore by providing affordable high-quality homes to families near employment, transit and cultural amenities.

Learn more about Maryland's commitment to ensuring that low and moderate income families, senior citizens and individuals with disabilities have the opportunity to live in quality, affordable rental housing in desirable neighborhoods.

Proudly Serving Prince George's County Since 1932

Initiative from A3

with the disease, their caregivers and loved ones," said Senator Bill Frist, national spokesperson for Dementia Friendly America. "Starting in these communities, we're building a nationwide effort to educate Americans about dementia, equip business owners and first responders to recognize and assist those with memory loss, and empower people with Alzheimer's and dementia to engage independently and safely in community life for as long as possible."

"Becoming dementia friendly must be a priority for all of our hometowns in order to remove stigma, enable people with Alzheimer's to come out of the

shadows and engage in their communities, and help families effectively manage all that comes with the critical task of caregiving," said George Vradenburg, founder of USAgainstAlzheimer's, who worked closely with DFA to launch the effort and was a major catalyst behind its inception. "This hometown Dementia Friendly America initiative sends a message to American families experiencing dementia: 'You are not alone, we are your neighbors, we care about you, and we want to help.'"

Annual Family Caregivers Conference

Every September, the Aging and Disabilities Services Divi-

Obama Administration Assists Communities in Building Local Food Systems to Foster Economic Growth

By PRESS OFFICER
USDA

WASHINGTON, D.C.—On June 30, 2015, the Obama Administration invited communities to participate in Local Foods, Local Places, a federal initiative providing direct technical support to build strong local food systems as part of a community's emerging economic action plans. Under this effort, a team of agricultural, transportation, public health, environmental, and regional economic experts will work directly with local communities to spur local economic growth and improve the quality of life for all residents.

Local food sales topped \$11.7 billion in 2014 according to industry estimates, underscoring the economic benefit that a local food system can offer a community. As part of today's announcement, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) released an updated state-by-state "Made in Rural America" report illustrating the impact of USDA's investments in rural communities, including local food. USDA has invested more than \$800 million in more than 29,100 local and regional food businesses and infrastructure projects over the past six years.

"These state by state analyses reaffirm that local food is rapidly growing from a niche market to an integrated system recognized for its economic boost to communities across the country," said Secretary Vilsack. "Local food creates new market opportunities

for farmers, brings fresh meals into schools and other institutions, expands healthy food access to underserved communities, and builds infrastructure needed to support ranchers and other meat processors. By investing in projects at the local level, this Administration is encouraging growth in this sector and creating new opportunities for families who live in rural America."

This is the second year of the Local Foods, Local Places program. In 2014, 26 rural and urban communities participated in the program to create year-round, downtown markets featuring foods from local farmers; establish retail outlets to help revitalize small-town main streets; build centrally located community kitchens or food hubs to aggregate and market local foods; support business incubators to help entrepreneurs start food-related businesses on main streets; enhance public spaces for people to walk or bicycle to farmers markets and local restaurants; assist schoolchildren to grow their own food and make healthy local food accessible to families, including via SNAP benefits; and develop community gardens in walkable, transit-accessible places.

Technical support teams through Local Foods, Local Places helped Osceola, Arkansas (pop 7,700) develop a new health foods cooking curriculum for the local school district, create a plan for a new downtown farmers market and implement infrastructure improvement efforts; guided North Little Rock,

Arkansas (population 62,000) to enhance the livability of an emerging neighborhood though a new food hub; and worked with Wheeling, West Virginia (pop 28,000) to revitalize under-used property into a community orchard, multi-use food facility, and a mobile market.

Local Foods, Local Places is a partnership between USDA, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Department of Transportation (DoT), the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), and the Delta Regional Authority (DRA). The effort is part of the White House Rural Council's "Rural Impact" effort to improve quality of life and upward mobility for kids and families in rural and tribal communities. Together, the agencies are investing \$800,000 to support this round of assistance. Application guidelines and deadlines are available on line.

Since 2009, USDA has invested in 29,100 food hubs, small scale processing, farmers market and other opportunities in local food across all 50 states and the US territories. This includes USDA investments in the local food sector through over 12,000 microloans, smaller loans of up to \$50,000 for small-scale producers who often sell products locally; and over 13,000 high tunnels, low-cost covered structures that extend the growing season and make locally-grown products available later into the year.

Among the top ten states with federally funded local food projects are Kentucky, Wisconsin, Mississippi, Texas, Alabama, Missouri, Minnesota, West Virginia, Iowa, and Michigan. Five of these states (Kentucky, Mississippi, Alabama, Texas and West Virginia) are part USDA's StrikeForce Initiative for Rural Growth and Opportunity which coordinates USDA assistance in the Nation's most economically challenged rural areas.

Many of these projects can be found on the Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food Compass. Searchable by state, zip code, project type and funding program, the Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food Compass maps federal local food investments made by USDA and 10 other federal agencies between fiscal years 2009-2013. The Compass is part of the USDA's Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food Initiative. Secretary Vilsack has identified local and regional food systems as one of the four pillars of rural economic development, along with production agriculture, the bio-based economy, and natural resources and conservation.

The state by state fact sheets are available at www.usda.gov/opportunities. Each state factsheet highlights specific USDA investments in local food as well investments in rural businesses, manufacturing, energy, water and other infrastructure development. They also outline how USDA is helping rural communities attract businesses and families by investing in housing and broadband.

Maryland Casinos Generate \$91.4 Million in Revenue During June

By PRESS OFFICER
MLGCA

(Baltimore)—The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency today announced June 2015 revenue numbers for the state's five casinos—Hollywood Casino Perryville in Cecil County, Horseshoe Casino Baltimore in Baltimore City, Casino at Ocean Downs in Worcester County, Maryland Live Casino in Anne Arundel County, and Rocky Gap Casino Resort in Allegany County. June 2015's combined statewide revenue totaled \$91,447,064.

Hollywood Casino Perryville generated \$6,435,945 from both slot machines and table games in June. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$215.72 for slot machines, \$2,344.62 for banking table games and \$303.13 for non-banking table games. Hollywood Casino's June 2015 revenue decreased by \$577,013, or 8.2%, from June 2014. Hollywood Casino Perryville operates 850

slot machines and 22 (12 banking and 10 non-banking) table games.

Horseshoe Casino Baltimore generated \$23,096,716 from both slot machines and table games in June. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$187.89 for slot machines, \$2,146.61 for banking table games and \$1,015.52 for non-banking table games. Horseshoe Casino Baltimore operates 2,203 slot machines and 179 (154 banking and 25 non-banking) table games. The casino opened to the public in August 2014.

Maryland Live Casino generated \$52,926,123 from both slot machines and table games in June. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$270.50 for slot machines, \$4,008.46 for banking table games and \$1,244.53 for non-banking table games. Maryland Live's June 2015 revenue decreased by \$3,575,078, or 6.3%, from June 2014. Maryland Live Casino operates 4,060 slot machines and 202 (150 banking and 52 non-banking) table games.

Casino at Ocean Downs generated \$5,288,777 from slot machines in June, and its gross gaming revenue per unit per day was \$220.37. Casino at Ocean Downs' June 2015 revenue increased by \$483,933, or 10.1%, from June 2014. The Casino at Ocean Downs operates 800 slot machines, and does not have table games.

Rocky Gap Casino Resort generated \$3,699,504 from both slot machines and table games in June. Gross gaming revenue per unit per day was: \$181.50 for slot machines, \$1,103.96 for banking table games, and \$282.35 for non-banking table games. Rocky Gap Casino Resort's June 2015 revenue decreased by \$35,525, or 1%, from June 2014. Rocky Gap Casino Resort operates 579 slot machines and 18 table games (16 banking and 2 non-banking).

In a year-to-year comparison, June 2015 casino revenue increased from June 2014 by \$19,393,032, or 26.9%. In a year-

to-year comparison excluding Horseshoe Casino Baltimore, which opened in August 2014, revenue decreased from June 2014 by \$3,703,683, or 5.1%, reflecting changes in market shares after the opening of Horseshoe Casino Baltimore. See attached document (or click [HERE](#)) for a detailed breakdown of June 2015's fund disbursement, fiscal year-to-date totals for the individual casinos and combined state total.

The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency (MLGCA) is responsible for all matters relating to regulation of the state's casinos. In this regulatory role, the agency oversees all internal controls, auditing, security, surveillance, background investigation, licensing and accounting procedures for the facilities. To keep Marylanders informed and maintain integrity and transparency in its regulation of the state's casinos, the MLGCA posts monthly financial reports on casino revenue on its website, gaming.mdlottery.com.

sion hosts an annual Family Caregivers Conference for approximately 400 caregivers residing in Prince George's County. The goal of the conference is to provide information about services and programs that will assist them with the challenges of being a caregiver for a friend or loved one. Topics include Alzheimer's disease, legal issues, financial planning, and coping with the stress of being a caregiver.

Alzheimer's Association Partnerships

Other community projects that have stemmed from partnerships with the Alzheimer's As-

sociation include an Older American's Month Open House, an Alzheimer's Walk and Brain Awareness Month events. The Alzheimer's Association is currently exploring the feasibility of bringing to Prince George's County a support group for persons with early onset Alzheimer's disease. The Department of Family Services also shares information through the Senior Provider Network Partnership, a network of County providers of services to seniors and persons with disabilities.

Support Groups & The Donation Closet

The Caregiver Support Group is a small group of

caregivers that meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month to share and discuss their issues around other caregivers. The Donation Closet is a bank of incontinent supplies Family Services receives from the Senior Provider Network and other County residents. The donations are used to assist clients and caregivers who may have financial difficulty with purchasing the items.

About Dementia Friendly America Initiative (DFA)

DFA is building on the leadership of ACT on Alzheimer's and 34 dementia friendly communities in Min-

nesota it created. The model employed in Minnesota includes a rigorous, community-based process that brings people together to help a community create a supportive environment for people with dementia. More than 50 organizations—including AARP, the Alzheimer's Association, CVS/Caremark, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Association of Counties, National League of Cities, and USAgainstAlzheimer's—have joined forces to make dementia friendly communities a reality across America through DFA, with the goal of piloting 15 communities by 2016.

OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK

Movie Review

“Magic Mike XXL”

Magic Mike XXL
Grade: C

Rated R, pervasive harsh profanity, a lot of sexual innuendo and suggestive dancing, one shot of a guy's naked butt
1 hr., 55 min

True to its title, “Magic Mike XXL” is indeed bigger than “Magic Mike,” in the sense that it's five minutes longer. Everything else about it is smaller. It's not as funny or engaging as its predecessor, it has almost no storyline, no character development, and it features less nudity (not usually a point worth mentioning, but these are movies about strippers). It alternates between pandering to its target audience of straight women, and just boring them.

Most of the creative team has returned for the sequel, set three years after the sinewy Floridians bumped and grinded their way to stripper glory. Steven Soderbergh turned directorial duties over to Gregory Jacobs, his longtime first assistant director, but Soderbergh produced, edited, and photographed the film, with Reid Carolin returning as screenwriter. Matthew McConaughey and Alex Pettyfer are gone, but be honest, you'll only miss one of them.

The rest of the gang—Richie (Joe Manganiello), Ken (Matt Bomer), Tito (Adam Rodriguez), Tarzan (Kevin Nash), and DJ Tobias (Gabriel Iglesias)—are heading up to Myrtle Beach, S.C., for the annual convention of male strippers, and they recruit Mike (Channing Tatum) to join them



ROTTENTOMATOES

Picking up the story three years after Mike bowed out of the stripper life at the top of his game, “Magic Mike XXL” finds the remaining Kings of Tampa likewise ready to throw in the towel. But they want to do it their way: burning down the house in one last blow-out performance in Myrtle Beach, and with legendary headliner Magic Mike sharing the spotlight with them. On the road to their final show, with whistle stops in Jacksonville and Savannah to renew old acquaintances and make new friends, Mike and the guys learn some new moves and shake off the past in surprising ways. ©Warner

for one more ride. (Note that this is merely a convention, not a competition, lest the story have any stakes, lest there be some suspense over the outcome). The guys road trip up from Florida, stopping a few places along the way to have rambling interludes with locals. These diversions are not, strictly speaking, “tangents,” because there is no central story for them to be tangents to.

Two vignettes are noteworthy. In one, the gang meets Rome (Jada Pinkett Smith), the emcee at a Georgia house that appears to be part brothel, part all-male revue. (She and

Mike have a history.) In the other, the gang crashes a party of wine-drinking cougars (one of them played by Andie MacDowell) at a charming old South Carolina mansion. Most of the clientele at Rome's place are black, and everybody at the mansion is white, but the message imparted to both groups of women is the same: you are all beautiful queens who deserve to feel special. I have no argument with that sentiment, but the movie slathers it on with embarrassing effusiveness, cooing to the ladies in the audience as it pats them condescendingly on the head

and reassures them that they, too, are beautiful queens.

The rest of the movie is for bros, about bros, a sort of non-idiot's version of “Entourage.” Tatum and the others are agile dancers, to be sure, and a few scenes have a tongue-in-cheek sexiness to them. But the conversation is rarely interesting; I don't find any of the characters compelling; none of them change, learn, or grow over the course of the movie; and in the absence of a conflict (or at least some mindless titillation), what's the point? Unlike its stars, the movie is shambling, flabby, and way too long.

Marylanders, Cut Your Rabies Risk— Leave Even the Cute, Cuddly Wildlife Alone

Nearly 150 rabid animals discovered in Maryland so far in 2015

By PRESS OFFICER
MDHCD

Baltimore, MD—Each year, the Maryland Departments of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) and of Natural Resources (DNR) learn of situations where residents with the best of intentions have “rescued” a young wild animal and in doing so, have exposed themselves to rabies. Even when animals do not have rabies, residents endanger animals by interfering with their natural adaptation and development of basic survival skills.

“Rabies is a serious disease transmitted through the saliva of an infected animal. It is nearly always fatal without the provision of preventive treatment. The best ways to protect your family are to appreciate wildlife from a distance and to vaccinate your pets,” said Dr. Katherine Feldman, State Public Health Veterinarian. “We want to remind residents to report sick, injured or nuisance wildlife by calling toll-free in Maryland: 1-877-463-6497.”

So far in 2015, 143 animals have been diagnosed with rabies in Maryland, including raccoons, bats, and foxes.

There were 344 laboratory-confirmed cases of animal rabies in Maryland in 2014. All mammals are susceptible to rabies, including wildlife and such domestic species as dogs and cats. In the United States, rabies is predominantly seen in wildlife. Residents are reminded that wild animals that might be perceived as needing help or rehabilitation might in fact be debilitated due to diseases such as rabies.

Likewise, residents should leave alone very young animals that appear to have been abandoned or to be vulnerable. It is important to stay away from wild animals, including young animals and those that appear sick or injured, and to contact DNR at 410-260-8540 or 1-877-463-6497 for assistance; for after-hours wildlife emergencies, call 1-800-628-9944. Maryland law prohibits residents from possessing certain wild animals, including raccoons and foxes, because these and other animals can pose a significant risk to humans. Only licensed wildlife rehabilitators should handle wildlife. See the website below for help finding licensed rehabilitators in your area.

Animals with rabies might act normally during the early stages of the disease, making it difficult to know the animal is infected. As the disease progresses, animals often show changes in behavior. Wild animals might act very docile and domestic animals might become aggressive. Rabid animals might stagger, drool or become paralyzed. The diagnosis of rabies is made by examining brain tissue from the suspected rabid animal.

When a person is bitten by or exposed to the saliva of a rabid animal, onset of the disease is prevented by the provision of a rabies vaccine series administered over a 14-day period and a dose of rabies immunoglobulin given at the beginning of that series. Each year, approximately 900 Marylanders receive preventive treatment after exposure to a rabid or potentially rabid animal.

To prevent exposure to rabies:

- Have your dogs, cats, ferrets, horses, sheep and cattle vaccinated against rabies.
- Keep your pet under your control at all times, especially when traveling.

- View wildlife from a distance and do not feed or attempt to rescue wildlife.

- Avoid sick animals and any that are acting in an unusual manner.

- Cover garbage cans securely and do not leave pet food outside.

- Do not “rescue” or relocate wildlife.

- Prevent bats from entering your home. If you find a bat in your home, do not touch it. Only let it go if you are sure no people or household pets have had any contact with it. Contact your local health department or animal control agency for assistance.

- If you or your pet has been bitten or otherwise exposed to a rabid or suspected rabid domestic animal, get the owner's name, address and telephone number. Contact your local health department or animal control agency immediately.

Additional information about rabies can be found on the DHMH site at <http://goo.gl/rmD7WA>. For more DNR information about young wildlife, visit <http://goo.gl/3SzSzu>. Additional tips on reporting sick or injured wildlife also can be found at DNR at <http://goo.gl/xhY9tA>.

The Edge of Sports

by DAVE ZIRIN

Steve Spurrier Was Right: We Need to Get Rid of ‘that Dang, Damn Confederate Flag’

It is a rare day when what NCAA coaches are saying about racial justice and social change. But this is a moment to pay close attention. The



Charleston Massacre at Mother Emanuel Church, an act of white supremacist terrorism—no matter what the FBI believes—has publicly revived the demand that the Confederate flag come down from the Columbia Capitol grounds. The horrific nature of the crime has even put diehard supporters of the stars and bars like South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley on their heels, saying with a quisling's cowardice that the issue needs to be “talked about again.”

But maybe we wouldn't have to re-litigate this question and that toxic symbol of racist terror would not be flying with government sanction if the state's NCAA coaches had been heard. Legendary University of South Carolina Gamecocks head coach Steve Spurrier, a man of the south with a drawl so thick it sounds like he has a mouth full of honey, said in April of 2007, “My opinion is we don't need the Confederate flag at our Capitol. I don't really know anybody that wants it there, but I guess there are a lot of South Carolinians that do want it there.” The setting was an awards banquet and Spurrier “caught everyone by surprise” by speaking off the cuff about his disgust over a 2006 South Carolina-Tennessee game where in the background on national television at ESPN's “GameDay,” he was appalled to see “some clown ... waving that dang, damn Confederate flag behind the TV set. And it was embarrassing to me and I know embarrassing to our state.” Spurrier then said, “I realize I'm not supposed to get in the political arena as a football coach, but if anybody were ever to ask me about that damn Confederate flag, I would say we need to get rid of it. I've been told not to talk about that. But if anyone were ever to ask me about it, I certainly wish we could get rid of it.” Keep in mind, “the Ole' Ball Coach didn't say “put it in a museum.” He said “get rid of it.”

Spurrier is not the first University of South Carolina football coach to come out against “that dang, damn Confederate flag”. In April of 2000, Gamecocks coach Lou Holtz, was part of a 120-mile march from Charleston to Columbia to call for the flag to come down. He was joined by Clemson University football coach Tommy Bowden and the South Carolina and Clemson men's basketball coaches at the time, Eddie Fogler and Larry Shyatt. As Lou Holtz said in 2001, “It is just not right. When I look into the eyes of my players and see how hurt they are, then I am disturbed about the Confederate flag.” Holtz also said, “We need not to take a segment of our society and treat them with disrespect and that is the way our black players feel about the Confederate flag.”

All of these coaches are white guys: white guys whose professional prosperity in the state depended upon the ability to recruit and coach young black men. This is not to say that their feelings were not fueled by genuine moral outrage, but the pivot toward success or the unemployment line for every college coach is traced to that moment when they are sitting in living rooms with—more often than not—black families. The South Carolina and Clemson coaches are tasked with attempting to convince these families that their children will be not only safe but also valued in a state covered, as Jon Stewart said, with “racist wallpaper.”

The college football coach is allegedly a revered position in the southeast of the United States. Yet on this issue, their words were met with silence or derision. They were harangued with the same blinkered arguments about the flag being one of “heritage not hate” as if those two words couldn't be one and the same, locked in their own Dixie death grip. Taking down that flag, which first flew over the Capitol in 1961 when it was raised in response to the civil rights movement, wouldn't end racism but it would make the atmosphere just a little less poisonous. They say in politics that timing is everything. Steve Spurrier spoke out in 2007. All that did was turn some heads. If he said the same words now, it could be a true tipping point. Here is hoping he speaks out. Then finally “that dang, damn Confederate flag” would fly on the South Carolina Capitol grounds no longer.

Attention Golfers!

Christmas in April Needs You!
Help us Celebrate 27 Years in the County

Andrews Air Force Base
September 28, 2015 all day
The Courses at Andrews Air Force Base

Prince George's County Christmas in April is sponsoring its 26th Annual Christmas in April Susan Denison Mona Golf Tournament. All profits from the tournament go toward funding the 2016 program, which renovates the homes of the elderly and disabled residents of Prince George's County at no cost to the homeowner. Golfers and sponsors are needed! Please call 301-868-0937 to register for the tournament. Fees include a buffet, cart, and green fees, prizes, refreshments on the course, and more. Your participation will enable Christmas in April to repair the hearts and homes of 90 needy families in 2016. Don't wait, call now as space is limited.

ADVERTISE! in The Prince George's Post
Call Today 301 627 0900

Calendar of Events

August 6—August 12, 2015

Safe Summer: Free Throw Competition

Date and Time: Thursday, August 6, 2015 10 pm-12 midnight
Description: Tonight teens will get on the court for a free throw competition. Bring your best shot.
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

FREE Gymnastics Workshop

Date and Time: Friday, August 7, 2015 6-7 pm
Description: These workshops are an open play time for your child to explore gymnastics in a safe and fun environment. Please be aware, these workshops are not structured classes, but open play! Spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Maximum 3 children to 1 adult. Parents are required to be on the floor with the children.
Cost: FREE
Ages: Walking to 12 years
Location: Prince George's Sports & Learning Complex
8001 Sheriff Road, Landover, MD 20785
Contact: 301-583-2400; TTY 301-583-2483

Safe Summer: Cookout & Water Balloon Night

Date and Time: Friday, August 7, 2015 10 pm-12 midnight
Description: Get ready to have the ultimate fun on a Friday night! Tonight teens will enjoy delicious food—cookout style and participate in water balloon games.
Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 12-17
Location: Deerfield Run Elementary School Community Center
13000 Laurel-Bowie Road, Laurel 20708
Contact: 301-552-1093; TTY 301-445-4512

Nature Hike

Date and Time: Saturday, August 8, 2015 9:30 am-11:30 am
Description: Enjoy a naturalist-led, woodland nature hike.
Cost: Resident: \$2; Non-Resident: \$3
Ages: All ages welcome
Location: Patuxent River Park
16000 Croom Airport Road, Upper Marlboro, MD
Contact: 301-627-6074; TTY: 301-446-3402

Seniors: 2015 Club 300 Summer Group Walk

Date and Time: Monday, August 10, 2015 8:30 am
Description: Meet other Club 300 members and keep those feet moving as we explore some of the wonderful trails in our area. For those who are interested, Club 300 group walks will be scheduled and posted on the Club 300 webpage. We are bringing a new dimension to our Club 300 group walks! A doctor/health care practitioner will be sharing a health tip and leading our group walk! Don't miss out on this great opportunity to Walk and Talk with the Doc.
Cost: Free
Ages: Any Prince George's County senior (age 60 & better) or pre-senior (age 50—59)
Location: Watkins Regional Park (Meet at Central Area Office/Tennis Bubble parking lot)
301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD
Contact: 301-446-3400 (Special Programs Division) or 301-446-3444 (Club 300 voicemail)

Safe Summer: Pottery Design

Date and Time: Monday, August 10, 2015 10 pm-12 midnight
Description: Ready for a night of artistic fun? Tonight, teens will show off their creativity by designing pottery.
Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 12-17
Location: Langley Park Community Center
1500 Merimac Drive, Hyattsville 20783
Contact: 301-445-4508; TTY 301-445-4512

Safe Summer: Comedy

Date and Time: Monday, August 10, 2015 10 pm -12 midnight
Description: Tonight teens will be introduced to the art of comedy. Bring your best jokes and show us your humorous side.
Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 12-17
Location: Kentland Community Center
2411 Pinebrook Avenue, Landover 20785
Contact: 301-386-2278; TTY 301-445-4512

Safe Summer: Open Mic

Date and Time: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 10 pm-12 midnight
Description: Think you've got a special talent? Join us for open mic night and put your best routine forward.
Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 12-17
Location: Kentland Community Center
2411 Pinebrook Avenue, Landover 20785
Contact: 301-386-2278; TTY 301-445-4512

Safe Summer: Ice Cream Sundae Night

Date and Time: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 10 pm-12 midnight
Description: Bring creativity and your appetite! Tonight, you will be creating your own ice cream sundae with all the great fixings. How creative will you make your sundae?
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

Seniors: Arts on a Roll Improvisational Theatre Series

Date and Time: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 10:30-11:30 am
Description: In this performing arts series, participants will learn the basic "rules" of improvisation. Afterward, they'll create humorous or dramatic improvised scenes through a series of engaging theater games.
Cost: Free
Ages: 60 and Better
Location: Langley Park Senior Activity Center
1500 Merrimac Dr, Hyattsville, MD 20783
Contact: 301-408-4343; TTY 301-446-3402

EARTH TALK ... Is California's Drought the Result of Too Much Meddling by Enviros?

Dear EarthTalk:

Is California's epic drought really the result of too much meddling by environmentalists like some conservatives have suggested?

— Betsy Martin,
Butte, MT

While no one questions that California is in the midst of one of the worst droughts in recent history, the jury is still out as to why, at least according to some conservatives like former Hewlett Packard CEO and 2016 Republican Presidential hopeful Carly Fiorina.

This past April, Fiorina told talk show host Glenn Beck that California's drought was a "man-made disaster" caused by "liberal environmentalists" who blocked the construction of appropriate reservoirs and other infrastructure that could have helped prevent the current crisis.

The vast majority of the state's 1,400 dams and reservoirs were built more than four decades ago. According to FoxNews, environmentalists "have since stopped the construction of water storage and delivery systems through legal and political actions" while fighting "to ensure that captured water is released into streams and the ocean—rather than the

water delivery system—in order to boost fish populations and dilute the salinity of the delta."

Conservatives are particularly incensed about releasing water from the state's control to help a small number of fish species already on the brink of extinction anyway. Priority #1 for state wildlife officials has been protection of the endangered delta smelt, a three inch long minnow that feeds on plankton and has a tough time surviving passage through the pumps of California's existing water diversion system. Since the fish was listed as endangered in 1993, biologists have tried to maintain a friendlier environment for it by withholding fresh river runoff that would otherwise go to homes, businesses and agricultural operations across the state. The state has flushed upwards of 1.4 trillion gallons of freshwater into the ocean since 2008 to protect delta smelt from the water system pumps. But despite these herculean efforts, delta smelt look to be headed for extinction anyway.

"In California, fish and frogs and flies are really important," said Fiorina. "California is a classic case of liberals being willing to sacrifice other people's lives and livelihoods at the altar of their ideology." She went on to tell MSNBC that whatever California does to address climate



PHOTO COURTESY EARTHTALK

Carly Fiorina and others blame California's drought on misguided environmental policies instead of climate change.

change at this point won't make a bit of difference: "A single state, or single nation acting alone can make no difference at all, that's what the scientists say," she said. "We're disabling our own economy and not having any impact at all on climate change."

"Droughts are nothing new in California, but right now, 70 percent of California's rainfall washes out to sea because liberals have prevented the construction of a single new reservoir or a single new water conveyance system over decades, during a period in which California's population has doubled," added Carly Fiorina.

"This is the classic case of liberals being willing to sacrifice other people's lives and livelihoods at the altar of their ideology."

Of course, environmentalists counter that blaming

them for their efforts to preserve and protect landscapes, hydrological flows and wildlife is nothing more than a smokescreen to divert attention from the real culprits in California's current drought woes: climate change due to man-made carbon emissions and our profligate water usage habits.

CONTACTS: Glenn Beck, www.glennbeck.com; FoxNews, www.foxnews.com.

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(www.emagazine.com).

Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

Danielle from A1

The National American Miss Maryland competition puts an emphasis on girls gaining self-confidence, learning new skills, and setting and achieving personal goals. The National American Miss Pageants are for "Today's Girl" and "Tomorrow's Leaders" and is dedicated towards developing the success of young women. Each year, the National American Miss Pageants award 1.5 million dollars in cash, scholarships, and prizes to help young girls accomplish their dreams.

Hardy has certainly excelled at all aspects of the competition and in her school life. "I am an over-achiever. I like trying a lot of things and being committed to them 100%." Education is a big part of her life. Hardy had the top GPA in the competition, which was a 3.6. "Education is the key to life, a stepping stone towards success, and a privilege," said Hardy.

Through her schooling and the competition she has enhanced her talent of public speaking. "When I have to speak in front of a crowd I never feel nervous but comfortable." Hardy wants to be a role model for young girls. Society can sometimes give the idea that women have to be skinny and wear a lot of makeup in order to be beautiful. She shows that confidence is beauty. "Young girls should not compare themselves to others. Girls in the competition are like everyday girls. Also, people should not generalize about every pageant because there are different types of pageants out



PHOTO COURTESY DANIELLE HARDY

Danielle Hardy, 2015 National American Miss Maryland.

there," said Hardy. For example, instead of having a swimsuit competition, the National American Miss Maryland pageant has an interview and talent component for girls to show off their glamour and poise.

Hardy exemplified poise and glamour by being a role model for her classmates and friends. She is involved in many organizations at her university such as being a member of the College of Professional Studies Honor Society, Chapter President of the Nu Mu Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., and working as a student ambassador, which

is very competitive as only a few get selected.

Hardy is a big advocate for doing community service. With her sorority and other organizations she does a lot of community service by going on mission trips and helping out the homeless and elderly. "Community service is my life and I enjoy doing it," says Hardy.

It is safe to say Hardy has wonderful people in her life who inspire her. Hardy's role model is her mom, Donita Hardy. "My mom has set a great example for me that I am still trying to live, and teaches me values and life

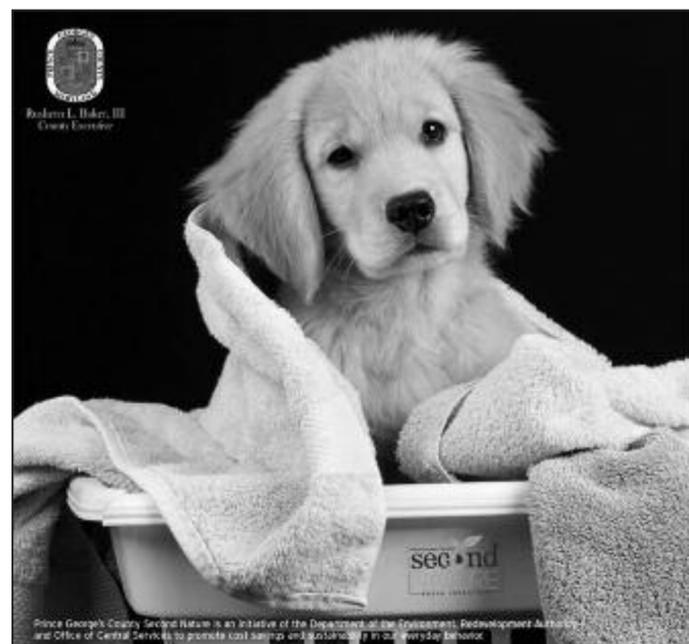
lessons and gives me guidance", said Hardy.

Hardy has learned a lot from the competition like she should continue trying new things outside her comfort zone. Hardy is a Christian and goes to Ebenezer A.M.E. Church in Fort Washington, Maryland under the direction of Rev. Dr. Grainger Browning, Jr. and Rev. Dr. Jo Ann Browning. She does not believe in fear and uses her faith to overcome any touch obstacles.

In 2014, Hardy lost her grandfather to Alzheimer's and Dementia. Winning the title of All American Miss would give her the platform to bring more awareness to the illness and inspire young girls. "To any young girls wanting to go to be in a pageant, I say go for it, give it a try. I had no prior training and never had a coach," said Hardy.

Hardy is a legal studies major at St. John's University. Her dream is to have her own law firm and work in the entertainment industry. She has been featured as a guest co-host on the national daytime talk show, "The Real", alongside Tamar Braxton, Tamera Mowry-Houseley, Loni Love, Jeannie Mai, and Adrienne Bailon. In November, Hardy will use her skills and talents to win the All American Miss pageant. With her dedication, sophistication, and sharp mind, Hardy definitely will blow the judges away.

Follow Danielle Hardy on Social Media:
IG: @PinkGlitterati
Twitter: @pinkGlitterati
www.gofundme.com/2015MissMaryland



DONATE IT

We all know that it is better to reuse items before we recycle them, but we don't always know where to take them. The Prince George's County Department of the Environment welcomes donations of your used towels, dog beds, stuffed animals, sheets and bath/kitchen mats to the County's Animal Management Division, located at 3750 Brown Station Road in Upper Marlboro. Call 301-780-7200 or contact CountyClick 3-1-1 for more information.

Donations are accepted Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

