

# The Prince George's Post



A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY Since 1932

Vol. 83, No. 36 September 3 — September 9, 2015 Prince George's County, Maryland Newspaper of Record Phone: 301-627-0900 25 cents



CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTO BY KATELYN NEWMAN

From left to right: Peabody Heights brewmaster Ernie L. Igot, brewer Eli Breitburg-Smith and co-owner Dan Baumiller stand in front of the machine responsible for distilling beer flavors before the beer enters its fermentation stage.

## Drinking New Beer Will Help Improve the Bay

By KATELYN NEWMAN  
Capital News Service

BALTIMORE—Mixing beer with the Chesapeake Bay may seem counterintuitive to cleaning it up, but Full Tilt Brewing co-owners and cousins Nick Fertig and Dan Baumiller created a new beer to help do just that.

The Bay IPA, new to the collection of craft beers from Baltimore's Full Tilt, will donate

about 10 percent of its profits to the Chesapeake Bay Trust, Baumiller said.

While the company usually crafts its flavors to fit Baltimore themes like its Berger Cookie Chocolate Stout, Fertig and Baumiller said, they wanted to support a local organization and were inspired by the Chesapeake Bay Trust's "Treasure the Chesapeake" license plates.

"We branched out a little from the Baltimore focus, but still stayed local with the Bay theme," Fertig said. "We thought it'd be a great match."

The Chesapeake Bay Trust is a nonprofit grant-making organization that collects money that it then redistributes to local communities toward cleanup and water quality improvement projects, said Molly Alton Mullins, director of

communications for the Chesapeake Bay Trust.

"These two guys—they're awesome. They love what they do: They both have full-time jobs and this is something they built because they wanted to do it," Mullins said. "We couldn't be happier to work with them."

See **BEER** Page A5

## Prince George's County Housing Market Showing Signs of Recovery

By Press Officer  
Office of Ben Cardin

LARGO, Md.—U.S. Senator Ben Cardin (D-Md.), a member of the Senate Committee on Finance, today held a roundtable discussion on housing and home ownership issues in Prince George's County and nationwide. Senator Cardin was joined in the discussion, which focused largely on the ongoing foreclosure crisis, by community leaders and members of state and county government. The conversation followed up on a December 2014 roundtable discussion

in Upper Marlboro that included Julian Castro, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III.

"In 2011, as the housing market in Prince George's County was approaching rock bottom, it was all hands on deck in the search for ways to address the crisis. Many of the people assembled today—including government officials and community and nonprofit leaders—

See **HOUSING** Page A5

## Thousands of PGCPS Students to Receive Free Meals

By Press Officer  
PGCPS

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—Starting this school year, more than 4,000 Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) students in nine schools will receive breakfast and lunch through the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.

"We know that a healthy breakfast helps to prepare students for success during the school day," said Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell, Chief Executive Of-

ficer for PGCPS. "This program will go a long way towards addressing childhood hunger in Prince George's County."

PGCPS has a total of 32 schools that are eligible to participate in the CEP. PGCPS selected nine schools to participate in the CEP based on a high percentage of students in need. The schools include: Andrew Jackson and William Hall academies and Carmody Hills, District Heights, Hillcrest Heights,

See **MEALS** Page A6

## Two PGCPS Immersion Programs Renamed to Honor Dr. Maya Angelou and Dr. Dora Kennedy

By PRESS OFFICER  
PGCPS

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—On July 1, 2015, Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) changed the names of two French immersion programs. John Hanson French Immersion changed its name to Maya Angelou French Immersion to honor an amazing African American leader.

"We are honored to adopt the name of this great author, activist, actress, screenwriter, and poet. She was not only a courageous, talented woman, but she also spoke several languages including French and Italian," says Martha Kristy, Acting Principal.

Dr. Maya Angelou's career spanned 50 years during which time she achieved international recognition and acclaim. She received dozens of awards and more than 50 honorary degrees. She was awarded the Presidential Medal of Arts in 2000 and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2010. Dr. Angelou spoke English,

French, and Italian; all of which are currently taught at the school.

Meanwhile, the oldest French immersion program in the PGCPS system unveiled a new marquee named Dora Kennedy French Immersion, which bears the name of its founder, longtime Maryland educator Dr. Dora Kennedy.

"It's important to carry on the great tradition of Dr. Dora Kennedy in adopting her name and goals of educating bilingual students ready to work and collaborate for the global economy," says Nasser Abi, principal of the nationally distinguished Blue Ribbon School. "Without her, there would be no French Immersion Program."

Kennedy was a woman with great vision and love of language learning. In addition to teaching, she served as president of the Maryland Foreign Language Association and executive member of the American Council on the

See **HONOR** Page A3

## Hurricane Katrina Claimed Lives, Changed Destinies and Caused Pump Prices To Skyrocket Ten Years Ago

*Hurricane Katrina Sent Price of Gas Above \$3 A Gallon For First Time Ever Nationwide*

By PRESS OFFICER  
AAA Mid-Atlantic

WASHINGTON, D. C.—They call the wind Katrina. When Hurricane Katrina made landfall ten years ago this week, she at once became one of the worst natural disasters in the annals of American history. The storm claimed at least 1,836 lives, displaced "hundreds of thousands of people" along the Gulf shore, swept away homes, wiped out fortunes, caused more than \$100 billion in damage, and sent the retail price of a gallon of self-serve regular gasoline skyrocketing above the \$3 threshold nationwide for the first time in U.S. history. Less than a month later history repeated itself as another Category 4 hurricane, Rita, hit the Gulf Coast, returning pump prices to \$3 and above.

Unfortunately for consumers, pump prices have exceeded \$3 and above thousands



PHOTO COURTESY UNITED STATES COAST GUARD PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS NYXOLYNO CANGEMI  
A U.S. Coast Guardsman searches for survivors in New Orleans in the Katrina aftermath.

of days since then, explains AAA Mid-Atlantic. Although the name Katrina means "pure, and unsullied," she was scarcely that. Her cyclonic gales

wrought pure ruination and utter devastation. She reached the peak of her strength on Sunday morning, August 28, 2005 and was quickly upgraded to a "Cat-

egory 5 Hurricane." The oil-rich Gulf Coast region (currently, the source of 55 percent of U.S.

See **KATRINA** Page A3

### INSIDE

#### U.S. Education Department Awards 38 States, D.C., and the Virgin Islands \$28.4 Million in Grants

The grants are used to help pay for low-income students taking approved advanced placement tests administered by the College Board, the International Baccalaureate Organization and Cambridge International Examinations.

Community, Page A3

#### It's Hard to Be What You Can't See

Children of color are now a majority of all public school students and will soon be a majority of all children in America yet children's books and the publishing industry have failed to keep up with the rainbow of our children's faces and cultures and needs and the wide variety of their daily experiences.

Commentary, Page A4

#### Maryland Retains Triple AAA Bond Rating, To Sell \$500 Million of General Obligation Bonds

"The rating reflects what we view as the state's ... Well-developed financial and debt management policies including long-term financial planning that should continue to be helpful in addressing future budget challenges ..."

Business, Page A5

#### Movie Review: "Vacation"

Vacation is the story of a family that drives 2,500 miles when they could have flown is almost inherently going to be discursive and rambling. "Vacation" is filled with—one might even say consists entirely of—tangents, vignettes, and side trips that are, strictly speaking, unnecessary.

Out on the Town, Page A6

#### Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

I've been seeing this ad on TV a lot by SeaWorld claiming they don't take orcas from the wild and that orcas live just as long in captivity as they do in the wild. Are these claims true?

—Mary Cleveland,  
Coral Gables, FL

Features, Page A7

# Towns and NEIGHBORS

## In and Around Morningside-Skyline

With Mary McHale, will not run this week

### Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

#### SEAFOOD FEAST

Come join us for a Seafood Feast September 12, 2015 from 4:00 PM-7:00 PM (catered by Thompson's Seafood) at New Hope Fellowship Nottingham Myers Campus. The address is 15601 Brooks Church Road, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Rev. Constance C. Smith, Pastor. Tickets can be purchased on the Eventbrite website at <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/seafood-feast-tickets-18181700957>. Donation is \$40.00. For more information call 301-888-2171.

#### 2015 HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

Join us for our 2015 Homecoming Celebration at Christ United Methodist Church New Hope Fellowship Cooperative Parish Sunday ("Magnifying the Lord at Home with Family and Friends"), September 27, 2015. The address is 22919 Christ Church Road, Aquasco, Maryland 20608.

Guest preacher will be Reverend Doctor Kwame O. Abayomi (AKA Rev. Dr. Norman A. Handy, Sr.) retired Minister, United Methodist Church at our 11:00 AM worship service. Come fellowship with us during a luncheon after the morning worship service.

Rev. Constance Smith, Pastor, Rev. Dr. Rebecca Iannicelli,

Washington East District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Marcus Matthews, Resident Bishop.

#### PRAYER BREAKFAST MEETING

The United Methodist Men Washington East District is holding their Prayer Breakfast Meeting on September 19, 2015 at Asbury UMC. The church is located at 4004 Accokeek Road, Brandywine, Maryland 20613. The donation is \$10.00. Please RSVP by calling Washington East District President, Cary Montgomery, (301) 627-0028 or email [cman77all@verizon.net](mailto:cman77all@verizon.net).

#### WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT CONFERENCE

A breakout empowerment session for girls in grades 7-12 will be held September 19, 2015 from 8:00 AM-3:30 PM. For registration information, by form, or visit the website by September 4th. The conference will be held at the Comfort Inn Conference Center Hotel at 4500 Crain Highway, Bowie, Maryland 20774.

#### BRANDYWINE-NORTH KEYS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The next Brandywine-North Keys Civic Association Meeting will be Wednesday September

16, 2015, in the Media Center at Brandywine Elementary School at 7:00 PM. September begins a new year. Therefore, dues (\$30 per household) will be due and payable at the meetings. You may also pay by mail. Send payment to Brandywine-North Keys Civic Association, P.O. Box 321, Brandywine, Maryland 20613.

#### CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Community Support Systems, Inc. (meeting our community needs for food, shelter and other safety-net services since 1995) will be celebrating 20 years Sunday, October 4, 2015 from 2:30 PM-5:00 PM at Colony South Hotel 7401 Surratts Road, Clinton, Maryland 20735. Tickets cost \$15.00. Please call 301-372-1491 to purchase your ticket by September 18th.

#### FAMILY CAREGIVERS CONFERENCE

Join us for a Family Caregivers Conference September 24, 2015 from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM. The Conference will provide support, and resources for families who face the challenge of caring for an aging parent, relative, or friend. You must pre-register at 301-265-8432 if you plan to attend.

## Mosaic Mural Dedication at the Largo Day Center in Prince George's County

By CHRISTINA WILLIAMS  
Prince George's Post

Largo, MD—Guests, students and their families walked into The Arc Prince George's County's Largo Day Center, smiling wide as they were greeted by the staff and visitors. All around the room the students' beautiful multi-panel mosaic murals were hung for all to see. There were images of people, places, and things that shared a story and sense of meaning to all who were gathering in the room. A "yay" sound could be heard from one of the students excited about seeing his work and the dedication ceremony.

On Monday, August 24, 2015 people came to celebrate the dedication of a new mural created by The Arc Prince George's County Largo Day Program participants in classes at the Brentwood Arts Exchange. For 63 years The Arc Prince George's County has been offering a lifetime of support, understanding and opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

At 12:30 p.m., the dedication started off with Melissa Ezelle, the Community Partnerships director of The Arc Prince George's County. Ezelle welcomed the group and thanked them for being at the first unveiling of the murals and then introduced Phil Davis, the Director at Brentwood Arts Exchange. Davis expressed that three years ago he did not know if the mosaic mural idea would take off but he was glad it did. The dedication continued with program directors such as Jessica Neely, the director of Day and Outreach Services, Rob Malone, the executive director at The Arc, teacher Rachel Cross, and other contributors and beneficiaries.

Rachel Cross and Siham Yassine helped students ex-



PHOTO BY CHRISTINA WILLIAMS

#### Participants at the Mural Largo Day Center dedication.

press their inner creativity through the murals. Cross was the lead artist educator and Yassine was the teaching artist. During the dedication, Cross expressed that the students loved creating the murals. "The students were so into their work they did not want to stop. I had to remind them that we needed to take a dance break," said Cross.

The murals took eight weeks to make. Joseph Warren, one of the artists, expressed to the crowd that he loved working on the mosaic murals. "I liked drawing and painting the flowers," said Warren. Students were able to express their own voices during the project.

Rob Malone was next to speak. He engaged the audience by having them look around at all the art pieces on the wall and tell him what they saw. Some of the responses were imagination, stories, expression, skills, creativity, and passion.

The Arc helps people with disabilities and their families by offering family, residential, employment, and adult services. Family services include general information and referral, advocacy, case management, respite

care, daycare recreation, and in-home supports. Residential services include community living and employment services provide support in finding and maintaining good jobs, as well as opportunities like a 12-month office skills training program. Adult services consist of a variety of vocational, recreational, and therapeutic activities.

Every March the organization helps raise money by having a Bowling Bash for the Sarah Petit Fund. The Fund was set up in memory of Sarah Petit, a girl who loved life and hanging out with family and friends through fun activities. The Fund helps to ensure "meaningful and joy inspiring recreation and personal development opportunities" for The Arc, such as the mosaic mural project. The parents of Sarah Petit thanked The Arc and the audience at the dedication and said, "See you in March."

Through many contributors such as the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Maryland State Arts Council, students are able to showcase their amazing

See MURAL Page A4

## Neighborhood Events

### Edwards Celebrates 80th Anniversary of Social Security

Washington, D.C.—Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards (MD-4) issued the following statement celebrating the 80th anniversary of Social Security. On August 14, 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act into law.

"Today we celebrate the 80th anniversary of Social Security, one of the most successful and transformative laws passed in our nation's history. Social Security provides earned benefits to nearly sixty million Americans; lifting twenty-two million individuals, including one million children, out of poverty. In Maryland's 4th Congressional District, Social Security is often a lifeline for many of the 97,000 beneficiaries, of which over 71,000 are 65 or older. Social Security plays a critical role for seniors, children, the disabled, and veterans in our communities and throughout the country.

"Social Security is value not a bargaining chip. As we celebrate the historic achievement of Social Security, we must also commit ourselves to strengthening and protecting Social Security for generations to come. We must fight any proposals to reduce benefits or increase the retirement age or otherwise chip away at this earned benefit. I am a proud original cosponsor of the Social Security 2100 Act, which would ensure that Social Security remains financially stable for decades to come. That is the kind of reliability the American people deserve. I look forward to continue working with my Congressional colleagues to strengthen and expand Social Security benefits for millions of Americans."

#### Edwards Hosts Roundtable on Drug Overdose in Maryland

Washington, D.C.—August 7, Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards (MD-4) hosted a roundtable highlighting the impact heroin and other opioid-related overdoses are having on communities in the 4th Congressional District and throughout the state of Maryland. Representatives from law enforcement, higher education institutions, nonprofit organizations, and federal, state, and local government participated in the discussion.

"Today was incredibly insightful as stakeholders shared their experiences from fighting this epidemic on the ground every day," Edwards said. "Hearing the challenges and actions being taken by law enforcement, educators, and public health officials broadened everyone's understanding of the scope of this issue. We know naloxone is effective in reversing opioid-related overdose, and it is important that we increase its availability. But it is one piece of the puzzle. We must also work together to educate the public that addiction is a disease, ensure necessary resources are available, gather more comprehensive data to identify trends and locations, and reduce the cost of naloxone. With such a coordinated effort, I am confident that someday overdoses can be eliminated from our communities. I thank everyone for their participation today, and look forward to continue working together in this effort."

"We appreciate Congresswoman Donna Edwards'



Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards

leadership on the issue of heroin and opiate abuse in particular and drug abuse in general. This forum was important in bringing members of the Health, Education, and Law Enforcement disciplines together as we continue to explore this disease and how to prevent drug abuse and overdose."—Melvin C. High, Sheriff, Prince George's County.

Since 2009, Rep. Edwards has introduced the Stop Overdose Stat (S.O.S.) Act, H.R. 2850 in the 114th Congress, which would fill critical gaps in federal efforts to prevent opioid dependence and overdose. This bipartisan and bicameral legislation would provide federal support for expanding the awareness and use of naloxone, improving epidemiological surveillance of overdose occurrences, and establishing a coordinated federal plan of action.

Dr. Melinda Campopiano, Branch Chief in the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment-Division of Pharmacologic Therapies, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, noted during her remarks: "Naloxone is the emergency antidote for opioid overdose. But let's be clear: access to naloxone does not facilitate a person's addiction. Saving someone's life facilitates their ability to recover from addiction."

#### Free Sleep Apnea Support Group Helps People Get a Better Night's Rest

Lanham, MD—Doctors Community Hospital's Sleep Center will provide a free support group to raise awareness about sleep apnea and help people better manage this condition.

Sleep apnea is a potentially life-threatening condition that causes people to stop breathing while sleeping. It can lead to depression, memory problems, irritability, weight gain, high blood pressure and even heart disease. Some of the symptoms include:

- Drowsy driving
- Excessive daytime sleepiness
- Difficulty concentrating

At the Sleep Center's support group, healthcare professionals will share the latest diagnostic and treatment options for people who have sleep apnea and other disorders. From expert assessments of CPAP machines to insightful discussions, participants will learn how to get a better night's rest. Date: September 30, 2015 Time: 6:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m. Location:

Doctors Community Hospital  
8100 Good Luck Road  
North Building, 5th Floor,  
DSE Room  
Lanham, Maryland  
Registration: 301-DCH-4YOU  
(301-324-4968)

#### Moving Option: U-Haul Rentals Land at Clinton Cycles

CAMP SPRINGS, MD.—U-Haul Company of Maryland, Inc. is pleased to announce that Clinton Cycles has signed on as a U-Haul neighborhood dealer to serve the Camp Springs community.

Clinton Cycles at 6709 Old Branch Ave. will offer U-Haul trucks, trailers, towing equipment, support rental items and in-store pick-up for boxes.

Hours of operation for U-Haul rentals are 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. After-hours drop-off is available for customer convenience.

Reserve U-Haul products at this dealer location by calling (240) 767-6881 or visiting <http://www.uhaul.com/Locations/Truck-Rentals-near-Camp-Springs-MD> today.

Clinton Cycles owner Francis Holder is proud to team with the industry leader in do-it-yourself moving and self-storage to better meet the demands of Prince George's County during the busy summer moving season.

U-Haul and Clinton Cycles are striving to benefit the environment through sustainability initiatives. Truck sharing is a core U-Haul sustainability business practice that allows individuals to access a fleet of trucks that is larger than what they could access on an individual basis.

Every U-Haul truck placed in a community helps keep 19 personally owned large-capacity vehicles, pickups, SUVs and vans off the road. Fewer vehicles means less traffic congestion, less pollution, less fuel burned and cleaner air.

Clinton Cycles is a great place to become U-Haul Famous. Take your picture in front of a U-Haul product, send it in and your face could land on the side of a U-Haul truck. Upload your photo through Instagram using #uhaulfamous, or go to [www.uhaulfamous.com](http://www.uhaulfamous.com) to submit photos and learn more.

#### WSSC Opens Satellite Office in Prince George's County

WSSC and Prince George's County have officially opened WSSC's satellite office at Prince George's County Department of Permitting, Inspection and Enforcement (DPIE). The satellite office will enhance the "one-stop-shop" concept at DPIE to better support the economic development and redevelopment projects in the county.

The new WSSC satellite office will provide customers dealing with private new development or redevelopment projects support and coordination to facilitate the process of obtaining WSSC water and/or sewer plan approvals and permits.

The satellite office is now open at Prince George's County Department of Permitting, Inspection and Enforcement located at Inglewood Center III (IC3)—9400 Peppercorn Place, Largo, Maryland 20774. This office is staffed by members of WSSC's Development Services Group, including a Project Manager Supervisor and a Project Manager. The office hours of operations are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. and Wednesday 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. The office closes for lunch every day from 12:00 p.m.—12:30 p.m.

# COMMUNITY

## Practical Money Skills

By Nathaniel Sillin

### Getting Your Home Ready to Sell

As the economy improves, today's sellers are facing a very different environment than they were before the housing market stumbled in 2006.

Today's housing market features new procedures and standards, not the least of which are continuing borrowing hurdles for prospective buyers. If you are thinking about a home sale in the coming months, it pays to do a thorough overview of your personal finances and local real estate environment before you put up the "for sale" sign. Here are some general issues to consider:

**Make sure you're not underwater.** You may want to buy a new home, but can you afford to sell? The term "underwater" refers to the amount of money a seller owes on a house in excess of final sales proceeds. If what you owe on the home—including all selling costs due at closing—exceeds the agreed-upon sale price, then you will have to pay the difference out of pocket. If you're not in a situation where you absolutely have to sell now, you may want to wait until your financial circumstances and the real estate market improves.

**Evaluate your finances.** Before you sell, make sure you are ready to buy or rent. Making sure all three of your credit reports (<https://www.annualcreditreport.com/index.action>) are accurate is an important part of that process.

**Consider "for sale by owner" vs. "for sale by broker."** "For Sale by Owner" (FSBO) signs were a common sight in many neighborhoods during the housing crisis. Shrunken home values convinced many sellers to sell their property themselves rather than pay 5-6 percent of profit in broker commission. However, consider what a licensed real estate broker could accomplish in your specific situation. Many experienced brokers have market knowledge and negotiating skills that could potentially get a better price for your property. Deciding which route to take shouldn't be an overnight decision. Check leading FSBO and broker sites and talk with knowledgeable friends, attorneys and real estate professionals to learn as much as you can.

**Think twice before spending on improvements.** Not every home construction project pays off at sale time. Remodeling magazine's annual Cost vs. Value Report (<http://www.remodeling.hw.net/cost-vs-value/2015/>) tracks both pricing and cost recovery for leading remodeling projects. Before fixing up a bathroom, kitchen or any other area of your home, research whether the work will actually pay for itself at sale. For many sellers, it might be advantageous to hire a licensed home inspector to identify any structural, mechanical or major appliance repair issues that could delay or compromise a sale.

**Don't forget moving costs.** According to the American Moving and Storage Association, a leading industry trade group, the average professional interstate move of 1,220 miles costs an average of \$5,630; in state, the average moving cost is \$1,170. After all the costs involved in selling a home, don't forget how much it costs to relocate.

Bottom line: Selling your home requires planning. Before putting it on the market, get solid, qualified advice on how to sell smart in a still-recovering housing market.

### Honor from A1

Teaching of Foreign Languages, founded the National Museum of Language, and published extensively. Kennedy became the first Foreign Language Supervisor in PGCPs.

Despite obstacles from skeptics in its early days, Kennedy's original language immersion program has thrived, performing highly on both American standardized tests and the Diplôme d'études

en langue française (DELF), a proficiency test for French language learners. It remains the second oldest total French immersion program in the United States.

"Both of these women left an incredible legacy. They paved the way for many people and we hope their names will inspire our students, teachers and community," said Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell, Chief Executive Officer PGCPs. "If we want schools of excellence, we could not have chosen better names."



## U.S. Education Department Awards 38 States, D.C., and the Virgin Islands \$28.4 Million in Grants to Help Low-Income Students Take Advanced Placement Tests

By PRESS OFFICER  
Office of the White House

The U.S. Department of Education announced today that it has awarded \$28.4 million in Advanced Placement (AP) grants to 38 states, Washington, D.C., and the Virgin Islands as part of its efforts to boost college- and career-readiness for historically underserved students. The grants will help defray the costs of taking advanced placement tests for low-income students.

"Advanced Placement classes and the corresponding exams come with very high expectations for our students, as well as important early exposure to the demands and rigor of college-level courses, all while still in high school," said John King, senior advisor delegated duties

of deputy secretary of education. "These grants are a smart investment in equity and a way to eliminate barriers for low-income students, level the playing field and allow more students to access the college-level critical thinking and reasoning skills taught in AP courses."

The grants are used to help pay for low-income students taking approved advanced placement tests administered by the College Board, the International Baccalaureate Organization and Cambridge International Examinations. By subsidizing test fees for low-income students, the program is intended to encourage those students to take advanced placement tests and obtain college credit for high school courses, reducing the time and cost required to complete a postsecondary degree.

Levels of funding per state were determined on the basis of state estimates of the numbers of tests that would be taken by low-income students. From 2014 to 2015, preliminary results show that the number of tests for low-income students covered by the program increased from 768,772 to 831,913, an improvement of more than 7 percent.

Based on the anticipated number of tests to be taken, the grants under the Advanced Placement Test Fee Program are expected to be sufficient to pay all but \$12 of the cost of each advanced placement test taken by low-income students. States may opt to require students to pay a portion of the costs.

The Obama Administration's commitment to equity in education underlies nearly

every significant activity of the Education Department—from programs focused on early learning to college affordability and tools for reducing student debt. Expanding students' access to and successful completion of rigorous courses was also an initial recommendation of the President's My Brother's Keeper Task Force. By expanding access to college-level courses, more low-income students are able to graduate high school with the tools they need to excel in college and beyond.

The Advanced Placement Test Fee program is administered by the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. For additional information on the program and these new awards, visit <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/apfee/index.html>.

### Katrina from A1

crude oil production) held its breath, as did the entire nation.

By the time she made landfall the next morning, Monday, August 29, Hurricane Katrina was by then downgraded to a "Category 4 Hurricane." That's when "up jumped the devil," in the words of the legendary Delta blues singer Robert Johnson. In the wake of Hurricane Katrina the cost of gasoline soared to then records highs, as pump prices crested above \$3 a gallon for just over a week, peaking on Labor Day, according to AAA Daily Fuel Gauge Report. At that time, it was the largest one month run-up in gasoline prices.

"At one fell swoop, Hurricane Katrina struck the solar plexus of the national refining capacity and delivery systems, thwacked the national psyche, and spawned sticker shock, which in turn, stoked the sum of the primal fears of some motorists and consumers who were afraid things were spiraling out of control because some gasoline stations in the area were reportedly closing early to avoid shortages," recalls John B. Townsend II, AAA Mid-Atlantic's Manager of Public and Government Affairs. "In several senses, it was the proverbial worst-case scenario. Keep in mind, until then, most American consumers had never witnessed \$3 gasoline before. With Hurricane Katrina, pump prices crossed the Rubicon."

In addition to destroying lives, sweeping away pride of place, demolishing hopes and deluging dreams ten years ago, Hurricane Katrina also wreaked havoc upon the United States refinery and production capacity in the Gulf of Mexico and it shuttered the Louisiana Offshore Oil Port (LOOP). Those disruptions sent

crude oil prices above \$70 per barrel and gasoline futures sky-high on the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), drove pump prices upward by 40 cents to 75 cents a gallon overnight at some self-serve gasoline kiosks in markets across the nation, caused gasoline shortages, and spawned long gasoline lines, something not seen in some parts of the country since the 1970s.

Historically, gasoline prices surged above \$3 per gallon for the first time ever in the eight-day period immediately following Hurricane Katrina, in the period from September 3–10, 2005, explains AAA. Prior to the onset of this avatar of the storm of the century ("the largest and third strongest hurricane ever recorded to make landfall in the US"), the Gulf Coast region was bounteous with refined petroleum products, shipping 4.5 million barrels of petroleum products per day, notes AAA Mid-Atlantic. In one single action, Hurricane Katrina shut down "most crude oil and natural gas production in the Gulf of Mexico, as well as a great deal of refining capacity in Louisiana and Alabama, 554,000 barrels per day of which was still closed as of late October 2005." That is according to the Congressional Research Service's (CRS) report "Oil and Gas Disruption From Hurricane Katrina and Rita."

Why did pump prices escalate so quickly across the nation and across the Washington metro area, which is 1,092 miles away from where Hurricane Katrina made landfall? It is no mystery because the hurricane not only drove a stake into the heart of nation's "largest energy hub," she also rendered inoperable the two major pipelines which stream petroleum products to our region and other markets. Con-



U.S. NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
**Bayou La Batre: Storm surge of 16 feet pushed cargo ship Caribbean Clipper and more than 23 fishing boats ashore.**

sider this, the Plantation Pipe Line Company (PPL) wends its way from Louisiana across eight states including Virginia, and has its terminus in the Washington metro area, and the Colonial Pipeline veers its serpentine course through 13 states including Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. It zigzags from Houston, Texas all the way up to Linden, New Jersey.

The infrastructure of the crucial transmission pipelines for refined petroleum products remained at "partial capacity" until early September. Within days, a supermarket in Waldorf, Maryland raised its gasoline prices nearly 80 cents a gallon during a 24-hour-period, AAA Mid-Atlantic advised at the time. The price jumped from \$2.62 per gallon on Tuesday, August 30 to \$3.41 a gallon by Thursday, September 1, 2005. That morning motorists in the District of Columbia saw the street cost of gasoline soar as high as \$3.49 per gallon at the Lowest Price station on Bladensburg Road.

In a matter of just a few days fuel prices were in full fury, as the price of gasoline soared by another 16 cents a gallon to \$2.89 across the metro area. That same day, Friday, September 2, 2005, pump prices in the nation's capital averaged \$2.87 per gallon, the mirror image of the national average price that same day. That morning panicky motorists formed lines at the Exxon station at the corner of East Capitol Street and Benning Road. Even worse, across the United States, "Some retailers reported wholesale price increases of up to \$1.00 per gallon overnight, forcing them to increase their retail prices in response," noted the National Association of Convenience Stores (NACS).

Nationwide, pump prices for self-serve regular peaked at \$3.06 per gallon on Labor Day, Monday, September 5, 2005, be-

fore slipping to an average price of \$3.04 a gallon Wednesday, September 7, and then to \$3.03 per gallon by Thursday, September 8, 2005. Things took a turn for the worse by Sunday, September 11, 2005, because American consumers found themselves shelling out a then mind-boggling amount—about \$437 million more for gasoline and diesel fuel purchases—than they were a year earlier, according to data compiled for AAA by the Oil Price Information Service (OPIS).

Consumers in Washington were coping with the most expensive gasoline prices in the United States at \$3.34 for a gallon of self-serve regular, compared to \$1.94 per gallon a year earlier. Pump prices were averaging \$3.20 per gallon around the Washington metro area, \$3.23 per gallon throughout the state of Maryland, and \$3 per gallon across the commonwealth of Virginia. That's also why the national retail average still stood at \$3.02 a gallon, before finally receding below the threshold of \$3 per gallon the next day to \$2.97 per gallon.

Embarrassingly, Maryland found herself tied for fifth place in the roll call of the most expensive statewide average gasoline prices across the United States. The high cost of gasoline in the District of Columbia and Maryland raised the specter of price gouging in the minds of many consumer advocates and motorists. Pump prices remained extraordinarily high for days to come, in part because 554,000 barrels of oil and gas per day did not flow through the boarded up production infrastructure in the Gulf Coast region and the marketplace again until late October, 2005.

But it was not over, proving the trope "lightning never strikes the same place twice" has little



FEMA PHOTO TAKEN BY ANDREA BOOHER  
**Residents of Louisiana, who had to flee their homes because of Hurricane Katrina, are inside the Houston Astrodome and being helped by the Red Cross and other agencies and associations.**



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# COMMENTARY

**Barbara A. Mikulski**  
*United States Senator for Maryland*



## Mikulski, Cardin Announce \$21,091 in Federal Funding to Purchase Equipment Supporting Firefighters in PG County

WASHINGTON—U.S. Senators Barbara A. Mikulski and Ben Cardin (both D-Md.) today announced that the Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad has been awarded \$21,091 in federal funding through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program. As the Vice-Chairwoman of the 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.

"I know how important this funding is to Maryland communities—often it's the difference between life and death. First responders protect our homes and communities, and the federal government has a responsibility to protect them by providing them with the tools they need to do their jobs safer and smarter," Senator Mikulski said. "Every day when our first responders report for duty, they don't know what they will face. That's why I fight every year for the equipment, training, and staffing our protectors and communities deserve."

"Our first responders and their families deserve the peace of mind that comes with knowing they have the equipment they need to get the job done and come home safely," said Senator Cardin. "The men and women of the Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad need a strong federal partner that is as committed to their mission as they are."

The Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad will use this federal funding to purchase two gear washers and dryers. The gear washers and dryers allow for the removal of harmful carcinogens and bodily fluids in a safe and effective manner and allow the equipment to be put back into service much quicker. For more information, please contact Michael Haggerty at 301-725-3345.

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 nearly \$168 million in fire grant funding, of which more than \$22 million has been awarded to fire departments in Prince George's County.

**Benjamin L. Cardin**  
*United States Senator for Maryland*



## Cardin Lauds Guidance to End Discriminatory Profiling in Maryland, Continues to Push for National Ban

*"Civil rights should not evaporate or be forfeited after crossing a state line."*

BALTIMORE—U.S. Senator Ben Cardin (D-Md.) released the following statement regarding the issuance of guidance to end discriminatory profiling in Maryland, by Attorney General Brian Frosh. Senator Cardin has been the leading voice in the United States Senate calling for the end to discriminatory profiling by law enforcement at all levels nationwide.

"For years now, Attorney General Brian Frosh and I have been working to end discriminatory profiling on the state and local levels, respectively. His guidance for Maryland law enforcement instructs officers not to improperly consider race, ethnicity, gender, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability or gender identity to any degree during police operations and investigations. This guidance builds on the 2014 federal guidance from the Justice Department prohibiting the use discriminatory profiling by federal law enforcement officers, and I hope the Maryland guidance will spur a national trend in

ending the counterproductive practice and restoring the trust between law enforcement and the communities they protect. Discriminatory profiling has no place in America. It doesn't work, it breeds mistrust, and we have seen that it can be deadly. Civil rights should not evaporate or be forfeited after crossing a state line. I will continue to call on my colleagues in the House and Senate to pass my legislation, the End Racial Profiling Act, which would prohibit discriminatory profiling—including but not limited to racial profiling—by law enforcement at all levels, nationwide. I have also included language ending discriminatory profiling in the BALTIMORE Act, along with other common sense reforms to revitalize our cities and make needed reforms to our criminal justice system. This is a strong step forward for civil rights in Maryland and I look forward to building on this momentum as we continue to work to end discriminatory profiling everywhere in America."

### Mural from A2

talents. "In the future I hope we can sell the artwork of the students," said Ezelle.

At the end of the dedication, Malone ended with a quote from Edgar Degas, that says, "Art is not what you see, but what you make others see." Students definitely inspired others to see the beauty of life through their work.

For more information about The Arc Prince George's County, visit [www.thearcofpgc.org](http://www.thearcofpgc.org) or contact Melissa Ezelle at 215-410-0066 or at [mezelle@thearcofpgc.org](mailto:mezelle@thearcofpgc.org)



PHOTO BY CHRISTINA WILLIAMS  
 Daniel and Tierra work on a mural panel together.

### HANCOCK'S RESOLUTION



Open to the Public

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS PHOTO BY: PUBDOG

#### HANCOCK'S RESOLUTION

In 1785 Stephen Hancock, Jr. built the original stone section as the main house for what was then a 410-acre (170 ha) farm. Additions to the house were built in 1855 and in about 1900. Stone and frame outbuildings remain, including a one-story gable-roofed stone dairy. Hancock's Resolution remained in Hancock family ownership until the deaths in the 1960s of Mary Hancock and her brother, Henry Hancock, who left the property to Anne Arundel County to be preserved. Hancock's Resolution underwent a thorough restoration in 2000 and is now open to the public as a house museum. Open Sundays April through October, 1-4.

## Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



## It's Hard to Be What You Can't See

"When we think about what it is to be 'connected,' we think about memory. We think about history. We think about storytelling. All of these words that we hear—'literacy,' 'inclusion,' 'diversity'—those are all words for connection ... When I say to people 'why do we need to have diverse books?' it's not because necessarily everybody needs to see themselves reflected in every book, but because we need that sense of connection. We need to live in a global sense."

As a new school year starts, many parents are making sure their children have the right supplies from their back-to-school lists and double-checking their courses and schedules. But are we thinking about what books our children are reading? Children of color are now a majority of all public school students and will soon be a majority of all children in America yet children's books and the publishing industry have failed to keep up with the rainbow of our children's faces and cultures and needs and the wide variety of their daily experiences. As award-winning children's book author and illustrator Christopher Myers says above, this matters in order to give all children a deeper sense of connection to the books they're reading and to each other and to prepare them to live in a rapidly globalizing, multicultural, multiracial, and multi-faith nation and world.

In 2014 Chris Myers and his late great father, the groundbreaking renowned author Walter Dean Myers, published a widely read pair of companion pieces in *The New York Times*: "The Apartheid of Children's Literature" and "Where Are the People of Color in Children's Books?" I was grateful that Chris Myers joined other leading children's book authors at a roundtable before 2,000 college-age students, public school teachers, and juvenile detention personnel preparing to teach in summer Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools® programs. Our reading curriculum has long been centered on excellent books reflecting a wide variety of cultures, races, and experiences. For some children it is the first time they have seen

books with characters who look like them and share some of the struggles in their lives. Our goal is to help children fall in love with reading, and they respond. "I enjoyed learning about my history." "That [book] really inspired me because he came from a rough neighborhood." "Freedom Schools taught me when I learn, I can have fun with it. It made me a better reader because I can understand things." "I see myself and the books give me hope."

The "all-white world of children's books" is nothing new. Dr. Rudine Sims Bishop, the moderator of the children's book roundtable, noted that was the title of a landmark study fifty years ago "calling out the children's book world not only for failing to include African Americans in children's books, but also for feeding White children 'gentle doses of racism through their books.'" The old books were guilty of sins of commission and omission, and of course Black children were not the only ones left out. Bishop said since 1994 the Cooperative Children's Book Center at the University of Wisconsin has been counting the number of new children's books featuring African Americans,

Native Americans, Asian Americans, and Latino Americans each year. But even as the number of Americans of color has continued to grow rapidly, the percentage of books reflecting them has not: the annual total has hovered around 10 percent.

It's hard to be what you can't see. Children of color need to be able to see themselves in the books they read. Just as importantly, all children need to be exposed to a wide range of books that reflect the true diversity of our nation and world as they really are. Tonya Bolden, who has written many powerful nonfiction books for young readers, said engaging history books—especially on her history—were largely absent when she was a child. "When it came to Black history, I remember there was Crispus Attucks and Phyllis Wheatley. And I think there was a part of me that said, okay, one was free, and he got shot; the other one was brilliant, but she was enslaved ... What kind of options are those?"

It wasn't until she got older that she realized how much was being left out. "I came to see there was power in the past, that

See WATCH, Page A7

## The Prince George's Post

The Prince George's Post  
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 Contents © 2015, The Prince George's Post

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Prince George's County, Md. Member National Newspaper Publishers Association, and the Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia Press Association. The Prince George's Post (ISSN 10532226) is published every Thursday by the New Prince George's Post Inc., 15207 Marlboro Pike, Upper Marlboro, Md. 20772-3151. Subscription rate: 25 cents per single copy; \$15 per year; \$7.50 senior citizens and students; out of county add \$1; out of state add \$2. Periodical postage paid at Southern Md. 20790. Postmaster, send address changes to Prince George's Post, P.O. Box 1001, Upper Marlboro, Md. 20772-3151.

# BUSINESS

## The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

### Getting School Started On The Right Foot This Year

Summer school vacations are coming to an end, which may seem a blessing to many parents, or a terrible, stressful time for some kids.

But the school year can also bring a lot of the same old problems to many families. Anxious, crying younger children afraid of this big unknown adventure. Older kids falling back into past patterns of oversleeping, forgetting books and assignments and making mornings a chaotic circus.

This year consider a bit of pre-planning and organizing to help relieve stress and make the school year run a little more calmly.

A starting point for young children is to build up some enthusiasm and reassurance for what's coming. Left on their own, younger children let their imaginations kick in, which can sometimes be very frightening as they contemplate the unknown.

Instead, show your youngsters some of what the future will hold. If it's a new school, or a first time in school for your child, plan a visit. If the school is open (administrative staff are probably there by now) ask them if you can help your little one find his or her building and classroom. Changing the unknown into an "I've been there" experience can remove a great deal of the anxiety on that first school day.

With older kids, this end of the summer vacation is a good time to address potential problems before they even occur. Start is by letting them know that things will be more organized this year. Have a small basket where lunches, or lunch money, or permission slips will be waiting each morning, rather than having panicky last-minute searches. In the same way, set up designated places for school books, backpacks, shoes and jackets.

Make sure there's a good working alarm clock or two, and use a kitchen timer for those who dawdle over breakfast. Make it a rule that school clothes are laid out the night before.

Then, set up some rules about the organization system you're creating. Give kids a chance to have input on what the penalties should be if backpacks don't go in the right place, or if papers that need to be signed are forgotten till the last minute.

If they know that there's a system, that they have responsibilities and that there will be real consequences for not making it work, your students will be better prepared for their school days and a successful year.

*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

answered that call and were instrumental in helping to keep countless people in their homes," said Senator Cardin. "Since 2011, Prince George's County's home values have risen 60 percent, sales are up 3 percent and the number of residential properties on the market is down 29 percent. While we have made progress, there is no question that there is still work to be done. This discussion and our earlier conversations with HUD Secretary Castro were very helpful in identifying exactly what actions needed to be taken at various levels of government to ensure that everyone in Prince George's County and across Maryland can achieve and preserve the American dream of home ownership."

During the roundtable, Senator Cardin discussed the ongoing efforts to combat some of the conditions that led to a disproportionate number of foreclosures in Prince George's County.

"While generally improving national and regional economies have played roles in reducing foreclosures and promoting home ownership, there remain important steps we can take to ensure that local residents do not find them-

selves facing crises again," said Senator Cardin. "That begins with ensuring that prospective homebuyers receive full and accurate information about the agreements they are about to enter. It's also essential that home owners facing foreclosure have ready access to objective advice about the complete range of options available to them."

"Few things in life matter as much as the roofs over our heads, so we must remain vigilant in our efforts to ensure that the fundamental needs of Prince George's County residents—and all Marylanders—are provided for and protected," said Senator Cardin. "Today's roundtable discussion helped move us toward that goal."

Earlier this summer, Senator Ben Cardin (D-Md.) and other senators wrote to Secretary Castro and other federal housing, finance, and consumer protection regulators, calling for an investigation into potential violations of the Fair Housing Act by banks and lenders neglecting the maintenance of foreclosed homes in minority communities in favor of predominantly white communities. The letter asks the regulators to take appropriate actions to put a stop to any unequal treatment.

## Maryland Retains Triple AAA Bond Rating, To Sell \$500 Million of General Obligation Bonds

By PRESS OFFICER  
Office of the Lt. Governor

ANNAPOLIS—Maryland State Treasurer Nancy K. Kopp announced on July 7, that all three major national bond rating agencies have re-affirmed the State's strong AAA bond rating, all with stable outlooks, in preparation for the upcoming competitive sale of State General Obligation Bonds on Thursday, July 16, 2015.

Maryland is one of eleven states\* to hold the coveted AAA rating, the highest possible rating, from all three major bond rating agencies. Standard and Poor's has rated the bonds AAA since 1961. Moody's Investors has assigned the bonds a rating of Aaa since 1973, and Fitch Ratings has rated the bonds AAA since 1993.

Treasurer Kopp said, "The announcement of Maryland's retention of its AAA rating from the three major bond rating firms serves as confirmation of the State's overall fiscal strength and longstanding commitment to prudent financial management. We are pleased the rating agencies recognize the contribution of our diverse economy, well-educated workforce, and above-average wealth and income levels to the overall quality of an investment in Maryland."

"The citizens of Maryland will continue to save millions of taxpayer dollars as they benefit from lower interest rates warranted by these AAA ratings. This achievement allows us to continue to invest in our communities, notably our schools, libraries, institutions of higher education, healthcare facilities and cultural projects important to the residents of our State," Treasurer Kopp added.

Fitch, in assigning its AAA rating and stable outlook, said: "Debt oversight is strong and centralized, and the debt burden is moderate. The state has policies to maintain debt affordability, and the constitution requires GO [General Obligation] and transportation bonds to amortize within 15 years."

### Beer from A1

The label for the new citrus-flavored beer has the Full Tilt logo on top of the image from the license plate. In return for using the image, Full Tilt plans to supply Chesapeake Bay Trust with beer for its events and donate money throughout the year, Baumiller said.

"There's no minimal donation—it depends on how much beer we make (or) sell," Baumiller said. "The yearly donation from us is only likely to be a few thousand dollars ... but the (Chesapeake Bay Trust) sees the greatest value in getting the word out."

Baumiller said the Bay IPA is sold for the same \$10 per six-pack price as other Full Tilt beers, reeling in less money for the company itself in order to donate and attach their name to the Chesapeake Bay Trust's cause.

Jason Zink, owner of the Smaltimore bar in the Canton neighborhood of Baltimore, said that so far the beer has received a "great reaction" from patrons. "It's an easy sell to the customers because it's a local beer made by people who live in the neighborhood, so it does real well," Zink said.

Zink said he has not heard of other beers designed primarily for a nonprofit organization, and believes the Bay IPA will do well in its market as it gives back to the local community.

Fitch Ratings further noted: "Financial operations are conservatively managed, and the state maintains a well-funded rainy day fund. The state took repeated action during the course of the last recession to address projected budget gaps, including raising tax revenues, cutting spending, and using rainy day and other balances."

Moody's, in explaining its Aaa rating and stable outlook said "The highest quality rating reflects Maryland's strong financial management policies and stable economy with high personal income levels." While Moody's acknowledged "... the state's economic exposure to constrained federal spending, its above average debt burden and large unfunded pension liabilities relative to the size of its economy," they also noted "[c]onsistent with its history of strong financial management, the state has been appropriately addressing its structural budget gap and pension funding concerns even under pressure from federal budget reductions."

In assigning its AAA long-term rating and stable outlook, Standard & Poor's said: "The rating reflects what we view as the state's: Broad and diverse economy, which has experienced tepid overall growth in 2013 and 2014 due to sequestration and federal budget uncertainty; Strong wealth and income levels; Long history of proactive financial and budget management, including implementation of frequent and timely budget adjustments to align revenues and expenditures; Well-developed financial and debt management policies including long-term financial planning that should continue to be helpful in addressing future budget challenges; and Still-moderate debt burden across all measures, despite increasing issuance. Although some growth in debt levels is likely based on planned issuance and the potential for public-private partnership (P3) projects, we expect the debt burden will remain moderate for most measures due to a clearly defined

debt affordability process that limits annual issuance, coupled with a rapid 15-year debt maturity schedule as required by the Maryland Constitution."

Standard and Poor's further stated: "The stable outlook on Maryland reflects our view of the state's proactive midyear adjustments to align the budget with slower-than-anticipated revenue growth and a proposed fiscal 2016 budget that maintains current reserve and reduces reliance on one-time measures for budgetary balance."

All three rating agencies praised Maryland's history of strong, sound financial management. Moody's recognized "Maryland's financial practices and flexibility are very strong. For example, the state has a binding consensus revenue forecast, multi-year financial planning, and the Board of Public Works is able to respond swiftly to mid-year budget challenges. The state also has no tax and spending limitations or supermajority requirements limiting its flexibility." Standard & Poor's assigned a rating of "strong" to Maryland's management practices, noting that "... Maryland has demonstrated strong revenue and budget monitoring practices with a track record of making expenditure adjustments midyear when required." Each rating agency recognized the impact of federal budget cuts on Maryland's economy. S&P noted "We expect Maryland's economic recovery will continue and could accelerate as uncertainties relating to federal fiscal issues moderate." Fitch indicated "Sound fiscal management practices and the consistent maintenance of fiscal flexibility (including budgetary reserves) are expected to provide the state with significant ability to respond to near-term economic or fiscal conditions, such as federal budget reductions, in a manner consistent with the 'AAA' rating."

Each of the rating agencies recognized significant pension funding challenges as well as reforms enacted over the past three years.

Moody's indicated "[l]ow retirement system funded levels" represent a credit challenge for the state and "[f]ailure to adhere to plans to address low pension funded ratios" could make the rating go down. Fitch Ratings noted "Pensions are a comparative credit weakness in Maryland, although the state has taken repeated action since 2011 to reform benefits and contributions to strengthen funding." While acknowledging "implementation of various reforms and some improvements in funded ratios," S&P indicated "the state's below-average pension funded ratios and annual contributions that have not met the ARC also continue to represent downside risk to the rating."

The bond sale will include two competitive bids which are expected to be sold to institutions. The sale will include \$450 million of tax-exempt bonds and \$50 million of taxable bonds.

As has always been the case with the issuance of Maryland's tax-exempt General Obligation Bonds, the State uses the proceeds to finance necessary capital projects, such as schools, community colleges, university projects and hospitals. Proceeds from the taxable bonds will be used primarily to support State housing and community development programs as well as water quality financing programs offered by the State.

The Maryland Board of Public Works, composed of Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Comptroller Peter Franchot and Treasurer Nancy K. Kopp, presided over the competitive bond sale on Thursday, July 16, 2015 in the Assembly Room in the Goldstein Treasury Building in Annapolis.

The Maryland State Treasurer's Office expects to conduct another bond sale in February or March 2016.

\* The other ten states with AAA ratings from all three rating agencies are Alaska, Delaware, Georgia, Missouri, Indiana, Iowa, North Carolina, Texas, Utah, and Virginia.

### The Start of the Full Tilt Brewery

After Fertig spent six years serving in the U.S. Navy, Baumiller approached him with the idea of creating their own craft beer as a new hobby.

"We just started exploring and trying new things, new beers, and just found a love for craft beer," Baumiller said. "You just get a curiosity of how is this done, how can I do this, and it kind of helps explain why you like one beer more than another by looking at the ingredients that go into it."

"When we (first) did it, we just absolutely loved it. The smells you get from brewing a batch of beers is amazing—it's like you're in a bread factory or something," Baumiller said.

In 2008 the two bought a \$100 beer-making kit off eBay, and Baumiller said they still brew new test batches with the original home brewing kit out of his garage in Sykesville, Maryland. Full Tilt Brewing officially began in December 2012, and the Bay IPA marks their eighth beer.

Both 31 and Maryland natives, Baumiller said he and Fertig make a party out of the brewing process by having friends over to drink while they experiment with different flavors.

"Nick had a nickname donned on him by one of my friends as 'Full Tilt Fertig' due to his 'pedal to the metal' ways of doing things for the original genesis of the name," Baumiller said. "But we



CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTO BY KATELYN NEWMAN

The label for the Bay IPA features the image found on the Chesapeake Bay Trust's "Treasure the Chesapeake" license plates. The license plates, and the organization's outreach, served as an inspiration for the beer, Full Tilt Brewing co-owner Nick Fertig said.

just liked the sound of the name and it kind of embodied the way that we did things—we made strong and full flavored beers and went big with everything."

Set for an official release date onboard the Spirit of Baltimore cruise on Feb. 21, Fertig said, cold temperatures and a frozen Baltimore Harbor delayed the formal release of the Bay IPA to March 21.

The beer is manufactured at the Peabody Heights Brewery in Baltimore. Baumiller and Fertig said that they are working on expanding their company into its own brewery location, as well as developing a new beer to be released Memorial Day weekend.

Baumiller works for the U.S. Department of Defense for acquisitions in Columbia, and Fertig works as a power plant oper-

ator for the Brandon Shores Generating Station outside Baltimore City, but, Baumiller said, they both plan to make brewing beer a full-time commitment.

"I think we want to be ready to devote ourselves fully, or totally into the brewery, but when that's ready to happen—if we got the investment dollars tomorrow and were ready to break ground, we'd probably be pretty quick to making that our full-time job," Baumiller said.

Besides the Bay IPA and Berger Cookie Chocolate Stout, Full Tilt Brewing also brews Baltimore Pale Ale, Fleet Street Raspberry Wheat, Patterson Pumpkin, Camden Cream, Hop Harbor and the Fully Tilted Baltimore Pale Ale. The Bay IPA is a part of Full Tilt Brewing's permanent collection.

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# OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S  
IN THE DARK

## Movie Review "Vacation"

*Vacation*  
Grade: B

Rated R, pervasive harsh  
profanity and a lot of  
sexual dialogue  
1 hr., 39 min

The great "National Lampoon's Vacation" inspired a so-so Christmas followup (lots of dead weight in that movie), plus a couple other sequels that all parties have agreed to simply never mention again. The newest sequel, called "Vacation," is the first to focus on the next generation of Griswolds, and the first to really recapture the loose, anarchic, slightly dark spirit of the 1983 original.

Young Rusty Griswold is grown up now, played by Ed Helms in the image of his father: a nice guy, clumsy, hapless, often clueless, but usually well-meaning. Overhearing that his wife, Debbie (Christina Applegate), and their boys—16-ish James (Skyler Gisondo) and 13-ish Kevin (Steele Stebbins)—are tired of their usual Memorial Day vacation at a lakeside cabin, Rusty decides on a whim to take everyone on a cross-country drive to Walley World, just as his own father did back in the day. (The film gets a few meta-references out of its system—"Will this 'Vacation' be as good as the first one?" "This 'Vacation' will stand on its own," etc.—before moving on.)

The story of a family that drives 2,500 miles when they could have flown is almost inherently going to be discursive and rambling. "Vacation" is filled with—one might even say consists entirely of—tangents, vignettes, and side trips that are, strictly speaking, unnecessary. For example, a stop



Ed Helms stars in the New Line Cinema reboot of the "Vacation" film series as Rusty Griswold, the son of Chevy Chase's iconic character of the original four films. Horrible Bosses' helmers John Francis Daley and Jonathan Goldstein write and direct.—Jeremy Wheeler, Rovi

at Debbie's college alma mater just as her old sorority is throwing a party doesn't advance the plot, and what little pertinent information it reveals about Debbie's character could have been established more efficiently elsewhere.

But none of that matters if the sequence is funny, which this one is. Like most of the movie, it's gloriously rude, with humor that ranges from the cheerfully offensive to the borderline surreal. (The sorority girls repeat legends they've heard about Debbie, culminating in "I heard that if people bop you on the head, gold coins come out of your butt.") The cast is game: Helms as earnest dad who embarrasses everyone; Applegate as supportive but frustrated ma-

triarch; Gisondo as the dweeby, bookish older brother; Stebbins as a grinning bully of a younger brother. The gleeful manner in which the little bastard torments his big brother made me laugh long and loud. All four of them get a turn at being hilariously bitter or passive-aggressive, but never to the point where you feel like they hate each other. They're a fractious family, but not an atypical one.

Not every diversion between home and Walley World is of equal value. The ongoing gags stemming from Rusty's disastrous choice of rental cars ("the Honda of Albania") wear thin quickly, and the brief appearance by Chevy Chase and Beverly D'Angelo as Grandpa and Grandma Griswold adds nothing

but nostalgia. (The inadvertent dip in a pool of raw sewage, prominently featured in all the film's advertising, is likewise a dud, though there are funny moments in the process of getting there.) But writer/director duo John Francis Daley and Jonathan M. Goldstein maintain a high success rate, earning laughs both cheap and clever from a visit to Rusty's sister (Leslie Mann) and her impossibly hunky husband (Chris Hemsworth), a trip to the Grand Canyon (with Charlie Day as rafting guide), an illicit encounter at the Four Corners, and so on. There's very little filler in these 99 minutes. For a movie built on meandering, it's surprisingly well-oiled and smooth-running.

### Katrina from A3

validity because hurricanes have minds of their own. Eerily, yet another hurricane, this one named Rita, made landfall on September 24, 2005. As a result, "an additional 4.8 million barrels per day (mbd) of refining capacity in Texas and nearby Louisiana was closed," reports the Congressional Research Service (CRS).

In the aftermath of both Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita, pump prices across the nation soared to \$3.21 a gallon, a new record high at the time, on Monday, October 10, 2005. "Refinery shutdowns in the Gulf of Mexico region totaled 367,000 barrels per day (bbl/d) as of December 15, 2005," the U.S. Energy Infor-

mation Administration (EIA) reported back then.

Like the proverbial frog in the kettle, American consumers would see gasoline prices at \$3 per gallon and above time and again in the intervening years since Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita first made landfall. It even soared beyond the then unthinkable price of \$4 per gallon and above. For example, Washington, D.C. recorded its highest ever price of \$4.21 per gallon on May 12, 2011, according to AAA Daily Fuel Gauge Report.

In contrast, the highest price ever recorded across the Washington metro area was set on July 10, 2008, when prices soared to \$4.10 for a gallon of regular unleaded. Historically, the all-time record price in Maryland was set on June 17, 2008, as pump prices

hit \$4.05 a gallon, reveals the Daily Fuel Gauge Report. The record high in neighboring Virginia was set a month later on July 17, 2008, when gasoline prices soared to \$4.01 a gallon.

Less than three years after Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita made landfall, gasoline prices remained above \$3 per gallon for 244 days, in the period between February 17, 2008, and October 17, 2008, advises AAA. At the time it was the longest streak for pump prices above the \$3 threshold.

Even that streak was shattered just five years after the double-whammy wrought by Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. The national average retail price of a gallon of gasoline remained above \$3 per gallon for a thousand days in a row for the first

time in history in the period from December 23, 2010 until September 17, 2013, according to AAA. Eventually, the national retail average price remained above the \$3 threshold for 46 months or 1,410 consecutive days all told, even reaching as high as \$3.98 a gallon on May 5, 2011 during that period, before the sustained streak mercifully ended November 1, 2014, explains AAA.

Despite that protracted price streak, motorists in the United States eventually ended up consuming "about 136.78 billion gallons of gasoline, a daily average of about 374.74 million gallons "in 2014, according to the EIA." This was about 4% less than the record high of about 142.35 billion gallons (or 3.39 billion barrels) consumed in 2007," explains the EIA.

## The Edge of Sports

by DAVE ZIRIN

### Serena Williams Is Today's Muhammad Ali



There are numerous articles—terrific articles—defending Serena Williams against the racism and sexism that have long stalked her career. This will not be one of those articles. As long as gutter invective is hurled at Serena there will always be a need to defend her—and by extension stand up for everyone who feels the primary sting of these attacks. (J.K. Rowling is even standing up for Serena, adding a new dimension to her #blackgirlmagic.) But, just as I wrote last week about not merely "defending" women's sports but actually going on "offense," we need to be similarly aggressive in stating factually just who Serena is becoming before our very eyes. If our eyes remain narrowed in a defensive stance, we could be missing a transcendent chapter in sports and social history beginning to coalesce.

Serena Williams just won her 21st Grand Slam. That's the same number every other active women's player has collected combined. In her last 28 matches she is 28-0, and at the US Open this August, Ms. Williams will be favored to win the sport's first calendar Grand Slam since Steffi Graf did it 27 years ago. At 33, Williams actually seems to be gaining strength, and as John McEnroe said to ESPN's Jane McManus, among women, "she could arguably be the greatest athlete of the last 100 years." I think this even understates her case. She is our Jordan. She is our Jim Brown. She is our Babe Ruth, calling his shots. She is no longer content to dodge bullets, but understands how to stop them. Serena is that rare athlete who has not only mastered her sport. She's harnessed it.

But Serena Williams is more than just our 21st-century Michael Jordan. If we take a break from defending her, which her detractors do not make easy, it becomes increasingly clear that she is also perhaps our Muhammad Ali. That's sacrilege in some circles, and understandably so. Ali risked years in federal prison to stand up to an unjust war, becoming the most famous draft resister in history. His very presence at different points inspired the first Pan-Africanist stirrings of Malcolm X, the anti-war evocations of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and the very mental survival of a prisoner half-way around the world named Nelson Mandela. There is and never will be anyone like Ali, without question. But this is also not the 1960s, and there will also never be anyone like Serena.

Serena Williams is our Ali, and before defending that statement, I want to break down what, in my view, makes Ali "Ali." To be in Muhammad Ali's tradition of athletes, there are three basic boxes one would need to check: The first is that the sports person in question would need to be amongst "the greatest" in their field. As mentioned above, Serena more than checks that box. Secondly, one would have to be polarizing in a way that speaks to issues beyond the field: thrilling some people politically and enraging others with every triumph. Similarly, a loss would feel like more than "just a game" to their fans: more like a punch to the gut. Lastly, to even be in this conversation, one would have to not just "represent" or symbolize a political yearning but actually stand for something, and risk their commercial appeal by taking such stands. Serena doesn't only check these boxes. She has, I would argue, confronted—and overcome—more obstacles than even the great Muhammad ever had to face. Her political powers of representation, every time she emerges victorious, is off the meter.

Symbolically, the very audacity of Serena Williams—a black woman from Compton who has owned a country-club sport with style, flair, and the occasional leopard suit, is without comparison. She is "peak Tiger Woods" in skill, but cut with Ali's transgressive style: the equivalent of the Champ telling the craggy, macho world of boxing that he was "so very pretty." But not even Ali had to achieve in an atmosphere as inhospitable as Serena's athletic setting. This is about the very particular intersectional oppression she has faced as a black woman. This iconic body she proudly inhabits—her shape, her curves, her musculature—has been the subject of scorn, regardless of the results. Even at his most denigrated, Ali's loudest detractors conceded that his physical body was a work of athletic sculpture. As a man—a black man—he was objectified with a mix of admiration, longing, and envy, in the ways black male athletes have always been seen since the days of plantation sports. It was his mind and mouth that truly made him threatening. People wanted Ali to "shut up and box" for years before finally stripping him of his title. But as that phrase implies, they still wanted him to box. Not Serena. Instead, she has had to face a tennis world that has made it clear in tones polite and vulgar that it would be so nice if she wasn't there. But she has shut them all up with the same wicked power that defines her game. She, like Martina Navratilova before her, has forced sports-

See SERENA Page A7

### You can be an everyday hero in the fight against suicide.

Partner with us as an event sponsor for the  
2015 Prince George's County **FIRST Out of the Darkness Walk**  
October 17, 2015  
at Rosaryville State Park Upper Marlboro, Maryland  
7805 W. Marlton Avenue in Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772.

Why support the FIRST Prince George's County Out of the Darkness Walk?

Every year suicide claims more lives than war, murder, and natural disasters combined. It is estimated that 85% of people in the United States alone will know someone who has died by suicide, and that one out of every five of those losses will be a close friend or relative.

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention leads the fight against suicide.

Funds raised from The Out of the Darkness Walks allows to fully achieve its mission. AFSP engages in the following Five Core Strategies:

We have several 2015 sponsorship opportunities and benefits. You can also consider giving a monetary donation, creating a team, or being a virtual walker. We also have several volunteer opportunities to set-up: registration, breakdown, and cheerleader team to encourage the walker.

For more information, please contact:

Alnicia Gibson at 240-424-7123 or email us at: [blessed2begifted@gmail.com](mailto:blessed2begifted@gmail.com)

### Meals from A1

John Bayne, Seat Pleasant, Suitland, and William Paca elementary schools. Organizers may consider additional schools for participation next school year.

All enrolled students will receive free meals, and their families will not have to complete an application. This will streamline the school district's meal operations, reduce paperwork for schools and families, and remove the stigma that children sometimes face when receiving school meals.

In addition to the CEP Schools, 114 schools will continue to offer a nutritious free breakfast to all students through the district's ongoing Breakfast in the Classroom initiative.

# Calendar of Events

September 3 — September 9, 2015

## Xtreme Teens: Tennis Training

Date and Time: Tuesday & Thursday, June 16–October 29, 2015 4:30-6:30 pm

Event Description: Learn how to play tennis with the athletic staff at this community center. All participants must wear proper tennis shoes and comfortable fitness gear. (All female participants are required to wear shorts under their skirts during participation.)

Ages: Ages 6-17  
Fee: FREE

Location: John E. Howard Community Center  
4400 Shell Street Capitol Heights, MD 20743  
Contact: 301-735-3340; TTY 301-218-6768

## Trains & Planes

Date and Time: Saturday, September 5–Monday, September 7, 2015, 10am-5pm

Description: Miniature trains, villages, tunnels, and depots spark the imagination as they bring history to life. The National Capital Trackers bring a fascinating and constantly moving display of model railroads to the museum.

Cost: Free with museum admission  
Ages: All Ages

Location: College Park Aviation Museum  
1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive, College Park, MD  
Contact: 301-864-6029, TTY 301-699-2544

## Xtreme Teens: Sing-Off

Date and Time: Saturday, September 5, 2015 7-10 pm

Description: Join us for the ultimate karaoke battle to win great prizes. Compete with other teens for the ultimate karaoke battle! Then, see who will take home the prize of karaoke king or queen.

Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID  
Ages: 10-17

Location: Beltsville Community Center  
3900 Sellman RD, Beltsville, 20705  
Contact: 301-937-6613; TTY 301-699-2544

## Hey! Let's Go Fishing!

Date and Time: Saturday, September 5, 2015 9-11 am

Description: This program is for beginners and is held at a twelve acre pond stocked with trout and sunfish. Equipment is provided. However, an adult must accompany children. Registration required.

Cost: Resident: \$5; Non-Resident: \$6  
Ages: 6-10 years

Location: School House Pond  
14100 Governor Oden Bowie Drive,  
Upper Marlboro, MD  
Contact: 301-627-6074 TTY: 301-699-2544

## Hidden Spaces Tour

Date and Time: Sunday, September 6, 2015 3:30 pm

Description: Ever wonder what's behind the doors that say "Staff Only" and "Do Not Enter"? On May 3, July 12, and September 6 at 3:30 pm, Montpelier staff will conduct tours of the areas that are seldom open to the general public.

This will include the main house's 3 different cellars, the attic, and walk-in vault. Also on the tour will be the Summer House and the Carriage House. This is a great opportunity for people interested in historic preservation, construction, or just seeing something different at a historic house.

The tour will focus on the construction of the house and the changes over its 230 year history including 20th century modernizations such as electricity and HVAC. Older clothes and comfortable shoes recommended.

Tours will be led by Don Graham who began working at the property in 1985 and has been involved with much of the recent restoration work at the house and grounds.

To get the full benefit of the tour, participants will need to climb and descend narrow winding staircases and (optional) climb several steps up on 6 to 8 foot ladders.

Cost: \$15/person (advance reservations preferred)  
Ages: 18 & up

Location: Montpelier Mansion/Historic Site  
9650 Muirkirk Road, Laurel, MD 20708  
Contact: 301-377-7817; TTY 301-699-2544  
montpeliermansion@pgparks.com

## 10 Things Every Young Man Should Know

Date & Time: Tuesdays, September 1–November 17, 2015 6:30-9 pm

Description: Do you know a young man who could benefit from learning easy and essential skills to make him a more well-rounded individual? If so, "10 Things Every Young Man Should Know" is the perfect program!

This 12-week program for young men ages 14-18 is strategically designed to teach them basic life skills as they transition from adolescence into adulthood.

Cost: Free  
Ages: 14-18  
Location: Seat Pleasant Community Center  
5720 Addison Road, Seat Pleasant 20743  
Contact: 301-446-3409; TTY 301-446-3402

## Fighting for Freedom: African American Participation in the War of 1812

Date and Time: Thursday, September 10, 2015 1-2 pm

Description: Learn about the participation and stories of African Americans, who fought with the American and British troops during the War of 1812. We'll also discuss the opportunities provided to runaway slaves who joined the British to be granted freedom in Canada

Cost: Free  
Ages: All ages welcome

Location: Bladensburg Waterfront Park  
4601 Annapolis Rd, Bladensburg, MD 20710  
Contact: 301-779-0371; TTY 301-699-2544

# EARTH TALK ... Do Orcas Really Live As Long in Captivity As In The Wild

Dear EarthTalk:

I've been seeing this ad on TV a lot by SeaWorld claiming they don't take orcas from the wild and that orcas live just as long in captivity as they do in the wild. Are these claims true?

— Mary Cleveland,  
Coral Gables, FL

SeaWorld has faced criticism and plummeting profits after the release of the 2013 documentary, *Blackfish*, which tells the story of Tilikum, a performing killer whale that killed several people while in captivity. Although wild capture was outlawed in the U.S. in 1972, killer whales continued to be seized in foreign waters: Tilikum was caught, aged two, off Iceland in 1983. Today, SeaWorld asserts that its population of killer whales has been successfully producing healthy offspring since 1985, and the success of this program has made it possible for them to care for and display killer whales to the public without collecting a killer whale from the wild in 35 years.

For its part, SeaWorld disputes the negative accusations. Earlier this summer, SeaWorld San Diego released a study contrasting current published data for survival and reproductive activity of known-age Pacific Northwest killer whales since 1975 with the life history of killer whales in SeaWorld's care. The study concluded

the average life expectancy for SeaWorld's killer whales is 41.6 years; average life expectancies for Southern and Northern Resident killer whales are 29.0 and 42.3 years, respectively.

"Our animals are living as long as wild populations," says Dr. Todd Robeck, Vice President of Theriogenology at SeaWorld and the primary author of the study. "The data shows without a doubt that our animals live as long as the ones in the wild." Additionally, the study indicates that average calf survival rate to age two in the Southern Resident killer whale population is 79.9 percent—less than SeaWorld's 96.6 percent average.

"Although emotion will always be a part of the debate as to whether killer whales, or any other species, should be maintained in human care, it is absolutely necessary to have validated facts when an argument for or against is being made on scientific grounds," says study author Kevin Willis, Vice President for Biological Programs for the Minnesota Zoo. "Based on the available data, it is now clear that it cannot be truthfully argued that killer whales should not be maintained in captivity because they have a shortened life expectancy relative to their wild counterparts," Willis adds.

Animal rights groups have been quick to criticize SeaWorld's study. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals



CREDIT: ED SCHIPUL, FLICKRCC

Animal rights activists from PETA dispute claims by SeaWorld that orca whales live as long in captivity as in the wild.

(PETA) points out that another study published in April 2015 in the journal *Marine Mammal Science* found that the median life expectancy of 83 killer whales kept in captivity from 1961–2014 in the U.S. was only 12 years. The study also determined that 118 killer whales kept in facilities outside the U.S. during those same years were found to have a median lifespan of just four years.

"Contrary to what the authors of this study—three of whom are SeaWorld employees, while the fourth works for a zoo—would have people believe, the average age of the orcas who have died at SeaWorld is 13 years, and only one orca at SeaWorld—Corky, who was captured in the wild—has actually reached SeaWorld's claimed 'average life expectancy' of 41.6 years," reports Jared

Goodman, PETA's director of animal law. "Every single orca who has perished at SeaWorld died far short of how long they are expected to live, though it is in fact hard to call it 'living' when their 'life' consists of being forced to perform circus-style tricks in a tiny concrete tank. SeaWorld's claims simply don't hold water."

CONTACTS: SeaWorld, www.seaworld.com; *Blackfish*, www.blackfishmovie.com; PETA, www.peta.org.

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(www.emagazine.com). Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

## Watch from A4

history makes us whole." Now she strives to make history come alive in ways that allow children to recognize their ties to people who came before them. Christopher Myers said this is another example of how being able to make connections between their lives and the books they read af-

fects how children see themselves: "When you read one of Tonya [Bolden]'s books, all of a sudden, you realize that the timeline of your life did not start when you were born—that timeline may have started 400 years ago on a ship, or before that. That is the kind of connection we're talking about. And without ... that understanding of that

timeline, it is really hard to imagine ourselves in the future."

Writer Janet Wong talked about another kind of connection when she read her poem "Noise" from the book *Good Luck Gold*. The poem's protagonist is being teased by a group of children—"Ching chong Chinaman"—for her hair, nose, skin, the shape of her eyes:

It's only noise  
I won't let it in.  
I promise myself  
I won't let them  
Win.

Wong said she was asked to read that poem during a visit to a school in Singapore by a

See WATCH, Page A12

## Serena from A6

writers and fans to confront what a female athlete's body can look like, and they have often responded as terribly as we would both expect and fear. While overwhelmingly male sports media and many tennis fans mocked and continue to belittle her appearance, Williams brushes them off—at least publicly—like so much shoulder dust. The greater her stature, the more pathetic they look. The higher her profile, the lower they seem. In Ali's day, William F. Buckley saw it as his "white man's burden" to tear him down. Serena has Buckley's media spawn attempting the same and they look just as small, just as pathetic.

Then there are her explicit politics. This is not the 1960s and there isn't a mass movement to deify Serena Williams the way there was one to lift Ali, when the world was insistent upon his destruction. But that only makes the stands she has chosen to take all the more remarkable. In 2000, Serena Williams pulled out of the Family Circle Cup in South Car-

olina in solidarity with the NAACP's call to boycott over the flying of the Confederate flag atop the state house. After her Wimbledon victory Saturday, she spoke about the recent "Mother Emmanuel" Church murders in Charleston, calling it a "tragedy yet again," and an "unspeakably sad" moment that takes its "toll." However, she pledged to "continue to have faith, continue to believe, continue to be positive, continue to help people to the best of [my] ability."

She has been a voice for women's pay equity in the sport, backing her sister Venus's powerful push for economic gender justice in a sport that at one time paid women with bouquets of flowers. Most compellingly, as the Black Lives Matter movement has attempted to focus the nation on both police violence and the injustices that surround our system of mass incarceration, Serena has chosen to partner with the Equal Justice Initiative, an organization that fights for prisoners' rights amid the racism that pervades our criminal-justice system. In a

move as audacious as it was affecting, she even tied her return to Indian Wells, a tournament she had boycotted after being showered with racist catcalls in 2001, to the raising of money for the organization. Using boxing as a platform for these kinds of politics amidst the 1960s was certainly legendary. But doing it in 2015 in the world of tennis? It's simply above and beyond, like clearing a hurdle while wearing cement shoes.

If anything, the greatest difference between Serena and Ali is the absence of that mass social movement to elevate her presence and push the non-believers to see what we have in front of us. Muhammad Ali went from despised to beloved because a mass black-freedom struggle and anti-war movement took him as their own. He became more than an athlete: He became a social question. Similarly, a movement fighting for #BlackLivesMatter and gender justice, a movement of struggle that includes the young women of Ferguson, Bree Newsome, and everyone fighting

fiercely to reshape this country, has the potential to deliver Serena Williams to even greater heights. She is also becoming a social question, because she represents in so many ways the questions that people are facing in their daily lives. In other words, she poses this very sharp interrogation to the viewer: When you see her serve, her volley, and her physical self; when you hear her words, her concerns, her causes, which side are you on? This remarkable athletic force of nature, or those trying—and failing—to tear her down?

After her Wimbledon victory, Serena Williams was asked which athlete she admired the most. She said that it was Muhammad Ali. Not for his boxing but for "what he stood for" outside the ring. For years people have asked who would be "the next Muhammad Ali." If we dare to lift our heads, it will be clear that she is right in front of us. In the years to come, we may need to change the question and ask who will be "the next Serena Williams."

## SUSTAINABLE COOKING

After separating your recyclables, you will discover that most of your refuse is organic matter. However, some of the food scraps we throw away can be replanted for your future cooking needs. Here are a few kitchen scraps that will regrow when planted.

1. Scallions or Green Onions
2. Leeks
3. Celery
4. Spring Onions & Fennel
5. Lemon Grass
6. Bok Choy, Romaine Lettuce & Cabbage
7. Ginger
8. Potatoes and Sweet Potatoes
9. Garlic
10. Onions

Edwards, Mary, III  
Decor: [unreadable]

RECYCLABLES  
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