

# The Prince George's Post



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Left to right; Sherrell Martin, Chief Financial Solutions Officer, NITRAM Financial Solutions; John Huggins, Jr., Chief Operating Officer, Last Mile Broadband, LLC; Dr. Adrienne Y. Semidey, Management Consultant, Communications and Change Management Solutions, LLC; Jim Coleman, President & CEO, PGCEDC; Sam Medile, Managing Director, Unified Parking Partners; Kisha Logan, Small Business Manager, PGCEDC; Kimberly Crockett, Managing Partner, DMV Solutions; James Chavis, President & CEO, Renaissance Systems, Inc.; Anna Consani, Community Manager, Springboard Enterprises; Amy Millman, President, Springboard Enterprises.

## EDC's "Dolphin Tank" Companies Give Perfect Pitch

Springboard Helps County Start-Ups Become the Next Fortune 500 in Prince George's County

By LORI VALENTINE  
PGCEDC

LARGO, MD—Today, more than 75 local entrepreneurs were given the unique opportunity to get their feet wet at the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation's first "Dolphin Tank

and Networking Event," hosted in partnership with Springboard Enterprises and the Maryland Technology Development Corporation. Five companies from the Economic Development Corporation Accelerator Program jumped in to pitch their business to a panel of seasoned entrepreneurs, investors and in-

fluencers, all dedicated to building high-growth companies without the feeding frenzy of a shark. Panelists and attendees, in turn, shared what they liked about the company pitch, provided feedback on what the company may want to think about as its next steps, and made suggestions about who

the company should connect with to improve its business model and grow.

"There's nothing worse than having a great idea and nobody picking up on it because you don't know how to get their at-

See DOLPHIN Page A5

## International High School Educator Named 2016 Christa McAuliffe Outstanding Teacher

By PRESS OFFICER  
PGCCPS

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—Christine Gilliard-Arthur, founding physical education and health teacher at the International High School at Langley Park (IHSLP), was recently selected as recipient of the 2016 Christa McAuliffe Outstanding Teacher Award. Gilliard-Arthur was chosen for this honor by a committee of her peers from Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS).

"Ms. Gilliard-Arthur is a passionate educator who is dedicated to ensuring her students' success," said Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell, Chief Executive Officer for PGCCPS. "Students at her school are not only learning English for the first time—many have left their homes to avoid gang violence and a life of poverty. Ms. Gilliard-Arthur's ability to engage and empower these students embodies all that our Christa McAuliffe award stands for."

The Prince George's County Board of Education and school system administrators will honor Gilliard-Arthur during the annual Employee Recognition Dinner on May 26 at Martin's Crosswinds in Greenbelt. In addition, her name will be added to the Christa McAuliffe award plaque displayed in the Board

Meeting Room at the Sasscer Administration Building in Upper Marlboro.

Gilliard-Arthur has 16 years of teaching experience, 13 of them spent sharing her passion for health and physical education with students in Prince George's County public schools. Besides teaching health and physical education at IHSLP, she also serves as athletic director, soccer coach, and student Success Coach. School staff nominated her for the award not only for her effectiveness as an educator, but also for her leadership, creativity, and collaboration skills; excellent rapport with families; and advocacy for students.

"Ms. Gilliard-Arthur is, more than anything, an inspiring top-notch educator who will go the extra mile for all of our students," said her school's founding principal Carlos M. Beato. "Her dedication to the classroom, the supports she gives our scholars beyond the classroom, and her ability to be reflective are just some of the things that make her an outstanding educator."

Prior to becoming a founding teacher at the new International High School at Langley Park last fall, she served students for five years at Gladys Noon Spellman Elementary School, where she

See TEACHER Page A3

## \$30K Grant Award Supports PGCCPS Arts Integration Efforts

By PRESS OFFICER  
PGCCPS

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) was recently awarded a \$30,000 Art Works grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) that will support district wide efforts to integrate the arts throughout the curriculum.

"We know that arts integration engages students and raises academic achievement," said Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell,

Chief Executive Officer for PGCCPS. "It is one of the many ways we are working to enrich our curriculum and expand opportunities for students to tap into their creativity."

This year, NEA awarded more than \$82 million in Art Works grant awards for arts projects nationwide. The Art Works category supports the creation of work and presentation of both new and existing work, lifelong learning in the

See ARTS Page A3

## Governor Larry Hogan Signs 144 Bills Into Law

By PRESS OFFICER  
Office of the Governor

ANNAPOLIS, MD—Governor Larry Hogan was joined by Senate President Mike Miller and Speaker of the House Michael E. Busch for a bill signing ceremony at the State House in Annapolis, which included a number of bills aimed at protecting Mary-

land citizens and modernizing Maryland's criminal justice system. In total, the governor signed 144 bills into law.

Among the bills signed today was SB 945, more commonly known as Noah's Law, which will require ignition interlock devices for anyone

See BILLS Page A3

## County Officials Honor PG County Youth CareerConnect Program 1st Graduating Class

By LORI VALENTINE  
PGCEDC

LARGO, MD—Yesterday, County Executive Rushern Baker and Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) President and CEO Jim Coleman joined officials from the Prince George's County Public Schools and Prince George's County Youth CareerConnect Program (YCC) business partners in honoring the first graduating class of the YCC at the Prince George's Community College. The Youth CareerConnect Program is a part of President Obama's STEM initiative geared toward providing employers with a skilled workforce in healthcare and information technology immediately following high school. Parents, friends and local officials came out to the Senior Celebration to highlight the accomplishments of the 44 seniors who participated in the YCC at Bladensburg and Fairmont Heights High Schools.



PHOTO COURTESY LORI VALENTINE

Left to right: Lateefah Durant, Academic Officer, PGCCPS; Alan Marroquin, Job Coach, LAYC; Yolanda Tully, YCC Program Director; County Executive Rushern Baker; Dr. Robbin Fidderson, Bladensburg YCC Coordinator; Aisha Mahoney, Principal, Bladensburg High School; Felicia Colbert, Assistant Principal, Bladensburg High School; Jim Coleman, President & CEO, PGCEDC; Betty Hager Francis, DCAO for Health and Education; Crystal Williams, Bladensburg College Coach, PGCC; YCC Graduates from Bladensburg High School.

"What a great time to graduate! The YCC experience that these honor roll students have received is truly a game changer in their lives," said Coleman. "The country is

looking for dynamic young people like these in the fields of healthcare and information technology. Those are some of the top industry sectors the County is targeting to create

the workforce of the future. They are the 'best of the best' and are going into important

See CAREER Page A5

### INSIDE

#### As Maryland Colleges Break for Summer, a Zika Awareness Reminder

The CDC says most infected people are non-symptomatic. Men who have traveled to an area with Zika and whose partners are pregnant should use condoms every time they have sex—or they should abstain from sex—during the pregnancy.

Community, Page A3

#### Welcome to Everyone

Today's libraries continue to find ways to extend the tradition of community outreach in the 21st century. I recently had a wonderful visit with staff heads of the Los Angeles Public Library system and library foundation. Its 73 locations serve the largest and most diverse population of any library system in the country.

Commentary, Page A4

#### USDA Awards \$16 Million for Research Into Sustainable Crop and Livestock Production Methods

Fiscal year 2016 food security project proposals should emphasize pollinator health as well as breeding and phenomics of food crops and animals. Applications are due July 7, 2016 for a total of \$16.8 million in available funding.

Business, Page A5

#### Movie Review: Green Room

Though it's primarily a siege scenario—the band members barricade themselves in the venue's dressing room after witnessing something the skinheads wish they hadn't—the story goes in more directions (figuratively and geographically) than you'd expect, and Saulnier never lets it get stagnant.

Out on the Town, Page A6

#### Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

Dear EarthTalk: Can we ward off the spread of the Zika virus with better environmental management?

—Mary Dornfield,  
Key Largo, FL

Features, Page A7

# Towns and NEIGHBORS

## In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

### Attention, Camp Springs: Weather Building due for change

The property of the World Weather Building at 5200 Auth Road is proposed for redevelopment. Shirley M. Anglin has sent out a notice asking nearby homeowners and community associations to contact her as soon as possible.

I went online and found a report of this "redevelopment." Mention is made of "5,760 additional employees" and the need to evaluate traffic operations "to increase roadway capacity."

Shirley asks that information about this matter be disseminated because, "We would like to let the community be aware." If you have questions, comments or concerns, call her at 301-952-3860.

### Good thing it didn't happen on the Beltway!

On May 24, about 4:30 in the afternoon, a young woman pulled into the parking lot of St. Philip's Church on Henderson Way because her car was on fire. The fire department was called and the fire extinguished.

On May 26 I saw for myself the sad, burned-out car. It was due to be towed within 72 hours. By the way, the woman was not affiliated with the St. Philip's community. No name was given.

### People

A six-year-old girl who attends Benjamin Foulois, in Morningside, is in the late stages of brain cancer. She has made a wish to go to Disney World and the Town of Morningside is seeking pledges to help her dream come true. If you can help, call the Town Hall at 301-735-2300.

Kinoshia Soden, Mrs. D.C. America and a military spouse, toured Joint Base Andrews on May 11 to familiarize herself with the operations and mission of the base. At one point during the tour, she sat in a 1st Helicopter Squadron flight simulator.

### Graduations

Nicholas M. Degraba, son of former Morningside Councilwoman Carol Kline, graduated

May 26 from Our Lady of Good Counsel High School, in Olney.

John Matthews III graduated with honors from Punxsutawney High School, and has been awarded a baseball scholarship by Kent State University. The son of Jackie and John Matthews, formerly of Poplar Road and Suitland Road, John grew up in Morningside and played basketball and baseball for the Camp Springs Boys' Club.

### Coming up

- The SE Hand Dance Club is hosting a dance at Marlboro Moose Lodge on June 11. They'll be selling sandwiches and there'll be a cash bar. Shelley Sansbury sent me this notice, and she'll be bartending. She says admission is probably \$10. You don't have to pay in advance, and the time is 6:30 to 11 p.m. Shelley suggests you bring a bunch of friends. Let her know if you want to reserve a table, and she hopes to see you there.

- The Air Force Band will be performing at the National Harbor on Saturdays at 6 or 7 p.m. and at the U.S. Capitol on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. These are free, outdoor concerts.

- The Surratt House, in Clinton, invites you to take a bus tour on June 7 to one of the most famous towns in history—Gettysburg. Learn the effect the battle had on the citizens as you visit three museums (one a historic house). Enjoy lunch at the historic Dobbin House and spend money in a variety of shops. Call The Surratt House, 301-868-1121, for more information.

### Then it was Meadows ...

Back on August 26, 1942, a letter was sent regarding "Land Acquisition, Proposed Air Base, Camp Springs, Maryland." Remember, Pearl Harbor was less than a year earlier and, "There is a military necessity for the acquisition of land ... in Prince Georges County, approximately 11 miles southeast of Washington" for an air base.

Situated on the acreage were

"10 full-time farms, 22 part-time farms, 85 cottages and urban homes, gas station, church, cemetery, experimental station of the Bureau of Standards... and several utilities such as electric distribution line and public highways which must necessarily be relocated."

*To be continued.*

### Linda Gurzell, federal government retiree

Linda Diane Gurzell, 72, formerly of Morningside, died May 5 at her home in Hollywood, MD. She was the daughter of the late Elmer and Mary (Windsor) McConkey who once lived on Woodland Road.

Linda married twice, to Paul Ratliff and to a Mr. Gurzell, from whom she was divorced. She retired from the Federal Government after 30 years' service. She is predeceased by siblings Paul, Richard "Peewee" and Vicki McConkey and Shirley Downey. Survivors include her children Susan Gray and Paul Ratliff Jr., brothers Ronald and Elmer "Skipper" McConkey; and four grandchildren. Sue Stine McConkey Mason emailed that Linda was her late husband's older sister.

### James Walls, Mayor of District Heights

James Louis Walls, Jr., 39, mayor of District Heights, died suddenly on May 12. In 2006 he became the youngest person elected to the city's top office. He was an associate minister of Forestville New Redeemer Baptist Church.

He was the son of Brenda Dickerson and James Walls, Sr., brother of Lena Walls and the late Gabriel Dickerson. His body lay in state at the Catholic Church of the Holy Spirit until funeral services on May 21. Burial was at Fort Lincoln Cemetery.

### Paul Sikka, owner/proprietor of 7-Eleven

Paul Sikka, who owned the 7-Eleven franchise on Suitland Road in Skyline, died Feb. 9.

See SKYLINE Page A7

## Neighborhoods

### Members of National Capital Region Delegation Request Details of WMATA's SafeTrack Maintenance Plan

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Today Maryland Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards and members of the region's Congressional delegation sent a bipartisan letter to Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) General Manager Paul Wiedefeld with a list of detailed questions regarding the recently announced SafeTrack maintenance plan to increase safety in the Metrorail system.

"We understand the challenges you face and have worked to provide federal resources to make critical safety and maintenance repairs on the system, particularly in the wake of the 2009 Fort Totten accident," the Members wrote. "Unfortunately, while WMATA has made progress on National Transportation Safety Board and Federal Transit Administration recommendations since that time, it has failed to make broad, systemic reforms to identify and manage risk and ensure a top-to-bottom culture of safety."

They continued, "This new accelerated maintenance plan must be part of that systemic reform, and must deliver improved safety and reliability for the riders who are rapidly losing confidence in the system."

In addition to Congresswoman Edwards, the letter was signed by Representatives Steny Hoyer (D-MD), Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Gerry Connolly (D-VA), John Sarbanes (D-MD), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), John Delaney (D-MD), Don Beyer (D-VA), and Barbara Comstock (R-VA).

The full text of the letter is below:

Dear Mr. Wiedefeld,  
We are writing with respect to the proposed SafeTrack accelerated maintenance plan that you released on Friday. We appreciate the opportunity to review the plan and assess its impact on our constituents, including federal employees, who depend on WMATA service.

We understand the challenges you face and have worked to provide federal resources to make critical safety and maintenance repairs on the system, particularly in the wake of the 2009 Fort Totten accident. Unfortunately, while WMATA has made progress on National Transportation Safety Board and Federal Transit Administration recommendations since that time, it has failed to make broad, systemic reforms to identify and manage risk and ensure a top-to-bottom culture of safety.

This new accelerated maintenance plan must be part of that systemic reform, and must deliver improved safety and reliability for the riders who are rapidly losing confidence in the system. To that end, we request some additional details on the plan and how it fits into the larger WMATA operations and maintenance effort:

1. SafeTrack condenses three years of maintenance work into one year with the goal of accelerating progress toward a state of good repair. After this year's work, will WMATA reach a state of good repair? If not, what additional steps will be required?



Congresswoman  
Donna F. Edwards

2. What can riders expect from the maintenance program after this year?

3. Now that the proposed plan has been announced, how are you working with local jurisdictions to supplement transit options in the most impacted areas?

4. How is WMATA soliciting input from riders throughout this process?

5. Will Metrobus routes continue to run on their regular daily and weekend schedules? Will more buses be added?

6. Will rider tools like Trip Planner be updated to account for service disruptions?

7. How will customer service staff be trained to direct riders to alternate options?

8. What kind of service delays can be expected during weeknight maintenance work? When and how will riders receive information about these impacts?

9. How will Metro coordinate regularly with OPM to minimize impacts on the federal workforce?

10. How will you make progress reports available to riders? Will there be real time updates via an online or mobile dashboard, weekly reports, or some other method?

11. How will labor needs be managed? How many contractors and overtime hours will be necessary?

12. How will quality control be enforced to ensure that the work is done correctly and on schedule?

13. How will routine maintenance, including work on rail cars, be integrated with the accelerated plan?

Thank you for your attention to these questions. WMATA is a critical service for our constituents and our communities, and we are committed to working with you to restore the system. We look forward to your response and discussing these issues in more detail at your earliest convenience.

### TEDCO Invests \$1.7 Million in 17 Maryland Startups

COLUMBIA, Md. (March 23, 2016)—The Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO) announced today that 17 companies have received over \$1.7 million in funding from the organization's Technology Commercialization Fund (TCF) and Cyber Security Investment Fund (CIF) in the last six months. The funding will be used to advance the companies' technology and product commercialization efforts.

"We have seen an increasing demand to our seed investment programs that support the early-stage technology companies in Maryland," said John Wasilisin, president and chief operating officer of

TEDCO. "As the quantity of funding applications went up, so did the quality of innovative companies we are seeing. Each of these seventeen companies has tremendous potential to attract future investors by leveraging our funding, which will help them to successfully grow and become a sustainable part of Maryland's economy."

Funds were awarded to startups representing a wide range of industries including medical devices, health care, software and mobile app development. Companies that have been awarded TCF and CIF funding in the last six months include:

- AILLOGIC, located in Bethesda, is an innovative cybersecurity that prevents Data Breaches with their cutting edge Endpoint Data Loss Prevention (DLP) technology.

- ANRA Technologies, located in Lexington Park, enables low cost flying C2 and real time sensor data dissemination to any device anywhere using latest encryption technology.

- Brinkbit, located in Baltimore, is a Cloud-based platform that lets game developers create, ship, and monetize games from a single interface.

- ClassTracks, located in Baltimore, builds technology solutions to help foreign language teachers spend less time drilling, so that they can spend more time teaching.

- Cobrain, located in Bethesda, is building a personalization ecosystem based on the pooled data of the largest US merchants including Macy's and Nordstrom. The company is founded by Rob McGovern, who previously founded Careerbuilder.com.

- Cognitive Pro, located in Rockville, has a proprietary methodology (COGX) designed to remediate and/or enhance cognitive skills (brain function).

- emocha Mobile Health, located in Baltimore, provides a suite of mobile and web applications that secure patient engagement and support adherence.

- Full Society, located in Baltimore, is a mobile bill-pay solution for restaurants and bars allowing diners to pay their bill, split it, tip, and give back to society at the ease of their fingertips.

- MF Fire, located in College Park, provides clean and sustainable energy, transforming home heating with their first product, the Mulciber, the first ultra-clean wood stove which emits less smoke than a single cigarette.

- MockV Solutions, located in Rockville, is a biotechnology company developing bench top research kits to quantify viral clearance in industrial processes.

- Oh Mama, located in Baltimore, connects moms with one another at a local and national level, creating a community-driven resource for all.

- OnSystem Logic, located in Columbia, has developed a patent-pending Micro-Sandbox technology to stop memory attacks caused by programming errors.

See START-UPS Page A3

## Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

### SUMMER CAMP

Reading and Equations Learning Center offers nine weeks of academic reinforcement for the next coming year along with two weekly field trips, drama, dance, football, soccer, swimming, science, fun, camping, character building, etiquette training, arts and crafts, and many more activities.

The Camp is located off Brooke Lane near Barack Obama Elementary and Wise High School. For more information, contact Melani Bridges, Center Director. Call for an appointment 301-780-6249 or RAELCI@hotmail.com Lic#156670.

### FREDERICK DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL

Frederick Douglass High School TV Production Students participated in the America's Promise Alliance's Promise night Gala 2016. The evening was a celebration, featuring the Promise of America Awards presented by General Colin Powell and Mrs. Alma Powell at the Howard Theatre in Washington, D.C. Frederick Douglass High Students were accompanied by TV Productions teacher, Mrs. Patrice Lawrence.

The High School TV Production students interviewed Earvin "Magic" Johnson, Chairman and CEO of Magic Johnson Enterprises, Patricia DeStacy Harrison, President and CEO of Publishing Broadcasting Corporation, Angela Diaz, Director of Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center, and Brian Comell, Chairman and CEO of the Target Corporation.

America's Promise Alliance is the nation's largest partnership, which brings together hundreds of national nonprofits, businesses, communities and educators together to make the promise of America accessible to all young people.

### LANGUAGE SUMMER CAMP

CGR Academy Summer Camp 2016, June 20–August 19 offers a full day Immersion Language Summer Camp (French, Spanish or Chinese) for ages 5-12. Campers enjoy over 25 field trips. Beginner, intermediate and advanced learners are welcome. CGR also offers free before and after care from 7:00 AM–6:00 PM.

Avoid the summer slide with daily lessons, leveled English Reading program, Math assess-

ment and practice, outdoor play, games and many more activities. CGR Academy is located at 10274 Lake Arbor Way, #205 Mitchellville, Maryland 20721 and 6911 Laurel Bowie Road #307, Bowie, Maryland 20715. Call 301-842-405 or visit www.cgrkids.org or, go to, info@cgrkids.org for more information.

### THE JUNGLE BOOK

Starlite Performing Art 10th Annual Summer Production presents *The Jungle Book* for boys and girls featuring drama, modern, jazz, hip hop, field trips, arts and crafts, outdoor sports, computer lab and free pizza Wednesdays. Registration fee is \$150.00 (Non-Refundable) which includes one T-shirt and one DVD of the show per child. Tuition is \$125.00 per week for ages 5 and older. Hours are Monday–Friday 7:00 AM–6:00 PM. Performing Arts Production begins Monday, June 2, 2016 and ends Friday August 12, 2016. Performance Sunday, August 14, 2016 at Dr. Wise High School, Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Call 301-333-0051 or visit www.starliteboogie.com for more information. Email: Srarlitedanceacademy@comcast.net.

# COMMUNITY

## Practical Money Skills

By Nathaniel Sillin

### Joining Your Friend's Wedding Party Without Going Broke

If a close friend or family member is getting married it's an honor to be asked to join the wedding party. However, if your budget is tight because you're saving up for a financial goal, paying off bills or have had a recent financial reversal like the loss of a job, you might need to do some thinking before you say yes.

The average spend by bridesmaids and groomsmen can exceed \$1,000 for clothing, wedding and shower gifts, bachelorette or bachelor party expenses and other incidentals. Add any number of factors—more expensive dresses, a purchased tuxedo, an upscale gift registry, a destination wedding—and suddenly, the cost of standing up for a friend's wedding can rival a rent payment, or beyond.

It can be tough to refuse a friend who wants you to be in his or her wedding—planning, saving and bargaining can help you avoid having to turn them down. Here are some ideas to potentially lower the wedding party's costs on the key items:

**Clothing.** Men luck out a bit in the tuxedo rental department because group discounts are often available for wedding parties. (Note to guys: If you're not going to get at least four wearings out of a tux, you may want to forego buying one.) However, for women, the landscape can get trickier—you'll probably never wear that dress again. So maybe it's time for negotiation with the couple. If the dresses or suits don't have to be identical, you can consider second-hand shops and online resale sites that can save significant money. Second-hand can be a big winner as well.

**Gifts.** With more pre-wedding events going co-ed, men and women in wedding parties may be buying both shower and wedding gifts for the couple. How can you cut that cost? The attendants can split a bigger gift at a lower cost per person. If you're already investing a significant amount of money in the wedding, consider a more sentimental gift that won't cost as much but will still be meaningful. If you want an alternative option to the typical registry gift, think about contributing to the couple's honeymoon fund.

**Travel.** Start searching for discounts the minute you're asked to participate, particularly on air and hotel—waiting will likely impact your budget. If the wedding is out of town or if overnight stays become a necessity, driving or rooming with other attendants can be a good option. Food costs can be cut by packing food for the drive. If friends live near by the wedding destination, ask if you can stay with them. Stay close to the proceedings—after all, cabs and onsite rental car costs add up, so it's wise to minimize travel distances. One last tip—check all your travel options one last time before you head to the wedding. Check to see if there are any special deals, price changes or upgrades to your travel or accommodations that you can take advantage of.

**Pre-wedding celebrations.** Bachelor and bachelorette parties are notorious for being over-the-top, but that doesn't mean you have to empty your savings to show the couple a good time. For safety and savings, consider locations with plenty of restaurants and bars close together so you can walk from place to place. Home-based parties can be a fun option, too.

After considering all these options, what if you still need to say no? Don't wait. Be early and be honest with your friend. And offer to help in any way you can.

**Bottom line:** Before you say "yes" to the dress, the tuxedo or the other list of expenses common to the wedding party, do some thinking about alternatives the couple might go for. The right amount of finesse and creativity can preserve your friendship and your budget.

#### Start-ups from A2

• Sisu Global Health, located in Baltimore, develops medical devices for emerging markets. Their with an initial product, Hemafuse, that recycles a person's own blood from internal bleeding.

• Secure Mentem, located in Annapolis, provides security awareness services in a SaaS model that supports and streamlines the cybersecurity awareness service to their customers.

• Sparo Corporation, located in Potomac, leverages corporate social responsibility into higher sales for online merchants by marrying e-commerce and charity.

• Speak Agent, located in Baltimore, transforms the English and Spanish language classroom by delivering customized lessons that are interactive, audiovisual, and intelligent.

• Z Advanced Computing, located in Potomac, has developed some revolutionary algorithms for machine learning which requires much fewer training samples and makes the machine learning modularized.

Applications for TCF and CIF are accepted monthly. The full review cycle begins on the first day of the month and takes approximately 60 days. For more information on investment terms and application process, please visit [www.tedco.md](http://www.tedco.md).

Proudly Serving  
Prince George's County

## As Maryland Colleges Break for Summer, a Zika Awareness Reminder

*Mosquitoes Spreading Virus in Many C. America, S. America, Caribbean Countries*

By PRESS OFFICER  
DHMH

BALTIMORE, MD—As Maryland college students study for final exams and complete their projects, travel can factor heavily into their summer plans. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is reminding them and their families to take precautions to minimize the risk of contracting Zika.

"Planned summer vacations could take Marylanders to popular destinations where the Zika virus is being spread by mosquito and through sexual contact," said Secretary Van T. Mitchell. "We are reminding our residents to exercise caution, given the link between Zika infection of pregnant women and the occurrence of birth defects in their babies."

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Zika virus is chiefly spread through mosquito bites, though less frequently, transmission via sexual contact, blood transfusion and to newborns during pregnancy has been documented. Because of the link between Zika and the microcephaly birth defect, characterized by smaller heads and underdeveloped brains in newborns, the CDC recommends that pregnant women consider postponing

travel to areas where Zika virus is spreading. These areas now include several additional countries in Central America, South America and the Caribbean.

Women who are pregnant or are trying to become pregnant are advised to not travel to countries with known Zika transmission. Travelers also should be sure to guard against mosquito bites for the seven days after they return home, to prevent a mosquito from passing on any potential infection.

The CDC says most infected people are non-symptomatic. Men who have traveled to an area with Zika and whose partners are pregnant should use condoms every time they have sex—or they should abstain from sex—during the pregnancy.

When traveling to countries where Zika virus or other viruses spread by mosquitoes are found, travelers are advised to take the following steps:

- Wear lightweight, long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
- Stay in places with air conditioning or that use window screens and door screens to keep mosquitoes outside.
- Sleep under a mosquito bed net if you are overseas or outside and are not able to protect yourself from

mosquito bites. Use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellents. When used as directed, EPA-registered insect repellents are proven safe and effective, even for pregnant and breastfeeding women. Always follow the product label instructions.

- Reapply insect repellent as directed.
- Do not spray repellent on the skin under clothing.
- If you are also using sunscreen, apply sunscreen before applying insect repellent.
- If you have a baby or child:
- Do not use insect repellent on babies younger than 2 months of age.
- Dress your child in clothing that covers arms and legs, or
- Cover crib, stroller, and baby carrier with mosquito netting.
- Do not apply insect repellent onto a child's hands, eyes, mouth, and cut or irritated skin.
- Adults: Spray insect repellent onto your hands and then apply to a child's face.
- Treat clothing and gear with permethrin or purchase permethrin-treated items.
- Treated clothing remains protective after multiple washings. See product

information to learn how long the protection will last.

- If treating items yourself, follow the product instructions carefully.
- Do NOT use permethrin products directly on skin. They are intended to treat clothing.

For more CDC information on avoiding Zika infection during travel, visit <http://goo.gl/IgHuWC>. For CDC information on the Zika virus in Spanish, visit the website; <http://goo.gl/9oYFgj>.

Health and Mental Hygiene's Maryland Zika case count, prevention information and video from our employee Zika town hall meeting can be found at <http://goo.gl/eW937c>. Maryland's Department of Agriculture also has a page about mosquito control and other Zika-related information at <http://goo.gl/Gdw3RJ>.

The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is the state government agency that protects Maryland's public health. We work together to promote and improve the health and safety of all Marylanders through disease prevention, access to care, quality management, and community engagement. Stay connected: [www.twitter.com/MarylandDHMH](http://www.twitter.com/MarylandDHMH) and the website [www.facebook.com/MarylandDHMH](http://www.facebook.com/MarylandDHMH).

#### Bills from A1

convicted of drunk driving in the state of Maryland. The legislation, which was strongly supported by the Hogan administration, was named for Montgomery County police officer Noah Leotta, who was struck and killed by a suspected drunk driver last December.

"I was proud to strongly support Noah's Law, and I want to thank everyone involved who helped get it passed," said Governor Hogan. "This, along with the bill we are signing to dedicate a portion of Maryland Route 924 as Heroes Highway, is an important way to honor the incredible legacy and sacrifice of our brave heroes. I am also incredibly proud to sign the Justice Reinvestment Act today, which will help transform and modernize our state's criminal justice system."

The governor also signed SB 1005, the Justice Reinvestment Act, which represents the largest, most comprehensive criminal justice reform to pass in a generation. By investing more in drug treatment and incarcerating nonviolent inmates

less, this new law will result in safer communities and produce significant cost savings for Maryland's taxpayers.

Additionally, the legislation models state law after the federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) to allow prosecutors to target high-level drug traffickers. The Justice Reinvestment Act legislation follows eight bills supported and signed by Governor Hogan last year that addressed public safety and community relations issues, including smarter options to reduce recidivism and help for ex-offenders to transition back into society.

#### Additional bills signed today include:

HB 409—Criminal Law—Providing Alcohol to Underage Drinkers—Penalties (Alex and Calvin's Law)—Prohibits a person from knowingly and willfully allowing an individual under 21 years old to possess or consume an alcoholic beverage at a residence the person owns or leases; and in which the person resides or furnishing an alcoholic beverage for consumption to an individual under 21 years old if

the adult knew or reasonably should have known the individual would operate a motor vehicle and did operate the vehicle under the influence of alcohol and caused serious injury or death.

SB 864—Public Safety—Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Fund—Establishment—(Alicia's Law)—Establishes the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Fund to provide grants to local law enforcement agencies for salaries, training, and equipment to be used for the investigation and prosecution of Internet crimes against children.

HB 1016—Public Safety and Policing Workgroup—Recommendations—Prohibits retaliatory personnel action against a law enforcement officer who discloses specified information; authorizes the appointment to an administrative hearing board a member of the public who has received specified training; establishes the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission as an independent commission in the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; establishes the Community Law Enforcement Program Fund.

SB 417/HB 420—Individuals With Disabilities—Minimum Wage and Community Integration (Ken Capone Equal Employment Act)—Phases out the authority for the Commissioner of Labor and Industry to authorize a work activities center or other sheltered workshop to pay a subminimum wage to an employee with a disability. It also restricts the authority of a work activities center or other sheltered workshop to pay a subminimum wage and/or a sub-prevailing wage to an employee with a disability. Beginning October 1, 2020, the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) may not fund providers that pay individuals less than the minimum wage under a specified federal certificate.

SB 1104/HB1624—Transportation—Highways—Heroes Highway—Requires the State Highway Administration to dedicate the portion of Maryland Route 924 (Emmorton Road) between its intersections with Maryland Route 24 and Singer Road as Heroes Highway in honor of Harford County Sheriff Deputies Mark F. Logsdon and Patrick B. Dailey.

#### Arts from A1

arts, and public engagement with the arts through 13 arts disciplines or fields.

PGCPS plans to use this grant award to support the Teaching Artist Institute, an arts integration professional development

project for teachers. Through a summer institute, periodic one-day sessions throughout the school year, and collaboration with master teaching artists, teachers will learn to integrate the arts into their classrooms.

Local partnerships with the Arts Education in Maryland

Schools Alliance and Young Audiences of Maryland will support the project by providing experienced curriculum specialists to coach and lead workshops.

"The arts are all around us, enhancing our lives in ways both subtle and obvious, expected and unexpected," said

NEA Chairman Jane Chu. "Supporting projects like this one in Prince George's County Public Schools offers more opportunities to engage in the arts every day."

For details about all NEA programs and grants, visit [www.arts.gov](http://www.arts.gov).

#### Teacher from A1

was instrumental in the school earning the National Healthy School Programs Bronze Status. Additionally, Spellman was named a Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) Physical Education Demonstration School, the first and only school recognized as such in Prince George's County.

Gilliard-Arthur is a lifelong learner who also shares her tal-

ents as a mentor teacher. She earned a bachelor's degree in kinesiology/physical education from the University of Maryland, College Park. She is currently working on her master's degree in educational leadership from Grand Canyon University.

The Christa McAuliffe Award honors an outstanding educator based on competitive standards of excellence established by other teachers. The award is a tribute to McAuliffe, America's Teacher-

In-Space, who was lost in the January 1986 explosion of the Space Shuttle Challenger. McAuliffe taught in Prince George's County from 1971 to 1978.

The following teachers joined Gilliard-Arthur as nominees for this year's award:

- Wanda Dixon, Springhill Lake ES
- Lauren Duewer, Rockledge ES
- Maria Frontanes,

- Springhill Lake ES
- Dana Olfus, Benjamin Tasker MS
- Karuna Skariah, Robert Goddard Montessori
- Shana Sterkin, Springhill Lake ES
- Nancy Stewart, Glenarden Woods ES
- Sylvia Watkins, Phyllis E. Williams Spanish Immersion
- Priscilla Zanghi, Ridgecrest ES
- Heide Zeisler, Ridgecrest ES

# COMMENTARY

## Cong. Steny H. Hoyer

House Democratic Minority Whip



### Hoyer Statement on Senate Committee Passage of Funding for Consolidated FBI Headquarters

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) released the following statement today after the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee passed a resolution that authorizes \$759 million in Fiscal Year 2017 for construction of a fully consolidated Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) headquarters:

"I applaud today's vote in the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee to authorize federal funds for a new, fully consolidated

FBI headquarters. I would especially like to thank Senator Ben Cardin for his leadership in passing this resolution. This is another major step forward in the process to successfully bring the consolidated FBI headquarters to Prince George's County. I will continue to work with Senator Cardin and my other colleagues in the Maryland Congressional Delegation on this important economic development project that will bring 11,000 jobs to Maryland."

## Benjamin L. Cardin

United States Senator for Maryland



### Cardin, EPW Authorizes \$759M Toward Full FBI Headquarters Consolidation

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Senator Ben Cardin (D-Md.) voted today with his colleagues on the Environment and Public Works Committee to approve a resolution that authorizes \$759 million in Fiscal Year 2017, as requested by President Obama, for construction of a fully consolidated Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) headquarters. Senator Cardin praised the bipartisan action, which he fought to ensure kept a level playing field between the three remaining locations for the new FBI.

"The FBI urgently needs a new home to consolidate employees who are scattered around the National Capital Region. Bipartisan action by the EPW Committee Wednesday is a major step forward

in this process that is so important to our national security, the FBI and its 17,300 headquarters employees. Full consolidation of its headquarters is paramount to the FBI and this project, along with greater security, functionality and convenience. With these needs at the forefront, the Senate continues its work to keep the competition fair and transparent," Senator Cardin, a senior member of the Environment and Public Works Committee, said after the vote.

"At every stage in this process, I am more encouraged that Prince George's County absolutely is positioned best to meet all of the needs of the FBI," Senator Cardin added.

## Barbara A. Mikulski

United States Senator for Maryland



### Mikulski, Cardin Praise Judiciary Committee's Approval of District of Maryland Nominee Stephanie Gallagher

Senators Recommended Stephanie Gallagher for Federal Bench to President Obama

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Senators Barbara A. Mikulski and Ben Cardin (both D-Md.) today praised the Senate Judiciary Committee's vote to approve Magistrate Judge Stephanie Gallagher to fill the vacancy on the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland. Senators Mikulski and Cardin recommended Judge Gallagher to President Obama for this position on the federal bench. If confirmed, Judge Gallagher will occupy the seat formerly held by Judge William D. Quarles, Jr. who retired in February 2016.

"I applaud the committee's vote to approve the nomination of Judge Stephanie Gallagher to serve on the U.S. District Court of Maryland, and was proud to recommend her for the job," Senator Mikulski said. "When I consider nominees for the federal bench, I have four criteria: absolute integrity, judicial competence and temperament; a commitment to core constitutional principles; and a history of civic engagement in Maryland. Judge Gallagher not only meets these standards, she exceeds them. Maryland deserves to have highly qualified judges who will uphold the law to provide equal justice for all, and we have that in her."

"Judge Gallagher brings tremendous experience to the courtroom as a sitting U.S. Magistrate Judge in Baltimore, as well as being a former prosecutor, private law firm attorney, and judicial law clerk. Her strong roots in the Maryland legal community, tremendous understanding and respect for the rule of law, and willingness to volunteer time with some of Maryland's most vulnerable residents, make her an exceptional nominee. I was

pleased to recommend Judge Gallagher's nomination to the President along with Senator Mikulski, and I am confident that she will serve the people of Maryland well once confirmed," said Senator Cardin. "Judge Gallagher may be the last judicial nomination from Maryland that I will work on with Senator Mikulski as she retires at the end of this year. I want to thank Senator Mikulski for setting up such an excellent process in Maryland to seek out the best attorneys in our state for vacancies in the District Court and 4th Circuit. We have recommended judicial nominations to the President that have made Marylanders proud of our federal courts."

#### JUDGE STEPHANIE GALLAGHER

Stephanie Gallagher, of Baltimore, Maryland, has been a United States Magistrate Judge in Baltimore since April 2011. Previously, Gallagher was a partner and co-founder at Levin & Gallagher LLC (now Levin & Curlett) for 3 years, served as an Assistant US Attorney in Baltimore for 6 years, and was a Litigation Associate at Akin Gump in Washington, D.C. for 2 years. She practiced a wide variety of law including complex civil litigation, employment disputes, constitutional issues, criminal defense, and criminal prosecution. Gallagher began her legal career as a law clerk for Judge J. Frederick Motz of the United States District Court for the District of Maryland from 1997 to 1999. She received her J.D. in 1997 from Harvard Law School, graduating cum laude, and her B.S. in government from Georgetown University in 1994, graduating magna cum laude.

## National Voting Rights Museum



Open to the Public

#### NATIONAL VOTING RIGHTS MUSEUM

Located at 6 US Highway 80 East, in the Historic District of Selma, Alabama at the foot of the famous Edmund Pettus Bridge, the scene of "Bloody Sunday," the National Voting Rights Museum & Institute is the cornerstone of the contemporary struggle for voting rights and human dignity. The National Voting Rights Museum and Institute is the only such Institution of its kind in the world. Photography and video exhibits, documents, personal notes and artifacts from the struggle are housed in its archives. The Museum and Institute offers the United States of America and the world the unique opportunity to learn from the lessons of the past and to secure our rights for the future. It is a place where past and present struggles and future possibilities can be viewed, studied, felt, remembered and appreciated. Museum Hours are Monday - Thursday: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm; Friday, Saturday, Sunday: By Appointment Only

## Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



### Welcome to Everyone

*"I always knew from that moment, from the time I found myself at home in that little segregated library in the South, all the way up until I walked up the steps of the New York City library, I always felt, in any town, if I can get to a library, I'll be okay. It really helped me as a child, and that never left me. So I have a special place for every library, in my heart of hearts."*

—Maya Angelou

*"I have an unshaken conviction that democracy can never be undermined if we maintain our library resources and a national intelligence capable of using them."*

—Franklin Delano Roosevelt

*"There is not such a cradle of democracy upon the earth as the Free Public Library, this republic of letters, where neither rank, office, nor wealth receives the slightest consideration."*

—Andrew Carnegie

When Andrew Carnegie was a seventeen-year-old immigrant "working boy" in Allegheny City, Pennsylvania (now Pittsburgh's North Side) in 1853, he wanted to be able to borrow books to improve himself—but in the era of predominantly private libraries he was stopped by an annual \$2.00 library subscription fee. At the time he expressed his frustration in a letter to the editor of the *Pittsburgh Dispatch* and got the fee waived. Years later, after building the steel empire that made him "the richest man in the world," Andrew Carnegie gave \$60 million to fund a system of 1,689 public libraries across the United States, with hundreds more in the United Kingdom and Ireland, Canada, and other parts of the world.

The Carnegie libraries were often the first free public libraries in their communities and popularized the "open stack" system that allowed people to browse through a library's shelves themselves instead of having to request books from a clerk. They helped transform the expectation of public access to books and in the process transformed lives. The library was often the grandest building in town, and the typical design included a front staircase as a visual symbol that visitors were elevating themselves by entering

the building. One injustice was that many libraries were initially segregated and some towns received grants for racially separate Black libraries but several Carnegie libraries broke those barriers too. Washington, D.C.'s library was integrated from its 1903 opening and for many years was one of the only places in the city Black citizens knew they could use the public bathrooms. Across the country Carnegie libraries set a standard as centers of their communities and pioneered new ways libraries could serve people that went beyond the gift of books.

Today's libraries continue to find ways to extend the tradition of community outreach in the 21st century. I recently had a wonderful visit with staff heads of the Los Angeles Public Library system and library foundation. Its 73 locations serve the largest and most diverse population of any library system in the country. I loved hearing about all the ways their system reaches out to their community—especially their services for young people. Carnegie libraries featured some of the first children's rooms and most of us are now familiar with library story times and other vital literacy programs for young children. The Los Angeles Public Library

features these and much more.

Some library branches provide free lunches in the summer targeting children who qualify for free or reduced price meals during the school year, pairing summer meals distribution with programs like the Summer Fun reading club, art and science activities, free eye exams and eyeglasses, and jobs skills training for teenagers. "Full STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) Ahead" programs offer popular activities like robotics, coding, circuitry, and stop-motion animation. Student Zones in libraries provide homework help, computers, tutoring, and areas for collaborating on school projects. Online tutoring for children in kindergarten–12th grades and adult learners provides one-on-one live homework help with math, science, social studies, and English accessible from any Internet-connected device.

Teenagers have their own special rooms, group study spaces, and workshops to help them improve study skills and prepare for PSAT/SAT exams and college applications. Parent workshops teach parents how to help their young children start

See WATCH, Page A10

## The Prince George's Post

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# BUSINESS

## The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

### Family Counseling—An Option For Many Situations

Each of us faces problems at various times, and when we do we usually think the burden of these problems is ours and ours alone. However, there are many times when there may be real value in involving those with whom we're the closest—our families.

Many times we fail to realize that family members can offer important assistance in a variety of ways. Involving them may lead to greater understanding, to more support, or to helping find and treat the causes of a problem.

Family counseling is a specialized field within the counseling profession that first developed in the 1950s. Professional counselors working in this field tend to focus on the family as a client, rather than just seeing a person or two as the ones with the problem.

While there are no specific indicators showing that family counseling may be right for your situation, there are some general signs that a family may be well served in getting treatment. For an individual facing a problem, family counseling might be appropriate if the person really wants other family members to know of the situation, or if he or she believes that actions by other members of the family need to change in order to deal with the problem.

Many problems, of course, can be addressed individually. A young adult having dating or career concerns might benefit from working with a professional counselor, but family counseling would likely serve little purpose.

But when the problems being faced are long-term, serious issues, such as addiction or severe depression, family counseling often can yield positive benefits.

Finding a family counselor need not be difficult. The American Counseling Association website at [www.counseling.org](http://www.counseling.org) has a "Find A Counselor" tab at the top of the home page that will take you to a page explaining the various types of counseling specialties with a link to professional counselor listings. You can also check with your local mental health association, the local phone book or through an online search for family counseling.

Professional counselors specializing in family counseling will be glad to describe how they work and the methods they use. Don't be afraid to ask questions.

Family counseling has been shown to be as effective as individual counseling. It is an excellent way to break down barriers, improve communication and intimacy and to find more productive ways of operating a family.

*Counseling Corner is provided by the American Counseling Association. Comments and questions to [ACAcorner@counseling.org](mailto:ACAcorner@counseling.org) or visit the ACA website at [www.counseling.org](http://www.counseling.org)*

## USDA Awards \$16 Million for Research Into Sustainable Crop and Livestock Production Methods

*Next Round of Funding Will Support Pollinator Health, Plant and Animal Phenomics Research*

By PRESS OFFICER  
USDA

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today awarded \$16.5 million in grants to support research into methods for boosting agriculture productivity and ensuring food security in the face of pests, diseases and a changing climate. In addition, USDA announced that it is seeking applications for the next round of projects, which will focus on pollinator health and plant and animal phenomics. The grants are made available through the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), administered by USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

Established by the 2008 Farm Bill and re-authorized in the 2014 Farm Bill, AFRI is the nation's premier, peer-reviewed competitive grants program for fundamental and applied agricultural sciences. In the seven years since AFRI was established, the program has led to true innovations and ground-breaking discoveries in agriculture to combat childhood obesity, improve and sustain rural economic growth, address water availability issues, increase food production, find new sources of energy, mitigate the impacts of climate variability and enhance resiliency of our food systems, and ensure food safety.

"In the face of diminishing land and water resources and increasingly variable climatic conditions, food production must increase to meet the demands of a world population projected to pass 9 billion by 2050," said Vilsack. "Funding in research to respond to these challenges should be considered as an investment in our nation's future, an investment which will pay big dividends in the years to come."

The awards and available funding announced today fall into the AFRI Food Security Challenge Area, which funds projects that increase agricultural productivity and the availability and accessibility of safe, nutritious food. Fiscal year 2015 projects receiving support today focus on agriculture production systems, breeding and genomics of crops and livestock, and a national strategy for sustainable crop and livestock production. Since 2010, NIFA has awarded more than \$219 million to the AFRI Food Security Challenge Area.

#### Fiscal year 2015 grants include:

- USDA Agricultural Research Service, Fort Collins, Colo., \$50,000
- University of Illinois, Champaign, Ill., \$2,397,840
- Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind., \$500,000
- Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, \$10,000
- University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky., \$120,000
- University of Maryland, College Park, Md., \$2,397,840

- Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich., \$2,327,840

- University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo., \$2,000,000

- North Dakota State University, Fargo, N.D., \$50,000

- North Dakota State University, Fargo, N.D., \$2,147,839

- South Dakota State University, Brookings, S.D., \$2,382,840

- Utah State University, Logan, Utah, \$150,000

- Washington State University, Pullman, Wash., \$40,000

- Washington State University, Pullman, Wash., \$2,000,000

Funded projects include North Dakota State University research to improve existing cropping systems through innovative seeding and nutrient management of cover crops. Purdue University will create a new open source framework that can help identify combinations of policies to improve the environment while ensuring food security. Information on all of these FY15 projects can be found on the NIFA website.

Fiscal year 2016 food security project proposals should emphasize pollinator health as well as breeding and phenomics of food crops and animals. Applications are due July 7, 2016 for a total of \$16.8 million in available funding. For the first time, grant awards will be equally co-funded by eligible national and state com-

modity boards, as authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill. See the request for applications for more information.

President Obama's 2017 budget request proposes to fully fund the AFRI program, doubling the amount that was available in 2016 to \$700 million. Since its creation, AFRI has been funded at less than half the levels established in the 2008 Farm Bill, and USDA has only been able to fund one out of 10 research proposals presented, leaving thousands of innovative research proposals unfunded.

Since 2009, NIFA has invested in and advanced innovative and transformative initiatives to solve societal challenges and ensure the long-term viability of agriculture. NIFA's integrated research, education, and extension programs, supporting the best and brightest scientists and extension personnel, have resulted in user-inspired, groundbreaking discoveries that are combating childhood obesity, improving and sustaining rural economic growth, addressing water availability issues, increasing food production, finding new sources of energy, mitigating climate variability, and ensuring food safety. To learn more about NIFA's impact on agricultural science, visit [www.nifa.usda.gov/impacts](http://www.nifa.usda.gov/impacts), sign up for email updates, or follow us on Twitter @usda\_NIFA, #NIFAimpacts.

### Dolphin from A1

attention," said EDC President and CEO Jim Coleman. "Sometimes, entrepreneurs don't know what they don't know and need help in getting on the right track. There is no time for cooling off in Prince George's County these days. There are too many people looking for what your business is selling for you to not brag about your company, because when you are successful, the County is successful and jobs are plentiful. It's just that simple."

For more than a decade, Springboard has served as a nationwide platform for recruiting, coaching, showcasing, promoting and supporting women entrepreneurs who want to grow their companies exponentially. The Dolphin Tank is a supportive, vision-expanding experience

that allows entrepreneurs to get real-time advice from knowledgeable industry experts who can help them change their message to get the attention their business needs and deserves. Combined with the networking component, the strategic connections made at today's event have the potential to catapult these businesses forward to even greater success.

"The Economic Development Corporation is the biggest cheerleader and champion that I have seen for small businesses around the country," said Amy Millman, President of Springboard Enterprises. "When companies are in the throes of building their business, they are so involved in all of the details that they forget the most important reason of why they started the business - to make them successful. We use these pro-

grams to remind these amazing entrepreneurs how incredibly valuable what they are doing is, how expert they are, and letting them know why they will be successful. If we are nothing more than cheerleaders, I think we did our job."

The EDC Accelerator is a program that supports Prince George's County startups that have high-growth potential and are developing innovative products or services. Through a combination of low overhead, one-on-one business consulting, mentorship, and exclusive networking activities, the EDC Accelerator works to take a company from startup to success within six months.

"I am grateful to Springboard for bringing the 'Dolphin Tank' concept to the EDC's Accelerator clients. It is important for them to be able to clearly

articulate what they do in order to sell their services to others," said Kisha Logan, EDC Small Business Services Manager. "Our job is to make sure that our local companies aren't afraid to jump from a small pond into the ocean. Forums like Dolphin Tank are great for giving them the confidence and the edge they need in a friendly, supportive atmosphere."

The presenting companies, DMV Solutions, LLC, NITRAM Financial Solutions, Communications and Change Management Solutions, LLC, Renaissance Systems, Inc., and Last Mile Broadband, LLC pitched their services to panelists as well as the other businesses attending the Dolphin Tank; and the attendees were not shy with their beneficial feedback.

"I think this was a great event. All of the attendees had some-

thing to gain from the comments from the panel as well as the presentations," said Kenneth Clark with Peake Financial Group. "It has allowed me to rethink how I am pitching my own company with respect to clients as well as businesses."

Presenters were encouraged to begin their pitch with a call to action - what they want from the audience, and state their case with clarity and simplicity, no matter how complicated.

"This Dolphin Tank was an awesome experience," said James Chavis, President and CEO of Renaissance Systems, Inc. in Upper Marlboro. "I love the recommendations and EDC has been extremely helpful in getting the word out about our business and getting it off the ground. I'm very thankful."

"It was exciting to present my company and my idea to every-

one and get great feedback as well as recommendations and opportunities," said Sherrell Martin, Chief Financial Solutions Officer of NITRAM Financial Solutions in National Harbor, MD. "I was pleasantly surprised by the amount of people today telling me to come see them so that we can connect. The EDC's networking events and small business manager, Kisha Logan, have been a great help in getting us ready to move out of the nest."

Today's "Dolphin Tank" was sponsored by a grant from the Maryland Technology Development Corporation. For more information on the EDC Accelerator Program or workshops and forums to support small businesses, contact Kisha Logan, EDC Small Business Services Manager at 301-583-4650 or [kvlogan@co.pg.md.us](mailto:kvlogan@co.pg.md.us).

### Career from A1

industries that will give them a unique opportunity to alter their lives for generations to come. Having a hand up in these high-demand, high wage careers is exactly how we will keep Prince George's County moving forward. We are excited about this next generation of multi-millionaires coming out of Prince George's County Public Schools. Our future is in good hands."

County Executive Baker also encouraged the graduates to travel as far as their imaginations could take them, and told them that they are an essential part of the

Prince George's County workforce pipeline.

"President Obama announced the YCC grant at Bladensburg High School right after our Administration launched its Transforming Neighborhoods Initiative which addresses critical needs in areas of the County that were sometimes overlooked. The timing was perfect for the Administration and this program to get more involved in education," said County Executive Baker. "I congratulate the seniors as they move along in their careers. We are proud of the hard work of the students and proud of the partners who have invested in this program and in Prince George's County. This is one of

many steps we are taking to move Prince George's County forward."

The EDC manages the \$7 million grant the County received for this program and is pleased to be working with our business partners, Lockheed Martin and Dimensions Healthcare Systems. The EDC also partners with the Prince George's County Public School System, Ashlin Urban Institute, Hillside Work Scholarship Connection, Latin American Youth Center (LAYC), Prince George's County Community College and The Maryland Center at Bowie State University.

"Tonight we were able to celebrate some of our rising stars

that have graduated from the Prince George's County Youth CareerConnect Program. All of them are going to college or serving in the military, and we couldn't be more proud of them," said Yolanda Tully, EDC Youth CareerConnect Program Director. "Throughout their high school career, the students have been learning and building on their skills in the health and IT field. Some have extensive certifications in nursing and IT; skills that are competitive and in demand in today's workforce. These are the future leaders that will take Prince George's County by storm."

This year marks the second school year of the YCC; a four-year STEM program for Prince

George's County Public School high school Career Academy Pathways. The three schools participating in the program are Bladensburg, Potomac and Fairmont Heights. The program focuses on health, bio-science and information technology and has over 440 students enrolled to date. Each of the graduating seniors, a majority of whom are honors students, have been accepted by the top colleges in the country, including the University of Pennsylvania, Georgetown University, George Washington University and Howard University.

"I was undecided about my career path and couldn't decide whether I should go into engi-

neering, computer science or be a medical doctor," said Gabriel Aboragadi, from Bladensburg High School and attending the University of Maryland with a full Gates Foundation Scholarship. "Because of the YCC program, I was able to have internships and explore all types of medical and IT fields. This helped me decide to go into the medical field and eventually pursue my Ph.D."

Companies interested in partnering with the Prince George's County Youth CareerConnect Program for summer job opportunities, internships or mentoring contact Yolanda Tully, YCC Program Director at 301-618-8400 or [ytully@co.pg.md.us](mailto:ytully@co.pg.md.us).

# OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S  
IN THE DARK

## Movie Review

### Green Room

Green Room

Grade: A-

Rated R, some brutal violence,  
abundant harsh profanity  
1 hr., 34 min

One of the occupational hazards of being a young, struggling punk band is that sometimes the roadhouse where you've booked a gig turns out to be a den of Nazi skinheads. *Green Room* starts with that uncomfortable arrangement ("Don't talk politics," advises the guy who set it up) and descends from there into expertly crafted cold-sweat terror. The first time I saw it, I hardly breathed. The second time I saw it, I was alarmed to discover that already knowing what was going to happen didn't help.

It's from writer-director Jeremy Saulnier, whose contemplative revenge drama *Blue Ruin* was more of a simmering boil than this intense, explosive nightmare. Though it's primarily a siege scenario—the band members barricade themselves in the venue's dressing room after witnessing something the skinheads wish they hadn't—the story goes in more directions (figuratively and geographically) than you'd expect, and Saulnier never lets it get stagnant. Every time the film seems on the verge of getting repetitive or claustrophobic, there's a new development.

It helps that the plot doesn't depend on anyone being an idiot. The band, called the Ain't Rights, comprises four college-age kids—Pat (Anton Yelchin), Sam (Alia Shawkat), Reece (Joe Cole), and Tiger (Callum Turner)—who exhibit the usual youthful naiveté and punk-rock recklessness. They're very serious about the purity of their art, like experienced adults might be; but they also siphon gas from parked cars when they don't have enough money to fill up their van, like dumb kids might do. Yet in a crisis, they react rationally, almost always doing what we (from our safe, objective vantage point) figure we would have done, too.

Unnervingly, the bad guys are just as rational. The owner of the venue and leader of the white supremacists is a sensible businessman who pays his taxes and enforces the fire codes. His name is Darcy, and he's played by Patrick Stewart, a model of pragmatism. (One of the occupa-



*Green Room* is a brilliantly crafted and wickedly fun horror-thriller starring Patrick Stewart as a diabolical club owner who squares off against an unsuspecting but resilient young punk band. Down on their luck punk rockers The Ain't Rights are finishing up a long and unsuccessful tour, and are about to call it quits when they get an unexpected booking at an isolated, run-down club deep in the backwoods of Oregon. What seems merely to be a third-rate gig escalates into something much more sinister when they witness an act of violence backstage that they weren't meant to see. Now trapped backstage, they must face off against the club's depraved owner, Darcy Banker (Stewart), a man who will do anything to protect the secrets of his nefarious enterprise. But while Darcy and his henchmen think the band will be easy to get rid of, The Ain't Rights prove themselves much more cunning and capable than anyone expected, turning the tables on their unsuspecting captors and setting the stage for the ultimate life-or-death showdown. Intense, emotional, and ingeniously twisted, *Green Room* is genre filmmaking at its best and most original. Saulnier continues to build his reputation as one of the most exciting and distinctive directors working today, with a movie that's completely different from his previous, highly acclaimed *Blue Ruin*, but which is just as risk-taking and even more full of twists. The entire cast deliver first-rate performances, but Patrick Stewart gives a transformative and brilliantly devious turn as Darcy—elegant yet lethal, droll yet terrifying, Stewart makes the film simply unforgettable.

tional hazards of being a bald white actor is that at some point you'll be hired to play a skinhead.) With his sonorous, authoritative voice, Darcy calls to the Ain't Rights in the green room from out in the corridor, pleading for a peaceful resolution to the standoff, which has one of his bouncers, Big Justin (Eric Edelstein), locked in with them. Amber (Imogen Poots), a club regular who witnessed the same bad thing the band saw, is also involved. The band just wants to leave; understandably, they don't trust Darcy when he says his squad of jackbooted thugs doesn't want to "silence" them.

I spoil nothing when I say that violence ensues. BOY, DOES IT. It's brutal, but it's not constant or gratuitous. (My hunch: people will remember the film having more acts of on-screen violence than it actually does.) One of Saulnier's savviest

touches, in fact, is creating a scarcity of guns and ammo, forcing everyone on both sides of the battle to get resourceful. This can lead to symbolic choices like the skinheads sending in pit bulls (which, like people, are only hateful and vicious if they're taught to be), and the Ain't Rights repelling them with amplifier feedback—music as a weapon, a literal manifestation of the essence of punk rock. The kids' other strategies vary in effectiveness, and Saulnier exploits their fear and panic to great effect. He shows us the skinheads' machinations, too, giving us information that the band doesn't have so that we can see the level of organization involved and tremble accordingly.

My only real issue with the film is one that you'd think would be an asset: Patrick Stewart. As great an actor as he is, I just don't buy him as a murder-

ous white supremacist. He's too upright, too decent—especially that comforting, paternal voice of his—to be menacing, or at least this kind of menacing. (I can't help but think Darcy's one late-in-the-game use of the N-word is only there to keep us from forgetting that, oh yeah, this guy is evil.)

But that's a relatively minor issue. The story doesn't need a strong, singular bad guy; the "villain" is the situation itself, where innocents stumble into a mess they're ill-equipped to handle. The young cast is uniformly good (including Mark Webber and Saulnier regular Macon Blair as low-level skinheads), with everyone traumatized and terrorized in believable ways. They aren't pathetic slasher victims, but they aren't superheroes, either. Whoever makes it out alive is going to play some seriously haunted punk rock from now on.

## The Edge of Sports

by DAVE ZIRIN

### The 1988 Seoul Olympics Were a Horror Show of Human Rights Abuses. Will Rio Be the Same?



Thanks to an exhaustive as well as emotionally exhausting article published by the Associated Press, we now know that the 1988 Seoul Summer Games in South Korea were a horror show of torture, rape, slavery, and death. There has long been a fiction that these Olympics helped "democratize" the nation. Whatever good the 1988 games may have done, they were also a human-rights catastrophe beyond what even the most resolute Olympic critics could have imagined.

According to the AP, "the homeless, the drunk, but mostly children and the disabled" were "rounded up off the streets ahead of the 1988 Seoul Olympics, which the ruling dictators saw as international validation of South Korea's arrival as a modern country." This is absolutely right. As Brazil's leaders battle, and Olympic construction proceeds at a breakneck pace, expect the poor of Rio to pay a terrible price. The need for independent Brazilian journalists to continue their work—see RioOnWatch for one example of this—and for people outside of Brazil to spread the word, has never been more urgent. The kinds of crimes we now know took place in Seoul flourish when practiced in the shadows.

Now the survivors of South Korea's Olympic prison camps want recognition for all they suffered. In the words of a middle-aged man named Choi, who was just a boy when he was raped by the military's prison guards, "The government has consistently tried to bury what happened. How do you fight that? If we spoke up, who would have heard us? I am wailing, desperate to tell our story. Please listen to us." People should read the entire story. It stands as a stunning indictment not only of South Korea's leaders but also as a testament to the price nations pay for hosting the Olympic Games.

I spoke to Jules Boykoff, author of the new book *Power Games: A Political History of the Olympics* about these revelations (full disclosure: I wrote the foreword to *Power Games*, but received no compensation for doing so). He responded: "This is the grisly underbelly of the Games. The Olympics are supposed to be about human rights and compassion, but all too often they are used as an alibi for brutal repression. The truth is that everyday people in South Korea paid an unspeakable toll so that South Korean leaders could convert the Olympic spectacle into convenient political myth. Unfortunately, this repellent incident gels with the general equation of the Olympic Games in the modern era: Olympic myth plus political opportunism equals the mistreatment of marginalized populations. In this case mistreatment is a mere euphemism for what was actually ferocious immiseration."

The AP's story by Kim Tong-Hyung and Foster Klug is difficult to read, the horrors and personal stories they have accumulated pile on top of one another like the bodies of those who died from exhaustion in the government's Olympic slave-labor camps. It will make the reader want to sit and catch their breath, but, honestly, there isn't time. Right now the countdown to the Rio Games is underway, and the story of South Korea should be taken as a call for vigilance.

I spoke with Rio's own Juliana Barbassa, author of the book *Dancing with the Devil: Rio de Janeiro on the Brink*. She said that the city she loves saw an increase in human-rights abuses during the months leading up to the World Cup, and it is happening again now as the countdown to the Olympics begins: "There have been widespread favela demolitions, efforts to remove the homeless from high-rent, touristy neighborhoods like Ipanema and Copacabana, and an increase in police and army violence in low-income communities, where shoot-outs are once again the norm. Rio now is facing a budgetary crisis, and it has just over three months to be ready for the Olympics. This sort of pressure could worsen the abuses we have already seen. Human-rights observers could play an important role not just during the Games but also now, in the months leading up to the competition, by keeping track and calling attention to what is happening."

This is absolutely right. As Brazil's leaders battle, and Olympic construction proceeds at a breakneck pace, expect the poor of Rio to pay a terrible price. The need for independent Brazilian journalists to continue their work—see RioOnWatch for one example of this—and for people outside of Brazil to spread the word, has never been more urgent. The kinds of crimes we now know took place in Seoul flourish when practiced in the shadows.

I also spoke to Chris Gaffney, who organized extensively in Rio against the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympic planning. He underlined that the problem is not just about

## PG County Department of Parks and Recreation and Blue Star Museums Salute to the Military

By PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
MNCPPP

RIVERDALE, MD—In honor of our armed forces, the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, PG County is offering free tours to active service members through Labor Day, September 5. Six of the historic house museums of Prince George's County will be offering free tours to active members of the military, current military ID is required, and up to five dependents.

Participating museums include: Surratt House Museum in Clinton, Darnall's Chance in Upper Marlboro, Marietta in Glenn Dale, Riversdale Mansion in Riverdale Park, College Park and Aviation Museum in College Park, and Montpelier Mansion in Laurel.

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and museums across America. Each summer since 2010, Blue Star Museums have

offered free admission to the nation's active-duty military personnel and their families, including National Guard and Reserve, from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Find out more at: <https://www.arts.gov/national/blue-star-museums#sthash.2kxuvkAT.dpuf>

The Department of Parks and Recreation provides comprehensive park and recreation programs, facilities and services which respond to changing needs within our communities. The Department strives to pre-

serve, enhance and protect our open spaces to enrich the quality of life for present and future generations in a safe and secure environment.

For more on the Department of Parks and Recreation, visit [www.pgparcs.com](http://www.pgparcs.com) and stay connected on Facebook and Twitter. The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation encourages and supports the participation of individuals with disabilities in all programs and services.

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# Calendar of Events

June 2, — June 8, 2016

## Xtreme Teens:

### Beltway BBQ Showdown—Xtreme Teens Grill Off

Date and Time: Friday, June 3, 2016, 5–10 pm  
Description: Join the fun at the 10th Annual Beltway BBQ Showdown—Xtreme Teens Grill-Off! The Langley Park team will travel to the Showdown and show off their grill skills or participate in fun activities.

We will depart at 5 pm and return by 9 pm. A signed specialized permission slip is required for attendance.

For those teens who decide to stay at the center, get ready for a karaoke battle.

Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID  
Ages: 10–17  
Location: Langley Park Community Center  
1500 Merimac Drive, Hyattsville, MD  
Contact: 301-445-4508; TTY 301-699-2544

## G.E.A.R.: Lantern Craft

Date and Time: Friday, June 3, 2016, 7–10 pm  
Description: Tonight we are making lanterns. Bring a friend and express your creativity through crafting.

Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth  
Ages: 10–17  
Location: Kentland Community Center  
2411 Pinebrook Avenue, Landover MD  
Contact: 301-386-2278; TTY 301-699-2544

## Sizzling Summer Concerts: Trio Caliente

Date and Time: Friday, June 3, 2016, 8 pm  
Description: Since 2003, Trio Caliente's blend of Flamenco, Pop, and Brazilian Jazz has been entertaining fans throughout the United States, Latin America, and the Middle East.

Named Best Latin Group by the Washington Area Music Awards (Wammies) in 2013, Trio Caliente's guitars, vocals and rhythms create a matchless evening of entertainment.

Cost: \$20/person  
Ages: All ages welcome  
Location: Publick Playhouse  
5445 Landover Rd., Cheverly, MD  
Contact: 301-277-1710; TTY 301-699-2544

## Special Olympics Horse Show

Date and Time: Saturday, June 4, 2016, 9 am  
Description: The Prince George's Equestrian Center is proud to host the 2016 Special Olympics Horse Show.

Cost: Free for spectators  
Location: The Show Place Arena  
14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro, MD  
Contact: 301-952-7900; TTY 301-699-2544

## 10th Anniversary Beltway BBQ Showdown

Date and Time: Saturday, June 4, 2016, 12 noon–7 pm  
Description: The 10th Annual Beltway BBQ Showdown is back and better than ever!

Featuring a sanctioned Maryland State BBQ competition and festival, guests will experience (among many others) live music, a Classic Car Show, food and craft vendors and a children's area full of fun things to do, among others.

Cost: Resident: \$5; Non-Resident: \$6  
Ages: All ages welcome  
Location: Tucker Road Athletic Complex  
1770 Tucker Road, Fort Washington, MD  
Contact: 301-203-6000; TTY 301-699-2544

## Xtreme Teens: Bikes & Boats

Date and Time: Saturday, June 4, 2016, 2–3 pm  
Description: Spend an afternoon at the Bladensburg Waterfront Park biking through the Anacostia Tributary Trails or enjoy an afternoon paddle boating down the beautiful Anacostia River. Bikes and boats provided!

Cost: Free with M-NCPPC ID  
Ages: 10–17  
Location: Bladensburg Waterfront Park  
4601 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg, MD  
Contact: 301-445-4500; TTY 301-699-2544

## Maryland Challenged Horse Trials

Date and Time: Sunday, June 5, 2016, 8 am  
Description: The Prince George's Equestrian Center is proud to host the 2016 Maryland Challenged Horse Trials.

Cost: Free for spectators  
Location: The Show Place Arena  
14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro, MD  
Contact: 301-952-7900; TTY 301-699-2544

## Seasonal Selections: Berry Jamboree

Date and Time: Sunday, June 5, 2016, 12 noon–3:30 pm  
Description: It's the time of year when berries are ripe & plentiful! Join the Kitchen Guild as they make recipes using the fruits of the season.

Cost: Free  
Ages: All ages welcome  
Location: Riversdale House Museum  
4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park, MD  
Contact: 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544  
riversdale@pgparks.com

## Health and Wellness:

### Walk and Talk with the Doc Lake Artemesia

Date and Time: Monday, June 6, 2016, 8:30–9:30 am  
Description: We know that walking is one of the best ways to stay healthy. It is also one of the best ways to connect with others! A local health care professional will lead a group walk, share wellness tips, and answer your questions.

No registration is required. Just grab your tennis shoes and join the fun!

Event Doctor: Dr. Katelyn Leitner  
Hearing Professionals: Doctors of Audiology  
Personalized Hearing Care & Balance Center  
Cost: Free  
Ages: Ages 60 & better  
Location: Lake Artemesia Park  
8200 55TH Avenue, Berwyn Heights 20740  
Contact: 301-446-6800; TTY 301-699-2544

# EARTH TALK ... Zika Virus: An Environmental Problem?

Dear EarthTalk:

Dear EarthTalk: Can we ward off the spread of the Zika virus with better environmental management?

—Mary Dornfield,  
Key Largo, FL

Zika virus, first discovered in Uganda's Zika Forest in 1947, is transmitted to humans and other mammals through the bite of an infected Aedes species mosquito, and typically causes only a mild and short-term illness (fever, rash, joint pain, conjunctivitis) that likely immunizes the victim from future infections. But a Zika virus infection during pregnancy can cause a serious birth defect called microcephaly—where the fetal head doesn't develop to the proper size, leading to other severe fetal brain defects.

Over the last half century, occasional Zika outbreaks have been reported in tropical Africa, Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands. But the first confirmed case in the western hemisphere last year in Brazil now has public health experts concerned about its potential to develop into a global pandemic. "Because the Aedes species mosquitoes that spread Zika virus are found throughout the world," reports the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), "it is likely that outbreaks will spread to new countries."

Indeed Zika's recent "success" in spreading far beyond a few isolated pockets of the tropics may be partly attributable to how we have taken care of the environment in the modern industrial era post-World War II. Durland Fish, a professor of microbial diseases, forestry and environmental studies at Yale University, isn't surprised Zika has spread widely, given the proclivity of the Aedes mosquito (which is also responsible for spreading dengue fever and chikungunya virus) for inhabiting artificially human-made habitats like tires, cans, plastic containers and rain barrels.

"It doesn't live in the ground, or in swamps, or any other kinds of places where you would normally find mosquitoes," reports Fish in a recent *Washington Post* article. "So humans have created an environment for it to proliferate, by having all of these water containing containers around, and the mosquito has adapted so well ... it's really kind of a human parasite. It's like the cockroach of the mosquito world."

And the mismanagement of urban waste is far from the only environmental factor in the spread of Zika. Environmentalists point out that dam-building and deforestation are also significant contributors to increased amounts of standing water where Aedes mosquitos can breed and come into contact with growing human populations. Restoring



CREDIT: SANOFI PASTEUR, FLICKRCC  
**The Aedes aegypti mosquito can infect humans with the Zika virus when it takes a blood meal.**

natural hydrological flows and leaving forests intact would be good defense mechanisms against the spread of mosquito-borne disease of all kinds.

But whether we can contain the warming of the planet as a result of human greenhouse gas emissions might be the single biggest factor in whether we can prevent Zika from morphing into a global public health menace. The World Health Organization (WHO) recently reported that predicted global average temperature increases of two to three degrees Centigrade would make temperate latitudes hotter, in turn exposing several hundred million more people to Aedes species mosquitoes. Malaria, dengue fever and other mosquito-borne diseases would also surge along with Zika.

"You have to do something about the mosquitoes, and that's strictly an environmental problem, there's no medical applications to that," concludes Fish. "And focusing on that as an environmental issue is going to have the greatest impact on protecting people."

CONTACT: CDC Zika Virus, [www.cdc.gov/zika/](http://www.cdc.gov/zika/); Washington Post, [www.goo.gl/5wnxiS](http://www.goo.gl/5wnxiS); WHO Zika Facts, [www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/zika/](http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/zika/).

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

## Rio from A6

Brazil's government but the Olympics Games themselves. "There is a case to be made for international human rights observers to be part of the Olympic planning process from day one," he said. "While the IOC has some nice language in its documentation, there are no legally binding signatures on anything but the host city contract, which does not mention human rights at all. [IOC president] Thomas Bach has gone to the UN to declare how the Olympics are bringing peace to the world, but in reality, for Rio's poor, they will be facing the barrels of 85,000 guns during the Olympic Games themselves and there is evidence to suggest a socioeconomic cleansing of streets. The Olympic Games themselves are generators of human-rights violations [which serve to] criminalize poverty and dispossess residents of their own city."

This is the problem with the Olympics: They have never been just about sports. Instead, at least since Hitler's Berlin Olympic games in 1936, they have

See RIO Page A10

## Skyline from A2

Survivors include his wife Manju, sons Siddharth and Munish, and daughter-in law Neena Sikko (wife of Siddharth) who now runs the store. She told us at the recent Skyline meeting, "The community has been tremendously

kind since dad died."

## Milestones

Happy birthday to Darius Nalley-Stoddard, June 3; Fay Norton-Cummings and Malik Reed, June 6; Trisha Reamy, June 7; Ryan Fowler and John Nichols, June 8; Robin Murphy and Rev. Frank Ways, June

9; and Laura Smith Jenkins, June 10.

Happy anniversary to Carol (Kline) and Tom DeGraba, on their 22nd, June 4; Bucky and Debbie Tretler, their 40th on June 5; and Donald and Carmina Young, their 56th on June 8.

## CITY OF DISTRICT HEIGHTS NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Mayor and Commissioners of the City of District Heights proposes to increase real property taxes.

1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2016, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 8.6% from \$315,999,296 to \$343,033,041
2. If the City of District Heights maintains the current tax rate of \$0.9488 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 8.6% resulting in \$256,496 of new real property tax revenues.
3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$0.8740, the constant yield tax rate.
4. The City is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The City proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$0.8840 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 1.2 % higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$34,303 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 7:00 p.m. on June 14, 2016 at the E. Michael Roll Municipal Building, 2000 Marbury Drive, District Heights, Maryland 20747.

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call (301) 336-1402 for further information.

**"GIVE A HOOT, DON'T POLLUTE!"**

Litter shows up on sidewalks, in yards, streets and in rivers and streams. From aluminum cans and cigarette butts, to plastic bags, bottles and more. No matter where you see it, it's an eyesore.

The United States Forest Service's Woodsy Owl put it best, "Give a hoot, don't pollute!"

Here are some easy steps you can take to prevent trash from becoming litter:

- ▶ Properly dispose of trash. If you see litter in your neighborhood, pick it up and recycle it if possible;
- ▶ Participate in Keep America Beautiful's Great American Cleanup 2016 at [www.kab.org/our-programs/great-american-cleanup/great-american-cleanup-2016](http://www.kab.org/our-programs/great-american-cleanup/great-american-cleanup-2016); and
- ▶ Attend the Alice Ferguson Foundation's Transforming Communities Summit to learn about litter prevention efforts in D.C., Maryland and Virginia.

Woodsy Owl says: **GIVE A HOOT, DON'T POLLUTE!**

Prince George's County, Maryland is a member of the Department of the Environment, Planning and Public Works, and Office of Central Services. To support clean living and sustainability in our everyday lives.