

# The Prince George's Post



A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY Since 1932

Vol. 84, No. 25 June 23—June 29, 2016

Prince George's County, Maryland

Newspaper of Record

Phone: 301-627-0900

25 cents

## Hoyer Announces Grants to the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute and PG County Fire/EMS Department

By PRESS OFFICER  
Office of Steny Hoyer

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Today, Congressman Steny Hoyer (MD-5) announced that Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) funding will be awarded to the Prince George's County Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department and the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute. AFG is a program of the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The Prince George's County Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department located in Upper Marlboro will receive \$1,327,456, and the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute in College Park will be awarded \$500,000.

tute in College Park will be awarded \$500,000.

"I am pleased that both the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department and the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute will receive this critical federal funding," said Congressman Steny Hoyer. "The brave men and women of our fire departments are often the first responders on the scene of emergency incidents in our local communities, and these grants will help ensure they have the essential resources and training to keep Fifth District families and businesses safe. As Co-Chair of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus,

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## County Council Approves Prince George's County FY2017 Budget

By PRESS OFFICER  
PG County Government

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—The Prince George's County Council approved the FY2017 Budget after a collaborative three-month process with the Baker Administration. The budget reflects the shared commitments of the County Executive and County Council by making investments in core services that address the needs of communities across Prince George's County.

"I want to personally thank Chairman Davis and Vice Chair Glaros for their leadership during this year's budget process," said

Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. "The collaborative spirit shown by their leadership, along with the other members of the County Council, was clearly evident."

Key investments in the approved Prince George's County FY2017 Budget include:

- 150 new police officers;
- 70 new sworn fire fighters;
- 105 new sworn correctional officers;
- 25 new deputy sheriffs;
- \$1.92 billion to the Prince George's County Public

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PHOTO FROM REZNIK'S LIVEJOURNAL BLOG, COURTESY CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE  
Russian journalist Serghey Reznik, 40, walks out of court in handcuffs. The photo is posted on his LiveJournal blog via user y\_shatalov, who writes that Reznik is "a fearless journalist who ridiculed our vicious and rotten power until the very last days!"

## Unusual Humor of Russian Investigative Journalist Leads to Imprisonment

By CNS STAFF  
Capital News Service

COLLEGE PARK, MD—Serghey Reznik is the kind of reporter who would call a female judge a crocodile or quip that a prosecutor was nothing more than a tractor driver.

He intentionally humiliated sources, Nadezda Azhgikhina, executive secretary of the Russian Union of Journalists, told Capital News Service, "joking on their weaknesses or their not-so-nice appearance." Some journalists' union members didn't like him.

On Nov. 26, 2013, he was sentenced to 18 months in a prison colony, which was then increased to three years in January 2015 after new charges were filed.

About a year later, while he was serving time at the No. 1 Detention Center in Russia's Rostov region, the union granted Reznik his membership card.

"The fact that Reznik is a disgusting person doesn't mean he was dangerous to society, that he should be detained and excluded from society," Azhgikhina said. "The fact that he is in jail, everyone under-

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## County Signs Business Agreement With Korean Trade Agency to Spur Mutual International Business Engagement

65 Korean and Prince George's County Businesses Participated in Matchmaking Session

By LORI VALENTINE  
PGCEDC

LARGO, MD—On May 9th, the Economic Development Corporation and the Office of County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III welcomed high level leaders from the Republic of Korea and the Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA) as Prince George's County and KOTRA signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Business Engagement Agreement (MOU). More than 65 Korean and Prince George's County businesses attended the MOU signing and business matchmaking event. Attendees were greeted by EDC President & CEO Jim Coleman, KOTRA Director General Jonggun Lee, Baker Administration Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Economic Development David Iannucci and the Minister Counselor of Commerce and Energy Affairs from the Embassy of the Republic of Korea Chang Kyu Kim.

"Korea is a dynamic and rapidly growing economy that is a

priority for County Executive Baker to build relationships and tap into the mutual opportunities that may be available between our two countries," said EDC President & CEO Jim Coleman. "Today's MOU signing and business matchmaking session will be just the beginning of a strong trading partnership with Korea. We hope to visit Korea in the near future to learn firsthand about business and international trade opportunities. So today I say AN NYEONG HA SE YO (Hello) to KOTRA and the Republic of Korea."

The objectives of the MOU are to set up the framework for a Korean trade mission within the next 18 months and to energize mutual trade and investment opportunities with County businesses.

"County Executive Baker understands the importance of a global economy, which is why he launched his Prince George's International! Initiative geared toward positioning Prince George's County to be the Gateway to the U.S. Market," said Iannucci. "The Pacific region is



PHOTO COURTESY LORI VALENTINE  
Left to right: Martin Ezemma, EDC Director of International Business; David Iannucci, DCAO, Prince George's County; Jim Coleman, President CE, PGCEDC; Jonggun Lee, Director General, KOTRA; Chang Kyu Kim, Minister Counselor of Commerce and Energy Affairs, Embassy of the Republic of Korea with signed Memorandum of Understanding on Business Engagement.

one of the most important trading partner to the United States, and this type of international cooperation and communication is key to furthering those partnerships. We welcome this type of connection on the County level. This is how we plant the seed that will grow into a tree, that

will grow into a forest and you all will become very wealthy."

Partners to today's MOU expressed confidence that this is a step in the right direction to assist Korean business import

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## Capitol Heights Resident Completes Collegiate Journey Despite Adversities

By PRESS OFFICER  
Bowie State University

BOWIE, MD—Rachel Green, a graduating senior at Bowie State University, is slated to become the first in her family to successfully complete an undergraduate program later this month. A native of the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area, Green mentions a revelation that she has come to realize as her graduation date nears, "My entire academic experience has been within Prince George's County, from head start to my entire collegiate career." She goes on to explain that she has been to at least seven different elementary schools throughout the county, mostly because of constant moves initiated by the Department of Social Services' Transitional Housing program. "It was tough, having to transfer schools constantly. I felt lost but understood that these decisions were beyond my control."

On Monday May 23rd, Green became one of 650 graduates from Maryland's oldest historically black university to receive their degrees. She notes



PHOTO COURTESY BOWIE STATE  
Rachel Green, 27, was a 2015-16 Shawn Carter Foundation Scholar and Thurgood Marshall College Fund Scholar.

that this accomplishment is yet another barrier broken within a family that lack adequate education. "In 2006, I became the first of my family to earn a high school diploma. My mother never made it through high school and only one of my three siblings actually stayed in

See RACHEL Page A3

### INSIDE

#### HUD Awards \$9.7 Million for Local Homeless Programs in Maryland

HUD estimates there were 564,708 persons experiencing homelessness on a single night in 2015. Since 2010, local communities around the country reported an 11 percent reduction in overall homelessness, a decline of more than 72,000 persons.

Community, Page A3

#### Muhammad Ali: A Fighter In and Out of the Ring

Ali was a great fighter, but his fights were never limited to the inside of a boxing ring. Ali's career was teeming with personal success, but every win in and out of the ring was a win for every man or woman who ever felt attacked, or had to bob and weave past the ferocious jabs of social injustice.

Commentary, Page A4

#### Talk of Restrictions Watched Closely in Trade-Busy Maryland

The Port of Baltimore generates \$2.9 billion in personal income, while contributing \$310 million in state, county and municipal tax revenue annually, according to the Greater Baltimore Committee. The port conducts business with countries on six different continents.

Business, Page A5

#### Movie Review: Captain America: Civil War

After what happened in Sokovia at the end of *Avengers: Age of Ultron*, the United Nations has drafted the Sokovia Accords, under which the Avengers would need U.N. approval before doing anything. And if the Avengers don't agree to these terms? Then the Avengers are criminals.

Out on the Town, Page A6

#### Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

How are the world's penguins faring in this day and age of global warming? What can we do to help them?

—Mitch McIntosh,  
Mt. Morris, IL

Features, Page A7



# Towns and NEIGHBORS

## In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

### This is what it was like when I moved here 58 years ago

The McHales moved to 5904 (now 4304) Skyline Drive in June 1958. Our realtor was attorney John McAllister, who we later learned lived just around the corner on Pine Lane. Among my first acquaintances were next-door neighbors Ted and Lee Burke and Gladys and Tom Cave, and down the street, Dot and Joe Curcio.

We soon learned our house and water were oil heated, served by Clinton Oil Company in the little Skyline shopping center which also boasted Johnson's Barber shop, Morningside Variety Shop, Skyline Hair Stylists and Skyline Restaurant. We serviced our Chevy stationwagon at the Esso, corner of Suitland Road and Skyline Drive.

I bought my groceries at G.I. Market (A. B. White, proprietor) or in Suitland at Safeway. We patronized People's Drugs, Ernest Hardware, Scheer's Men's Wear, the Bo Peep Shop for children's clothes, Joseph's for shoes, and the Lane Shops, for me. Or I drove into Washington, parked in Hecht's parking lot, shopped in the store and lunched in the tearoom.

We bought our glasses at Charles H. McGinnis & Sons, opticians, on Marlboro Pike, and some years later Charlie McGinnis himself moved to Skyline Drive. We eventually found the little Suitland Library near the Suitland Bowling Center, and on special occasions, we dined at Al Beck's Lamp Post Inn or China Sea. With five (later six, then seven) young children, about the only movies we saw were at the Hillside Drive-in in Coral Hills.

We attended Sunday Mass in the multi-purpose room at Morningside School.

As fall set in, I registered my oldest, Kathleen, in Morningside School and son Mike in Mrs. Irene Smith's Morningside Co-operative Kindergarten.

We never did figure out what the I-C-E Club was.

### Baby Hay

Bob and Suzanne Hay, of Auth Village, have a new grandson, Colum Rory, born June 9 to Bobby and Meg Hay. Little

Colum, who weighed in at 9 pounds five ounces, has a big sister, Anabella, and a big brother, James.

### People

Virginia Stine, my neighbor for many years on Skyline Drive, called me last week to say she that she'd had a stroke at her home in Wingate, Md., and is now in Lakeside Assistant Living in Salisbury. She turned 95 in May and is sad that she can no longer quilt. She mourns her sister, her last sibling, Rachel Hunniford of Decatur, Ill., who died January 10 just five days before she would have turned 106.

Carol Swenton, of Morningside, was among Louse's Dancing Starlighters who performed at Louise Pyles Dance Studio's 7th Annual Special World of Dance on May 14 at the Camp Springs Elks Lodge.

Each spring the Archdiocese of Washington recognizes priests celebrating special anniversaries: Three priests celebrating the 50th anniversary of their ordinations formerly served in our local parishes: Father Leonard James Down at both St. John's in Clinton and Mount Calvary in Forestville; Monsignor Francis G. Kazista, Mount Calvary; and Father Roderick D. McKee, St. Bernardine of Siena, in Suitland.

Marjorie Hay, who died May 1, has many ties to Morningside. I'll tell you more about her next week.

### Changing landscape

A new Air Force One fleet is planned at Joint Base Andrews, in use possibly by 2024. They will be Boeing 747-8 planes, heavily modified to suit the future President's needs.

Ashley Furniture Homestore is holding a Grand Opening Celebration at Ritchie Station Marketplace, off Ritchie Marlboro Road.

Not only has the Forever stamp reverted from 49¢ to 47¢, postcards are down a cent to 34¢, foreign 1st class from \$1.20 to \$1.15, flats (large envelopes) from 98¢ to 94¢ and that extra ounce from 22¢ to 21¢. So, now you can go back to writing letters.

### May they rest in peace

Helen Kay Emanuel, 64, who grew up in Morningside, the daughter of Florian and Emma Witzcak, died May 30 in South Carolina. She was a retired teller with First Citizens Bank. Survivors include two children, Sean and Jennifer Emanuel; grandson, Mitchell Wideman; and siblings, George Witzcak, Mary Lou Entwistle and Martha Ann Mencer. She was also the sister of the late Mae Glagola who lived on Suitland Road across from her husband George's service station.

Leroy "Shotgun" Sandifer, 79, who as a young man pitched for the Washington Black Sox baseball Team, died April 18 in Clinton. He was a resident of Forestville and had worked 32 years for the D.C. Department of Public Works, retiring as supervisor.

Margaret Jean McCabe Patterson, 83, formerly of Suitland and District Heights, died May 7 in Herndon, Va. She was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, graduated from Holy Cross Academy, and worked for the Edinburgh Public Health Department until she married Vernon Patterson. She managed the Jiffy Shoppes restaurant in District Heights from which she retired in 1994. Survivors include three children, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

### Milestones

Happy birthday to Gloria R. Johnson, June 24; Michael Taylor and Larry Frostbutter, June 25; Angela Booth and Mable Hemmes, June 26; Rose Hoffman, Charles "Chuckie" Henry, Veda Curcio, Shawn Kumra and Cathryn (Cordero) Pracht, June 27; Mike Dudding, Juanita Eppard, Erica R. Webb, EvaMarie Anthony and my granddaughter Leah Katherine Mudd, June 28; Faith "Dycki" Brown and Alexis Schuler, June 29; my great-grandson Wesley McHale, June 29; and Karen (Beardmore) Ellis, June 30.

Happy anniversary to Jack and Kimberly Hay on their 30th, June 28; and to Carl and Sue (Stine) Mason, their 31st on June 29.

## Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

### MONTHLY COFFEE CHAT

Prince George's County Board Member Sonya Williams, District 9, will host monthly coffee chat on Saturday, June 25, 2016 from 8-9:30 AM at Starbucks in the Brandywine Safeway. We will have coffee or tea. Please note that the June chat is scheduled for the fourth Saturday of the month, not the usual third Saturday. All are invited to attend. The Brandywine Safeway address is 15916 Crain Highway, Brandywine, Maryland 20613.

### CARRY OUT DINNERS

Saturday, June 25, 2016 St. Philip's Church, Baden Parish will have carry out dinners from 12:00 Noon until all dinners are sold. The address is 13801 Baden Westwood Road, Brandywine, Maryland 20613-8426. Day of event telephone number is (301) 888-1536. Prior to event, telephone number is (301) 888-2510 or (301) 292-6037.

Pre-orders accepted and appreciated. Chicken dinner costs \$11.00, barbeque spare ribs, fish, and pig feet dinners each cost \$13.00. Combination dinner

(any two (2) meats) costs \$18.00. Drinks and desserts will be on sale. All dinners include potato salad, sweet potatoes, macaroni & cheese, green beans, and bread. Benefit: Peter A. Gross Sr. Scholarship/Memorial Fund Inc.

### MEN'S DAY

Celebrate Men's Day with the Men of New Hope Fellowship Cooperative Parish (Christ and Nottingham Myers United Methodist Church) at Nottingham Myers U.M Church Sunday, June 26, 2016 at 10:00 AM. Address is 15601 Brooks Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772. Rev. Constance Smith, Pastor. Guest Preacher is Rev. Oscar L. Broadie, Jr., Pastor Carmody Hills Baptist Church, Capital Heights, Maryland.

### SUMMER PROGRAM

McDougall International, Inc. and James Madison Middle School are delighted to offer a Summer Program featuring STEM Exploration with mathematics embedded and a Writing Academy.

Option #1 offers a half-day session from 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon, writing Academy, Stem Exploration and lunch. Option #2 offers a full session from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM, writing Academy, Stem Exploration, lunch, fitness fun and Middle School Transition.

Both sessions will operate Monday-Thursday; will sponsor field trips on Fridays that will begin Tuesday, July 5, 2016 and end Thursday, July 28, 2016. They feature a student/teacher ratio of 12:1 and offer before care starting at 8:00 AM (free).

If you are interested in your child participating in the program, please complete the online registration. Students will be selected on a first come, first served basis. Once students are selected, parents will be notified and asked to attend a mandatory parent orientation. Please contact Ms. Djuana M. Wilson at djuana.wilson@pgcps.org for more information/questions. Register online at www1.pgcps.org/jamesmadison/. Click on the Gateway Logo or the Registration Link.

## Neighborhoods

### 1,502 Veterans Hired in MD/D.C. Through Walmart's Veterans Welcome Home Commitment

Company has hired 130,828 veterans nationwide since commitment began in May of 2013

BALTIMORE, MD—Today, Walmart announced it has hired 130,828 veterans since it announced its Veterans Welcome Home Commitment in May 2013\*, including 1,421 in the State of Maryland, and 81 in Washington, D.C. Of those 130,828 veteran hires, 15,176 have been promoted to jobs with higher pay and greater responsibility, including 130 in Maryland.

"Walmart has shown time and time again that it truly values its employees by discussing your past experiences and figuring out how those skills will help make you successful in the company," said James Mason, Auto-Center Care Technician at the Landover Hills Walmart and former Sgt. In the United States Army. "My job at Walmart is perfect for me because of the high frequency of customers I deal with and the fast-paced work day; it was an easy transition for me because I was used to the hustle and bustle of the military. I am so glad I found a position that utilized my skill set in a company that valued my military background!"

On Memorial Day 2013, Walmart introduced the Veterans Welcome Home Commitment (<http://bit.ly/1Uaq3x8>), which guaranteed a job offer to any eligible, honorably discharged U.S. veteran who was within 12 months of active duty. The initial goal was to hire 100,000 veterans by the end of 2018. In May of 2015, Walmart announced the expansion (<http://bit.ly/1qOFtzt>) of that original projection, with the goal of hiring 250,000 veterans by the end of 2020. Walmart has also changed the eligibility from within 12 months of active duty, to any veteran who has been honorably discharged since the announcement of the commitment in May 2013.

Despite unemployment among veterans being at its lowest in eight years, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, veterans from the Gulf War era continue to be under- or unemployed.

"As a veteran, I know how critical it is for our men and women in uniform to have a strong support structure when transitioning back to civilian life," said Retired Brigadier General, Gary Profit, senior director of military programs for Walmart. "A job is an important part of that transition, and at Walmart, we're proud to use our strengths as one of the nation's largest employers to be a part of that bridge back home by providing meaningful opportunities to 1,421 veterans, and counting, in Maryland to use their unique talent and skills. Veterans are among some of our strongest associates and we are pleased to see the growth and success they have achieved at Walmart."

Beyond Walmart's Veterans Welcome Home Commitment, the Walmart Foundation is also reinforcing its support for transitioning military members and their families with the announcement of \$2.6 million in grants to nonprofit organizations that support veteran reintegration—The American GI Forum and Swords to Plowshares.

\* Texas-based American GI Forum National Veterans Out-

reach Program, which stabilizes veterans through housing and job assistance among other services, will receive a \$1 million grant for employment placement assistance.

• Swords to Plowshares will receive a \$1.6 million grant to enhance innovative employment and training programs at the California Veterans Employment and Training Collaborative and the Texas Veterans Employment and Training Collaborative.

For more information about Walmart's Veterans Welcome Home Commitment, please visit: <http://www.walmartcareerwithmission.com> and follow @WalmartToday on Twitter.

### Duration of Power Outages Decreasing Due to BGE Electric System Upgrades

BALTIMORE, MD—As BGE continues to invest in electric system upgrades and preventive maintenance, the reliability of service to customers continues to improve. The average duration of power outages during the first quarter of 2016, 81 minutes, was the lowest first quarter measure on record for BGE. This follows a longer term trend in which the average duration of outages has decreased by more than 38 percent over the last decade. BGE ranks in the top 25 percent of utilities nationwide in fewest outages and shortest duration.

"Customers expect reliable service, and when outages do occur, the sooner we can restore service, the better," said Stephen J. Woerner, president and chief operating officer of BGE. "The efforts of our skilled employees, sharing best practices with our Exelon sister utilities and the investments in equipment upgrades, maintenance and new technologies are having a positive effect for our customers."

Changes to crew scheduling and dispatching practices, as well as deployment of "fix-it-now" construction crews that have more capabilities to restore service safely, quickly, are some of the best practices BGE has deployed.

Each year, BGE invests approximately \$500 million to operate and maintain the company's electric system infrastructure, part of more than \$6 billion invested in gas and electric system upgrades since 2002. In addition to reducing the duration of outages, the number of service interruptions customers experience has also been on the decline. Since 2006, the number of total electric outages has decreased 43 percent.

One of the ways that BGE is reducing the duration and number of power outages includes the installation of more overhead devices called reclosers. When a problem occurs, like a fallen tree limb, lightning strike or vehicle accident, the closest recloser stops the flow of electricity on the line and automatically restores electricity to as many customers as possible before permanent repairs can be made. BGE has been installing hundreds of new reclosers on the system over the last several years. Other measures include selectively burying power lines in areas where overhead interference is an issue. More than 60 per-

cent of electric distribution lines are located underground.

Tree trimming also continues to limit the number of power outages caused by trees and other vegetation. In 2016, the company is investing nearly \$27 million on tree trimming and other vegetation removal around approximately 2,300 miles of overhead power lines along the electric distribution and transmission systems.

BGE is working to move smart energy forward with solutions that improve the reliability of customers' service. Reliable energy is smart energy. For more information on reliable energy, visit [bge.com/reliability](http://bge.com/reliability).

### Hoyer Hosts Briefing on White House "Fair Chance Business Pledge" Initiative

BOWIE, MD—Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) hosted a briefing today with Fifth District Chambers of Commerce on the Obama Administration's recently launched "Fair Chance Business Pledge." The pledge is a call-to-action for all members of the private sector to improve their communities by eliminating barriers for those with a criminal record and creating a pathway for a second chance.

"I was pleased to host this briefing in the Fifth District today and speak with local businesses about the Obama Administration's new 'Fair Chance Business Pledge,'" said Congressman Steny Hoyer. "There are 2.2 million Americans currently behind bars and 70 million Americans who have a criminal record of some kind. For those Americans, even the smallest crime can inadvertently bring a life sentence—a life of poverty and exclusion—because many businesses won't hire people with a criminal past, even after their debt to society has been paid in full."

"This pledge asks businesses across the country to demonstrate a real willingness to hire qualified candidates who have been fully rehabilitated and end practices that raise barriers to their chances at employment," continued Congressman Hoyer. "This includes 'banning the box' and training human resources staff on how to make fair decisions regarding applicants with past convictions. It also includes using the most reliable background check providers to ensure that checks are accurate and complete. A number of national corporations have already taken the 'Fair Chance Business Pledge,' including companies in Maryland, such as Under Armour and Johns Hopkins. I'm hoping that we'll see local businesses in the Fifth District take the pledge, as well. The 'Fair Business Chance Pledge' is all about making a difference that brings opportunity to those who have proven themselves ready for a second chance and are shown to be among the most productive and committed workers."

Attendees at the briefing included Bowie Mayor Fred Robinson, Assistant Director of the White House Business Council Zaid Hassan, and Johns Hopkins Health System Director of Strategic Workforce Planning and Development Yariela Kerr-Donovan.



# COMMUNITY

## Practical Money Skills

By Nathaniel Sillin

### Anyone Can Make Mistakes With Estate Matters— You Don't Have To

Adulthood brings certain financial responsibilities like the building of budgets, bank accounts and proper insurance. It's surprising how few consider a proper estate plan part of that essential mix.

In fact, a recent ABCNews poll (<http://abcnews.go.com/Business/story?id=86992>) found that only about 50 percent of Americans have created a will and significantly fewer have created the supporting estate documents like a living will or a power of attorney.

Preparing now for the end of your life or for illness may not sound like fun, but it is necessary. Having a plan for the future can help bring you peace and even put you on the road to stronger financial security. It can also help those you care most about. We've all heard cautionary tales about relatives or friends who did not have a will, and family members who were left with difficult but avoidable situations.

So, how do you start an estate plan? It has a lot to do with carefully drawn documents, but it's the planning behind them that really counts. I would encourage you to work with a qualified financial, estate and/or tax professional in your home state at the earliest opportunity to make sure your plans fit your needs and the needs of your loved ones. Here's a bit more detail on each.

A will, also called a testament, is the starting point. Wills are generally seen as the umbrella document that drives the rest of an individual's estate process. A will generally accomplishes the following:

- It details how you want to leave your property to specific people or institutions after you die.
- If you have minor children, it allows you to name a guardian to care for them after you die or become incapacitated. It also indicates who will manage your kids' assets, including what you leave them.
- It lets you name your executor, the trusted person who will carry out all your wishes in the will.

If you die without a valid will, your state's court system may get involved in distributing your assets depending on intestacy laws on the books.

A living will—also known as an advance directive—allows you to define how you want to be medically treated under specific situations, including irreversible injury or terminal illness. Depending on your state laws, living wills allow you to express your exact wishes about feeding, breathing assistance and other life-sustaining procedures in addition to how you want them carried out at certain decision points in your care. A living will may also provide information on pain or infection medications you either want or don't want administered as well as specific instructions about your remains, including release to your family or donation for medical research.

Powers of attorney are legal documents that allow you to name a specific person to take care of your money or healthcare wishes if you are incapacitated. It is particularly wise to seek professional counsel from a qualified trusts and estates attorney in writing these documents. The person you designate as healthcare power of attorney will be speaking with doctors and executing your wishes on various forms of treatment; your financial power of attorney will be in charge of paying your bills and depending on the range of responsibilities you outline for that person, handling your investment and business affairs. Both are extremely important jobs that should be carried out by people you trust, and that's why they need to be people in the know. Make their preparation part of your estate planning so they know how to step in and carry out the assignments you've given them efficiently.

Bottom line: Estate planning is the final, responsible step in all good financial planning. While it may be unpleasant to do, it is essential in taking care of family, loved ones and causes you support after you're gone.

### Grants from A1

I will continue to advocate for fire departments here in the Fifth District and throughout our state so that they have every tool necessary to do their jobs safely and effectively."

AFG grants are awarded to fire departments, non-affiliated Emergency Medical Services organizations (EMS), and state fire training academies to assist with emergency response equipment, personal protective equipment, firefighting and emergency vehicles, and training.

### Budget from A1

- School System;
- Nearly \$3 million in additional funding for a comprehensive domestic violence initiative;
- \$9 million for the Economic Development Incentive (EDI) Fund to attract and retain businesses;
- \$52 million and \$16 million over the next 2 years

- to support redevelopment efforts in Suitland and Glenarden communities, respectively;
- A new permitting system to improve the inspection and permitting review processes;
- \$20 million in additional capital funding to improve County roadways; and
- \$2 million in additional funding to reduce litter on County roadways.

## HUD Awards \$9.7 Million for Local Homeless Programs in Maryland

By PRESS OFFICER HUD

PHILADELPHIA, PA—Today, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Julián Castro awarded \$9.7 million to 33 local homeless housing and service programs across Maryland. These Continuum of Care (CoC) grants support the Obama Administration's efforts to end homelessness and build upon the \$37.2 million in funding HUD awarded to Maryland in the first round of funding in March. View a complete list of local homeless projects awarded funding.

"We know how to end homelessness, and these grants support local programs that are proven to prevent and end homelessness as we've come to know it," said

Secretary Castro. "As we continue to make progress toward ending homelessness in this country, HUD is challenging communities to use more cost effective solutions to help those experiencing homelessness."

"This additional funding will support new efforts to provide permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing solutions for those experiencing homelessness in Maryland while also helping to sustain existing local programs," said Jane C.W. Vincent, HUD's Regional Administrator of the Mid-Atlantic region.

The competition to award FY2015 CoC grants was the most competitive ever, both locally and nationally. This is consistent with HUD's policy goals as well as Congressional direction to stringently review performance, in-

crease competition for CoCs, and not simply fund renewals in the FY2015 CoC competition.

HUD strongly encouraged local applicants to prioritize their funding request very carefully, using a mix of performance data and local needs. In addition, applicants were encouraged to submit projects that were based on research-driven approaches and supported the nation's goals to prevent and end homelessness. As a result, local CoCs eliminated a combined \$124 million in renewal funding from lower performing projects in order to apply for new housing projects.

Ultimately, the awards made today, and those awarded in March, will help us achieve the bold goals established in 2010 by President Obama and 19 federal agencies and offices that form the U.S. In-

teragency Council on Homelessness (USICH) in the nation's first-ever comprehensive strategy to prevent and end homelessness, Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. This means continuing the progress made in reducing the number of people experiencing homelessness and setting a path to ending homelessness in this country. HUD estimates there were 564,708 persons experiencing homelessness on a single night in 2015. Since 2010, local communities around the country reported an 11 percent reduction in overall homelessness, a decline of more than 72,000 persons. During that same time, veteran homelessness fell by 36 percent; chronic homelessness declined 22 percent; and family homelessness declined by 19 percent.

### Rachel from A1

school." However, she reveals that it was not an easy task. "Eventually, I followed the pattern of my mother and older brother before me and dropped out of school at 16" she explains "I was unmotivated and ashamed of my family's financial circumstance." She recounts PGCCPS and Suitland High working collectively to avoid a withdrawal, with no success. "The school did not want me to leave and the guidance counselor did everything to make me comfortable with attending class every day. Nothing worked. I just wanted the county to let me go to the school of my choice." With PGCCPS denying her transfer request and her refusal to comply with the attendance policy, she was dropped from the roster once turning 16. "I didn't care at first but a year later, it

was a decision that I regretted."

Fortunately, she was able to locate a GED program, at the time operated by PGCCPS, for withdrawn high school students seeking to earn a Maryland High Diploma. Remarkably, she was able to complete the Intensive GED preparation program and successfully passed the GED test, earning her diploma the same year she would've graduated from Suitland. "I was shocked at my will power the most. I was able to break this horrible cycle within my family." She goes on to explain that she'd never considered college before that point. "Before the Intensive GED program, College wasn't even being thought of. I knew I couldn't afford it." But a conversation with the program's administrator changed things she vividly remembers "My mentor at the time, the administrator, pretty much told me that I will be going to college, not really giving me

a choice" she laughs. "Ok I said."

After completing two years of an AmeriCorps program, she promptly began taking courses at Prince George's Community College and received her associate's in 2013. "Again, once finishing at PGCC, I thought that I would be done but that was not the case." Realizing she would ultimately need to obtain a bachelor's (at minimum), she began searching for a university to transfer to. "Attending a HBCU was important to me, but so was remaining debt free and being practical" she explains "While Bowie State was not my first choice, it was hard to avoid that most of my needs would be met by selecting a school in state. Here I am now, about to receive my bachelor's and completely debt free."

Green maintains that remaining humble is the key to being successful. "Be grateful because you never know when your blessing can be at risk." Her

journey has not been without a few bumps, with her explaining that at one point needing to take a semester off to assist with mounting bills. She then goes on to share that just before the final exam period of the fall 2015 semester, the landlord of the house where her and her family had lived for the past seven years finally issued a 30 day notice. "My mother was struggling with the bills for the past 3 years, and I am shocked that it didn't happen much sooner. I thought that I would be homeless and would have to quit school the very semester I was slated to be finished." However, with the guidance of a professor and resources on campus, she was able to arrange a temporary housing situation that would allow her to complete her studies without further delay. "All I can say is that God is truly amazing. It's been a long journey but well worth it."

### Journalist from A1

stands is a violation and is very unfair. It was fake—a fake case."

During the same trial in which he was found guilty of insulting a public figure, Reznik was also tried for bribing a car mechanic to pass inspection and reporting false harassment threats to the police.

In response to questions about his conviction from CNS, Reznik maintained his humor, writing that when he heard his sentence, he "realized that my success is recognized at the national level."

Azhgikhina, who is also vice president of the European Federation of Journalists, said his case highlights the misuse of the judicial system in Russia to silence government critics.

"He will be in jail until he will agree to the rules of the game," a former Russian television correspondent, who requested anonymity because he works in the government, said in an interview. "The rules are simple. If you are a journalist, you should cover officials only in positive way."

### 'A Trojan Horse'

The judge asked Reznik to introduce himself before the packed courtroom.

"Reznik, Sergey: Re-pressed," he answered.

Reznik is well-known for his investigations of corruption among senior government officials and local law enforcement.

These investigations are the real reason he was brought before the court, according to many non-profit media advocacy groups, including the Committee to Protect Journalists and the In-

ternational Federation of Journalists, which have denounced his sentence.

"He was successful in spreading information on some violations of law in Rostov region," said Sergey Davidis, head of political prisoner advocacy for the Human Rights Center "Memorial" in Moscow. "They didn't like it, and they tried to shut him up."

Reznik often published stories exposing corruption in the Rostov police force, which is considered to be among the worst in the country. In Russia, about 45 percent of crimes go unsolved, President Vladimir Putin said in 2013.

"Catastrophic staffing problems are found every day in the ranks of the (Rostov-on-Don) police," Reznik wrote in a 2013 article. "The question arises ... are all these people qualified?"

Rostov Governor Vasily Golubev was another one of Reznik's targets. When the governor took steps to privatize the regional energy industry, Reznik wrote the headline: "The criminal energy or 'pension fund' of Governor Golubev?"

The charges against Reznik are "incomprehensible," according to Reporters Without Borders, which has closely monitored the case.

Prosecutors said Reznik bribed a technical assistant at the Fomina Auto Repair Shop with 2,000 rubles—about \$45—in exchange for letting Reznik drive off in his Hyundai Elantra XD without a vehicle inspection.

"I'm absolutely sure there are no similar crime charges in all of Russia," said Davidis, whose organization named Reznik one of more than 80 political prisoners in Russia. "Nobody is inter-

ested in catching and prosecuting such so-called criminals."

The court also charged him with reporting false threats to police. Reznik and his wife reported to the police that they received a slew of threatening calls warning the journalist to stop publishing articles. The state asserted that the threats were made by Reznik's friends at his request, and accused Reznik of trying to draw attention to himself.

"I still don't know how that all got turned around on us," his wife, Nataliya, said in an interview with CNS.

Her bewilderment was compounded on a cold October night in 2012 when Reznik was attacked around 10 p.m. outside their apartment complex. Two men armed with a gun and a baseball bat sent the now 40-year-old to the hospital with injuries to his head, neck and back.

"It's a joke really," Galina Arapova, director of Mass Media Defence Centre and one of the lawyers on Reznik's case, said in an interview. "(Reznik) was beaten up seriously ... and they believe he organized it himself ... That's just nonsense."

The final charge came under Article 319 of the Criminal Code: publicly insulting a representative of authority.

Arapova describes his case as a Trojan Horse. The first two "absurd" charges served as a way to bring Reznik into court and assign him the hefty jail time that the last charge alone wouldn't carry.

"What they do is initiate some simple criminal case, and then something else, and only then do they bring out 'insult public officials' and then unite all the charges," she said.

A crass written submission to the court, in which Reznik defends his innocence on the bribery charges, brought the additional 18 months on—a second charge of insulting a public official and false reporting of a crime.

"He wrote that—he is a very emotional and impulsive person—if that policeman saw me giving money to the director of the car business, maybe I saw him being involved with sexual activity with a school boy," Arapova recalled.

People have continued to post on Reznik's blog since his arrest, often with updates on his case, although the government can block access to LiveJournal.

In 2014, Moscow enacted legislation allowing censors "to cut off public access to online sources suspected of extremism without a court sanction," according to the State Department's 2014 Human Rights Report on Russia.

The Federal Service for Oversight of Communication and Information Technology used the law that February to temporarily block LiveJournal, the State Department said in its report.

Despite that threat, one blogger posted a picture of Reznik, smirking in a leather jacket, as he was led out of the courtroom in handcuffs.

"He wrote about what is happening in the Rostov region, where they think they know everything, but are afraid to say! He was a fearless journalist who ridiculed our vicious and rotten power until the very last days!" one user, y\_shatalov, posted. "He continues to make fun of all the



# COMMENTARY

## Cong. Steny H. Hoyer House Democratic Minority Whip



### Hoyer: Let Us Respect District of Columbia Citizens, Defeat Bill Repealing Budget Autonomy

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 25th—Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) spoke on the House Floor today in opposition to a bill that would repeal D.C.'s budget autonomy.

"I thank the gentlelady for yielding, and I thank the gentleman from North Carolina for outlining his position. We are a nation of laws. The gentleman has indicated a court has ruled on this issue, an opinion with which he disagrees. And we have a mechanism for overturning or clarifying or changing such a ruling. It is the court system and that case may well reach the Supreme Court.

"But I rise in opposition to this piece of legislation, which in my opinion, is an exercise in hypocrisy. Why do I say that? That can be a harsh word.

"We are witnessing the party that proclaims itself to be the champion of local autonomy and less federal government involvement in local affairs—we hear that all of the time—bring to this Floor legislation that would do exactly the opposite.

"The District of Columbia—over 700,000 American citizens—deserves a form of home rule not characterized by constant and intrusive micromanaging by Congressional Republicans or Democrats.

"Now if I was to ask unanimous consent that we substitute the District of Columbia and perhaps include Milwaukee, Wisconsin—now I'm not going to ask for that—but I'm sure I would get objection to that. Or if I might ask that Salt

Lake City be substituted or perhaps even Baltimore, Maryland—my own city in my state—or maybe even Charlotte, North Carolina. Those of us who represent those four cities would stand and say, 'This is not your role, Congress of the United States.'

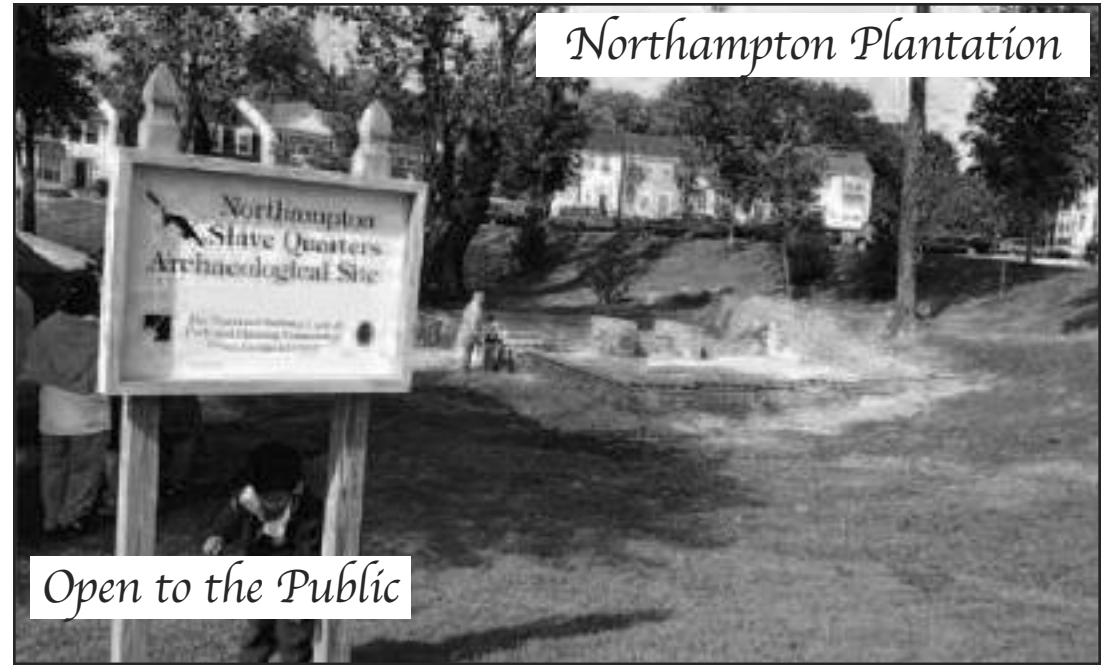
"Speaker Ryan just released a statement which he said, and I quote, 'The current D.C. government need to be reined in.' From where? From balanced budgets? From surplus in their budgets? Reined in? They are a model, I would suggest, of fiscal responsibility. Not always, but today. But then again, none of our jurisdictions has always been such a model.

"I would say to the Speaker in response, quite the opposite, the government and the people of the District of Columbia need be allowed to chart their own course, which is what I think most of you say on a regular basis.

"It is a mystery to me—and ought to be a mystery to every American who believes in the premise that people ought to govern themselves—why House Republicans are determined to strip that ability away from the 700,000 Americans who live in our nation's capital.

"They pay taxes, they pay taxes to their local government and we want to make that decision. I understand what the court has said and that courts may rule that way. But shouldn't we have the patience to let the court system decide whether or

See **AUTONOMY** Page A5



Northampton Plantation

**NORTHAMPTON PLANTATION**  
From the 1600's to the mid-1800's, large tobacco plantations dominated the economic and social life of Prince George's County. One of the most prominent plantations in the county was Northampton. Today, all that remains of Northampton are the ruins of the main plantation house, outbuildings, and two slave quarters.

PHOTO CREDIT: PG PARKS AND RECREATION

## Child Watch by Marion Wright Edelman



### Remembering, Reclaiming and Honoring Our Roots

*"So Dad has joined the other [ancestors] up there. I feel that they do watch and guide, and I also feel that they join me in the hope that this story of our people can help alleviate the legacies of the fact that preponderantly the histories have been written by the winners."*

—Alex Haley, from the conclusion of *Roots: The Saga of an American Family*

On the 40th anniversary of the publication of Alex Haley's landmark book *Roots: The Saga of an American Family*, a new television adaptation is bringing renewed attention to the story that opened so many eyes to the harsh truth about American slavery and its aftermath—an aftermath that continues under new guises despite much progress.

*Roots'* 1976 publication came at a seminal moment in American history. Cities across America were hosting celebrations of the nation's bicentennial and the founding creed set forth in the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

In 1963 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. reminded our nation and world on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial that America had never fully lived up to that promise: "When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir. This note was a promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the 'unalienable Rights' of 'Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.' It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note insofar as her citizens of color are concerned. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, America has given the Negro people a bad check, a check which has come back marked 'insufficient funds.'"

With *Roots* Alex Haley provided an epic lesson in American history through the story of his American family—slavery from

the enslaved people's point of view. His book spent months on the bestseller list and the original television adaptation of *Roots* that aired in January 1977 shattered viewing records as it gave tens of millions of people a visual, visceral experience of the true horrors of slavery. For the first time descendants of slaves, descendants of slave owners, and people of all backgrounds were sharing a common experience and understanding of America's original sin whose after effects still radiate across our land. Acknowledging that truth together was a transformative experience.

In the past year we have seen a welcome surge, prodded by new books on slavery, campus debates, and student protests, of new commitments by some universities and other institutions to confront the truth about their own histories, especially the ugly legacies of slavery and Native American genocide. Black Lives Matter protests denouncing indefensible deaths of Black youths and citizens at the hands of out of control law enforcement officials in Ferguson, Baltimore, Cleveland, New York City, Texas, and elsewhere and the shocking racist vigilante citizen killings of Trayvon Martin in Florida and the massacre of

praying Black church people in South Carolina heightened the need for greater racial awareness and national action.

I hope the renewed interest in *Roots* will spark much greater and sustained interest in an honest retelling of our history and promote new dialogue about the ways today's structural, cultural, racial and economic inequalities reflect racial seeds from our violent past of slavery and Jim Crow which still poison the soil and political discourse of our nation. Only confronting the truth about our nation's profound birth defects and struggling deliberately to overcome them with open eyes, hearts, minds and deeds can make us all free.

The Children's Defense Fund (CDF) has a special connection to Alex Haley. In 1994 CDF bought Alex Haley's 157-acre farm in Tennessee for servant leadership development, intergenerational, interfaith, and interracial dialogue and spiritual renewal. The Harlem Children's Zone was conceptualized in Haley Farm's lodge by Geoff Canada and a cadre of Black Community Crusade for Children® leaders. Faith leaders

See **WATCH**, Page A10

## Marc Morial, President and CEO National Urban League



### Muhammad Ali: A Fighter In and Out of the Ring

*"It's hard to be humble when you're as great as I am."*

—Muhammad Ali, *Championship Boxer, American Activist, International Icon, 1942–2016*

How would you approach the colossal task of describing a man who once boasted that he, "wrestled with alligators, tussled with a whale, done handcuffed lightning and throw thunder in jail. Only last week murdered a rock, injured a stone, hospitalized a brick, so mean he made medicine sick"? I think that's a man you allow to define himself—in his own colorful words—which is what Muhammad Ali did his entire life and throughout his legendary boxing career.

Cassius Marcellus Clay Jr. was born where he will be buried: Louisville, Kentucky. His mother was a cook and house cleaner and his father was a frustrated painter with big dreams, dreams he would pass on to both his sons along with this constant refrain—"I am the greatest." Ali's legendary boxing career began with a beloved, stolen bicycle. The \$60 red Schwinn was a Christmas gift from his father, and it would set the wheels in motion for an angry 12-year-old kid who claimed he would "whup" the person who stole his bike, to step into a ring, pick up boxing gloves and fight for justice. It was a defining moment and a trope that would shape his professional and personal life.

Ali was a great fighter, but his fights were never limited to the inside of a boxing ring. Ali's career was teeming with personal success, but every win in and out of the ring was a win for every man or woman who ever felt attacked, or had to bob and weave past the ferocious jabs of social injustice. Ali was a professional athlete, but he used that platform to make an impact that transcended pugilism. Famous people often take up causes, but Ali is the greatest because he stood up for his principles and made consequential sacrifices on behalf of those causes.

After winning a gold medal in the Rome Olympics and beating Sonny Liston for the heavyweight championship, the newly crowned 22-year-

old champ renounced his given name, Cassius Clay, as a "slave name" and revealed that he was a member of the Nation of Islam. His new faith and his new name drew intense controversy and lost him many fans, but he persevered and successfully defended his title every time he stepped in the ring. In 1967, Ali was drafted to serve in the Army during the height of our nation's war in Vietnam. He refused to serve, saying, "I ain't got no quarrel with them Viet Cong," and requested conscientious-objector status from fighting against people he said never lynched him or put dogs on him. No slight of hand in the ring, head fake or lightning quick shuffle was as bold as Ali's refusal to fight in a war he did not believe in. The reaction was swifter and harder than the punches of any opponent Ali had ever faced. Many called him a traitor. Ali was convicted of draft evasion, stripped of his heavyweight title and banned from boxing. While he wasn't locked up for sticking to his conviction, he was locked out of the sport the brought him to fame. He sacrificed four years of his career and untold millions rather than renounce his anti-war stance.

Ali would return to the ring in 1970 and would go on to thrill boxing fans, supporters, and critics, with his skill in the ring. Loud and unapologetic, Ali would continue to speak out against social injustice and preach the gospel of Black pride. Never forgetting those who were still "catching hell" while he had it made, Ali understood that "service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth." The 12-year-old boy who lost his bike at the hands of an unknown thief may have changed his name, but never wavered from his purpose: to seek justice. His fight for justice was never his alone; it was for everyone.

It was during this period of his career that I, a star-struck 13-year-old, was thrilled to meet Ali at an Alpha Phi Alpha convention in Milwaukee. I was awed by him have considered him a hero all my life. One of my prized possessions is an auto-

See **Ali**, Page A5

## The Prince George's Post

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Contents © 2016, The Prince George's Post

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



# BUSINESS

## The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

### Learning to Overcome the Fear of Speaking Up

Some people have strong opinions about everything and no hesitation in sharing them, even when those opinions aren't wanted. While that's certainly not a formula for social success, many of us face a problem that's quite the opposite—being hesitant to speak our mind and voice our opinions, even when invited to and when doing so could offer some real help.

There may be many reasons why we're reluctant to speak up. We may doubt the value of what we have to offer, or fear our views will be criticized or rejected. Although such fears are very real, you don't want to let them define you.

Managing your fears can be a valuable skill. Rather than being silent and then regretting not saying something, learning to express yourself can bring a sense of accomplishment and involvement.

Speaking up doesn't mean that you've made your self-doubts disappear, but that you're courageously taking action in the face of those doubts. The key to speaking up is to mix the acknowledgment of self-doubt with refusing to accept the status quo.

Being respectful is an important element in learning to speak your mind. It starts by learning to listen first. You need to show you understand the views and opinions being expressed by others before sharing your own.

Your goal is not to convince others or to start an argument, but rather to express any differences you feel. By sharing your own experiences and opinions you let others see new sides of you and your thoughts on a subject.

One way to avoid arguments is by stating your views with "I" phrases like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." rather than stating your views as absolute truths only you see. It's important to accept that while what you're expressing is what you know to be true, others will be feeling exactly the same way about their opinions.

You also want to be decisive, clearly and strongly stating your thoughts without worrying about the outcome. Don't undercut your views with phrases like "Now this may not be true ..." or "I'm not sure about this ..." Instead, be bold, take a stand, and allow others to do the same.

Speaking up allows us to interact with others and live life more fully. Sometimes your opinions may not win out, but at other times you'll really communicate and make a difference.

*Counseling Corner is provided by the American Counseling Association. Comments and questions to ACAcorner@counseling.org or visit the ACA website at www.counseling.org*

### Autonomy from A4

not this referendum of the people of the District of Columbia is adjudged to be appropriate?

"The locally raised revenues from taxes and fees do not originate from the federal government but from hardworking residents of Washington.

"The District of Columbia has proven Congress's wisdom in enacting the 1973 D.C. Home Rule Act time and again by managing its affairs in a fiscally responsible, democratic way.

"I would say to my friends, the District of Columbia deserves the same respect that any of our governments deserve. And that, in fact, we demand for them. And I always lament how the District is demeaned.

"When I was the Majority Leader, I made sure that Ms. Norton had a vote on the

Floor of this House. And that the Virgin Islands representative had a vote on this House. One of the first things you did when you took the majority was take that away.

"It was not a vote that made a difference. It was a vote that was symbolic. But it gave them the opportunity to have their name, as our equals, as Americans, on that board and express their opinion.

"Let us not take this degree of autonomy away from them. Let us respect these local citizens as you would want your local citizens respected.

"I urge the defeat of this legislation. And if the courts tell us that they could not do this, so be it. Let us let the system work its will.

"And I thank the gentle lady and I thank the gentleman for yielding me some time. And I yield back the balance of my time."

### Ali from A4

graphed Ali boxing glove, a cherished wedding gift from my wife. Later, I was honored to serve as an Ali Center Board Member for several years.

Ali laid his gloves down for the last time in 1980. After retiring, he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. As the progressive condition robbed him of his poetry, stinging provocations and physical dexterity, he became a more cherished figure, here and abroad, and the accolades poured in for breadth of Ali's career as a boxer and activist. He was the first boxer on a box of Wheaties. He lit the Olympic flame during the Atlanta Olympics. President Bush pre-

sented Ali with the Medal of Freedom, and the National Urban League honored Ali with the highest commendation presented by the organization by giving him an Equal Opportunity Day (EOD) Award. He was my idol and his courage has been a beacon for so many in my generation.

Ali fought his last battle against his most vicious foe in the public eye for over 30 years. While we mourn the time of his departure, we are reminded of what made him "the greatest of all time." We should all draw comfort from knowing that he competed well. We take pride in the fact that he finished the race. And we recognize that we are all better because he kept the faith. Rest in peace, champ.

## Talk of Restrictions Watched Closely in Trade-Busy Maryland

By JOELLE LANG,  
AUBURN MANN and  
TROY JEFFERSON  
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Presidential candidates in both parties are proposing changes to international trade policies that could have dramatic impacts not only on the United States in general, but also on busy trade centers like Maryland.

Republican Donald Trump has proposed a 45 percent tariff on exports to the United States.

More broadly, Trump has lambasted the Obama administration for making poor trade deals with China and other nations, agreements that the New York real estate tycoon insists should be scrapped for pacts more favorable to the United States.

On the Democratic side, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders has attacked former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for supporting numerous trade agreements that he claims are costing Americans jobs and harming the global environment.

Trade is a closely-watched issue in Maryland, which hosts its presidential primary on Tuesday, along with Connecticut, Delaware, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island.

Baltimore is home to the 13th-busiest port in the United States and could feel the impacts of more restrictive trade policies, according to a 2015 Logistics Management study.

The Port of Baltimore generates \$2.9 billion in personal income, while contributing \$310 million in state, county and municipal tax revenue annually, according to the Greater Baltimore Committee. The port conducts business with countries on six different continents.

In 2014, Greater Baltimore collected \$12 billion from exports of goods and services, according to the Greater Baltimore Committee's Baltimore Metro Export Market Assessment of 2015.

The port of Baltimore directly generates 14,600 jobs, as well as 108,000 jobs statewide linked to port activity, according to James

White, the executive director of the Maryland Port Administration.

"Without a healthy, vibrant and bustling Port of Baltimore, many of those jobs would be lost," White wrote in *The Daily Record's* 2015 report.

Trump uses trade as a prime example of why, in his view, the United States "doesn't win any more."

"The 45 percent tariff is a threat. It was not a tax, it was a threat. It will be a tax if they don't behave," the businessman explained at a March 10 debate.

"Take China as an example. I have many friends, great manufacturers, they want to go into China. They can't. China won't let them," Trump continued. "We talk about free trade. It's not free trade; it's stupid trade. China dumps everything that they have over here. No tax, no anything."

In 2014, the most recent year data is available, the Port of Baltimore held the record for the fourth year in a row for handling more autos—a half million—than any U.S. port. The port added Fiat and Mazda to its client list in 2014.

The Baltimore port is also ranked first for its handling of farm equipment and machinery, imported forest products and imported machinery, according to the report.

Baltimore hosts one of two eastern U.S. ports with a 50-foot deep shipping channel and berth that can handle some of the world's largest container ships.

Fred Mason, the president of the Maryland and District of Columbia AFL-CIO, called Trump's assertions nonsensical and stressed the importance of free trade.

"America needs a strong manufacturing base to be an equal partner in world trade," Mason said. "If we enter into trade agreement that our so-called until they only benefit one country, as we see with the proposed TPP (Trans Pacific Partnership), that's not fair."

Maryland is headquarters to many large companies engaged in international trade, including Under Armour and Black & Decker. Based in Baltimore and de-

pendent on the port for exports, Under Armour saw its sales skyrocket this past year, but could possibly feel the pinch of Trump's trade policies.

The 20-year-old company is worth \$500 million and its clothing products are sold in over 60 countries, including China. International net revenues made up 12 percent of total revenues for the fourth quarter of 2015, according to the company's January

Under Armour did not return phone calls and emails seeking comment for this story.

If Trump's trade policies were enacted, the nation would go into a recession, according to a study by Moody Analytics for the *Washington Post*. The country would lose four million jobs and 3 million would not be created, the study said.

Sanders is an avid critic of international trade agreements like the Trans-Pacific Partnership and the 24 year-old North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which established essentially unfettered trade among the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Sanders' website refers to the TPP as "a disastrous trade agreement designed to protect the interests of the largest multi-national corporations at the expense of workers, consumers, the environment and the foundations of American democracy."

The Trans-Pacific Partnership is a 12-country free trade agreement between the United States, Canada and 10 countries in the Asia Pacific region, which was drafted in 2015 and signed on Feb. 9.

During a Democratic primary debate in New Hampshire on Feb. 4, Sanders attacked Clinton's stance on free trade, particularly the TPP, and referred to his consistent opposition to any recent trade deals.

"I was on the picket line in opposition to NAFTA. We heard people tell us how many jobs would be created," said Sanders. "I didn't believe that for a second because I understood what the function of NAFTA, CAFTA (Central American Free Trade Agreement), PNTR (Permanent Normal Trade Relations) with

China, and the TPP is: it's to say to American workers, hey, you are now competing against people in Vietnam who make 56 cents an hour minimum wage. This is an area where the secretary (Clinton) and I have disagreements."

Clinton, who originally supported the TPP while serving as secretary of state during President Barack Obama's first term, now is against it.

During the same debate she explained: "I did hope that the TPP, negotiated by this administration, I was holding out hope that it would be the kind of trade agreement that I was looking for. Once I saw the outcome, I opposed it."

Clinton still is ultimately for trade at some level. "We have to trade with the rest of the world," she said. "That's the way the global economy works."

J.D. Harrison, senior editor of digital content for the U.S. Chamber of Congress' online forum, Above The Fold, argued that Trump's plans to tax imports from Mexico and China would cause serious trouble for the economy.

"Under Trump's trade plans, we would see higher prices, reduced spending power, fewer jobs, and a weaker economy, both here at home and abroad, according to the analysis," Harrison said. "Of course, that's the last thing our country and the global economy need right now."

Harrison suggests that instead of implementing new restrictions, the United States should be opening more doors for international business.

"We should be tearing down trade barriers, not putting up more in place," he said.

In the United States, trade supports 41 million jobs and boosts the average annual American household income by \$13,600, according to U.S. Chamber of Commerce data.

Even so, some voters are in support of Trump's ideas about trade. At a rally Wednesday for Trump in Berlin, Md., Kathy Richardson, a retired state worker, said that America needs someone with Trump's business acumen.

"We need someone like him for trade—he's really good at making deals with other countries," Richardson said. "He stands up for America."

*CNS reporter Rebecca Rainey contributed to this report.*

### Agreement from A1

into the U.S. and increasing local business export to the world.

"It is a privilege and honor to be here in Prince George's County," said Minister Counselor Kim. "As the sixth strongest trading partner with the United States, Korea is focusing on its connectivity with the world by way of

localized globalization: treating our international partners like local partners. This is the right time and right place for your partnership with KOTRA, and KOTRA is the right partner for Prince George's County. Today's MOU provides good momentum for further cooperation, good business match-making and good neighbors."

After the MOU was signed, representatives from KOTRA

provided an overview to the 27 local businesses and 22 Korean businesses on how to do business with Korea and KOTRA. The businesses also engaged in one-on-one business to business meetings, looking for potential partners and investors.

"KOTRA generally partners within the private and corporate structure to promote international trade with Korea," said

KOTRA Director General Jonggun Lee. "After meeting with Mr. Coleman, we decided to make Prince George's County our first local partner."

For more information on international business development or exporting opportunities, contact Martin Ezemma (mezemma@co.pg.md.us) or 301-583-4650 or go to our website www.pgcedc.com.

### Journalist from A3

pettiness of the system, showing her that she is rotten!"

**'There is no man,  
there is no problem'**

Reznik's imprisonment reflects a larger strategy by Russian President Vladimir Putin to eliminate criticism of his government. Press freedom is the "main target of Putin's regime," said Vladimir Kara-Murza, a former journalist and coordinator of the pro-democracy Open Russia party in Moscow.

Since 1992, some 56 journalists have been killed in Russia, according to data compiled by the Committee to Protect Journalists. Thirty-eight were killed since 2000, the year Putin was elected president and instituted a crackdown on freedom of expression.

"Stalin's infamous saying, 'There is no man, there is no problem,' is still relevant to many people here," Kara-Murza, who recovered in the United States after being poisoned in Moscow, said in an interview with CNS. He alleges someone within the government was behind the attack, which left the otherwise healthy 33-year-old in a coma for three weeks.

The Glasnost Defense Fund, which works to defend freedom of expression in Russia, said that in 2014 alone five Russian journalists were killed, 52 attacked, 107 detained, 200 prosecuted, 29 threatened and 15 fired for politically motivated reasons.

In the Rostov region, a heavily industrial area bordering Ukraine, at least three journalists have been killed since 2002, two of them in Reznik's city of Rostov-on-Don. Natalya Skryl, a business re-

porter for Rostov-on-Don's *Nashe Vremya* newspaper, died from head injuries in 2002. She was attacked outside her home at night, and hit on the head "about a dozen times with a heavy, blunt object," according to the Committee to Protect Journalists. Skryl had been investigating an "ongoing struggle for the control of Tagmet, a local metallurgical plant," CPJ reported. She had recently obtained "sensitive information" about the story, the group said, which she planned to include in her story.

Vyacheslav Yaroshenko, the editor of Rostov-on-Don's newspaper *Korruptsiya i Prestupnost*, died in 2009 after he "was found unconscious with a head wound in the entrance to his apartment building early in the morning," according to CPJ.

The motive in his death is

still unconfirmed, although his colleagues believe he was killed in retaliation for publishing stories about corruption within the Rostov law enforcement, CPJ reported. His publication's name translates to "Corruption and Crime."

In October 2012, Reznik also was attacked late at night outside his apartment complex. Two masked men—one armed with a baseball bat; the other with a gun—beat him. He was covered in red welts and hospitalized.

His wife was with him that night. She said he was clearly targeted.

"They didn't attack me, they only attacked him," said Nataliya. "I was standing next to him and they didn't touch me."

During his trial the following

See JOURNALIST Page A6



# OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S  
IN THE DARK

## Movie Review

### Captain America: Civil War

Captain America: Civil War  
Grade: B  
Rated PG-13,  
some profanity and the usual  
superhero mayhem  
2 hrs., 26 min

Episode 13 of the very popular show *Marvel Cinematic Universe* is titled *Captain America: Civil War*, but it's really more of an Avengers episode than a Cap episode, except that Thor and Hulk aren't around. The rest of your favorites are here, though, plus the guy with the arrows.

The internecine conflict within the Avengers arises from the world's reaction to the collateral damage that occurs every time the Avengers save the world. Those climactic, destructive battles that have felt kind of repetitive and exhausting in some of these movies? Well, the people in the movies are starting to get tired of them, too. After what happened in Sokovia at the end of *Avengers: Age of Ultron*, the United Nations has drafted the Sokovia Accords, under which the Avengers would need U.N. approval before doing anything. And if the Avengers don't agree to these terms? Then the Avengers are criminals.

Somewhat surprisingly, Tony Iron Stark Man (Robert Downey Jr.) is onboard with this. He feels guilty about the death toll in Sokovia, especially after being confronted by the mother (Alfre Woodard) of one of the victims, and he believes the team needs oversight to maintain the public trust. Capt. Steve America Rogers (Chris Evans), on the other hand, believes the Avengers should remain independent. What if the U.N. sends them on a mission they don't agree with? Or refuses to send them on one they feel is urgent? "We may not be perfect, but the safest hands are still our own," says Capt. Rogers.

The whole thing blows up when a meeting of the U.N., uh, blows up. The culprit appears to be Steve Rogers' old friend Bucky Barnes (Sebastian Stan), aka Winter Soldier, brainwashed and reprogrammed as an assassin. But Capt. Rogers thinks Bucky is innocent (of this, any-



ROTTENTOMATOES

Marvel's *Captain America: Civil War* finds Steve Rogers leading the newly formed team of Avengers in their continued efforts to safeguard humanity. But after another incident involving the Avengers results in collateral damage, political pressure mounts to install a system of accountability, headed by a governing body to oversee and direct the team. The new status quo fractures the Avengers, resulting in two camps—one led by Steve Rogers and his desire for the Avengers to remain free to defend humanity without government interference, and the other following Tony Stark's surprising decision to support government oversight and accountability.

way) and wants to find him before the authorities do, as the authorities intend to kill him. That's exactly the kind of off-mission endeavor the U.N. was talking about, and Tony Stark leads the faction that aims to stop Steve Rogers and HIS faction from circumventing the law.

And that's basically it: a team of good people is split by an ideological disagreement. It's a smooth, simple conflict, easy to understand and succinctly explained by Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely's screenplay. Of course, like a soap opera, the movie must also address some of the individual characters' story lines, and it has to set the table for the big Avenger-on-Avenger battle that will inevitably be its climax. That's how a movie with such a smooth, simple conflict grows to be 146 minutes long, with the first 45 minutes serving as prologue.

So it takes a while to get going, but once it does, it's a blast. On Captain America's side are Sam Falcon Wilson (Anthony Mackie), Wanda Scarlet Maximoff Witch (Elizabeth Olsen), the guy with the arrows (Jeremy Renner), and Ant-Man (Paul

Rudd), fresh from his successful solo debut and starstruck to be working with Captain America et al. Over on Iron Man's side, he's got Lt. War Machine (Don Cheadle), Natasha the Black Widow (Scarlett Johansson), the thing that sounds like J.A.R.V.I.S. but is called Vision and is an all-knowing sidekick butler (Paul Bettany), and two newcomers: Black Panther (Chadwick Boseman), an African prince whose father was killed at the U.N. bombing and who dresses like Catwoman; and Spider-Man (Tom Holland), a high school kid that Tony Stark picked up somewhere.

When the two sides finally come to blows, it's every bit as fun as you'd like a war between superheroes to be. Directors Anthony and Joe Russo shoot the action logically and coherently (i.e., you can tell what's going on), and they make good use of the variety of personalities and superpowers involved. Since the combatants only want to thwart each other's plans and not KILL each other, we're able to enjoy the action as pure physical spectacle. It's not a battle so much as a scrimmage—and scrimmages are fun.

The new Spider-Man (who "Marvel Cinematic Universe" is pretending is the first Spider-Man because those other five Spider-Man episodes were in a different series) is a much-needed breath of fresh air, an eager, outgoing kid who's delighted to be playing in his first match. (Ant-Man is similarly enthusiastic, proving yet again that Paul Rudd makes everything better.) Spidey is integrated seamlessly into the group—would that the missing characters' absences could be explained as un-awkwardly as Spider-Man's presence—and the Russos do an excellent job hinting at a rich backstory for Black Panther despite his limited screen time.

Captain America doesn't get as much attention as you might wish from a movie with his name in the title. He's part of a team now, and not arrogant enough (coughIronMan) to turn the focus on himself unnecessarily. What I'm saying is that I think Captain America would be OK with being a co-lead in his own movie. He's a good guy like that. We'll see what the rest of this season of "Marvel Cinematic Universe" has in store for him.

#### Journalist from A5

year, the prosecution said the two attackers were Reznik's friends and that he had paid them to attack him to bring more attention to his work.

"The police did not search for the attackers," Reznik wrote CNS from prison. "After all, it is the hardest to look for yourself."

Russia ranks 10th on CPJ's 2015 Global Impunity Index, which highlights countries where journalists are killed and their murderers go free.

"Regrettably, impunity for the murder of other journalists in Russia ... contributes to a climate of fear and self-censorship and puts journalists' safety at risk," Daniel Baer, the U.S. Ambassador to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, said Nov. 5 at the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna.

It takes "real courage" to be a journalist in Russia, Kara-Murza said.

"Journalists are being imprisoned, journalists are being threatened and too many journalists are being killed," he said.

CPJ lists Reznik as the only

imprisoned Russian journalist, though Russian media outlets have covered the case of another man from Rostov-on-Don.

Aleksandr Tolmachev, the editor of the magazine *Ugolnomochen Zayavit* and the newspaper *Pro Rostov*, has been imprisoned since 2011 for extortion. In 2014, the seriously ill man was sentenced to nine years in a penal colony.

"The climate now is that everyone started to fear," Reznik wrote from prison. "Naturally, many hands went down."

It is not just journalists who feel pressure in Rostov, located nearly 600 miles from Moscow.

"There are some regions where there is more freedom and there are some tough regions," said Memorial's Davidis. "Rostov (is) a very tough region. It's very difficult to oppose authorities there and it concerns not only journalists, but all opposition and activism. They have a lot of ways to fabricate reasons for criminal prosecution and they do it."

Boris Batyy, a coordinator of the liberal "Solidarity" movement in Rostov-on-Don, was arrested after protesting Russia's

military actions in Ukraine, which borders the Rostov region, with a sign that said, "Putin, stop your lying and fighting!"

In November 2014, he was prosecuted for insulting police and publicly calling for extremism, according to The Caucasian Knot, a Russian news organization that covers politics and human rights. Batty says neither charge is the real reason he was arrested.

"One of the reasons political police put attention on me is because I made some comments on the posts about Sergey Reznik's trial," Batty, who is seeking political asylum in Germany, said in an interview with CNS.

"I attended about 70 percent of his court hearings and I saw the lying, I saw the false trials," he said. "There was just one aim: to deal with him."

Authorities in such a remote region face little scrutiny in Russia or elsewhere, said journalists.

"Independent activities in the regions are harshly persecuted—I mean prosecuted, though those are the same things now. That's especially true in the south," Kara-Murza said. "Outside of Moscow and St. Petersburg it's

much more difficult for independent media, opposition politicians and civic activists to function, to live."

#### 'Small islands of press freedom'

Through their television screens, the Russian people have been told that Kiev is under Nazi control; that there are no Russian forces in Ukraine; that the United States has deployed combat dolphins to the Black Sea to undermine the Russian government.

The Russian government or state-controlled companies own more than 60 percent of the country's 45,000 registered local newspapers and periodicals, according to the U.S. State Department's 2015 Human Rights Report on Russia. All six national television channels and 66 percent of the 2,500 television stations are completely or partially government owned, it said.

On July 21, 2014, Putin signed a law forbidding many non-state owned television companies from funding themselves

See JOURNALIST Page A7

## The Edge of Sports

by DAVE ZIRIN

### Dispatch From Rio: An Interview With the Activist Behind the 'Olympic Anti-Souvenir Shop'



Rafael "Rafucko" Puetter is a Rio-based artist and activist who put together an actual "Olympic anti-souvenir shop" to highlight the injustices that arrive with the summer games. His exhibits had a biting wit that could make you laugh and cringe simultaneously. They also drew debate and controversy from activists in what in Brazil is called the Black Movement who felt that he crossed the line between satire and appropriating people's pain. Here we discuss his art, the controversy, and the coming games.

**Dave: How did you come up with the idea to do the Olympic anti-souvenir project?**

*Rafucko:* I realized that the tourists that are coming to Rio won't take home the real memories of what's really going on here, behind the Olympic Games. So I wanted to make these souvenirs as a memory of the story that's not being told.

**And what are the stories that are not being told, in your mind?**

It's mostly police violence and forced evictions, mainly state violence against the population in order to make the Games possible.

**And what kind of art did you produce to express these kinds of politics and ideas?**

So I made the typical souvenirs but with a twist ... [takes out two stuffed kid-friendly stuffed mascots].

This is the caveirão. In Portuguese it's "big skull." It's the armored car from the police that goes inside the favela. And this second mascot is the [crane] that makes the evictions.

I made also a jigsaw puzzle with the image of a car that has been shot 111 times by the military police with five innocent guys inside. This puzzle has 111 pieces, one for each shot.

**And that is something that actually happened?**

This actually happened, yes, at the end of last year.

**And so you reproduced the car?**

This is the actual photo of the car with the marks with the shots. So there's 111 pieces so the person can recreate the scene. I also have this toy car that has also been shot 111 times.

I also made plates with some stamps of the special police in the [armored] uniforms that they use for demonstrations. They're like Robocop.

**And it's a way to dress to frighten people.**

Yes, exactly. And they all wear masks and no ID tag so if the police make some brutality you have nowhere to go to.

**These images of the police, they have no badges or ID. Is that illegal?**

Yes, yes, it's illegal.

And yet they do?

Yes, it happens all the time, and in the favelas it happens way more than at the demonstrations ... And this is the last one, this is a postcard with an original piece of a house from Vila Autodromo [a community bulldozed for the Olympics].

**This is a brilliant demonstration of protest art, but is it true that the exhibit is shutting down?**

Yes. People from the black movement and people who work with families that lost their loved ones to the police, they said it was insensitive in making art out of suffering, and in respect to the victims, I shut it down. Because I was trying to speak about their suffering, but if I make them more suffering, then it doesn't make sense to me.

I mean, some of them didn't like, some of them liked it. It's a bit controversial. Many people liked it, many people said, "You represent me, I'm glad that you have done this." Some people from Vila Autodromo really liked the postcards and even took them to distribute themselves. But of course there's no unanimity, so I cannot guarantee all of the people will like, but since some of the people who are directly affected by it, wrote me that I made more suffering to them, then I think it stopped making sense to me [to keep the exhibit up].

**What do you think the role is of art in struggle?**

I think the world we live in, especially in Brazil, and most especially in Rio, is absurd. And I think the role of art is creating another absurd world so we can see that it's all made up, it's all a theater. And we can create different theaters, we can create different characters. And we can create a better world. Of course, I'm being very romantic about art.

**Do you think the Olympics have left Rio better off in any way or is it overwhelmingly negative legacy?**

I think there is some infrastructure that will be left as legacy, but since there was a lot of corruption involved in the construction of this infrastructure, I'm not sure if this is a good legacy.

Also the human rights that were violated to make this infrastructure, it's not worth it.



# Calendar of Events

June 23—June 29, 2016

## PVDA Dressage Ride for Life

Date and Time: Friday—Sunday, June 24–26, 2016, 8 am  
Description: The PVDA Ride for Life is both a dressage show and a benefit for breast cancer quality of life research at the Johns Hopkins Breast Center.

This three-day indoor dressage show is one of four annual USDF/USEF Licensed (recognized) shows sponsored by the PVDA.

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

## G.E.A.R.: Create a DIY Friendship Bracelet

Date and Time: Friday, June 24, 2016, 7–10 pm  
Description: Bring a friend and join us for a night of fun. You'll create personalized friendship bracelets with simple items and random objects.

Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID  
Ages: 10–17  
Location: Prince George's Plaza Community Center  
6600 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD  
Contact: 301-864-1611; TTY 301-699-2544

## The 38th Anniversary of the Montpelier Summer Concert Series

Date and Time: Friday, June 24, 2016, 7:30–9:30 pm  
Description: Bring a friend, picnic, blanket and/or chair to enjoy a variety of performances on the west lawn of the mansion grounds.

Cost: Free  
Ages: All ages welcome  
Location: Montpelier Arts Center  
9652 Muirkirk Road, Laurel, MD  
Contact: 301-377-7800; TTY 301-699-2544

## Sizzling Summer Concerts: Afro Bop Alliance

Date and Time: Friday, June 24, 2016, 8 pm  
Description: Latin Grammy Winner Afro Bop Alliance will perform Afro-Cuban jazz with a big band sound that exquisitely balances jazz and Latin styles and electrifies fans with its smart, steamy, exhilarating sound.

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

## Xtreme Teens: Movie Night

Date and Time: Friday, June 24, 2016, 7–10 pm  
Description: Watch the *Hunger Games* film with your Xtreme Teens family.

Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID  
Ages: 10–17  
Location: Deerfield Run Elementary School Community Center  
13000 Laurel-Bowie Road, Laurel, MD  
Contact: 301-552-1093; TTY 301-699-2544

## Engineering Challenge Series: Parachutes

Date and Time: Saturday, June 25, 2016, 12 noon  
Description: The second year of College Park Aviation Museum's Engineering Challenge Series kicks off with a parachute challenge.

Design your own parachute that descends to the ground as slowly as possible. Contraptions will be judged on the length of flight, accuracy, and creativity.

Call the museum for more information and the complete set of rules.

Cost: Free for competitors; \$5/Adults; \$4/Seniors; \$2/Children; Free for 1 & under 8 & up  
Ages: 8 & up  
Location: College Park Aviation Museum  
1985 Corporal Frank Scott Drive, College Park, MD  
Contact: 301-864-6029; TTY 301-699-2544

## Sizzling Summer Concerts: Tribute to the Music of Stevie Wonder and Marvin Gaye

Date and Time: Saturday, June 25, 2016, 8 pm  
Description: Get ready to sing and dance to your favorite hits in tribute to two iconic musical legends, Stevie Wonder and Marvin Gaye.

Cost: \$30/person; \$25/person (seniors, students, and groups of 20 or more)  
Ages: All ages welcome  
Location: Publick Playhouse  
5445 Landover Rd., Cheverly, MD  
Contact: 301-277-1710; TTY 301-699-2544

## Movies Under the Stars: Summer Movie Series

Date and Time: Saturday, June 25, 2016, 6 pm  
Description: Beginning at dusk, guests will watch the film *Hotel Transylvania* (2012) (PG)

Cost: Free  
Ages: All ages welcome  
Location: Good Luck Community Center  
8601 Good Luck Road, Lanham, MD  
Contact: 301-552-1093; TTY 301-699-2544

## A Proper Tea

Date and Time: Sunday, June 26, 2016, 2–4 pm  
Description: Enjoy a proper English afternoon tea and learn proper tea etiquette, tea recipes and how to correctly prepare tea. Tea will be served in the rooms of the historic house. Reservations are required.

Cost: \$25/person  
Ages: 8 & up  
Location: Marietta House Museum  
5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale, MD  
Contact: 301-464-5291; TTY 301-699-2544

# EARTH TALK ... Penguins On the Brink?

Dear EarthTalk:

How are the world's penguins faring in this day and age of global warming? What can we do to help them?

—Mitch McIntosh,  
Mt. Morris, IL

Not surprisingly, penguins—those cute and quirky flightless birds of the Southern Hemisphere that are loved by humans and have inspired countless films, books, comic strips and sports teams—are in deep trouble as a result of reckless human activity.

The nonprofit International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), which maintains the “Red List” of at-risk species around the world, considers five of the world's 18 penguin species “endangered.” IUCN classifies five more penguin species as “vulnerable” and yet another five as “near threatened.” Only three species still exist in healthy enough numbers to qualify for IUCN's “least concern” classification.

Penguins have evolved over millions of years and adapted to big ecosystem and climatic changes along the way, but they face their biggest challenges from threats posed by humans over just the last century.

One of the more dire threats to penguins is commercial fishing. “Overfishing and concen-

trated fishing efforts near penguin colonies for forage species such as Antarctic krill can make it more difficult for penguins to find nourishment ... especially when fishing grounds overlap with the foraging grounds of penguins,” reports the Pew Charitable Trusts, a leading nonprofit with a focus on ocean conservation.

Meanwhile, predators and non-native invasive species introduced by humans are also taking their toll. According to Pew, several colonies of little penguins in Australia, for example, have been wiped out by non-indigenous dogs and foxes, while the Galápagos penguin has suffered big losses as a result of pathogen-borne illnesses introduced by non-native species and some natural bird migration.

Yet another threat is habitat destruction. “Tourism-related pressures, such as foot traffic and litter, can encroach on penguin colonies and nesting sites,” says Pew. “Oil spills have had severe effects on the health of individual colonies of penguins as well as their foraging habitats.”

And climate change—with its resulting melting of vast sheets of sea ice—could well be the greatest threat to already struggling penguin populations. “Ice plays a crucial role in the breeding process for several species of Antarctic penguins and also provides a place for penguins to rest and to avoid



CREDIT: JAN VEENSTRA, FLICKRCC

The Northern Rockhopper is one of five penguin species classified as “Endangered” by IUCN.

predators during long foraging trips,” reports Pew. “The loss of sea ice along the Antarctic Peninsula is contributing to reductions in the abundance of Antarctic krill, a favorite food of several penguin species.”

But according to Pew, the situation isn't completely hopeless. The creation of more marine reserves where penguins can thrive without the stresses of overfishing and other human activity is a big step in the right direction. Pew is also pushing for better fisheries management in order to increase food sources for penguins and other marine wildlife dependent on nutrients further down the food chain, and also for a reduction in the number of introduced predators and inva-

sive species.

According to Pew, the penguins' plight is a portent of larger environmental concerns: “These birds are sentinels for the health of the entire sea. Changes to their populations can indicate trouble for other species that depend on these waters for survival.”

CONTACTS: IUCN, www.iucn.org; Pew Charitable Trusts, www.pewtrusts.org.

EarthTalk® is written and edited by Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss and is a registered trademark of E - The Environmental Magazine

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

## Journalist from A6

through advertising.

Many newspapers have agreed, through “support contracts,” to provide positive coverage of government officials and policies in exchange for financial security. About 90 percent of print media relied on the state for printing, paper and distribution, according to the latest State Department report.

“We only have small islands of press freedom now,” Karan-Murza said. “Of course, the Internet is still free, thank God.”

But even on the web, there's been a crackdown. From 2012 to 2013 the number of criminal proceedings against Russian bloggers doubled. It was during a period known as the “Snow Revolution,” where large-scale anti-Putin protests questioned the 2012 election's legitimacy. The Agora human rights group in Russia reported 226 criminal cases against registered Internet users in 2013, compared with 103 such cases in 2012.

The Russian media challenges “the very notion of balanced, fact-based reporting,” said Daniel Calingaert, the executive vice president of Washington-based Freedom House.

The United States, he believes, should try to change that.

The United States should provide “legitimate news coverage for countries who

don't have it,” Calingaert said. He said the United States should fund Russian-produced independent media and a Russian version of the nonprofit ProPublica online publication, which conducts investigative reporting.

Last January, a law restricting foreign ownership of media outlets to no more than 20 percent went into effect, according to the State Department's latest report. “Corruption is very widespread and goes to the highest levels of the Russian government,” he said. “There's probably a lot that can be exposed that isn't being exposed.”

In April, The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists found that as much as \$2 billion had been secretly passed to banks and offshore companies linked to Putin's confidants. Novaya Gazeta participated in the global investigation. After its story was published, tax authorities began an investigation into whether any foreign grants were used for the project. Since 2000, five Novaya Gazeta reporters have been killed, according to CPJ.

Russian propaganda does not just affect Russian audiences but has repercussions on international relations, Calingaert said. Since Russia invaded Ukraine, more than one-third of the airtime on Russia's main official television channel has been devoted to Russia's version of

the intervention: Nazi occupation. No Russian forces. Secret U.S. dolphins.

“Russians bombarded for years with propaganda don't have a clear picture of what's really happening in the world or in their own country,” he said. “It makes it that much easier for their government to manipulate public opinion and to pursue policies dangerous to its country and its neighbors.”

Tom Malinowski, assistant secretary of the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, discussed the issue at the United Nations in 2014.

“When media loyal to the Russian state relentlessly broadcasts such propaganda and Russian authorities shut down alternative sources of information, more and more people are lulled into thinking that black is white, up is down, and two plus two may equal five,” Malinowski said.

## Groundhog Day

Reznik compares himself to Bruce Willis; close-cropped brown hair and a light stubble, “but I don't shave my head,” he wrote to CNS.

He also draws on American pop culture to explain his life in prison.

“There is a wonderful American movie *Groundhog Day*,” he wrote from prison. “Lifting, breakfast, news, chat with the prisoners, books ... so the days pass.”

For his wife, days are filled

with worry. She knows her husband is an optimist but wonders whether the prison is worse than he lets on. He jokes with her that conditions are better than the summer camp he endured as a young boy.

“It is harder for me than it is for him,” she said. “He is strong, he is capable, he is resilient.”

Every two months the couple gets to speak through plexiglass. Every three months she can stay in prison with him for three days. Each time, he asks her to bring him newspapers.

Nataliya, a yoga instructor, communicates frequently with his lawyers, who are working to appeal. They plan to take his case to European Court of Human Rights, said his lawyer Tomas Misakyan.

“Why is he so dangerous, and why is he being eliminated in Rostov as a journalist? Misakyan said in an interview. “Because he wasn't afraid to write.”

Once he is released from prison in October 2016, his sentence stipulates, he cannot practice journalism for two years. For Reznik, the restriction is a point of pride.

In 20 years, he wrote from prison, he has heard of only one other journalist who irritated the government enough to warrant such a prohibition.

“I find it unfair,” Reznik wrote, “that our names are not listed in the Guinness Book of Records.”

## GREEN GARDENING PRACTICES

While tending to your outdoor — or indoor — garden, keep in mind these helpful tips that can help your garden blossom, bountifully!

- ▶ **Save cooking water:** If you steam or boil vegetables, use the water which is full of nutrients as a fertilizer for your plants;
- ▶ **Reuse fish tank water:** Use this nitrogen and phosphorous-rich water from your fish tank on your plants;
- ▶ **Water plants early:** Morning is the best time because the temperature and winds are still low, resulting in less evaporation;
- ▶ **Mulch, mulch, mulch:** A protective top layer of mulch reduces soil moisture evaporation; and
- ▶ **Vermicomposting:** Worm castings and compost hold soil moisture and retain nutrients.

Source: [therickgardener.com/ten-water-saving-tips-for-your-garden](http://therickgardener.com/ten-water-saving-tips-for-your-garden)

Prince George's County, Sector Nature is an initiative of the Department of the Environment, Policy, Planning and Administration, Office of Creative Services to promote cost savings and sustainability in our everyday activities.

Robert L. Baker, III  
County Executive