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Baker Approves National Register of Historic Places Nominations

Five Communities Recommended by Historic Preservation Commission

By PRESS OFFICER
County Executive's Office

Upper Marlboro, MD— Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III, has approved the nomination of portions of five communities to the National Register of Historic Places: University Park Boundary Expansion, College Heights Estates, Old Town College Park, Upper Marlboro Residential Area, and Early Family Historic District (Brandywine). Baker concurred

with the recommendation of the County's Historic Preservation Commission that the five historic districts are eligible for nomination to the Register. The National Register is the nation's official list of buildings, sites, districts, and objects considered to be of historic and/or architectural significance by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

"Founded in 1696, Prince

See HISTORIC, Page A3



PHOTO COURTESY M-NCPPC

Abraham Hall
7612 Old Muirkirk Road, Beltsville, MD 20705
301-454-1780; tours by appointment

Built in 1889 for the Benevolent Sons and Daughters of Abraham, Abraham Hall is Prince George's County's most outstanding example of a late 19th century African American benevolent society lodge. This two-story, front-gabled lodge building has its entrance through paneled doubled doors, and a small kitchen wing. Over the years it has also served the African American community of Rossville as a temporary schoolhouse and Methodist church. Abraham Hall is owned and operated by M-NCPPC and is home to Black History Program staff. The site hosts exhibitions and is available for use by community groups.

Funds Available to Provide Up to 50% Home Energy Efficiency Upgrades

Program Exceeds Expectations by Spurring Nearly \$3 Million in Private Investment

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of the Lt. Governor

UNIVERSITY PARK, MD (August, 2011) — Today, Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown announced that the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) has authorized an additional \$850,000 in funding for the popular Home Performance Rebate program. The program offers a 35% rebate (up to \$3,100 total) toward qualifying home efficiency upgrades, which combined with the existing rebates of 15% provided by Maryland utilities, allows

Marylanders to reduce the cost of upgrading their homes by as much as half.

The rebate program, launched earlier this year, has exceeded expectations by spurring nearly \$3 million of private investment in home energy efficiency upgrades in just seven months. The additional funds announced today are expected to drive more than \$1.5 million in additional investment in energy efficient home improvements.

See UPGRADES, Page A3

Foundation Chair Dorothy Bailey Leaves Board, Former State Senator David Harrington Steps In

BY PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
THE CAMMAY GROUP

Lanham, MD --- Former Prince George's County Councilwoman Dorothy F. Bailey is stepping down from her position as Chair of the Prince George's Harlem Remembrance Foundation after 13 years. Prince George's County Executive Rushern Baker nominated Bailey to serve on the Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission on Tuesday, July 12, 2011.

"This Foundation, which presents the Prince George's Harlem Renaissance Festival, enriches our community in so many ways," says Bailey. "It has been my pleasure and sheer joy to have had the opportunity to work with our Board Members, our collaborative partners and the many volunteers who have helped shape the Festival and other activities hosted by the Foundation. My vision was to celebrate the cultural explosion of the

Harlem Renaissance era by recognizing the accomplishments of our ancestors and encourage our community, especially the young people, by exposing them to cultural and educational activities that are germane to their history. The Foundation has achieved this vision and produced great things. I am confident that it will continue to have a positive and lasting legacy for the citizens of Prince George's County," said Bailey.

Former Maryland State Senator David C Harrington will step in to fill the position as Chairman of the Board for the Foundation. Harrington served as Festival Chairman for the Prince George's Harlem Renaissance Festival for six years and currently serves on the Foundation's Board of Directors. "Ms. Bailey's Shoes will be hard to fill," Notes Harrington. "The Foundation provides a tremendous cultural engagement, awareness and platform that support the growth and education of Cultural arts. It is my hope that the Foundation continues to play a central role in enhancing the arts in



PHOTO BY THE CAMMAY GROUP

Former Prince George's County Councilwoman Dorothy F. Bailey is stepping down from her position as Chair of the Prince George's Harlem Remembrance Foundation.

Prince George's County."

In 2012, the Foundation will present the 13th Annual Prince George's Harlem Renaissance Festival. Additionally, the

See BAILEY, Page A5

Veterans' Groups Urge President Obama and Congress Not to Cut Social Security Benefits

Groups Oppose Changes to COLA Formula that Would Result in Significant Benefit Cuts

By Public Information Officer
American GI Forum

Washington, D.C. — Eight leading veterans' groups sent letters to President Obama, and to members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate today, urging them to continue their commitments to veterans and their families during negotiations over the federal deficit by opposing any effort to reduce benefits by adopting the chained consumer price index (CPI) formula for determining Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs) for recipients.

The letters from the American GI Forum, AMVETS, Blinded Veterans Association, National Military Family Association, Paralyzed Veterans of America, VetsFirst, a program of United Spinal Association, Vietnam Veterans of America, and VoteVets.org identified significant cuts that would occur to 9 million veterans receiving Social Security retirement benefits, 3.2 million receiving VA Disability Compensation Benefits, and 310,000 receiving VA Pension Benefits if the chained CPI was used to calculate the annual COLA. Those cuts are detailed in this fact sheet.

The letters from veterans groups said: "Many veterans

who rely on these programs live on fixed incomes and very tight budgets. For them, every dollar of hard-earned benefits counts in meeting basic expenses, attaining quality of life, and building a better future for themselves and those who depend on them. For many of them, reducing the annual COLA would mean real sacrifice. We ask that you not do that for those who have already sacrificed so much for this great country."

The letter to President Obama is below. Similar letters were sent to all members of Congress.

Dear Mr. President:

We thank you for the strong commitment you have shown to veterans and their families since you came into office. We are very grateful.

We hope you will continue your strong support during these challenging negotiations over the federal deficit. That is why we are writing to bring to your attention our concerns about the harmful effects changes to the formula used to calculate the annual cost of living adjustments (COLAs) will have on Social Security benefits and veterans' benefits.

See LETTER, Page A7

Crack Down on Parole, Probation Violators Declared

Grant to the Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office to Launch Initiative

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of the Governor

ANNAPOLIS, MD (August, 2011) - Governor O'Malley announced a \$306,605 grant to the State's Attorney's Office in Prince George's County to launch an initiative aimed at criminal offenders who violate the terms of their parole or probation.

The grant will be used to create a new Collateral Offender Unit in the State's Attorney's Office, consisting of two prosecutors and two paralegals that will focus on identi-

fying and prosecuting offenders who violate the terms of their probation. This new Unit, the first of its kind in the County, will handle Violation of Probation (VOP) cases exclusively — providing additional resources to prosecute VOP cases in a timely manner.

"To create jobs and maintain our quality of life, we must continue to make every neighborhood in our state a safer place to live, work and do business," said Governor O'Malley. "This joint effort between our federal, state and local partners will remove dangerous offend-

ers from the streets of Prince George's County, creating safer communities for our families and children."

The funds are being awarded to the County by the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) under the federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (BJAG) program. Senators Barbara Mikulski and Ben Cardin have been instrumental in their support of the BJAG program.

"This funding is a federal investment in keeping our communities strong and thriving. It

will help keep Marylanders safe in their neighborhoods," said Senator Mikulski, who as Chairwoman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science puts money in the federal checkbook for the BJAG program. "I will continue to fight to give law enforcement and prosecutors the tools they need to clean up the streets, protect our families, and fight crime."

"Marylanders deserve to

See PAROLE, Page A5

INSIDE

Lt. Governor Supports Veterans

Following President Barack Obama's announcement of new policy proposals to encourage the hiring of unemployed veterans, Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown, a Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves and the nation's highest-ranking elected official to have served a tour of duty in Iraq issued a statement.

Community, Page A3

Mayor Blumberg Joins the Fights

"When we look at poverty rates, graduation rates, crime rates, and employment rates, one thing stands out: Blacks and Latinos are not fully sharing in the promise of American freedom and far too many are trapped in circumstances that are difficult to escape." ... New York Mayor, Michael Bloomberg

Opinion, Page A4

New Natural Gas Line

Baltimore Gas and Electric Company announced that it is launching a major natural gas pipeline installation project intended to promote continued reliability and address the increasing demand for natural gas service in five Maryland counties including Prince George's County.

Business, Page A5

Movie Review

"Bellflower" has earned a significant number of detractors since its premiere, and believe me, I get where they're coming from. This is one odd, potentially off-putting movie. But if you see it, whether you love it or hate it, you won't soon forget it, nor will you see anything like it for a long time.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talks

Dear EarthTalk:
I don't hear much about the environmental impacts of our consumer culture any more, but it seems to me that our "buy, buy, buy" mentality is a major contributor to our overuse of energy and resources. Are any organizations addressing this issue?
— M. Oakes,
Feature, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

Local post office in danger of closing

The Suitland Post Office is one of 3,700 post offices across the U.S. facing possible closure. Right now the Postal Service is studying certain branches and no final decision has been reached. I hope my post office survives—I use it all the time, even though parking is difficult.

If it closes, what address will I use? District Heights? Temple Hills?

According to Wikipedia, the first post office in Suitland was established in 1878, discontinued and reestablished several times over the following 25 years. In the early 1900s, "Anacostia" was the mailing address for the area. In 1941 a mailbox was installed at the intersection of Suitland and Silver Hill Roads. The current post office on Suitland Road was built about 1955.

When I moved here in 1958, I used "Skyline Drive S.E., Washington, D.C." for my address.

If the post office closes, residents and businesses will be given 60 days notice.

Neighbors

During a game at Nationals Park on July 5, Staff Sgt. Timothy Ruch, of Joint Base Andrews, took a chance on a \$20 lottery ticket. He scratched it and found he'd won \$1 million! The first thing he did was call his wife Emily, a senior airman at Andrews. According to the Capital Flyer, they are working with a financial adviser to plan their future.

My grandson David McHale was in town in July to receive his Master's Degree in Strategic Intelligence at the University of Maryland. I'm very proud of him. Also traveling with him from Denver were his wife Nina and their children, Jack, Molly and Riley.

Morningside Councilman Kevin Kline has organized a Beautification Committee, which will be presenting to the Town Council architectural drawings for the revitalization of the Morningside sign at Suitland and Randolph roads. They also plan landscaping improvements at the Town Hall.

Bill Gilmartin, formerly of Woodland Road in Morningside, was seriously injured when a crane he was driving tipped over. His sister Patty Gilmartin, of Camp Springs, reports he is still in ICU, doing fairly well.

Joan Newman, a longtime resident of Lucente Avenue in Skyline, died Aug. 6. I'll pay tribute to her in a future column. She'll be much missed.

Coming up

The Morningside Recreation Council is hosting the Free Skate Van and Ice Cream Social, on Aug. 27, 6 p.m. at the Town Hall.

The Surratt House Museum, in Clinton, offers an evening of nostalgia on Aug. 20 as they present the movie, "Gone With the Wind," as part of their film series on the Civil War and in recognition of the 75th anniversary of Margaret Mitchell's classic novel. It's

free, but reservations are recommended. Call 301-868-1121.

May they rest in peace

Joseph Edward Reagan, 43, died July 29 in his Morningside home. He was the son of Eleanor Yerkie and the late William Reagan III. Survivors include his grandmother, Margaret Reagan; stepfather William Divver; sisters, Tina Lee, Catherine Crocker, Kelly Short, Billie Haston and Nicole Divver; brother, William Reagan IV; and brothers-in-law, John Lee, Kevin Crocker, John Short and John Haston. Services and burial were at Cedar Hill Cemetery.

Alain Gerard Sexton, 56, died in a motorcycle accident on Popes Creek Road in La Plata on July 24. He was born on Christmas Day 1955, grew up on Lou Lane in Morningside, and graduated from Crossland in 1973. He was the husband of Brenda K. Sexton, who was also injured in the motorcycle accident. He was the father of Angela T. Creasey, Jennifer Lynn Grumman, Stephen G., Daniel K. and Callista Sexton; son of Jane Sexton; brother of Christine Dunn and Michelle Nicholl. He also leaves two grandsons. Services were at Sacred Heart Church in La Plata.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Mary Berkley and Brittany Short, Aug. 13; Margaret Hunt, Nancy Stacey and Gracie Mothershead, Aug. 16; and Hildagard Koenig, Aug. 17.

Congressman Chris Van Hollen Legislative Update

Van Hollen Statement on Joint Select Committee Appointment

Maryland Congressman Chris Van Hollen, Ranking Member on the House Budget Committee, issued the following statement on his appointment to the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction:

"I am honored to have been asked by Democratic Leader Pelosi to serve on the Joint Committee. I look forward to working with my Democratic and Republican colleagues to address the huge challenge before us.

"Putting America back to work is the best and most immediate way to reduce our deficit as we also develop and implement a balanced plan to establish

long-term fiscal discipline and sustained economic growth. Our plan should put jobs first, sharpen America's competitive edge, ensure health and retirement security, and require shared responsibility from those who have done so well even during these tough economic times. Together, we can build a prosperous and secure future for all Americans."

Van Hollen Statement on Agreement to Reopen FAA

Congressman Van Hollen released the following statement applauding the compromise proposal to end the shutdown of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA):

"I am pleased that a compromise has been reached to put tens of



thousands Americans back to work and continue important improvements to our nation's air travel system. This shutdown not only kept people off the job, but also cost the taxpayer — money that went into the pockets of the airline industry. These kind of political games are unacceptable. With this compromise in place, we must now return to the traditional, open process to resolve differences between the House- and Senate-passed legislation."

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Ruth Turner 301 888 2153

GOSPEL PROGRAM

St. Philip's Church will sponsor a Gospel Program on Sunday, September 11, 2011 at St. Philip's Church Hall in Brandywine, Maryland. The Gospel Program will feature the Burning Lights, The Spiritual Inspirations, the Briscoe Brothers and more. Donation is \$10.00. All proceeds to benefit St. Philip Church. Please contact Harry Butler or Debra Butler for tickets at 301-888-1353 or 301-520-2145.

HOMECOMING

You are cordially invited to worship with us in our services on Sunday, September 18, 2011. We will be celebrating our 135th Homecoming Celebration at St. Philip's Episcopal Church Baden Parish. Our address is 13801 Baden Westwood Brandywine, Maryland 20613.

Morning Worship and Holy Communion Service at 9:30 AM. Rev. Vaughan Booker will be the celebrant and speaker. We are pleased and honored to have Rev. Alhassan Macaulay as the speaker of the hour at our 3:00 PM service along with the Male Chorus of

Asbury United Methodist Church of Brandywine, Maryland. Lunch will be served 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM.

ST. THOMAS CHURCH FARMERS MARKET

Support local farmers. Saturdays from now until October 1, 2011 from 8:00 AM-12:00 noon. The address is St. Thomas Church Farmers Market at 14300 St. Thomas Church Road Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Visit the website

<http://stthomascroom.edow.org/bounty.shtm>.

SPEND TIME WITH A SENIOR

A simple errand for some seniors can be an enormous challenge. You can make their lives easier by shopping for them. Take an elderly friend with you when you go shopping because it can make his or her life so much easier. Spending time with the elderly helps improve their quality of life. To obtain more information visit the website at www.seniorconnectionmc.org.

BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

We will celebrate our

Homecoming Festivities from September 11- 17. To obtain more information call 301-860-4327 or visit

www.bowiestate.edu/alumni@bowiestate.edu.

BRANDYWINE NORTH KEYS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The next Civic Association meeting will be on September 21, 2011 in the Media Center at the Brandywine Elementary School. September begins the new year therefore dues (\$30 per household) is due and payable at the meetings. Members may also send a check to the Brandywine-North Keys Civic Association at P.O. Box 321, Brandywine, MD 20613. All members and residents are encouraged to attend and participate in the monthly meetings. The Civic Association needs your input to better address matters affecting the community.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Prince George's County Public Schools welcomes you to the first day of school on August 22, 2011. We encourage parents to walk their child to school or to the bus stop the first day of school.

Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week Runs Through August 20

Tax Break on 6% Sales Tax for Qualifying Clothing, Footwear

Annapolis, Md. (August, 2011) — Just in time for back-to-school shopping, Comptroller Peter Franchot today announced that his office is gearing up for Shop Maryland, the state's tax-free week. Beginning this Sunday, consumers who purchase clothing and shoes priced \$100 or less will be spared the states 6 percent sales tax for one week.

Resulting from legislation passed in the 2007 special session of the Maryland General Assembly, a tax-free week will occur every year during the second week in August, until the legislature decides to revisit the issue.

"This initiative helps consumers and gives retailers a boost in these tough times," said Comptroller Peter Franchot. "While the state will take a slight tax hit, many Marylanders have been devastated by the national recession and deserve this break as they prepare to send their kids back to school."

Each qualifying article of clothing or footwear selling for \$100 or less is exempt from sales tax, regardless of how many items are purchased at the same time. For example, two \$60 sweaters purchased at the same time are both exempt even though the total of the purchase is greater than \$100.

"The tax-free week was a great success last year," said Maryland Retailers Association President Patrick Donoho. "It got consumers out shopping again after suffering hard economic times. This year, we hope more consumers will take advantage of the substantial savings offered by local retailers during this week. Times continue to be tough for fami-

lies in Maryland as the economy slowly recovers. Shop Maryland provides some help to families as they shop for back-to-school clothes and shoes."

Businesses selling items that are not eligible for inclusion in the tax-free week can participate in Shop Maryland. Under regulations dubbed "Sellers Privilege," other merchandise besides apparel can be sold tax-free; however, the retailer is responsible for paying the sales tax owed the state.

The tax-free week is expected to result in a revenue decline estimated at approximately \$10 million this year.

Cardin Reassures Seniors That Budget Deal Has Protection for Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid and Federal Retirees

SUITLAND, MD -- U.S. Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) today addressed the Maryland/DC Alliance for Retired Americans about the recently enacted budget compromise that raised the debt ceiling and saved the nation from default. The Senator assured the group that the budget agreement has protections for Social Security, Medicare & Medicaid and federal retiree benefits.

"The budget provides for nearly \$1 trillion in deficit reduction during the next 10 years. But importantly, it protects domestic priorities by allowing more than \$40 billion in discretionary domestic spending next year than was

contained in the Republican budget that passed the House," said Senator Cardin, a member of the Budget and Finance committees.

Senator Cardin explained that the agreement also calls for at least an additional \$1.2 trillion in deficit reduction to be proposed by a Joint Congressional Committee and enacted by the end of the year. Automatic, across-the-board cuts are triggered if these additional reductions are not made.

"But Social Security, Medicaid, veteran benefits, and other essential benefits are exempt from cuts if across-the-board cuts are triggered," said Senator Cardin. "That is a very important protection for seniors and federal retirees."

Founded in 2001, the Alliance for Retired Americans is a nationwide organization of four million members committed to mobilizing retired union members and other seniors and community activists into a nationwide grassroots movement that supports a progressive political and social agenda. The Maryland/DC Chapter has more than 78,000 members.

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COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Jason Alderman

Protect Your Kids from Identity Thieves

You're probably weary of being reminded to take precautions against identity theft, but here's a wrinkle you may not have considered: Identity thieves have broadened their reach by harvesting children's dormant Social Security numbers (SSNs) and using them to illegally obtain jobs, credit accounts, mortgages or car loans and much worse.



Many victims have no inkling anything is amiss until they later apply for a student loan, bank account, job or apartment and are turned down because of poor credit history. Some families have even been hounded by collection agencies or served with arrest warrants because the debts or criminal activities thieves executed were so extreme.

There's no completely foolproof way to protect your child's identity, but here are some precautions you can take:

Although it's tempting to simply not register your kids for SSNs until they turn 18, that's not practical in today's world. For one thing, children need one if you want to claim them as dependents on your taxes. They also may need one if you want to obtain medical coverage or government services for them or open bank accounts or savings bonds in their name.

Most parents register their children for SSNs at the same time they apply for birth certificates at the hospital. If you wait until later to apply, you must provide proof of your child's U.S. citizenship, age and identity, as well as proof of your own identity.

Because each person's SSN is unique, it's not uncommon for schools, healthcare providers, insurance companies and others to require that parents provide one as an identification tool. However, don't be afraid to ask:

Why do they need an SSN - is there a legal requirement and if so, what is it?

Will they accept alternative identification?

What will happen if you don't disclose it?

What security precautions do they take with personal information?

Will they agree not to use the SSN as your child's personal identification number on correspondence, account statements or ID cards?

Warning signs your child's personal data might have been compromised include:

Preapproved credit account offers.

Calls from collection agencies, creditors or government agencies.

You're denied opening a bank account in their name because one already exists with the same SSN.

They are denied credit, employment, a driver's license or college enrollment for unknown or credit-related reasons.

There may be legitimate reasons why your child is receiving credit offers. For example, if you opened a college fund or they enrolled in a frequent flyer program.

However, if you strongly suspect an identity theft has been committed, you can:

File a police report and keep a copy as proof of the crime.

Contact the fraud units at the three major credit bureaus for instructions: Equifax (800-525-6285), Experian (888-397-3742) and TransUnion (800-680-7289).

Notify the Federal Trade Commission (877-438-4338). Their Identity Theft site at www.ftc.gov contains information on fraud alerts, credit freezes, working with police and much more.

Ask Social Security (800-772-1213) whether anyone has reported income using your child's SSN. Search "Identity Theft" at www.ssa.gov for information.

Contact the IRS' Identity Protection Unit (800-980-4490).

Bottom line: Use the same precautions with your child's personal information as you do with your own and make sure you know the warning signs and what to do if it's compromised.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To Follow Jason Alderman on Twitter: www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney

Lt. Governor Brown Statement on President Obama's Proposal to Hire Unemployed Vets

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of the Lt. Governor

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (August, 2011) - Following President Barack Obama's announcement of new policy proposals to encourage the hiring of unemployed veterans, Maryland Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown released the following statement:

"Veterans returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are facing an unemployment crisis, with a jobless rate of over 13%. After all they have sacrificed in service to our nation, it is unacceptable that so many veterans are struggling to support their families. In Maryland, Governor O'Malley and I are working to help veterans find employment, including creating a veterans preference in State hiring and launching the innovative Mil2FedJobs web portal to connect veterans to jobs with the Federal Government. But

we must work together at every level to right this wrong. I applaud President Obama for bringing a renewed focus to addressing unemployment among young veterans and I encourage Congress to move quickly to implement these proposals and put our veterans back to work."

Lt. Governor Brown, a Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves and the nation's highest-ranking elected official to have served a tour of duty in Iraq, leads the O'Malley-Brown Administration's efforts to provide veterans with better services and resources.

Since taking office in 2007, Lt. Governor Brown championed successful efforts to pass the Veterans Behavioral Health Act that expanded services to veterans in rural parts of the state, protect veterans business loans programs, and fully fund the Iraq and Afghanistan Scholarship Program. Earlier this year, the Lt. Governor



PHOTO BY CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Lt. Governor Brown, a Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves and the nation's highest-ranking elected official to have served a tour of duty in Iraq, leads the O'Malley-Brown Administration's efforts to provide veterans with better services and resources.

launched the Mil2FedJobs web portal, located on the Maryland Workforce Exchange (MWEjobs.maryland.gov), the

first of its kind in any state to directly match transitioning servicemembers with careers in the Federal Government.

Historic from A1

George's County is deeply rooted in our country's history and culture," said Baker. "It is my honor to recommend approval of these National Register of Historic Places nominees to the National Park Service and the U.S. Department of the Interior. I want to thank the Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission for their hard work on this process and fulfilling their mission to protect and promote our County's history and culture."

The nominations must still be reviewed by the Governor's Consulting Committee and the State Historic Preservation Officer, and then forwarded to the National Register Office in Washington for final review. The nominations were prepared by consultants to M-NCPPC/Prince George's County Planning Department at the request of affected municipalities or property owners. Formal listing in the National Register is expected

by early 2012.

NOMINATED COMMUNITIES:

University Park Boundary Expansion

The Town of University Park Boundary Expansion adds 376 contributing mid-20th century buildings to a historic district originally listed in the National Register in 1996 for its significance as an early 20th century automobile suburb. The recent project was requested by the Town of University Park as part of celebrations of the 75th anniversary of the Town's incorporation.

College Heights Estates Historic District

The College Heights Estates Historic District was requested by the College Heights Estates Association (CHEA) in order to recognize the mid-20th century automobile suburb partially located within the Town of University Park and in an adjacent area of unincorporated

Hyattsville. The district includes 170 contributing, single-family dwellings of both traditional American and European architectural styles as well as houses that reflect the evolution of American domestic architecture after World War II.

Old Town College Park Historic District

The Old Town College Park Historic District includes 213 contributing properties that reflect the development of a late 19th century railroad and street-car community in proximity to the University of Maryland campus. The historic district includes single-family dwellings, apartments, institutional buildings and fraternities and sororities constructed from 1889-1965. The area of the National Register district was designated as a Prince George's County historic district in 2008.

Upper Marlboro Residential Area Historic District

The Upper Marlboro Residential Area Historic

District includes 79 contributing properties that reflect the evolution of domestic construction in the County seat from 1721-1960. The district includes several important late 18th and mid 19th century dwellings, a historic Episcopal church from the first half of the 19th century, a historic African-American Methodist Church associated with a congregation established just after the Civil War, several cemeteries and burial grounds, and a number of early-and mid-20th -century, single-family dwellings.

Early Family Historic District

The Early Family Historic District in Brandywine includes four late-19th and early-20th century single-family dwellings and a large commercial building (c. 1872) associated with several generations of the Early family, whose members were instrumental in settling and developing this crossroads village after the Civil War.

Upgrades from A1

"Governor O'Malley and I are focused on efforts to protect our natural resources and make Maryland a leader in energy innovation," said Lt. Governor Brown. "By investing in home energy efficiency, we are helping Marylanders save money through lower electricity bills, protecting our environment through reduced energy demand, and stimulating millions of dollars in private investment in our growing innovation economy."

The announcement came as Lt. Governor Brown toured a home in University Park currently undergoing upgrades made possible by the program and viewed demonstrations of various efficiency upgrade techniques.

"Thanks to Maryland's Home Performance program, we were finally able to upgrade our home so that it's more comfortable and more affordable," said Julie Ainsworth, one of the homeowners who hosted today's event. "Investing in your home can be really stressful, but this program made it so easy. I'm glad to hear that even more Marylanders will be able to take advantage of the opportunity."

To date, the Maryland Home Performance Rebate program, funded entirely by the

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, has helped nearly 1,000 Marylanders upgrade their homes with an average rebate of \$1,529. The additional \$850,000 also stems from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and was made available due to savings in administrative costs.

"I would like to thank Maryland's Congressional Delegation for making these additional funds, and the entire rebate program, possible through their support for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act," said Brown.

The Home Performance Rebate program can be used to hire a Maryland Home Performance contractor to complete a number of qualifying home energy efficiency upgrades, including: whole-house air sealing; duct replacement; and insulation of walls, attics, crawl spaces, and basements. Each of these upgrades will help to keep homes more comfortable in extreme weather, and save homeowners money by lowering their energy bills throughout the life of the investment.

In addition to the up to 50% rebate, individuals who need assistance in financing a home energy efficiency investment may be able to take advantage of unsecured home energy

improvement loans for up to \$20,000 at 6.99%. Loans for high efficiency equipment, such as air conditioners or water heaters, are also available at 9.99%. The loans are being offered by the Maryland Clean Energy Center, with grant support by MEA, and help alleviate the up-front costs associated with whole-house energy efficiency upgrades.

"By taking advantage of these rebates, Marylanders have made a smart choice that will save real money on the monthly bills for years to

come," said Malcolm Woolf, Director of the Maryland Energy Administration. "I'm thrilled that we're able to redirect an additional \$850,000 into this extraordinary program, and hope that anyone who has been considering making an investment in their homes will take advantage of this limited opportunity."

To apply for a rebate, residents should visit www.energy.state.md.us/homeperformance to complete the requisite forms. Homeowners can find participating contractors at www.mdhomeperformance.org.

Now is the Best Time to Buy Your Beach Home!

The Grande at Canal Pointe • Rehoboth Beach, Delaware
Condos starting from **\$219,900*** • Townhomes starting from **\$329,900***
302.227.1053

Sterling Crossing • Rehoboth Beach, Delaware
Luxury villas starting from **\$219,900*** • 302.260.9040

Rehoboth Crossing • Rehoboth Beach, Delaware
Beautiful townhomes starting from **\$299,900***
302.260.9670

Windstone • Milton, Delaware
Single-family "Green" homes starting from **\$199,900***
302.645.7948

*Information subject to change without notice. • See a community sales associate for full details.

www.LChomesDE.com

YES! We volunteer to assist at the Harlem Renaissance Festival.

PLEASE PRINT NAME: _____

NAME(S) _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

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COMMENTARY

THE PRINCE GEORGE'S POST

A Community Newspaper for Prince George's County

Cong. Steny H. Hoyer
House Democratic Minority Whip



Hoyer Delivers Remarks at "Make It In Maryland" Rally

BALTIMORE, MD — This afternoon, Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) joined Governor Martin O'Malley, Congressman John Sarbanes, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Maryland manufacturers, and others, for a rally hosted by the Regional Manufacturing Institute of Maryland (RMI) in support of Maryland manufacturers and their products. Below are his remarks as prepared for delivery:

"With millions out of work, Americans want to know if Congress has a plan to rebuild American industry and create jobs. Democrats do have a plan.

"The Make It In America plan, an initiative to strengthen American manufacturing and the jobs it creates. As part of that initiative, I'm committed to building industry and jobs here in Maryland—so that more businesses, and more families, can Make It In Maryland.

"The facets of the Make It In America plan are: providing incentives for manufacturing investment; encouraging innovation; creating a level playing field for U.S. manufacturers; improving U.S. infrastructure; strengthening the labor pool through education and training; coordinating federal, state, and local efforts to support U.S. manufacturing; corporate tax reform; and smarter regulations.

"Make It In America bills on the agenda right now include a plan to create an infrastructure bank to facilitate investment in everything from broadband to energy systems to modern ports, so that we can out-build our international competitors. We're also working on currency reform, to hold

accountable countries that manipulate currency to gain an unfair trade advantage. We want to expand and make permanent the R&D tax credit to spur innovation. We want to promote job-training links between advanced manufacturers and community colleges here in Maryland. And we want a simpler, more efficient tax code for businesses.

"President Obama signed six Make It In America bills into law last year, and we need to build on that success. MIIA appeals to everyone—liberals and conservatives, Democrats and Republicans, urban and rural—because the American people understand that a strong manufacturing base is essential to U.S. prosperity.

"I've been reaching out to manufacturers, trade associations, labor groups, think tanks, and academics to identify and develop additional legislation, and I've had the chance to visit and listen to some of the leading manufacturers in our state to discuss the ways we can help more people Make It In Maryland. It's been informative and inspiring to meet with Maryland manufacturers and learn about both their successes and their challenges—businesses like Stone Industries in College Park, which originated the straw, and the innovative defense company Adcor, in Baltimore. Those are businesses that are growing here, creating jobs here, and innovating here. Those are the kind of Maryland employers that can benefit from the Make It In America plan.

"I look forward to hearing from you today and working with you on policies that will grow the manufacturing base and our economy, increase U.S. exports, and create jobs."

To Be Equal
Marc Morial, President and CEO
National Urban League



Mayor Bloomberg Joins Fight Against "Black Mancession"

"When we look at poverty rates, graduation rates, crime rates, and employment rates, one thing stands out: Blacks and Latinos are not fully sharing in the promise of American freedom and far too many are trapped in circumstances that are difficult to escape." New York Mayor, Michael Bloomberg

The great recession was officially declared over in 2009, but the events of the last few weeks make it clear that while Wall Street and big business may be coming back, the economic recovery has remained out of reach for millions of Americans. Last week, in the wake of the dysfunctional debt ceiling debate and an agreement that fell far short of just about everyone's expectations, the nation's credit rating was downgraded for the first time in history from AAA to AA+. This could mean higher interest rates for mortgages, car loans, and credit cards. In addition, the July jobs report shows that while overall unemployment has ticked down to 9.1 percent, 14 million Americans remain out of work. Hispanic unemployment is stuck at 11.3 percent. African American unemployment continues to lead the nation at 15.9 percent. And with Black male unemployment at 17 percent, and as high as 34 percent in cities like Milwaukee, some have dubbed this the "Black Mancession."

The National Urban League (NUL), the Congressional Black Caucus and other progressive leaders have long understood that America's future is inextricably linked to the fate of the millions of Black men in our cities who have historically languished at the bottom of the economic ladder in both good times and bad. In addition to being last in line for jobs, 50 percent of Black males don't finish high school and Black men are six times more likely than white men to be incarcerated. Empowering Black males to reach their

full potential is one of the most serious economic and civil rights challenges of our times.

In 2004 the National Urban League launched its Black Male Initiative to address the obstacles impeding the success of black men and boys—especially the poor and young who've fallen off the nation's radar screen. From our Black Executive Exchange Program which exposes HBCU students to African American role models to our Urban Youth Empowerment Program which provides education, job training and mentoring assistance to prepare out-of-school and/or adjudicated young people for the world of work, the NUL has fought an often lonely battle to save the next generation.

Last week, New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg joined that effort in a big way—announcing one of the boldest and most comprehensive programs in the nation to address the huge economic disparities impeding the advancement of more than 300,000 of that city's Black and Latino young men. The Young Men's Initiative, a three-year, \$127 million public-private partnership, which includes \$30 million from the Mayor's own charitable foundation, will make significant reforms to education, health, employment and justice system services to better prepare young African American and Latino men for jobs and keep them out of prison.

We applaud Mayor Bloomberg's commitment and action. His Young Men's Initiative, like the National Urban League's 12-point Jobs Rebuild American plan and the Urban Jobs Bill championed by Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and Representative Edolphus Towns, recognizes that without a targeted, comprehensive effort to help those hardest hit by the economic downturn, the nation's recovery will never be fully complete.



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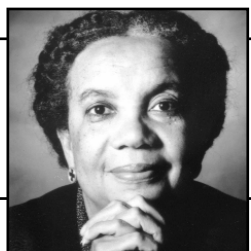
PHOTO COURTESY: NASA STENNIS SPACE CENTER (NASA-SSC)

NASA/GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER And Visitor Center Soil Conservation Road, Greenbelt, MD 301-286-9041

The hub of all NASA tracking activities, Goddard is also responsible for the development of unmanned sounding rockets, and research in space and earth sciences including NASA's Mission to Planet Earth. Through interactive educational exhibits, visitors explore Goddard Space Flight Center with a focus on 1958 to present. Collections include space flight artifacts and photographs. Model rocket launchings, gift shop and special group tours available. The Visitor Center is currently open by appointment only. Call Monday through Friday between 9 and 4 p.m. to speak with a representative. Admission is free. (D)

Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



Zero Tolerance Discipline Policies: A Failing Idea

Zero Tolerance Discipline Policies: A Failing Idea

Many school children in America are on summer break right now, but here's a pop quiz about discipline policies in our nation's schools that's just for grownups:

Would you suspend a student from school for four months for sharpening his pencil without permission and giving the teacher a "threatening" look when asked to sit down?

Would you expel a student from school for the rest of a school year for poking another student with a ballpoint pen during an exam?

Would you expel a student from school permanently because her possession of an antibiotic violated your school's zero-tolerance drug policy?

Would you call the police, handcuff, and then expel a student who started a snowball fight on school grounds?

If you answered 'no' to any of these questions because they sounded too unfair to be the result of an actual policy, give yourself a failing grade. All four are real examples of zero tolerance school discipline policies in Massachusetts—and there are thousands of stories like these throughout that state and across the country. Suspended and expelled students are at greater risk of dropping out of school and dropping into the prison pipeline, and using automatic suspensions and expulsions for minor infractions often has a major negative effect on a child's entire future.

New research analyzing the data from the 2009 – 2010 school year in Massachusetts found nearly 60,000 school expulsions and suspensions. Just over half of them were for "unassigned offenses"—non-violent, noncriminal offenses, which can include behavioral issues such as swearing, talking back to a teacher, and truancy. (I've never understood why you suspend or expel children for not coming to school

rather than finding out why!) Of the approximately 30,000 "unassigned offenses," two-thirds received out of school suspension, resulting in 57,000 lost days of school. What's more, because Massachusetts schools aren't currently required to report "unassigned offenses" resulting in exclusions of 10 days or less for regular education students, the estimated actual number of disciplinary exclusions is likely at least two to three times the 60,000 reported.

Jen Vorse Wilka, a student at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, found these startling statistics when she studied zero tolerance discipline policies in Massachusetts as part of her master's degree program. Her final report, "Dismantling the Cradle to Prison Pipeline: Analyzing Zero Tolerance School Discipline Policies and Identifying Strategic Opportunities for Intervention," received an award from the school's faculty and sheds new light on the need to address these harmful

policies.

Added together, the tens of thousands of suspensions—many for minor infractions—have an enormous negative impact. As Wilka explains, "Children start down the path to prison in both jarring and subtle ways. It's not just the teenager who ends up behind bars; it's also the child who is suspended for disruptive behavior, misses a few days of school, and begins to feel disconnected. The more disconnected he becomes, the more he acts out in class. This cycle repeats. National research suggests that this child is three times more likely to drop out of school by 10th grade than a student who has never been suspended; and dropping out triples the likelihood this child will end up incarcerated later in life. It is this indirect pipeline that can be addressed by implementing more nuanced approaches to school discipline, helping students stay in

See WATCH, Page A8

The Prince George's Post

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Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3151
Phone 301-627-0900 Legal Fax • 301-627-6260
Editorial Fax • 301-627-8147
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Publisher Legusta Floyd	Subscriptions Anna Curry
General Manager/ Legal Advertising Manager Brenda Boice	Editor Legusta Floyd
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BUSINESS

Business Exchange

by William Reed



Dedicating the Dream

A week of events is planned in Washington, D.C. around the unveiling of the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial. The official dedication of the King National Memorial on the National Mall will take place at 11 a.m. Sunday, August 28, 2011, the 48th anniversary of the day King delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. Preceding, and following, the dedication will be star-studded concerts, luncheons, dinners and receptions attended by an array of African-American leadership.

A quarter-million people will gather on and adjacent to the four-acre plot on the northeast corner of the Tidal Basin to dedicate a monument to Martin Luther King's legacy and its location on American History's Main Street. The event will feature the first African-American President of the United States as he honors the first African-American with a memorial on the National Mall - and the first non-president so honored. Thousands of contributors and community leaders will join President Barack Obama at the site. Central to the thinking of Martin Luther King was the concept of the "Beloved Community." The MLK National Memorial's centerpiece is the "Stone of Hope", a 30-foot statue of Dr. King, with a 450-foot inscription wall with excerpts of his sermons and public addresses.

The process of designing, funding and constructing the memorial was coordinated by the nonprofit Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial Project Foundation. Harry E. Johnson, Sr., and his Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity deserve credit for arriving at this historical reality. Johnson has served as president and CEO of the foundation since 2002. A former Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity president, Johnson reports that the MLK Memorial cost \$120 million to build. The U.S. Congress gave \$10 million in matching funds.

In his public invitation, Jonson said: "We look forward to sharing with you a joyous and historic day for our nation". To many, King symbolizes the Civil Rights era's great American Revolution. The MLK Memorial to open on August 22. After MLK's assassination in 1968, his fraternity Alpha Phi Alpha proposed a permanent memorial in Washington, D.C. Alpha Phi Alpha's efforts gained

momentum in 1986, after King's birthday was designated a national holiday. In 1996, Congress authorized Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt to permit Alpha Phi Alpha to establish a memorial in the District of Columbia, and gave the fraternity until November 2003 to raise \$100 million and break ground. In 1998, Congress authorized the fraternity to establish the foundation to manage the fundraising and design and approve building of the memorial.

It was an uphill climb for Johnson's foundation to build the MLK Memorial. A MLK King Family company, Intellectual Properties Management Inc. proved to be a significant obstacle. The family wanted the foundation to pay licensing fees to use MLK's name and likeness. The King family pledged that any money would go to the King Center's charitable efforts. The King Center in Atlanta is the location of King's grave and a National Historic Site. Established in 1968 by the late Coretta Scott King, the King Center is the official, living memorial dedicated to the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Estimates suggest that the King family charged the MLK Memorial Foundation \$800,000 in fees. Now, it's all "OK" between the foundation and the MLK Family. Children of MLK, Bernice and Martin Luther King III toured the National Mall site in October 2010 and are expected to attend the dedication.

Black Americans have reason to be proud and to be MLK Memorial benefactors. As we raise a toast, it would be "significant" if Blacks contribute to this cause. Most of the MLK Memorial's construction costs were underwritten by American corporations and organizations such as the National Basketball Association (NBA). General Motors Corporation gave more than \$10 million and will serve as dedication chair. The Tommy Hilfiger Corporate Foundation is dedication co-chair, as is Stevie Wonder, who wrote MLK's "Happy Birthday" song. A minority, female-owned and operated firm, McKissack & McKissack, is a part of the MLK Memorial Design-Build Team. To make a donation, visit www.MLKmemorial.org

(William Reed is available for speaking/seminar projects via BaileyGroup.org)

Baltimore Gas and Electric Company Launches Major Natural Gas Pipeline Installation Project

Plan to Meet the Growing Needs of Customers in Five Maryland Counties

By PRESS OFFICER
BG&E

BALTIMORE, Aug. 2011 — Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE) announced that it is launching a major natural gas pipeline installation project intended to promote continued reliability and address the increasing demand for natural gas service in five Maryland counties. Once completed, the new underground pipeline will enhance natural gas service to more than 200,000 customers in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, Montgomery and Prince George's counties. The project will involve clearing a 14-mile stretch of land in Howard County beginning just north of Clarksville, Md., continuing southeast and ending just north of Laurel, Md. Clearances will extend approximately 50 to 75 feet on either side of where the pipeline will be installed. BGE has worked with local property owners and public and elected officials to explain the size, scope and benefits of this project. Clearing and pipeline construction are already under way and should be completed by the end of the year. The process of restoring the impacted areas will begin soon thereafter and is expected to be completed by next spring.

"BGE is committed to the safe and reliable delivery of nat-

ural gas to all of its customers and is making this \$60 million investment in its natural gas system to ensure the current and anticipated future needs of its customers are met," said Carol A. Dodson, senior vice president of asset management services for BGE. "In addition, we remain committed to environmental sustainability at BGE and understand the necessity of protecting our natural resources. While this project will significantly change the 25-acre landscape where the pipeline is being installed — because the area must remain clear to allow BGE to safely access, inspect and maintain the pipeline — BGE has already planted new trees and grass over roughly the same amount of acreage to offset any environmental impact. Additionally, BGE is leaving threatened and endangered species intact and rehabilitating two-acres of stream bank to address any potential impact to wetlands."

The decision to install the pipeline along this particular route was made after careful and thorough evaluations of other potential options. The route was chosen because it provides the greatest benefit with the least amount of impact. The first half of the pipeline will be installed on large, primarily rural parcels where BGE has obtained easements. The second half will be



BY ALVAR HANSO, FLICKR

A natural gas pipe going over this frozen stream.

installed where existing transmission lines are located. During construction, customers can expect temporary disturbances to the landscape as BGE goes through the necessary steps of clearing vegetation and installing the pipeline. After installation, BGE will return to the site to clean and restore the area.

Public safety is a top priority, and BGE will conduct regular aerial and ground inspections as part of its maintenance of the pipeline once constructed. BGE also has a formal program to prevent gas pipeline damage, which will help ensure the long-term safe operation of the pipeline.

BGE, www.bge.com, headquartered in Baltimore, is

Maryland's largest gas and electric utility, delivering power to more than 1.2 million electric customers and more than 650,000 natural gas customers in Central Maryland. The company's approximately 3,000 employees are committed to the safe and reliable delivery of gas and electricity, as well as enhanced energy management, conservation, environmental stewardship and community assistance. BGE is an indirect subsidiary of Constellation Energy,

www.constellation.com, a FORTUNE 500 company also headquartered in Baltimore, with subsidiaries that generate, sell and provide other energy-related services to customers throughout North America.

Bailey from A1

Foundation bought the work of Harlem Renaissance photographer James VanDerZee to Prince George's County, produced the theatrical production, Best of Life" featuring the talents of local Prince George's County Residents, hosted a five part series on the Comparative Works of Langston Hughes the Tupac Shakur, and sponsored or hosted numerous other artistic and educational venues and forums over the last 12 years. Currently, the Board of Directors is exploring new programming for the upcoming

year. For more information about the Prince George's Co Harlem Remembrance Foundation, Visit the website: www.pghrf.org.

(right) The crowd enjoys the Prince George's Harlem Renaissance Festival which provides a tremendous cultural engagement, awareness and platform that support the growth and education of Cultural arts and is presented by The Prince George's Harlem Renaissance Foundation.



PHOTO BY THE CAMMAY GROUP

Parole from A1

live and raise their families in safe communities," said Senator Cardin. "Thanks to this new collaboration between federal, state and local governments, citizens of Prince George's County can rest assured that their streets are safer, and those who violate the law will face justice."

The Unit will be collaborative with the US Attorney's Office, the Maryland Division of Parole and Probation, local police, and other law enforcement and criminal justice agencies. Officials and investigators from all levels will share information and expertise to find and prosecute the targeted offenders.

"With this grant, Prince George's County residents are being provided with additional resources of protection from

criminals," said Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. "I want to thank Governor O'Malley and Senators Mikulski and Cardin for their unwavering support in keeping Prince George's County communities safe. I am confident that Prince George's County State's Attorney Alsobrooks will fully utilize this grant and exceed its potential as an effective crime fighting tool."

The members of the Collateral Offender Unit will also coordinate their resources with the cases handled by other prosecutors in the State's Attorney's Office to ensure just disposition of cases. In addition, they will coordinate cases with the juvenile division when a defendant has either lied about his age or is on probation in both the juvenile and adult system.

"Today's grant award announcement reflects a deep commitment by Governor O'Malley, Senators Mikulski and Cardin, and all our state and federal partners to keep our communities safe. These additional resources will increase the effectiveness of prosecuting repeat violent offenders who violate their parole and probation and will dramatically reduce the number of criminals who continue to choose a life of crime. On behalf of the men and women of law enforcement and the people of Prince George's County - I thank our partners. Creating a collateral unit to prosecute persistent crime threats demonstrates not only a tough-on-crime approach but also a smart-on-crime strategy," said Angela Alsobrooks.

Under the O'Malley-Brown Administration, through the

innovative use of public safety technology, unprecedented information sharing across borders, and strategic reforming of long-troubled public safety state agencies, law enforcement personnel throughout Maryland have driven crime to historic lows. The State's nationally-recognized Violence Prevention Initiative (VPI) works to identify the most violent offenders under the supervision of the Division of Parole and Probation (DPP). VPI Parole and Probation Agents have low caseloads, make frequent contacts with offenders, and have a low-tolerance for even minor infractions. In addition, Agents request warrants for violations of the terms of parole or probation immediately helping to keep high risk, dangerous offenders out of the community.

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"SERVICE FIRST... FUN ALWAYS!"

OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK
Movie Review

"Bellflower"

"BELLFLOWER"
(limited release)

A-

Rated R for abundant harsh profanity, some graphic violence, a couple scenes of nudity and strong sexuality.

1 hr., 43 min.

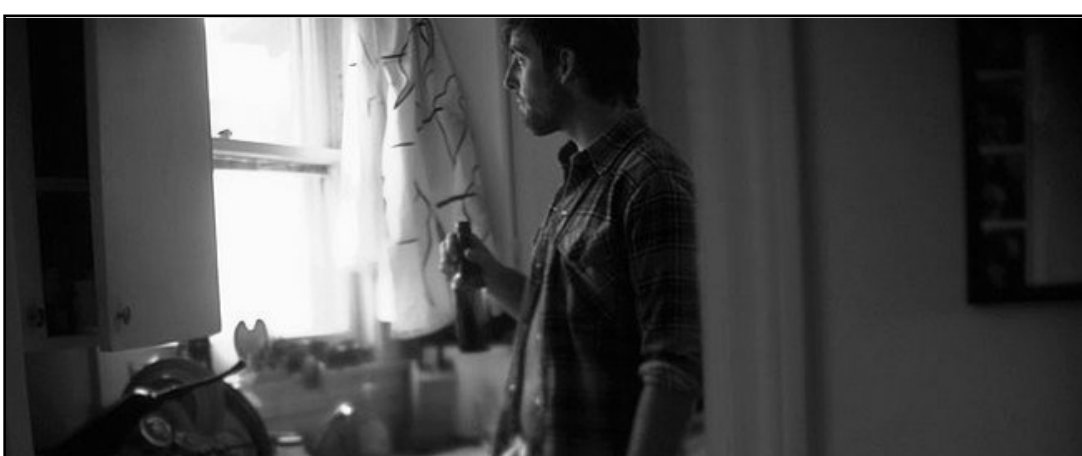


PHOTO COURTESY ROTTENTOMATOES

Bellflower follows two friends as they venture out into the world to begin their adult lives. Literally all their free time is spent building flame-throwers and weapons of mass destruction in hopes that a global apocalypse will occur and clear the runway for their imaginary gang "Mother Medusa". While waiting for the world to end, their call to excitement comes unexpectedly when one of them meets a charismatic young woman and falls hard in love. Quickly integrated into a new group of friends.

"Bellflower" has earned a significant number of detractors since its premiere, and believe me, I get where they're coming from. This is one odd, potentially off-putting movie. But if you see it, whether you love it or hate it, you won't soon forget it, nor will you see anything like it for a long time.

Oh, it starts out ordinarily enough. Here are a couple of slacker guys, Woodrow (Evan Glodell) and Aiden (Tyler Dawson), who enjoy a state of arrested development in one of L.A.'s less glamorous neighborhoods. They are fixated on "Mad Max"-style post-apocalyptic scenarios, and to that end spend all their time building an indestructible car and constructing a flamethrower. If the apocalypse happens, they will be ready. If anything else happens -- say, if they need to get a job, or pay some bills, or take on a responsibility -- they will be quite a bit less ready.

Woodrow and Aiden's friendship is momentarily disrupted by the appearance of Milly (Jessie Wiseman), a beautiful blonde with whom Woodrow begins a whirlwind romance. Milly is similarly free-spirited and bohemian, and likewise apparently unencumbered by employment. She and Woodrow are adorable together. He's a little shy; she's a little wacky. "Bellflower" seems to be shaping into a sweet, low-budget, mum-

blecore-influenced romantic comedy.

And then ... wow. And then. After establishing a completely believable and lived-in relationship for Woodrow and Milly -- one that rings true for all who have ever been young and smitten -- the film just as capably shows the disintegration of such a relationship, the boredom and complacency that can emerge over time. We were hooked by their giddy romance, and now the rug is pulled out from under us. "Bellflower" has deftly transformed into an insightful drama.

And then ... and then. Man. You're not ready for this. When things go south with Woodrow and Milly, the movie evolves even further, and now it does not belong to a genre. There are elements of horror, exploitation, vengeance, tragedy, and buddy comedies. There is more fixation on post-apocalypse survival tech-

niques. The timeline gets fractured. Unspeakable things occur.

Evan Glodell, who plays Woodrow, also wrote and directed the film. It's his first feature. He even built the cameras he used to shoot it, for crying out loud. He's some kind of mad genius, a techie nerd with leading-man good looks and the warped imagination of Chuck Palahniuk. He uses the film's microscopic budget to his advantage: one minute we're smiling at the charmingly unpolished sound editing and scratchy images, mentally patting Glodell on the head and saying, "Aw, what a cute little movie you've made!"; the next minute we're shocked by some dark, clever turn and realize we've been played. Glodell knows exactly he's doing.

We throw the word "daring" around too often, but that's what "Bellflower" is. Glodell took incredible risks as a filmmaker, telling a completely

unorthodox story in a wholly audacious manner. (He and the cast took physical risks, too. With no special-effects budget, those flamethrowers and other implements of "Jackass"-inspired destruction are real.) Even casting himself as Woodrow was gutsy, since the film lives or dies by our affection for that character. If the film had failed, it would have failed spectacularly.

As I mentioned at the top, there are some who believe the film did fail. I don't begrudge them that opinion. Goodness knows something as brazenly unusual as this won't be everyone's cup of tea. Even if you "get" it, you might not like it. That's fair enough. All I can do is report my experience with the film, which is as follows: I laughed, I gasped, I felt touched by the warmth, I felt disturbed by the madness, I marveled at how real it all seemed, and I haven't been able to stop thinking about it.

Arena Stage Updates Concessions and Dining Options with Cat Walk Cafe

By PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
Arena Stage

(Washington, D.C.) Moving into the second season in its

expanded campus, Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater has updated the culinary options available to patrons in the venue. The upper lobby-level dining area has

become Catwalk Café. This casual self-service café, along with its adjoining bar and the main lobby-level concessions, will continue to be operated by Ridgewells Catering, who ran the café launched during the inaugural season in the Mead Center: Next Stage Café by José Andrés.

"We want to thank 2011 James Beard Foundation Award recipient José Andrés and his staff for his vision, insight and creative impact on our successful inaugural season," shares Arena Stage Managing Director Edgar Dobie. "We are pleased that Ridgewells will continue as our café and concessions operator."

Catwalk Café features a variety of sensational selections, ranging from quick bites to custom-designed salads, soups and entrées. It offers dramatic cuisine featuring flavors inspired by the great American plays currently in production, inspired views of the Southwest Waterfront and the Mead Center and features environmentally friendly service products. Catwalk Café opens two and a half hours prior to the start of scheduled evening performances and weekend matinees and closes once the show begins. Concessions, which serves lighter fare, opens 30 minutes prior to curtain and remains open one hour after the


show.

To view up-to-date menu options for Catwalk Café and the Mead Center concessions, please visit here.

Catwalk Café Menu (through September 9, 2011)*

SALADS BLT Salad - \$10 Bacon, Chopped Romaine Lettuce, Cherry Tomatoes, Cucumber, Scallion Green and Croutons Tossed in a Buttermilk Ranch Dressing Classic Caesar Salad - \$10/\$8 With Chicken or Shrimp; Chopped Romaine Lettuce, Parmesan Cheese and Croutons Asian Salad - \$12 With Chicken or Shrimp; Chopped Romaine, Shredded Cabbage, Mixed Field Greens, Wonton Chips, Mint Sweet Corn, Red Bell Peppers and Carrots Tossed in a Fresh Thai Dressing SOUPS Tortilla Soup - \$6 Chicken, Cheese, Cilantro, Tomatoes, Corn, Tortillas and Scallion Greens in a Fragrant House-Made Savory Chicken Broth Golden Gazpacho - \$5 Cherry Tomato, Jicama, Crispy Noodles and Chive Oil Finished with Micro Greens

PANINIS Turkey & Cheddar - \$12 Smoked Turkey, Sliced Apple and Sharp Cheddar Cheese Dressed with Delicious Honey Mustard Red Pepper & Brie - \$10 Roasted Red Peppers and Imported Brie Dressed with



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	Pick 3	Pick 4	Pick 3	Pick 4	Bonus	Match 5	Bonus
07/31/11	393	2438	505	9594	04 05 14 15 25	22	
08/01/11	430	0894	927	1904	05 09 16 17 20	32	
08/02/11	185	4508	507	4669	01 14 23 35 39	29	
08/03/11	280	3866	018	9424	11 14 30 32 35	12	
08/04/11	642	2175	028	5393	03 20 27 34 38	12	
08/05/11	082	9517	236	4677	13 14 17 23 26	31	
08/06/11	164	8443	439	7514	05 24 28 32 33	01	

Date	Mega Millions	MEGA BALL	Megaplier
08/02/11	14 17 19 20 32	28	4
08/05/11	06 24 28 33 42	19	3

Date	Powerball	POWER BALL	POWER PLAY
08/03/11	13 19 21 28 49	11	2
08/06/11	25 30 54 57 59	06	3

Date	MULTI-MATCH
08/01/11	05 08 09 24 27 43
08/04/11	01 23 25 29 30 40

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The Edge of Sports

by DAVE ZIRIN

Dave Zirin Named of the UTNE Reader's "50 Visionaries Who Are Changing Our World"

Dave Zirin writes about the politics of sports for the Nation Magazine. He is their first sports writer in 150 years of existence. Zirin is also the host of Sirius XM Radio's popular weekly show, Edge of Sports Radio. He has been called "the best sportswriter in the United States," by Robert Lipsyte. Dave Zirin is, in addition, a columnist for SLAM Magazine and the Progressive.

His most recent book is *Bad Sports: How Owners are Ruining the Games We Love* (Scribner). Shock Doctrine author Naomi Klein called *Bad Sports* "an original and scathing look at how America works."

Zirin is also the author of *A People's History of Sports in the United States*, part of Howard Zinn's *People's History Series* for the New Press. *A People's History of Sports* forms the basis of a documentary co-written and narrated by Zirin called *Not Just A Game: Power, Politics and American Sports*, produced by the Media Education Foundation.

In addition he has written *Welcome to the Terrordome: The Pain, Politics, and Promise of Sports* (Haymarket Books), with a foreword by the immortal Chuck D. *Sports Illustrated* wrote that *Terrordome* is "a provocative, sometimes chilling, look at sports and society right now." His first book, *What's My Name, Fool? Sports and Resistance in the United States* (Haymarket Books) has entered its third printing.

Zirin has brought his blend of sports and politics to multi-television programs including NBC's *Lost Call* with Carson Daly, ESPN's *Outside the Lines*, MSNBC's *Countdown with Keith Olbermann*, ESPN Classic, MSNBC's *Morning Joe*, CNN, MSNBC's *The Rachel Maddow Show*, Comcast Sports Network's *Washington Post Live*, C-SPAN's *BookTV*, and *Democracy Now!* with Amy Goodman. He has also been on numerous national radio programs including National Public Radio's *Tell Me More*, *Talk of the Nation*, and *All Things Considered*.

Zirin has debated FOX Sports president Ed Goren on college football's Bowl Championship Series for National Public Radio, Bridgestone Firestone President Dan Adomitis in the pages of the *Los Angeles Times* on whether his company should be the "official tire of the Super Bowl" while in court for using child labor in Liberia, and the issue of steroids in sports with Jose Canseco and John Rocker. His writing has also appeared in *Vibe Magazine*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *New York Daily News*, *New York Newsday*, the *Baltimore Sun*, the *Pittsburgh Courier*, *The Source*, and numerous other publications.

He loves the Mets, Jets, Wizards, and Mystics.

His newest book, in collaboration with John Carlos, is *The John Carlos Story*, forthcoming from Haymarket Books in September 2011. After reading the book, DeMaurice Smith, the director of the NFL Players Association, commented, "History tells us iconic moments in sport are always enveloped in personal stories of sacrifice, courage, and angst. The lasting images that we see occur in a flash contain enriching back stories that are typically even more significant and tragic than the moment itself. John Carlos and Dave Zirin have combined to tell such a story. The moment that two men stood on the world platform to take a stand after they had become the best in the world is rich, complicated but most importantly as relevant today as it was in Mexico City. Dave brings a beautiful and passionate voice of truth to his listeners and achieves the same in this book about a man who became a legend."

Zirin and Carlos will be touring in 2011-2012. Contact Jim to book them for a speaking engagement: jim@haymarketbooks.org

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Calendar of Events

August 18 - August 24, 2011

At the Water's Edge: African American Beach Communities

Date & Time: Monday, July 11-Friday, September 2
Mondays-Fridays, 9 am-5 pm
Description: At the Water's Edge: African American Beach Communities is an exhibit that explores the leisure activities of African Americans at local beaches and resorts. On display at Abraham Hall, the exhibit will feature photographs and beach mementos from the 1930s to the 1970s.
Cost: FREE **Ages:** All ages
Location: Abraham Hall
7612 Muirkirk Road, Beltsville 20705
Contact: 240-264-3415; TTY 301-699-2544

Jazz on the Lawn: Cheek to Cheek

Date & Time: Thursday, August 18, 7 pm
Description: Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy some of the area's top jazz musicians. Visit the Riverdale Park Farmers Market before the show. Buy dinner at the market or bring a picnic from home. In case of rain, the concerts move inside. The concerts are supported by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council, an agency dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive.
Cost: FREE **Ages:** All ages
Location: Riversdale House Museum
4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park 20737
Contact: 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544

Summer Outdoor Movies at the Aviation Museum

Date & Time: Friday, August 19, museum doors open at 7 pm, and all movies start at 9 pm
Description: Enjoy an evening at the movies along with fun, hands-on activities inside the museum. Popcorn and sno-cones will be served throughout the evening.
Tonight's movie is How to Train Your Dragon - A hapless young Viking who aspires to hunt dragons becomes the unlikely friend of a young dragon himself, and learns there may be more to the creatures than he assumed.
Museum Admission: FREE with museum admission \$4/adults, \$3/seniors, \$2/ages 2-18, FREE/children under 2
Location: College Park Aviation Museum
1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive, College Park 20740
Contact: 301-864-6029; TTY 301-699-2544

Fabulous Fridays at Watkins Regional Park

Date & Time: Fridays, August 19 & 26, 5:30-8:30 pm (weather permitting)
Description: Enjoy an evening of outdoor fun with friends and family. Enjoy unlimited rides on the train and carousel, and rounds of miniature golf for one price per person. The outdoor patio and surrounding grounds are a perfect place to bring and enjoy snacks or dinner! Beverages and snacks are available from the vending machines in the Refreshment Depot. Please note: advance tickets are not available; purchases are made on site each evening are for that date only. VISA, MasterCard and cash are accepted.
Cost: Resident \$5/person; Non-Resident \$6/person
Ages: All ages
Location: Watkins Regional Park
301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro 20774
Contact: 301-218-6700; 301-218-6768

5-on-5 Basketball

Date and Time: Friday, August 19, 7-10 pm
Event Description: Get ready to play some 5-on-5 basketball! Teens will compete against the hottest teams in a tournament.
Ages: 13-17
Fee: FREE
Location: Indian Queen Recreation Center
9551 Fort Foote Road, Fort Washington 20744
Information: 301-749-0327; TTY 301-203-6030

Concert: The Coasters

Date and Time: Sunday, August 21, 3 pm
Event Description: "If rock 'n' roll had produced nothing but the Coasters and Leiber and Stoller, it would still have commanded attention as the sound embodiment of a time and generation." Arnold Shaw wrote in his book The Rockin' '50s. The Coasters are widely regarded as the pre-eminent vocal group of the original rock 'n' roll era.
Ages: All ages
Fee: \$30/person general admission; \$25/students & seniors
Location: Arts/Harmony Hall Regional Center
10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington 20744
Information: 301-203-6070; TTY 301-203-3803

Senior Days at the Sportsplex

Date & Time: Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays, 8 am-12 noon
Description: Seniors (Prince George's County residents only) are allowed FREE use of both the fitness center and pool during these times.
Cost: FREE
Ages: 60 & up
Location: Prince George's Sports & Learning Complex
8001 Sheriff Road, Landover 20785
Contact: 301-583-2400; TTY 301-583-2483

Dine & Learn: Calcium and Vitamin D for the Knees

Date and Time: Wednesday, August 24, 6-8 pm
Description: Not only are calcium and vitamin D important for the knees, but they are important for the whole body and keep you moving at your best! Explore the various essential minerals and vitamins that your body needs to promote healthy bones and joints, and learn how to select fresh foods that are rich in both. An exercise demonstration, food sampling, and prizes are included! For more information and to reserve your spot, please contact Suitland Community Center.
Cost: FREE
Ages: All ages
Location: Suitland Community Center
5600 Regency Lane, Forestville, 20747
Contact: 301-736-3518; TTY 301-203-6030

EARTH TALK - "Our destructive consumer culture"

Dear EarthTalk:

I don't hear much about the environmental impacts of our consumer culture any more, but it seems to me that our "buy, buy, buy" mentality is a major contributor to our overuse of energy and resources. Are any organizations addressing this issue today?

— M. Oakes,
Miami, FL

There is no doubt true that our overly consumerist culture is contributing to our addiction to oil and other natural resources and the pollution of the planet and its atmosphere.

Unfortunately the tendency to acquire and even hoard valuable goods may be coded into our DNA. Researchers contend that humans are subconsciously driven by an impulse for survival, domination and expansion which finds expression in the idea that economic growth will solve all individual and worldly ills. Advertising plays on those impulses, turning material items into objects of great desire imparting intelligence, status and success.

William Rees of the University of British Columbia reports that human society is in a "global overshoot," consuming 30 percent more material than is sustainable from the world's resources. He adds that 85 countries are exceeding their domestic "bio-capacities" and compensate for their lack of local material by depleting the stocks of other countries.

Of course, every one of us can do our part by limiting our purchases to only what we need and to make responsible choices when we do buy something. But those who might need a lit-

tle inspiration to get started should look to the Adbusters Media Foundation, a self-described "global network of artists, activists, writers, pranksters, students, educators and entrepreneurs who want to advance the new social activist movement of the information age."

Among the foundation's most successful campaigns is Buy Nothing Day, an international day of protest typically "celebrated" the Friday after Thanksgiving in North America (so-called Black Friday, one of the year's busiest shopping days) and the following Saturday in some 60 other countries. The idea is that for one day a year we commit to not purchase anything, and to help spread the anti-consumerist message to anyone who will listen, with the hope of inspiring people to consume less and generate less waste the other 364 days of the year. The first Buy Nothing Day took place in Vancouver, British Columbia in 1992 with a few dozen participants, but today hundreds of thousands of people all over the world take part.

In recent years some anti-consumerists have added Buy Nothing Christmas to their agendas as well. Some ideas for how to leverage Buy Nothing Christmas sentiment without looking too much like Scrooge include giving friends and family "gift exemption" cards and asking shoppers in line at a big box store, "What would Jesus buy?"

Beyond Buy Nothing Day and Buy Nothing Christmas, the Adbusters Media Foundation stokes the fire of anti-consumerism throughout the year via its bi-monthly pub-



CREDIT: STEVE RHODES

William Rees of the University of British Columbia reports that human society is in a "global overshoot," consuming 30 percent more material than is sustainable from the world's resources. Pictured: A "Buy Nothing Day" activist leaflets in San Francisco.

lication, Adbusters, an ad-free magazine with an international circulation topping 120,000. Do yourself a favor and subscribe...and cancel all those catalogs stuffing up your mailbox in the meantime.

CONTACTS: Adbusters, www.adbusters.org; Buy Nothing Day, www.adbusters.org/campaigns/bnd.

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Story from A6

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Jumbo Chocolate Chip Cookie - \$3
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*Menus and prices are subject to change. All prices include tax. Menu will change with first preview of Trouble in Mind.

Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater is a national center dedicated to the production, presentation, development and study of American theater. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Molly Smith and Managing Director Edgar Dobie, Arena Stage is the largest company in the country dedicated to American plays and playwrights. Arena Stage produces huge plays of all that is passionate, exuberant, profound, deep and dangerous in the American spirit, and presents diverse and

ground-breaking work from some of the best artists around the country. Arena Stage is committed to commissioning and developing new plays through the American Voices New Play Institute. Now in its sixth decade, Arena Stage serves a diverse annual audience of more than 300,000. www.arenastage.org.

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Letter from A1

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that adopting the chained consumer price index (CPI) to calculate annual COLAs could save the government \$208 billion over ten years by reducing Social Security, disability, and other benefits, and by increasing revenues. More than half of this amount - \$112 billion - would come from Social Security cuts, which veterans rely on very heavily for both retirement and disability benefits. Another 11 percent of the savings - \$24 billion - would come from VA benefits, civilian pensions, and military retirement pay.

We estimate that use of the chained CPI would have a significant effect on benefits that millions of veterans depend on in the following ways:
Social Security Retirement Benefits: Social Security is one of our nation's most important programs serving veterans and their dependents and survivors. It currently pays benefits to over 9 million veterans - about 4 in 10. The average retirement benefit of a veteran receiving Social Security was about \$15,500 in 2010. Adopting the chained CPI would significantly reduce those benefits, by changing the manner in which COLAs are determined. A veteran with average earnings retiring at age 65 would get nearly a \$600 benefit cut at age 75, and a \$1,000 cut at age 85.

By age 95, when Social Security benefits are probably needed the most, that veteran would face a cut of \$1,400 - a reduction of 9.2 percent.

Not only would a Social Security COLA cut hurt veterans and their families; it is also misguided policy. Social Security is self-financed by the contributions of workers and employers. In effect, it belongs to its contributors. It is separate from the rest of the budget. To use it to reduce the federal deficit, which it did not cause, or effectively to fund other parts of the government or to help maintain tax breaks unrelated to Social Security, is to break the promise of Social Security.

VA Disability Compensation Benefits: Veterans are generally eligible for VA disability compensation benefits if they become disabled due to injuries or illnesses sustained during, or as a result of, military service. There were 3.2 million veterans receiving these benefits in 2010. A veteran receiving VA disability compensation due to a service-connected disability rated at 100 percent is currently entitled to receive \$32,076 a year. Under the chained CPI, which is a cut in the formula traditionally used to determine the COLA for VA benefits, a disabled veteran who started receiving benefits at age 30 would have their benefits reduced by \$1,376 at age 45, \$1,821 at age 55 and \$2,260 at

age 65.

VA Pension Benefits: Veterans with low incomes who are either permanently and totally disabled, or age 65 and older, may be eligible for pension benefits if they served during a period of war. More than 310,000 veterans received VA pension benefits in 2010. The current benefit for a veteran is just \$11,830 a year. Under the chained CPI, VA pension benefits for veterans aged 65 and older living in poverty would be reduced by \$341 at age 75, \$672 at age 85 and \$993 at age 95.

Social Security and veterans' benefits need to be based on an accurate measure of inflation. The current COLA formula understates the true cost-of-living increases faced by seniors and people with disabilities because it does not take into account their higher share of spending devoted to health care, and that health care prices rise much more rapidly than overall prices. Although veterans who have service-connected disabilities and those receiving pension benefits are eligible for VA health care, they may still be impacted by rising out-of-pocket health care costs. Adopting the chained CPI would make the situation worse.

Instead, Social Security and VA benefits should be based on a formula that takes account of these higher health care costs called the CPI-E (Experimental

CPI for the Elderly) developed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The CPI-E rises at a slightly faster rate than the formula currently used to calculate the COLA, and at a still faster rate than the proposed chained CPI, providing a modestly more generous COLA for seniors and people with disabilities.

We agree that political leaders need to restore fiscal discipline, but we believe it should be done with great care and without reneging on this country's promises to veterans, including the promises of Social Security and VA disability compensation and pension benefits - all of which are modest in size. Many veterans who rely on these programs live on fixed incomes and very tight budgets. For them, every dollar of hard-earned benefits counts in meeting basic expenses, attaining quality of life, and building a better future for themselves and those who depend on them. For many of them, reducing the annual COLA would mean real sacrifice. We ask that you not do that for those who have already sacrificed so much for this great country.

Thank you for your serious consideration of our views. We look forward to working with your Administration on this important matter.

Sincerely,

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"GIVE HOPE, GIVE BLOOD"

Red Cross Blood Donors Can Honor the Fight Against Breast Cancer

The American Red Cross, Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Region is honoring those who have struggled with this disease with "Walls of Hope" at all blood drives and donor centers throughout the month of October. Participants may write a small card in honor of a cancer patient to post on the Wall Of Hope. Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to schedule a life-saving donation appointment. Platelet donors can call 1-800-272-2123 to schedule an appointment.

Blood is often used to treat those undergoing treatment for all types of cancer, including breast cancer. Cancer treatments such as chemotherapy can kill red blood cells and platelets, and these patients rely on blood transfusions throughout their treatment to remain strong and recover. According to the American Cancer Society, over 1.5 million people are expected to be diagnosed with cancer in 2010 in the United States. Many of those patients

will require transfusions of blood and platelets.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to give life to local patients in need with a blood donation and show your support of the fight against Breast Cancer" said Gary J. Ouellette, Chief Executive Officer for the GC&P Region. "Many of us know someone who has been touched by this disease, or by another form of cancer, and this give our donors the opportunity to share their experience with others while giving hope to patients who may currently be fighting the battle."

The "Wall of Hope" will be available at all American Red Cross Donor Centers and participating blood drives throughout October. In addition, all participants will receive a commemorative "I Gave Hope" lapel pin (while supplies last).

Blood donations are needed to treat patients throughout the Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Region undergoing treatment for cancer, premature babies, trauma victims, transplant surgeries, those with chronic blood disorders, and many others. Over 1000 units of blood are needed daily to meet the needs of local patients.

Child Watch from A4

school—and out of prison."

This report bolsters the work Massachusetts community leaders and advocates are already doing to take action against harsh one-size-fits-all policies and call for more balanced approaches. Right now, Massachusetts Advocates for Children (MAC) and the Education Law Task Force are championing two pieces of legislation to reduce school exclusion for disciplinary reasons and, by doing so, reduce school dropouts; improve access to education among students excluded from school; and require the state's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to review and respond to school exclusion data. The Children's Defense Fund has endorsed both bills. MAC also is championing a new bill to ensure schools have the supports and tools they

need to become safe, supportive learning environments that result in far fewer school exclusions. If successful, these pieces of legislation could become a model for effectively curbing these policies' negative impact.

All of this work has special implications in Massachusetts because that state spends six times more per prisoner than per public school pupil—a greater disparity than in any other state. The most recent data show that in 2007 Massachusetts spent \$78,580 per prisoner and only \$12,857 per pupil. That's a pretty dumb investment policy. Sound fiscal policy means investing in early childhood development and education especially in these economic hard times. Intervening early not only saves lives and futures, it saves money. Zero tolerance discipline policies aren't helping the children who need intervention

the most at all. Instead, they are excluding thousands of students from school every year—including many students who most need to be in class—and making those children even more likely to end up trapped in the destructive, expensive prison pipeline. These kinds of policies deserve a failing grade and correction.

Marian Wright Edelman is President of the Children's Defense Fund whose Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. For more information go to www.childrensdefense.org.

Mrs. Edelman's Child Watch Column also appears each week on The Huffington Post.