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PHOTO BY PEDALPOWERED

Our garden in 2008. cucumbers, tomatoes, chives, carrots, basil, and nasturtiums in the closest planter. What makes it a semi-intensive green roof? we have a layer of insulation board under modified bitumen, rootbloc, filter fabric, and 12" of growing medium. Nothing is actually attached to the roof. everything is held in place by the weight of the soil.

Green Roof Novelties Encompass Bees, Bocce and Beauty

By SARAH MEEHAN
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON -- Green roofs provide potential for recreational, aesthetic and ecofriendly space, and as the appeal of sustainable roofing grows, Washington area residents continue to find colorful alternatives to just being green.

At a glance from the sidewalk, it appears Jeff Miller lives in a typical Georgetown row home. But a quick climb up a

ladder through the skylight in his bathroom reveals another dimension to his house, where about 240,000 honeybees buzz atop the roof.

Miller bought his first beehive several years ago to provide pollinators for his garden, he said, and later founded D.C. Honeybees to propagate more bees in the city.

It's this type of innovation that puts a personal spin on ecofriendly city living, said Kat Harrold, assistant green roof

designer at Green Roof Service in Bel Air.

"In terms of the overall quality of life in an urban area, it's one of the best things you can do," Harrold said. "If you can basically turn your roof into your backyard, whether it be for gardening for just hanging out, I think that would be a tremendous resource."

And if a roof can be converted to a backyard, why not use it for the Italian lawn game bocce?

Last month, the D.C. Bocce

League's Columbia Heights Division kicked off its fall season on a grassy plot atop the Highland Park apartment complex. That was the league's first time playing eight stories above the city.

"We needed to run a fall league somewhere, and it's hard to find space on Saturday," said John Groth, the league's co-founder and marketing director

See **ROOF**, Page A6

Cardin Introduces Bill to End Racial Profiling By Law Enforcement

The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and Civil and Legal Rights Organizations Endorse the Act

By PRESS OFFICER
Sen. Benjamin Cardin's Office

Washington, DC -- U.S. Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD), former Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Homeland Security Subcommittee, introduced the End Racial Profiling Act of 2011

(S. 1670), a bill to prohibit the use of racial profiling by law enforcement. U.S. Rep. John Conyers, Jr., Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee plans to introduce companion legislation in the House of Representatives. Senator Cardin's bill is cosponsored by Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Dick Durbin (D-IL), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), John Kerry (D-MA), Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ), Carl Levin (D-MI), Bob Menendez (D-NJ), Barbara

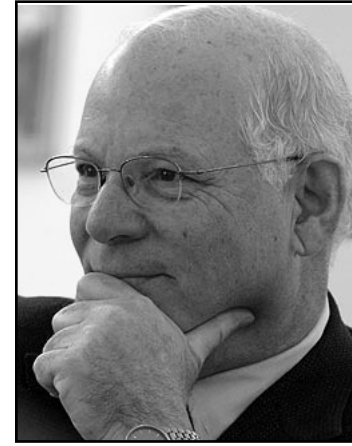
Mikulski (D-MD) and Debbie Stabenow (D-MI). The End Racial Profiling Act has been endorsed by The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and more than 50 civil and legal rights organizations.

"Racial profiling is bad policy, but given the state of our budgets, it also diverts scarce resources from real law enforcement. Law enforcement officials nationwide already have tight budgets. The more resources spent investigating individuals solely because of their race or religion, the fewer resources directed at suspects who are actually demonstrating illegal behavior," said Senator Cardin. "Racial profiling has no place in modern law enforcement. The vast majority of our law enforcement officials who put their lives on the line every



Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD), former Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Homeland Security Subcommittee, and co sponsors introduced the End Racial Profiling Act of 2011

day handle their jobs with professionalism, diligence, and fidelity to the rule of law. However, Congress and the Justice Department can and should still take steps to prohibit racial profiling and finally



FILE PHOTO

root out its use." "One of the Constitutional principles that Americans hold most dear is the right of every

See **PROFILING**, Page A3

Supreme Court Declines Hearing on UMBC Student Group's Appeal

An Arizona-based Lawyer Group Filed a Petition to Determine Free "Speech Codes"

By ANDREW DAMSTEDT
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Supreme Court Monday declined to hear arguments in a case in which a University of Maryland, Baltimore County pro-life student group claims its free speech was inhibited by having to relocate a graphic anti-abortion display.

The Alliance Defense Fund, an Arizona-based group of Christian attorneys, filed a certiorari petition with the U.S. Supreme Court in May on behalf of Rock for Life-UMBC, asking the court to determine whether the students had legal standing to challenge "speech codes" governing their behav-

ior. "We were hoping that the Supreme Court would intervene and uphold the First Amendment freedoms and allow the students to challenge the speech codes," said Travis Barham, Alliance Defense Fund litigation counsel.

UMBC officials referred comment to the Maryland Attorney General's office, which handled the case.

Maryland Assistant Attorney General Sally Swann said she had expected the decision, but was pleased the court denied the petition.

"On all fronts, the university

See **COURT**, Page A7

Maryland Counselors See Rise in Callers Dealing with Suicide, Economy

By BRANDON COOPER
Capital News Service

COLLEGE PARK - Calls to suicide crisis hotlines in some Maryland counties have increased over the last few years, crisis counselors said, as Marylanders continue to cope with a weak financial environment.

"The (economic) situation is difficult and the outcome is pretty bleak," Edward Wiggins, the executive director of Baltimore Crisis Response Inc., said. "Not only are things bad, but people don't see any silver lining to the black cloud...the fact that there's no end in sight adds to the despair."

In Baltimore City, Prince George's County and Montgomery County, crisis counselors said they saw an increase in the number of calls from people at risk of suicide in the last few years.

A crisis hotline in Frederick County also saw an increase in the number of calls dealing with suicide this year. Suzi Borg, the program director of the Mental Health Association of Frederick County Hotline, said there was a 54 percent increase for fiscal year 2011 in the number of calls by a person who is at risk of suicide.

See **SUICIDE**, Page A7

Obama Administration Announces Infrastructure Projects to be Expedited

Announcement is next step in effort to improve the efficiency of permitting and review process to help create jobs

WASHINGTON, DC -- The Obama Administration announced the selection of 14 infrastructure projects around the country that will be expedited through permitting and environmental review processes, an important next step in the Administration's efforts to improve the efficiency of federal reviews needed to help job-creating infrastructure projects move as quickly as possible from the drawing board to completion. This announcement comes as a result of the

Presidential Memorandum President Obama issued in late August at the recommendation of his Council on Jobs and Competitiveness. Through the Presidential Memorandum, the President directed agencies to expedite environmental reviews and permit decisions for a selection of high priority infrastructure projects that will create a significant number of jobs, have already identified necessary funding, and where the significant steps remaining before construction are within the control and jurisdiction of the federal government and can be completed

See **PROJECTS**, Page A5

INSIDE

Business Expansion

Congressman Steny H. Hoyer attended the grand opening of two new facilities at ATK's Spacecraft Systems & Services facility in Beltsville. This expansion will allow ATK to meet increased demand for its premier aerospace products and technologies. It could yield 150 jobs in the next 12-18 months.

Community, Page A3

They Changed History

Last week, on a single day, America lost three outstanding visionaries who in their own ways changed the course of history. On Wednesday, October 5th, Steven P. Jobs, 56; Derrick Bell, 80; and Fred Shuttlesworth, 89 all passed away.

Opinion, Page A4

Illusion of Inclusion

Herman Cain's assertion that Black Americans are "brainwashed" and George Soros' observations that "Obama has lost control of the [country's economic] agenda" and as a result it's been left "in the hands of the Republican Party" is the raw, but true state of Black politics in America.

Business, Page A5

Movie Review

"The Ides of March" reaffirms what I already believed, which is that I would rather set myself on fire than go into politics. The conniving, the backstabbing, the spinning, the lying, all while under the constant scrutiny of the media. But watching fictional people go through it in enthralling political dramas is an intoxicating pleasure.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

What is the environmental impact of so many people now using sites like Facebook and spending so much time online?

-- Bob Yearling,
Paris, TX

Features, Page A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

HAUNTED HAYRIDE, COSTUME CONTEST IN MORNINGSIDE

The Morningside Recreation Council has Halloween fun coming up:

The annual Non-Haunted Hayride and Bake Sale will be Friday, Oct. 21, beginning at 7 p.m. Fee, \$2; under two are free. Then for real scares, the Haunted Hayride, Dance and Bake Sale on Sat., Oct. 22, 7 p.m. Admission, \$4; free for two and under. Rain dates for the hayrides and dance are Oct. 28 and 29.

The Annual Morningside Halloween Costume Contest will be Halloween Night, 8 p.m. at the Town Hall.

THE GREAT JACK-O'-LANTERN CAMPFIRE

Come and see a dazzling display of hand-carved, illuminated jack-o'-lanterns on the grounds of Darnall's Chance House Museum. Bask in the warmth of a fall campfire, roast marshmallows, listen to haunted Halloween tales and have your fortune told.

Kids can win a prize on a hunt for glowing jack-o'-lanterns and everyone can enjoy popcorn and hot cider. Sat., Oct. 22, 7 p.m. (rain date: Oct. 23, 6 p.m.). Fee is \$3 per person. Darnall's Chance is at 14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive in Upper Marlboro. For information, call 301-952-8010.

CHANGING LANDSCAPE

Plaza Latina restaurant has opened in Andrews Manor Shopping Center. Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., with Karaoke from 4 to 8 Saturday evenings.

Elsewhere in Andrews Manor: What appears to be a fabric or upholstery shop is opening next door to Plaza Latina. Jesus Book Store has

closed. Perfect Image beauty shop is shuttered, and some of the operators—Peggy, Cindy, Diane, Beth and Anna—are at Hair Force on Alexander Ferry Road.

BABY NATALEE

Jessica and Jaime Proctor, formerly of Morningside and now of Chesapeake Beach, have a new daughter, Natalee Jade, born Aug. 25 at Southern Maryland Hospital, weighing 7 pounds, 7 ounces. She is the baby sister of Tara, 6, and Brayden, 2; granddaughter of Tereena Little of Hughesville, Lori and Dave Williams III of Morningside; great-granddaughter of Dave Williams II, formerly of Morningside, and John Butler, of Morningside

NEIGHBORS

Tanya Neal was sworn in as president of the Morningside Beautification Committee at the Town Meeting on Sept. 20.

Christopher Flaherty, film and documentary maker, is celebrating his 50th birthday Oct. 27. He used to live on Elmendorf and Offutt Drive in Skyline and now resides in Rockville with his wife and son and daughter.

Need to know something about Joint Base Andrews? You can contact the base Ombudsman at ombudsman@afncr.af.mil.

The Camp Springs Senior Activity Center is offering seniors age 60 and older the chance to be part of their Senior Performing Arts Troupe. For information, call 301-449-0490 or drop by the Center at 6420 Allentown Road.

Condolences to Theresa Roberson Wood, formerly of Auth Village, on the death of her mother, Rosemary S. Roberson, on Oct. 3.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Mary Ellen Maloney, 81, of Temple Hills, died Oct. 2. She had been an active member of St. Philip's Parish and the Sodality. She was the wife of the late Charles P. Maloney; mother of Maureen Chiarizia, Sharon Godlewski, Patrick "Kevin," Linda Macsisak and Michael Maloney; grandmother of six and great-grandmother of seven.

Dr. Santiago Lacoste Garza, 87, a pediatrician who had offices in Oxon Hill and, before that, Hillcrest Heights, died Sept. 13 at his home in Alexandria. Born in Mexico City, he received his medical degree in 1950 at the National Autonomous University of Mexico. He opened his practice in Hillcrest Heights in 1958, and routinely made house calls at night and on weekends. Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Myrna Lozano Garza, four children and eight grandchildren.

Daniel J. Hoey, 59, a 1969 graduate of Oxon Hill High and a computer specialist at Naval Research, died Aug. 31 at his home in the District.

MILESTONES

Happy birthday to Chester Lanehart, Jr., Oct. 15; Carolyn Williams and Mildred Peaire, Oct. 16; Mary Louise Patterson and Frank McCrone, Oct. 17; Paul Long, Andrew Nicholas Smith, Carol (Kline) DeGraba and Nola Cook, Oct. 18; and Ernest Pruitt, Oct. 19.

Happy anniversary to Daisy and Ralph Young, their 58th on Oct. 15; Russ and Mary Mitchell, their 66th on Oct. 17; Michael and Anita (Fulton) Freeman, their 31st on Oct. 18; and Jeff and Crystal Frederick, their 4th on Oct. 20.

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Ruth Turner 301 888 2153

SEAFOOD DINNER

Christ United Methodist Men, Pastor Daryl Williams will sponsor a Seafood Dinner on Saturday, November 5, 2011 beginning at 11:00 AM. The Seafood Dinners will include Bone Fish Dinner \$10.00, Fillet Fish Dinner \$10.00, Crab Cake Dinner \$14.00, Combination Dinner \$16.00, Fish Sandwich cost \$6.00 and Crab Cake Sandwich cost \$7.00. All dinners come with a green Vegetable, Potato Salad, Sweet Potatoes, Bread and Cake.

The church is located at 22919 Christ Church Road Aquasco, Maryland 20608. Please call (301) 888-1316 on November 5 to place your order. Chairpersons are Rickey Hawkins, Billy Stewart and Ronald Banks.

COMMUNITY FLEA MARKET

Start cleaning your closets, garage and basement for the Community Flea Market on Saturday, November 19, 2011 from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Reserve your table today. The cost is \$15.00 for residents and \$18.00 for non-residents (non-refundable). The Community

Flea Market will be at Baden Community Center. The address is 13601 Baden Westwood Road, Brandywine, MD 20613 (located 7 minutes south of Brandywine Elementary School). Telephone number is 301-888-1500 and TTY 301-203-6030.

2012 TEEN COTILLION INTEREST MEETING

The Maryland -National Capital Park & Planning Commission is offering a 2012 Teen Cotillion interest meeting on November 9, 2011 from 7-9 PM (Parents and Teens (Ages 14-17). This exciting 16-week co-ed program will end with an elegant Cotillion for family and friends. Teen Cotillion offers resume writing, interview skills, etiquette, social skills, self-esteem building, cultural activities, trips, family communication and attendance at a local performance.

Topics include: What the Cotillion offers, application process, essay workshop, parent involvement and testimonials from teens and parents. The meeting will be at Prince George's Ballroom located at 2411 Pinebrook Avenue,

Landover, Maryland 20785. You can Pre-register at any M-NCPPC Community Center course Barcode #696814. For more information: 301-446-3400: TTY 301-446-3402.

Cotillion applications are available at all M-NCPPC Community Centers September 16-November 29, 2011 or online at www.PGXTREME-TEENS.com.

SUNDAY CASINO

It's time again for some Sunday Casino Fun along with a Sunday Buffet Meal to Harrington-Midway Raceway and Casino in Harrington Delaware on Sunday, November 13, 2011. Bus leaves Park-N-Ride, Clinton MD 10:30 AM and St. Philip's Church at 11:00 AM. The Bus returns at approximately 7:00 PM.

Fun package includes a \$15.00 rebate plus a full buffet meal. There will be absolutely no refunds. Benefit: St. Philip's Church, Baden Parish. Point of contacts are Doretha Savoy (301) 372-6173, Ernest Douglas (301) 888-1937, Alexander Douglas (301) 579-6635 and Shirley Cleaves (302) 690-4260.

Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards' Legislative Update

Congresswoman Edwards' Statement on Redistricting Plan in Maryland

Washington, D.C. - Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards (D-MD) released the following statement regarding the redistricting plan released by Governor O'Malley's advisory panel.

"In 1992, the 4th Congressional District was created to provide the minority communities in both Prince George's and Montgomery Counties an opportunity to elect the representative of their choice. The redistricting map proposed by Governor O'Malley's advisory panel decreases the adjusted share of the Black voting age population by nearly 2 percent in the 4th CD and just over 1 percent in the 5th CD at a time in which this population grew in Montgomery, Prince George's and Charles Counties. In my view, this proposed map undermines the common interests in the 4th CD that have been recognized by the highest court in the land for 20 years between Prince George's and Montgomery Counties, shared along a common border in the Metropolitan Washington suburbs. Moreover, Montgomery

County, a majority-minority county, loses its minority representative because the county is removed entirely from the 4th CD in the advisory panel plan. Consequently, this majority-minority county is likely unable to have minority representation for the next decade in any of the three proposed new congressional districts, erasing the interests recognized by the courts in 1992 on the creation of the 4th CD. Indeed, under the advisory panel plan, each minority group that experienced an increase in population is effectively split among the three new districts in Montgomery County, making them statistical minority groups in those districts in a majority-minority county. The net effect dilutes the minority vote in Montgomery County.

"I understand and share the political interests that are at stake, both nationally and in our state. Nonetheless, I cannot support this plan in its current form given that minority representation interests appear to have been sacrificed for these political interests. In my view, the constitutional con-



siderations cannot be secondary, even to these important political considerations. I am confident, however, that Governor O'Malley can make substantial changes to the advisory panel map to address these concerns and still achieve all of the desired goals. I urge Governor O'Malley to make the necessary adjustments before submitting his final plan to the General Assembly, and I am eager to work with the Governor in that effort for the interests of all Marylanders."

Join us for an Open House near you!



The Federal Transit Administration has approved entry into the Preliminary Engineering phase for the Purple Line Project! The Purple Line is a proposed 16-mile light rail line from Bethesda in Montgomery County to New Carrollton in Prince George's County. The goal is to provide faster, more reliable transit service and better connections to Metro and key activity centers. As a result of this important approval, the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) will hold a series of Open Houses on the Purple Line. Come out and learn how the project could benefit you and your community!

Choose a meeting to attend to find out more on:

- Benefits of the Purple Line Project
- Status of the project
- Light rail systems and stations
- What is next for the project

OPEN HOUSE DATES AND LOCATIONS

All meetings are from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 1, 2011

University of Maryland
Adele H. Stamp Student Union –
Prince George's Room
College Park, MD 20742

Monday, November 7, 2011

Silver Spring Civic Building
One Veterans Place
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

National 4-H Youth
Conference Center
7100 Connecticut Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Thursday, November 10, 2011

Beacon Heights
Elementary School
6929 Furman Parkway
Riverdale, MD 20737

Questions? Contact:

Michael D. Madden
Project Manager
Phone (410) 767-3694
mmadden@mta.maryland.gov

En Español:

Carlos Abinader
Phone (301) 577-2063
cabinader@mta.maryland.gov

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COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Jason Alderman

Medicare Open Enrollment Comes Early

If you're enrolled in Medicare, mark these dates on your calendar: October 15, 2011 – December 7, 2011. That's Medicare's 2012 Open Enrollment period – and you should note that it occurs a month earlier this year than in the past. Aside from exceptions made for a few special circumstances, this is the only period when current enrollees can make coverage changes for the coming calendar year.



Medicare provides health care benefits to people age 65 and older and those under 65 with certain disabilities or end-stage renal disease. For most people, the initial enrollment period is the seven-month period that begins three months before the month they turn 65. If you miss that window, you may enroll between January 1 and March 31 each year, although your coverage won't begin until July 1.

Medicare offers several plans and coverage options, including: Medicare Part A, which covers in-patient hospital, skilled nursing facility and hospice services, as well as home health care. People are usually enrolled automatically upon turning 65 or after having received Social Security disability benefits for 24 months. There's usually no monthly premium.

Medicare Part B, which covers doctor's services, outpatient care and some preventive services. It's optional and has a monthly premium. Most people are automatically enrolled at the same time they begin Part A coverage, but you can opt out by following instructions accompanying your Medicare card (mailed about three months before your 65th birthday).

Medicare Part C (Medicare Advantage) plans, which are privately run alternatives to traditional Parts A and B. Structured like HMO or PPO plans, they often include additional benefits such as prescription drugs, dental, vision and wellness programs. Monthly premiums may be higher than regular Part B, but they usually have lower deductibles and copayments; also, they require that you use the plan's provider network.

Medicare Part D, which covers prescription drugs. It's optional and carries a monthly premium. These privately run plans vary widely in terms of cost, copayments and deductibles and medications covered.

During Medicare Open Enrollment you can:

Switch from original Medicare Parts A, B and D to a Medicare Advantage plan, or vice versa.

Switch from one Advantage plan to another.

Switch from an Advantage plan that offers prescription coverage to one that doesn't, and vice versa.

Join a Part D plan, switch from one plan to another, or drop Part D coverage altogether.

People currently enrolled in Medicare Advantage have another opportunity to make changes during a second period called Medicare Advantage Disenrollment. Between January 1, 2012, and February 14, 2012, you can switch back to original Medicare Parts A and B coverage, with the option to join Part D as well. However, during this period you cannot:

Switch from original Medicare to Medicare Advantage.

Switch from one Medicare Advantage plan to another.

Switch from one Part D plan to another.

Understanding and choosing the right Medicare options can be complicated and time-consuming. For assistance, call 1-800-633-4227 or visit Medicare's website, www.medicare.gov, where you'll find:

Helpful publications, including Medicare & Your 2011, a highly detailed guide that explains Medicare in easy-to-understand language.

Tools to compare prescription plans, hospitals, nursing homes, home health agencies and Medigap plans in your area.

Resources to find local doctors and other practitioners who participate in Medicare.

Services covered by various Medicare plans.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.

To Follow Jason Alderman on Twitter:

www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney

Hoyer Participates in Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, Tour of ATK's Spacecraft Systems and Services Facility

By PRESS OFFICER
Rep. Steny Hoyer's Office

BELTSVILLE, MD – Congressman Steny Hoyer (MD-5) attended the of two new facilities at ATK's Spacecraft Systems & Services facility in Beltsville. This expansion will allow ATK to meet increased demand for its premier aerospace products and technologies from government, commercial and international customers. It will

also result in the addition of up to 50 new manufacturing positions and could yield an additional 150 jobs in the next 12-18 months.

"I am pleased to join the men and women of ATK today to help officially open their new facilities," stated Congressman Hoyer. "Both our short-term jobs recovery and long-term economic competitiveness depend on sustaining and expanding our advanced manufacturing sector, which is exactly what is happen-



ing here in Beltsville.

I have been leading that effort in Congress by pushing the Make It In America plan to cre-

ate jobs and grow the economy by investing in education, inno-

See **OPENING**, Page A8

Profiling from A1

person to equal protection under the law," said Senator Durbin, Chairman of the Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights. "The practice of racial profiling stands in stark contrast to that principle and should end. It is an ineffective policy that has no place in law enforcement or counterterrorism and border security efforts. I am proud to join Senator Cardin in introducing legislation that will help put an end to this ineffective and discriminatory practice."

"Despite strong evidence that racial profiling is ineffective and unproductive, its use has actually expanded after the 9/11 terrorist attacks in the context of counterterrorism; fighting drug trafficking and other 'street-level' crimes; and in efforts to enforce immigration laws," said Wade Henderson, president and CEO of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights. "Racial profiling makes us all less safe, by distracting law enforcement from the pursuit of individuals who pose serious threats to security. We urge Congress to pass ERPA and take this critical step toward ending racial profiling in America."

THE END RACIAL PROFILING ACT OF 2011

SECTION-BY-SECTION SUMMARY

The End Racial Profiling Act is designed to enforce the constitutional right to equal protection of the laws by eliminating racial profiling through changing the policies and procedures underlying the practice.

First, the bill provides a prohibition on racial profiling, enforceable by declaratory or injunctive relief.

Second, the bill mandates training on racial profiling issues as part of Federal law enforcement training, the collection of data on all routine or spontaneous investigatory activities that is to be submitted through a standardized form to the Department of Justice.

Third, the receipt of federal law enforcement and other funds that go to state and local governments is conditioned on their adoption of effective policies that prohibit racial profiling.

Fourth, the Justice Department is authorized to provide grants for the development and implementation of best policing practices, such as early warning systems, technology integration, and other management protocols that discourage profiling.

Finally, the Attorney General is required to provide periodic reports to assess the nature of any ongoing discriminatory profiling practices.

Definitions and Title I: Prohibition of Racial Profiling

This Title would ban racial profiling, defined as the practice of a law enforcement agent or agency relying, to any

degree, on race, ethnicity, religion, or national origin in selecting which individuals to subject to routine or spontaneous investigatory activities, or in deciding upon the scope and substance of law enforcement activity following the initial investigatory procedure, except when there is trustworthy information, relevant to the locality or and time frame, that links persons of a particular race, ethnicity, religion, or national origin to an identified criminal incident, or scheme, or [organization].

"Routine or spontaneous investigatory activities" are activities by law enforcement that include: interviews; traffic and pedestrian stops; frisks and other types of body searches; consensual or nonconsensual searches of the persons or possessions (including vehicles) of individuals using any form of public or private transportation, including motorists and pedestrians; data collection and analysis, assessments, and predicated investigations; inspections and interviews of individuals entering the United States; and immigration-related workplace investigations.

"Law enforcement agency" means any Federal, State, local, or Indian tribal public agency engaged in the prevention, detection, or investigation of violations of criminal, immigration, or customs laws.

The Department of Justice or individuals would be able to enforce this prohibition by filing a suit for declaratory or injunctive relief in state court or in a federal district court.

Title II: Programs to Eliminate Racial Profiling by Federal Law Enforcement Agencies

This Title would require federal law enforcement agencies to cease practices that permit racial profiling and to maintain adequate policies and procedures to eliminate racial profiling, including the following:

- A prohibition on racial profiling;

- Training on racial profiling issues as part of federal law enforcement training;

- The collection of data on routine investigatory activities, in accordance with Title IV;

- Procedures for receiving, investigating, and responding meaningfully to complaints alleging racial profiling by law enforcement agencies; and

- Any other policies and procedures the Attorney General determines to be necessary to eliminate racial profiling by Federal law enforcement agencies.

Title III: Programs to Eliminate Racial Profiling by State, Local, and Indian Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies.

This Title would require as a condition of funding for State, local, or Indian tribal law enforcement agencies to cease practices that encourage racial profiling and adopt policies and procedures to eliminate racial

profiling, including the following:

- a prohibition on racial profiling;

- training on racial profiling issues as part of law enforcement training;

- the collection of data on routine investigatory activities, in accordance with Title IV

- participation in an administrative complaint procedure or independent audit program that meets the requirements of Title III.

If the Attorney General determines that a grantee of specified federal funds is not in compliance with these requirements, the Attorney General shall withhold all or part of the grant, until compliance is established. The Attorney General shall provide notice and an opportunity for private parties to present evidence that a grant recipient is not in compliance with the Title.

The Attorney General may administer a two-year, demonstration project for up to 5 grants or contracts for the purpose of developing and implementing data collection on hit rates for stops and searches. The data collected shall be disaggregated by race, ethnicity, national origin, and religion.

Competitive grant activities shall include:

- Developing a data collection tool and reporting the compiled data to the Attorney General;

- Training law enforcement personnel on data collection.

This Title would also authorize the Attorney General to provide grants for the development and implementation of best practices to eliminate racial profiling, such as the following activities:

- Training to prevent racial profiling and to encourage more respectful interaction with the public;

- Acquisition and use of technology to facilitate the accurate collection and analysis of data;

- Development of feedback systems and technologies that identify officers or units of officers engaged in, or at risk of engaging in, racial profiling or other misconduct;

- Establishment and maintenance of an administrative complaint procedure or independent auditor program.

Title IV: Data Collection

Not later than six months after enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall issue regulations for the collection and compilation of data pursuant to Titles II and III. The regulations issued shall:

- Provide for the collection of data on all routine or spontaneous investigatory activities;

- Provide that the data collected shall—

- o be collected by race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, and religion, as perceived by the law enforcement officer;

- o include the date, time, and location of such investigatory activities;

- o include detail sufficient to permit an analysis of whether a law enforcement agency is engaging in racial profiling; and

- o not include personally identifiable information.

- Include guidelines for setting comparative benchmarks, consistent with best practices, against which data shall be measured.

- Not later than three years after enactment of this Act and annually thereafter, the Bureau of Justice Statistics must issue a report to Congress analyzing the data for any statistically significant disparities. The annual report and data must be made available to the public, including on a website of the Department of Justice.

- The regulations shall protect the privacy of individuals whose data is collected by: limiting the use of the data collected under the Act to the purposes set forth in the Act; limiting access to the data collected to agents who require access; requiring contractors who are permitted access to the data collected to sign use agreements and disclosure restrictions; requiring the maintenance of adequate security measures to prevent unauthorized access to the data collected under the Act.

- Identifying information of the law enforcement officer, complainant, or any other individual involved in any activity shall not be

- o Released to the public; or

- o Disclosed to any person, except as necessary to comply with this Act.

- o Subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

Title V: Department of Justice Regulations and Reports on Racial Profiling in the United States

The Attorney General is authorized to promulgate other regulations deemed necessary to implement this Act. Not later than two years after enactment of this Act and each year thereafter, the Attorney General must submit to Congress a report on racial profiling by law enforcement agencies. This report shall include a summary of the data collected pursuant to Titles II and III.

Title VI: Miscellaneous Provisions

If any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional, the remainder of the Act shall not be affected. Additionally, nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit legal or administrative remedies under specified statutes. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit legal or administrative remedies under specified statutes, or affects any Federal, State, or tribal law that applies to an Indian tribe because of the political status of the tribe or waives the sovereign immunity of an Indian tribe without consent of the tribe.

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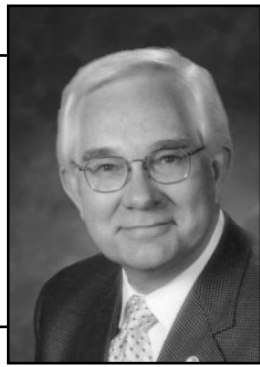
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COMMENTARY

THE PRINCE GEORGE'S POST

A Community Newspaper for Prince George's County

James N. Martin, Jr, MD
*President, The American Congress of
 Obstetricians and Gynecologists*



Reducing Your Risk of Breast Cancer

Every three minutes, a woman is diagnosed with breast cancer in the US. While it may seem as if you have no control over cancer, research has shown that there are certain lifestyle choices that can reduce your chances of developing the disease.

The American Institute for Cancer Research estimates that almost 40% of breast cancer cases in the US—roughly 70,000 cases per year—could be prevented if women stayed within a healthy weight range, exercised more, and cut down the amount of alcohol they consumed. The good news is that every woman has control over these factors.

Maintain a healthy weight. Women who gain excess weight, especially after menopause, are more prone to breast cancer. Extra body fat produces estrogen, which can fuel certain cancers, such as some breast and endometrial cancers. Find out your ideal body mass index (BMI)—a measure of body fat in comparison to your height and weight—at nhlbisupport.com/bmi.

Get active. Women who exercise regularly have a 20–30% reduction in breast cancer risk. Physical activity helps keeps weight in check and may have a positive effect on harmful factors that can raise the risk of can-

cer, such as inflammation and excess hormones.

Just 30 minutes of moderate exercise, such as brisk walking, every day is a good start and may be enough to provide some protection. As your strength and stamina increase, add more time, intensity, and variety to your workout schedule to gain added benefit.

Drink less. Despite the often-touted cardiovascular benefits of moderate alcohol consumption, drinking has been linked to a higher risk of breast cancer. If you choose to drink, limit it to one drink per day. That translates into 5 ounces of wine, 1.5 ounces of hard liquor, or one 12-ounce beer.

Eat Healthier. Aim to eat a balanced diet rich in a wide variety of colorful fruits and vegetables, whole grains, lowfat dairy, and lean protein. By filling your plate with healthy whole foods, you have less room for foods that are high in fat, sodium, and processed sugar.

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month is the perfect time to learn about the factors that may raise your risk, and then try your best to reduce them. To learn more, go to nbcam.org.

To Be Equal

Marc Morial, President and CEO
National Urban League



Shuttlesworth, Bell and Jobs Changed the Course of History

"Destiny is not a matter of chance, but of choice. Not something to wish for, but to attain." William Jennings Bryan

Last week, on a single day, America lost three outstanding visionaries who in their own ways changed the course of history. On Wednesday, October 5th, Steven P. Jobs, 56; Derrick Bell, 80; and Fred Shuttlesworth, 89 all passed away.

With the formal dedication of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial now set for next Sunday, October 16, many Americans may not be aware that there were other courageous civil rights foot soldiers who stood with Dr. King in the sometimes life-threatening struggle for freedom. Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth was one of the most fearless and effective champions of the movement.

A Birmingham, Alabama minister and co-founder of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Rev. Shuttlesworth survived numerous beatings, arrests and attacks and boldly stood up to Birmingham's infamously brutal public safety commissioner, Eugene "Bull" Connor.

Rev. Shuttlesworth was one of hundreds of peaceful protesters who were viciously attacked by state troopers on "Bloody Sunday," March 7, 1965, as they attempted to cross Selma's Edmund Pettus Bridge on their way to Montgomery to petition for African American voting rights. This incident awakened the conscience of the nation and led to the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

Derrick Bell, the first tenured African American professor at Harvard Law School, also died last Wednesday. Professor Bell's provocative "critical race theory," the study of institutional racism in America, became an intellectual touchstone of the modern civil

rights movement. In his many books and law review articles, he courageously challenged the status quo. In 1985, he resigned his Harvard professorship because of his determined fight to bring the diverse perspectives of people of color and women into the Law School. He once said, "In all my courses, I really have to teach the basic messages of my life ... that the rewards, the satisfactions, are not in being partner or making a million dollars, but in recognizing evils, recognizing injustices and standing up and speaking out about them even in absolutely losing situations where you know it's not going to bring about any change — that there are intangible rewards to the spirit that make that worthwhile."

Finally, last Wednesday the nation was saddened by the news of the passing of Steven P. Jobs, the still young co-founder of Apple who embodied the potential of digital technology to change the social and cultural landscape of the world. Jobs's Apple products -- Mac computers, the iphone, ipod and ipad -- have become "must have" tools of modern communication. I suppose it is no surprise that Mac computers are prevalent at National Urban League headquarters in New York as they are in millions of homes and businesses around the world.

Jobs' genius was not only his technical and marketing expertise, but also his commitment to using the power of digital technology to build a stronger global community.

On behalf of the board and staff and affiliates of the National Urban League, I want to express my gratitude for the visionary leadership of Fred Shuttlesworth, Derrick Bell and Steve Jobs. They will be sorely missed.



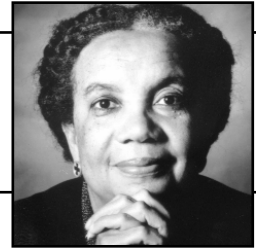
Open to the Public

The National Capital Trolley Museum

The National Capital Trolley Museum preserves and interprets the heritage of electric and interurban railways of Washington, DC and environs for the benefit of present and future generations, while supplementing its collections with significant national and international objects to enhance its interpretive programs. The National Capital Trolley Museum was founded in 1959 after the abandonment of streetcar service in the District of Columbia had become a certainty. The Museum opened to the public in 1969 at its present location in Northwest Branch Park in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Child Watch

by Marion Wright Edelman



A Parent, Community, and National Audit: It's Time for Adults to Shape up and Close the Hypocrisy Gap

I am often asked, what's wrong with our children? Children having children. Children killing themselves or others. Children dropping out of school and roaming streets alone or in gangs. Children addicted to tobacco and alcohol, drinking and drugging themselves to escape reality. Children being locked up in jails with adult criminal mentors, bubbling with rage and crushed by depression.

Adults are what's wrong with children. Parents letting children raise themselves or be raised by television or the internet. Children being shaped by peers instead of parents, grandparents, and kin. Children seeing adults be violent to each other and marketing, glorifying and tolerating violence to them and preaching what we don't practice. Adults telling children to be honest while lying and cheating and to be healthy while selling them junk food that undermines their health.

I believe it is time for adults of every race and income group to break our silence about the pervasive breakdown of moral, family, and community values, to place our children first in our lives, and to struggle to model the behavior we want our children to learn. We don't have a child and youth problem in America; we have a profound adult problem as children do what they see adults doing in our personal, professional, and public lives. What must our children think as they see the craven greed of too many corporate leaders pillaging their corporations and the homes, pensions and life blood of workers, seniors, and stockholders? What must they think as they see too many political leaders repeatedly say one thing and do another? And what dare they believe when they see some religious leaders enjoined by faith to protect them abuse them instead? It's time to close the adult hypocrisy gap.

I urge every parent and adult to conduct a personal audit to examine whether we are contributing to the crisis so many of our children face or to the solutions they urgently need. And if we are a part of the problem and need to do better. Our children don't need or expect us to be perfect but they do need and expect us to be honest, to admit and correct our mistakes, and to share our struggles about the meanings and responsibilities of faith, parenthood, citizenship,

and life. Before we can pull up the moral weeds of violence, materialism, and greed in our society that are strangling our children, we must pull up the moral weeds in our own backyards. So many children are confused about what is right and wrong because so many adults talk right and do wrong in our personal, professional, and public lives.

If we are not supporting a child we brought into the world as a father or mother with attention, time, love, discipline, money, and the teaching of values, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution to the family breakdown today leaving so many children at risk.

If we are abusing tobacco, alcohol, cocaine, or other drugs while telling our children not to, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution in our overly addicted society.

If we have guns in our home and rely on them to feel safe and powerful, and don't stand up to those who market guns to our children, or glamorize violence as fun, entertaining, and normal, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution to the escalating war of American against American, family member against family member, that is tearing us apart.

If we tell our daughters not to engage in premature and irresponsible sex, and not to have children before they are prepared to parent and support them, and do not tell our sons the same thing, we are a part of the problem rather than the solu-

tion to teen pregnancy and out-of-wedlock births so many decry.

If we profess to be people of faith but send rather than take our children to religious services, and believe that the gospels, prophets, Koran, or whatever religious beliefs we hold, pertain only to one-day worship but not to Monday through Sunday home, professional, and political life, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution to the moral famine in our land today.

If we tell, snicker, or wink at racial, gender, religious, or ethnic jokes or engage in or acquiesce in any practices intended to diminish rather than enhance other human beings, then we are contributing to the proliferating voices of racial and ethnic division and intolerance staining our land again.

If we think being American is about how much we can get rather than about how much we can give and share to help all our children get a healthy, fair, and safe start in life, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution.

If we think it's somebody else's responsibility to teach our children values, respect, good manners, work and health habits, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution to bullying and incivility rife today.

If we or our organizations are spending more money on alco-

See WATCH, Page A8

The Prince George's Post

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BUSINESS

Business Exchange

by William Reed



African Americans' Illusion of Inclusion

Herman Cain's assertion that Black Americans are "brainwashed" and George Soros' observations that "Obama has lost control of the [country's economic] agenda" and as a result it's been left "in the hands of the Republican Party" is the raw, but true state of Black politics in America.

Because of Blacks' "illusion of inclusion" and penchant for assimilation, "Black politics" is little more than an afterthought to many across America's mainstream media. Blacks' political role is to support maintenance of the status quo. Instead of making sure that measures toward curbing Black unemployment and underemployment are being carved into the 2012 Democratic Party platform, the majority of African-American political activists are singularly engaged on keeping Barack Obama in the White House.

An "illusion" is something that deceives or misleads intellectually. In the rush for inclusion in America, the election of the first Black president represented the apex of success in this school of thought. The folly of that has fallen to the level that Blacks' major political pursuit is maintenance of the status quo and Obama as president. In their moves to be mainstream, Blacks now eagerly accept "second-class American" status. If you look at any social index, Blacks have much to complain about. Not just this Democratic administration but most political administrations over the years have ignored Blacks and their political needs. Black activists must be "brainwashed" or blind not to see legacies of institutional racism and discrimination in housing, education, policing, criminal justice and employment that continue under Obama's presidency. The average African-American income is \$33,916, compared with \$54,920 for Whites.

Conservative Republican Congressman Allen West offers a different slant on "who is brainwashing whom" by citing Black Americans' disregard of the 16.7 percent unemployment rate in Black communities, 20 percent unemployment rate for Black adult males and 45 percent unemployment for Black teenagers under the Obama administration.

Collectively, African Americans are more involved in the political process than most minority groups. Black American enclaves have high

levels of Congressional representation and the large majority of African Americans support the Democratic Party. African Americans have improved their social and economic standing significantly since the Civil Rights Movement and recent decades have witnessed the expansion of a robust, African-American middle class. Unprecedented access to higher education and employment in addition to representation in the highest levels of American government has been gained by African Americans in the post-civil rights era.

By calling himself "post racial" President Obama has transcended racial politics, convinced Blacks that American racism has gone away, all the while seeking to maintain White support by showing no favoritism toward Blacks. If there was ever any doubt that Obama is no champion of Black politics, that doubt should have been put to rest when Obama told the Congressional Black Caucus, "Stop whining!" Instead of the 2012 contest being just about "keeping a Black man as president?" shouldn't Blacks be making campaigners compete for their votes? Blacks should not be ashamed of who we are and what we stand for and remember that whoever wins this next election is going to set the tone for this country for a long time to come. In contrast the representative government we say we want, as we approach the 2012 political season Black activists want to "keep on keeping on." Black political activists have found a hero to adulate, and in doing so, they have chosen largely to sacrifice their own political needs to keep Obama as president. At the assemblage of "Black Power" at the Congressional Black Caucus, President Obama spent little time assuaging Black economic fears and high levels of unemployment. Instead of any pretense of attention toward Black issues, in effect, Obama told Blacks in attendance there to stop thinking of their own predicament because it was sapping the energy he needed them to expend to get him out of his predicament. Cavalierly, Obama demanded that they stop thinking of their lack of jobs in order to work on saving his. "Stop complaining. Stop grumblin'... we have work to do." (William Reed is available for speaking/seminar projects via BaileyGroup.org)

Projects from A1

ed within 18 months. Below is the full list of projects selected by those agencies, which represent diverse sectors of the economy and combined will support the creation of tens of thousands of jobs.

As the President's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness has highlighted, improving the efficiency and effectiveness of federal permit decisions and environmental reviews is one critical step the federal government can take to accelerate job creation. While many of these review processes are not under the control of the federal government -- state, local, and tribal governments are partners in the effort, as well -- the Obama Administration is committed to reforming the federal permitting and environmental review process to ensure that it runs as efficiently as possible while continuing to protect the health and safety of all Americans, and to preserve opportunities for public participation in federal decision-making. The Administration will apply broadly the information gathered while expediting these projects to further improve the permitting process for all projects. And as part of the Administration's commitment to efficiency and transparency, beginning at the end of November, the public will also be able to track the progress of projects under review through one central website.

14 Infrastructure Projects Selected for Expedited Review

Department of Transportation

Tappan Zee Bridge, New York

The Tappan Zee Bridge project will replace a deficient bridge that is a critical link in the regional transportation network. While the project is an ambitious one and construction will not begin for several years, improved coordination amongst multiple federal agencies will reduce the time needed to proceed from a Draft Environmental Impact Statement to a Record of Decision, potentially reducing the project timeline by multiple years.

Crenshaw/LAX, California

The Crenshaw/LAX project will extend the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (LA Metro) existing Green Line light rail nearer to the Los Angeles International Airport and connect it to the Expo Line light rail. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is providing additional targeted technical assistance to shorten the approval time for this project by several months. In addition FTA and LA Metro will pilot FTA's new streamlined risk assessment approach for major transit projects to ensure risks and associated mitigation measures are identified and addressed promptly.

Whittier Bridge, Massachusetts

The Whittier Bridge project on I-95 in Massachusetts will replace an existing bridge over the Merrimack River with a new, multi-modal bridge that will add lanes as well as bicycle and pedestrian lanes. The lead agency, resource agency and project sponsor will facilitate better coordination to accelerate permit review and approval within six months, including an agreed upon schedule for document reviews and establishing a process for dispute elevation and resolution.

Provo Westside Connector, Utah

The Provo Westside Connector highway project in Utah will build a new arterial

roadway between Provo Airport and Interstate 15 to improve roadway system linkage in southwest Provo, UT. By increasing coordination among federal and state agencies, permit review and approval can be expedited, saving six or more months. This time savings will be achieved through an agreed upon schedule for document reviews and establishing a process for dispute elevation and resolution.

Baltimore Red Line, Maryland

The Baltimore Red Line is a 14 mile rail transit line connecting the suburban areas west of Baltimore to downtown, the Inner Harbor and Fells Point areas, and the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center Campus. This project has many outstanding permitting issues that will require substantial cooperation between a number of resource and other federal agencies. By engaging in early negotiations with all necessary federal agencies and optimizing coordination amongst the agencies this project will begin construction earlier than currently planned, potentially reducing the project timeline by two years.

Next Generation Air Transportation System Infrastructure Project, Texas

This Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) pilot project will create Next Generation (NextGen) aviation procedures, including the implementation of new, more efficient routes, for the two airports in Houston, Texas. These performance based navigation procedures must comply with internal FAA approvals as well as reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act. Integrating these reviews will expedite this project and studying the impacts of the new procedures will serve as a demonstration project for future NextGen procedural improvements.

Department of the Interior

Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project, New Mexico

This project will build two water treatment plants and deliver water through approximately 280 miles of pipeline, 24 pumping plants, and numerous water regulation and storage facilities bringing a clean and sustainable water supply to the Navajo Nation in northwestern New Mexico. The Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation will work to improve coordination between Federal and non-federal entities and to expedite land acquisition through the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Land Management.

Department of Housing and Urban Development Denver Mariposa Housing Project, Colorado

In connection with a HOPE VI grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, this project will revitalize a distressed housing project located in South Denver. Portions of the project are underway and HUD will expedite its Part 58 review and review of the Revitalization Plan for the next phases.

City Market at "O" Street, District of Columbia

Located in Washington, DC, City Market at "O" Street is a mixed-use property consisting of 400 market-rate residential units, 16,000 square feet of retail space and a 57,000 square foot supermarket with financing under the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) Section 220 insured mortgage program. In conjunction with this project and others, FHA has embarked on an effort to streamline the

approval process for loans, including review of related federal permits and is working with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to expedite the National Historic Trust approval, subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Department of Commerce

Arroyo Sequit Watershed and Qwuloolt Estuary Coastal Habitat Restoration Project, California

This habitat restoration project is composed of two activities. The first activity is the Arroyo Sequit Creek Steelhead Barrier Removal in California, which will involve construction activities to remove existing physical barriers, including two dry weather crossings and one check dam, along the Arroyo Sequit watershed in northern Los Angeles County, CA. The second activity is the Qwuloolt Estuary Restoration in Washington State and will involve restoration construction activities to restore 350 acres of currently isolated floodplain. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration will work with the Army Corps of Engineers to expedite construction permits by up to one year, with the goal of beginning construction as early as 2012.

West Coast Coastal Habitat Restoration Project, California and Washington

This project is composed of four habitat restoration activities including Sears Point Tidal Restoration in California; Napa River Salt Marsh Restoration in California; Riverside Ranch Restoration in California; and the Salt Creek Estuary Reconnection in Washington State. The scope of these project activities will involve construction elements that will contribute to habitat restoration in these regions. This project will be expedited by up to one year by the facilitation of interagency resource coordination between the Army Corps of Engineers and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Department of Agriculture

Cleghorn Ridge Wind Project, California

This wind generation project by Cleghorn Ridge Wind LLC would consist of up to 52 wind turbine generators aligned in a general east-west direction along the ridgeline at Cleghorn Ridge, in the San Bernardino National Forest. USDA Forest Service, U.S. Air Force, and Federal Aviation Administration will cooperate to complete the review of this project by federal agencies in as little as 18 months, rather than the three years originally estimated.

Deerfield Wind Power Project, Vermont

This wind generation facility by Deerfield Wind LLC in the towns of Searsburg and Readsboro in the Green Mountain National Forest in Vermont would consist of 15 two-megawatt turbines. USDA Forest Service is working to expedite a Final Environmental Impact Statement before December 2011.

Dakota Prairie and Little Missouri National Grasslands, North Dakota and South Dakota

USDA Forest Service is working with an expedited process for reviewing oil and gas applications for wells and ancillary facilities such as pipelines and power lines in the Dakota Prairie and Little Missouri National Grasslands. There are approximately 80 applications currently in file. The expedited process involves early coordina-

tion with the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management and use of the 390 Categorical Exclusion provided under the 2005 Energy Policy Act.

In addition to unveiling the projects selected for expedited review today, the Administration will also instruct agencies throughout the executive branch to gather comprehensive information regarding their reviews of infrastructure projects, and the best practices they have developed. The Administration will use that information to develop recommendations to further improve the efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability of federal permitting and environmental review, without compromising our responsibility to protect safety, public health, and the environment, through measures such as adopting sector-specific guidelines for timely reviews of permitting applications; encouraging early engagement with stakeholders; coordinating federal reviews with those of state, local and tribal regulatory agencies; and instituting greater oversight of the overall process.

Some of the Key Steps Taken By the Obama Administration On Permitting Reform:

Today's announcement is the latest in a series of commonsense steps the Obama Administration has taken to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of federal permitting and review. These steps are helping to speed job-creation in the near term while increasing our competitiveness and strengthening our economy in the longer term. Just as importantly, the steps the Administration has taken also ensure that permitting and review processes continue to provide safeguards for public health and the environment while offering opportunity for constructive engagement by stakeholders.

For example:

Just last week, the Obama Administration announced it will accelerate the permitting and construction of seven proposed electric transmission lines. This move will speed the creation of thousands of construction and operations jobs while transforming the nation's electric system into a modern, 21st century grid that is safer and more secure, and gives consumers more energy choices. The public can track the progress of these and other transmission projects at <http://trackingsystem.nisc-llc.com/etrans/utility/Search.seam>. This effort is the latest achievement resulting from a 2009 agreement between nine federal agencies that has improved coordination among federal agencies, states, and other stakeholders involved in siting and permitting transmission facilities on Federal lands.

In November 2010, the Council on Environmental Quality issued commonsense guidance for federal agencies on the use of categorical exclusions to improve the efficiency of the environmental review process under the National Environmental Protection Act. When used appropriately, categorical exclusions help agencies reduce unnecessary paperwork and delay, by using research and experience to identify in advance categories of activities, like routine facility maintenance, that do not need to undergo intensive environmental review because they

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OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S
IN THE DARK

Movie Review

"The Ides of March"

"THE IDES OF MARCH"
B+

Rated R for pervasive harsh profanity, a little sexuality.
1 hr., 41 min.

"The Ides of March" reaffirms what I already believed, which is that I would rather set myself on fire than go into politics. The conniving, the backstabbing, the spinning, the lying, all while under the constant scrutiny of the media and the public -- no thank you. But watching fictional people go through it in enthralling political dramas like this one is an intoxicating pleasure.

George Clooney returns to the director's chair and to the behind-the-scenes public-policy intrigue of his "Good Night, and Good Luck." Clooney's passion for this kind of thing is evident; the film he made between that one and this one, the screwball comedy "Leatherheads," was fun but hollow, and you can tell how energized he is to be working on something meaty again. This is no "All the President's Men" -- nor does it mean to be -- but it's an intelligent and of-the-moment look at the political process.

The subject this time is the Democratic primary campaign in an unspecified election year. (The movie is adapted from Beau Willimon's play "Farragut North," which was loosely based on Howard Dean's 2004 presidential run.) Working on the campaign of one of the front-runners is a staffer named Stephen Myers (Ryan Gosling), an idealistic young go-getter who truly believes in his candidate, Gov. Mike Morris

(Clooney). With the important Ohio primary looming, Stephen and the jaded campaign manager, Paul Zara (Philip Seymour Hoffman), oversee interns and volunteers while helping Gov. Morris shape his message. Among these interns is Molly Stearns (Evan Rachel Wood), a college student and the daughter of an important party leader.

Their opponent, a U.S. senator, is running neck-and-neck with Morris in the polls, and his campaign is managed by Tom Duffy (Paul Giamatti), who's easily as jaded and exhausted as his counterpart in the Morris camp. (Having the opposing campaign managers be played by Philip Seymour Hoffman and Paul Giamatti, who complement one another as two sides of the same beleaguered coin, is a stroke of casting genius.) Tom makes overtures to Stephen, trying to lure him away from the Morris campaign, but Stephen is loyal. Meanwhile, both sides are trying to secure the endorsement of a senator (Jeffrey Wright) in the state where the next primary is to be held, and a news reporter (Marisa Tomei) is eager to sniff out scoops.

Once these pieces are in place, we're treated to a twisty tale of political wonkery and human weakness in which Stephen is thrown head-first into the dirty business of office-seeking. Not for nothing does the title call to mind both Julius Caesar and Shakespeare: this is as much a dramatic tragedy as it is a political story. (The actual political positions of the characters hardly matter.) Stephen thinks he already knows how things work. "This is the big leagues," he tells someone. "It's



PHOTO COURTESY ROTTENTOMATOES

The Ides of March takes place during the frantic last days before a heavily contested Ohio presidential primary, when an up-and-coming campaign press secretary (Ryan Gosling) finds himself involved in a political scandal that threatens to upend his candidate's shot at the presidency. -- (C) Sony Pictures

mean. When you make a mistake, you lose the right to play." But he doesn't realize just how mean the game really is -- if he did, he wouldn't still be idealistic. Paul Zara and Tom Duffy, who've been through this before, they know.

With his stellar performance in "Drive" still fresh in our memories, Ryan Gosling continues to stake out his position as one of the most subtle, soulful, and interesting actors of his generation. He doesn't do histrionics. On the rare occasion that he raises his voice slightly, it's usually backed with such intensity that the effect is the same as if he'd screamed it. In "The Ides of March," Gosling goes toe-to-toe with Giamatti, Hoffman, and Clooney -- not a slouch among them, acting-wise -- and each

time, no matter what the configuration, the result is electric. Giamatti's a shark, Hoffman's a schemer, and Clooney puts a satisfying spin on the role of the liberal glad-hander. Any one of them could carry the film; it just happens to be Gosling's job to do so.

It happens several times that this character or that is willing to sell someone out for his own gain one minute, indignant the next minute that he's been sold out by someone else. The rules, such as they are in this muddy game, apply to everyone, but everyone seems to think they apply to everyone but him. That's the tragedy of it -- the inevitable but sad, exhilarating but devastating tragedy of it. Better it should happen to these fictional people than to me.

The Edge of Sports

by DAVE ZIRIN

If the South Would Have Won: The NFL and Hank Williams, Jr.

In our segmented, culturally segregated, 5,000 channel era, the NFL might be the last entertainment product that tries to be all things to all people. Black or white; northerner or southerner; male, or female: the NFL wants your passion and wants your money. Last week for example was a nod to the wallets of women everywhere as all players were tinted in bright-pink to "raise breast cancer awareness." The gravity of the issue didn't stop Cowboys owner Jerry Jones from displaying his cage-dancing cheerleaders in a more straightforward display of breast-awareness, hold the cancer.

The broadcasts are also pointedly diverse as over-caffeinated talking heads come in all colors. The NFL and their chief broadcast partner ESPN particular wants the disposable income of one particularly thorny demographic: your right-wing, gun-toting, Palin-loving, southern football fans. That's why ESPN inexplicably hired Rush Limbaugh in 2003 to be part of their NFL pre-game team. And that's why Bocephus himself, Hank Williams, Jr. has sang the Monday Night Football theme song for 20 years. But therein lies the NFL's problem. It's a trap game. Eventually Limbaugh had to open his mouth and just as the sun rises in the east, the bile did spew. He of course spoke out in crudely racist terms about then-Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb, everyone in the ESPN corporate offices reached for their vapors, and Limbaugh was gone.

Now Hank Williams, Jr. has been bounced from singing about "all [his] rowdy friends" because he appeared on Fox and Friends and compared Barack Obama to Adolf Hitler. ESPN's issued the following shocked response, saying, "While Hank Williams, Jr. is not an ESPN employee, we recognize that he is closely linked to our company through the open to Monday Night Football. We are extremely disappointed with his comments, and as a result we have decided to pull the open from tonight's telecast."

Hank Williams, Jr.'s then put forward a bizarre apology where he felt the need to say, "Every time the media brings up the Tea Party it's painted as racist and extremists -- but there's never a backlash -- no outrage to those comparisons." So a Tea Party supporter compares the Nation's first African American President to Hitler and then says it's a double standard to criticize him because no one gets mad at those who call the Tea Party racist. I now need more coffee.

The bigger question is why was ESPN surprised? This is Hank Williams, Jr. we're talking about, not Amy Grant. The man brags that he'll never stop "speaking my mind." Unfortunately, his mind resides somewhere on a plantation rocking chair. It's not just his past controversial statements, such as when he sang about Obama's "'terrorist friends" at a McCain Palin fundraiser in 2008. The guy actually wrote a song in 1988 about the Civil War called "If the South Would Have Won." The lyrics are, "If the South would have won we would have it made. I'd make my supreme court down in Texas and we wouldn't have no killers getting off free. If they were proven guilty then they would swing quick, instead of writing books and smiling" on T.V. We'd put Florida on the right track, 'cause we'd take Miami back" [from who? Jews? Cubans? Haitians? Or will Hank go for the trifecta?]. "I said if the south would have won we would have had it made! Might even be better off!" [In a league where 70% of the players are Black, 100% of the owners are white, maybe this should be the Monday Night theme song.]

The problem, in other words, isn't Hank Williams, Jr. It's ESPN and the NFL thinking they can stretch the boundaries of their product to unite racists and anti-racists; neo-confederates and people who are ready to put the Stars and Bars in our national rear view mirror; Redskins fans and those who find that franchise name sickening. We are living in times of profound polarization. If the NFL really wants to cater to the demographic that loves Hank Williams, Jr. and Rush Limbaugh, they'd be better ordering the Broncos to just start Tim Tebow.

[Dave Zirin is the author of "The John Carlos Story" (Haymarket) and just made the new documentary "Not Just a Game." Receive his column every week by emailing dave@edgeofsports.com. Contact him at edgeofsports@gmail.com.]

Bowie State Hosts Food Day Symposium

(Bowie, Md.) -- Understanding linkages between diet and disease will be the focus of a Food Day Symposium sponsored by Bowie State University (BSU) on Oct. 24 to help students and local residents learn important elements of healthy eating. The event, to be held in room 102 of the Center for Learning and Technology, 10 a.m. -- 4 p.m., will also feature a live demonstration of healthy cooking techniques by chefs of BSU Dining Services.

This is one of hundreds of events planned nationwide for Food Day to raise awareness of food issues and advocate around the theme "It's time to eat real, America." The Bowie State symposium will feature scientists and nutritionists from the USDA Beltsville Human

Nutrition Research Center with presentations on such issues as the effect of certain food on risk factors of chronic disease, research into the role of nutrients on disease prevention, safe food handling procedures to reduce contamination on the farm and in the home, the impact of whole grains in the diet, and reading and understanding food labels.

"Our goal is to help people better understand how food choices can affect their overall health by hearing from the scientists who are actively involved in studying these issues," said event organizer Anne Osano, assistant professor in the BSU Department of Natural Sciences. An open forum panel discussion with a plant biologist, nutritionist and food preparation spe-

cialists will allow audience dialogue.

Keynote speaker Ellen W. Harris, acting director of the Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center, will discuss why Food Day is important and what individuals can do to "eat real."

The event is hosted by students in the Bowie State chapter of Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences and sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, BSU Dining Services and the Bowie State Climate Commitment Coordinating Committee.

For more information contact Anne Osano, at 301-860-3368 or aosano@bowiestate.edu.

Roof from A1

for the Highland Park building's contractor, Donatelli Development.

Harold said zoning regulations and weight capacities are the main restrictions on rooftop use.

"It's not as heavy as a lot of people think it is, but the bottom line is (its) structure has to be sound for you to add anything to it or even just hang out on it," Harrold said.

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission employees are not spending time on the roofs of their Laurel office building, but workers on the upper floors have cubicles with a view. The two lower roofs, totaling 8,600 square feet, portray mirror images of red and gray zigzags -- an abstraction of a riverbed, according to Heidi Lippman, the roof's designer.

From 12 stories up, it's hard to tell the work of art, "River Run," is composed of locally quarried gravel, but the design is a roofing option that helps cool the building and requires much less upkeep than the plants that commonly cover newer green roofs.

"This is a way of introducing color without the issue of introducing maintenance, like water," said Lippman, a public works and studio artist who created two other rooftop designs in the Washington suburbs.

Employees at Artery Plaza in Bethesda enjoy a similar view of "Aerialscape 1," which covers 9,600 square feet of roof space.

Lippman said she hopes her pieces inspire other sustainable innovations.

"I hope it helps people think about what they can do with their environment that is inge-

nious and simple and beautiful," she said.

As development booms, using rooftops for more than just shingle space is an increasingly popular trend, and some city residents create miniature green roofs without even realizing it.

"While they may not necessarily know what a green roof is, it kind of just starts out as a series of potted plants on their roofs," Harrold said.

Groth said the grass atop Highland Park and its twin turf lawn on the roof of Kenyon Heights condominiums across the street were never intended as bocce courts, but the buildings have become known for the sport, providing a marketing tool for the developer drawing in potential residents.

"We didn't call them anything before," Groth said. "We just called it a 'turf lawn' or

'grass lawn,' and now we refer to them in all our projects as 'bocce green lawns.'"

Lauren Pinch, manager of D.C. Bocce's Columbia Heights Division, said it's only natural for city dwellers to keep moving up in search of new hangouts.

"Roofs in the city are kind of social space," she said.

Although green space in cities doesn't come as naturally, the interest in variations on sustainable roofs has blossomed.

Initially, Miller said he was unaware of Washington's sizeable bee-loving community, and he aimed to place five hives throughout the district. He sold 65 last year, he said, and about 35 of them are within city lines -- eight of which happily buzz on Miller's roof.

"They kinda sold themselves," Miller said. "In D.C. there's a keen awareness of sustainability."

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Calendar of Events

October 20 - October 26, 2011

PUBLIC PLAYHOUSE ANNOUNCES 2011-2012 DANCE SEASON

CHEVERLY, MD—The Publick Playhouse 2011-2012 season includes national and international dance performances, beginning with The Philadelphia Dance Company's PHILADANCO on Friday, November 18 at 8 pm, in a leggy jet-propelled performance with soul that celebrates the company's 40th anniversary.

On Friday, January 6, at 8 pm, the Playhouse hosts the international tour of the Russian National Ballet Theatre in a classical full-length presentation of "Cinderella" that is full of humor and features a large Russian company trained in the Bolshoi and Kirov traditions.

Saturday, February 4 at 8 pm, Nimbaya! Women Master Drummers and Dancers of Guinea make the Playhouse the only Washington area stop on their first American tour in several years. Formerly called "Amazones", these exciting, energetic artists are celebrated throughout Africa for breaking social barriers to women's independence by performing the dances and playing the instruments that for centuries were restricted to men.

In April, Dallas Black Dance Theatre returns for their annual Playhouse residency with a new program of feisty, fearless and fiery modern dance performances on Friday and Saturday, April 27 and 28 at 8 pm and Sunday, April 29 at 4 pm.

Tickets to each of the four dance companies in this series are \$20, or \$15/seniors, students, DancePass, and groups of 15 or more. There's also an advance ticket savings of half price for one dance company when buying all four prior to November 18.

Area dancers are also part of the season. On Sunday, February 26, at 4 pm, the annual liturgical dance festival PRAISE! features gospel singer Cora Harvey Armstrong of Richmond and exceptional dance troupes from area churches. Saturday, March 17 at 8 pm, the 10th annual World Dance Showcase highlights the broad cultural richness and talent found in our nation's capitol. Tickets for each of these programs are \$12; \$10/seniors and students.

Young dancers are on stage at Bust a Move with Café Groove on Friday, March 2 from 7-10pm, when teens battle for cash prizes and the title of "Prince George's Best Dance Crew", with teen-only admission for \$3. And Sunday, March 4, at 4 pm, the Love 2 Dance Teen Showcase presents hot talent from area schools and studios. Tickets: \$12; \$10/seniors and students

Dance Classes with visiting artists include Nimbaya! workshops on Saturday, February 4, with a Drum Workshop at 10 am and an African Dance Workshop at 12 noon for drummers and dancers age 13 and up; fee: \$15/class. On April 25 and 26 from 7:30-9 pm Dallas Black Dance Theatre offers their annual Master Classes in Modern Dance for advanced dancers on Wednesday, and Liturgical Dance Workshop for intermediate and advanced dancers on Thursday; fee \$15/class or observer. Also, Big Girls Dance Workshops are being held during National Fitness Month, with an African dance workshop on Tuesday, May 8 from 6:30-8 pm, and a Belly Dance Workshop on Thursday, May 10 from 6:30-8 pm; free/one workshop per person, with advance registration required.

The Playhouse is a facility of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Prince George's County Department of Recreation, Arts and Cultural Heritage Division. For more information, call 301-277-1710 or visit arts.pgparks.com

Branch Avenue in Bloom Farmers Market

Date & Time: Fridays through November 18, 2-6 pm
Description: Support local farmers! Call to find out about its selection of fruits, vegetables, organic food, local specialties and crafts. FMNP Checks (WIC & Senior) & FVC accepted. Read more about local farmers markets.
Location: Iverson Mall Parking Lot, Branch Avenue 20748
Contact: 301-403-8300 (Dion Gray)

Montpelier Fall Jazz Series: Trio Caliente

Date and Time: October 21, 2011
Event Description: Washington, D.C.-based Trio Caliente seamlessly fuses together elements of bossa nova, gypsy rumba and contemporary flamenco with soothing jazz vocals and musical arrangements.
Ages: All ages
Fee: \$20/ticket. Call for information about purchasing a series subscription. Discounts are available for seniors & members.
Location: Montpelier Arts Center
9652 Muirkirk Road, Laurel, MD 20708
Information: 301-377-7800, 410-792-0664; TTY 301-490-2329

Halloween Magic Show

Date & Time: Friday, October 21, 7-9 pm
Description: Enjoy the magic and mystery of Halloween with a mystical Halloween themed magic show. Feel free to wear your costumes.
Ages: Resident \$5; Non-Resident \$6
Fee: All ages
Location: Potomac Landing Community Center
12500 Fort Washington Road, Fort Washington 20744
Information: 301-292-9191; TTY 301-203-6030

Fall Into Fun!

Date & Time: Weekends, October 15 & 16, 22 & 23
Description: Celebrate fall at Watkins Regional Park. Ride the train and meander through the woods to see fall leaves. Visit the animals at Old Maryland Farm. Horse around on the carousel. Climb aboard the tractor-pulled wagon for a hayride. Stop by the Nature Center to make a fall craft and enjoy popcorn.
NOTE: All activities are subject to weather conditions and may be cancelled due to inclement weather.
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; TTY 301-218-6768

EARTH TALK ...

"Energy use from social networking sites and web surfing"

Dear EarthTalk:

What is the environmental impact of so many people now using sites like Facebook and spending so much time online?

-- Bob Yearling, Paris, TX

The environmental impact of so much online time really boils down to energy usage, which in turn affects the amount of greenhouse gases we pump into our atmosphere. For one, each of us can help by limiting computer time (whether surfing the 'net or not) and shutting them down or putting them into sleep mode when we aren't using them (this can be automated via the computer's power management control panel).

Also, when shopping for a new computer, consumers and businesses alike can opt for models certified by the federal government as energy efficient with the Energy Star label. If all computers sold in the U.S. met Energy Star requirements, Americans could pocket \$1.8 billion annually in saved energy costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by an amount equivalent to taking some two million cars off the road.

Individual responsibility aside, the creation and management of more efficient data centers by the major online hubs—especially as we enter the age of "cloud" computing whereby most of the software, content and services we look to our computers for resides online

and is served to us as-needed—is what can have the biggest impact. Google, Facebook, and Amazon.com are already deeply committed to the cloud computing model, with Microsoft, Yahoo and others following suit accordingly.

For its part, Google has been a real leader in the building of green data centers, even powering them with renewable energy. The company recently released environmental footprint scores for several of its data centers. While the energy usage required to run its cloud services (Google Search, Google+, Gmail and YouTube) seems huge in the aggregate—it used 260 megawatt hours to power its data centers in 2010—it boils down to only 7.4 kilowatt hours worth of energy annually per user. Google reports that to provide an individual user with its services for a month uses less energy than leaving a light bulb on for three hours. And because the company has been carbon neutral since 2007, "even that small amount of energy is offset completely, so the carbon footprint of your life on Google is zero."

In an April 2011 report entitled "How Dirty is your Data?" the non-profit Greenpeace examined energy sources for the 10 largest IT companies involved in cloud computing, finding Apple, Facebook and IBM especially guilty of getting significant amounts of



CREDIT: JURGEN PLASSER/FLICKR

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power from coal-fired power plants. (Facebook had come under fire earlier this year when reporters uncovered that the company planned to buy electricity for its brand new eco-friendly data center in Prineville, Oregon—one of the greenest such facilities ever designed and constructed—from a utility that derives most of its power from coal.) Yahoo, Amazon.com and Microsoft scored best in use of renewable alternative energy sources for cloud services.

In the long run, analysts think that the widespread shift to cloud computing will be a great boon to the environment. A report released in September 2011 by Pike Research, "Cloud Computing Energy

Efficiency," predicts that because of the shift to cloud computing and increasing efficiencies, data center power consumption will decrease by 31 percent between 2010 and 2020.

CONTACTS: Energy Star, www.energystar.gov; Greenpeace, www.greenpeace.org; Pike Research, www.pikeresearch.com.

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Court from A1

has been vindicated," Swann said.

The university doesn't have "speech codes," she said. What was at issue was UMBC's Code of Student Conduct and facilities' use policy, she said. Those policies were changed after meeting with the group's attorneys to include more specific language on when the university could move events and to change a section of the Code of Student Conduct.

The conduct code was changed from prohibiting behavior that jeopardized emotional safety of others to prohibiting behavior that jeopardized the health and safety of

self or others.

In April 2007, the school's Rock for Life club, now called Students for Life, reserved space to show the "Genocide Awareness Project," a display of graphic pictures comparing abortion to genocide at the school's Commons Terrace. On the day the group was to show the display, university officials requested it be moved to the North Lawn, an area, the group contended, where few students would see it.

After another unsuccessful attempt to show the posters in the desired spot in November 2007, the group filed suit against the university.

The student group was allowed to exhibit the posters in

October 2008 at the Commons Terrace, but claims that request was granted only because of the lawsuit filed earlier that year.

That lawsuit was denied by the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland after the university agreed in 2008 to change some of its student conduct policies. However, the group appealed to the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals because not all of the policies were changed, Barham said, and there was nothing preventing the university from going back to its previous rules.

One of the policies that remained unchanged was the sexual harassment policy, which continued to prohibit verbal or physical conduct that

creates a hostile or offensive environment.

"That just covers a broad range of protected speech," Barham said.

The 4th Circuit upheld the lower court's ruling and Alliance Defense Fund took its case to the Supreme Court because the group wasn't allowed to challenge the university's sexual harassment codes.

No one was ever accused of violating the sexual harassment code, nor was under any credible threat of enforcement, Swann said.

"UMBC is a very open campus, we have 8,000 events on campus a year," Swann said. "It's well used by student groups and outside groups."

Suicide from A1

Historically, there has been a correlation between the country's unemployment rate and its suicide rate. Since the Great Depression, the suicide rate has generally risen or fallen with the country's business cycles, a study published in the American Journal of Public Health earlier this year found.

Crisis counselors said they could not say for certain why there has been an increase in calls, but said more people phoning in for help are dealing with financial problems.

Borg also said the hotline had seen an increase in calls asking for basic human needs like food and housing. However, while the down econ-

omy helps to explain the increase in calls, Borg stressed that individuals are typically driven to suicide for more than one reason.

"(Suicide is) so individual," she said. "The needs are individual. To look at trends, it's hard to tie it all together."

In Prince George's County, Tim Jansen, the executive director of Community Crisis Services, Inc. of Hyattsville, also said his hotline had seen an increase in the percentage of suicide calls received in the past year -- including more calls from people worried about economic problems.

"A lot of folks we're dealing with -- the root of the problem has been financial loss, or home loss," he said. "It exacerbates

everything else."

Jansen, however, was unsure of how the increase in calls correlates with the number of people committing suicide.

"It's hard to pinpoint whether more people are struggling with suicide or if we're just reaching more people," he said.

Even with the increased calls, Maryland has consistently had one of the lowest suicide rates in the country. In 2007, about nine people out of every 100,000 in the state committed suicide, according to the most recent data published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

That rate was the eighth-lowest in the country and was significantly lower than the national suicide rate of 11.8 per 100,000 at the time.

Henry Westray, the coordinator for Youth Suicide Prevention in the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, said he could not pinpoint exactly why Maryland has had a lower suicide rate than other areas of the country.

"I would love to say (the low suicide rate) is because of our efforts, but I can't," he said.

Westray said he thought that the state had done more to prevent suicides in recent years compared with other states. He said Maryland has aimed its suicide prevention efforts at schools, and has targeted counties that show a higher risk of suicide. Maryland will also soon launch a website aimed specifically at helping youth contemplating suicide, he said.

Projects from A5

do not have significant environmental impacts.

Over the past two years, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Transportation, and the Environmental Protection

Agency have worked together to promote sustainable communities. For example, by partnering with local governments, the development community, and other key stakeholders, these agencies have helped to identify and remove key barriers to sustainable design and green building in their permitting

process by increasing awareness of local ordinances that impact design, renovation, and maintenance of buildings and the sites at which they are located.

Earlier this summer, the President signed an Executive Order to promote the safe, responsible, and effi-

cient energy resources in Alaska. The EO established a working group to facilitate coordinated and efficient energy development and permitting in Alaska while also ensuring that all proper environmental and safety standards are met.

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OPENING from A3

vation, and creating the conditions for businesses to launch and expand. With today's announcement comes the promise of up to 150 new jobs right here in Maryland. That promise is how we'll recover our economy, put more of our people back to work, and enable more Americans to make it in this country."

The Democrats' "Make It In America" plan is an important initiative to create jobs and grow the economy by investing in education, innovation, and creating the conditions for businesses to launch and expand. By strengthening American manufacturing, this plan will create jobs and help companies, like ATK, grow in sectors across our economy.

Spacecraft Systems & Services, a division of ATK Aerospace Systems Group, provides a broad portfolio of products and services in Beltsville that include integrated satellite bus systems, world-class multidisciplinary engineering services and market leading integrated thermal control systems. ATK's integrated thermal control sys-

tems are used by almost all U.S. government and commercial satellites.

"This expansion clearly expresses our commitment to grow good, high paying manufacturing and technical jobs even in a challenging economy," said Tom Wilson, VP and GM of ATK Spacecraft Systems and Services. "Our strategic plan for growth in the aerospace market is generating a strong return on investment—right here in Maryland. The increased demand for our world class space thermal systems and potential for new business from our Robotic RPO Lab demonstrate our reputation for execution excellence and the ability to compete for business in emerging markets. We are creating the future for our operation in two high growth markets with the intent to generate additional business and strengthen our presence in Maryland."

The two new facilities include an expanded manufacturing center at the Company's Integrated Thermal System plant and a new robotic laboratory for potential customers in both the military and civil space communities.

The enlarged manufacturing facility will improve production capacity by approximately 20%, add more space for work on existing contracts totaling \$35 million and create up to fifty new jobs.

The other newly opened facility, the Robotic Rendezvous and Proximity Operations Lab, allows ATK to demonstrate and verify critical enabling technologies for today's more complicated space missions. The development of technology for controlled approach and docking between multiple spacecraft supports growing customer demand for International Space Station resupply, orbital debris removal, satellite servicing, and more. The lab uses state of the art robotic and air-bearing testbeds to simulate satellite motion and facilitate hardware and software development. The facility also supports ATK's recently introduced satellite life extension service, ViviSat.

ATK is an aerospace, defense and commercial products company with operations in 22 states, Puerto Rico, and internationally with revenues of approximately \$4.8 billion.

Child Watch from A4

hol and entertainment than on scholarships, books, tutoring, rites of passage, and mentoring programs for youths, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution to ensuring positive alternatives and hope for children.

If we'd rather complain about politicians than walk to the voting booths, school board meetings, political and community meetings to demand support for our children, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution to voter apathy today.

If our children of any color think that being smart and studying hard is acting White rather than acting Black or Brown and don't know about the many great Black and Brown as well as White achievers who overcame every obstacle to succeed, then we are a

part of the problem rather than a part of the solution to racial stereotyping.

If we are not voting and holding political leaders accountable for investing relative pennies in quality early Head Start and pounds in the military budget, and for cutting effective child and family nutrition programs while protecting government welfare for rich farmers and corporate executives, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution to the growing gap between rich and poor.

If we think corrupt and unaccountable Black and Brown leaders who neglect our children and communities are better than corrupt and unaccountable White leaders who neglect our children and communities or vice versa, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution to voter cynicism and

apathy.

And if we think we have ours and don't owe any time or money or effort to help those left behind, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution to the fraying social fabric that threatens all Americans and the very dream that is America.

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.

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