

The Prince George's Post



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O'Malley, Miller, Busch Sign Bill 1

Legislation Creates New Congressional Election Districts

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of the Governor

Special Session generates vital discussions on job creation, economic development and the State's infrastructure needs in preparation for the 2012 legislative session

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October, 2011) — Governor Martin O'Malley joined Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., House Speaker Michael E. Busch, and Lieutenant Governor Anthony G. Brown to sign Senate Bill 1, emergency legislation creating new districts for congressional elections based on the 2010 census.

"To the people of Maryland, thank you for your voice, your input and your suggestions, and to all of the members of the General Assembly, thank you for giving fair, open and timely consideration and ultimately approval, to the recommendation of the Committee," said Governor O'Malley. "Over the course of Special Session, we were able to have vital and meaningful discussions about job creation and the importance of addressing our State's infra-

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PHOTO BY JAY BAKER

Governor O'Malley(center), joined by House Speaker Michael E. Busch,(left to right) Lt. Governor Anthony Brown, and Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. announced legislative hearings to be held during Special Session to explore job creation opportunities in transportation and infrastructure upgrades and in streamlining government processes to make it easier to do business in Maryland.

Proposed Redistricting Map Criticized

Republicans and Democrats Say Plan Squeezes Them Out, Dilutes Minority Voting Power

By ASHLEY M. LATTA
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS - As the Maryland General Assembly prepares to approve a Congressional redistricting plan, a number of leaders from both political parties say the current proposal aims to bolster Democratic power by squeezing out Republican Rep. Roscoe Bartlett and diluting minority voting power.

Some Montgomery County Democrats, several state delegates, the NAACP of Maryland and a number of Republicans are openly opposing the plan put forth by the Governor's Redistricting Advisory Committee.

"The first time I saw this map, I thought it was one of the rejected maps," said Montgomery County Councilmember Marc Elrich. "It begins to look like we had a second objective - a political objective of indi-

viduals."

Elrich and others are up in arms over the map's sprawling districts that ignore geographical boundaries.

Republicans have offered several alternatives to the plan.

"It's a map that's designed for partisan advantage," said Delegate Justin Ready,

See MAP, Page A3

Baker Testifies in Favor of Congressional Redistricting

County Executive Joins Other Leaders to Support the Plan

By PRESS OFFICER
County Executive's Office

Annapolis, MD, Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III was joined by Montgomery County Executive Isaiah Leggett and Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings Blake in support of Governor Martin O'Malley's 2011 Congressional Redistricting Plan. County Executive Baker highlighted how Governor O'Malley's Redistricting Plan improves the accountability of Prince George's County's federal delegation to County residents.

"I support Governor O'Malley's 2011 Congressional Redistricting Plan and strongly believe that it will enhance the representation of Prince Georgians represented by the 4th Congressional District Member and maintaining the continuity of the 5th Congressional District, this plan offers equitable minority representation and will help us achieve the goal of targeted transit oriented development at our underdeveloped Metro stations."

Highlights of the

See BAKER, Page A6

Gas Tax Increase to Be Considered in Infrastructure Jobs Plan

By GREG MASTERS
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS -- Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown said Tuesday that a gas tax increase could help Maryland fund needed infrastructure projects and create jobs.

His testimony before a joint hearing of the Maryland House and Senate came one day after Gov. Martin O'Malley said he would strongly consider a recommendation to increase the state's gasoline tax by 15 cents a gallon as part of a jobs plan.

"We need to expand our investments in Maryland's aging and overburdened infrastructure," Brown said, adding that jobs are the state's "most pressing need."

O'Malley said Monday that

he will consider the gas tax increase and other revenue-raising recommendations by the Blue Ribbon Commission on Transportation Funding, which will issue its final report on Nov. 1. The increased gas tax is expected to be one of the recommendations.

"Certainly the gas tax is one way of funding the massive, underfunded transportation infrastructure needs that we have today," Brown said, after his testimony.

The gas tax increase would likely be phased in over three years, with a 5 cent-per-gallon increase each year, said Donald Fry, president and CEO of the Greater Baltimore Committee and a member of the Blue

See GAS, Page A5

Photograph Reveals Details about pre-Civil War Slave in Baltimore

By JESSICA TALSON
Capital News Service

BALTIMORE - Up until a few weeks ago, anyone who walked by Martha Ann "Patty" Atavis' grave in the lush Green Mount Cemetery would think that she was another well-to-do Baltimorean from centuries past.

Her grave sits among rows of dead philanthropists and politicians so wealthy or influential that contemporary streets and universities bear their names.

Her headstone tells viewers that Atavis was 58 when she died on February 26, 1874, and was a "devoted nurse of the family of Dr. John Whitridge for over 36 years." Atavis is buried in the Whitridge family plot.

It does not say that she was a domestic slave in pre-Civil War

Baltimore.

Atavis' identity was determined after the Maryland Historical Society recently acquired two images of Atavis and supporting documentation at an auction in Sparks, Maryland. The images are circa 1845 to 1860.

One image, a type of early photograph called a tintype, shows Atavis holding Alice Lee Whitridge, the youngest daughter of Dr. John Whitridge and his wife Catherine Whitridge. The second image, a daguerreotype photograph, shows Atavis sitting by herself.

"Daguerreotypes of slaves by themselves are incredibly rare, let alone ones that have information as to the sitter, which we have

See SLAVE, Page A6



PHOTO BY JESSICA TALSON

Martha Ann "Patty" Atavis holds Alice Lee Whitridge, one of the children in her care. The Maryland Historical Society recently acquired the rare photograph and documents that shed light on Atavis' life as a pre-Civil War domestic slave in Baltimore. Historians plan to use the new information to learn more about urban slavery in Baltimore and around the country.

INSIDE

New Commissioner

Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III nominated John Shoaff to serve as a member of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. The agency manages growth, stewards natural, cultural, and historical resources, and provides leisure and recreational experiences.

Community, Page A3

Dr. Martin Luther King Honored

The spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was resurrected this past weekend in Washington, DC. The new Martin Luther King Memorial, a powerful, granite symbol of Dr. King's dream of equal opportunity and racial reconciliation, was officially dedicated on Sunday before a crowd of thousands on the National Mall.

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Clean Bay Project

Governor Martin O'Malley announced that the State is seeking proposals for the purchase of electricity generated from animal waste as part of the Clean Bay Power project to promote the use of renewable energy, reduce Maryland's contribution to agricultural runoff in the Chesapeake Bay, and encourage job creation.

Business, Page A5

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

What's the latest in regard to putting limits on greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S.? Is there any hope that Obama can get something done?

-- Bradley Johnson,
Helena, MT

Features, Page A6

COMMUNITY

Practical Money Skills

By Jason Alderman

Energy-Efficiency Tax Credits Expire Soon

If you haven't already jumped on the home energy-efficiency bandwagon, the good news is that several federal energy tax credits originally slated to end in 2010 were extended through December 31, 2011; but the not-so-good news is that these credits are worth significantly less and are more restrictive than before. All is not lost, however, since several additional credits (outlined below) remain in effect through 2016.



Here's how the soon-to-expire energy tax credits work:

You may claim a credit for 10 percent of the total cost of various home energy-efficiency products for your existing primary residence, including: insulation; heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems; metal and asphalt roofs; energy-efficient windows, doors and skylights; biomass stoves and non-solar water heaters. There are a few restrictions, however:

The maximum combined credit is \$500 (10 percent of \$5,000 in total cost) for all allowable products purchased between 2006 and 2011. Thus, if you've already claimed credits over \$500 in previous years when limits were higher, you cannot file.

Certain items have lower allowable tax credit maximums. For example: windows are capped at \$200 in total credits; furnaces and boilers — \$150 maximum (must have an annual fuel utilization rate of 95 or greater); central air conditioner — \$300 maximum; water heater — \$300 (within certain efficiency limits); and biomass stoves — \$300.

You cannot claim a credit for labor costs.

Energy tax credits are nonrefundable, which means you can only claim a credit to offset taxes you owe for the year.

Tax credits may only be claimed once and are limited to the year in which you purchased the item.

Energy tax credits will continue to be available for geothermal heat pumps, solar energy systems and wind energy systems installed at new or existing principal or second homes by December 31, 2016, for 30 percent of cost, with no upper limit. In addition, a credit continues for fuel cells at 30 percent of cost up to \$500 per kW of power capacity (for primary residences only). And tax credits are still available on certain fuel-efficient vehicles. Visit www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/taxcenter.shtml for details. For full details on available tax credits, visit www.energystar.gov.

If you're a low-income household and can't afford to weather-proof your home, you may be eligible for the Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). If you're accepted, a professional weatherization crew will conduct a home energy audit where they'll analyze your utility bills, test for infiltration of outside air, inspect your home and equipment for safety and determine the most cost-effective energy conservation measures for your home.

Depending on what they find, the agency will then conduct needed repairs and equipment installation, which might include: installing wall, floor and attic insulation; sealing and repairing ducts; reducing air infiltration and pressure imbalances; and tuning, repairing or replacing heating and cooling systems, as needed. To learn how WAP works, visit www.eere.energy.gov/wip/wap.html.

Also, you may qualify for short-term utility bill assistance through the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/liheap).

Other great ways to cut energy costs include turning your thermostat back 10°–15° for eight hours, while asleep or at work, using Energy Star appliances and compact fluorescent lights and lowering your hot water heater temperature to 120° F or lower.

Bottom line: Take advantage of financial incentives available to make your home more energy efficient — just in time for winter's chill.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.

To Follow Jason Alderman on Twitter:

www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney

Baker, Nominates John Shoaff to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

UPPER MARLBORO, MD — Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III nominated John Shoaff, an attorney from University Park, MD, to serve as a member of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission is a bi-county agency that manages growth, stewards natural, cultural, and historical resources, and provides leisure and recreational experiences in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

"I am proud to nominate John Shoaff to the M-NCPPC," said Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. "Mr. Shoaff is an accomplished attorney and a proven advocate for the environment. He is an excellent choice to serve as a steward of Prince George's County's natural resources and to further my administration's goal of green, sustainable development."

If confirmed, Mr. Shoaff will

be replacing Sarah Cavitt on the Commission.

In accordance with the County Charter (Section 322: Confirmation of Administrative Appointments), a member of a board or commission and any executive director thereof shall be subject to confirmation by the County Council. The County Council must hold public hearings on all appointments not less than thirty days after they are submitted by the County Executive. If the Council fails to act to confirm or reject such appointments within forty-five days of submission, the appointments stand approved. In the case of appointments by the County Executive to membership on a board or commission, or appointments of any executive director thereof, a vote of a majority of the full Council shall be required to reject such appointment.

Biography of John Shoaff

John Shoaff, a resident of University Park, spent much of

his career acting globally and thinking locally, but is more recently reversing that statement to its original formula with local action and involvement. He and his wife helped spearhead local traffic calming measures to improve safety in their community. Mr. Shoaff was also a member of the East Campus Redevelopment Community Review Steering Committee, contributing to agreed principles on environmental stewardship and sustainability as well as smart growth, transportation and parking.

In his day job, Mr. Shoaff is the Chief of the Liaison Branch for U.S. EPA's Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT), Environmental Assistance Division. In this role, he helps coordinate and advise on industrial chemical issues and pollution prevention activities that span the gamut of stakeholders and partners. Mr. Shoaff has also directed the Office's international team, representing the U.S. and EPA, for example, in the negotiation of

the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and helping secure agreement of international environmental partnership efforts, and working with the private sector and multiple stakeholders in the development of international environmental management standards (ISO 14000 series).

He was also an active architect in the formation of innovative domestic environmental programs and activities from an initial pilot on Environmentally Preferable Purchasing for the world's largest buyer, the federal government, to providing input on criteria for the Agency's National Environmental Performance Track program.

Mr. Shoaff previously worked on air quality issues for the Governor of California and the California Air Resources Board. He has a J.D. from the University of Maryland School of Law and a Bachelor's in Business Management from the University of Notre Dame.

Map from A1

executive director of the Maryland Republican Party. "It certainly does not represent county boundaries or communities of interest."

Gov. Martin O'Malley has called a special legislative session starting Monday to redraw the state's Congressional districts.

Despite stipulations in the Maryland constitution that require state legislative districts be contiguous, compact, and give "due regard" to natural and political boundaries, there are no such rules for Congressional redistricting.

"They are standards that we should aspire to, but there's no overriding authority," said Todd Eberly, assistant professor of political science at St. Mary's College.

The proposed Congressional map would slice away the more conservative part of District 6, represented by Bartlett, R-Frederick, making it marginally more Democratic.

"It's basically a map that carves the state into eight gerrymandered districts, pretty much to target one individual," said Ready, referring to Bartlett.

Lisa Wright, Bartlett's spokeswoman, said the congressman has nothing further to say on the matter, beyond what he expressed in a recent statement.

In the statement, Bartlett did not address how the proposed map would affect his district, nor did he respond to speculation over a possible campaign for his seat. Instead, he focused on the importance of creating a map that accurately reflects the large percentage of minorities, and residents in rural areas.

"Using commonly available tools, a revised map could easily include three majority-minority districts ... as well as districts that respect our rural communities," he said.

The current proposal would divide some communities with long-standing relationships, like Montgomery and Prince George's counties, and combine others with less obvious ties.

Part of Montgomery County, for example, would be sharing District 6 with parts of Frederick, Washington, Allegany and Garrett counties.

"What do those counties have in common?" asked Montgomery Councilmember

Craig Rice. "The key focus should be keeping communities together."

The third Congressional district, currently represented by Democrat John Sarbanes, would incorporate Montgomery County in with parts of Baltimore, Howard and Anne Arundel counties.

"There is absolutely no logic to that," said Delegate Ana Sol Gutierrez, D-Montgomery.

Only two of the newly drawn districts would be majority-minority: District 4, represented by Democrat Donna Edwards, and District 7, represented by Democrat Elijah Cummings.

"Maryland's population is over 40 percent minority, with its concentration in Montgomery County, Prince George's County and Baltimore City," Eberly said. "There's no reason why you wouldn't expect to see three, if not four, majority-minority districts."

According to Eberly, when drawing political lines, Republicans generally aim to isolate Democratic-leaning minority voters in the fewest number of districts. Conversely, Democrats aim to spread out minority voters to prevent a Republican majority in conservative districts.

"Regardless of what anyone wants to say, redistricting is a highly political and highly partisan endeavor," Eberly said. "In states where Republicans control the process, they are drawing maps every bit as distorted as the map being drawn in Maryland."

Elbridge James, political director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People of Maryland, said he will encourage the governor to move toward a plan that is more equitable and reasonable, hinting at the possibility of a court challenge.

"The NAACP is hoping that the governor takes under consideration all our requests," James said.

Lawsuits have already been filed in other states, like Texas and Illinois, where plaintiffs claim that proposed redistricting maps violate the 1965 Voting Rights Act and will disenfranchise minority groups.

Yvette Lewis, the Maryland Democratic Party chair, said she believes the governor has done his due diligence to hear



Giant Food Awarded Retailer of the Year

Jamie Miller (right), Giant Food of Landover, Md. public and community relations manager accepts Maryland Food Bank's "Retailer of the Year" award from Maryland Food Bank Chief Executive Officer Deborah Flatman. Over the course of 2010, Giant donated more than 1.4 million pounds of food to the Maryland Food Bank, making Giant the largest in-kind supporter to the hunger relief organization. As Giant celebrates its 75th year, the neighborhood grocer remains committed to helping alleviate hunger in the communities it serves.

concerns over the map and ultimately will ensure the approved redistricting plan is fair.

"One of the things I know is that the governor has had a very open and transparent process," Lewis said. "The commission has listened to the concerns of all the constituents."

O'Malley has not yet released his own proposed map, but it is likely he will do so in advance of the Special Session. On Wednesday, he issued the executive order proclaiming the start of the Special Session on Monday. Maryland must pass a Congressional redistricting plan prior to the start of the 2012 legislative session.

State districts will be redrawn during the regular legislative session that starts Jan. 11.

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COMMENTARY

THE PRINCE GEORGE'S POST
A Community Newspaper for Prince George's County

Child Watch
 by **Marion Wright Edelman**



Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator for Maryland



Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Dedication

We honor Dr. King today in stone. Let us honor him tomorrow and every day—for as long as it takes—with powerful, persistent voices and unrelenting nonviolent action to rescue his dream - America's dream - from the clutches of materialism, militarism, racism and poverty he warned would be America's undoing.

In his last Sunday sermon at Washington National Cathedral, Dr. King retold the parable of the rich man Dives who ignored the poor and sick man Lazarus who came every day seeking crumbs from Dives' table. Dives went to hell, Dr. King said, not because he was rich but because he did not realize his wealth was his opportunity to bridge the gulf separating him from his brother Lazarus and allowed him to become invisible. Calling for a Poor People's Campaign, he warned this could happen to America, the richest nation on earth. The day he was assassinated, he called his mother to give her his next Sunday's sermon title: "Why America May Go to Hell." He warned that "America is going to hell if we don't use her vast resources to end poverty and make it possible for all of God's children to have the basic necessities of life."

He called with urgency for a Poor People's Campaign in 1968 when there were 25.4 million poor Americans including 11 million poor children and our GDP was \$4.13 trillion. Today there are 46.2 million poor people including 16.4 million poor children and I've no doubt he'd be leading another campaign to end poverty and to create jobs and income for everyone in America. He would be dismayed that 20.5 million of our neighbors are living in extreme poverty including 7.4 million children who are the poorest age group in America. And the younger they are the poorer they are. One in four or 5.5 million infants, toddlers and preschoolers were poor in 2010, the years of greatest brain development.

The number of poor children—16.4 million—living in the richest nation on earth exceeds the entire combined populations of Haiti and Liberia, two of the poorest countries on earth.

The number of extremely poor children—7.4 million—in our nation is equivalent to the population of Israel.

The number of poor children under five—5.5 million—exceeds the population of Sierra Leone.

Children don't have any belts to tighten and face more and more cuts in survival programs. The New York Times reported in 2010 that almost six million Americans had no income—one in 50—and depended on Food Stamps to stave off the wolves of hunger. What has happened in America that we have normalized child and family poverty, homelessness and hunger—punishing innocents with federal and state cuts for budget deficits they did not cause while 279 current members of Congress (238 Representatives and 41 Senators) have pledged not to ask the wealthiest corporations and individuals to pay a dime in new taxes to restore some of the hundreds of billions they drained from taxpayer coffers that have nearly bankrupted

our nation and torn asunder the lives and hopes and futures of millions of Americans?

Beginning today, let's honor Dr. King by our committed action to end child poverty and close the morally obscene gulf between rich and poor in our nation where the 400 highest income earners made as much as the combined tax revenues of 22 states. They don't need any more tax breaks and need to give back some of their unfair share of our nation's tax subsidies and bailouts to feed and house and educate our children and employ their parents.

Let's follow Dr. King by naming and changing the pervasive racial disparities, undergirded by poverty, that place one in three Black and one in six Hispanic boys born in 2001 at risk of prison in their lifetimes. Incarceration is becoming the new American apartheid and poor children of color are its fodder. Let's reroute our children into a pipeline to college and productive work to compete with children from China and

See WATCH, Page A7

Maryland's Cyber Security Future; Creating Jobs, Protecting the Nation

The Internet has created virtual doors into our personal lives, finances, businesses and national security. While the Internet can be a force for good, cyber spies, thieves, terrorists and thugs are constantly testing the doorknobs, looking for a way in. As we mark National Cyber Security Awareness Month throughout October, we must recommit ourselves to the fight against the evolving threats in cyber space.

With Maryland's unique role as the global epicenter of both federal and private cyber security, we have a vital role to play in this fight.

Maryland has unparalleled federal assets that are fighting this battle on the front lines: the National Security Agency, U.S. Cyber Command, the Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity, the Defense Information Systems Agency, and the National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST).

We also have a vibrant private sector that is taking on cyber threats to our national security, businesses and consumers. Maryland's private sector is the source of breathtaking technological innovation on the cutting edge of the cyber world.

But neither the government nor the private sector can afford to go it alone against cyber criminals and thugs. They can and must work together in this fight.

As Chairwoman of the Commerce, Justice and Science (CJS) Appropriations Subcommittee, I am proud to support

Maryland's role in making our country safer and our economy stronger.

Last month, the Senate Appropriations Committee passed my bill that would create jobs and train the cyber warriors of tomorrow. It funds 579 cyber security positions at the FBI that will strengthen the Bureau's capabilities to target organized cyber criminals. It also fully funds the National Strategy for Trusted Identities in Cyberspace at NIST to develop standards that help validate who people are online, creating a more trusted environment for online commerce.

My bill also creates a National Cyber Center of Excellence at NIST that will be a gateway for the private sector to forge partnerships and adopt research and cyber technology tools that will lead to new jobs.

Lastly, the bill triples federal funding for cyber scholarships to support students studying to enter the federal cyber workforce. These efforts are working. In fact, the Washington area now surpasses Silicon Valley and New York City in the number of cyber jobs.

As cyber criminals and thugs seek to do us harm, we must redouble our efforts to make our cyber infrastructure safe and secure. I am so proud of Maryland's role at the center of this fight. With a strong cyber education system and support for federal and private cyber development, we will continue to lead the way in protecting our nation's future.

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16. Publication of Statement of Ownership for a Requester Publication is required and will be printed in the **October 27, 2011** issue of this publication.

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Brenda Boice, Office Mgr. Date: **Oct. 25, 2011**

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

PS Form 3526-R, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)

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



Honoring Dr. King by Fighting for Jobs

"This really means making the movement powerful enough, dramatic enough, morally appealing enough, so that people of goodwill, the churches, labor, liberals, intellectuals, students, poor people themselves begin to put pressure on congressmen to the point that they can no longer elude our demands."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was resurrected this past weekend in Washington, DC. The new Martin Luther King Memorial, a powerful, granite symbol of Dr. King's dream of equal opportunity and racial reconciliation, was officially dedicated on Sunday before a crowd of thousands on the National Mall. In his keynote speech, President Obama reminded the audience and the nation that even though, "We have a right to savor the slow but certain progress" Dr. King made possible, "Our work, Dr. King's work is not complete." The President called upon the nation to "draw from the strength of those earlier struggles," to confront the crises of unemployment, poverty, inequality and division that still plague us today.

A day earlier, I served as co-chair of a rally and March for Jobs and Justice that was organized by Rev. Al Sharpton's National Action Network. Thousands of citizens and dozens of civil rights, human rights, and labor leaders joined us in a call for concrete action during a march from the Washington Monument to the new King Memorial. We marched for the 14 million Americans who remain out of work. We marched for a jobs bill. We marched in solidarity with citizens who feel left out by corporate interests, let down by their political leaders and

left behind by the economic recovery. We marched for worker rights...for voter rights...for equal justice under the law. And we marched to the beat of a constant refrain: "What do we want? Jobs! When do we want it?" Now!

The common thread tying together Saturday's march and Sunday's Memorial dedication is the re-emergence today of the same kind of bold, grassroots action that Dr. King so courageously used in his fight for civil rights and economic justice. With overall unemployment at 9.1 percent and the African American rate at 16 percent, it is time for the rising voices of the people -- from Wall Street to Washington -- to be heard. We should not forget that Dr. King was assassinated in 1968 while leading non-violent demonstrations to secure dignity and living wages for black sanitation workers in Memphis. He was also planning a new nationwide campaign for jobs and opportunity that would involve citizen protests in cities and rural districts across the country and culminate with another historic march on Washington.

Like the nation's founders, Dr. King understood the power of "We, the people" to build a More Perfect Union. He relied on groups like the National Urban League, SCLC and the NAACP to mobilize, organize and empower the foot soldiers of the movement. And he inspired us to press on in the face of barriers and setbacks.

Dr. King's life has been a guiding light in my own career in public service. While I am proud of the new Memorial on the National Mall, I can think of no better way to honor his legacy than to stand with groups like the National Action Network and millions of Americans in the ongoing struggle for jobs and justice.

The Prince George's Post

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BUSINESS

Business Exchange

by William Reed



A Black Man, Father of the Cell Phone

To this point, the economic growth leader of the 21st century is the wireless communications industry. Millions of people regularly use cellular phones. With today's cell phone, you can talk to anyone on the planet. Cell phones include: a compact speaker, microphone, keyboard, display screen, and a powerful circuit board with microprocessors that make every phone a miniature computer. When connected to a wireless network, this bundle of modern-day technology allows you to make phone calls or exchange data with other phones and computers around the world.

Jesse Eugene Russell is an African-American inventor who brought the world cell phones. Trained as an electrical engineer at Tennessee State University, at 63, Russell is recognized globally as a thought-leader, technology expert and innovator of wireless communications. He has more than 30 years experience in advanced wireless communications and is the recognized father of digital cellular technology. The Historically Black College and University (HBCU) graduate is former chief wireless architect for AT&T Bell Laboratories and served as chief technology officer for Lucent Wireless. An icon in the industry, Russell holds more than 75 patents in digital cellular technologies, dual-mode digital cellular phones and digital software radio. An American legend, in 1995 Russell was inducted into the National Academy of Engineering for "pioneering work in digital cellular communications technology."

Russell's innovations continue to spark the international economy. The globe expects some 2.5 billion smartphones to be sold from 2010 to 2015. The main reason for cell phones' popularity over the past 20 years is the faster and easier communications it provides. A cell phone is really a very sophisticated and versatile radio. Much like a walkie-talkie, a cell phone receives and sends radio signals. Wireless networks operate on a grid that divides cities or regions into smaller cells. One cell might cover a few city blocks or up to 250 square miles. Every cell uses a set of radio frequencies or channels to provide service in its specific area. In each cell, there is a base station consisting of a wireless antenna and other radio equipment. The wireless antenna in each cell links callers into the local telephone network, the

Internet or another wireless network.

African Americans can take pride in what Russell has achieved in the planet's business advancements. From being honored by the Clinton administration for his work in cell phones and wireless communications, Russell continues to innovate, specifically in the next generation's (4G) broadband wireless communication technologies, products, networks, and services. Rising from a disadvantaged background, Russell's career, and knowledge in wireless technology and standards advanced as he served in numerous high-level corporate positions; Director of the AT&T Cellular Telecommunication Laboratory (Bell Labs), Vice President of Advanced Wireless Technology Laboratory (Bell Labs), Chief Technical Officer for the Network Wireless Systems Business Unit (Bell Labs), Chief Wireless Architect of AT&T, and Vice President of Advanced Communications Technologies for AT&T Laboratories (formerly part of Bell Labs). Russell's early childhood was spent in economically and socially challenged neighborhoods within inner-city Nashville. Russell says a key turning point in his life was the opportunity to attend a summer educational program at Fisk University. It was here that Russell began his academic and intellectual pursuits. Russell continued his education at Tennessee State University where he focused on electrical engineering and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1972. An excellent example of "a Black achiever," Russell was a top honor student in Tennessee State's School of Engineering and became the first African American to be hired directly from an HBCU by AT&T's Bell Laboratories and subsequently became the first African American to be selected as the Eta Kappa Nu Outstanding Young Electrical Engineer of the Year in 1980. Russell continues his personal and corporate leadership in the industry and is currently chairman and CEO of incNETWORKS.com, a New Jersey-based broadband wireless communications company focused on the next generation of broadband services (4G) broadband wireless communications technologies, networks and services.

(William Reed is Publisher of Who's Who in Black Corporate America and available for speaking/seminar projects via BaileyGroup.org)

Maryland Seeks Proposals for Renewable Energy Generated from Animal Waste

Clean Bay Power Project will promote green energy and help reduce pollution to the Chesapeake Bay

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October, 2011) - Governor Martin O'Malley announced that the State is seeking proposals for the purchase of electricity generated from animal waste as part of the Clean Bay Power project to promote the use of renewable energy, reduce Maryland's contribution to agricultural runoff in the Chesapeake Bay, and encourage job creation.

The State's renewable energy portfolio standard requires that electric suppliers purchase 20 percent of their power from clean energy sources by 2022. Maryland is seeking to purchase electricity from manure based fuels in an effort to reduce the amount of nutrients, specifically nitrogen and phosphorus, which enter the Chesapeake Bay. These nutrients are partly responsible for the declining health of the Bay.

"Maryland is leading the nation's efforts in clean energy and sustainability, and our State's growing 'green' jobs sector is vital to our ability to

create jobs and compete globally in the new economy," said Governor O'Malley. "It is only through a diverse, renewable fuel mix that we will be able to reach our aggressive goal of generating 20 percent renewable energy by 2022, create jobs through innovation, and protect our precious environment. With projects like Clean Bay Power, together, we can work toward a more sustainable future for our children and create jobs in this changing new economy."

The Clean Bay Power project is an effort by the Maryland Department of General Services, in coordination with the Maryland Departments of Agriculture, Natural Resources, Environment, the Maryland Energy Administration, and the University System of Maryland. The successful supplier must have an electric generating capacity of up to 10MW from animal waste - such as poultry litter or livestock manure - and must be directly connected to the regional electricity grid. The selected supplier must begin providing electricity to the State by December 31, 2015.

"We are seeking to purchase

Gas from A1

Ribbon Commission.

The commission has also discussed increasing public transit fares and raising the cost of vehicle registration and emissions inspections as ways to address the deficit in the state's Transportation Trust Fund.

"It's not going to be one source. It's going to be a combination of sources," Fry said.

Maryland's Transportation Trust Fund was created in 1971 as a dedicated source for transportation needs, but in past years the fund has been used to help balance the state's budget.

Prince George's County Executive Rushern Baker, Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett and Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake testified at the Tuesday hearing about infrastructure needs in their jurisdictions.

"All the easy options are

gone. Let's just face it," Baker said. "So now it's down to tough options. But we need to do it," he said.

"Looking at the options I've seen out there, an increase in the gasoline tax is probably the best one that's available to us right now," Baker said.

Rawlings-Blake said she frequently hears about poor road conditions from community associations.

"Communities in Baltimore City have certainly been weighed down by our efforts to get on the other side of the Great Recession, but they also understand the needs," she said.

Republican Delegate Justin Ready of Carroll County issued a statement Tuesday criticizing the gas tax component of O'Malley's jobs plan and past raids of the Transportation Trust Fund.

"The root cause of our Transportation Trust Fund deficit is constant raiding of the

Bill from A1

structure deficit as we prepare for the 2012 legislative session. Together, we can move forward on creating jobs for our families, recognizing that the most important job we create is the next one."

During the Special Session, Lt. Governor Brown testified before a joint hearing of the Maryland House and Senate about the importance of investing in infrastructure projects to create jobs and boost the economy. The hearing was the first of two held Tuesday to explore job creation opportunities through transportation and infrastructure projects and through streamlining government processes to make it easier to do business in Maryland.

"Special Session has provided an important opportunity to fulfill our Constitutional duty while advancing ideas for creating jobs and promoting sustainable economic growth in Maryland," said Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown, who testified before the General Assembly this week about the need to create jobs by investing in infrastructure projects. "Job creation remains our most pressing need, and I look forward to working closely with Governor O'Malley and the General Assembly to develop a jobs package that will invest in our infrastructure so we can put Marylanders back to work and build a brighter economic future."

On Monday, Governor O'Malley, joined by Senate

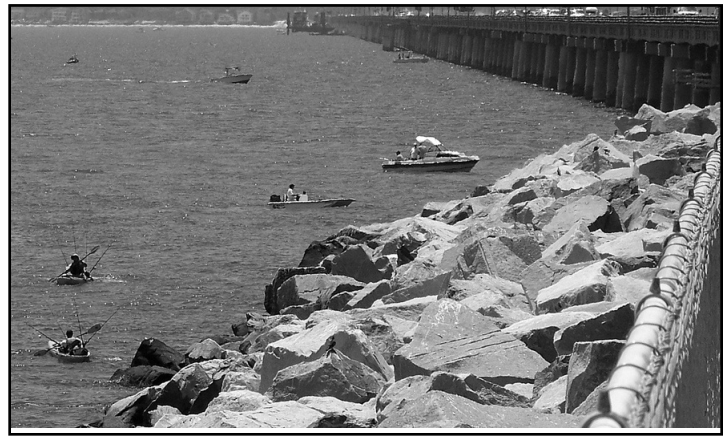


PHOTO BY BY MJN9, FLICKR

Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel

The rocks in the foreground are the beginnings of the first tunnel. The Bridge-Tunnel project is a four-lane 20-mile-long vehicular toll crossing of the lower Chesapeake Bay. The facility carries US 13, the main north-south highway on Virginia's Eastern Shore, and provides the only direct link between Virginia's Eastern Shore and south Hampton Roads, Virginia.

our power from a variety of renewable resources for a better and more sustainable future," said DGS Secretary Alvin Collins. "Obtaining electricity from poultry manure or animal waste helps Maryland government to reach its goal of generating 20 percent of its energy needs from renewable sources, all the while improving Bay water quality and support the agriculture industry."

Energy solicited through this

request for proposals is limited to projects consuming animal waste as their primary fuel and that also qualify under the current definition of a "Tier I" renewable energy resource under the Maryland renewable energy portfolio standard.

The Clean Bay Power request for proposals is advertised at the eMaryland Marketplace website: <https://ebidmarketplace.com>. Deadline for proposal submission is 2 p.m., November 30, 2011.

fund to spend on non-transportation projects," Ready said, in his statement.

Conservative groups have also criticized the idea of using tax increases to fund infrastructure projects.

"It's an absolutely disingenuous idea because the money for these transportation projects should already be available. About a billion dollars has been stolen out of the Transportation Trust Fund over the years," said Nick Loffer, Maryland grassroots director for the conservative organization Americans for Prosperity.

"Gov. O'Malley is asking people to pay twice," Loffer said.

The Blue Ribbon Commission may also recommend a constitutional amendment or other measure to ensure that the Transportation Trust Fund is only used for transportation purposes, Fry said.

"The motorists have a right

to know and trust that that's how their money's going to be spent," he said.

Loffer was part of a rally in Annapolis Tuesday in which Americans for Prosperity and members of Maryland's Tea Party movement spoke out against a proposed redistricting map and higher taxes.

"If Gov. O'Malley was serious about creating jobs, he would get rid of the yearly billion dollar-plus deficit by cutting spending, which would get the yearly threat of taxes off the table and give certainty to businesses to create jobs," Loffer said.

O'Malley spokeswoman Takirra Winfield said the "larger question" concerns the long-term effects of not addressing infrastructure needs.

"How many bridges can we live without? What are the risks of not taking action now to restore our infrastructure?" Winfield said.

President Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. and House Speaker Michael E. Busch, announced a plan to spark job creation in Maryland and to build consensus for a comprehensive jobs package for the 2012 legislative session through a series of joint legislative hearings. The Governor also signed an Executive Order calling for a 60 day review by State agencies of current State regulations that can be reformed or eliminated to help spark job creation. Suggestions and comments on regulations can be made by visiting the Maryland Made Easy web site.

"The Governor's Redistricting Advisory Committee conducted a fair and open process, successfully balancing the interests of our citi-

zens with the changes in our state's population," said President Miller. "I would like to offer my deep gratitude to Secretary Hitchcock for his leadership of the Committee and my thanks to the Governor and the Speaker of the House for their leadership during the special session."

"I'd like to thank Governor O'Malley, President Miller, members of the Redistricting Advisory Committee and the House of Delegates for their work on the Congressional map," said Speaker Michael E. Busch. "This map reflects Census growth, public input from across the entire State, and maintains 70% of voters in their existing Congressional districts."

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Calendar of Events

October 27 - November 2, 2011

Fall Hand Dance

Date & Time: Friday, October 28, 8 pm-12 midnight
Description: Grab your partner and get you feet moving at the annual fall hand dance.
Cost: Resident \$15/person; Non-Resident \$20/person
Ages: 21 & up
Location: *Harmony Hall Regional Center*
 10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington 20744
Contact: 301-203-6040; TTY 301-203-6030

Annual Harvest Festival

Date and Time: Saturday, October 29, 1-4pm
Description: Enjoy a fun afternoon filled with food, games, arts & crafts, a costume contest, live performances, music and more! Pre-registration is required. Please purchase tickets at the Activities Desk.
Cost: \$5/person **Ages:** All ages
Location: *Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex*
 8001 Sheriff Road, Landover 20785
Contact: 301-583-2400; TTY 301-583-2483

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)

National Harbor Farmers Market

Date & Time: Saturdays through November 5, 10 am-2 pm
Description: National Harbor Farmers Market
Date & Time: Saturdays through November 5, 10 am-2 pm
Description: Support local farmers! Call to find out about its selection of fruits, vegetables, organic food, local specialties and crafts. Read more about local farmer's markets.
Location: American Way (Waterfront & Fleet Streets), Oxon Hill 20744
Contact: 301-248-8079 (Phyllicia Hatton)
www.americanmarketnh.com
 Support local farmers! Call to find out about its selection of fruits, vegetables, organic food, local specialties and crafts. Read more about local farmer's markets.
Location: *American Way (Waterfront & Fleet Streets), Oxon Hill 20744*
Contact: 301-248-8079 (Phyllicia Hatton)
www.americanmarketnh.com

Riverdale Park Farmers Market

Date & Time: Thursdays through November 17, 3-7 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: *Queensbury Road, Riverdale park 20737 (MARC station parking lot)*
Contact: 301-332-6258 (Jim Coleman)

PUBLIC PLAYHOUSE ANNOUNCES 2011-2012 DANCE SEASON

CHEVERLY, MD—The Public 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.pgparcs.com

EARTH TALK ... "Is there any hope that the U.S. will limit its greenhouse gas emissions?"

Dear EarthTalk:

What's the latest in regard to putting limits on greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S.? Is there any hope that Obama can get something done?

-- Bradley Johnson,
Helena, MT

Our best hope to date was 2009's American Clean Energy and Security Act (ACES), a bill that called for the implementation of a "cap-and-trade" system to limit carbon dioxide emissions by capping overall emissions and allowing polluters to buy or sell greenhouse gas pollution credits—similar to what the European Union has been doing since 2005 to successfully reduce its own emissions—depending upon whether they were exceeding established limits or had succeeded in coming in below them.

According to the bill, U.S. businesses needing to pollute more could buy emissions credits on the open market; those able to reduce emissions could sell their pollution credits on the same trading floor. Thus there is a built-in incentive to reduce emissions: If you exceed pollution limits you have to keep buying costly credits; and if you can get below limits you can profit from the sale of credits for the difference.

Among the bill's key provisions was a 17 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions below 2005 levels by 2020, with a mid-century goal of an 80 percent reduction. Also, billions of dollars would have gone to initiatives bolstering green transportation, energy efficiency and related research and development.

The bill was approved by the House in June 2009 by a narrow 219-212 vote. But Senate Democrats decided they didn't have enough votes to get a ver-



CREDIT: RACHEL JOHNSON/FICKR

Politics still stand in the way of efforts to limit U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. Two efforts, the American Clean Energy and Security Act (ACES) of 2009 and the American Power Act of 2010, got tabled or failed to make it to the Senate floor for a vote. ACES was, however, passed by a narrow margin in the House of Representatives, the first time the legislative branch has called for sweeping climate legislation.

sion of the bill passed, and tabled the discussion.

While ACES may not have made it into the law books, its passage by the House was significant as it represented the first time the legislative branch called for sweeping climate legislation. Also, the bill's provisions served as a guideline for U.S. negotiators heading to Denmark later in 2009 for the COP15 international climate talks (although in the end nothing binding was agreed upon there).

Then, in May 2010 Senators John Kerry and Joe Lieberman unveiled their own cap-and-trade climate bill for the Senate. Dubbed the American Power Act, it aimed to reduce overall U.S. greenhouse gas emissions by similar amounts as ACES. But with the nation still reeling from the effects of BP's Gulf oil spill—the American Power Act include provisions for offshore

drilling—and Senate Republicans leery of any climate legislation, the bill failed to make it to a floor vote. Some point the finger at a handful of Democratic Senators from coal-producing states for not supporting their party colleagues. Others say Obama wasn't advocating strongly enough despite his campaign rhetoric on the topic.

"The best one could plausibly hope for in the next Congress, assuming only modest Republican gains, is some sort of weak cap on utility emissions, possibly with some weak oil saving measures, though that would still require Obama to do what he refused to do under more favorable political circumstances—push hard for a bill," writes commentator Joe Romm of Think Progress, a liberal political blog. Romm adds that it's inconceivable to think the next Congress would even con-

template strong climate or clean energy legislation "without Obama undergoing a major strategy change and taking a very strong leadership role in crafting the bill and lobbying for the bill and selling it to the public."

CONTACTS: ACES, www.opencongress.org/bill/111-h2454/show; Think Progress, www.thinkprogress.org. EarthTalk® is written and edited by Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss and is a registered trademark of E - The Environmental Magazine (www.emagazine.com). Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com. Subscribe: www.emagazine.com/subscribe. Free Trial Issue: www.emagazine.com/trial.

Third Annual "Maryland National Hoops Classic Winter Basketball Tournament Tips Off at Northwestern High

Oxon Hill, MD — The Maryland National Hoops Planning Committee announced that The Third Annual Maryland National Hoops Classic (MNHC) has been relocated to Northwestern High School in Hyattsville, Maryland.

This three-day event is scheduled to take place December 28 through December 30, 2011, and will feature high school players from some of the finest teams in the nation for exciting basketball competition.

The MNHC Planning Committee includes: The Prince George's Black Chamber, The Prince George's Public Schools Athletic Association, The Prince George's Chamber of Commerce, The Harlem

Remembrance Foundation, Inc., and the Greater Prince George's Business Roundtable. The committee chose Northwestern High School as the new location for the MNHC High School Basketball Winter Tournament due to its proximity to the University of Maryland and better access to public transportation for MNHC fans.

Prince George's County, Maryland has been dubbed the "Hot Bed of Basketball" and the MNHC highlights this focus with local, regional and national competition. "Prince George's County continues to produce extraordinary basketball talents at both the collegiate and professional levels," said MNHC Executive Director, Earl Hawkins. "We are excited to

showcase many of our rising stars at this high caliber, high school basketball tournament for the past three years."

"By presenting this type of community athletic outreach and entertainment, we support the efforts of our rising athletics and provide national exposure to the wonderful talent that is in our community," said Mr.

Maynard Smith, Secretary/Treasurer of the Prince George's Black Chamber of Commerce. "This exciting tournament is a great opportunity for students, parents, teachers and fans to witness outstanding basketball, while capturing team spirit and building camaraderie among some of the finest schools and players in the country."

Basketball competition starts with games at 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. each day beginning Wednesday, December 28th through December 30th at the Northwestern High School, located at: 7000 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, Maryland, 20782

The eight (8) competing High Schools include: (1) DuVal H.S., Seabrook, MD; (2) Glenelg Country School, Ellicott City, MD; (3) Dr. Henry A. Wise H.S., Upper Marlboro, MD; (4) North Mecklenburg, H.S., Huntersville, NC;

(5) Northwestern H.S. Hyattsville, MD; (6) National Christian, Ft. Washington, MD; (7) Old Mill H.S., Millersville, MD; and (8) Riverdale Baptist, Upper Marlboro, MD.

Baker from A1

Redistricting Plan's impact on Prince George's County:

- Creates two Congressional Districts that will be more singularly focused on Prince George's County as compared to the County being split between three Congressional Districts

- Increases Prince George's County representation in the 4th Congressional

District from 62% to 75%.

- Maintains 96% continuity of representation for the 5th Congressional District.

- The 5th Congressional District is 35% minority voters, a higher percentage of minority voters than 11 Black Congressional Caucus districts.

- "The State of Maryland has one of the best state delegations in Congress, with Members who have helped create a state with the most wealth, best edu-

cation, and lower than average unemployment," concluded Baker. "This redistricting plan not only ensures our continued success, but will help us face our challenges."

The County Executive also noted that this Redistricting Plan assists Prince George's County's targeted efforts to grow Transit Oriented Development around undeveloped Metro sites. To develop

these sites the County must strongly compete for and win federal office leasing space to anchor developments, grow the economy, and create jobs. Additionally, two centrally focused Prince George's County representatives will enhance the County's partnership with the federal government as well as its ability to increase resources directed to schools and public safety.

Slave from A1

both here," said Mark Letzer, the chief development officer at the Maryland Historical Society and the person who acquired the items at auction.

The auction package included documentation about Atavis, including an 1839 bill of sale that identified Atavis as a "slave for life." Her previous owner, Ruth McCubbin, sold Atavis to Whitridge for \$200. Atavis was about 23 years old when she was sold.

"[The documentation is] really going to open up a lot of avenues for us to investigate more about urban slavery in Baltimore and its role in the family," Letzer said.

The majority of slaves lived in rural areas and worked on plantations. According to information provided by the Maryland Historical Society, only about 5 percent of slaves lived in urban areas in the years leading up to the Civil War.

Baltimore had the largest concentration of freed blacks in

the United States, yet still had a relatively high number of urban slaves. There were about 5,000 slaves in Baltimore, with two-thirds of them being women. Most urban slave women were in domestic service like Atavis.

Letzer said it is significant that Atavis was buried in the family plot because it gave her a "family" status. There was also an obituary placed in the Baltimore Sun newspaper when she died in 1874.

It is difficult to say if Atavis' experience was typical of other

urban slaves, but Letzer says the Historical Society wants to use the new information about Atavis find out.

"We at least have something to begin exploring not only her life but also how it is indicative of other urban slaves in Baltimore," Letzer said.

The images and documentation are currently on display at the Maryland Historical Society. For more information, please call the Historical Society at 410-685-3750 or www.mdhs.org.

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4109 Edmonston Road Bladensburg, MD
(301) 864-3437

Intercessory Prayer: Sundays - 8:30 a.m.

Church School: - 9:15 a.m.

Morning Worship Celebration- 10:30 a.m.

Wed. Night Bible Study - 7:45 p.m.

Elder Willie W. Duvall, Pastor

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BAPTIST

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6371 Oxon Hill Road

Oxon Hill, Maryland 20745

Sunday School (Adults & Children) - 9:30 A.M.

Worship Service - 11:00 A.M.

Wed. Prayer Service & Bible Study - 7:00 P.M.

Office (301) 839-1166

Fax (301) 839-1721

E-mail: Office FHBC@verizon.net

Pastor: Rev. Waymond B. Duke

BAPTIST

CLASSIFIEDS

AUCTIONS

Marine & Construction Equipment - Bankruptcy Auction, Case #11-71038-RK, October 26, 10 AM, Claytor Lake (Pulaski), VA, 2004 RPS 20'x40' Portable Pile Driving Barge, 2004 Inland Marine 26' Tug Boat, 2003 CAT 304CR Mini Excavator, 2000 Ford F650 Dump Truck, Pickup Trucks, Cargo Van, Trailers & Much More!. Motley's Auction & Realty Group, 804-232-3300, Error! Hyperlink reference not valid., VAAL #16.

118± Mountainview Acres in 3 Tracts Farm Equipment, Hereford Herd Bedford, Va ABSOLUTE AUCTION: Sat, Nov 5, 10am Terms, details, bidding online: www.countsauction.com 800-780-2991 VAAF93

5,106±sf Multipurpose Bldg., 0.95± Acres Newbern Loop, Gainesville, VA. Prince William County Foreclosure AUCTION: Thur, Nov 10, 12pm Terms, photos online: www.countsauction.com 800-780-2991 VAAF93

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Child Watch from A4

India and enable our children to compete economically in a globalizing economy.

Let's honor Dr. King by speaking truth to power and demanding justice for the poor and vulnerable children with our voices and votes and powerful persistent nonviolent direct actions. Citizens of every race and income level must band together to bring our nation back from the brink of self destruction fueled by unbridled greed of the few and a military budget that dwarfs our early childhood development budget where the real security of our nation lies.

Let's honor Dr. King by stopping the resurgence of racial segregation in our schools, unfair treatment of children of color through zero tolerance school discipline and special education practices that push them out of school and towards prison. And we must stand together and resist efforts to undermine the hard earned right to vote which is the life blood of democracy. Let's not return to Jim Crow shenanigans that denied the right to vote to Blacks and other citizens and strangled our democratic processes far too long.

Let's honor Dr. King by building a beloved community in America where all have enough to eat, a place to sleep, and enough work at decent wages to support a family, buy a home, and raise children in safe

neighborhoods.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Dedication

Let's truly honor Dr. King by transforming our education system that sentences millions of children to social and economic death by failing to prepare them and our country for the future. That more than a majority of children in all income and racial groups and nearly 80 percent of Black and Hispanic children cannot read or compute at grade level in 4th, 8th, and 12th grades is a national catastrophe which will bring our nation down.

Let's honor Dr. King by ending the violent wars within and without that destroy lives, families, communities, and drain life giving resources on weapons of death rather than weapons of life. The guns that snuffed out Dr. King's life have snuffed out the lives of over 110,645 children since 1979. Every three hours a child or teen is killed by a firearm in the United States.

Let's honor Dr. King with our unrelenting efforts to ensure that "the bank of justice" is not bankrupted further and like him refuse to accept "there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of the nation." Let's send the bounced checks of jobs, quality education, food and early childhood development back to Congress and state capitols and tell them to refill our nation's insufficient bank accounts with transfers from the overflowing coffers of powerful corporations and individuals from unjust tax breaks and sub-

sidies and to pay the long overdue promissory notes of justice and hope millions of children are waiting to receive from the crumbs of Dives' table.

The day after Dr. King was shot, I went into riot torn Washington, D.C. neighborhoods and schools urging children not to loot, get arrested and ruin their futures. A young Black boy about 12 looked me squarely in the eyes and said, "Lady, what future? I ain't got no future. I ain't got nothing to lose." It's time to prove that boy's truth wrong in our militarily powerful, materially rich but spiritually poor nation and to honor the sacrifice of this prophet of God who died to help redeem the soul of America.

It's now up to each of us to pick up the mantle of justice and lift high the torch of freedom for our children and grandchildren. Dr. King told and showed us what to do. Let's do it.

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.