

# Barrio de Langley Park

A Neighborhood Planning Newsletter Published by Action Langley Park  
Issue #215, August 2011

## IT IS HOT!

Is human society advancing? We sometimes wonder, but remember that about half a century ago very few people had air conditioning in their homes or automobiles. But maybe the greatest



heat relief is still diving into a swimming pool. Thank goodness for public pools—and private ones too. Near Langley Park: the pool at Lane Manor Park. Stay cool!

## National Politics

*Shame! For rigid office-holding ideologies to place our country in such jeopardy is not only very worrisome about the present; it does not give one confidence in our country's future. Not only has the debt ceiling been rigidly and foolishly handled; the apparent uncaring for the poor, the working class, and the elderly (as expressed in budget priorities) is not only cruel but also runs counter to the teaching of the major religions.*

*There are 431 billionaires in the USA, and they have not been asked to help with the budget crisis. But recipients of Medicaid, Medicare, and other programs are asked to sacrifice. Maybe the reader is not scared. I am. -BH*

"If there is a poor man among your brothers in any of the towns of the land ... , do not be hardhearted or tightfisted toward your poor brother." Deuteronomy 15:7

"The wicked draw the sword and bend the bow to bring down the poor and needy." Psalm 37:14

"The righteous care about justice for the poor, but the wicked have no such concern." Proverbs 29:7

"Sadly, if you listen to the debate, it seems that protecting the poor and vulnerable is not a given." Bishop Ricardo Ramirez (New Mexico)

## Maryland Politics

There's a lot of politics at the state level that impacts Prince George's County and even reaches into local areas such as Langley Park. Here are two items:

**Redistricting:** What a fascinating process is Maryland's congressional redistricting! Apparently the key issue being confronted is racial representation. Should the racial/ethnic distribution of seats in the House of Representatives have the same distribution as the state's population? And if so, which senior Euro congressman will have his district abolished or so changed that it is unlikely he will win reelection in 2012? The current distribution is Euro=6, Black=2. In the 2010 Census: Euro=58%, Black=29%, Latino=8%, Asian=6%. Multiplying these percentages by the eight seats means Euro = 5, Black=2, and Latino or Asian=1.

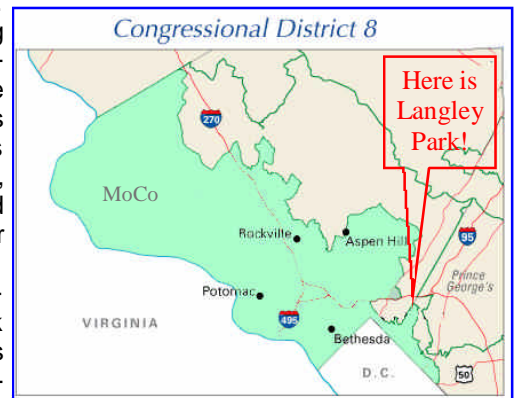
The legislative Black caucus wants to protect incumbents'

districts, but a county group backed by a unit of the NAACP wants to change the congressional map to make likely a third Black member of the House. If the third "Black-Safe" district is created, senior House member Steny Hoyer is likely not to be reelected. Did anyone think that the USA—or Maryland—was not "racist" in the sense that race is an important factor in hiring or in elections?

One possible redistricting negative is the redrawing of District 8, now represented by Chris Van Hollen. Chris has been a good progressive member of the House of Representatives, and he has created links with various neighborhoods—even Langley Park. But the new lines will probably eliminate the District 8 incursion into Prince George's County. (The district was gerrymandered in order to give Van Hollen an edge over Republican Connie Morella.)

**Maryland DREAM:** The *Washington Post* (24 July 2011) editorial is right: Leadership by Governor O'Malley might save the local Act from the petition/vote effort to overturn it. "In the current economic climate, the [DREAM]

"Maryland" continued on Page 4



## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES (more information on page 6, below)

Thursday, September 15: Action Langley Park holds an open meeting, 7 - 8:30 p.m. at the Langley Park Community Center

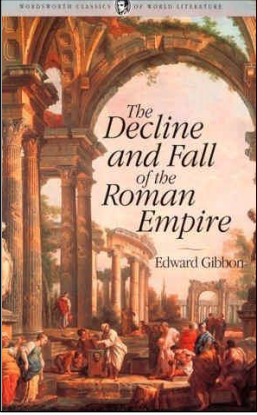
Sunday, September 18: the Prince George's County Hispanic Festival, noon to 6 p.m. at Lane Manor Park adjacent to University Blvd.

Sunday, November 6: Health Check 2011, noon to 3 p.m. at the Langley Park Community Center.

# NEWS AND NOTES

## Immigrants

**Deportations:** One million is the number of immigrants the Obama Administration has deported since the President was sworn into office (according to America's Voice). One million! Is this another cave-in to the right wing? In a recent speech to Latinos, the President claimed that he could not prevent the deportations because of the will of Congress—and the crowd chanted, "Yes you can." Has there ever been a president who had such a gap between some of his nice words of promise and his unsettling deeds of action? (Alas, the answer surely is yes.) Maybe this gap, which at times seems to be the result of pandering to the right-wing politicians who hate immigrants and government and more, is just another indication that we should all start to learn Mandarin. At least, we should all reread *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* (the six volumes are in stock at Amazon).



**Politico reports:** "The Obama administration deported nearly 400,000 people last year—a record—with the number driven up by those tossed out for traffic violations and drunken driving, according to a report on Friday. The focus on ousting those with relatively minor offenses raises questions about whether the administration has lived up to its promise to focus on deporting the most dangerous offenders,... During the fiscal year that ended in Sept. 30, 393,000 people were deported, and half of those were considered criminals. Of the criminal deportations, 7% were based on traffic violations, 23% were drug violations and 14% were drunken driving violations. ... President Obama has said that his administration's enforcement policy seeks to target the 'worst of the worst' and not individuals who have come to the country to work, but the large number of people who were deported after having committed minor crimes challenges that idea." Read more at this web site: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0711/59642.html#ixzz1TGqzKdOd>.

**Protesting Deportations:** A protest against the sweeping deportations without presidential action to modify the sweeps took place in Lafayette Square near the White House, and a dozen participants left the rally to move next to the building's security fence—who were then arrested. The arrestees included Congressman Luis Guterrez and our own Gustavo Torres.

**Guatemala:** From 2005 through June 11 of this year, more than 1,500 U.S. flights carrying deportees from the United States have landed in Guatemala, according to Temple Black, spokesman for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The number of Guatemalans deported annually from the United States shot from 11,000 in 2005 to close to 30,000 in 2010. From 2005 through this spring, the U.S. government spent more than \$744 million on removal flights to foreign countries, including Guatemala, according to ICE data. And so far this fiscal year, which ends on Sept. 30, ICE Air operations spent \$73.22 million—about \$519 on average per

**LAUGH OR CRY**  
**The House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration Policy and Enforcement held a hearing on the "Hinder the Administration's Legalization Temptation Act" (HALT Act), a bill that would suspend discretionary forms of immigration relief until January 21, 2013—the day after the next Presidential inauguration.**

seat—on 1,303 flights with more than 141,000 deportees. (*Times Free Press*, 26 July 2011)

**Immigration Courts:** During the first six months of FY2011, decision times continued to climb in cases disposed of by Immigration Courts. The increasingly long average wait reached 302 days—up 7.5% in the last six months, and almost 30% higher than the average disposition time during FY2009. And with the federal budget-cutting, the waiting will get longer. What an awful way to treat human beings.

**Obama**  
**"We should stop punishing innocent young people for the actions of their parents."**

## Schools

**The PGCPS Filipino Teachers:** With some feeling of unease, we quote two paragraphs from *FoxNews.com* (12 July 2011) because it makes clear the reason why the immigration expenses of international teachers should be paid by the agency that hires them: "According to the Labor Department, employers like the Prince George's school system must pay work visa fees in order to ensure foreign teachers are paid at least the same 'wage rates' as other U.S. workers. By not paying those fees, the department claims, the system 'illegally reduced the wages' of the foreign workers. The apparent goal is to make sure the wages of U.S. workers aren't depressed as a result. 'The Labor Department has the responsibility for ensuring that employers who use the H-1B program follow the law and do not place U.S. workers at a disadvantage to H-1B workers,' Labor Secretary Hilda Solis said in a statement." The full story is at <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2011/07/12/maryland-school-system-to-cough-up-4m-for-unpaid-visa-fees/#ixzz1TDz1C2Hm>.

An email comment by Kari Fisher: "Has County Executive Rushern Baker or Dr. Hite ever offered a *public* explanation as to: 1) what went wrong; 2) an apology to the citizens for such a costly mistake; 3) mistreating those teachers; 4) to the students, especially the special needs children that are largely served by these teachers in the County, for being forced to get rid of approximately 1,800 highly qualified teachers in the County; and 5) who is ultimately responsible for this debacle in PGC; 6) whose heads, if any, have rolled for this; and 7) what is PGC's plan to replace the highly qualified teachers we are immediately losing (161) and will continue to lose the rest of the 1800 teachers over the next couple of years as their visas expire. I am sick and tired of being sick and tired of PGC (the Johnsons, etc.) and PGCPS making mistakes like this and not being held accountable to the people."



**Cheating:** What do Atlanta, Baltimore, Philadelphia and Washington DC have in common? Their school systems' personnel have been found to cheat in order to raise the scores of their pupils. Has this behavior reached the Washington suburbs? That would not be surprising given the impact of test scores on the futures of principals and teachers. Perhaps No Child Left Behind has had the positive impact of pointing to the failure of many schools to improve the learning of subcategories of students, e.g., members of minority groups and those in "special education." But NCLB has also encouraged cheating. Of course, manipulating data is not a stranger to many school systems. PGCPS has for many years reported dropout rates that were far less than the actuality. Is there a solution to all of these temptations and indiscretions? Maybe modifying NCLB

*"News and Notes" continued on Page 3*

will help. But also, there might be a unit of a school system's central administration that is tasked with identifying questionable data.



There are some private sector companies focusing on school cheating. From the Caveon web site: "Cheating on tests isn't the exception anymore; it has almost become the rule. You invest hundreds of thousands of dollars in your tests, only to lose that investment whenever your tests' security is significantly breached. It's time to regain control of your company's reputation and stop losing valuable dollars to test fraud. ... Today's test cheaters are more creative than they used to be. In addition to scribbling notes on the palms of their hands, they're scouring the Internet for test questions. They use very sophisticated means to cheat, so it takes more sophisticated methods to catch them."

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**Francisco Acosta: New Book**

*Priests, Hookers, and Guns: Tales from Cuscatlán* is the title of the newly completed English edition of Dr. Francisco Acosta's autobiography. Acosta, who currently serves as a COHA Senior Research Fellow and is President of El Camino Career Services, is a prominent member of Washington's metropolitan Latino community. He has served as the President of CASA Maryland and took part in the negotiations in Washington that ultimately terminated the Salvadoran Civil War. In addition to such activism within the United States, Acosta founded the Bishop Oscar Romero University in Chalatenango, El Salvador. Good work, Francisco!

The Spanish edition of *Priests, Hookers, and Guns: Tales from Cuscatlán* will be published by the University of Central America in the fall of 2011 and will be presented at the Salvadoran Embassy in Washington, D.C on October 5th at 6pm.

**It Helps to be Native-Born**

Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics for 2010 reveal that for the studied races and ethnicity, the native born person has the edge in employment over the foreign-born. The data are in the accompanying table. The advantage for the native born is 14% for Whites, 11% for Blacks, 12% for Asians, and 13% for Latino/as. So the disadvantage of the foreign-born is consistent across categories of race or ethnicity. Perhaps one factor is the networks developed over time—and there is more time for the native born. It is also worth noting that foreign-born professionals often have to take lesser jobs in the United States, in part because of the lack of a needed credential.

Unemployed with B.A. or More	
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>	
White non-Latino	5.70%
Black non-Latino	8.50%
Asian non-Latino	5.70%
Latino	6.90%
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>	
White non-Latino	4.10%
Black non-Latino	7.90%
Asian non-Latino	4.90%
Latino	5.30%

**County Government**

**Police Public Affairs Office:** The new person heading the public affairs office is Julie Parker, former reporter at the local Channel 7 and before that Channel 8. Bon voyage. From the *Washington Examiner* (26 July 2011) interview: "I'm amused at

how appreciative I am of the basics that come with this position that feel like luxuries after being a general assignment reporter. An air-conditioned office, a water cooler, food and even bathrooms are 'perks' that reporters don't always have." The full interview is at: <http://washingtonexaminer.com/local/people/2011/07/3-minute-interview-julie-parker#ixzz1TEJNsDuU>.

**Jack Johnson's golden parachute:** That's the headline in the *Baltimore Sun* (25 July 2011). The sub-head: "Our view: The way to deter officials from betraying the public trust is to make sure the consequences of doing so follow them for the rest of their lives." And the item continues: "The case of former Prince George's County Executive Jack Johnson, who pleaded guilty to federal corruption charges in May, was back in the news this week after it was revealed that he is continuing to collect his \$39,468 state pension, despite having admitted to taking more than \$200,000 in bribes from developers. The disgraced former official reportedly has been collecting the money since January, thanks to a loophole in Maryland law that allows the state to deny public officials' pension benefits only if they are convicted of a crime while serving in office." *Hey, Maryland legislators: Close that loophole; don't continue to give the criminal our money. If you don't close it, does that mean you're trying to protect your own future?*



**Independent Taxi Drivers Still Fighting:** A County Council vote was taken some weeks ago to reverse its decision the year before that enabled several hundred independent taxi drivers-to-be to obtain medallions. "On behalf of the taxi industry, John Lally and Wayne Curry have gotten Council Member Will Campos to present a bill (CB-3-2011) that will take away the newly won gains for drivers."\* It has never been clear why the reversal took place, although safety was mentioned. (Safety?) Now, some drivers are continuing the fight. They argue that two "lobbyists" for the major taxi companies were not properly registered as lobbyists. Perhaps in the investigation of the two lobbyists, the reasons for the reversal will become clear. Hopefully, payoffs were not a factor—although the two lobbyists didn't walk away empty-handed..

\*<http://pg-politics-scandals.blogspot.com/>

**Crime**

**Car Thefts:** The county reports that there has been a dramatic decline (61%!) in car thefts—from about 15,000 a year to about 6,000. Apparently, the combination of improved police and car-manufacturing technology are significantly responsible. But also, more police officers have been assigned to this problem and the department has been using "bait" cars to trap the car thieves. There has been a national decline in auto thefts; indeed, according to CNNMoney, we're at the lowest level since 1967. But the county decline has been significantly greater than the national one. Well done, officers!

**Where?**  
Here's a quiz. What city is the writer focusing on? "This is one of the most placid and pleasant capitals, [but it] is a divided city. The west of the city is rich, safe and predominantly white; the east, poorer, less safe and populated by [non-Whites]."\*

Want to avoid areas with high theft rates? If so, don't go to California! Eight of the top ten localities in theft rate are in that state, and the other two in the top ten are in Washington (the state). Apparently, being near a border is an advantage because the stolen vehicles can be removed from the USA easily and quickly.

**Assaults:** Mid-July saw a number of crimes in the heart of

### ANOTHER I.C.E.-BROKEN FAMILY

Langley Park. Here is a listing of four assaults: 14th Ave., 8100 block, 1:50 a.m. July 11; 15th Ave., 8100 block, 11:06 p.m. July 16 (weapon used); 15th Ave., 8100 block, 12:54 a.m. July 17 (weapon used; arrest made); 15th Ave., 8400 block, 12:21 a.m. July 17 (arrest made). Clearly, there is special danger around midnight, and that suggests (a) extra caution must be taken at that time of night, and (b) apartment houses and other buildings must create defensible space, which means lots of after-dark lighting and good sight-lines so danger can be spotted—and hopefully avoided.

**MS-13:** A member of this vicious gang has just been found guilty of prostituting a 12-year-old girl from Oxon Hill. The girl had run away from home, and this gang member offered to "help" her. Let's hope he is jailed for a very long time; maybe he deserves to have his "family jewels" (cojones) removed.

#### Health Officer

Prince George's County is beginning the search for a new head of the Health Department. Let's hope his or her only bias is to serve all residents, rich or poor, majority or minority, native or immigrant. But alas, we are not separated from the former incumbent; Donald Shell has been appointed Interim Director of the state's Center for Health Promotion, Education, tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation. Maybe he's learned?

\*It's Oslo, but it isn't a bad characterization of Washington DC and the divide of suburbs to its east and west.

"Elena Flores rapped her hands helplessly against an Immigration and Customs Enforcement van, crying as it pulled away from Lillian's restaurant, a popular rendezvous in Arlandria-Chirilagua, around sundown on July 14. Her 31-year-old son, Herlin Flores, sat inside just as helpless. He had gone from family provider to federal detainee in a matter of minutes during a raid that has rattled residents and hushed the streets of the usually bustling Latino neighborhood.

"Authorities arrested Herlin, a native of Honduras, after he failed to produce government-issued identification, according to Elena. But she wonders why he was asked in the first place; socializing outside a restaurant with neighbors is no crime, and Herlin is a painter who would rather juggle a soccer ball than cause trouble, she said. Herlin was not the only one taken. Elena says her nephew, 21-year-old Erick Carbajal, also was arrested. 'ICE arrested the two individuals on immigration violations as part of a targeted law enforcement action aimed at taking known gang members and associates off the streets in our communities,' ICE spokeswoman Cori Bassett said in a statement.

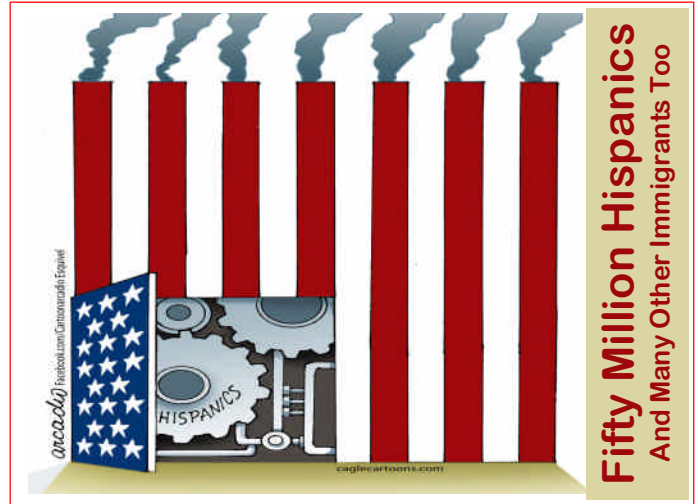
"Neither man had a criminal record, according to the Alexandria Circuit Court.' My son and nephew, all they do is work, and in their free time play soccer,' Elena said through an interpreter. 'My son was basically my support system for me and my daughter. Now that the rent and the bills are coming, and are high, I don't know what to do.'"

(Source: David Sachs in the Alexandria Times, 28 July 2011)

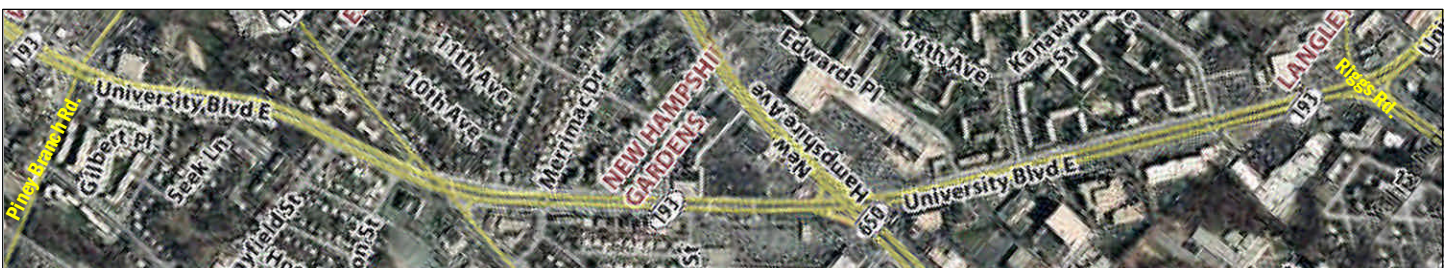
#### "Maryland" continued from Page 1

legislation—which would give equal opportunities to undocumented youngsters who have grown up in Maryland and have graduated from state high schools, and whose families pay taxes—could face a tough fight. Without the governor's active support, the law could well be repealed at the ballot.

One commentator: "Mr. O'Malley's reelection was one of the few bright spots for Democrats in the 2010 elections. Strong, vocal and persuasive leadership by him could make a big difference for both gay marriage and the Dream Act. These fights give the governor a chance to make a mark for policies he says he believes in and make him a potential player in future sweepstakes for national office. For Mr. O'Malley, this is a moment of self-definition." Go Martin!!



**Maryland's International Corridor:** The wonderful area along and near University Boulevard from around Piney Branch Road to just east of Riggs Road is increasingly becoming a center of affordable international food, shopping, and recreation. The University - New Hampshire Crossroads is the centerpoint of the Corridor. With careful development, keeping the smaller businesses that provide so much international flavor and adding some international businesses from the outside, the Corridor will become an attraction for people throughout the metro area and perhaps beyond. Developments in downtown Silver Spring will be helpful to the Corridor because many smaller international businesses have been forced out thanks to escalating rents, and with the coming of the Fillmore, pop and rock music fans will arrive but perhaps more people will be avoiding the area. Where should they go instead? Maryland's International Corridor! Restaurants are certainly an attraction with two regionally significant Indian restaurants, at least a half dozen Latin restaurants—not counting the half-dozen Peruvian chicken places, three good Vietnamese restaurants, Caribbean restaurants, and more. (Maybe development will bring good Chinese, Thai, Korean, and other restaurants into the mix.) Not far east on Route 1 are Middle Eastern and Japanese restaurants, and not far south are two African restaurants—one of them Ethiopian.

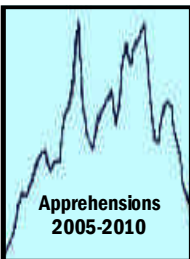


# APPREHENSIONS

Thanks to our good friends at the Office of Immigration Statistics at Homeland Security, immigration and related data are assembled and (sometimes) made public. A data-release took place at the end of July concerning “apprehensions” of those trying to cross into the USA without (reportedly) having the requisite documents. The table on this page provides the data for the two most-recent years. (The release includes years 2005 through 2010.)

The number of apprehensions has dropped significantly in the past few years. Back in 2005 and 2006, before the recession in the USA, apprehensions numbered more than one million. So the total has declined more than 50%. (The small graphic below shows the ups and downs from 2005 through 2010.)

The three explanations most often offered for the downturn are the USA recession, an increase in opportunities in Mexico, and greater tightening of the USA-Mexico border.



There certainly are no surprises. The Southwest border is responsible for 97% of all apprehensions. Whether this is due to 97% of the

attempts or greater vigilance is not known. Fully 86% of those apprehended are male. Back in 2005, females constituted 18%; perhaps the drop is due in part to the greater difficulty of border-crossing.

Those of prime working ages, from 18 to 34, constitute about 70% of all apprehensions. The working age distribution bulge is somewhat mirrored by Census figures for the Langley Park and East Silver Spring areas.

In 2010, Mexicans are by far the highest number of those apprehended, 87%, followed by Guatemala (4%) and El Salvador (3%). One interesting change is the increase of Guatemalans from 2% to 4% - but it still is a drop in the number of apprehended immigrants from 22.5k to 18.4k.

Thanks to the very poor economic situation in the USA, the number of attempts and apprehensions is likely to drop further in 2011 and beyond.

Characteristic	2010		2009	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Source: Homeland Security				
<b>WHICH BORDER</b>				
Total.....	463,382	100.0	556,032	100.0
Southwest.....	447,731	96.6	540,851	97.3
Coastal.....	8,220	1.8	8,374	1.5
Northern.....	7,431	1.6	6,807	1.2
<b>Gender</b>				
Total.....	463,382	100.0	556,032	100.0
Male.....	397,198	85.7	469,994	84.5
Female.....	66,173	14.3	86,023	15.5
Unknown.....	11	—	15	—
<b>HOW OLD</b>				
Total.....	463,382	100.0	556,032	100.0
17 years and under.....	31,291	6.8	40,461	7.3
18 to 24 years.....	148,969	32.1	182,740	32.9
25 to 34 years.....	173,763	37.5	205,173	36.9
35 to 44 years.....	82,236	17.7	95,922	17.3
45 to 54 years.....	22,981	5.0	26,668	4.8
55 years and over.....	4,125	0.9	5,029	0.9
Unknown.....	17	—	39	—
<b>WHAT NATIONALITY</b>				
Total.....	463,382	100.0	556,032	100.0
Mexico.....	404,365	87.3	503,379	90.5
Guatemala.....	18,406	4.0	15,575	2.8
El Salvador.....	13,723	3.0	11,693	2.1
Honduras.....	13,580	2.9	14,630	2.6
Ecuador.....	1,777	0.4	1,313	0.2
Dominican Republic.....	1,330	0.3	865	0.2
China, People's Republic.....	1,157	0.2	1,499	0.3
Nicaragua.....	909	0.2	975	0.2
Brazil.....	812	0.2	798	0.1
Cuba.....	712	0.2	910	0.2
Canada.....	690	0.1	490	0.1
All other countries, including unknown.....	5,921	1.3	3,905	0.7

## Development in PG County

Segments of an email from the county's Park and Planning office: "More than 100 residents and stakeholders attended the 'Shared Opportunity Forum' hosted by the *Envision Prince George's* Community Action Team for Transit-Oriented Development and The Coalition for Smarter Growth on July 11. Held at the CSC building in Lanham, the forum was designed to discuss how transit-oriented development can be used, not only to create walkable and desirable places to live and work, but also as a tool to develop vibrant communities for residents with a variety of incomes." [Comment: One hundred out of close to one million? Lanham, too distant for residents in the west-central part of the county. Once again, *Envision Prince George's* hosted a very unrepresentative sample of residents and businesspeople.]

"The Prince George's County Council is committed to Transit Oriented Development," said Council member Harrison. "I'm excited about opportunities for it in Prince George's County." [Do the stops of a light rail or express bus system (such as planned for the maybe-will-be-built Purple Line) qualify for "transit" as in "Transit-Oriented Development" as envisioned by county planners?]

"Although the panelists placed emphasis on different aspects of development—including comprehensive and integrated plans, having a diversity of options for the widest range of people and income levels, and creating and enforcing laws that support the growth of the County and well-being of residents—they all agreed that successful transit-oriented development was essential and possible in Prince George's County." [If there is one area that is to become a transit-oriented development location, and there currently are thousands of working class residents in the area, how many of the old-timers will have to be displaced to make room for the upper class newcomers?]

"Panelists stressed the importance of consistent community involvement and voice to ensure decision-makers and leaders know their desires and implement plans to support them." [But the desires of Langley Park area residents and businesspeople have not been supported. Is that because TOD will not be implemented in the Langley Park area, or because the statement to support community desires is a lie?]

Prince George's County needs development, and selective use of TOD in such areas as the transit station in New Carrollton—where there will be little disruption to the lives of residents and businesspeople—makes good sense. But TOD to destroy—to bulldoze—neighborhoods is not good sense, so we can only hope that county decisionmakers are builders, not destroyers.

### An Optimist Writes to BLP

"I foresee no economic circumstance in the next 25 years that would result in a thousand or more units being demolished. Even less likely in my mind is the idea of replacement gentrification, except perhaps if there were to be a trend of gradual economic prosperity for the households that live there. I say this notwithstanding whatever the professional planners envision for the area. There would have to be a powerful economic dynamic to engender such massive change and, based on my experience, it doesn't seem very likely at all. The interest by government to benefit from increased real estate taxes is no doubt real, but that interest does not cause or drive real estate redevelopment. If the economic demand is not there, nothing will cause development to occur." *Let's hope that our optimist friend is right. Certainly, if the economic downturn (except for the stock market) continues, development will be limited. And of course if the Purple Line is not funded, any development will be very slow to arrive in the Takoma-Langley area..*

## WHAT AND WHEN

### BARRIO DE LANGLEY PARK

This neighborhood planning newsletter is edited and published by Action Langley Park, with a supportive link to the Langley Park Project of the University of Maryland. The Editor is Bill Hanna. It appears irregularly, but approximately every two weeks. Submissions and suggestions are welcome at [actionlangleypark@yahoo.com](mailto:actionlangleypark@yahoo.com). Back issues of BLP will soon be available on the web.

For information about Action Langley Park, a nonprofit 501c3 organization, email [actionlangleypark@yahoo.com](mailto:actionlangleypark@yahoo.com).

### CALENDAR

Here we list upcoming ALP activities and other events that come to our attention. Have an event to list? If so, send information in advance to [actionlangleypark@yahoo.com](mailto:actionlangleypark@yahoo.com).

**Wednesdays—the Farmers' Market** on the 7676 New Hampshire Avenue space operates from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. Lots of fresh fruit, vegetables, and more—even music!

**August 4—Teen Issues Day** organized by the Latin American Youth Center. At Thurgood Marshall Center, 1816 12th St., 3:30 to 6 p.m.

**August 12-20—Montgomery County Fair** at the Fairgrounds (16 Chestnut St., Gaithersburg). Friday, 3pm. to midnight; Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m. to midnight. Info: 301 926-3100.

**August 13—Key Legal Information**, 1-3 p.m. at the Langley Park Community Center. In Spanish. Free! Topics include child custody and many other aspects of family law.

**August 20—PGCPS Back to School Fair**, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Greenbelt.

**August 20—Free Community Dinner & Food Distribution** at the St. Michael and All Angels Church, 8501 New Hampshire Ave. in upper Langley Park. From 5 to 6:30 p.m. This is a regular event; it takes place every third Saturday of the month. For information, call 301 434-4646.

**August 22—First day of school** in Prince George's County.

**September 11—Takoma Park Folk Festival, 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Middle School, 7611 Piney Branch Rd. Many stages of performers plus crafts and foods.**



**September 15—Action Langley Park meets** at 7 p.m. in the Langley Park Community Center. The main agenda item will be planning ALP's work for the coming year. But there are many more pressing issues. Everyone is welcome!!

**September 18—Prince George's County's Hispanic Festival in Lane Manor Park, noon to 6 p.m. Lots of food, music, and games. The location is on the south side of University Blvd. west of the U. of Maryland.**

**November 6—Health Check 2011** from noon to 3 p.m. at the Langley Park Community Center. This annual event provides free screenings for many potentially harmful health conditions; high blood pressure, rotting teeth, HIV, diabetes, poor kidney function, and more. Yes, it's free!

**May 6—Langley Park Day 2012 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Langley Park Community Center. There will be music and dance performances; a major health fair checking vision, HIV status, blood pressure, and more; vendors; children's art and games; and much more.**



**Correction: In BLP issue 214, the telephone number for information about public (and free) ESL classes offered in and near Langley Park by Prince George's Community College was incomplete. The correct contact number is 301 322-0891.**