

# Barrio de Langley Park

A Neighborhood Planning Newsletter Published by Action Langley Park

Issue Number 240, June 2012

## SECRETARY HILDA SOLIS VISITS LANGLEY PARK AREA



Labor Secretary Solis visited CASA de Maryland in late May to talk about jobs, training, worker protection, and more. She offered encouraging words about the improved jobs situation, although improvement is quite obviously slow.

Alas, the unemployment situation for Latinos and Latinas is very worrisome: for May 2012 the figure is 11%. Of course, that does not count

many undocumented and informal workers, so the real figure is higher.

The weak economy is of course a major factor, and the construction industry is among the weakest sectors. From the BLS: "Construction employment declined by 28,000 in May, with job losses occurring in specialty trade contractors (-18,000) and in heavy and civil engineering construction (-11,000). Since reaching a low in January 2011, employment in construction has shown little change on net.

The greatest worry may be the unemployment rate for Latino/as in the 16-19 age group: it is 30.4%! (It was "only" 26.1% in May 2011—and only 26.1% just last April.) So what are these young people doing because they aren't working in the formal sector and they are not going to school? And what about the future of the USA as people in this age group become more and more significant to the country's future? This is an emergency. How about launching the WPA and the CCC? It worked in the depression.

Whom should we blame? The European crisis? The Bush policies that moved us into a deep recession? Maybe. Secretary Hilda Solis? Definitely not!

## RETURN THE PITCH TO THE FUTBOLERS!

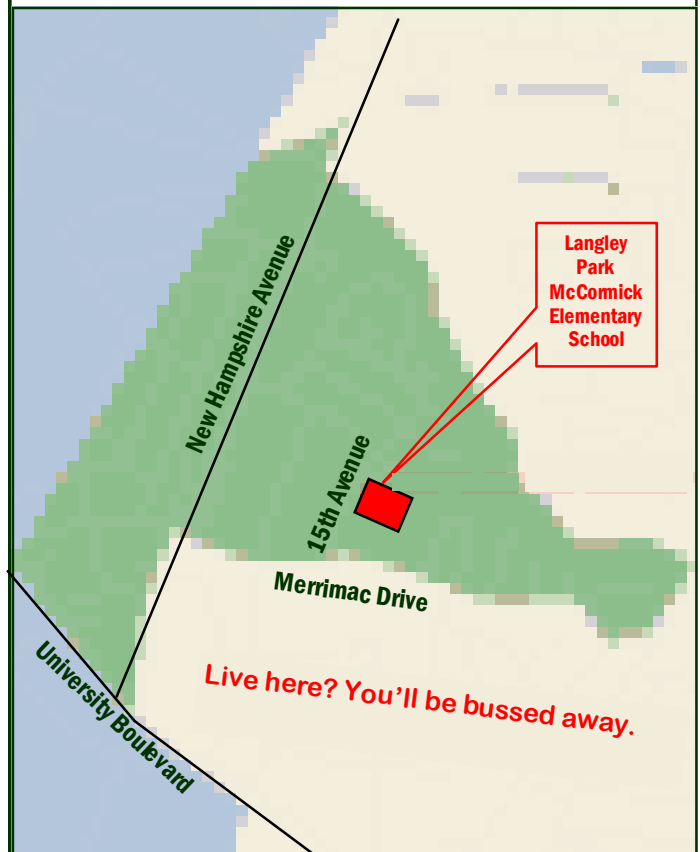
(aka "soccer field")

For some rather thoughtless (hopefully not mean) reason, play equipment has been placed on the soccer field behind the Langley Park McCormick Elementary School—thus depriving local residents of a convenient place for weekend and evening games and exercise.

"Futbol" continued on Page 4

## KIDS NEAR THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL FORCED TO BUS TO DISTANT SCHOOL

It's hard to believe. But true. If a family lives a few yards away from Langley Park McCormick Elementary School to the south, the children in elementary school in such families are forced to be bussed to the distant Mother Jones Elementary School. What crazy boundary-drawing! Below is a map of the area—in green—from which neighborhood students are able to be in their neighborhood school. Just think: children on the south side of Merrimac



Drive can wave at the children walking to the neighborhood school on the north side of Merrimac Drive as they await a bus to take them to a distant school. And their parents' visits can be difficult.

Of course, there is no implication that one school is better than the other one. But there is an argument that walking to one's neighborhood school enhances community—and is a healthy activity too. Is there a good counter reason?

# Immigration News

## The Deportation Review

The *New York Times* (6 June 2012) reports on a good policy but a failed implementation. And the result is that more and more families are fragmented along with hopes for a better life. Ah, the American dream.

“After seven months of an ambitious review by the Obama administration of all deportations before the nation’s immigration courts, very few of them have been halted, disappointing immigrants President Obama hopes to court for his re-election bid.

“Under the review of more than 411,000 deportation cases, the first of its kind, fewer than 2% have been closed so far. The numbers fall far short of expectations raised among immigrants, including many Latinos, when top administration officials announced they would comb through backlogged court dockets to close cases where the immigrants had strong family ties to this country and no criminal records.

“Department of Homeland Security officials say the review has been slowed by bureaucratic delays with criminal background checks of the immigrants. They said many thousands more deportations could be suspended in coming months.

“Immigrant leaders and Democratic lawmakers said the review was faltering because the administration was offering too little help to too few immigrants who would qualify. Even when prosecutors close their cases, immigrants are left in legal limbo, without immigration status or authorization to work. ...”

Hey President Obama: This is your administration. Maybe there are some anti-immigrant bureaucrats, but you are in charge. So give the order to make the review process fair and efficient.

## Comments on S-Comm

Yes, “Secure Communities,” the federal program loved by the Enforcers and not loved by many state and local officials, police officials, immigrants, and civil libertarians. Here are two recent comments we received from the National Day Laborer Organizing Effort (and the below poster is from the NDLOE web site):



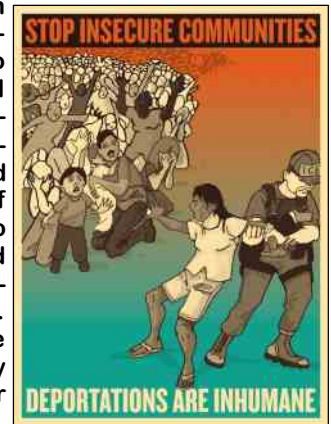
Sonia Lin, Attorney and Clinical Teaching Fellow at the Cardozo School of Law Immigration Justice Clinic: “The FBI is supposed to partner with state and local police to promote public safety. But Secure Communities was imposed on states and local agencies without their consent. It undermines community policing, diverts local resources, and turns local law enforcement agencies into gateways to deportation. The FBI has the authority—and the obligation—to re-

think its involvement in this deportation dragnet.”

Travis Hall, a PhD candidate at New York University studying biometric programs: “There are many ways to set up biometric databases—they can either increase detrimental forms of surveillance and encroach upon privacy rights, or they can be used to bolster security and be privacy enhancing. This depends a great deal on the values embedded into the technologies during their design and application. Right now the Secure Communities

program is a textbook case of ‘function creep’, when information collected for one purpose is inappropriately used for another. It is my hope that the FBI will take into consideration the concerns of privacy and immigration rights activists in setting the standards and policies that structure their collection and dissemination of personally identifiable information.”

Not surprisingly, opposition to S-Comm has inspired artists and musicians to put into images, words, music, and theater the ways that the federal program has been harmful because it sweeps up and deports many thousands of immigrants to the USA who are leading positive lives and contributing to their communities and their new country. The art work displayed here (to the right) was designed by Alfredo Burgos with color added by Ernesto Yarena.



## DREAM Act small

The *Huffington Post* (5 June 2012) speculates that there is at least a slight possibility of a bipartisan modified DREAM Act. “In April, Rubio, who had previously denounced the DREAM Act as an unacceptable ‘amnesty,’ floated a new proposal that would allow the Act’s intended beneficiaries to stay in the country legally, but only on a temporary visa. They would not get an automatic ticket to citizenship, as the Act in its current form would allow, and would not be able to sponsor family members for legal residence, either. But they could still apply for a green card through regular U.S. immigration channels, which means, with a much longer wait, they would likely end up as U.S. citizens anyway.” Given the current mood of the country, a mood that might give the t-party even greater power this year, perhaps the modified DREAM Act is all we could hope for? But is this small act proposal an effort to have undocumented young people come forward, perhaps receive a temporary visa, have the visa expire, and then order a large-scale deportation? Or is such a thought paranoid?



## Cascading Constitutional Deprivation

Mark L. Noferi of the Brooklyn Law School writes (in the *Brooklyn Law School Legal Studies* paper series, 2012) about a very unfair element in the law: The right to appointed counsel for mandatorily detained immigrants pending removal proceedings. The USA clearly does not protect rights as it should. Here’s the paper’s abstract:

“When a Department of Homeland Security officer mandatorily detains a green card holder without bail pending his removal proceedings, for a minor crime committed perhaps long ago, the immigrant’s life takes a drastic turn. If he contests his case, he likely will remain incarcerated in substandard conditions for months or years, often longer than for his original crime, and be unable to acquire a lawyer, access family whom might assist, or access key evidence or witnesses. In these circumstances, it is all but certain he will lose his deportation case, sometimes wrongfully, and be banished abroad from work, family, and friends. The immigrant’s one chance to escape these cascading events is the off-the-record ‘Joseph’ hearing challenging detention. If he

"Immigration" continued from Page 2

wins, is released, and can secure counsel, he likely will win his case to stay in America. Yet ... he may not even be told the 'Joseph hearing' exists, let alone win the hearing involving complex statutory analysis on facts, witnesses, and evidence relating to the conviction, now all outside his reach.

"It is rare in modern American law that a non-lawyer's decision causes so much to hang in the balance in such complex yet informal proceedings without a lawyer to

At a Joseph hearing, the immigrant must meet the burden that the Government is "substantially unlikely" to establish at the removal hearing the charge(s) that subject the immigrant to mandatory detention.

challenge it. Indeed, the modern immigration detention system is uniquely rare, in peacetime or war, in providing for preventive pretrial detention without counsel pursuant to underlying proceedings without counsel. It creates a cascading risk of wrongful detention and deporta-

tion – one cognizable under modern procedural due process theories, even notwithstanding traditional plenary power over immigration laws. In a post-Padilla v. Kentucky world with an increasingly functionalist Constitutional view of deportation, and where criminal defenders now must advise on the same issues litigated at the Joseph hearing, a right to appointed counsel for mandatorily detained immigrants pending removal proceedings is constitutionally viable, practically feasible, and morally necessary."

### The Urban Impact of Immigration

A team of Italian researchers associated with the Bank of Italy, explore the impact of immigration in twenty Italian cities of immigrant in-migration. (Temi di Discussione #866, 2012): "We examine the impact of immigration on the residential market within urban areas. We develop a spatial equilibrium model that shows how the effect of an immigrant inflow in a district affects local housing prices through changes in how natives perceive the quality of their local amenities and how this influences their mobility. The model uses a dataset on housing prices and population variables at the district level for a sample of 20 large Italian cities. We find that immigration raises average housing prices at the city level; however it reduces price growth in a district affected by an inflow vis-à-vis the rest of the city. This pattern is driven by the natives' flight from immigrant-dense districts towards other areas of the city. These findings are consistent with na-

tive preferences to live in predominantly native areas." Is this the pattern in the USA?

### Immigrants Help the Economy

The *Baltimore Business Journal* (7 June 2012) comments: "Immigrants to Maryland are a key driver of the state's economy, starting businesses at a rate twice that of those born in the U.S."

Surprise: Immigrants are about as well educated as natives: "Forty percent of immigrants in Maryland have at least a four-year college degree, on par with the 39% of native born Marylanders. ... One-third of Maryland immigrants are scientists and 23% work in health care. ..."



We waste the talents and skills of many immigrants. For example, there are people with medical degrees driving taxi cabs. "One challenge is to assist immigrants who had highly skilled jobs in their home countries to find similar jobs here, so they are not working in low-skilled jobs when they arrive in the U.S."

Here's one of many positive examples: A GIS expert came to the USA and began work as a painter's assistant. But years later she's working in her profession very successfully. There should be many more examples of the USA taking advantage of home-country skills.

### Obama Disappoints ... but ...

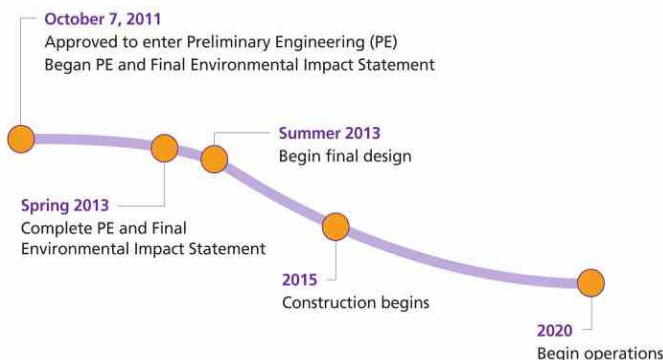
There certainly is some disappointment from the moderate and progressive segments of the population and the media. "Today in America, one in four Latino voters knows someone in deportation proceedings. The justices of the Supreme Court don't care. What else can be concluded from their questions and comments during oral arguments over SB1070, Arizona's notorious stab at ethnic cleansing?"

"And Latinos shouldn't expect any succor from our deporter-in-chief, President Obama. Recently, he told a Univision reporter that he hoped to tackle comprehensive immigration reform in the first year of his second term. Obama made the exact promise in 2008 for the first year of his first term. It didn't happen." (*Village Voice*, 6 June 2012)

Yes, there have been some very troublesome disappointments, and not all can be blamed on the t-party-run House of Representatives. So when we vote in November, we will not be choosing our ideal; we will be making a comparative decision on who is better—or least worse.

## Planning for the Purple Line Is Moving Along

### Anticipated Project Schedule



► The graphic to the left is the official schedule for the design, construction, and initial operation of the Purple Line. So perhaps by 2020, we'll be getting into the streetcar (light rail car) and moving along quietly to Silver Spring or College Park or somewhere else along the line. Of course, the project depends on funds from the state and federal government, but adherents appear to be quite optimistic despite possible rival Baltimore. Might Maryland have to compromise by opting for bus rapid transit?

► Some people argue that a rapid bus would provide the same transportation but at substantially lower construction cost. Yes. But the counter argument is that a fixed light rail is more likely to encourage development along the route.

► Currently, the Purple Line is planned to be in shared lanes along Wayne Avenue for about one mile; there will also be a short shared section on Paint Branch Parkway. Of course, there will be slowdowns there.



## Health Care: The Governor's Commission on Hispanic Affairs

This agency is supposed to facilitate communication between the state's officials and residents who are Latino or Latina.

The organization invites those interested in Latino/a health to attend the June 2012 Commission meeting on Wednesday, June 20, starting at 5:00 p.m. in the new Mary's Center unit at 8908 Riggs Road, Adelphi.

The focus is "Quality Health Care Access for Hispanics in Maryland." The dialogue will focus on a closer overview of the recently passed Health Enterprise Zone bill championed by Lieutenant Governor Anthony Brown, as well as a focus on a successful model for health care provision for minority communities and the under- and uninsured.

Many residents of Langley Park and their friends have for many years been advocating for a sliding-scale general clinic in the area, but so far this needed resource has not arrived. The new Mary's Center unit will help, especially for pregnant women and young children. But more is clearly needed. Perhaps the county will look again at the third floor of La Union as a location for a clinic. Or perhaps the regional administrators in the Langley Park Community Center can recognize that the best action they can take—if they care about Langley Park's residents—is to move elsewhere so that clinical services can be located in the center. The bi-annual health fairs at the center are helpful but clearly insufficient to the need. Action, not talk, is needed.

*"Futbol" continued from Page 1*

**The photograph below reveals what the thoughtless people have done: one play structure is immediately in front of one goal, and another play structure is towards the center of the field.**

**Are there people associated with the school who don't like residents of the neighborhood?**

**And so a request: Move the play equipment to one of the many alternative spaces behind the school, and then let's have PGCPs and/or MNCPPC-PG fix the field so that it becomes another positive element for the residents of the neighborhood. Maybe the Transitional Neighborhood Initiative can contribute to this positive change.**

## THE "DESTRUCTION" OF AMERICA

### And other evidence of paranoia

That's the title of an article by Frosty Wooldridge published in *NewsWithViews.com* (4 June 2012). The subtitle is "California's Growing Third World Population." And later, he uses the subtitle "California mutating into another country." This writer is sure angry.

"I witnessed, a complete 'mutation' of California from an American state to a linguistic, racial and religious polyglot—unable to function financially, educationally, lawfully and ethically. In his 'Two California's: Abandoned farms, Third World living conditions, pervasive public assistance – welcome to the once-thriving Central Valley,' he discovered the same things I watched devolve in my five bicycle trips the length and width of that once gorgeous state. It took 40 years to end up in a quagmire today, and, more sobering, it will not climb out of its hole. Like all third world countries, illiteracy grows faster than it can be cured. ...

"I cannot help but see that ticking becoming louder as angry, disenfranchised and arrogant Mexican nationals stomp on the American flag, throw trash everywhere possible instead of a trash can, and they flunk out of schools as a cultural prerogative. It's as if they think or regard illiteracy as their greater good. But, they trash America while they cash U.S. food stamps."

Gads, there sure are dangers from all of those people who have a slightly darker skin than the so-called "white folks"! And some of them don't even speak English—like most immigrants who came to this country and, if they didn't assimilate, their children and grandchildren did.\* Gads, many of those adult immigrant women even know how to make more than two babies, a talent most "white folks" seem to have forgotten. It is the destruction of America! Or maybe it's the filling of America with new energy and ideas. And it certainly is the saving of Social Security and other programs supporting the older folks by having a sufficiently large workforce of those of working age.

\*Hum: a key person in Action Langley Park is the son of an immigrant father and the grandson of his mother's immigrant parents. (The latter two spoke no English.) We should do research on the extent to which he has caused a mutation of America. Well, a bad one.



# Latino/as' School Success

## A Work in Progress

In early June, the report "Diplomas Count 2012: Trailing Behind, Moving Forward—Latino Students in U.S. Schools" was published. Here, we present a few of its paragraphs. Clearly, education is crucial and educational success while improving must be enhanced.

When it comes to educational challenges, the nation's 12.1 million Hispanic school-children face plenty: language, poverty, lower-than-average graduation rates for high school and college, and, more recently, a wave of laws targeting illegal immigrants that has made school seem like less of a safe haven for Hispanic students in some states.

Yet, as numerous researchers and policymakers point out, the economic health of the nation is tied inextricably to the educa-

tional success of this growing population. It's a matter of demographics. Latino children are the fastest-growing of the four largest racial or ethnic groups in U.S. schools. If the United States is to meet its education goals for staying economically competitive, its schools and colleges are going to have to do better by young Hispanics.

With that in mind, *Education Week's Diplomas Count 2012* takes a closer look at the state of schooling for this population of students, the challenges they face, and the lessons learned from some of the schools, districts, organizations, and communities that work closely with Latino students.

Among the major population groups in the nation's schools, the largest one-year gain in the graduation rate was among Latino students. According to a special analysis conducted by the EPE Research Center for *Diplomas Count*, the graduation rate for Latino students grew by an impressive 5.5% from the class of 2008 to the class of 2009, rising to 63%.

But Latinos' 63% graduation rate is still far short of the national average—and farther still from non-Hispanic white students' average graduation rate. And, despite some success in recent years at narrowing the gap separating them from white students on national tests of reading, mathematics, and science, Latino students' perform-

### ONE IN FOUR

By 2020, one in four children enrolled in America's K-12 public schools will be Latino. Of those Latino students, more than half will be second-generation Americans, born in the United States to at least one parent who is an immigrant. Another third will be at least third-generation Americans, the children of parents who were also born in this country.

### WHO GRADUATES IN MARYLAND?

Maryland's cohort graduation data show strong performance, but differences between student subgroups are persistent. Using the five-year cohort rate, the following graduation percentages were recorded for the class of 2011:

#### MD Race/Ethnicity/Heritage

Asian - 94.56%  
African American - 77.87%  
Hispanic - 78.15%  
Euro - 89.65%

#### MD Special Services

English language learners - 60.94%  
Students receiving free or reduced-price meals - 80.25%

#### MD Gender

Male—81.53%  
Female—87.71%

#### MD High Schools

High Point—77.37%  
High Point Latino/as—72.62%  
Northwestern—73.61%  
Northwestern Latino/a—70.22%

ance on those tests also falls below the national average. The factors behind the educational disparities dogging this population are complex. ... Hispanic students trail their non-Hispanic white counterparts in educational access as early as preschool. They are the least likely of the four largest population groups to enroll their 3- and 4-year-old children in preschool. ... Poverty also plays a role in Hispanic students' edu-



ca-tional prospects, as it does for other traditionally disadvantaged groups, such as African-American children. As noted in a special analysis by the EPE Research Center, Latinos attend school in districts that are, on average, larger, poorer, and more racially and ethnically isolated than those that white students attend. ...

"Cultural factors are in the mix, too. National statistics show that Hispanic students are less likely than white or African-American students to borrow money for college. Experts say that reluctance is due partly to a lack of familiarity with the financial-aid process and partly to cultural norms. The influence of culture on Latinos' educational attainment may be especially apparent among young Hispanic women, some of whom are expected to stay close to their families and help care for younger siblings rather than go away to college. ... The strict immigration laws taking hold in such states as Alabama, Arizona, Georgia, Indiana, South Carolina, and Utah are the latest challenge for this critical student population, education observers and Hispanic advocates say. The laws have prompted legal challenges—including a case over the Arizona law awaiting a decision by the U.S. Supreme Court. ..."

### EDUCATION ADVOCATES

**Congressman Charles A. Gonzalez:** "The Hispanic community is growing and will shape the economic future of this country. We must do all we can to better ensure that all Latinos, like all Americans, have a meaningful opportunity to improve their lives and succeed in pursuing the American dream. Our students are committed to being the next generation of leaders, but it is up to all of us, to provide our schools with the necessary resources and investments to allow their success."

**County Executive Rushern L. Baker III:** "We must focus like a laser on improving our education system. For, without a strong school system and a well-educated and trained workforce, it will be difficult for us to attract corporations to relocate their business to our county or prevent existing ones from moving out." And difficult for America's future.

### ACCOMPLISHED SCHOOL CHILDREN

Last fall, the Prince George's County Public Schools' Math Department provided access to "First in Math" to all third through eighth grade students. The program features math challenges—ranging from single-step addition to complex algebra—in a fun, game-like format. Students work at their own pace to master skills and accumulate points along the way. The three top students were: Caleb McCammon, Grade 8, Kenmoor Middle School (PGCPS: 1st/Nation: 3rd); Vivian Tran, Grade 6, University Park Elementary School (PGCPS: 2nd/Nation: 37th); and Ezequiel Nogales, Grade 4, Oakcrest Elementary School (PGCPS: 3rd/Nation: 76th). Congratulations to these students and their teachers. And note: two of the three are apparently of non-USA heritage.



## DID P.G. LEARN FROM N.O. OR THE OPPOSITE?

In New Orleans: "The city classifies food trucks as mobile vendors, putting them in the same category as souvenir sellers. Only 100 permits are available at any given time, meaning a new truck owner has to wait until an existing one is turned in. A permit costs about \$300 and must be renewed each year.

The application is just the start. In order to cook on a truck, the city requires a health department inspection and a fire inspection, and trucks must make any needed modifications before they can open.

"But then comes the biggest conundrum: where to go. Trucks cannot operate in the French Quarter or the Central Business District, keeping them away from millions of tourists who visit annually, not to mention office workers who are less inclined to seek a sit-down meal.



"New Orleans food trucks can only stop in one place for 30 minutes at a time, and can only visit the same spot once in a 24-hour pe-

riod. Food trucks can't sell dishes made from seafood, a big roadblock in a place known for its tasty shrimp, crawfish and Gulf-caught fish. Trucks also can't set up within 600 feet of a school, cafeteria or restaurant." (Micheline Maynard in *Atlantic Cities*, 12 June 2012)

Alas, in New Orleans and Prince George's County, potential customers want the convenience, speed, sociability, and affordability of the mobile food vendors. Potential micro-entrepreneurs want the opportunity to begin a small business. And immigrants want the link to their home cultures. (In most urban areas around the world, mobile food trucks offer lifestyle and economic benefits.) Let's hope that both jurisdictions' officials will realize that their fears are misplaced.


**"KNOW THYSELF"**

## Writing Workshop for Teens

GRADES 8-12  
JULY 15 - JULY 27, 2012  
Monday-Friday from 10am to 1pm  
Followed by Saturday writing classes throughout the academic school year  
On the campus of Howard University Washington, DC


Fiction, Poetry, Playwriting & Graphic Novels

**Information, application: Contact [info@hurstonwright.org](mailto:info@hurstonwright.org).**



COMMUNITY MINISTRY  
of Prince George's County

Academic Research Partner:



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
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School of Public Health  
[www.healthequity.umod.edu](http://www.healthequity.umod.edu)


Presents

## Community Place Café Health Promotion Expo

**Selected Screening and Wellness Services:**

- Blood pressure check
- Asthma education
- Mental Wellness (Anger Management and Depression)
- Body Mass Index (BMI) Assessments
- Medication review/consultation with a Pharmacist
- Foot Health/Diabetic foot checks
- Nutrition education
- Bicycle Check-Up
- Barbershop on Call (free haircuts)

Free fresh produce will be available on a first-come first-serve basis




The main information contact:  
Mr. Jimmie Shale,  
Executive Director  
at 301-325-0714  
or [janluc@verizon.net](mailto:janluc@verizon.net)

**First United Methodist Church**  
6201 Belcrest Road,  
Hyattsville MD 20782  
<http://www.fumch.org>

**Monday  
June 18, 2012  
Noon - 5:00 pm**

In Partnership with the U.S. Public Health Service  
Commissioned Officers Foundation/Association





**Are you looking for a JOB?  
Do you want FREE JOB training?**

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**CLEAN WATER JOBS TRAINING**

**June 25, 26, 27, & 28**

**9 am to 3 pm**

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- Learn how landscape features clean polluted water
- Get hands on training
- Meet and learn from experts in this field
- Market your services to help you find a job

**For information or to apply, call 410 4618323. Deadline: June 15!**

### Parents: Take Note

## Summer Learning Packets Available Online

Summer activity packets are available online for students entering kindergarten through eighth grade. The packets include activities that will reinforce skills and prepare students for the 2012-13 school year in a range of subjects, including math, reading, English/language arts, social studies and science activities. For more information, contact [summer.packets@pgcps.org](mailto:summer.packets@pgcps.org). (Thanks, Amber Waller.)



## WE WANT SOCIAL JUSTICE!

Unfortunately, justice does not always prevail. And these days, there is a constant threat of deportation facing millions of immigrants. Furthermore, there are threats of gentrification and displacement in the area. So CASA de Maryland and other organizations (including Action Langley Park) are trying to influence decisionmakers so that these twin threats (deportation and displacement) are reduced or eliminated. Perhaps the march announced below can be of influence. At least it will indicate a continuing concern for the threats.

## Gran Caminata Por la Justicia Social

## walk for Social Justice



Maryland State is in the process of building the Purple Line that will go through Langley Park & Long Branch communities. This project might increase the cost of living and displace the most vulnerable in our community.

### It is Our Community

- Yes to the Purple Line
- Yes to Affordable Housing
- Yes to Jobs Creation
- Yes to Quality Education
- Yes to Health Clinics Access
- Yes to Small Businesses

**SATURDAY JUNE 30, 2012**

**1:00PM**

**WE WILL MEET AT  
FLOWER AVE.**

**&  
PINEY BRANCH RD.  
BESTWAY SUPERMARKET  
LONG BRANCH, MD**



Route of  
the march

# NO to Displacement! to Deportations!

# NO al Desplazamiento! a las Deportaciones!

ÚNETE A LA COALICIÓN PARA EL DESARROLLO JUSTO, LLÁMANOS AL (240)491-5776

## The Purple Line & Displacement: A Comment

Many people think that the Purple Line will have positive consequences for area residents and business people. It will be easier to travel east and west, and more customers might opt to enjoy the restaurants and other businesses in the Langley Park and Long Branch areas.

And there are many people who fear that the Purple Line will trigger negative consequences for area residents and businesspeople. Some business property may be taken to have sufficient width of roads to handle the light rail lines, construction will be disruptive for many months (or years), and some residents may be displaced as gentrification pressures gain in strength.

ALP believes that it is possible for Prince George's and Montgomery Counties to enhance the positive and diminish the negative. For example, in Langley Park it is possible to add residential space without displacing any residents. The challenge is for decisionmakers to implement the win-win possibility.

## WHAT AND WHEN



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

**June 14:** Will Campos town hall—6:30 to 8 p.m. at Northwestern High School.

**June 16—Action Summit** (see below)

**June 16:** Free Community Dinner & Food Distribution at 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 on the third Saturday of the month. For information, call 301 434-4646.

**June 18:** Health Expo, 12 to 5 p.m. at the Methodist church at 6201 Belcrest Rd. (See page 4 for details.)

**June 30—Rally** against deportation and displacement starting at 1 p.m. at the corner of Piney Branch Road and Flower Avenue in Long Branch and marching into Langley Park and the CASA headquarters at the mansion. (See fliers to the left.)

**August 7:** National Night Out. In Langley Park, the Community Center is planning an indoor afternoon [not quite night!] event, 3:30-5 p.m., with a focus on children—including a film and ice cream. Some good bilingual police officers are likely to join the fun.

**November 10:** Health Check at the LP Community Center from noon to 3:30 p.m. There will be a wide range of health screenings plus information and counseling. Is your heart okay? Are you infected with HIV? How's your lung strength? Any problems with oral health? Et cetera!

**May 5—Langley Park Day 2013**, a festival of music, dance, food, information, and especially health.

## “White House Hispanic Community Action Summit”

Saturday, 16 June 2012

8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Montgomery Blair High School  
(51 University Blvd. East)



Senior Obama administration officials and want to "connect" with local leaders, activists, and others. The organizers state that the "summit" is "to identify policy and programmatic areas of concern, receive and respond to constructive criticism and feedback, and identify local success stories and practices in policy areas that benefit the Hispanic community and our nation"; and to improve collaboration between local Latino/as and officials.