

# Barriode Langley Park

A Neighborhood Planning Newsletter Published by Action Langley Park  
Issue #232, March 2012

## PURPLE LINE OR SECTOR PLAN?

BLP has not made clear the distinction between the Purple Line and the Prince George's County's Takoma-Langley Sector Plan. It is time to do so.



The Purple Line is the proposed light rail line from Bethesda to New Carrollton passing along University Boulevard adjacent to Langley Park. If and when built (maybe by 2020), it will provide much better mobility for the residents of the Langley Park area—and residents of many other areas in Montgomery County and Prince George's County. Some properties will have to be slimmed or taken over, but these changes are slight compared with what PG Co. has in mind. The state, not the county, does the planning for the Purple Line.

The PG Sector plan was catalyzed by the early plans for the Purple Line, but it is the total responsibility of the county planners and the County Council members who voted in favor of the plan. It is this plan that will enable the county to "redevelop" the Langley Park area by demolishing many affordable apartments and small businesses.

What should people do who don't want their affordable housing or business to be demolished—with no provision for relocation? They should bombard the members of the County Council calling for significant modifications of the Sector Plan or—maybe better—a complete restart so that a plan can be developed that does not displace thousands of residents and scores of businesses. A no-residential-displacement plan is available!

For bilingual information about the projects: Purple Line: Carlos Abinader, 301 577-2063; Sector Plan: office of Councilman Will Campos, 301 952-4436.

### NOTE: THE CAMPUS AND THE TRAIL

There have been—and continue to be—challenges concerning the alignment (route) of the proposed light rail line. One was the route through the University of Maryland campus, where the best-for-passengers route was opposed by the then-president. Now there's a conflict in the Bethesda segment between the hiking-biking trail advocates and the proposed alignment has arisen. Challenges, challenges.



## \$1 Billion Casino at National Harbor proposed by County Executive Baker

BLP's headline is the headline in *PostLocal* (26 February 2012). So there may be another Las Vegas East rivaling Atlantic City with the Spy Museum and other delights just around the corner in DC. Protests are being organized, but their efficacy is uncertain.

Is it moral? Will it suck churchgoers away from church and to gambling dens on Sunday mornings? Or should the stance be: you want to lose money playing slots or games in the wild hope that you'll be a winner, then it's your choice: enjoy. Just make sure that on the day after there is food on the table for your family.

From *PostLocal* comes a bit of history: "The county was not among the five locations in a 2007 bill that launched Maryland's slots program, however, because of near-unanimous opposition from Prince George's lawmakers." Including Baker. Maybe this is not a flip-flop; it might be the result of a reality check.

Here are two online comments that represent some of the diverse views:

♦This is a GREAT idea! It is exactly what is needed for Maryland and P.G. Co., in particular. It would bring economic development, good jobs, benefits, lower taxes for county citizens, etc.

♦I am an occasional gambler, I like playing cards especially poker and Blackjack. I go to Charles Town, WV once maybe twice a month. Before it was a long 4.5 hour drive to Atlantic City. It IS very addictive and having venues closer to population centers will increase the risk of gambling addiction. Not everyone has a well balanced and full life. Some of us are just getting by and more gambling won't help us in the long run. It will devastate lives and families. I have my gambling urges under control but some aren't so lucky or prepared. We will need all the luck available if gambling venues are made available to more population centers.

How will this development, if it takes place, impact the residents of the Langley Park area? Perhaps it depends on the temptations to which the residents will yield. If they don't yield (that is, they don't throw away about half of the money they gamble), then they will come out ahead because a bit of the money gambled will provide some school and health clinic support.



## LANGLEY PARK DAY 2012



♥The date for this year's Langley Park Day fiesta and health fair is Sunday, May 6; the time is noon to 4 p.m.; and the place is the Langley Park Community Center (1500 Merrimac Drive). Mark the day on your calendar so that you can enjoy music and dance and food; children can enjoy games and art; and everyone can help with their good health by being checked and informed at the health fair.



♥Are you a doctor or nurse or singer or dancer or clown or face-painter—or someone who just wants to help? If so, then let us know at [actionlangleypark@yahoo.com](mailto:actionlangleypark@yahoo.com).



# NEWS AND NOTES

## SHUTTING DOWN 287(g), BUILDING UP 'SC-BAD' aka SECURE COMMUNITIES

This appears to be the policy shift by the Obama administration. Alas, it's one bad program linked to another bad program. Both cause fear and withdrawal, both harm the innocent. In the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year, Department of Homeland Security will not sign new contracts for 287(g) and will terminate the "least productive" of those agreements. The enhanced focus will be on expanding Secure Communities. "The Secure Communities screening process is more consistent, efficient and cost-effective in identifying and removing criminal and other priority aliens" said a department spokesperson. "Priority alien"???? So far, the priority seems to be to fragment families even if the captured person has committed no crime—or only a minor misdemeanor. Yes, "SC-BAD" engenders fear.

**SC-BAD Blankets Maryland:** Federal officials ARE initiating "Secure Communities" in Montgomery County and the City of Baltimore, so now this blunt and harmful program blankets the state and about three of four jurisdictions nationally.

*More on immigrants and immigration a few paragraphs down.*

### JACK JOHNSON



The criminal who used to be a high-ranking official in PG County is at last in jail. There is, thank goodness, punishment (sometimes) for evil actions, that is, corruption in high office. May he have lots of jobs in jail cleaning up fecal material—a symbolic reminder of all the fecal material he deposited in the county when in office.

And State Senator Ulysses Currie just got a censure—as if that has a negative effect on him for his deeds. He must be laughing out loud.

### DIRTY ENERGY

Governor O'Malley proposes to stop giving tax credits to the dirty-air coal industry in Maryland, but there is opposition—perhaps from people who like dirty air or get campaign funds from the dirty-air people. Another sad day for politics. Don't our children deserve healthy air? Let's let our representatives know about clean air!

### CRIME ALONG NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE.

At a recent meeting in Takoma Park, police officers from Takoma Park and PG County talked about the high crime rate from University Blvd. to the District line. Cars and homes are targets. So in that area: beware.

It's very unfortunate about this pattern of crime is taking place in the New Ave. development effort alongt New Hampshire Ave. launched by Takoma Park. Let's hope the crime level drops soon.

### ARE YOUR RATES TOO HIGH?



Pepco, Comcast, and other providers seem to many of us to charge too much—and to increase too rapidly—for their services. What can one do? One possibility is to contact Delegate Dereck Davis, who represents us all but was elected in the 25th Legislative District. He chairs the key Assembly committee. Contact his office at 1-800-492-7122 ext. 3519

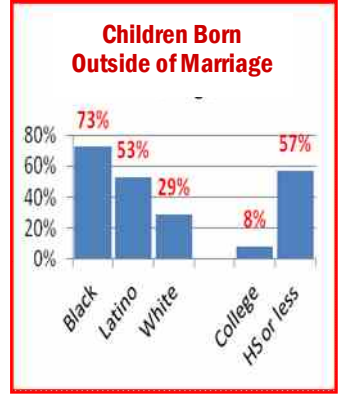
(toll free);or send a fax to (410) 841-3558 or (301) 858-3558. or via e-mail to dereck.davis@house.state.md.us.

### ONLY ONE PARENT!

"Marriage is becoming a luxury good" said one sociologist. In the USA, about two of five women aren't married when they have a child, and for women under 30 years of age, two-thirds are single when giving birth. The most married category are college graduates; three of four Black women are single when giving birth.

Who needs a man once the sperm is deposited? The answer is that raising a child should not be a very part-time responsibility; having two adults for child care makes life a lot easier.

And nurturing is a very (very!) important contributor to a child's later mental and physical health. Marriage? Not necessary if there are lots of resources to fill gaps.



### AN EMAIL ABOUT COUNTY DEVELOPMENT

"Developers are allowed to run roughshod over the residents of Prince George's County. They do this because they can. Currently, there is no mechanism to force them to do the right thing. There are no sanctions to serve as meaningful punitive deterrents. And, elected leadership seems timid in stepping up, standing up, and acting out of concern for the people.

"We need to have an office of Consumer & Regulatory Affairs. This agency would represent the interests of citizens and businesses. Some years ago, our consumer agency was gutted and soon shut down. So, we are now dependent on 7 On your Side or WTOP to act as consumer watchdogs for us. To know that a county of almost a million people is devoid of a consumer agency is reprehensible. This says that they don't give a darn about us. This is shameful!" (From Arthur A. Turner, Jr.)

Anyone agree with Mr. Turner's assessment? With the need for a consumer agency? Certainly, there must be transparency and institutionalized watchdogs.

### IMMIGRATION AND IMMIGRANTS

**How Many Did We Kick Out?** A new report that indicates federal officials are prosecuting and deporting fewer illegal immigrants may be flawed, according to a federal immigration authority. The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement opened 39,331 deportee cases in immigration courts during October through December 2011, a large drop from the 58,639 filings that were recorded the prior quarter, according to a report released by Syracuse University's Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse.

But ICE claims that the report was inaccurate because it has the right to deport some illegal immigrants

*"News" continued on Page 3*

### SPEED CAMERA ALERT

There is now a speed camera at the 1800 block of Metzert Road (about ¼ mile north of Langley Park). The American Automobile Association is trying to get it removed, but it is there now. So slow down, drive carefully!



"News" continued from Page 2

without actually giving them time in court when they commit violent crimes, such as rape or murder. (No due process? In the USA?)

"The TRAC report is alleging that overall we are putting fewer people in deportation proceedings," said an ICE spokeswoman. "This report is looking at the wrong data. When removing individuals who have been convicted of a crime and who have no lawful immigration status ... ICE is not required to file charging documents in immigration court asserting criminal grounds of removal. But TRAC, which used numbers provided by the Executive Office for Immigration Review, disagrees with the claims of inaccuracy. (This item is a modification of a report from *NBC-LATimes* (24 February 2012))

**Daring? Defiant? Crazy?** Uriel Alberto, Estephania Mijangos and Cynthia Martinez have been arrested after challenging the Select Committee on North Carolina's Role in Immigration Policy. They declared themselves undocumented in the overwhelmingly anti-immigrant leaning committee hearing. Courageous or?

This action is building up to "National Coming Out of the Shadows Week" which will take place during the week of March 10. Undocumented students across the country will take action against what they—and many others—consider to be bigotry and injustice. More immigrants will be asked to join the movement by declaring their status publicly. The week's events are coordinated by the National Immigrant Youth Alliance. Courageous or?

**Immigrants in Maryland:** The 8 February 2012 report from the Commission to Study the Impact of Immigrants in Maryland concludes that immigrants many economic, social, and cultural contributions to our state. The commission warns against attempts to deal with unauthorized immigrants using enforcement-only policies because they engender fear and distrust. "Maryland must remain welcoming to immigrants, and the state and its local jurisdictions should further strengthen its efforts to integrate immigrants into the economy and the community." Hey Maryland: do more! Hey, Prince George's: Do more! For instance: Open a health clinic in the Langley Park Community Center's rooms vacated by Park and Planning bureaucrats. And help to organize and fund a tutoring and mentoring program for school children, also in the vacated rooms.

**Evangelicals:** The *New York Times* reports: Evangelical Christian leaders took up a bully pulpit on Thursday to call for a 'humane' overhaul of the U.S. immigration system in response to tough crackdowns on illegal immi-

grants enacted by Alabama and other states. 'Because I'm a Christian I believe in comprehensive, common-sense, humane immigration policy,' the Rev. Gabriel Salguero, president of the New York-based National Latino Evangelical Coalition, told a conference of evangelical leaders in Birmingham. 'Hospitality is not at the margins of scripture. Jesus wasn't kidding around when he said, 'I was a stranger and you welcomed me,'" Salguero said at the G92 South Immigration Conference at Samford University."

Yes, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me in." It's hard to understand why many self-proclaimed Christians are not familiar with the teachings of Jesus or—what is worse—they ignore the powerful teachings.

### HEALTH SURVEY

The Prince George's County Public Health Impact Assessment Survey is a telephone survey conducted earlier this year. A sample of residents were contacted (those with a phone) and asked a series of questions about their views of health and health care in the county. The survey is part of a larger public health impact study that the University of Maryland's School of Public Health is conducting at the request of the University of Maryland Medical System Corp.; the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; the University System of Maryland; the Office of the County Executive, Prince George's County; and Dimensions Healthcare Corp.

The goal of the survey is to gain a better understanding of the healthcare needs of county residents. The survey could be a step towards improving healthcare and well-being in the county. Could be. But we all know that in many parts of the county—including the Langley Park area, health services are very deficient, especially for the working class and poor.



The county health department probably knows and certainly should have known for a long time about the health deficiencies (Several years ago, ALP participated in an information session with the county's health officer), but if it takes a survey to push the county to do better, that's a positive.

Of course, improvements take money, and that is in short supply. So those who dream, for instance, of having a full-service health clinic in the office spaces of the Langley Park Community Center may have a long wait for that reality. And a further disappointment: the survey has in part been justified to push for the new hospital. If it is built in the county, it might well not make much difference to those who live in the Langley Park area.

Here's a humorous twist: In 2009, the Rand Corporation (a top flight research organization) surveyed the county's health situation. The report in part: "*Prince George's lacks a primary care safety net.* The County's capacity to provide safety-net care, beyond hospital and emergency care, is limited. Relatively few primary care physicians practice in poorer areas of the County. Moreover, the County has only one federally qualified health center—Greater Baden Medical Services, Inc., which serves uninsured and low-income patients. Catholic Charities and Prince George's Hospital Center also run clinics that provide care to the uninsured. Together these clinics provide care for only a small proportion of the roughly 80,000 uninsured County adult residents." And what improvements were made? Well, the mini-clinic across from Langley Park was cut and the M.D. removed. Shouldn't we be a bit skeptical?

### RESTAURANTS: Tips by Bill

The Langley Park area has some very good restaurants, especially Woodlands and Tiffin which offer Indian cuisine, the Ba Le and Pho 75 Vietnamese restaurants, the Latin Samantha's, pupusa restaurants such as Irene's, and a score of "Peruvian" chicken restaurants. It has some taste-tested bad ones too (we dare not mention names), including two so-called Chinese-American offering and a buffet.



The neighbors in College Park have some good ones too including the year-old Mosaic Café and the month-old Sakura Seafood Buffet (both are on Route 1 north of the University of Maryland campus). A bit further in Wheaton, there are some very good Asian restaurants, e.g., Ful Kee and North Hollywood. Check them all out!

# EDUCATION & SCHOOLS

## Where Did the Latinos and Latinas Go?

There may be an educational tragedy taking place in the schools of Prince George's County. It is the disappearance of Latinos and Latinas between the 9th and the 12th grades. The decline in numbers is scary, frightening. BLP currently has data for the 2006-2007 and 2010-2011 school years, and we are in the process of getting data for the more recent year.

The good news is that there have been improvements.

<b>DISAPPEARING LATINO &amp; LATINA TEENS</b>				
"Male-Latino" means all Males minus all Latinos. Same for Latinas				
2006-7	Latino	Latina	Male-Latino	Female-Latina
9th	913	844	6237	5335
12th	356	362	3822	4160
12/9	39%	43%	61%	78%
2010-11	Latino	Latina	Male-Latino	Female-Latina
9th	1162	941	5226	4651
12th	503	526	3861	4024
12/9	43%	56%	74%	87%

Retention rates are moving in the right direction. Hurray! But the bad news is that only about two out of five Latino 9th graders reached the 12th grade; the figures for Latinas are a bit better, but still fewer than three of five Latinas reach the 12th grade. Where do the hundreds of Latinos and Latinas go? To work? To get into trouble?

The disappearance figures are much lower than the county overall figures subtracting the Latinos and Latinas from the total. (We anticipate that the graduation data make the situation even worse because far from all of the young people entering the 12th grade graduate.)

Over the five years, the figures for Latino/as improved 10% and 30% (43/39 and 56/43). Good for the Latinas. For other males and females in the county, the improvement figures are 21% and 12%.

So the Latino/a figures are terrible, and "controlling" for the county-wide figures, they are also terrible. Let's hope that improvements continue in the coming years, but the schools still have an urgent gap-filling task. What will the county do? Let's see their "retention agenda."

## Two Local Teachers Write

(1) Many of my students live in two-bedroom apartments with six to nine residents, and sometimes in a one-bedroom apartment with almost as many occupants. (Stressed families are doubling or tripling up these days to make the rent.)\* Half of the parents are unemployed, and many of the rest are underemployed. These extended families or families plus friends sometimes survive on one or two part-time jobs cleaning houses, painting, or babysitting.

\*ALP just learned about a two-bedroom apartment with twenty occupants.

(2) The apartment-sharing school children suffer in many ways from the crowded conditions: no quiet study place at home, easy contagion if one person is sick, and interrupted sleep due to the noises of nearby sleepers or television watchers. These are the children who need extra help: nutritious food, quiet space for doing homework after school, a school-employed parent liaison help-

ing adults in the family to support the work of the school children, and more.

## Summer Youth Program:

The Summer Youth Enrichment Program (SYEP) is a six-week, entry-level introduction to public service for the youth of Prince George's County. This countywide initiative offers the youth enriching and constructive summer work experiences in various assignments throughout our government. Young people can apply at [www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/employment](http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/employment). The deadline is March 23. Questions? Call 301 883-6330.

## Rules for Gifted Students

Our State Board of Education is scheduled to release new rules for gifted and talented students. Each school system will be required to "provided different services beyond those normally provided by the regular school program" from pre-K through secondary school. Yes, gifted and talented children should be given opportunities that many of the rest of us could not take advantage of. But might the new focus lead to less attention for other children? Might it result in the long-rejected tracking? Implementation with fairness will be a challenge. "To each according to his needs...."

# INTERMARRIAGE ON THE RISE

A major study by the Pew Research Center finds that there has been a significant upswing in interracial and interethnic marriages in the USA.

About 15% of all new marriages in the United States in 2010 were between spouses of a different race or ethnicity from one another, more than double the share in 1980 (6.7%). Among all newlyweds in 2010, 9% of whites, 17% of blacks, 26% of Latino/as and 28% of Asians married out. Looking at all married couples in 2010, regardless of when they married, the share of intermarriages reached an all-time high of 8.4%. In 1980, that share was just 3.2%.

In the USA in 2008-2010, about 85% of couples "married in." For Maryland, the figure was 88% — so we are a bit conservative! The most frequent match in Maryland is Euro-Latino/a.

Latinos are almost exactly as likely as Latinas to marry outside their ethnic group. For each, the probability is about 25%. But place of birth makes a big difference: Native-born Latino/as are almost three times as likely as foreign born to marry out.

Among Latino/as and blacks, newlyweds who married whites tend to have higher educational attainment than do those who married within their own racial or ethnic group.

Pew asked if intermarriage was a good thing. All race/ethnic, age, education, political orientation, and national region were more likely to respond that intermarriage was positive rather than negative. However, the type most favorable was the young college educated liberal in the Northeast. Ask the Obamas; surely they think their heritage intermarriages were positive.

The implication? Perhaps Action Langley Park should become a dating service!??

The report is at <http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2012/02/16/the-rise-of-intermarriage>.



## LAUGH OR CRY

### JUSTICE IN NORTH CAROLINA

Felipe Montes lived and worked in the United States for nine years. During that time, he held a full-time job, paid his bills, and fathered two children with his wife, Marie. He failed, however, to pay several traffic tickets, or to acquire a driver's license or car insurance. As a result, a 2010 traffic stop ended with Montes being taken to a detention center where he was scheduled for deportation.



Marie Montes gave birth to the couple's third child while her husband was behind bars. Six weeks later Felipe Montes was deported.

Two weeks after that, the Allegheny County child welfare department took all three children from Marie Montes on the grounds that she could not afford to take care of them, and put them in foster care, where two of them have already been abused.

"He was a real good guy and as a worker he could do anything," said Montes' former boss. "He loved those kids more than anything. We'd be doing tree work and it'd be kind of dangerous and he'd say, 'I'll do this but if something happens you have to take care of the kids, ok?'"

Montes: "I love my kids to death. When they were born, it's something so wonderful you can't explain." Apparently, love and dedication don't qualify Montes to be a dad anymore, as the state of North Carolina is putting his children up for adoption. What a horror!

Source: Reason.com, 5 February 2012)

### JUSTICE IN ALBUQUERQUE

Lauren Medina will soon go before a jury and judge. She is accused of taking a \$2 pumpkin in October from McCall's Pumpkin Patch. Her sister, Annette Atencio, says Medina spent \$75 on food that day but forgot to pay for the pumpkin she picked up as she was leaving. Atencio says her sister offered to pay but was refused and then handcuffed. Ah justice!

Comment 1, online: "She should have gone to Wall Street and stole billions from taxpayers and old ladies' Pension Funds. ... she would have received a Giant Bonus check for her thievery."

Comment 2, online: "\$2 pumpkin vs. how many dollars wasted prosecuting this case/paying for her attorney? Come on people, what the heck are we doing here??"

Comment 3, editor Bill: "One afternoon, I rushed into Shoppers to purchase some plastic food bags needed for an event I was running. With the box of bags in hand, I headed for the cashier. But every checkout line was long, and I worried that I'd be late. So I just walked out. No one stopped me. Maybe because I'm a middle class white male?"



### MIAMI TRAGEDY

Daniela Palaez, a senior at North Miami High School, compiled a record of 6.7 grade point average (GPA) and was selected as the valedictorian by her classmates. She plans to be a surgeon and she has already applied to Ivy League universities. But she has ruled by a judge to be

deported. Hey President Obama, do something! Do we really want to throw very bright de facto Americans out of the country as part of what must be an effort to weaken our country?

She arrived in the USA from Columbia when she was four years old; she is now eighteen. She has a father with U.S. papers and a brother in the U.S. army. Her mother is in Columbia for cancer treatments and cannot immediately return. But Ms. Palaez has been issued deportation papers. A hearing took place in early March, and a federal immigration judge ordered her to get out: to voluntarily leave the country the end of March or be deported.

ABC News reports: Ms. Palaez says, "Everything I've worked for, it's, like going down the drain in a matter of days." "I consider myself an American. [Deporting me] would mean I'd leave a country and go back to a country that I don't remember, a country [where] I don't feel at home, and I don't even graduate high school,"

American flags in hand and with "justice for Daniela" cheers from thousands of people in front of her school, Miami-Dade Superintendent Alberto Carvalho said, "over my dead body will this student be deported."

A petition drive on Facebook has been started by friend Emily Sell, a longtime friend, began a petition in support of Palaez on Facebook, and thousands of people have signed on. "My goal is not to make Daniela another statistic, but rather the face of the American Dream," Sell told ABC News. "Her possible deportation is very hard for her friends and family and community to hear." And of course it is harmful to the USA.



ABC: "Her departure is not imminent, and her attorney is planning to file an appeal that would prevent her removal from the U.S. Right now, Palaez is trying to get a pre-approved student visa, but congressional support is needed to expedite such a request. She has gained the strong support of three Florida members of Congress, at least two of who plan to write to the U.S Immigration and Customs Enforcement on her behalf." The attorney says that the legal process can be long, and so she's not going to be forced out of the country immediately.

Maybe with legal help she will be able to stay in our country, but many like her will not have the support to delay or revoke her deportation order. Clearly, the country has to pass the national DREAM Act. It will help many thousands of young people who are "de facto" Americans. But maybe of more importance are the contributions to the USA that Ms. Palaez and the many like her will make over the next sixty or so years, keeping the USA competitive. Do the anti-DREAM people hate the USA? It seems that they do.

### LET'S END THIS PAGE WITH SOME GOOD NEWS

A federal judge blocked the police in Arizona from enforcing a section of the state's 2010 immigration enforcement law that prohibited people from blocking traffic when they seek or offer day labor services on streets. The judge ruled that groups seeking to overturn the law would probably prevail in their claim that the day labor rules violate the First Amendment. She rejected the Arizona argument because "the law says its purpose is to make attrition through enforcing the [State's] immigration policy." (Source: *New York Times*, 1 March 2012)



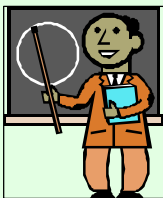
## “BORN IN THE USA”

### THE POLITICS OF BIRTHRIGHT CITIZENSHIP IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

March 29-30, 2012 - University of Maryland, College Park

*This conference is organized by the Center for the History of the New America. There is no charge for admission. For further information, call the Center at (301) 405-4266.*

**SESSION 1:** Thursday, March 29, 7:00 pm, Ulrich Recital Hall, Tawes - Keynote Address by Eric Foner (Columbia University History Department), "The Civil War, Reconstruction, and the Origins of Birthright Citizenship" \*\* A reception jointly sponsored by the Center and the Race, Law, and Literature conference (Department of English) will precede the keynote address beginning at 5:30 in the first floor lobby of Tawes Hall



**SESSION 2:** Friday, March 30, 2012, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

**2A: Origins :** Van Munching Hall Room 1330. This session will explore the common law and Civil War Era origins and politics of the Fourteenth Amendment's citizenship clause.

**2B: Birthright Citizenship in Comparative Perspective :** Van Munching Hall Room 1333. This session will place birthright citizenship in global perspective and compare it with other systems of citizenship elsewhere in the world.

**SESSION 3:** Friday, March 30, 2012, 1:00pm-3:00 pm

**3A: Explicating Birthright Citizenship :** Van Munching Hall Room 1330. This session will explore the post-Fourteenth Amendment birthright citizenship debates and legal decisions involving Chinese immigrants, Native Americans, and residents of Puerto Rico and the Philippines after the Spanish American War.

**3B: What difference did Birthright Citizenship make?** Van Munching Hall Room 1333. This session explores the practical effects birthright citizenship has had on the history of the United States.

**SESSION 4:** Friday, March 30, 2012, 3:15pm-5:15 pm  
**Birthright Citizenship in Contemporary American Politics :** Van Munching Hall Room 1330. This panel will explore the current debate over birthright citizenship, state and federal efforts to regulate it, and recent proposals to amend the Constitution's birthright citizenship clause.

### TICKETS, NOT JAIL TIME?

Maryland legislators are considering a bill that would shift punishment for some misdemeanors from jail time to receiving a citation with the understanding that the charged person would show up for a hearing at a future time. And the charged person at the hearing would have legal counsel. Seems like a positive step although it will hurt the jail-building industry. (How sad.)

## WHAT AND WHEN

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

**Now until May 5—A Thousand and One Faces of Mexico:** Masks from the Collection of Ruth D. Lechuga. At the Mexican Cultural Institute, 2829 16 St., DC. Open Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Some of the masks are pictured above.

**March 8 & more—Physics is Phun,** in the physics department, University of Maryland: March 8, 9, 10: Color; May 3, 4, 5: Great Physics Demonstrations. From 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Information: 301 405.5994. Get young people to these events! Interest them in science! (Science really is fun—and phun.)

**March 17—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.

**March 18—Free cancer screening** at Washington Adventist Hospital. For information, call 301 891-7600.

**March 22—Action Langley Park** meets at 7 p.m. at the Langley Park Community Center. Be there! We may have some very special guests. Agenda items are always welcome. Send them in!

**April 21—Maryland Day,** 9 a.m.- 6 p.m. at the University of Maryland in College Park. Lots to see and do!! And it's all free. Bring high school students so that they become more comfortable being on a university campus.

**April 26—Art and the Purple Line,** an art event at The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Arts Center, 930 King Street on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus of Montgomery College. Time TBA. It won't all be purple on purple!

**April 28-29—Science and Engineering Festival:** "Our mission is to re-invigorate the interest of our nation's youth in science, technology, engineering and math by presenting the most compelling, exciting, educational and entertaining science gatherings in the USA." It's free! In DC. Details are available at: <http://www.usciencefestival.org>.

**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; food and craft vendors; children's art and game activities; face painting, and more. On Cinco de Mayo weekend!! If you'd like to contribute to this event, including interpretation, face painting, clowning, giving advice as a nurse, etc., please contact [actionlangleypark@yahoo.com](mailto:actionlangleypark@yahoo.com).

