



AND

JOINT MEDIA ADVISORY

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May 25, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARYLAND COMMUNITIES PLANNING FOR FLAG DAY, TUESDAY, JUNE 14

AND THE

“PAUSE FOR THE PLEDGE” AT FORT MC HENRY

The American Flag Foundation and the National Park Service is encouraging families and communities throughout Maryland and across the nation to participate in the 32nd Annual National Pause for the Pledge of Allegiance program on Flag Day, Tuesday, June 14, at 7:00 p.m. This annual national observance will be part of a wonderful Flag Day event that will be held at Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine, 2400 E. Fort Avenue in Baltimore, from 6:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Open and free to the public, event highlights include the U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Department of Homeland Security Naturalization Ceremony with 30 new citizens taking the oath; inspiring patriotic music; a Parade of State Flags from all 50 states; a spectacular fireworks display; and of course the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance by everyone in attendance at 7:00 p.m.

Be sure to attend this event and show the world that we are truly “...one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

Families are encouraged to bring kids, blankets, picnics, and enjoy! Pets and glass containers are prohibited.

For additional information visit The American Flag Foundation website, www.americanflagfoundation.org or call The American Flag Foundation at 410-563-FLAG (3524) or e-mail linda@americanflagfoundation.org. The American Flag Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization whose purpose is to develop the resources and create the opportunities for all citizens, especially children, to learn the history of our nation, the symbol of our Flag and their role in building the future.

PRE-PROGRAM ENTERTAINMENT

“Ease on Down the Road” “Footloose” “Africa” “Bad” “No Air” by Maryland Singers
Under the direction of Bill Myers

WELCOME

Bob Heck – Master of Ceremonies

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS

Calvary Troop A, Maryland Defense Force
CPT Cindy Minken, Deputy Commanding Officer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

7:00 p.m. EDT
National Pause for the Pledge of Allegiance
Led by John A. Butler, President
The American Flag Foundation

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Maryland Singers under the direction of Bill Myers
All are invited to join in singing your National Anthem

INVOCATION

GREETINGS FROM FORT MCHENRY

Jim Ireland, Acting Superintendent
Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine

**U. S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
NATURALIZATION CEREMONY**

Call of Countries and Presentation of Candidates for Citizenship
Gregory L. Collett, District Director, Baltimore District Office, USCIS

Administration of the Oath and Congratulatory Remarks
Alejandro Mayorkas, Director, USCIS

Keynote Address
Alejandro Mayorkas, Director, USCIS

Presentation of Certificates
Gregory L. Collett, District Director, Baltimore District Office, USCIS

Pledge of Allegiance
All are invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance at the conclusion of the ceremony.

**GREETINGS FROM
THE AMERICAN FLAG FOUNDATION**

John A. Butler, President

PERFORMANCES

Barbershop Harmony Society singers from the Heart of Maryland Chorus, the Chorus of the Chesapeake and the 3 Wise Men quartet perform a number of patriotic tunes under the direction of Glenn Phillips.

**BALTIMORE ORIOLES BIRD
FREDERICK KEYS MASCOT**

PERFORMANCES

“American Tears” by Maryland Singers
“God Bless the U.S.A.” by Escape
“We Are The Voices of America” by Off-Broadway Kids, Maryland Singers

PARADE OF STATE FLAGS

An historical presentation of state flags with musical accompaniment narrated by Bob Heck

PERFORMANCES

Girl Scouts of Central Maryland Chorus
“America the Beautiful” “God Bless America”
Under the direction of Patricia Disharoon, M.D.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Bob Heck

CONCLUDING PERFORMANCE

229th Maryland Army National Guard Band
under the direction of SFC James L. Morrison
“Stars and Stripes Forever” “John Philip Sousa Marches” and” Medley of Armed Forces Marches”

SPECTACULAR FIREWORKS BY ZAMBELLI