



**media advisory**

**CONTACT:**

**PAT PERLUKE, VICE PRESIDENT, EDUCATION**  
443-243-3437  
[ajlaquin@comcast.net](mailto:ajlaquin@comcast.net)

or **PAUL ROSE, CHAIR, LIVING AMERICAN FLAG**  
443-798-7333

[paul@psafinancial.com](mailto:paul@psafinancial.com) **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**THE LIVING AMERICAN FLAG TRAVELS TO BALTIMORE COUNTY!**

The American Flag Foundation (AFF) announced today that Carney Elementary School (CES) in Baltimore County, Maryland will host the second in a trio of the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Living American Flag(s) on Wednesday, May 20 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 Noon. Some 315 students, parents, Board of Education members, and teachers will participate in building the “Living Flag,” which is traditionally held at Fort McHenry, but will “travel” to Baltimore County, Harford County and Baltimore City this year. This spectacular event reenacts the original “Human Flag” formed on Defenders Day, September 12, 1914 that celebrated the 100th anniversary of the heroic “Defense of Baltimore.”

Event highlights include Fort McHenry’s Ranger Paul Plamann recounting the story of “The Battle of Baltimore;” a fly-over by Col. Richard Knauer, Jr., photographer, and BG Vernon Sevier, pilot; a picnic lunch; historic character(s) Francis Scott Key played by Alan Gephardt and George Washington by Urban Peters; and a presentation of the Philip F. Haxel, Sr. Patriotism Honor Roll Baton of Patriotism Award (awarded to a student who has demonstrated patriotism, leadership, citizenship and respect for the American Flag – which is the Mission of AFF). The Haxel patriotic essay contest was established to honor Mr. Haxel, Chairman of the F. W. Haxel Flag, Banner & Flagpole Company, a community leader who has exhibited true patriotism through his sponsorship of the Living American Flag and generous donations of Flags to the community and numerous school activities.

AFF’s Vice President of Operations Bob Delisle has been working with the school to set up an exciting program. CES Principal Eileen F. Roberta will welcome all to the program; the Maryland National Guard Freestate ChalleNGe Academy Cadets from Aberdeen Proving Grounds will present the Colors and CES 4th Grade Student Taylor Johnson will lead the National Anthem; additional musical numbers will be presented by the CES student chorus under the direction of Sonja Floyd, CES Music Teacher. The students will hold up colored placards and stars to form an aerial view of the 15-stripe, 15-star Flag that flew over Fort McHenry & inspired Francis Scott Key to write our national anthem, “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

For additional information, visit our website at [www.americanflagfoundation.org](http://www.americanflagfoundation.org) or call The American Flag Foundation at 410-563-FLAG (3524) or e-mail [linda@americanflagfoundation.org](mailto:linda@americanflagfoundation.org).

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The American Flag Foundation is a 501(c)3 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.

**Picture Available?** Yes  Electronic  Hard Copy



**June 14, 2009 – Flag Day – The American Flag Foundation Proudly Presents the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual National Pause for the Pledge of Allegiance**  
6:30 p.m. at Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine  Free & Open to the Public  Fireworks!