

The Prince George's Post



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Celebrating the 69th Anniversary Of Hemingway Memorial A.M.E. Church, District Heights, Md.

"Bold Future—Bold Faith"

By TRACY SIMPSON
Hemingway Memorial A.M.E. Church

DISTRICT HEIGHTS, Md. (November 11, 2019)—On Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 9 a.m., Sr. Pastor Gerald Folsom and the members at Hemingway Memorial A.M.E. Church celebrated 69 years of rich church history that started in Prince George's County in Chapel Oaks in 1950.

The event was well attended by hundreds of family, friends and many local Government Officials. In her absence, County Executive Angela Alsobrooks, sent a letter to congratulate the church on its 69 year achievement. Prince George's County States Attorney, Alisha Braveboy, Chief of Police Hank Stawinski, State Senator Melanie Griffith, State Delegates Dereck Davis, Nick Charles of the 25th District, State Delegate Jazz Lewis (24th District), Prince George's County Council at-Large Calvin Hawkins, Mahasin El Amin, Clerk of the Court for Prince George's County, Sonya Williams and Belinda Queen of the Prince George's County School Board, City of District

Heights Mayor Eddie Martin and Vice Mayor Jonathan Medlock and Mayor Eugene Grant of Seat Pleasant - The Smart City of Excellence were all in attendance to present letter, citation or proclamation marking this historic event. Pastor Folsom's Brother in Ministry, Rev. Krishnan Natesan, Sr. Pastor of Love A.M.E. Church, served as the guest speaker for the event. Pastor Folsom's sister in Ministry, Rev. Kini Wiggins Spady, Pastor of Bethel A.M.E. Church in Suriname South America along with several members of the Prince George's County Chapter of Omega Psi Fraternity were also in attendance to support this occasion.

Hemingway is a church known for giving to the community. Each year the combined Usher Boards of Hemingway, extends its service to the community by collecting new coats and having them BLESSED prior to distribution to children in need, who are students at District Heights and Melwood Elementary Schools. Prince George's School Board Mem-

bers, Sonya Williams and Belinda Queen, stood proxy for the students while Pastor Folsom prayed a blessing over the coats and the children who will receive them. Pastor noted that each coat given has a scripture in the pocket. Our Pastor and Combined Usher Boards are truly grateful for the generosity of those who contributed coats and they look forward to increasing the number next year.

The history of this great

church began November 5, 1950, when a small group of Christians—Raymond and Eunice Johnson along with their foster daughters, Loretta and Geneva Judkins; Bertha Greer; Henry and Henrietta Bradley; and Mary L. Green —had a vision of a place to worship in the historic community of Chapel Oaks, Maryland. This small group first met in the home of Sis. Katie Williams at 61st and Sheriff Road in Chapel Oaks, Maryland and it was in her honor that the mission was named—The Williams Mission. In early 1951 the mission was moved to the home of Mrs. Mary L. Green on 57th Place, Chapel Oaks, Maryland. In the new setting, the following persons became members: Gladys

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ALL PHOTOGRAPHS CREDIT: JEAN LONG AND OMAR MITCHELL
Sr. Pastor Gerald Folsom blessing coats.



L to R: Guest speaker Rev. Krishnan Natesan, Sr. Pastor of Love A.M.E. Church, Sr. Pastor Gerald Folsom of Hemingway Memorial A.M.E. Church, Prince George's County Chief of Police Hank Stawinski and his wife, mother, and daughter.



Chief of Police Hank Stawinski welcomed parishioners and guests to the 69th Anniversary Celebration. His remarks stressed community togetherness and family.

CIAA Announces 2019 Football All-Conference and Superlatives

Bowie State leads the way with 10 All-CIAA selections

By GREGORY C. GOINGS
Bowie State Sports Information

CHARLOTTE, NC (November 11, 2019)—The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) announces its 2019 Football All-Conference Teams and superlatives as voted on by the CIAA Football Coaches Association and Sports Information Directors Association. This year's teams are led by Offensive Player of the Year Ja'rome Johnson and Defensive Player of the Year Demetri Morsell, both from Bowie State, and Special Teams Player of the Year Jefferson Souza of Virginia Union.

In his first season as a starter, Johnson led the league with a 170.5 pass efficiency rating, currently ninth best in Division II, and ranked second in total offense at 227 yards per game. A

native of Washington, DC, Johnson finished the regular season with 1507 yards passing, 21 touchdowns, and a 62.4 completion percentage, ranking top four or better in the CIAA in all three categories. The junior signal-caller was also the conference's sixth-leading rusher with 771 yards and fourth with 11 rushing touchdowns, leading all CIAA quarterbacks in both statistics. Johnson and the Bulldog offense led the CIAA with 44.4 points per game.

Morsell, a native of Upper Marlboro, led the CIAA with nine interceptions with three being returned for touchdowns, both of which lead Division II. The sophomore defensive back also leads the conference with 14 passes defended while total-

See FOOTBALL Page A3

Deadline Nears For Maryland Uninsured-Motorist Debt Amnesty

By ERIC MYERS
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (November 13, 2019)—Time is running out for uninsured motorists in Maryland to take advantage of a program that forgives 80 percent of uninsured-driving debts that became delinquent before 2017.

Debtors have until Dec. 31 to register for the program and begin repaying the remaining 20 percent of their total fines. If an individual registers and pays at least one-sixth of their remaining 20 percent of debt by the end of the year, they have until June 2020 to finish paying.

There are approximately 308,000 unique debtors, who combined have close to 400,000 total unpaid debts, according to Maryland Auto Chief Executive Officer Mark McCurdy.

The average debt that prevents people from renewing their registration is in the range of \$2,400 to \$2,500, McCurdy told Capital News Service. The fines are issued to drivers found operating a vehicle without insurance

or allowing the coverage to lapse on a registered vehicle.

After a law was passed in Maryland's General Assembly in 2018 to allow the program, the state's Motor Vehicle Administration and the uninsured division of Maryland Auto—formerly known as the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund, or MAIF—partnered to put the program in place.

The program is called the 2019 Maryland Uninsured Drivers Incentive Program, or Fine-Fix for short, and aims to get uninsured drivers the coverage they need to get back behind the wheel—legally.

The state's transportation agency "is focused on ensuring all drivers have proper insurance to ensure safety on our roadways," Motor Vehicle Administration spokeswoman Whitney Nichols said. "We are happy to work with Maryland Auto Insurance on the FineFix program to help drivers get back on the road."

See AMNESTY Page A4

No Kid Hungry Maryland Awards \$50,000 to Schools in Frederick, Howard, and Prince George's Counties

By JOHANNA ELSEMORE
Share Our Strength

BALTIMORE, Md. (November 13, 2019)—Fourteen schools in Frederick, Howard, and Prince George's Counties will receive a total of \$50,000 from No Kid Hungry Maryland this fall to implement Breakfast After the Bell.

Traditional school breakfast programs often have barriers that prohibit students from eating breakfast before school. Breakfast after the bell provides breakfast in a way that is more convenient and accessible to students, resulting in more kids starting the day ready to learn.

"We are pleased to offer these grants to ensure that all students can start their day with a healthy breakfast," said Tam Lynne Kelley, senior manager for No Kid Hungry Maryland. "Through partnerships like these, we are moving Maryland closer to the goal of No Kid Hungry."

Hundreds of Maryland schools have already made breakfast part of the school day—a successful strategy that both reduces hunger and improves school attendance.

Prince George's County

Seven schools in Prince George's County received grants to purchase grab and go mobile carts so that students can easily pick up a healthy breakfast on their way to class: Green Valley Academy, Cesar Chavez Elementary, Pointer Ridge Elementary, High Bridge Elementary, Northview Elementary, Hyattsville Middle, and William Wirt Middle.

"The Grab and Go carts will make breakfast more accessible to students as they arrive," said Joan Shorter, director of food and nutrition services with Prince George's County Public Schools.

Research shows that hunger has long-term ramifications on children, including lower test scores, weaker attendance rates,

and a higher risk of hospitalizations and chronic diseases. No Kid Hungry Maryland and its partners focus on school breakfast as a critical way to end childhood hunger. For more information about school breakfast, visit: <https://state.nokidhungry.org/maryland/whatwedo/school-breakfast/>

No child should go hungry in America. But 1 in 7 kids will face hunger this year. No Kid Hungry is ending childhood hunger through effective programs that provide kids with the food they need. This is a problem we know how to solve. No Kid Hungry is a campaign of Share Our Strength, an organization working to end hunger and poverty.

At right, a breakfast cart in a Baltimore County high school. Several of the county schools will be utilizing similar carts for students to pick up breakfast on their way to class.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF NO KID HUNGRY/SHARE OUR STRENGTH

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WGL's Annual 'Day of Weatherization' Prepares Homes for Winter Across the DC-Region

Approximately 200 WGL volunteers worked to prepare 100 homes in multiple neighborhoods using several weatherization tools and techniques that will bring added warmth and comfort this winter.

Community, Page A3

District 3 Council Member Glaros Announces Request For Proposals To Develop Former Maryland National Capital Park Police Site

"... envisioned the opportunity to ensure this property provides housing affordability and retail amenities at this important transit-oriented development location," said Council Member Glaros.

Business and Finance, Page A3

To Be Equal: Harriet Film Shows the Inner Life of History's Best-Known Conductor on the Underground Railroad

Perhaps crucial to the film's vivid and visceral impact is the fact that it was written, directed and produced by African Americans.

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'Tis the Season: A Guide to Holiday Arts and Culture Events

Explore the many arts and culture programs offered by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation, available throughout Prince George's County.

Out on the Town, Page A5

TOWNS and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301-735-3451

Want to drive a school bus? Prince George's needs you!

Prince George's Public Schools need school bus drivers!

There was a Bus Driver Fair at the Skyline Administrative Building (formerly Skyline School), for men and women who want to apply to drive a school bus. The Fair was held Wednesday, Nov. 20, from 1 to 5 p.m.

Sad to say, it's too late by the time you read this in the paper. Perhaps the Fair will be rescheduled. The building is at 6311 Randolph Road; maybe you could just drop by there.

Or, I suggest going to www.pgpcps.org and ask for application information.

Who wouldn't love to drive a school bus?

Neighbors and other good people

- James V. "Jim" Reilly, of Skyline, has retired from the Prince George's Fire/EMS Department as Assistant Fire Chief, with 24 years' service. He will, however, continue as a civilian in the Prince George's Office of the Fire Marshal.

- Yvonne Garvin, of Skyline, is proud of great-grandsons Malik, 10, and Micah, 7, sons of Tamara and Reginal Boozer. They are on the honor roll at Imagine Morningside Charter School. They're busy with Scouts, track, football and Bible School and have accumulated a host of medals, ribbons, certificates and trophies.

- Charles B. Mills, retired Army Staff Sergeant, formerly of District Heights, died Nov. 3 in Charlotte Hall. He was the father of Madeline Baker, Charles and George Mills, and grandfather of four. Funeral Mass was at St. Bernardine's with burial at Arlington.

- Skip Groff, 70, died last February. He was a radio DJ and producer with a strip-mall vintage record shop, Yesterday and Today. His Air Force family moved often, but finally settled in Suitland where Skip graduated from high school. Some of you might remember him.

- Pricilla Jones, Croom columnist for The Enquirer-Gazette, had a sweet tribute to St. Thomas Church in last week's issue. It brought to mind the several times I attended services in that beautiful, historic church which

dates to the mid-1700s. I thought particularly about the funerals of my dear next-door neighbors, Ted and Lee Burke. They were buried from the church and rest now in the church cemetery.

Morningside Sportsmen hold reunion

Dave Williams sent this report on the Sportsmen's Club reunion at Bert's 50s Diner in Mechanicsville: "Bert's was fun as usual, we had friends from Delaware to South Carolina and West Virginia, about 35 in all. Francine and Tommy Alexander, who owned The Village Barn, showed up and we hadn't seen them in many years. Sorry you missed it, hope you can make the next one which is on April 29, 2020."

Changing landscape

A Local Impact Grant, by the County Council, will help fund such projects as asbestos removal at Crossland High School and a child development playground at Friendly High.

WSSC (Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission) has changed its name. It is now WSSC Water. As the largest water utility in Maryland, they say, "Not having water in our name was confusing." They also have a bold, new logo.

Volunteer, for love of animals

Prince George's County Animal Services Facility seeks individuals who have a passion for animals. They offer volunteer opportunities—for adults looking to get involved, students looking to fulfill their community services requirements for graduation or court-ordered community service.

They suggest you come visit them at Animal Services Facility, 3750 Brown Station Road in Upper Marlboro, or give them a call at 301-780-7220. For more information visit: <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/2190/Volunteer>.

Morningside Memories: 30 years ago

The Morningside Senior Citizens held election of officers at their Jan. 15, 1980, meeting. Vera Chaney was tapped for president. Other officers were: Harry Carnes, vice president; Alvin Beardmore, secretary; and Louise Rousseaux, treasurer. Community Director George Catloth and Recreation

Association President Grover Estep came and discussed new activities for the Seniors.

Anyone interested in joining the Senior Citizens' Bowling Group were invited to call Liz or Frank Harper.

By the way, George Catloth was Santa for the Morningside Sportsmen's Club's annual Canned Goods Food Drive. Thirty-five members of the Club, plus some of their children, spent seven hours caravanning through Morningside and Skyline on Dec. 15 (1979). George Playfair estimated about 90% of the families in the community donated.

Mary Ann Cook, owner of Tastee Freez

Mary Ann Cook, 70, who along with her husband Tommy, once owned the Tastee Freez on Suitland Road, died at her home Nov. 1. I believe they once lived in Morningside though I can't find them in any of my Morningside Directories.

Mary Ann was born at Bethesda Naval Hospital to Rodrick and Annabelle Thomas of Bradberry Heights. And it was in Bradberry Heights that Mary Ann met her future husband, Tommy Cook Sr.

At some time after that, the Cooks bought the Tastee Freez. They later sold it, and eventually it turned into the current Orleans Catering (ribs, chicken, beef, etc.).

She was predeceased by her father, son Tommy Cook Jr. and sister Linda Betts. Survivors include her husband of 52 years, Tommy, son Jimmy, daughter Tammy, her mother, sister Brenda, eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Services were at Brinsfield Funeral Home with burial at Trinity Memorial Gardens.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Ben Gryskewicz and Mike Waby, Nov. 24; Ray Call, Avanna Williams and Andrew Gryskewicz, Nov. 25; Julie Koch-Michael and Darryl Moss, Nov. 26; Arthur Rose, Nov. 27; Thomas Shipman, Sr., Nov. 28; and Devin Kane Blade, Nov. 29.

Happy anniversary to former Morningside Council Member Gary and Ivy Kline, Nov. 28.

A blessed Thanksgiving to my Readers. I'm grateful for them!

Around the County

M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule

RIVERDALE, Md. (November 12, 2019)—ALL Department of Parks and Recreation community centers, arts, and sports facilities in Prince George's County will be CLOSED on Thursday, November 28, 2019 for Thanksgiving Day. Facilities will operate on the following schedule on Friday, November 29, 2019, with administrative offices remaining closed:

Indoor Pool Complexes	OPEN
Outdoor Pool Complexes	CLOSED
Regional Parks	OPEN
Historic Sites/Rentals	Rentals ONLY
Community Centers and Arts Centers	OPEN
Senior Activity Centers.....	CLOSED
Sports Facilities	OPEN

For more details, see the full Holiday Schedule at <http://www.pgpcps.com/1341/Holiday-Schedule>.

—Kira Calm Lewis and Iyana Moore,

Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation

Cheverly Police Department's "Zero Shaving for Fundraising" Campaign

CHEVERLY, Md. (November 9, 2019)—What's going on in the Cheverly Police Department? For the last few weeks you've probably notice a little more stubble than usual on our officers.

It's November and our officers have tucked away their razors for the month, without hesitation. We've started our "Zero Shaving for Fundraising" campaign in support of our 2nd annual Turkey Drive. All funds raised will go directly to the purchasing of turkeys and supplies necessary for the creation of Thanksgiving food baskets.

Last year, due to the support of our community members, and members of the department, we were able to raise enough funds to purchase more than 20 turkeys, and craft numerous food baskets to provide a fulfilling Thanksgiving season to members of the community.

Continued support is appreciated, no donation is too small. If you're unable to donate, please don't hesitate to share this campaign with your family, friends, and neighbors.

Donations are accepted at https://www.gofundme.com/f/zero-shaving-forfundraising?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_campaign=p_cp%20share-sheet

—Cheverly Police Department

ALDI Debuts Fresh Design of Remodeled Bowie Store November 22

Retailer Investing \$1.9 Billion to Update 1,300 U.S. Stores by the End of 2020

BOWIE, Md. (November 11, 2019)—To celebrate the reopening of the Bowie store at 6810 Racetrack Road, Bowie, MD 20715, ALDI will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday, Nov. 22, at 7:50 a.m., followed by its popular Golden Ticket giveaway offering gift cards to the first 100 customers. Shoppers can also enter a sweepstakes for a chance to win a year's supply of ALDI produce.

The Bowie store is part of the \$1.9 billion ALDI investment to remodel and expand more than 1,300 stores nationwide by the end of 2020. Locally, ALDI is investing more than \$30 million to update 30 stores in Washington, D.C. and the surrounding metropolitan area.

As an employer of choice, ALDI is consistently looking to hire the best and brightest talent to join its team. To learn more about working at ALDI and search current job openings, go to careers.aldi.us.

—Press Officers, for ALDI

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

Got an idea for a business or want to grow your business? The Maryland Small Business Development Center (SBDC) provides free one-on-one and group counseling assistance every Tuesday. The next session will be held on December 10, 2019 10:00 a.m. at Bowie State University Center for Business and Graduate Studies, Room 1330, 14000 Jericho Park Road, Bowie, Maryland 20715. To schedule an appointment, email dajayi@bowiestate.edu.

THE FIRST TEE

The First Tee of Greater Washington, DC hosted a special reception celebrating their 20th Anniversary as a chapter and their first year of programming in Prince George's County. The Special Reception was held Wednesday, November 6 at Gaylord National Resort and Conference Center in National Harbor, Maryland. This special reception was sponsored by OLD LINE BANK.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

"United Methodist Women (faith, hope, and love in action). United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church".

FESTIVAL OF TABLES

Nottingham-Myers in Upper Marlboro, Maryland hosted its first "Festival of Tables" in their Family Life Center. It was an afternoon of elegance that rendered a mixture of well decorated tables, fellowship, remembrance, recognition, laughter, food, and music.

"The festival of tables is a themed table idea with each table having a table captain. The objective is to have each table captain come up with a theme, decorate their table and prepare a salad for their table. Barbara Hall's family table was named "Quilted". Quilting was one of Barbara's pastime passions."

"The fellowship kicked off with the "Reason for the Occasion". The Festival of Tables was an idea of the late Barbara Hall, longtime member of NMUMC. Barbara worked on this endeavor up until her passing. In remembrance of

Barbara, with her husband, Jerome Hall and Cousin Carla Terry leading. They had a candle lighting for Barbara. The candles remained lit throughout the fellowship. We thank you Barbara."

"NMUMC then moved on to honoring their very own Mr. and Mrs. Oliver & Alice Myers for their many years of service. The Myers table theme was appropriately named "A Soldier and a Teacher". Mrs. Alice Myers, among other accomplishments, taught Sunday school, Vacation Bible School and Adult Bible studies. Mr. Oliver Myers was a soldier in the army and a small business owner (Home Improvements). The Myers were unable to attend the fellowship. However, everyone felt their warmth as their accomplishments, children, grandchildren and their 69 years (November 2019) of marriage."

Melodious music filled the air rendered by a live trio band, the "Laugh and Loud" segment presented by Sister Regina Scott, Christian Comedian. The fine cuisine was rendered by M.D Fleming Catering Services. We offer many thanks to each and everyone for your support and prayers.

FRIED CHICKEN BOX SUNDAY

It's our Fried Chicken Box Sunday, November 24, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. Come and get your chicken box and enjoy some social time with our Bishop Mariann Buddle. Chicken box costs \$6.00. Chicken boxes include 2 pieces of chicken (1 Drum & 1 Thigh) potato salad and roll. Please, pre-orders required, and payments greatly appreciated.

Benefit: St. Philip's Church Usher Board. St. Philip's Church address is 13801 Baden Westwood Road, Brandywine, Maryland. Points of contact are Shirley A. Cleaves (302) 690-4260, Vivian Rich (804) 301-9530, Doretha Savoy (301) 233-3136 and St. Philip's Church (301) 888-1536.

RECOGNIZING VETERANS

Clinton United Methodist Church recognized veterans and active military personnel Sunday, November 10, 2019 at their 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services. You have supported us in so many ways. We want to say "Thank You" to everyone for being there for us. Thanks to Mrs. Barbara H. Washington: Coordinator of Veteran Affairs, CUMC and Rev. Dorothea J. Belt Stroman.

Harmony Hall Chapter Participates in Cleanup at Harmony Hall Manor

FORT WASHINGTON, Md. (November 11, 2019)—Serving their community is a cornerstone of the Harmony Hall Chapter so members eagerly rolled up their sleeves to join in a cleanup of their beloved namesake, Harmony Hall Manor in Fort Washington, Md. Coordinated in partnership with the Silesia Citizens Foundation, chapter members and other volunteers flexed some serious muscle to remove a non-historic pasture fence that was installed in the 1970s and had fallen into disrepair.

If you have a branch in your family tree where an ancestor provided service or direct assistance in achieving America's independence, you could join the DAR and become a part of the largest women's volunteer service organization. Let us help you start to put the pieces together by emailing HarmonyHallDAR@gmail.com.

Background

The DAR is one of the world's largest and most active service organizations and the members of the Harmony Hall Chapter actively participates in meaningful service projects throughout our community. Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion, or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution is eligible for membership. To learn more about the work of Chapter, meetings and events, visit www.harmonyhall.marylanddar.org.

—Deanna Lutz, Harmony Hall Chapter NSDAR

Senator Cardin Unveils Legislation to Invest in Underserved Innovators

U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship Ranking Member Senator Ben Cardin unveiled legislation to invest in underserved innovators during a business roundtable at Bowie BIC with Bowie State University President Aminta H. Breaux, Bowie BIC Executive Director Lisa S. Smith and forty entrepreneurs and business leaders on October 28.

The Ushering Progress by Leveraging Innovation and Future Technology (UPLIFT) Act of 2019 will foster innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystems in underserved communities by providing Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU), minority serving institutions (MSIs), and community colleges with the resources to establish and expand incubators and accelerators for their entrepreneurs.

Senator Cardin noted that the Bowie BIC program inspired the legislation. Bowie BIC is the only business accelerator in Maryland located at an HBCU.

—Bowie BIC November 2019 Newsletter

COMMUNITY

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Not Letting That Family Gathering Overwhelm You

The holiday season is coming which for many can mean family get-togethers. It would be wonderful if every family gathering was a Norman Rockwell-type scene but, unfortunately, most families are a little less than Rockwell perfect.

If a big family event is approaching, there's a good chance that while you may be looking forward to it, it may also be producing stress and anxiety. There are a number of reasons for such feelings, but there are ways to lessen that stress.

One common problem is that you've changed. You're no longer the image of you that parents, siblings and other family members may still carry with them. Some might still see you as that little kid or immature teen and find it hard to recognize how you've grown and matured. When others can't recognize all the changes that have made you who you are today, it can be annoying. And it can be difficult in a short holiday visit to really communicate much since often the person still underestimating you is more interested in himself or herself than in learning how you're now a different person.

Family visits also bring with them family history. There may be old disagreements or awkward relationships that now come up again. Past family arguments or misunderstandings may resurface.

You can also feel stressed that you haven't met family expectations. Recent job problems, financial issues or relationship difficulties can leave you feeling insecure knowing you aren't presenting the image or results that the family had expected of you.

So how to deal with all this? Start by recognizing that the stress you're feeling, whatever the source, is a very normal reaction. Next, identify what about that family gathering is making you feel anxious, then plan ways to avoid those anxiety-producing issues. Are there certain situations or people that you want to avoid? Maybe you simply have to accept that you won't be having a wonderful time with everyone there.

Instead, try to seek out people and situations that will make your visit more enjoyable. Don't bring up old problems or current issues you'd prefer kept quiet. Your goal is to make the visit as pleasant and stress-free as possible.

And if such a goal seems impossible, consider making the visit shorter or avoiding it all together. Some issues simply may not be fixable. Don't let old problems ruin the holiday enjoyment for the current you.

Counseling Corner is provided by the American Counseling Association. Comments and questions to ACAcorner@counseling.org or visit the ACA website at www.counseling.org.

WGL's Annual 'Day of Weatherization' Prepares Homes for Winter Across the DC-Region

Volunteer Program serving lower income residents, senior citizens and veterans is in its seventh year; Program reduces heating costs and increases energy savings

By BERNIE TYLOR
WGL

WASHINGTON, D.C. (November 9, 2019)—On the Saturday of Veterans Day weekend, WGL volunteers took part in the seventh annual Day of Weatherization, the company's signature community program event. The initiative continues to support hundreds of lower income families and senior citizens, including military veterans, across the DC-region by proactively preparing their homes—with hands-on help, materials, and simple but effective energy-efficiency steps—for the cold winter season ahead.

Approximately 200 WGL volunteers spread across Washington, D.C., Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia, to prepare 100 homes in multiple neighborhoods using several weatherization tools and techniques that will bring added warmth and comfort, as well as decreased energy spend, during the upcoming cold months. A typical low-income home saves an average of more than \$280 an-

nually in energy spending, and saves an average of 25% on energy consumption, when weatherized, according to the Department of Energy.

In addition to several organizations that have consistently helped WGL identify homes throughout the weatherization program, this year WGL worked closely with Operation Renewed Hope Foundation, a local partner that selected veteran homes and has supported more than 800 homeless veterans and their families in the DC-metro area since 2012 by finding them a place to live.

During the day, volunteers assisted lower-income families with simple low-cost upgrades:



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY WGL

WGL volunteers using weatherization tools and techniques during the annual Day of Weatherization.

- replacing or installing caulking on windows and doors
- installing plastic film on windows
- replacing furnace filters
- installing faucet aerators that reduce the amount of hot water used
- providing weather stripping

Be sure to check www.washington.gov/safety-education/education/winter-preparedness for winter preparedness tips for a safe and warm winter season.

Football from A1

ing 31 tackles in ten games. Morsell helped a Bowie State defensive unit hold teams to a league-best 16.3 points per contest.

Bowie State Head Coach Damon Wilson was voted CIAA Coach of the Year by league media and coaches. Wilson led Bowie State to an undefeated 10-0 regular season and a second straight CIAA Northern Division title. His team is currently ranked #13 nationally in Division II and the only undefeated HBCU in the

country. Wilson has led the Bulldogs to back-to-back appearances in the CIAA Championship game.

Leading the All-Rookie selections are Offensive Rookie of the Year Emanuel Wilson of Johnson C. Smith and Defensive Rookie of the Year Jonathan Ross of Bowie State. A defensive lineman from Waldorf, Md., Ross finished with 34 total tackles while leading all CIAA rookies with 11 tackles for loss and 4.5 sacks, finishing within the top 15 among league leaders in both.

Bowie State leads the way with 10

All-CIAA selections followed by Fayetteville State and Shaw with seven selections each. Saint Augustine's had the most all-rookie selections with five followed by Bowie State and Shaw with four apiece.

Offensive Player of the Year: QB Ja'rome Johnson, Bowie State

Defensive Player of the Year: DB Demetri Morsell, Bowie State

Defensive Rookie of the Year: DL Jonathan Ross, Bowie State

Coach of the Year: Damon Wilson, Bowie State

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

Using a Restricted Application to Maximize Benefits

By RUSSELL GLOOR, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor
Association of Mature American Citizens

Dear Rusty: I was born on 1/14/1953, and my wife was born on 6/27/1954. I will have the largest Social Security benefit by 2 or 3 to one. She has been retired for a year or so, but I am working part time. We planned on not taking our SS until 70, since my IRA and Social Security will cover us until 90 plus. I want to maximize my SS benefit in case we live past then. I have read about a restricted application and file and suspend, but I get conflicting information on who must be born before 1/2/54. Is there anything we can do besides wait to 70 to maximize our benefits? **Signed: Wanting to Maximize**

Dear Wanting: How you, as a married couple, should plan your Social Security depends largely upon whether your wife will be eligible for a spousal benefit from you and, if so, how much her spousal benefit will be. Your wife will get a spousal benefit from you if her own benefit amount at her full retirement age (66) is less than half of your benefit amount at your full retirement age (66). The difference between those two amounts will be added to your wife's own benefit (from her own work record) to become her spousal benefit. At her full retirement age (FRA) she would get 50% of the amount you were eligible for at your FRA, which you reached in January 2019. If your wife's benefit at age 70 will be more than her spousal benefit will be, then it would be prudent for her to delay claiming until age 70 when her benefit will be 32% more than it would be when she turns 66. However, if her spousal benefit will be more, it could make sense for your wife to file for her own benefit first, which would allow you to file a "restricted application for spousal benefits only." Your wife cannot file a restricted application because she was born after January 1, 1954, but you can file the restricted application because you were born before that (the "File and suspend" option which allowed your wife to collect spouse benefits while your benefits are suspended is no longer available).

Provided your current finances, as well as your health and expected longevity suggest you can delay, it would be a wise strategy for you to delay claiming until age 70 because it will provide you with the maximum possible monthly benefit and also the most in cumulative lifetime benefits if you attain at least "average" longevity (about 84). This

would also give your wife the highest possible survivor benefit should you predecease her (as your widow, your wife gets 100% of the benefit you were receiving at your death). Your wife cannot collect a spousal benefit from you until you start your own benefits, but if she were to choose to claim her own Social Security retirement benefit from her own work record first (so you could file the restricted application), she would switch to her higher spousal benefit when you claim.

So, if your wife's spousal benefit will be her highest benefit, as a couple you may wish to consider your wife filing for her own benefit to start in January (will be reduced by about 3.3%) and, at that time, you file a "restricted application for spousal benefits only" which means you will collect 50% of your wife's (unreduced) FRA benefit amount while your own Social Security benefit continues to earn delayed retirement credits (DRCs). DRCs are given at the rate of 2/3rd of 1% per month of delay (8% per year of delay), up until age 70 when your benefit will be 24% more than it would be at age 67. Then, at age 70, when you switch from the spousal benefit from your wife to your own SS retirement benefit, your wife can file for her spousal benefit from you. If you are, indeed, fortunate enough to live well into your 80s, the above will provide you with considerably more in lifetime benefits than any other strategy you might consider.

The 2 million member Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC) (<https://www.amac.us>) is a vibrant, vital senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. We act and speak on their behalf, protecting their interests and offering a practical insight on how to best solve the problems they face today. Live long and make a difference by joining us today at <https://amac.us/join-amac>.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.

District 3 Council Member Glaros Announces Request For Proposals To Develop Former Maryland National Capital Park Police Site

By ANGELA J. ROUSON
PG County Council Media

UPPER MARLBORO (November 13, 2019)—Prince George's County Council Member Dannielle Glaros (D) – District 3, announces the release of a competitive request for proposals (RFPs) to develop the former Maryland National Capital Park Police headquarters site. The property, located adjacent to the future Beacon Heights-East Pines Purple Line Station site, will fulfill the community vision for a mixed-income mixed use community as outlined in the East Riverdale Beacon Heights Sector Plan.

Located at 6700 Riverdale Road in Riverdale, the former headquarters of the Maryland National Capital Park Police is approximately six acres, strategically located in an Opportunity Zone which will include the Beacon Heights-East Pines Purple Line Station. The 16-mile Purple Line light rail, currently under construction, will extend from New Carrollton in Prince George's County to Bethesda in Montgomery County and provide a direct connection to the Metro Red, Green and Orange lines for an estimated 74,000 riders daily.

"The release of the request for proposals to develop this county-owned property is incredibly exciting," said Council Member Glaros. "Numerous partners, including the University of Maryland National Center for Smart Growth Purple Line Corridor Coalition; Kaiser Permanente's Greater Riverdale Place-Based Initiative; and the community goals outlined in the East Riverdale

Beacon Heights Sector Plan envisioned the opportunity to ensure this property provides housing affordability and retail amenities at this important transit-oriented development location."

County Executive Angela D. Alsobrooks responded to the announcement, "Enhancing the quality of life for Prince George's County residents is paramount. This is a unique opportunity to bring high-quality mixed-use development to the doorstep of the Purple Line. We believe that it's critical to ensure small and local business and people from all walks of life have the opportunity to thrive as we enhance this area. The collaboration between the County's Office of Central Services and Redevelopment Authority was a key factor in leveraging this unique parcel to further the community's vision."

"Affordable housing is critical to building a healthy community. Our commitment to make lives better is a promise that goes beyond our members, employees and physicians. It extends to the neighborhoods in which we live and the communities we serve," said Kaiser Permanente Community Health Director, George Leventhal.

[A Pre-submittal Conference was held] on Friday, November 15. Proposals must be received, and time-stamped by the Redevelopment Authority no later than January 10, 2020 at 12 noon. Find the full request for proposal details at www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3248/RFP-2019-2-Purple-Line-Beacon-Heights-St.

COMMENTARY

Governor Hogan Appoints Nicole Williams to the Maryland House of Delegates

By SHAREESE CHURCHILL
Office of the Governor

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (November 15, 2019)—Governor Larry Hogan today announced that he has appointed Nicole Williams to the Maryland House of Delegates. The governor appointed Williams following the recommendation of the Prince George's County Democratic Central Committee.

"I am confident that Nicole Williams will represent the citizens of Prince George's County admirably in her new role as state delegate," said Governor Hogan. "I offer Ms. Williams my sincere congratulations and look forward to working with her in the upcoming legislative session."

Williams, who serves as counsel at Rees Broome, PC, will represent District 22 serving Prince George's County.

Anthony Brown

Maryland Congressional District 4



We Have a Duty to Provide Safe Housing for Our Military Families. We Can and Must Do Better.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (November 14, 2019)—Congressman Anthony G. Brown (MD-04) released the following statement on the persistent, poor conditions of privatized military housing on Fort Meade:

"The living conditions described by these military families are outrageous and completely unacceptable. For months, families have been sounding the alarm on health and safety hazards in private base housing. These problems persist today due to negligence, no sense of urgency and a lack of oversight. Our troops and their families deserve better.

We task the men and women in our armed services with missions critical to the safety and

security of this country. The last thing they should have to worry about is whether their children and spouses are getting sick from mold in rundown homes.

In Congress, I continue to seek the establishment of a tenants' bill of rights which would require assessments of home safety and prohibit the use of non-disclosure agreements. Additionally, I've sought to empower base commanders to conduct inspections on behalf of their service members and require the Inspector General to fully audit private military housing.

We can and must do better—it is our duty to do so."

Statement on HBCUs v. Maryland Prince George's County Educators Stand in Support of Maryland HBCUs

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY (November 13, 2019)—[Last week] the Maryland Legislative Black Caucus (LBC) held a rally in Annapolis to demand a fair settlement for the four Maryland Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). U.S. District Court of Maryland has ruled in favor of Maryland HBCUs determining that they have been woefully underfunded and duplication of programs by predominantly white institutions that continued to operate a de jure system of discrimination against HBCUs. The Maryland LBC has proposed a settlement that would be fair to all the institutions. PGCEA President Theresa Mitchell Dudley released the following statement:

"The National Education Association Convention adopted a resolution in support of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)," said Dudley. "As an association, we know that much of the educator diversity that we see in our classrooms come from educators who have attended HBCUs. If we want to continue to ensure that we have diverse educators, we must fully support our HBCUs in the state of Maryland and beyond."

"Prince George's County is home to one of the four HBCUs in the state and the Prince George's County Educators' Association is proud to stand in solidarity with Bowie State and all four of the HBCUs in Maryland."

Marc Morial

President and CEO, National Urban League



To Be Equal:

Harriet Film Shows the Inner Life of History's Best-Known Conductor on the Underground Railroad

"'Harriet' is the kind of instructional, non-sensational biopic that may not take many artistic risks or sophisticated stylistic departures but manages to benefit from that lack of pretension. This is an ideal introduction—or reintroduction—not just to Tubman, but to the inhumane system that she refused to accept. Clear, linear, sometimes bluntly obvious, 'Harriet' is a rich, enlightening portrait—as sturdy and straightforward as the title character herself."

—Washington Post film critic Ann Hornaday

The National Urban League has long advocated for greater diversity in the entertainment industry. After two consecutive years of Academy Awards voting produced no nominees of color in the acting categories, we launched a campaign to demand a clear and specific blueprint for change. We have executed memoranda of understanding with telecommunications companies that have resulted in dramatic changes in leadership, hiring and—significantly, programming.

As a result, on screens large and small, we're seeing more and more African-American stories, created and told by African-American artists. Harriet, in theaters now, is one of the finest of these.

The story of Harriet Tubman is a staple in most American schools. Our common image of her is as an old woman, her head wrapped in a kerchief. We know her as a conductor on the Underground Railroad. But do Americans really know what that means?

Harriet shatters the stereotypes and dusty textbook imagery, bringing to life the true brutality of life under slavery and the courage it took not only to escape, but to return time and again to rescue others.

Perhaps crucial to the film's vivid and visceral impact is the fact that it was written, directed and produced by African Americans: Kasi Lemmons and Gregory Allen Howard co-wrote the script, and Lemmons directed the film.

The producer, Debra Chase Martin, was awarded the National Urban League's prestigious Arts Award this week as part of our Equal Opportunity Day Awards Dinner, where we caught a special excerpt of the film.

"Harriet's story shows that each of us can make a difference," she told the website Shondaland. "She decided it wasn't just enough to free herself, but that she was going to free other people. And in doing so, she went on to help change the course of our nation. For all of us, now, it's empowering to remember that we can have an impact on things if we just step up and use our voices."

Tubman was born Araminta Ross in Maryland. As with many enslaved people, the exact year of her birth is not known but she likely was born between 1820 and 1825. Following a severe head injury as a teenager, she developed what modern scholars believe to have been temporal lobe epilepsy. The visions she experienced played a major role in the development of her profound personal faith in God.

The visions are portrayed in Harriet as stark, overwhelming, all-consuming. As Vanity Fair film critic K Austin Collins wrote, "It's what sets Harriet apart from the otherwise more by-the-numbers historical treatment it often threatens to be—gives the movie a realm of spirituality and imagination to play with that stand out from the more brutal literalism of the slavery genre in art."

The film highlights the conflict not only between slave owners and those who are enslaved, but also between Black people who were born into slavery and those born free, presenting a far more nuanced picture of history than Americans are used to seeing.

Harriet is nothing short of a masterpiece, and is destined to become the quintessential biography of America's first Black heroine. We were proud to honor its producer and urge not only viewing of the film but a robust national discussion about its meaning and legacy.

Marion Wright Edelman

President Emerita,
Children's Defense Fund



ChildWatch:

The Truth About Guns in America

Pop, pop, bang, bang
Schools, communities,
houses too
Nobody's safe, they're
Coming for you"

—12-year-old boy in Washington, D.C.

hoods? America's obsession with guns is fueled by myths and misconceptions—and this misinformation is no accident. For years the gun lobby has actively distorted and blocked the truth. It's time to set the record straight.

The Children's Defense Fund's Protect Children Not Guns 2019 report shares essential facts about guns in America. The first five facts to know:

1. A gun in the home is more likely to endanger than protect loved ones. A gun in the home makes the likelihood of homicide three times higher, suicide three to five times higher, and accidental death four times higher. For every time a gun in the home injures or kills in self-defense there are 11 completed and attempted gun suicides, seven criminal assaults and homicides and four unintentional shooting deaths or injuries.

2. Many children live in homes with loaded, unlocked guns and know where they are. A third of households with children have a gun and nearly

half of gun-owning households with children fail to store firearms safely. An estimated 4.6 million children live in homes with at least one unlocked and loaded gun and most know where they are kept. About 3 in 4 5–14-year-olds with gun owning parents know where they are stored and more than 1 in 5 have handled a gun in the home without parental knowledge. This has led to preventable accidents and suicides: more than half of youths who committed suicide with a gun found the gun at home.

3. Guns lethally violence. Contrary to gun lobby propaganda, guns do kill people. Guns lethally violence anger, hate, and violence. A gun in family or intimate assaults increases the risk of death 12 times. An estimated 41 percent of gun related homicides and 94 percent of gun related suicides would not occur without guns.

See THE TRUTH Page A6

Amnesty from A1

When motorists register a vehicle, they must provide proof of insurance and cannot have any outstanding fines with the Motor Vehicle Administration. When drivers are kept off the road, it's difficult to find work, according to Thomas "Mac" Middleton, a former state senator who co-sponsored the 2018 bill to create the program.

As a condition of the program, the individual must secure insurance for any vehicle they already own or subsequently register.

Drivers can enlist the help of Maryland Auto, which provides liability insurance to those who are unable to obtain coverage from a private company.

In Maryland, the initial penalty for driving uninsured includes the suspension of registration and a \$150 fine. The fine grows after 30 days, when a \$7 fee accrues each day. The maximum penalty per year is \$2,500, according to Nichels.

Maryland's Central Collection Unit, a state entity for debt recovery, and the Motor Vehicle Administration have historically collected only one-third of the uninsured motor debts, according to a legislative analysis. With so much money left unpaid, amnesty

programs like this help recover a portion of that money and help drivers get back on the road legally.

The process to make debtors aware of this program began in July with mail and emails to eligible participants, followed by a push on social media.

But according to Middleton, who now works with Maryland Auto as a government and policy administrator, there's an additional need to address skepticism of an opportunity that some would say seems too good to be true.

"The difficulty we're having is there's so many gimmicks out there," Middleton said, referring to scams that circulate in the mail or online.

To dispel any doubt, Maryland Auto officials have visited churches, coalitions, commissions and minority groups to promote the program.

As of early November, McCurdy said, 11,555 of the approximate 308,000 people had capitalized on the opportunity. With those payments, the program recovered over \$2 million in unpaid fines, while forgiving over \$8 million of the Central Collection Unit's \$816 million in outstanding debts estimated in the 2018 legislative analysis.

The Motor Vehicle Administration, with the assistance of the Maryland Auto Insurance Fund (now known as Maryland Auto) and Central Collections Unit, administered a similar program in 2017 that forgave 80 percent of an individual's uninsured debts from before Jan. 1, 2014.

That program resulted in a 5.3 percent participation rate, 10,234 unique debts paid of the 192,115 outstanding, and recovered approximately \$3.9 million.

McCurdy said the 2019 iteration of the program is an improvement of the 2017 edition, which he classified as "overly restrictive."

One restriction in the previous version was a mandate that the participant had to register a vehicle within six months of paying off 20 percent of their debt.

"We are trying to take advantage of the lessons learned," McCurdy said. "People who are living on the economic line shouldn't be required to pay a fine, then buy a car."

The Motor Vehicle Administration and Maryland Auto encouraged people to visit the FineFix page online at finefix.maryland.gov—to check their eligibility for the program ahead of the Dec. 31 deadline.

The Prince George's Post

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Calendar of Events

November 21–November 30, 2019

BEST Undercover Horse Show

Date and Time: Saturday, November 23, 2019, 8 a.m.–9 p.m.
Description: The BEST Horse Show Series was voted by the Maryland Horse Shows Association, the “Best Horse Show” for 2014–2016 and the “Best MHSA Regional Horse Show” for 2017–2018!

Cost: Free for spectators!

Ages: All ages are welcome

Location: The Show Place Arena, 14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

More Info: <http://besthorseshows.com/home>

Greeting of the Geese

Date and Time: Saturday, November 23, 2019, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Description: Celebrate the arrival of migrating Canada geese with a day of dancing and demonstrations led by the local Piscataway Tribe! FREE activities include hayrides, art exhibits and Scales & Tales!

Cost: Free

Location: Merkle State Park, 11704 Fenno Rd, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Contact: Merkle Wildlife NRMA, 443-510-9920, MerkleWildlife.NRMA@maryland.gov

Thanksgiving Glitterfest

Date and Time: Saturday, November 23, 2019, 2–4 p.m.
Description: Come enjoy this workshop that teaches you how to decorate sparkling centerpieces with glitter for your Thanksgiving table! You and your family are encouraged to bring your own items to decorate, but you will also be able to choose from a limited selection of free centerpiece items at the workshop.

Cost: Free

Ages: All ages are welcome

Location: Brentwood Arts Exchange, 3901 Rhode Island Avenue, Brentwood, MD 20722

Contact: 301-277-2863; TTY 301-699-2544

7th Annual Winter Festival of Lights Trot for a Turkey

Date and Time: Saturday, November 23, 2019, 6 p.m. Check-in concludes at 5:50 p.m. Walk/run begins promptly at 6 p.m.

Registration deadline: Friday, November 22, 2019, at noon.

Description: Register to walk or run through the 3.1-mile course and see the dazzling displays up close. Your registration fee will provide a family in need with a holiday turkey.

Cost: \$30/person (includes a long-sleeve commemorative t-shirt and provides one turkey for a local family)

Ages: All ages are welcome

Location: Watkins Regional Park, 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

Contact: 301-627-7755

Film: A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving

Date and Time: Monday, November 25, 2019, 6–8 p.m.

Description: Come join us for this holiday classic with the whole Peanuts gang as they discover the meaning of Thanksgiving.

Cost: Free

Ages: Elementary (5–12 yrs)

Location: Largo-Kettering Branch Library, 9601 Capital Lane, Largo, MD 20774

Contact: 301-336-4044

33rd Annual Winter Festival of Lights

Date and Time: Friday, November 29, 2019–Tuesday, January 1, 2020, 5–9:30 p.m. Free appreciation nights December 2 and 25.

Description: 'Tis the season for giving! Help our community and bring canned goods to donate to local food banks. Holiday drive-through event of more than 2.5 million twinkling lights! Don't miss our giant 54-foot LED musical tree. Get your free festival spectacles while supplies last—watch as the lenses magically transform every point of light into magical floating holographs! <http://www.pgparcs.com/742/Festival-of-Lights> for more info!

Cost: \$10 car/van; \$20 minibus/limo; \$30/bus; \$20/visit pass (car/van); Accept all major credit cards

Ages: All ages are welcome

Location: Watkins Regional Park, 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

Contact: 301-218-6700; TTY: 301-699-2544

Mounted Games Across America

Date and Time: Saturday, November 30, 2019, 8 a.m.

Description: Mounted Games Across America, Inc., was incorporated by a group of games-crazy people to promote the sport of equestrian mounted games. MGAA is open to equestrians who would like to play mounted games with others who share the love of the sport. Equestrians of all ages and skills are welcome!

Cost: Spectators are FREE!

Ages: All ages are welcome

Location: The Show Place Arena, 14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

More info: www.mountedgames.org/about

PGAAMCC Museum Kids Club: Fall Family Day

Date and Time: Saturday, November 30, 2019, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Description: Float into fall with the PGAAMCC Museum Kids Club! Story time with a take home craft, steel pan performances, and a special Kids Tour of the Museum! **Register at eventbrite**

Cost: Free!

Ages: All ages are welcome

Location: Prince Georges African American Museum and Cultural Center, 4519 Rhode Island Avenue, North Brentwood, MD 20722

Contact: 301-809-0440

Grateful, Thankful & Empowered— A Poet Laureate Reading Series Event

Date and Time: Saturday, November 30, 2019, 1–3 P.M.

Description: Prince George's County Poet Laureate, Sistah Joy, will host and share poetry. Billye Okera will be the Featured Poet. Additional artists include Youth Poet Laureate, Mi'Jan Credle; Musician (on Djembe drum), Doc Powell; Vocalist, AnDraea Keene Williams; and Visual Artist, Keiona Clark. Light refreshments will be served. Presented by the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council in partnership with the M-NCPPC.

Cost: Free

Location: Kentland Community Center, 2413 Pinebrook Rd., Landover, MD 20785

OUT on the TOWN

'Tis the Season: A Guide to Holiday Arts and Culture with the M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation

By KIRA CALM LEWIS and IYANA MOORE

Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation

RIVERDALE, Md. (November 13, 2019)—Let the magic of the holiday season inspire the artist within by exploring the many arts and culture programs offered by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation, available throughout Prince George's County:

History's Home for the Holidays

Wednesday, November 27–Sunday, December 15, 11 a.m.–3 p.m.
Surratt House Museum, 9118 Brandywine Road Clinton, MD 20735
Audience: All ages

Cost: \$5 Adult; \$4 Senior; \$2 Student; FREE ages 4 & under

Take time from the hectic pace of modern holiday festivities and enjoy a tour through the decorated halls of a Civil War home. Learn the history behind some of our cherished traditions and delight in the festive decorations, ornaments, and toys. Peek in the museum's gift shop to take advantage of holiday discounts and find some treasures of your own!

Annual Gingerbread House Contest & Show

Friday, November 29–Sunday, December 15, 12 Noon–5 p.m.
Darnall's Chance House Museum, 14800 Governor Oden Bowie Dr. Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Cost: \$2/person; Groups of 10 or more by appointment.

For a sweet treat, come and view an amazing display of edible gingerbread houses—no nibbling allowed! Visitors will have the opportunity to vote for the “Viewer's Choice” competition.

Annual Craft Fair and Beer Tasting Lounge

Saturday, December 7, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.
Brentwood Arts Exchange, 3901 Rhode Island Avenue Brentwood, MD 20722

Cost: Free

Don't get stuck at the crowded mall! Come to our Annual Craft Fair and Beer Tasting Lounge where you can support local artists and small businesses as you shop for beautiful, handmade items, and enjoy the latest elixirs from Maryland Meadworks. All ages are welcome (21 and older for beer tasting).

Holiday Make and Take Workshop

Sunday, December 8, 1–3 p.m.
Montpelier Arts Center, 9652 Muirkirk Rd, Laurel, MD 20708

Cost: Free

Tinsel, glitter, and evergreens—Oh my! Come celebrate the holidays by making your own greeting card and/or a holiday ornament. Team up with your family to make lasting memories or come on your own to create a loving gift for that special someone. Participants will get in the holiday spirit when they attend this holiday workshop! No experience needed.

A Jazzy Holiday with the Eric Byrd Trio

Thursday, December 12, from 12 Noon–1 p.m.
Montpelier Arts Center, 9652 Muirkirk Rd, Laurel, MD 20708

Cost: Resident and Non-Resident: \$12

The Eric Byrd Trio graces our stage with cool arrangements of holiday classics. Everything from traditional holiday carols to modern-day favorites will be performed in their own unique styles of gospel, blues, and jazz.

Motown and More at the Holidays

Thursday, December 19, 11 a.m.–12 Noon
Publick Playhouse, 5445 Landover Road Cheverly, MD 20784

Audience: 60 & better

Cost: \$10/person

Come celebrate the holidays with The BRENCORE ALLSTARS Band as they perform traditional renditions of timeless classics, as well as more modern arrangements and original songs of the season from gospel to Motown. Bring holiday cheer and enjoy a fantastic time with the music of the season that we all know and love.

*Other affordable high-quality performances, educational programs, and thought-provoking art exhibitions and workshops exclusively at Publick Playhouse can be viewed through the 2019-2020 Season Brochure!

Hansel & Gretel Tea Party

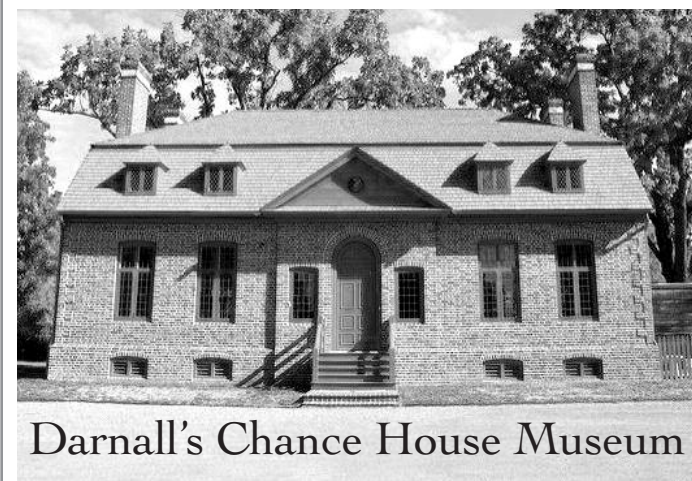
Saturday, December 21, 2–3 p.m.
Darnall's Chance House Museum, 14800 Governor Oden Bowie Dr. Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Audience: Ages 5 & up

Cost: Resident Cost: \$17, Non-resident Cost: \$22

Visit Darnall's Chance to see it decorated like a gingerbread house! Listen to the story of Hansel and Gretel, enjoy tea and dessert, and participate in a holiday craft activity. Registration fee required for all attendees: children and adults (children must be accompanied by a paying adult). Reservation and payment required in advance. Reservation deadline: December 13.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



Darnall's Chance House Museum

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF M-NCPPC

Dedicated to the interpretation and study of the history and culture of 18th century Prince George's County, **Darnall's Chance House Museum** focuses on the experience of the colonial women who lived in the region. The museum offers innovative and interactive programs, special exhibits, and special events throughout the year. The museum is open year-round with guided tours by appointment Tuesday–Thursday, 10:00 AM–4:00 PM, walk-in tours Friday and Saturday, 12 noon–3:15 PM. Admission: Adults \$5, Seniors \$4, and Children \$2. FREE admission available to active duty military personnel and their families through the Blue Star Museum Tours program.

Darnall's Chance House Museum:
14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
301-952-8010, TTY 301-699-2544
<https://www.mncppc.org/3055/Darnalls-Chance-House-Museum>

Silver Diner Opened Its 17th Location at Woodmore Towne Centre

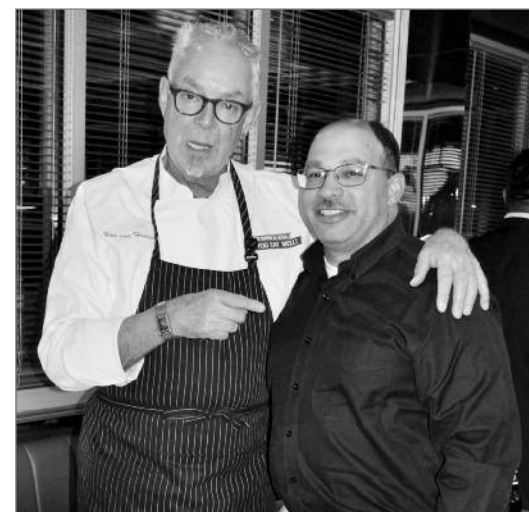
By PRESS OFFICER
for Silver Diner

Silver Diner opened its 17th location (2nd location in Prince George's County) at Woodmore Towne Centre, Glenarden, Md. for a media preview and invite-only VIP dinner and reception. Along with Prince George's county government officials and local business owners, many of the area's first responders attended the soft opening. Silver Diner Woodmore open[ed] to the public for dinner service on Nov. 13 following a ribbon cutting ceremony. On Nov. 18, the restaurant open[ed] for full service.

In addition to Silver Diner's famous farm-to-table, flexitarian menu with vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, low calorie

and diner favorites, the Woodmore location will also have a full bar.

Chef Ype Von Hengst ensures that food quality is a top priority, incorporating local ingredients wherever possible. By purchasing fresh and local ingredients, such as hormone free, all-natural meats, milk free of bovine growth hormone and free-range chickens, Chef Ype keeps menu items chef-driven and customer-focused. In addition, Silver Diner serves vegan, vegetarian, gluten-free and low-calorie items. The Silver Diner Kids Menu has won national accolades for its healthy items and has been part of a Tufts University research study on what restaurants can do to effectively encourage children to eat healthy.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF SILVER DINER

Chef Ype and Todd Turner Chair Head County Council at the VIP dinner and reception.

A Dozen Players, A Dozen Reasons, A Dozen Points Short

PG Valor Basketball Team loses first game of the season

By PRESS OFFICER
PG Valor Basketball Team

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY (November 13, 2019)—When you walked in the building there was the smell of hot dogs, nachos, and other concession items with our food vendor Lady Liberty Snacks. But before you could get to the concession stand your attention was grabbed by the color apparel selection on the table of Da Method Apparel (who also happens to be the PG Valor Basketball team's 2019 uniform sponsor). The DJ began playing music and the players took the court for tip off. The whistle blew and players jumped up for possession of the official American Basketball Association (ABA) iconic red, white and blue game ball. The game began and PG Valor once again gave spectators and fans another great game as they opened their fourth season in a face off against the North Eastern Stars

and Stripes (NEPA) on Saturday, November 9. This was the first ABA game of the season and debut of the new PG Valor head coach Kenneth L. Gray and several new players. PG Valor vets and team captains Tauron Crenshaw and Kenneth Pettaway tried to motivate and lead the team to victory. However, the inexperience of the new players combined with selfishness and eventually fear, caused the team to hand the game over to NEPA for a 132-120 loss.

Pettaway led the team in scoring with 46 points followed by Crenshaw (25 pts); Shola Wooten (15 pts); JohnNathan Agina (8 pts) and Logan Samuels (6 points). Crenshaw also led the team in assist.

“This was a great loss,” stated Team Owner LaDonna M. Smith. “I told the guys in GroupMe that despite us losing I was proud of their first game as a team; congratulated Coach Gray and then explained how personal agendas and fear showed. I know

that with us having more games there is time to fix the mistakes and build on what worked. I trust my coach and my organization and know that we can only improve and progress from here.”

PG Valor is on the road for their next game on November 30, 2019 against rival team Baltimore Hawks in Baltimore. Our former coach resigned prior to his contract not being renewed and was hired by Baltimore. Baltimore was already a rival team based on the historic dislike that Baltimore MD has for Washington DC despite us being caught in the middle because we are based in Prince George's County. PG Valor will host the Philly Raiders from Philadelphia at our next home game December 1, 2019 at 9107 Pine View Lane, Clinton, MD. Tip off is at 4 p.m.

For tickets, visit www.pgvalor.com. Connect with us on Instagram: @pgvalorbball or by telephone 240-918-7500.

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69th Anniversary from A1

Taylor, Samuel and Hannah Carr, Lucy Hart, Charles Green, Henry L. McDonald, Alfonso L. Sutton, Rosa Gause, Clarence and Georgia Lindsay, Gertrude Lane, Dorothy Hosley, and several others from the Chapel Oaks and neighboring communities. The church was incorporated on August 22, 1952; at that time it was renamed Hemingway Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Church in honor of Bishop Lawrence Hemingway. In 1999, the church relocated to Gateway Blvd in District Heights, where we stand today in service to the community and to proclaim God's vision for our church and people under the leadership of our current Pastor Rev. Dr. Gerald Folsom. #Bold Faith #Bold Future. All are welcome!



PHOTOGRAPH CREDIT JEAN LONG AND OMAR MITCHELL
L to R: Mahasin El Amin, Clerk of the Court for Prince George's County, Hemingway Sr. Pastor Gerald Folsom, and Prince George's School Board Member Sonya Williams.

The Truth from A4

4. Armed school guards and teachers don't make children safer and often increase risk in the classroom. A report from the Giffords Law Center found armed adults in schools frequently mishandled guns or allowed students to get their hands on them. The presence of armed guards and police on school grounds also leads to greater criminalization of children at younger ages and pushes children—especially Black and Hispanic boys—into the prison pipeline.

5. Mental health is not a major risk factor for gun violence. People with mental illness are more likely to be victims of violence than perpetrators. Fewer than 5 percent of U.S. gun related killings were committed by people with mental illness between 2001 and 2010. Research suggests access to guns—not mental illness—makes individuals more likely to commit gun violence.

It's time to educate ourselves, our families and our lawmakers about the truth and organize and vote to stop the indefensible loss of life from guns in America beginning with our children.

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State Fire Marshal Reminds Residents About Heat Source Safety

By EMILY WITTY
Office of the State Fire Marshal

STATEWIDE (October 24, 2019)—State Fire Marshal Brian S. Geraci is reminding residents to use best practices when heating their homes as temperatures continue to drop. Heating equipment is involved in one out of every five home fire-related deaths, and half of all home heating fires will occur during the months of December, January, and February.

"Like clockwork, my office will report to a fire in the coming months as a result of a space heater or fire-place," said Fire Marshal Geraci. "It is my life's work to eliminate home fire deaths, a mission that every Maryland resident can help us to achieve by using best practices when it comes to heating their homes this fall and winter."

For homeowners with fireplaces, be sure to have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents annually. Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container and keep it outside at least 10 feet from your home and any other structure.

For homeowners utilizing portable space heaters, please follow the advice below to ensure safe use:

- Only use a portable heater that has a qualified testing laboratory seal.
- Keep the heater at least three feet away from anything that can burn, including people.
- Use a heater with a thermostat and overheating protection.
- Make sure the heater has an automatic shut-off in the event that it is tipped over.
- Keep children away from space heaters and do not allow it to block an exit.
- Plug the heater into a grounded wall outlet only, never to an extension cord.
- Turn the heater off whenever you leave the room or before going to sleep.

It is paramount that you never use your oven as a heat source and that you have working carbon monoxide alarms that are tested monthly. In the event of a power outage, all portable generators should be located as far away from your home as possible, especially away from windows. Remember, it is better to be safe and stay at another location—such as a family member or friend's house, a motel, or local shelter—then to use risky practices to alternatively heat your home when the main heat source isn't functioning.

For more information about home fire safety, visit NFPA.org or USFA.FEMA.gov.

Fact

Two in five deaths in space heater fires involve portable electric space heaters.

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