

The Prince George's Post



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Council Unanimously Approves Historic Appointment of Prince George's County Fire Chief Tiffany Green

Green Becomes Prince George's County's First Female Fire Chief

By ANGELA ROUSON
Prince George's County Council Media

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (Feb. 5, 2020)—The Prince George's County Council unanimously approved the appointment of Tiffany D. Green as Prince George's County's 13th Fire Chief, and the first woman to serve in the position during Council session on Tuesday, February 4, 2020.

Prince George's County Council Chair Todd M. Turner (D) – District 4, says Chief Green's historical appointment is hard-earned and well deserved.

"Chief Green is a consummate public servant who has dedicated herself to improving the communities of Prince George's County through her work with the Fire Department. With a fire service career spanning over 25 years, she is uniquely qualified to serve in this capacity and the Council looks forward to working with her to move Prince George's County forward."

Chief Green, who previously served as Acting Fire Chief, has over 25 years of fire and emergency services, homeland security and emergency management experience. She has served as Deputy Fire Chief, Administrative Services Command; Fire/Emergency Management Services (EMS) Training Academy Director; Executive Assistant to the Public Safety Director; career firefighter; and volunteer firefighter.

County Executive Angela Alsobrooks and Council Vice-Chair Calvin S. Hawkins, II, pose with newly appointed Prince George's County Fire Chief Tiffany D. Green on February 4, 2020.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL



Journey Brice Brings Awareness to Homelessness



Tenth grade student, Journey Brice, from Upper Marlboro, Maryland, in Prince George's County delivered 40 care packages for the homeless. Journey's passion is bringing awareness to homelessness. Journey had the great opportunity to interview some of the homeless, and get their stories and what the government can do to help out. Journey was blown away with the stories she heard and is currently learning more about what she can do and is getting other people involved in helping their community to end homelessness. She has over 300 Service learning hours and her goal is to succeed in the IB program at her school.

PHOTOGRAPH CREDIT SUSANNA BRICE

2020 Teen Dating Violence Summit: No Excuse For Dating Abuse

Feb. 13, event, 6–9 p.m. at Camelot by Martin's

By KIRA CALM LEWIS

Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation

RIVERDALE, Md. (Feb. 7, 2020)—Join the Department of Parks and Recreation, in partnership with the Department of Family Services and with the assistance of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Office of the States Attorney, in a national effort to protect and educate young people about dating violence. For the last seven years, the Teen Dating Violence Summit has brought valuable information and resources to teenagers in Prince George's County.

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. It's a national effort carried out by activists, community leaders, and national and local organizations, to raise awareness about dating abuse, promote programs that support young people, and encourage communities to prevent this form of abuse with the goal of decreasing the prevalence of dating abuse among young people. According to breakthecycle.org, one in three teenagers reports knowing a friend or peer who has been hit, punched, kicked, slapped, choked, or physically hurt by their partner.

During the 2020 'No Excuse for Dating Abuse' Summit, teens will have a panel discussion with courageous conversations confronting issues of dating violence head-on and calling on the community for support and action. Additionally, there will be a visual arts and poetry contest, interactive visual arts expressions, refreshments, giveaways, and a live band with special guest Emcee Deja Perez!

WHAT: 2020 Teen Dating Violence Summit: No Excuse for Dating Abuse (*Cost is free, but register through PARKS DIRECT*)

WHEN: Thursday, February 13, 2020, 6–9 p.m.

WHERE: Camelot by Martin's, 13901 Central Avenue, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

AUDIENCE: Ages 11–21

Refreshments are available from 6–7 p.m. only. Transportation will be provided from Kentland; Bowie; Oakcrest; Deerfield Run; Suitland; Lake Arbor; Westphalia; and Good Luck Community Centers.

Lorenzo Henriquez's Original Play Selected For Consideration for National Award

By DAMITA CHAMBERS
Bowie State University

BOWIE, Md. (Feb. 5, 2020)—A Bowie State University theatre arts major—whose original work won Best 10-Minute Play in the region at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival last month—is one of eight BSU students who were honored for their theatre talents.

Lorenzo Henriquez's play, "Every[Black]Man," also received the Gary Garrison Regional Award for Playwriting and is one of 16 plays selected for consideration for the festival's prestigious national award, presented in April. His play artfully depicts a black

boy on his 14th birthday as he confronts the harsh realities that come with being a black man. A judging panel will select four national finalists from among the 16 plays, which will be performed as concert readings by professional actors at the John F. Kennedy Center of the Performing Arts in Washington, DC. The winner receives a \$500 cash prize.

Henriquez was also honored as part of a Bowie State student ensemble for Best Devised Theatre Performance, which BSU won for the second year in a row. The other students who received the award are Delante Dates, Nate Hatchett, Christen Munroe-Jones, Shalom Omo-Osagie, Ryan Pendleton, Broderick Pitts and Daniel Young. The

devised piece, which was collectively created by the group, tells a comical story of four college friends on a road trip visiting campus offices to take care of the business of staying in school.

Adding to the individual honors, Omo-Osagie won the Best Cold Reading and Best One Act Performance awards, and Pendleton won Best 10-Minute Play Performance. Senior Gabbi Hawkins was featured in the musical theatre ensemble for the festival's closing ceremony.

Nearly 1,000 students from the Mid-Atlantic region attended the annual Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, which holds eight different regional conferences. During the Jan.

14–18 regional festival, students participated in workshops, monologue slams, staged readings, musical theatre cabarets, devised theatre performances, scholarship auditions, auditions for professional companies and the festival's National Playwriting Program.

Elena Velasco "What struck me about our Bowie State students at the festival where there are over 1,000 students from across our region is simply the pride that they have as an ensemble," said Elena Velasco, a BSU assistant professor of theatre who organized the students for the festival. "They became a magnet for other students, particularly other students of color, who wanted to come together and join with this really vibrant, energetic community because they were very passionate about each other's work. While they have won all

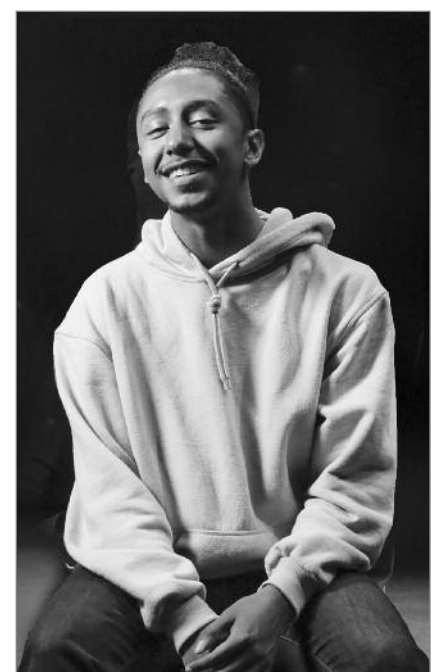


PHOTO COURTESY BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

Lorenzo Henriquez

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INSIDE

Prince George's County 20-Year-Old Named Ambassador

As Youth Ambassadors, these LGBTQ advocates will represent the HRC Foundation, adding their voices and experiences to raise awareness about the most pressing concerns facing LGBTQ youth.

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ChildWatch: Light Your Candle in the Darkness

So every day, light your small candle. It just might be the one that sparks the movement to save our children's and nation's future.

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MacKenzie Management Expands Prince George's County Presence

MacKenzie manages over 10 million square feet of commercial real estate space for a variety of local, regional and national owners spanning all asset classes.

Business and Finance, Page A7

National Book Award Winner Ibram X. Kendi Visits PG County

His appearance in Prince George's County provides the community with an opportunity to participate in a dialogue about the notion of antiracism through a series of book discussions.

Out on the Town, Page A9

The Bowie Center For Performing Arts: Opera Lafayette Reprises Leonore

This return presentation advances the Center's mission to advance the arts for all community residents.

Features, Page A11

Jason Hylan, Observatory Manager for WFIRST, Inspires His Team to Dream Big

As Wide Field Infrared Surveyor Telescope (WFIRST) Observatory Manager at NASA Goddard, Hylan values teamwork.

Computers and Tech, Page A13

TOWNS *and* NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301-735-3451

Got marchers, vintage car, float or band for Morningside's July 4th Parade?

It may be snowing or 25 degrees outside, but Susan Mullins is already at work on the Morningside Independence Day Parade. Right now, she's looking for entries—musicians, school bands, Boy Scouts, majorettes, old car or truck, clown, whatever is parade-worthy. For an entry form or questions, call the Town Hall, 301-736-2300.

Following the Parade, there'll be the annual Fun Day at Patterson Park. And great and noisy fireworks at dusk.

The event will be on Saturday, July 4, stepping off from the Morningside Fire Department at 11:30 a.m. and marching to the VFW. The Parade line starts lining up at 10:30.

Volunteers are needed. Anyone who requires volunteer hours should consider this a fun way to do it.

To volunteer, have an entry form for the Parade, or questions, call the Town Hall at 301-736-2300.

Morningside awarded funding for Census outreach

The Maryland Department of Planning has announced that 32 municipalities have been awarded funding to support a fair, accurate and inclusive Census count. The Town of Morningside received \$5,000.

As Mayor Benn Cann says in his Letter to the town, "I'll be focusing on, over the next couple of months, the Census... The Census is our family photo and we need you in the picture. It only happens every 10 years and we lose, as a town, \$18,000 for every person not counted."

Neighbors and other good people

Kenneth Michael Hedrick was again remembered on Jan. 12 by the Morningside VFD. Back on Jan. 12, 1992, Morningside responded to a housefire on Walls Lane in Suitland. Kenny rescued the family's 7-year-old son and went back into the fire to search for additional victims. He became trapped under debris and perished. His father, Les Hedrick, was Fire Chief at the time but was not on the call. Jan. 12, 1992 is perhaps the saddest day in #27's history.

Father Christopher Wyvill has been a priest of the Order of St. Benedict for 60 years. He was born in Upper Marl-

boro, attended Marlboro (now, Frederick Douglass) High School and Strayer College, served in the Navy, and with an NROTC scholarship earned a degree in chemistry from Cornell before entering religious life at St. Anselm's Abbey in Washington. He has taught science and served as guestmaster at the Abbey.

It's Valentine's Day all month—adopt a dog

The Prince George's County Animal Services Facility & Adoption Center will be celebrating Valentine's Day all month long with our Staff Favorite Adoption Event.

If you are planning on adopting a pet dog, take advantage of our reduced adoption fees during February for those dogs whose cages have been tagged with a heart. Visit bit.ly/pg-cadoption to see all our pets available for adoption.

Changing landscape

Fresenius Kidney Care is hosting an Open House on Feb. 19, 4 to 7 p.m., at its new center, 6301 Walker Mill Road in Capitol Heights. The facility is the dialysis division of Fresenius. For information, go to scott.l.anderson@fmc-na.com or call 202-263-9480.

The Oxon Hill Food Pantry is proud of its new access ramp, built by Picture Perfect Home Repair and Remodeling in November. It's much sturdier than the old ramp that served for 25 years.

Moll Dyer's rock

In last week's column I mentioned St. Mary's County's witch, Moll Dyer. Former Morningsider Peg Richardson emailed, "I remember hearing the stories of Moll Dyer as a child growing up in St. Mary's. My grandfather had a home in St. Clement's Shores, and I spent many a summer down there. The rock she supposedly held onto is still by the old jail but now has a fence around it. Didn't use to. People have touched it but not too sure I would want to. I don't want to push my luck. I heard a story that one lady touched it and laughed and walked about 3 feet away and passed out."

For more about Moll Dyer and other Southern Maryland witches, visit the Surratt House gift shop for Lynn Buonviri's "Moll Dyer and Other Witch Tales of Southern Maryland."

Remembering Black History

The Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Washington have installed blocks of gray granite, each bearing a large bronze plaque: "Dedicated to the memory of those Unknown who were Enslaved and Buried at this Cemetery and throughout the Archdiocese of Washington."

The memorials are at six cemeteries: Mount Olivet in Washington, Resurrection in Clinton, Gate of Heaven in Silver Spring, St. Mary's Queen of Peace in Helen and All Souls in Germantown.

May they rest in peace

• Judith K. Witherow, 75, longtime resident of Larkspur Road in Morningside, more recently in Upper Marlboro, died Jan. 27. She's survived by Eileen Susan Lenaerts; sons, Stacey Witherow (Andrea) and Mark Witherow (Dawn); five grandchildren, six great-grandchildren; sisters Joyce Bequeaith and Jeannie Day; brothers James Hodges, Jr. and John Hodges. Her son Steven predeceased her. Services were at Rausch Funeral Home in Owings.

• John G. Honig, 96, founder and president of the Oxon Hill Recreation Club, member of the Forest Heights Town Council, and vice chair of the Maryland Governor's Science Advisory Council, died Jan. 30.

He was born in Vienna, Austria in 1923, and at the age of 15, following Hitler's invasion of Austria, he fled to London alone. And that's just the beginning of a fascinating life—education, marriage, careers, memberships, and awards, active through his 80s and into his 90s. You can read his most interesting Post obit at www.sagelbloomfield.com.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Mary Reilly, Feb. 14; Father Ted Hegnauer, David Chambers and Mary Young, Feb. 15; Sarah Anderson, Dean Woods, Feb. 16; Charlene Holmes, and Danny Fowler, Feb. 18; Clifford Lantz, Feb. 19; Melissa Harnes, Paul Bornman, Feb. 20; and Ray Short Jr., Feb. 21.

Happy anniversary to Frank & Soo Wilson on Feb. 15.

*To each of my Readers,
"You are my Valentine!"*

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

BLACK WOMEN IN STEM

You are invited to join us to experience a film presentation by Marvin Jackson Productions on the history and roles of African American women in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) at Bowie State University February 25, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.

The film presentation will be held in the Martin Luther King Communication Arts Center, Room 204, 14000 Jericho Park Road, Bowie, Maryland 20715. Contact is Dr. Karen Cook Bell, email: kcookbell@bowiestate.edu. Categories Black History Month-Featured.

CLINTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CUMC will observe Ash Wednesday on February 26 at 7:00 p.m. with the 210 Corridor UM Churches at Providence-Ft. Washington UMC, 10601 Old Fort Road, Ft. Washington, Maryland 20744. The Washington East District Superintendent Dr. Johnnie Cogman will be preaching. However, on Ash Wednesday, CUMC will be open for the Imposition of Ashes and prayer from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There will be no evening worship service at CUMC.

ALUMNI & FRIENDS #BSU4LIFE

Once a Bulldog, Always a Bulldog! We welcome you to the online community for Bowie State University alumni and friends. Your connection to BSU does not end once you leave campus. We encourage you to socialize, network, share news and get involved with your fellow alumni, current students, parents, friends, faculty and staff. You are part of the Bulldog Nation that represents more than 30,000 alumni with one thing in common—Bowie State University. So, stay engaged, get connected, give back and visit often.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday to Brandon Freeman, Vincent Woodward, Darion Smalling, Joe Neckere, Janice Patterson, Rachel Cain, Lauren Crawford, Marvies Davies, Gloria Garrett, Fern Green, Emmanuel Oghogho, Ronald Davis, Jean Noel, Malcolm Terry, Anthony Davis, Matthew Oghogho, Isabella Oghogho, Lynn Harper, Jose Rojas, Karmalita Contee, Maleke Glee, Lawrence Oghogho, Romonia Pinkney who are celebrating birthdays during the month of February.

A JOURNEY THROUGH BLACK HISTORY

Friday, February 28, 2020 from 2:–4:30 p.m. come and celebrate Black History Month through dance, song, poetry and much more. Take a journey through history and learn about African Americans who made significant contributions both locally and nationally at Harmony Hall Regional Center. Light refreshments will be served. The Center is located at 10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington, Maryland, 20744. Telephone number is 301-203-6040. All ages: FREE. Parks & Recreation M-NCPPC.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Wedding Anniversary to Wendell and Florella Wallace, Steven and Denise Bouyer Carter who are celebrating wedding anniversaries during the month of February.

COUNTY CLICK 311

Prince George's County Click 311 is easy, convenient, accessible. County Click 311 is a one stop call center that residents may call to get answers and resolve non-emergency issues. To request assistance with trash collection, pothole repair, or illegal parking, etc., contact 311.

Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. If you are calling from an outside region, please dial, 301-883-4748 to connect to 311. Residents may submit a service request or research a question online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at www.CountyClick311.com.

INDUCTION CEREMONY

Congratulations to all the students at Frederick Douglass High School in Upper Marlboro, Maryland who were inducted into the Robert F. Frisby Chapter of the National Honor Society on Monday, January 24, 2020.

WE'RE WITH HER

You're invited to come and enjoy a celebration Thursday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m. through music, dance, and art, celebrating how black women in Prince George's County and surrounding areas have been influential in politics. All ages—Fee: \$35/person. The address is Newton White Mansion, 2708 Enterprise Road, Mitchellville Maryland 20721. Telephone number is 301-773-6685.

Around the County

Council Member Jolene Ivey and Prince George's County Family Justice Center Host "Love Shouldn't Hurt: A Celebration For Survivors of Domestic Violence"

Friday, Feb. 14 event!

Featured Guest: Award-Winning Global Keynote Speaker and Domestic Abuse Survivor Mildred D. Muhammad
UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (Feb. 10, 2020)—Prince George's County Council Member Jolene Ivey (D) – District 5, is partnering with the Prince George's County Family Justice Center to co-host "Love Shouldn't Hurt: A Celebration for Survivors of Domestic Violence" on Valentine's Day, **Friday, February 14, from 9:30 to 11 a.m., at the Theresa Banks Community Center, 8615 McLain Avenue, in Glenarden, Maryland.**

"Love Shouldn't Hurt: A Celebration for Survivors of Domestic Violence" will feature sought-after, award-winning global keynote speaker, and domestic abuse survivor, Mildred D. Muhammad. A Certified Consultant with the US Department of Justice for the Office for Victims of Crime, and a Certified Domestic Violence Advocate, Muhammad is the ex-wife of D.C. sniper John A. Muhammed. Muhammed travels the world promoting domestic violence awareness and prevention, while sharing stories of her journey from a painful past to a life of purpose.

Council Member Ivey says the decision to host the "Love Shouldn't Hurt" event on Valentine's Day is directly related to the complex emotions that can accompany this time of year for survivors of domestic abuse.

"Valentine's Day is often synonymous with feelings of love, but for survivors of domestic abuse, it can bring up complex emotions. This event will celebrate survivors of abuse and offer them critical community resources, support and encouragement, so no survivor feels the need to return to an abusive relationship."

Family Justice Center Director Denise McCain says co-hosting "Love Shouldn't Hurt" with Council Member Ivey provides an important opportunity to inform and support victims of domestic abuse.

"We want survivors of domestic abuse to know the County has resources in place to support them, and beyond that, we want to celebrate their journey from victim to survivor."

"Love Shouldn't Hurt," an initiative created by District 5 Council Member Jolene Ivey, focuses on eradicating domestic partner abuse in Prince George's County communities through information, collaboration, education and engagement.

This event is free and open to the public. **Registration is required.** To register, please visit, <https://loveshouldnthurtjivey.eventbrite.com>.

WHAT: Love Shouldn't Hurt: A Celebration for Survivors of Domestic Violence

WHO: District 5 Council Member Jolene Ivey, Family Justice Center Director, Denise McCain, Award-winning Global Keynote Speaker, and Domestic Abuse Survivor, Mildred D. Muhammad, County Residents

WHEN: February 14, 2020, 9:30–11 a.m.

WHERE: Theresa Banks Community Center, 8615 McLain Avenue, Glenarden, MD 20706

—Monica Young, Prince George's County Council Media

Census Volunteer Trainings in District 2

Training for Census volunteers will be held on **February 22, 2020**; 10–11:30 a.m. (English) and 12–1:30 p.m. (Spanish) at Langley Park Community Center, 1500 Merrimac Drive, Adelphi, MD 20783. RSVP to 301-952-4436.

—District 2 News and Community Highlights

Smart Start Your Business Workshop

February 20, 2020 • 1–5 p.m.

Location: Bowie City Hall, 15901 Excalibur Road, Room 243, Bowie MD 20716

Cost: \$55. Register at www.marylandsbdc.org

Contact Information: Sandra Conaway 410-706-5463

The Smart Start Your Business workshop is one in a series of three workshops highly recommended for new start-up businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs. Learn how to avoid common pitfalls, explore the feasibility of your idea and increase chances for success!

Professional presentations will be made by an attorney, an accountant, a banker and an insurance professional. Discover how to:

- Legally define your business and register your business name.
- Keep proper financial records and report taxes.
- Assess the insurance requirements needed to safeguard your business and personal assets.
- Evaluate alternatives for accessing investment and working capital

—Maryland Small Business Development Center

Register Now for the FAME Summer Music Program!

Application closes May 2, 2020

This unique and fun-filled summer program is designed for students, grades 7 through 12, who are interested in careers or learning more about music composition, recording or production, and singing. The program is conducted at the state-of-the-art and friendly atmosphere of the University of Maryland College Park School of Music. The program includes:

All workshops culminate with a public showcase of student's creative projects, and students receive a certificate of completion.

This program is made possible in part by funding and support from: Prince George's County Council Chair, Todd M. Turner (District 4) Prince George's County Council Member, Derrick Leon Davis (District 6) United Parcel Service (UPS) PEPCO, an Exelon Company

Faculty:

William Evans, Program Director
Mike Maddox, Music Technology Workshop Director • Alphonso Jiles, Music Technology & Instrumental Instructor
Blossom Ojukwu, Vocal Workshop Director • Langston Hughes, II, Program Assistant

Registration and Info:

Email: Dr. Melissa Morales, mmorales@famemusic.org • or call 301-805-5358, <http://famemusic.org/summer-music-program/>

—FAME, Foundation for the Advancement of Music & Education, Inc.

COMMUNITY

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Put Nature to Work Fighting Your Stress

Yes, we live in a pretty stressful world these days. Whether it's international events, job pressures, or personal problems, most of us are touched by plenty of stress-producing situations every day.

Though we may not be aware of the ways stress is affecting us, it can actually harm us. Experts report that stressful environments can be a direct cause of anxiety and depression in our lives. Studies have found that excessive stress may be at least partly responsible for headaches, drinking problems and a variety of serious health issues.

So how can you better manage the stress in your life? While it may not be possible in today's hectic world to live a stress-free existence, there are ways you can minimize the stress you may be feeling and to escape from it for at least a little bit. Researchers report that even small escapes from stress can offer real benefits.

Distractions are one way to reduce stress. Studies have found that adding a little nature to your life can be quite stress-reducing. Researchers say that people working in an office with no windows or just a view of a blank wall reported that the work environment became more pleasant and less stressful when they were able to look out and see a tree and sky. Something as simple as adding a potted plant or two to the area where you spent most of your day can also play a part in giving you a positive distraction that can reduce stress.

Even better is just to escape from your normal environment, if only for a short time. And by "escape" we mean nothing more than taking a walk. You can stop thinking about stressful things with just a short lunch time stroll through a nearby park or down a tree-lined street. Time with nature is an opportunity to not focus on the things contributing to a hectic, stressful life. You can listen to the quiet of nature, admire some budding flowers, or just smile at the squirrels scampering about—all things to take the focus off what is stressing you.

A little time outdoors is an opportunity to enjoy the natural beauty around you and take a breather from the problems disturbing you. A short walk won't remove all the stress in your life, but it can give your mind a chance to relax and refocus, and that's a positive thing.

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.

Original Play from A1

of these awards, that's what is really striking. It's just stunning to watch them."

Velasco, along with BSU theatre faculty—Bob Bartlett and Kathryn Kaweck—led workshops at the conference. A total of 20 BSU students attended the regional festival. The other participating students are Mecca Bryant, Tiara Dixon, Tunde Floyd, Kayla Jackson, Whitney Jefferson, Kaylin Lucas, Rashaud Matthews, Makalynn Richardson, Emmanuel West and Kima Williams.

Hogan Administration Announces Nearly \$1 Million in African American Heritage Preservation Grants

12 Organizations Receive Funding to
Repair and Restore Cultural and Historical Sites

By SHAREESE CHURCHILL
Office of the Governor

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Feb. 4, 2020)—The Hogan administration last week announced that 12 Maryland nonprofits were recently awarded nearly \$1 million in funds by the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture (MCAAHC) and the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT). These grants offer assistance to organizations and private citizens in their sponsorship of projects involving the acquisition, construction, or improvement of sites related to African American heritage.

"Our administration is pleased to provide funding that will improve and preserve sites that promote African American heritage in Maryland," said Governor Larry Hogan. "It is essential that we recognize and understand the history of these sites and their significance in the African American experience in our state and our nation."

The goal of the African American Heritage Preservation Program (AAHPP) is to identify and preserve buildings, communities, and sites of historical and cultural importance to the African American community in Maryland. The FY20 grant awards range from \$12,250 to \$100,000.

The AAHPP is administered as a partnership between the MHT and the MCAAHC. The MHT, a division of the Maryland Department of Planning, assists the people of Maryland in understanding their historical and cultural heritage through research, conservation, and education. The MCAAHC is one of seven ethnic and cultural commissions within the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives, and works to interpret, document, preserve, and promote Maryland's African American heritage and support institutions and groups with similar objectives.

Online applications for FY21 AAHPP funding will be available in spring 2020 on MHT's website. Application deadlines and spring workshop dates will also be announced shortly. For more information about the grant program, please contact Charlotte Lake, Ph.D. (MHT) at charlotte.lake@maryland.gov or 410-697-9559, or MCAAHC Director Chanel Compton at chanel.compton@maryland.gov or 410-216-6180.

The recipients include the following from **Prince George's County: Fairmount Heights World War II Monument—(\$12,250)**

The Fairmount Heights World War II Monument was built in 1946 to honor local citizens who served in the armed forces. The monument is an obelisk constructed of blocks of gray granite and orange sandstone, and the triangular parcel it sits on is a gathering space for holiday celebrations. The project will include repairs to the monument's masonry and site improvements to the park.

Prince George's County 20-Year-Old Named Ambassador to National LGBTQ Organization

Meet the 2020 Class of HRC Youth Ambassadors

By PRESS OFFICER
Human Rights Campaign

(Jan. 29, 2020)—The HRC Foundation's Youth Well-Being Program is pleased to announce the 2020 class of HRC Youth Ambassadors: Ace Auker, Nhandi Craig, Junior Hernandez, **Nakiya Lynch**, Sam Moehlig, Ashton Mota, Seth Owen, Avi Pacheco, Gia Parr, Molly Pinta, Joseph Reed Jr., Savannah Skyler and Nicole Talbot.

As Youth Ambassadors, these LGBTQ advocates will represent the HRC Foundation, adding their voices and experiences to raise awareness about the most pressing concerns facing LGBTQ youth and our programs that promote well-being for LGBTQ youth, including All Children - All Families, Welcoming Schools and Youth and Campus Engagement, as well as our seventh annual Time to THRIVE Conference in February.

Five members of the cohort will begin their first year as Youth Ambassadors: Craig, Hernandez, Lynch, Pinta and

**Nakiya Lynch (they/them/theirs)
Prince George's County, Maryland**

Nakiya Lynch is a 20-year-old genderqueer person, pansexual and self-described "fire cracker." They are passionate, direct, outgoing and known for their interesting fashion choices and bright red hair. Lynch is ardent about pressing for inclusivity and intersectionality in Black and LGBTQ spaces. Through their advocacy, they hope to teach LGBTQ youth and parents of LGBTQ youth about important topics including sexual health—especially in their hometown of Prince George's County, Maryland, where they feel these topics are not well-addressed in schools and community services. When they're not scrolling through Twitter, spending time with friends or at their job at the local Department of Social Services, they can be found at a rally or at an event speaking on behalf of queer foster youth. They love to laugh almost as much as they love justice and making sure everyone has equal access to resources, support and community inclusivity.



Reed, Auker, Moehlig, Mota, Owen, Pacheco, Parr, Skyler and Talbot were named Youth Ambassadors in 2019.

"This program is designed to amplify the important voices of teens and young adults, and engage them in helping HRC Foundation improve the lives of LGBTQ

youth at home, at school, at work and beyond," said HRC Foundation's Director of the Youth Well-Being Program and the Time to THRIVE Conference Dr. Vincent Pompei. "These youth have real and meaningful contributions to make to HRC's work and to their communities."

Bill Allows Support Dogs For Children in Md. Courts

By ALEX MURPHY
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Feb. 6, 2020)—Legislation that passed in the Maryland Senate would establish statewide an initiative to provide therapy dogs to child witnesses in circuit court hearings and proceedings.

Children who have to appear in court can feel anxious and overwhelmed, especially when recounting tragic events or similar instances, proponents said. A handler would accompany each dog, under the bill.

The Court Dog and Child Witness Program was implemented several years ago in the Anne Arundel County and Harford County circuit courts to help ease the fears and emotions of child witnesses with the aid of "a facility dog or therapy dog," according to a state analysis.

A "facility dog" often stays full time in places with patients, like a nursing home, to help people suffering from mental illness, for example.

Therapy dogs are used for emotional support and comfort, but not as often.

Senate bill 101 was created as a response to the successes of this program, which has been running just in those jurisdictions.

Lead sponsor Sen. Bryan W. Simonaire, R-Anne Arundel, has been at the forefront of this legislation in Maryland.

He first proposed a similar statewide program in 2016, but it evolved into the pilot program run in Anne Arundel and Harford counties as the "court asked for more time."

In doing so, he said, the program has "been effective," now rolled out fully in those counties.

"This is definitely a team effort," Si-

monaire told Capital News Service. "It's hard to go to court, period."

The dogs have to meet certain requirements to be considered for this program, including training from qualified organizations.

In Anne Arundel County, Dogwood Acres Pet Retreat in Davidsonville, Maryland, uses its Caring Canines Pet Therapy Program, where all dogs pass a Pet Partners nationwide certification program.

"We test everything and anything," Caring Canines coordinator Erin Bogan said.

So far, the "response (to the program) has been amazing in the community" and Bogan said that they get calls three to four times a month now for the use of the therapy dogs.

"We've always wanted a partnership with the courts," Bogan said. "We visit the courthouse once a month to remind them of the program...It's been an amazing difference for those in need."

Simonaire championed the bill and received support from the Anne Arundel County state's attorney's office on the legislation, he said.

Under the bill, this program would not be mandated for every county in Maryland. Rather, participation is voluntary, so if a jurisdiction decides to participate, the program will be implemented.

Jurors are given instructions on the purpose of the dogs, and children are able to reach down and pet them while they are



PHOTO COURTESY OF CARING CANINES PET THERAPY PROGRAM
Members of the Caring Canines Pet Therapy Program pose in the lobby of Dogwood Acres Pet Retreat. Caring Canines has provided dogs for juveniles in court since the pilot program began in February 2018.

recounting a traumatic experience, said Lisae Jordan, executive director of the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault.

"Most of all they provide support for children when they really need it," Jordan told lawmakers on Thursday in a hearing for House bill 311, identical legislation to Simonaire's Senate bill.

"It is a powerful tool...this is something that should go statewide," Harford County Deputy State's Attorney Gavin Patashnick testified at the hearing on Thursday (Feb. 6). "The program sets up all the framework, but it needs somebody with a passion to do it, who wanted to champion the issue," Simonaire said.

One of the more important components to this program was making sure that these dogs were trained, he said.

"The last thing you want is a dog making a scene in the courtroom," Simonaire said.

The Senate bill passed unanimously in that chamber Jan. 23, and was sent to the House Judiciary Committee, where it awaits a hearing.



The public hearing will be held at:
**Prince George's Community College
Rennie Forum Auditorium
301 Largo Rd | Largo, MD**



FY21 BUDGET



**February 20, 2020
6:00pm - 8:00pm**

**Join County Executive Alsobrooks and
the Office of Management & Budget (OMB)**

County Executive Angela Alsobrooks will host a public hearing to allow County residents to express their thoughts regarding how County funds should be allocated in the FY21 budget.

We look forward to seeing you there!

To testify, please RSVP at
<http://bit.ly/FY21BudgetHearing> or 301-952-4547.

COMMUNITY

Md. Bill Would Make Helmets Optional For Most Motorcyclists

By JEFF BARNES
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Feb. 4, 2020)—Helmets would no longer be mandatory for most motorcycle riders in Maryland under a bill expected to be heard in a state Senate committee Tuesday (Feb. 4).

Senate bill 237 would make motorcyclists and their passengers exempt from wearing a helmet if the motorcycle operator is 21 or older, has at least two years of riding experience and has completed an approved safety course.

The legislation, in its current language, has been introduced in each session of the General Assembly since 2016 but has failed to advance out of committee each session. Last session, the bill failed to advance out of the Senate's Judicial Proceedings committee.

The bill's lead sponsor, Sen. Michael Hough, R-Frederick and Carroll counties, told Capital News Service before the hearing that he is hopeful the bill can advance to a vote on the Senate floor. Hough noted the bill is also supported by the chair of the Judicial Proceedings Committee, Sen. William "Will" Smith Jr., D-Montgomery.

Although he said he doesn't ride a motorcycle, Hough said he agrees with supporters of the legislation who argue that it should be the rider's choice to wear a helmet, and that helmets do not prevent motorcycle crashes.

"It's not the role of government to protect you from yourself. The role of government is to protect you from doing harm to others," Hough said. "As an adult in this country, you should have the freedom to make decisions like this if you want."

In the past, the legislation has been opposed by AAA Mid-Atlantic, the Maryland Trauma Center Network, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems and the Maryland Association of County Health Officers, among others.

The American Motorcycle Association, the country's largest motorcycle rights advocacy group, supports voluntary use of helmets.

"Some view the helmet solely as a mechanical safety device, similar to a seat belt," according to a position statement on the group's website. "Many motorcyclists view the helmet as an accessory of personal apparel, and its use or non-use is connected with a chosen lifestyle and their right as adults to make their own decisions."

Bob Spanburgh, executive director at ABATE of Maryland—the state's largest motorcycle advocacy group—told Capital News Service before the hearing that his organization isn't taking a position on wearing a helmet, but he said motorcyclists should get to choose for themselves.

"It's our guiding principle," Spanburgh said. "We don't advocate for not wearing helmets, we advocate for the ability to choose whether we want to wear them or not."

Spanburgh said his group has also advocated for other motorcycle-related legislation, including bills that would have allowed lane-splitting and would have prohibited residents from blowing yard waste into the street—creating potentially dangerous conditions for riders.

Spanburgh said sometimes motorcyclists' rights can become an afterthought for some people.

"I don't think it's intentional," he said. "If you don't ride, I don't think you really think about it."

In a statement to Capital News Service, AAA Mid-Atlantic indicated it would once again oppose the legislation, citing state motorcycle crash statistics.

According to data released in April by the state's Motor Vehicle Administration Highway Safety Office, the state has averaged 1,466 motorcycle-involved crashes a year over the last five years with an average of 69 fatal crashes per year.

"Because serious head injury is common among fatally injured motorcyclists, helmet use is essential," wrote Ragina C. Ali, public and government affairs manager at AAA Mid-Atlantic, in a statement Monday. "We oppose repealing the helmet law, as it weakens existing traffic safety laws and puts motorcyclists at a greater risk of injury

or a traffic fatality."

Maryland's current motorcycle helmet requirement—which requires all riders and passengers to wear the protective headgear—became law on Oct. 1, 1992.

According to a legislative analysis of the bill, as of December, 19 states and Washington, D.C., require all motorcyclists to wear helmets, while 28 states require only certain riders to wear helmets.

Michigan, Pennsylvania and Texas have exemptions for riders similar to those proposed in the Maryland legislation, according to the analysis.

If the legislation passes, Spanburgh said, he thinks about half of the state's riders will continue to wear helmets. Spanburgh, who said he has been riding on the streets since 1983, probably won't be one of them.

"Honestly, I would more frequently not wear one than wear one," he said.



PHOTOGRAPH CREDIT JEFF BARNES/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Lawmakers in a Senate committee meeting on Feb. 4, 2020, expecting testimony on Senate bill 237. The bill would exempt many motorcyclists from the state's current helmet requirement.

Ellio's Pizza Awards \$10,000 Phenomenal Kids Scholarship Contest Grand Prize To Washington, D.C.-Area First Grader

By ALLISON HERSH
for Ellio's

LAYTONSVILLE, Md. (Jan. 30, 2020) — Outstanding Washington, D.C.-area student, scientist and entrepreneur Gracyn Love, age 6, was recently selected as the 2019 grand prize winner of ELLIO'S PIZZA's Phenomenal Kids Scholarship Contest and presented with a scholarship check for \$10,000. Members of Gracyn's community, her school and her family gathered on Jan. 29 at Laytonville Elementary School in Laytonville, Md. to celebrate her accomplishments. For the second year in a row, a Washington, D.C.-area student has won this prestigious award.

Gracyn is a 6-year-old scientist and entrepreneur who is actively involved in her community, sharing her love of science with kids

through educational videos, live demonstrations and science kits. The outgoing first-grader served as a science outreach demonstrator at the Johns Hopkins SABES STEM Showcase and was the face of the Baltimore Museum of Industry's Weekend Worker program, appearing on Baltimore City buses and billboards. Gracyn is an active participant in the Acton Children's Business Fairs and recently won Best Presentation in the 2019 Baltimore Children's Business Fair for her business, Gracyn's Science Lab. She is also a proud member of Girl Scouts USA and will be an ambassador at the USA Science and Engineering Festival in April 2020.

"As a family, this contest really pushed us to engage with our community more and, in winning, really inspired Gracyn, as well as her younger brother, Brooks, to set their sights even higher," shared Gracyn's mom, Lauren Love.

An Ellio's representative, local supporters and members of the media surprised Gracyn in her elementary school's gym with a short presentation highlighting her many accomplishments as well as free Ellio's Pizza giveaway items for her entire school.

"For the third year in a row, our Phenomenal Kids Scholarship Contest identifies, recognizes and rewards exceptional students who are making a positive impact in their community," says Bill Whalen, Executive Vice President of Dr. Oetker USA, LLC, the parent company of Ellio's Pizza. "There's nothing better than helping to celebrate and support phenomenal kids like Gracyn."

Second-prize winner, Joshua O. of Gambrills, Md., won an all-expenses paid trip to take his family on a kid-focused weekend getaway to Orlando, Fla. Eight runner-up prize winners will receive a \$75 Amazon gift card and an Ellio's gift bag.

Gracyn is clearly charting a path for success and was surrounded by supportive family and friends at the recent scholarship presentation ceremony.

"Gracyn's passion for science is extremely impressive, as is her commitment to educating her peers about STEM subjects," says Melissa Vesci, Brand Manager for Ellio's Pizza, who attended the special ceremony for Gracyn. "By any measure, she truly is a Phenomenal Kid."

The Ellio's Phenomenal Kids Scholarship Contest invites parents and legal guardians with children between the ages of 6 and 12 to write a brief 500 to 1,500 character submission highlighting what makes their child phenomenal for a chance to win a \$10,000 scholarship. Key pillars for the 2019 contest include Community Involvement, Passion with Purpose, Creativity and Academic Achievement.

To learn more about Ellio's Pizza and this year's winners, visit www.ellios.com/phenomenal-kids-winners-2019

Ellio's, a brand of Dr. Oetker USA, LLC, has melted hearts since 1963 offering frozen pizza made with 100% real cheese, one-of-kind tomato sauce and uniquely convenient 4-cornered crispy crust. An instant hit in schools and homes, Ellio's rectangular slices fit perfectly in lunch room trays and in a home toaster oven. As time went on, the family favorite pizza became an at home staple and was offered in several varieties, including Italian Sausage, Pepperoni, Five Cheese, Sicilian and two flavors of breadsticks, Cheesy and Parmesan & Garlic. Visit www.ellios.com or follow Ellio's on Instagram (@official_elliospizza), Facebook (@elliospizza) and Twitter (@elliospizza). Established in 1891 with the launch of Germany's first baking powder, today Dr. Oetker carries out a legacy rooted in the belief that "quality is the best recipe" and a commitment to building a sustainable presence in the countries in which it does business. Dr. Oetker USA, LLC produces and distributes a variety of dessert mixes, baking ingredients and frozen pizzas (Virtuoso, Ellio's). Dr. Oetker USA, LLC is a subsidiary of the family-run Oetker Group. Visit www.oetker.us.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY ELLIO'S

Gracyn Love, a first-grader at Laytonville Elementary School in Laytonville, Md., was recently presented with the \$10,000 grand prize scholarship in Ellio's Pizza's Phenomenal Kids Scholarship Contest. Gracyn and her parents, Lauren and Tommy Love, accepted the scholarship award at a presentation ceremony at Laytonville Elementary School on Jan. 29. This is the second consecutive year that an outstanding Washington, D.C.-area student has won this national scholarship contest.

The Prince George's Post

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HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Prince George's County Health Department Opens Wet Season Soil Testing

By GEORGE LETTIS
Prince George's County Health Department

LARGO, Md. (Feb. 3, 2020)—Wet season percolation (PERC) testing for Prince George's County begins today, February 3, 2020, due to adequate soil saturation levels.

Wet season testing is required for properties located in areas of the county with typically high water table conditions, and the highest water table is usually experienced during February, March and April. The wet season testing period is declared by the Prince George's County Health Department based on perched conditions and monitoring well data.

PERC testing is required for any property that is not going to be served by public sewer and before any septic system or on-site sewage disposal system can be installed.

If you plan to build on undeveloped property in Prince George's County and your property is unable to be served by a public sewer, you must apply to the Prince George's County Health Department to conduct PERC testing.

Application processing is handled on a first-come, first-served basis. In order for a percolation test to be conducted, an application

and the associated \$267.75 per lot fee (this includes the \$255.00 application fee plus a \$12.75 technology fee) must be submitted to the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement located at 9400 Peppercorn Place, Largo, MD, 20774 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

If you have previously applied for a percolation test, reapplication is not needed unless additional lots are being tested that were not included in the previous application. Percolation testing must be conducted in the presence of a Prince George's County Health Department representative.

Please note that obtaining a satisfactory percolation test is not the only requirement in the process of developing a piece of land. Other county zoning and building requirements must be met as well.

To obtain an application to perform PERC testing, please use the following link <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/4866/Percolation-Test-Application-PDF?bidId=>. If you have questions or to schedule a percolation test, please contact the Prince George's County Health Department, Division of Environmental Health/Disease Control at 301-883-7681, weekdays between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Aging at Home Together in the DMV

Capital Caring Health helps older couples stay together this Valentine's Day

By PRESS OFFICER
Capital Caring Health

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (Feb. 4, 2020)—Seniors in Maryland, Virginia, and the Washington, D.C. area have a new gift to give their partner this Valentine's Day—the gift of aging together in their family home.

Capital Caring Health, the area's leading non-profit provider of advanced illness, hospice, and at-home care services, supports older adults and their caregivers with unique medical and non-medical services. This can help people age gracefully in their own homes with dignity and compassion—something more than three in four people over the age of 50 say they want, according to a survey conducted by AARP.

"Many older adults can't age gracefully at home without a little, or a lot, of help," said Marcie Fairbanks, Director, Family Services at Capital Caring Health. "Many area couples who have spent the last 50 or 60 years side-by-side can now age in the place they call home, together, because more in-home services are provided than ever before."

Capital Caring Health provides the following unique services to seniors and caregivers in the D.C. area:

- Stay-at-Home Services provides assistance with everything from rehab, transportation, pharmacy delivery, and handy-man services to meal preparation and delivery, light housekeeping, pet care, and more.
- Primary Care at Home helps elders maintain their dignity and independence by bringing full medical and social services to



PHOTO BY CDC ON UNSPLASH

the home. The service launched in 2019 and is now available in Chevy Chase, Maryland, Northwest D.C., and Falls Church, Virginia (in select ZIP codes).

- Hospice Care, delivered by an interdisciplinary team of experts, is designed to relieve pain and other symptoms and to help both patients and families improve their quality of life.
- Other Support Services are offered, including grief counseling, special assistance to veterans, and other non-traditional services related to health care and daily tasks.

To learn more about any of Capital Caring Health's home-based services or to enroll in one of their programs, call our 24-Hour Care Line at 1-800-869-2136 or visit www.CapitalCaring.org.

The Largo office is at 1801 McCormick Drive, Suite 180 Largo, MD 20774, 301-883-0866

when walking on hot pavement or sand and keep pets off hot pavement too.

Hot Liquid Burns to Children Under 5

The leading burn problem in Maryland is hot liquid scalds to children under five, accounting for one in five of every burns reported. "Please remember that hot liquids burn like fire," said Geraci.

Hot Drink Safety

- Never hold or carry a child while you have a hot drink in your hand. A wiggling baby can cause a spill on themselves or on you.

- Consider using a "travel mug" with a tight-fitting lid to prevent or minimize spills.
- Keep hot drinks and soups away from the edge of tables and counters. Putting them in the center of the table keeps them away from curious fingers.

- Use place mats instead of tablecloths and turn pot handles inward to prevent children from pulling hot liquids onto themselves.

Tap Water Safety

- Set your hot water heater to 125°F or less. Massachusetts law requires a temperature between 110°F and 130°F.

- Supervise young children in the bath and face them away from faucets. Babies and toddlers can turn on hot water when you turn your back.

- Never leave a child in the tub alone for even an instant.

- Run your hand through bath water to test for hot spots.

State Fire Marshal Geraci Shares Burn Prevention Tips

STATEWIDE (Feb. 3, 2020)—In recognition of National Burn Awareness Week (held Feb. 2–8, 2020), the Office of the State Fire Marshal is sharing basic burn prevention tips and reminding consumers that everyday items can be burn hazards if care is not properly taken. This year's theme focuses on contact burn prevention.

A contact burn is a type of burn most associated when skin touches something hot, such as pavement, a fireplace grate, or pans from the oven. These burns can happen at any age, but children under 5 years old face a higher risk.

While a majority of contact burns result from contact with heat, some burns, such as frostbite or hypothermia, result from exposure to extremely cold temperatures. Hypothermia can affect anyone but infants, the elderly, and people who suffer from diabetes or heart conditions are at greater risk.

According to the most recently available figures from the American Burn Association, an estimated 70,000 contact burn injuries were seen in U.S. emergency rooms in 2018. One-third of the patients seen in emergency rooms were children under the age of five.

"We want to remind Maryland parents, educators, and children that not all burns result from fires," said State Fire Marshal Brian S. Geraci. "While most who suffer burn injuries will survive, many of those

survivors will sustain serious scarring, life-long physical disabilities, and adjustment difficulties. To avoid common household products creating a burn injury, we urge consumers to be aware of items that present a hazard and take measures to prevent burns."

Tips to Prevent Contact Burns

- Indoors, supervise children around space heaters, wood stoves, fireplaces, radiators, and stoves and ovens in use. Keep them three feet away from things that can get hot by using baby gates, high chairs and playpens.

- Outdoors, keep children three feet away from barbecue grills and campfires. Keep area clear of trip hazards so no one falls into the fire.

- Turn heating pads, electric blankets and space heaters off before sleeping. This is especially important for older adults who can suffer serious burns more quickly as their skin thins with age.

- Have hot pads available whenever cooking. Long oven mitts are best when needing to reach in or over hot surfaces, such as inside an oven or over a grill. Assume all pots and pans are hot before touching.

- Remember to treat items coming from the microwave as you would items from the oven. Make sure children are taller than the microwave and supervise them using it.

- Protect your feet by wearing shoes

CDC: 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Situation Summary

This is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation and CDC will provide updated information as it becomes available, in addition to updated guidance. Updated Feb. 7, 2020

Background

CDC is closely monitoring an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus (named "2019-nCoV") that was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China and which continues to expand. Chinese health officials have reported tens of thousands of infections with 2019-nCoV in China, with the virus reportedly spreading from person-to-person in parts of that country. Infections with 2019-nCoV, most of them associated with travel from Wuhan, also are being reported in a growing number of international locations, including the United States. Some person-to-person spread of this virus outside China has been detected. The United States reported the first confirmed instance of person-to-person spread with this virus on January 30, 2020.

On January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern." (PHEIC). On January 31, 2020, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency (PHE) for the United States to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to 2019-nCoV. Also on January 31, the President of the United States signed a presidential "Proclamation on Suspension of Entry as Immigrants and Nonimmigrants of Persons who Pose a Risk of Transmitting 2019 Novel Coronavirus." These measures were announced at a press briefing by members of the President's Coronavirus Task Force.

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are common in many different species of animals, including camels, cattle, cats, and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can infect people and then spread between people such as with MERS, SARS, and now with 2019-nCoV.

CDC Recommends

While the immediate risk of this new virus to the American public is believed to be low at this time, everyone can do their part to help us respond to this emerging public health threat:

- It's currently flu and respiratory disease season and CDC recommends getting a flu vaccine, taking everyday preventive actions to help stop the spread of germs and taking flu antivirals if prescribed.
- If you are a healthcare provider, be on the look-out for people who recently traveled from China and have fever and respiratory symptoms.
- If you are a healthcare provider caring for a 2019-nCoV patient or a public health responder, please take care of yourself and follow recommended infection control procedures.
- For people who have had close contact with someone infected with 2019-nCoV who develop symptoms, contact your healthcare provider, and tell them about your symptoms and your exposure to a 2019-nCoV patient.
- For people who are ill with 2019-nCoV, please follow CDC guidance on how to reduce the risk of spreading your illness to others. This guidance is on the CDC website. —<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html>

Free February Health Resources Provided by Doctors Community Health System

By CHONDRIA ANDREWS
Doctors Community Hospital

LANHAM, Md. (Feb. 4, 2020)—Throughout the year, Doctors Community Hospital offers numerous screenings and support groups. They are designed to help people maintain and improve their overall health. All events are held at Doctors Community Hospital, 8116 Good Luck Road, Professional Office Bldg., Lanham, MD 20706 unless otherwise noted. Some of the upcoming events include:

Free Bariatric Surgery and Weight Loss Seminar

Fourth Friday of Each Month, 3–4 p.m., Suite 210
240-965-4405 | DCHweightloss.org

Attend this free lecture presented by Dr. Hitesh Amin, medical director, Bariatric and Weight Loss Center. If you are at least 30 pounds overweight, learn whether weight loss surgery is right for you. Registration required.

Free Breast Cancer Support Group

Third Tuesday of Each Month, 7–9 p.m.
Doctors Community Hospital, 8100 Good Luck Road, North Building, 4th Floor, Room 415, Lanham, MD 20706
240-542-3034 | DCHweb.org/breast

Join women who are newly diagnosed with or are recovering from breast cancer.

Free Screenings on Mobile Health Clinic

The Wellness on Wheels (WOW) mobile health clinic—for more information about the mobile health clinic, visit DCHweb.org/WOW.

February 17 – Shoppes at New Carrollton, 7898 Riverdale Road, New Carrollton, MD

February 18 – John E. Howard Senior Activity Center, 4400 Shell Street, Capitol Heights, MD (9 a.m.–1 p.m.)

February 19 – Prince George's County Health Department and WUSA's Heartlove Event, 2413 Pinebrook Avenue, Landover, MD (9 am-3 p.m.)

February 20 – Powder Mill Village Apartments, 3625 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, MD

February 21 – Daycon Health Fair, 16001 Trade Zone Avenue, Upper Marlboro, MD (1 p.m.–4 p.m.)

February 24 – St. Margaret's Catholic Church, 410 Addison Road South, Capitol Heights, MD 10 a.m.–2 p.m.)

February 25 – Beltway Plaza Mall, 6000 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD

February 26 – James R. Cousins Municipal Center, 8600 Glenarden Parkway, Glenarden, MD

February 27 – Hollywood Plaza, 9803 Rhode Island Avenue, College Park, MD

COMMENTARY

Marion Wright Edelman

President Emerita,
Children's Defense Fund



ChildWatch:

Light Your Candle in the Darkness

So many people feel so overwhelmed and disempowered by the stress of the current moment that they convince themselves they can't make a difference. So they don't even try. They bury their talents in the ground and let their spirits wither on the vine of life. I hope they will bestir themselves at least to say every day as an anonymous old man did: "I don't have the answers, life is not easy, but my heart is in the right place."

It is so important not to let ourselves off the hook or to become apathetic or cynical by telling ourselves that nothing works or makes a difference. Every day, light your small candle. Tutor or mentor or speak to or smile at that one child—your own or one you teach or serve in some way. Every month decide to write a letter to the editor and to your representatives about a need children have in your community. Every election, take the time to vote for leaders who put children first and against those who don't.

The inaction and actions of many human beings over a long time contributed to the crises our nation and children face, and it is the action and struggle of many human beings over time that will solve them—with God's help. So every day, light your small candle. It just might be the one that sparks the movement to save our children's and nation's future.

God, please help us remember that all the darkness in the world cannot snuff out the light of one little candle. Help us to keep lighting our little

candles until a mighty torch of justice sweeps our nation and the world.

Sometimes I forget who is in charge of my life and of our children's cause and get caught up in the ebbs and flows of politics and policy. When child protections that have taken decades of struggle to pass are threatened with repeal or severe budget cuts, I get depressed until I remember to pray. I often gain strength from an episode in Saint Ignatius Loyola's life, related by Alan Paton:

When his life's work was threatened, St. Ignatius Loyola was asked what he would do if Pope Paul IV dissolved or otherwise acted against the Society of Jesus, to which he had devoted his energy and gifts; and he replied: "I would pray for fifteen minutes, then I would not think of it again."

O God help us to remember that You have the whole world in Your hands—every child in every circumstance everywhere.

Marion Wright Edelman is Founder and President Emerita of the Children's Defense Fund whose Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. For more information go to www.childrensdefense.org.

National Newspaper Association Celebrates Passage of USPS Fairness Act

PENSACOLA, Fla. (Feb. 5, 2020)—National Newspaper Association today applauded passage in the U.S. House of Representatives of the USPS Fairness Act, HR 2382. The bill would reverse a Congressional act of 2006 that imposed a heavy financial burden upon the U.S. Postal Service to set aside billions of dollars for future retiree benefits.

NNA President Matt Adelman, publisher of the Douglas (Wyoming) Budget, said he was gratified that the bill drew bipartisan support. It passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 309 to 106. The original sponsors are Reps. Peter DeFazio, D-Oregon, Tom Reed, R-New York, and Brian Fitzpatrick, R-Pennsylvania.

"This bill is the first step in a long journey to repair the U.S. Postal Service and protect universal postal delivery," Adelman said. "It puts USPS back on a pay-as-you-go basis for its benefits and protects community newspapers and others from obligations to pay billions in postage dollars to the U.S. Treasury to just sit there until people who aren't even born yet retire from USPS. Without this burden, USPS will have an opportunity to preserve its business and not drive away mail with escalating postage rates."

The bill moves to the U.S. Senate where a companion bill, S 2965, has been filed by Sens. Steve Daines, R-Montana, and Brian Schatz, D-Hawaii.

National Newspaper Association: Rejection of Massive Postage Increase; It Is Time to Call on Congress To Fix the Postal Service With Public Funding

PENSACOLA, Fla. (Feb. 3, 2020)—National Newspaper Association has urged the Postal Regulatory Commission to abandon its proposal for postage increases for small newspapers that could add nearly 50% to distribution costs over the next five years. Instead, NNA said, the PRC should decline to put the entire burden on fixing the U.S. Postal Service on mailers and instead must urge Congress to explore public funding for USPS.

NNA's comments were filed with the PRC as part of an ongoing review of the system for setting postage rates. Since 2006, after passage of the NNA-supported Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (PAEA), annual postage increases have been capped by an inflation index.

The PRC found last year that the revenue produced by the inflation-based system is insufficient to protect universal service. It now is proposing a menu of increases that would hit newspaper mailers particularly hard. The Commission would allow not only the inflation increases, currently running around 2% annually. It would also let USPS charge extra if it maintains its service standards (but not

actual quality of service), for the loss of mail volume that results in fewer pieces per household, for achieving an efficiency rating that tends to rise with higher rates and for other factors. In sum, PRC notes that mail volume is falling although household deliveries are growing. It seeks to support the declining system solely with higher postage.

NNA joined News Media Alliance (NMA), which represents larger newspapers, in pointing out many ways newspapers have been damaged by external trends, such as a 2018 tariff on newsprint and on unregulated social media companies that compete for advertising. NNA's members are primarily family-owned, community newspapers that rely on the mail to reach subscribers with each weekly or daily newspaper.

NNA also criticized the accuracy of cost data for small newspaper mailers, saying that although USPS believes the mail within the county of the publisher fails to cover its incremental costs, the measurements of the mail cost have been historically suspect.

The organization joins other mailing organizations, including the

Heritage Programs, Rehabilitation Projects, Local Groups, and Individuals Honored with Annual Preservation Awards

Maryland Historical Trust Recognized Honorees at a Ceremony in Annapolis

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Jan. 23, 2020)—The Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) in January celebrated the state's best efforts in historic preservation at the 45th annual Maryland Preservation Awards. The MHT Board of Trustees recognized outstanding education, restoration, and revitalization projects, as well as organizational and individual leadership.

"Our state is fortunate to have many organizations working to restore historic buildings, provide public programming, and engage with other partners in our communities to celebrate our rich heritage," said Governor Larry Hogan. "This year's awardees represent an exceptional commitment to historic preservation from scenic southern Maryland to the mountains in western Maryland. Congratulations

on this well-deserved recognition."

The following people in Prince George's County were recognized with 2020 awards.

Laurel History Boys (Prince George's County)—Combining their efforts of education and community engagement through a nonprofit 501(c)(3), Laurelites Richard Friend, Kevin Leonard, and Peter Lewnes are amateur historians, memorabilia collectors, and community promoters who share the history, heritage, and folkways of their hometown. (Excellence in Community Engagement)

Videos of the awardees are available on the Maryland Department of Planning YouTube channel.

—Maryland Department of Planning, Maryland Historic Trust

Marc Morial

President and CEO, National Urban League



To Be Equal:

National Gun Violence Survivors Week Highlights Those Whose Lives Have Been Changed Forever

On January 8, 2011, I was performing my favorite duty as a Congresswoman—meeting with my constituents—when it happened. In a matter of seconds, a gunman shot and killed six people, injured 12 others, and shot me in the head outside a Safeway in Tucson, Arizona. I keep the memories of those we lost that day—nine-year-old Christina-Taylor Green, Dorothy Morris, Phyllis Schneck, Dorwan Stoddard, Gabe Zimmerman, and Judge John Roll—close to my heart. And I will be forever bonded to my fellow survivors who will spend the rest of their lives dealing with injuries and trauma.

—Former Congresswoman
Gabrielle Giffords

Sometimes, Cleopatra Pendleton walks to her closet and runs her hands through a sequined yellow dress. It was the dress her daughter Hadiya wore to her eighth-grade graduation luncheon.

"Sometimes, for just a moment, I imagine that I'm saving it for the children that she will never get a chance to have," Cleopatra says.

Hadiya was shot and killed seven years ago, while standing in a Chicago park with friends after taking her final exams. Just a week earlier, she had marched with pride in President Obama's inauguration ceremony.

Thirteen-year-old Malachi Hemphill accidentally shot himself while playing with a gun his friend stole from a neighbor. The owner, who'd kept it in a console in his unlocked car, didn't report it stolen and didn't even notice it was missing.

"When his heart stopped, so did ours," his mother, Shaniqua Stephens, says.

Jerri Mauldin Green has been affected by gun violence three times. She grew up hearing the tragic story of her grandparents' murder-suicide when her mother was only 6 years old. Her childhood best friend was murdered by the father of her children when the boys were only 2 years old and 4 years old. And just this year, a new friend she'd met at a leadership course was shot and killed in his home.

In honor of National Gun Violence Survivors

week, Everytown For Gun Safety is sharing the stories of those whose lives have been forever changed by gun violence. National Urban League is proud to be a partner of Everytown, a coalition that includes parents, students, responsible gun owners, teachers, police officers, elected officials and social justice organizations, working together to end gun violence and build safer communities.

National Gun Violence Survivors Week which began last year, is focused on sharing and amplifying the stories of gun violence survivors who live with the impact of gun violence every day of the year. The week is observed in early February because this marks the approximate time that gun deaths in the United States surpass the number of gun deaths experienced by our peer countries in an entire calendar year.

Hundreds of survivors like Cleopatra, Shaniqua and Jerri, who have lost loved ones, along with those who have witnessed an act of gun violence, or been threatened or wounded with a gun, are sharing their stories on the Moments that Survive story wall. Survivors and allies are amplifying their voices on social media using the hashtag #MomentsthatSurvive, to represent the moments and memories that endure for survivors after experiencing gun violence.

There are more survivors than we might imagine. A shocking 58 percent of American adults have experienced gun violence or are close to someone who has.

They are mothers like Tonjula Mason-Shelby, who felt that her reason for living was taken from her when her only child, Kimondra Mason, was gunned down. They are women who found the courage to leave their abusers, like Laura Morris who bears the scar of a gunshot wound on her shoulder. They are daughters like Khary Penebaker, whose mother Joyce took her own life with a gun when Khary was a child.

Their lives have been changed lives forever. Sharing their stories highlights the devastating human consequences of gun violence in America.

—Feb. 6, 2020

Greeting Card Association, in a major vision statement that calls upon Congress to re-evaluate its belief that postage alone can support universal service.

"NNA is deeply involved in many aspects of postal issues and it is clear to us that even as the internet steals away mail volume, the mail is still critical to many people and to most rural communities," NNA President Matthew Adelman, publisher of the Douglas (Wyoming) Budget said. "The trend of digital competition with the mail is going to continue, just as it is for newspapers. The vision of a USPS supported solely by direct mail, greeting cards and business correspondence — while viable 50 years ago — no longer fits our country. USPS is still critical, but if Congress wants an efficient, effective service, good middle-class jobs within the postal workforce and an ability to mail something at affordable rates from Alaska to Alabama, it is going to have to provide some of the funding."

Adelman said NNA had worked for nearly a decade toward legislative postal reform, but had found Congress unable to come to a unified solution for the mail. He said:

"We recognize that in the minds of most members of Congress, the system is still mostly working because the mail keeps arriving. But the PRC sees what we see. This is a system that is stressed to the point of collapse. Our differences with the PRC are in finding solutions. We think the burden has to be shared fairly: mailers, taxpayers, workforce and management. All of us have to be able to give a little if we want to keep this national treasure working for us."

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BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

What Happens to My Social Security If I Die at Age 62?

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

Dear Rusty: I have worked my entire life and contributed to Social Security. I have been single my entire life with no children. What happens to all that money I have contributed to Social Security if I die at age 62? **Signed: Curious Worker**

Dear Curious: From its inception in 1935, Social Security has always been a “pay as you go” program where current workers contribute money from which current beneficiaries are paid. That’s the way it has worked since the first Social Security payroll withholding occurred in 1937 and the first Social Security benefit was paid in 1940. And it works the same way today.

Social Security FICA payroll taxes collected from current workers are used to pay all those who are currently receiving benefits. Any excess collected which is not paid out in benefits is deposited into a special Trust Fund and held in reserve for the future. My hope is that understanding this will dispel a far too widely held myth that the money you pay into the Social Security program from your paycheck is deposited into a personal account for you - it is not. Rather that money is used to pay benefits to all those who are already collecting Social Security. And the extra money in the Trust Fund is invested in special interest-bearing bonds which contribute further to the Trust Fund’s reserves (more about the Trust Fund in a minute).

If you were to pass away at, or before, age 62, all the money you paid into Social Security via FICA payroll taxes will have already been spent to pay benefits to those already collecting Social Security. With no surviving dependents, there are no benefits to be paid from your lifetime work record. True you will have paid a great deal over your working career, but the system is designed so that when you retire your benefits will be paid for by those who are still working and paying into the system. Of course, it’s a game of averages and Social Security says the “average” longevity for a male today is about 84. So, unless you’re already in poor health, chances are pretty good you will live beyond age 62. Chances are also pretty good that if you do, you’ll get back much more in benefits than you have contributed. In fact, if you start collecting benefits at your full retirement age you will get back benefits at least equal to what you contributed within about 5 years (we’ve studied this carefully). Which brings us back to the Trust Fund.

The Social Security Trust Fund held about \$2.9 trillion in reserves at the end of 2018. But over the years the ratio of workers to beneficiaries has declined from 16.5 to 1 in 1950 to less than 3 to 1 today, so there are far fewer workers paying for beneficiaries who are living much longer. Starting in 2019, Social Security will pay out more in benefits than it received from FICA payroll taxes, which means the excess paid out in benefits will come from the reserves in the Trust Fund. That will continue, according to the most recent Social Security Trustees’ Report, until the Trust Fund is depleted in about 2035, at which time Social Security will only be able to pay out about 80% of benefits due—unless Congress acts soon to resolve the issue. And the solutions are well known; what’s lacking in Congress is a serious bipartisan effort to fix the problem.

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 ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS!

Prince George’s County Council District 6 Council Member Derrick Leon Davis, in partnership with RPAI (Retail Properties of America, Inc.) invites you to a briefing on the Carillon Project in Largo, Maryland.

Friday, March 13, 2020, 9 a.m.–12 noon

Homewood Suites by Hilton
9130 Basil Court,
Largo, Maryland 20774

If you are a small minority, woman or locally-owned business in Prince George’s County, you are encouraged to attend and learn more about the Carillon Project in Largo and subcontractor opportunities.

Refreshments will be provided.

Attendees are encouraged to RSVP to Mirinda Jackson via telephone (301-952-4919) or email (mdjackson1@co.pg.md.us).

MacKenzie Management Expands Prince George’s County Presence

By KATY E. HAYES
MacKenzie Commercial Real Estate Services, LLC

LUTHERVILLE, Md. (Feb. 3, 2020)—MacKenzie Management Company, LLC, the region’s largest locally-owned third party management firm, is pleased to announce they have been awarded the property management and maintenance services assignment for 4200 Forbes Boulevard in Lanham, Prince George’s County, Maryland. Known as Forbes Tech Center, the building is 61,000 square feet that combines two-story office space with single-story flex. The project is owned by Cohn Property Group (CPG), a boutique full-service real estate firm based in Bethesda, Maryland. MacKenzie Property Manager Jessica Escobar will be overseeing the management efforts which begin February 1st. Additionally, MacKenzie leasing team members Adam Nachlas and Allison Perry have been engaged by CPG to lease the building’s available space.

MacKenzie’s management services will

include the day-to-day physical management of the property, detailed financial analysis, and customer service with tenants. These responsibilities will be comprised of lease administration, budgeting, financial reporting, contracting and oversight of third-party service providers, and supervision and maintenance of the building systems. MacKenzie will provide first point of contact for all tenant-related concerns, enhancing landlord/tenant relations and ultimately strengthening the buildings’ long-term success.

“We are looking forward to partnering with the owners of Forbes Tech Center. This is a great asset that will thrive under hands on management and leasing,” stated Brendan Gill, President of MacKenzie Management, LLC. “This is also an exciting opportunity to grow our presence in a high-growth market such as Prince George’s County.”

MacKenzie manages over 10 million square feet of commercial real estate space for a variety of local, regional and national owners spanning all asset classes.

MacKenzie’s management strategies are customized, full-service plans tailored to the unique needs of each property and ownership group. Services can range from all-inclusive asset management to versatile a-la-carte services that can complement existing procedures.

MacKenzie Ventures, LLC (MacKenzie) possesses the multi-disciplined team necessary to excel in Maryland’s corporate real estate community. Comprising seven firms, MacKenzie provides clients a competitive, full service platform of offerings in leasing, sales, investment sales, tenant and landlord advisory services, corporate and business consulting, commercial and residential development, general construction, property and asset management, debt and equity capital placement, and market research. With more than 225 employees and offices in Annapolis, Baltimore, Bel Air, Columbia, and Lutherville, Maryland, MacKenzie is one of the largest full service commercial real estate firms in the Mid-Atlantic. www.mackenziecommercial.com.

SBA Announces STEP Funding Opportunity

Grant for small businesses to take their businesses global

By JACK SPIRAKES
U.S. Small Business Administration

WASHINGTON (Feb. 7, 2020)—The U.S. Small Business Administration announces the opening of the submission period for a funding opportunity through the State Trade Expansion Program. The purpose of the grant opportunity is to invite proposals to fund eligible state entities to provide assistance, guidance and tools to small businesses interested in exporting goods and services.

“Under President Trump’s leadership, our nation has embarked on the implementation of new, modern trade agreements. As we continue to see more fair and reciprocal trade

deals enacted, exporting is a tremendous way for American small businesses to grow and compete in a global economy,” said SBA Administrator Jovita Carranza. “The STEP grant program is an incredible tool, providing direct support to small businesses as they seek new and increased international sales opportunities.”

“At the SBA, we offer financial products and training to help small businesses capitalize on international opportunities,” said SBA Mid-Atlantic Regional Administrator (acting) Steve Bulger. “Over the last year, the SBA has focused on ways to reform the

program to make it more efficient and effective for recipients and the small businesses they serve. We look forward to the continued success of STEP as we help more small businesses located around the country sell to a global customer base.”

Funding Opportunity Announcement No. OIT-STEP-2020-01 is for fiscal year 2020 and the submission period is from February 6, 2020–April 7, 2020. Proposals responding to this Funding Opportunity Announcement must be posted to grants.gov no later than 11:59 p.m. (EDT), April 7, 2020. No other method of submission is permitted.

For more information on

submissions guidelines and rules for this funding opportunity, please visit [grants.gov](https://www.sba.gov).

The U.S. Small Business Administration makes the American dream of business ownership a reality. As the only go-to resource and voice for small businesses backed by the strength of the federal government, the SBA empowers entrepreneurs and small business owners with the resources and support they need to start, grow or expand their businesses, or recover from a declared disaster. It delivers services through an extensive network of SBA field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations. To learn more, visit www.sba.gov.



FREE ENTREPRENEUR TRAINING FOR VETERANS

Is Entrepreneurship the right choice for you?
Do you have a business idea but not sure where to start?
Do you have a business and want to take it to the next level?

Want to know more, register for the **Project Opportunity Prince George’s Spring 2020** orientation session at <https://www.project-opportunity.com/registration/>. Orientation is **Wednesday, March 4, 2020 from 6:30-8:30 PM at Employ Prince George’s (Suite 400) 1801 McCormick Drive, Largo, Maryland**

Classes Begins Wednesday, March 18, 2020

Project Opportunity is an intensive curriculum based 10-week cohort program. The Spring 2020 program will meet **every Wednesday from 6:30 – 9:30 March 18 – May 20, 2020 at Employ Prince George’s (Suite 400) which is located at 1801 McCormick Drive, Largo, Maryland**. Through grants and community business support **this program is free to all veterans**. The curriculum and material are facilitated by small business professionals and subject matter experts. The program concludes with a formal business pitch and graduation ceremony.

Training Includes:

- ❖ **Assessing Your Business Idea**
- ❖ **Marketing Analysis**
- ❖ **Financing and Financial Management**
- ❖ **Business Structure and Taxes**
- ❖ **Development of a Business Plan**

Prince George’s Spring 2020 Sponsors:



OUT on the TOWN

Black History Events at Your Library

www.pgcmcls.info/black-history-month

STEM-tastic: Mae Jemison

Sat, Feb 15, 2–3 p.m.
Accokeek—Large Meeting Room
Join us as we explore Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. As we celebrate Black History Month, come learn about the scientific achievements of Mae Jemison and create fun rockets!

Black Gems in STEM Treasure Hunt

Sat, Feb 15, 2–3 p.m.
New Carrollton—Large meeting room 1
Escape room in a box! Join us for an afternoon of treasure hunting by solving puzzles and clues to discover Black Gems in STEM and win prizes.

Author Visit: Shelly Ellis of The Branch

Avenue Boys Series
Sat, Feb 15, 2–3:30pm
Fairmount Heights—Large Meeting Room
Local author Shelly Ellis discusses her path to publishing more than 15 best-selling books and leads a discussion of her Branch Avenue Boys series. Pick up copies of her books at your local branch.

Black Spies & Scouts of the Civil War

Sat, Feb 15, 2–4 p.m.
South Bowie
Join historian C. R. Gibbs as he discusses “Black Spies & Scouts of the Civil War”. Part 3 of the African Lecture Series.

Community-Led Book Discussion

Sat, Feb 15, 3–5 p.m.
Hyattsville
Join us for a lively discussion! This month we are reading *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison.

Family Game Night: Black History Bingo

Tue, Feb 18, 5–6 p.m.
Glenarden—Small Meeting Room
Discover facts about Black History through a game of Bingo! All ages welcome

Black History in Film: The Hate U Give

Tue, Feb 18, 6–8 p.m.
Largo-Kettering
In this film, the main character Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Now, facing pressure from all sides of the community, Starr must find her voice and stand up for what's right.

Black Voices Community-Led

Book Discussion
Tue, Feb 18, 6:30–8:15pm
Oxon Hill
Join us for a lively discussion! This month we are reading *Heavy* by Kiese Laymon. Professor Laymon tells an autobiographical rite of passage story set in Mississippi about growing up during the emergence of hip-hop culture in the 1980s and 1990s while struggling with an eating disorder.

For the Culture Movie Night

Tue, Feb 18, 7–8 p.m.
Oxon Hill—Auditorium
Pack your blanket, grab your friends, and join us as we watch popular and influential African American films in an indoor picnic setting. Popcorn will be provided.

Barracoon: The Story Of The Last “Black Cargo” By Zora Neale Hurston

Tue, Feb 18, 7–8:30pm
Greenbelt
Join us for a lively discussion! This month we will be discussing *Barracoon: The Story Of The Last “Black Cargo”* By Zora Neale Hurston. Pick up a copy at the branch.

Ready 2 Read Storytime: Animal Folktales

Wed, Feb 19, 12:30–1:30 p.m.
Greenbelt—Auditorium
Janice the Griot presents: Interactive storytelling with puppets and instruments. Bring your young children and celebrate with us.

Ready 2 Read Storytime: Beats & Rhythms for Little Hands

Thu, Feb 20, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
Largo-Kettering
Performing Arts Center for African Cultures presents: Introduce young children to the world of African cultures. Explore musical instruments, music, and diversity while having fun!

Maryland’s African American History & Cooking: A Delicious Story

Thu, Feb 20, 3–4 p.m.
Hillcrest Heights
In the African American community, food and cooking have symbolic and historical meanings that tell many stories. Get up close and personal with artifacts from the Banneker-Douglass Museum that paint a picture of African American life through their food!

Teen Talks: Black Youthpreneurs

Thu, Feb 20, 4–5 p.m.
Fairmount Heights—Large Meeting Room
Today, Black History is being made by many young African-Americans who are changing the world through entrepreneurship. Teens, learn about four of today’s most inspiring young, black capitalists who are proving that age is not a barrier to starting your own business.

Crafternoon: Black Inventions

Fri, Feb 21, 4–5 p.m.
Glenarden—Small Meeting Room
Come join us for an afternoon of crafting. Families welcome!

STEM for Families: Black History

STEAM-Fest
Sat, Feb 22, 12–2 p.m.
Bowie—Auditorium
Join us as we celebrate Black History through science, technology, engineering, art, and math. Drop in for hands-on experiments and activities!

Science in Ancient & Medieval Africa

Sat, Feb 22, 2–4 p.m.
South Bowie
Join historian C.R. Gibbs as he discusses “Science in Ancient & Medieval Africa.” Part 4 of the African Lecture Series.

Black History Live with Culture Queen

Sat, Feb 22, 2–3 p.m.
New Carrollton—Large meeting room 1
Culture Queen is a modern-day Josephine Baker inspired performance for your royal children that uses live, original and interactive music, movement and storytelling to teach them to celebrate their history and love themselves.

Black History Trivia

Sat, Feb 22, 2–3:30 p.m.
Accokeek—Large Meeting Room
Join us for Black History Trivia! Learn about notable figures and their contributions to society. Have fun and win a prize!

Crafternoon: Black History Month Collage

Sat, Feb 22, 2–4 p.m.
Oxon Hill
Join us in making a Black History Month inspired crafts using recycled materials. Families welcome!

Maryland’s African American History & Cooking: A Delicious Story

Sat, Feb 22, 3–4 p.m.
Hyattsville
In the African American community, food and cooking have symbolic and historical meanings that tell many stories. Get up close and personal with artifacts from the Banneker-Douglass Museum that paint a picture of African American life through their food!

Crafternoon: Horace Pippin and Painting by Magic Numbers

Sat, Feb 22, 3–4 p.m.
Mount Rainier
Come learn about the life and art of Horace Pippin. Discover the magic numbers in Pippin’s work and create your own magic number painting. Call the Mount Rainier branch at 301-864-8937 to register.

The Uncle Devin Show

Mon, Feb 24, 4–5 p.m.
Glenarden
The Uncle Devin Show takes students on a magical journey through the Land of Percussion that allows them to see, hear, and play different percussion instruments while gaining an understanding of the history of percussion and why it is the easiest, oldest and most diverse for of musical creativity.

Independent Film Series—University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Rd., Hyattsville

Mon, Feb 24, 7–9 p.m.
Hyattsville
“Say Her Name—the Life and Death of Sandra Bland” (2019) documents the investigation into the disputed cause of death of black activist Sandra Bland, who died in police custody in Waller County, Texas, after a routine traffic stop by a state trooper.

Black Women in World War I and World War II

Mon, Feb 24, 7–8 p.m.
Accokeek—Large Meeting Room
Join historian C.R. Gibbs as he discusses “Fierce Sisters: Black Women in World War I and World War II”.

Black History Live with Culture Queen

Mon, Feb 24, 7–8 p.m.
Laurel—Large Meeting Room A (Dorothy Height Room)
Culture Queen is a modern-day Josephine Baker inspired performance for your royal children that uses live, original and interactive music, movement and storytelling to teach them to celebrate their history and love themselves.

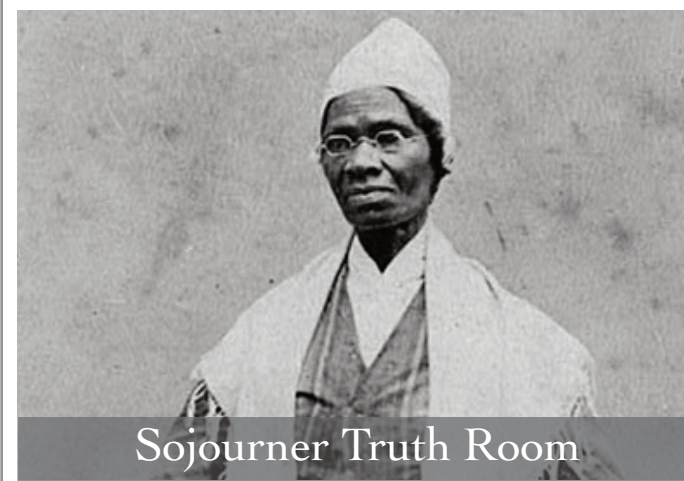
DREAM Lab: Preserving Family Photos

Tue, Feb 25, 4–5:30pm
Fairmount Heights—D.R.E.A.M Lab
Old family photos starting to fade? Bring your old photos to the library and have fun digitizing them using software and equipment in the DREAM Lab.

Black Excellence in History

Tue, Feb 25, 5:30–6:30 p.m.
Glenarden

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



Sojourner Truth Room

PHOTO COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

The **Sojourner Truth Room** is named for the hero of anti-slavery and women’s rights, Sojourner Truth. The library branch stands on the site of the Sojourner Truth Elementary School for African Americans. Some of the historical foundation and walls were incorporated into the structure. Now the Sojourner Truth room offers resources on the African American Incorporated Towns of Prince George’s County and a fine research collection on African American history. There is a section of the room dedicated to upcoming engineers and urban planners, with specially equipped workstations, a 3D printer and digital video cameras. Programming that engages customers of all ages is centered in this room. The materials are for use only in the Sojourner Truth Room. A library card or other identification is necessary for the use of some materials. Copies of selected materials are also in the library’s circulating collection. The room is open Monday–Wednesday 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Thursday–Friday 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m., and Sunday 1–5 p.m.

*The Sojourner Truth Room at Oxon Hill Library
6200 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill, MD • 301-839-2400 •
www.pgcmcls.info/website/sojourner-truth-room-532*

Participants will compete in a knowledge/information based trivia game highlighting the achievement of past and present African American figures.

Black History in Film: Central Park 5

Tue, Feb 25, 6–8 p.m.
Largo-Kettering
A documentary that examines the 1989 case of five black and Latino teenagers who were wrongfully convicted of a crime against a white woman in Central Park. After having spent between 6 and 13 years each in prison, the truth is discovered when the individual comes forward and confesses to the crime.

Ready 2 Read Storytime: Ages 3- 5

Thu, Feb 27, 10:30–11 a.m.
Glenarden—Small Meeting Room
Bring your preschooler and join us for Black History stories, songs, fingerplays and more!

Juanita Jackson Mitchell: Breaking Down Barriers

Sat, Feb 29, 1–2 p.m.
Oxon Hill
Janice the Griot Presents: Experience the Civil Rights movement in Baltimore through a riveting historical portrayal of the first African American woman to achieve a law degree from the University of Maryland and to be licensed to practice law in Maryland.

The Story of Black Women & the Vote

Sat, Feb 29, 2–4 p.m.
South Bowie
Join historian C.R. Gibbs as he discusses “We Are Rising! The Story of Black Women & the Vote.” Part 5 of the African Lecture Series.

Story Explorers: Black Women in STEM

Sat, Feb 29, 3:30–4:30 p.m.
Greenbelt—Auditorium
Come listen to a librarian read favorite stories aloud and do related activities and games. Join us in celebrating the achievements of trailblazing black women in STEM.

Waterfront District at National Harbor Celebrates Cherry Blossoms With Sakura Sunday on April 5

Official Participating Event of the 2020 National Cherry Blossom Festival

By SOPHIE SCHEPS
for National Harbor

NATIONAL HARBOR, Md. (Jan. 28, 2020—National Harbor will, once again, participate in the Washington, D.C. region’s annual National Cherry Blossom Festival which celebrates spring, the gift of the cherry blossom trees, and the enduring friendship between the people of the United States and Japan. Throughout the months of March and April, National Harbor will turn its light pink including The Capital Wheel and hold an array of activities and celebrations including its popular annual Sakura Sunday event on April 5 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. It is an official event of the 2020 National Cherry Blossom Festival. The event includes authentic Japanese cherry blossom traditions—all in the Waterfront District at National Harbor.

Two years ago, National Harbor added more than 100 Okame cherry trees to its existing collection bringing the number of trees it has to more than 200, many of which line the Potomac River. The trees were planted in mass along the National Harbor waterfront so

that visitors are able to see them when arriving by car, bus or boat. “Our trees are typically early bloomers so that visitors can enjoy them even before the trees bloom at the Tidal Basin,” said Deborah Topcik, director of marketing at National Harbor. “The Cherry Blossom Festival and cherry trees are such a signature part of Washington, D.C. and we love extending that to National Harbor. They are a great sign of spring and we are thrilled to be a part of the region’s festivities.”

Sakura Sunday at National Harbor features a wide array of free activities including traditional Japanese picnicking with food available for sale; a sake, rosé and beer garden; a Japanese Market and Japanese-inspired music and entertainment. National Harbor will bring in world-class Japanese entertainment and Japanese artisans. This year, they are excited to introduce a water lantern experience to close the evening.

Restaurants, retailers and hotels in the Waterfront District and throughout National Harbor will also participate in special offers throughout the month of April. Some of the retailers in the Waterfront

District will also participate in a cherry blossom store window display competition.

“The Waterfront District is the perfect location to view the spectacular cherry blooms and enjoy a taste of Japanese culture on Sakura Sunday,” Topcik added, “From food and entertainment, to art and crafts—it will be a great event.”

For those who want to see the cherry blossoms at the Tidal Basin in Washington, D.C. as well as National Harbor, water taxis run from the Waterfront District at National Harbor to the Tidal Basin and other destinations. It’s an easy way to avoid traffic congestion and parking challenges in Washington, D.C. For more information on National Harbor and cherry blossom festivities, go to www.NationalHarbor.com. Additional events and activities will be added to the schedule in the coming weeks.

Situated on the banks of the historic Potomac River and just minutes from the nation’s capital, National Harbor is a waterfront resort destination unlike any other. National Harbor is home to eight hotels including two of Maryland’s Four Diamond rated hotels—Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center and MGM National Harbor. The vibrant Waterfront District features boutique shops, restaurants and entertainment options along picturesque promenades as well as the iconic Capital Wheel, a 180-ft observation wheel and the Guide by Cell outdoor art gallery tour. Visit www.NationalHarbor.com.

OUT on the TOWN



PHOTOGRAPH CREDIT PIPPALOU/MORGUEFILE

LOVE in the Spotlight: Something for Everyone!

Valentine's Day Concert Featuring Christie Dashiell

Date and Time: Thursday, February 13, 2020, 11 a.m.–12 p.m.
Description: Get your tickets online, or call 301-277-1710. Known for her soulful jazz-centric style, Billboard-charting jazz vocalist Christie Dashiell and her quartet present a special Valentine's Day performance. Music will include songs from her critically acclaimed debut album *Time All Mine*.
Cost: \$10/person. Purchase through PARKS DIRECT!
Ages: 60 & better
Location: Publick Playhouse, 5445 Landover Road, Cheverly, MD 20784
Contact: 301-277-1710; TTY 301-699-2554

Creative Suitland Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting Ceremony & Luncheon—Love Your Community

Date and Time: Friday, February 14, 2020, 10:30 a.m.–1 p.m.
Description: Sistah Joy will attend this community arts event.
Location: Creative Suitland, 4719 Silver Hill Road, Suitland, MD 20746

Sweet Love: Valentine's Day at The Lewis

Date and Time: Friday, February 14, 2020, 6:30–8:30 p.m.
Description: Indulge in a night of wine, chocolate and art. Come with your partner, your girls or solo for a wine and chocolate pairing workshop with Gregory Markell Lawrence & Sean Bani Yisreal of Markell-Bani Fine Wines and Sparkling Beverages. The wine will be paired with chocolate from Baltimore's Pure Chocolates by Jinji. Before or after the tasting, explore our special exhibit, Elizabeth Catlett: Artist as Activist. Includes chocolate, wine pairing, light fare and a signature cocktail. Cash bar available. **Registration required.** <https://bmoeart.com/event/sweet-love-valentines-day-at-the-lewis>
Cost: Member: \$40, Non-member: \$50
Location: Reginald F. Lewis Museum, 800 East Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202

Xtreme Teens: Teen Tech. One-on-One Technology Help

Date and Time: Friday, February 14, 2020, 7–9 p.m.
Description: We are looking for local teens help others (mostly older adults) with technology questions. We are asking patrons to bring their devices to the center during Teen Night so that you—the TEENS—are available to answer questions and give one-on-one tech advice, training and support. R U Ready to Help?
Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
Ages: 10–17
Location: Berwyn Heights School Community Center, 6200 Pontiac Street, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740
Contact: 301-345-2808; TTY 301-699-2544

Valentine's Day Concert:

A Tribute to the Music of Teddy Pendergrass

Date and Time: Friday, February 14, 2020, 8–10 p.m.
 Get your tickets online, or call 301-277-1710.
Description: This Valentine's Day, come and enjoy the sounds of Teddy Pendergrass in "A Tribute to the Music of Teddy Pendergrass" at the Publick Playhouse. Don't miss the sensational R&B Recording Artist Andre Jackson and the Sudden M-PAC Band as they perform some of Teddy's greatest hits like "Love TKO," "Turn off the Lights," "Close the Door," and "You're My Latest, Greatest Inspiration."
Cost: \$30/person; \$25/person: seniors (60 & better), students (18 and younger), and groups of 20 or more. Purchase through PARKS DIRECT!
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: Publick Playhouse, 5445 Landover Road, Cheverly, MD 20784
Contact: 301-277-1710; TTY 301-699-2554

Sweetheart Skate at the Ice Arena

Date and Time: Friday, February 14, 2020, 9–10:30 p.m.
Description: Join in on some skating fun on Valentine's Day! Special discount applies—admission and skate rental for two people is \$12.
Cost: Special discount for Valentine's Day—admission and skate rental for two people is \$12.
Location: Bowie Ice Arena, 3330 Northview Drive, Bowie, MD 20716
Contact: 301-809-3090

Bowie Valentine Invitational Figure Skating Competition

Date and Time: Saturday, February 15, 2020, 1–9 p.m.
Description: Come support figure skaters of all ages and levels from MD, DC, VA and PA as they compete in various individual and team events.
Cost: Free to observe
Location: Bowie Ice Arena, 3330 Northview Drive, Bowie, MD 20716
Contact: 301-809-3090

National Book Award Winner Ibram X. Kendi Visits Prince George's County on April 3 To Discuss "How to Be an Antiracist"

By DONNA SCOTT-MARTIN
PGCMLS

LARGO, Md. (February 4, 2020)—2019 Guggenheim Fellow and New York Times bestselling author Ibram X. Kendi will discuss his renowned book "How to Be an Antiracist" on Friday, April 3, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Center for the Performing Arts (CPA) on the campus of the Prince George's Community College (PGCC). Praised as "The most courageous book to date on the problem of race in the Western mind" (New York Times), Kendi's groundbreaking work has provided a major new counterpoint in the national conversation about race in America. His appearance in Prince George's County provides the community with an opportunity to participate in a dialogue about the notion of antiracism through a series of book discussions hosted by the Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) that precede Kendi's appearance.

Tickets for "A Conversation with Ibram X. Kendi" on April 3 are available for purchase through the PGCC Center for the Performing Arts Box Office (\$10).

This special event is presented by a consortium of organizations based in Prince George's County, including Joe's Movement Emporium, the Prince George's County Memorial Library Foundation, Prince George's County Community College Center for the Performing Arts, and the Prince George's County Human Relations Commission, with generous support from Wells Fargo. Copies of "How to Be an Antiracist" are available from the Prince George's County Memorial Library System and will be available for purchase at the event on April 3. Kendi will sign books following the program.

PGCMLS Book Discussions: "How to

Be an Antiracist" by Ibram X. Kendi: (Free and open to the public)

New Carrollton Branch
Wednesday, March 4, 7 p.m.
7414 Riverdale Rd, New Carrollton, Maryland, 20784

South Bowie Branch
Saturday, March 7, 2 p.m.
15301 Hall Road, Bowie, MD 20721

Accokeek Branch
Monday, March 9, 7 p.m.
15773 Livingston Rd, Accokeek, MD 20607

Ibram X. Kendi is one of America's foremost historians and leading antiracist voices. He is a New York Times bestselling author and the founding director of The Antiracist Research & Policy Center at American University in Washington, DC. A professor of history and international relations, Kendi is a contributor at The Atlantic and CBS News. He is the author of "The Black Campus Movement," which won the W.E.B. Du Bois Book Prize, and "Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America," which won the National Book Award for Nonfiction. Two new books are being published in 2020: "STAMPED: Racism, Antiracism, and You" for young people, a collaboration with Prince George's County native and National Ambassador for Young People's Literature Jason Reynolds, and "Antiracist Baby," Kendi's first board book for children.

Established in 1995, Joe's Movement Emporium is a cultural arts hub that acts as a catalyst for creativity and economic opportunity. Based in Mount Rainier, Maryland in

the Prince George's Gateway Arts District, Joe's serves more than 70,000 visitors annually. Joe's has five arts-based youth programs that bridge the creative divide between under-resourced families and those with means. Through programs and productions in education, performing arts, and work readiness, Joe's integrates progressive education, creativity, and youth development.

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) Foundation provides critical philanthropic support to the Prince George's County Memorial Library System. It strengthens the Library's capacity to innovate, adapt to change, and ensure our libraries remain a vital resource for all in Prince George's County now and in the future. Our libraries are more than a place to find books; they are spaces—both physical and online—to empower individuals, strengthen families, and make our county a better place.

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS), consisting of 19 branches, offers strategies for lifelong learning. Skills development library resources include Brainfuse's HelpNow and JobNow, MANGO Languages, ArtistWorks for Libraries, and Learning Express Library. Early literacy resources are Ready 2 Read Centers, Ready 2 Read Backpacks, ABCmouse, AWE Early Literacy Stations, Beanstack, Playaway Launchpads and PebbleGo. All these services are free with your PGCMLS library card. Also, enjoy 3D printing, Minecraft, D.R.E.A.M. (Digital Resources for Electronic Applications in Media) Lab, chess clubs and TAG (Teen Action Group), free at your library. Engage with us on social media: Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, Instagram, and YouTube. Check out our mobile apps and learn more about what PGCMLS has to offer at www.pgcmls.info.

ERIC D. SNIDER'S IN THE DARK

.... Movie Review

Bad Boys for Life

Bad Boys for Life
Grade: B-
Rated R for strong bloody violence, language throughout, sexual references and brief drug use
2 hrs., 3 min.

It's been nearly 25 years since Miami police detectives Mike Lowrey (Will Smith) and Marcus Burnett (Martin Lawrence) first teamed up to shoot bad guys and destroy property in *Bad Boys*. How long ago was 1995? So long ago that back then, Martin Lawrence got top billing.

There was a sequel in between—2003's *Bad Boys II*, one of the most loathsome films of its decade—and now a part three, *Bad Boys for Life*, that has the aging cops reckon-

ing with their past. (Well, "reckoning" as much as anyone can in this introspection-allergic genre.) Director Michael Bay is gone (though he has an onscreen cameo), but the new directors, Belgians Adil El Arbi and Bilall Fallah, and writers Chris Bremner, Peter Craig, and Joe Carnahan continue the franchise's foundational love of violence, revenge, and other manly qualities (like openly laughing at the idea of seeking therapy for PTSD).

So it's definitely a *Bad Boys* movie, but it's more good-natured and likable than its coarse, clumsy predecessors, which were helmed by a moron with an idiot's sense of humor. This time around, Mike is upset with Marcus because after all these years of saying "bad boys

for life," Marcus wants to retire and not be bad boys for life with him anymore. Marcus is a grandfather now! He doesn't say, "I'm getting too old for this s***" because that's Danny Glover's line, but the sentiment is there.

In addition, Marcus has a religious epiphany and pledges to God not to be the source of any more violence in the world, a pledge that Mike and the movie find laughable—the idea of just, you know, not hurting people is absurd. But don't worry, Mike makes him break his pledge before long, and Marcus realizes the folly of pacifism.

The antagonist is a Mexican crime family scion named Armando (Jacob Scipio), who's after Mike for killing his kingpin father many years ago, acting on the orders of his mother (Kate del Castillo), a stone-cold killer in her own right. His first attempt on Mike's life fails, and Mike wants to investigate who tried to kill him (we know it was Armando, but we have no way of telling Mike that), which of course is against police protocol. The blustery boss, Captain Howard (Joe Pantol-

iano), says Mike can tag along to "consult" and "observe" as long as he doesn't get involved; Mike, of course, immediately takes over the investigation.

Mike and Marcus (when he's involved) are working with a special force headed by Howard called AMMO, which Wikipedia tells me stands for Advanced Miami Metro Operations but which I don't remember the movie explaining. AMMO is tech-driven and populated by several young, hot cops (including Vanessa Hudgens, Alexander Ludwig, and Charles Melton) in a blatant attempt to Fast & Furious-ize the *Bad Boys* brand. The addition of a "crew" for Mike and Marcus changes the dynamic in fun ways, but their one-on-one interactions—the movie's *raison d'être*—are still lively too. The directors pull off a few nifty shots, and the plot is serviceable (I was actually quite invested in the story of Armando and his chilling mother). The film has all the ridiculousness of a '90s action flick, only without the gay-panic jokes and the gleeful shots of people dying and their corpses being desecrated. Progress!



ROTTEN TOMATOES

The *Bad Boys* Mike Lowrey (Will Smith) and Marcus Burnett (Martin Lawrence) are back together for one last ride in the highly anticipated *Bad Boys for Life*.

LOCAL EVENTS

Bold Black History at PGAAMCC

Celebrate Bold Blackness with PGAAMCC—Black Culture, Black Art and Black History #MoreThanAMonth with Prince George's African American Museum and Cultural Center during their 10th anniversary year with new exhibits and dynamic events.

In February PGAAMCC'S theme is Bold Blackness. All month, every month and through our digital #MoreThanAMonth campaign, we will be celebrating the extraordinary achievements, resistance and resilience of the black community by showcasing art, photos, and programs that celebrate unapologetic blackness, love, business, craft and activism. Our programs are proudly sponsored by Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council and supporters like you. Learn more at www.pgaamcc.org/programs
Location: Prince George's African American Museum and Cultural Center, 4519 Rhode Island Ave, North Brentwood, MD 20722

The following events are free, but register at Eventbrite.

Museum Kids Club: Black Love Family Day
Date and Time: Saturday, February 15, 1-4 p.m.
Description: Celebrate the 3rd nationally commemorated African American holiday founded by Ayo Handi-Kendi in 1993. During this family-friendly program Jessica "Culture Queen" Hebron, Education Fellow-In-Residence, will lead participants in exploring this special holiday with fun activities to cultivate love for themselves, their families and their culture through a heartwarming story time, hands-on crafts and family bonding. The program will cul-

minate with a Black Love Dance-A-Thon featuring family-friendly tunes to encourage healthy hearts within our communities.

Race, Religion & Revolt, by David W. M. Cassidy, Opening Reception
Date and Time: Sunday, February 23, 12-3 p.m.
Description: Come see the latest art exhibit at PGAAMCC, on view until May 2020. Depicting the artwork of local self taught artist David W. M. Cassidy in partnership with Black Art Today LLC.

Volunteer Open House

Saturday, February 22, 2020 • 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Interested in volunteering in Piscataway Park this year? Then join us on February 22 for a Volunteer Open House! The Volunteer Open House is the perfect opportunity for you to come and meet the team, learn about this season's volunteer opportunities, and explore the site.

This season's volunteer openings include:
• Citizen science projects such as bluebird monitoring
• Invasive plant management
• Heritage breed livestock care
• Gardening
• Trail maintenance

• Shoreline clean-up
• Event support
• Stitch 'n Time textiles club
• Visitor Center support
Challenge yourself this year, learn a new skill, give back to your community, and have a good excuse to get outside regularly when you volunteer with the Accokeek Foundation.
Register to attend the open house!
Note: In the unlikely event we experience a winter storm on the 22, the Volunteer Open House will take place on Saturday, February 29 instead.
Accokeek Foundation, 3400 Bryan Point Road, 301-283-2113, ACCOKEEK.ORG

Arts & Humanities Dean's Lecture Series Featuring Ruth E. Carter

Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 5 p.m.
Legendary costume designer Ruth E. Carter, whose career has spanned more than 35 years and 40 films, discusses how she uses costumes to tell stories about race, culture and politics. The winner of an Academy Award for her Afrofuturistic designs in Ryan Coogler's 2018 blockbuster hit "Black Panther," Carter was previously nominated for her work in Spike Lee's "Malcolm X" and Steven Spielberg's "Amistad." Carter will discuss her research process and share visual samples of her creations. The lecture will be followed by a Q&A.
Ruth E. Carter's unparalleled ability to develop an authentic story through costume and character has made her one of the most sought after and renowned costume designers today. She is the 2019

Academy Award winner for "Best Costume Design" for her work on "Black Panther," making history as the first African American to win in that category. She has also garnered two additional Academy Award nominations for Spike Lee's "Malcolm X" (1993) and Steven Spielberg's "Amistad" (1998) as well as an Emmy nomination in 2016 for the reboot of "Roots."
Cost: FREE, ticket required (<https://theclarice.umd.edu/events/2020/2019-20-arts-humanities-dean-s-lecture-series-featuring-ruth-e-carter>)
Location: The Clarice, Gildenhorn Recital Hall, 8270 Alumni Dr, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742
Contact: 301-405-2787

Register NOW for the 10th Annual
"A Fairway to Help" Golf Tournament
www.nhssi.org/content/fairway-help-golf-tournament-2020
Friday, May 8, 2020
Registration 7:30 a.m. Shotgun start 8:30 a.m.
Oak Creek Golf Club, 600 Bowieville Manor Lane, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774
We are also looking for sponsors for this annual event and New Horizons' only fundraiser. Proceeds benefit over 200 individuals with disabilities.

TUESDAY TIP

STAFF FAVORITES ADOPTION EVENT

Throughout February only, adoption fees are reduced for dogs "hit" with Cupid's arrow and selected as "Staff Favorites."

Visit the Animal Services Facility and Adoption Center to meet dogs that have been marked with a heart

3750 Brown Station Road, Upper Marlboro
Monday, Tuesday, Friday: 11 AM - 6 PM
Wednesday: 11:30 AM - 7:30 PM
Saturday: 9 AM - 4 PM
Sunday and Thursday: Closed

Prince Georges' Proud
ENVIRONMENT

We need volunteers to help brighten our schools!

President's Day of Service Event

Saturday
FEB 22, 2020
9 am - 2 pm

JOIN US!
• Templeton Elementary School
6001 Carters Lane, Riverdale, MD

DAY OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- ★ Painting
- ★ Improvements to parent reception area
- ★ Re-staging administrative offices

WAYS TO VOLUNTEER:
Call Us: (240) 608-2527
Email Us: info@ckarcdc.org
Visit Us: 6801 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 203, Riverdale Park, MD 20737

PRESENTED BY: Staff at TEMPLETON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

CENTRAL KENILWORTH AVENUE REVITALIZATION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (CKAR CDC)

Hospice of the Chesapeake Gala

Saturday, April 4, 2020 • 5:30 to 11:30 p.m.
The Hotel at the University of Maryland, College Park
This year's theme, "An Evening Under the Tuscan Sky," will take guests to the Italian countryside filled with gardens, groves and vineyards.

The gala is the organization's signature black tie event and features an open bar, fine cuisine, a silent and live auction, a band and dancing. The gala draws close to 500 attendees and directly supports the mission and programs of Hospice of the Chesapeake.

The nonprofit is celebrating its 40th year of serving the community and continues to celebrate its status as a leader in hospice and palliative care as well as grief support in Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties.
For sponsorship opportunities, contact Meg Lawton at 443-837-1531 or mLawton@hospicechesapeake.org.

Alpha Kappa Alpha • Alpha Phi Alpha • Delta Sigma Theta • Iota Phi Theta • Kappa Alpha Psi • Omega Psi Phi • Phi Beta Sigma • Sigma Gamma Rho • Zeta Phi Beta

The Greater Mt. Nebo Church Family Invites You to Join Us For

GREEK SUNDAY

SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 23, 2020
9:45 AM

Come out and worship with us as we recognize the Divine 9 fraternities & sororities during our Sunday morning worship experience.

Greater Mt. Nebo Church A.M.E. Church
1001 Old Mitchellville Road-Bowie, Maryland 20716
Reverend Dr. Jonathan L. Weaver, Pastor

LYNETTE LEWIS / GREATER MT. NEBO A.M.E. CHURCH

Calendar of Events

February 13–February 19, 2020

Cub Corner: Bessie Coleman

Date and Time: Thursday, February 13, 2020, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
Description: Join us and learn about Bessie Coleman, an extremely talented pilot from the 1920s, and the first African American and Native American woman to get her pilot's license. We will read *Nobody Owns the Sky: The Story of "Brave Bessie"* Coleman and do a craft activity. Pre-registration is not required.
Cost: Free with Museum Admission
Ages: Pre-school age children
Location: College Park Aviation Museum, 1985 Corporal Frank Scott Drive, College Park, MD 20740
Contact: 301-864-6029; TTY 301-699-2544

Heroes & Plain Folk Exhibit

Date and Time: Saturday, February 15, 2020, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
Description: This amazing exhibit and accompanying programs tell stories about local African Americans of our past who contributed to the rich history in our area. Do you know the story of the master craftsman who help cast the Statue of Freedom in a foundry, which was located right off Bladensburg Road? He is just one of many extraordinary stories you will experience at this exhibit. **RSVP required for the programs on February 15, 22 and 29.** Light refreshments provided.
Cost: Free
Ages: All Ages
Location: The Waterfront Studio at Bladensburg Waterfront Park, 4601 Annapolis Rd., Bladensburg, MD 20710
Contact: 301-799-0371; TTY 301-699-2544

Cost: Free
Ages: All Ages

Location: The Waterfront Studio at Bladensburg Waterfront Park, 4601 Annapolis Rd., Bladensburg, MD 20710
Contact: 301-799-0371; TTY 301-699-2544

Thrive Market at Creative Suitland

Date and Time: Saturday, February 15, 2020, 1–5 p.m.
Description: Sistah Joy will join a variety of artists to perform at this community event.
Cost: \$5
Location: Creative Suitland, 4719 Silver Hill Road, Suitland, MD 20746

The Black Vote Mural Project—Opening Reception

Date and Time: Saturday, February 15, 2020, 3–6 p.m.
Description: This exhibit explores the intersection of public art, Black voices, and civil rights with sixteen murals that transform the interior galleries of the museum. Painted by regional artists, these murals interpret the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) 2020 theme: African Americans and the Vote. Voter registration will be held at this event. Register through Eventbrite.
Cost: Free
Location: Banneker-Douglass Museum, 84 Franklin Street, Annapolis, MD 21401
Contact: 410-216-6180

Soul Generation featuring Cliff Perkins

Date and Time: Saturday, February 15, 2020, 8–10 p.m.
Description: Soul Generation featuring Cliff Perkins is the perfect blend of soulful and sensuous R&B music past, present, and future. With a rich and lavish history in the industry, this multi-talented group could most assuredly be compared to a diamond: superb, dazzling, and brilliant. Led by their chart-busting hits "Body & Soul" and "Million Dollars," the group blends the vocal talents of Cliff Perkins, Veda LaRue, and Donald Taylor to bring to life the best that R&B has to offer. Sit back, relax, and let them take you for a stroll down memory lane!
Cost: \$40/person; \$35/seniors (ages 60 & better) and students (18 and younger), purchase at PARKS DIRECT
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: Harmony Hall Arts Center, 10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington, MD 20744
Contact: 301-203-6040; TTY 301-699-2544

Happy Birthday, Rosalie!

Date and Time: Sunday, February 16, 2020, 12–3 p.m.
Description: In honor of Rosalie Stier Calvert's 242nd birthday, we are opening the house for free during this family-friendly event! Say hello to Mrs. Calvert as she greets visitors and enjoy cupcakes and hot chocolate while supplies last. Get cozy by the open hearth for a celebratory baking demo.
Cost: Free
Location: Riversdale House Museum, 4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737
Contact: 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544

Voices from the Past: Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges—The Black Mozart

Date and Time: Sunday, February 16, 2020, 4–5 p.m.
Description: This event is in partnership with the Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts. Enjoy the extraordinary, lesser-known violin music of Le Chevalier de Saint Georges as narrator Neville Ottley and a violinist explore his life and compositions. In 1769, the Parisian public was amazed to see Guadeloupe born Joseph Le Chevalier Saint-Georges, playing as a classical musician and composer. His work is thought to have influenced Mozart and he, himself, is often considered the "Black Mozart." ADA: Yes
Cost: Free
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: Montpelier Arts Center, 9652 Muirkirk Road, Laurel, MD 20708
Contact: 301-377-7800; TTY 301-699-2544

Prince George's County Council Black History Program

Date and Time: Wednesday, February 19, 2020, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.
Description: The Prince George's County Council presents "Roots to Royalty" Black History Program. The featured Keynote Speaker will be The Honorable Angela D. Alsobrooks, County Executive. Invocation / Benediction by Pastor Anthony G. Maclin, The Sanctuary at Kingdom Square, Upper Marlboro, MD. Featuring Lochelle C. Ferguson, Singer. (Snow date: Wednesday, February 26, 2020)
Cost: Free
Location: County Administration Building, 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, 1st Floor, Council Hearing Room, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
Contact: Carol D. Johnson, 301-952-3645

The Bowie Center For Performing Arts:

Opera Lafayette Reprises Leonore

February 23 at 3 p.m. • All Tickets Just \$10!

By DAVID ANDRUSIA

The Bowie Center for Performing Arts

BOWIE, Md. (Feb. 3, 2020)—By popular acclaim, Opera Lafayette returns to The Bowie Center for Performing Arts theatre this month with its production of *Leonore*, called an "uncommonly rewarding event" by Musical America Worldwide.

This return presentation advances the Center's mission to advance the arts for all community residents with the best performing artists both from Prince George's County and from all over the country—indeed, around the world.

Leonore is the centerpiece of Opera Lafayette's 25th-anniversary season. Beethoven's *Leonore* (1805), only rarely produced even among the world's finest opera companies, is actually the composer's first version of his opera *Fidelio*. It also marks Opera Lafayette's first opera sung in German and its largest production to date. As such, these performances are the culmi-

nation of Opera Lafayette's acclaimed *Leonore* Project, which aims to recapture the origins of this touchstone of the operatic canon.

The music of *Leonore* soars—as does its story of bravery and justice—themes as compelling today as ever. In the libretto, a wife disguised as a man seeks to rescue her husband, wrongfully imprisoned and awaiting his death. The score, filled with heart-breaking arias, delightful love duets, and transcendent choral and instrumental works, is recognized as among the most powerful opera compositions.

"Reprising a performance by this celebrated operatic company is a very special honor for us—both because of the prestige of its productions, and because it advances a key aspect of our mission," says Bowie Center Executive Director Jason Cook. "The return engagement of Opera Lafayette provides our community with a very special chance to hear a world-class company, one whose musical excellence is more than

matched by inventive stagecraft and thrilling vocal performance."

Ersian François, Artist Services and Community Engagement Manager of Opera Lafayette, said, "One of the highlights of our season was the support and positive feedback we received from Bowie community members, many of whom had attended an opera for the very first time. Most heartening of all was the very warm welcome all of us felt—including cast members!—at the Bowie Center's presentation of our work last year. This wonderful ongoing partnership with The Bowie Center for the Performing Arts provides the framework not only for our operatic presentations themselves, but for meaningful encounters between our artists and the community the Center serves."

Tickets: \$10.00 at www.bowiecenter.org
For more information, please contact David Andrusia at david.andrusia@pgcps.org or 415-283-7375

National Philharmonic Celebrates Black History Month With "Black Classical Music Pioneers"

Feb. 22 at Strathmore

Four Black Classical Composers Including Wynton Marsalis & William Grant Still
Featuring Sphinx Competition Winner Violinist Melissa White

By PRESS OFFICER

National Philharmonic

NORTH BETHESDA, Md. (Feb. 3, 2020)—The National Philharmonic celebrates Black History Month with "Black Classical Music Pioneers" on Saturday, Feb. 22 at 8 p.m. at The Music Center at Strathmore. The concert will be performed by the National Philharmonic Orchestra and conducted by Philharmonic Music Director and Conductor Piotr Gajewski, who will be joined by featured soloist and Sphinx Competition winner violinist Melissa White. The evening will feature musical works by some of the most prolific African American composers of the 20th and 21st centuries: Wynton Marsalis' *Wild Strumming of Fiddle*, Florence Price's *Violin Concerto No. 1 in D Major*, George Walker's *Lyric for Strings*, and William Grant Still's *Symphony No. 1 (Afro-American)*. White is the soloist for Price's *Violin Concerto No. 1* and, as such, the concert is featured in the Boulanger Initiative, a female-focused musical initiative that promotes music composed by women through performance, education, and commissions. White is a founding member of the highly acclaimed Harlem Quartet, with which she has toured globally since the quartet's founding in 2006. Most recently, she was named featured soloist on the soundtrack of the 2019 horror film, *Us*. A pre-concert lecture will take place 6:45–7:15 p.m. on Saturday. Ticket prices are \$29–\$79, free for young people 7–17, and \$10 for college students. There is a new 25% discount for military and veterans. Strathmore is located at 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit nationalphilharmonic.org or call 301-581-5100.

In this exciting program, European musical forms gain a new vibrancy through the influence of African-American traditions and the blending of classical and popular styles. *Wild Strumming of Fiddle*, by Wynton Marsalis (born 1961), comes from a remarkable 12-movement work that fuses jazz and symphonic music to create a dizzying array of sounds, rhythms, and melodies. The *Violin Concerto No. 1* by Florence Price (1887-1953) is a highly accomplished work in the models of the European classical concerto, by the first African-American woman to be widely recognized as a symphonic composer. The *Lyric for Strings* by George Walker (1922-2018), the first African-American composer to win the Pulitzer Prize for Music, is a work of intimate beauty. The *Symphony No. 1* by William Grant Still (1895-1978) is the first symphony written by an African-American composer. Its subtitle ("Afro-American") points to the unique style of the work, which includes elements of blues and jazz.

Melissa White

American violinist Melissa White has enchanted audiences around the world as a soloist and a chamber musician. A first-prize laureate in the Sphinx Competition (for Black and Latin string players), White has received critical acclaim for solo performances with such leading ensembles as the Cleveland Orchestra, the Boston Pops, and the Atlanta, Baltimore, Colorado, Detroit, and Pittsburgh symphony orchestras. In April 2016, she served as interim concertmaster in performances and recordings of the Louisville Orchestra. Internationally, she

has appeared as soloist with Poland's Fillharmonia Dolnoslaska; with the Colombian Youth Orchestra; and as a recitalist in Azerbaijan. In the 2017-18 season, White made her solo debut with the National Philharmonic and returned to the Chicago Sinfonietta, where she partnered with fellow Sphinx Laureate Ifetayo Ali-Landing in Saint-Saëns's *La muse et le poète* for violin, cello and orchestra. Her recent orchestral concerts include return engagements with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra and the National Philharmonic and debuts with the Monroe, Pasadena, Knox-Galesburg, and Johnson City symphony orchestras.

Maestro Gajewski is one of a select group of American conductors equally at home in nearly all musical genres. He is the music director and conductor of the National Philharmonic at the Music Center at Strathmore as well as a sought-after guest conductor. He was a student and disciple of the late Leonard Bernstein, and is described by *The Washington Post* as an "immensely talented and insightful conductor, whose standards, taste and sensitivity are impeccable." With one foot in the United States and the other in Europe as former Principal Guest Conductor of the Silesian Philharmonic (Katowice, Poland) and frequent guest at other orchestras, the jet-set maestro's seemingly limitless repertoire, most conducted without a score, amazes critics and audiences alike.

The National Philharmonic under Gajewski is known for performances that are "powerful," "impeccable" and "thrilling" (*The Washington Post*). In July 2003, the National Chamber Orchestra and Masterworks Chorus merged to create the National Philharmonic, an ensemble with more than 50 years of combined history, bringing high-caliber musical performances to the Washington area. The National Philharmonic took up residence at the state-of-the-art Music Center at Strathmore upon its opening in February 2005.

Now, more than 250 performances later, and with far-reaching educational programming, the National Philharmonic is the largest and most active professional orchestra based in Montgomery County. It is also the only classical music organization in the Washington-Metro area that offers free tickets for children ages 7–17. The National Philharmonic recognizes this young audience as the classical music lovers of the future, and hopes to encourage future generations of concertgoers through this free-ticket program.

A February 24, 2019, review in *The Washington Post* by Patrick Rucker notes the National Philharmonic's "distinctive personality," adding, "The vibe in the audience is that everybody onstage is happy, and maybe a little proud to be there, and the music sounds that way." In fact, National Philharmonic's "distinctive personality" is part and parcel of the world-class acoustics of



PHOTO CREDIT: KEVIN MICHAEL MURPHY

The National Philharmonic celebrates Black History Month with "Black Classical Music Pioneers" on Saturday, Feb. 22 at 8 p.m. at The Music Center at Strathmore. The concert will be performed by the National Philharmonic Orchestra and conducted by Philharmonic Music Director and Conductor Piotr Gajewski, who will be joined by Sphinx Competition winner violinist Melissa White.

the Music Center at Strathmore. The concert hall, orchestra and chorale together create this world-class sound. The National Philharmonic's Strathmore Concert Hall home is an integral component of its artistic success. In fact, it is because of this success that the Philharmonic was recently recognized by the National Endowment for the Arts.

As the Music Center at Strathmore's orchestra-in-residence, the National Philharmonic showcases world-renowned guest artists in time-honored symphonic masterpieces conducted by Maestro Gajewski, and monumental choral masterworks under National Philharmonic Chorale Artistic Director Stan Engebretson.

National Philharmonic recently announced its "Thank You for Serving Program" for all active duty military, reservists, and veterans and their families. Military personnel may buy tickets for any National Philharmonic performance for themselves and their family and receive 25% off using promo code THX25. Tickets must be picked up at the box office with Military ID. Other restrictions apply.

To purchase tickets for the performances and for information about the Philharmonic's upcoming season, please visit nationalphilharmonic.org or call the Strathmore Ticket Office at 301-581-5100.

COMPUTERS AND TECH

Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford Promotes Maryland Healthcare, Cyber Industries During Middle East Trade Mission

Markets State's Strength, Innovation to Global Audiences at Arab Health, Cybertech Conferences

By HANNAH MARR
Maryland Governor's Press Office

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Feb. 3, 2020)—Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford this week concluded an economic development trade mission to Dubai, United Arab Emirates and Tel Aviv, Israel. Throughout business and government meetings, tours, and speaking engagements, the lieutenant governor aggressively promoted Maryland's many strengths in the healthcare and cybersecurity industries in order to encourage international companies to expand their operations into the state. Maryland is widely regarded as a global leader in both the healthcare and cybersecurity industries, which together generate over \$60 billion for the state's economy and provide more than 165,000 jobs and growing.

While in Dubai, Lt. Governor Rutherford attended Arab Health 2020, the second-largest healthcare exhibition in the world and the largest in the Middle East. The lieutenant governor delivered remarks at the Maryland booth where he was joined by the Maryland Department of Commerce and eleven local Maryland startups and small to mid-sized businesses, showcasing their products and services to conference attendees from nearly 160 countries.

"Maryland has always been a state with great assets: a highly-educated workforce, world-class universities and research institutions, military installations, federal agencies, and laboratories that

drive innovation in the life sciences," said Lt. Governor Rutherford. "We are ready to be your gateway to North America, and we can provide a soft landing for companies that want to explore the market, make connections, and build relationships with American businesses. There really is no better place for companies looking to expand to the United States, and we are ready and eager to work with businesses from all over the world."

In Tel Aviv, Lt. Governor Rutherford shifted his focus to Maryland's cyber industry, delivering remarks at the world-renowned Cybertech Conference. Speaking to an audience of industry executives, entrepreneurs, investors, and government officials from more than 80 countries, the lieutenant governor touted the state's cyber assets including federal government agencies, military installations, and sixteen higher education institutions designated by the National Security Agency as National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense. In addition, the state offers numerous financial assistance opportunities for start-ups, research & development entities, and cyber investors through the Maryland Venture Fund and various tax credits through the Maryland Department of Commerce.

"Maryland and Israel have a great deal to offer one another in the cyber field, which makes us natural partners," the lieutenant governor said. "We've been building a strong, collaborative rela-



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY MARYLAND GOVERNOR'S PRESS OFFICE

tionship, particularly in recent years, and Maryland is eager to build on that partnership.

"Cyber is one of our most important industries. This is an industry where people want to be, and it is an industry where Maryland is known to be a leader. No state in America is better able to address the rapidly emerging and evolving cybersecurity

challenges facing the world today. And in an increasingly competitive international economy where companies can—and do—locate virtually anywhere, we are looking beyond our borders for opportunities to strengthen international partnerships, and strengthen Maryland's position as the cyber capital of America."

Simple Steps to Declutter Your Phone

(NAPSI)—Have you ever scrolled endlessly through your photos on your phone to find that special one you took weeks ago? Or, perhaps you have that one important e-mail that takes forever to find in your inbox?

An organization overhaul isn't just for your closet. You can take advantage of some nifty features on your phone to organize your photos and e-mails, which will help make your life easier and save you time.

The experts at global tech care company Asurion spoke with phone users about the pain points they have with highly utilized features including photo storage, managing e-mails and contact lists. The experts then shared tips to help participants streamline and save time in these areas. After using the tips, people were amazed with how these simple shortcuts made finding things so much faster and easier. Check out what Asurion experts shared:

Easy Setup Photo Albums for People, Places and Objects

For Android Phones:

- Manage and share your photos more easily with Google Photos as your primary photo app.
- Easily locate photos by person or pet when you group by similar faces. Tap \equiv
- Add a name to find photos faster. Open a person or pet photo > tap

Menu > tap Info > Faces will be separated under people > tap a face > tap Add a Name > enter the name

For iPhones:

- Create an album from existing photos. Open Photos app > Open the All Photos Album or tap the Photos Tab > tap Select > Select all photos you want to add to the new album > tap Add To > select New Album
- Use facial recognition to quickly find photos of people you love. Open a photo with a person's face in it > swipe up over the photo > tap circle with person's face > tap Menu icon in the top left corner > tap Add to people's album > enter person's name > tap Done or Next

Find a Specific Photo Fast

For Android Phones:

- Find the photos you've labeled. Open Google Photo App > tap search bar at the top of screen > type in search criteria > scroll through results for your photo

For iPhones:

- iOS makes it easy to find a photo by identifying objects, people, places and pets. Open Photos app > tap on Search Icon > type in search criteria > scroll through results for specific photo

Find Anything on Your Phone Quickly

For Android Phones (if applicable to your model):

- Go to home screen > swipe down to show your App Drawer > click the Search icon > type in what you want to find

For iPhones:

- Use the Swipe to Search function to search across all apps and data. Go to your home screen > swipe down from the middle of the screen > tap the search field > type in what you want to find

Find E-mails Faster

For Android Phones:

- Find the e-mails you're looking for faster by grouping them under different labels. Go to Gmail website (not the app) > Settings > Labels > Create new label. Once the label is created, then you can label groups and individual e-mails can be filed under each folder from within the app.

For iPhones:

- Find e-mails faster by filtering through specific requirements. Open Mail app > from Inbox (or All inboxes) tap icon in bottom left corner > tap Filtered By

Asurion helps people protect, connect and enjoy the latest tech—to make life a little easier. To learn more, visit www.asurion.com.

FAMILY LIVING

This Pi Day, Make Math Fun for Kids

(StatePoint) Pi Day, is not only an annual opportunity to celebrate math, it's also a day to honor the renowned scientist and mathematician, Albert Einstein, born on March 14.

Here are some great ways your family can make math fun this Pi Day:

- **Visit a math museum:** Take the kids to a hands-on math museum featuring fun interactive exhibits, events, puzzles, games and more that bring math to life.



PHOTO SOURCE: © MIZINA / ISTOCK VIA GETTY IMAGES PLUS

- **Bake a 'pi':** Bake a pi-themed pi. Whether you love cherry, chocolate or lemon meringue, you can honor the day by baking a pie and carving the symbol for pi into your creation. This is also a great opportunity to calculate fractions, angles, percentages and areas!

- **Learn the meaning of pi:** A very special number, pi is the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter, making its value essential for those studying geometry. It's also an "irrational number," meaning its exact value can't be expressed as a fraction. While scientists have calculated trillions of digits of pi, you are likely familiar with the first few—3.14. Use a high-quality

graphing or scientific calculator, such as those from Casio, to study up on several more of pi's digits and practice using its value in equations.

- **Learn more about Einstein:** There are many terrific biographies for all reading levels available, as well as documentaries and biopics that can help your family learn more about the life and work of the legendary Albert Einstein.

Math may sometimes get a reputation for being one of the tougher school subjects, but it can also be a lot of fun. Let this Pi Day be an opportunity to show your kids that math is something to celebrate.

Screen Time: What Research Says and What Parents Can Do

(StatePoint) Screen time is a hot topic for parents and researchers alike. While digital devices are the norm, and children can certainly use them to their benefit, parents can also help children learn healthy digital habits.

Research is still working out the long-term impact of devices on kids. Here's what's known so far, and what you as a parent can do about it.

- **Devices Before Bed = No Sleep:** It's undisputed: when it comes to bedtime, devices are a big no-no. According to Hoag Medical Group, devices are known to emit a specific light wavelength that messes with sleep patterns. Doctors recommend that kids don't use devices for at least one hour before bed.

The fix: At night, stick to the basics. Read to

your children or tell them a bedtime story. When they're old enough to read to themselves, encourage them to stick with the habit of curling up with a good book before light's out.

- **Screen Time Linked to Depression and Anxiety:** According to a study published in JAMA Pediatrics, kids who spend a lot of time in front of screens are at a greater risk for emotional issues and low self-esteem. This is in part because the more time kids are spending in front of screens, the less time they're spending doing healthy activities like socializing or being active. Additionally, certain content can increase anxiety, particularly social media.

The fix: Distract kids with fun, thought-provoking alternatives. Whether it's a trip to the playground, board games or fort-building, putting screens away gives children's imaginations time to flourish.

- **Verbal 'Warnings' Do More Harm Than Good:** Every parent knows the struggle of limiting device use. Handing a tablet over is easy enough, but getting it back? That's when the struggle begins. According to research, giving kids a warning that screen time is coming to an

end increases the chances that kids will fight back and defy their limitation.

The fix: Setting clear limits on tech use is not just important, it's essential. New technology can help you do so much more seamlessly than an idle warning. Think apps that don't lead kids into the next level of a game or give parents control over kids' devices remotely.

One such tool is a parental control app called OurPact. To start, parents sign up for a free account. After pairing their child's devices, they're able to manage them remotely through at-a-touch blocking or automated schedules. It's great for setting bedtime schedules, ensuring devices don't cause homework distractions and for enjoying ping-free family dinners. It works on Wi-Fi and all cellular connections, meaning you can manage access whether you're at the grocery store or at home. To learn more or download, visit OurPact.com.

And of course, open the lines of communication about device use with your kids early on, and keep the dialogue going. Explain why screen time rules are important and set a good example. If you don't want your kid to look at their device in the middle of a conversation, hold yourself to the same rule.



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COMPUTERS AND TECH

LOCAL SPOTLIGHT—TECHNOLOGY

Jason Hylan, Observatory Manager for WFIRST, Inspires His Team to Dream Big

By ELIZABETH M. JARRELL
NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Name: Jason E. Hylan
Title: Wide Field Infrared Surveyor Telescope (WFIRST) Observatory Manager
Formal Job Classification: Aerospace Engineer Project Management
Organization: Code 448, WFIRST, Flight Projects Directorate

What do you do and what is most interesting about your role here at Goddard? How do you help support Goddard's mission?

I recently became the WFIRST observatory manager after working 18 years on the James Webb Space Telescope and two years on a mission concept study called LUVOIR, which is one of four missions proposed as the next big telescope after WFIRST. I am now responsible for three major parts of WFIRST: overseeing development of the spacecraft portion of the telescope, overseeing the acquisition of our launch vehicle, and overseeing the integration of the payload and spacecraft. I manage over 125 people which will, in time, go up to approximately 250.

What is most exciting about WFIRST?

WFIRST is a telescope designed to study dark matter and dark energy to help us understand the evolution of the universe. WFIRST also contains a technology development instrument, which will help us take images of exoplanets. WFIRST is scheduled to launch in the mid-2020s.

For me, the challenge of navigating the complexity of WFIRST and working towards a viable solution is exciting. Much like JWST (the Webb telescope), WFIRST is a flagship mission and represents the pinnacle of our astrophysics missions in terms of scope and scale. The bigger the technical challenge that needs to be solved, the more exciting it is to me.

Also, as with Hubble, we expect the scientific data from WFIRST to rewrite scientific textbooks for decades.

What drew you into becoming an engineer?

As far back as I can remember, I wanted to work for NASA. All my elementary school teachers knew I wanted to be an astronaut. I got a telescope for Christmas one year and loved looking at the Moon, planets and galaxies. When I became too tall to be a pilot, then a prerequisite for becoming an astronaut, I became more interested in how things get put together and work so I was attracted to engineering.

I have a bachelor's and master's in mechanical engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

How did you come to Goddard?

Leaving college, I wanted to work in the aerospace field, but the government was not hiring in the late '90s, nor were many of the supporting contractors. So, I started working for a small company in Pennsylvania that engineered motion control systems. Six months later, an opportunity to join Swales Aerospace presented itself. I took it and started by working on designs for one of the Hubble servicing missions before quickly moving to work on the James Webb Space Telescope. While working on JWST, I joined NASA Goddard and have been here ever since.

As a very young engineer, how did you deal with the stress of having the world's eyes on making something that had never been made before?

I like to believe that I am good at dealing with stress. I remember to keep an even keel. I don't get too high when things go well and I don't go too low when they don't. You will experience a lot of each during your career and in life.

I was very fortunate, and sometimes being lucky is better than being good. I had the great fortune of being paired up with some remarkable senior engineers who mentored me and helped guide me through some of these emotional—and technical—ups and downs.

What did your mentors teach you?

One of the things I have learned is that sometimes we have to know when to stop trying to be perfect. We all want to be perfect, and this is a noble goal, but we have to know when we have achieved the goal and it is time to move on to the next challenge.

One of the interesting challenges at NASA is that we have limited resources and limited budgets often to do things that have never been done before. We battle a perception that the things we do sometimes take too long. We always need to be diligent in knowing when we have met our goals. Many of us are perfectionists and sometimes have a hard time recognizing when we are finished. This is a learned skill. I push my people very hard. I always ask, "Have we met what we are required to do and done our best?" If so, then it is time to move on to the next task.



PHOTOGRAPH CREDITS: NASA/T. MICKAL
Jason Hylan

What are your secrets to managing a large group of people?

I try to create a work environment that sets up people to succeed. We have a tremendous amount of gifted, talented people here.

No two teams are the same. Each is made up of unique individuals. I have to assess and understand everyone's strengths and weaknesses and then put them in positions tailored to their strengths. When individuals succeed, that enables the teams to succeed. Also, once people are put in the right position, I let them do their work without micromanaging.

As a manager of a large team on a project that will last for a number of years, there is a certain amount of continuity that has to exist. I have to create an environment where people can step in for one another. There is a balance between working as individuals and working as a team.

It is my responsibility to keep my eye and vision on the big picture because almost everybody else is working on details. I have to make sure the others see the big picture too from time to time. A manager needs to be able to see both.

Over the past 20 or so years you have worked at Goddard, what days stand out most to you?

Three days stand out, two on JWST and one on the mission concept study. I have not been with WFIRST long enough yet but I'm looking forward to standout moments there as well.

The first day that stands out for me was on JWST. It was the day we integrated the fourth and final instrument to the science module. I had been on the design team for the module and I was a lead engineer for developing the plans to put all the instruments onto the module. Those operations went about as smoothly as we could have hoped. When the final instrument went on, I stepped back in the clean room and was just truly amazed at what our team had just accomplished. Everyone was excitedly chattering but that all faded into the background as I was staring at the suite of instruments on the module.

The second day that stands out to me occurred about a week before we shipped the next portion of JWST that I had worked on, the integration of the telescope and instrument payload. At the time, I was the deputy integration and test manager responsible for all of the operations involved in this integration effort. On that particular day, everything our team was responsible for integrating was completed. The telescope had not yet been configured for shipping, so the primary mirror was deployed in all of its glory. Again, I had the opportunity to step back and admire the amazing accomplishment of many great teams coming together to achieve a singular, fantastic goal. It's the type of moment that assures me that all of the hard work that everyone on the team put in, all of the sacrifices they made, paid off.

The third big day was when the LUVOIR mission concept team delivered our final report, with our concept for the next large telescope mission, to NASA Headquarters for delivery to the National Academy of Sciences. Our study is one of four that NASA funded and that the academies will study to determine what the next astrophysics flagship mission for NASA will be after WFIRST. Regardless of whether the academies prioritize our specific mission concept or not, being a part of one of the teams working to set the direction of the next astrophysics flagship mission has been incredibly rewarding. That day was the culmination of a tremendous amount of work by an extraordinary group of people and I consider myself extremely fortunate for having the opportunity to work with all of them.

How important is teamwork?

Teamwork is of the utmost importance to mission success. All the great things I have talked about here would not have been possible if I had not been fortunate enough to have worked with such talented people throughout my career. Each person brings unique talents. One of the things I have picked up here is that you should always learn what you can from others. Everyone has

something to offer. People are what make Goddard so special and so successful.

Is there something surprising about you that people do not generally know?

I compose instrumental music suitable for an orchestra. I would call this modern in style. I play the piano and an electric synthesizer. I wrote all the music for my wedding ceremony. At one time, I even sold my compositions online.

What are the similarities between being a manager of many and conducting an orchestra?

While I have never actually conducted an orchestra, I think of managing large operations to be similar to conducting an orchestra. It is my responsibility to keep these very talented people working in time with each other while playing different instruments. Everyone has a different job, a different instrument, but we all have to work together for a common goal and to produce a common product. The project team needs to work in unison for the product to be developed and delivered right just like the musicians of an orchestra need to work in unison for the music to sound right.

What is your "six-word memoir"? A six-word memoir describes something in just six words.

Always dreaming ... always striving to inspire ...

—Feb. 4, 2020



PHOTOGRAPH CREDITS: COURTESY OF J. HYLAN

Hylan standing in front of JWST in the cleanroom at Goddard.

Md. Cybersecurity Bill Would Create Defense Plan For Local Agencies

By WESLEY BROWN
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Feb. 4, 2020)—A new Maryland bill would ask the state's Department of Information Technology to develop a baseline plan for localities within the state to help battle cyber attacks.

Senate bill 120, introduced by Sen. Susan Lee, D-Montgomery,

would give the Maryland Department of Information Technology the expanded responsibility of developing a cybersecurity strategy and helping agencies within the state implement it at their discretion.

Under current law, the Department of Information Technology oversees the defense of state systems, but not that of counties, school districts and

other similar entities. Having a sample plan in place could be beneficial in preventing future attacks that disrupted the likes of the city of Baltimore and Salisbury Police Department recently and cost millions in repairs.

The legislation does not mandate significant increases in expenditures by the state or local governments, but rather leaves

it up to each entity to potentially implement the plan, according to Lee.

This Maryland bill follows a 2019 North Dakota law that added the same provisions and power to its state Information Technology department.

The main point of this bill is to simply draw up guidance and advice for those around the state to be able to help prepare themselves brace for potential attacks, Lee told Capital News Service.

During a Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Af-

fairs Committee hearing on Jan. 14, Lee compared this plan to having a fire extinguisher for protection and to prevent a possibly worse situation.

"Today we have to prepare for and respond to digital fires ... upfront rather than scrambling on the back end," Lee said during the hearing.

Senate committee members responded favorably toward the bill, but looked to generate tighter language to define the tasks this bill sets forward.

Delegate Ned Carey, D-Anne

Arundel, has cross-filed this bill in the House—along with three co-sponsors—and said he believes it should receive bipartisan support due to the well-known threat that professional hackers pose.

"The bill is intended to help," Carey said. "We're going to work hard to make sure this bill succeeds."

Carey's legislation, House bill 235, was heard by the Health and Government Operations Committee on Tuesday (Feb. 4) afternoon.

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Strong Schools Maryland Praises Bill Containing Kirwan Recommendations

Bill Released Feb. 7 Will Lift Up
Maryland Students, Parents and Teachers,
"Surest Investment in Maryland's Future"

By PRESS OFFICER
Strong Schools Maryland

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Feb. 7, 2020)—Strong Schools Maryland, a grassroots organization made up of students, parents, educators and families praised the bill containing the Kirwan recommendations, which was introduced by lawmakers today. House Bill 1300 / Senate Bill 1000 is the culminating result of the Kirwan Commission's three-year effort to devise solutions for a world-class education system in Maryland, including strengthening accountability, expanding vocational career options for students, increasing teacher pay, and eliminating school funding inequities, particularly for those who are disproportionately affected by policies because of race, poverty, language and disability.

"For too long, Maryland has failed too many students, parents, educators, and families by failing to properly invest in our public schools. Our system continues to fall behind our others in the United States and worldwide. Today that starts to change," said Joe Francaviglia, Executive Director of Strong Schools Maryland. "We are pleased that HB1300/SB1000 adopts the Kirwan recommendations in full, and we look forward to working with the committees to make sure we fully fund the entire program. The future of a generation hangs in the balance; we must pass and fund these recommendations without delay."

The Kirwan Commission was formed in response to an urgent need to serve Maryland students who are falling behind. Fewer than 40% of Maryland high school students who graduate are career and college ready. In addition to correcting inequity in our funding system and creating more vocational and technical training options for students, the bill would expand early childhood education and increase pay for teachers, 50% of whom currently work a second job just to pay the bills.

"There is no question about it: this bill will ensure a bright future for Maryland and its children," said Dr. Brit Kirwan, who led the Kirwan Commission that produced the recommendations. "The well being of our young people has been at the heart of this effort from day one, and they are our surest investment in Maryland's future. It's time to do right by them and get this bill passed."

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