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Prince George's Community College to Celebrate Graduates at 63rd Commencement Ceremony on May 26

By COURTNEY DAVIS
Prince George's Community College

LARGO, Md. (May 18, 2022)—Prince George's Community College will hold its 63rd Commencement exercises on May 26 at 6:30 p.m. More than 1,670 students are candidates for graduation at the ceremony, which will be held at the Show Place Arena and Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

The event will be broadcast live on the College's YouTube channel. It will

also be available for viewing within Prince George's County on PGCC-TV, which can be found on Verizon FiOS on Channel 44 and Xfinity on Channels 75 and 995 (HD).

"This is an exciting time for Prince George's Community College as we prepare to celebrate our graduates during our first in-person Commencement ceremony in two years," said Falecia D. Williams, Ed.D., Prince George's Community College president. "Our students are courageous. They have faced uncer-

tainty with determination in an admirable way, and we have every hope in their continued success wherever their path may lead."

Maryland State Sen. Melony G. Griffith will be the keynote speaker for the 2022 Commencement ceremony. She is president pro tempore for the Senate and the first Black woman to hold that position. Sen. Griffith is also the chair of the

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PGCMLS and the Washington Nationals Present Summer Prince George's

Enjoy a summer of reading and events to earn free Nationals tickets

By SILVANA QUIROZ
PGCMLS

LARGO, Md. (May 16, 2022)—The Prince George's Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) and Washington Nationals are teaming up to celebrate summer in Prince George's County for the third consecutive year. This year's initiative, Summer Prince George's, invites

Prince Georgians of all ages to connect with their community by reading, attending library or partner events (in-person or virtually), visiting branch libraries, and engaging with library resources. Between May 16 and August 19, library customers may register for Summer

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Walden University Builds and Donates Mini Community Library to Local Elementary School

By PRESS OFFICER
Walden University

FORT WASHINGTON, Md. (May 17, 2022)—Walden University continued its Mobilize for Good initiative by donating a new Walden Community Library at local Rose Valley Elementary School. The free Little Library offers books focused on diversity, equity and inclusion, and promotes authors and literary characters from diverse backgrounds.

Launched on International Literacy Day 2021, Walden committed to building 10 mini community libraries across the

United States, with the first three located at Beechfield Elementary Middle School in Baltimore, the Grady Burn Treatment and Care Center Unit in Atlanta, and the Oxford Home for Children in Oxford, North Carolina.

To support the mini community library at Rose Valley Elementary, Walden's Alumni Association also donated \$1,000, which went towards nearly 90 books. These uplifting books include, "My Hair is Magic," "Uniquely Wired: A Story About Autism and Its Gifts," and "All Because You Matter," among others.

"Walden University's Alumni Association is proud to donate books and this community library as we know they will assist in the development of a child's vocabulary, self-ex-

See MINI LIBRARY Page A3

Rose Valley Elementary School students and staff, including Walden alumnus and Principal Sharon Porter, attend the unveiling of their new mini community library, built and donated by Walden University.

PHOTO COURTESY
WALDEN UNIVERSITY



Basketball's Mo Creek Was Ensnared in Ukraine War, Then Helped by a Man He Barely Knew

By ASHKAN MOTAMED I
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON—Maurice "Mo" Creek one day was a professional basketball player playing in Ukraine.

The next day, he was a civilian in the middle of a war zone.

It was Feb. 24, the day Russia invaded Ukraine. Creek was trapped in the city of Mykolaiv trying to figure out a way to get back home to the United States.

"I didn't think I would be a part of a war," Creek said in an interview with Capital News Service. "Never in a million years did I think me going overseas to play basketball, I would be stuck in a war with people that are fighting for their lives."

Creek, whose hometown is Oxon Hill, Maryland, played college basketball at Indiana from 2009 to 2013, missing one year due to injury before transferring to The George Washington University in the nation's capital. In his one season there, he was a Third

Team All-Atlantic 10 selection, led the Colonials in points per game and helped propel them to the NCAA Tournament.

He then went overseas starting in 2014 to play professional basketball. His journey took him to teams in the Netherlands, Denmark, Germany, Finland, Israel, Romania and two different stints in Ukraine.

Creek returned to Ukraine for a third time in January to play for MBC Mykolaiv. At the time, the threat of a Russian invasion of Ukraine hovered over daily life, even though many Ukrainians dismissed the possibility of a war.

Creek's team, too, downplayed the threat, knowing there had been previous threats of Russian invasions and nothing had happened beyond the conflict raging since 2014 in the Donbas region of eastern Ukraine.

"We had meetings about the situation...and the owner, the coaches, were just basically saying everything's gonna be okay," Creek recalled.

"Even though you hear about the speculations of war, you just didn't think it would even actually happen because it didn't happen in the prior years," he said.

Some of Creek's teammates began to flee the country and Creek himself wanted to leave as well.

But things were complicated. MBC Mykolaiv had not paid

Creek the money he needed to leave and he did not yet have his letter of clearance signed to go play for Qatar in Qatar that his agent had helped him get.

By the time all that was cleared up and Creek was finally ready to leave for Qatar, it was too late: the war had begun.

Mykolaiv, being near the Black Sea, was one of the first cities targeted by the Russians. Creek was stuck trying to figure a way out of Ukraine as martial law was imposed.

Creek found himself escaping from time to time to a bomb shelter when the air-raid sirens blared. In the shelter, he was without phone service and, cut off from the outside world, wondering if he was going to get out of Ukraine.

"When I went in the bomb shelter, I didn't know if I was getting home or not," Creek said. "I thought I was gonna be stuck in Ukraine for a good little bit until the war was over with."

But Creek had someone watching over him from the United States: retired Army Lt. Colonel Erik Nordberg.

Creek said he had met Nordberg just once for only a few minutes at a clinic last summer involving the team Sideline Cancer, a team that plays under the auspices of the Griffith Family Foundation to promote pancreatic cancer research.

Nordberg told CNS he checked in on Creek's situation a lot leading up to the Russian invasion.

The day after the opening of the war, Nordberg had come home late from a basketball game and was sitting in his bed when he told himself he had to help Creek.

"If I don't do something, if I don't put something together to get this guy out, he might not ever get out," Nordberg said. "I only met (Creek) for a couple of minutes but he was somebody that was important (and) I could do something to save this guy's life. And I was going to do it."

So Nordberg went to work from his office in his Fairfield, Pennsylvania, home with plans to get Creek out of Ukraine.

Nordberg communicated with Creek through the app Signal, giving updates and other important information.

Nordberg's first plan involved arranging for a car to pick up Creek and take him to the Ukraine-Moldova border.

But the driver never showed.

Nordberg tried to get a driver from Odesa to meet Creek in Mykolaiv. But that driver couldn't get out of Odesa.

Next, Nordberg told Creek he should cross a bridge to rendezvous with a ride to neighboring

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Maryland to Become 8th State to Expand Move Over Law to Motorists on the Side of the Road
The law becomes effective on October 1, 2022.

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Hospice of the Chesapeake News

Wolf Trap Awards Seven Grants to Washington, Dc Metro Area High Schools

PGCPS students will perform a virtual piece about their experiences during the pandemic.

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Woodlands at Reid Temple Senior Housing Community Wins Maryland Construction Excellence Award

Leading Local Nonprofit Selects Baltimore City Public Defender as New Executive Director
Business and Finance, Page A5

For Clean Air and a Clean Chesapeake, Electrify Your Lawn Care

...in a heavy rainstorm, much of the water that falls on a lawn rushes quickly into storm drains and out into local streams, often taking fertilizer and pesticides along with it.

Environment, Page A6

TOWNS *and* NEIGHBORS

In & Around Morningside-Skyline by Mary McHale 301-735-3451

Memorial for Connie Madden, St. Philip's teacher who died of COVID

Mrs. Madden (as the children knew her), a teacher's aide in 1st grade and my library assistant at St. Philip the Apostle School, died of COVID-19 back in 2020 when the virus was new. In celebration of the life of this much-beloved teacher, a Memorial Dedication Ceremony was held on the school grounds April 27—two years to the day she died. A Memorial Plaque, blessed by Fr. Patrick Lewis, was planted in front of St. Philip's statue.

Connie grew up in SE Washington, daughter of Annie Mae and Matthew Fuller, and graduated from Margaret Murray Washington Vocational High School. She married William "Bill" Madden, who died in 2012, and had two children, Autumn and Ian.

When they were enrolled at St. Philip's, Connie began volunteering daily in the school library where I was librarian for almost 40 years. After Autumn and Ian went on to high school, Connie became a classroom aide, a job she held the rest of her life. Among other responsibilities, she helped the children with their reading and how to use the computer. Mrs. Madden loved the children and they loved Mrs. Madden.

St. Philip's was Connie's parish. She was a Eucharistic minister, particularly at the children's Masses.

In the spring of 2020, Connie's mother Annie developed a fever and cough. She was hospitalized with COVID-19 and died April 24. Connie, a dialysis patient, contracted the virus and died three days later. She was 64. The Washington Post did a major story on them.

The Memorial Service began with a special Mass, followed by a procession to the statue of St. Philip in front of the school. Ms. Deanna Johnson, principal, paid tribute to Connie; reflections were by Sean Weekes, Kyndall King and Mrs. Velvet Marshall. Fr. Patrick Lewis, Pastor of St. Philip's, offered a Dedication Prayer and there were choral selections by St. Philip's Memorial Choir. A reception followed in the school Social Hall.

Among those in attendance were Connie's aunts, Ophelia Boyd and Cynthia Green, and her cousin, Michele Boyd. I appreciated talking with them about Connie.

By the way, Connie had met two fa-

mous people: Years ago, she met Queen Elizabeth II who walked past her home. (The street is now known as Queen's Stroll.) And she met Mother Teresa on the steps of St. Dominic's Church in SW Washington.

Neighbors & other good people

Congratulations to Ben and Debbie Rose who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 6.

I've just returned from a sweet trip to my hometown, Saginaw, Mich. Daughter Therese came from Brownsville, Texas, and shared the driving with her son Michael who currently lives in Maryland. I enjoyed being with my siblings, brother Tom who lives with his wife Evelyn in the Mudd Family home, sisters Rosie and Stella and her husband George. As you know, it's always special to go home!

Multicultural Festival at Show Place Arena

The 2022 Multicultural Festival, showcasing Diversity & Building One County, is coming up Saturday, July 11, noon to 6 p.m. at The Show Place Arena (Equestrian Center) at 14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro. "Come and enjoy food, music, cultural performances, kids' corner, vendors and more!" Info, 240-508-1394 or cosuji@co.pg.md.us.

Changing landscape

The Chesapeake Bay Bridge area is being considered for a new span that would relieve traffic congestion for weekend beachgoers and Eastern Shore.

The legal age to marry in Maryland will rise to 17 under a bill signed into law on April 21. Over the years Maryland had become a destination for out-of-state child weddings.

A home at 6012 Ladd Road, in Skyline, recently sold for \$369,000.

Andy's COVID-19 report

Andy Sheldon writes, in Nextdoor Morningside, "Kudos to PGC Residents for continuing to wear masks. I work in No. Virginia and very few people there wear a mask (I estimate less than 5%). When I come back to PGC, most people in most stores are wearing a mask (even though the signs requiring them are mostly gone). It tells me that PG residents care about their fellow residents

and are willing to tolerate the inconvenience to help get rid of this virus."

I thank you, Andy, for writing. And by the way, I still wear a mask.

Reynaldo Lee-Llacer, President of Philippine Surgeons in America

Reynaldo Labitag Lee-Llacer, 88, a surgeon with a practice in Clinton for more than 50 years, died April 8 at his home in Stevensville.

A native of San Fernando, Philippines, he attended the University of Santo Tomas in Manila, participated in ROTC and earned his medical degree in 1958. After a three-year tour on his home island of Ticao, managing a typhoid epidemic and cholera outbreak, in 1962 he left for the U.S.

He completed an internship and surgical residency at Prince George's General Hospital, completed a fellowship in shock-trauma at the University of Maryland Hospital in Baltimore and practiced for two years as House Surgeon in Fairfax Hospital, before opening a practice in Clinton.

Dr. Lee-Llacer was elected Maryland delegate to the American Medical Association for 16 years, was president of the Maryland State Medical Society and president of the Society of Philippine Surgeons in America, among other leadership roles.

His love for medicine and care for his patients was only eclipsed by "his adoration and love" for his wife of 60 years, Zorayda, four children, and eight grandchildren. Funeral Mass was celebrated by Msgr. Mariano Balbago at St. Christopher's Church, Chester, Md.

Felicia Hilleary, Red Cross volunteer at Andrews

Felicia Eleanore Hilleary, 90, Legislative Aide in the U.S. House of Representatives for many years, died at home in Lothian on April 1.

She was born in Chicago, daughter of Anthony and Julia Zebrowski. She married Don Thomas Hilleary in 1953 and was the mother of two daughters, Julia and Gwenmarie.

In addition to her position at the House, she bred horses for Harness Racing and was a longtime volunteer for the

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Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Ushers of Asbury UMC will be celebrating their 73rd Anniversary on Sunday, June 12, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. They cordially invite you to come out and help them to celebrate this joyous occasion by praising God through songs and music. Rev. Gladman Kapfumvuti, pastor of Asbury United Methodist Church will be the speaker for the morning service. Thanking you so very much. Sister Edna Hill, Usher President.

BSU OFFICE OF ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

The Office of Alumni Engagement extends a huge Congratulations to fellow Bulldog Myles Frost for being nominated for a Tony Award for his portrayal of Michael Jackson in "MJ: The Musical" on Broadway. The 75th Tony Awards ceremony will take place on Sunday, June 12 at Radio City Music Hall and will broadcast live on CBS. #GiveMylesTheTony#BSU4Life1#Bowie BOLD.

UMES HONORS CONVOCATION

Christian Ferguson of Lanham, Maryland who is a senior at University of Maryland Eastern Shore was double-winner at the honors convocation, which he first attended when he was a freshman and before the pandemic disrupted the past two in-person ceremonies. The English major was named his department's top student and the Award of Excellence winner for the School of Education, Social Sciences, and the Arts.

"I remember thinking at that first convocation it would be nice to be called up on that stage," Ferguson said. "But to be honest, this is a total surprise. It is great to have such an honor." Information received from UMES THE KEY, a newsletter for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends.

MID-ATLANTIC CIVIC FELLOWS

Krystal Ibeawuchi, a dean's list student and junior class president, will represent the University of Maryland Eastern Shore as an inaugural member of the Mid-Atlantic Civic Fellowship program for the 2022-23 academic year.

A biology major hoping to pursue a career in medicine, Ibeawuchi is among thirteen undergraduates from Maryland, the District of Columbia and Delaware selected for their academic credentials as well as emerging leadership skills.

"I'm really honored to be chosen to represent UMES," Ibeawuchi said. "I am hoping I can learn some things that I will be able to share with others

Beginning with an orientation this month, Campus Compact Mid-Atlantic, the program organizer, will "offer students, high impact opportunities to develop their leadership skills and understanding of civic and community engagement so they may

better serve as leaders in their communities and collectively create solutions to our region's most urgent problems."

This fellowship is a key avenue to develop student-leaders who are engaged global citizen's, actively contributing to the creation of equitable, healthy, sustainable, and socially-just communities," the organization said in a press release announcing the honorees.

Ibeawuchi calls Lanham, Maryland home but as a child lived in England, where she experienced a different approach to education she believes "molded the foundation of my (approach to) leadership."

In addition to being an elected student leader, Ibeawuchi has been active in the Hollerin Hawks school-spirit group and "the illustrious organization Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc."

"By being a part of these organizations," she wrote in an essay, "I've found myself, and it has molded me into the person I am today, such as giving back to the community, volunteering for food distribution centers, and collaborating with different organizations within the campus community."

Since arriving at UMES, Ibeawuchi has also nurtured a talent for helping peers in how to apply cosmetics for important social events.

"It's just something I like to do, and people seem happy with," Ibeawuchi said. Ibeawuchi was flattered to be nominated by Latoya Jenkins, UMES' Vice President of enrollment management and student experience, and "I hope to gain knowledge, meet others, build networks and bring back ideas to UMES."

Program organizers project they will hold one-in-person gathering and at least six virtual meetings, "including site visits, trainings, and workshops with regional and national experts focused on leadership development and advancing equity through civic and community engagement in the Mid-Atlantic region" including such topics as:

Transformational Community-based Leadership, Grassroots Strategies for Developing Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, Global Citizenship and Cross-Cultural Competencies, Service and Community Engagement in the Corporate Sector, Advancing Equity and Social Change through Advocacy and Public Policy, Systemic Change through Collective Impact.

After graduating a year from now, Ibeawuchi is looking to go to graduate school to become a physician's assistant "because I have the desire to help people and have the potential to impact human life positively." Information received from UMES THE KEY (A newsletter for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends April 2022).

Around the County

Former PG County Bomb Squad Commander Nominated as Deputy State Fire Marshal of the Year

STATEWIDE (May 16, 2022)—Senior Deputy State Fire Marshal Dale Ednock has been selected as the Bomb Squad nominee for Deputy State Fire Marshal of the Year. He will join other investigators chosen throughout the state for the 2021 James C. Robertson Deputy State Fire Marshal of the Year Award during the Maryland State Fireman's Convention in Ocean City this June.

Senior Deputy Ednock began his public safety career in 1990 as a firefighter with Prince George's County Fire Department, where he pursued training and certification as a bomb technician, police officer, fire investigator, and K-9 handler. After 23-years, he retired as Commander of the Prince George's County Office of the Fire Marshal Bomb Squad. He was hired by the Office of the State Fire Marshal in January of 2014. As a previous supervisor, Senior Deputy Ednock brought both experience and leadership where he supervised (4) Lieutenants, (8) bomb technicians as well as their Explosive Detection Canine Teams. During his career with PG County, he operated one of the bomb mitigation robots, which disarmed the bomber at the Discovery Channel headquarters in Silver Spring in 2010. Senior Deputy Ednock has continuously pursued training opportunities, gaining certifications as a Tactical Bomb Technician, Underwater Hazardous Device Technician as well as UAS drone operator.

"Senior Deputy Ednock volunteers for assignments and agrees to change his schedule with little notice and is willing to handle special assignments as assigned. His attitude is professional, and he provides great detail during these events. Senior Deputy Ednock embraces the opportunity to educate the public about what we do. His flexibility and ability to get the job done clearly exhibit exceptional performance." stated Deputy Chief Duane K. Svites, Bomb Squad Commander.

—The Office of the State Fire Marshal

Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County Announces Bermuda Grass Upgrade at Enterprise Golf Course

RIVERDALE, Md. (May 17, 2022)—The M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation in Prince George's County is proud to announce its upcoming renovation to Enterprise Golf Course in Mitchellville, MD. From Memorial Day weekend to the end of July, the course will undergo an extensive upgrade to continue the Department's commitment to improve playing conditions.

Growing Bermuda Grass and ensuring proper soil adhesion is necessary during the hottest months to enable the grass to spread and grow quickly. Benefits of the renovation include:

- More sustainable, environmentally friendly golf turf
- Less pesticide and fertilizer applications
- Latest and greatest golfing turf in the Mid-Atlantic region
- Improved course conditions and playing surface during peak times
- Fewer resources such as water, gas, electricity needed to maintain the course

Enterprise Golf Course and all short game practice facilities will be closed for renovation starting Friday, May 27. However, the driving range and golf shop will be open every day during renovation from 9 a.m.–7 p.m. The tentative Grand Reopening for the course is Saturday, July 30. For more information and updates, visit <https://pgparks.com/5197/Course-Renovation-Updates>.

Bowie State University Athletics: Football and Women's Bowling Honored by Prince George's County With Proclamations

BOWIE, Md. (May 17, 2022)—The Prince George's County Council issued a proclamation Tuesday morning honoring the Bowie State football and women's bowling team's program success, including the 2021 and 2022 Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) Championship at the Wayne K. Curry Administration Building.

The Bulldogs women's bowling team captured its sixth-straight CIAA championship; the program's 10th overall marking the most championships won by a program in conference history while the Bulldogs football team secured its third-straight CIAA title.

"What can I say I have beauty and brains because these young ladies have excelled in everything that has been expected of them within the classroom and in competition," head women's bowling coach Andrew Campbell said. "Truly honored to stand with the football team and other groups that have won championships this season."

Additionally, head football coach Damon Wilson was named the 2021 CIAA Coach of the Year, the AFCA Super Region Two Coach of the Year and the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) DII National Coach of the Year, becoming the first CIAA coach to win the prestigious award after leading the Bowie State Bulldogs to the program's first ever NCAA Football Quarterfinals appearance.

"Thank you for this honor and inviting our student-athletes here to experience this, this is amazing," said Wilson. "I want to thank my assistant coaches because without them, none of the accolades that were mentioned would be possible. I am extremely grateful for this opportunity and thankful to be the head coach at Bowie State University."

Prince George's County officially recognized Wilson's and both the football and women's bowling programs success with proclamations.

For the most up-to-date information on Bowie State University Athletics and its 13 varsity sports teams, please visit www.bsbulldogs.com.

—Jolisa Williams, Bowie State University

Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County, Announces Historical Film Drama "The Bell Affair" at Publick Playhouse

RIVERDALE, Md. (May 19, 2022)—The Department of Parks and Recreation in Prince George's County, part of The M-NCPPC, is proud to announce the Premiere of The Bell Affair at The Publick Playhouse. An animated documentary, the historical film drama tells the true story about the legal fight for freedom from enslavement by the Bell family. It will premiere on Thursday, June 2, 2022, at 7 p.m. at The Publick Playhouse, 5445 Landover Rd, Cheverly, MD 20784.

The Bell Family was enslaved in Prince George's County and Washington,

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COMMUNITY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Community in the Courthouse

Date and time: May 31, 2022, 6–7:30 p.m.
 Description: Join State's Attorney Aisha N. Braveboy along with area law enforcement and mental health professionals for an informative dialogue on the intersection between mental health and the criminal justice system. Moderated by Tracee Wilkins, News4 Prince George's County Bureau Chief.
 Location: This will be a virtual event via Zoom and streamed live on Facebook. If you would like to attend, visit <https://tinyurl.com/CICMay2022>.
 Contact: commaffairs@co.pg.md.us

Save the Date!!

InnovateBowie! 2022 Bowie BIC 10 Year Celebration

Date and time: Wednesday, June 8, 2022, 4–8 p.m.
 Description: Featuring Sports, Arts & Entertainment Innovation
 Location: 15901 Fred Robinson Way, Bowie, MD 20716

Save the Date!! Health Fair Festival

Date and time: Saturday, June 11, 2022, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
 Description: The Millennium-Seat Pleasant Club, National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. is sponsoring. Alzheimer specialists, Covid-19 shots, boosters and take home kits, free food, snacks and music. Free!
 Location: Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, 608 N. Horners Lane, Rockville, MD 20850

Blood Drive: EDNA'S Love at The Hotel, University of Maryland

Date and time: Tuesday, June 14, 2022, 12–6 p.m.
 Description: To support the urgent need for blood in the Black community and as part of its commitment serving others, The Hotel at the University of Maryland will host a blood drive in partnership with EDNA's Love on Tuesday, June 14, 2022, from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Members from the public are encouraged to come out and donate blood that will ultimately save many lives. Those interested in donating should register online at: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive> and search by sponsor code "EDNASLOVE" or call 1-800-REDCROSS to make a lifesaving donation.
 Location: Terrapin Ballroom, The Hotel at the University of Maryland, 7777 Baltimore Ave., College Park, MD 20740
 Contact: 1-866-236-3276

Juneteenth Freedom Day Celebration

Date and time: Sunday, June 19, 2022, 2 p.m.
 Description: The Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council partners with National Harbor for a day of education, reflection, and celebration of Juneteenth. Performances from the Prince George's County Poet Laureate and Youth Poet Laureate, SOLE Defined, a Black-owned dance company, live music from DuPont Brass, and more!
 Location: Plaza Stage, National Harbor

Maryland to Become 8th State to Expand Move Over Law to Motorists on the Side of the Road

AAA Applauds Governor and Lawmakers For Passing Critical Life-Saving Measure

By PRESS OFFICER
 AAA

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (May 16, 2022)— Among the dozens of bills that Maryland Governor Larry Hogan sign[ed] into law May 16, Senate Bill (SB) 147 - Motor Vehicles – Operation When Approaching Stopped, Standing, or Parked Vehicles, which was sponsored by Senator Jeff Waldstreicher (D, District 18, Montgomery County), is near and dear to AAA.

The law requires drivers approaching a stopped, standing or parked vehicle displaying hazard warning lights, road flares or other caution signals, from the rear to make a lane change into an available lane, not immediately adjacent to the vehicle, or to slow to a reasonable and prudent speed that is safe. Current state law applies to emergency vehicles, tow trucks, and service vehicles. However, passage of SB 147 expands the state's Slow Down, Move Over law, to cover all vehicles displaying hazard lights on the side of the road.

This was AAA Mid-Atlantic's primary legislative priority this year and the auto club is commending Maryland legislators for passing the legislation.

"We applaud the Maryland General Assembly for passing this critical piece of legislation to protect motorists at the roadside and are grateful to Governor Hogan for signing the measure into law," said Ragina Cooper Ali, Public and Government Affairs Manager for AAA Mid-Atlantic in Maryland and Washington, D.C. "We are also especially grateful to Senator Waldstreicher and Delegate Healey for their leadership in sponsoring this measure."

While every state has some form of Move Over law, passage of SB 147 makes Maryland one of only eight states with a provision to protect motorists. Arizona, Connecticut, Illinois, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee currently include

vehicles on the roadside in their Move Over laws.

Being on the side of the road is dangerous for everyone, even those who the law is already intended to protect are not exempt from the perils on the road.

"I was honored to sponsor this life-saving measure on behalf of AAA Mid-Atlantic and Maryland motorists," said Senator Jeff Waldstreicher. "Tragically, the number of incidents where disabled motorists are injured or killed on the side of the road, or when first responders are struck while serving others, continues to increase."

Sadly, several motorists tending to disabled vehicles have been killed on the side of the road here, in Maryland. Kennedy Sookal, of Reisterstown, and Stuart Johnson, of Baltimore, were both killed in separate incidents in 2019, as they tried to change a tire on the side of the road.

Being on the side of the road is dangerous for everyone, even those who the law is already intended to protect are not exempt from the perils on the road.

Just a few months ago, AAA contractor, Muhammad Shehzad, was killed on the side of the road in Howard County, after changing the tire of a AAA member.

"Adding motorists who are stopped, standing or parked on the side of the road with emergency flashers to the law is the next logical step in expanding the Slow Down Move Over law. It will provide drivers, as well as emergency personnel, who may be aiding them with additional protections when they are on the side of the road," Ali said.

In a report from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), "Using federal crash statistics, transportation data analysis

firm Impact Research estimated that 566 people were killed and 14,371 injured each year over 2016–18 in crashes on all types of roads involving a disabled vehicle in which visibility was likely a factor. The annual societal cost of those crashes totaled around \$8.8 billion in medical payments, lost wages, and the less easily quantified costs of death or disability."

Despite every state in the country having some form of Move Over law, motorists routinely indicate that they are either unaware of state laws that require them to slow down and/or move over for emergency vehicles or that they are uncertain which groups or types of vehicles apply. SB 147 simplifies the law, reducing confusion, so that caution must be extended to anyone with flashing lights in a stationary vehicle on the roadside.

The Maryland Department of Transportation and the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) also were proponents of the law. Maryland Transportation Authority Police Chief Kevin Anderson, who is also Chair of the MCPA's Traffic Safety Committee said, "The expansion of the Move Over law will help save lives on Maryland highways and is another step in moving us toward Zero Deaths."

In AAA Mid-Atlantic's recent poll of Maryland drivers, 84% of those surveyed indicated they would support Move Over laws to cover motorists with disabled vehicles.

AAA has been instrumental in the passage of Move Over laws across the country, and here in Maryland, to protect first responders, law enforcement officers, tow truck operators and service vehicle drivers. "We are beyond pleased to see those same protections extended to motorists stopped on the side of the road or with disabled vehicles to prevent fatalities on our roadways," Ali added.

The law becomes effective on October 1, 2022.

Mini Library from A1

pression, and reading comprehension," says Ulysses Wilcox, Walden Alumni Ambassador Program Manager. "It's paramount that literacy is introduced and reinforced at the early childhood stage, and we couldn't be more excited to work with a Walden graduate in Dr. Porter in helping to affect positive social change locally and around the world."

More than 617 million children and adolescents worldwide are not achieving minimum proficiency levels in reading and mathematics. In the U.S. alone, 25 million children cannot read proficiently.

"At the beginning of this year, we started asking for book donations from the community, so it means the world to have Walden's Little Library support our efforts," says Dr. Sharon H. Porter, principal of Rose Valley Elementary and Walden EdS in Educational Administration and Leadership graduate. "I am so grateful for Walden University choosing Rose Valley to do this. Through their donation of books, our students will have the opportunity to not only have books at school, but to physically take them home."

According to the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES), 43 million U.S. adults possess low literacy skills. Literacy is linked to better health, higher levels of civic engagement and higher wages. The nation could be losing up to \$2.2 trillion annually due to low adult literacy rates, according to a study released by the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy and Gallup.

To learn more about Walden Community Libraries, please visit WaldenU.edu/community-libraries.

More than 50 years ago, Walden University was founded to support adult learners in achieving their academic goals and making a greater impact in their professions and communities. Students from across the U.S. and more than 115 countries are pursuing a certificate, bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree online at Walden. The university offers more than 100 online degree and certificate programs. Walden University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission, hlcommission.org. For more information, please visit WaldenU.edu.

Adtalem Global Education (NYSE: ATGE) is a leading healthcare educator and provider of professional talent to the healthcare industry. With a dedicated focus on driving strong outcomes that increase workforce preparedness, Adtalem empowers a diverse learner population to achieve their goals and make inspiring contributions to their communities. Adtalem is the parent organization of American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine, Chamberlain University, Ross University School of Medicine, Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine and Walden University. Adtalem and its institutions have more than 10,000 employees and a network of more than 275,000 alumni. Adtalem was named one of America's Most Responsible Companies 2021 by Newsweek, and one of America's Best Employers for Diversity 2021 by Forbes. Follow Adtalem on Twitter @adtalemglobal, LinkedIn or visit Adtalem.com for more information.



PHOTO COURTESY WALDEN UNIVERSITY

Dr. Sharon H. Porter, Walden alumna and Rose Valley Elementary principal, is thrilled to receive Walden University's mini community library donation, which will help expand access to literature for her students.

Summer from A1

Prince George's at pgcmls.info/summer and start logging reading, event, and online resource activities to earn badges and prizes.

"PGCMLS is very proud to announce Summer Prince George's, our new community-centered brand for summer reading and engagement. The program offers a variety of events and incentives to encourage families to read and enjoy the summer here in Prince George's County, while earning awesome prizes like vouchers for Washington Nationals tickets," stated Roberta Phillips, PGCMLS' CEO. "Summer is the perfect time for customers of all ages to explore books, films, magazines, events and more that ignite their interests, hobbies and educational pursuits. The Library is so pleased to be able to welcome customers back to in-person programming at your local branches and other exciting locations in Prince George's County. Reintroduce yourself to all the wonderful, free offerings we have for you."

Summer Prince George's is more than a traditional summer reading program,

with exciting events for children, teens, and adults alike to discover their passions and get to know their local community. "We are pleased to once again work with our friends at the Prince George's County Memorial Library System to encourage summer reading among Prince Georgians," said Gregory McCarthy, Washington Nationals Senior Vice President, Community Engagement. "Through this program, we hope to help readers of all ages discover a passion for books while offering exciting incentives to help them meet their goal of reading at least 30 minutes a day, every day."

This summer's special events include the Library's inaugural Rainbow Festival (Saturday, June 4, 11 a.m.), Play Ball with the Washington Nationals at Walker Mill Regional Park (Saturday, June 4, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.), Summer Prince George's kickoff events at various branch libraries (June 4–11), and additional special events.

Summer Prince George's 2022 Special Events

- June 4: Rainbow Festival at New Carrollton, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.
- June 4–11: Summer Prince George's

- Kickoff at various branch libraries
- June 11: Play Ball with the Washington Nationals at Walker Mill Regional Park, Capitol Heights, MD, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.
- June 13–21: Juneteenth celebrations at various branch libraries
- July 5–August 12: The National Aquarium at various branch libraries
- July 16 and 30: The Science Guys of Baltimore: Waves, Waves, Waves! at various branch libraries
- All summer long: Spanish-English Ready 2 Read Storytime at various branch libraries

Social Justice Camp

New this summer are PGCMLS' inaugural Social Justice Camp, made possible by the Pull Up Fund and PGCMLS Foundation, that will teach teens how to engage in advocacy, make connections in their community, and develop their interests into a tool to ignite change. The camp is a free, week-long, in-person camp for teens who live in Prince George's County that will be offered at five branch libraries. Campers will hear from experts in human rights, technology,

and other fields while working alongside other budding activists to create a pitch for a project to help their community. "Teens are constantly expressing their interest in social justice to library staff. They are so eager to help their community, but oftentimes they do not know where to start. This camp is meant to meet teens where they are and provide the necessary skills to make their community organizing dreams come true," said Isaiah West, Teen Services Specialist at PGCMLS. Visit pgcmls.info/teens for more information

Social Justice Camp Schedule

- July 11–15, Bowie Branch Library
- July 18–22, Greenbelt Branch Library
- July 25–29, South Bowie Branch Library
- August 1–5, Spaldings Branch Library
- August 15–19, Hyattsville Branch Library

Book Crawl

PGCMLS is ramping up engagement opportunities for adult booklovers to connect this summer with Book Crawl. This new series of free social events will take place at local businesses, ranging from

Vigilante Coffee in Hyattsville to New Deal Cafe in Greenbelt. The series kicks-off at Denizens Brewery in Riverdale Park on Wednesday, June 29 at 7 p.m.

Book Crawl Schedule

- Denizens Brewery, Riverdale: Bingo, Wednesday, June 29, 7–8:30 p.m.
- Vigilante Coffee, Hyattsville: Craft and Create: Macramé, Friday, July 8, 1–3 p.m.
- Olive on Main, Laurel: Trivia Night, Thursday, July 14, 6–8 p.m.
- Calvert Brewing Company, Build & Brew Lego Challenge, Thursday, July 21, 6–7:30 p.m.
- The Capital Wheel/Flight Deck, National Harbor: Meet Your Librarian, Wednesday, July 27, 6–7:30 p.m.
- New Deal Cafe, Greenbelt: Open Mic, Thursday, August 4, 6:30–8 p.m.
- Robin Hill Winery, Brandywine: Virtual Reality Paint & Sip, Saturday, August 6, 1–3 p.m.
- Rise Up Nutrition, Laurel: Virtual Reality Fitness, Saturday, August 20, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

See SUMMER Page A7

COMMUNITY

'Life, Death and What Matters In Between' Podcast to Premiere June 1

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
Hospice of the Chesapeake

PASADENA, Md. (May 20, 2022)—Hospice of the Chesapeake will dive into continuum of care that surrounds people living with life-limiting illness when it premieres its second podcast series, "Life, Death and What Matters In Between," on June 1. Hosted by Hospice of the Chesapeake's Director of Strategic Partnerships Perry Limes, the goal of the podcast is to tell the story of "the dash."

"There are two dates on your tombstone ... the date of your birth and the date of your death. The dash in between those two dates represents your life. What you do with that dash is what matters most," Perry said. "What matters in between shapes our views and impacts our decisions and the others around us. It's especially important when you have a life-limiting condition or advanced illness."

In this first season of the series, Limes and his guests will discuss the continuum

of care for those living with dementia—from supportive care, also known as palliative care, to hospice care and then grief care. The episodes feature conversations with professionals, family members and clinicians discussing the journey with dementia using a hypothetical patient at the center of the discussion. Limes and his guests talk about how Joe, a 66-year-old Black retired schoolteacher living with dementia; his wife and caregiver, Veronica; and their three grown daughters; can be empowered to have a better quality of life, even at the end.

The podcast, which can be found at www.iheart.com/podcast/53-life-death-and-what-matters-95585541, has six episodes. The schedule is as follows:

June 1: A conversation about the continuum of care and how supportive and hospice care can help dementia patients and their families with Hospice of the Chesapeake Chief Medical Officer Dr. Eric Bush.

June 8: A conversation with Jessica

Whittemore, a social worker with Hospice of the Chesapeake, about the necessity of advance care planning and how to deal with the challenging behaviors that can come with dementia.

June 15: A conversation with Joshua Vickery, CEO of Encore Creativity about the importance of music in our lives and it can be utilized as a treatment for those suffering from memory disorders.

June 22: A conversation with Cathleen Rawlings and Alice Jo Weaver who share their stories about their personal experiences of caring for a loved one diagnosed with dementia.

June 29: A conversation with Maresa Henry, executive director of Spring Arbor in Severna Park, about how assisted living centers, especially those with memory care, can be a valuable resource to families and loved ones of individuals living with dementia.

July 6: A conversation with Malcolm Augustine, Maryland State Senator for the 47th District in Prince George's

County how legislation can help individuals with a dementia diagnosis and support their families.

The podcast is part of the nonprofit's community outreach and education programming, which is made possible by the generous support of the John and Cathy Belcher Institute. The organization's first podcast, "Grief from the Other Side," can be found at www.iheart.com/podcast/263-grief-from-the-other-side-76585255.

Next 'Living With Loss' Workshop Explores How Movement Helps in Coping With Grief

PASADENA, Md. (May 20, 2022)—People who are grieving the loss of someone dear to them can learn how movement, including yoga, can open a path to healing with Chesapeake Life Center's "Living with Loss: Grief and Movement" workshop. Movement has long been used to help griever cope with the impact of loss. Physical activity can help one be able to express and alleviate the many overwhelming emotions that follow the death of a loved one. In this workshop, certified yoga instructor Cathy Rees will guide participants through basic yoga

technique including gentle stretching, breathwork and mindful walking while bereavement counselor Teyawanda Booker will help facilitate the exploration of the connection between mind and body in the journey with grief.

The workshop will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Friday, Aug. 19, in the conference level of Hospice of the Chesapeake's John & Cathy Belcher Campus, 90 Ritchie Highway, Pasadena, Maryland. The cost is \$10 and light refreshments will be served.

Registration is required and can be completed by calling 888-501-7077 or emailing griefinfo@chesapeakecenter.org. Attendance restrictions and requirements will be updated using the most recent Centers for Disease Control guidelines and organizational policies prior to the event.

Visit www.hospicechesapeake.org/ for events for a complete listing of in-person and virtual grief support groups and workshops for adults and children.

Caring for life throughout the journey with illness and loss is the mission of Hospice of the Chesapeake. For more information, please visit www.hospicechesapeake.org.

Wolf Trap Awards Seven Grants to Washington, DC Metro Area High Schools to Fund Virtual and In-Person Performing Arts Projects

Projects Spans Prince George's County, Arlington County, Fairfax County, Falls Church City, and Loudoun County and D.C. Public Schools, 2022 Grants Program Debuts "Arts and Social Change" Category

By PRESS OFFICER

Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts

VIENNA, Va. (May 17, 2022)—Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts has awarded grants to seven local high schools across metropolitan Washington, DC. Grants to fund music, dance, or theater projects as part of Wolf Trap's Grants for High School Performing Arts Teachers Program. Projects will be in-person or virtual, and in some cases, students will be collaborating across schools and internationally.

This year's grantees include teachers from PGCPs Virtual (Online) Campus (Prince George's County); H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program (Arlington County); Herndon High School (Fairfax County); Potomac Falls High School (Loudoun County); Rock Ridge High School (Loudoun County); Meridian High School (Falls Church City), and The Duke Ellington School of the Arts (DC Public Schools).

Teachers applied for grants within one or more categories, including: Artist Residencies; Commissions; Master Classes; Technology in the Arts; Arts and the Environment; Arts Integration; and—new for the 2021–2022 academic year—Arts and Social Change.

"At Wolf Trap, we recognize that the arts can be a powerful medium for addressing community inequalities, so this year, we added a new category—Arts and Social Change—to our grants application," said Cate Bechtold, Director, Internships and Community Programs. "We hope that the funds and platform we can provide through Wolf Trap's Grants for High School Performing Arts Teachers Program help raise awareness about critical issues that affect our community, inspire dialogue, and offer solutions."

Awardees' projects include:

• **Dr. Donna Stancell, PGCPs Virtual (Online) Campus (Prince George's County Public Schools, MD): PIECES: Year of Change,**

Working with a digital media consultant and videographer, students will perform a virtual piece about their experiences during the pandemic.

This musical creative arts snapshot will give students the opportunity to remember and reflect on the past two years and to help inspire them to think about new ways to learn and prepare for the future. The virtual performance will premier in early June.

• **Risa Browder, H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program (Arlington County, VA):** Isaiah Chapman Commission for Strings & Percussion

Composer Isaiah Chapman will lead orchestra students through the composition process as he composes an original piece for strings and percussion to present in the Spring Orchestra Concert. Chapman will also speak with students about his experiences as a professional musician of color. The final composition will be performed with Mr. Chapman present in a spring orchestra concert.

• **Allison Devereux, Herndon High School (Fairfax County, VA):** Xavier Foley Visits Herndon High School

Concert soloist and chamber musician Xavier Foley will teach a master class to Herndon High School and Middle School orchestra students. Foley will then perform a free evening concert that is open to members of the community.

• **Corinne Fox, Potomac Falls High School (Loudoun County, VA):** The Great Johnstown Flood of 1889 One Act

Theater and dance students will collaborate with their social sciences and physics departments, local experts, and historians to create an original, theatrical drama based on the historic Johnstown Flood of 1889. Students will present their production to the community on April 23 and hope to perform the piece at the International Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland.

• **Jordan Markwood, Rock Ridge High School (Loudoun County, VA):** Culturally Responsive Art Song Creation

In an effort to accurately reflect the diverse population of Virginia, composer B.E. Boykin was commissioned to compose an art song that will be presented to the Virginia Choral Directors Association as an option for the All-Virginia Chorus audition pieces. Students will learn about the composition process and use these skills to create art

songs that reflect their own cultural diversity before presenting a culminating recital on May 19.

• **Mary Jo West, Meridian High School (Falls Church City, VA):** The Peace Project

Students from Meridian High School will collaborate with students from Gems Academy in Dubai, UAE to define the word "peace" through the lens of their own cultural understandings. Students will step into the roles of researchers, creators, and performers to collaboratively produce a virtual International Youth Forum. As a component of the forum, students will learn about both electronic and traditional music composition in preparing for a virtual concert on April 18.

• **Kenneth Johnson, The Duke Ellington School of the Arts (Washington, DC):** They Keep Coming

With the guidance of three teaching artists, theater students will explore the great tradition of African American music created as a way to process and respond to the world in which they live. Students will work to compile an original musical theater performance that looks both backwards and forwards, addressing the struggles for human rights.

Wolf Trap's annual high school grants program acknowledges high-quality instruction and performance achievements of public high school music, dance and theater teachers. Awardees receive a financial grant in support of special projects that align with Wolf Trap's performance and education priorities. For more information about Wolf Trap's High School Grants Program visit wolfftrap.org/grants.

Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, produces and presents a full range of performance and education programs in the Greater Washington area, as well as nationally. Wolf Trap features three performance venues: the outdoor Filene Center and Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods, both located at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, and The Barns at Wolf Trap, located down the road from the national park and adjacent to the Center for Education at Wolf Trap. The 7,028-seat Filene Center is operated in partnership with the National Park Service and annually showcases an extensive array of diverse artists, ranging from pop, country, folk, and blues to classical music, dance, and theatre, as well as multimedia presentations, from May through September. The Barns at Wolf Trap is operated by the Wolf Trap Foundation year-round, and during the summer months is home to the Grammy-nominated Wolf Trap Opera, one of America's outstanding resident ensemble programs for early career opera singers. Wolf Trap's education programs include the nationally acclaimed Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts, Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods, a diverse array of arts education classes, grants, and a nationally recognized internship program.

Creek from A1

Romania. But the Ukrainians didn't allow Creek to cross the bridge.

Nordberg spoke on the phone at one point with one of Creek's assistant coaches in Ukraine.

Before that phone call, that assistant coach hadn't made it a priority to help Creek escape, according to Nordberg.

But the conversation with Nordberg changed his mindset.

"He couldn't believe that somebody in the U.S. was setting up a way to get (Creek) out," Nordberg said. "I think he understood then that we were serious about it. So then he became a little bit more willing to support and get (Creek) out."

On Feb. 28, Creek called Nordberg, telling him that the assistant coach's family had a car and was going to use one of the routes Nordberg came up with to get out of Ukraine.

And the plan worked, as Creek and his assistant coach's family drove west to the Ukraine-Moldova border.

The ordeal wasn't quite over: Creek said he had to wait in the cold for nine hours, in line with thousands of people waiting to cross into Moldova.

Nordberg said he worked with the U.S. consulate in Moldova to help make sure Creek got across when he reached the border.

At last, Creek reached the checkpoint and crossed into Moldova. Then he made his way

to Romania, where he stayed in a hotel room provided by Project Dynamo, a non-profit organization originally set up to help evacuate Americans and Afghan allies from Afghanistan that now is helping evacuate American citizens in Ukraine.

Nordberg said he didn't sleep for five days as he aided Creek in his dangerous exit from Ukraine. Nordberg bought a first-class plane ticket for Creek to get home.

"I wasn't going to rest until he was home to his family," Nordberg said. "My mission wasn't complete until he was all the way back."

Creek flew from Romania to John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York, and then to Washington Dulles International Airport outside Washington.

When Creek stepped off the plane at Dulles, he was greeted by family, Nordberg, and others.

"It was like one of the best feelings in the world," Creek said. "I was so happy to get off that plane, turn the corner and see my mom, my father there, my brothers (and) everyone else there."

Back in Ukraine, Mykolaiv is one of the cities that has suffered heavy damage in the war.

Creek said it's tragic what's happened to Mykolaiv.

"It's not the peaceful place that it once was when I was there," Creek said. "It's like a war zone...it's just bad."

But he offered his support to Ukraine to keep fighting and that he's praying for them.

Creek said he's writing a book about his experience in Ukraine as well as what it's like to play overseas basketball.

"A lot of people got these dreams and aspirations of wanting to play professional basketball but a lot of people don't understand what it takes or actually what they have to go through," Creek said. "I want to give people the real scoop about how this actually is before you go over there and kind of have to figure it out yourself."

Nordberg said he and Creek plan to call or text each other every year on Feb. 28 to mark the basketball player's escape from war and to talk about people they have helped during the previous year.

Creek called Nordberg a "guardian angel" for helping him escape. Nordberg said he just did what he was taught to do by the military.

"I use what skill sets I had to help (Creek), who was a very special person," Nordberg said. "I'm glad I was at that clinic. And I'm glad I met him and was able to help him."

All this happened because of one simple friendly conversation at a basketball clinic. Creek is forever grateful.

"You never know who you're going to talk to. You never know who you're gonna have a conversation with," Creek said. "The dude I had a conversation with that I wasn't even thinking about was the dude that saved my life."

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The Prince George's Post

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BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

Will My Husband's Benefits Continue After He Dies?

By RUSSELL GLOOR,
National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation,
the non-profit arm of the **Association of Mature American Citizens**

Dear Rusty: My husband is 65 and I am 55. He has recently been diagnosed with terminal lung cancer. My question is, will I continue receiving his full social security check every month after his passing? Will the amount decrease?
Signed: Tearful Wife

Dear Tearful Wife: So sorry to hear of your husband's condition. If he is now receiving Social Security benefits, when he passes your husband's Social Security payments will stop. You will be able to keep the payment received in the month your husband dies (which is for the previous month), but any payments made thereafter must be returned to the Social Security Administration (SSA). FYI, normally the funeral director who handles arrangements sends a death certificate to Social Security, which will stop your husband's SS benefits effective with the payment for his month of death. However, you should notify the bank which receives your husband's SS payment of his death, and they will automatically return any later incorrect payments to the SSA.

At age 55, you are too young to collect survivor benefits from your husband (unless you are disabled, in which case you can). You will first become eligible for a survivor benefit from your husband when you are 60 years old, but if you claim it at that time, it will be cut by 28.5% from the full amount. Your maximum benefit as your husband's survivor is 100% of the benefit he is now receiving, but you can only get the full amount by waiting until your own full retirement age (FRA) of 67 to claim it. Any SS benefit claimed before full retirement age is reduced.

If you are still working when you become eligible for your survivor benefit, you should be aware that Social Security will impose an earnings limit until you reach your FRA. The earnings limit changes annually (for 2022 it is \$19,560) but, if it is exceeded, SS will take away benefits equal to \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit (half of what you exceed the limit by). If you work full time and your earnings are high enough, you may be disqualified from receiving survivor benefits (because your benefit amount may not offset the penalty for exceeding the earnings limit). The earnings limit applies until you reach your full retirement age, at which time your survivor benefit also reaches maximum (100% of the amount your husband was receiving at his death).

If you will also be eligible for your own SS retirement benefit (from your own lifetime work record), and your own benefit at maximum will be more than your survivor benefit, you can choose to take your survivor benefit first and delay claiming your own SS retirement benefit until it is more than your survivor benefit. Your own benefit will reach maximum at age 70 so you could, if desired, take your survivor benefit first and your own larger benefit later. Or, once you are 62 you can claim only your own reduced benefit first and allow your survivor benefit to reach maximum at your full retirement age. In other words, you have a choice of which benefit to claim, and you should try to maximize the one which will give you the highest benefit for the rest of your life. But remember, the earnings test will apply to any benefit you claim before reaching your full retirement age.

The 2.4 million member Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC] www.amac.us is a vibrant, vital senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. AMAC Action is a non-profit, non-partisan organization representing the membership in our nation's capital and in local Congressional Districts throughout the country. And the AMAC Foundation (www.AmacFoundation.org) is the Association's non-profit organization, dedicated to supporting and educating America's Seniors. Together, we act and speak on the Association members' 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 www.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.

Woodlands at Reid Temple Senior Housing Community Wins Maryland Construction Excellence Award

By PRESS OFFICER
Maryland Dept. of Housing and Community Development

LARGO, Md. (May 17, 2022)—Woodlands at Reid Temple, a 252-unit senior living community in Glenn Dale, MD, received the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's Construction Excellence Award last week for its outstanding work on the construction of this community. The Prince George's County Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) provided \$618,490 in HOME funds along with a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) to assist in the financing for the development and construction of this affordable apartment complex.

"We applaud the development team on this construction excellence award and for providing high quality affordable housing for our seniors," said County Executive Angela Alsobrooks. "As Prince George's County prospers, affordable housing is critical for our vulnerable populations, including our seniors and the community at-large. We want to ensure our seniors, who have contributed to our community and called Prince George's County home for decades, have an opportunity to stay here and live comfortably in housing that is affordable."

"We are delighted to see one of our affordable senior communities receive this recognition," said Aspasia Xypolia, Director of the Prince George's County Department of Housing and Community Development. "We congratulate the development team of Atlantic-Pacific Communities, Urban Matters and Reid CDC for delivering affordable quality homes for the County's seniors."

"Atlantic Pacific Companies (APC) is excited to have partnered with the State of Maryland and Prince George's County to deliver these 252 high-quality affordable housing units for the senior residents in Glenn Dale, MD. APC worked with our contractor Whiting-Turner and design team at Wiencsek & Associates to create a pastoral setting with an approachable design for our community's residents," said Scott Kriebel, Vice President of Development for Atlantic Pacific Companies.

Woodlands at Reid Temple, located at 11600 Glenn Dale Boulevard, opened in April 2021 and features bedrooms



PHOTO COURTESY MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Exterior of Woodlands at Reid Temple

with large walk-in closets, floor to ceiling windows and stainless steel appliances. The facility includes a community room with a fireplace and warming kitchen, fitness center, medical office, barber/hair salon, hobby/arts & crafts room, media room, screened-in patio, and community areas on each floor.

"The living experience is positive and there is a real sense of community," says James Peyton, Woodland at Reid Temple resident. "The lounge area, porch and patio are very comfortable, and the activity room has a full kitchen."

"I really enjoy living here," said Lawrence Sampson, another Woodlands resident. "It's a quiet community and it's close to my church. I really like the gym, community room and screened-in porch."

"As a Prince George's County resident and business owner, I am grateful to be a part of the team providing exceptional development and senior housing with a wide range of amenities," said Raymond L. Nix, President of Urban-Matters Development Partners, L.L.C. "I am humbled to be part of the transformative development in Prince George's County and have a meaningful impact on the lives of our senior residents."

For more information on Woodlands at Reid Temple, contact the Leasing Office on 301-778-1281, or visit the website: www.woodlandsatreidtemple.com

Leading Local Nonprofit, Homeless Persons Representation Project, Inc., Selects Baltimore City Public Defender as New Executive Director

By PRESS OFFICER
HPRP

Homeless Persons Representation Project, Inc. (HPRP), a nonprofit with a mission to end homelessness in Maryland, is thrilled to announce that Kirsten Gettys Downs has been named its new Executive Director. Ms. Downs rose to the top of a highly competitive group of finalists during an extensive search conducted by a board and staff member committee alongside executive search firm LeaderFit.

HPRP Board of Directors President, Carnot Evans, III, Esq., shared, "Kirsten brings a unique mix of attributes and experiences that make her the ideal leader to take HPRP into its next chapter. She has dedicated her career to defending the rights of underserved and marginalized communities, is a passionate advocate for social and racial justice, and brings executive leadership experience as a Baltimore City Public Defender."

Having developed educational seminars and con-

ference presentations on racial justice, holistic representation, and implicit bias, Ms. Downs served as a trainer and group leader for the National Association of Public Defense Executive Leadership Institute, faculty trainer for the Office of the Public Defender's New Attorney Training Program, and presenter for national and local advocacy organizations.

"I am honored to have been selected to lead and support the exceptional team at the Homeless Persons Representation Project," shares Ms. Downs. "I was drawn to HPRP because of its mission to end homelessness in Maryland and because its efforts align with my goal to work with an organization advocating at the intersection of policy reform, economic and racial justice, and community building. In this time of growing housing and economic insecurity, our communities need the vital work of HPRP more than ever. I look forward to partnering with our board, funders, and volunteers to fortify HPRP's mission and tackle the causes of homelessness head on."

Beyond providing direct legal representation in matters such as wrongful evictions, veterans benefits, and records



PHOTO COURTESY HPRP

Kirsten Gettys Downs

expungement, HPRP works to change policies and programs that contribute to homelessness. Each year in Maryland, at least 50,000 people experience homelessness, and more than ten times that amount live with the fear of being one misstep away from becoming homeless.

See **DIRECTOR** Page A7

CITY OF GLENARDEN NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The City of Glenarden proposes to increase real property taxes.

1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2022, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 4.11%, from \$2,827,146 to \$2,948,261.
2. If City of Glenarden maintains the current tax rate of \$0.3481 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 4.11% resulting in \$121,115 of new real property tax revenues.
3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$0.3338, the constant yield tax rate.
4. The City of Glenarden is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The City of Glenarden proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$0.3481 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 4.11% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$121,115 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 8 pm on June 02, 2022, via Virtual hearing.

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call 301-773-2100 for further information.

Graduates from A1

Budget and Taxation Committee's Subcommittee on Health and Human Services and a valued member of the Maryland Senate senior leadership team, providing input and guidance on major policy initiatives.

An alumna of Howard University, Sen. Griffith holds a master's degree in social work. She earned her bachelor's degree in human services and psychology from Montana State University, Billings (formerly Eastern Montana College). Continuing her education in 2014, Sen. Griffith completed the Community Health Leadership Program through the Satcher Health Leadership Institute, Morehouse School of Medicine, and that same year received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from the Virginia University of Lynchburg, School of Liberal Arts. She currently serves as deputy director of the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council.

This year's Distinguished Graduate from Prince George's Community College, Frances Oladimeji, will also speak at the ceremony. While a nursing student at the College, Oladimeji was an Honors Academy member who maintained a 3.9 GPA. She also earned national recognition for her scholarship,

leadership, and service from the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society as a Coca-Cola Academic Team Bronze Scholar. Oladimeji graduated in December 2021 and is currently working while pursuing her B.S.N. at the University of Maryland School of Nursing.

"We all need a supportive community to help unleash our God-given potential," said Oladimeji. "Prince George's Community College was that community for me. I'm honored and grateful to be a graduate of this reputable College."

Other Commencement speakers include Falecia Williams, Ed.D., president, Prince George's Community College; Sidney Gibson, chair, Prince George's Community College Board of Trustees; and Clayton Railey, Ph.D., executive vice president and provost of Teaching, Learning, and Student Success.

Spring 2022 graduates include 228 students from the College's Early and Middle College Programs, which enable first-generation and low-income students to earn their high school diploma, specialized certification, and a college degree within four to six years.

Follow Prince George's Community College on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @pgccnews to stay connected.

ENVIRONMENT

For Clean Air and a Clean Chesapeake, Electrify Your Lawn Care

By HARRY CAMPBELL, DOUG MYERS & JOSEPH WOOD, CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION
Bay Journal News Service

There's a good chance, if you use a gas-powered lawn mower, that maintaining your lawn is worse for the environment than your morning commute. In some cases, far worse.

Running a typical gas mower for one hour creates roughly the same amount of smog-forming air pollution as driving a passenger car 300 miles, according to the California Air Resources Board. In the case of some gas-powered leaf blowers, an hour's worth of use is equivalent to driving 1,100 miles.

All told, say the authors of a 2021 study published in the International Journal of Life Cycle Assessments, the small, inefficient gas engines used for lawn mowers, blowers, weed trimmers and other garden equipment account for a quarter of all nonroad gasoline emissions nationwide each year.

Why does this matter for the Chesapeake Bay and its rivers and streams across the watershed? For starters, one-third of the nitrogen pollution that ends up in the water comes from air pollution, according to the Chesapeake Bay Program. That makes air emissions a big challenge for Bay restoration, but we should also see it as a big opportunity.

Changing the way we care for lawns— or better yet, reducing the amount of lawn we need to care for—offers a way to make significant water quality improvements. The Bay watershed states collectively are not on track to meet targets for implementing pollution-reduction measures by 2025. This is something individuals, localities and states can do quickly and at a much lower cost than many other nutrient control best management practices.

One reason lawns matter is their sheer scale. A 2010 report by the Chesapeake Stormwater Network, based on data from 2000 to 2005, found that turf covers as much as 3.8 million acres in the Bay watershed, which is about 10% of the total land area. Development has likely increased that amount. While residential lawns make up much of that acreage, turf also proliferates along roadways and around commercial buildings.

All of this has big implications for water quality, especially as more forests and farmlands are developed. A 2020 assessment



PHOTO CREDIT MATT MALLET/CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

Every hour of running a gas-powered mower can emit the same amount of air pollution as driving a passenger car 300 miles.

showed that polluted runoff from urban and suburban areas is the only significant source of pollution in the watershed that is still growing—and in some cases even offsetting some of the pollution reductions made to date in wastewater management and agriculture.

What many people may not know is that, during a rainstorm, lawns can act more like green-carpeted concrete than a forest floor, soaking in only one-tenth the amount of precipitation, often less. The reason is that yards have more compacted soil, less organic matter and shallower root systems than forests. As a result, in a heavy rainstorm, much of the water that falls on a lawn rushes quickly into storm drains and out into local streams, often taking fertilizer and pesticides along with it.

The volume and speed of water running off the land can erode streambanks, contribute to localized flooding and negatively affect aquatic insects and fish. As climate change drives more frequent, severe storms, this becomes even more problematic.

We can do much more to address this source of pollution. Maryland and Virginia have passed statewide limits on phosphorus fer-

tilizers for lawns, but Pennsylvania is still considering legislation to do so. Phosphorous limitations are a good start, but the partnership also needs new initiatives to find ways to address this source of pollution.

A ban on gas-powered leaf blowers took effect this year in the District of Columbia, but a measure that would allow Virginia localities to regulate leaf blowers has been tabled. In Maryland, a General Assembly bill to ban sales of gas-powered leaf blowers in the state was withdrawn earlier this year.

Addressing these sources should be considered at a much broader scale across the watershed as a way for Bay states to meet their pollution-reduction commitments.

In your own yard, the best solution is to convert more lawn to native trees, shrubs, plants and low-maintenance groundcover. This allows more water to soak into the soil, provides food and shelter for wildlife and reduces the harmful air pollution emitted by lawn equipment.

Another important step is to limit fertilizing. Get your soil tested first to determine what is or isn't needed. Better yet, instead of fertilizing, use an electric mulching mower, which naturally fertilizes the grass by leaving the clippings in place to decompose and add nutrients and organic matter to the soil. The clippings also provide food and habitat for pollinating insects.

The same goes for leaves in the fall. Don't bag them and send them off to a landfill; use an electric mulching mower to return them to the soil.

Finally, switch from gas-powered to electric lawn and garden equipment. Electric mowers, blowers, trimmers, edgers and such are widely available, usually with a choice of cordless or plug-in models. This significantly reduces air pollution that contributes to smog—a major threat to human health—and the nitrogen pollution that harms waterways.

Addressing stormwater pollution through retrofits can be expensive and challenging but changing the way we care for our yards is not. It also benefits our health, improves wildlife in our yards and can save us some time in the process. We can't afford not to take these steps.

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Harry Campbell, Doug Myers and Joseph Wood are, respectively, director of science policy and advocacy for its Pennsylvania Office, Maryland senior scientist and Virginia senior scientist. Their views do not necessarily reflect those of the Bay Journal.

This story was originally published in the Bay Journal and was provided by the Bay Journal News Service

New Study Shows Opportunity to Address Health Inequities in EJ Communities

Analysis provides further evidence of biodiesel's health benefits, down to neighborhood level

By PRESS OFFICER
Clean Fuels Alliance America

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (May 16, 2022)—What's good for the earth is often good for its human occupants, too. That's the message from Clean Fuels Alliance America as it releases the results of Phase 2 of a groundbreaking study on the air quality benefits of biodiesel—especially in the context of underserved Environmental Justice communities.

The latest study from Trinity Consultants, conducted on 15 high-risk air quality communities coast-to-coast, reinforces that switching to biodiesel results in substantial health benefits. Specifically, the benefits include decreased cancer risk, fewer premature deaths, reduced asthma attacks and fewer lost workdays. B100 can achieve these benefits

by reducing pollution in applications among the hardest to decarbonize—heavy-duty transportation and residential heating.

Antoine M. Thompson, executive director of the Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition, knows all too well that the pollution of air, land and water are environmental injustices that often shorten the life expectancy in communities of color, including in Washington D.C. A former New York state representative and former head of the oldest organization of Black real estate professionals in the U.S., Thompson is a nationally recognized leader for Environmental Justice, green business, housing, diversity and urban policy.

"If we are committed to addressing environmental inequities, we should embrace using every drop of biodiesel we can, right

now," Thompson said. "Decades ago, highways were built directly through many communities of color, and those neighborhoods continue to suffer higher rates of asthma and other illnesses today. As we finally begin to reckon with the social and economic consequences of inequitable air quality treatment, the good news is we have the power to change things for the better immediately, as this study shows."

The Trinity study found that replacing diesel fuel with biodiesel in Washington D.C. alone could reduce the symptoms of asthma (such as needing to use an inhaler) by nearly 13,000 incidents per year. It also found that annual lost workdays could be reduced by almost 5,700, representing close to \$1.5 million in economic activity. Overall, the economic benefit of improved

health in the Washington, D.C., area would total over \$262 million each year.

Combining Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the study, researchers found that switching to 100% biodiesel in the 28 transportation and home heating oil sectors studied would provide immediate community health improvements that include the following:

- More than 456,000 fewer/reduced asthma cases per year
- More than 142,000 fewer sick days per year
- Cancer cases reduced by more than 9,400 (over a 70-year timeframe)
- The prevention of more than 910 premature deaths per year
- Over \$7.5 billion in avoided health costs annually

A 45% reduction in cancer risk when legacy heavy-duty trucks such as older semis use B100, and

an 86% reduced risk when biodiesel is used for home heating oil, known as Bioheat® fuel.

The study used standard EPA air dispersion modeling tools, along with well-established health risk assessments and benefit valuations, to calculate the public health benefits and resulting economic savings of switching from petroleum diesel to 100% biodiesel (B100) in transportation and heating uses. Expanding on Phase 1, completed last year, the report focused on communities in Phoenix; Las Vegas; Houston; Detroit; Minneapolis/St. Paul; Chicago; St. Louis; Indianapolis; Cleveland/Akron/Canton, Ohio; Boston; Buffalo, New York; Port of Elizabeth, New York/New Jersey; Charlotte, North Carolina; Philadelphia and the District of Columbia.

The majority of the sites are named in the American Lung Association's State of the Air report as among the "most polluted cities."

"Powerful change often starts at the local level, and we hope this report captures the attention of

those who are committed to providing clean air for all, Clean Fuels Alliance America CEO Donnell Rehagen said. Although we've seen a decrease in diesel particulate matter overall thanks to improving technologies, a large gap remains between EJ and non-EJ communities. The time to act is now. Biodiesel and renewable diesel can make a difference in quality of life today—not waiting decades into the future."

Since the numbers represent findings from just 28 communities, they show just a fraction of the potential for positive impact, Rehagen said.

Sponsored by Clean Fuels, the study was conducted by Trinity Consultants, a company with over 40 years of experience conducting air dispersion modeling and related health risk assessments. The two-phase study was supported by the Nebraska Soybean Board, South Dakota Soybean Research & Promotion Council, California Advanced Biofuels Alliance, Iowa

See **STUDY** Page A7

Earth TALK™ Lithium Mining an Environmental Scourge

Dear EarthTalk:
Why is lithium mining so bad for the environment?
—Jane B., Atlanta, GA

Lithium is called "white gold" for good reason: the metal's value has been growing exponentially over the last several years, in large part because it is an essential component of lithium-ion batteries, themselves indispensable in several key sustainable technologies where energy storage is of utmost importance. As electric cars, wind and solar power have grown into major players in the energy industry, lithium has become key to engineering a future free of fossil fuels.

But acquiring lithium comes at an enormous cost. As with most metals, its mining is destructive. It often works like this: Briny water, containing lithium as well as salts and other metals, is pumped

to the surface from underground aquifers and mixed with freshwater. The concoction then sits in pools to allow the water to evaporate, leaving the rest of its contents behind as brightly-colored toxic sludge. Refineries use heat and chemical reactions to extract the lithium from that, refining it into powder which is then packaged and shipped to buyers around the world. The remaining wastewater is pumped to pools, where it can sit indefinitely. Any accident that releases mine contents into surrounding communities or the groundwater supply could have devastating long-term impacts.

How much environmental degradation can be tolerated locally in the name of conservation globally has led to debates in places as far-flung as Chile, Serbia and Arizona. Indigenous communities often bear the brunt of the

damage, and political leaders have typically given little weight to their concerns. In Arizona, for example, an expanding lithium mine is threatening the Hualapai tribe's cultural and historic sites. While Hualapai leaders have been fighting to protect their land, Supreme Court precedent dating to the 1820s has left them with little legal leverage to wield against the massive power of the mining industry and federal government. And for politicians who have pledged to work with native peoples to confront climate change, mining lithium and other precious metals is bringing priorities into conflict: How do you ensure the availability of materials essential to the future of renewables while protecting tribal rights?

The U.S. currently produces just one percent of the global lithium supply, according to The Wall Street Journal. But as the

Biden administration moves to boost production of electric vehicles and challenge China's market domination, mining of the metal is expected to increase dramatically in coming years. Over time, experts say, that will reduce fossil fuel emissions by making electric cars more affordable, and therefore more popular. Still, environmental leaders disagree as to whether the benefits of those cuts would outweigh the harm done to the people who rely on the mine-scarred land.

Some new research suggests a slightly more positive future scenario. A 2020 University of Córdoba study in Spain found that the batteries could be recycled and reused, and could even work effectively without cobalt, another metal that requires destructive mining practices. For now, though, lithium mining is poised to grow rapidly to meet soaring demand. As environmentally conscious consumers buy electric cars in ever-greater numbers, it's important to be aware of the dirty process that powers those clean air vehicles.



CREDIT: RICHARD MARTIN, FLICKRCC

An expanding lithium mine in Arizona is threatening the Hualapai tribe's cultural and historic sites.

CONTACTS: Lithium mining in Chile, nytimes.com/2021/12/28/climate/chile-constitution-climate-change.html; Mining on Hualapai land, hcn.org/issues/53.7/indigenous-affairs-mining-for-lithium-at-a-cost-to-indigenous-religions; The future of American lithium, wsj.com/articles/americas-battery-powered-car-hopes-ride-on-lithium-one-producer-paves-the

way-11615311932; University of Córdoba study, eurekaalert.org/news-releases/856097.

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Morningside from A2

Red Cross Air EVAC program at Andrews AFB. Memorial Services were at Lee Funeral Home.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Gary Lewis, Sr. and Steven Busky, May 27; Teddy Burke and Kevin Nichols, May 30; Ruth Garner, Aiyana Poe and my granddaughter Sarah McHale, May 31; Kathleen Stahl, June 1; Paul Elborne and Jacob Cook, June 2; and Darius Nalley-Stoddard, June 3.

Happy anniversary to Tyonda Simms-Taylor and Michael Taylor who were wed June 1, 1995.

Around the County from A2

DC during the early 19th century. Their story is just one example of the courage displayed by thousands of enslaved Black individuals who fought for emancipation. The story is brought to life by a cast and crew across the U.S. as a response to the national reckoning with race and the need for stories of truth. The film is based on a true story from the book *A Question of Freedom: The Families Who Challenged Slavery from the Nation's Founding to the Civil War* by William G. Thomas, III, which is the 2021-2022 Prince George's County Reads featured book.

In the summer of 1835, a strike at the Washington Navy Yard fueled a citywide race riot. The U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, Francis Scott Key, set out to prosecute abolitionist Reuben Crandall for libelous sedition and the intent to incite a slave revolt. Amid this political turmoil, Daniel Bell convinced Mary's dying slaveholder, Robert Armstead, to emancipate Mary and the children. Two days later, Armstead died. His widow Susan Armstead refused to honor the Bells' freedom, leading them to seize their own freedom on the Pearl. This event is supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council. The premiere is free, but a reservation is required. For tickets, visit www.joesmovement.org/the-bell-affair.

Summer from A3

• Town Center Market, Riverdale: Name That Tune, Tuesday, August 30, 6-7:30 p.m.

Summer Prince George's participants can earn incentives and enter to win grand prizes while navigating interactive social media challenges with the hashtag #SummerPG. Participants can track their activity progress throughout the summer by earning badges and prizes with a downloadable game board or on the website by searching for the Library's Beanstack app (iOS/Android). Grand prize winners will be notified in late August. Summer Prince George's is made possible by the Prince George's County Memorial Library System, Washington Nationals, and PGCMLS Foundation.

Customers can access library resources with a PGCMLS library card number or a LINK card number for Prince George's County Public Schools students. Virtual library card registration is open to Prince George's County residents and others throughout the metropolitan Washington, DC area. Participants can explore suggested summer reads on the Library's Beanstack, NextReads, and Book List platforms.

Director from A5

A person may find temporary relief from a night in a shelter or a meal from a food bank, but lasting change is within reach when they have an advocate to break through individual and systemic barriers to stable housing and reliable income. A lawyer can make all the difference.

Ms. Downs joins the nonprofit with over ten years of experience in organizational management and strategic planning through her involvement with national, statewide, and local strategy development within the Maryland Office of the Public Defender, the Baltimore City Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee, the Prince George's County Pro Bono Committee, the US Department of Justice Working Group on Diversity, and the Massachusetts Advisory Committee to the US Commission on Civil Rights.

HPRP is a nonprofit organization dedicated to ending homelessness in Maryland by providing free legal services, including advice, counsel, education, representation, and advocacy, for low-income persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. HPRP was founded in 1987 under the guidance of the Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service. In 1990, HPRP incorporated to become its own agency. Today, HPRP has a legal team of eight in-house attorneys and 420 pro bono attorneys, paralegals, and law students. Guided by an understanding of common barriers to accessing traditional legal services, HPRP staff and volunteers serve clients where they live, eat, and spend time. HPRP attorneys meet with clients in the community—shelters, public benefits offices, soup kitchens, the streets, community meetings—and virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic. Free legal representation can break the spiral of homelessness by eliminating barriers to stable housing, income, and employment. Direct legal representation informs HPRP's broader systemic advocacy and impacts litigation work to address the root causes of homelessness across Maryland.

Study from A6

Soybean Association, Wisconsin Soybean Marketing Board, Illinois Soybean Association, Ohio Soybean Council, Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council, Pennsylvania Soybean Board, New York Corn & Soybean Growers Association, Eastern Region Soybean Board and New Jersey Soybean Board.

Made from an increasingly diverse mix of resources such as recycled cooking oil, soybean oil and animal fats, biodiesel and renewable diesel are better, cleaner fuels that are available now for use in existing diesel engines without modification. Clean Fuels Alliance America is the U.S. trade association representing the entire biodiesel and renewable diesel value chain, including producers, feedstock suppliers and fuel distributors. Clean Fuels Alliance America is funded in part by the United Soybean Board and state soybean board checkoff programs.

This news release was funded by the United Soybean Board.

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