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In Maryland, Biden Touts Economic Successes, Blasts GOP Policies as 'Extreme'

By FATEMA HOSSEINI and RYAN MERCADO
Capital News Service

LARGO, Md. (Sept. 14, 2023)—President Joe Biden on Thursday touted his economic policies and contrasted the results with what he called the Republicans' "extreme" budget proposals to give more tax breaks to the wealthy and cut social programs.

Bidenomics, the president told a crowd at Prince George's Community College here, "is investing in America, the American people, growing the economy from the middle out from the bottom up instead of the top down."

He noted that "Bidenomics" is a term some economists and con-

servative media used to dismiss the administration's economic vision. "But now they're getting it," the president said.

Biden said his policies had created 13 million jobs, including 800,000 in manufacturing, and kept unemployment under 4% for 19 months, including record lows in unemployment among Black and Hispanic workers, veterans, and the lowest jobless rate in 70 years among women.

By contrast, Biden labeled GOP economic proposals "MAGAnomics," insisting they would balloon the deficit due with tax cuts for the wealthy. And Republicans want to cut Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, the Affordable Care Act and the Child Tax

Credit, among other social programs, the president charged.

"Their plan, MAGAnomics, is more extreme than anything America's ever seen before," Biden said.

Biden also stated that job satisfaction was higher than it has been in 36 years and that his administration is growing the economy. "That's Bidenomics, that's the objective of it," he said.

Biden's economic message is the centerpiece of his bid for reelection, but the president is bat-

tlng against widespread public dissatisfaction with the economy. Almost 70% of Americans feel the economy is getting worse, according to a Suffolk University Sawyer Business School/USA Today poll released Wednesday. The survey said 84% of respondents said their cost of living is going up.

Sade Davis, a second-year public health student at Prince George's Community College,

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LARGO, Md.—President Joe Biden speaks at Prince George's Community College Thursday, Sept. 14, comparing his efforts to improve the economy to what he called the Republicans' "extreme" plans to give tax breaks to the wealthy and cut social programs.

PHOTO CREDIT RYAN MERCADO/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE



Governor Moore Delivers Keynote Address During Inaugural Maryland Minority Business Counts Event

By PRESS OFFICER
Maryland Governor News

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Sept. 12, 2023)—Governor Wes Moore today delivered the keynote address at the inaugural Maryland Minority Business Counts event at Bowie State University. Event participants engaged with state government agencies and attended educational sessions to learn more about doing business with the state of Maryland as a Minority Business Enterprise program participant.

"If we harness the immense potential and energy in this room and channel it toward achieving our goals, we stand a real chance to fix what's broken in our economy and build a brighter future for all Mary-

landers," said Gov. Moore. "In partnership, we will build an economy that is more inclusive, more dynamic, more innovative, and more competitive—an economy that leaves no one behind."

Maryland's Minority Business Enterprise program, now in its 45th year, ensures that socially and economically disadvantaged small business owners are included in the state's procurement and contracting opportunities. Current regulations set the program's statewide goal at 29% across 70 participating agencies and departments.

The Moore-Miller administration is working to close the racial wealth gap and promote access to work, wages, and wealth in part through increas-

ing state government's performance toward reaching its 29% Minority Business Enterprise program participation goal. In February, Governor Moore signed an executive order to promote data reporting and compliance on state agency performance, a first for a Maryland governor.

The administration also advanced regulations through the Board of Public Works that would provide contractual safeguards and protections for Minority Business Enterprise program sub-contractors. State agencies are also now required to submit marketing and outreach plans to the Governor's Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs that include proactive outreach to

Minority Business Enterprises to promote procurement opportunities.

In the coming months, the administration will review the Minority Business Enterprise goal-setting process to ensure that Maryland's program is a national leader. In the meantime, the administration continues to assess and identify both short-term and long-term strategies to bolster participation in state procurement. The governor will soon appoint a Minority Business Enterprise Ombudsman, who will directly serve Minority Business Enterprises.

To learn more about Maryland's Minority Business Enterprise program, visit gomdsmallbiz.maryland.gov.



PHOTO CREDIT MARYLAND GOVERNOR'S PRESS OFFICE

Governor Wes Moore delivered the keynote address at the inaugural Maryland Minority Business Counts event at Bowie State University on Sept. 12.



PHOTO COURTESY PGCEDC

U.S. Ambassador to Kenya Meg Whitman (center), Vice Chair Wala Blegay, Esq. (to right of Ambassador Whitman), and Council Member Edward Burroughs, III (far right) traveled alongside the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation on a trade mission to Kenya.

Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation Leads Economic Delegation to Kenya

County and business leadership return with increased opportunities for Prince George's County based businesses

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCEDC

LARGO, Md. (Sept. 14, 2023)—Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation recently led a Business dele-

gation on trade mission to Nairobi, Kenya. The Prince George's County-based business and Kenya leadership group explored ways to expand business opportunities in Nairobi.

Facilitated by Martin U. Ezemma, PGCEDC Director of International Busi-

ness Development, the delegation included numerous business leaders and Prince George's County council members.

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Marietta House Museum presents: "The Underground Railroad Journey: An Introspective Walk in Their Shoes"

A virtual lecture presentation—Sept. 21

By STACEY HAWKINS
Marietta House Museum

Please join us on Thursday, September 21, 6:30–8 p.m., for "The Underground Railroad Journey: An Introspective Walk in Their Shoes", a virtual lecture presentation with historian Dionne Patterson.

Patterson will discuss the emotions and motivations that freedom seekers recorded to demonstrate their fortitude.

Dionne Patterson is an historian and the CEO of UGR3DAY Underground Railroad Experiences Inc. She is an acclaimed storyteller who specializes in stories from the Underground Railroad. In addition, Dionne is a nationally certified cultural interpretive guide and a certified genealogist. As a recipient of the

Harriet Tubman Service Award, Ms. Patterson brings her passion for authentic and holistic storytelling to each program.

Marietta House Museum is on the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Trail. We invite you to join us in discovering these remarkable stories online for this virtual program.

Recommended for ages 8 & up. \$5/person. Please register at this direct link: <https://tinyurl.com/4rca26hr> to receive the TEAMS link to attend online. A link will be emailed to you for access to the program.

Marietta House Museum is located at 5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale, MD. 20769, and is a property of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

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TOWNS *and* NEIGHBORS

In & Around Morningside-Skyline

This is the Morningside-Skyline column I wrote after 9/11

Here in our community are signs and reminders of the shock, the horror, the grief, the anger, the sadness, and the patriotism in the wake of the September 11, 2001, attack on our country.

Flags. At half-mast in front of the VFW. Hanging over the Beltway from the Auth Road overpass. Above the door at GI Liquors. In front of the Shell station, and on doorposts, mailboxes and lawns of homes.

The sound of jets and helicopters overhead when airports around the country were shut down.

Marine One chugging over my house bearing President Bush back to Washington on the afternoon of that terrible day.

The line of cars waiting to get into Andrews, which only gets longer as non-essential personnel return to work.

Several hundred filling the pews at St. Philip’s for a hastily-called prayer service that night.

The growing list of names of the dead from our communities: Ada Davis, of Camp Springs. Angelene Carter of Forestville. Odessa Morris of Upper Marlboro. James Daniel Debeuneur of Upper Marlboro.

Everybody’s got a story. For my family, it’s about our nephew Joe who was working at the Pentagon that morning, niece Elizabeth who was in the Pentagon Metro Station when the jetliner hit, my son John who, from the parking lot at the Eastover Shopping Center, could see the smoke at the Pentagon, grandson David talking on the phone to someone at the Pentagon when the caller said, “I have to go because apparently the building’s on fire. I’ll call you back.” He never did.

I know you’ve got stories, too.

I notice people hugging people, and being more patient, a little nicer, yielding on the road. And coming to church in greater numbers.

Dear God, help our community, our country and the world get through this time of trial. Bless the dead, the injured, the missing, the families, the rescuers, the workers, the military, our leaders including President Bush and his advisors.

Give us peace.

More about 9/11

The Morningside Volunteer Fire Department was dispatched to the Pentagon. En-

gine 271 and its crew (Lt. Tony Johnson, Lt. Syd Girven, firefighters Carl McKlveen and Jon McKlveen, and Deputy Chief Dave Fuller), were sent through the tunnel into the inner courtyard to fight the fire, which they did for eight hours, until relieved by other departments.

Ada Davis, of Camp Springs, an accountant for the Department of the Army, worked at the Pentagon. (She was supposed to retire the previous June but was asked to stay on until October.) As usual, her daughter, Zenovia, who also worked at the Pentagon, drove her to work. After the crash, she frantically began calling her mom. There was no answer.

At least 14 Pentagon victims were from South County, among them: Army budget analyst Antoinette Sherman, Forest Heights; Army accounting technician, Robert Russell, Oxon Hill; Defense Intelligence Agency, Sandra Foster, Forest Heights.

My husband, Jack McHale, was working in the yard when neighbor Henrietta Tretler phoned me, “Turn on the TV!” The first plane had hit the tower. I yelled for Jack. He came inside and watched the second plane hit the second tower. He said, “No one will ever forget my birthday.” He was born September 11, 1925.

This September 11th, he would have turned 98, but he died in 2004. And he is right. No one ever will forget his birthday.

Town of Morningside honors Matt and Virginia Rosch

Morningside hosted a ceremony Sept. 12 to dedicate the benches at the town hall entrance to longtime Morningside Chief of Police Matthew Rosch and his wife Virginia, both of whom had spent so many years serving the Town.

The two benches are on either side of the entrance wall. Scout Troop 1237, from Clinton, took on refurbishing the entrance as an Eagle Project. They had cleaned the grounds, mowed, mulched, and planted marigolds all the way around the wall. Mayor Benn Cann made the dedication before three generations of the Rosch family and read aloud the plaque on the benches. Those marigolds were in full bloom for the dedication.

GI Liquors finally open for business!

The boards are gone! I’ll drop by there for a chat with the owner (and purchase a bottle of wine) and will let you know what he says about the shocking event.

by Mary McHale 301-735-3451

I checked with Morningside Chief Wesley Stevenson. He told me the car that crashed into the store was a new car, stolen from the Oxon Hill area. The occupants of the car have not been identified, and no arrests have been made.

Neighbors & other good people

County Council Member Edward Burroughs hosted a Back-to-School event in partnership with Amazon, providing District 8 scholars with 150 tablets, book bags and school supplies. He also treated the students to a Chick-fil-A lunch.

Officers of St. Philip’s Sodality were sworn Sept. 9 by Pastor Ryan Pineda. They are: Prefect Ligia Rojas, Vice-Prefect Karin Yeatman, Secretary Lorraine Wright and Treasurer Peggy Nanney. Following the ceremony, the new statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe, now in the vestibule, was blessed.

Changing landscape

The carousel on the National Mall will be removed in November for renovation. It’ll be shipped to Carousel & Carvings in Marion, Ohio, where the animals and structure will be repaired to their original appearance. The merry-go-round was built in 1947. It first operated in Gwynn Oak Amusement Park in Baltimore, was installed on the Mall in 1967, and replaced in 1981. It will be up and running at the same location by 2026, in time for the 250th anniversary of the United States.

A home at 6604 Suitland Road has sold for \$395,000.

Wordle report

As I near the 560 mark, I want to report I just did it in 2, for a total of 19 2’s. However, my 4’s continue to build. How are you doing? Or, have you quit?

Milestones

Happy Birthday to Dottie Arehringer and Peg Richardson, Sept. 24; Alice Lucke and Skyline activist Judy Hansel Waby, Sept. 27; Marshall Carson and Tim Ward, Sept. 28; former Morningside Town Clerk Janice Diggs and my brother Tom Mudd, Sept. 29; Peggy Nanney and Jessica (Williams) Proctor, Sept. 30.

Happy 60th (!) anniversary, André and Cynthia Jordan, on Sept. 28.

Email me (muddmm@gmail.com) with birthdays and anniversaries.

by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

Brandywine-Aquasco

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday to Ayden Bell, Osayi Omoregbe, Chidinma Mbakwe, Mariama Davies, Ronald Jones, Pam Stahl, Donna Cain, Norman Noel, Alexis Proctor, Elijah P. Knight, Kirk Samuel, Beonie Pearson, Idena Thomas, Karen Taylor, Curt Falby, Annie Cokes, James Dorsett, IV, Kizzy Savoy, Umaru Davies, Rebecca Mosley, Paul Jeffrey Kerrick who are Clinton United Methodist Church members celebrating birthdays in September.

SEPTEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to Kevin and Jazzmyn Simmons, Franklin and Joyce Isaac, Jose and Daphne Rojas, Norville and Deserae Hughes, Ted and Rebecca Mosley, Joe and Patrice Perkins Pratt, Owen and Audrey Johnson who are Clinton United Methodist Church members celebrating Wedding Anniversaries in September.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Trunk or Treat (Jesus’ Love is so sweet October 7, 2023, from 12–3 p.m. Rain date is Saturday, October 21, 2023. Bring your treat bucket or bag. Free pony and horse rides for kids and adults. Rides 1–3 p.m. A waiver must be signed.

The Trunk or Treat event will be held at Providence Fort Washington UMC, 10610 Old Fort Road, Fort Washington, Maryland 20744. Kermit C.C. Moore, Pastor. Sponsored by the C.I.A Ministry.

NOTTINGHAM MYERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

“On October 29, SPARK will hold their next 5th Sunday service. We would like to add the element of dance to this worship service. We are looking for any youth and children who would like to participate in a dance for the next 5th Sunday Service. This opportunity is open to girls and boys ages 4–17. Please reach out to Catherine Watkins at bams4cat@gmail.com if your child is interested in participating. Rehearsal time and date are forthcoming. Thank you for your interest.” Catherine M. Watkins.

COLLEGE D.C. TOUCHDOWN CLUB

Bowie State University linebacker Uvel Paul, Jr. has been named one of this week’s D.C. Touchdown Club Washington Metro College Football player of the week Honor Roll Recipient. The Severn, Maryland native made four tackles for loss including three sacks, as the Bulldogs (1-0) defeated FCS Delaware State, 22-11 on Saturday September 2, 2023.

The D.C. Touchdown Club honors the best in Washington Metro Football, with year-round events highlighted by an annual awards dinner. Operated by the Military Bowl Foundation, the Club promotes the game of football, hosts entertaining social events and generates a significant philanthropic impact for Patriot Point.

To learn more about The Touchdown Club, visit dctouchdownclub.com or follow Touchdown Club and like Touchdown Club on Facebook. For the most update information on Bowie State University Athletics and its thirteen varsity sports teams, please visit www.bsubulldogs.com.

2023 SENIOR VETERANS’ CELEBRATION

M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George’s County is honoring our Prince George’s County senior veterans (age 60 & older) with a special luncheon celebration Friday, November 3, 2023, from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. The celebration will be held at Martin’s Crosswinds Greenbelt, 7400 Greenway Center Drive, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770.

Please note: This event is only for veterans (ages sixty & better) who reside in Prince George’s County. To accommodate as many veterans as possible, this event is only for veterans. No guests will be permitted. To register, visit pgparksdirect.com and register for Ticket Code: SPD-SPEC-GA-20231103. Please bring your printed ticket admission to the event. Deadline for registration is Friday, October 20, 2023. If you have any questions, please call 301-446-3400; Maryland Relay 7-1-1 or email Seniors@pgparks.com.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Come out and have breakfast with Santa Claus and his reindeer Saturday, December 16, 2023, from 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Participants will get the chance to take a picture with Santa Claus. Food and drinks are provided as well as a scavenger hunt in the community center.

Ticket Price: Residents: \$7, Non-Residents: \$10, ages: 2–10. Event Category: Community Centers Youth. Event Program & Series: Holidays. Prince George’s Plaza Community Center 301-864-1611 princegeorgesplazacc@pgparks.com. Contact: Dwight Godwin Jr. 301-864-1611 dwight.godwin@pgparks.com.

MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Morgan State University Alumni Association held their 2023, 16th Annual Blue and Orange Scholarship Dinner Dance and Awards program Saturday, September 9, 2023, at Greater Waldorf Jaycees.

2023 honorees were Rev. Dr. Danam Jones, Calvert County, Kesia Wheeler, Charles County, Rev. Dr. Johnsie W. Cogman, Prince George’s County, Adrienne Michele Mathis, St. Mary’s County.

Congratulations to all the scholarship recipients. Scholarship recipients were Majesty Wych, Thomas Stone High School, Sydney Baker, Thomas Stone High School, Kevin Presley, North Point High School, Camdyn Lionel Frederick Douglass High School, Sydney Cooksey, Northern High School, Moriyah Davis, Maurice J. McDonough High School, Aaron Samuel, St. Charles High School, Janihya Jones, St. Charles High School.

Greater Mt. Nebo A.M.E. Church Hosts Deaf Awareness Day and Presents Trailblazer Awards to Deaf Actor Warren “WaWa” Snipe and Deaf Emmy Nominee Keivonn Woodard

By PRESS OFFICER

Greater Mt. Nebo A.M.E. Church

BOWIE, Md. (Sept. 11, 2023)—Greater Mt. Nebo A.M.E. Church will present Trailblazer Awards to Deaf actor, rapper and artist Warren “WaWa” Snipe and 10 year old Deaf actor and Emmy nominee Keivonn Woodard on **Sunday, September 24, 2023** at 9:45 a.m. at the church’s Deaf Awareness Day in Bowie, MD.

Greater Mt. Nebo Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. Gerald Folsom is proud to announce an inspiring day raising awareness of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community. Pastor Folsom believes “we have an awesome opportunity to honor and witness on this occasion.” The church will have sign language interpreters so that everyone Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Hearing can enjoy praise and heartfelt worship by the Signs of Praise Community Choir, powerful messages, fellowship and more.

“Wawa” Snipe hails from the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area and makes “Dip Hop” music that represents Hip Hop music through deaf eyes. Keivonn Woodard is from Prince Georges County, and is the youngest actor to be honored with an Emmy nomination. Snipe and Woodard are trailblazers in their genres who have demonstrated that Deafness is not a limitation.

For more information about Greater Mt. Nebo’s Deaf Awareness Day and to obtain a free ticket visit bit.ly/gmnebodad2023.

Founded on June 8, 1877, Greater Mt. Nebo A.M.E. Church has a rich history rooted in community service and social activism in Prince George’s County. The church’s mission is to be a church where the Holy Spirit empowers people to worship God, make disciples for Jesus Christ, and serve the world. Greater Mt. Nebo A.M.E. Church holds virtual and in-person services on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. For more information visit www.gmnebo.org.

Maryland Department of Health Announces Summit, Toolkit and Trainings in Support of National Suicide Prevention Month

By PRESS OFFICER

Maryland Department of Health

BALTIMORE (Sept. 11, 2023)—The Maryland Department of Health today announced a suicide prevention summit, new toolkit, trainings and campaigns in support of National Suicide Prevention Month.

“Suicide has a devastating impact on families and communities,” said Maryland Department of Health Deputy Secretary for Behavioral Health Alyssa Lord. “Our goal with these initiatives is to begin to address the gaps and disparities in accessing essential resources and services that could help to save lives.”

Nationally, suicide is the 12th leading cause of death. Since the pandemic, many communities have seen an increase in suicide.

- Older adults (85+) have the highest rates of suicide, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Older men (75+) have the highest rates of suicide compared to other age groups.
- Suicide was the 13th leading cause of death among veterans
- Among youth:
 - Suicide was the second leading cause of death for ages 10–14 in 2020.
 - The national suicide rate for Black youth ages 10–19 increased by 78% from 2000 to 2020.
 - 17% of LGBTQ youth ages 13–17 attempted suicide in 2022, according to The Trevor Project

In support of Suicide Prevention Month, the department’s Behavioral Health Administration announced the “Together We Care” Summit, a day-long, in-person event dedicated to discussing suicide prevention, intervention and postvention strategies, as well as best practices and resources, with a focus on collaboration and partnership across the state.

This summit will bring together a group of diverse stakeholders—including survivors, family and community members, educators and mental health and healthcare providers—who are committed to elevating education on suicide risk factors and response.

Representatives from all of Maryland’s 24 jurisdictions, suicide prevention coalitions, veterans affairs partners and the Maryland National Guard will be in attendance. The event will include a keynote speaker, breakout rooms and networking.

The “Together We Care” Summit—hosted in partnership with the Behavioral Health Administration’s Office of Suicide Prevention and the Central East Mental Health Technology Transfer Center—will take place Thursday, Sept. 28 at the Martin’s Crosswinds in Prince George’s County. See Eventbrite to reserve a spot.

The Office of Suicide Prevention also announced the 2023 Suicide Prevention Month Toolkit: Connecting to Hope. This year’s toolkit includes a calendar of events, key data points, warning signs, responsible communication guidance, safety planning, lethal means and firearms safety information, and social media campaign materials. The toolkit also spotlights available training. Over the last year, the Office of Suicide Prevention offered 11 trainings to 1,231 individuals. Trainings for the general public are being expanded during Suicide Prevention Awareness

COMMUNITY

Beltsville Native Serves Aboard Navy Warship in San Diego

By MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST
1ST CLASS JOSIAH TROMBLEY
Navy Office of Community Outreach

SAN DIEGO (Aug. 29, 2023)—Airman Recruit Abdoul Amadou, a native of Beltsville, Maryland, serves aboard a U.S. Navy warship operating out of San Diego, California.

Amadou joined the Navy six months ago. Today, Amadou serves as an aviation boatswain's mate (fuel) aboard USS Makin Island.

"I joined the Navy to serve and be a part of my new country," said Amadou. "I left Togo on May 28, 2021, because I won the lottery, which allowed me to come to America."

Growing up in Togo, Amadou moved to Beltsville and graduated from Lycee Basar High School in 2015.

Skills and values learned in the Navy are similar to those found in Beltsville.

"My hometown taught me to make myself better and seek better opportunities," said Amadou. "I worked in Beltsville and saw a lot of people's ambition when starting businesses, which inspired me to join the Navy."

These lessons have helped Amadou while serving aboard USS Makin Island.

Makin Island is an amphibious assault ship. According to Navy officials, these types of warships embark, transport and land elements of a landing force for a variety of expeditionary warfare missions.

Because of their inherent capabilities, these ships have been and will continue to be called upon to support humanitarian and other contingency missions on short notice.

As a member of the Navy, Amadou is part of a world-class organization focused on maintaining maritime dominance, strengthening partnerships, increasing competitive warfighting capabilities and sustaining combat-ready forces in support of the National Defense Strategy.

"The Navy is important to national defense because it is a strong foundation and show of force in its representation of the best people of its country," said Amadou.

With 90 percent of global commerce traveling by sea and access to the internet relying on the security of undersea fiber optic cables, Navy officials continue to emphasize that the prosperity of the United States is directly linked to trained sailors and a strong Navy.

Amadou and the sailors they serve with have many opportunities to achieve accomplishments



PHOTO COURTESY NAVY OFFICE OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Airman Recruit Abdoul Amadou

during their military service.

"My proudest accomplishment in the Navy is graduating from boot camp and coming to USS Makin Island as a sailor," said Amadou. "I had never seen a large ship like that. People in 'A' school told me about the size of our ships, but the first time I saw it, I lost myself because I had never seen anything like it."

As Amadou and other sailors continue to train and perform missions, they take pride in serving their country in the United States Navy.

"Serving in the Navy is an important thing for me because my family is proud of me which makes me proud," said Amadou.

Amadou is grateful to others for helping make a Navy career possible.

"I would like to thank my family and my friends for giving me good advice and for supporting me when I came here," added Amadou. "I would also like to thank my uncle, Gbati Kakaye, and my aunt, Fadila Kakaye, for giving me everything when I moved here for those years. I also want to thank my friend, Nabine Basile, who joined the Navy first and told me to speak to a recruiter about the benefits of joining the Navy."

"When we have more educated Americans that actually understand President Biden's agenda, it's easier to share that message with your neighbor," she said.

Rep. Steny Hoyer, D-Maryland, said in remarks before Biden spoke that "factories are opening across America." Hoyer also touted the Biden administration's efforts to lower health care, prescription drug, and energy costs.

Biden dismissed his predecessor as "Donald Hoover Trump" and blistered Republicans for saying that "everything's wrong with America."

"They keep telling us that America is failing," the president said. "Well, they're wrong. They're failing. America's not failing. America's winning, and there's one reason for it: you."

Adult Grief Support Programs Meeting This Fall

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
Hospice of the Chesapeake

PASADENA, Md. (Sept. 12, 2023)—Chesapeake Life Center will offer a variety of grief support groups for adults that will be meeting this fall. Groups will meet in person at locations in Anne Arundel, Calvert, and Prince George's counties as well as virtually.

The following grief support groups will meet in person:

- **Drop-In Grief Support Groups** are open to anyone grieving. Groups offer participants an opportunity to share their feelings and obtain support from others who are experiencing loss. There is no fee. These groups will meet as follows:
 - **North Beach Senior Center**, 9010 Chesapeake Ave., North Beach, Maryland, from 1 to 2 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 4, Nov. 1, and Dec. 6.
 - **Southern Pines Senior Center**, 20 Appeal Lane, Lusby, Maryland, from 2 to 3 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, and Dec. 12.
 - **Chesapeake Life Center**, 90 Ritchie Highway, Pasadena, Maryland, from 1 to 2 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 11, Nov. 8 and Dec. 13.
 - **Calvert Pines Senior Center**, 450 W. Dares Beach Road, Prince Frederick, Maryland, from 1 to 2 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 17, Nov. 21, and Dec. 19.
- **Loss of Life Partner/Spouse Evening Group** is a group for individuals grieving the death of a spouse or life partner. The cost is \$10 per session. It will meet on the center's campus at 90 Ritchie Highway, Pasadena, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 11, Nov. 8 and Dec. 13.

One group will meet both in-person and virtually:

- **SoulCollage Grief Support Group** has participants create a series of collages to commemorate lost loved ones and to visually journal the grief process. The group will meet from 5 to 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 2 at the center's office at 9500 Medical Center Drive, Suite 250, in Largo, Maryland, as well as via Zoom. Childcare is not provided, and children are not permitted in any of these groups.

The following group will meet virtually via Zoom for Healthcare:

- **Loss of Life Partner/Spouse Morning Group** is for individuals grieving the death of a spouse or life partner. It will meet from 10:30 a.m. to noon Tuesdays, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, and Dec. 12. Acknowledging that not everyone has access to this technology or may not be comfortable with it, the center suggests people call or email the office and grief professionals will work with individuals to help them find other appropriate resources if needed.

Except for drop-in groups, registration is required and can be completed by calling 888-501-7077 or emailing griefinfo@chesapeakehospice.org. Visit www.hospicechesapeake.org/events for a complete listing of in-person and virtual groups and workshops for adults and children.

Chesapeake Life Center, a program service of Hospice of the Chesapeake, serves hospice family members and the community with bereavement services and activities aimed at enhancing the quality of life for those grieving the loss of a loved one. For details, visit www.chesapeakehospice.org.

Old Bowie Celebrates Festival on Saturday, October 7, 2023

By PRESS OFFICER
Old Bowie Arts & Heritage Committee

BOWIE, Md. (Sept. 13, 2023)—Mark your calendar for a day of family-friendly fun at the annual Old Bowie Celebrates! festival on Saturday, October 7, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. The festival is co-sponsored by Old Bowie Arts & Heritage Committee and the City of Bowie.

The festival features live music and dance, arts and craft vendors, street entertainers, children's activities, a juried art show, and more.

Festivalgoers will enjoy a full day of music and dance performances on multiple stages. Music includes a range of sounds from R&B, Jazz, and Reggae, to bagpipes. Performers include the Jose Luiz Martins Ensemble, Jay Johnson and Friends, Leron Young, and Renee Georges to name a few. This year, an additional stage is devoted solely to international performances, featuring an Asian Dance Group, Caribbean Steel Drum band, Proverbs Reggae band, and Native American traditional dance.

Adults and children alike will marvel at a stilt-walker, unicyclist, and magicians. Festivalgoers can ride the mini-train along the Heritage Hiking/Bike Trail, learn to play marbles, and enjoy the music of Organ Grinder Lola. Festivalgoers will want to explore local history at the City of Bowie's Welcome House Museum and the Railroad Museum and listen to Bedlam Colonial Music. All will want to savor the local and ethnic foods available.

Children will find plenty of activities designed

especially for them. They can collect stamps in their festival "passport" by participating in dance, music, fitness, or arts and crafts and then receive a prize. They can explore a special children's area which includes games and more hands-on activities. Echoes of Nature (with their animal ambassadors from around the world) and Kidsinger Jim Hossick will entertain the children with special performances.

The festival spans 12th Street and Chestnut Avenue to Maple Avenue on 9th Street in Old Bowie.

Free parking is available at multiple locations, including Rockledge Elementary School (off Rt. 197), with a free shuttle to transport festivalgoers. For more information on all of the day's activities, parking and shuttle service, visit the festival online at www.oldbowiecelebrates.us.

Old Bowie Celebrates Cultures through Arts and Heritage

The Old Bowie Arts & Heritage Steering Committee is a group of dedicated volunteers which includes Old Bowie residents and representatives from the Huntington Heritage Society, Bowie United Methodist Church, and BRAVA. The Old Bowie Arts & Heritage Steering Committee plans and operates an annual arts and heritage festival that attracts people to and establishes Old Bowie as a place to explore and enjoy. In addition to the annual festival, the Steering Committee is currently planning other events for 2024 for the enjoyment of Old Bowie residents and the wider community.

Biden from A1

does not see it that way. As a mother to two sons and a first-generation college student, she told Capital News Service in an interview that Biden is a symbol of hope for families like hers, representing a dedication to bolster the middle class and support hardworking American families.

Davis, who introduced Biden, said she believes in the direction the president is leading the country, emphasizing, "I think we definitely need some kind of economic push in the right direction."

When asked how Biden can reverse polls showing most Americans are unhappy with the economy, she emphasized the need for Americans to pursue education and opportunities like she has.



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Largo Landing Fellowship Open House "A Home Built on Hope: Strengthening Community Ties"

By PRESS OFFICER
Fellowship Square

Come to Largo Landing Fellowship House's "open house" evening with tours, refreshments, and an opportunity to learn about ways YOU can help seniors with very limited resources in our community. Connect with residents and staff, enjoy a performance by the Largo Landing choir, and learn about volunteer opportunities and ways to support vulnerable older adults living in Prince George's County. Your visit will bring joy to our residents and make a meaningful impact in our community! Fellowship Square's Largo Landing Fellowship House provides affordable housing to financially vulnerable older adults—many who live on average annual fixed-income of \$10,000/year—and ensures they have the support they need to live independent and fulfilling lives

even in the face of obstacles such as the high costs of housing in the greater Washington DC area.

When: **Tuesday, October 17, 2023**, from 6–8 p.m.

Where: Largo Landing Fellowship House, 1077 Largo Rd, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

More information: <https://www.fellowshipsquare.org/get-involved/events/>

Contact & RSVP: Brenda Martinez, bmartinez@fellowshipsquare.org

Fellowship Square, a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, is one of the leading local providers of affordable housing and services to low-income seniors, owning 670 units (240 of them jointly) and serving more than 850 older adults in the greater Washington DC region.

COMMENTARY

Marc Morial

President and CEO, National Urban League



To Be Equal:

Threats and Intimidation Against Prosecutor Fani Willis Are Terroristic Acts in Pursuit of an Authoritarian Trump Regime

"I keep the promise of my oath to the United States and Georgia Constitutions and do not allow myself to be bullied and threatened by Members of Congress, local elected officials, or others who believe lady justice should not be blind and that America has different laws for different citizens."

—Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis

The FBI this week confirmed that it is investigating new threats against Fulton County officials in connection to the indictment of Donald Trump and others on charges of election interference in

Georgia. While the FBI did not share details of the threat, Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis said earlier this month that the threats and harassment she has received ever since opening her investigation of Trump are "very grotesque."

The FBI and other law enforcement agencies already are investigating an earlier spate of threats against Willis and the grand jurors who issued the indictments.

The chilling pattern of Trump's most dangerous supporters threatening, attempting, or committing violence against anyone who defies Trump's will

or holds him accountable emerged even before his election and reached a peak on January 6, 2021.

But threats and acts of violence aren't the only method Trump and his supporters are using to intimidate Willis: he and allies in Congress and the Georgia state legislature have targeted Willis with lies and baseless insinuations, threats to withhold federal funds to deprive her of the means to carry out her authority, and an unjustified campaign to sanction her or to oust her from her duly elected position, simply for holding Trump accountable for the law.

Georgia Governor Brian Kemp has denounced his colleague's efforts, dismissing them as "political theater." But they are far more sinister than that. They are deliberate and direct assaults on the foundations of democracy and the rule of law.

Trump has made no secret of his desire for the authoritarian power of a tyrant. He emulates Joseph Stalin by denouncing his critics as "enemies of the people." He openly covets the oppressive control that brutal dictator Kim Jong Un holds over the people of North Korea. He called the extrajudicial execution of thousands of Filipinos, including at least 122 children, "the right way" to enforce drug laws. He's vowed to pardon the violent insurrectionists who attacked Congress. He wants to purge the federal government of nonpartisan civil servants and replace them with loyalist

accomplices and lackeys. He would use the Department of Justice to prosecute and imprison his adversaries.

In challenging the authority of Willis—or any prosecutor—to hold Trump accountable to the law, Trump's henchmen are working to make Trump's nightmarish vision a reality.

House Judiciary Committee Chair Rep. Jim Jordan hardly seeking to uphold the law with his unconstitutional demand that Willis turn over all documents related the case. On the contrary, as Willis observed in her scathing response, "Its obvious purpose is to obstruct a Georgia criminal proceeding and to advance outrageous partisan misrepresentations." Rep. Eric Swalwell, who serves on the committee, suggested Jordan and his cohorts have no intention of pursuing the documents, lest they dispel the "innuendo and allegation" Jordan is trying to create.

The National Urban League commends Willis' grace under fire and her commitment to apply justice equitably. We pray for her safety and the safety of all the officials and grand jurors who face these obscene threats. And we call on every elected official to uphold their sworn duty to uphold the Constitution and defend the rule of law.

—September 15, 2023

Marian Wright Edelman

Founder and President Emerita, Children's Defense Fund



ChildWatch:

Four Little Girls

Sixty years ago, on September 15, 1963, four little girls were changing into choir robes and chatting in a church restroom as they prepared for the Youth Sunday services being held that morning at 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. Instead, at 10:22 a.m., a bundle of dynamite that had been deliberately set to go off during worship services. Fourteen-year-olds Addie Mae Collins, Carole Robertson, and Cynthia Wesley and 11-year-old Denise McNair were all killed.

Carole was a straight-A student, a member of the science club and the Girl Scouts, and played

clarinet in the school band. Cynthia played clarinet too, along with piano, and dreamed of being a teacher. Denise, the youngest, was excited about singing in the youth chorus; future Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, a childhood friend, remembered that they performed in musical skits and played dolls together. Addie was one of seven siblings and loved softball and drawing. Her 12-year-old sister Sarah was with her in the church restroom, and remembered that Denise had just asked Addie to help her tie the sash on the back of her dress when the bomb went off.

Two more Black teenagers were killed in the racial violence that swept through Birmingham in

the hours after the bombings: 16-year-old Johnny Robinson was shot and killed by a police officer, and 13-year-old Virgil Ware was shot and killed by a white teenager carrying a Confederate flag. Addie's sister Sarah, now Sarah Collins Rudolph, lost her right eye following the explosion and was among the child survivors at the church who lived with the trauma of the day for decades. Their older sister Junie remembered that she and Addie had gotten into an argument that morning because she'd lost one of Addie's rings, and the next time she saw Addie was when she was asked to identify her sister in the morgue. Her face was so unrecognizable Junie only knew her by a single shoe. Barbara Cross, whose father was the church's pastor, was hit in the head with a light fixture and suffered tremors and fear of loud noises for years afterwards. During remembrances ten years ago she said, "I still cry sometimes . . . We didn't know we were victims of terrorism back then. For years, we tucked it away, and tried to be strong."

Collins Rudolph, who wrote a book called *The Fifth Little Girl*, still has glass in her body from the explosion 60 years later and suffers painful ongoing medical needs and bills, but continues to speak out and share her story. The theme for the Sunday School lessons and the sermon that was planned but never preached that morning was "A

Love That Forgives," and she has said that though it took her years, she ultimately embraced that message: "I was angry for a long time, and I knew I had to forgive these people that hurt me . . . I had to forgive them, because I didn't want to carry this hate in my heart." She recently said this is the lesson she still wants to share with young people today: "Those girls—they didn't live their lives because of the color of our skin . . . It's time for us to all love one another."

Four little rocking chairs on the front porch of the lodge at the Children's Defense Fund's Alex Haley Farm honor Addie Mae Collins, Denise McNair, Carole Robertson, and Cynthia Wesley and help young people who are movement leaders today learn about the extraordinary sacrifices children made to help change America as frontline soldiers and transforming catalysts during the Civil Rights Movement. Children were the shock troops who parted threatening crowds to attend newly-desegregated schools. Children attended marches and faced police dogs and fire hoses and filled jails alongside adults. And children were killed by the same hate-filled violence. On this anniversary and every day, our nation owes all of them an enormous debt of gratitude.

—September 15, 2023

Council Members Ingrid Watson and Eric Olson Respond to Arrest in the Murder of DuVal High School Student Jayda Medrano-Moore

By KAREN D. CAMPBELL
Council Office of Communications

Our community is heartbroken by the senseless loss of 16 year-old Jayda Medrano-Moore, the DuVal High School student who was shot and killed near her school on September 11.

Jayda is being remembered as a beloved daughter, bright and vibrant, and a cherished friend with boundless potential and inspiring dreams and aspirations to one day play basketball in the WNBA. Police say she was killed while trying to break up a fight.

As parents and community leaders, we cannot comprehend the overwhelming grief and sense of loss her parents, family members and loved ones must feel.

Today's news that a suspect, a 17-year-old Flowers High School student, is now in custody and charged as an adult in this homicide, exemplifies the hard work and commitment of our public safety officers and the strong benefit of community cooperation.

Our community cannot accept gun violence. We cannot accept that our young people are being faced with such violence when they should instead be enjoying their youth and looking forward to the promise of a fulfilling life ahead. We all must do better.

All of us must work together to end the cycle of violence that is much too common in our communities, and that threatens our peace and our promise in Prince George's County.

If anyone has information relevant to this investigation, they are asked to please call Homicide Unit detectives at 301-516-2512; contact Crime Solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS (8477); visit www.pgcrcimesolvers.com, or use the "P3 Tips" mobile app. You can remain anonymous. Please refer to case number 23-0053813.

**DuVal High School is in Council District 4, represented by Council Member Ingrid Watson.*

The fatal shooting occurred in neighboring District 3, represented by Council Member Eric Olson.

Suicide Prevention from A2

Month, including Mental Health First Aid and training with The Trevor Project.

The previously announced Trevor Project partnership, Caring Out Loud, is one of four data-driven campaigns that spotlight and elevate suicide prevention and mental health promotion for historically underserved and excluded groups: Black youth, LGBTQ+ youth, Native American populations and athletes. Each campaign is undertaken in partnership with grassroots organizations that serve these communities.

The office is currently developing a separate toolkit specifically for Maryland K-12 public and private schools with suicide prevention, intervention and postvention guidance for teachers, administrators, parents and students, slated for release this fall.

Next month, the Behavioral Health Administration is hosting the Annual Suicide Prevention Conference on Oct. 4. This virtual event, featuring Keynote Speaker Richard G. Tedeschi, PhD, will offer 5.75 continuing education units.

Learn more at health.maryland.gov/bha.

The Prince George's Post

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Hoyer Statement on Hispanic Heritage Month

WASHINGTON (Sept. 15, 2023)—Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-05) released the following statement today in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month:

"Today, I join in celebrating the start of Hispanic Heritage Month. Hispanic Americans here in Maryland's Fifth District and across America make us a stronger, more diverse, and more prosperous nation and add so much to our culture, economy, and democracy. They are an indelible part of our national family, and this month, we reflect on their many contributions to America.

"Whether it's lowering costs, building safer communities, addressing historic inequities, or creating new jobs and economic opportunities for working families, I continue to work closely with my colleagues in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus to ensure members of the Hispanic community have the tools they need to Make it in America. In the 116th Congress, I was also proud to work with the CHC and my Democratic colleagues to pass the National Museum of the American Latino Act and advance

our mission to ensure the Smithsonian Institution preserves and promotes 500 rich years of Hispanic-American history. As this week's court ruling undermining DACA reminded us, it is also crucial that we create a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers and those holding T.P.S. and D.E.D. status. These families deserve to live with the certainty that they can remain in this nation that they proudly call home. That's why House Democrats passed the American Dream and Promise Act last Congress, and why will keep fighting until that legislation or a similar measure finally becomes law.

"As the son of a Danish immigrant who came to America in search of opportunity, I am committed to ensuring this nation remains the great land of opportunity for all who seek a better future for themselves and their families—and that includes our nation's vibrant Hispanic community. May this month remind us of the transformative positive impact that Latinos have made—and continue to make—on every facet of American life."

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

Will Opening a Joint Account Affect My Disabled Father's "SSI?"

By RUSSELL GLOOR,

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

Dear Rusty: I live in Michigan and my senior disabled father lives in rural Kentucky. His income is part Social Security and part disability. I talked to a local credit union near his home and explained I would like to open a joint account. They said as long as he comes in with his ID it's possible. My question is—will adding money to our joint account affect his SSI and disability? **Signed: Caring Daughter**

Dear Caring Daughter: First, I need to clarify that there are two types of disability programs administered by the Social Security Administration—Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). The acronym "SSI" normally refers to "Supplemental Security Income" which is a benefit for disabled senior adults (and children) who have very little income and very few assets. "SSI" is not Social Security income; rather it is a general benefit program jointly administered by the Social Security Administration and the State in which your father lives. In contrast, Social Security Disability (SSDI) benefits are earned from working and are not affected by the recipient's assets, as are "SSI" benefits.

From what you've written, I assume that your father may have a small Social Security retirement benefit (because he has reached his full retirement age and SSDI isn't available after full retirement age), and he is also receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefits. If this is the case, although your father's Social Security retirement benefit would not be affected by opening a joint account at the credit union, his Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefit likely will be. As co-owner of the joint account your assets would count towards your father's "SSI" asset limit, and your assets, as well as any "in kind" assistance you otherwise provide, would likely put your father over the SSI income/asset eligibility limit and result in his SSI benefits being terminated.

So, although the credit union may be willing to open a joint account for you and your father, I'm afraid that would result in your father losing his SSI (Supplemental Security Income) benefits, leaving him with only his small Social Security retirement benefit. You may wish to review the SSI eligibility information at this link: www.ssa.gov/ssi/eligibility or you could contact the Social Security Administration and ask to speak with someone experienced with Supplemental Security Income matters. For clarity, "SSI" assistance is jointly administered by the Social Security Administration and each State's Human Services department, and assistance available varies somewhat depending on the recipient's state of residence. Thus, since your father lives in Kentucky, you might also contact that state's human services agency to discuss your options for providing remote assistance to your father without jeopardizing his Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit: www.chfs.ky.gov/Pages/contact.aspx.

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 ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.

Kenya from A1

See Orientation & Trip Images on Facebook.

"The trade mission to Nairobi, Kenya is going to position our businesses to be very competitive in the IT, healthcare, infrastructure development, and professional services sectors," said PGCEDC Director of International Business Development, Martin U. Ezemma. "We believe the trade mission was very successful and our companies were able to participate in over 50 B2B meetings. We are looking forward to great results in the future because International Expansion Starts Here."

The mission was open to all industry sectors and businesses within the purview of Prince George's County. A significant mission goal was increasing investment and promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth for local companies.

While in Kenya, the delegation had unique opportunities to meet with U.S. Ambassador Meg Whitman. They discussed the possibility of boosting Prince George's County and Kenyan business connections. In addition, local companies were matched with Prince George's County companies through the assistance of a State of Maryland consultant in Nairobi. Furthermore the U.S. Department of Commerce Commercial Services division supported our companies business-to-business (B2B) meeting through its Gold Key Service.

PGCEDC has organized several international trade missions over the last ten years. These missions enable Prince George's County companies to gain entry into global markets, identify export opportunities, meet potential business partners, and understand the business landscape.

For more information about PGCEDC's International Business Services visit: <https://www.pgcedc.com/international-business-unit>

Moore Tells Interviewer He Has no Interest in Higher Office; Talks Economy, Public Safety

By KIERSTEN HACKER
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON (Sept. 12, 2023)—Gov. Wes Moore fended off questions Tuesday on whether he'll run in the 2024 Democratic presidential primary during an interview with global news organization Semafor, saying he had no interest in higher office and turning the subject to his nontraditional political background.

"I think it's really important for people to remember that I am probably the most improbable governor in this country," Moore said in answer to the first question from Semafor Cofounder and Editor-at-large Steve Clemons. "I'm a person who has never come from a political lineage."

Moore, an author, nonprofit executive and former Army officer, had not held political office before winning the governor's election in 2022.

Moore turned his focus to Maryland, discussing plans to revive the state's economy through targeted investments in its assets and better serve constituents with a data-driven approach to policy changes.

Moore often defines Maryland as "asset-rich and strategy-poor," and cites the contrast presented by the state's high concentration of prominent institutions of higher education, military facilities and government agencies, such as the National Security Agency, with its sluggish economic growth rate of .2% in the past 4 years. The current economic strategy of spreading funding across numerous projects "doesn't make sense," he said, explaining he'll use a more focused approach.

In June, Moore established the Maryland Economic Council, charging it with creating economic recommendations by the next legislative session in January. After the General Assembly passed numerous measures to affect systemic budgetary changes during the last session, a report from the Department of Legislative Services predicted a \$418 million structural deficit for fiscal year 2025.

Moore said his administration will use data to drive policy decisions, especially when looking to minimize socioeconomic disparities, and he used environmental injustice in Baltimore as an example.

"You can't understand what these disparities look like if we aren't able to fully appreciate the measure of intentionality that very much existed in the creation of that and the lack of intentionality when it comes to how we're going to address it."

The administration must consider the root causes of poverty, investing in transit, the public education system and programs to combat the teacher shortage, Moore said, to jumpstart economic growth.



PHOTO: KIERSTEN HACKER/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE.

Gov. Wes Moore is interviewed by Semafor Editor-at-large Steve Clemons in Washington on Tuesday, Sept. 12.

Creating new opportunities for young people to succeed in different areas will help fight juvenile crime and keep violence out of communities, Moore said. Using data and technology in innovative ways can also help ensure that solutions to crime are predictive rather than reactive.

Increasing public safety is his top priority, Moore said, highlighting the need for "appropriate intensity, absolute integrity, and full accountability" in the policing system as well as a need for crisis intervention teams to shift the response of mental health calls away from police officers. Over \$100 million was invested directly in behavioral health, Moore said.

Moore noted that police officers respond to all situations, and many times they are met with circumstances they cannot fix. He called for change, saying that public safety is in part a matter of creating a better livelihood for people.

Moore said his administration invested \$122 million in local law enforcement, \$17.5 million of which went to Baltimore City, where the police department has been under a federal agreement to make reforms since 2016. Moore also invested in intelligence sharing through the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center and organized crime units.

In Baltimore, other reform means combating gun trafficking, filling the police shortage with well-trained officers, and developing more intentional solutions, said Moore, who places special importance on these issues as a Baltimore native.

"I love my state, all 24 jurisdictions. But I'm a Baltimorean," Moore said. "That's who I am. Can't understand me if you don't understand Baltimore."

FICO Partners With Historically Black Colleges and Universities to Launch Educational Analytics Challenge

Bowie State University and Alabama A&M University Pilot with FICO's Analytics Program

By DAVID THOMPSON
Bowie State University

BOWIE, Md. (Sept. 15, 2023)—Global analytics firm FICO yesterday announced the launch of its new FICO® Educational Analytics Challenge program created for students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). The semester-long program features remote mentoring from FICO data scientists and in-person lectures by FICO's Chief Analytics Officer, Dr. Scott Zoldi. The program is currently in pilot with students at Bowie State University and Alabama A&M University for the fall 2023 semester.

The FICO® Educational Analytics Challenge is a program created to help promote diversity, equity and inclusion in data science, engineering and technology fields. FICO has had a long-standing commitment to innovation and views diversity as critical for success.

"We are thrilled to partner with FICO in the classroom to help sharpen our stu-

dents' analytics skills and improve access to career opportunities in data science, engineering and technology," said Dr. Velma Latson, technology and security department professor at Bowie State University. "We pride ourselves on equipping our students to be innovators and future industry leaders. Thank you to FICO for providing an opportunity for students to learn and think critically about how technology and AI impacts critical decisions made by organizations; this will be a valuable tool for our participating students as they enter the workforce."

Eight Bowie State students are currently enrolled in a Capstone course dedicated to a project focused on data bias, identification and mitigation. In addition, four students participated in a summer internship program designed to prepare them to be team leaders this fall.

The FICO® Educational Analytics Challenge presents students with a real-world analytic problem to solve focused on bias identification and mitigation in

housing data and resultant decision models. The pilot program allows students to work in teams to sharpen their analytics skills and provides access to FICO analytics subject matter experts for technical/project support and mentoring opportunities. The project also provides financial support to enhance analytics study for each participating HBCU and create potential career opportunities for students for employment after graduation.

"One of the biggest challenges of building predictive models is identifying and handling inherent biases in the data," said Dr. Scott Zoldi at FICO. "To help further inclusion by fighting biases in models, we are training and supporting a diverse and talented group of young people to drive the future of AI innovation and propel Responsible AI practices forward. I am pleased to be able to meet with students at their schools to both share ideas at lectures and engage in informal mentoring conversations."

Volunteer With a Nonprofit With a 44-year Tradition of Caring for Life

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
Hospice of the Chesapeake

PASADENA, Md. (Sept. 5, 2023)—Hospice of the Chesapeake began its journey of caring for life 44 years ago with four volunteers and four patients. Today, the not-for-profit hospice cares for patients in Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, and Prince George's counties, providing high quality, compassionate care to more than 600 patients and their families each day.

The need for volunteers is constant for this community-based healthcare organization. Volunteers play a vital role on the hospice team by visiting and providing comfort to patients, performing honor salutes to veteran patients, supporting caregivers, serving as counselors and facilitators in grief programs, assisting operations in a secondhand

boutique, acting as advocates at community events and assisting in the offices and inpatient care centers. The organization believes that volunteers are the heart of hospice and that hospice volunteering is a wonderful way to give back to your community. Becoming a hospice volunteer can change your life in so many ways, offering you opportunities to share your time, heart and passion with patients and their families.

There is an immediate need for volunteers at **The Shoppe**, the upscale second-hand boutique in Prince Frederick. Funds raised at The Shoppe support hospice operations in Calvert County. The Shoppe has been operating since 2009 and offers a selection of high quality, name brand new and gently used men's and women's clothing, shoes, jewelry, purses, and accessories. Volunteers in the store assist customers with

purchases, process clothing donations, and help to spread the word about The Shoppe throughout the community. Volunteers at The Shoppe pride themselves on helping customers look their best for a bargain. Retail experience is not required, and training is provided.

Other areas of need include:

- **Compassionate Care Volunteers** enhance the quality of life for patients and their families by providing companionship, a listening ear and practical assistance.
- **Honor Salute Volunteers** pay respect to veteran patients in a unique way. Volunteers join service members to honor veterans for their service in the military and

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Oxon Hill, Maryland 20745

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Worship Service - 11:00 A.M.
Wed. Prayer Service & Bible Study - 7:00 P.M.
Office (301) 839-1166
Fax (301) 839-1721
E-mail: FHBC@verizon.net
Pastor: Rev. Waymond B. Duke

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Church School: - 9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship Celebration - 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Night Bible Study - 7:45 p.m.
Elder Willie W. Duvall, Pastor

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provide support to veterans.

- Vigil Volunteers** are available upon request to provide support to patients and families during the final days and hours of life. Vigil volunteers have completed additional training in the physical and spiritual aspects of dying.
- Integrative Arts Volunteers** provide what are often called complementary therapies. These volunteers restore harmony to the body, mind and spirit of patients and families by encouraging creative expression.
- Grief Support Volunteers** provide a caring presence either by phone or in person to support individuals during their grief journey. Become a hospice volunteer if you are age 18 or older and willing to complete volunteer training. Opportunities also exist for high school students and internships are available. Free training is provided; in fact, many enjoy taking advantage of the variety of complimentary learning opportunities offered to volunteers and staff. For more information about volunteer opportunities at Hospice of the Chesapeake, visit the website at www.hospicechesapeake.org/volunteer, contact the volunteer department at joinus@hospicechesapeake.org or call 443-837-1508.

Want to learn more about volunteering? Attend a drop-in hour from 3 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30 at Hospice of the Chesapeake's John & Cathy Belcher Campus at 90 Ritchie Highway, Pasadena, MD 21122.

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

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