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# Prince George's Firefighter and **Maryland Detailer Selected to** 2019 Air Force One Detailing Team At Seattle's Museum of Flight

**BV KIMBERLY BALLARD** for Shine Right Detailing

HUNTINGTOWN, Md. (July 1, 2019)— Prince George's County Firefighter and automotive detailer Josh Buckler of Shine Right Detailing has been hand-picked for the second year to the much anticipated 2019 Air Force One Detailing Team at Seattle's Museum of Flight. He again made the cut from hundreds of detailers nationwide by the original "Detailer of Air Force One", Renny Doyle of Detailing Success. Doyle announced this year's 55-person team just in time for the Independence Day holiday, and he will lead the weeklong project at the museum, July 7–14.

For 16 years, members who are chosen for the exclusive Air Force One Detailing Team, do so voluntarily as their patriotic duty to restore, maintain and protect the original presidential jet Air Force One and more than a dozen additional historic aircraft currently on exhibit

and he has perfected his skill at cleaning and polishing paint and metal. When I chose him for the team last year, I was confident he was qualified for the job," said Doyle. "After a year on the team, he has proven he has the experience needed to continue our work and he can help us coordinate new team members and show them the ropes this year."

"I am just as excited this year about being chosen of the team as I was last year, but I think I bring more to the table this year than last," says Buckler. "It is an honor to be steward and caretakers for all these iconic aircraft—especially Air Force One. I am honored to have been chosen for the team again and it makes the Fourth of July holiday special this

In addition to Air Force One, which is currently in preservation stages after 15 years of restoration, the team will continue restoring a solid aluminum WWII

in the museum's new Airpark Pavilion. B-29 Super Fortress Bomber and a re-"I trained Josh as an expert in paint cently acquired and badly deteriorating Vietnam-era B-52G Stratofortress Bomber. They will also clean and continue to maintain the first-ever Boeing "Jumbo Jet" 747; the Concorde Alpha Golf; and the first 1960s-70s-era Boeing 727-022 commercial airliner —all three, planes previous teams have begun restoring in the past 5–10 years.

Air Force One is the first presidential jet, known as a flying Oval Office for four American presidents including Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon. It entertained International dignitaries like Nikita Khrushchev and Henry Kissinger. For more than a decade, it lived on the open tarmac exposed to Seattle's notorious climate.

In 2003, a Bush-administration executive contacted Doyle about saving the deteriorating paint and brightwork on the

See **DETAILING TEAM** Page A8



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY SHINE RIGHT DETAILING

Prince George's County Firefighter and automotive detailer Josh Buckler

# **Upper Marlboro Resident** Appointed to **UMMS** Board

By SHAREESE CHURCHILL Office of the Governor



Elisa Basnight, Esq.

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (June 12)—Governor Larry Hogan announced [in June] the appointment of new members to the University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS) Board of Directors. These appointments deliver on the governor's promise to overhaul the board in response to revelations of self-dealing wrongdoing, and build on his enactment of major reforms of the way UMMS operates.

"Bipartisan reforms to fix the problems at

UMMS were a good first step, but I said that—still—more needed to be done," Governor Hogan said. "I pledged that I would appoint new board members who will serve with integrity and accountability, and today, I am delivering on that promise. This is another critical step as UMMS works to restore public trust."

The following UMMS appointee is from Upper Marlboro:

Elisa Basnight, Esq. currently serves as senior vice president of supply chain for the American Red Cross. She previously served as chief of staff for the United States Mint under the Obama administration, as well as head of the Center for Women Veterans at the Department of Veterans Affairs. She has also served as executive vice president for StrategyServ in Upper Marlboro and senior vice president of Health Net Federal Services for the Centene Corporation.

Governor Hogan will make additional appointments in the coming months, consistent with the bipartisan legislation he enacted in April.

#### **Central Gateway Communities ANC Meeting** Monday, July 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Spauldings Public Library, 5811 Old Silver Hill Road, District Heights, MD 20747

Main topics: Reinvesting in the Economy in Our Established Communities; Improving Retail in Prince George's County

Main speaker: Prince George's County Economic Development Corp. RSVP link: https://forms.gle/6mEvSWFdMftvQmSM9

# Commissioner Wanda M. Leonard **Elected New Mayor of Upper Marlboro**

**BV KYLE SNYDER** 

**Town of Upper Marlboro** 

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (July 2, 2019) -Wanda M. Leonard, who has served as a Commissioner in the Town of Upper Marlboro for the past 18 months, was elected President of the Board of Commissioners (Mayor) for the Town of Upper Marlboro in a special meeting July 1. Leonard succeeds Tonga Turner, who resigned last month to spend more time with her husband and their young sons and to focus on her professional career.

Leonard was sworn into office by the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court [on July 2]. She becomes only the second African American Mayor in the town's 313year history. She will serve alongside fellow Commissioner Linda Pennoyer.

"I am humbled and honored to have been elected as the town's new Mayor," Leonard said Tuesday. "My goals are two-fold. I certainly want to continue the great work

started by my predecessor, Tonga Turner. I also want to continue to move Upper Marlboro forward with my own vision of what we can become by working together."

Leonard said today that she strongly believes in service to the community. Her personal mantra is "Service before self." Realizing that the Town of Upper Marlboro needed visionary leadership and fresh perspectives on what town residents needed to enhance their living experience, and what matters are truly important to the community, initially led her to run for public office in January 2018.

Some of Leonard's community outreach accomplishments include being a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for abused and neglected children in the District of Columbia; a board member for Family Advocacy and a Donate Life Ambassador with Washington Regional Transplant Community (WRTC); an alum of the Prince George's County Police Citizens Academy; a Prince George County Police Volunteer



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY

Upper Marlboro Mayor Wanda M. Leonard

in Police Services (VIPS); and president of the Greater Upper Marlboro Maryland Community Emergency Response Team

See NEW MAYOR Page A8

# **Prince George's County Grief Programs Include Something New For Teens and Kids**

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN Hospice of the Chesapeake

LARGO Md. (July 1, 2019)—Chesapeake Life Center's Prince George's County office will offer a variety of grief support groups through September at its offices at 9500 Medical Center Drive, Suite 250, Largo, Maryland, as well as at other locations in the

county. New to the schedule is its Prince George's County Teen Support Group for youth ages 13 to 18 to connect with others their age who also grieve the death of a loved one. Its first meeting will be from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Sept. 11. Call for location and to speak with a counselor prior to attending the first meeting.

Another exciting new program is the Prince George's County Children's Grief Day Camp. It will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 17

at the College Park Airport and the Aviation Museum and will be an interactive workshop experience where children ages 6 to 12 can explore their grief, make friends and have a lot of fun. Through art, play, conversations and support, children will develop new ways to handle the difficult task of grieving while learning they are not alone. The program includes snacks and lunch and an activity in the aviation museum. The cost is \$40.

Other programs offered at the center's

- Prince George's County office include: Coffee and Conversations Monthly Morning Grief Support Group, an informal gathering that provides a safe place for sharing and learning about grief while exploring coping strategies. The group will meet from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Sept. 12.
- **Monthly Evening Grief Support Group** is similar in format to the morning group

and will meet on the fourth Thursday of the month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Sept. 26.

- **Sudden Loss Support Group** is for adults who are grieving someone who has passed unexpectedly or suddenly, including from suicide, homicide, accidents or natural causes that brought death rapidly. The group will meet on the evening of Sept. 16. Call for times and to speak with a counselor prior to attending your first meeting.
- 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 7:30 p.m. Aug. 5 and Sept. 9. The cost is \$10.

Children are not permitted in any adult groups. Registration is required for all groups; call 888-501-7077 or email griefinfo@ chesapeakelifecenter.org.

## **INSIDE**

**UM Capital Region Health** 

#### **ChildWatch:** A Country We Still **Have to Create**

The need to change course, heal, and make America what it professes to be and the nation our children and grandchildren deserve is more urgent than

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#### **Governor Hogan Announces** Menu for the Annual Buy **Local Cookout**

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student chefs from Crossland High School in Prince George's County.

This year also features recipes by

**Announces Interim President** & CEO

The Board of Health extends it warmest congratulations to Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH, upon his appointment as the Interim President and Chief Executive Officer of the University of Maryland Capital Region Health (UM Capital).

**Business and Finance**, Page A5

## **Movie Review:**

Annabelle Comes Home It's suspenseful and ominous, with

a few good jolts, but not as intense or unnerving-more "funhouse scary" than "I'll never sleep again" scary (which is more an observation than a complaint).

Out on the Town, Page A6

## **Earth Talk**

Dear EarthTalk:

What are American businesses doing to help the U.S. meet its Paris climate accord commitments?

—M. Francis, New York, NY

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# TOWNS and NEIGHBORS

# In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301-735-3451

#### Seatbelts and airbags save Mudd family from serious injuries in Beltway crash

John and Sheila Mudd and their kids, Leah, Sam and Claire, were returning from the Mudd Family Reunion in Charles County the evening of Friday, June 28. On the Beltway near Landover a speeding car slammed into the back of their Toyota Sienna after sideswiping another car. The van went into a spin and smashed into the jersey wall.

They were all wearing seatbelts, even Sam in the third seat in back. Dozens (it seemed) of airbags activated. Three of the family were unconscious. Sheila, my daughter, remembers nothing of the accident; she woke up at the

They were well treated at Prince George's Hospital, which was already working with victims of other accidents. Leah—who was celebrating her 25th birthday that day-suffered a cracked bone and Sheila needed 10 stitches in her forehead. They're all home now, recovering from concussions, bruises and sore backs.

The speeder, who had to be extricated from his Toyota Camry, was hospitalized. I don't know if he's still there. I don't know what he's going to be charged with.

The Mudds' van was totaled. I asked John what he's going to replace it with. He said the same make and model of the Toyota Sienna—its safety features probably saved their lives.

#### Neighbors and other good people

Jim Behr, of Oxon Hill, and Wayne Gordon, of District Heights, were among the watchers at the Morningside Independence Day Parade. They are regular readers of this column and it's always good to meet my readers.

Darryl Kelley, of Camp Springs, was ordained a Deacon at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on June 20. He preached and assisted at Mass for the first time at St. Philip's on June 23.

Sylvia Green is president of the Oxon Hill Food Pantry. Other officers are Yvonne Davis, vice-president; Betty Cottrell, secretary; Brenda Garland. treasurer; and Therese Kince, Assistant Treasurer. The Pantry is celebrating its 35th anniversary.

## How can I go to bat for Mike?

Michael Polley grew up in Morning-

side, graduated from the University of Maryland, worked for the Smithsonian, and headed the Morningside Recreation Council. He was one of my Cub Scouts when I was den mother and one of my husband Jack's players when Jack coached softball.

Mike died of cancer at 25. We petitioned for the new park next to Skyline School to be named in his honor, and

Now I notice the sign on Suitland Road, directing you to the park, has Mike's name misspelled: Michael Polly Park. I'll do something about it. I have to go to bat for Mike.

#### Coming up

- · A Health Fair—providing blood pressure screening, fitness workout and other health information—is scheduled for August 3, 11a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Suitland Road Baptist Church. The Mama and Baby Bus will be on site providing basic maternal and child health services. All are welcome. Call Dr. Kelvin M. McCune, Pastor, at 301-219-2296, for more information.
- St. Philip's annual Crab Feast will be held in the Social Hall at St. Philip's, Aug. 3, 1 to 5 p.m. For information, call the Rectory, 301-423-4244.
- "I Spy" is coming July 24 to August 15 at Darnall's Chance Museum in Upper Marlboro. Kids, ages 6–12, can learn real 18th century spying techniques during a role-playing interactive spy mission for General George Washington. They'll find out how the Continental Army successfully outwitted the British with secret codes and other tricks to win American Independence. "I Spy" is a 30 to 45 minute activity and will be held Wednesdays and Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info: 301-952-8010.
- The Surratt House is now taking registration for their September John Wilkes Booth Tours, Sept. 14, 21 and 28. Call 301-868-1121 to be placed on a mailing list to receive full details at that time.

## **Changing landscape**

Marco's Pizza has opened at 8809 Woodyard Road in Clinton. For information about hours, call 240-846-3630.

My great-nephew Robert was in town with his dad, Matthew Crowe, and the first thing he wanted to see in Washington was the new Fossil Hall at the Carolyn Williams on July 11.

Museum of Natural History. He declared it amazing, and "the best." It opened June 8 and has been very popular—you know, everyone loves those dinosaurs.

#### Gladys Locks, loved to watch The Golden Girls and the Redskins

Gladys Locks, 90, longtime Pentagon employee, died May 18. She was born in Newberry, S.C., the oldest girl of eighteen children. She attended and played basketball in the Newberry County schools, and came to Washington in 1948 where she began working

She married the late Andrew Locks and they had eight children, two of whom preceded her in death. Every year she traveled to family reunions and church homecomings in South Carolina.

in the food industry.

She lived for some years in Skyline with her daughter Joaquina, and attended the annual Night Out picnic at Skyline School. Five daughters, a son, 23 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren, eight great-great grandchildren and three siblings survive her. Her funeral was at Lincoln Park United Methodist Church where she had been a member for more than 50 years. Burial is at Washington National Cemetery.

#### Milestones

Happy birthday to Jean Ihrig and Timothy Hollowsky, July 5; Chrissy Bennett and Marie Golihew, July 6; Father Kevin Cusick, Charles "Tony" Haley, Sue Richards and Rev. Dr. Kelvin McCune, July 7; Jimmy Gromen and Anthony Curcio-Bobbitt, July 8; Karlyn Davis, John Anthony III and my grandson Zachary Seidman, July 9; my daughter Elaine Seidman, July 10; Kevin Kline, Nicole Wade, Dee (Curcio) Brown and Dave Williams Jr., July 11.

Also, Kenard Simms, July 13; Laverne Peggy Simms, Krista Lanehart and Laura (Thompson) Hoffmann, July 14; Dessirae Johnson and Helen Jurney, July 15; Norma Wright and Gary Lewis, Jr., July 16; my granddaughter Claire Mudd, Michael Busky, Mike Fowler Jr., and former Morningside Police Chief Stephen Armhold, July 17; Allyssa Frederick and former Morningside Council Member Russell Butler,

Happy 44th anniversary to Dave and

# **Around the County**

#### **Local Students Graduate from the University of New Haven**

WEST HAVEN, Conn. (July 3, 2019)—The following students received degrees from the University of New Haven at Commencement ceremonies

Bowie, MD: Benjamin Kuffel, College of Arts and Sciences, a Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology

Fort Washington, MD: Serwaa Syers, Henry C. Lee College of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences, a Master of Science in Forensic Technology Temple Hills, MD: Khayla Trowell, College of Arts and Sciences, a Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design

—Carolyn Meyer, University of New Haven

#### Harmony Hall Chapter NSDAR Provides Support to Accokeek Foundation's **Museum Garden Transformation**



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY HARMONY HALL CHAPTER NSDAR

Accokeek Foundation President and CEO Laura Ford (left), and (right) Harmony Hall Chapter Regent Karen Janczy at the recent presentation held at the Accokeek Foundation.

#### By DEANNA LUTZ

#### **Harmony Hall Chapter NSDAR**

- Accokeek Foundation Museum Garden will be designed with native and nectar plants to support beneficial pollinators and insects.
- The chapter's support honors Maryland DAR State Regent Tipton's theme
- Garden within view of Revolutionary General George Washington's

FORT WASHINGTON, Md. (June 29, 2019)—The Harmony Hall Chapter NSDAR recently presented their donation towards the redesigned permaculture garden at the Accokeek Foundation. Work will begin this year to transform the Museum Garden into an exhibit space for indigenous interpretation. In keeping with Maryland DAR State Regent Maureen Tipton's theme of bees, the donation will be used to purchase plants beneficial to pollinators and insects, along with tools to be used for educational purposes. The garden will showcase plants native to this land's ecosystem — mirroring the forest which was an integral part of Piscataway life.

"This will be an amazing opportunity for people to have a truly personalized experience connecting with nature in a beautiful location across the Potomac River from the place George Washington called home," said Harmony Hall Chapter Regent Karen Janczy, "as the Accokeek Foundation is located in southern Prince George's County directly across from Mount

Organized in 1984, the Harmony Hall Chapter of the DAR actively promotes patriotism, supports local historic preservation, and honors veterans through commemorative celebrations, memorials, and other activities. Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion, or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution is eligible for membership. With more than 185,000 members in approximately 3,000 chapters worldwide, DAR is one of the world's largest and most active service organizations. The Chapter meets regularly at the Fort Washington Forest Community Center on Filmore Road in Fort Washington, MD. Programs are free and open to the public. To learn more about the work of Chapter, their

meetings and events, please visit www. harmonyhall.marylanddar.org

## **Brandywine-Aquasco**

## **SCHOLARSHIP GALA**

Calling all Alumni and friends. Bowie State University National Alumni Association, Inc. Scholarship Gala Profiles of Excellence (Save the date) Friday, October 11, 2019 at Martin's Crosswinds, Greenbelt. Maryland. Ricardo Mitchell, President. Visit www.bowiestate.edu/alumni.

## POETRY READINGS

Joan Hayes is available for poetry readings. Poems of love, family, fantasy, history and traditions. Contact: 301-248-7450/301-351-3762. Email: joanhayes@acninc.net. One of Joan poems is Introducing Estelle.

Estelle regal in movement. Her body possessed a calm spirit and peace of mind. No one would have ever guessed that she came from a diseased past. Buried in the blood and blush of her cheek's. Faint traces of scars with layers wellhidden underneath. Estelle slew her past and made a decision to Jet the hurt go because she saw in the end the weariness of haunted memories continually pressed against her positive goals. Instead she focused on images of great and wonderful heroines who escaped and used them as guides as she replaced the images with her face. Determined to replace yards of pain with the traveled miles of what the future would bring. She pulled herself up with the teachings of seasoned kings and queens and in, the process became accomplished with a quiet kind of poise. Estelle raised and created in adversity but internally fashioned into gold.

## CAFÉ AGAPE

Join us at St. Paul Oxon Hill United Methodist Church for Café Agape July 19, 2019 (Serving the World) from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Rev. Dr. Daryl L. Williams Senior Pastor. We will be in our fellowship hall at 6634 St. Barnabas Road, Oxon Hill, Maryland.

## PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Prince George's County Public Schools is proud of their graduates who have excelled in their careers or made contributions to their communities. Jim Henson, Puppeteer, Artist, Northwestern High School Class of 1970. Sugar Ray Leonard

# by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

Boxer, Parkdale High School Class of 1974. Martin Lawrence, Actor/Comedian, Eleanor Roosevelt High School Class of 1984. Taraji P. Henson, Actress, Oxon Hill High School class of 1988. Mya Harrison, Actress/Singer, Eleanor Roosevelt High School Class of 1996. Kathie Lee Gifford, Television Host, Singer, News Reporter, Bowie High School 1971. If you want to share your PGCPS experience register as a PGCPS alumni. Visit www.princegeorgescountypublicschools.org.

## **CAREFIRST**

"Get social with Carefirst. Looking for ways to more effectively use your health insurance plan. Carefirst got you covered. Tips to help you easily access your benefits. Ways to manage your health care costs. Convenient access to our customer service team and more. The more you know, the more you'll get out of your plan. Follow us at carefirst.com/ facebook, carefirst.com/twitter and carefirst.com/Instagram."

## JULY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to Karl and Romonia Pinkney, Ulric and Veronica Thomas who are Clinton United Methodist Church members celebrating their Wedding Anniversaries in July.

## SUMMER READING & WRITING SKILLS

Programs are sponsored by Loyola University Maryland, School of Education, a non-profit organization. Classes are taught by instructors from the Institute Reading Development. All programs meet once each week. Tuition varies by program grade.

Choose the grade your child will enter in Fall 2019. Listed is a schedule of classes that will be taught at Largo Community Church, 1701 Enterprise Road starting Saturday, July 27-August 24. Four-year-old and K 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m., 1st Grade, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m., 2nd Grade 12:30 p.m.-2:15 p.m., 3rd Grade: 10:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m., 6th-8th Grades: 12:45 p.m.–3:00 p.m. For more information or to register call 800-570-8935 Mon-Friday 8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m., Saturday 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. and Sunday 10:00

## Free Screenings on Mobile Health Clinic

Visit the Wellness on Wheels (WOW) mobile health clinic to receive free screenings (diabetes, cholesterol and blood pressure) as well as medication reviews and education. For updated care locations, call 301-324-4968 or visit DCHweb.org/WOW.

July 11—Laurel-Beltsville Senior Activity Center, 7120 Contee Road, Laurel, MD (9 a.m.-1 p.m.)

July 12—Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union, 15201 Hall Road, Bowie, MD

July 15—Shoppes at New Carrollton, 7898 Riverdale Road, New Carrollton, MD

July 16—John E. Howard Senior Activity Center, 4400 Shell Street, Capitol

Heights, MD (9 a.m.-1 p.m.) July 17—Powder Mill Village Apartments, 3625 Powder Mill Road,

Beltsville, MD July 18—Hollywood Plaza, 9801 Rhode Island Avenue, College Park, MD July 20—Fairmont Heights High School (Community Health Fair), 6501

Columbia Park Road, Landover, MD (10 a.m.–2 p.m.) July 22—Shoppes at New Carrollton, 7898 Riverdale Road, New Carrollton, MD

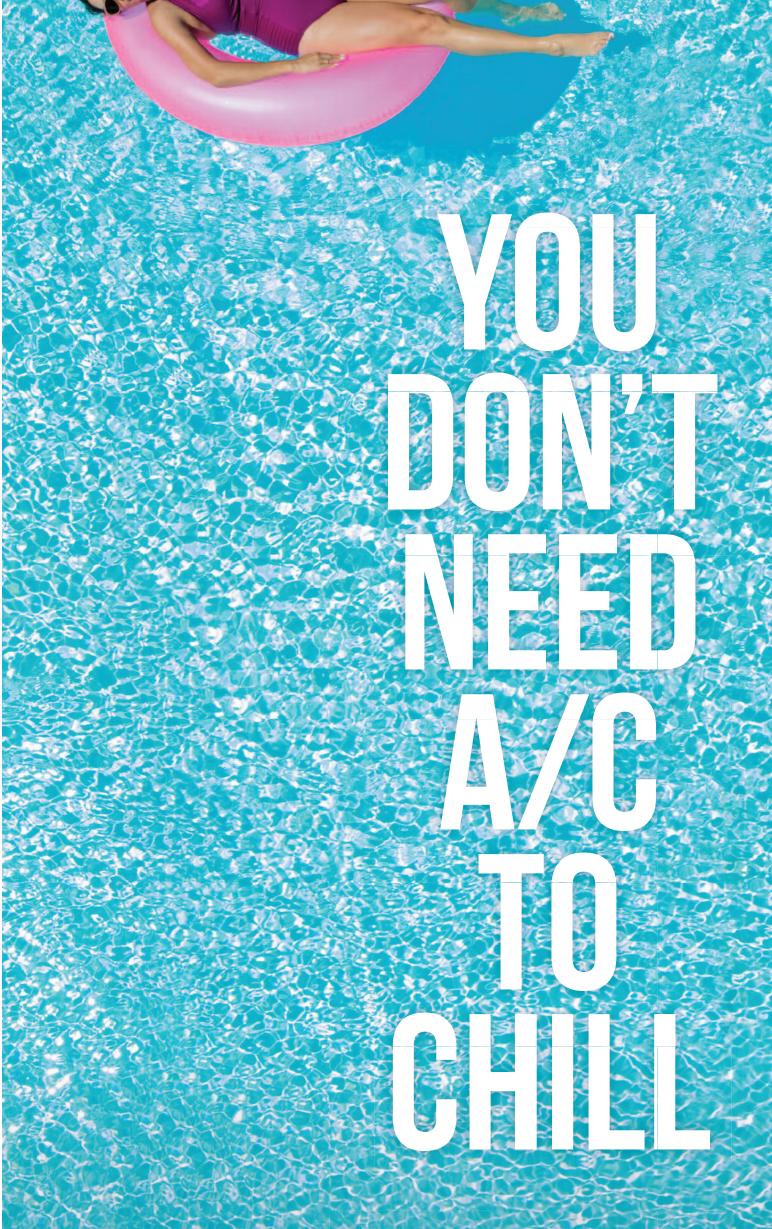
July 23—Spanish Village, 1922 Country Road, District Heights, MD

July 24—Beltway Plaza Mall, 6000 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD

July 25—Hollywood Plaza, 9801 Rhode Island Avenue, College Park, MD July 29—Shoppes at New Carrollton, 7898 Riverdale Road, New Carroll-

July 30—Harmony Hall, 10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington, MD July 31—City of Glenarden Nutrition Center James R. Cousins, Jr. Municipal Center, 8600 Glenarden Parkway, Glenarden, MD

—Chondria Andrews, Doctors Community Hospital



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# COMMENTARY

# **Marion Wright Edelman**

President Emerita, Children's Defense Fund



#### **ChildWatch:**

# A Country We Still Have to Create

This Fourth of July I am returning to the wise words of my late friend Dr. Vincent Harding, the revered historian, theologian, social justice activist, and visionary who never lost sight of the "beloved community" his friend and colleague Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. believed our nation and world could become. In July 2012 on his 81st birthday Dr. Harding spoke at the National and Racial Healing Town Hall at a Children's Defense Fund's conference. He told us he believed America was a wounded nation, but despite so many years of struggle he remained convinced America could and must get better. He urged all of us to commit ourselves to healing America and making our country what it should be, and shared a line he had heard a West African poet recite: "'I am a citizen of a country that does not yet exist.""

The poet was speaking about his homeland, which was going through political turmoil on the road to independence, but my dear brother Vincent said it applied to our current spiritual and moral crisis in America: "We are citizens of a country that we still have to create—a just country, a compassionate country, a forgiving country, a multiracial, multireligious country, a joyful country that cares about its children and about its elders, that cares about itself and about the world, that cares about what the Earth needs as well as what individual people need...I am, you are, a citizen of American greatness turn into an a country that does not yet exist, and that badly needs to exist."

He drew a comparison to the words of the brilliant poet Langston Hughes in "Let America Be America Again." That poem celebrates the poor, working class, and immigrant Americans from all backgrounds and colors who have always been the farmers, factory workers, and laborers on whose backs America was built, but who generation after generation have been "tangled in that ancient endless chain/Of profit, power, gain, of grab the land!/Of grab the gold! Of grab the ways of satisfying need!/Of work the men! Of take the pay!/Of owning everything for one's own greed!" Vincent Harding quoted Hughes's refrain, "America never was America to me," and said: "We can always stop there and complain and complain and complain. 'You've never been America to me.' But remember, Langston did not stop there: 'America, you've never been America to me. But I swear this oath—you will be!' I want you, those who are not afraid to swear oaths, to swear that oath for yourself, for your children, and for your old uncle here. You will be, America. You will be what you could be. You will be what you should be, and I am going to give my life to the working for that."

I swear this oath—you will be! We are in a moment when we are watching hollow promises about

American nightmare. Instead of the vision of the Statue of Liberty welcoming the tired, the poor, the "huddled masses yearning to breathe free," and the "homeless, tempest-tost," the picture of America today is the photograph of 23-month-old Angie Valeria Martinez Avalos, her body tucked inside her father's shirt with her arm around his neck, drowned while trying to swim across the Rio Grande in desperation after attempting to seek asylum at the United States border. But millions of Americans agree this is not who we are—and we will refuse to let it be who we become.

On this Fourth of July we are very, very far from living up to America's promise, but this barbaric and shameful moment in American "exceptionalism" and American leadership will not last forever. The need to change course, heal, and make America what it professes to be and the nation our children and grandchildren deserve is more urgent than ever. Those of us who share the vision for a just, compassionate, multiracial, joyful nation that cares for children and elders, itself and the rest of the world, and the needs of the Earth and the people who inhabit it must never stop working to make that America reality. We are citizens of a country that does not yet exist, but it is up to us to finally create it and make it a just and hopeful land for all. July 3rd, 2019

## **Marc Morial**

President and CEO, National Urban League



## To Be Equal:

# States Should Follow Illinois' Lead on **Expungement, Opportunity in New Cannabis Law**

"The U.S. "war on drugs"—a decades-long policy of racial and class suppression hidden behind cannabis criminality—has resulted in the arrest, interdiction, and incarceration of a high percentage of Americans of color. The legal cannabis industry represents a great opportunity to help balance the detrimental effects of the war on drugs by creating an equal playing field for all people to benefit from the changing legal landscape.'

—Minority Cannabis Business Association

It's difficult to overstate how devastating America's racist "War on Drugs" has been for communities of color. Although Black and white people use marijuana at similar rates, Black people have been four times more likely to be arrested for marijuana possession.

In Michigan, which has already legalized marijuana for recreational use, a 68-year-old man named Michael Thompson is 25 years into a 40to-60-year sentence stemming from the sale of three pounds of marijuana to an undercover

Last week, Illinois made history when it passed a marijuana legalization law that seeks to atone for the injustice of the War on Drugs.

Illinois' law gives low-income communities of color—the very communities ripped apart by decades of racist drug policies—a fair shot at dispensary and grow-shop licenses. A portion of tax revenue generated by cannabis sales will be directed to investment in those communities through the Restore, Reinvest, and Renew

Under the new law, arrest records for possession of small amounts of marijuana will be expunged automatically, and the board that makes clemency recommendations to the governor will receive a list of everyone convicted of minor possession offenses.

Nearly 800,000 criminal histories could be erased under the law.

We applaud Illinois historic achievement. We stand ready to evaluate the implementation and effectiveness of the law. We urge other states to follow Illinois' lead when crafting legislation to legalize marijuana by looking comprehensive at redress for past wrongs and creating economic opportunities for communities that bore, and continue to bear, the negative effects of the War

The history of cannabis in the United States which became known as marijuana in the early 1900s—is fraught with racist hysteria. Following the Mexican Revolution, more than 890,000 Mexican people legally immigrated into the United States between 1910 and 1920. Even though cannabis long had been used in the United States as an ingredient in unregulated "patent medicines," the Spanish term marijuana became associated with fear and prejudice against new immigrants. By 1930, 16 states had outlawed prohibited marijuana as a way to target the growing Mexican community.

In 1971 President Richard M. Nixon launched the "War on Drugs," which was exposed in 2016 by White House Counsel John Ehrlichman as a political ploy to target African Americans and anti-war protestors. Two years after Nixon proclaimed drugs "public enemy number one," presidential hopeful Nelson Rockefeller, Governor of New York signed the most draconian drug statues in the nation, setting the sentence for selling two ounces of certain drugs, including cannabis, or possession of four ounces, at a minimum of 15 years to life in prison. The laws have been blamed for tripling New York's prison

Even now, as states have begun legalizing recreational marijuana use, recent investigation by the New York Times found that Black people

See TO BE EQUAL Page A8

An editorial by the National Newspaper Association

# It is time to recognize the journalists who gave their all

WASHINGTON D.C. (July 4, 2019)—World War II correspondent Ernie Pyle died during the invasion of Okinawa in 1945. In his pocket was a draft of his last column, "On Victory in Europe." He wrote, "...the companionship of two and a half years of death and misery is a spouse that tolerates no divorce. Such companionship finally becomes a part of one's soul, and it cannot be obliterated."

He had returned to his home after brushes with death while covering the war in Europe. But he was haunted by the untold stories on the Japanese warfront and so back he went.

He died from machine gun fire in an area that had been considered safe. No one could say he was ready to die. Indeed, he hated the fact that he had to go back. But the troops and the nation were counting on him. He knew and feared the danger, but duty propelled him back to the fight so he could tell America about the men and women at war.

That devotion to duty has been understood by journalists across America throughout our nation's history. Like first responders, journalists run toward danger. Some lose their lives.

But the greatest recent loss of journalists on American soil was not during the heat of battle. It happened on June 28, 2018, when five newspaper employees were gunned down in their offices at the Capital-Gazette, in Annapolis, Maryland. The shooter was apprehended. Law enforcement officers said he held a grudge against the paper for its coverage.

That announcement was chilling. It strikes at every reporter, editor and publisher who has presented unpopular information to readers and viewers. Whether it is a story of public corruption, a drunkdriving arrest or even something as simple as a house foreclosure, someone often wants to keep that information out of the paper. That we have reached a point in our nation's history where journalists at work are receiving training on surviving a shooter would surprise and dismay a hardened wartime correspondent like Pyle. He probably would say that is not the nation he went to war to protect and

We agree. That is why it is time to recognize, with sadness and heavy hearts, those who lost their lives because they were trying to tell us the stories that make us a democracy: The five Capital-Gazette employees-Gerald Fischman, Rob Hiaasen, John McNamara, Rebecca Smith and Wendi Winters; Jamal Khashoggi, who was killed in the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul; Mike McCormick and Philip Aaron Smeltzer, who died covering tropical storm Alberto for WYFF in North Carolina; and others deserve our thanks and our respect.

That is why it is time for the Fallen Journalists Memorial in Washington, D.C. to be built entirely without taxpayer dollars. The memorial requires Congressional authorization to be placed on federal land in Washington, D.C.

Legislation sponsored in the House by Reps. Tom Cole, R-OK and Grace Napolitano, D-CA; and in the Senate by Benjamin Cardin, D-MD, and Rob Portman, R-OH, will give the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation a green light to begin planning for the memorial. It would be a blessing if, by the time the memorial is built, there are no new names to add to it.

This newspaper believes it is time to recognize the sacrifice of journalists killed in the line of duty. We call upon our Members of Congress to add their names to the legislation introduced by Cole, Napolitano, Cardin and Portman and we urge you to ask them to sign onto this worthy effort.



KARL MERTON FERRON | THE BALTIMORE SUN

Candles with the faces of the five employees who were killed were used at a gathering of mourners for the employees killed in the Capital Gazette newsroom, Annapolis, Maryland.

## Hoyer Statement on the Inspector General's Investigation into the Administration's **FBI Relocation Plan**

WASHINGTON, D.C. (July 3, 2019)—Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-05) released the following statement today after the Inspector General announced it would open an investigation into the Administration's abrupt decision to not relocate the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) from its headquarters in DC and instead pursue a more expensive plan:

"Congress and the American people deserve to know why the decade-long process to build a new, relocated headquarters for the FBI was abandoned overnight by an Administration whose president would be personally financially impacted by its outcome. It is entirely appropriate for the Department of Justice Inspector General to inves-

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tigate what transpired and how the Trump Administration came to this decision. Along with the rest of the Maryland delegation, I will continue to push for the

FBI's long-planned move to a new, consolidated headquarters and advocate for the selection of a site in Prince George's County."

# The Prince George's Post

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# COMMUNITY

# The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

#### You Do Deserve the Success You've Earned

It's a feeling that affects both men and women. You've achieved success at work, with a community organization, or just within your family, and yet you don't feel you've really earned that achievement.

You may think that your accomplishments come from luck or good timing rather than any real talent and hard work on your part. You may feel like a fraud, not really capable of the tasks facing you.

Having these thoughts is fairly common. They're manifestations of self-doubt and a lack of self-confidence, and there's even a psychological term to describe them—"imposter syndrome."

It's not a psychological disorder but rather a descriptive name developed in the late 1970s. Researchers and clinicians found that they were seeing people who had strong accomplishments yet were often convinced they didn't deserve the success they had won

It happens to many of us. We may have trouble believing we are as intelligent and talented as we really are. The result can be our crediting outside reasons or forces as to why a good thing is occurring, rather than accepting that we actually made it happen ourselves.

Such feelings can become a problem when feeling like an impostor gets in the way of our daily lives. We might be afraid or even frozen when facing a work presentation or speech at a big meeting. We may question or avoid the decisions we need to make regarding our children and family. Professional counselors report that they have seen this self-questioning and lack of confidence in everyone from managers of large businesses to stay-at-home moms.

However, there are ways to overcome impostor syndrome. A starting point is to step back and look objectively at your accomplishments. Make a list of positive things, big and small, you've accomplished in the past year. Then own those accomplishments. Give yourself credit for the work and talent that achieved those successes.

Research has shown that simply talking to yourself can change how you see yourself. Tell yourself that you are worthy in all aspects of your life. Tell yourself that you are better and smarter than you think you are, and that you know more than you usually give yourself credit for. And be sure to remind yourself of these positive thoughts as often as possible.

If a form of impostor syndrome is negatively affecting your life, a professional counselor can offer assistance in overcoming the problem.

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

# **Governor Hogan Announces Menu For the Annual Buy Local Cookout**

Signature Event Challenges All Marylanders to "Buy Local, Eat Fresh"

**By SHAREESE CHURCHILL Office of the Governor** 

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (June 28, 2019)—Governor Larry Hogan today announced the 16 recipes that will be featured at the 12th Annual Buy Local Cookout, which celebrates Maryland's Buy Local Challenge Week, July 20-28, and encourages all Marylanders to eat at least one locally grown, made, or harvested product each day. The cookout, hosted by Governor Hogan and First Lady Yumi Hogan, will be held at Government House on Thursday, July 18.

"Every year, local chefs submit recipes for the Buy Local Cookout that highlight the Maryland farmers, watermen, and producers that work tirelessly to provide our state with a diverse selection of agricultural products, world-class seafood, and Maryland-made products," said Governor Hogan. "The cookout is a great reminder of the many benefits to buying locally, and I encourage all Marylanders to join me in taking the Buy Local Challenge."

This spring, Governor Hogan invited teams of local chefs and pro-

ducers to submit original recipes that highlight the diversity of Maryland products. Over 40 recipes were submitted and 16 were selected. The First Lady and Government House chefs will provide an additional entrée and dessert for the cookout.

Recipes were selected based on availability of ingredients, geographic representation, maximum use of local ingredients, and creativity. This year also features recipes by student chefs from **Crossland High School** in Prince George's County, the University of Maryland Eastern Shore at the Universities at Shady Grove, and the Chesapeake Culinary Center in Caroline County.

All recipe submissions will be published in a cookbook titled *Recipes from the 2019 Maryland Buy Local Cookout*, which will include wine, beer, or spirits pairing recommendations from the Maryland Wineries Association, Brewers Association of Maryland, and the Maryland Distillers Guild. The cookbook will be available online when completed next month.

The following dessert recipes [from Prince George's County chefs]

were selected to be prepared at the cookout:

Corny Cake aka Eat your Vegetables Cake, submitted by student chefs Christopher Young, Justin Thurston, Stephen Clark, Jordyn White, Sean Rohlfs, and James Richburg with culinary teacher Muriel Homesack from Crossland High School in Prince George's County with producer Brad Miller of Miller Farms in Prince George's County for corn and eggs.

The Brewers Association of Maryland, Maryland Distillers Guild, Maryland Wineries Association, Honest Tea, and George's Mixes are also donating products for the event. The Maryland's Best Ice Cream Trail will sponsor a tent at the cookout with ice cream from Kilby Cream, Prigel Family Creamery, South Mountain Creamery and Woodbourne Creamery at Rock Hill Orchard. Musical entertainment will be provided by the Geckos.

For more information about the 2019 Governor's Buy Local Cookout or the *Buy Local Cookbook*, contact Karen Fedor at karen.fedor@maryland.gov or 410-841-5773.

#### **HSFPP Curriculum Training for Teachers and Volunteers**

July 18, 2019, 9:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.
MD|DC Credit Union Association, 8975 Guilford Road,

Suite 190, Columbia, MD 21046

Join University of Maryland Extension and MD|DC

Credit Union Association as they host a FREE personal finance training that will prepare high school teachers and

adult volunteers/educators to teach Personal Finance to

teenagers. High School teachers, Middle School 8th grade teachers and volunteer educators are also encouraged to attend to learn about the High School Financial Planning Program developed by the National Endowment for Financial Education. Free breakfast and lunch will be provided. Bring laptops/notebooks.

Register via eventbrite.

# BUSINESS AND FINANCE

## **Social Security Matters**

Ask Rusty:

# **Age Seventy Hasn't Yet Applied For Social Security**

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

Dear Rusty:

How can I maximize my monthly Social Security benefit? I'm already 70 years old—almost 71 now. *Signed: Ready to Apply.* 

Dear Ready to Apply: You've already maximized your monthly Social Security benefit by waiting until age 70 to apply. Age 70 is when you stop earning delayed retirement credits, which have boosted your monthly benefit amount by 32% over what you would have received at your full retirement age of 66, and by 76% over what you would have received if you had claimed benefits early at age 62. Your maximum Social Security benefit is reached in the month you turn 70 years of age, so you shouldn't delay any longer. Since you're now actually more than 70 (almost 71), you should immediately claim your Social Security benefit and you should also ask for 6 months of retroactive benefits, which SS will give you in a lump-sum. You can claim your benefits by contacting the Social Security office (find your local office at www.ssa.gov/locator) and making an appointment to apply for benefits, or you can apply online at www.ssa.gov. To apply online, you'll have to first set up your personal "My Social Security" online account at www.ssa.gov, and then complete and submit your application online. You should specify your "benefit start month" as six months before the date you apply to get the retroactive benefits.

If you are married, since you have not yet applied for benefits your wife is not yet receiving spousal benefits from your record. Assuming she has reached her full retirement age, her spousal benefit will be half of the benefit you were eligible to receive at your full retirement age, if that amount is more than she is entitled to on her own lifetime work record. If your wife was born on or before January 1st, 1954 she should contact your local Social Security office to file for her spousal benefit. If your wife was born January 2nd, 1954 or later, her spousal benefit should be automatically added to her own benefit when you claim, and she should not need to contact Social Security to apply. I encourage you both to claim these benefits as soon as possible, because each month you delay you are losing benefits which you are entitled to. This is true even if one or both of you are still working, because there is no penalty for working after you have reached full retirement age. And even if you're still working and paying FICA taxes monthly, your benefit will not increase just because you are still paying into Social Security.

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

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

# **UM Capital Region Health Announces Interim President & CEO**

Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH, FAAP Appointed Interim Role to Lead Organization

By JANIA MATTHEWS University of Maryland Capital Region Health

CHEVERLY, Md. (June 28, 2019)— Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH, FAAP has been appointed interim President & CEO of UM Capital Region Health (UM Capital), effective July 7.

Dr. Wright joined the organization in September 2018 as Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer and he will continue in his role in addition to his interim position.

"Dr. Wright will lead a strong executive team at UM Capital Region Health that will continue to drive positive change as we advance our efforts to meet the future healthcare needs of residents in Prince George's County, and the surrounding region," says UMMS Interim President and CEO, John W. Ashworth III. "Dr. Wright has already made a positive impact in many areas of the organization, including building a strong partnership with medical staff across the UM Capital system. I know the organization is in very capable hands as the search process gets underway."

A consulting firm has been engaged to conduct a national search to identify candidates to permanently fill the role of President& CEO and a search committee, co-chaired by Ashworth and UM Capital Board Chair Judge Alexander Williams will lead the effort

"Change within any organization can be difficult, but Dr. Wright is well-positioned to take on this role," says Judge Williams. "He is dedicated to the success of the organization and he's been a pillar of the community, having lived in Prince George's County most of his life."

Prior to joining UM Capital, Dr. Wright served as Professor and Chair-

man of Pediatrics at the Howard University College of Medicine in Washington, DC. He previously served as Senior Vice President within the Children's National Health System, where he provided strategic leadership for the organization's advocacy mission, public policy positions and community partnership initiatives.

"The opportunity to lead UM Capital Region Health is an appointment that I do not take lightly," says Dr. Wright. "My commitment to this organization and to this community extends far and wide. Prince George's County is my home and as a clinical leader who is passionate about public health and serving patients with the best possible care, I am honored to serve as interim President and CEO."

Currently, Dr. Wright holds academic appointments as a professor in the departments of Pediatrics and Health Policy and Management at the University of Maryland Schools of Medicine and Public Health, respectively.

# Additional Comments from Community Leaders:

Prince George's County Executive Angela D. Alsobrooks: "We are excited that Dr. Wright has been named the interim President & CEO of UM Capital Region Health, because I know he will be a great partner in our efforts to provide high-quality healthcare to more Prince Georgians," said Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks. "Dr. Wright is well-qualified for this role, and as a resident of Prince George's for most of his life, understands the needs of our communities. I look forward to working with him and his team on a number of projects and initiatives, including the new UM Capital Region Medical Center in Largo that will provide the high-quality healthcare our residents want and deserve, while reducing some of the health disparities that exist in our County."

Prince George's County Council, The Honorable Todd M. Turner, Chair, District 4: "Access to quality health care, health promotion and disease prevention are priority concerns for the Prince George's County Council, in its role as the Board of Health, and for the residents we represent.

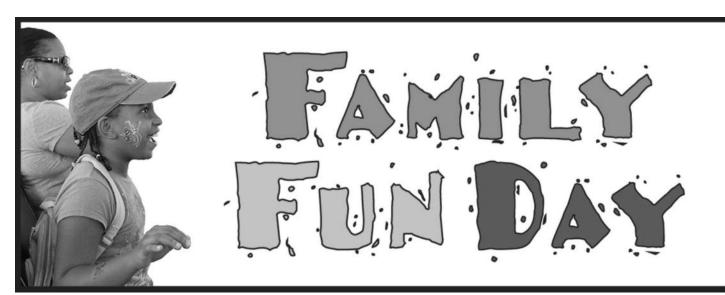
The Board of Health extends it warmest congratulations to Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH, upon his appointment as the Interim President and Chief Executive Officer of the University of Maryland Capital Region Health (UM Capital).

Dr. Wright has established a longstanding record of service to County residents, and a productive working relationship with the Council, serving as consultant and liaison to the Board of Health from 2011 to 2018, after which he assumed the position of Chief Medical Officer for the UM Capital.

This successful partnership, and Dr. Wright's experience and expertise as a physician, surgeon and hospital executive will be an invaluable resource to advance public health policies, improve Quality of Life for our residents, and continue Prince George's County's historic journey toward healthcare transformation.

We look forward to continuing to work with Dr. Wright in his new role, to address healthcare in Prince George's County, and as we move closer to the exciting grand opening of the new University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Center in 2021."

# OUT on the TOWN



**By STACEY HAWKINS** Marietta House Museum

#### Family Fun Day at **Marietta House Museum**

Join us for our "Family Fun Day" on Saturday, July 13, 1–6 p.m. on the grounds of Marietta House Museum. Bring a lawn chair and/or blanket, and enjoy a day celebrating our communities.

Listen to the jazz music of "Higher Standards Jazz Trio" (from 1-3 p.m.) and the "Lawrence Dean Quartet" (from 3–5 p.m.)

Free admission and parking, however food and crafts will be available for pur-timed tours throughout the day.

chase. Visit our local craft artisans, and see woodcarving demonstrations. Our Farmer's Market will be extending their usual hours of 9 a.m.–1 p.m. to be here for the full event.

We have expanded our children's activities this year to include; face-painting, 19th century games and hands-on history, basket-weaving, sewing bean bags or marble bags, making Origami, and story time.

Visit with the Glenn Dale Volunteer Fire Department (schedule permitting), take a tour of the truck, and see their fire-fighting equipment.

Our 1813 historic home will be open for

Marietta is the 1813 home of Judge Gabriel Duvall, a Supreme Court Justice and Comptroller of the Treasury. Marietta stands on terraced, landscaped grounds with two contemporary outbuildings: a brick law office and a stone and brick root cellar/harness storage room. The grounds boast three County Champion trees. The family graveyard has been relocated to these serene surroundings.

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

# 2019 Summer @ Your Library: A Universe of Stories

#### Bill Nye the Science Guy Bingo

Ages 5–12, Monday, July 15, 1 p.m.

Learn a thing or two about space from an episode of Bill Nye Heights Branch, 5904 Kolb St., Fairmount Heights Branch, MD 20743; 301-883-2650

#### **Stranger Things Night**

Ages 13–18, Wednesday, July 17, 6 p.m.

Journey into the upside down in the library as we celebrate Summer @ Your Library: A Universe of Stories. Create crafts and watch your favorite episodes with fellow fans. Laurel Branch, 507 7th Street, Laurel MD 20707; 301-776-6790

## VR: Spaceflight Simulator

Ages 13-18, Thursday, July 18, 2 p.m.

Go for a test drive in this realistically accurate simulation of the original Mercury Spacecraft using Virtual Reality! Oxon Hill Branch, 6200 Oxon Hill Rd., Oxon Hill, MD 20745; 301-839-2400

#### **VR: Space Flight Simulator**

Ages 13 and up, Saturday, July 20, 2 p.m.

Go for a test drive in this realistically accurate simulation of the Science Guy while playing bingo to win prizes. Fairmount the original Mercury Spacecraft using Virtual Reality! Greenbelt Branch, 11 Crescent Rd., Greenbelt, MD 20770; 301-345-5800

#### **STEM for Families: Galaxy Slime**

Ages 5–12, Wednesday, July 24, 2–3 p.m.

Come join us as we learn about galaxies in the universe, specifically the Milky Way Galaxy. Then create your own DIY (Glitter) Galaxy Slime. Beltsville Branch, 4319 Sellman Rd., Beltsville, MD 20705; 301-937-0294

#### **TAG: Exploring the Colors of the Universe**

Ages 13–18, Thursday, July 25, 4:30 p.m.

Join us as we build spectroscopes—a tool similar to what astronomers use to learn about the composition of objects in the distant Universe! Hyattsville Branch (Temporary location), 6502 America Blvd., Hyattsville, MD 20782; 301-985-4690

ERIC D. SNIDER'S IN THE DARK

# ···· Movie Review ····

# Annabelle Comes Home

Annabelle Comes Home Grade: B Rated R, some mild profanity, violent images, general scariness; barely more than PG-13 1 hr., 46 min.

"Annabelle Comes Home" is part of the "Conjuring" franchise, but you don't need to have seen any of those movies (which also include "The Nun" and "The Curse of La Llorona") to understand what's going on here, which is that there's a creepy doll that isn't possessed per se but that is a conduit for demons to harass humans and potentially take their souls. Like the rest of the series, it comes from the case files of real-life supernatural investigators Ed and Lorraine Warren (played with a sweet homeyness by Patrick Wilson and Vera Farmiga), who really do have a doll named Annabelle in their collection—a Raggedy Ann model, but I suppose getting the rights to that trademark for the movie was a nonstarter—locked away even from the other haunted artifacts because of its especial malevolence.

The movie, naturally, is about the babysitter letting the

OK, technically it's the babysitter's friend, who's come over because she heard the Warrens have a room full of creepy things. The girl, Daniela (Katie

trouble, either; she wants to make contact with her recently deceased father. Cut her some slack, she's grieving. Whatever the reason for

Annabelle's unleashing, it results in a sturdy, stylish, meatand-potatoes haunted-house movie better than anything in the series other than "The Conjuring" and "The Conjuring 2." First-time director Gary Dauberman, who wrote this screenplay and those for "Annabelle," "Annabelle: Creation," and "The Nun," must have learned a few tricks along the way, as this is a confident, well-directed debut that makes good use of the camera.

It's the early '70s, a year after the Warrens acquired Annabelle (as seen tangentially in "The Conjuring"), and they're off to a conference or something, leaving their bright daughter, Judy (Mckenna Grace), home with wholesome blonde high-schooler Mary Ellen (Madison Iseman) to supervise. Judy, somewhat tapped in to the spirit world like her mom, is only a little bit Wednesday Addams, but the kids at school mock her for her parents' line of work. Daniela stops by the house on the first evening, as does Bob (Michael Cimino, but not the one who directed "The Deer Hunter"), a wholesome boy who works at his family's grocery store and has a crush on Mary Ellen, which she Sarife), isn't just looking for reciprocates. Their chaste flir-



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Determined to keep Annabelle from wreaking more havoc, demonologists Ed and Lorraine Warren bring the possessed doll to the locked artifacts room in their home, placing her "safely" behind sacred glass and enlisting a priest's holy blessing. But an unholy night of horror awaits as Annabelle awakens the evil spirits in the room, who all set their sights on a new target—the Warrens' ten-year-old daughter, Judy, and her

tation is so adorable you momentarily forget you're watching a scary ghost movie and not a horrifying Nicholas Sparks

Anyway, as mentioned, Annabelle is not alive or possessed. Demons move her around to make people think she is, but she's really just a conductor and a magnet. Once you let her out of her glass cage (it is not explained how the glass contains the evil), she starts attracting whatever evil spirits are nearby, particularly those associated with the Warrens' other cursed knickknacks. This means terror on several fronts, from a variety of folkloric sources, with the four main characters frequently separated from one another and facing danger alone.

Dauberman employs numerous horror tropes, usually very effectively, including hellhounds, a Ferryman, and assorted grotesque visions. My personal favorite is a bit where Daniela sees her reflection in an unplugged TV, only it's a reflection of what's going to happen

a few seconds from now. One thing the film never does, though, that both "Conjurings" did, is scare the pee out of me (not literally). It's suspenseful and ominous, with a few good jolts, but not as intense or unnerving-more "funhouse scary" than "I'll never sleep again" scary (which is more an observation than a complaint). This franchise, like its subjects, might be

#### **Spotlight on Music and Poetry**

#### 10th Annual Lake Arbor Jazz Festival

Date and Time: Saturday, July 13, 2019, 1-8 p.m. (Gates open at 12 noon) Advance Ticket Sales end Friday, July 12.

Description: Enjoy a family friendly environment featuring some of the region's most accomplished and emerging jazz artists. Enjoy free parking, over 40 food and merchandise vendors, our intimate beer and wine lounge and live music all day long. For festival details and ticket information, visit LakeArborJazz.com. Both general admission and VIP tickets are available.

Location: Lake Arbor Community Center, 10100 Lake Arbor Way, Mitchellville, MD 20721

## 13th Annual Hip-Hop Poetry Choir Concert

Date and Time: Saturday, July 13, 2019, 3-5 p.m.

Description: This performance features poetry created by participants of the 13th Annual Expressions: Talk Up, Not Down poetry camp. More than 35 county youth spent a week working with master poets learning to use poetry as a positive tool of expression. The poets: Neville Adams, Christopher Fields, Desire Johnson, Sekeithia Johnson, Karin Wilkinson, Sistah Joy, Janique Muckelvene and visual artists Pierre Dennis and Lillian Shaw spent the week working with the youth teaching them how to use their voice for positive expression. Their poems provide a unique look into the modern teen dealing with many issues associated with growing up in the 21st Century.

Free. Call the Arts Center for tickets. Cost:

All ages are welcome Ages:

Location: Bowie Center for the Performing Arts, 15200 Annapolis Road, Bowie, MD 20715 Contact: 301-805-6880; TTY 301-699-2544

## **Summer Concert at Allen Pond Park:**

#### The Winstons (Motown)

Date and Time: Sunday, July 14, 2019, 7–8 p.m.

Description: Each Sunday evening from Memorial Day weekend until Labor Day weekend, enjoy a concert at the Robert V. Setera Amphitheater at Allen Pond Park. \*Concerts are canceled in the case of inclement weather.

Free Cost:

Ages: All ages are welcome

Location: Allen Pond Park, 3330 Northview Dr., Bowie, MD

20716 Contact: 301-809-3078

#### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC =**



There's something for everyone at Allen Pond Park, home to the Bowie Skate Park, Bowie Ice Arena, and Opportunity Park, which offers 100% accessible experiences at its tot lot. The park features fields for organized sports, walking and biking trails, boat rentals, picnic sites for rental, and a fishing pier over the 10-acre stocked Allen Pond. Many of the city's events are hosted at the park, such as open-air concerts at the Robert V. Setera Amphitheater and popular community festivals like BowieFest and the International Festival. Allen Pond Park is open daily, sunrise to sunset.

Allen Pond Park: 3330 Northview Dr., Bowie, MD 20716 301-809-3011 • https://www.cityofbowie.org/Facilities/

## Sunset Music Series: Let It Flow Band (R&B, Neo-Soul)

Date and Time: Wednesday, July 17, 2019, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Description: Bring a blanket or lawn chair. Refreshments will be available for purchase, if desired. Movie will begin at dusk. Presented by the M-NCPPC, Prince George's County Department of Parks & Recreation. Rain Location: Harmony Hall Regional Center, 10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington, MD 20744.

Cost: Free

All ages are welcome Ages: Location: Cosca Regional Park, 11000 Thrift Road, Clinton,

MD 20735

Contact: 301-446-6800

# **Art Therapy Day**

Date and Time: Friday, July 19, 2019, 3-7 p.m.

Description: Art Therapy Day includes workshops centered around expression, health, wellness, and mindfulness practices that target our communities of color. The evening concludes with a Jazz Vesper under the summer sky with the featured exhibitionist, artist, and singer, Vanessa Williams.

FREE (\$8 suggested donation + entry to Jazz Vesper) Location: Prince George's African American Museum and Cultural Center, 4519 Rhode Island Avenue, North

Brentwood, MD 20722

Contact: 301-809-0440, http://www.pgaamcc.org

## (un)choir at the Old Parish House

Date and Time: Friday, July 19, 2019, 7–9 pm.

Description: A new kind of choral experience: learn your part and sing a song in harmony, all in one fun evening! Free

Cost: Ages: All are welcome!

Location: Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Rd, College Park, MD

Contact: info@cpae.org or 301-927-3013 (leave message)

# Calendar of Events

July 11–July 19, 2019

#### Blast-in-the-Past: A Hands-On History Playground

Date and Time: July 11-August 3, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Description: Who knew history could be so much fun? Your kids will get fresh air, exercise, and learn about history this summer at Blast-in-the-Past, the hands-on history playground! Montpelier's shaded grounds become a kid-sized colonial village, with town square, market, farm and more. Kids can play and pretend 'til their hearts' content! Come for an hour or stay for

the day. Win a free pass by joining PGMLS's "Summer @ Your Library" program! Prince George's Co. Resident \$2.50/day; Non-Resi-Cost:

dent \$3/day. Saturdays are All-County Day, all pay \$2.50.

Ages: 2 and up

Location: Montpelier Historic Site, 9650 Muirkirk Road,

Laurel, Maryland 20708

Contact: 301-377-7817, TTY: 301-446-3302, www.pgparks.com

#### Parent's Night Out

Date and Time: Friday, July 12, 2019, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Description: Drop your kids with us, while you have a relaxing night out! Your children will enjoy art activities, a pizza dinner and a movie! You are welcome to drop your child(ren) off for all or part of the time. Dinner will be served at 6:15 p.m. All children must be potty trained in order to participate.

\$20 Greenbelt residents/\$25 non-residents, per date

Ages:

Location: Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

Room 201, Greenbelt, MD 20770 Contact: 301-397-2208

#### **Outdoor Summer Movie Series: Moana**

Date and Time: Friday, July 12, 2019, 8:30 p.m.

Description: Join Council Member Deni Taveras, M-NCPPC Parks and Recreation, and our local School PTA/Os for an Outdoor Summer Movie Series throughout District 2! Our local PTA/Os will have a concession stand filled with a yummy selection of treats.

Cost: Free

Ages: All ages are welcome

Location: Mount Rainier Nature Center, 4701 31st Place,

Mount Rainier, MD 20712

#### **Arts & Literacy Summer Pop-Ups**

Date and Time: Saturday, July 13, 2019, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Description: Join Council Member Deni Taveras, Prince George's County Memorial Library and Parks & Recreation, for a funfilled summer with books and art. The Arts & Literacy Summer Pop-Ups provide kids the opportunity to build and retain literacy skills through multicultural story time and visual arts workshops.

Cost: Free Ages: Children grades 1–6

Location: Hyattsville Library, 6502 America Boulevard,

Hyattsville, MD 20782 Contact: RSVP: 301-952-4436; email: councildistrict2@co.pg.md.us.

#### Seasonal Selections: Caroline's Birthday Celebration Date and Time: Sunday, July 14, 2019, 12:15-3:15 p.m.

Description: Grab some 19th-century inspiration and a new recipe or two as you pop into the open hearth kitchen to watch the Riversdale Kitchen Guild demonstrate 19th-century foodways and recipes. This week, ice cream and cake recipes celebrate the birthday of the eldest Calvert daughter, Caroline Maria.

Free

All ages are welcome Ages:

Location: Riversdale House Museum, 4811 Riverdale Road,

Riverdale Park, MD 20737

Contact: 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544

White Tailed Deer Meet at the Ranger Station Date and Time: Sunday, July 14, 2019, 2 p.m.

Description: What is the difference between a horn and an antler?

What do the deer eat? How do the Deer survive the Winter?

Ages:

All ages are welcome

Location: Greenbelt Park, 6565 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Contact: 301-344-3944, http://www.nps.gov/gree

## Silver Spring Arts & Crafts Summer Fair

Date and Time: Sunday, July 14, 2019, 2–8 p.m.

Description: Welcome summer at Veterans Plaza with LOTS of arts & crafts, good music, dance, performances and fun activities for both adults and kids. More than 60 artisans, crafters, independent consultants and small businesses will be there.

Cost: Free

All ages are welcome Ages:

Location: Veterans Plaza, 1 Veterans Place, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Contact: 703-889-0202

Junior Ranger Trail Walk Meet at Sweetgum Picnic Area Date and Time: Thursday, July 18, 2019, 10 a.m.

Description: Let's take a stroll down the Azalea Trail. Join a park ranger and discover the magic of discovering the forest and working on the Junior Ranger booklet.

Free Ages:

Location: Greenbelt Park, 6565 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt,

Contact: 301-344-3944, http://www.nps.gov/gree

## **Family Game Night**

Date and Time: Thursday, July 18, 2019, 5 p.m. Description: Come play board games at the Bladensburg Library!

Bring one of your own or play one of ours.

Cost: Free

Ages: 5-12

Location: Bladensburg Branch Library, 4820 Annapolis Rd.,

Bladensburg, MD 20710

Contact: 301-927-4917

## **Outdoor Summer Movie Series: Incredibles 2**

Date and Time: Friday, July 19, 2019, 8:30 p.m.

Description: Our local PTA/Os will have a concession stand filled with a yummy selection of treats. Come out and enjoy a movie, all while you support our local school PTA/Os.

Location: Lane Manor Park, 7601 West Park Drive, Adelphi,

MD 20783



CREDIT: NASA'S GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

The three planets discovered in the L98-59 system by NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite are compared to Mars and Earth in order of increasing size in this illustration.

# NASA's TESS Mission Finds Its Smallest Planet Yet

By JEANETTE KAZMIERCZAK NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) has discovered a world between the sizes of Mars and Earth orbiting a bright, cool, nearby star. The planet, called L 98-59b, marks the tiniest discovered by TESS to date.

Two other worlds orbit the same star. While all three planets' sizes are known, further study with other telescopes will be needed to determine if they have atmospheres and, if so, which gases are present. The L 98-59 worlds nearly double the number of small exoplanets—that is, planets beyond our solar system—that have the best potential for this kind of follow-up.

"The discovery is a great engineering and scientific accomplishment for TESS," said Veselin Kostov, an astrophysicist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, and the SETI Institute in Mountain View, California. "For atmospheric studies of small planets, you need short orbits around bright stars, but such planets are difficult to detect. This system has the potential for fascinating future studies."

A paper on the findings, led by Kostov, was published in the June 27 issue of The Astronomical Journal and is now available online at https://iopscience.iop.org/article/ 10.3847/1538-3881/ab2459.

L 98-59b is around 80% Earth's size and about 10% smaller than the previous record holder discovered by TESS. Its host star, L 98-59, is an M dwarf about one-third the mass of the Sun and lies about 35 lightyears away in the southern constellation Volans. While L 98-59b is a record for TESS, even smaller planets have been discovered in data collected by NASA's Kepler satellite, including Kepler-37b, which is only 20% larger than the Moon.

The two other worlds in the system, L 98-59c and L 98-59d, are respectively around 1.4 and 1.6 times Earth's size. All three were discovered by TESS using tran-

sits, periodic dips in the star's brightness caused when each planet passes in front

TESS monitors one 24-by-96-degree region of the sky, called a sector, for 27 days at a time. When the satellite finishes its first year of observations in July, the L 98-59 system will have appeared in seven of the 13 sectors that make up the southern sky. Kostov's team hopes this will allow scientists to refine what's known about the three confirmed planets and search for additional

"If you have more than one planet orbiting in a system, they can gravitationally interact with each other," said Jonathan Brande, a co-author and astrophysicist at Goddard and the University of Maryland, College Park. "TESS will observe L 98-59 in enough sectors that it may be able to detect planets with orbits around 100 days. But if we get really lucky, we might see the gravitational effects of undiscovered planets on the ones we currently know."

M dwarfs like L 98-59 account for threequarters of our Milky Way galaxy's stellar population. But they are no larger than about half the Sun's mass and are much cooler, with surface temperatures less than 70% of the Sun's. Other examples include TRAP-PIST-1, which hosts a system of seven Earth-size planets, and Proxima Centauri, our nearest stellar neighbor, which has one confirmed planet. Because these small, cool stars are so common, scientists want to learn more about the planetary systems that form

L 98-59b, the innermost world, orbits every 2.25 days, staying so close to the star it receives as much as 22 times the amount of energy Earth receives from the Sun. The middle planet, L 98-59c, orbits every 3.7 days and experiences about 11 times as much radiation as Earth. L 98-59d, the farthest planet identified in the system so far, orbits every 7.5 days and is blasted with around four times the radiant energy as Earth.

None of the planets lie within the star's "habitable zone," the range of distances from the star where liquid water could exist on their surfaces. However, all of them occupy what scientists call the Venus zone, a range of stellar distances where a planet with an initial Earth-like atmosphere could experience a runaway greenhouse effect that transforms it into a Venus-like atmosphere. Based on its size, the third planet could be either a Venus-like rocky world or one more like Neptune, with a small, rocky core cocooned beneath a deep atmosphere.

One of TESS's goals is to build a catalog of small, rocky planets on short orbits around very bright, nearby stars for atmospheric study by NASA's upcoming James Webb Space Telescope. Four of the TRAP-PIST-1 worlds are prime candidates, and Kostov's team suggests the L 98-59 planets

The TESS mission feeds our desire to understand where we came from and whether we're alone in the universe.

"If we viewed the Sun from L 98-59, transits by Earth and Venus would lead us to think the planets are almost identical, but we know they're not," said Joshua Schlieder, a co-author and an astrophysicist at Goddard. "We still have many questions about why Earth became habitable and Venus did not. If we can find and study similar examples around other stars, like L 98-59, we can potentially unlock some of those secrets."

TESS is a NASA Astrophysics Explorer mission led and operated by MIT in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and managed by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. Additional partners include Northrop Grumman, based in Falls Church, Virginia; NASA's Ames Research Center in California's Silicon Valley; the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics in Cambridge, Massachusetts; MIT's Lincoln Laboratory; and the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore. More than a dozen universities, research institutes and observatories worldwide are participants in the mission.

# Earth **TALK**<sup>TM</sup>

# **How Businesses Are Picking Up Federal Climate Slack**

Dear EarthTalk:

What are American businesses doing to help the U.S. meet its Paris climate accord commitments?

—M. Francis, New York, NY

Not every business leader in the U.S. agrees with Donald Trump that global warming isn't worth the worry. Anyone looking at the facts realizes that climate change is bad for most businesses, except those willing to adapt to new times or those based on sustainable products and processes from the get-go.

According to CDP, a non-profit that helps corporations measure, track and publicly disclose their greenhouse gas emissions, the 215 largest companies in the world are facing almost \$1 trillion in risk from climate impacts and some \$250 billion in losses due to write-offs of assets over just the next five years as a result of warming-related problems. As a result, many American compa-



IMAGE CREDIT: DONNA & KEITH, FLICKRCO

This past May, the non-profit CERES got 75 major American companies to join forces in lobbying Congress to pass legislation to fight climate change.

nies are taking action to rein in their carbon emissions despite the lack of any federal regulation forcing their hands.

One of the biggest coalitions of climateconcerned businesses is the non-profit We Mean Business, which has signed on more than 900 companies to set emissions reduction targets in line with the Obama administration's Paris climate accord commitments. The coalition's mission is to mobilize companies to set ambitious emissions-reduction targets—and to give them the resources and connections to achieve these goals at ambitious yet nevertheless attainable rates based on realistic "sciencebased targets."

Meanwhile, CERES, another influential coalition of businesses working to build sustainability throughout the economy, on May 19, 2019 organized a day of lobbying on Capitol Hill—the so-called "Lawmaker Education & Advocacy Day (LEAD) on Carbon Pricing"—where 75 major U.S.-based

> companies leaned on Congress to pass meaningful climate legislation, including putting a price on carbon emissions.

Exelon, Gap, General Mills, Johnson & Johnson, Kaiser Permanente, Levi's, Nestlé, Nike, Microsoft, PepsiCo, Shell and Tesla were among the 21 Fortune 500 companies participating in the event. Along with these big players, dozens of small and medium sized companies as well as several trade associations spanning economic sectors joined the effort. All told, the companies involved represent all 50 states and more than a million U.S. workers, not to mention combined annual revenues of nearly \$2.5 trillion.

Businesses don't have to be part of one of these coalitions to take a proactive stance on battling human-induced climate change. There are many little things that any business large or small can do to lower its carbon footprint, including transitioning to a paperless office and billing, reducing worker trash and increasing workplace recycling, switching to zero-emission company vehicles, promoting ridesharing and other transportation alternatives, replacing light switches with automatic sensors and requiring suppliers and vendors to uphold similarly strong standards.

American businesses on their own have the collective economic power to help the U.S. meet its Paris climate commitments and then some—even without the help of the Trump administration. If a Democrat is able to unseat Trump in 2020, businesses can expect a whole raft of new climate-related legislation that they will have to comply with if they aren't already going down the path to greener profits. Those businesses already ready are poised to succeed in a fast-warming world.

**CONTACTS:** CDP, cdp.net; We Mean Business, wemeanbusinesscoalition.org; Lawmaker Education & Advocacy Day (LEAD) on Carbon Pricing; leadoncarbonpricing.com; CERES, www.ceres.org.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at emagazine.com. To donate, visit https:// earthtalk.org. Send questions question@earthtalk.org.

# COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

#### **UNITED METHODIST**

# WESTPHALIA

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"A CHURCH ON THE REACH FOR GOD" 9363 D'Arcy Road Upper Marlboro, MD

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Sunday Worship: 7:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. Saturday Worship: 6:30 p.m

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(Adults & Children) - 9:30 A.M. 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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#### First Baptist Church of College Park Welcomes You Where Jesus

Christ Is Lord and King Stephen L. Wright, Sr., Pastor

5018 Lakeland Road College Park, MD 20740 301-474-3995 www.fbc-cp.org

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#### **UNITED METHODIST**

#### Union **United Methodist Church**

14418 Old Marlboro Pike. Upper Marlboro, MD

Church (301) 627-7389

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> Rev. Dr. Kendrick D. Weaver, Pastor

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**Detailing Team from A1** 

iconic plane. Doyle was known for his skill at paint correction and restoring the shine on classic cars, as well as his knowledge in caring for expensive car collections, exotics, and aircraft.

"That beautiful jet was in such a distressed state when I first saw it in 2003, and it was just me, my wife and business partner Diane, and a few staff members who decided anything we did would help and nothing we did could make it worse," said Doyle. "There was a lot of new technology, new equipment, and innovative products coming onto the market for professional detailers 16 years ago that I had been field

"Since then, those tools and products—some for which we have developed specifically based on the needs of this project, have been instrumental in bringing the plane up to the excellent condition it is in

Air Force One still requires an annual cleaning because even though it does not sit exposed on the tarmac, it is inside an open-air pavilion, covered but still subject to the dampness and cold that causes her paint and brightwork to get cloudy. The team also continues their restorative work on the other iconic planes on display.

#### New Mayor from A1

Leonard has served on the Maryland Municipal League (MML) Hometown Emergency Preparedness Ad hoc Committee (HEPAC). Additionally, she is a Fellow with the University of Maryland 2019 Academy for Excellence in Local Governance; a member of the Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA); a member of the Prince George's County Municipal Elected Women Association; a member of the Prince George's County CSA 23 Leadership Council; and an associate member of the Prince George's County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 89.

President Leonard is also a United States Army Reserve veteran. In addition to her extensive public service, Leonard is also a seasoned leader in the health care industry. Ms. Leonard holds a Bachelor of Art in Business Administration, with an emphasis on management and a minor in finance, from the University of the District of Columbia

A special election to select the third Commissioner on the threemember body has been scheduled for Monday, August 5, 2019.

#### To Be Equal from A4

were nearly 15 times more likely than whites to be arrested in New York City for low-level cannabis crimes.

It's going to take much more than simple legalization to level the playing field—and Illinois' new law recognizes the challenges.

Illinois will waive half of the application fee for license-seekers who are either long-term residents of a "disproportionately impacted area" or who have been incarcerated for a minor pot crime that is eligible for expungement under the bill.

These applicants who receive a license to grow or sell marijuana in Illinois will also be eligible for special low-interest loans from the state, direct grant aid for start-up costs, and other benefits.

As Illinois state Rep. Jehan Gordon-Booth said, "What we are doing here is about reparations. After 40 years of treating entire communities like criminals, here comes this multibillion-dollar industry, and guess what? Black and brown people have been put at the very center of this policy in a way that no other state has ever done."

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# **Prince George's County Department of Social Services** Recognized by Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Foundation **For LGBTQ Inclusion Efforts**

By BUEL YOUNG

Prince George's County Department of Social Services

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (July 2, 2019)—The Prince George's County Department of Social Services (PGCDSS), proudly announced that it is being recognized by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Foundation in its All Children-All Families 2019 Report Celebrating Everyday Change-Makers for the department's work to enhance efforts to achieve safety, permanency, and well-being for LGBTQ youth and families. The 2019 All Children-All Families report highlighted the work of PGCDSS and other child welfare agencies across the country to improve the services provided to the LGBTQ community, including children in foster care and prospective foster and adoptive parents.

"It is a great honor to be acknowledged by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation and to have Nakiya Lynch, one of our foster care youth, featured as part of the All Children-All Families video documentary," said Director Gloria Brown Burnett. "I am very proud of our department's work in support of the LGBTQ community and especially the work of our AFFIRM unit to transform the delivery of child welfare services to our LGBTQ youth."

PGCDSS' AFFIRM program is one of only a few child welfare programs in the country dedicated solely to supporting LGBTQ youth and their families. Its implementation is part of the LGBTQ2S Quality Improvement Center, a groundbreaking national effort to build new evidence-based strategies for improving services for LGBTQ youth and families. AFFIRM works with young people in the foster care system whose families have trouble accepting their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression or who experience bullying in school or other forms of abuse. The program gives youth coping skills and teaches parents and caregivers how to validate and support their children's LGBTQ identities and experience.

To learn more about the Prince George's County Department of Social Services or the department's AFFIRM program, contact Buel Young at Buel. Young 1@maryland.gov or 301-909-7073.

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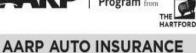
Alan Amrhine, Communications Director **Lutheran Mission Society** 

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