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The American Legion: The Year in Review

3RD IN 3 PART SERIES

By LINDA POULSON
Media Contact
Clinton Post 259

There's no doubt that the year 2019 brought much excitement to the American Legion and local posts under the organization. In its celebration of 100 years first established in 1919 in Paris, France, to its substantial accomplishments made this year, the Legion continues its commitment to servicemembers, veterans, and families.

Outgoing National Commander Brett P. Reistad (2018–2019), called the "Centennial Commander" during a speech on August 29 when accolades were given to him, achieved key issues that were successful in helping Legionnaires during his tenure.

In September 2018 Reistad gave the name of "Team 100" that would be the centennial membership theme—"to bring our resources to bear, increase our membership, and start our second century of service off on the right foot."

But before that, the American Legion was working on a chal-

lenge that involved the Supreme Court (SCOTUS).

The February 27 event at SCOTUS drew a large crowd of Legionnaires supporting in keeping the Peace Cross. The American Legion had a legal team of three fighting for keeping the cross intact.

The Peace Cross is located at the intersection of Route 50 and 202 in Bladensburg, Md. It is a memorial dedicated to 49 soldiers who died in World War I.

"Legionnaires from Post 259 Clinton and also the Department and all over the State of Maryland came to support the lawyers that are arguing the case of the Peace Cross Memorial in Prince George's County," said Murray Hall, Commander of Clinton Post 259. "We also want people to understand that these veterans are both black and white in 1925. That in itself at that time in that era means a lot."

In a 7-2 decision by the Supreme Court on June 20, the Peace Cross remains standing as a symbol for veterans and in honoring the 49 Maryland veterans who died in WWI.

The decision was a historic



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY LINDA POULSON

Post 259 Commander Murray Hall receiving the Proclamation from Dr. James Dula, Veterans Affairs Officer for Prince George's County.

victory for the American Legion in the *American Legion v. American Humanist Assn.* case.

Other major incentives that the American Legion was involved in included:

The LEGION Act. The legislative victory for the American Legion was signed into law on July 30 by President Donald Trump. The LEGION Act (Let Everyone Get Involved In Opportunities for National Service Act) opened the door for millions of veterans who were killed during undeclared periods of war and veterans who were not eligible for programs or benefits in the American Legion.

Coast Guard Assistance. Due to the federal government shutdown (December 22, 2018–January 25, 2019), more than 40,000 Coast Guard members did not receive pay. The American Legion received more than 1,000 requests for assistance.

"We are grateful that President Trump fully acknowledges the importance of The American Legion by signing the LEGION Act in the White House today—

See YEAR IN REVIEW Page A8



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY LINDA POULSON

American Legion members at the White House witnessing President Donald Trump signing into law the LEGION Act. National Commander Brett P. Reistad is second from left.

Hoyer Announces Winners of The Fifth Annual Fifth District Congressional App Challenge

By ANNALIESE DAVIS
Congressman Hoyer's Office

WASHINGTON (December 20, 2019)—On December 20, Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-05) announced the winners of the Fifth Annual Congressional App Challenge for the Fifth District.

This year, Patuxent High School student Matthew Hunter won first place with his app, "The Art of Cryptography." Matthew's app aims to help individuals understand cryptography and allows users of the app to decode cyphers.

Karley Trinidad and Aubrey Zeltwanger, both from Patuxent High School, won second-place for their app, "Safer Together," which provides students, teachers, and administrators with specific instructions during various types of school emergencies.

Patuxent High School student Alyssa Mazzone and Gwynn Park High School student Kehniah Watts tied for third place. Alyssa's app, "Striving and Driving," is a memory challenge game. Kehniah's app, "NaxaNow," teaches students about the opioid epidemic and provides resources to help those struggling with addition.

"I join in congratulating the winners and everyone who participated in the fifth annual Fifth District Congressional App Challenge," said Congressman Hoyer. "I was extremely impressed by the creativity displayed by students this year, as well as the hard work and dedication they put into each of their

apps. I also applaud their efforts to address issues confronting our communities, such as public safety and opioid abuse. Congratulations to Matthew, Karley, Aubrey, Alyssa, and Kehniah for their winning apps, and I encourage all Fifth District students to consider participating in next year's competition."

The Congressional App Challenge was established by the U.S. House of Representatives in 2013 as a nationwide event which invites middle and high school students from all participating Congressional districts to compete as individuals or groups up to four. Students work to create and present an original software application, or "app," for a mobile, tablet, or computer platform of their choosing.

The contest is modeled after the long-successful Congressional Art Competition and is designed to promote innovation and engagement in STEM education fields. Students who live in or are eligible to attend public schools located in Maryland's Fifth Congressional District were invited to join the Fifth District App Challenge. The winning app will be placed on display in the U.S. Capitol alongside other winners from the nation. Additionally, the first place winner will receive \$250 Amazon Web Services credits and receive an invitation to the #HouseofCode Capitol Hill Reception in Washington DC.

Maryland Humanities Welcomes Nonprofit Leader And Professor to Board of Directors

New members reside in Garrett County and Prince George's County

By SARAH WEISSMAN
Maryland Humanities

BALTIMORE, Md. (December 19, 2019)—Maryland Humanities is pleased to welcome Mary Callis and Randy Ontiveros to the organization's Board of Directors. Callis is the Executive Director of the Garrett Lakes Arts Festival (GLAF) and Ontiveros serves on the English faculty at the University of Maryland. Callis resides in Garrett County and Ontiveros resides in Prince George's County. They join 25 other volunteers in service.

In addition to the two new members, the Board of Directors includes: Cynthia Raposo (Chair), Montgomery County; Keith Stone (Vice Chair), Baltimore City; Dr. Scott Casper (Secretary), Howard County; James (Jim) Cornelsen (Treasurer), Charles County; The Honorable Ronald (Pete) Leshner,

Jr. (Government Liaison), Talbot County; Allyson Black, Anne Arundel County; Dr. Mary Kay Finan, Allegany County; Rian Hargrave, Baltimore City; Mary Hastler, Harford County; Mark Irwin, Montgomery County; Julia (Julie) Madden, Howard County; Tiffany McGhee, Baltimore County; Heather Mitchell, Howard County; Dr. Ronald Nowaczyk, Allegany County; Dr. Maarten Pereboom, Wicomico County; Jeanne Pirtle, St. Mary's County; The Honorable Gale Rasin, Kent County; Thomas (Tom) Riford, Washington County; Dr. Nancy Rogers, Montgomery County; Carmel Roques, Howard County; The Honorable Stephen (Steve) Sfekas, Baltimore City; Jennifer Shea, Montgomery County; Guffrie Smith, Calvert County; Sharon Whitney, Anne Arundel County; and Jayson Williams, Baltimore City.

Mary Callis has been appointed to the Board by Governor Larry Hogan, having been nominated by State Senator George Edwards and State Delegate Wendell Beitzel. She is the Executive Director at the Garrett Lakes Arts Festival in Garrett County, which has been a Maryland Humanities partner for Chautauqua for 25 years. Prior to GLAF, from 2000–2010, she served in various roles at First United Bank and Trust. Callis is a Board Member of Garrett College Foundation and volunteers for the Oakland Rotary and Republican Women's Club of Garrett County. In the past, she has served on the Maryland State Department of Education Fine Arts Advisory Committee, the Garrett County Public Schools Fine Arts Advisory Committee, and been active in civic organizations in Oakland, Grantsville, and Friendsville. She lives in

Oakland, Maryland. (Garrett County)

Dr. Randy Ontiveros is an Associate Professor of English at the University of Maryland. In 2006, he received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Irvine. Since then, he has researched and taught at College Park in the field of Latinx Studies. His book *In the Spirit of a New People: The Cultural Politics of the Chicano Movement* was published by New York University Press in 2013. He has published essays on topics ranging from Latinx environmentalism to television coverage of the Mexican-American civil rights movement, and he is currently writing a book about Latinx and the American suburbs. Each spring Professor Ontiveros teaches "Literary Maryland," a popular course in which undergraduates explore the state's history through its literature and its



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY MARYLAND HUMANITIES

Prince Georgian Dr. Randy Ontiveros

literature through its history. Among the many authors on the syllabus are Father Andrew White, Edgar Allan Poe, Francis Ellen Watkins Harper, Frederick Douglass, H.L. Mencken, Lucille Clifton, and Ta-Nehisi Coates. In 2015, Professor Ontiveros won the USM Board of Regents' Faculty Award for Teaching. In 2016, he was awarded the Donna B. Hamilton Award for Teaching Excellence in General Education. He is a proud resident of Prince George's County.

Maryland Humanities is a statewide nonprofit organization that creates and supports educational experiences in the humanities that inspire all Marylanders to embrace lifelong learning, exchange ideas openly, and enrich their communities. Visit www.md-humanities.org. Maryland Humanities is generously supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the State of Maryland, private foundations, corporations, small businesses, and individual donors.

INSIDE

Sustainability and Climate Change Emerge in Architecture Schools Across the Country

The University of Maryland's school of engineering has also addressed sustainability in more of its courses. ... Engineering students learn about renewable energy and climate change while exploring countries that promote energy efficiency.

Community, Page A3

ChildWatch: The Greatest Gift in This Holy Season

Don't be afraid to take children to serve meals to the homeless or to engage in discussions at family gatherings about those left out in the cold.

Commentary, Page A4

Purple Line Light Rail Vehicle Model on Tour at New Carrollton Branch Library

This 140-foot light rail train will be the longest one of its kind in the nation.

Business and Finance, Page A5

Greenbelt Arts Center's Newest Production Opens January 3

Quadrille: A Romantic Play
Quadrille is a delicious tale featuring romance, secret plots, good food, more secret plots, bad food, heroic duels, and plenty of perfectly prepared corn muffins.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

Where do the remaining Democratic presidential candidates stand on climate and environment?

—Mary W., Miami, FL

Features, Page A7

TOWNS *and* NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale will return next week.

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

WISE HIGH SCHOOL

Wise High School in Upper Marlboro, Maryland wins 4th Maryland State football championship in five years. The Wise Pumas have taken revenge after falling in last season's state playoffs, beating Northwest High School 35-14 on Friday night to claim their fourth state title in five years.

The performance at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium caps a decade of dominance for Wise High School, which has gone undefeated against Prince George's County competition since 2015. Congratulations to Wise High School.

SAY IT LOUD

Mousey Thompson & The James Brown Experience is an all-star ensemble that performs popular songs of one of the greatest music legends of our time, James Brown. The band performs James Brown's biggest hits such as "Cold Sweat", "This is a Man's World", "Please, Please, Please" and many other songs. Mousey Thompson & The James Experience will put on an amazing show Saturday, February 1, 2020 at 8 p.m. This amazing show will have audiences dancing all night long. Tickets (General Admission): \$25/person: \$20/person for seniors, students, and groups of 20 or more. The show will be held at the Publick Playhouse, 5445 Landover Road, Cheverly, Maryland 20784. Telephone number is 301-277-1710; TTY 301-699-2544, arts.pgparcs.com.

SUPER BOWL PARTY

Super Bowl LIV Party will be hosted by American Legion Post 227 February 2, 2020, 6-9 p.m. The American Legion Post is located at 13505 Cherry Tree Crossing Road, Brandywine, Maryland 20613. Telephone number is 301-782-7371.

SOUTHERN MARYLAND HOSPITAL CENTER

The hospital opened a temporary new front entrance to provide access to their emergency department (ED) and main hospital during construction. Designated overflow parking will be available at the neighboring Colony South Hotel if the hospital's visitor parking lot is full.

When the construction is complete, MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center will have a state-of-the-art ED that will meet the needs of their residents. Here of some of the things you can look forward to: A total of 40 ED treat-

ment rooms, almost fifty percent more than before, a better waiting room experience, a new front entrance with a 24-hour café for patients and visitors, a separate area for patients who may have been exposed to pathogens, easier access for EMS personnel, 18,000 more square feet of space in the ED, for a total of 70,000 square feet.

"We're committed to providing excellent care to our community throughout this process. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time of transformation".

JANUARY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Happy Birthday to Steven Carter, Dr. Sandra Jones, Davion Dorsett, Veronica Quarm, Khadija Hakim-Hinton, Nurbert Hughes, Jr., Walter Joiner, Ian Williams, Bernestine Bryan, Mavis Thomas, Nicole Falby, Beatrice Chapman, Abu Davies, Judanne Thomas, Margaret Thompson, Brandon Holmes, Lawrence Omoregbe, Jordon Joseph, Marian Thomas, Rachelle Jackson, Roseline Omoregbe, Yannick Bourne, William Terry, Donovan Cain, Anne Kauffman, Florella Wallace, George Brooks, Jessica Farmer, Clara Hawkins, Melvin Jackson, Christopher Makle-Lewis, Juanita Turley, Rosie Wilkerson, Alice Wright, and Phyllis Slater who are celebrating birthdays in January.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to Nurbert and Carol Hughes, Buddy and Betty King, Walter and Theresa Lindsay Joiner who are celebrating Wedding Anniversaries in January.

SONGS FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

Afro Blue celebrates Black History Month with their unique jazz versions of the most influential songs from the Civil Rights Era. This is followed by a presentation of original material, written by members of the ensemble, that speaks to current events. We've come a long way, but there is still much further to go.

The program will be held Friday, February 28, 2020, 11 a.m. at the Publick Playhouse. The address is 5445 Landover Road, Cheverly, Maryland 20784. Telephone number is 301-277-1710; TTY 301-699-2544. arts.pgparcs.com. Ages 60 & better. Tickets (General Admission): \$10/person.

MPT's Chesapeake Collectibles Debuts 10th Season in January

Series features memorabilia from collectors across the Chesapeake Bay region

By PRESS OFFICER
MPT

OWINGS MILLS, Md. (December 24, 2019)—Maryland Public Television's popular original series Chesapeake Collectibles returns for its 10th season beginning on Monday, January 6, 2020. The new season, with Rhea Feikin returning as series host, features 13 new episodes airing Mondays at 7:30 p.m. on MPT-HD.

One of Maryland Public Television's most successful flagship series, Chesapeake Collectibles showcases antiques from around the world brought to MPT's team of appraisers by collectors from across the Chesapeake region. Season 10 episodes were shot on location at the Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center on the College Park campus of the University of Maryland.

During its new season, Chesapeake Collectibles marks a decade of celebrating stories and mementos of heroic sacrifice, quiet contentment, and restless wanderlust with a lineup of interesting artifacts rescued from the shadows of the past. Items featured during the season premiere episode include:

- A collection of photographs and memorabilia—possibly the largest outside of a major museum—from the personal archives of the U.S. space program's first official photographer, Bill Taub.
- A Japanese Buddhist family altar, believed to be carved in the 18th cen-

tury, given to Christian missionaries at the conclusion of a several-year tour.

- An original Howard Mehring painting, picked out of a trash heap, with a valuation estimated to be in the thousands of dollars.
- A large collection of jazz memorabilia including programs, tickets, posters, photos, and even handwritten receipts salvaged from the home of Benny Kearse, who founded the Left Bank Jazz Society of Baltimore alongside fellow artist Vernon L. Welsh in 1964.

Also featured during the season premiere are elements of a ball gown worn during a dance with George Washington at Tryon Palace in North Carolina. The gown was worn by Ferebe Guion, wife of North Carolina representative Dr. Isaac Guion—the man who delivered welcoming remarks for George Washington during the president's 1791 "Southern Tour." Whereas Ferebe and her gown were initially thought to have simply entered the same ballroom as President Washington, thanks to research by the curatorial staff at Tryon Palace it's now believed that she was the first to dance with the president during the



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY MPT

Appraiser C. Robert Harrison, of Harrison Appraisals, LLC, evaluates a ball gown worn by a dance partner of President George Washington during a 1791 ball at Tryon Palace.

evening's ceremonies. The historic ball gown is evaluated by C. Robert Harrison, president and senior appraiser of Harrison Appraisals, LLC, in Westminster.

Chesapeake Collectibles airs at 7:30 p.m. on Mondays on MPT-HD, immediately preceding the acclaimed PBS series Antiques Roadshow. Each episode of Chesapeake Collectibles is rebroadcast on Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. on MPT2. Viewers can also find full episodes of the series at video.mpt.tv and the MPT app.

For more information, visit chesapeakecollectibles.com or view the series' Facebook page.

Major funding for season 10 of Chesapeake Collectibles is provided by Alex Cooper Auctioneers, Inc. and the generous members of Maryland Public Television.

above. Entries are due January 6, 2020. Contest finalists are chosen by the Bowie Diversity Committee soon after the contest deadline. Finalists will be featured and winners will be announced at the City's Martin Luther King, Jr. Program on Saturday, January 18, 2020 at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Stephanie Lopez at slopez@cityofbowie.org or 240-544-5616.

January 18, 2020—Program Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 10 a.m. at Bowie City Hall. The program will feature the artwork of local students who have been selected as finalists in the City's Martin Luther King Art Contest. Winners will be announced at the conclusion of the program.

—Una Cooper, City of Bowie

Around the County

Summer Youth Enrichment Program Applications Open January 6, 2020

Mark your calendars! Applications for our 2020 Youth@Work/Summer Youth Enrichment Program (SYEP) will open January 6, 2020. The application period will run until February 28, 2020. We have more than 6,000 job opportunities available in this nationally-recognized program for Prince George's County residents ages 14-22.

Youth who participate in this program will have an opportunity to complete a summer work experience, connect with industry professionals and earn their own money. There is also an opportunity to sign up for job readiness training when you complete an application, which we strongly encourage for all applicants who have not completed this training in the past through SYEP. Even if you participated last summer, you can still join us this summer.

Again, mark your calendars for January 6, 2020. The application will go live that day on our SYEP website.

Prince George's County 2020 Census Solutions Workshop

Join County Executive Alsobrooks and Complete Count Committee Chair Elizabeth Hewlett as they host the next Census Solutions Workshop! The workshop will be held Thursday, January 9, 2020, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the New Carrollton Branch Library (7414 Riverdale Rd, New Carrollton, MD 20784). Doors will open at 5:30 p.m.

This workshop is for residents who want to know more about the 2020 Census and who would want to volunteer with us as official Census Ambassadors. While this is a free event, we are asking that everyone please RSVP in advance through Eventbrite.

—Community Connections Newsletter, December 20, 2019

Local Students Honored

Schreiner University Announces Names of Fall Graduates

KERRVILLE, Texas (December 19, 2019)—Congratulations to Schreiner University's Fall graduates. One hundred and thirteen students graduated from Schreiner University and received their degrees this Winter.

Congratulations to the following student:

Javaughn Baltrip, Master of Business Administration in Business, Oxon Hill, MD

Schreiner University is an independent coeducational liberal arts university related by choice and by covenant to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

—Sandy Nash, Schreiner University

Minnesota State University, Mankato Awarded 1,709 Degrees at End of Fall Semester

MANKATO, Minn. (December 23, 2019)—Minnesota State University, Mankato awarded 1,709 degrees at the end of the fall semester, with commencement ceremonies held on Saturday, Dec. 14 in Taylor Center's Bresnan Arena on the Minnesota State Mankato campus.

Graduate from Forestville, MD: **Mohamed Diaby**, BA, Economics

Graduates of the College of Arts & Humanities, College of Business and College of Science, Engineering and Technology participated in a 9 a.m. ceremony, and graduates of the College of Allied Health and Nursing, College of Education and College of Social and Behavioral Sciences participated in a noon ceremony.

Graduates wore wear purple caps and gowns for the first time. Purple is one of Minnesota State Mankato's school colors (along with gold). Graduates have worn black caps and gowns in previous commencement ceremonies.

Minnesota State Mankato, a comprehensive university with 14,297 students, is part of the Minnesota State system, which includes 30 colleges and seven universities.

—Dan Benson, Minnesota State University, Mankato

288 Graduate From Union University

JACKSON, Tenn. (December 23, 2019)—Two hundred eighty-eight students graduated from Union University Dec. 14 during fall commencement services of the 195th graduating class at West Jackson Baptist Church.

Graduate from Cheverly, MD: **Onome Agbaza**, Bachelor of Science in Nursing Accelerated

Gary Carter, who retired earlier this year as Union's senior vice president for business and financial services after 28 years of service, delivered the commencement address.

Located in Jackson, Tenn., Union University is a liberal arts-based university affiliated with the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Founded in 1823, Union is the oldest institution relating to the Southern Baptist Convention.

—Tim Ellsworth, Union University

Eighth Annual Artists on the Rise: Juried Teen Exhibition Call for Artists

SUBMIT NOW!

Montpelier Arts Center announces an open call for teen artists!

Montpelier Arts Center, 9652 Muirkirk Rd, Laurel, MD 20708, strives to foster a positive, creative environment in which young and emerging artists realize their full potential as creative individuals. In honor of National Youth Art Month in March, Montpelier spotlights middle and high school teens (ages 13-18) in the Washington metropolitan area and their talents in the visual arts.

We welcome students in public/private middle and high school or home school to enter one piece of original artwork online at montpelierartscenter.submittable.com. There is no entry fee for this competition and there are awards given for First Place (\$200), Second Place (\$150), and Third Place (\$100).

Exhibition Schedule

Submission Deadline: Sunday, January 26, 2020, 11:59 p.m.

Notification of Results: Wednesday, February 5, 2020

Drop Off Artwork: Saturday, February 29-Sunday, March 1, 2020, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Exhibition Dates: Saturday, March 7-Sunday, 29, 2020, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Reception + Awards Ceremony: Saturday, March 7, 2020, 1-3 p.m.

Pick Up Artwork: Monday, March 30-Sunday, April 5, 2020, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

For information or to submit online click HERE or contact Montpelier Arts Center at 301-377-7800 or montpelier.arts@pgparcs.com for additional information.

—Montpelier Arts Center

Calling All Student Artists!

The City of Bowie is hosting its annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Art Contest to promote understanding about the lasting legacy of Dr. King. The theme for this year's contest is "Lifting Our Voices for Freedom". There are three different categories within the contest, depending on the grade level of the students: K-2nd grade, coloring contest; 3rd-5th grade, poster contest; and 6-12th grade, video contest. For contest details, visit www.cityofbowie.org/MLK.

Students who live within the municipal limits of Bowie (including home schooled students) or students who attend an eligible school in Bowie can participate in the contest. The complete list of eligible schools is located at the website

COMMUNITY

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Why New Year's Resolutions Can Be a Bad Idea

While wanting to see positive changes in your life isn't a bad idea, the way most New Year's resolutions come together is usually complicated, often helps little and may even be harmful.

Most of us are pretty bad at setting reasonable goals for ourselves. We usually think in terms of absolutes: "I'm going to lose twenty pounds next month." "I'm going to stop smoking now." "I'm going to get that job promotion this quarter."

There are a several problems with resolutions like these, the main one being that they seldom achieve success. Such resolutions are based on negative emotions, things about yourself with which you aren't satisfied or happy. These may seem motivating at first, but they actually can create feelings of anxiety and decreased self-worth. This focus on negative feelings seldom provides long term motivation.

Another problem with those "absolute" resolutions is that they set you up for failure. They start based on issues you don't like about yourself, and then present a good opportunity for you to fail, thus helping to lower your self-esteem even more. And no, you don't make a resolution planning not to achieve it, but the reality is that most of us don't reach our ambitious goals. One study even named January 12 as "Quitter's Day," the point when large numbers of people begin to falter in working toward their New Year's goals.

A major problem with most New Year's resolutions is that they focus on the goal and not on the process. If weight loss, traditionally this nation's number one resolution, is the goal, it's easy to become discouraged and depressed if you see little change on the bathroom scale or if you make some progress but then backslide a bit.

Rather than focusing on the final goal experts advise paying more attention to the small steps, the process, that will take you to that goal. In many cases, they advise not even to set a final goal. If weight loss, for example is what you want to achieve, instead of imagining how many pounds have to disappear, set a positive objective of "eating healthier." It's something you can do in small steps (i.e., no donut at work every day, but instead a handful of carrots for that mid-afternoon snack).

Setting small changes makes them easier to achieve and makes you more likely to bring about the final results that you desire.

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.

Nonprofit Offers Grief Children's Programs in Anne Arundel and Prince George's Counties

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
Hospice of the Chesapeake

PASADENA, Md. (December 11, 2019)—Chesapeake Life Center continues to offer grief programs for children and teens in Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties.

Three groups meet regularly on the John & Cathy Belcher Campus, 90 Ritchie Highway, in Pasadena.

- Stepping Stones, a monthly support group for children ages 6 to 12 grieving the loss of a loved one, meets from 10 a.m. to noon on the first Saturday of the month—Jan. 4, Feb. 1 and March 7. Breakfast and activities are included.
- Phoenix Rising, a monthly group for teens ages 13 to 18 grieving the loss of a loved one, meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month—Jan. 15, Feb. 19 and March 18. A meal is provided along with games and other activities.
- Pre-Teen Group, a monthly support group for pre-teens and early teens to connect and share with others who have lost a loved one. It meets at the same time and place as the Phoenix Rising group from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month—Jan. 15, Feb. 19 and March 18. A meal is provided along with games and other activities.

Hospice of the Chesapeake's Prince George's County office at 9500 Medical Center Drive, Suite 250, in Largo, Maryland also offers a teen grief program:

- **The Prince George's County Teen Support Group** is a monthly group that offers youth ages 13 to 18 a way to connect with others their age who also grieve the death of a loved one. It will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month—Jan. 8, Feb. 12 and March 11. A meal is provided along with games and other activities.

The cost for each group is \$10 per teen, with a maximum of \$20 per family. Pre-registration is required for all these programs and must be completed before attending by calling 888-501-7077 or emailing griefinfo@chesapeakelifecenter.org.

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.chesapeakelifecenter.org.

Hospice of the Chesapeake Gala
Saturday, April 4, 2020 • 5:30 to 11:30 p.m.
The Hotel at the University of Maryland
College Park

The gala is the organization's signature black tie event and features an open bar, fine cuisine, a silent and live auction, a band and dancing.

For sponsorship opportunities, contact Meg Lawton at 443-837-1531 or mlawton@hospicechesapeake.org.

Sustainability and Climate Change Emerge in Architecture Schools Across the Country

By JAZMIN CONNER AND MARIS MEDINA
Capital News Service/Howard Center for Investigative Journalism

BALTIMORE (December 20, 2019)—Nicole Ponce, a senior architecture student at the Maryland Institute College of Art, visited a freshwater lake in the Netherlands as part of a class last summer. Her assignment: to envision sustainable housing and commercial uses for the site.

She finished the course, a MICA collaboration with a Dutch company, by proposing and designing a water filtration system that uses the natural flow of two rivers. Other students focused on creating a walkable city to help the environment by limiting carbon emissions.

The class is one of many examples of how architecture programs in colleges across the country are preparing students to deal with climate change.

Often, the course descriptions include the word "sustainability." Cristina Murphy, assistant professor in the Morgan State University School of Architecture and Planning, says sustainability—which includes designing buildings and systems that don't deplete the resources of surrounding communities—is closely linked with climate change.

"There are obvious signs of [climate change] problems," Murphy says. "As architects teaching future architects, it would be suicidal not to talk about it."

The field of sustainability continues to grow in professional architecture and engineering, and Michael Galczynski, who teaches engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park, says all fields must work together to mitigate climate change.

"Climate change, like any problem in society, isn't solvable by any single branch," he said. "Everything is interconnected."

Ralph Bennett, an architect and University of Maryland professor, says that more people—including students—are aware of sustainability and how it relates to climate change.

"[The field] hasn't just grown," Bennett said. "It's emerged." In 2008, Bennett created a course titled Sustainability at College Park, a class that teaches students about the ways the campus works on sustainability—such as the development of the university's climate action plan and the creation of carbon-neutral and resource-efficient buildings.

The class aims to help freshmen and sophomores begin to think about sustainability earlier on in their college careers. Bennett said it has attracted an average of 70 students every semester.

At Cornell University, Dr. Timur Dogan directs the Environmental Systems Lab, which teaches architectural design that aims to limit damage to the environment. This can mean projects ranging from energy efficient buildings to bike racks to parks for community residents.

Since the program started in 2015, students in the lab along with Dogan have developed software for architects and urban designers to help them understand the impact of climate as they work on projects. For example, how will air temperature or wind speed or sunlight affect humans who use these buildings and spaces?

With the software, architects and urban designers can judge if their projects will be comfortable for the people who use them and, if not, how the designs can be adjusted.



PHOTOGRAPH CREDIT MARIS MEDINA/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE/HOWARD CENTER FOR INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

Michael Galczynski, who teaches engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park, says all academic fields should cooperate on the issues of climate change.

Dogan said architects sometimes don't start their design with climate or energy efficient materials in mind, and changing designs later can be expensive.

"It was so novel at the time and unheard of that architects can do those kind of simulations," said Dogan.

Jeffrey Chusid, associate professor and architecture department chair at Cornell, said that as the surrounding communities deal more with climate change the topic naturally surfaces and is integrated into more of their courses and programs.

The University of Maryland's school of engineering has also addressed sustainability in more of its courses. Through a summer course, engineering students learn about renewable energy and climate change while exploring countries that promote energy efficiency.

Galczynski took a cohort of students to Iceland last May to explore renewable energy systems. The country's electricity is almost 100 percent powered by renewable energy from geothermal and hydroelectric sources.

Galczynski has seen an increased focus on sustainability in engineering courses since he graduated from the University of Maryland in 2012, when, he said, climate change was not yet at the forefront of conversation.

He says students coming into college now have grown up with the idea of climate change.

Still, some architecture students, including Ponce, believe that sustainability should be constantly integrated into the way students learn, especially as climate change continues to grow into a more urgent dilemma.

"We need to start making that change now," Ponce said. "I think it should be something that's always there. Not, 'Maybe we should do some sustainability because it's cool right now.' It should be something that's essential and not ignored anymore."

Long-Term Use of Advanced Driver Assistance Technologies Can Result in Disengaged Drivers

As drivers develop more experience and comfort using advanced driver assistance systems, they are also more likely to drive distracted while using the systems

By PRESS OFFICER
AAA Mid-Atlantic

WASHINGTON, D.C. (December 17, 2019)—Drivers with experience using advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS) like adaptive cruise control and lane-keeping assist, were nearly twice as likely to engage in distracted driving while using the systems compared to when they were driving without the systems, according to new research from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety.

Alternatively, drivers with less experience and familiarity using the technology were less likely to drive while distracted with systems activated compared to when systems were not in use. AAA wants drivers to remember that while new driver assistance technologies offer important benefits, drivers must remain active and engaged when behind the wheel to maximize safety.

"This new research suggests that as drivers gain more experience using ADAS technology, they could develop complacency while behind the wheel," said Dr. David Yang, executive director of the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. "Overreliance on these systems can put drivers and others in dangerous conditions during critical moments."

Researchers at the AAA Foundation collaborated with Virginia Tech Transportation Institute to analyze video of on-road behaviors for two groups of drivers using advanced driver assistance technology. Individuals in one group owned a vehicle equipped with ADAS and had more experience using the systems while drivers in the other group were given a vehicle equipped with ADAS to use during the 4-week study period and had less experience with the technology.

The research found that drivers who owned their vehicles—and therefore had more familiarity with ADAS technology—

were more likely to drive distracted when these systems were active than when they were not.

"For example, some observed distracted driving behaviors included texting or adjusting the radio," said John B. Townsend II, AAA Mid-Atlantic's Manager of Public and Government Affairs. "Meanwhile, drivers with less experience using the technologies were more likely to remain attentive and engaged while the systems were engaged."

Despite their potential safety benefits, there are concerns about unintended consequences associated with intermediate levels of automation in advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS). Such intelligent systems are housed within vehicles and they are designed to increase road safety and driving comfort.

For example, Virginia Tech researchers theorize that drivers move through different phases tied to experience using ADAS technologies. First timers start in a novelty phase where they learn and test the technology. These drivers are less inclined to trust the system's function and reliability, so they remain active and engaged while driving.

Eventually, drivers reach an experienced user phase where overreliance and too much trust in the systems becomes more common. These drivers are more apt to take their eyes and attention away from the road. Research in other industries shows that pilots and nuclear technicians demonstrate similar pat-



PHOTOGRAPH CREDIT ALEXANDRE-BOUCHER, UNSPLASH

Drivers who owned their vehicles—and therefore had more familiarity with ADAS technology—were more likely to drive distracted when these systems were active than when they were not.

terns of over-reliance on automated systems. These behaviors can eventually lead to distraction.

"Advanced driver assistance technologies have a lot to offer in terms of comfort and safety, but they should never replace an attentive and engaged driver," said Dr. William Van Tassel, AAA manager of driver training programs. "Remember, technology fails us daily while at work and at home. So, don't get caught driving distracted when being focused on the road can save your life."

AAA offers three simple steps for how to ACE your next vehicle rental or purchase:

- Always remain active and engaged when using ADAS technologies like lane-keep assist or adaptive cruise control.
- Commit to knowing what ADAS technologies are installed on your vehicle and how they work.

See **DISENGAGED** Page A8

COMMENTARY

Marion Wright Edelman

President Emerita,
Children's Defense Fund



ChildWatch:

The Greatest Gift in This Holy Season

(December 20, 2019)—This is a holy season for multiple faiths and with our celebrations many of us spend time, money, and energy searching for perfect presents rather than reflecting on what our faith requires of us. It's wonderful to share special times and gifts with family and friends but too many of us get overwhelmed by shopping for material things for loved ones. I hope parents, grandparents, and all of us will pause and ensure we give our young and each other more important gifts of time, attention, and family rituals—ourselves—that all children need. So many of us are passing onto our children an affliction with "affluenza," the poverty of having too much that equals too little. Children need adults to show them that the greatest gifts are what they give to others in caring, sharing, and service and not just material things.

Many families volunteer in multiple ways, sharing

and collecting food, clothing, and toys for others and making sure to express our true values—especially caring for our neighbors who have been left behind in our nation. Don't be afraid to take children to serve meals to the homeless or to engage in discussions at family gatherings about those left out in the cold. Teach children Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s reminder that "Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve. You don't have to know about Plato and Aristotle to serve. You don't have to know Einstein's theory of relativity to serve. You don't have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace, a soul generated by love."

Each of us can also do our part to renew our congregations' and communities' commitment to service

and justice. As those of us who are Christian celebrate a poor, homeless child threatened by Herod's violence against innocent first born boys let us commit to standing up and caring for the millions of poor, homeless, hungry children living in our violent and materially rich but spiritually poor nation today. The poor baby in a manger gets lost like so many poor babies all over America needing food, shelter, safety, education and hope for the future. During this holy season, let's commit to acting on God's call through the prophet Zechariah "to see that justice is done, to show kindness and mercy to one another, not to oppress widows, orphans, foreigners, who live among you or anyone else in need" by serving and caring and joining together to work for a better nation and world. That is the greatest gift we could hope to pass on.

Lord, it is Christmas and
Herod is searching for and destroying our children,
pillaging their houses, corrupting their minds,
poisoning their views,
killing and imprisoning the sons, orphaning the daughters,
widowing the mothers.

Herod's soldiers are everywhere,
in government at all levels, on Wall Street, in religious houses, schoolhouses, courthouses and moviehouses,

Please lead us and our children to safety.

God, we confess that ours is still a world in which Herod seems to rule:

The powerful are revered,
The visions of the wise are ignored,
The poor are afflicted,
And the innocent are killed.

You show us that salvation comes in the vulnerability of a child,
yet we hunger for the "security" of weapons and walls.

You teach us that freedom comes in loving service,
yet we trample on others in our efforts to be "free."

Forgive us, God, when we look to the palace instead of the stable,
when we heed politicians more than prophets.

Renew us with the spirit of Bethlehem,
That we may be better prepared for Your coming.

Amen.

(from Thankful Praise: A Resource for Christian Worship, edited by Keith Watkins)

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

Marc Morial

President and CEO, National Urban League



To Be Equal:

Remembering Gary Mayor Richard Hatcher: First of Firsts

"I thought that it was the greatest thing in the world that he was going to be our mayor. He was someone who looked like us and fought for the things we believed in and needed. But the thing that struck me the most about Hatcher was his accessibility. In his 20 years at City Hall, Hatcher was always accessible to everyone. He was a rock star then, but he made sure that he met everyone."

—Karen Freeman Wilson,
current mayor of Gary, Indiana

"He literally opened the door to Black political empowerment on the local level, state level and federal level. He sent a message across the country

and he gave rise to other Black mayors in small and big cities."

When Richard Hatcher was inaugurated as mayor of Gary, Indiana, in 1968 one of the nation's first Black mayors of a big city, he insisted upon inviting a little-known "youth group" to perform alongside the major stars.

"Nobody wanted to hear the youth group," Rev. Jesse Jackson told radio station WBZE. "They wanted to see the stars."

The "youth group" was Gary's own Jackson 5, who went on that year to sign with Motown Records.

Richard Hatcher, who passed Dec. 13 at the age of 86, was a visionary in more ways than one.

A graduate of Indiana University and Valparaiso University School of Law, he served as deputy county prosecutor in the early 1960s until his election to Gary City Council in 1963. In 1967, he defeated the incumbent mayor in a primary and overcame resistance from the local Democratic machine to win with the support of national political figures like Sen. Robert Kennedy and Vice President Hubert Humphrey.

During his swearing in ceremony, Hatcher promised that, "together, we shall beat a way; together we shall turn darkness into light, despair into hope and promise into progress. For God's sake, for Gary's sake, let's get ourselves together."

Hatcher's election was the first in a historic string of victories for Black mayors across the nation, and the beginning of a trend that would put Gary at the center of Black political power. Four years later, Hatcher would bring the historic National Black Political Convention to Gary. More than 10,000 delegates and attendees gathered to formulate a political strategy for Black America, including Rev. Jackson, Coretta Scott King, Shirley Chisholm, Amiri Baraka, Louis Farrakhan, Bobby Seale, and Betty Shabazz.

In his speech at the convention, Hatcher warned that if the two major political parties continued to neglect their concerns, Black Americans would create a third party, and "we shall take with us the best of White America...many a white youth nau-

seated by the corrupt values rotting the innards of this society...many of the white poor...many a White G.I....and many of the white working class, too."

Hatcher was instrumental in founding Operation PUSH (People United to Save Humanity) with Rev. Jackson, and later served as chairman of Jackson's presidential campaign in 1984.

He served as the Vice-Chairman of the Democratic National Committee from 1981 to 1985 and as President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

In 1978, he co-founded TransAfrica, an advocacy group aimed at changing U.S. policy toward Africa and the Caribbean.

Hatcher paved the way for the many Black mayors who would follow, including my own father, Ernest N. "Dutch" Morial, who was elected the first Black mayor of New Orleans in 1977—and for the later generation mayors that I joined when I was elected in 1994. I was proud that the National Urban League was able to honor Hatcher, on the 50th anniversary of his election, during our 2017 Conference in St. Louis. As I noted at the time, Hatcher aspired to political office at a time that was not so far removed from lynchings, segregated schools, and anti-miscegenation laws. Every step, every vote and every position attained was marred and marked by transparently racial barriers, and every victory was made all the more sweet by overcoming them.

Recognizing the Warning Signs of Alzheimer's, Dementia

Alzheimer's Association encourages early detection to empower families in planning for the future

By PRESS OFFICER

Alzheimer's Association National Capital Area Chapter

MCLEAN, Va. (December 20, 2019)—The holidays are an opportunity for family members and friends to gather from near and far to celebrate the season. Often this may be the only time during the year for everyone to come together—and it may be a time when subtle changes in a loved one's cognitive health are noticed. Although some of these changes can occur with age, serious memory problems are not a part of normal aging.

"Misplacing or forgetting things, not paying bills on time, getting lost while driving, or exhibiting unusual behaviors should not be ignored or written off as symptoms of getting older," said Cindy Schelhorn, senior director of communications and marketing with the Alzheimer's Association National Capital Area Chapter. "Recognizing the differences between normal aging and the early stages of Alzheimer's or dementia can help you to identify when it may be time for your loved one to see a doctor."

The Alzheimer's Association has a check list of ten warning signs, along with examples of normal aging. Each person may experience one or more of the warning signs in different degrees. If you notice any of them, please see a doctor.

Alzheimer's Association 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's

1. Memory loss that disrupts daily life. One of the most common signs of Alzheimer's is memory loss, especially forgetting recently learned information. Others include forgetting important dates or events; asking for the same information over and over; relying on memory aides (e.g., reminder notes or electronic devices) or family members for things they used to handle on one's own.

What's typical: Sometimes forgetting names or appointments, but remembering them later.

2. Challenges in planning or solving problems. Some people may experience changes in their ability to develop and follow a plan or work with numbers. They may have trouble following a familiar recipe or keeping track of monthly bills. They may have difficulty concentrating and take much longer to do things than they did before.

What's typical: Making occasional errors when balancing a check-book.

3. Difficulty completing familiar tasks at home, at work or at leisure. People with Alzheimer's often find it hard to complete daily tasks. Sometimes, people may have trouble driving to a familiar location, managing a budget at work or remembering the rules of a favorite game.

What's typical: Occasionally needing help to use the settings on a microwave or to record a television show.

4. Confusion with time or place: People with Alzheimer's can lose track of dates, seasons and the passage of time. They may have trouble understanding something if it is not happening immediately. Sometimes they may forget where they are or how they got there.

What's typical: Getting confused about the day of the week but figuring it out later.

5. Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships. For some people, having vision problems is a sign of Alzheimer's. They may have difficulty reading, judging distance and determining color or contrast. In terms of perception, they may pass a mirror and think someone else is in the room. They may not realize they are the person in the mirror.

What's typical: Vision changes related to cataracts.

6. New problems with words in speaking or writing. People with Alzheimer's may have trouble following or joining a conversation. They may stop in the middle of a conversation and have no idea how to continue or they may repeat themselves. They may struggle with vocabulary, have problems finding the right word or call things by the wrong name (e.g., calling a "watch" a "hand-clock").

What's typical: Sometimes having trouble finding the right word.

7. Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps. A person with Alzheimer's disease may put things in unusual places. They may lose things and be unable to go back over their steps to find them again. Sometimes, they may accuse others of stealing. This may occur more frequently over time.

What's typical: Misplacing things from time to time, such as a pair of glasses or the remote control.

8. Decreased or poor judgment. People with Alzheimer's may experience changes in judgment or decision-making. For example, they may use poor judgment when dealing with money, giving large amounts to telemarketers. They may pay less attention to grooming or keeping themselves clean.

What's typical: Making a bad decision once in a while.

9. Withdrawal from work or social activities. A person with Alzheimer's may start to remove themselves from hobbies,

See WARNING SIGNS Page A5

The Prince George's Post

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BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

Will Foreign Earnings Count Toward My U.S. Social Security?

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

Dear Rusty:

I am looking for advice on how our recent decision to take up work in the United Kingdom will affect our U.S. Social Security benefits. I want to understand whether we need to be prepared for a loss in future Social Security benefits, in comparison to what we'd get by continuing to work in the U.S. **Signed: Working Abroad**

Dear Working Abroad: I'll start by noting that the U.S. and the U.K. have a bilateral "totalization" agreement which helps those who have worked in both countries qualify for Social Security benefits in the other, but this relates only to you earning enough credits to be eligible for benefits. Your foreign earned income won't be included when computing your U.S. Social Security benefits.

Under the "totalization agreement if, from your work in the U.S., you have earned only 30 credits toward the 40 needed to qualify for U.S. Social Security benefits, and you went to work in the U.K. and earned 10 credits toward the U.K.'s eligibility requirement, those 10 U.K. credits would be added to your 30 U.S. credits to give you the 40 needed to be eligible for U.S. Social Security benefits. However, your U.S. Social Security benefit when it is claimed would be based upon your U.S. earned income only and would not include your U.K. earned income.

To determine your U.S. benefit amount, Social Security uses the highest-earning 35 years of your U.S. earned income during which SS FICA payroll taxes were withheld from your earnings. Your lifetime U.S. earnings are adjusted for inflation and the highest earning 35 years are used to arrive at your "average indexed monthly earnings" (AIME). Your AIME is then used to determine your "primary insurance amount" (PIA), which is the benefit you are due at your full retirement age. If you don't have a full 35 years of U.S. earnings because you spent a number of years working in the U.K., Social Security will put in enough zeros to make 35 years. Those zeros in your earnings record will reduce your U.S. Social Security benefit amount.

So, by comparison, if you were to remain in the U.S. and continue working (and contributing to SS) here, your eventual Social Security benefits will be higher, because your U.S. earnings will count toward your AIME, and will eliminate some or all of any zero years in the 35 used to compute your benefit. Conversely, your earnings from working in the U.K. will not count toward your U.S. Social Security earnings history (won't be included in your AIME), meaning you'll show zeros in your U.S. earnings record for the years you worked in the U.K., and thus your U.S. SS benefit will be lower than if you instead continued to work in the U.S. Of course, if you already have at least 35 years of U.S. earnings you will not have zeros in your work history, but your U.K. earnings still will not count toward your U.S. Social Security benefit and will not eliminate any lower-earning years in your 35-year U.S. work history.

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.

Warning Signs from A4

social activities, work projects or sports. They may have trouble keeping up with a favorite sports team or remembering how to complete a favorite hobby. They may also avoid being social because of the changes they have experienced.

What's typical: Sometimes feeling weary of work, family and social obligations.

10. Changes in mood and personality. The mood and personalities of people with Alzheimer's can change. They can become confused, suspicious, depressed, fearful or anxious. They may be easily upset at home, at work, with friends or in places where they are out of their comfort zone.

What's typical: Developing very specific ways of doing things and becoming irritable when a routine is disrupted.

The Alzheimer's Association encourages anyone who has a question or concern about a memory-impaired family member or friend to call its free 24/7 Helpline at 800.272.3900, which answers more than 300,000 calls each year and offers translation services in more than 200 languages.

"Our highly trained and knowledgeable Helpline staff are available anytime day or night with reliable information and support for all who have questions or need assistance," said Schelhorn. "In addition, master's level clinicians can provide confidential care consultation to help with decision-making support, crisis assistance and education on issues families face every day."

Although the onset of Alzheimer's disease cannot yet be stopped or reversed, an early diagnosis is an important step in getting appropriate treatment, care and support services allows people with dementia and their families:

- A better chance of benefiting from treatment
- More time to plan for the future
- Lessened anxieties about unknown problems
- Increased chances of participating in clinical drug trials, helping advance research
- An opportunity to participate in decisions about care, transportation, living options, financial and legal matters
- Time to develop a relationship with doctors and care partners
- Benefit from care and support services, making it easier for them and their family to manage the disease.

For more information, visit the Alzheimer's Association web site at alz.org or call their toll-free 24/7 Helpline at 800.272.3900.

The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research. Our mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research, to provide and enhance care and support for all affected, and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's.

Purple Line Light Rail Vehicle Model on Tour At New Carrollton Branch Library

By DONNA SCOTT-MARTIN
PGCMLS

NEW CARROLLTON, Md. (December 23, 2019)—The New Carrollton Branch of the Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) is the next stop on the Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA) tour of its model Purple Line Light Rail Vehicle (LRV). This 140-foot light rail train will be the longest one of its kind in the nation. The model LRV is 1/20 the length of the actual light rail vehicle and will be on display at the New Carrollton Branch Library for several weeks.

"We are delighted to have this Purple Line LRV display available for our customers," said Michael Gannon, the Library's Chief Operating Officer for Support Services. "This is just another example of our Library System being Prince George's Proud."

The 16-mile Purple Line system consisting of 26 trains will run from Bethesda in Montgomery County to New Carrollton in Prince George's County. Each train's pas-



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY PGCMLS

senger capacity exceeds 400. All trains will have dedicated disability accessible space, 80 passenger seats and bike racks. Connections via the Purple Line include Metrorail's Red, Green, Yellow and Orange lines, MARC, Amtrak, and local bus services.

Ready, Set, Go: The Nuts & Bolts of Starting a Small Business

Date and Time: Thursday, January 9, 2020, 2 p.m.

Description: This free workshop is for those interested in starting their first business.

Experienced consultants will share information on legal and licensing requirements, financing options, marketing and more.

Cost: FREE • Ages: Adults

Location: PGCMLS South Bowie Branch Library, 15301 Hall Road, Bowie, MD 20721

Contact: 301-850-0475

Maryland Humanities Awards Nearly \$75,000 in Grants to 13 Maryland Nonprofits

By SARAH WEISSMAN
Maryland Humanities

BALTIMORE, Md. (December 19, 2019)—Maryland Humanities is pleased to award \$74,146 to 13 organizations based in or creating projects in Maryland. The grantees span six Maryland counties and Baltimore City: recipients are located in Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Howard County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, and Wicomico County.

Maryland Humanities' major grants support up to \$10,000 per recipient. Mini grants support up to \$1,200 per recipient. Funding goes to nonprofit organizations that use the humanities (literature, philosophy, history, etc.) to inspire Marylanders to embrace lifelong learning, exchange ideas openly, and enrich their communities. Grant criteria encourage free public programming in many forms.

\$69,547 in major grant funding will go to the following organizations: Accokeek Foundation, Baltimore School for the Arts Foundation, Banneker-Douglass Museum Foundation, Docs In Progress, Lost Towns Project, Olney Theatre Corporation, The Peale Center for Baltimore History and Architecture, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and Wicomico Public Libraries.

Blair Network Communications, Historic Hampton, Patapsco Heritage Greenway, and Salisbury Middle School will receive a combined total of \$4,599 in mini grant funding from Maryland Humanities.

Projects funded in this most recent round of awards include a set of storytelling workshops about home and family; educational programming surrounding a public art project entitled The Black Vote Mural Exhibit; and a series of events, lectures, and exhibits commemorating the history and culture of the Patapsco Valley within the context of the nineteenth amendment.

Maryland Humanities' Grants Program is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Maryland Historical Trust in the Maryland Department of Planning, and the Maryland Department of Labor.

To learn more about our Grants Program, eligibility, and deadlines, visit www.mdhumanities.org/grants.

Fall 2019 Major Grant Awards include:

Accokeek Foundation

Land and River Conversations: Exploring Race and Culture through Stories from the Earth, Prince George's County
Award Amount: \$8,000

During the spring of 2020, the Accokeek Foundation will host "Land and River Conversations: Exploring Race and Culture through Stories from the Earth," programming that will consist of presentations by scholars and experts, followed by Q&A and group discussions. Conversations will acknowledge uncomfortable topics of historic and contemporary trauma and cultural resilience, while grappling with the complexities of race, gender, class, and education that have existed throughout Maryland's history.

Banneker-Douglass Museum Foundation

The Black Vote Mural Project
Anne Arundel County
Award Amount: \$8,000

The Black Vote Mural exhibition is a public art project that will transform the interior galleries of the Banneker-Douglass Museum into multiple murals that interpret the Association for the Study of African American Life and History's 2020 theme: African Americans and the Vote. In conjunction with the exhibition, Banneker-Douglass Museum will host a series of educational programs and events.

Docs In Progress

Silver Spring Screening Room
Montgomery County
Grant Award: \$10,000

Silver Spring Screening Room is a public program series that will engage Maryland audiences in discussions built around the screening of documentary films. It will include monthly curated screenings that will take place at Docs In Progress' space in downtown Silver Spring and other venues in the city. Silver Spring Screening Room offers a gathering space to showcase documentary film as a form of audio-visual, non-fiction literature that draws on the humanities' values of biography, history, culture, and ethics.

Lost Towns Project

Anne Arundel's African American

Heritage through Culinary Traditions

Anne Arundel County
Grant Award: \$10,000

Lost Towns will host conversation-engaging events centered on culinary traditions and foodways of the African American community. The program format will consist of three evening programs featuring dinner table conversations around a topic or historic theme. Each evening will include several conversation-prompting tasting plates that are relevant to the evening's topic. Scholars and local historians will serve as hosts and facilitators for each event.

The Peale Center for Baltimore History and Architecture

Universal Design Today
Baltimore City
Grant Award: \$9,498

Universal Design Today will highlight the successes and challenges of persons with disabilities in Maryland and serve as a model for creating more inclusive and accessible physical, digital, and social spaces. The project will result in a participatory exhibit addressing disability, ability, and ableism via installations in three spaces: a website, the Carroll Mansion in Baltimore, and a University of Maryland gallery in College Park. Programming will occur at both physical spaces and will engage in-person and online audiences interested in disability and civil rights, critical inquiry of architecture, and emerging technologies including augmented reality.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

The Bell Affair: A Documentary Animated Film Reframing American Slavery and Freedom
Out of State (Prince George's County)
Grant Award: \$8,399

The Bell Affair tells the story of Daniel Bell from Prince George's County, who launched a lawsuit to gain freedom for his enslaved family in the nation's capital in the late summer of 1835. Daniel Bell privately negotiated for the freedom of his wife and children, but all of his careful plans were upended in the swirl of private and public reaction. Eventually, Daniel Bell organized the largest escape attempt in American history on The Pearl.

See GRANTS Page A7

OUT on the TOWN

Greenbelt Arts Center's Newest Production Opens January 3 Quadrille: A Romantic Play

By DONALD COOK,
Greenbelt Arts Center

Ingredients:

- 1 Self-Sufficient Woman Baker
- 1 Nobleman in need of a Cook
- 1 Sweet Young Lady
- 1 Dashing Hero

Preheat to the year 1835. Mix the Baker and the Nobleman together until romance blossoms. For a little confusion, gently add the Sweet Young Lady into the mix. Sprinkle in a pinch of frustrated love, and then add a dash of Hero rushing in to save the day. Bake at 350 degrees for the length of one duel, or until ready to admit the truth. Serves them all right.

Quadrille is a delicious tale featuring romance, secret plots, good food, more secret plots, bad food, heroic duels, and plenty of perfectly prepared corn muffins.

Bon appetit!

Featuring Jim Adams, Jeannette Connors, Justin Diaz, Tyler Dos Santos, Michaela Haber, Michael Iacone, and Pamela Northrup

A Note from the Director

The time, 1835. A time of fairy tales, romantic gestures, grand parties, and wonderful food (...well...for the wealthy at least). It was also a time when the world was full of strict decorum, class division, and ridged gender roles. Was true romance even attainable?

Enter our characters; a Self-Sufficient Female Baker, a Sweet Young Lady, a Dashing Hero, and a Blind Nobleman. Will they find love? ... Do they want it?... Will they let society dictate their future? ... And where is that amazing aroma coming from?

Quadrille is a "Romantic Fairy Tale" in every sense of the word. It's a story about romance, and love in the simplest and most complex of forms. The good, the bad, the

hilarious, and everything in between. We all may think we know the outcome, yet as the author so brilliantly states in the script, "The fun in this play is the journey."

I was introduced to Quadrille by the Playwright herself, (probably at a reading in my living room, or in the car on the top of the BART parking structure.) After falling in love with Quadrille as soon as I read it and I am beyond honored to have the opportunity to direct its East Coast Premier.

This sweet little show is a wonderful reminder that we shouldn't be afraid to make our feelings known, and that just because society dictates the norms, doesn't mean you should be normal. Thank you for sharing in this evening with us. and enjoy the show.

—Stephen Foreman

A Note from the Playwright

Quadrille began as a short story, was briefly a musical, and then, after months of workshops, found its place as the script you are about to hear. It was featured at the first Contra Costa Times Play Writing Contest, and was picked up by a local company for a full production afterward.

The origins of the story are simple. Around 1995, I had written a short story. The idea came from seeing a movie with a friend. In the film was a background character that stood out. My friend leaned in to whisper, "I can see you playing that role." I laughed, but later that night, the character was still with me. I drew a picture of her and began writing a story to go with it. Suddenly I had Myrna. As I wrote, the other three people easily stepped in, and I had a story.

Greenbelt Arts Center presents the East Coast premiere of **Quadrille: A Romantic Play**
Story and Script by Melynda Kiring
Directed by Stephen Foreman

January 3 to January 19

Friday evenings: January 3, 10 and 17 at 8 p.m.
Saturday evenings: January 4, 11 and 18 at 8 p.m.
Sunday matinees: January 5, 12 and 19 at 2 p.m.
Thursday evening: January 16 *only* at 8 p.m.

Talkback With Playwright Melynda Kiring after the Sunday Jan. 5 Show

Buy Tickets Online: \$24 General Admission, \$22 Seniors/Military, \$12 Student/Youth

Later, a friend of mine was looking for a story for which to write music. I suggested this one, and a collaboration began. It was during the 'musical' years that the characters were turned into real people. But things change, and the composer eventually left the project. Sadly, the music was gone with him. A long while was spent reclaiming the script. I went back to the original short story, and to the reason I had written it in the first place.

The first Contra Costa Times Play Writing Contest was where I first got to hear the full play. It was Dream Cast #1.

The first preview of the actual production in 2006, where the stage manager had to literally take me by the shoulders and order me to stop worrying and put my costume on, was one of the happiest days of my theatrical life. It was the story's chance to take over and be told. (Dream Cast #2!)

Ultimately, Quadrille is a tale of four people who take an absurd and entertaining path to capture love, and find it only when the simple truth is spoken.

It is a joy and an honor to have this story told again. Thank you for being here.

—Melynda Kiring

1 Month Until the 2020 Annual MSP Polar Bear Plunge to Benefit Special Olympics Maryland

Plunge events to include Cool Schools January 23, Corporate, Police, Military, EMT and Firefighter January 24, followed by Pee Wee, Maryland Plunge & Plungefest January 25 at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis

By KIRA NORTHROP
Special Olympics Maryland

(December 23, 2019)—WHAT: This chilly weather only means one thing: it's Plunge time! In just one month, Maryland State Police (MSP) will host this world's largest Polar Bear Plunge, where 10,000+ people raise money for Special Olympics Maryland (SOMD) and take a plunge into the Chesapeake Bay. Participants are encouraged to sign up now and start fundraising. Young or old, come BEAR the cold!

WHO: More than 10,000 people from across the state will plunge into the chilly Chesapeake Bay raising money for Special Olympics Maryland.

WHEN: January 23–25th, 2020

WHERE: Sandy Point State Park, 1100 E College Pkwy, Annapolis, MD 21409

Special Olympics Maryland (SOMD) is a year-round sports organization dedicated to providing quality sports training and competition opportunities to Maryland's children and adults with intellectual disabilities and/or closely related development disabilities. SOMD currently provides thousands of sports experiences annually for athletes statewide, and offers 27 sports, all at no cost to the athletes or their families. For more information about SOMD visit www.somd.org or call 410-242-1515.

The Maryland Zoo Announces Dates For 2020 "Constellation Presents Breakfast With the Animals" Series

By CLAIRE AUBEL
The Maryland Zoo

BALTIMORE, Md. (December 11, 2019)—The Maryland Zoo serves up a wild way to start your day with the 2020 "Constellation presents Breakfast with the Animals" events. This VIP experience lets guests get up-close-and-personal with their favorite animals and the keepers who care for them. Each Breakfast includes a one-of-a-kind dining experience next to Zoo animals, special keeper chats, education stations, unlimited photo opportunities and a great take-away gift to remember the early morning experience.

This year, celebrate all that's new at the Zoo. Rise and shine with lions, giraffes and elephants, in a number of Breakfast programs in the recently expanded and renovated African Journey.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY THE MARYLAND ZOO

Watch chimpanzee baby, Lola, and her mom, Bunny, at Breakfast with the Chimps. These events are fun for the whole family. You can help the animal lover in your life celebrate every birthday, anniversary or special holiday with an experience they will never forget at a "Constellation presents Breakfast with the Animals."

Tickets for each of the Breakfast with the Animals are \$59.99 for members and \$69.99 for non-members. Children under 2-years-old are free, but still require a ticket. Same day entry to the Zoo is included in the price.

Breakfast with the Chimps

March 14, July 11 | 8:30–10 a.m. | Chimp Forest

Breakfast with the Penguins

March 22, April 18, May 2*, June 26, Sept. 26 | 8:30–10 a.m. | Penguin Coast

Breakfast with the Bears

April 26, Sept. 12 | 8:30–10 a.m. | Polar Bear Watch

Breakfast with the Giraffes & Okapi

May 10, June 28, Aug. 1*, Aug. 23 | 8:30–10 a.m. | Giraffe House

Breakfast with the Elephants

Sept. 6* | 8:30–10 a.m. | Giraffe House

Breakfast in Africa (Zebra, Rhino, Ostrich)

June 20, Aug. 16 | 8:30–10 a.m. | Giraffe House

Breakfast with the Lions

July 19, Oct. 4* | 8:30–10 a.m. | Giraffe House

*For starred dates, the Breakfast runs from 8–9:30 a.m.

For tickets and information about each breakfast, please visit www.marylandzoo.org or e-mail events@marylandzoo.org. Space is limited and these Breakfast events do sell out!



County Library Takes on Beanstack's 2020 Winter Reading Challenge

By DONNA SCOTT-MARTIN
PGCMLS

LARGO, Md. (December 23, 2019)—The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) will join hundreds of libraries and schools across the nation in Beanstack's Third Annual Winter Reading Challenge: January 1–31, 2020. PGCMLS customers who read and log 200 minutes will be entered into the grand prize drawing of a \$50 gift card. Sign up and keep track of your reading on Beanstack.

"We would be excited to have you participate in one of our book discussion groups or form one of your own using our CRAB Book Club Kits," commented Michelle Hamiel, Chief Operating Officer for Public Services. "Reading on your own or collectively broadens your horizons," she continued. "Be creative as you accept this reading challenge!"

Penguin Random House (PRH) is the sponsor of Winter Reading Challenge 2020. Top-performing libraries and schools will earn the Golden Penguin and Random House awards.

PRH pledges to donate \$50,000 in prizes, including author visits and new books, to be shared among the winners. Be Prince George's Proud by helping PGCMLS be a winner. Lighten up the mind this winter and enjoy reading!

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

Spotlight: Exercise!

Rhythms of Zumba

Date and Time: Monday, January 6, 2020, 12:15–1:15 p.m.

Description: Come join our team as we exercise to Latin music and rhythms combining fitness and dance. Increase your metabolism to aid in your weight loss goals. Recommended for moderate level of fitness.

Cost: Resident: \$7; Non-resident: \$10; Seniors (60 & better) Resident: \$6; Non-resident: \$8

Ages: 13 and older (ages 13–15 must be accompanied by a paying adult)

Location: Fairland Sports and Aquatics Complex, 13820/13950 Old Gunpowder Road, Laurel, MD 20707

Contact: 301-362-6060; TTY 301-699-2544

Winter Walk: The New Year

Date and Time: Saturday, January 11, 2020, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

Description: Do you have a New Year's Resolution to exercise more? Work on accomplishing that goal by going on a walk through our woods with a Naturalist as your guide!

Cost: \$3 Residents / \$4 Non-residents

Ages: All ages welcome

Location: Patuxent River Park, 16000 Croom Airport Rd., Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Contact: 301-627-6074; TTY 301-699-2544

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



Patuxent River Park

PHOTO CREDIT: M-NCPPC

Established in 1962, Patuxent River Park comprises over 7,500 acres of riverside parkland in Prince George's County that protects the land's natural resources and preserves the scenic character of the park. The different properties that comprise Patuxent River Park offer a variety of amenities and outdoor activities including a visitors center, boat ramps, canoe & kayak rentals and launches, campsites, pavilion, trails, historic sites, fishing, hunting, birdwatching, observation tower with elevator, and more. Jug Bay Natural Area is the headquarters for Patuxent River Park. Programming for educators and the general public includes environmental and historical education programs, guided canoe and kayak trips, and pontoon boat tours. Open from 8 a.m. to dusk; the Visitors Center is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Patuxent River Park, 16000 Croom Airport Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 • 301-627-6074 • <http://www.pgcparks.com/3436/Patuxent-River-Park>

Calendar of Events

January 4–January 8, 2020

Dinosaur Park Open House

Date and Time: Saturday, January 4, 2020, 12–4 p.m.
 Description: This event is held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month! Digging and personal fossil hunting prohibited. Discover an ancient world right in Prince George's County! Paleontologists and educators will display fossils, casts, and models of *Astrodon johnstoni*, Maryland's state dinosaur, along with other 112 million-year-old creatures found at Dinosaur Park. Weather permitting, visitors help search for new fossils and make discoveries that will be preserved with their names for all time!
 Cost: Free
 Ages: All ages are welcome
 Location: Dinosaur Park, 13100 Mid-Atlantic Blvd, Laurel, MD 20708
 Contact: 301-627-1286; TTY 301-699-2544

Cub Corner

Date and Time: Thursday, January 9, 2020, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
 Description: Come to the Cub Corner story time for preschool fun! Ideal for little learners up to five years old to enjoy a flight-themed story and hands-on craft activity. Please call ahead for groups of 10 or more!
 Cost: Free with Museum Admission
 Ages: Pre-school age children
 Location: College Park Aviation Museum, 1985 Corporal Frank Scott Drive, College Park, MD 20740
 Contact: 301-864-6029; TTY 301-699-2544

Xtreme Teens: The SAT Workshop

Date and Time: Friday, January 10, 2020, 7–8 p.m.
 Description: Be as prepared as possible for the next SAT test by learning score-raising SAT strategies in a dynamic, interactive setting. The Princeton Review instructors teach energetic classes that will get students motivated. They will also give participants the personal attention and extra help they need to maximize scores. A specific class schedule and agenda will be provided before the first class. Please note that Sunday sessions are testing days only!
 Cost: Free with M-NCPPC Youth ID
 Ages: 10–17
 Location: Berwyn Heights School Community Center, 6200 Pontiac Street, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740
 Contact: 301-345-2808; TTY 301-699-2544

Estate Planning Clinic

Date and Time: Saturday, January 11, 2020, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
 Description: Seniors that meet income eligibility guidelines and are over the age of 60 can meet with attorneys for FREE to help prepare wills, advance medical directives, and power of attorney documents. The service is provided by a partnership between the City of Hyattsville, Hyattsville Aging in Place, Helping Hands in University Park, Community Legal Services of Prince George's County, and the Maryland Pro Bono Resource Center. Appointments can be made between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the City Building, but please note that space is limited. **Reservations must be made by Monday, January 6,** and can be done so by calling the Pro Bono Resource center at 443-703-3052.
 Cost: Free
 Ages: 60+
 Location: The City Building (First Floor Multipurpose Room), 4310 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, MD 20781
 Contact: 443-703-3052

Andrew Flanders: Bygones

Date and Time: January 11, 2020–Mar. 1, 2020, 10 a.m.–5p.m.
 Public Reception: Saturday, February 8, 2020, 3–5 p.m.
 Description: Bygones explores freestanding and wall-hanging sculptures as artist Andrew Flanders investigates the materiality of wood. He created a series of assemblages, furniture, and vessels to demonstrate masculinity while referencing the craft of furniture.
 Cost: Free
 Ages: All ages are welcome
 Location: Montpelier Arts Center, Library Gallery, 9652 Muirkirk Rd, Laurel, MD 20708
 Contact: 301-377-7800

Chronicles of the African American Journey through Fiber Arts

Date and Time: January 11–March 1, 2020, 10 a.m.–5p.m.
 Public Reception: Saturday, February 8, 2020, 3–5 p.m.
 Description: Celebrate Black History Month by witnessing the stories and experiences of African American lives. This exhibition culminates from a national call for fiber arts that include quilts, felt, sewing, and beading.
 Ages: All ages are welcome
 Location: Montpelier Arts Center, Main Gallery, 9652 Muirkirk Rd, Laurel, MD 20708
 Contact: 301-377-7800

City of College Park Tribute to Dr. King

Date and Time: Saturday, January 11, 2020, 2–3:30 p.m.
 Description: This inspirational and educational event is free and for all ages. The City's annual event honors Dr. King's legacy through speakers, performances, art and a City proclamation. Every year a new theme is selected, showcasing how his work still impacts our community and our country and what we can do to continue his efforts in our current era. This year's theme is "Is His Dream Your Dream Too?" Bring a non-perishable food item with you to donate at the event. Free event parking is available nearby in University Lots 1b and Z all day on Saturdays (excluding home football games). These lots are about a 2–5 minute walk to the venue. There are also paid parking options in the Stadium Drive Garage as well. The selections and songs presented during the event are chosen by the participants as their way to honor Dr. King. The City, by sponsoring this event, does not endorse any particular religion, belief system or presentation.
 Cost: Free
 Ages: All ages welcome
 Location: The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, University of Maryland, 8270 Alumni Dr., College Park, MD 20742
 Contact: www.collegeparkmd.gov/mlktribute, 240-487-3500

Grants from A5

**Wicomico Public Libraries
 Jazz and the Civil Rights Movement
 Wicomico County
 Grant Award: \$2,500**

As part of their African American History programming in February 2020, Wicomico Public Libraries will host a program that explores the history of the United States' civil rights movement through jazz music. The program chronicles the history of jazz music from the turn of the century to present day, highlighting women in jazz and their influence on the evolution of jazz as an art form.

November 2019 Mini Grant Awards

**Historic Hampton
 Ethnographic Study Lecture Series
 Baltimore County
 Grant Award: \$1,200**

Hampton National Historic Site (HNHS) has recently completed an Ethnographic Overview and Assessment. An 11-member team has conducted groundbreaking research leading to enhanced knowledge of the lives and families of the enslaved. The new historyBALTIMORE, Md. (December 19, 2019)—Maryland Humanities is pleased to award \$74,146 to 13 organizations based in or creating projects in Maryland. The grantees span six Maryland counties and

Baltimore City: recipients are located in Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Howard County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, and Wicomico County.

Maryland Humanities' major grants support up to \$10,000 per recipient. Mini grants support up to \$1,200 per recipient. Funding goes to nonprofit organizations that use the humanities (literature, philosophy, history, etc.) to inspire Marylanders to embrace life-long learning, exchange ideas openly, and enrich their communities. Grant criteria encourage free public programming in many forms.

\$69,547 in major grant funding will go to the following organizations: Accokeek

Earth TALK™ Democrats on Climate: Any One Better Than Another?

Dear EarthTalk:

Where do the remaining Democratic presidential candidates stand on climate and environment?

—Mary W., Miami, FL

It was just a few months ago that two dozen Democrats were vying for their party's nomination to take on Donald Trump in 2020. While technically 16 are still in the race, only seven—Biden, Buttigieg, Klobuchar, Sanders, Steyer, Warren and Yang—qualified for participation in the December 2019 debate (based on a minimum number of contributing supporters and success in polling in the four "early voting" states). While the Democratic party will most likely choose its candidate from among these seven, it's still too early to count out the other contenders.



IMAGE CREDIT: AZI PAYBARAH, FLICKRCC

He's not everyone's cup of tea, but media mogul and former NYC mayor Michael Bloomberg could be the greenest president to date—if he can win the Democratic nomination and then unseat Donald Trump in the general election.

For their part, environmentalists would've been happy if Washington governor Jay Inslee, who made promoting the need to address climate change the central tenet of his 2020 presidential bid, was still in the race. Before dropping out in August, Inslee released an omnibus plan to phase out fossil fuels and shift the economy wholesale over to green energy. Fans called it a more practical version of the Green New Deal, a similarly comprehensive green energy-based economic overhaul plan introduced into Congress earlier in the year.

With Inslee out, no one candidate stands out as particularly focused on the environment, although they all support a carbon drawdown of some sort. Elizabeth Warren has adopted Inslee's climate plan lock, stock and barrel. Previously, she had co-sponsored the Green New Deal along with fellow senators Sanders, Booker and Klobuchar. Most of the other Dems in the running expressed support for the Green New Deal.

Meanwhile, Tom Steyer, a hedge fund billionaire-turned-activist, has lots of environmental cred given his role as founder and funder of NextGen Climate (now NextGen America) an advocacy non-profit and political action committee which steered some \$74 million of his riches toward environment-friendly Congressional and gubernatorial candidates in the 2014 elections.

Another compelling candidate from an environmental perspective is media mogul and

former NYC mayor Michael Bloomberg, who has put up \$150 million of his own money in support of the Sierra Club's "Beyond Coal" campaign which helped shutter some 50 coal-fired power plants nationwide. Last June, he pledged another \$350 million to the cause via Beyond Carbon, his initiative to fight dirty energy.

Other candidates may not have so much money to throw around, but it doesn't mean they aren't also keen to fight climate change. Reading through the answers of a recent environment survey of the Democratic hopefuls by the non-profit League of Conservation Voters (LCV) shows more similarities than differences, with each of the Dems pledging to commit billions or trillions of dollars to fighting climate change and restore the U.S. to a leadership position on the issue internationally.

In short, voters concerned about climate change would do well to pull their levers in favor of any of the Democrats running. Whether there are enough like-minded Americans to unseat Trump in 2020 is another question entirely—but the health of the planet may just hang in the balance.

CONTACTS: League of Conservation Voters, lcv.org; NextGen America, nextgenamerica.org; Sierra Club's Beyond Coal, content.sierraclub.org/coal/; Bloomberg Philanthropies' Beyond Carbon, beyondcarbon.org.

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Governor's Office of Community Initiatives Serves Communities During Thanksgiving, Holiday Season in Maryland, Abroad

Donations Echo Governor Larry Hogan's Mission to Assist Those Who Need Help Most

By SOO KOO

Governor's Office of Community Initiatives

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (December 23, 2019)—Answering Governor Larry Hogan's mission to assist those who need help most, the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives (GOCI) collected and donated gifts and supplies for Thanksgiving and holiday events across the state for Maryland communities in need.

"Our doors are always open to those who need assistance from us, and our hardworking partners are ready to work with us to serve Marylanders every single day," said Steven McAdams, Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives.

GOCI staff worked with Pastor Oliver Surbryan of the Ebenezer Church of God in Hyattsville to fulfill their mission to deliver food, clothing, tents, and basic necessities to an Amazon tribe living between Guyana and Brazil.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Governor Hogan Participates in 2019 Military Bowl Parade

Annual Event Benefits Military Service Members and Families

By SHAREESE CHURCHILL

Office of the Governor

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (December 27, 2019)—Governor Larry Hogan last Friday participated in the 2019 Military Bowl Parade. The parade route began at the City Dock in downtown Annapolis and concluded at the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium, where the University of North Carolina Tar Heels will take on the Temple University Owls in the 2019 Military Bowl.

"We are proud that the Military Bowl has called Annapolis home for the past six years, giving our community the opportunity to celebrate and support our dedicated service members and their families," said Governor Hogan. "We are brought together by the tremendous respect we hold and the incredible debt that we owe to all who have worn

the flag of our nation on their arm, and all those who put themselves in harm's way to protect the rights and freedoms that we hold so dear."

The Military Bowl Parade has taken place annually since it first came to Annapolis in 2013. The parade is led by the iconic Budweiser Clydesdale horses and features Medal of Honor recipients, local dignitaries, youth sports teams, marching bands, and civic organizations.

Each year, the Military Bowl generates over \$100,000 for the United Service Organizations and also benefits Patriot



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY MARYLAND GOVERNOR'S PRESS OFFICE

ational retreat on Maryland's Eastern Shore that serves ill and injured service members.

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www.fhbp.org

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www.fbc-cp.org

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Year in Review from A1



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY LINDA POULSON

Prince Georges County Executive Angela Alsobrooks speaks to Legionnaires at the Joint Centennial Celebration at Clinton Post 259.

Through the Legion's Temporary Financial Assistance Program by donations, grants up to \$1,500 dollars were given to active duty personnel from the American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation. Also during the crisis, the Legion asked the public to contact their elected officials to immediately pass H.R. 367, the Pay Our Coast Guard Act.

The MISSION Act. Launched into law by President Donald Trump on June 6, the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks (MISSION) Act began its new system in how it handles its business. In the "Health Care Options Through VA" booklet it states that the VA will—(1) Continue to provide you with an excellent health care experience, (2) Deliver the right care, at the right time, at the right place, (3) Continue to offer care through telehealth in your home, a VA facility, or in the community; and (4) Provide more options for health care, including community care and urgent/walk-in care.

The American Legion provides guidance on how the booklet can be obtained.

Like other posts around the country, Clinton Post 259 also had its share this year in accomplishments; participating in the February 27 SCOTUS gathering, celebrating the Legion's Centennial with a program event, pinning ceremonies for Post 259 member Vietnam War Legionnaires, a five-day Legion Ride Legacy Run to Florida with the National Commander for raising money for scholarships and service connected disabled members, two Post 259 members voted in as top officials at the annual Ocean City Conference under the Department of Maryland, and Post 259 volunteer recognitions and awards.

A proclamation was also given and read to Post 259 and Auxiliary Unit 259 at the post's Memorial Day event on May 27 by Dr. James Dula, PhD, a retired Air Force Major and commander who serves as the Veterans Affairs Officer under the Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks. He was the keynote speaker at the Memorial Day event.

"It gives me great honor to be here today," said Dula. "I'm going to ask Commander Hall to step forward...it gives me great honor to give this proclamation to you from the County Executive."

Statement from Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks (from the March 15 Joint Centennial Event):

Last month, I had the high honor and special privilege to share in Clinton Post 259's Joint Centennial Celebration.

When I looked around the room, I saw men and women that were proud, strong and brave individuals that had committed their lives to this country so that civilians like me, children and countless other individuals could go about their daily lives enjoying the freedoms that our democracy provides.

I was overwhelmed with feelings of pride, gratitude, respect and admiration for the sacrifices that each of the service men and women had made on behalf of their respective branches of the military to collectively protect and serve our country.

We would not have been at Post 259, 100 years later comprised of over 930 members and growing if it were not for the formation of The American Legion as well as The American Legion Auxiliary. Thank you for 100 years of unwavering patriotism.

Disengaged from A3

Expect that the advanced driver assistance technologies in your vehicle have limitations.

Here is the upshot: Advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS) can keep drivers safe on the road, but they are not a replacement for an active and engaged driver. As drivers develop more experience and comfort using advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS), research finds they are nearly twice as likely to drive distracted when using the systems, than when driving without ADAS.

[In 2019], AAA Mid-Atlantic launched its "Don't Drive Intoxicated. Don't Drive Intexticated" campaign to inform motorists of the inherent dangers of distracted driving during safety-critical events.

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Development Officer II
Community Assistance
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