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# FedChoice Charitable Foundation Announces Winners of 2023 Educational Scholarship Program

By PRESS OFFICER

FedChoice Charitable Foundation

LANHAM, Md. (July 31, 2023)—FedChoice Charitable Foundation is delighted to announce the winners of its inaugural Educational Scholarship Program.

The program aims to support college-bound high school students from our community in their academic endeavors. This year's scholarship winners are:

- Jeremy Anderson from West Springfield High School, Springfield, VA
- Nicholas Boyd from College Park Academy, Springdale, MD
- Zarin Kornegay from Chesapeake Math and IT Academy South, Upper Marlboro, MD

Jeremy, Nicholas, and Zarin are all dependents of FedChoice Federal Credit Union members and Class of 2023 high school graduates. As part of their winning applications, each wrote an essay on the topic of financial literacy.

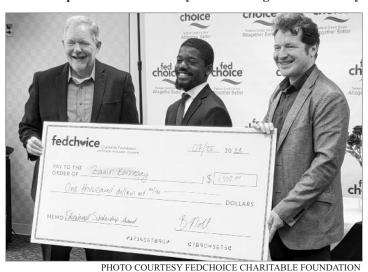
Specifically, students were asked to reflect on what financial freedom means to them. What does it mean to other young people in our country, including those in underserved communities? Applicants were invited to share their ideas on how young people could work with their credit union to transform local communities.

In his essay, Jeremy Anderson reflected, "When I got my first job, mowing lawns, I remember how good it felt the first time I made my 'own money!' As a young adult, I imagine financial freedom as being able to pay all of my bills and have money left over to save. Financial freedom is something that everyone deserves to achieve."

Nicholas Boyd shared, "Having financial freedom provides a sense of security and peace of mind. For many young people in our country, especially those in underserved communities, financial freedom can be a distant dream."

Zarin Kornegay wrote, "We need to learn more about investing, debt, and saving so that as we get older we can be financially free and not saddled with a lot of debt like the generations before us... Young people all over our country need to learn about financial

Scholarship winner Nicholas Boyd from College Park Academy



Scholarship winner Zarin Kornegay from Chesapeake Math and IT Academy South

# Community Invited to the Placemaking Downtown Largo Festival

#LoveMyLargo

By CALISTA BLACK M-NCPPC

LARGO, Md. (Aug. 2, 2023)— In collaboration, the Prince George's County Planning Department and Department of Parks and Recreation of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), Office of the County Executive for Prince George's County, Largo Town Center Association (LTCA), the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council, and the Better Block Foundation will host Placemaking Downtown Largo Festival—a unique experience that cultivates partnerships, supports local business growth, spotlights local artists, and unifies the community. Scheduled for Saturday, August 12, 2023, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. 1301 Mc-Cormick Drive in Largo, MD, the pop-up event will transform a parking area into a vibrant outdoor community space and feature arts, food trucks, music, performances, local vendors, community workshops, and

"We are so excited to host this wonderful activation in front of the Wayne K. Curry Administration Building," said Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks. "It will provide a wonderful preview of the types of recurring programming we envision for our new civic plaza on this site, one of the first signature projects from our Blue Line Corridor plan that will build more walkable, bikeable, amenityrich destinations in Downtown Largo and beyond."

"Guided by Prince George's Plan 2035, the approved general plan for the County, M-NCPPC is thrilled to lead this placemaking activation and to create vibrant spaces through community involvement," said Peter A. Shapiro, Chair of the Prince George's County Planning Board and The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. "Our agency embraces the partnerships with local organizations and govern-

See LARGO Page A2

# New Multi-Sport Court Unveiled at Jesse J. Warr, Jr. Recreation Building to Complete Kid-Designed, Community-Built Playspace

Community joins forces with nonprofit to advance playspace equity in Prince George's County

See WINNERS Page A3

By PRESS OFFICER

Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation

RIVERDALE, Md. (July 31, 2023)—On Saturday, July 29, families in Fairmount Heights celebrated the completion of a kid-designed playspace at Jesse J. Warr, Jr. Recreation Building. The collaboration between The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation in Prince George's County, Jerami Grant's Hour Generation Foundation, Markelle Fultz's Faithful 2 The Grind, LLC, and KABOOM! began in October 2022 with a new, state-of-the-art playground and culminated this week as more than 50 event participants installed a new multi-sport court. The playground currently serves more than 700 children each year and as more young families move into the community, the addition of the multi-sport court to the playspace will provide kids with a high-quality, safe place to play that is close to where they live and learn.

Community members led the creation of the playground, from design to installation, including the kids who shared drawings of their dream playspaces with project organizers at a Design Day last July. The new multi-sport court completes the playspace and will provide hundreds of kids and their families with a renewed place to

Care for Caregivers

get active, build social bonds, and gather as a community.

"Through this innovative partnership with KABOOM!, we are able to more quickly accomplish the goal of the replacement or renovation for the playspaces the Department of Parks and Recreation currently operates and maintains in Prince George's County." said Bill Tyler, Director of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation. "It's truly a win-win. Our talented and dedicated staff are able to utilize various resources along with imaginative, pesticide-free options while incorporating the vision of the community children and families, more than ever before," concludes Tyler.

Addressing childhood obesity and improving the overall health of the communities they serve is a top priority for The Department and playing provides countless physical, social, and mental health benefits. However, far too many children, especially in communities of color, do not have a place to play near where they live or learn. The new playspace at Jesse J. Warr, Jr. Recreation Building, designed with the neighborhood's unique needs and aspirations in mind, brings Prince George's County one step closer toward ending play-



PHOTO COURTESY PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Families in Fairmount Heights celebrated the completion of a kid-designed playspace at Jesse J. Warr, Jr. Recreation Building.

# le hundreds of kids and their families with a renewed place to See PLAYSPACE Page A3

New University of Maryland Extension program provides tools and skills for caregivers of people suffering with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders

By PRESS OFFICER University of Maryland Extension

Over 110,000 elderly Marylanders (ages 65+) suffer from Alzheimer's disease or some other related form of dementia, according to the Maryland Department of Health (MDH). These cognitive disorders can prove difficult for those living with them, but also for the caregivers who must manage a unique set of circumstances that challenge their own mental and physical wellbeing.

To help caregivers navigate the complexities of caring for people with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias (ADRD), a University of Maryland Extension (UME) Family & Consumer Sciences team of educators has developed a new program using their combined expertise across financial wellness, money management, nutrition, food safety, navigating health insurances, social services, hiring help and much more. To take advantage, participants may now enroll in a two-day training course that

touches on these areas, offered in-person and virtually.

in-person and virtually.

"We're focused on targeting the caregivers—it's equipping them with better skills to care for someone with Alzheimer's or dementia," said Alex Chan, UME mental health specialist and lead investigator on the grant from MDH used to develop the class. "Caregivers become so involved in protecting and caring for their loved one, they forget to care about themselves. We challenge the 'youare-not-a-priority' belief."

"Dementia represents an ur-

gent and costly public health crisis in Maryland," said Suzanne Barbero, a cognitive health specialist at MDH, which provided the grant to fund the UME outreach program. "Many people living with ADRD rely on informal caregivers, often family members, to provide care and assistance in daily living. Many family caregivers provide health care services, manage medications, and are responsible for transporting their loved ones to and from medical appointments."

A recent study using the Johns Hopkins Dementia Care Needs Assessment found that unmet needs for people living with dementia and their caregivers are extremely common, said Barbero. "Caregivers in

this study reported a number of areas where they desired more information and support, including community resources for memory problems, education about memory disorders, support for themselves, and how to manage dementia-related problem behaviors," she said.

"The content of the class spans everything our team has to offer," said Chan. "When you're caring for someone with dementia, you have to manage their finances because they're no longer capable. We teach about maintaining your own mental health, communicating with people with dementia, and we also provide nutrition and food safety presentations."

Given that many caregivers

are elderly adults themselves, like spouses or adult children, the class can also provide valuable information to caregivers about maintaining their own physical, mental, and cognitive health.

"We teach the Mind Diet, which is an evidence-based diet proven to slow and reduce the risk of cognitive decline," said Chan. "Especially in the case of spouses, it's not only just about feeding those foods to your loved one, it's also about taking care of your own cognitive health."

Chan, along with Co-PI Extension Agent Dhruti Patel have also created a private Facebook

See CAREGIVERS Page A3

#### **INSIDE**

"Camp Radiance" Uplifts Lives of Young Ladies

**Library Makes New Deal-era Blueprint Collection Available Online** 

Towns and Neighbors, Page A2

Upp

Prince George's Film Festival: Experience Cinematic Bliss With PGFF-Take Two 2023 Tickets and Passes!

**Upper Marlboro Woman and Hagerstown Man Earn TOPS® Recognition** 

Community, Page A3

Veterans Evaluation Services Adds Kaleidoscope Affect, LLC and CEO Major Gen. Linda Singh as Strategic Advisors

James Patterson Donates \$600,000 to HBCU Scholarship Pilot Program for Carson Scholars

**Business and Finance**, Page A4

# TOWNS and NEIGHBORS

### In & Around Morningside-Skyline

It's summer and time for all the crabs you can eat!

St. Philip the Apostle Church is hosting an All-You-Can-Eat Crabfeast on Sunday, August 20 at Sarto Hall, 3611 Stewart Road in Forestville, 1 to 5 p.m. All-you-can-eat crabs, BBQ chicken, fried fish, hotdogs, beef and turkey burgers, potato salad, coleslaw, cornon-the-cob, soda and beer. There'll be music. And more.

This is essentially a fundraiser for the school. The cost is \$75 per person. You might consider reserving a table for family and friends? That would be expensive, but summer only comes once

For information and tickets, call Andre Jordan, 202-841-0141; Renee at Church, 301-423-4244; or Stephanie at School, 301-423-4740.

#### **Town of Morningside**

GI Liquors is still boarded up, but the "Coming Soon" sign is good news. And, speaking of GI Liquors, I've found—among some old clippings—a big story from January 1983:

According to police reports, William Theodore Nowlin, of Bowie, walked into GI Liquors, pulled a gun and demanded the contents of the cash register be emptied into a brown paper bag. The clerk obeyed. Then, as Nowlin left, the clerk (name not listed) pulled a handgun from under the counter and ordered the robber to stop. He didn't, and the clerk shot him. Nowlin was taken to the hospital at Andrews but died that night. According to the article, the police were investigating, and the clerk was not charged. That was in 1983. Do you Morningside old-timers remember it?

The Morningside Town Meeting will be on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, 7 p.m. at the Town Hall. And, for All Things Morningside, call 301-736-2301.

#### Neighbors & other good people

Last week I mentioned Walls Bakery had moved from Suitland to the Wigwam in Waldorf. I had an email from Donna Glagola Gentile who grew up in Morningside. She wrote about The Wig-

"My dad was George Glagola. He and Uncle Stan worked making signs for years. The Wigwam sign was repurposed for the Rail Trail on Rt. 301. All of the neon tubes were removed. The Wigwam was another place to play slot machines. The last time I was in there was in the late '60s!"

Nicky Goode. Do you remember that name? Back in 1982, Nicky, the 13month-old son of Michael and Ginger Goode, was suffering from a rare liver disease. His family needed \$100,000 for a liver transplant. Nicky's uncle, Tommy Chamberlain, was a fireman with Morningside VFD. So, the department decided to host a special concert, with seven local bands, on August 22 at the Village Barn. They spread the word. Donations and requests for tickets ob-

I assume that \$100,000 operation was successful because someone (I don't remember who) told me that Nicky Goode has just died. He's had more than 40 good years, thanks to the Nicky Goode fund-raiser of 1982.

sessed the area. The money was raised!

#### Academia

Jason Fickus, grandson of Charles and Judy Rodney of Temple Hills, has graduated from Northern High School, in Calvert County, and will be going on to the University of Maryland, College Park, majoring in engineering.

Email me your graduate (muddmm@gmail.com).

Warren Tweedy will be the new principal of Andrew Jackson Academy, in District Heights.

Suitland High School Class of 1973 is holding its 50th high school reunion on Friday, October 6, at Martin's Crosswinds in Greenbelt. For more information, you can contact Jody Nyers at Nyers5569@yahoo.com.

St. Columba School in Oxon Hill celebrated its 60th anniversary in June with a picnic, music, games and a moon bounce. The occasion also marked retirement for Christine Patton, who became principal at the school in 2019 in her 25th year working at the school. She had been a parent and volunteer before that. Her first big post-retirement plan will be a visit to Ireland with her three

St. Philip's School is still accepting new students for the 2023-24 school year. The school offers pre-Kindergarten 3 through 8th grade. You are invited to come by and take a tour. The address is 5416 Henderson Way, Camp Springs. admissions@stpamd.org. (If it's any endorsement, all seven of my kids and two of my great-grandkids graduated from

#### Changing landscape

St. Philip's.)

Bed Bath & Beyond has been bought

for \$21.5 million. The new owner is

by Mary McHale 301-735-3451

Overstock. Someone posted a question, "Can I purchase the same merchandise I could get at the original Bed Bath & Beyond?" The answer (in the report I read) was "For the most part, yes."

The 1.2-mile stretch between the White House and the Capitol is where (as The Washington Post says) "Americans gather to protest, celebrate incoming presidents and mourn along funeral processions of dignitaries." But it lacks the vitality of grand boulevards such as Champs-Elysees in Paris. Now there's a plan to take the next steps for a remake of our Main Street. The "remake" may transform Pennsylvania Avenue with more parkland, cafes, art displays, lively year-around events, and fewer car lanes. Stay tuned.

A home at 6803 Marianne Drive recently sold for \$276,000.

#### Places to go and things to do

Maryland Seafood Festival will be at the Annapolis City Dock for the first time on August 10, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. You'll want to be there for the famous crab soup cook-off and to try out the new Naptown Seafood Sampler featuring eight samples from Maryland restaurants. Admission, \$15–\$20, free for kids 12 and younger.

The National Book Festival is back at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, August 12. Hours: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Conversations with authors (Amor Towles, Elliot Page, Douglas Brinkley, R. J. Palacio, Joy Harjo, etc.), stories for children, book signings, and more. Free for readers of all ages. Sponsored by the Library of Congress and The Washington Post. More info: loc.gov/bookfest.

The Prince George's County Fair will be September 7–10 at Show Place Arena in Upper Marlboro. I'll have more about it in upcoming columns, but you can go to www.countyfair.org/.

The 99th annual Charles County Fair is coming up September 14-17 at the fairgrounds. Info:

www.charlescountyfair.com.

Happy Birthday to Mary Berkley and Brittany Short, Aug. 13; Kathy Beardmore, Aug. 15; Margaret Hunt and Nancy Stacey, Aug. 16; Hildagard Koenig, Aug. 17; my granddaughter-inlaw Heather McHale, Le August Brent and Mark Cummings, Jr., Aug. 19.

# by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

#### RISING SUN MALE CHORUS

**Brandywine-Aquasco** 

When the Famous Rising Sun Male Chorus of Nottingham, Maryland celebrated their 50th Anniversary Celebration Saturday, May 3, 1986, they had been singing for 50 years (1936– 1986), breathless. History-How old are you? Age is a quality of mind. If you have left your dreams behind, if hope is cold, if you no longer look ahead, if your ambitions' fires are dead, then you are old.

Fifty years ago, in Nottingham, Md., a group of young men decided to dedicate their lives to the service of God and their church by spreading the Gospel through song. These young men were all part of the then Brooks Methodist Episcopal Church where each had been baptized and nurtured in the Christian Faith. It was this church that provided an extension of that Christian training first received in their homes.

These young men came from homes where their parents prayed for strength, read the Holy Scriptures for comfort, and daily gave thanks to God for His blessings. Regular attendance to church was a way of life for their families. As children they were carried in Wagons, Carriages, Road Carts, Buggies, and Horseback. There were times when walking was their only means of transportation.

In That Resurrection Morning- "Every day when the sun goes down, I am nearer to my Home. If you do not believe it, read the Bible, The Bible will tell you, just what I said." The words of this song were often heard as they were sung a capella by the Singing and Praying Bands at "Camp Meeting" from 11 a.m. on Sunday to 4:30 a.m. on Monday. Even now many of them recall the Bands singing: "In that resurrection morning, when we all shall meet again. No more sickness, no more sorrow, no more pain, no more fear."

These Christian experiences at home and in the church were also the beginning of their training to become musical disciples. They received much support and encouragement from family, friends, other local churches, and teachers in the public schools. Among those educators who gave support were Mrs. Hildegarde J. Adams and Mrs. Mabel L. Johnson. The late Mrs. Louise Moss and her mother furnished much of their early musical training in music classes taught at night during Summer School.

It was under the pastorate of the late Rev. F. D. Myers that we became the Rising Sun Male Chorus of Nottingham, Mary-

land. We are grateful to God and very appreciative to the late Mrs. Ruby M. Holland and Miss Ophelia Myers for their support and efforts in helping us to start in the realization of our goal to serve God through song. Through the years we have been blessed with talented and dedicated musicians who shared the same Christian beliefs on which the group was organized. Our first organist was the late Mrs. Burnell J. Street. Mrs. Street was succeeded by Mrs. Darrine J. Bennett who was as-

Bro. Preston A. Johnson, who's melodic First Tenor voice brought tears to the eyes of many who heard it; Bro. Horace G. Pinkney, whose resounding Bass would vibrate the strings of your heart. These members left a legacy that will enable their memory to remain with us.

sisted by Mrs. Marjorie C. Dickerson. Our present organist,

Mr. Henry Pinkney has served the past-twenty-five (25) years.

We, the Rising Sun Male Chorus, have been striving for 50 years to fulfill our goal of ministering to people through song. During these years we have had many experiences and have seen many changes. Some of our greatest moments came when appearing before integrated audiences in Richmond, Va., Buck Hills, Pa., and at the Carter Barron Theater in Washington, D.C. Our ministry has taken us to many states including Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York. Over the years our congregations have been as small as four, and as large as 4,000 people. Programs have been presented in small churches, large churches, schools with one room, schools with many rooms, colleges and university campus, and the famous Mosque in Richmond, Va. This means during the past 50 years we have given over 2,000 concerts. Our music has been described as melodic, soothing, inspirational, exciting, strangely warm, and different. It has been said that the perfect and silky blend of voices is a unique characteristic of the singing of the RISING SUN MALE CHORUS.

Members of the chorus were Bernard Johnson, Robert Pinkney, Roger Pinkney, Russell Johnson, Henry Pinkney, Warren Pinkney, Orville Pinkney, Robert Owen Johnson, Sr., Joseph Pinkney, Benjamin Johnson, Austin Pinkney, Sylvester Johnson. Deceased Darrin Bennett, Preston Johnson, and Burnell Pinkney, Jr. when they celebrated their Fiftieth Anniversary.

# "Camp Radiance" Uplifts **Lives of Young Ladies**

By RACINE TUCKER-HAMILTON **Camp Radiance** 

FORESTVILLE, Md. (Aug. 1, 2023)—Ten young ladies of color are experiencing an abundance of skill-building and self-empowerment activities at Camp Radiance's Season II. IG @Dancinbobbie, local entertainment artist, Courtney "Bobbie" Michelle is the creator and director.

Camp Radiance's mission is to focus on uplifting, educating, and expanding the minds, spirits, and bodies of girls of color. They learn about dreaming and what it takes to manifest those dreams; whether through vision boarding, repeating daily mantras, yoga, dance, positive self-talk, and so much more.

"I believe that it is important to show girls that they are capable of achieving extraordinary things if they put their minds to it," said Courtney "Bobbie" Michelle.

"I feel happy and free at Camp Radiance," said Avery Brown, 11 year old camp participant.

The list of powerful presenters at Camp Radiance is also impressive. There are business executives, lawyers, film producers, healthcare workers, corporate leaders, school counselors, yoga instructors, professional artists, authors, and a host of other influential career professionals.

Camp Radiance debuted at Bishop McNamara High School last summer and Season II, opened on July 17. Courtney "Bobbie" Michelle is a 2010 McNamara alumna and welcomed the opportunity to bring Camp Radiance to young ladies in the area.

Camp Radiance celebrated the girls' Camp Radiance completion by hosting the annual Q&A panel of business leaders, in addition to the end of camp presentations and awards ceremony on Friday, July 28 at Bishop Mc-Namara High School, located at 6800 Marlboro Pike, Forestville, Mary-

To listen and learn more about Camp Radiance visit RebuildCommunitiesNC/campradiance.com

IG @campradiance

For Courtney "Bobbie" Michelle visit IG @Dancinbobbie.

# Library Makes New Deal-era **Blueprint Collection Available Online**

By ANDREA CASTILLO **PGCMLS** 

LARGO, Md. (July 31, 2023)—The Prince George's County Memorial Library System's (PGCMLS) Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Blueprint Collection is now available online. The newly digitized collection, scanned in cooperation with the Maryland Archives from the original microfilm owned by PGCMLS, includes more than 3,000 images of blueprints and other documents for many of the original homes built in the core of historic Greenbelt, Maryland, as part of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal program, dated between 1936 and 1938.

"Paramount to our mission, with this project PGCMLS reaffirms our commitment to the preservation of local history," said Blane Halliday, the Library's director for collection strategies. "The digitization of these reels of microfilm represents one of the Library's first attempts at making our collections more readily available to the public beyond the four walls of our branches. PGCMLS is thrilled to have been given the opportunity to make these historic images more accessible to the local community, as well as researchers from around the country and the world."

The blueprints are part of the Library's larger Tugwell Special Collection, with most of its physical items housed inside of the Greenbelt Branch Library. The collection provides materials for researchers of all ages interested in city and urban planning, sociology, architecture, American history of the New Deal era, consumer cooperatives, and the city of Greenbelt, MD. The collection is named for Rexford G. Tugwell, who created and developed the New Deal-era Greenbelt Towns project during his time as the head of the Resettlement Administration.

View the collection at https://ww1.pgcmls.info/tugwell-room

#### Largo from A1

ment agencies to provide hands-on placemaking demonstrations to activate the County's vision for Downtown Largo and reimagine public spaces in Prince George's County."

"This family-friendly festival is a combination of LTCA's effort to build community pride and showcase quality local and black businesses during National Black Business Month," said Ayana Crawford, Board President of the Largo Town Center Association. "We are embarking upon a festival that we hope will be the catalyst for smart economic development that includes our local businesses, farmers, artists, and artisans. This familyfriendly festival is designed for all generations."

"We are thrilled to witness the transformative power of creative placemaking in action. This event brings together artists, community members, and county stakeholders to breathe life into our public spaces. Through art, culture, and collaboration, we can foster a stronger sense of identity, belonging, and vitality in our beloved Prince George's County community. Creative placemaking is more than just an event; it's a powerful catalyst that brings people together, transforming ordinary spaces into extraordinary reflections of our shared values and spirit as a community," said Rhonda Dallas, CEO and Chief Curator, Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council.

To learn more about the festival, visit www.largotowncenter.org. For more information about the Placemaking Pilot Series and to sign up for volunteer workshops involving, painting, building, unboxing, and setup the week of the event, visit pgplan.org/placemaking.

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission encourages the participation of persons with disabilities in all its programs and services. Register in advance of the program start date to request and receive a disability accommodation. Call the Public Affairs Office at 301-952-3038, email PublicAffairs@ppd.mncppc.org, or complete the online form at https://www.mncppc.org.

# COMMUNITY

## Prince George's Film Festival: Experience Cinematic Bliss With PGFF-Take Two 2023 Tickets and Passes!

Unleash Your Creativity and Join the Spectacular Celebration of Film and Art

By PRESS OFFICER

**Prince George's Film Office** 

LARGO, Md. (July 25, 2023)— Get ready to be part of an unforgettable cinematic journey with PGFF 2023, DMV's most anticipated film festival, Sept. 28–Oct. 1! Secure your access to a world of unfiltered creativity and storytelling with our exciting range of tickets and passes that promise to make your film festival experience truly extraordinary. Student discounts are available.

#### **PASSES**

**Star Power All Access Pass** \$350 Early Bird Rate

Gain hard-earned stardom with our exclusive All Access pass! Immerse yourself in all the magic, from the opening and closing ceremonies to workshops, panels, and unlimited screenings. Get the ultimate VIP treatment as you rub shoulders with top industry professionals, renowned filmmakers, and likeminded creatives. This pass will grant you unparalleled access to the heart of PGFF-Take Two

#### **PGFF** - Take Two Academy

\$150 Early Bird Unlimited Workshops

\$75 Workshop Day Pass (Friday or Saturday Wristband only)

Elevate your craft and immerse yourself in the art of filmmaking with our TAKE 2 Workshop pass! Blanket access to all workshops and panels will empower you with the knowledge and skills to take your storytelling to the next level. Choose between the full workshop unlimited or single-day

passes to customize your festival experience.

#### **Movie Maven Screening Pass** \$75 Unlimited Screening

Indulge in a feast of cinema with our Movie Maven Screening Pass. Get digital access to unlimited screenings of the selected festival films. Prepare to be captivated by an eclectic selection of powerful narratives, thought-provoking documentaries, and groundbreaking animations.

#### A-la-Carte Tickets **Opening Night Reception and Red-Carpet Movie Premiere**

Kick off PGFF 2023 in style with our Opening Night ticket, granting you access to the thrilling activities on Thursday,

September 28. Join us for an exclusive movie premiere with MegaMind Media, captivating conversations, and star-studded excitement!

#### Closing Celebration Brunch, Conversation, and Awards **Presentation**

\$175 Closing Brunch Day

Celebrate the finest works of art at our Closing Brunch & Awards Presentation on Sunday, October 1st. Witness the talent and creativity that define PGFF 2023 as we honor the visionary filmmakers and artists who have touched our hearts.

#### Single Film Ticket

\$20 Regular Single Film Experience the magic of a single virtual film with our Single Film Ticket. Choose your favorite film from the festival lineup and indulge in a cinematic masterpiece from the comfort of your screen.

Don't miss this chance to be part of the unforgettable PGFF -Take Two experience! Visit www.pgfilmfestival.com/2023 passes to secure your passes today! (Student Discounts Available)

#### **Founding Festival Partners**

The Prince George's Film Festival is founded and generously supported by the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council, Experience Prince George's, and Bowie State University.

Prince George's County is steadily becoming a prominent destination for both local and national filmmakers. Whether in digital media, television, commercial or corporate video productions, the film office is here to facilitate production requirements. In 2013, the Prince George's Arts

and Humanities Council established the Prince George's Film Office to assist filmmakers with telling stories through film. Their mission is to streamline the path to completing film projects in Prince George's County by helping filmmakers navigate state and county permits, production protocols, and resources quickly and hassle free.

As the legislated local arts agency for Prince George's County, Prince George's Arts & Humanities Council (PGAHC) fosters and expands art opportunities for all County citizens and visitors to create a world-class cultural environment where high-quality arts and humanities programs are diverse, equitable, and inclusive. PGAHC leverages its partnerships to support and provide various arts and cultural programming opportunities, art-centered economic development programs, grants as well as advocacy initiatives for legislative support of the arts on the County and State

#### Winners from A1

freedom and literacy. I'm a firm believer that courses on money management should be taught at all levels in schools."

Our winners suggested that the Credit Union could offer seminars geared toward youth on topics like saving and avoiding credit card debt, sponsor investing clubs, and engage in tutoring programs or after-school activities within the

Jeremy plans to use his scholarship funds to study sports management at James Madison University. Nicholas is headed to Mount St. Mary's University to work on his computer science degree, while Zarin will be attending Fayetteville State University majoring in criminal justice.

Brett Noll, President/CEO of FedChoice Federal Credit Union and FedChoice Charitable Foundation Board Chairman said, "It's very rewarding to play a part in helping these deserving young people achieve their higher education goals. We have no doubt each will be very successful at the next level and beyond. It was an honor to meet each of them and their family members."

The FedChoice Charitable Foundation was founded in 2017 and offers financial well-being and positive impacts in local communities while being a resource, advocate, and champion for the Federal Community.

### Maryland Department of Health Highlights the Importance of Back-to-School Vaccines During **National Immunization Awareness Month**

**BV PRESS OFFICER** 

Maryland Department of Health

BALTIMORE (Aug. 1, 2023)—Following Governor Wes Moore's proclamation of August as Immunization Awareness Month in Maryland, the Maryland Department of Health has launched a social media campaign urging parents and caregivers to make sure their children are up to date on their back-to-school vaccinations. The campaign will take place across the Department's Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts.

"Our children deserve the best protection we can give them against preventable diseases, so we urge all parents to keep their children updated on their vaccinations, especially those required for school enrollment," said Maryland Department of Health Secretary Laura Hererra Scott. "We want to start the new school year with every child healthy, happy and ready to learn."

The campaign features videos of trusted Maryland pediatricians and pharmacists, as well as graphics and helpful resources highlighting the importance of back-to-school vaccinations for children and adolescents.

"Parents no longer worry about measles or polio, or a dozen other diseases which used to be

prevalent in our society, because of vaccines," said Deputy Secretary for Public Health Services Dr. Nilesh Kalyanaraman. "We have also made it through the pandemic, in part because of the protection we received and continue to receive from COVID vaccines."

Childhood vaccines prevent approximately 4 million deaths worldwide annually, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In addition to immunizations that infants and young children receive, important protection is also provided against HPV and meningitis through vaccines available for adolescents.

Maryland maintains specific vaccination requirements for participation in child care and public schools. For more information about back-toschool vaccinations, visit health.maryland.gov/immunization. To find a local vaccination clinic near you, visit marylandvax.org.

The Maryland Department of Health is dedicated to protecting and improving the health and safety of all Marylanders through disease prevention, access to care, quality management and commuengagement. Followhttp://www.twitter.com/MDHealthDept and Facebook.com/MDHealthDept.

### **Upper Marlboro Woman and Hagerstown Man** Earn TOPS® Recognition

International Weight-Loss Organization Announces Leading "Losers" for 2022

By PRESS OFFICER **TOPS®** 

TOPS Club, Inc. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly<sup>SM</sup>), the nonprofit weight-loss support organization, has begun unveiling its top "royalty" from 2022 for 2023. TOPS® royalty are women and men who, at the end of the year, have officially recorded the largest weight loss from their starting weight, regardless of the time taken to reach their goal. Rose Marcoux of Upper Marlboro, who lost 36 pounds, and Robert Norris of Hagerstown, who lost 22.8 pounds, are the 2022 Maryland Queen and King. They were honored April 13–15 at the Maryland state recognition event at the Princess Royale in Ocean City.

TOPS provides an individual approach to weight loss and overall wellness. Consistent group support, health education, and recognition are all key components to successful weight management. Maryland has an adult obesity rate of 34.3%. During 2022, TOPS members in Maryland lost a cumulative 3,290 pounds.

"We are tremendously proud of our TOPS® members' weightloss accomplishments," said

TOPS President Rick Danforth, who has maintained a 100-pound weight loss for nearly 20 years. "Through their TOPS membership, these individuals are able to celebrate their own life-altering accomplishments, as well as of other members and those that have come before them. By continuing their commitment to personal lifestyle changes, a hallmark of TOPS' winning formula, TOPS members utilize the tools they are given and the assistance from their peers to achieve their weight loss goals.'

Weekly meetings are the heart of TOPS support, whether they are held in-person or online. Inperson meetings start with an optional weigh-in, with members then sharing challenges, successes, or goals, followed by a brief program covering a variety of health and wellness topics, and may conclude with awards and recognition for the week. Visitors can attend their first TOPS inperson meeting free of charge and are encouraged to try more than one chapter, since they're all a little different.

For online membership, meetings are conducted via Zoom and are offered at least five times during the week. The meeting starts with members disclosing challenges, successes, or goals. Next, the online facilitator presents a prepared program and sometimes includes guest speakers who share their expert views on fitness, nutrition, and more. Meetings conclude with action steps related to the program presented.

Membership is affordable, starting at \$49 per year in the U.S. and \$59 annually in Canada, plus nominal monthly chapter fees. Join TOPS, visit www.tops.org, or call 800-932-8677 to learn more about TOPS and to find a local chapter.

About TOPS®: TOPS Club Inc. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) is the original weight-loss support and wellness education organization. Founded in 1948, TOPS is the only nonprofit, noncommercial weight-loss organization of its kind. TOPS promotes successful weight management with a "Real People. Real Weight Loss.®" philosophy that combines support from others at weekly chapter meetings, healthy eating, regular exercise, and wellness information. Today there are about 65,000 members, including men, women, and international members who join chapter meetings online, with thousands of chapters in all 50 states and Canada.

### **National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund Hosting Nationwide Move for the Badge Event**

Hundreds nationwide to participate in month-long celebration of fun activities geared towards support of law enforcement

By PRESS OFFICER **NLEOMF** 

WASHINGTON (August 1, 2023)—The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), will host its Nationwide Move for the Badge event in September with a month-long celebration of activity for participants to get active, have fun and support the men and women in blue. All proceeds from this signature fundraising event support the mission and programs of the National Law Enforcement Memorial and Mu-

The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund's Move for the Badge event is designed to get participants "mov-

ing" any day from September 1 through September 30, officially culminating on the final day of the month. The annual flagship event serves communities across the United States, raising critical funds needed to support NLEOMF's mission to honor the fallen, tell the story of American law enforcement, and make it safer for those who serve.

"We are honored to again host this event as a way to support our law enforcement officers and agencies in every community, across the United States," said National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund Interim CEO Bill Alexander. "Our goal for this event is for everyone to incorporate more activities, outside of just running,

into their routine so they can contribute in a way that they are most comfortable with. Set your own goals or join a team for the cause—whatever you do, having fun is the name of the game."

Registration for the National Move for the Badge is now open. Participants are encouraged to register for the fun as individuals or by creating a team as a captain or joining a team of family members, friends, colleagues or fellow runners across the country. If an individual chooses to join a team that has already formed, they can search the team's name, contact the team captain or simply register

See BADGE Page A5

#### Playspace from A1

space inequity and ensuring that every kid has the opportunity to experience the joys and benefits

"Playgrounds are an iconic part of childhood. They're not only where kids collect some of their best memories, but also where crucial skills are developed that nurture their physical, mental, and emotional well-being," said Lysa Ratliff, CEO of KABOOM!. "With the help of amazing partners like The Department of Parks and Recreation, Jerami Grant's Hour Generation Foundation, and Markelle Fultz's Faithful 2 The Grind, LLC we can drive the positive systemic change necessary to ensure every kid in Prince George's County has an amazing place to play and unlock their greatest potential."

The full playspace renovation is a part of Jerami Grant's Hour Generation Foundation and Markelle Fultz's Faithful 2 The Grind, LLC, commitment to giving back to the community where Jerami and Markelle grew up. Both organizations have provided support for the new playspace

through their partnership with KABOOM!, part of a nationwide effort to end playspace inequity. In 2022, KABOOM! launched the 25 in 5 Initiative to End Playspace Inequity, the five-year initiative to accelerate efforts towards achieving their mission across the United States.

"I'm so excited to partner with KABOOM!, M-NCPPC, and Markelle to bring this project to life. When I launched Hour Generation Foundation, I wanted to create opportunities of empowerment that would encourage our youth to explore their talents," Jerami said. "By renovating this playground, in a community I personally grew up in, we help to level the playing field and create a safe environment for kids to do just that."

Markelle Fultz's Faithful 2 The Grind, LLC, knows and understands the importance of engaging with and in the community. They are excited to be partnering with Jerami Grant's Hour Generation Foundation and the Department of Parks and Recreation in Prince George's County to build a playground for the kids in the community, that will foster social interactions among the children and families who live and play there.

#### Caregivers from A1

group to connect class participants and offer them a place to share information and success stories as a virtual support group.

"A dementia diagnosis can really change family dynamics, so you really want to talk with a family therapist, with siblings, or the cognitively healthy spouse. There may even need to be some family therapy," Chan said. "But you

don't have to do it alone. There are so many resources; they might not always be self-evident or easy to find, but they're out there. Don't assume any aspect of caregiving has to be done entirely by you."

Find the full array of programs offered by the UME Family & Consumer Sciences team at https://extension.umd.edu/programs/familyconsumer-sciences.

# BUSINESS AND FINANCE

#### **Social Security Matters**

Ask Rusty:

# I'm a Veteran. How Do I Get My Extra Social Security?

By RUSSELL GLOOR,

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

**Dear Rusty:** As a military veteran, I was told that the final amount of my Social Security should be a little higher as a reward for military service. If so, I have two questions: 1. How much is the boost? 2. How can I know that amount has been applied? **Signed: Unsure** 

**Dear Unsure:** We receive questions about this fairly often from our military veterans. I want to first thank you for your service to our country and then assure you that, as a military veteran myself, I have thoroughly investigated this subject—the so-called "Special Extra Credit for Military Service," which is widely misunderstood. Although someone suggested that your Social Security benefit "is supposed to be a little higher" because you are a military veteran, allow me to share how this somewhat obscure rule actually works.

Any extra money for military veterans does not come in the form of a special "boost" to their Social Security benefit because of their military service; instead, certain older veterans receive extra credit to their earnings for the years they served. Those extra earnings are applied only to those who served in specific years, as additional dollars added to their actual earnings record for their service-years. The amount added to the veteran's true service-year earnings varies a bit depending on which years you served. For example, if you served between 1957-1977, your actual earnings for each service-year would be increased by \$300 for each full quarter you had active duty pay to a maximum of \$1200 additional earnings per service-year. The credit is computed a bit differently for those who served between 1978-2001, but the maximum annual earnings credit for those service years is the same— \$1,200. And, for clarity, those who served before 1957 get extra earnings credit under an entirely different formula, and those who served after 2001 receive no extra credits for their military service

So how might this affect your Social Security benefit? Well, when your benefit is claimed, Social Security reviews your lifetime earnings record, inflates each actual annual amount to equal today's dollar equivalent, and selects the highest earning 35 years from your lifetime record to calculate your "Primary Insurance Amount" or "PIA" (your PIA is the amount you are entitled to at full retirement age). If your military service-years are among the 35 years used to compute your PIA when you claim, then the "Special Extra Credit for Military Service" will result in a somewhat higher PIA (a slightly higher monthly SS benefit). If the highest earning 35 years in your lifetime record do not include your military-service-years, then those extra credits added to your earnings for your military-service-years will have no effect on your Social Security benefit (because using those service-years would result in a lower benefit). How Social Security applies those special extra credits to your service-year earnings also varies depending on when you served. Those who served before 1968 needed to show their DD-214 to get the extra credits, but those who served in between 1968-2001 were automatically given the extra credits based on their military service records.

So, if your military service was between 1968 and 2001, your earnings during the years you served were automatically increased by SS to reflect your "special extra" earnings and—if those years are among the highest of the 35 years used to compute your SS benefit - you are now receiving the extra benefit amount you're entitled to from those credits. If you have at least 35 years over your lifetime where you earned more than your pay while serving in the military, your current benefit is more than it would be if your military service years were included. If you have questions about your earnings during your military service years, you may wish to obtain a copy of your lifetime earnings history from Social Security to review those amounts (easiest way to get your lifetime earnings history is via your personal "my Social Security" account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

The 2.4 million member Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC] www.amac.us is a vibrant, vital senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. AMAC Action is a non-profit, non-partisan organization representing the membership in our nation's capital and in local Congressional Districts throughout the country. And the AMAC Foundation (www.AmacFoundation.org) is the Association's non-profit organization, dedicated to supporting and educating America's Seniors. Together, we act and speak on the Association members' behalf, protecting their interests and offering a practical insight on how to best solve the problems they face today. Live long and make a difference by joining us today at www.amac.us/join-amac.

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

#### **PGC Economic Development Corporation**

Pt.1 | Website Essentials for Small Business

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For more information and to register:

https://www.pgcedc.com/events-calendar/2023/9/14/website-essentials-for-small-business-pt-1

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By Registering for this program, you are signing up for Session 1 and 2; Session 2 is September 15.

# Veterans Evaluation Services Adds Kaleidoscope Affect, LLC and CEO Major Gen. Linda Singh as Strategic Advisors

Former Adjutant General of Maryland to Provide Strategic Expertise to the Company's Work with Department of Veterans Affairs

By PRESS OFFICER

Maximus

TYSONS, Va. (BUSINESS WIRE) (July 31, 2023)—Maximus, a leading employer and provider of government services worldwide, today announced its subsidiary Veterans Evaluation Services (VES) has named Kaleidoscope Affect, LLC, and its CEO, Major Gen. Linda Singh, as a strategic advisor. Singh, former Adjutant General of Maryland, and her company will support VES as it expands its work with the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) and other veteran service organizations. VES supports the VA in its mission to provide veterans and transitioning service members throughout the benefit exam and claims process.

"The mission of VES has always been to provide quality and timely evaluations for those who bravely served our country, performed by trained professionals in a respectful and hospitable environment," said Teresa Weipert, General Manager, Maximus Federal. "With her extensive background in military and veteran affairs, the addition of Major Gen. Singh and her team is an important element of VES's unwavering commitment to support the VA's mission of serving our veterans."

Maryland-based Kaleidoscope Affect, LLC, is a Woman-Owned and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned small business that is a protégé of Maximus through the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Mentor-Protégé Program. The Maximus program has been developed to help small businesses in the federal contracting space grow and expand their business through strategic partnerships.



PHOTO COURTESY MAXIMUS

#### Major Gen. Linda Singh

"The services provided by VES, including through its mobile evaluation units, are vitally important to veterans and their families in need of securing benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs," said Singh. "VES has proven to be a leader in the veteran evaluation space by providing high-quality, timely, and accurate medical disability exams for national and international claims. As a veteran, I know first-hand what it's like to go through the benefit process, and I'm motivated to extend the work already in progress to improve the veteran experience."

Singh served as the Adjutant General of Maryland from 2015 to 2019, where she was responsible for the daily operations of the Maryland Military Department, which includes the National Guard, as well as being a senior advisor to Governor Hogan on military matters. Her dec-

orated military career spanned nearly three decades, including two overseas deployments, and resulted in a multitude of awards, including the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal. Singh's previous corporate experience includes serving as Managing Director for Accenture, where she managed all activities for the company's Health and Public Service division in North America.

Veteran Evaluation Services (VES), a Maximus company, honors America's veterans and transitioning service members by supporting them through their VA claims and eligibility exams. The company works with veterans, providers, and Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) to provide support in the claims process, with clinicians conducting exams in more than 3,000 locations across the United States and more than 800 locations globally. To learn more about VES and its services, please visit ves.com.

As a leading strategic partner to governments across the globe, Maximus helps improve the delivery of public services amid complex technology, health, economic, environmental, and social challenges. With a deep understanding of program service delivery, acute insights that achieve operational excellence, and an extensive awareness of the needs of the people being served, our employees advance the critical missions of our partners. Maximus delivers innovative business process management, impactful consulting services, and technology solutions that provide improved outcomes for the public and higher levels of productivity and efficiency of government-sponsored programs. Visit maximus.com.

# James Patterson Donates \$600,000 to HBCU Scholarship Pilot Program for Carson Scholars

By PRESS OFFICER

Carson Scholars Fund, Inc.

TOWSON, Md. (August 1, 2023)—The Carson Scholars Fund (CSF) is thrilled to announce the launch of the Patterson HBCU Scholarship for Carson Scholars. Author, philanthropist, education and literacy advocate, James Patterson, has partnered with Dr. and Mrs. Ben Carson and the CSF to help Carson Scholars author their own academic stories.

The Patterson HBCU Scholarship pilot program is open to Carson Scholars who are graduating high school beginning in 2024 and planning to attend a Historically Black College or University (HBCU). Eligible Carson Scholars will have the opportunity to earn a \$5,000 award to be used towards tuition, room, board and/or books. Each scholar will have the option to renew the award for three consecutive academic years, provided they continue to meet the program requirements. Funding is limited and the final selection will be based on a competitive evaluation of each year's applicant pool.

The CSF was established in 1994 to combat the education crisis in the United States. The primary mission of the organization is to empower youth to persevere through academic achievement, civic responsibility and literacy. Over 11,000 Carson Scholars have been granted a \$1,000 college scholarship to date. To achieve Carson Scholar status, a student in grades 4-11 must be nominated by an educator, possess a 3.75 GPA or higher and

participate in community service.

James Patterson shared, "I'm thrilled to launch this new partnership with the Carson Scholars Fund, a program that understands the value of education and shares my belief in the role literacy plays in bettering the lives of young people, their families, and their communities. I'm looking forward to seeing what these students achieve in the future."

Dr. and Mrs. Ben Carson and James Patterson share educational values; the partnership is a natural extension of their philosophies and continued philanthropy regarding education and literacy. Dr. Carson stated, "James Patterson's commitment and generosity towards education and literacy is unrivaled. We are grateful that he has chosen to partner with the CSF to further educational opportunities for our scholars who choose to attend a HBCU."

Eligible Carson Scholars will be provided with the requisite Patterson HBCU Scholarship application and deadlines for consideration. Winners will be announced on May 15, 2024. For more information, visit https://carsonscholars.org/pattersonhbcu/.

The Carson Scholars Fund, Inc. is a 501 C (3) nonprofit organization founded in 1994 by retired Johns Hopkins pediatric neurosurgeon, Dr. Benjamin Carson and his wife, Candy. The Carson Scholars Fund recognizes students in grades 4–11 who strive for academic excellence (3.75 GPA or higher) and demonstrate a strong commitment to their communities.

### KLNB Team Secures 15,000-Square-Foot Industrial Lease in Beltsville, Md.

Cima Foods Will Occupy the Prince George's County Space WASHINGTON (July 31, 2023)—KLNB, the Mid-Atlantic region's largest privately held CRE brokerage firm, has secured a lease for 15,000-square-feet of industrial space at 12000 Baltimore Ave. in Beltsville, Md. KLNB Principal Ken Fellows represented the landlord, Bernstein Management Corporation in the transaction. The tenant, Cima Food, is a provider of processing and packaging equipment for freeze drying and spray drying of foods. Cima was represented by Gary Edell from 4Dimensional Real Estate Solutions.

The property has exceptional access from every direction providing easy arrival and departure for industrial tenants. Situated on the heavily traveled Baltimore Ave. (Route 1), the location is within two miles of Route 200 (ICC) and Interstate 95, and five miles from Baltimore-Washington Pkwy (295). There are multiple retail and dining options nearby and the property is just 20 minutes from the University of Maryland.

KLNB's Ken Fellows has worked with the client on multiple transactions in the past and overseen leasing of the property for several years. This expertise allowed Fellows to quickly oversee a deal that perfectly suited both the landlord's goals and the tenant's needs

### The Prince George's Post

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#### Badge from A3

as an individual first to join or start a team at a later date.

NLEOMF has teamed up with the Good Move<sup>TM</sup> mobile companion app where participants can set personal goals, track their progress, compete for prizes, and fundraise for NLEOMF. Participants can download the app and track activities that best suit their fitness or lifestyle, whether walking, running, biking, swimming, dancing or anything else that gets them moving.

Participants who register receive an event t-shirt, medallion, and bib to commemorate their participation. Depending on their goal, participants, whether individually or on teams, can earn valuable fundraising incentive prizes as they reach fundraising milestones, ranging from special edition Thin Blue Line socks, backpack, t-shirt, NLEOMF-branded pin, to a Smith & Wesson watch.

The entire list of fundraising goal levels and prizes to win can be found on the Move for the Badge website. In addition to these items, participants receive training resources to ensure safe training and a checklist to stay on track in successfully reaching their goals, including a training guide and special NLEOMF playlist to stay motivated. More information on training and tips can be found by subscribing to NLEOMF's emails to stay up to date on Move for the Badge news, training videos, and more.

Participants who take part in this year's event are asked to post via social media, using the hashtag #MoveForTheBadge. In the lead-up to Move for the Badge, individuals who post photos and messages about their participation and their fundraising link on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter will have a chance to win exciting prizes. There will be a special prize for the team that raises the most money as well.











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