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Md. Lawmakers Announce \$2.2 Billion School Construction Plan

By ELLIOTT DAVIS
Capital News Service

FOREST HEIGHTS, Md. (November 6, 2019)—Sen. Bill Ferguson, likely Maryland's next Senate president, stood in Forest Heights Elementary—a school shut down temporarily for safety reasons—on Wednesday, and said the building “tells its own story” when it comes to education in the state.

“We can, we must and we will do better,” Ferguson, D-Baltimore, said during a news conference.

Ferguson, along with other Democratic leaders from both the Maryland Senate and House of Delegates, and other officials, announced Wednesday a \$2.2 billion plan to build and renovate schools across the state that will be taken up during the 2020 legislative session.

The plan, called the Built to Learn Act, will be funded at least in part by bonds from the Maryland Stadium Authority as well as dollars from the state's casinos, said Delegate Maggie McIntosh, D-Baltimore. McIntosh said the \$2.2 billion total

will be broken up into approximately \$125 million annual payments.

“This bill has nothing to do with taxes,” McIntosh told reporters after the announcement.

Jake Weissmann, chief of staff to outgoing Senate President Thomas V. “Mike” Miller Jr., told Capital News Service that determining the split between building new schools and renovating current ones will “depend on the jurisdiction” and its needs.

Miller, the first to speak at Wednesday's news conference, said the plan is about getting Maryland “back to No. 1” in education.

“We're going to make school construction and school operating funds our No. 1 priority,” Miller said. “... It's going to be astounding.”

Wednesday's announcement further means that education will dominate the 2020 session, with the legislature also taking up recommendations from a commission created for the purposes of studying how to transform Maryland's public education system.

The current proposal by the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, chaired

by former University of Maryland President William “Brit” Kirwan, recommends phasing in increased funding over the next 10 fiscal years. In fiscal year 2030, direct state aid would exceed \$10.2 billion, which is \$2.8 billion “more than would be allocated under current law,” according to the commission's proposal.

“We will move forward with both because we cannot afford not to,” Ferguson said Wednesday, referring to the commission's recommendations and the school construction plan.

The General Assembly attempted to pass a bill during the 2019 session—similar to the one announced Wednesday—that would have created a public-private partnership in Prince George's County allocating over \$2 billion in funds for public school construction. The bill, known as the Built to Learn Act of 2019, died in the Senate.

Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan referenced the bill in an October statement that criticized the Kirwan commission.

“No governor has ever invested more in our schools,” Hogan said in the statement, while also

referring to the commission as the “Tax Hike Commission” that it is “hellbent on spending billions more than we can afford.”

Miller, D-Calvert, Charles and Prince George's, said Wednesday that Hogan wants to “build schools, but nothing inside the schools.”

Hogan previously proposed a \$2 billion school construction investment, which he called in the October statement “the largest in Maryland history.”

“While they are a year late, we are glad that General Assembly leaders are now endorsing our historic school construction plan,” Hogan said in a statement following Wednesday's news conference. “Clearly, they recognize that we need to provide school systems—and most importantly, our students—with the healthy, efficient, and modern school buildings they deserve. Now that our legislators are finally making school construction a priority, I certainly look forward to working with them to get it done.”

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Caring for the Continuum of Life: A 2019 Healthcare Symposium

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
Hospice of the Chesapeake

PASADENA, Md. (November 6, 2019)—More than 250 professionals and community members gathered at First Baptist Church of Highland Park in Landover, Maryland, on Oct. 19 to learn about hospice, palliative, and bereavement care at the Caring for the Continuum of Life: A 2019 Healthcare Symposium.

This was the second year for the event hosted by Hospice of the Chesapeake, Chesapeake Life Center and Chesapeake Palliative Medicine. Like last year's event, it was completely free for attendees, featuring 15 expert presenters in the fields of hospice and palliative care, grief counseling, cultural studies and spirituality in nine different sessions. Professional social workers and counselors also enjoyed receiving up to five free continuing education credits.

An important theme that ran throughout the event was acknowledging the cultural bias in accessibility to healthcare and how professionals and community leaders can work to overcome this. Spirituality plays an important role in bridging that gap, and in helping patients and families make life-changing decisions. “At Hospice of the Chesapeake, we believe everybody has a right to spiritual care,” Chief Medical Officer Dr. Eric Bush said. “Spirituality is very im-

portant at the end of life. As clinicians, when we are faced with the withdrawal of ventilators or other similar life-support measures, one of the most important people who should be at the patient's side is not the intensivist or the chief of the hospital, but the person offering pastoral care or spiritual care.”

The importance of reaching out to work with faith and other community leaders was an important factor in planning the event. The symposium opened with the keynote presentation “Courage, Hope and Transformative Leadership: Key Components in Connecting Culture to Caring for Those with Serious Illness,” by Karen Bullock, Ph.D., LCSW, a professor and Assistant Dean of the School of Social Work at North Carolina State University. It closed with “DocTalk with Faith-Based Leaders,” an open discussion with physicians and faith-based leaders on living with serious, life-limiting illnesses.

Perhaps the most prominent evidence of the organization's commitment to including the faith community in its mission was the location itself. The success of this year's event is the beginning of what the nonprofit hopes will be a continuing partnership with First Baptist Church of Highland Park in educating the community on living with advanced illness and coping with loss.

The event was sponsored in part by University of Maryland Capital Region Health.



ALL PHOTOS: ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN OF HOSPICE OF THE CHESAPEAKE
Symposium Keynote Speaker Karen Bullock poses with Hospice of the Chesapeake Chief Medical Officer Dr. Eric Bush during a break in the program on October 19, 2019, at First Baptist Church of Highland Park in Landover.



At right: Presenter Yolonda Wilson, Assistant Professor at Howard University, talks with Hospice of the Chesapeake Foundation Board Vice Chair Terri Hussman after Wilson's presentation on “Implicit Bias and Racism in End-of-Life Care.”

State's Attorney Aisha Braveboy to Host Youth Justice Reform Symposium At Bowie State

By DENISE ROBERTS
Office of the State's Attorney,
Prince George's County

UPPER MARLBORO (November 5, 2019)—Prince George's County State's Attorney Aisha N. Braveboy, in partnership with Councilmember Calvin Hawkins (At-Large), will host the Youth Justice Reform Symposium on **Friday, November 15, 2019** at 9 a.m. at Bowie State University's Student Center, 14000 Jericho Park Road, Bowie, MD 20715.

The State's Attorney and other stakeholders will discuss policies around youth justice reform and ways to end the school to prison pipeline. There will also be panel discussions to address diversion programs, public safety and collaboration between stakeholders to improve outcomes for youth.

Local high school students will also participate in this important event by giving input into the process of reform and developing solutions that have meaningful impact.

This free event is open to the public. If you would like to attend, register at <https://youthjustice2019.eventbrite.com>.

Also in attendance: Dr. Alvin Thornton, Chair, Prince George's County Board of Education, Pastor Ylawnda Peebles, City of Praise Family Ministry, Rev. Tony Lee, Community of Hope AME Church



PHOTOGRAPH CREDIT HORUS ALAS/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

BOWIE, Maryland—Democratic candidate for Maryland's 5th Congressional District Briana Urbina stands in a parking lot after an evening canvassing in a residential development in early November.

By HORUS ALAS
Capital News Service

BOWIE, Md. (November 7, 2019)—Briana Urbina and her campaign staff marched through rows of two-story homes with red brick and vinyl siding exteriors as the sun inched closer to the horizon on an evening earlier this month. Red and brown leaves crunched beneath their feet, echoing along tree-lined sidewalks.

Field director Michael Oliver brandished a tablet with a targeted list of Democratic primary voters, pointing his colleagues to a house and reading out the resident's name.

“Our goal is to knock on 35,000 doors by the end of the year,” 35-year-old Urbina told Capital News Service.

Briana Urbina's Pitch to Maryland's 5th Congressional District: Go Younger

She wore black jeans and a black leather jacket over a red GAP sweatshirt. Tufts of curly, jet black hair streamed to her shoulders.

Urbina said her campaign had knocked on about 2,000 doors as of early November. She cited affordable housing, “Medicare for all,” criminal justice reform, civil rights and education as her campaign's priorities.

Like a fellow challenger for the Democratic nomination in Maryland's 5th Congressional District, McKayla Wilkes, Urbina thinks it's time for generational change in the district's leadership.

Many voters tell her they love the 20-term incumbent, House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Mechanicsville.

But “it's time for a new generation of

leadership,” Urbina said. “(Hoyer is) 80 years old. He can't be in Congress forever.”

That realization, plus President Donald Trump's election in 2016, convinced Urbina to enter this race.

She recalled being a public school teacher and facing her students the morning after Trump's victory.

“Looking in the faces of my students, there was this overall sense of disappointment,” Urbina said. “I felt like I couldn't let their lives be defined by that moment.”

Urbina was born to Puerto Rican parents in the Bronx, New York, and practiced as a civil rights attorney before teaching. She is

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Bishop McNamara High School Names Principal, Dian Carter

“I do not take lightly the duty of being a role model and mentor for all students. I want them to know that I'm accessible and here to support them.” said Carter.

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ChildWatch: Lanterns

I can't remember the clothes a single one of them wore or the kind of car they drove or whether they drove a car at all. What I do remember is their integrity, courage in the face of adversity, perseverance, and shared passion for justice and a better life for children

Commentary, Page A4

Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture Hosts 50th Anniversary and Recognizes Milestones in Black History

The commission's contribution to the museum enabled it to receive federal funds this year to strengthen African American culture and history in Maryland, as one of the only 14 recipients nationwide.

Out on the Town, Page A5

TOWNS and NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301-735-3451

Christmas decor, Civil War Santa, and Magic at the Surratt House

The Surratt House Museum invites you to History's Home for the Holidays beginning Nov. 27, and continuing through Dec. 15. The historic house will be decorated in the style of the mid-1800s with exhibits of antique toys, cards and more.

Civil War Santa will visit on Nov. 30 at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Then, on Dec. 14 at 4 p.m. there'll be a free Merry Christmas Magic Show starring Michael Cantori who drew a full house when he performed his magic there in 2018.

The Surratt House is at 9118 Brandywine Road in Clinton. Info: 301-868-1121.

By the way, the House will be closed Dec. 16 until Jan. 14, 2020. The office, however, will be open.

Neighbors & other good people

- Remembering Morningside's longtime Mayor Gerald "Jerry" Glaubitz and his wife Jean on Jerry's birthday, Nov. 23. Jerry died in 2005 and Jean in 2014. We miss them!
- The Morningside Sportsmen's Club held its annual get-together at Burt's 50s Diner in Mechanicsville on Oct. 30. The Sportsmen began April 8, 1971 when a group of friends from the Morningside area met at Skyline Restaurant to discuss organizing. A week later it was decided to give it a go. And they're still going.
- Mary Ann Cook, 70, died at her home in Mechanicsville on Nov. 1. I believe she and her husband Tom were well-known in this area. Call me with information.
- Roberta Virginia Morse Wise, 103, of Lanham died Sept. 23. She was the wife of Dr. Henry A. Wise Jr. for whom the high school in Upper Marlboro is named. Services were held at Dr. Henry A. Wise, Jr. High School on Oct. 12.

Community meetings coming up

Morningside will hold its town meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

The Skyline Citizens Association meets Wednesday, Nov. 20, at either the firehouse or (if it can be arranged) at the former Skyline School, 7 p.m. The big topic will be their 50th anniversary, com-

ing up in May. Also, County Sheriff Melvin High is expected to attend.

Free workforce development program in Temple Hills

St. Michael's Truth/OSLC (Our Saviour's Lutheran Church), along with the congregation of Bethel Outreach Worship Ministries, is hosting an Open House on Saturday, Nov. 16, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., for potential participants in a free, 12-week workforce development program, Illumination Excel, operated by Progressive Life Center, Inc.

The requirements are that participants be between the ages of 16-24 and not enrolled in school or employed. Committed participants will receive a \$50 gift card for each month of attendance. An Amerigroup representative will be available that day. The church address is 4915 St. Barnabas Rd., Temple Hills. For info, call Lisa Streeter, 301-909-6843.

Changing Landscape and other changes

- I follow house sales in the Skyline community, and notice that most sell in the high 200,000s. But not 6510 Pine Lane Drive. It has been completely renovated and is listed at \$450,000! For information, email damian.buckley@compass.com. If you visit, be sure to notice the wine cellar.
- Allentown Andrews is back in business after sitting dormant for a year or so. It's a huge construction project at the corner of Allentown Road and Branch Avenue. Among the amenities listed on the website: Lidl grocery, Wawa service station, 60 townhouses, landscaping with "courtyards, plazas and parks."
- Proposed 6th-grade changes for fall 2020 involve several schools including Princeton Elementary, in Camp Springs, where 6th graders will move to Thurgood Marshall Middle School in Temple Hills. And, North Forestville Elementary where 6th graders will move to Walker Mill in Capitol Heights. There will also be school-boundary changes.
- In honor of America Recycles Day, Keep Prince George's County Beautiful (KPGCB) and the Prince George's County Department of the Environment (DoE), will present the first 2019 Waste Diversion and Recycling Awards Ceremony on Mon-

day, Nov. 18. The ceremony recognizes County individuals, commercial businesses, schools and other entities that have demonstrated exceptional achievement in recycling and waste diversion to advance the mission of KPGCB and DoE. You could even nominate yourself (if you're a great recycler), but that deadline has passed. Try next year.

Morningside Memories: 40 years ago

The Morningside Senior Citizens joined with the Ritchie Leisure Club for a trip to Ellicott City on Oct. 30, 1979. They had an interesting guide who led them on a tour of this old city, home of the B&O Railroad. Making the trip were: Louise Rousseaux, Harold and Ethel Benden, George Gould, Bernice Burdette, Eunice Walker, Edna Lucas, Henrietta Zdobysz and Alma Broderick.

Bill Stephens, advocate for the handicapped

William Henry "Bill" Stephens, 74, of Benedict, who was actively involved in disability advocacy, died Oct. 25. He was a Washington native, DeMatha graduate, and, in the 1960s, a Navy yeoman.

He was a Chief Information Officer with DoD at Bolling for 25 years, retiring in 1907. He was a member of the Prince George's County Coalition for the Handicapped, Maryland Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped and a number of other organizations that advocate for issues impacting people with disabilities.

He's survived by his wife Ann; sister Louise Heiss; daughters Mary Ellen, Debbie, Theresa and Christina; sons, William, Andrew and Paul, grand- and great-grandchildren. His son Robert James preceded him in death. Mass of Christian Burial was at St. Philip's where he'd been a longtime parishioner.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Kendra MacLean and Katie Frostbutter, Nov. 18; Herbert Hanson and Andrew Boone, Nov. 20; Linda Cullinan and Brea Sandy-Hanson, Nov. 21; Dolores Steinhilber, Stephanie White, Sharon McKlveen and Jill Flaherty Kimmel, Nov. 22; and Leslie Greene, Nov. 23.

Happy anniversary to Paul and Sharon Locke, Nov. 22.

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

33RD ANNUAL WINTER FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

November 29, 2019-January 1, 2020 from 5-9:30 p.m., the 33rd Annual Winter Festival of lights will be on display at Watkins Regional Park. The address is 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20774. Contact telephone number is 301-218-6700; TTY: 301-699-2544.

Bring a little twinkle to your holidays. Don't miss this spectacular holiday drive-through event of more than 2.5 million twinkling lights and the 54-foot LED musical tree.

Free appreciation night on December 2 and December 25. This is the season for giving. "Please help us to help our community and consider bringing canned goods to donate to local food banks". Monday, December 2, 2019 we will host a free appreciation night for the residents of Prince George County for their support of Department of Parks and Recreation Programs year around. Christmas Day the Festival is free. The fee for the Winter Festival of lights is non-refundable; no exceptions. Please bring canned goods for donation to local banks.

Cost: \$10 car/van; \$20 minibus/limo; \$30/bus; \$20/multivisit pass (car/van); accept all major credit cards. All ages are welcome. Purchase your tickets in advance online through Parks Direct! Visit (<https://web1.vermontsystems.com/wbwc.module=pst>).

Get your free festival spectacles while supplies last. A surprise for your eyes. Watch as the lenses magically transform every point of light in the holiday displays into magical floating holographs. Visit the Festival of Lights web page for more detailed information. All ages are welcome.

STARLITE PERFORMING ARTS

Starlite offers classes from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 9522 Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772, Marlton Plaza Shopping Center. Classes offered are Monday: Beginners Ballet (Ages 5 to 8), Tuesdays: Mini Hip Hop (ages 5 to 8), Wednesday: Hip Hop (Ages 9-13) Thursday: ACRO (All Ages). For information, email us at STARLITEDANCEACADEMY@COMCAST.NET or visit our website at STARLITEBOOGIE.COM. Check out our Aftercare Program.

20TH ANNUAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST & SHOW

Come and view an amazing display of edible gingerbread

houses at Darnall's Chance House Museum, Saturday, November 30, 2019 from 12 to 5 p.m. Please no nibbling allowed. The address is 14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Visitors will have the opportunity to vote on the "Viewer's Choice" competition. All ages are welcome. Cost is \$2.00 per person. (<http://history.pgparcs.com/3059/GingerbreadContest-Show>).

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Happy Birthday to Ronald Crawford, Darius Paul Kerrick, Dunstana Nicol-Wilson, Markell Dabney, Dion Jalloh, Owen Johnson, Ugo Mbakwe, Shurrell Bell, Tiffany Knight, Daphne Rojas, Evangeline Crawford, Sheila Holmes, Pastor Dorothea Belt Stroman, Wade Garret, Beverly Holman, Grace Omoregbe, Pauline Clark, Sonia Douwana, Dorothy Glasgow-Reid, Love B. Wright, Herbert Wilkerson, Mary L. Contee who are celebrating birthdays in November.

NOVEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Wedding Anniversary to Oliver and Alice Myers, Barron and Kendra Neal who are celebrating Wedding Anniversaries in November.

CHRISTMAS ON THE POTOMAC

Come and enjoy Christmas on the Potomac featuring ICE! November 15, 2019-January 1, 2020 at 201 Waterfront St, National Harbor, Maryland 20745. Telephone number is 301-965-4000. You and your family will marvel at more than 2 million holiday lights and acres of magnificent decorations, plus spectacular holiday activities and events that are sure to get in the spirit of the season and create lasting family memories. Some of the activities and events are New: Ice Skating in Winter Square, Atrium Light Shows, Christmas Village (Discover A Winter Wonderland), photos with Santa, Mrs. Claus Christmas Traditions, "The Grinch's Wonderful Awful Idea Scavenger Hunt, Feast with the Grinch".

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Westphalia Concert Choir will be held Saturday, December 14, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. The address is 9363 D'Arcy Road Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20774. Telephone number is 301-735-9373. The website is www.westphaliaum.org email: info@westphaliaum.org.

Around the County

Maryland Retired School Personnel Association Announces Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame Inductees

ODENTON, Md. (November 7, 2019)—Nine Maryland Retired School Personnel Association members were inducted into the Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame, which honors senior citizens who have made exemplary contributions to society.

They were among the 34 senior citizens from across Maryland who were inducted during the ceremony on October 24, 2019, at Michael's Eight Avenue in Glen Burnie.

The nine MRSPA member inductees included **Stanley Tweedy, Prince George's County**.

Sally McNelis Bowerman was awarded the prestigious GERI Award during the ceremony. The GERI Award recognizes those honorees demonstrating extraordinary community service and is considered the geriatric "Nobel Prize."

The GERI symbol, an older adult hand holding the hand of a child, signifies understanding and love between generations and the intrinsic value of service to others.

"MRSPA is extremely proud of our member inductees and recognizes them for their caring and volunteer efforts in improving the lives of others. Their names will be recorded in the Archives of the Maryland Hall of Fame in perpetuity," states Ann Marie Downey, MRSPA president.

—Wanda R. Twigg, Executive Director, MRSPA

Zoning Rewrite—Two Upcoming Regional Education Meetings

UPPER MARLBORO (November 6, 2019)—The Countywide Map Amendment project team would like to remind you of their upcoming Regional Education Meetings for the Countywide Map Amendment (CMA).

These meetings will focus on an overview of the project, feature initial rezoning recommendations from the Planning Department staff, compare current and proposed zoning, and allow for questions and discussions. The remaining meetings will be held in central, and south County, and are:

Central County Regional Meeting

Thursday, November 21, 2019, 6-8 p.m.

Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex, 8001 Sheriff Road Landover, MD 20785

South County Regional Meeting

Saturday, November 23, 2019, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

7007 Bock Road, Fort Washington, MD 20744

Although each of these meetings will focus on the geographic part of the County in which they are held, all are welcome to attend any of the education sessions.

For additional information and to view the proposed zoning map, please feel free to check the project website, zoningpgc.pgplanning.com. You may also contact us at zoningpgc@ppd.mncppc.org or at 301-952-4944.

—Prince George's County Council District 8 Insider News

Library to Host Local Author Expo in 2020!

LARGO, Md. (November 4, 2019)—Calling all local authors! The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) will be hosting a Local Authors Expo on April 25, 2020, from 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Bowie Branch Library. At this all day event, library customers will have the opportunity to meet our local authors, browse and purchase their literary works. To participate, submit your application and two (2) copies of your book no later than January 1, 2020.

Mail the two copies of each book you plan to promote at the event for review by the Selection Committee to:

Prince George's County Memorial Library System

ATTN: Local Author Expo, 9601 Capital Lane, Largo, MD 20774

Your application will be considered incomplete if the Selection Committee does not receive your application and two (2) copies of your books by January 1, 2020. If your book is already a part of the PGCMLS collection, please do not send additional copies. Works submitted for consideration will not be returned.

Although all completed author applications will be reviewed, priority will be given to current Prince George's County residents due to a limited amount of space. Selection will also be made with consideration to the diversity of the genre and age level of the material. All authors will be notified of their status by February 1, 2020.

—Donna Scott-Martin, PGCMLS

Bowie State Men's Basketball

BOWIE, Md. (November 7, 2019)—The first home game for the Bulldogs is **Saturday, November 16** against Gannon University. Tipoff is 4 p.m. in the Leonidas S. James Complex (A.C. Jordan Arena).

—Gregory C. Goings, Bowie State Sports Information

SU Undergraduate Research Fellow

SALISBURY, Md. (November 6, 2019)—**Cameron Kane**, of Bowie, MD, was recently named an Undergraduate Research Fellow at Salisbury University.

Kane is a computer science and interdisciplinary studies major. His fellowship research is to develop an audio recognition and localization algorithm that utilizes deep learning, a form of artificial intelligence, and data generation. Kane hopes to use the big hammers of computer science research to solve tangible, overlooked problems in the community.

—Catherine Jenkins, Salisbury University

University at Albany Announces Incoming Students For Fall 2019

ALBANY, N.Y. (November 4, 2019)—UAlbany has welcomed nearly 5,700 new Great Danes to campus for the fall of 2019.

Of the new students, some 2,700 freshmen, from 28,000 applicants, make up the Class of 2023. Approximately 1,400 transfer students and 1,550 graduate students are also joining the campus community this fall.

The University at Albany welcomes the following students from the area for the fall of 2019:

Bowie, MD: **Adaeze Onwuka** is an undergraduate.

Clinton, MD: **Mowan Tony-Adiari** is an undergraduate.

—Michael Parker, University at Albany

COMMUNITY

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Is Your Teen Able to Handle Peer Pressure?

As parents we may often ignore what is probably the most important influence in our teenager's life—peer pressure. While parental opinions may be given some consideration, if only because of the consequences of ignoring them, it's more often the comments and actions of peers that help many teens decide virtually everything from hairstyles to clothing choices to academic efforts.

Peer pressure can be a good thing, encouraging participation in sports, religious activities and working for good grades.

But peer pressure can also be a negative, especially for a teen lacking in self-confidence and self-esteem yet anxious to be accepted by others. Negative peer pressure can result in trying to be part of a group rebelling against those things (such as school) about which the teen feels less confident.

Parents, however, can help a child overcome such negative peer pressure. The first step is to help build the teen's self-confidence and positive self-image. Your goal is to criticize less while looking for positive accomplishments and chances to praise jobs well done.

It's also important to be genuinely interested in your teen's life. Go beyond the common "who, what, where" questions to find out what your teenager really is experiencing and feeling. Learn to respect what your teen is thinking even if you strongly disagree.

And yes, getting most teens to open up can be difficult but if you're persistent, and show appreciation when things are shared, your teen will eventually become more comfortable talking.

Confronting problems as they arise can also help combat negative peer pressure. Try to understand your teen's need for certain friends but feel free to express your concerns, and your reasons for them, about these friends.

And sometimes it's simply necessary to set rules and boundaries. While "forbidding" certain friends seldom works, you can restrict the time spent with the most worrisome of them and insist on it being in supervised settings.

It also helps to strengthen the family relationship. Insist that homework and chores be done. Set curfews and stick to them. Handle small problems quickly, before they become big ones. And spend time with your teen, establishing regular dinner hours and finding quiet times when you can really talk with one another.

Peer pressure isn't always negative but an important parental responsibility is helping your teen learn how to evaluate friendships and identify peers who provide real friendship and positive benefits.

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.

Health Department Receives Federal Grant to Expand Behavioral Health Services for At-Risk Youth

Four-year grant builds on system of care for 16- to 24-year-olds, with a focus on homeless and LGBTQ youth

By GEORGE LETTIS

Prince George's County Health Department

LARGO, Md. (November 4, 2019)—The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration awarded the Prince George's County Health Department a four-year, \$4 million dollar grant to expand the availability and scope of behavioral health and social services for county residents who are considered transitional-aged youth (16- to 24-years-old), with an emphasis on homeless and LGBTQ youth.

"I am proud that our health and human services agencies will be able to do more to engage with our teens and young adults and respond to their unique needs," said Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks. "Young people facing society's uphill battles need our support to give them the best opportunity to be the healthiest they can be."

In partnership with the Prince George's County Department of Social Services (DSS), the health department will build on the county's recently expanded network of community-based behavioral health providers to include mobile response and stabilization services with an Intensive Family Intervention Team that may continue to provide clients in-home services for at least six weeks.

Support services will be available in public schools with the placement of a DSS community resource advocate and a behavioral health provider in 64 county schools. An additional focus of the system of care will be creating the infrastructure—interagency agreements, human and other resources—to support quality data collection on the numbers and unique needs of transitional-aged youth in the county.

"Experiencing homelessness is in itself a traumatic event that can worsen existing mental health issues and lead to added stress from food and health inequities," said Prince George's County Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Health, Human Services and Education Dr. George Askew. "Homeless LGBTQ youth have often been rejected by their families and other social support networks because of their sexuality and may be at higher risk for substance misuse or suicide. This grant gives us the chance to enact policies and create appropriate programs tailored to help a variety of youth facing significant social, economic, and health challenges transition through different levels of care during a critical intersection in their lives."

The grant allows the county to continue efforts to increase the number of behavioral health providers practicing in Prince George's County who provide child and adolescent services, while also enhancing the capacity of health, education and social services providers to address the needs of transitional-aged youth in a comprehensive and culturally and linguistically appropriate manner.

Price Rite Marketplace Reimagines Shopping Experience at Stores in District Heights, Hyattsville

Fresh New Look, Fresh New Deals and Fresh New Finds

By CHRISTINA SIMON
for Price Rite Marketplace

KEASBEY, NJ (October 23, 2019)—Price Rite Marketplace announced plans to unveil a fresh new look and shopping experience with grand re-openings at Price Rite Marketplace stores in District Heights, Hyattsville, MD.

To mark the latest grand re-openings, Price Rite Marketplace hosted community celebrations on November 1 with music, free sampling and other fun events at its stores in District Heights and Hyattsville, MD.

"Our customers have embraced the mar-

ketplace feel, focus on fresh foods, and amazing deals at our rebranded stores," said Jim Dorey, president of Price Rite Marketplace. "We are excited to bring this streamlined shopping experience to our Maryland shoppers."

The new concept stores feature a creative design with quality products and deep discounts, including the new Price Rite Marketplace "Drop Zone," designed as a unique in-store destination where customers can find extraordinary deals, special surprise buys and must-have products typically priced \$5 or less.

Price Rite Marketplace is committed to

providing the freshest selection of produce and bakery items, including a new bakery department featuring the 'The Sweet Spot' dessert case and an enhanced produce department with a farmer's market look and feel.

Price Rite Marketplace will finish re-branding its stores in early 2020.

Grand Re-opening Locations:

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Bishop McNamara High School Names Principal, Dian Carter

Longtime educator takes helm as school's first African American female principal

By TIFFANY YOUNG
Bishop McNamara HS

FORESTVILLE, Md. (October 24, 2019)—Bishop McNamara High School announced that Dian Carter has been named the school's twelfth principal in its 56-year history. An outstanding leader and veteran educator with twenty-seven years of experience in education, with over fifteen years in high school administration, Carter brings a spirit of mission, a commitment to service, and a record of data-driven success that builds on Bishop McNamara's outstanding history of school leadership. Up until her appointment, Carter served as assistant principal since 2017 and held the title of acting principal for four months.

Dr. Marco J. Clark, president and chief executive officer, said, "I could not be more enthusiastic about our school's future under Mrs. Carter's leadership. She's

been a trailblazer throughout her career. A true Holy Cross educator and terrific role model for the staff, student body, and community, the school will continue to prosper and flourish with her at the helm as she is tireless in her commitment to helping students "To Think with Christ," as claimed in our school motto. Indeed, Dian Carter is a transformational leader and I hope she will lead [the school] for many years in this influential role."

Prior to coming to Bishop McNamara, Mrs. Carter served as the Principal at Saint Ambrose Catholic School, where she led with distinction for nine years. As one key indicator of success, the school saw increasing enrollment growth throughout her tenure. In public education, Carter held many significant leadership roles as she was an assistant principal at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School and Wheaton High School, serving

as a Vertical Articulation Specialist, Test Coordinator, and Assistant Principal. In the classroom, Mrs. Carter worked as a high school English teacher for Prince George's and Montgomery County Schools. Mrs. Carter earned her Bachelor of Arts in English Education from the University of Maryland and her Master's in Supervision and Administration from Bowie State University.

Mrs. Carter is the school's first female principal in the school's 56-year history, and, as an African American, she recognizes the responsibility that comes with this role. "We have a large African American student body and a large population of young ladies. My goal is to empower them," says Carter. "I do not take lightly the duty of being a role model and mentor for all students. I want them to know that I'm accessible and here to support them," said Carter. An



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY BISHOP MCNAMARA HIGH SCHOOL

Dian Carter

ever present and dynamic personality, Carter makes herself visible and accessible to teachers, staff, students and parents. She, through her words and actions, ensures a safe and hospitable campus environment and her immediate priorities are student retention, new class offerings, and physical plant upgrades to the campus, particularly with the anticipated opening of The La Reine Science and Innovation Center in 2021. Indeed, Bishop McNamara High School enthusiastically welcomes Dian Carter as its new principal.

Maryland Humanities Executive Director Phoebe Stein Announces Departure Effective February 2020

By SARAH WEISSMAN
Maryland Humanities

BALTIMORE, Md. (October 17, 2019)—Maryland Humanities announces that executive director Phoebe Stein will depart from the organization, effective February 28, 2020. Stein has served as the executive director at Maryland Humanities for more than eleven years. A national search will be conducted to seek her replacement.

"My time with this outstanding organization has been professionally and personally life-changing—tremendously rewarding, productive, and enriching," says Stein. "Maryland Humanities is thriving—financially strong, conducting impact-

ful and deeply relevant programming directed by a talented and committed staff, and governed by an engaged and effective board. I know the future is bright for Maryland Humanities. I have the fullest confidence in our team and our strong partnerships and know that our work bringing the joy and power of discovery to the State of Maryland will go uninterrupted in this transition."

Stein began her tenure at Maryland Humanities in July 2008. Cynthia Raposo, Chair of the Board of Directors says, "We have had the enormous good fortune to have such a smart, effective, and practical leader for so many years. Under her leadership, Maryland Humanities has experienced significant and

meaningful growth in its programs, audiences, staff and financial support. Whether it was connecting Maryland History Day winners with their representatives at the Maryland State House and the US Capitol, introducing budding student authors to author Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche at our 2017 One Maryland One Book events, or fostering a responsive environment allowing us to explore criminal justice reform and launch a Humanities Fund for Baltimore in 2015, Phoebe has raised the bar for the organization and her successor." During Stein's tenure, Maryland Humanities has significantly expanded its programming, partnerships, and resources—despite



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY MARYLAND HUMANITIES

Phoebe Stein

arriving just a few months prior to the Great Recession. The organization now offers more than one thousand free events annually in partnership with more than 500 organizations in 150+ communities statewide.

See DEPARTURE Page A4

Remembering Robert Scott Hoyert



Robert Scott Hoyert

Robert Scott Hoyert, of Audubon, NJ (formerly of College Park, MD) left this world on Sunday, November 3, 2019. He was almost 94, and was predeceased by his loving wife of over 62 years, Frances. Bob served in Europe as a Combat Engineer during World War II, and attended the University of Maryland where he graduated with a B.S. in Accounting and a J.D. in Law. He founded a law partnership with Bill L. Yoho in 1953 and practiced tax and estate law until 2009.

Robert was a 32 degree Mason, a Rotarian with 50 years' perfect attendance, a Paul Harris Fellow, a Jaycee, and Past-President of the College Park Board of Trade. He was very involved with Berwyn Presbyterian Church where he served as an Ordained Elder and President of the Board of Trustees. He enjoyed golf, duckpin bowling, jigsaw puzzles, and watching football games.

In 2009, Bob and Frances relocated to

Audubon, NJ to be nearer to their daughter, Margaret Ann Westfield, and her family. There they became involved with First Presbyterian Church of Haddon Heights.

In addition to his daughter, he is survived by his son-in-law, Michael M. Westfield, granddaughters Marina M. Westfield of Haddon Heights and Emily E. DeShantz (Louis) of Gibsonia, PA, and his pets—Lady the collie and Lovie the cat. His brothers, John H. "Jack" Hoyert, Jr and Charles Earl Hoyert, predeceased him.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to First Presbyterian Church of Haddon Heights (address below) or Berwyn Presbyterian Church, 6301 Greenbelt Road, College Park, MD 20740.

A Memorial Service to celebrate his life was held on Friday, November 8, 2019 at 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 28 Seventh Ave., Haddon Heights, NJ 08035. Burial was in Pipe Creek Cemetery, Union Mill, MD.

COMMENTARY

Marion Wright Edelman

President Emerita,
Children's Defense Fund



ChildWatch:

Lanterns

Who have been the mentors in your life—not just people who gave you professional advice, but those who shared important lessons about how to live a good life?

After the Children's Defense Fund's last Proctor Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry CDF began the CDF Proctor Institute Book Club—a new opportunity to explore books that complement and enhance the spiritual growth, insights, commitment to justice, and community nurtured at our annual Proctor. It is open to everyone and especially relevant for faith communities interested in child advocacy because it will help people focus on the importance of continuing child advocacy ministry year-round. November's selection is *Lanterns: A Memoir of Mentors*, which I wrote to share the stories of some

of the people who helped shape my life and some of whom helped transform our national life like Fannie Lou Hamer, Robert F. Kennedy, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Several were my college and graduate school teachers and role models including historian Howard Zinn at Spelman College and Yale chaplain William Sloane Coffin Jr., with whom I lived during my law school years. But my greatest mentors were my parents and community co-parents in my South Carolina hometown like Miz Tee, Miz Lucy, Miz Kate, and Miz Amie.

In the preface to *Lanterns* I share how blessed I felt to be born who I was, where I was, when I was, and with the parents I had. As a Black girl child growing up in a small segregated southern town, I could never take anything for granted and never for a moment lacked a purpose worth fighting, living, and dying for, or an opportunity to make a difference if I wanted to. I was richly blessed with parents and community elders who nurtured me and other chil-

dren and tried to live what they preached. They believed in God, in family, in education, and in helping others and that service is the rent each of us pays for living.

I cannot recall a single one of my childhood mentors ever talking about how to get a job but rather how to find a purpose worth living for which would leave the world better than I found it. They emphasized education, excellence, and service—not career. If I were excellent I'd have less trouble securing a job—even as a young Black person. I can't remember the clothes a single one of them wore or the kind of car they drove or whether they drove a car at all. What I do remember is their integrity, courage in the face of adversity, perseverance, and shared passion for justice and a better life for children—their own and other people's—and for education as a means to the end of helping others and leaving the world a better place. With one exception, Charles E. Merrill, Jr., son of the scion of the Merrill Lynch brokerage firm who chaired the Morehouse College Board of Trustees during the presidency of Dr. Benjamin Mays, none had much money. Some had none and lived hand-to-mouth by the grace of God and friends. And Charles Merrill knew money was a means to help others and not an end. He used his to give dozens of young women and men like me and Alice Walker a chance to travel and study abroad and experience

the world he had been privileged to see and share with others.

Many of my mentors were well educated but many had little or no formal education so I learned early not to equate wisdom with a degree. But they valued education and were very astute about life. Some of the wisest words I have heard and most important lessons I have learned did not come from Harvard or Yale or Princeton or law school or Ph.D. trained mouths. They came from poor women and men educated in the school of life and fighting against daunting odds. Their books were struggle. Their pencils and pens were sharpened by poverty and racial discrimination. Their mother wit was created by the daily battle for survival. Their inner faith was nourished by their outer losses. Their eyes were riveted on searching for and doing God's will rather than human ways, and their standards were divine rather than human justice.

How many of us were blessed to have lanterns like these? Every new generation of children desperately needs adults who will be these kinds of mentors for them and every adult can commit or recommit to finding new ways to encourage and share their wisdom with the young people they know right now. As we enter this season of thanksgiving the best way to thank those who were mentors to each of us is to follow their example and light the way for others.

Funding For Historically Black Colleges Remains Held Up in Senate

By DAN NOVAK
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON (November 5, 2019)—Historically Black Colleges and Universities in Maryland may lose more than \$4 million in federal funding if Congress does not reauthorize mandatory spending for those institutions beyond the current academic year.

Maryland's HBCUs "face a funding cliff due to congressional inaction," Sen. Ben Cardin, D-Maryland, said on the Senate floor Tuesday, November 5.

The FUTURE Act renewing more than \$255 million for HBCUs and other minority-serving institutions was passed unanimously by the House on Sept. 17, but has stalled in the Senate. Funding is guaranteed only through the 2019–2020 academic year after the Senate failed to meet the Sept. 30 deadline.

"Continued support is imperative," said the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in a statement provided to Capital News Service.

Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee Chairman Lamar Alexander, R-Tennessee, has blocked the measure, instead backing a Higher Education Act reauthorization bill that would include

long-term funding for HBCUs.

Cardin said support for minority-serving institutions should not be in the balance while Congress tries to work out a broader reform package. The reauthorization of the 1965 Higher Education Act has failed to pass for several years.

The FUTURE Act "gives breathing room to continue to negotiate the full reauthorization of the Higher Education Act without holding these historically underfunded institutions as hostage," Cardin said.

Victor Santos, vice president for government relations at the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, an HBCU advocacy organization, said institutions cannot afford to wait for a comprehensive Higher Education Act that is unlikely to be passed in the foreseeable future.

"Realistically (the money) needs to be picked up before the end of this year, in order to make sure that our schools don't have to make some really hard decisions."

A section of the Higher Education Act provides money for things like renovations, advising, lab and library materials, and other academic services with a focus on science, technology, engineering and math fields. The FUTURE Act would have authorized funding for an additional two years.

"Discontinuation of funds will have a negative impact on (HBCUs') mission and goals. HBCUs' academic programs, student services, global and international efforts will be affected," UMES said.

This year, UMES is receiving \$899,760, Coppin State University is receiving 894,657, Bowie State University \$1,179,029 and Morgan State University \$1,347,931.

Maryland Democratic Sen. Chris Van Hollen urged his colleagues on the Senate floor Oct. 24 to unanimously pass the funding in order to provide HBCUs with more certainty on their budgets.

These institutions "have to plan now for what's going to happen next year. And they can't budget and they can't plan on hope," Van Hollen said. "There is really no time to waste."

Some HBCUs around the country have already projected budget cuts and notified employees their positions are in jeopardy, according to Thurgood Marshall College Fund President Harry Williams.

"These are real jobs, held by people who interact with students everyday, in programs that play a critical role in graduating and retaining students in the STEM fields, among other disciplines," Williams wrote in

a letter to the Senate Oct. 14.

"The longer we wait to give certainty to these universities, the more institutions will be left with no choice but to begin winding-down programs that materially benefit students and employees alike, and strip away the institutional knowledge bases that our schools have built over time," he said.

Alexander, following Van Hollen's comments on the Senate floor, reiterated the importance of passing his comprehensive bill, which in addition to long-term HBCU funding would simplify the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, extend Pell Grants to incarcerated students and allow Pell Grants to be used for short-term programs. Democrats say the measure doesn't go far enough.

"With all respect, this is no way to help historically black colleges or minority-serving institutions," Alexander said, adding that the FUTURE Act is a short-term "budget gimmick." Van Hollen responded by saying the Senate should look to those institutions themselves to determine whether the funding is needed.

"I would just say to the chairman of the committee that I believe the best judge for what's good for HBCUs are HBCUs," he said. "While we would all like to work toward comprehensive reform and reauthorization on higher education, there's no need to wait on this provision."

Van Hollen, Cardin, and Brown Announce \$125,000 for Prevention of Youth Substance Misuse in Prince George's County

By FRANCESCA AMODEO
Press (Van Hollen)

WASHINGTON (November 7, 2019)—[Last week], U.S. Senators Chris Van Hollen and Ben Cardin and Representative Anthony Brown (all D-Md.) announced \$125,000 for Prince George's County, Md. to establish and strengthen community collaboration in support of local efforts to prevent youth substance misuse. The funding was awarded through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Drug Free Communities Program (DFC). This funding will support the Promise Neighborhood Drug-Free Communities Coalition's work to provide site-based wrap around services to transform neighborhood environments; build leaders among youth to prevent drug, alcohol, and marijuana use; empower the youth council on the coalition; and provide parental support.

"Parents should never have to grieve the loss of a child, but for far too many families, substance misuse has made this nightmare a reality. These federal funds will help Prince George's County engage and educate young people to help prevent these tragic losses," said Senator Van Hollen, a member of the Budget and Appropriations Committees. "I will continue working to provide Maryland with the resources necessary to prevent and treat substance misuse."

"The opioid epidemic has hit every corner of our state and our

country. Unfortunately, our children are not immune. These federal funds will help Prince George's County give young people the tools they need to prevent substance misuse before it starts, setting them up for a drug-free future," said Senator Cardin. "I'm proud to continue to support the innovative ways that our local communities are working to find comprehensive solutions to end this public health crisis."

"Now more than ever strong support for youth substance abuse prevention is critical and this federal funding will strengthen local efforts that educate, encourage and help our young people lead drug-free lives," said Congressman Anthony Brown. "These community-based coalitions are doing life-saving work and will now have the resources to reach more people in Prince George's County and confront the crisis of addiction."

The DFC program provides funding to community organizations that facilitate citizen participation in local drug prevention efforts. Eligible applicants are community-based coalitions addressing youth substance misuse. DFC-funded coalitions engage multiple sectors of the community and employ a variety of environmental strategies to address local substance use problems. Senators Van Hollen and Cardin and Representative Brown have advocated for robust funding for the Drug-Free Communities program, as well as funding for opioid and other substance misuse programs.

Hoyer Receives Briefing on Prince George's County's "Housing Opportunities for All" Workgroup

By ANNALIESE DAVIS
Congressman Steny Hoyer's Office

LARGO, Md. (November 6, 2019)—This afternoon, Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-05) received a briefing from Prince George's County's "Housing Opportunities for All" Workgroup. The Workgroup was established by the Prince George's County Council in April 2019 and is charged with setting priorities and implementing the Comprehensive Housing Strategy Report.

"Ensuring access to affordable housing in Prince George's County is a critically important issue," said Congressman Hoyer. "Home ownership and access to affordable rental homes are out of reach for many residents in our communities. I appreciated the opportunity to learn more about the efforts of the 'Housing Opportunity for All' Workgroup and the steps they are taking to remove barriers to affordable housing while working to produce new housing options for lower income families."

"In order to strengthen our communities, we must ensure that all of our residents have access to affordable and safe housing," continued Congressman Hoyer. "I commend the Workgroup on the important steps they are taking to improve access to housing for all Prince Georgians. In Congress, I will continue to support federal housing assistance programs and fight against attempts by the Trump Administration to cut funding for housing and community development programs."

Departure from A3

University of Maryland, Baltimore County President and former Chair of the Maryland Humanities Board of Directors Dr. Freeman A. Hrabowski, III, said this about Stein's coming departure, "The humanities help us reflect on our past, understand our present, and shape our future. Under Phoebe's leadership, Maryland Humanities has redoubled its efforts to bring lifelong learning in the humanities to every corner of the state, bringing people together in communities to connect across what may seem unbridgeable divides and recognize our shared humanity. The result is a thoughtful and informed citizenry and

thus a stronger democracy in our state. I join my colleagues at Maryland Humanities in thanking Phoebe for her many years of outstanding and dedicated leadership, and I look forward to the continued success of this vitally important organization."

While at the organization, Stein has also served as both Vice Chair and a member of the Legislative Committee of the Federation of State Humanities Councils Board of Directors, the Advisory Board of Brotman Financial Group, the Social Studies Advisory Council of the State of Maryland, and the Maryland Preservation Heritage Council. She was recognized as one of "Maryland's Top 100 Women" by The Daily Record in 2016. Stein earned her B.A. in English from

the University of Michigan and her M.A. and Ph.D. in English from Loyola University of Chicago.

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. For more information, visit www.mdhumanities.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. Connect with Maryland Humanities on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram.

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Construction from A1

House Speaker Adrienne Jones, D-Baltimore County, said that improvements to school buildings are "long overdue."

"It's no wonder that student literacy is on a rapid decline," Jones said. A recent national report found reading scores among Maryland fourth and eighth graders in decline. "... Students can't learn if their classrooms are deteriorating."

"The 2020 legislative session will be a once-in-a-generation opportunity to make sure that every student in every neighborhood has a great public school," said Cheryl Bost, president of the Maryland State Education Association, in a statement. "...as well as expanded career technical education, increased educator pay, and more educators in our schools to increase individual attention for students."

Sen. Paul Pinsky, D-Prince George's, told Capital News Service prior to the news conference that the announcement is part of a "major push in both chambers" toward school construction. Pinsky is the chair of the Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee.

Pinsky added that lawmakers want school construction to be "HB1 and SB1"—in other words, the first bills of the 2020 legislative session. A sign at the news conference, referring to the Built to Learn Act as "House Bill 1" and "Senate Bill 1," reflected Pinsky's words.

Urbina's Pitch from A1

the primary caretaker to her brother Andres, who has special needs and volunteers on her campaign.

The candidate has been married to her wife, Laura, for almost 10 years. The couple are adopting a 12-year-old son and live in New Carrollton, Maryland.

Urbina said when knocking on doors, she and her staffers ask residents, "What do you think is the most important thing for Congress to be working on?" It's usually something that resonates with our campaign.

Urbina, her brother Andres, Oliver and campaign volunteer Vanessa Hoffman went door to door through the Bowie neighborhood, hoping to engage prospective voters.

Urbina walked up to 63 year-old Doreen LaRoche's house, where the resident swung at Trump.

"Nobody just off the street should be able to run (for president)... How did he get in here? There's no criteria for the president of the United States," LaRoche said.

Urbina said the Founders didn't envision a president like Trump and left out requirements for the presidency in the Constitution—but they also couldn't foresee people like her and LaRoche voting.

She said goodbye to LaRoche, left a campaign flyer and moved to the next house.

Between houses, Urbina shared more of her backstory. She said she was going on 15 years of sobriety, after an addiction to alcohol and prescription painkillers in her late teens. "The day that we woke up and Trump was president was my (12th) sobriety anniversary," Urbina said.

She walked up to 50-year-old government employee Rochelle Sales's home and told her it was time for a new generation of leadership to tackle the issues of the day.

"Yeah, it is," Sales said. "We have to. And take on Donald Trump. We have to get him out of there."

Urbina and Sales agreed that Congress had been too lenient on Trump—that included the incumbent.

"I love Steny Hoyer, but it's time for him to go home and sit down," Sales said.

Urbina dropped off another flyer, telling Sales, "Please check out our website!" and departed to the next house.

Her team continued its odyssey through the residential development as the sun set and the temperature dropped.

The second-most powerful Democrat in the House will not be easy to defeat. Urbina and Wilkes are among his most prominent challengers. But with overlapping identities—both are young, progressive women of color—their campaigns have had contentious moments.

In August, Urbina authored a Medium post that called out Wilkes for having a DUI on her driving record.

Wilkes' campaign, like Urbina's, cites criminal justice reform as a top priority. Wilkes has told voters about a cycle of suspended licenses and stints in prison that she said stem from unpaid parking tickets and court fees.

Urbina said Wilkes had not been forthright about her DUI, and that her messaging did "a disservice to those who are truly victims of the criminal justice system."

Wilkes told CNS that she responded to Urbina's post in an Aug. 25 statement on the Facebook page for the Prince George's County's chapter of the progressive group Our Revolution.

"I don't speak about my DUI when speaking about criminal justice reform because it's not fair to others," Wilkes said. "I was locked up two years later because I didn't have money to pay subsequent traffic violations." She maintained the DUI and her suspended license were separate incidents.

Urbina justified her post, saying, "I'm not telling people not to vote for McKayla. I'm telling them that there is someone else in this race who didn't just start running because of (Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-New York)."

Maryland's Democratic primary, which will pit Urbina against Wilkes and Hoyer, will be held April 28.

NEXT: A profile of House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer.

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