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Town of Upper Marlboro Excited to Re-Create Historic 1922 Crain Highway Monument Photo This Saturday

"A lot of planning and preparation has gone into celebrating the re-creation of this historic photo that was taken 100 years ago"

By PRESS OFFICER
Town of Upper Marlboro

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (Sept. 26, 2022)—This year officially marks the Centennial Anniversary of the construction of the Robert Crain Highway Monument. This Saturday, Oct. 1, the Town of Upper Marlboro Historical Committee will hold a centennial anniversary celebration and a re-creation of an original photograph from the September 1922 event. The photo re-enactment will be held at 11 a.m. at the monument, located at Main Street and Old Crain

Highway in the Town of Upper Marlboro.

Dignitaries from the State of Maryland, Baltimore City, and the five original counties are expected to participate, along with Town of Upper Marlboro Mayor Sarah Franklin.

The monument was originally erected in the Town of Upper Marlboro in September 1922 to celebrate the culmination of the long journey to create a new regional road that would link Southern Maryland to Baltimore. The original celebration included officials from Anne Arundel County, Calvert County, Charles



Come Make History!
Help Recreate This Photo
Saturday | October 1, 2022 | 11:00 AM
Crain Monument

IMAGE COURTESY TOWN OF UPPER MARLBORO

County, Prince George's County, St. Mary's County and Baltimore City.

"A lot of planning and preparation has gone into celebrating the re-creation of this historic photo that was taken 100 years ago," said Upper Marlboro Town Clerk John Hoatson, who is coordinating the Oct. 1 festivities.

"We hope everyone who attends this Saturday will feel a tremendous sense of pride in the role that Upper Marlboro played as a catalyst for transportation and trade in the Southern Maryland region of our state."

The 1922 celebration and parade would forever change the Town of Upper Marlboro and its

future. The Merchants and Manufacturers Association of Baltimore had decided that Southern Maryland was a hot spot for trading and other business opportunities. The association and political figures in Southern Maryland created a route which would connect Baltimore to Southern Maryland counties.

The original program from the Sept. 1922 ceremony tells of the events leading up to that celebration. A train brought members of the association, the Mayor of Baltimore, and hundreds of Baltimoreans onto Up-

See **MONUMENT** Page A6

Prince George's County Hosts Fall 2022 'Growing Green With Pride' Cleanup Event

By PAULETTE L. JONES
Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation

LARGO, Md. (Sept. 21, 2022)—Prince George's County will hold its bi-annual Fall 2022 'Growing Green with Pride' cleanup on Saturday, October 15, 2022, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. This event is part of the County's effort to reduce litter, clean up our environment and to beautify areas throughout the community. This event will take place rain or shine.

"Our Growing Green with Pride event provides an opportunity for residents to beautify their neighborhoods by coming together for a day of cleaning, weeding, planting, mulching and litter removal," said County Executive Angela Alsobrooks. "This event brings together communities, residents, schools, and businesses to partner with Prince George's County Government, the Neighborhood Design Center, Prince George's County Public Schools, Keep Prince George's County Beautiful, and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commis-

sion, showing that we all have a part to play in keeping Prince George's County clean and beautiful."

For registered participants, the Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPW&T) will provide plastic gloves, trash bags, safety vests, and a maximum of 6 bags of mulch and litter grabbers for the event. **The registration for 'Growing Green with Pride' closes Friday, October 7, 2022.**

"We are Prince George's Proud to be able to host an event where residents, schools, and local businesses, and community organizations can unify to help preserve and beautify our wonderful county," said Acting Director Michael Johnson. "We hope that you will join us for this very important cleanup event."

Students participating in 'Growing Green with Pride' will receive community service credits. Verification forms for community service are avail-

able at the schools. Register for this event at https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/42805/2022fallapplication_fillable?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery. For additional information, please contact DPW&T's Office of Highway Maintenance at (301) 499-8641 or e-mail Tonya Hairston at GrowingGreenwithPride@co.pg.md.us.

WHAT:
Growing Green with Pride – Fall 2022

WHEN:
Saturday, October 15, 2022

WHERE:
Countywide in Prince George's County

WHO:
Community Organizations
Schools
Businesses
Volunteers



IMAGE COURTESY CONIFER REALTY, LLC

New Affordable Housing Community In Upper Marlboro

Conifer cuts the ribbon on "Gateway at Peerless"

By PRESS OFFICER
Conifer Realty

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (Sept. 22, 2022)—Conifer Realty, LLC, is hosting a ribbon-cutting event at "Gateway at Peerless", a new mixed-income, multifamily development. The 62-unit, 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom apartments and townhomes are conveniently located in Prince George's County, along U.S. Route 301, minutes from the heart of Town Center in Upper Marlboro.

Conifer Realty is proud to have partnered with the Episcopal Housing Corporation, a Maryland non-profit organization whose mission is to promote the creation of affordable housing to help families most in need. This high-quality housing for families of diverse economic backgrounds offers spacious, open floor plans, modern finishes, washer and dryer hookups, private patios and balconies, luxury vinyl plank flooring, and Energy Star appliances. "Gateway at Peerless" offers

47 apartments for families earning at or below 60% of area median income (AMI). 13 total units will be reserved for our nation's veterans who are homeless or at risk for being homeless.

Conifer Regional Vice President of Development, Kyle Speece says, "This property offers all the extras, like indoor fitness, a great room, game area, a computer nook, outdoor play area, and easy parking. We want our residents to feel like they are right at home."

"Gateway at Peerless" offers

City of Laurel Saves Residents Money on Flood Insurance Premiums

By PRESS OFFICER
Federal Emergency Management Agency

PHILADELPHIA (Sept. 26, 2022)—Residents of Laurel, Maryland now have lower flood insurance premiums because of the community's initiatives to implement better floodplain management measures encouraged by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The Federal Emergency Management Agency created the voluntary Community Rating System (CRS) program to recognize local efforts to reduce flood risk, and to reward communities, their residents, and businesses

by saving them money on flood insurance premiums. The City of Laurel recently entered the program as a Class 7 participant.

Senior NFIP Specialist from FEMA Region 3, Josh Lippert, presented a plaque to the City of Laurel's local officials at their staff meeting on Monday.

"The City's leadership, hard work, and accomplishments in floodplain management should be celebrated and commended" he said. "As a member of the Community Rating System, Laurel is now a part of an elite group of communities within Maryland that have received this recognition."

Under CRS, local officials are asked to meet three goals: (1) reduce flood losses, (2) facilitate accurate insurance rating, and (3) promote the awareness of flood insurance. Communities who apply to participate in CRS are required to provide information demonstrating their floodplain management program exceeds the minimum requirements of the NFIP. The program includes 10 different class rating levels based on the number and type of activities initiated by participating communities. For each class advancement, NFIP policy holders receive an additional 5% reduction in their flood insurance premiums up to a 45% re-

duction for a Class 1 community.

Each NFIP policy written in the City of Laurel will have an approximate 15% CRS discount.

"The Maryland Department of the Environment is happy to have played a role in assisting the City of Laurel with joining CRS," said MDE Deputy Secretary Suzanne E. Dorsey. "Flooding is the number one natural hazard in Maryland, and it's great that the City is taking steps to reduce its flood risk. This also aligns with MDE's Water

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COMMUNITY

Alzheimer's Foundation of America Bringing Free Alzheimer's Educational Programs to Washington, DC October 18 & 19

By PRESS OFFICER
Alzheimer's Foundation of America

NEW YORK (Sept. 19, 2022)—The Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA) will host two days of free, in-person educational programming for Washington, DC-area residents on October 18 & 19.

Tuesday, October 18

Women & Alzheimer's: The Empowerment Forum

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (registration opens at 9 a.m.)

Whittemore House (1526 New Hampshire Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20036)

Wednesday, October 19

Educating America Tour-Alzheimer's & Caregiving Conference

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (registration opens at 9 a.m.)

Whittemore House (1526 New Hampshire Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20036)

Registration for both events is free and open to everyone. Individuals are encouraged to register in advance by visiting <https://alzfdn.org/dcevents> or calling AFA at 866-232-8484.

The **Women & Alzheimer's Empowerment Forum** brings together dynamic women who share personal and professional knowledge about Alzheimer's, a disease which disproportionately affects women. Women account for approximately two-thirds of people living with Alzheimer's in the United States and face a greater risk of developing dementia-related illnesses, according to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Additionally, two-thirds of all Alzheimer's family caregivers in the United States are women, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

A panel of family caregivers, dementia care professionals, and medical experts will have an intimate, empowering conversation where they will share their personal stories, offer perspectives on the professional journey in Alzheimer's care and research, discuss the challenges women face relating to Alzheimer's and caregiving, and steps to help address these challenges. A Q&A session with the audience will be part of the program.

The **Alzheimer's & Caregiving Conference**, part of AFA's national Educating America Tour, will allow participants to learn from experts in the field of Alzheimer's disease, brain health, and elder law/advance planning. Conference sessions will include:

- *Preserving Brain Health with Aging*, which will discuss lifestyle choices that can help preserve brain health and advances in the field of diagnosing and treating Alzheimer's
- *Legal and Financial Issues for the Alzheimer's Patient*, which will describe the importance of legal documents such as powers of attorney and options to pay for care with an emphasis on Medicaid
- *Trends and Disparities in Risk and Diagnosis of Dementia*, which will discuss recent trends in dementia risk that suggest prevention is possible; how some individuals/groups face a higher risk for developing Alzheimer's and/or obstacles to being diagnosed; and findings of the 2020 DC Brain Health Needs Assessment conducted by the George Washington Institute for Brain Health and Dementia on behalf of DC Health.

Participants will be able to ask questions of each speaker, and free, confidential memory screenings will be conducted throughout the day.

Individuals can register for in-person October 18–19 educational events by visiting <https://alzfdn.org/dcevents>. Those who cannot participate in these events or have immediate questions about

2022 Walk to End Alzheimer's

More than six million Americans are living with Alzheimer's. Between 2000 and 2019, deaths from Alzheimer's have more than doubled; one in three seniors die with Alzheimer's or another dementia. Sadly, there's still no cure.

Join the County Health Department at the 2022 Walk to End Alzheimer's to raise funds and awareness for Alzheimer's research, care, and support for all those facing Alzheimer's and other dementia. The walk is on **Saturday, October 29**, at the National Harbor Capital Canopy (201 Waterfront Street, Oxon Hill, MD). Register or donate at <http://act.alz.org/goto/HealthyRevolution>.

—Community Connections Newsletter
September 22, 2022

Alzheimer's disease can connect with licensed social workers seven days a week through AFA's National Toll-Free Helpline by calling 866-232-8484, web chatting at www.alzfdn.org, or sending a text message to 646-586-5283. The web chat and text message features can serve individuals in more than 90 languages.

The Alzheimer's Foundation of America is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide support, services and education to individuals, families and caregivers affected by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias nationwide and to fund research for better treatment and a cure. Its services include a National Toll-Free Helpline (866-232-8484) staffed by licensed social workers, the National Memory Screening Program, educational conferences and materials, and "AFA Partners in Care" dementia care training for healthcare professionals. For more information about AFA, call 866-232-8484, visit www.alzfdn.org, follow us on Twitter or connect with us on Facebook, Instagram or LinkedIn. AFA has earned Charity Navigator's top 4-star rating for seven consecutive years.

Around the County from A2

Local Student Graduates From Hood College

FREDERICK, Md. (Sept. 15, 2022)—**Oluwatobi Aroloye**, of Laurel, graduated from Hood College in September with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science.

Hood College is an independent, liberal arts college, offering more than 25 bachelor's degrees, four pre-professional programs, 19 master's degree programs, two doctorates and 10 post-baccalaureate certificates. Located in historic Frederick, near Washington, D.C., Baltimore and the I-270 technology corridor, Hood gives students access to countless internships and research opportunities.

—Hood College Office of Marketing & Communications

Students Honored on the Dean's Academic Honor List at Baylor University

WACO, Texas (Sept. 21, 2022)—More than 100 Baylor University students have been named to the Summer 2022 Dean's Academic Honor List, which recognizes Baylor undergraduates for their outstanding academic work during each semester.

Students honored on the Dean's List earned a minimum semester grade-point average of 3.70 with no grade lower than a "C" while enrolled in at least 12 graded semester hours.

Lanham, MD: **Marie Moukoury**, Robbins College of Health & Human Sciences

—Baylor Media and Public Relations

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth and Victim Services Convenes First 2022–2023 Maryland Youth Advisory Council Meeting

20 Members from 13 Jurisdictions Appointed to Serve

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Sept. 17, 2022)—The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services today convened the first meeting of the 2022–2023 Maryland Youth Advisory Council. Following the appointment of 20 members from 13 jurisdictions across Maryland, the council provides diverse young advocates and leaders with a platform to address important issues affecting younger Marylanders.

The Maryland General Assembly established the Maryland Youth Advisory Council in 2008. Members are appointed by the governor, leaders of the General Assembly, and the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services based on nominations from The Maryland Association of Student Councils, the University System of Maryland Student Council, the Maryland Higher Education Commission Student Advisory Council, and the Association of Local Management Boards.

Members are between the ages of 14 and 22 and serve two-year terms, meeting monthly from September through May. In addition, they attend events and meetings, and provide legislative testimony throughout the year in their official capacities.

Council members have advocated successfully for legislation that helps students, served on academic and leadership panels, and held roundtable discussions with other students from around the world. Since 2015, more than 200 young Marylanders have served on the Maryland Youth Advisory Council. The 2022–2023 council members include:

Hailey Smith, Bowie: Hailey is a sophomore at Bowie High School. The 2022–2023 council year will be Hailey's second year as a member of the council.

Learn more by visiting our website at goccp.maryland.gov

SAVE THE DATE! Not One (Community in the Courthouse)

Our "Not One" program brings together domestic violence survivors, experts and others to discuss domestic violence, resources and more. Masks are required.

October 25, 2022, 6–7:30 p.m.

Location: Mt Ephraim Baptist Church, 610 Largo Road, Kettering, MD 20774

Register through eventbrite: tinyurl.com/NotOneCIC2022

For more information: LEJohnson@co.pg.md.us

—Office of the State's Attorney for Prince George's County

University of Maryland Capital Region Health Medical Group Opens Family Medicine Practice Next to New Carrollton Metro

By JANIA MATTHEWS
University of Maryland
Capital Region Health

LARGO, Md. (Sept. 16, 2022)—University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Group (Medical Group) practice opens new practice next to the New Carrollton Metro Station in Hyattsville, MD. This practice replaces the practice that was located in Cheverly, MD.

The clinical practice, located at 4000 Garden City Drive, Suite 810, includes two procedure rooms and 10 exam rooms. The office space is housed in a newly constructed building with a contemporary flare that includes modern furniture, open spaces, and designer interiors.

The practice offers comprehensive services for the entire family, including:

- Annual physical exams; sports and camp physical exams
- Behavioral health management
- Chronic disease management
- Immunizations
- Family planning
- Prenatal care & labor and delivery

- Routine newborn and adolescent visits

"The Medical Group reflects our commitment to provide preventative care to the community outside of the hospital setting," says Nicholas Hubler, Vice President of Ambulatory, UM Capital Region Health. "This relocated practice offers conveniences that make it easy to access and provides services for the entire family."

The practice offers same-day and next-day urgent care appointments in addition to telemedicine appointments and they are accepting new patients.

To enhance the learning of new physicians expanding their expertise to include Family Medicine, this practice participates in the University of Maryland School of Medicine's Family Medicine Residency program, a three-year specialty training component for physicians who choose family medicine as their professional field of practice. As part of the program, this practice cultivates and further molds the techniques and skills of doctors who are early in their careers.

The Medical Group also has outpatient practices in National Harbor, Largo, Suitland, Bowie and Laurel.

To make an appointment at the New Carrollton practice, call 240-677-3100. For more information about the practice and services offered, visit capitalregion.org/newcarrollton.

Providing primary and specialty health care services to Prince George's County and the neighboring area, University of Maryland Capital Region Health was established in September 2017 upon formal affiliation with the University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS), and is committed to improving health outcomes in the communities it serves. University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Center is home to the State's second-busiest trauma center and a highly regarded cardiac surgery program, which is led by faculty from the University of Maryland School of Medicine; a certified and designated primary stroke center. For more information, visit www.umcapitalregion.org.

Kaiser Permanente Mid-Atlantic Health Plans Achieve Top Quality Ratings in the Nation

Kaiser Permanente's Mid-Atlantic region is the only plan in the nation to receive 5 out of 5 stars for Medicare, Medicaid and commercial health plans from the National Committee on Quality Assurance

By PRESS OFFICER
Kaiser Permanente

ROCKVILLE, Md. (Sept. 23, 2022)—Kaiser Permanente in the Mid-Atlantic region has been named among the highest-rated health plans in the nation according to The National Committee for Quality Assurance's (NCQA) 2022 Health Plan Ratings report. The health system's Mid-Atlantic region is the only one in the nation to earn a 5 out of 5-star rating for its Medicare, Medicaid and commercial health plans from NCQA. Only three other Medicare plans received this rating nationwide.

Only six plans in total nationwide obtained 5-star ratings with three of those from Kaiser Permanente's Mid-Atlantic region. Additionally, no other commercial or Medicaid plan earned a 5 out of 5 in 2022 and Kaiser Permanente is one of only four Medicare plans to receive this rating nationwide.

NCQA evaluates and rates more than 1,000 health systems and plans nationwide based on 60 quality measures that encompass patient care, treatment, prevention, and patient experience. While the COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted the health care industry, Kaiser Permanente's Mid-Atlantic region has continued to prioritize the delivery of

high-quality care and exceptional outcomes for patients over the past two years by leveraging more than 1,700 physicians, who work in close coordination with nurses and care teams, and integrated electronic medical record and virtual care.

"At Kaiser Permanente, we have a long-standing commitment to deliver the highest quality care and best experience to our members. The latest ratings from the NCQA demonstrate that year over year, our commitment to quality is making a difference for more than 825,000 members in our region," said Ruth Williams-Brinkley, regional president for Kaiser Permanente in the Mid-Atlantic. "With many people currently choosing health plans for next year, it is important to understand how these ratings set Kaiser Permanente apart from other health plans in our region based on metrics that help more people live longer, healthier lives. We are honored by this achievement for the Mid-Atlantic region and all of Kaiser Permanente."

Nationwide, this is the seventh ratings cycle in a row that Kaiser Permanente Medicare plans are the highest rated (or tied) in every region served, according to NCQA's 2022 Health Insurance Plan Ratings.

NCQA's annual report rates plans based on a 0-to-5-star scale, with 5 stars being the best. Only six plans received

the 5-star rating in 2022—three of these plans belonged to Kaiser Permanente Mid-Atlantic States. For the second year in a row, Kaiser Permanente's Mid-Atlantic region is the only health plan in the nation to be rated 5 stars across commercial, Medicare, and Medicaid.

Achieving the highest ratings means that Kaiser Permanente members consistently benefit from outstanding care. And with the recent signing of the Inflation Reduction Act into law, patients are ensured access to more available and affordable healthcare coverage. Consumers can compare health plans on the NCQA website at <https://reportcards.ncqa.org/>

Through its uniquely integrated, coordinated approach to care, Kaiser Permanente consistently provides health benefits to its members. Kaiser Permanente's integrated delivery system, regular disease screenings, cutting-edge treatment plans and successful management of chronic conditions has helped its members live longer and healthier, according to data.

For example, Kaiser Permanente makes it extremely convenient for patients to get mammograms. Not only can a Kaiser Permanente member receive a

COMMENTARY

Marc Morial

President and CEO, National Urban League



To Be Equal:

NBA's Response to Sarver Investigation Sidesteps a Wider Culture of Racism and Misogyny

"Sarver didn't have his come-to-Jesus moment voluntarily. He was dragged there kicking and screaming. And he expected to find clemency there, at the spot where he exchanged his elite position for a dose of humility. But by pleading for a second chance, he was really fighting to keep his position of power. Sarver could very well mean it when he says he's sorry, and he may make good on his pledge to emerge as a better man. Still, the forgiveness that he believes is his right does not come with the privilege of owning an NBA team."

—Candace Buckner

This week's announcement that Robert Sarver has put the Phoenix Suns and Mercury up for sale is welcome news. The NBA and WNBA are well rid of his racism, misogyny, harassment, and abuse.

But as the third NBA owner in eight years to sell a team after racist comments were brought to light—Donald Sterling of the LA Clippers in 2014 and Bruce Levenson of the Atlanta Hawks in 2015—the Sarver case signals a systemic problem.

Only a lifetime ban, as was imposed on Sterling, will demonstrate that the NBA truly strives to represent the values of equality, respect, and inclusion,

as NBA Commissioner Adam Silver declared in a statement.

While investigators reported that efforts to examine allegations of institutional racial and gender discrimination and harassment at the Suns were hampered by poor human resources record-keeping, they made it clear that they "did not undertake to re-review individual employment claims or to conduct a comprehensive review of race or gender equity at the Suns." Such a review should be conducted—not only at the Suns but at every team.

Furthermore, Sarver's decision to sell the teams presents an opportunity for the league to diversify team ownership. While nearly three-quarters of the NBA's players are Black, Charlotte Hornets owner Michael Jordan, is the only Black principal owner out of 30.

Sarver's voluntary decision to sell the teams spares the league's other owners from exercising their option to force a sale, just as they were spared from having to vote on Sterling and Levinson. But they will have to vote to approve the sale, and they can demonstrate their commitment to diversity by insisting on minority representation among the new owners.

It's been more than 10 months since ESPN published its scathing expose of the "toxic and sometimes hostile" workplace Sarver created over his 17 years as owner. As one former Suns executive said,

"There's literally nothing you could tell me about him from a misogynistic or race standpoint that would surprise me."

The NBA's investigation into Sarver's conduct, which concluded earlier this month, found that Sarver:

- repeatedly used the N-word, even after both Black and white employees told him he should not.
- used language and engaged in conduct demeaning of female employees.
- made crude jokes and inappropriate comments about sex and anatomy.
- engaged in workplace-inappropriate physical conduct toward male employees.
- bullied employees with demeaning and harsh treatment, including yelling and cursing at them.

Absurdly, the investigation found that Sarver—who is quoted in the report saying, "I hate diversity" and "Why do all the women around here cry so much?"—was not motivated in this behavior by racial or gender-based animus.

This finding reveals a disturbing lack of understanding about the very nature of racial and gender animus and the pervasive influence of both implicit and explicit bias at every level of society. To rely on an imperfect analogy, the absence of a "Keep out!" sign is not the same as a welcome mat. And that's a problem bigger than Robert Sarver.

—September 22, 2022

Marian Wright Edelman

Founder and President Emerita, Children's Defense Fund



ChildWatch:

The Little Rock Nine Anniversary: "Silence is Not an Option"

In September 1957, nine Black teenagers started the new school year and changed history. Minnijean Brown, Elizabeth Eckford, Ernest Green, Thelma Mother-shed, Melba Pattillo, Gloria Ray, Terrence Roberts, Jefferson Thomas, and Carlotta Walls were all between 15 and 17 years old when they became the first Black students to enroll at Little Rock Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, three years after the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision ended legal segregation in public schools. On September 4, their first day of school, instead of being welcomed by principals or teachers the nine Black students were met by a white mob and the Arkansas National Guard, ordered there by Arkansas Governor Orval Faubus to block them from entering the school building. The brave students made national headlines as images like those of Elizabeth Eckford trying to enter the school and being surrounded and spit on by white teenagers and adults were published across the country, and they continued to make daily headlines as they refused to give up.

Ultimately President Dwight

D. Eisenhower was forced to call in federal troops who finally escorted the nine Black students into the school for their first full day of classes on September 25. Even with protection they continued to endure daily harassment and physical threats, but the Little Rock Nine persisted. They helped make our nation live up to the promise of Brown v. Board of Education and helped push open doors of opportunity for generations of young people who followed them. This weekend, Little Rock is hosting four days of events commemorating the 65th anniversary of the integration of Central High School, including special programs at the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, a permanent national monument to the history made there. Members of the Little Rock Nine and former President Bill Clinton will be among the weekend speakers. The anniversary's theme is "Silence is Not an Option."

Our nation continues to owe a debt of gratitude to the Little Rock Nine and to all those who were just children and teenagers when they became frontline soldiers in the war to end Jim Crow in Amer-

ican life. Children and young people in the Civil Rights Movement taught us to be courageous and stand up against injustice and showed uncommon dignity, maturity, and grace that was often a direct contrast to the hate-filled adults around them. Historians like Taylor Branch and David Halberstam have recounted the incredible determination and grit of youths like the Little Rock Nine and the many others who subjected themselves to often violent resistance to help end discrimination in the American South. Their names were not just in the court papers filed by their brave parents in dozens of school desegregation cases. The Little Rock Nine, six-year-old Ruby Bridges in New Orleans, and children who followed them in schools across the country were the shock troops who parted the milling, jeering, and threatening crowds and weathered daily the hateful isolation and ugly epithets encouraged or ignored by some white adults who taught their children to spurn and insult Black classmates.

Outside of school, children faced fierce police dogs and fire hoses and filled the jails in Birm-

ingham and Selma, Alabama when most adults hesitated to respond to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s call for fear of their jobs or personal safety. Children withstood arrests and tough treatment in Jackson, Mississippi and harsh treatment in Southern jails where they were detained. High school and college youths sat down until lunch counters were desegregated across the South. Young people were sometimes beaten by police for standing up for freedom. And four little girls had to die as a sacrifice in Birmingham before the nation assured Black citizens the right to vote. As Taylor Branch put it at a Children's Defense Fund forum, "There is no precedent that I know of in recorded history for the power balance of a great nation turning on the moral witness of schoolchildren ... A movement that rode through in history on the spirit of children now looks to how we treat our children [decades] later. Now we have adults who, in effect, need to pay back children."

How will we do that? When will we do that? Giving children fair treatment, leadership, and protection today is our nation's chance to honor the debt we owe young people. But the Children's Defense Fund believes we can also use these examples from the Civil Rights Movement to keep reminding young people today that they are never too young to make a difference, and double down on efforts to empower the next generation of young Black servant leaders who will lead today's movements and guide us towards a brighter future where children, especially our most marginalized, are provided every opportunity to thrive.

—September 23, 2022

Statement: Council Mourns Passing of Former State Senator and Council Chair David C. Harrington

The profound loss of the Honorable David C. Harrington is deeply felt by this legislative body, the residents and communities we represent, as well as Council Administration and the Legislative Branch staff.

Foremost in our thoughts and prayers for peace and comfort, are David's beloved wife, Cheryl, and their family, especially sons Stephen and Christopher, daughters-in-law, and grandchildren, as they embrace this profoundly personal and heartbreaking loss. Our hearts have been drawn toward them and will remain with them.

A devoted public servant, David was a true statesman, policymaker, selfless community builder, and fierce advocate for improving the Quality of Life for Prince Georgians and Marylanders. He began his public life as Mayor of Bladensburg and was appointed to leadership positions on countless County Boards and Commissions.

As a Council Member, David committed to his "Community First" agenda, tirelessly working to create a cleaner environment, attract local businesses, support community policing, and build neighborhood schools for the communities of District 5 and throughout Prince George's County.

Also, in our thoughts and prayers is the entire Maryland Legislature, especially members of the Maryland State Senate, as they recall the distinguished service of a respected colleague, former State Senator David C. Harrington.

David's legacy of leadership included municipal, local, and state government service, and critical work in the private sector and nonprofit community. Most recently, he joined Kaiser Permanente of the Mid-Atlantic Region as its Senior Director of Community Relations and Stakeholder Development, after completing a long and successful tenure as President and CEO of the Prince George's County Chamber of Commerce.

It has been said that "the measure of a life is in its donation." A servant leader and ordained minister, David Harrington made an enduring investment in the lives of Prince Georgians. As we remember, we are grateful for a job well done.

"Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, according to Your Word." Luke 2:29 (KJV)

May David's memory continue to be a blessing to us all.

Flood Insurance from A1

and Science Administration's Climate Adaptation Goals."

Some actions taken by the City include outreach efforts to educate citizens about flooding hazards through high water mark signs along the Patuxent River. The City also distributed quarterly diner placemat advertisements, broadcasted programs on Laurel TV, and disseminated FEMA/NFIP brochures at public buildings. The City also maintained procedures for managing flood-related construction certificates and developed and disseminated a flood-related brochure to real estate companies within the community to provide their clients valuable information about local flood issues.

"In addition to insurance cost savings, CRS communities take pre-disaster mitigation steps to minimize overall flood risk and build community resilience," said FEMA Region 3 Regional Administrator MaryAnn Tierney. "We would like to thank the City for taking actions to protect lives and property from flood risk."

To learn more about the Community Rating System, visit www.FEMA.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-community-rating-system. For information about flood insurance, property owners should contact their insurance agent, visit www.FEMA.gov/national-flood-insurance-program, or call the NFIP's toll-free information line at 1-800-427-4661.

Read FEMA CRS fact sheet for more information about the program. If you have any questions, please contact FEMA Region 3 Office of External Affairs at femar3newsdesk@fema.dhs.gov

Visit Hurricanes | Ready.gov and Floods | Ready.gov to learn more about your risk and act today.



PHOTO COURTESY FEMA

FEMA Region 3 presents plaque to local officials at the City of Laurel's Staff Meeting. From left: Joshua Lippert, FEMA NFIP Specialist; Chrissy Cornwell, Emergency Manager; Mayor Craig A. Moe

FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters. FEMA Region 3's jurisdiction includes Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/femaregion3 and on LinkedIn at linkedin.com/company/femaregion3

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P.O. Box 1001 15207 Marlboro Pike
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3151
Phone: 301-627-0900 • Legal Fax: 301-627-6260
Email: pgpost@gmail.com
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| | |
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BUSINESS AND FINANCE

The Interledger Foundation and Bowie State University Create New Partnership for Students

By PRESS OFFICER
The Interledger Foundation

BOWIE, Md. (Sept. 20, 2022)—The Interledger Foundation (ILF) has awarded Bowie State University (BSU) a \$25,000 grant to partner on an undergraduate course that will enable students to explore open payments technologies and issues in eCommerce and personal finance. Open payments technologies allow individuals and businesses to pay for goods and services online via a phone, mobile device, or plug-in technologies from anywhere in the world at any time.

In addition, ILF is funding students in the pilot cohort to participate in the Interledger Protocol Summit in November in New Orleans to expose them to the digital financial ecosystem, open payment systems, micro-transactions

and web monetization which are a few of the concepts that will be explored throughout the course.

The course, offered in the College of Business, will introduce students to innovative technologies and allow them to research ways more people can use the internet to gain greater financial access to goods and services worldwide, particularly in developing nations.

Business transactions and how people conduct their finances online have been revolutionized by the Internet, facilitated by innovations and new digital financial systems. As the financial landscape changes, there is a need to ensure a robust and diverse pipeline of emerging professionals ready to meet the challenges. BSU is the first HBCU to partner with the Interledger Foundation to help students learn more about open payment technologies.

“Bowie State University’s collaboration with the Interledger Foundation is a significant step in the right direction to prepare a cadre of students with the requisite knowledge and exposure to the evolution of 21st century eCommerce,” said Briana Marbury, Executive Director of the Interledger Foundation. “It will also serve as a medium to increase awareness about financial innovation developed to create a more equitable and creative society through an open payments network for individuals and businesses to buy and sell products and services irrespective of where they are located in the world.”

BSU’s Management Information Systems Department will offer the modified eCommerce course for students pursuing degrees in information systems, marketing, entrepreneurship, management, accounting, computer science,

security, and technology. Each student will be encouraged to interact with mentors, practitioners, and open web payment advocates.

“The partnership with the Interledger Foundation introduces students, Bowie State, and the community to advanced capabilities and knowledge through experiences in digital finance and open payments,” said Dr. Andrew Mangle, assistant professor of management information systems at Bowie State University. “Students will participate with the Interledger community by engaging with entrepreneurs, and innovators, and developing impactful solutions to promote equitable and inclusive markets,” he said.

ILF hopes to expand the initiative to other Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) and other schools that serve historically excluded communities.

The Interledger Foundation has funded people and ideas using the Interledger Protocol (ILP) to contribute to an open payments network built on

equitable access through the internet. Approximately US \$10M has been granted supporting projects in over 38 countries.

The Interledger Foundation is a non-profit advocate for the web, promoting innovation, creativity, and inclusion by advancing open payment standards and technologies that seamlessly connect our global society. And all the work we do is to connect and benefit every human, regardless of identity, geography, or income. Website: <https://interledger.org/>

Bowie State University (BSU) is an important higher education access portal for qualified persons from diverse academic and socioeconomic backgrounds, seeking a high-quality and affordable public comprehensive university. The university places special emphasis on the science, technology, cybersecurity, teacher education, business and nursing disciplines within the context of a liberal arts education. For more information about BSU, visit bowiestate.edu.

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

About Applying for Social Security Benefits

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

Dear Rusty: I will be turning 65 this December and will most likely continue working until July of 2024 at my current job. It is possible I could leave a year earlier. With that being said, when should I submit paperwork to start collecting Social Security benefits? Is there anything I should know previous to applying that will make sure the process is relatively seamless?
Signed: Ready to Retire

Dear Ready to Retire: Social Security recommends you apply for benefits 2 to 3 months before you wish your benefit payments to begin, but you can apply up to 4 months prior. When you apply, you will specify your desired benefit-start-month on the application, and that is when your benefits will start. Be aware that Social Security pays benefits “in arrears,” meaning your benefit is paid in the month following the month earned. So, for example, if you apply for your benefits to start in January your January benefit will be paid in February.

The exact date of your payment depends on the day of the month you were born—born between the 1st and 10th of the month, you get your payment on the 2nd Wednesday; born between the 11th and 20th of the month, payment is made on the 3rd Wednesday; born after the 20th of the month your payment will be received in your bank account on the 4th Wednesday of every month.

You can apply in person, either over the phone or by visiting your local Social Security office, or you can apply for your benefits online at www.ssa.gov/retire. Applying online is, by far, the most efficient method. To apply online, you will first need to set up your personal “my Social Security” online account which is easy to do at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. I suggest you create your online account now, even if you don’t plan to claim your SS for a while yet. Once you have your online account set up, you can see your estimated benefit amounts at different ages, which can help you decide when to claim.

Since you are still working, you should be aware that if you claim at any time prior to reaching your full retirement age (FRA) you will be subject to Social Security’s earnings test. If you will be 65 in December 2022 your FRA is 67, and that is the point at which you will get 100% of the SS benefit you’ve earned from a lifetime of working. If you claim any earlier, your benefit will be permanently reduced, and the Social Security “earnings test” will apply. The earnings limit for 2023 will be a bit more than the 2022 limit of \$19,560. If you are collecting SS and exceed the earnings limit, they will take away benefits equal to \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit. In the year you reach your FRA (2024) your earnings limit will be about 2 ½ times more than the normal annual limit and the penalty is less, and once you have reached your FRA there is no longer a limit to how much you can earn. For clarity, you can also wait and claim after your FRA and gain a higher benefit (your benefit will grow up to age 70).

So, how can you make the process “relatively seamless?” Create your online “my Social Security” account in advance and verify that your lifetime earnings as recorded by Social Security are accurate. Then, when you’re ready to claim, simply go to www.ssa.gov/retire and follow the instructions. The online application process is quite intuitive, and you should have no trouble even if you have limited computer skills. Social Security will contact you if they need more information after you apply online. Of course, you can also apply whenever you’re ready by calling Social Security to make an appointment to apply over the phone but applying online is much more efficient. Compare 2.4 million number below to what’s in original

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.

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Artificial Intelligence in Art Underlines Deeper Implications for Workers

By MATTHEW WYNN and
KYLE RUSSO
Capital News Service

Artificial Intelligence—it’s the thing of sci-fi movies and dystopian novels. It’s also present and real, impacting laborers and professionals across industries.

Last month, a man used the AI image generator Midjourney to enter a fine arts contest for the Colorado State Fair under the “Digital Arts/Digitally-Manipulated Photography” category. His piece won the top prize, sparking conversation from artists about the validity of AI in art.

Many have flocked to AIs like Midjourney and DALL-E 2, which are designed to create illustrations from simple, one-sentence prompts, for their low-effort input and high-quality output.

DALL-E 2 can “create realistic images and art from a description in natural language.” The program, along with Midjourney and other image generation AI like Stable Diffusion, dominated internet searches for months. One Twitter account, @weirddalle, has amassed over one million followers.

Artists are not the first to feel the pressures of automation and intelligent technology on their work, and the replacement of human labor by technology is not a new phenomenon.

The Industrial Revolution brought automation to industries like farming and agriculture, reducing the need for routine physical labor, writes Georgios Petropoulos, a researcher at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. These technological innovations can both negatively and positively affect employment. Technology can displace workers from routine tasks and even spark new industries altogether that create new jobs.

For some occupations considered particularly at-risk to AI technology and automation, historical and projected data predicts slowing growth of certain jobs, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Professions like interpreters and translators, personal finance advisors, and fast food and counter workers are predicted to see the most dramatic stalls in growth due to AI technology.

AI has already made an impact in the most vulnerable industries. Google

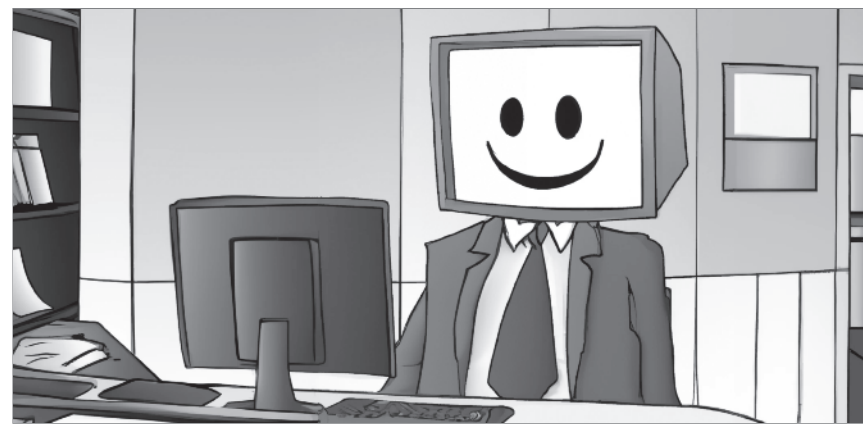


IMAGE COURTESY CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

DALL-E 2 generation made with just a one sentence prompt.

Translate boasts over one billion installs as of March 2021, while job growth for translators has steadily declined since 1999.

Translation is still considered a “creative” profession, write Vassil Kirov and Bagryan Malamin in their article “Are Translators Scared of Artificial Intelligence?” The work translators do requires problem solving between cultures, so translation is not entirely replaceable, but the legwork of the job is slowly being switched over to machines and AI.

In some translation firms, AI is used to maximize workflow by having translators edit mistakes in what the computer produces.

Within the service industry, new developments in AI and automation continue to alter the experiences of both employees and customers. In 2018, McDonald’s announced their plan to add self-service kiosks to every U.S. location by 2020.

In 2021, McDonald’s used AI to take drive-thru orders at 10 locations in Chicago, CNBC reported. Orders here saw about 85% accuracy, and only about a fifth of orders required a human to take them, CEO Chris Kempczinski said.

Many professions are predicted to experience a stall in growth—and even a decline in jobs—from general automation, too, not strictly AI. Cashiers and customer service representatives are predicted to experience a dramatic decline. Professions like telemarketers, which have already been seeing a decline in jobs, are predicted to experience further, less intense, decline.

In some cases, the jobs that experience the strongest effects of automation and AI are also the jobs that require the

least level of education and offer lower levels of pay.

Fast food counter workers, retail salespersons, and cashiers all require no formal education and typically have median salaries of under \$30,000 a year, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Young, less educated women make up most of the workforce in the latter two jobs, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Retail workers are also more likely to live in poverty or be on Medicaid than other workers.

These trends raise the possibility that the loss of these jobs to automation will have a disproportionate effect on people who have less access to education and are poorer.

In Maryland, this is abundantly clear. The Maryland Department of Labor currently projects for substantial loss in some fields with less specialized work, following national projections of jobs to be lost to AI.

Maryland is projected to have 6.7% fewer cashiers by 2030—a loss of 4,780 jobs, by far the highest numerical projected loss. Losing cashiers, one of the most common occupations in the state, could have broader implications for retail workers as a whole.

The retail trade employs 274,000 in the state, according to the Department of Labor.

Interest in AI continues to grow—35% of businesses today have adopted AI and an additional 42% are exploring the technology to maximize efficiency or cut costs, according to the 2022 IBM Global AI Adoption Index.

Workers may not be replaced overnight, but workplaces increasingly look toward an automated future.

Ratings from A3

mammogram at nearly all the health system’s 35 medical centers in the region, but thanks to the integrated and coordinated approach, mammogram results are often provided in less than an hour. If the mammogram findings are suspicious, follow-up diagnostic breast imaging and biopsy can often be completed the same day—reducing stress for the member. As a national leader in the percentage of members receiving breast cancer screening, Kaiser Permanente breast cancer patients have a lower mortality rate compared to national benchmarks.

With more than 1,700 physicians covering more than 60 specialties, the Mid-Atlantic Permanente Medical Group, which provides care to Kaiser Permanente members, is the largest multi-specialty medical group in the region. Kaiser Permanente’s more than 825,000 members in the Mid-Atlantic have many

choices to access exceptional care, including via video, phone, secure messaging, or in-person at any of Kaiser Permanente’s 35 medical offices in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. In addition to this latest national quality recognition for Kaiser Permanente, 2021 marked the 10th year in a row that the health system’s Mid-Atlantic region received 5 out of 5 stars from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for its 2022 Medicare health plan. The new Medicare ratings will be released in October.

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