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PHOTO COURTESY OF MD 210 TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

To Cut Roadway Deaths, Maryland Leaders and Road Safety Activists Cut Ribbon on New MD 210/Kerby Hill Road Improvements

Marking "A Collaborative Journey for a Safer MD 210"

By PASTOR STEPHANIE L. BYNUM
MD 210 Traffic Safety Committee

OXON HILL, Md. (Oct. 8, 2022)—Dozens of community activists, Maryland county government officials, Maryland State Highway Administration leadership and concerned residents gathered to cut the ribbon on the Summer 2022 completion of the MD 210 Kerby Hill Interchange Project.

While celebrating the needed roadway interchange improvement at "A Collaborative Journey for a Safer MD 210" briefing organized by the MD 210 Traffic Safety Committee, speakers also called attention

to the continued need to reduce roadway mortality in Maryland, especially on MD 210.

At a January 2019 press briefing following the death of three children in a crash on MD 210, County Executive Angela Alsbrooks labeled the highway "a death trap." State transportation officials estimate in excess of 80 traffic fatalities from hundreds of crashes along the roadway from 2007 to mid-2022.

The newly-completed project replaces an intersection of MD 210 at Kerby Hill Road/Livingston Road with an interchange and access ramps that improve safety, mo-

bility and alleviate current and future travel congestion. The interchange will control merging traffic onto northbound and southbound MD 210. The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) removed two traffic signals, one at MD 210 at Wilson Bridge Drive and the other at MD 210 at Kerby Hill/Livingston roads. SHA also installed new traffic signals on the overpass.

Maryland Senator Obie Patterson exclaimed, "At last! It's exciting to see an indication of labor for safety and to save time

See MD 210 Page A3

Five Takeaways From the Cox/Moore Gubernatorial Debate

By ABBY ZIMMARDI and
SHANNON CLARK
Capital News Service

OWINGS MILLS, Md. (Oct. 12, 2022)—Gubernatorial candidates Dan Cox and Wes Moore tangled, sometimes viciously,

Wednesday (Oct. 12) in their first, and probably only, televised debate. Supporters lined the streets outside the Maryland Public Television station Wednesday afternoon, holding posters, chanting and waving as cars drove to the station for the debate.

Democrat Moore, who has a 2-to-1 lead

among voters in the latest poll, appeared initially to plan to sidestep the debate, while Republican Cox, who has been endorsed by former President Donald Trump and vilified by Gov. Hogan, R, came into the contest needing to appeal to a broader swath of voters. The candidates were questioned by a panel of reporters and students from Morgan State University and Salisbury University.

Abortion becomes issue in safe-haven state

The U.S. Supreme Court's decision to reverse Roe v. Wade has affected state and national elections, tightening or overturning races that appeared to be easy victories for Republicans. Women, who are registering in droves, have tipped numerous elections toward Democrats. The subject became front and center, as the candidates outlined their positions in a state where abortion is legal and voters go to the polls in November to decide whether to ensure the right in the state constitution.

Moore, who stands as pro-choice, repeatedly voiced his support for the procedure, saying abortion falls under healthcare and that he trusts women to make their own decisions with their doctor. He said he wants Maryland to be a "safe haven" state for women. He said his opponent, would have a woman arrested for getting an abortion.

Cox, who said he is "pro-life," denied the

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PHOTO CREDIT MICHAEL CIESIELSKI PHOTOGRAPHY/COURTESY OF MPT

Gubernatorial candidates Dan Cox and Wes Moore faced off at their first and likely only televised debate Wednesday, Oct. 12. Debate topics included abortion, racial inequity, education and marijuana.

Seven Prince George's County Municipalities Receive Prestigious Sustainable Maryland Certified Award at Maryland Municipal League Conference

By PRESS OFFICER
Sustainable Maryland

COLLEGE PARK, Md. (Oct. 13, 2022)—The Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland announced that Bowie, Brentwood, College Park, Colmar Manor, Edmonston, Hyattsville and New Carrollton were amongst the 18 Maryland

municipalities honored at the Sustainable Maryland Awards Ceremony at the Maryland Municipal League's annual Fall Conference on Tuesday.

According to Mike Hunninghake, Director of the Sustainable Maryland program, "We are pleased to be awarding a record number of certifications this year. These certifications show a commitment to sustainability by Maryland's municipalities that is

truly impressive in both depth and breadth. The commitments and associated actions are a critical investment for a future where local governments will increasingly be at the forefront in the fight against climate change. Sustainable Maryland stands ready to support and celebrate these communities, elected officials, and Green Teams."

Sustainable Maryland Certification: To achieve

certification, municipalities are required to form a Green Team comprised of local residents, community leaders, municipal staff and officials; complete a variety sustainability-related Actions worth a total of at least 150 points for Bronze level certification,

See SUSTAINABLE Page A3

Help M-NCPPC Shatter the Silence: Domestic Violence Awareness Month

By PRESS OFFICERS
M-NCPPC

RIVERDALE, Md. (Oct. 13, 2022)—This October, Maryland-National Capital Park Police goes 'purple' for Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM). Park Police, Prince George's County Division, is recognizing DVAM with a "Shatter the Silence" event. On October 29, a 5K Run/Walk will take place at Watkins Regional Park in Upper Marlboro.

WHAT: "Shatter the Silence" on Domestic Violence 5K

WHEN: **Saturday, October 29, 2022**, Registration opens 7:30 a.m. The walk/race starts at 9 a.m.

WHERE: Watkins Regional Park, 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

COST: FREE, registration required via eventbrite.

The Maryland-National Capital Park Police, Prince George's County Division consists of 133

authorized sworn personnel, 33 civilian employees, and approximately 40 volunteers. Title 17, Subtitle 3, Land Use Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland provides the authority to enforce Maryland laws and local ordinances, as well as the rules and regulations specific to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). Learn more at <https://www.mncppc.org/1647/Park-Police>.

The Department of Parks and Recreation delivers an award-winning park system through progressive, innovative leadership and a commitment to the community and the environment in Prince George's County. For more on the Department of Parks and Recreation, visit www.pg-parks.com and stay connected on Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, and Instagram. The M-NCPPC Department of Parks and Recreation encourages and supports the participation of individuals with disabilities in all programs and services.

Join the New Prince George's County Climate Resident Advisory Group for Climate Action and Environmental Justice

Online applications will be accepted through Nov. 11

By LINDA LOWE

Prince George's County Department of the Environment

LARGO, Md. (Oct. 13, 2022)—The Prince George's County Department of the Environment (DoE) is accepting applications from County residents and organizations operating in the County to become part of the new Climate Resident Advisory Group (CRA). Members will serve on the Climate Implementation Task Force to help guide the County's Climate Action Plan implementation. CRA members will advise on strategies and actions to propel the County toward a carbon-neutral and climate-ready future.

A virtual information session was held yesterday detailing the roles and responsibilities of the CRA. To view the recording, visit mypgc.us/climateactionplan. The group is formed by the signing of Executive Order NO. 5-2022.

Community members passionate about climate action, environmental justice, and resiliency are encouraged to apply, ages 16 years and up (parental permission must be provided for participants under 18). The CRA membership will consist of at least twelve (12) but no more than fifty (50) residents, with the final number determined by DoE based on interest and other factors. Membership will be comprised of representatives of organizations and individuals. All members must be County residents and may represent County-based non-profits, faith-based entities, social organizations, and schools. The County will strive to achieve representation that reflects the geographic, age, economic, gender, and racial diversity of the County.

To apply and for more information about the CRA, visit mypgc.us/climateactionplan or contact Candice Williams, DoE, Sustainability, at 301-883-6211 or email at climateaction@co.pg.md.us. Applications to join the CRA will be accepted until 5 p.m. on November 11.

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"ALTERED ENVIRONMENTS creates a conversation between art and science to highlight the issue of marine bioinvasaders..."

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To Be Equal: "Dog Whistle" Rhetoric Is Giving Way To Tuberville & Greene's Overt Racism

ChildWatch: Putting Children on The Cradle Roll

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Maryland Student Stars in Documentary on Personal Finance Education

Neziah Osayi, class of 2020 graduate at Parkdale High School in Riverdale Park, Maryland, is featured in a new documentary film about personal finance education.

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COMMUNITY



PHOTO COURTESY OF MD 210 TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

A new service road parallel to southbound MD 210 will serve area residents and transit.

MD 210 from A1

for loved ones to get home.” State Delegate Kris Valderrama announced, “The legislation for the speed camera must be re-enacted next year as it was originally for five years.” She also expressed hope for another two cameras in addition to enacting higher speeding fines. Prince George’s County Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Floyd Holt stated, “The County supports 100% of continual improvements of MD 210.” Derek Gunn, MDOT/SHA, shared that additional changes are currently in design and planning for MD 210. The MD 210 Traffic Safety Committee Chair Rev. Dr. Robert Screen encouraged all to say, “If it is to be, let it begin with me” and this will be the “Highway of Vibrant Life.”

Other enhancements to improve safety and traffic management include aligning Kerby Hill Road, new outside shoulders and a new service road parallel to southbound MD 210 that will serve area residents and transit. SHA also will remove the median crossover south of Alcoa Drive and build a right-in/right-out turn movement connecting to the northbound MD 210 service road.

The MD 210 Traffic Safety Committee, organized in 2017, is a group of community residents that works with local elected officials, the Prince George’s County Police Department and the Maryland SHA to address safety concerns on the highway, also known as “Indian Head Highway.” Through the efforts of the Committee and a host of support from a wide range of groups and individuals, the Committee won legislative victory in securing three speed cameras and several improvements on Route 210 in 2019.

Popular Hospice of the Chesapeake Golf Tournament Brings in \$240K

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
Hospice of the Chesapeake

PASADENA, Md. (Oct. 11, 2022)—With the abundance of golf tournaments offered around Chesapeake Bay, an avid golfer could sign up for one for every week of the season. While that’s great for golf fans, it presents a challenge to Hospice of the Chesapeake’s Golf Committee. And it’s a challenge they get better at every year. This year, a long list of sponsors and more than 250 golfers helped break the record again, raising around \$240,000 for the nonprofit that serves Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, and Prince George’s counties.

No doubt the venue and a perfect-weather day filled with food, drinks and giveaways helped to make it another successful year. Held Sept. 29 at Queenstown Harbor Golf Course, the tournament offered hospitality that began with an omelet bar in the morning, oysters, and shrimp along with grilled lunch at the turn and an awards banquet to cap off the day.

The great success of this tournament was made possible by the generous support of its sponsors, including All Green Management, First National Bank, Greenberg Gibbons, and The Michael Stanley Foundation as U.S. Open level sponsors; Brown’s Toyota and Waterfront Engineering, Design and Construction, Inc., as Augusta level sponsors; and Carpet and Wood Floor Liquidators, Crescent Cities Charities, Inc., Heinsohn Contracting, Inc., Tech USA, and Whitehall Management as Heritage Harbor Sponsors.

The event is planned by the Hospice of the Chesapeake Golf Committee, an incredible group of volunteers who each year create a memorable outing focused on supporting the programs and services this hometown hospice provides for those living with and affected by advanced illness. They already are planning for next year, which will be a milestone as the 20th annual Golf Tournament.

Local Rock and Mineral Club Celebrates 26th Annual Show

The non-profit Southern Maryland Rock, Mineral and Fossil Club will hold its 26th annual Rock, Mineral and Fossil Show from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on November 5, 2022, in the Old Waldorf School, 3074 Crain Highway, Waldorf, MD 20601 (adjacent to the JayCees Hall).

The goal of the event is to generate local interest in geology and earth sciences as well as to bring rock and mineral enthusiasts together for mutual educational opportunities.

Visitors can see colorful and unique displays of minerals, crystals, geodes, fossils and other rocks related to earth sciences. Enjoy browsing through over 40 tables of exhibitors and vendors selling a vast assortment of high quality minerals, fossils, gems, hand crafted jewelry, crystals, and lapidary creations. A fluorescent display (rocks that glow in the dark under UV light) is a popular attraction every year. Vendors will have free specimens for all youths. Friendly, family atmosphere.

Door prizes will be awarded every 30 minutes throughout the show. Free, convenient parking. Easy ac-

cess from U.S. Rt. 301.

Admission donation is \$5 for adults; \$4 for seniors (65+); \$3 for youths (7–17); Free for children under 7. More details and directions on club website www.SMRMC.org.

Optional addendum: “The Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club, which has members from all five Southern Maryland counties, meets on the 4th Tuesday each month at 7 p.m. at the Old Waldorf School in Waldorf. Guests are welcomed. An interesting and informative program is presented after each business meeting. Door prize drawings are held at every meeting. Club members attend organized field trips each month where they collect specimens of valuable and interesting rocks, minerals and fossils. Trip destinations include commercial quarries which are normally closed to the public. Most trips are within 200 miles. We also take longer trips lasting for several days. If you like rocks, you will love our club. We have something for every rockhound from the beginning novice to the expert collector.”

ALTERED ENVIRONMENTS

Prints, Cut Paper Pieces, and Installation Work Tackles Issues Faced by Aquatic Ecosystem

By KATE TAYLOR DAVIS
Pyramid Atlantic Art Center

HYATTSVILLE, Md. (Oct. 12, 2022)—ALTERED ENVIRONMENTS shares colorful and sumptuous prints, cut paper pieces, and installations addressing the issues of marine bio invaders. Works by North Carolina-based artist April Flanders are at the center of this exhibition, flanked by a print portfolio featuring 24 additional artists from the United States and Canada. Collectively these works address the breadth of the aquatic environment—a complex and fragile ecosystem under daily threat from multiple forces.

ALTERED ENVIRONMENTS open[ed] Saturday, October 15 and runs through November 13, 2022 in Pyramid’s Helen C. Frederick Gallery. The exhibition is free and open to the public. Gallery hours are Wed–Thu, 10–8 p.m. and Fri–Sun, 10–6 p.m. Pyramid is located at 4318 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, Maryland 20781. For more information, visit pyramidatlantic.org or call 301-608-9101.

“ALTERED ENVIRONMENTS creates a conversation between art and science to highlight the issue of marine bio-invasaders; species that have expanded beyond their natural range in the aquatic environment,” explains Flanders. “We do not fully

understand the ramifications of globalization. One consequence is the uninhibited exchange of plant and animal organisms across natural boundaries . . . I create work where viewers are confronted by the destructive organisms and globalized landscapes they are complicit in generating. In this time of rapid environmental flux, my work confronts a complicated issue.”

The centerpiece of the exhibition is the installation Filter. Filter takes up two gallery walls and measures over 26 feet. The installation comprises over 2,000 tiny, individually cut monotypes in sea hues. This installation addresses two aquatic invasive species; zebra and quagga mussels, which have invaded the Great Lakes and are moving inexorably across North American freshwaters. These colonizing filter feeders disrupt the food web, damaging fisheries and creating unhealthy algal blooms. This piece reflects the fragility of this once abundant ecosystem by contrasting the delicate nature of plankton and native algae with the vigorous life cycle of these prolific mussels.

Flanders is a studio artist living and making in the mountains of Western North Carolina. A keen naturalist, her work has been featured in solo and group shows at museums and galleries nationally and internationally, including the Katzen (Wash-



PHOTO COURTESY PYRAMID ATLANTIC

PROLIFIC INGRESS by April Flanders, monotype and screenprint, 11x11”, 2022.

ington, D.C.), Center for the Book Arts (New York), and the Global Print International (Douro, Portugal). Her work is in many public collections, including the Asheville Museum of Science, the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, and the Tucson Museum of Art. Flanders holds a Master of Fine Arts from Arizona State University and she has taught printmaking for fourteen years at various universities nationally and internationally. Currently, she is a professor of studio art at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina.

This exhibition is made possible in part through support from Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George’s County.

Sustainable from A1

or 400 points for Silver level certification, and submit the appropriate documentation as evidence that the Sustainable Maryland Certified requirements have been satisfied. The Sustainable Maryland Action Menu can be seen here: <https://sustainablemaryland.com/certification/actions>

The Prince George’s County list of 2022 re-certified communities includes:

Bowie (Silver) (first certified in 2013, re-certified in 2016 and 2019)

Brentwood (Bronze) (first certified in 2019)

College Park (Silver) (first certified in 2013, re-certified in 2016 and 2019)

Colmar Manor (Bronze) (first certified in 2016; re-certified 2019)

Edmonston (Bronze) (first certified in 2013, re-certified in 2016 and 2019)

Hyattsville (Silver) (first certified in 2013, re-certified in 2016 and 2019)

New Carrollton (Bronze) (first certified in 2016; re-certified 2019)

A full report on each certi-

fied community’s Actions can be viewed here: <https://sustainablemaryland.com/certification/participating-communities>

Sustainable Maryland Certified Municipalities as of 2022 (11th year of the program):

- Total Municipalities Sustainable Maryland Certified: 41 (26% of Maryland’s municipalities)
- Total Municipalities Sustainable Maryland Registered: 89 (57% of Maryland’s municipalities)

Sustainable Maryland is an initiative of the Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland.



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND

Bowie 2022 Sustainable Maryland Award Photo (from left) Ingrid Harrison, Michelle Balfe, Ashleigh Diaz, Dan Mears



Brentwood 2022 Sustainable Maryland Award Photo: (from left) Marcus Monroe, Ana Contreras, James Gaston, Rocio Treminio-Lopez, Martha Aguilar



Hyattsville 2022 Sustainable Maryland Award Photo (from left) Rommel Sandino, Richard Canino, Taylor Robey



New Carrollton (from left, in front) Councilmember Allyne Hooks, Mayor Phelicia E. Nembhard, City Clerk Araceli Guzman-Benitez, Accounting Karen Reid, Office Manager Imelle Brooks (in back, left to right) Department of Public Works Director Andre Triplett and Code Enforcement Manager Isiah Harris Jr. with the Sustainable Maryland Certified award at the Maryland Municipal League conference.



Colmar Manor 2022 Sustainable Maryland Award Photo (L to R) Doug Bowles, Monica Casanas, Sadara Barrow, Greg Holcomb



College Park (from left) Stuart Adams, Councilmember District 4; Patrick Wojahn, Mayor; Janet McCaslin, Sustainability Coordinator; Kenneth Young, City Manager; Llatetra Brown Esters, Councilmember District 2; Robert Marsili, Director of Public Works; and Denise Mitchell, Councilmember District 3 with the Sustainable Maryland Certified award at the Maryland Municipal League conference.

COMMENTARY

Marc Morial

President and CEO, National Urban League



To Be Equal:

“Dog Whistle” Rhetoric Is Giving Way To Tuberville & Greene’s Overt Racism

“I’ve heard racists say all kinds of things. I’ve heard them say that Black people are criminals, and I’ve heard them say that reparations are reverse racism. But it takes a true racism innovator to combine both ideas at the same time.”

—Trevor Noah

Until last Saturday, Sen. Tommy Tuberville’s most significant contribution to racial justice was asking students and fans of the University of Mississippi, where he was a head football coach in

1997, to stop waving the Confederate flag at home sporting events.

Lest anyone doubt, all these years later, that his request was motivated by principle rather than self-interest—public displays of racism made it difficult to recruit Black athletes—Tuberville has laid his cards on the table. At a Trump rally in Nevada on Saturday night, Sen. Tommy Tuberville explicitly referred to Black Americans as “the people that do the crime.”

Even in this era of heightened racial rhetoric,

Tuberville’s undisguised bigotry was stunning.

The following day, at a Trump rally in Arizona, Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, drew criticism for saying immigrants “are on the verge of replacing you, replacing your jobs and replacing your kids in school and, coming from all over the world, they’re also replacing your culture. And that’s not great for America.”

Greene spoke earlier this year at a white nationalist conference and is barred from sitting on congressional committees because of incendiary social media posts—that her comments might not even have attracted much attention had they not followed on the heels of Tuberville’s stunning outburst.

Greene’s notoriety and Tuberville’s comments signal the escalation of a menacing trend that Donald Trump revived when he launched his presidential campaign in 2015 by calling immigrants criminals and rapists.

The exploitation of bigotry and racial resentment to win elections is a ploy nearly as old as the nation itself. As early as 1798, the two major parties — then the Federalists and the Democratic-Republicans wrangled over the residency requirements for immigrants to become citizens (and thus

voters.) The Native American Party, better known as the Know-Nothings was founded in 1944 based wholly on hatred for Catholic immigrants.

Post-Civil War, explicit anti-Black racism emerged as a primary issue in national elections. “Exaggerated stories of Black crime” and accusations of “miscegenation” were hallmarks of the 1868 campaign. “Fear of Blacks and the need to maintain white power was a dominant, primary theme, not a subtext,” political scientist Tali Mendelberg wrote in *The Race Card: Campaign Strategy, Implicit Messages, and the Norm of Equality*.

As late as 1968, presidential candidate George Wallace, the former governor of Alabama, campaigned in favor of racial segregation. By 1980, however, overt racial appeals had given way to coded rhetoric such as the “welfare queen” stereotype employed by Ronald Reagan.

“Any way you look at it, race is coming on the back-burner,” political strategist Lee Atwater said in 1981.

Race-baiting politicians like Tuberville and Greene are putting it back on the front burner. It’s up to their colleagues to extinguish the flames.

Marian Wright Edelman

Founder and President Emerita, Children’s Defense Fund



ChildWatch:

Putting Children on The Cradle Roll

[Last] weekend places of worship across the country [took] part in the annual multifaith National Observance of Children’s Sabbaths® celebration, focusing prayers, worship, education programs, and action on learning more about the urgent problems facing our nation’s children. By exploring sacred texts and teachings that call us to love and protect children, Children’s Sabbath encourages faith communities to respond with outreach and advocacy and, most importantly, inspire new, year-round action

to improve children’s lives. Rev. James Forbes, Jr., Senior Minister Emeritus of the Riverside Church in New York City and an emeriti member of the Children’s Defense Fund’s board, was an early supporter of Children’s Sabbath who has long urged us all to reinstate a community-wide “Cradle Roll” for all of our children.

Not everyone knows that old tradition, but Dr. Forbes described how it worked in his childhood congregation: “When I was growing up, in my

church they had a Cradle Roll, and any child born to anyone in that religious community immediately got their name placed on the Cradle Roll. And there were people in the congregation whose responsibility it was to follow these children until they reached what they called the ‘age of accountability’—the point at which they were able to affirm themselves whom they had become.” Adults sent children cards when they were sick and put a star by their name each time they moved on to a new grade. In other congregations the Cradle Roll might have been the roster for Sunday school attendance, or the list used to congratulate and support new parents. No matter what traditions individual congregations had, the Cradle Roll was a way for faith communities to commit to encouraging and nurturing their children as a shared responsibility of adult members. As Dr. Forbes put it, the main point was that “it was the community’s way of acknowledging that these children have been entrusted to our care. Their commitment was to follow you from the point of your beginning until God could say, ‘Now, that’s what I had in mind when I sent this child into the world.’”

How many places of worship are still doing this

for all of their children today? How many of us as congregation or community members have found ways to commit to the community’s children and to promise them that we’ll be concerned when they are sick, cheer when they succeed in school, and help them become what they were divinely created to be?

Rev. Forbes also reminded us that in his own faith tradition God can’t stand hearing the cry of oppression, and when God’s people cried out in the Bible, God sometimes sent a deliverer who came as a baby. In order for that child to become what God had in mind, the baby first needed to be protected by adults while still in the cradle. Moses was sheltered in a cradle made of reeds. Christians celebrate a Deliverer who was cradled in a manger. Children are being born all around us in circumstances that cry out for protection today. Will we provide them cradles of safety? Will we put them on our Cradle Roll? The Children’s Sabbath weekend is another opportunity for people of every faith tradition to respond to the divine mandate to nurture, protect, and advocate for all of our communities’ and nation’s children.

—October 14, 2022

Statement – Council Chair Calvin S. Hawkins, II Expresses Council Support for County’s Juvenile Curfew Extension

There is nothing more important to us as elected officials than ensuring public safety. The Council agrees with County Executive Angela Alsobrooks, that we must use every possible tool to provide the protection the citizens of Prince George’s County want and deserve. To this end, the Council fully supports the County Execu-

tive’s decisive actions and her extension of the 30-day juvenile curfew through the holidays, as a necessary measure to keep our children and communities safe. While it will be important to study the result more fully at the end of the year, statistics support establishment of the curfew and the current decline in the recent tide of

violence in our communities indicates the plan is working. This period offers an important opportunity for us all – parents and guardians; community, business, nonprofit and faith-based leaders; government and law enforcement – to recommit to work together to help all our youth become productive citizens in their communities.

In This Episode of the CNS Podcast “Takeover”: the Federalist Society

By HUNTER SAVERY and KATE SELTZER
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON—Six of the nine current Supreme Court justices are members of the Federalist Society. The organization is something of a liberal bogeyman, but how powerful are they really?

In this episode of the CNS podcast “Takeover,” which we are calling “The List,” we explore tactics used by conservative interest groups to help get justices appointed to the highest court in the land.

We’ll also look into dark money and the labyrinth of rules that guide its use and keep it a secret.

<https://anchor.fm/takeovercns/embed/episodes/The-List-e1p5ovo>



Debate from A1

accusation. Still, he stands in opposition to abortion except in cases of rape, incest and if the mother’s life is endangered.

“Women, children and the unborn have equal protections,” he said.

Cox said Moore’s stances that abortion is healthcare and that women should have control of their bodies stands in opposition to his and other Democrats’ position on vaccination mandates. He said that it should be each person’s choice to get a vaccine. He said that if the government is not forcing anyone to have an abortion, how can it force people, such as state, federal and municipal employees, to get COVID-19 vaccinations. It’s really obnoxious that the government wants to take control.”

Character assassination was a debate staple

Both candidates attacked each other’s character in almost every question.

Cox said Moore lied about his life in his best-selling book, “The Other Wes Moore.” He accused Moore of claiming to be a Baltimore native, “but sir, you weren’t there until you were 34.” He accused Moore of ducking him repeatedly in debates. “When you look at the reason he won’t debate, it’s because he’s a phony,” he said. He accused Moore of hypocrisy, because as the head of an education non-profit that helped others, “he was making millions, and he’s currently living in a \$3 million home (when) he leaves Baltimore.”

Moore called Cox an election denier and tried to tie him to former President Donald Trump. In response to a question about whether Cox would accept the election, he read a tweet from Cox to the audience:

“I want to read something,” Moore said. “I am co-hosting two buses to the Million MAGA March/rally with the Frederick County conservative club in support of @realDonaldTrump on January 6, 2021 to #stoptheft. Demand NO, #ChinaBiden.’ Those are the words of my opponent.”

Hogan Administration casts shadow throughout debate

The panel asked Cox and Moore to give a final grade for the Hogan administration. Hogan leaves office as one of Maryland’s most popular governors in the past 20 years, with an approval rating hovering near 73%. Moore joked he could not give Hogan a final grade because his

administration is not yet complete. Moore thanked Hogan for calling out the MAGA movement as extremist and said unlike Hogan, as governor he would help the state’s economy grow faster.

Cox said he supported the Hogan administration and would rate it an “A.” Moore countered, “We’re watching a perfect indication as to why Governor Hogan calls Cox unfit. Hogan has said ‘not only will I not support Cox, I won’t even give him a tour of the governor’s office.’ Frankly, I’m standing on stage right now with an extremist election denier.”

Education

Both candidates referenced their children as examples in addressing education-related issues, but offered dramatically different viewpoints.

Cox pledged to change the way parents are involved in schools. He promised to get rid of “transgender indoctrination in kindergarten,” which he said included stopping the reading of LGBTQ+ books. He said he will get the state back to “world class learning,” which includes reading, writing and arithmetic so that “our kids can learn like God intended them to learn.” He said he wants to end the “politicization” of the classroom and “get back to math.”

Moore, who is backed by the Maryland State Education Association, said educators have the same goals for his children as he does to prepare them for the world they will inherit. He said partnerships between parents and educators are not indoctrination. Moore rejected Cox’s characterization of LGBTQ+ influence in schools, and instead referenced the homelessness rate of LGBTQ+ youth and the 80% suicide contemplation rate for transgender youth.

How to bridge racial disparities

To close the racial gaps that exist in the state, Cox said the state’s Black business owners should receive reparations for the past two years, because they suffered most from the pandemic. He did not state concrete plans about how he intends to provide reparations.

Moore countered that racial disparities did not start two years ago, saying the racial wealth gap in Maryland is an issue the state has to address. Moore said he will create pathways for work, wealth and wages by raising the minimum wage to \$15 next year instead of 2025, as scheduled. He said he would address appraisal values in historically redlined minority neighborhoods and fix broken procurement laws.

Moore said if voters approve legalization of marijuana, he will ensure a fair rollout to include Black marijuana entrepreneurs. He also said he will address the consequences of criminalization, specifically in Black and Latino communities. He will consider pardons for those with marijuana charges on their criminal records.

Cox said he agreed with Moore’s position. “Everyone should be treated equal. That’s why I do support making sure that those who are criminalized for small possessions are no longer criminalized. We need to make sure that we have a path for people to reestablish themselves, so they don’t lose their job over something like that.”

The Prince George’s Post

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BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

How Do Social Security Survivor Benefits Work?

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

Dear Rusty: Social Security is confusing in itself and gets even more confusing when you receive multiple answers to the same question from multiple sources. During my research I came across your organization, and I hope you can assist me in making educated choices regarding my Social Security benefits. My husband of 20+ years passed away in 1998 and I have not remarried. I will be turning 65 next month (born in 1957), and my full retirement age is 66 years and 6 months. I work full-time, have not made any specific retirement plans, and my current gross salary is over \$60,000. So, my questions are: Can I collect any of my late husband's social security? If yes, when, and how? **Signed: Confused Widow**

Dear Confused Widow: From the facts you provided, you are eligible to collect a survivor benefit from your deceased husband, but because you are working full time earning over \$60,000 you will not be able to collect those benefits at this time. Here's why:

Social Security imposes an "earnings test" for anyone who collects benefits before reaching their full retirement age. The penalty for exceeding the earnings limit is \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit (which is \$19,560 for 2022). With \$60,000 in earnings, you would be \$40,440 over the limit, for which SS would impose a penalty of \$20,220. That essentially means that your survivor benefit would be entirely (or almost entirely) offset by the penalty for exceeding the earnings limit, leaving you unable to collect a survivor benefit at this time. The earnings test is in effect until you reach your full retirement age (FRA), after which your earnings will no longer affect your Social Security benefits.

There are also other nuances you should know about. Claiming any SS benefit before reaching your FRA will result in a permanently reduced benefit. If claimed at your FRA, your survivor benefit would be 100% of the amount your husband was receiving (or entitled to) at this death but claimed at age 65 your survivor benefit would be reduced to about 93% of his benefit entitlement. Also, you will be eligible for your full widow's benefit at 66 years and 2 months of age because—in your specific case—your "widow's FRA" is less than your normal full retirement age. However, the earnings test previously described is still in effect until you reach your normal FRA of 66 years and 6 months.

In the year you reach your normal full retirement age, the earnings limit (for the months prior to reaching your FRA) increases by about 2.5 times. You'll reach your normal FRA in February 2024 and, at your current earnings level, wouldn't exceed the higher earnings limit in 2024. That means the earnings test shouldn't affect your SS benefits in 2024 at your current income level, so you could claim your full survivor benefit effective January 2024 without penalty.

You will also have the option, if desired, to claim only your survivor benefit and permit your personally earned SS retirement benefit grow. It would be wise to do that if your personally earned SS retirement benefit at maximum will be more than your maximum survivor benefit as a widow. After reaching your FRA, your personal benefit will grow by .667% for each month you wait to claim it, up to age 70 when your own benefit would be 28% more than it would be at your normal FRA. So, you could collect your full survivor benefit at your normal FRA, continue to work if desired, and switch to your higher personal benefit at age 70 (and collect that for the rest of your life). If you expect to achieve at least average longevity (about 87 for a woman your current age), and your own maximum benefit will be more than your benefit as a widow, that is an option you may wish to consider.

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

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

Morningside from A2

Survivors include his daughter Nancy (Curtis) Thomas, sons Eric Lee, Aaron Lee and Christopher Lee Archer; grandson William, great-granddaughter Kaliyah, sister, Barbara Henderson, and Eileen Fluharty. Services were at Lee Funeral Home.

Pine Lane Drive will never be the same without Archie.

Millstones

Happy Birthday to Mary Flood Dawes, Oct. 23; Daniel John Fitzgerald, Oct. 24; Anna Norris, Oct. 24; Donna Anderson, Oct. 25; Linda Ferguson Sandoval, Juanita Starke and Christopher Flaherty, Oct. 27; Diane Cvitko, Oct. 28; my grandson Isaac Gallegos, Oct. 29; Denise Williams, Kim Miller and my daughter Kathleen Shearer, Oct. 30; my sister Rosie (Mudd) Nickodemus and Don Eisenberg, Oct. 31.

Brian Anleu Joins AOBA's Government Affairs Team

By PRESS OFFICER
Apartment and Office Building Association of Metropolitan Washington

WASHINGTON (Oct. 12, 2022)—The Apartment and Office Building Association of Metropolitan Washington (AOBA) is pleased to welcome Brian Anleu to its Government Affairs team as Vice President of Government Affairs - Maryland. In his role, Brian will represent the organization and its members before the Maryland State Legislature and the Montgomery and Prince George's County Councils.

Brian is a lifelong resident of Mont-

gomery County and a graduate of the University of Maryland. Brian joins us after nearly ten years in county government. Most recently, he served as chief of staff to the Montgomery County Planning Board where he worked on the Thrive 2050 General Plan, the 2020–2024 Growth & Infrastructure Policy, and several exciting new parks projects.

Prior to that, Brian served as Deputy Chief of Staff to Councilmember Tom Hucker for five years. During his time on council staff, Brian helped expand the county's green construction financing program to new construction, streamline the

permitting process for solar on commercial properties, and implement innovative land use and zoning changes.

Founded in 1974, the Apartment and Office Building Association of Metropolitan Washington is the leading membership organization representing commercial office buildings and multifamily residential real estate in the Washington metropolitan area. AOBA's members collectively own and manage a portfolio of more than 185 million square feet of commercial office space and 400,000 residential units in Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia. AOBA is the local federated chapter of the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International and the National Apartment Association (NAA).

Maryland Student Stars in Documentary on Personal Finance Education

By PRESS OFFICER
Next Gen Personal Finance

Neziah Osayi, class of 2020 graduate at Parkdale High School in Riverdale Park, Maryland, is featured in a new documentary film about personal finance education.

The film, "Real World Class," was released Thursday, Oct. 13 by Next Gen Personal Finance, a non-profit organization that advocates for every high school in America to guarantee this essential course for graduation.

As a junior in high school, Osayi took financial literacy as an elective. Now a college sophomore, he helped persuade Prince George's County Public Schools to make personal finance a stand-alone course that all students will take before graduation. His YouTube channel, "That's Clearly Wealth," demystifies relevant financial concepts for college students in an accessible—and hilarious—format.

"We only get one life," Osayi says. "So why would you not want to take a course to help you understand a key aspect of life like finances. It was the most important class I had taken in all of high school because it actually translated to the things I was going to eventually face and the things that I was already facing."

Student activism is driving the movement toward universal personal finance education in high schools across America. The film shares the stories of five amazing students and how they are increasing access to financial education in their communities and beyond.

Students like Osayi are speaking out because they believe personal finance is the most important course in high school today, and their goal is to help guarantee that all students have access to a full semester course.

Research by NGPF and others demonstrates clearly that guaranteed personal finance education leads to positive outcomes and improves lives forever. While more states are stepping up and embracing this guarantee, 3 out of 4 high school students in America still do not have access to a personal finance course in high school.



PHOTO COURTESY NEXT GEN PERSONAL FINANCE

Neziah Osayi, class of 2020 graduate at Parkdale High School in Riverdale Park, believes personal finance is the most important course in high school today.

At 7 p.m. EST Oct. 27, Osayi and the other students in the film will participate in a free virtual screening and panel discussion for students, parents and teachers. Register at <https://www.ngpf.org/account/#/my-account-ngpf-academy-register/1002963>. And the trailer for the 19-minute film is at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3Eg_2f_cC4.

Next Gen Personal Finance is a Palo Alto, Calif.-based non-profit on a mission to guarantee by 2030 that every U.S. high school student will graduate having taken a one-semester course in personal finance. They are achieving their mission through free curriculum and teacher professional development and through nationwide advocacy.

Pandemic Spotlights Shortages in U.S. Health Care Workforce

By MYTHILI DEVARAKONDA
Capital News Service

Health care workers quit their jobs in large numbers during the COVID-19 pandemic, intensifying an existing worker shortage in health care professions like nursing. The overall health care workforce was down by 7.5 million workers in 2020, a 3.2% decrease from the previous year after growing steadily for the past decade.

The American Nurses Association estimated that more than a million nurses are required to join the workforce in the coming years to prevent a critical nursing shortage. The American Health Association also reports other shortages in health care, such as respiratory therapists and physicians—the country may face a shortage of up to 124,000 physicians by 2033.

Many industries, including healthcare, are facing what is being called "The Great Resignation," which Forbes magazine defined as "a mass exodus of unsatisfied workers." According to Elsevier Health's "Clinician of the Future" report, 47% of the U.S. health care workers are planning to leave their current jobs in the next few years—stress, trauma and work overload among the reasons for the departure. According to a 2022 nationwide survey, 28% of staff said that burnout is the main reason for quitting their health care jobs.

There was an estimated 20% increase in health care workers quitting the field in 2021 when compared to 2019 and 2020. This represents over 6 million workers and is 50% higher than 2012's quit rate.

According to the Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey, accommodation and food services, professional and business services along with health care and social services faced some of the highest quit rates

in 2021. Industries like wholesale trade, transportation, warehousing and utilities, and state and local government (excluding education) had relatively lower quit rates.

As hospitals and health care systems continued to face the challenges of the pandemic, hiring rates increased in 2020 and 2021. Hiring increased 8% in 2020 compared to 2019. An average of 8 million employees were hired in 2020 and 2021 each due to an increased demand for health care around the nation.

Medical school applicant rates have increased along with the demand for health care workers. According to the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), the number of applicants for medical schools surged for the 2021/2022 academic year—a staggering 17.8%—when compared to the average 2 to 3% rise per year in the past 20 years.

AAMC reports that a combination of "pandemic-related shutdowns that cut off other opportunities and accelerated medical career plans; increased awareness of how doctors can help to alleviate social injustices; and changes that reduced fees for some students and eliminated travel costs associated with applying" might have encouraged this unusual increase.

JiMin Ko, a third year medical student at Georgetown University, doesn't necessarily think that the increase in medical school applicants has much to do with the pandemic.

"Applying to med school is kind of a multi-year commitment. You know, it's not really something you can just do on a whim," Ko said.

"I think [the pandemic] may have cemented some people's decision or maybe pushed them away from it," he added, stressing that medical school is a "pretty long path."

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, ambulatory services and offices of physicians in Maryland recovered their staffing shortages that were felt during 2020 to their previous levels, but this was not the case for skilled nurses in the region.

The number of skilled nurses in Maryland has been dwindling for the past five years but saw the steepest decline in 2020, which continued to the next year as well. This is on par with the national nursing shortage—a shortage in the nursing workforce caused by the aging population and retiring nurses, according to Nurse Journal.

The pandemic amplified the problem. "When you work in other industries, you punch a timecard [when] you come in, you have your eight hours—you have time for a break and you're gone. In nursing, there often is not even time for biological breaks," said Sharon M. Weinstein, adjunct faculty at Purdue Global University, contributor to the American Nurses Association Professional Issues Fatigue Panel, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

Weinstein added that contributing factors like 12 and 16-hour shifts with infrequent breaks, low wages and scarcity of nursing faculty will "no doubt have an impact on the patient care delivery."

The shortage also resulted in less experienced nurses filling the gaps. "The pandemic encouraged hospitals and health care providers to take people straight out of school, to eliminate a lot of the clinical practicum that they would have had and to allow them to fill empty slots in hospitals and other healthcare organizations," Weinstein said.

At the beginning of the year, the Maryland State Senate introduced SB0696—also known as the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program Fund for Nurses and Nursing Support Staff—as an incentive to help nurses repay education loans. Weinstein noted that relieving existing balances for aspiring or existing nurse educators will further improve the nursing community.

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Around the County from A2

Bernadette Fobbs who is the Region V Commander of the National Association of Minority Veterans of America (NAMVETS) as well as the CEO of Apryl Showers LLC. NAMVETS provides programs to connect Veterans to housing and employment resources, VA benefits and community resources. Apryl Showers LLC is a mobile shower and restroom trailer providing a safe, clean environment to perform personal hygiene.

Annette Mann, Vice Commander of the National Association for Black Veterans, Inc (NABVETS). NABVETS provides personal advocacy on behalf of "ALL" Veterans seeking claims against the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and fostering community development by creating positive lifestyles for Veterans and their families. NABVETS will generate and preserve the historical record for minority Veterans.

In addition to presenting awards to the above, donations are being accepted for their organizations such as basic hygiene materials and general needs: like deodorant, toothpaste, tooth brushes, wipes, hand sanitizer, soap/shower gel, razors, shaving cream, brushes, combs, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, hair grease, gel, ponytail holders, coolers, thermos, socks, blankets, undergarments (underwear, bras, thermal underwear), backpacks, suitcases, gloves, hats, scarves, feminine products, towels, and chapstick/carmax. They will also appreciate donations of hot meals.

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To purchase tickets to attend the event and/or donate tickets for senior citizens and/or students, visit www.FAMEmusic.org.

Furman University Announces August 2022 Graduates

GREENVILLE, S.C. (Oct. 11, 2022)—Furman University President Elizabeth Davis presided over the commencement exercises for August 2022 graduates in a ceremony, which took place Saturday, August 13, in Daniel Memorial Chapel on campus.

More than three dozen students received bachelor's or master's degrees. **Braedon Domino** of Riverdale, Maryland, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies: Media Studies. Domino's parent and/or guardian is Ms. Tracy L. Domino.

—Clinton Colmenares, Furman University

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