

# The Prince George's Post



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## CEO Kevin Maxwell Announces Departure From PGCPS

By PRESS OFFICER PGCPS

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—In a message to employees, parents, and community members, Chief Executive Officer Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell announced his plans to transition from Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) after the current school year. Dr. Maxwell began leading PGCPS on August 1, 2013 and was the first CEO/Superintendent in more than a decade to receive a second contract.

The Board of Education will establish a plan and timeline for the transition and search for a new CEO/Superintendent.

Dr. Maxwell returned to Prince George's County to serve the community he has lived in since childhood. As CEO, Dr. Maxwell has focused on arts integration, language immersion, environmental literacy and increasing student safety and supports. Under his leadership, PGCPS has significantly increased student enrollment and expanded access to full-day prekindergarten, dual enrollment programs, specialty offerings and opportunities in higher education and the workplace.

Dr. Maxwell began his career nearly 40 years ago as a teacher at Crossland High School, where he served for more than two decades, before moving to Buck Lodge Middle School and Northwestern High School. Through-

out his career, Dr. Maxwell has focused on raising student achievement, increasing student participation in rigorous coursework and engaging state, county and local stakeholders.

Dr. Maxwell previously served as Superintendent for Anne Arundel County Public Schools from 2006 to 2013.

Dr. Maxwell emailed the following message to the PGCPS community today:

Dear Prince George's County Public Schools Community,

I proudly came back to Prince George's County Public Schools in 2013 with a singular goal: to prepare our students for success in higher education, the workplace and community.

With your support and collaboration, we celebrated many achievements, expanded program offerings and drew many families back to our schools. I remain proud of the great teaching and learning that happens every day in our classrooms. I am excited about the opportunities that await our students when they leave our schools.

However, I have decided to focus on my transition from Prince George's County Public Schools. The numerous distractions that have occurred over the course of this school year are unlike anything I've experienced in four

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Rachel Smith, an employee at the at the Spay Spa and Neuter Nook, evaluates a cat from The Humane Society of Somerset County on Wednesday, April 18, 2018, in Davidsonville, Maryland. Each cat received an examination to determine the spay or neuter process needed for the animal.

CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE PHOTO BY LAYNE LITSINGER

## Statewide Spay and Neuter Program Shows Promising Signs

By LAYNE LITSINGER Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS, MD—Every other Wednesday morning, Jack Mills and Wendy Ross, with the Somerset County Humane Society, load up their truck of cats and dogs and drive two hours to the Spay Spa and Neuter Nook in Davidsonville, Maryland.

Mills and Ross bring a truckload of around 40 animals, mainly cats, between 9:30 a.m. and 10 a.m., when the clinic be-

gins a day spaying and neutering the animals.

Somerset, one of the poorest counties in Maryland, does not have its own low-cost clinic or animal shelter. Without the state Spay and Neuter Grant Program, counties like Somerset would not be able to manage the care of cats and dogs, program officials told Capital News Service.

Places like the Spay Spa and Neuter Nook receive the majority of their funding from this

state grant and donations, which is why they can afford to help The Humane Society of Somerset County.

Fewer adoptable dogs and cats are being euthanized in Maryland since the state began a Spay and Neuter Grants Program in 2013, according to data from the Maryland Department of Agriculture compiled from 2013 to 2016.

Euthanasia decreased by 39 percent, to 4,979 animals, from fall 2013 to the end of 2016,

and total intake decreased by 3 percent statewide, to 18,504 animals during the same time period, according to the Maryland State Department of Agriculture's initial report on the program.

Animal intake increased from 2015 to 2017, but the program has maintained a steady decrease in the statewide euthanasia rate, according to the

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## PG County Celebrates Arbor Day

Receives Tree City USA® Award for the 34th Consecutive Year

By PRESS OFFICER PG County Government

LARGO, MD—On April 27, 2018, Prince George's County officials joined members of the Prince George's County Beautification Committee (PGCBC), Birchwood/Clearview Community, and other volunteers to plant 25 native trees in honor of Arbor Day. The trees were planted on the grounds of the Birchwood City Community Recreation Center located in Oxon Hill. The Glassmanor/Oxon Hill area was one of the first selected for inclusion into Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III's signature Transforming Neighborhoods Initiative (TNI) in 2012.

As the first team leader of the Glassmanor/Oxon Hill TNI, Prince George's County Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Public Infrastructure, Barry L. Stanton reminded the group of why Arbor Day is important to the community.

"This Arbor Day celebration serves as confirmation of what happens when a seed is planted and bears fruit in a community

that has made connections," he "What I love about Arbor



PHOTO COURTESY PG COUNTY GOVERNMENT

stated. "If this day is to be a day of celebration centered around the collaborative spirit of bringing communities together then we should all work to make every day Arbor Day."

DoE Director Adam Ortiz presented Birchwood/Clearview Sustainable/Oxon Hill TNI Advocate, Sharon R. Sims with an Arbor Day proclamation and shared that planting and protecting trees is a vital part of making Prince George's a greener County.

Day is that it's such a simple act to plant trees, but it has an impact that ripples far beyond this day and our lifetime," said Ortiz. "What we do here today will affect the lives of people that we may never know but will help make a difference in their community."

Prince George's County was recognized by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources

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## More Than Half of PGCPS Schools, Centers Are Certified "Green"

By PRESS OFFICER PGCPS

UPPER MARLBORO, MD—Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) continues to lead the state in new certified Green Schools. This week, the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE) announced new Maryland Green Schools for the 2017-18 school year. Of the 52 new Maryland Green Schools, PGCPS added 18 and had three recertified, raising the school system's total

number of Green Schools from 92 to 110.

"The Maryland Green Schools certification program is one of the most rigorous and comprehensive in the nation. We are proud to lead the state in sustainable schools that serve as a model for environmental awareness, management and education in our communities," said Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell, Chief Executive Officer for PGCPS.

The school system's William S. Schmidt Outdoor Education Center, which provides an overnight outdoor education pro-

gram to all fifth-graders annually, last year received MAEOE's prestigious Maryland Green Center Sustainable Award this year. The Center has played a key role in growing the number of certifications by assisting schools with achieving and maintaining Green School status through modeling, educational programs, application guidance, and support.

The following PGCPS schools earned new certifications or were recertified:

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## EDC Joins Forces with Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Major Economic Drivers Sign MOU and Open Satellite Office at EDC Headquarters

By PRESS OFFICER Lori C. Valentine

LARGO, M.D.—On April 26, 2018, the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) hosted a Press Conference and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Greater Wash-

ington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (GWHCC) formalizing their commitment to enhancing the connection between existing Prince George's County businesses and the Latino small business community. As a symbol of their ground breaking partnership, Prince George's County invited the GWHCC to open its

first satellite office in the EDC headquarters in Largo, MD.

"This is a historic moment in Prince George's County and for the GWHCC," said Jim Coleman, President and CEO of the EDC. "Never before has there

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### INSIDE

#### Washington D.C. Area's Food Bank Teams Up With Nutrition Education Nonprofit Students and Their Families

Nearly 130,000 individuals in Prince George's County, 22 percent of whom are children, lack consistent access to nutritionally adequate food, according to Feeding America.

Community, Page A3

#### Only the Truth Will Set Us Free

Today, racially skewed rates of gun deaths, school suspensions, corporal punishment, incarceration, illiteracy, and poverty have become new ways of continuing the same old patterns. Lynchings may have stopped but the assault on Black bodies, children, and communities has not and Black opportunity still lags behind that of Whites.

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#### Hogan Administration's Maryland Business Express Website Receives National Awards

The new Maryland Business Express is an inter-agency collaboration that combines information and resources previously spread across numerous state agencies and departments into one user-friendly and easy-to-navigate site.

Business, Page A5

#### Movie Review: Tomb Raider

The appealing Alicia Vikander plays Lara Croft, a spunky young London woman who hustles to support herself as a bike delivery-person. Her billionaire father vanished seven years ago, and Lara could have his fortune if only she'd follow the advice of family friend/former guardian Ana Miller and sign the papers acknowledging his probable death.

Out on the Town, Page A6

#### Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

I heard that the apparel industry has a huge carbon footprint and environmental impact. What are manufacturers doing to combat this problem?

—Bea Wilson, Miami, F

Features, Page A7

# Towns and NEIGHBORS

## In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301 735 3451

### South County teachers awarded Golden Apple Award for excellence

Mary Hay, Paul O'Brien and Jennifer Whelan are among ten teachers who'll be honored May 10 at the 10th annual Golden Apple Awards dinner at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington for excellence in teaching and commitment to Catholic Education.

Three of the teachers are from South County:

Mary Hay will be awarded her Golden Apple for the outstanding work she does as a resource teacher at St. Philip the Apostle School in Camp Springs.

Paul O'Brien, who teaches theology at Bishop McNamara High School in Forestville, will receive the award for inspiring his students.

Jennifer Whelan, a math and science teacher at St. Columba School in Oxon Hill, will receive the Golden Apple for helping her students appreciate math.

Seven other teachers are from schools in Bowie, Bryantown, College Park and Olney.

The teachers are from Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Washington, nominated by their colleagues, students and school parents for exemplifying the best in instructional strategies, Catholic identity and knowledge of curriculum.

Each recipient will receive a \$5,000 prize, a certificate, and a Golden Apple. And they will make their school proud.

### Coming up

The Surratt House, in Clinton, will "Celebrate Our Local Bounty" on June 23 when they open the museum grounds to local farmers and gardeners who'll sell their wares and discuss gardening techniques. Admission is free, and includes a free tour of the historic house. Hours: noon to 4 PM.

## Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301 888 2153

### MELWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Late last year, five members of MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center's Emergency Department trained 150 kindergarten and first graders to be ER techs for a morning at Melwood Elementary School in Upper Marlboro. The hospital's Community Outreach Department provided each student with their own teddy bear. Each student had to don gloves and surgeon's caps before learning to take care of their bear. The student's learned medical procedures. "The idea behind the day was to take the fear out of doctor or hospital visits for these young students; and to possibly inspire these students to think about a career in the medical profession.

Visit [www.MedStarSouthernMaryland.org/Outreach](http://www.MedStarSouthernMaryland.org/Outreach), or call 301-374-9098 to learn more about MSMHC's Community Outreach Program.

### SPORTS HALL OF FAME ALUMNI CHAPTER

You are cordially invited to the Bowie State University Sports Hall of Fame Alumni Chapter 5th Annual Induction Ceremony Saturday, June 23, 2018 from 7:00 PM–11:00 PM at BWI Airport Marriott. The address is 1743 W Nursery Road, Linthicum Heights, Maryland 21090. Donation: \$85.00 (Dinner and Program).

Call 301-860-4327/301-775-8008 for ticket information. A portion of the proceeds to support the Shof Fund.

The Walk to end Alzheimer's will take place Sept. 29 at National Harbor. For more information, contact LaKeysha Boyd-Moore, 240-518-8496 or [lmoore1@alz.org](mailto:lmoore1@alz.org).

The Town of Morningside will hold its monthly meeting on May 15, 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

The Skyline Citizens Association hosts its spring meeting at the Firehouse on Wednesday, May 16, 7 PM.

### Academia

Kayden Wilkins, a 5th-grader at Melwood Elementary, was crowned Prince George's Spelling Bee Champion April 20 at the Clarice Performing Arts Center, University of Maryland. His parents attributed his success to his love of books.

Three contestants tied for 2nd place: Inioluwa Olaniyan, 7th-grader at Judith P. Hoyer Montessori School; Alyssa Burgos, 7th-grader at Holy Redeemer School; and Olivia Allen, 8th-grader at St. Mary's of the Mills School.

### Eats

Horace & Dickies Seafood & Chicken has opened on Allentown Road, across from Malcolm Grow Medical Center. They advertise "Family owned and operated" and offer 25% off for all military, police & fire department personnel with active duty I.D.

Buffalo Wild Wings is coming to Capitol Heights at 1630 Ritchie Station Court. It advertises: Big Screens and HDTVs, The Hottest Sports Action, 16 Signature Sauces, 5 Seasonings, Free Wi-Fi, and Boneless Thursdays. Dine-in or take-out.

### Feeling lucky?

There's Bingo every Wednesday night at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Forestville. Doors open at 5 PM; sales begin at 6; and early birds at 7. There's

also the new Team Vivian in the kitchen with a full short-order menu every week.

### Changing landscape

The latest word is work will begin on replacing the Surratts-Clinton Library Branch this fall. (I will miss it!) Meanwhile, the new Laurel Library has won the 2018 award for excellence in architectural design. It's the only library in Maryland to receive this award in the past 43 years.

Subway is closing 500 U.S. stores. I wonder if any of our local Subways (like the one in Morningside) will get the axe.

### Morningside Memories: 1979

Forty years ago, on June 2, 1979, the Town of Morningside dedicated its new Community Center with special ceremonies, naming the Center in memory of Morningside Police Chief Matthew Rosch who had died in 1976. Virginia Rosch attended, in memory of her husband Matt.

The Town Council was delighted to move to new digs. They were Mayor Gerald Glaubitz and Council Members Bonnie Kamenicky, Charles Kiker, James Musser and Charles Roberts.

### She worked in the Kennedy White House

Elizabeth M. "Liz" Maruca, 83, formerly of Camp Springs and Dunkirk, who served in the Executive Office of the White House during the Kennedy administration, died April 25 at the home of her daughter in Fairport, N.Y.

She also held positions with the Department of Agriculture, Government Printing Office and the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration from which she retired.

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## Neighborhoods

### BGE Holds Annual PeakRewards<sup>SM</sup> Preseason Cycling Event to Prepare for Summer

BALTIMORE, MD—On April 26, 2018, BGE announced its annual preseason cycling event on the systems that cycle central air conditioners and electric water heaters of customers who voluntarily enrolled in the BGE PeakRewards programs. PeakRewards participants receive bill credits of up to \$100 during cycling season for allowing BGE to cycle their central air conditioner or heat pump and/or electric water heater during periods of peak electricity usage. Last summer, PeakRewards participants received over \$21 million in bill credits.

"Every year, BGE carefully reviews all aspects of the PeakRewards program in an effort to continuously improve our system operations and communications with our customers," said Rodney Oddoye, vice president of customer operations and chief customer officer for BGE. "This annual test helps ensure our customers and systems are prepared for summer when cycling events are most likely to be called."

PeakRewards participants received a letter informing them of the preseason event and that their central air conditioner or heat pump will be cycled up to their chosen level: 50, 75 or 100 percent during today's event. Customers enrolled in the PeakRewards Electric Water Heater program will also be cycled during the preseason cycling event. During the event, program participants will have power to their water heaters interrupted and no additional hot water will be produced for the duration of the event. To minimize the impact, the preseason event has been scheduled to coincide with mild temperatures between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on a weekday when many customers are less likely to be at home. PeakRewards participants will be unable to override participation in this test event. Customers with medical or health issues that may be impacted by program participation or who require assistance should call the PeakRewards customer hotline at 1.888.309.PEAK (7325).

Cycling events will typically occur during the summer months of June through September but can happen during other months throughout the year. Cycling typically occurs Monday through Friday but the actual start time, end time, duration and day of the week of each cycling varies. The length of a cycling event will depend on the need for BGE to reduce electric demand. It generally begins between noon and 3 p.m. and could last seven hours or longer if system conditions require a longer transition to normal operations.

PeakRewards participants are notified of cycling events through many channels. Notifications will be sent by email or text for participants who have requested to receive PeakRewards cycling event

alerts. Participants are encouraged to sign up to receive event notifications by SMS / text message. SMS text messages are an easy way to receive immediate notification about cycling events directly to a mobile phone. To update contact information and notification preferences, customers should visit [BGE.com/MyNotifications](http://BGE.com/MyNotifications). Information about cycling events will also be posted to the PeakRewards Event Central webpage, [BGEsavings.com/PeakRewardsEvent](http://BGEsavings.com/PeakRewardsEvent).

The more than 320,000 customers who participate in PeakRewards help reduce the likelihood of power outages when electricity use is highest—normally summer days with extreme temperatures. For more information on how to enroll in PeakRewards, visit [BGEsavings.com](http://BGEsavings.com) or call 1-888-309-PEAK(7325).

### Maryland Health Care Commission Awards Medication Reconciliation and Management Telehealth Grant

University of Maryland Quality Care Network will receive funding to demonstrate the impact of using telehealth technology to advance medication management and reconciliation within a multi-disciplinary care team

BALTIMORE, MD—On April 26, 2018, the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) announced the award of a telehealth grant to demonstrate the impact of using telehealth technology to provide pharmacist support to help health care professionals better manage their patients' medication regimens and improve care coordination and health outcomes of Maryland residents. The award was in response to a competitive grant announcement released in November 2017. The grant will operate from April 2018 to October 2019. Funding for the project is about \$329,000.

The grantee, the University of Maryland Quality Care Network, in partnership with the e-Health Center at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, the University of Maryland Medical System Telemedicine Program (e-Care), and the University of Maryland Community Medical Group of the Eastern Shore, plans to improve access to medication reconciliation by a pharmacist for patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in rural Maryland. The project aims to improve health outcomes and reduce hospital and emergency room costs for patients with COPD through greater sharing of accurate medication information via telehealth.

Telehealth can enhance care delivery and support care teams to reduce hospital emergency department visits, inpatient admissions, and readmissions; enable the early provision of appropriate treatment; and provide cost savings to patients and providers.

### BGE Helps Customers Grow Energy Savings with Tree Giveaway

BALTIMORE, MD—BGE kicked off its sixth consecutive year of providing free trees to customers on April 27, 2018, through its Energy Saving Trees Program. In partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation, BGE will distribute 1,000 trees throughout Baltimore City and Baltimore, Carroll and Cecil Counties this spring and this fall.

"We are committed to environmental stewardship and helping our customers to realize long-term energy savings," said Valencia McClure, BGE's vice president of governmental and external affairs and corporate relations. "Everyone benefits from the positive environmental impacts of a healthy tree canopy, and we are proud to be a part of a greener, cleaner future for central Maryland."

Since 2013, BGE customers have received more than 26,000 trees through the company's joint effort with the Arbor Day Foundation. In 2017, BGE donated trees to residents in Howard County, Laurel, Bowie and Annapolis to help maintain their tree canopies.

According to the Arbor Day Foundation, the more than 26,000 trees planted by BGE customers have helped:

- Avoid nearly 55,000 tons of carbon dioxide
- Filter 611 million gallons of storm water
- Save more than 41,000 megawatt hours of electricity
- Save more than 1.8 million natural gas therms.

Trees are made available through the Arbor Day Foundation. To ensure that these trees do not impact the safety and reliability of overhead and underground energy systems and the customers they serve, BGE advises customers to call 811 and have all underground utilities marked before any digging project. BGE also provides these "Right Tree, Right Place" guidelines:

- Do not plant trees on electric transmission or natural gas rights-of-way.
- Do not plant trees near natural gas pipelines (marked by yellow markers), underground electric lines (marked by white or red markers) or their rights-of-way.
- The Right Tree Right Place Guide lists acceptable trees for planting near utility equipment not located on rights-of-way or near pipelines and underground electric lines.
- Please contact BGE with any questions.

For more information, visit the website at [www.BGE.com/TreeCare/RightTree](http://www.BGE.com/TreeCare/RightTree).

For more information on BGE's Energy Saving Trees Program, visit the website at <https://www.bge.com/Safety-Community/Environment/Pages/EnergySavingTreeProgram.aspx>.

### 2018 PRIMARY ELECTION-EARLY VOTING

You can vote at your convenience. Early voting starts Thursday, June 14, 2018 through Thursday, June 21, 2018. Polls open at 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

Election Day is Tuesday, June 26, 2018. Polls open at 7:00 AM and close at 8:00 PM. Important dates to remember are Voter Registration Deadline: Tuesday, June 5, 2018 at 9:00 PM, Absentee Ballot Application Deadline: Tuesday,

June 19, 2018 at 8:00 PM (mail) or 11:59 PM (fax/email). For more information, contact the Prince George's County Board of Elections at 301-341-7300 or <http://elections.mypgc.us> or email: [election@co.pg.md.us](mailto:election@co.pg.md.us).



# COMMENTARY

## Cong. Chris Van Hollen United States Senator for Maryland



### Chris Van Hollen and Jack Reed Urge Congress to Fund Childhood Cancer Initiatives

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Senators Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) and Jack Reed (D-R.I.) have led a letter urging Congress to provide \$30 million to the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Health and Human Services to fund the childhood cancer programs established in the Childhood Cancer Survivorship, Treatment, Access, and Research (STAR) Act. These programs will advance pediatric cancer research and child-focused cancer treatments, while also improving childhood cancer data collection and analysis and providing resources for survivors and those impacted by childhood cancer. The STAR Act recently passed the Senate unanimously, and, given previous House passage, it is expected to be signed into law before FY 2019. The legislation was introduced by Senators Van Hollen and Reed in addition to Senators Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.) and Johnny Isakson (R-Ga.) in February 2017. In 2009, when Senator Van Hollen was serving in the House, he and Congressman McCaul co-founded the Childhood Cancer Caucus as a platform to advocate for children and families across the country who have been impacted by this life-altering diagnosis.

In their letter, the Senators write, “While some progress has been made in pediatric cancer research—leading to a decline in childhood cancer deaths by almost 70 percent over the last four decades—cancer is still the leading cause of death by disease past infancy among children in the United States, according to the National

Cancer Institute (NCI). And while survival rates for some forms of childhood cancer like leukemia have increased to greater than 85 percent, the median survival rate for other childhood cancers such as diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma is less than one year.”

They continued, “With the goal of raising overall survivorship rates, the Childhood Cancer STAR Act authorizes key research initiatives, such as biorepositories at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and surveillance at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), while focusing on some of the least-studied and understood childhood cancers. Further, childhood cancer survivors continue to face significant health issues requiring specialized follow-up care for the rest of their lives.”

The Senators closed the letter stating, “We ask that you also fully fund the Childhood Cancer STAR Act provisions to develop best practices for the treatment of late effects of childhood cancers, to improve collaboration among providers so that doctors are better able to care for this population as they age, and to create innovative models of care for childhood cancer survivors.”

In addition to Senators Van Hollen and Reed, this letter was signed by Senators Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), Ed Markey (D-Mass.), Michael Bennet (D-Colo.), Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.), Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.), Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.), Chris Murphy

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## Marc Morial, President and CEO National Urban League



### Honor the Memory of Nashville Victims by Voting for Leaders Who Support Gun Reforms

“From 1986 to 1996, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) sponsored high-quality, peer-reviewed research into the underlying causes of gun violence. People who kept guns in their homes did not—despite their hopes—gain protection ... Instead, residents in homes with a gun faced a 2.7-fold greater risk of homicide and a 4.8-fold greater risk of suicide. The National Rifle Association moved to suppress the dissemination of these results and to block funding of future government research into the causes of firearm injuries. ... As a consequence, U.S. scientists cannot answer the most basic question: What works to prevent firearm injuries?”

—Mark Rosenberg, former director of the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the CDC and former U.S. Rep. Jay Dickey, who sponsored (to his later regret) the amendment that blocks the CDC from funding gun injury prevention research

This week’s tragedy at a Nashville-area Waffle House brings the nation’s gun-death toll for 2018 to 4,422, and the number of mass-shooting victims to 69.

The relentless pace of gun violence in America threatens to dull our outrage, and focus on the perpetrators threatens to bury the memory of the victims and the heroism of those who showed grace under pressure. The Nashville shooter snuffed out the lives of four young people: Taurean Sanderlin, 29, Joe Perez, 20, DeEbony Groves, 21, and Akilah DaSilva, 23.

Known as “T” by his friends, Taurean had worked at the Waffle House as a cook for about five years. Joe worked as a subcontractor for a moving company. DeEbony, a former standout high school basketball player, had made Dean’s List at Belmont University. Akilah, who went by the nickname Matrix, studied musical engineering at Middle Tennessee State University.

From this tragedy has emerged a hero: not only did James Shaw Jr. tackle the gunman and wrest

away his AR-15 assault rifle—severely burning his hands in the process—but he also set up a memorial fund for the victims, raising nearly \$100,000. In interviews, Shaw has said he wants his 4-year-old daughter to grow up in a less-violent world.

“I hope we can bring violence in all facets—not just gun violence, but all facets of violence—to an end,” he said.

Admirers have created a college fund for Shaw’s daughter.

Law enforcement has not identified a motive for the shootings, but the gunman’s history of mental health issues and delusions is well-documented. It’s beyond question the man shouldn’t have had access to firearms. His guns had, in fact, been confiscated and his license to carry them revoked in Illinois. The guns were released to the shooter’s father, who returned them to the shooter when he moved to Tennessee.

Federal law allows for a weapons to be seized when someone is convicted of a felony or involuntarily committed for mental health treatment. But Illinois is one of only a few states where firearms can be seized if someone’s behavior constitutes a “clear and present danger” but does not necessarily rise to a felony conviction or involuntary commitment.

It’s unclear whether the shooter’s father violated federal law by returning the guns, but there is no law in Tennessee that would have barred him from possessing them.

As if the nation needed another reminder, we must reinstate the federal ban on assault weapons and impose a limit on magazine capacity. It is only because the Waffle House shooter paused to reload that James Shaw Jr. had the opportunity to disarm him and save countless lives.

The most important way we can honor the memory of Taurean Sanderlin, Joe Perez, DeEbony Groves, and Akilah DaSilva, and fulfill the vision of James Shaw, Jr., is to vote for leaders who will heed the demands of the majority of Americans and enact sensible gun reforms.

## The Prince George’s Ballroom



Open to the Public

PHOTO CREDIT: PG PARKS & RECREATION

### THE PRINCE GEORGE’S BALLROOM

The Prince George’s Ballroom features a grand art deco ballroom and a large brick patio with breathtaking views of the adjoining golf course and distant hills. The Ballroom, with its spectacular wood floors, brass chandeliers and french doors leading to a contemporary sun porch, is an excellent venue for weddings, receptions, and corporate meetings and seminars. The peaceful atmosphere, gorgeous sunsets over the adjoining hills, and lush surrounding woodlands offer the perfect setting for any event. Amenities include tables and chairs, a large commercial warming kitchen, ample free parking, and wheelchair accessibility. Licensed and insured caterers accepted. For fees and availability, please call 301-341-7439.

## Child Watch by Marion Wright Edelman



### Only the Truth Will Set Us Free

“We want to tell the truth, because we believe in truth and reconciliation but we know that truth and reconciliation are sequential. We can’t get to where we’re trying to go if we don’t tell the truth first.”

—Bryan Stevenson

On April 26 I was deeply honored to participate in the opening summit of the Legacy Museum and National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama. These profoundly moving new landmarks are the vision of Bryan Stevenson, the brilliant founder and executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI). Bryan has spent his professional life fighting unjust incarceration, especially death row cases, and fighting for racial justice in our criminal system. This has evolved to include the consuming determination to document, remember, and honor the victims of racial terror and lynchings in America—work now immortalized at this museum and memorial which I encourage everyone to visit and take your children and grandchildren with you.

EJI has identified more than 4,400 Black men, women, and children who were hanged, burned alive, shot, drowned, and beaten to death by White mobs between 1877 and 1950. They are honored here in a powerful and sacred outdoor space where their names and dates of death are engraved onto 800 steel monuments, one for every county where a racial terror lynching took place. Many of the monuments are suspended from the ceiling, literally evoking a hanging. EJI explains why this memorial was needed: “EJI believes that publicly confronting the truth about our history is the first step towards recovery and reconciliation. A history of racial injustice must be acknowledged, and mass atrocities and abuse must be recognized and remembered, before a society can recover from mass violence ... The museum and memorial are part of EJI’s work to advance truth and reconciliation around race in America and to more honestly confront the legacy of slavery, lynching, and segregation.”

This confrontation of America’s original birth defects is des-

perately needed. Lynching, Jim Crow, and legal segregation were all part of a deep-seated pattern of racial subordination in America that lasted long after slavery ended and affects us still. Today, racially skewed rates of gun deaths, school suspensions, corporal punishment, incarceration, illiteracy, and poverty have become new ways of continuing the same old patterns. Lynchings may have stopped but the assault on Black bodies, children, and communities has not and Black opportunity still lags behind that of Whites.

More than 150 years after slavery was legally abolished Black children and teens are still being sentenced to physical, social, and economic death in our nation at astonishing rates. EJI data show between 1877 and 1950 at least one Black person was killed by lynching every week on average among the 12 most active lynching states—Mississippi, Georgia, Louisiana, Arkansas, Alabama, Texas, Florida, Tennessee, South Carolina, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Virginia—and some of the most pronounced racial disparities today still exist in those states.

Consider a few facts: the Black child remains the poorest child in

America. In 2016, about 1 in 3 Black children was poor and a Black baby was born into poverty every 4 minutes. In 6 of the 12 states with the highest lynching rates Black child poverty rates were at least 40 percent.

Gun deaths remain the leading cause of death for Black children and teens. A Black child or teen is killed with a gun every 6 hours and 34 minutes. Between 1963 and 2016, 65,947 Black children and teens have been killed by guns—more than 16 times the recorded number of lynchings. Where is our equivalent anti-lynching movement today to give our children a chance to grow up safely?

More than 80 percent of 4th and 8th grade Black public school students could not read at grade level in 2015, and millions of Black students still attend separate and unequal schools. More than 1 in 3 Black students in the most active lynching states attended intensely segregated schools with at least 90 percent non-White enrollment in 2014.

Black children are suspended from public schools at a rate four times greater than White chil-

See **WATCH**, Page A8

## The Prince George’s Post

The Prince George’s Post  
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# BUSINESS

## Social Security Matters

### Ask Rusty—Legal Non-Citizen Resident Gets Spousal Benefits

by Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

**Dear Rusty:** We have gone to the Social Security office because we were told that my husband might be eligible to receive Social Security benefits, but they told him he had not worked enough quarters and that he could not collect benefits. My husband is from England and holds a green card, and we have been married for 8 years living in the United States. I am 71 and started receiving my Social Security a few months after I retired at age 69. My husband is also 71 but according to Social Security he can't get benefits. Is it because he is not a citizen? I read in one of your articles that a wife who had not worked outside the home was entitled to ½ of her husband's benefit at age 69. So why can't my husband get benefits from my record?

**Signed: Feeling Cheated**

**Dear Feeling Cheated:** Social Security benefits may be paid to non-citizens whose permanent residency is lawfully established as one of the following:

- Noncitizens lawfully admitted for permanent residence under the (INA);
- Certain noncitizens admitted under other INA classifications that allow them to live and work in the United States;
- Noncitizens admitted under Family Unity or Immediate Relative provisions; and
- Other noncitizens who are fully insured for retirement, survivors or disability benefits, and who continue to meet U.S. lawful presence requirements.

Non-citizens in the above categories are eligible to receive Social Security benefits provided they are otherwise eligible and have resided in the U.S. for at least 5 years. Although your husband may not qualify to receive Social Security retirement benefits from his own U.S. work record, with legal permanent resident status he should be entitled to receive Social Security spousal benefits on your record. I assume that your husband has

See ASK RUSTY Page A7

## Hogan Administration's Maryland Business Express Website Receives National Awards

Users Describe the Site as "Wonderful," "Simple," and the "Best Government Site I Have Visited"

By PRESS OFFICER MD SDAT

BALTIMORE, MD—The Hogan administration's Maryland Business Express website was recently named "State IT Innovation of the Year" by StateScoop, and it also received a Gold Hermes Creative Award from the Association of Marketing & Communication Professionals. The state's new website, located at [businessexpress.maryland.gov](http://businessexpress.maryland.gov), is making it easier than ever for small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs to plan, start, manage, and grow their business in the state. Corbett Webb, Chief of Staff for the Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT), was also named "State Up & Comer" by StateScoop due to his efforts in spearheading the Maryland Business Express initiative.

"I am so proud of all of the hard work that went into developing this site, which is a fantastic resource for small business owners and entrepreneurs in Maryland," said SDAT Director Michael Higgs. "We are honored to receive these prestigious awards, and will continue to pursue our goal to make government services more accessible to Maryland business owners by providing more services online."

The national StateScoop Awards recognize innovative approaches to making state government more effective and efficient, while the international Gold Hermes Creative Awards recognize creative approaches to the concept, writing, and design of traditional and emerging media. The new Maryland Business Express is an inter-agency collaboration that combines information and resources previously spread across numerous state agencies and departments into one user-friendly and easy-to-navigate site.

"As a coordinating office of Governor Larry Hogan, it is our mission to connect Maryland's small business community to greater economic opportunities," said Jimmy Rhee, Secretary of the Governor's Office of Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs. "The new Maryland Business Express brings greater cohesiveness to the vast resources spread across dozens of state agencies and serves businesses at every stage of the life cycle. It will undoubtedly become the premier tool for aspiring entrepreneurs as well as existing small, minority, and women owned businesses."

The site was officially unveiled at Governor Larry Hogan's Southern Maryland Regional Cabinet Meeting in

March, and since has received very positive feedback:

**Virginia Foster, Maryland small-business owner:**

"I just accessed the [businessexpress.maryland.gov](http://businessexpress.maryland.gov) site. I really like the interface. Clean, simple, everything organized by the function a new business owner would be looking to access. I think I will model my business website after this site's user's interface.

"Best government site I have visited."

**David DiPaola, President & CEO of DiPaola Consulting:**

"Today, I used the new Maryland Business Express to make my annual filings and it was awesome. Done in 45 minutes or less. Really seamless.

"In the past, I have strongly considered reopening in other states but with the improvements your team and Gov. Hogan has made that makes zero sense and I plan to stay in Maryland. Thank you for working so hard for small businesses in Maryland, you are really making great progress!"

**Brendan Majeve, Black Card Rogue**

"It is so cool to play with the MD Biz Express web site. I run a web based business on the side

and this is a fantastic place for me to start."

**Keith Scott, President & CEO of the Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce and CEO of TALLsmall Productions:**

"The Chamber strives to promote a sustainable business community across the region, and this new website will be a valuable resource to our hundreds of members and other entrepreneurs across the county. As a small business owner myself, I appreciate the clarity this site brings to the many functions spread across state agencies and how it actually guides you through the process of starting a business."

**Bob Carpenter, President & CEO of the Calvert County Chamber of Commerce:**

"The Maryland Business Express website will be a wonderful tool for those businesses looking to expand as well as those individuals looking to start a business. I found navigation of the site to be very easy and continually find useful information every time I go online. I am excited to share Maryland Business Express with my 400+ Chamber

See WEBSITE Page A8

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MEMBER FDIC

# OUT ON THE TOWN

ERIC D. SNIDER'S  
IN THE DARK  
Movie Review

## Tomb Raider

Tomb Raider  
Grade: C+  
Rated PG-13, a little profanity,  
moderate action violence,  
graphic tomb-raiding  
1 hr., 58 min

Say what you will about the new *Tomb Raider*, it shows a tomb being raided less than 20 minutes after it starts. It's actually a false tomb with a secret room hidden under it, and it's not raided so much as unlocked with a key, but we're counting it.

You have to take what you can get with this film, which is based on the 2013 reboot of the *Tomb Raider* video game whose previous installments inspired the two Angelina Jolie-starring *Tomb Raider* movies in the early 2000s. Directed by Roar Uthaug (he's from Norway) from a screenplay by the extremely British-sounding Geneva Robertson-Dworet and Alastair Siddons, this *Tomb Raider* is a series of moderately exciting situations surrounded by—and barely attached to—a derivative fill-in-the-blanks adventure plot.

The appealing Alicia Vikander plays Lara Croft, a spunky young London woman who hustles to support herself as a bike delivery-person. Her billionaire father (Dominic West) vanished seven years ago, and Lara could have his fortune if only she'd follow the advice of family friend/former guardian Ana Miller (Kristin Scott Thomas) and sign the papers acknowledging his probable death. Instead, Dad's lawyer gives Lara a Japanese puzzle box he left for her, leading her to his secret lair under the family tomb. Turns out Lord Richard Croft moonlighted as a globe-trotting adventurer and has left one of those "If you're watching this I must be dead" videos with a message that Lara ignores in favor of going off to search for him.



ROTTENTOMATOES

**Lara Croft is the fiercely independent daughter of an eccentric adventurer who vanished when she was scarcely a teen. Now a young woman of 21 without any real focus or purpose, Lara navigates the chaotic streets of trendy East London as a bike courier, barely making the rent, and takes college courses, rarely making it to class. Determined to forge her own path, she refuses to take the reins of her father's global empire just as staunchly as she rejects the idea that he's truly gone. Advised to face the facts and move forward after seven years without him, even Lara can't understand what drives her to finally solve the puzzle of his mysterious death. Going explicitly against his final wishes, she leaves everything she knows behind in search of her dad's last-known destination: a fabled tomb on a mythical island that might be somewhere off the coast of Japan. But her mission will not be an easy one; just reaching the island will be extremely treacherous. Suddenly, the stakes couldn't be higher for Lara, who—against the odds and armed with only her sharp mind, blind faith and inherently stubborn spirit—must learn to push herself beyond her limits as she journeys into the unknown. If she survives this perilous adventure, it could be the making of her, earning her the name tomb raider.**

The film is half over when Lara, assisted by Hong Kong boat captain Lu Ren (Daniel Wu), barely makes it alive to Yamatai, a "lost" island where her dad was hunting for an evil Japanese queen's cursed tomb so he could prevent anyone from ever opening it and unleashing whatever dark forces it contains. In favor of opening the tomb is one Mathias Vogel (Walton Goggins), a cold-blooded psycho with an army of slaves digging up the island in search of it.

As someone who has not played the *Tomb Raider* video

games, I assumed Lara Croft would be the sort of heroine who fights a lot of dudes. That's usually a safe bet. But in a disappointing nod to reality, Lara mostly runs away when threatened, never engaging in hand-to-hand combat till the end of the film. Mind you, she's very good at running, and a chase sequence can be as thrilling as a fight, but where does it get us? In one instance, three punks steal her backpack and she chases them down and retrieves it before one of them produces a knife and starts pursuing her. She gets

away without fighting anyone or losing the backpack. So what was the point of the sequence?

Most of the action feels like that: fun in the moment but unimportant in the big picture. Lara participates in a bicycle race (wheel!); Lara is shipwrecked (exciting!); Lara hangs precariously from a great height (several times!). Nothing really connects until we get to the tomb, which naturally is full of Indiana Jones booby traps and puzzles, but by then it's too late. The amiable mediocrity has stilled our interest.

### EDC from A1

been a partnership of this type forged specifically to support our Latino business community. Nicole Quiroga and her team are doing life-changing work every day and we couldn't say 'no' to this type of collaboration. I only wish we'd done it sooner, but our friendship is here now and it's here to stay! El County de Prince George's esta en fuego!"

The signing of this MOU is the result of a continued relationship that has been nurtured between the two parties over the course of the past several years. Working together, the organizations will meet and expand their goals by economically empowering and growing the Latino business community in Prince George's County and the region. They will also help Latino business learn how to create quality jobs, connect to existing Prince George's County businesses, form new partnerships and se-

cure local and federal government procurements opportunities in the County.

"At GWHCC, our daily mission is to connect the Latino Business community to the wide array of resources available to them; and today is no exception," said Nicole Quiroga, President and CEO of the GWHCC. "By joining forces with the EDC, we will be equipped to serve the Hispanic community on a much larger scale."

The Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is a 501(c)(6) organization, founded in 1976, that supports the economic development of the Greater Washington metropolitan area. The GWHCC membership consists of businesses and individuals who represent a broad range of segments of commerce in the Greater Washington area.

The Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation provides business services that help attract, retain, and



PHOTO COURTESY LORI C. VALENTINE

**Nicole Quiroga, President and CEO of GWHCC (l) and Jim Coleman, President and CEO of PGCEDC (r) sign Memorandum of Understanding.**

expand businesses, create high-quality jobs, and expand Prince George's County's commercial tax base. EDC's mission of business attraction and expansion is accomplished through our main business initiatives including Business Development, 'Innovation Station'

Business Accelerator, International Business Development, Workforce Services, and Marketing/Communications.

If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Leslie Munoz at [lmunoz@gwhcc.org](mailto:lmunoz@gwhcc.org) or Lori Valentine at [lvalentine@pgcedc.com](mailto:lvalentine@pgcedc.com).

## Raised Gardening

### Add Gardening Space, Beauty and Ease with Elevated Gardens

By MELINDA MYERS

Elevate your gardens to waist high level for convenience and easy access. Elevated gardens are easy on your back and knees and are perfect for the patio, balcony, deck or any area where a bit of planting space is desired. Place them near your kitchen door, grill or table for easy cooking and serving access. You'll be able to plant, weed and harvest with minimal bending or even from a chair.

Purchase one on wheels or add casters to the legs of your elevated garden for added mobility. Then wheel it into the sun or shade as needed each day or out of the way when you entertain.

Set the garden in place first. Once it's filled with soil, it will be very heavy and difficult to move. Those gardening on a balcony should confirm the space will hold the weight of the elevated garden you select when filled with soil and mature plants.

Make sure you have easy access to water. Since this is basically a container, you will need to check the soil moisture daily and water thoroughly as needed. Fill the elevated garden with a well-drained planting mix that holds moisture while providing needed drainage.

Incorporate a low nitrogen slow release fertilizer like Milorganite ([milorganite.com](http://milorganite.com)) at planting. It contains 85% organic matter, feeding the plants and soil. Slow release fertilizers provide plants with needed nutrients for several months, eliminating the need for weekly fertilization.

Grow a variety of your favorite herbs and vegetables like basil, parsley, compact tomatoes, and peppers. Support vining plants or try compact ones like Mascotte compact bush bean. Add color and dress up your planter with flowers like edible nasturtiums and trailing herbs like thyme and oregano which will cascade over the edge of the planter.

Maximize your growing space by planting quick maturing vegetables like radishes, beets and lettuce in between tomatoes, peppers, cabbage and other vegetables that take longer to reach their mature size. You'll be harvesting the short season vegetables just as the bigger plants need the space.

Further increase your garden's productivity with succession plantings. Fill vacant spaces that are left once a row or block of vegetables are harvested. Add more planting mix if needed.

Select seeds and transplants that will have time to reach maturity for harvesting before the growing season ends. Broccoli, cabbage, compact Patio Pride peas, lettuce, spinach and other greens taste best when harvested in cooler fall temperatures.

Replace weather-worn flowers with cool weather beauties like pansies, nemesis, dianthus, alyssum and snapdragons. Fertilize the whole planter so new plantings and existing plants have the nutrients they need to finish out the season.

Protect your fall flowers, herbs and vegetables from hard frosts with floating row covers. These fabrics allow air, light and water through while trapping the heat around the plant.

Once you discover the fun, flavor and ease of waist high gardening, you'll likely make room for more elevated planters for your future gardening endeavors.



PHOTO COURTESY GARDENER'S SUPPLY COMPANY

**Elevated gardens are an easy and convenient way to add planting space wherever it's desired.**

Melinda Myers has written over 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening* and *the Midwest Gardener's Handbook*. She hosts *The Great Courses* How to Grow Anything: Food Gardening For Everyone DVD set and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV and radio segments. Myers is also a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by *Bonnie Plants* for her expertise to write this article. Myers' website is [www.melindamyers.com](http://www.melindamyers.com).

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# Calendar of Events

May 10 — May 16, 2018

**Smooth Sounds for Seniors: Akua Allrich**  
Date and time: Thursday, May 10, 2018, 12:00 PM–2:00 PM  
Description: Jazz vocalist and DC-native Akua Allrich's musical roots run deeply into blues and soul, with a clear grounding in jazz and pan-African music. She sings in many languages including Portuguese, French, Spanish, English, Xhosa, and Twi. Allrich is often likened to legendary artists such as Oscar Brown Jr., Miriam Makeba, and Nina Simone.  
Cost: \$12/ticket  
Ages: 60 and better  
Location: Montpelier Arts Center  
9652 Muirkirk Road, Laurel, MD  
Contact: 301-377-7800; TTY 301-699-2544

**Xtreme Teens: Dream Team Basketball**  
Date and time: Friday, May 11, 2018, 6:00 PM–9:00 PM  
Description: It's about community, positive relationships and a lot of FUN! Come in, sign up for a team, and play a terrific game of basketball with a "dream team" of other teens and local law enforcement officers. This event is a joint effort among the City of College Park, UMD College Park and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.  
Cost: FREE with M-NCPPC Youth ID  
Ages: 10–17  
Location: College Park Community Center  
5051 Pierce Avenue, College Park, MD  
Contact: 301-441-2647; TTY 301-699-2544

**G.E.A.R.: Jewelry-Making Workshop**  
Date and time: Friday, May 11, 2018, 7:00 PM–9:15 PM  
Description: Learn a different way to be creative, while having the opportunity to rock your creation! Come customize your own personal style and fashion in jewelry.  
Cost: FREE with M-NCPPC Youth ID  
Ages: 10–17  
Location: Prince George's Plaza Community Center  
6600 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD  
Contact: 301-864-1611; TTY 301-699-2544

**Xtreme Teens: Fruit & Fitness**  
Date and time: Friday, May 11, 2018, 7:00 PM–10:00 PM  
Description: Feeling a little sluggish lately? Looking for some inspiration? Well, take the first step and come join us for a day of fitness with friends! After a good workout of burning calories, we'll move to the kitchen to enjoy refreshing, healthy fruit kabobs.  
Cost: FREE with M-NCPPC Youth ID  
Ages: 10–17  
Location: Kentland Community Center  
2413 Pinebrook Avenue, Landover, MD  
Contact: 301-386-2278; TTY 301-699-2544

**Xtreme Teens: Music Shed Night**  
Date and time: Friday, May 11, 2018, 7:00 PM–10:00 PM  
Description: If you've ever wanted to pursue a passion for music, you should find your way here for some valuable information! Come interact with professional musicians as they discuss how they broke into the business, their choice of instrument and how they decided upon playing their instruments. Afterward, listen to a live jam session as the musicians collaborate to make beautiful music!  
Cost: FREE with M-NCPPC Youth ID  
Ages: 10–17  
Location: Good Luck Community Center  
8601 Good Luck Road, Lanham, MD  
Contact: 301-552-1093; TTY 301-699-2544

**Mother's Day in New York**  
Date and time: Saturday, May 12, 2018, 6:00 AM–10:00 PM  
Description: Come travel with us and enjoy a day trip to New York in honor of Mother's Day! We will enjoy an Off-Broadway play, "Sistas", shop till you drop and tour the streets of the city. Trip includes motor coach transportation, continental breakfast, snacks and a ticket to the play.  
Cost: Resident \$150; Non-resident \$195  
Ages: 18 and older  
Location: Prince George's Sports & Learning Complex  
8001 Sheriff Road, Landover, MD  
Contact: 301-583-2582; TTY 301-699-2544

**The Art of Yoga**  
Date and time: Saturday, May 12, 2018, 11:00 AM–12:00 PM  
Description: Enjoy an hour-long yoga class in the beautiful galleries of Montpelier Arts Center. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat. Following the class, explore the art exhibitions in the galleries and discover the gorgeous grounds of Montpelier.  
Cost: FREE  
Ages: 18 and older  
Location: Montpelier Arts Center  
9652 Muirkirk Road, Laurel, MD  
Contact: 301-377-7800; TTY 301-699-2544

**Mother's Day in the Gardens**  
Date and time: Sunday, May 13, 2018, 12:15 PM–3:15 PM  
Description: Treat your mother, or other special ladies, to a FREE! guided tour of the mansion. Cap off the afternoon with a glass of lemonade and stroll through the garden. Limited to one free tour per paid admission.  
Cost: Adults: \$5; Seniors 60 and better: \$4; Students: \$2; FREE! ages 4 & under  
Ages: All ages are welcome  
Location: Riversdale House Museum  
4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park, MD  
Contact: 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544

**Xtreme Teens: Crab Soccer**  
Date and time: Saturday, May 12, 2018, 7:00 PM–10:00 PM  
Description: This is a test of physical dexterity! In this soccer game with a twist, you must walk like a crab to score goals for your team—only using your feet!!  
Cost: FREE! with M-NCPPC Youth ID  
Ages: 10–17  
Location: Good Luck Community Center  
8601 Good Luck Road, Lanham, MD  
Contact: 301-552-1093; TTY 301-699-2544

## EARTH TALK ... Green Apparel: Not Just A Color Choice

Dear EarthTalk:

I heard that the apparel industry has a huge carbon footprint and environmental impact. What are manufacturers doing to combat this problem?  
—Bea Wilson,  
Miami, FL

It is true that making and distributing new clothing has a huge impact on the environment. Cotton production is beset by synthetic chemical inputs including pesticides, fertilizers and dyes, not to mention the setting aside of so many millions of acres of farmland that could be used to feed hungry mouths.

Meanwhile, polyester and other synthetic fabrics may not take up crop land, but they are made out of petroleum and thus contribute to our continuing reliance on fossil fuels.

Another environmental issue with the apparel industry is how much shipping goes on to get raw materials to and finished products out of pollution-spewing factories across China, Indonesia and other far flung locales where labor and real estate are cheap.

So, what can be done? For one, if you like cotton, go organic. And bonus points if it's grown and processed locally or at least within the U.S., saving greenhouse gas emissions

caused by shipping long distance. Meanwhile, if you're a fan of synthetic fibers—or rely on them for their technical performance attributes, you should look to buy used items or new ones made from recycled materials.

California-based outdoor gear and clothing manufacturer Patagonia has pioneered reusing and recycling of its clothing items through its landmark Common Threads program. Patagonia customers can get their jackets, shirts, hoodies and other favorite items repaired for free by the company. You can bring those damaged items into a Patagonia store or mail them into company headquarters to be repaired, returned and put back in your regular rotation.

And if you're just plain tired of your Patagonia wear, the company will take it back and give you a credit towards something new. Your old jacket could well end up for sale on Patagonia's Worn Wear website—cleaned, repaired and available for a third of the price you paid for it new.

Meanwhile, other apparel companies are blazing new trails, too, when it comes to sustainability. Another California company, Scalable Press, for instance, has prioritized sustainability as it ramps up sales of its custom-printed t-shirts and other clothing items. By diverting



CREDIT: EARTH TALK

One way to make that puffy jacket last longer while giving it a little panache is by adding a patch from Wyoming-based Noso.

waste and turning it into fuel, recycling water used during production processes, pushing virtual samples over physical ones so as to produce less waste, and encouraging its customers to choose "direct-to-garment" printing (which doesn't require using energy-intensive industrial drying machines), Scalable is setting a high bar for other clothing and screen printing businesses to follow.

Yet another way to make apparel last longer while giving it a little panache is by adding a patch from Wyoming-based Noso. Kelli Jones launched the company in 2015 after realizing that there might be a market for the homemade star and heart patches she was using to

mend her own ripped or torn outdoor gear. "The average American tosses away 70 pounds of textiles annually," Jones tells Outside. "If a critical mass of people starts patching their gear instead of trashing it, that has an impact."

CONTACTS: Patagonia Worn Wear, wornwear.patagonia.com; Scalable Press, scalablepress.com; Noso Patches, www.nosopatches.com.

**EarthTalk®** is written and edited by Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss and is a registered trademark of E - The Environmental Magazine (www.emagazine.com).

Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

### Ask Rusty from A5

a U.S. Social Security Number, because you said they told him he "had not worked a sufficient number of quarters," which would mean they thought he was applying for his own retirement benefits. That being the case, your husband should now apply for spousal benefits based upon your work record and be prepared to show them the necessary documentation to prove his legal non-citizen status as well as your marital status. His spousal benefits should equal ½

of the benefit amount you were entitled to at your full retirement age of 66. You may want to try to make a case that Social Security made a mistake when they originally denied his request, because he was eligible for spousal benefits and they did not accept his application. In that case, if you can prove it was their mistake, they should pay your husband spousal benefits back to the day of your original meeting with them.

(Post-script: This couple returned to the Social Security office as recommended armed

with the above information. The husband was ultimately awarded spousal benefits on the wife's record, and received benefits retroactive to the date he first applied.)

The information presented in this article is intended for general information purposes only. The opinions and interpretations expressed are the viewpoints of the AMAC Foundation's Social Security Advisory staff, trained and accredited under the National Social Security Advisors program of the National Social

Security Association, LLC (NSSA). NSSA, the AMAC Foundation, and the Foundation's Social Security Advisors are not affiliated with or endorsed by the United States Government, the Social Security Administration, or any other state government. Furthermore, the AMAC Foundation and its staff do not provide legal or accounting services. The Foundation welcomes questions from readers regarding Social Security issues. To submit a request, contact the Foundation at info@amacfoundation.org.

### Cancer from A4

(D-Conn.), Bill Nelson (D-Fla.), Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.), Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.), and Gary Peters (D-Mich.).

As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator Van Hollen actively fights for Maryland interests and works to negotiate the details of each bill. He has teamed up with his colleagues to join and lead a series of letters on particular areas of interest.

The letter follows and a PDF can be found at the website https://www.vanhollen.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/LHHS%20-%20Childhood%20Cancer%20STAR%20Act%20FY19.pdf.

Dear Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Murray:

As you begin work on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill, we urge you to provide \$30 million to fund the childhood cancer programs established in the Childhood Cancer Survivorship, Treatment, Access, and Research (STAR) Act. This legislation recently passed the Senate unanimously, and given previous House passage, we have every expectation that it will be signed into law before the start of FY 2019.

While some progress has been made in pediatric cancer research—leading to a decline in childhood cancer deaths by almost 70 percent over the last four decades—cancer is still the leading cause of death by disease past infancy among children in the United States, according to the National Cancer Institute

(NCI). And while survival rates for some forms of childhood cancer like leukemia have increased to greater than 85 percent, the median survival rate for other childhood cancers such as diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma is less than one year.

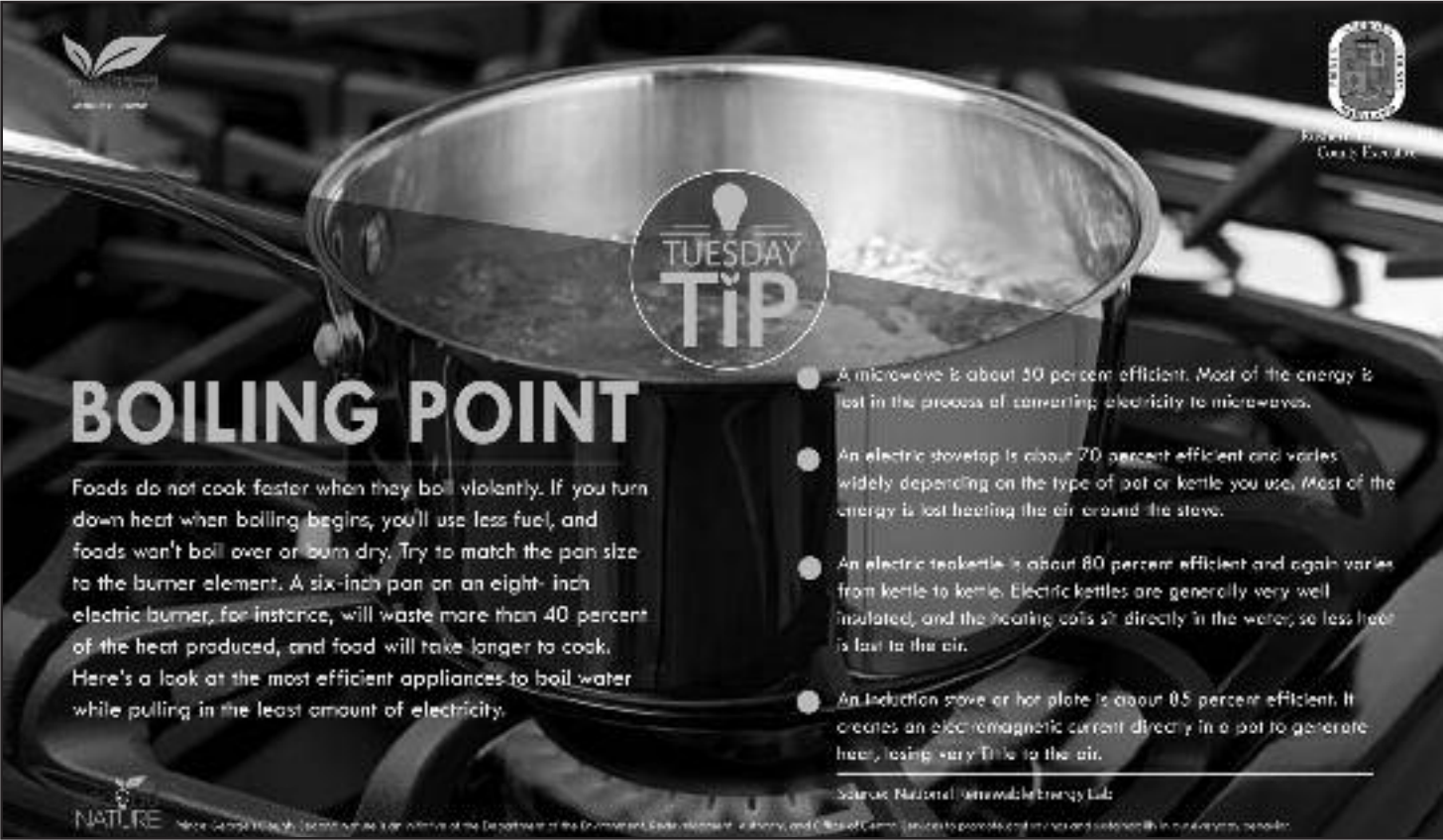
With the goal of raising overall survivorship rates, the Childhood Cancer STAR Act authorizes key research initiatives, such as biorepositories at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and surveillance at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), while focusing on some of the least-studied and understood childhood cancers.

Further, childhood cancer survivors continue to face significant health issues requiring specialized follow-up care for the rest of their lives. As many as two-thirds of childhood cancer survivors will develop a serious

or life threatening condition, such as secondary cancers and organ damage. As a result, childhood cancer survivors often need advanced follow-up care long after battling cancer and we need to ensure that health care professionals are equipped to provide that care for these kids in their adolescence and into adulthood.

As such, we ask that you also fully fund the Childhood Cancer STAR Act provisions to develop best practices for the treatment of late effects of childhood cancers, to improve collaboration among providers so that doctors are better able to care for this population as they age, and to create innovative models of care for childhood cancer survivors.

We greatly appreciate your support of the Childhood Cancer STAR Act this year to ensure that these efforts come to fruition.



**TUESDAY TIP**

## BOILING POINT

Foods do not cook faster when they boil violently. If you turn down heat when boiling begins, you'll use less fuel, and foods won't boil over or burn dry. Try to match the pan size to the burner element. A six-inch pan on an eight-inch electric burner, for instance, will waste more than 40 percent of the heat produced, and food will take longer to cook. Here's a look at the most efficient appliances to boil water while pulling in the least amount of electricity.

- A microwave is about 50 percent efficient. Most of the energy is lost in the process of converting electricity to microwaves.
- An electric stovetop is about 70 percent efficient and varies widely depending on the type of pot or kettle you use. Most of the energy is lost heating the air around the stove.
- An electric kettle is about 80 percent efficient and again varies from kettle to kettle. Electric kettles are generally very well insulated, and the heating coils sit directly in the water, so less heat is lost to the air.
- An induction stove or hot plate is about 85 percent efficient. It creates an electromagnetic current directly in a pot to generate heat, losing very little to the air.

Source: National Renewable Energy Lab.

# COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

**UNITED METHODIST**

**WESTPHALIA**

**United Methodist Church**

"A CHURCH ON THE REACH FOR GOD"

9363 D'Arcy Road  
Upper Marlboro, MD

**Two Worship Services:**  
8 and 10:30 a.m.  
**Sunday School: 9:30**

**(301)735-9373**  
Fax: **(301) 735-1844**

**Rev. Dr. Timothy West,**  
Pastor

ALL ARE WELCOME

Web Site:  
[www.westphaliaum.org](http://www.westphaliaum.org)

**S. G. Spottswood**  
**A.M.E. Zion Church**

419 Hill Road, Landover, MD  
20785 • 301-490-2625  
Rev. Jonathon Counts, Pastor

"We are training disciples to experience victory in every area of their lives"

Matthew 28:19-20  
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.  
Sound of Victory Prayer Call  
Wednesdays 9:00pm  
(712) 770-4160,  
Access Code 929037  
Soulful Thursdays  
Bible Study 7:00pm

**BAPTIST**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HIGHLAND PARK**

**'A Bible Based, Christ Centered & Spirit Led Congregation'**

6801 Sheriff Road Landover, MD  
20785 (301) 773-6655

Sunday Biblical Institute:  
9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship:  
7:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.  
Saturday Worship:  
6:30 p.m

**'WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS WITH JESUS':**  
12 noon (The Power Hour) and 6:45 pm

**"A Time of Prayer, Praise, Worship, & The Word"**  
Dr. Henry P. Davis III, Pastor  
[www.fhbp.org](http://www.fhbp.org)

**BAPTIST**

**Forest Heights Baptist Church**

We exist to strengthen your relationship with God.  
6371 Oxon Hill Road  
Oxon Hill, Maryland 20745  
Sunday School (Adults & Children) - 9:30 A.M.  
Worship Service - 11:00 A.M.  
Wed. Prayer Service & Bible Study - 7:00 P.M.  
Office (301) 839-1166  
Fax (301) 839-1721  
E-mail: [FHBC@verizon.net](mailto:FHBC@verizon.net)  
Pastor: Rev. Waymond B. Duke

**BAPTIST**

**First Baptist Church of College Park**  
Welcomes You Where Jesus Christ Is Lord and King  
Stephen L. Wright, Sr., Pastor

5018 Lakeland Road  
College Park, MD 20740  
**301-474-3995**  
[www.fbc-cp.org](http://www.fbc-cp.org)

Sunday School 9:30a.m.  
Sunday Worship 11a.m.  
Holy Communion 1st Sunday  
Wednesday Bible Study 7-8p.m.  
Wednesday Prayer Service 8p.m.

**Have a Safe Weekend**

**COMMUNITY CHURCH**

**WORD OF GOD COMMUNITY CHURCH**

"The Church Where Everybody is Somebody and Jesus is Lord"

4109 Edmonston Road Bladensburg, MD  
(301) 864-3437

Intercessory Prayer: Sundays - 8:30 a.m.  
Church School - 9:15 a.m.  
Morning Worship Celebration - 10:30 a.m.  
Wed. Night Bible Study - 7:45 p.m.  
Elder Willie W. Duvall, Pastor

**UNITED METHODIST**

**Union**  
**United Methodist Church**

14418 Old Marlboro Pike,  
Upper Marlboro, MD


**Church (301) 627-5088**

Sunday School: (Children/Adults) - 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Kendrick D. Weaver, Pastor

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**Watch from A4**

den. Denied education is a block to success in our competitive nation and world. Inside schools, corporal punishment is disproportionately used to discipline Black students: in 2013-2014, Black students made up less than 16 percent of the student population but were over 38 percent of students receiving corporal punishment. Corporal punishment is still allowed in all but one (Virginia) of the most active lynching states.

Our school system has also become a major feeder into the pipeline to prison, particularly for Black children. A Black child is arrested every one and a half minutes. In 2016, the juvenile arrest rate for Black children was more than double that for White children. The 12 most active lynching states held almost half (44 percent) of the total share of all children in adult prisons in America in 2015.

Police brutality continues as one more form of assault against Black bodies. According to a database established by the Washington Post to track gun deaths at the hands of law enforcement officers, 750 Black males—including 25 children—

have been shot and killed by police officers since January 1, 2015. This is more than the 654 African Americans killed in the most active lynching state, Mississippi, and more than double the number of African Americans killed by lynching in Alabama.

Confronting the violent and tragic legacy that preceded today's inequalities is a critical step—one the Legacy Museum and National Memorial for Peace and Justice help our nation to take. The truth will set us free. But you and I must stand up and stop today's unequal punishments of Black and other people of color across our nation. Only the truth and vigilant action can truly make us free.

*Marian Wright Edelman is President of the Children's Defense Fund whose Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. For more information go to [www.childrensdefense.org](http://www.childrensdefense.org). Mrs. Edelman's Child Watch Column also appears each week on The Huffington Post.*

**Website from A5**

members and provide it to those who contact us looking to start a business in Calvert County."

**Mark Stankiewicz, Connecticut Department of Labor:**

"This is a wonderful site that combines so much information from different state agencies in one place. We are also trying to put something similar together, and can appreciate how difficult it is to break down silos in government. Congratulations on a job well done."

SDAT's efforts to make government services more accessible to businesses have dramatically decreased processing times and have allowed customers to interact with government when it is convenient for them. In fact, more than 50 percent of documents are now filed online with 40 percent of those occurring outside of normal business hours, and 20 percent being done through a mobile device. The new Maryland Business Express builds on this past success, and in the coming months will continue to increase access to government by providing more services online.

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Let the Multi-Media Specialists of MDDC Advertising Network assist you in growing your business and increasing your customer base. Call today at 410-212-0616 and start seeing results NOW. <a href="http://www.mddcp.com">www.mddcp.com</a> .	<b>EARN \$500 A DAY:</b> Lincoln Heritage Life Insurance Wants Insurance Agents * Leads, No Cold Calls * Commissions Paid Daily * Agency Training * Life Insurance Required. Call 1-888-713-6020.	<b>Lutheran Mission Society</b> Alan Amrhine, Communications Director Lutheran Mission Society	<b>"MDDC has connected donors with the LMS Vehicle Donation Program for over six years! Great exposure, cost effective, and Wanda is so helpful."</b>
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	<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>		
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Increase frequency with your advertising—call one of MDDC's Multi-Media Specialists to grow your business. Call Wanda at 410-212-0616 or email <a href="mailto:wsmith@mddcp.com">wsmith@mddcp.com</a> .	Delaware New Move-In Ready Homes! Low Taxes! Close to Beaches, Gated, Olympic pool. New Homes from low \$100's. No HOA Fees. Brochures Available 1-866-629-0770 or <a href="http://www.coolbranch.com">www.coolbranch.com</a> .	<b>ALLSTATE American grew its business with this ad. THIS AD RAN IN 3 MILLION NEWSPAPERS AND COST LESS THAN \$1,500!</b>	
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**Morningside from A2**

She was predeceased by her husband of 55 years, James P. "Jim" Maruca. She was the mother of Connie, James, Donald and Christopher, and grandmother of 10.

During the Maruca family's years in Camp Springs, they were very active in St. Philip's Parish. Jim was Parish Council President 1979-80. And Liz—known as a great cook—had several recipes in St. Philip's 50th Anniversary Cookbook. One I should try is Liz's Zucchini Casserole.

**Milestones**  
Happy birthday to Carolyn Flaherty Fogle, May 11; Kyle Dameron, May 12; Henrietta Bookhart, Ted Harris and

Micheal White, May 13; John Smith, May 14;  
Naomi (Gallegos) Albaugh and Helen Fadness, May 15; Fr. Charles McCann, Kenneth Darcey, Tim Cordero and Kitty Marshall, May 16.

Happy anniversary to Donna and Wayne Anderson on May 14.

A special 100th anniversary greeting to WSSC, which officially opened for business on May 1, 1918. There'll be a Centennial Community Celebration on June 23 at WSSC Headquarters, featuring equipment demos, Children's Education Cove and entertainment. Info: [wsscwater.com/100](http://wsscwater.com/100).

*Happy Mother's Day to Mothers, Stepmothers, Grandmothers & Godmothers!*

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