

The Prince George's Post



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New 11-Member, Including At-Large, Prince George's County Council Sworn In

Council Convened December 4 for Gavel Exchange Ceremony; Elects New Leadership Team

By PRESS OFFICER
Prince George's County Council

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (December 3, 2018)—The new 11-member Prince George's County Council was administered the Oath of Office today by Clerk of the Court Mahasin El Amin during the County's 13th Inauguration held at Showplace Arena in Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

For the first time since 1982, the Council includes two voter-approved At-Large Members, expanding the legislative body from nine to 11 members. Council Member Mel Franklin and Council Member Calvin Hawkins, II will serve four-year terms in the At-Large seats. Council Member Franklin represented District 9 on the County Council from 2010 to 2018.

Five of the eleven members sworn-in today, Council Members Thomas Dernoga

(D)—District 1, who also served as the District 1 Council Member from 2002 through 2010; Jolene Ivey (D)—District 5; Rodney Streeter (D)—District 7, Monique Anderson (D)—District 8 and Sydney Harrison (D)—District 9 are serving their first terms. Council Chair Dannielle Glaros (D)—District 3, Vice Chair Todd M. Turner (D)—District 4, and Council Members Deni Taveras (D)—District 2, and Derrick Leon Davis (D)—District 6 are serving their second terms in office.

Council Chair Dannielle Glaros, who delivered the Inaugural Address on behalf of the County Council, said the Council looks forward to moving the County forward in partnership with County Executive Angela Alsobrooks, who made history as the first woman to serve as County Executive in Prince George's County.

"Working together, we will build a

Prince George's County where lives and communities are transformed, and economic progress is achieved. Prince George's County is a competitive force across our region and in our nation, and the energy of this new 11-member County Council and our new County Executive ensures the best is yet to come," adding, "This Council looks forward to working with every stakeholder—civic leaders, businesses, nonprofits and neighborhood groups - to identify the most effective ways to extend our partnership for the greatest mutual benefit."

The Prince George's County Council will convene tomorrow, December 4, at 10:30 a.m., to elect a new Council leadership team for the 2019 Legislative Year. The session will be held at the County Administration Building, Council Hearing Room, 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive in Upper Marlboro.

County Executive Alsobrooks Announces Chief Deputy Appointment In Fire/EMS Department

By MARK E. BRADY
Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department

LARGO, Md. (November 30, 2018)—Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks announced the appointment of Tiffany D. Green as Chief Deputy of the Fire/EMS Department. This appointment, announced on November 29, elevates Green from Deputy Fire Chief to Chief Deputy which is the second highest position within the Department. While the Fire/EMS Department has had females serving as Deputy Fire Chief's before, Green is now the highest ranking female fire official in the history of the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department.

Tiffany D. Green began her career as a firefighter with the Prince George's County Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department in March of 1999 after serving as a volunteer for the Oxon Hill Volunteer Fire Department. As a 24-year fire services veteran, Tiffany holds dual bachelor's degrees in Public Safety and Biology and a master's degree in Emergency and Disaster Management. Prior to the appointment, she was serving in the capacity of Deputy Fire Chief overseeing the Administrative Services

Command. Under her command, she was responsible for Human Resources, Fiscal Affairs, Information Management, Risk Management and the Office of Service Excellence, Accreditation & Research. Her previous assignment was Director of the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Training and Leadership Academy, where her primary responsibilities were training and professional development for over 900 sworn personnel and 1,200 volunteer members of the department. She also managed the High School Fire Science (Cadet) Program, which is a program for high school students who are interested in working in the Fire Services profession.

Through her tenure with the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department, Tiffany has served in the following capacities prior to her role as a Command Staff member: Firefighter, Paramedic, Station Commander, Executive Assistant to the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Public Safety, Chief of Staff for the Director of Homeland Security, Special Events Coordinator and Stadium Commander for Fed Ex field.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY FIRE/EMS DEPARTMENT

Chief Deputy Tiffany D. Green

To her success, Tiffany strongly credits hard work, preparation, and commitment. She is sought after in the areas of project management, community partnerships, and policy development. Tiffany resides in Prince George's County with her husband Alfred and daughter Talore.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BGE

2018 BGE Bright Ideas Grant winner Victoria Lee Charles, Herbert Flowers High School teacher.

BGE Recognizes Giving Tuesday by Awarding 37 Teachers 'Bright Ideas' Grants

By TASHA JAMERSON
Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE)

BALTIMORE (Nov. 27, 2018)—BGE today celebrated 37 recipients of its second annual Bright Ideas Teachers' Grants. These grants support K-12 teachers working to expand innovative ideas for academic enhancement and workforce development in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

"We are excited to support the extraordinary teachers in our service area who work tirelessly to bring innovative learning opportunities to young people. These grants can make the difference in classrooms since many unique ideas often need a bit of extra funding," said Valencia McClure, vice president of governmental and external affairs and corporate relations for BGE. "We announce these grants on Giving Tuesday to reinforce BGE's commitment to the community and also encourage others to give what they can to better our neighborhoods."

K-12 in-classroom teachers at schools located within BGE's service area are eligible to apply for a BGE Bright Ideas Teachers' Grant. The grants of up to \$500 support in-classroom projects that support science, innovation, energy efficiency, or the environment.

During the past five years, BGE has provided approximately \$25 million in philanthropic support to communities throughout its service area, with more than \$1 million invested annually in electric and natural gas safety awareness, scholarships, workforce training and youth development.



PHOTO BY ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN

(10/27/2018) From left, Army Staff Sgt. Kirsten Kieffer of Alexandria, Va., Air Force Tech Sgt. Akesha Lowry of Crofton, Md., and Army Chief Warrant Officer Jennie Elliot of Baltimore performed an Honor Salute for FutureCare Capital Region patient Robert Pringle of Washington, D.C. Also on hand to celebrate were his family members Onihc Dicks and Patricia Hawkins, both of Landover, and Hospice of the Chesapeake volunteer Terri Lea Blueitt of Accokeek.

183 Veterans in Two Counties and 10 Centers Personally Thanked With Honor Salutes

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
Hospice of the Chesapeake

PASADENA, Md. (November 28, 2018)—For several years, Hospice of the Chesapeake has invited the community to attend Veterans Day events designed to recognize the dedication and sacrifice of men and women who have served in the military. With veterans making up more than a quarter of its patients, the nonprofit considers it a duty to help the community understand how impor-

tant it is to thank veterans for their service while they are living.

One of the dilemmas of having an event in one place is that veterans who lived in assisted- and senior-living centers are unable to attend. This year, the organization's We Honor Veterans Committee decided to not only honor veterans while they are living, but also, where they are living. Beginning on Oct. 14 with the

veterans of Morningside House of Friendship in Hanover and finishing Nov. 19 with Heartlands Assisted Living in Severna Park, the committee coordinated group Honor Salutes at 10 assisted and senior-living centers in Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties. The other centers visited by these men and women in dress uniform were Brightview Senior Living centers in Annapolis, Edgewater and Severna Park; Doctors Community Rehabilitation in Lanham,

FutureCare Capital Region in Landover, Genesis Healthcare Hammonds Lane in Brooklyn Park; Somerford Place in Annapolis; and Sunrise Senior Living in Severna Park.

In total, 183 veterans were honored by active duty and retired personnel as well as U.S. Naval Academy midshipmen. Each of them received a certificate of appreciation from Hos-

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Hoyer Announces Winners of the Fifth Annual Fifth District Congressional App Challenge

Destini Brown of Gwynn Park High School won first place this year with her app, "How Are You Feeling?" Her app is a significantly-updated 2.0 version of the app she submitted last year...

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Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention Salutes University of Maryland Criminologist Peter Reuter

The Stockholm Prize, established by the Swedish Ministry of Justice in 2006, is the most prestigious award in criminology research.

Community, Page A3

Bowie's Deneen Richmond Tapped as AAMC's New VP of Population Health, Clinical Improvement

"This role reflects our vision of living healthier together and building population health-based care models to improve the health of our whole community," said Barbara Jacobs, chief nursing officer at AAMC.

Business and Finance, Page A4

Movie Review: Nobody's Fool

At around the hour mark, the story reaches the point where it should be wrapping up. ... That's when the Tyler Perry we know shows up to turn the remaining 50 minutes (UGH) into an exasperating soap opera for dum-dums.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

With the onset of global warming, how likely is it that ski resorts and skiing itself might soon become a thing of the past?

—Mandy Billings, Provo, UT

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TOWNS *and* NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301-735-3451

Thanksgiving thank-you from our firefighters

This message is from the Morningside Volunteer Fire Department website:

"Today, our community came together at our fire station to show their thanks for us. They didn't just drop off food and wish us well, they brought their families and shared a meal with us.

"At their request, we set a table for our fallen brothers who could not be with us, taken in the line of duty years ago. We will always remember the ultimate price that Kenny and Michael paid to serve. We are thankful that our community values that sacrifice and our continuance of service. We are the hub of this community, and they support us at every turn."

Those fallen brothers are Michael McCarthy, who died Sept. 12, 1983, and Kenneth Hedrick, who died Jan. 12, 1992. Both, in the line of duty.

Neighbors and Others

Judy Waby Hansel, formerly of Skyline, is now living in Bellingham, Wash. However, she never stays long; she writes, "Don't know how long I'll be here." She's living 15 miles from the border so she can get Canadian TV. Judy sends "Greetings to anyone still alive from the old days." In the old days, Judy was our leading agitator. We miss her.

JTA Freeman, a senior at Bishop McNamara High School, has been elected one of the D.C. Youth Mayors after participating in the Marion Barry Youth Leadership Institute and getting 75 signatures. One of the most important issues for her is gun violence.

There must be some hunters out there. You might be interested to know that the Winter 2018 issue of Maryland Hunting Quarterly features a friend of mine on the cover. He is Charles Rodney—also known as The Rabbit Hunter. He lives in Camp Springs and is a regular contributor to this, and other, hunting magazines.

Coming up: Morningside's monthly Town Meeting will be Tuesday, Dec. 18, 7 p.m.

Changing landscape

Five statues, representing the five

branches of military, were installed at National Harbor on Veterans Day, Nov. 11. Each statue was unveiled by a veteran of that particular branch of the service.

Leo Brusco emailed me about the Shop Smart Outlet that closed in Andrews Manor. He reports it has relocated to 6331 Old Branch Avenue in Camp Springs.

Santa's coming to breakfast at the Morningside Firehouse

Morningside is hosting its annual Breakfast with Santa at the Morningside Firehouse on Saturday, Dec. 15, 9 a.m. The fee is \$5 but it must be paid in advance. You can go to the Town Hall (6961 Ames St.) or call 301-736-2301 for information.

At the Surratt House: An Old-Fashioned Christmas

Enjoy seasonal decorations, antique cards and ornaments, and more, as guides in period attire talk about customs of the Civil war era. Take advantage of holiday discounts in the museum's excellent gift shop. Regular tour admission fees apply.

The House is open Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays, noon to 4 p.m. Admission: \$5, adults; \$4, seniors; \$2; children (under 5, free). The Surratt House Museum is at 9811 Brandywine Road in Clinton. Information: 301-868-1121 or surrattmuseum.org.

This event continues through Dec. 9. The Surratt House will be closed Dec. 10 to Jan. 15. However, the office will be open Mon.–Fri., 9–5.

Morningside Memories: 18 years ago

On Oct. 7, 2000, the Morningside Sub-teen Club held Reunion 2000. There were 120 in attendance. Versie Carson, the original director, and Tillie Seaman, the third and final director, were there, as well as Mrs. Dickens, 6th grade teacher and sub-teen advocate. Old photos were passed around. One was of an earlier Reunion Committee: Dennis Seaman, Janice Peters, Wayne Neale and Donna Bookhultz.

Eugene Ripka, Alcoholics Anonymous advocate

Eugene E. "Gene" Ripka III, 62, of Fort Washington, a Verizon Communications retiree, died October 1. He was a native of Lewistown, Pa. He attended Barrington College in Rhode Island and Clarion College in Pennsylvania.

This spring he celebrated 11 years of sobriety. As an active member of Alcoholics Anonymous, he encouraged those who were struggling and assumed the responsibility of treasurer and set up the weekly AA meetings.

Gene is survived by his wife of 25 years, Anna Louise Stephens; his mother, Betty Ripka; siblings, Valarie DeVecchis and Jeffrey Ripka; and Oxon Hill United Methodist Church where he has been a member for 25 years. His sincerity, quick wit, sense of humor and knowledge will be missed.

Lillian Proctor, Custodial Supervisor

Lillian Beach "Aunt Lill" Proctor, 87, died Nov. 18 at the Ft. Washington Health Center. She grew up in Oxon Hill, the daughter of Moses and Essie Lucas Beach, attended County Schools, and met and married John Whittington with whom she had four sons.

She was baptized at St. Paul United Methodist Church and in 1951 became an usher there, serving until she was no longer able. In the 1950s she went to work for the Prince George's County School Board as custodian, rose through the ranks and ended her 40-year career in May 1994 as Custodial Supervisor.

Lillian was preceded in death by seven siblings and sons Don and Anthony "Bo-Bo" Beach. Survivors include sons Elvis and Marvin Beach, grand- and great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Celebration of Life was at St. Paul's with burial at Washington National Cemetery.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Crystal Pruitt and Charles Boxley, Dec. 8; Beth Shipman, Dec. 9; Sharon Fowler and Diane Zirkle, Dec. 10; Michelle Anderson, Dec. 11; Bernie (Barbour) Pace, Thomas Shipman Jr. and Jim Trexler, Dec. 13.

Happy 16th anniversary to Johnny and Helen Richardson on Dec. 14.

Around the County

Statement from County Executive Baker Regarding Governor Hogan's Judicial Appointments

By PRESS OFFICER
County Executive Rushern Baker

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (Nov 26)—Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III, released the following statement after Governor Hogan announced last week the judicial appointments of **Prince George's County Attorney Jared McCarthy** and **Prince George's County Department of Social Services attorney, ShaRon Kelsey**.

"I am very proud that our County Attorney, Jared McCarthy, and Prince George's County Department of Social Services attorney, ShaRon

Kelsey, have been named to the Circuit Court. Governor Hogan has selected two talented individuals who will become outstanding jurists.

As I depart the County Executive's office after eight years, I consider it an important legacy to see the growth of these two professionals that I have appointed, hired, and fostered in this County government. Jared and ShaRon are dedicated stewards to the law and servants to the residents of this State and County. They have achieved and responded to the noble calling to serve on the bench. I congratulate and wish them the very best."

Hoyer Announces Winners of the Fifth Annual Fifth District Congressional App Challenge

By PRESS OFFICER
Congressman Steny Hoyer

WASHINGTON, DC (Nov 27)—Today, Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-05) announced the winners of the Fifth Annual Congressional App Challenge for the Fifth District.

Destini Brown of Gwynn Park High School won first place this year with her app, "How Are You Feeling?" Her app is a significantly-updated 2.0 version of the app she submitted last year, for which she won second place. Her app is designed to help autistic children communicate their emotions.

Gable Piatt and Stephen Zack of Calvert High School won second-place with their app, "Trash Dash," which raises awareness about pollution and trash in the environment.

The third-place winner is "Slithery Learning" app by Austin Wilson of Gwynn Park High School. This app was designed to help students study and learn.

"I applaud each student who participated in this year's Congressional App Challenge," said Congressman Hoyer. "There were many outstanding submissions, and I appreciate the

hard work and dedication that went into each app. I'm pleased to announce the winners of the Congressional App Challenge from the Fifth District—Destini, Gable, Stephen, and Austin. I congratulate them and every student who participated this year."

The Congressional App Challenge was established by the U.S. House of Representatives in 2013 as a nationwide event which invites middle and high school students from all participating Congressional districts to compete as individuals or groups up to four. Students work to create and present an original software application, or "app," for a mobile, tablet, or computer platform of their choosing. The contest is modeled after the long-successful Congressional Art Competition and is designed to promote innovation and engagement in STEM education fields. Students who live in or are eligible to attend public schools located in Maryland's Fifth Congressional District were invited to join the Fifth District App Challenge, and the winning app will be placed on display in the U.S. Capitol alongside other winners from the nation.

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

DESTINATION UMES 2018

An enthusiastic caravan of students, faculty and staff made the annual trek to Prince George's County, where they connected with loyal alumni at the Comfort Inn in Bowie on October 24, 2018. This was an evening of putting UMES' best foot forward as the ideal college choice for Washington-area high school students.

McKinley Hayes, class of 1972, and Brig General Walter Jones (USAF ret.) class of 1974, were among the first alumni to earn degrees that read University of Maryland Eastern Shore. It was Hayes' idea to launch the "PG" event nearly three decades ago.

It must have been destiny that Destiny Hawkins would be offered an opportunity to be a future Hawk, and she got the opportunity to meet President Heidi M. Anderson, too.

SGA President Aajah Harris and Kenneth Bryant embraced the opportunity to tell those who want to follow them as undergraduates what to expect when they matriculate to Princess Anne.

Dr. Shawn Warden-Ashworth, class of 1991, was among alumni who offered impassioned testimonials about why her alma mater is the right college choice.

Dr. Xavier Henry demonstrated how portable flight simulators are used as a teaching tool in UMES' aviation science department.

Que'ell Cobb and Bernard Jordan, two Department of Rehabilitation services graduate student/assistants, were among the eager UMES recruiter-diplomats.

Dr. Margarita Treuth, chair of UMES' kinesiology department, is a fixture on the student-recruiting trail-with good reason. The major is among UMES' most popular.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL

Frederick Douglass High School Football Team in Upper Marlboro, Maryland is headed to the Football 1A@MPSSAA Org State Championship game vs Fort Hill at 3:30 p.m. Saturday at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium.

BUS DRIVER FAIR

Prince George's County Public Schools is hosting a bus driver fair. Register for Bus Driver Fair (free paid training) on Wednesday, December 12, 2018. The Bus Driver Fair will be held at Skyline Administrative Office, 6311 Ran-

dolph Road, Suitland, Maryland 20746 from 1–5 p.m.

Pre-registration is preferred. Applications are accepted online at www.pgcps.org. Click Career's and enter job code IRC98412. For more information about the hiring of school bus drivers contact Nicole Eubanks at nicole.eubanks@pgcps.org or contact the Human Resources Customer Service Center at 301-780-21914.

RETIRED ADMIRAL

Mr. Sinclair Harris serves as LMI'S vice president of business development for the defense sector. LMI is a consulting firm dedicated to improving the management of government. With more than 1,000 consultants, they design and implement solutions to some of the toughest problems facing government managers in logistics, information technology, and resource allocation. For 55 years, LMI has placed their clients' interests first. Learn more about LMI at lmi.org.

Mr. Harris retired as a rear admiral after a 34-year career in the U.S. Navy. His service culminated as the vice director for operations to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. During his distinguished career, he led joint, combined, multinational, and interagency organizations both at sea and ashore across all aspects of defense, including full spectrum operations, program management, strategic planning, and execution. He was also commander of the U.S. Fourth Fleet, leading U.S. Naval forces assigned to U.S. Southern Command.

Mr. Harris has been published in numerous journals on the topics of surface warfare, combat logistics, irregular warfare, and leadership. He earned a BS in economics from James Madison University, and an MS in defense and strategic studies from the University of Madras, India.

Mr. Harris voluntarily serves as president of the National Naval Officers Association, national vice president of the Navy League of the United States, chairman of the National Defense Industrial Association Expeditionary Warfare Division, member of the board of directors for the Surface Navy Association, and member of the Northern Virginia Armed Force Communications and Electronics Association.

Mr. Harris, it was a pleasure to meet you when you visited Clinton United Methodist Church in recognition of Veterans.

Nine Finalists Named For Harlon Hill Trophy As Division II Football Player of The Year

By GREGORY C. GOINGS
Bowie State Sports Information

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—Following regional voting, the Little Rock Touchdown Club, in conjunction with the Great American Conference, revealed the nine finalists for the 2018 Harlon Hill Trophy, the NCAA Division II College Football Player of the Year.

The NCAA Division II sports information directors selected the finalists through a round of regional voting. The nine finalists will now be placed on the national ballot where all 166 of the division's SIDs will select the award's 33rd winner. The top two players from Super Region 1, Super Region 2 and Super Region 4 advanced to the national ballot, while Super Region 3 saw three players make the final ballot, due to a tie in the voting.

Five quarterbacks, two running backs, one wide receiver and a defensive end comprised the list of 2018 finalists.

Notre Dame College freshman running back Jalcel McLaughlin and Hillsdale senior quarterback Chance Stewart advanced from Super Region #1.

Two quarterbacks—**Bowie State senior Amir Hall** and Valdosta State sophomore Rogan Wells moved on from Super Region #2.

A pair of signal callers—Ferris State junior Jayru Campbell and Emporia State senior Braxton Marstall—joined Southern Arkansas senior receiver Ka'Ronce Higgins as the finalists from Super Region #3.

Super Region #4 produced the only set of finalists without a quarter-

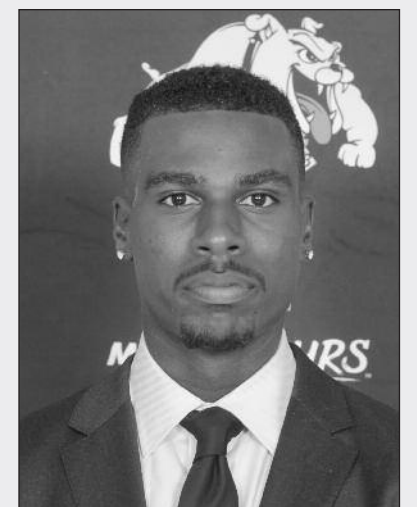


PHOTO COURTESY BOWIE STATE SPORTS INFORMATION

2018 Harlon Hill Trophy Finalist Amir Hall of Bowie State University.

back as Angelo State senior defensive end Markus Jones and Sioux Falls junior running back Gabriel Watson earned spots on the national ballot.

Five of the finalists helped guide their teams into the 2018 NCAA Division II playoffs and three—McLaughlin, Campbell and Wells—will compete in this weekend's quarterfinal matchups.

The winner of the 2018 award will be announced on Friday, December 14 and the winner will be honored at the Little Rock Touchdown Club awards banquet on January 10, 2019.

The Hill Trophy is named for the late Harlon Hill—the former University of North Alabama standout—who excelled with the Lions from 1950-53 before going on to fame in the National Football League with the Chicago Bears.

COMMUNITY

The American Counseling Association's Counseling Corner

Face It—Holidays Are Rarely Perfect

Seasonal TV shows... sparkling gifts in stores... magazines full of beautiful holiday scenes. We're often shown the holiday season as an amazing and joyful time, but maybe your personal holidays aren't quite so perfect. And this can be disappointing for many people.

We'd all like everything to be as wonderful as in the movies, but it's not a fair comparison when we measure how our lives and holidays compare to what the media is constantly showing us. While it's fine to enjoy all we see, we must remind ourselves that those TV holiday shows look so good because they've had many professional designers creating just the right touches. Same thing goes for the holiday store displays or those strikingly beautiful magazine ads. None of these show real life, but rather an idealized version made specifically to impress us.

The perfect holiday world of ads and TV aren't the only reason some of us suffer holiday blues. This is often a time of the year when we forget about eating and living healthfully. We overeat when tempted by holiday treats. We may drink more alcohol than usual. We probably are blaming the weather and our busy holiday schedule for not bothering to exercise.

There are, fortunately, things you can do to combat blue holiday feelings. Rather than envying the fantasy lives you see on TV, or imagining how wonderful the holidays are for your neighbors or other friends, instead focus on all the things in your own life that are good and positive. Identify all the things you personally have and enjoy about this season.

You can also fight blue feelings by keeping control of your life. Avoid excess treats and drinking. Enjoy holiday special foods and beverages in moderation, stick with your regular schedule, get plenty of rest and make time for daily exercise, even if it's just a brief walk.

It's also important not to isolate yourself. Find time for family and friends, and enjoy the season with them. Time spent with others can do a great deal to improve your mood.

But for some people the holiday blues can be difficult to fight. Sad holiday emotions, like all depression, can become a serious mental health problem and not one to be ignored. If depression is affecting you, talk to a professional counselor who can provide help so you can make the best of your holidays and life.

Counseling Corner is provided by the American Counseling Association. Send comments and questions to ACACorner@counseling.org or visit the ACA website at www.counseling.org.

The Maryland Department of Health Teams Up With the Baltimore Ravens to Raise Awareness About the Opioid Crisis

Educating Marylanders Around the Dangers of Fentanyl and Tackling the Stigma Associated with Substance Use Disorders are Critical Components to Saving Lives

By PRESS OFFICER
MD Before It's Too Late

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Nov 26, 2018)—As part of Governor Larry Hogan's continued efforts to save lives and combat the opioid epidemic, the Maryland Department of Health's Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) has partnered with the Baltimore Ravens to produce public service announcements (PSAs) regarding the opioid epidemic in Maryland.

Tony Jefferson, a safety with the Baltimore Ravens, appears in two PSAs—one regarding the dangers of fentanyl, which is currently airing on stations across the state; and the other tackling the stigma associated with substance use disorders, which will air in early 2019. He also narrated radio spots as part of BHA's ongoing educational campaign to inform Marylanders about

topics related to the opioid crisis.

"Having a Baltimore Ravens player partner with BHA in the dissemination of these lifesaving messages not only draws attention to the importance of these messages, but also assists in breaking down the stigma associated with substance use disorders, a chronic medical disease," said Maryland Department of Health's Behavioral Health Administration Deputy Secretary Dr. Barbara Bazron. "We are very fortunate to have the support of the Baltimore Ravens on this initiative."

"Fentanyl, a synthetic drug you cannot see, taste, or smell, is so powerful that just a small amount can be deadly," said Clay Stamp, executive director of the Opioid Operational Command Center. "It's crucial that Marylanders recognize the dangers of this illicit drug."

BHA has developed several educational campaigns that address stigma, informing Marylanders on how to ask questions if they are being prescribed an opioid, awareness surrounding the dangers of fentanyl, information regarding Maryland's Good Samaritan Law, and Maryland's Crisis Connect services. The PSAs can be viewed at <https://beforeitstoolate.maryland.gov/tony-jefferson-psas/>.

Before It's Too Late is the state's effort to bring awareness to this epidemic—and to mobilize resources for effective prevention, treatment, and recovery. Marylanders grappling with a substance use disorder can find help at BeforeItsTooLateMD.org or by calling 211 and pressing 1. Additional support is available through MDCrisisConnect.org, which has information on both text and chat features.

Prince Georges County Hosts Homeless Resource Day: One Stop Shop

Veteran Stand Down and Homeless Resource Day Provides Prince George's County Veterans and Residents with needed Services and Information

By PRESS OFFICER
Prince George's County MD

LANDOVER, MD (November 9, 2018)—Prince George's County recently hosted more than 900 individuals at its 8th Annual Veterans Stand Down and Homeless Resource Day and featured a Transforming Neighborhoods Initiative (TNI) Expungement Fair. The free event held Saturday, November 3, 2018, at the Wayne K. Curry Sports and Learning Complex, provided attendees with One Stop, easy access to vital services.

More than one hundred (100) organizations were on hand to offer an array of free services, including housing assistance, education assistance, domestic violence assistance, medical assistance, dental assistance, haircuts, health insurance enrollment, mental health counseling, legal services and much more.

"Prince George's County has the largest population of veterans in the State of Maryland and we proudly acknowledge and thank them for their service to our country, said County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. "It is important that we provide the services, programs and resources for

our veterans and their families. This event is designed to help connect our service men and women with the support they need and deserve."

The Prince George's County Department of Social Services, lead agency for the event, said its goal was to provide Prince George's County veterans, and any County resident who is precariously housed with easy access to resources and services in one safe centralized location.

"Our goal, along with our partners, was to offer attendees the access they need to preventative healthcare, gaining or regaining steady employment, housing assistance, expungement assistance, and more in a one stop, one day atmosphere. I believe we succeeded in doing just that," said Gloria Brown Burnett, Director of the Prince George's County Department of Social Services.

Major support from and partners for the 8th Annual Veterans Stand Down and Homeless Resource Day included the Office of the County Executive, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Kaiser Permanente, Maryland Department of Human Services, and Prince George's County Health and Human Services Agencies.

Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention Salutes University of Maryland Criminologist Peter Reuter

Winner of 2019 Stockholm Prize to Advise on New Crime Research and Innovation Center

By PRESS OFFICER
Governor's Office of
Crime Control and Prevention

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (November 28, 2018)—The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) congratulates University of Maryland College Park (UMD) Criminologist Peter Reuter on winning the 2019 Stockholm Prize in Criminology. Dr. Reuter won the honor, along with former Swiss Confederation president Ruth Dreifuss, for the pair's work on drug abuse.

Dr. Reuter has served as a Professor of Public Policy and Criminology at UMD since 1993. In addition to his work at the university, he has been tapped to work in collaboration with GOCCP and the Maryland Crime Research and Innovation Center at UMD. The Center, announced in August by Governor Larry Hogan, will serve as a hub for criminal justice excellence within the School of Public Policy, focusing on developing law enforcement solutions, victim services, prevention efforts, and other criminal justice programs.

"We are very proud of Dr. Reuter's accomplishments," said V. Glenn Fueston, Jr., GOCCP Executive Director. "Not only is this a great honor for the state of Maryland and for the state's flagship university, GOCCP will also benefit from Dr. Reuter's decades' long experience and expertise in crime prevention as an adviser to the new Center."

Dr. Reuter said he is pleased to have received the award and to use his experience as an adviser to the new center.

"There is nothing more rewarding than to be recognized by your peers for your work," Dr. Reuter said. "For many years, I have used tools of economics and many other disciplines to understand how different kinds of interventions, both supply side and demand side, can influence the extent of drug use and the harms associated with it. I have done a significant amount of research, specifically on Baltimore, and am looking forward to sharing my expertise as an adviser to GOCCP on the new Maryland Crime Research and Innovation Center."

The Stockholm Prize, established by the Swedish Ministry of Justice in 2006, is the most prestigious award in criminology research. Information about the award may be found at <https://www.su.se/english/about/prizes-awards/the-stockholm-prize-in-criminology>. Information about the Maryland Crime Research and Innovation Center at UMD may be found at <https://umdrighnow.umd.edu/news/university-maryland-governor-hogan-announce-grant-support-development-new-maryland-crime>

The Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention serves as a coordinating office that advises the governor on criminal justice strategies. The office plans, promotes, and funds efforts with government entities, private organizations, and the community to advance public policy, enhance public safety, reduce crime and juvenile delinquency, and serve victims. Learn more by visiting our website at goccp.maryland.gov and connect with us on Facebook and Twitter.

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BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

U.K. Pension Affects Social Security Benefits

By RUSSELL GLOOR,
AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor
Association of Mature American Citizens

Dear Rusty:

Today I had my interview for Social Security and was told that because I receive a government retirement pension from the United Kingdom, my Social Security check will be reduced by up to 55%. My question is, how can this be so? My U. K. pension was not a voluntary contribution but a mandatory deduction withheld from my paycheck just like for my U.S. Social Security. Is there any way to get around this drawback? Any information you can give me will be greatly appreciated as I am not financially well off and was depending on both checks and not still having to work after retirement. *Signed: Perturbed*

Dear Perturbed: If you worked and earned enough separately in both countries to be independently eligible for benefits from each, your U.S. Social Security benefit will be reduced by Social Security's Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). WEP was enacted by Congress in 1983 to equalize benefits between those who collect only Social Security, and dually entitled workers who collect both Social Security and a pension from an employer which did not participate in or contribute to Social Security. The United States has Social Security "totalization agreements" with many other countries, and here is an excerpt from the Agreement between the US and the UK:

"A U.K. pension may affect your U.S. benefit. If you qualify for Social Security benefits from both the United States and the United Kingdom and did not need the agreement to qualify for either benefit, the amount of your U.S. benefit may be reduced. This is a result of a provision in U.S. law that can affect the way your benefit is figured if you also receive a pension based on work that was not covered by U.S. Social Security."

The "agreement" referred to is the "totalization" agreement between the United States and United Kingdom which provides for coordination of benefits between the countries. The bilateral agreement is helpful when someone has some time working in both countries but not enough in either to qualify for full benefits. In that case the agreement allows for totaling credits earned in both so that a person has enough total credits to be eligible for benefits. But when someone is independently eligible for full benefits in both countries, the Windfall Elimination Provision applies and will reduce Social Security benefits by up to 50% of your U.K. pension amount, or up to the maximum reduction for the year you became eligible for U.S. benefits.

I'm afraid there is no way around this, unless you have more than 20 years of U.S. employment, which contributed to the U.S. Social Security system. The WEP reduction to your U.S. Social Security is less if you have more than 20 years of SS-covered "substantial earnings" and WEP goes away if you have more than 30 years of SS-covered employment with substantial earnings. But if you have less than 30 years of SS-covered substantial earnings, WEP will reduce your U.S. Social Security benefit. For additional information, here is a link to an article I previously published on how WEP works: <https://socialsecurityreport.org/ask-rusty-wep-windfall-elimination-provision/>.

The Association of Mature American Citizens (A.M.A.C.), <https://www.amac.us>, is a vibrant, vital senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. We act and speak on their 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 <https://amac.us/join-amac>.

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

Bowie's Deneen Richmond Tapped as AAMC's New VP of Population Health, Clinical Improvement

By PRESS OFFICER
Anne Arundel Medical Center

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (November 27, 2018)—Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAMC) announces Deneen Richmond, MHA, RN, of Bowie, Md., as its new vice president of Population Health and Clinical Improvement.

Richmond comes to AAMC from Inova Health System, where she served as vice president of Performance Improvement and Outcomes. Prior to this, she held leadership positions at Holy Cross Hospital, the Delmarva Foundation and the National Committee for Quality Assurance.

Richmond assumed the role of vice president of Population Health and Clinical Improvement in November. In this position, she will provide oversight and direction for designing, implementing and supporting a robust population health, care management program and promoting a quality improvement culture consistent with AAMC's mission.

"We are thrilled to welcome Deneen to Anne Arundel Medical Center," said Mitchell Schwartz, MD, chief medical officer and president of Physician Enterprise at AAMC. "Her role is a unique position that will help us continue to shape the future of health care delivery both at AAMC and in Maryland."

"This role reflects our vision of living healthier together and building population

health-based care models to improve the health of our whole community," said Barbara Jacobs, chief nursing officer at AAMC. "Deneen brings tremendous experience to this role and we look forward to her leadership."

Richmond received her bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of the District of Columbia and her master's degree in healthcare administration from George Washington University. She holds an adjunct faculty position at The George Washington University and received the Milken Institute School of Public Health's Excellence in Teaching Masters Level Online award this past spring.

Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAMC), a regional health system headquartered in Annapolis, Md., serves an area of more than one million people. Founded in 1902, AAMC includes a 425-bed not-for-profit hospital, a multi-specialty medical group, imaging and lab services, convenience care clinics, a research institute, a substance use treatment center and health enterprises. In addition to an Annapolis campus, AAMC



Deneen Richmond

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNE ARUNDEL MEDICAL CENTER

has outpatient pavilions in Bowie, Kent Island, Odenton, Pasadena and Waugh Chapel. AAMC is nationally recognized for its joint replacement center, emergency heart attack response and cancer care. A leader in women's services, AAMC delivers the state's second highest number of babies annually and has a Level 3 NICU. AAMC is among just 6 percent of U.S. hospitals to be designated a Magnet® hospital, the highest-level credential for quality patient care and nursing excellence. To learn more, visit askAAMC.org.

Cybrary to Relocate, Expand in Prince George's County

Online Cybersecurity Training Company To Add More Than 200 New Jobs

By PRESS OFFICER
MD GOV News

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (November 26, 2018)—Cybrary, a Prince George's County company offering free online cybersecurity training programs, plans to expand and add more than 200 new jobs in the county. The company will relocate its headquarters to an interim space of nearly 11,000 square feet at 5801 University Research Court in College Park before moving to its permanent location, a 25,000 square-foot facility at 4600 River Road in the Discovery District in College Park.

"No state is better positioned than Maryland to address emerging cybersecurity challenges, and training programs like those offered by Cybrary are critical to ensuring our workforce is equipped for the jobs of the 21st century," said Governor Larry Hogan. "Cybrary's decision to expand in our state and add more than 200 new jobs further solidifies Maryland's status as the cyber capital of America."

"The demand for cybersecurity talent is great, with an estimated 300,000 cyber-related job openings in the nation," said Maryland Commerce Secretary Mike Gill. "With its online platform for cybersecurity training, Cybrary opens opportunities to anyone interested in a career in information security and helps address the growing need for cyber warriors."

Launched in 2015, Cybrary addresses

challenges that companies experience through the technology talent lifecycle, from attraction and recruitment to development, retention, and promotion. The company employs a full content team that is responsible for curating the best content from cybersecurity and technology vendors and educators on a daily basis. Cybrary has partnered with top industry education vendors including Kaplan, CYBRScore, and Practice Labs to develop content for its platform. Cybrary also engages the company's two million member ecosystem of users, instructors, students, and Fortune 1000 companies in content creation and collaboration.

"Our in-house content team coupled with our network of subject matter experts and learning and assessment technology vendors makes Cybrary's catalog the fastest moving and most continually refreshing, full scope offering in the industry. No organization is developing cybersecurity careers faster and at the scale as us," said CEO and Co-Founder Ralph Sita. "Every day more than 2,000 people join the Cybrary network, most of whom end up either entering the industry or moving up from their current cybersecurity or IT work role."

With two million users from around the world—and thousands joining every day—Cybrary has become the largest online cybersecurity and IT training platform. The company has delivered more than 300 mil-

lion minutes of training on more than 3,000 topics. For the third consecutive year, Cybrary has again been recognized by the Cybersecurity Excellence Awards as the gold winner for Best Cybersecurity Education Provider.

To assist the company in the project, Maryland Commerce has approved a \$750,000 conditional loan through the Maryland Advantage program, formerly known as the Maryland Economic Development Assistance Fund or MEDAAF. Cybrary may also be eligible for additional state programs including the Partnership for Workforce Quality and the Job Creation Tax Credit. In addition, Cybrary may qualify for assistance from Prince George's County.

"Cybrary's decision to expand within Prince George's County, using its cutting edge cybersecurity technology and providing high paying jobs for our residents, is an exciting endorsement of the progress that this county has made as a business location," said County Executive Rushern Baker. "In particular, we celebrate Cybrary's decision to connect directly with the University of Maryland, the State's flagship university and one of the most important economic forces in this county. We are looking forward to a fruitful collaboration."

"Over the past four years, University leaders and state and local partners have been working diligently to put College Park on the map for innovation and entrepreneurship," said Chief Strategy Officer Ken Ulman. "The Greater College Park vision is now being realized, and we are thrilled to welcome Cybrary to our growing roster of powerhouse startups and private sector partners."

Prince George's County October Real Estate Market at Five-Year High for Sales and Price Appreciation

856 Closed Sales in October set record as both Median Prices Increase to \$280,000 and Average Sales price comes in at \$293,120

By PRESS OFFICER

Prince George's County Association of Realtors®, Inc.

LANDOVER, Md. (November 15, 2018)—The Prince George's County Association of Realtors® reports that the local area market continues to remain strong and active according to statistics provided by MarketStats by ShowingTime and Bright MLS. Veera Phillips, PGCAR President and a professional REALTOR® at Keller Williams Preferred Properties, said: "Overall, homes are more valuable in Prince George's County with strong increases in both median and average price per square foot. Purchasing a home in Prince George's has never been a more solid investment. Combined with the ample supply of starter and move-up homes for buyers in every price point, we believe that Prince George's County continues to offer one of the best buying opportunities in the DC metro region."

This October's 856 sales recorded show a very strong sales month by historical standards. Sales were up 10% from the previous month at a typically slower seasonal market. In all, over \$251 million in homes were sold by PGCAR members, reflecting a 7.9% increase from October. Median sales prices reflected an increase resulting from strong Fall buyer demand with prices jumping by over 1.8% from the same period in 2017. A 1% increase in Year-over-Year in Average Sales Price was also reported.

The chart below details October activity compared to the 5-year Average, an important longer-term measure of market trends. Note that Closed Sales are very strong and that Pending Sale activity has slowed modestly but is in line with the 5-year average. Also note that

there's a healthy supply of homes for sale with a 2.7 month supply (2,268 units) available for sale. This statistic means that if no new listings come on the market and with continued forecasted demand, the supply will go to zero.

More in depth statistics can be found at <https://pgcar.com/stats/default.htm>

Monthly housing statistics for Prince George's County are compiled by data as reported by Bright MLS. For the purposes of this report, "units" are defined as the closed sales and "pending units" are properties under contract. Months of inventory are based on the current active inventory and monthly sales for the corresponding month.

Statistic	Oct	YoY	MoM
Total Sold Dollar Volume	251,595,601	+ 1.5%	+ 7.9%
Closed Sales	856	+ 0.5%	+ 10%
Median Sold Price	\$280,000	- 1.8%	- 5.1%
Average Sold Price	\$293,920	+ 1%	- 1.9%

IMAGE COURTESY OF PGCAR

The Prince George's Post

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OUT on the TOWN

December 1–31, 2018



PHOTO COURTESY THE BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD MUSEUM

Trains are magical during the holidays! Visit the magical holiday wonderland at The B&O Railroad Museum.

By PRESS OFFICER

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum

BALTIMORE, Md., (Nov 27, 2018)—It's the most wonderful time of the year—the B&O's Magical Holiday Express, a magical holiday wonderland featuring:

- a magnificent 30-foot Christmas tree that you can stand inside of or walk through
- operating model train layouts
- indoor carousel rides
- interactive kids' crafts
- weekend train rides & visits with Santa, December 1–23
- weekend train rides with Frosty the

- Snowman, December 15 and 16
- appearances by Mrs. Claus
- live entertainment and performances, December 1, 2 and 9

Plus, ALL-NEW holiday themed weekends!

- DECK THE HALLS—December 8 and 9
- JINGLE BELLS—December 15 and 16
- LET IT SNOW—December 17–31, Closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Located among Baltimore City's historic southwest neighborhoods, at the original site of the historic Mt. Clare Shops, the B&O Railroad Museum is recognized universally as the birthplace of American

railroading.

Admission: \$20 adults, \$17 seniors (60+), \$12 children (ages 2–12)

Train Rides with paid admission: First Class train rides are \$10 adults, \$6 children; Coach Class train rides are \$3 adults, \$2 children

Carousel Rides with paid admission: \$2 per ride

The B&O Railroad Museum

901 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21223
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ERIC D. SNIDER'S IN THE DARK

... Movie Review ...

Nobody's Fool

Nobody's Fool

Grade: C-
Rated R, a lot of harsh profanity, much sexual vulgarity, a scene of sexuality, a butt
1 hr., 50 min

Though written and directed by Tyler Perry, *Nobody's Fool* starts out bearing little resemblance to a Tyler Perry film. For one thing, it's just called *Nobody's Fool*, not Tyler Perry's *Nobody's Fool*. And instead of a clumsy melodrama, it's a clumsy raunchy comedy about a sophisticated New York ad agent, Danica (Tika Sumpter), having to take in her trashy, mouthy, sexually voracious sister, Tanya (Tiffany Haddish), newly released from prison. Their odd-couple dynamic is further complicated when Tanya comes to believe that Danica, long-distance dating a man she's never met in person, is being catfished.

Why, that all sounds like the setup for a normal R-rated comedy! But signs of Tyler Perryism start to creep in. Right in front of Danica is Frank (Omari Hardwick), the sensitive hunk who runs her favorite coffee shop, gives her free coffee and a rose every morning, and is clearly in love with her. Danica's set on this "Charlie" fellow, though (if he exists)—and besides, Frank has been to jail, which goes against Danica's list of requirements for her perfect man (which is an actual printed list).

The plot is full of inane contrivances. Frank immediately gives Tanya a job at his coffee shop. She's required by her parole to attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings—and

guess what, Frank's cafe is where they are held! (It's like Perry wanted to save money on sets by having everything take place in one spot.) Despite being New Yorkers, everyone owns a car and drives everywhere, because Perry forgot that he was finally making a movie not set in Atlanta (or, alternatively, does not know that New York is different from Atlanta). The catfishing thread is resolved with help from the actual guys from MTV's *Catfish* show (Nev Schulman and Max Joseph), in a bizarre sequence that involves Chris Rock in a Jheri curl wig and a wheelchair. Whoopi Goldberg plays Tanya and Danica's pot-growing and -smoking mother, but her only function in the

story is to help the girls get along so that Tanya won't come live with her.

But Haddish, who has already been in three movies this year and was tamped down or underused in all of them, is finally permitted to cut loose and be the vulgar sexpot she was in *Girls Trip*. She's very much in her element, making the most of the weak dialogue that has her throwing herself shamelessly—in deed, proudly—at every man she meets. Unfortunately, Tanya is not the lead character (despite Haddish's top billing) and doesn't actually have much to do. The focus is Danica, who turns out to be the type of wishy-washy, clueless woman Perry excels at mis-writing.

At around the hour mark, the story reaches the point where it should be wrapping up. The catfishing thing was settled, and Danica is starting to come around on Frank (who continues to be perfect). That's when the Tyler Perry we know shows up to turn the remaining 50 minutes (UGH) into an exasperating soap opera for dum-dums. The sisters have a petty

falling out; Danica dithers tediously about Frank; the catfishing thing comes back AGAIN, only to be settled again, accomplishing nothing other than padding out the runtime another five minutes. There's potential for discussion about how Danica succeeds in white society by stifling her blackness, referenced subtly (and then overtly) by Tanya being the only one to call her "Da-NEE-ca" while everyone else says "DAN-ica." But like so many Perry ideas, that one is casually introduced and then forgotten.

It eventually dissolves into the usual Perry morass, where nobody onscreen is behaving like a real person and you spend the last half-hour tapping your foot impatiently while making the "move it along" motion with your hand. Or maybe that's just me. At any rate, *Nobody's Fool* is another demonstration of what often happens when a single person writes, directs, and produces a movie without input from anyone else: You get a rough draft. The theaters charge full price, though.



ROTTENTOMATOES.COM

Trying to get back on her feet, wild child Tanya (Tiffany Haddish) looks to her buttoned-up, by the book sister Danica (Tika Sumpter) to help her get back on track. As these polar opposites collide—with hilarious and sometimes disastrous results—Tanya discovers that Danica's picture-perfect life—including her mysterious boyfriend—may not be what it seems.

Governor Larry Hogan, First Lady Yumi Hogan to Host Holiday Open House

All Marylanders Welcome for Public Celebration at Government House

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of the Governor

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (November 29, 2018)—Governor Larry Hogan and First Lady Yumi Hogan invite Marylanders and their families to join them for a **Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 8, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** at Government House. The event is free of charge, open to the public, and no reservations are required.

The First Family asks that guests consider bringing unwrapped toys to be donated to those in need during this holiday season. On behalf of Toys for Tots, the Maryland State Police will be collecting donations under a tent by the front gate.

The decorations for the open house will include Christmas trees provided by Lowe's Bayshore Nursery in Stevensville, Md., and refreshments will include assortments of holiday cookies, brownies, and dessert bars prepared by Government House chefs. Hot Wassail will also be available for guests waiting in line outside of Government House and live music will be provided by Maryland high school groups, with a different performance each hour.

Holiday ornaments provided by the Foundation for the Preservation of Government House of Maryland will be available for purchase inside, proceeds from which will help support and maintain the historical significance of Government House with repairs, remodeling, and preservation.

Guests may park in the Bladen Street garage, which does not charge on weekends, or in other garages located on Main Street and West Street.

This week, the First Lady also personally welcomed members of garden clubs from all 24 Maryland jurisdictions to the State House to deliver and decorate a Christmas tree or a wreath in the rotunda. She presented a certificate of appreciation and Christmas ornaments to each club. Menorahs have also been placed in the State House and Government House.

Calendar Spotlight

Holiday Events

Winter's Eve Celebration at the National Colonial Farm

Saturday, December 8, 2018, 4–8 p.m.

Description: Tour the National Colonial Farm by candlelight while it's halls are decked for the holidays, listen to caroling around the bonfire, and roast-your-own chestnuts. Visit the crafting tent to create your own earth-friendly holiday gifts and make a wreath from greenery grown on the farm and in the gardens. Warm up with a trip to the hot-chocolate bar and spice up your cocoa with all your favorite fixings. And don't forget to stop by the Visitor Center to shop National Colonial Farm souvenirs and one-of-a-kind gifts from local artists.

Cost: This event has free general admission, with some ticketed activities. Tickets cost \$1/piece. All proceeds from the Winter's Eve event support the Accokeek Foundation's conservation work and environmental education programs in Piscataway Park.

Ages: All ages are welcome

Location: National Colonial Farm, 3400 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek, Maryland 20607

Contact: 301-283-2113

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



PHOTO COURTESY NPS

Founded in 1957 to protect the view from Mount Vernon across the Potomac River, the Accokeek Foundation, an educational nonprofit, became one of the nation's first land trusts. Today, the Foundation stewards 200 hundred acres of Piscataway National Park in Accokeek, MD, where visitors can hike a network of trails winding through wetlands, visit a native tree arboretum, and observe an award-winning forest restoration project. The Foundation also runs the National Colonial Farm, a living history museum that depicts a Maryland middle-class family farm on the eve of the American Revolution. Through their heritage breed livestock and seed saving programs, nearly extinct heirloom crops and animals are preserved for future generations. The Foundation's organic Ecosystem Farm emphasizes the future of agriculture as farmers learn the tools of a new trade and practice sustainable use of natural resources. "Shares" of the farm's organic produce are sold to area households. The park's beautiful grounds, trails, and programs are open to the public year 'round from sunrise to sunset. The National Colonial Farm and the Visitor Center is open March–December, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday–Sunday.

The Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park: 3400 Bryan Point Road Accokeek, MD 20607 • (301) 283-2113 • accokeekfoundation.org

Calendar of Events

December 6–December 12, 2018

10x10 Exhibition: Opening Reception

Date and Time: Friday, December 7, 2018, 6 p.m.–9 p.m.
 Description: Pyramid's 4th Annual Invitational will feature pieces from over 100 different artists, all measuring 10"x10" and for sale at \$50 each. All art is donated by the artists with 100% of sales benefiting Pyramid Atlantic. Visit: <https://www.pyramidatlanticartcenter.org/single-post/2018/11/20/10-x-10-INVITATIONAL-150-Works-100-Artists-50>. The exhibit is open December 7, 2018 to January 4, 2019.
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: All ages welcome
 Location: Pyramid Atlantic Art Center
 4318 Gallatin St., Hyattsville, MD 20781
 Contact: 301-608-9101; www.pyramidatlanticartcenter.org

Winter Farmer's Market at Marietta

Date and time: Saturday, December 8, 2018, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.
 Description: Come by and visit our Farmer's Market vendors with their holiday fare: baked goods for the holidays; produce; plants; herbs; and much more. Some of the vendors will be outside on the grounds of the historic home, and other vendors will be inside our conference room on the lower level—by the gravel drive. Parking is free and on the grounds!
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: All ages are welcome
 Location: Marietta House Museum, 5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale, MD 20769
 Contact: 301-464-5291

Baden's Breakfast with Santa and the Grinch in Whoville

Date and time: Saturday, December 8, 2018, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.
 Description: Join the Grinch and come dressed in your favorite "Who" clothing! A filling hot breakfast -in "Grinch Green" and crafts. Santa arrives by firetruck to join the fun! **This event sells out—register now! Pre-register by December 5.**
 Cost: Youth Resident Cost: \$9/ Non-Resident Cost: \$12; Adult Resident: \$11/ Non-resident: \$15
 Ages: All, ages 2–12
 Location: Baden Community Center, 13601 Baden Westwood Road Brandywine, MD 20613

Saturday Fun with Santa

Date and Time: December 8, 2018, 10 a.m.–12 noon
 Description: Held annually on the 2nd Saturday of December, Santa takes time out of his busy schedule to be on hand to meet and greet kids while supporting the United States Marine Corp Toys for Tots. Live music, moon bounces, face painting and more!
 Cost: \$3 or new unwrapped gift for the USMC Toys for Tots Toy Drive
 Ages: Families with children 10 years and younger are welcome
 Location: City of Bowie Gymnasium, 4100 Northview Drive, Bowie, MD 20716
 Contact: 301-809-2388

Brentwood Arts' Annual Craft Fair and Beer Tasting Lounge

Date and Time: Saturday, December 8, 2018, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.
 Description: Don't get stuck at crowded malls this season, come to the Brentwood Arts Exchange Holiday Craft Fair and Beer Tasting Lounge where you support your local artists and small businesses as you shop for beautiful, handmade items. Stop by the beer tasting lounge area and try some brews while you finish your holiday shopping with over 20 local artists featured. All inside our warm and cozy galleries, surrounded by the smell of cocoa and the scrumptiousness that the holidays bring.
 Cost: FREE
 Location: Brentwood Arts Exchange
 3901 Rhode Island Ave., Brentwood, MD 20722
 Contact: 301-277-2863; TTY: 301-699-2544

Kwanzaa Celebration

Date and time: Saturday, December 8, 2018, 12–4 p.m.
 Description: Kick off your holiday while enjoying live entertainment, a special dance performance from the students at Connexions Arts School in Baltimore, and food and fashion from throughout the African diaspora.
 Cost: **Register:** <https://bdmuseum.maryland.gov/events>
 Ages: All ages are welcome
 Location: Banneker Douglass Museum, 84 Franklin Street, Annapolis, MD 21401
 Contact: 410-216-6180

Holiday Jingle Skate

Date and Time: Saturday, December 8, 2018, 1 p.m.–3 p.m.
 Description: Activities include: Skate with Santa, free mini-lessons, on-ice games and lots of skating fun for all ages. Bowie Ice Arena will also be collecting food items for the Bowie Community Pantry.
 Cost: FREE admission with a donation for the Toys for Tots Drive. Skate rental is \$3.00.
 Ages: All ages are welcome
 Location: Bowie Ice Arena, 3330 Northview Dr., Bowie, MD 20716
 Contact: 301-262-6200

Motown and More: A Holiday Celebration

Date and time: Saturday, December 8, 2018, 8–10 p.m.
 Description: Even today, the name "Motown" still evokes the sounds and images of that past musical era full of great artists, classic songs, and smooth choreography. For the holidays, "Motown and More: A Holiday Celebration," offers those special tunes that bring the season in with style—such as The Temptations' "Silent Night" and the Jackson 5's "Santa Claus is Coming to Town."
 Cost: \$30/person; \$25/person for seniors, students, and groups of 20 or more
 Ages: All ages are welcome
 Location: Publick Playhouse, 5445 Landover Road Cheverly, MD 20784

A Gospel Christmas: A Celebration of the Birth of Jesus in Music and Dance

Date and time: Sunday, December 9, 2018, 5 p.m.
 Description: Featuring Great Mt Nebo's Liturgical Dance Ministry, and choirs. Special Guests: The stellar, award-winning Oxon Hill High School Choir.
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: All ages are welcome
 Location: Greater Mt. Nebo A.M.E. Church, 1001 Old Mitchellville Road, Bowie, MD 20716
 Contact: 301-249-7545

Upcoming Holiday Events At Your Library

ACCOKEEK BRANCH, 15773
 Livingston Rd., Accokeek, MD 20607; 301-292-2880
Crafternoon: Holiday Crafts
 Ages 5–12, Saturday, December 15, 2 p.m.
 Come join us for an afternoon of holiday crafting! Families welcome!

HYATTSVILLE BRANCH (Temporary location), 6502
 America Blvd., Hyattsville, MD 20782; 301-985-4690
Crafternoon: Winter Wonderland Ornaments
 Ages 5–12, Tuesday, December 18, 4 p.m.
 Come join us for an afternoon of winter-themed crafting. Families welcome!

Crafternoon: A Tree for All Seasons
 Ages 5–12, Wednesday, December 26, 3 p.m.
 Make a tree you can decorate for winter, spring, summer and fall!

LARGO-KETTERING BRANCH
 9601 Capital Lane, Largo, MD 20774; 301-336-4044
Santa's Workshop
 All ages, Thursday, December 13, 11 a.m.
 Join us for our annual winter puppet show presented by Blue

Sky Puppet Theatre. *Courtesy of the Friends of Largo-Kettering Library.*
Story Explorers: The Gingerbread Man
 Ages 5–12, Saturday, December 15, 11 a.m.
 Run, run, as fast as you can to listen to a librarian read favorite stories aloud and do related activities, crafts and games.

LAUREL BRANCH
 507 7th Street, Laurel MD 20707; 301-776-6790
Crafternoon: Snow Globes
 Ages 5–12, Thursday, December 13, 3 p.m.
 Come join us for an afternoon of crafting snow globes. Supplies are limited to the first 25 participants. Families welcome!

NEW CARROLLTON BRANCH
 7414 Riverdale Rd., New Carrollton, MD 20784; 301-459-6900
Holiday Crafts
 Adults, Thursday, December 13, 2 p.m.
 Come have a fun afternoon creating holiday crafts. Step-by-step, hands-on instruction given. All supplies will be provided. **Registration required.** Please call 301-459-6900.

Give the Gift of Trees This Holiday

Trees Provide Ecological, Economic and Quality of Life Benefits

By PRESS OFFICER
Maryland Department of Natural Resources

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (November 27, 2018)—This holiday season the Maryland Department of Natural Resources offers everyone the opportunity to give the Gift of Trees, a program where Marylanders purchase native trees for planting in honor of a celebration, commemoration or observation.



PHOTO CREDIT: BARBARA COOK
Fall Leaves

Trees provide ecological, economic and quality of life benefits and services, including enhancing air and water quality, reducing energy costs, increasing property values, beautifying communities, neighborhoods and highways, while also providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife.

All trees will be planted in locations that will benefit from them the most, including parks, playgrounds and schoolyards; cities and towns; and along creeks and streams. Maryland Forest Service staff help choose the appropriate location and species to best assure the tree flourishes well into the future.

A Gift of Trees certificate suitable for framing will be issued and mailed out within a week or two of an order. All trees will be planted in the next growing season—either spring or fall—to promote optimal growth and survival. Orders must be placed by Dec. 15, 2018, to ensure certificate delivery in time for the holidays.

Trees can be ordered online or via mail (a separate order form should be used for each recipient) along with a check made payable to: Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Forest Service, Tawes State Office Building, E-1, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

Earth TALK™ Is Skiing Dead Due to Global Warming?

Time is Of the Essence for Skiers

Dear EarthTalk:

With the onset of global warming, how likely is it that ski resorts and skiing itself might soon become a thing of the past?

—Mandy Billings, Provo, UT

Last winter's low snow year and unseasonably warm temperatures across much of the American West meant a bad year for business for ski resorts, and also left many of us wondering whether skiing would even be possible in the warmer world we're getting as we continue to pump out greenhouse gases.

"Our recent modeling suggests that under a high emissions scenario, skiing could be very limited to non-existent in parts of the country by the end of this century, particularly in lower elevations—such as the northeast, Midwest and lower mountains around the West," says Cameron Wobus, lead author

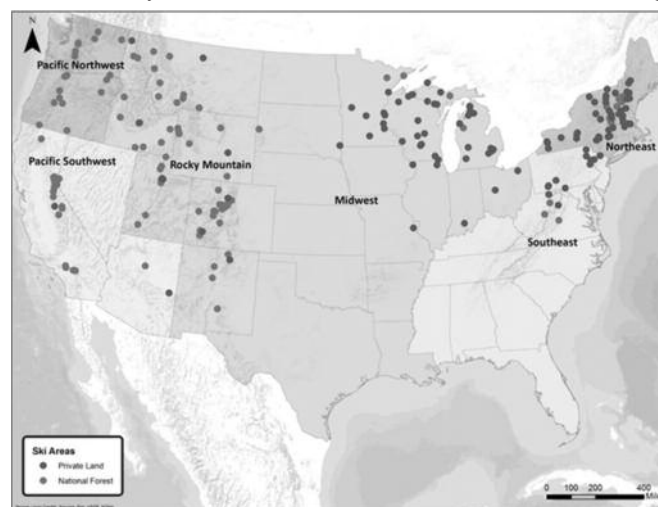


IMAGE CREDIT: "PROJECTED CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON SKIING AND SNOWMOBILING"

This map from a 2017 study shows projected climate change impacts on natural snow accumulations and potential snowmaking conditions across the U.S., with pink colors representing losses of 80%+ of the ski season and bluer colors representing less severe losses.

on a 2017 study projecting climate change impacts on skiing across the U.S. "Things look better mid-century, so this dire future for skiing isn't imminent—and things also look much better under a more aggressive greenhouse gas mitigation scenario, so this future also isn't inevitable."

According to Wobus' research, ski resorts in the Pacific Northwest have the most to fear, with predicted losses of 80 percent or more of the ski season. Ski resorts in the Northeast also won't fare well as we warm. The relatively good news is that the ski resorts in the intermountain west should face "less severe losses" due to their higher elevations.

The ski resorts themselves are doing what they can to try to reduce and offset their own emissions. To wit, Vail Resorts will power its 15 U.S.-based ski resorts with 100 percent wind energy beginning in 2020, and is well on its way to achieving its ambitious 2030 goal of "zero net emissions, zero waste to landfill and zero operating impact on forests and habitat." Nearby, Aspen Skiing Company is big on solar, donates six figures annually to local non-profits working on climate mitigation and related issues, and lately has focused on firing up its customer base to encourage climate-friendly voting in Congress. Meanwhile, the list of ski resorts now deriving all of their power from on-site renewables (e.g., Berkshire East, Jiminy Peak, Squaw Valley, Wolf Peak, Arapahoe Basin, Breckenridge) is growing every year.

Coordinating and facilitating much of this activity is the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA), a trade group representing over 300 U.S.-based ski area owners and operators. NSAA's Sustainable Slopes initiative, launched in 2000, provides an overarching framework for ski areas on sustainability and enhanced environmental performance. Its Environmental Charter serves as a blueprint and inspiration for ski resorts looking to green their operations.

Another influential player is Protect Our Winters (POW), a non-profit founded in 2007 by professional snowboarder Jeremy Jones to mobilize the outdoor sports community against climate change. Its "Hot Planet/Cool Athletes" program, in which a professional skier or snowboarder leads an all-school assembly through a 45-minute multimedia presentation detailing the science behind climate change, how it's affecting snow levels and what we can each do to become part of the solution, has been an especially effective way to get young people fired up about solving the climate crisis. The program has reached some 60,000 students since its inception in 2011.

CONTACTS: "Projected climate change impacts on skiing and snowmobiling: A case study of the United States," www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959378016305556; Protect Our Winters, www.protectourwinters.org; NSAA Sustainable Slopes, www.nsaa.org/environment/sustainable-slopes.

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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:** question@earthtalk.org.

TUESDAY TIP

PREPPING FOR THE COLD

- Inflate tires and slow down when weather makes driving difficult to improve your gas mileage.
- Switch to LED light bulbs in your home and use LED holiday light strings to reduce the cost of decorating during the holidays.
- Caulk your windows and weather strip your doors to keep the warmth in and the cold out.
- Use a programmable thermostat to turn the heat down during the day while you are away. Added bonus: Check with your local utility to see what rebates they offer for programmable smart thermostats.

Stay warm and cozy during the cold weather while saving money without harming the planet with these tips.

second NATURE Prince George's County Second Nature is an initiative of the Department of the Environment, Redevelopment Authority, and Office of Central Services to promote cost savings and sustainability in our everyday behavior.

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Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.

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Veterans from A1

piece of the Chesapeake, an American flag pin and a thank you note written by Anne Arundel County Public Schools elementary-age children. Each ceremony ended with the military visitors standing in formation and performing a silent salute.

In some communities, the salute was quiet and small, especially in assisted-living centers like FutureCare Capital Region, where veterans were visited and saluted in each of their rooms. Air Force Tech Sgt. Akasha Lowry of Crofton has taken it upon herself to learn the anthems of each of the branches of the armed forces and includes it whenever she performs an Honor Salute. Each time her alto voice would begin the first verse in a patient's room, the veteran lit up with a smile as they sang along or tapped their toes in rhythm.

Other communities ran with the opportunity to celebrate their veterans by adding more to the program. A luncheon was served at Sunrise Senior Living and musical performances were offered up in the programs coordinated by the Brightview communities in Severna Park and Annapolis. Barbara Sigler, the vibrant living director at Brightview in Severna Park said having the organization and its military volunteers there to honor their veterans was appreciated in many ways. The residents especially enjoyed meeting the younger generation currently serving and sharing stories, insights and laughter. "Getting cards from local children that say, 'Thank you! You're my hero,' was icing on the cake," Sigler said. "The actual Honor Salute was so powerful that I don't think there was a dry eye in the house."

That sentiment was echoed by Jenelle Schrader, the vibrant living director at Brightview in Edgewater, who said her community's veterans were deeply moved by the Veterans Day weekend visit. "Residents displayed tears of joy and appreciation," she said.

The month-long caravan of Honor Salutes is part of Hospice of the Chesapeake's We Honor Veterans program, a partnership with the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and the Department of Veterans Affairs. It is focused on providing the best care for veterans and their families through respectful inquiry, compassionate listening and grateful acknowledgment.

Director of Volunteer Services Mary Jermann, whose department oversees the program, said this grateful acknowledgement can be witnessed in these broader community events, as well as experienced in smaller groups. "The smaller, intimate ceremonies are much more common for those in our hospice care, where we honor our veteran patients at the end of life," Jermann said. Volunteers have shared dozens of poignant experiences when nonresponsive patients have not only acknowledged the ceremony, but even participated in their own Honor Salute by moving their lips to the anthem or lifting their hand to return the salute.

"It warms our hearts to hear these stories and to know that we have had a hand in bringing peace to our veterans," Jermann said.



PHOTO BY ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
(10/27/2018) James Heggins, a Korean War Veteran resident at FutureCare Capital Region in Landover, is applauded by Army Chief Warrant Officer Jennie Elliot of Baltimore, after receiving an Honor Salute from military volunteers from Hospice of the Chesapeake.

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Cooperative Wildlife Management Area Opens to Hunting

Prince George's County Site Available for Managed Archery Hunt
By PRESS OFFICER
Maryland Department of Natural Resources

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (November 27, 2018)—There is a new public deer hunting opportunity available in Prince George's County.

As of Dec. 3, 2018, the 182-acre Queen Anne Bridge Road Cooperative Wildlife Management Area in Bowie will be open to regulated archery hunting for deer only. The program will follow established season dates and bag limits found in the Guide to Hunting and Trapping in Maryland.

This program is designed to provide managed public hunting access to the site through a partnership with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Hunter access to the site (18300 Queen Anne Bridge Road) will require possession of a seasonal permit and daily reservations available from the Myrtle Grove Wildlife Management Area office. Hunting will take place Monday to Friday during regulated hours. Hunters will be provided the combination to a gate and must park in a designated area to participate. To contact the Myrtle Grove Wildlife Management Area, please call 301-743-5161.

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